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AMERICAN STATE PAPERS.

PUBLIC LANDS.

VOLUME III.

AMERICAN STATE PAPERS.

DOCUMENTS,

LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE,

OF THE

Congress of the United States,

IN RELATION TO

THE PUBLIC LANDS,

FROM THE FIRST SESSION OF THE FIRST CONGRESS TO THE FIRST SESSION OF THE TWENTY-THIRD CONGRESS:

MARCH 4, 1789, TO JUNE 15, 1834.

SELECTED AND EDITED,

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,

BY WALTER LOWRIE,

SECRETARY OF THE SENATE.

VOLUME III.

FROM DECEMBER 22, 1815, TO MAY 26, 1824.

WASHINGTON:

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AMERICAN STATE PAPERS.

PUBLIC LANDS.

14th Congress. No. 233. 1st Session.

KASKASKIA LAND CLAIMS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DECEMBER 22, 1815.

General Land Office,
December 22, 1815.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit a copy of a letter from the Register of the land office and the Receiver of public moneys at Kaskaskia, accompanied by a list of persons who have had less than 400 acres confirmed to them, and a statement of claims, for donations as heads of families, improvement rights in virtue of cultivation, and militia rights; all which are respectfully submitted to the consideration of Congress.

Most respectfully, I am, sir,
Your obedient servant,
JOSIAH MEIGS.

The Hon. Speaker *of the*
House of Representatives.

Kaskaskia, *November* 29, 1815.

Sir: Herewith you will receive a statement of claims, for some of which no notices were filed with the Register within the time limited by law. But, in justice to the claimants, and believing that it would render unnecessary the reorganization of a new board of commissioners, we have ventured to make a statement of them, together with the substance of the testimony adduced in their support. Should these be confirmed, it will relieve the Government from the importunity of the claimants, and render unnecessary the reorganization of a new board; since there are at present no pretensions to claims of this description kept up, other than those contained in the accompanying document; and, should any be presented hereafter, they may be disposed of in like manner. We think it most advisable that these claims should be confirmed to the original claimant, or his legal representative, as the chain of titles of such as have been conveyed, have not been examined nor recorded.

It is proper to state that these claims, if confirmed, should be declared unlocated, and that they should not defeat the locations made in virtue of other claims on lands improved by these claimants. We would suggest the propriety of making these, as well as all other confirmed unlocated claims, receivable in payment for public land, in conformity with the provisions of the act of the 16th April, 1814, any time prior to the 1st of May next. The claimants, or their agents, reside in the country, and no inconvenience can arise from the want of time: yet, a proviso in favor of claimants residing without the Territory, (if any,) extending the time as to them to the 1st of October next, may be proper. This would prepare the country for the sale of public lands by the time contemplated in our letter to you of the 16th instant. It will be perceived by our expressions above, "as well as all other confirmed unlocated claims," that we contemplate a revival of the forfeited claims which were not tendered within the time directed by the act of the 16th of April, 1814, which amounted to about 4,000 acres. In our communication of last year, we stated that the preemptioners on fractional quarter sections without the reserved tract, were not provided for by the act of the 5th February, 1813; in favor of whom we advised the passage of a law extending to them the right of entering one or more adjoining fractional quarter sections, including their improvements, or the fractions improved, and the quarter section or fraction adjoining, or, at their option, only the fraction improved, although less than a quarter section. This measure would place them on an equality with their neighbors. Those persons who have had confirmations made to them by the governors, in virtue of actual cultivation and improvement, for less quantities than 400 acres, have frequently petitioned the commissioners to solicit a grant of the complement to be located as within stated. In favor of this description of persons, the quarter part of whom are early settlers in the country and cultivators of the earth, we can only say, that the late board of revision, on inquiry into the facts, found that all of these claimants were entitled to the right of a donation by virtue of actual cultivation and improvement, as will be seen by the reports of that board, and that no additional quantity was granted. We are, however, of the opinion that the same measure of justice and rule of decision ought to be extended to all having similar pretensions; and, as these form an exception, we think it but just to interest the Government in their behalf. The enclosed list contains the names of all those whom we find entitled.

The other confirmees, on the abstract of governors' confirmations for less quantities that 400 acres, have no

claim; they are bounded by their grants, or had obtained confirmations of fifty acres on a species of nondescript claims, called sugar-camp rights.

During the last session, we transmitted to Colonel Stephenson the grants and locations made on section No. 16, from which it will be seen that about 3,899 acres have been appropriated out of these sections, in this district, in satisfaction of ancient grants, improvement claims, &c., confirmed and located. May it not become necessary to pass a law quieting these in their rights, and providing for selecting other sections, or parts of sections, in lieu of those thus appropriated?

We are, very respectfully,
Your obedient humble servants,
MICHAEL JONES,
SHADRACH BOND.

DEAR SIR: The preceding is a copy of a letter transmitted by this day's mail, together with the statement of claims therein spoken of, to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, to whom we refer you for more particular information on these subjects. Should the forfeited claims be revived, and these now transmitted be confirmed, it will, you know, sir, be extremely desirable that they should be tendered in payment under the act of 16th April, 1814, on or before the 1st of May next. Should some still remain after that day unsatisfied, it might be well to provide for their location in a way that would not interfere with, or retard the sale of, public land. A clause might be inserted, that any unsatisfied claims, owned by persons living without the Territory, should be received in payment for land purchased at public or private sale any time prior to the 1st of October next. We having written to Mr. Meigs on the subject of opening the office, and have requested that it might open on the 15th of May next, in addition to the reasons there assigned, you can point out others, and such as will show that the prosperity of this country, as well as the neighboring States, and the interest of the United States, will be thereby greatly promoted; and our claim to some perquisites which we have so long anticipated might probably have some weight with the President in directing the sale of public land in this district on the 15th of May next. On this day we have received the connected plat from the Surveyor General. There is now no further obstacle, that we can see, to forbid this measure.

Very respectfully, we are,
Your obedient servants,
MICHAEL JONES,
S. BOND.

Hon. B. STEPHENSON,
Washington City.

A List of Persons who have had confirmations made to them by the Governors, in virtue of actual cultivation and improvement in the Illinois country, for quantities less than four hundred acres.

No. of claim.	Original claimant.	Present claimant.	Number of acres confirmed.
557	George Atchison - - -	George Atchison - - -	350
777	George Biggs - - -	Heirs of G. Biggs - - -	300
233	Thomas Biggs - - -	Heirs - - - - -	150
305	William Cheney - - -	George Stout, sen. - - -	100
602	Peter Casterline - - -	Peter Casterline - - -	250
559	William Drury - - -	Clem't and Ralph Drury, heirs -	250
328	Isaac Enochs - - -	Jacob Whitesides - - -	250
219	Elijah Flanary - - -	Heirs of James Moore - -	80
1990	James Gray - - -	John Carruthers and James Gray -	200
598	Widow of Jacob Groots - -	Widow of Jacob Groots - -	100
503	James Lemon - - -	James Lemon - - - -	200
501	Joseph Lacouture - - -	Benjamin and Joseph Ogle - -	300
833	William Lewis - - -	Daniel Sink and David Badgley -	250
316	James McRoberts - - -	James McRoberts - - -	100
1417	Elisha Nelson - - -	John Mordock - - - -	190 ac. 63 perches.
499	Joseph Ogle - - -	Joseph Ogle - - - -	250
992	William Oglesby - - -	David Phillips - - - -	100
2081	George Powers - - -	John Edgar - - - -	250
517	Abraham Rain - - -	Uel and Bolin Whitesides - -	300
828	James Scott - - -	James Scott's heirs - - -	250
2003	Abraham Stanly - - -	John Edgar, or legal representatives -	100
215	Thomas Todd - - -	Jacob A. Boyce - - -	250
515	John Vallis - - -	James Ryan and Moses Tenant -	80
544	David Waddle - - -	David Waddle - - -	250

A Statement of Claims coming within the provisions of the several acts of Congress of the twentieth of June, 1788, *granting donations of four hundred acres to heads of families in the Illinois country; of the* 3d *of March,* 1791, *granting donations to persons enrolled in the militia, and doing militia duty on* 1st *August,* 1790; *and donations of four hundred acres to such as had actually cultivated and improved land under any supposed grant from any court or commandant claiming the right to grant, &c.; some of which were not entered within the time limited by law; but as those which have been approved by us are thought to be just and equitable claims, they are submitted for the approbation of Congress.*

No. of claim.	Original claimant.	Present claimant.	Donations of 400 acres as heads of families.	Improvement claims of 400 acres in virtue of cultivation.	Militia donations of 100 acres.	Names of witnesses.	Proof.	Remarks.
	Antoine St. Francois, -	Pierre Troge, (heir) -	400 acres	400 acres	-	Louis Pillett, ancient inhabitant of Cahokia.	Witness well knew Antoine St. Francois, of Peoria, a head of family, and cultivating the land; having a small field in which he sowed corn, in the year 1765, and remained there for several years after; and came down and died in the country, (Illinois.) That Pierre Troge was married to one of his daughters.	The improvement in this case is approved.
	James Moore, - -	Heirs of Moore, - -	400	-	-	James Garretson, Esq., of St. Clair county.	That James Moore, deceased, was the head of a family, and living with his family in the Illinois country, (St. Clair county,) from some time in May, 1781, until the year 1786.	This claim is approved.
	Henry Golding, deceased,	Heirs of Josiah Ryan, -	-	400	-	James McRoberts, Esq. and William Robins.	That, in 1786 and 1787, said Golding cultivated in corn about six acres of land, which he had cleared and fenced. Robins states, that in the spring of 1787, deponent was at the house of said Golding, called Golding's block-house, at a spring under the bluff, in the American bottom, called Golding's spring, where he had, under fence and cultivation, about from four to six acres. That said Golding continued in the country until he died, which happened, he thinks, in 1791. In the transcript of claims confirmed by the Governor, we find in page 11 the following entry, to wit: "Josiah Ryan claims land adjoining Katy Ryan." "Likewise land bequeathed to him by Henry Golding, deceased." "Approved."	This claim is approved.
	Ephraim Story, - -	- - -	400	-	-	William Robins and Daniel Raper.	William Robins states, that he knew Story to keep house, and live in the county of St. Clair, in 1787. Raper, that he knew said Story to keep house in said county, Illinois Territory, in 1788.	This claim is approved.
	John Slaughter, - -	- - -	400	-	-	John Moore and James Lemon.	Moore states, that he was well acquainted with said Slaughter, and knew him to keep a house in St. Clair county, Illinois Territory, in the years 1787 and 1788. Lemon, that he knew the said Slaughter to keep a house in said county in 1787.	This claim is approved.
	John Berks, - -	- - -	400	-	-	William Murray and John Moore.	That they were well acquainted with, and knew, John Berks to be a head of family, and to keep house in St. Clair county, Illinois Territory, in the year 1788.	This claim is approved.
	James Whitley, - -	- - -	400	-	-	William Murray and John Moore.	That they were personally acquainted with James Whitley, and knew him to be head of a family, and to keep a house in St. Clair county, Illinois Territory, in the year 1788.	This claim is approved.

STATEMENT—Continued.

No. of claim.	Original claimant.	Present claimant.	Donations of 400 acres as heads of families.	Improvement claims of 400 acres in virtue of cultivation.	Militia donations of 100 acres.	Names of witnesses.	Proof.	Remarks.
	Reuben Miller, - -	Reuben Miller, - -	-	-	100 a.	John Murdock, James McRoberts, Esq., and John Edgar.	Murdock states, that said Miller was in the country in 1790, and done militia duty as other militiamen, and now resides in the country. McRoberts, that he knew him, said Miller, in the country in 1787 and 1790. Edgar, that he knew him in the country, (Illinois,) in May or June, 1790, and sometime after.	This claim is approved.
	Jean Baptiste Chevery, -	Nicholas Jarrot, - -	400 acres	-	-	Louis Leperche, Nicholas Boismenue, and Louis Bihore.	Leperche states that he knew Jean Baptiste Chevery as an inhabitant, and planted corn for thirty years and upwards from this time, (1809.) Boismenue, that he knew said Chevery, a settler in Peoria, near 30 years, (1809.) Bihore states that he, said Chevery, inhabited and resided at Peoria with his family in 1783.	Approved.
	Jean Baptiste Poinstable,	Same, - -	400	400 acres	-	Jacque Ducharme, Louis Brunette, and Francois Vailett.	That said Jean B. Poinstable was head of a family at Peoria in the year 1783, and before and after that year. Had a house built, and cultivated land between the old fort and new settlement in the year 1780.	These claims are approved.
	Francois Arcoit, -	Same, - -	-	400	-	Baptiste Peltier, Pierre Verbois, and Jean B. Parant.	That said Arcoit was head of a family at Peoria in 1783; and that he made an improvement near said village at the same time. J. B. Parant states that he well knew the said Arcoit, an inhabitant of Peoria, in 1782; having a house of his own, cultivating the ground and planting corn; and that he had to leave the place on account of the Indians.	Approved.
	Louis Brunette, - -	Same, - -	400	-	-	Jacque Ducharme and Francois Vailett.	That said Brunette was head of a family at Peoria in 1783, before and after, and continued to live in said village.	Approved.
	Widow Isabella Bond, -	I. Bond, widow, -	400	-	-	Sarah Kinney and John Moore.	That the said Isabella was a widow, and kept house, and was the head of a family in the Illinois country in 1783, and resided in the country ever since.	Approved.
	Martha Ellison, - -	M. Ellison, - -	400	-	-	James Garretson and Isabella Bond.	That she, the said Martha, was a widow, and the head of a family, in the Illinois, in the year 1783, and continued some years afterwards.	Approved.
	Antoine Gerardin, - (son of August. Gerardin.)	Antoine Gerardin -	400	-	-	Louis Perio, Julian Merceir, Francois Arnouse.	Perio knew said Gerardin to be the head of a family in Prairie du Pont in the year 1787. Arnouse and Merceir knew him to be head of a family, residing in Prairie du Pont, ever since the year 1787, until about three or four years past.	This man had confirmed to him a militia right of 100 acres, under No. 1491; is entitled only to 300 acres. Approved.
	Rene Locat's heirs, -	Heirs of Rene Locat, -	400	-	-	- - -	The heirs of Rene Locat are found on the list of governors' confirmations as entitled to a donation of 400 acres; and from testimony on record, page 75; relative to Pierre Locat's donation claim, it is incidentally proven that Rene Locat died in Cahokia, in the Illinois, before 1779, and that his widow continued to be head of a family until she died in the year 1786.	Approved.

143	Pierre Verbois, - - (alias Blondeaux.)	Nicholas Jarrot, -	400	-	-	- - -	The donation claim of Pierre Verbois stands confirmed to Nicholas Jarrot, on the records of decisions made by Jones and Backus, (commissioners,) under No. 143; but it is not found on the abstract of confirmations forwarded by them to the Secretary of the Treasury, nor on the one transmitted by him to this office. This was an omission; the claim remains unsatisfied, and ought to receive a legislative sanction. But, as a militia right of 100 acres has been confirmed to P. Verbois, (alias Blondeaux,) the same man, under claim No. 898, only 300 acres ought to be confirmed.	Approved.
1773	John Dumoulin, -	John Dumoulin's heirs, -	400	-	-	- - -	The case of John Dumoulin is precisely similar to the preceding. He is, by the records of decision under No. 1773, entitled to 300 acres, having received a militia right.	Approved.
	Isaac Levy, - -	John Hays and heirs of said Levy,	400	-	-	Joseph Poupard, sen., and Jean Beauliew.	That both knew him, the said Isaac Levy, as head of a family before, in, and after, the year 1783, at Cahokia, in the Illinois country. That Maria Louisa, wife of Joseph Cecel, was the daughter of said Levy, one of his three children. That Emili Cecel, the wife of Francois Demit, is the daughter, and only heir now living, of the said Maria Louisa, deceased.	Approved.
	Jean B. Parant, - -	Nicholas Jarrot, -	400	400	-	Jean B. Poinstable, Jacque Ducharme, Louis Bihore, Pierre Verbois.	That Jean B. Parant was head of a family in Peoria in 1783, before and after that year. That he had a house built, and cultivated lands, near the old fort of Peoria, in the year 1780. Bihore and Verbois state that the said Parant was the head of a family in 1780 and 1783; and, at that time, had a farm, and raised crops. This man has been confirmed in a militia donation of 100 acres, under No. 121, and is, therefore, entitled to only 300 acres as head of a family. It must be remarked that, in the transcript forwarded to the Secretary of the Treasury, 18th January, 1813, J. B. Periault, sen. was represented as entitled to a donation as head of a family under No. 2661; but it is since ascertained that this J. B. Periault is the same with J. B. Perio, who had also obtained a confirmation of 400 acres as head of a family, under No. 1468. Now, as the certificate of confirmation to J. B. Periault under No. 2661, has not been issued, as J. B. Perio, who is in fact the same man, has obtained his donation, the confirmation to Jean B. Periault, sen. of 400 acres, under No. 2661, must be annulled, and this to Jean B. Parant, of 300 acres as head of a family, confirmed.	The improvem't right and 800 acres donation, approved.

REGISTER'S OFFICE, KASKASKIA, *November* 29, 1815.

MICHAEL JONES, *Register.*
S. BOND, *Receiver.*

14th Congress. No. 234. 1st Session.

LAND CLAIMS, EAST AND WEST OF PEARL RIVER.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 5, 1816.

General Land Office,
2d January, 1816.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit, herewith, two reports on claims for land in the State of Louisiana, viz.

The report of William Crawford, Commissioner for the District East of Pearl river; and

The report of James O. Cosby, Commissioner for the District West of Pearl river.

The first mentioned report contains—

1st, A register of claims founded on complete grants from the French, British, or Spanish Governments, which claims are, in the opinion of the Commissioner (East of Pearl river,) valid, agreeably to the laws, usages, or customs of said Governments. This register comprises seventeen claims, the greatest for 1600 arpens, the smallest for 150 arpens.

2d, A register of claims (founded as the foregoing) for five lots in the town of Mobile; which claims are, in the opinion of the said Commissioner, valid, agreeably to the laws, usages, and customs of said Governments.

3d, A register of claims founded on orders of survey, (requettes,) permission to settle, or other written evidence of claim, derived from either the French, British, or Spanish authorities. This register comprises 106 claims, some of which are large, say 10,000 to 20,000 arpens, and some of them are for quantities unknown. The said Commissioner recommends the confirmation only to the amount of 800 arpens for each claim.

4th, A register of claims founded on orders of survey, requettes, permission to settle, or other written evidence of claim, derived from either the French, British, or Spanish authorities; and which claims ought, in the opinion of the said Commissioner, to be confirmed. This register comprises 48 claims for lots in the town of Mobile.

5th, A register of three claims, amounting to 7,440 acres, which claims, in the opinion of said Commissioner, are not valid, agreeably to the usages of the former Governments.

6th, A register of one hundred and eleven claims, of various dimensions, which claims ought *not*, in the opinion of the said Commissioner, to be confirmed.

7th, A register of forty-seven claims, (for lots in the town of Mobile,) which claims, in the opinion of the said Commissioner, ought *not* to be confirmed.

8th, A register of eight claims, (from 100 to 4,650 acres each,) founded on grants derived from the British Government, with the conditions on which the grants were made, which conditions do not appear to have been complied with. The said Commissioner has not expressed his opinion whether these claims should be confirmed or not.

9th, A register of five claims, respecting which the said Commissioner has given a *special* report. Those claims are for large tracts; and the opinion of the said Commissioner is, that three of them are fraudulent, and ought to be rejected. Respecting the other two, he has not given an opinion.

10th, A register of claims founded on private conveyances, which have passed through the office of the commandant, but founded, as the claimants suppose, on grants lost by time or accident. This register comprises 67 claims of various dimensions, and the said Commissioner is of opinion that such of them as were inhabited and cultivated under the Spanish Government ought to be confirmed for a *reasonable quantity*.

11th, A register of eighty-eight claims, (founded as the foregoing,) for lots in Mobile. The said Commissioner is of opinion that such as were inhabited and cultivated under the Spanish Government, and such as were built upon by permission of the Spanish authorities, ought to be confirmed.

12th, A list of one hundred and seventy-four actual settlers, who have no claims derived from the French, British, or Spanish Governments.

The second report contains—

1st, Register (A) of claims founded on complete grants derived from either the French, British, or Spanish Governments; which claims are, in the opinion of the Commissioner (West of Pearl river) valid, according to the laws, usages, or customs of such Governments. This register comprises four hundred and thirty-two claims of various dimensions.

2d, A register (B) of claims founded on orders of survey, (requettes,) permission to settle, or other written evidence of claims derived from either the French, British, or Spanish authorities; which claims ought, in the opinion of the said Commissioner, to be confirmed. This register contains three hundred and twenty claims of various dimensions.

3d, A register (C) of claims founded on grants *said* to be derived from the French, British, or Spanish Governments; which claims, in the opinion of the said Commissioner, are not valid, according to the laws, usages, or customs, of such Governments. This register comprises fifty-five claims of various dimensions.

4th, A register (D) of claims to land founded on orders of survey, (requettes,) permission to settle, or other written evidence of claim; which claims, in the opinion of the said Commissioner, ought *not* to be confirmed. This register comprises one hundred and eighty-seven claims of various dimensions.

5th, A list of thirty anomalous claims. In most of these cases, the title papers are said to have been lost. The report closes with the remarks of the said Commissioner on the last named claims.

6th, A list of actual settlers.

7th, A supplementary list of actual settlers.

The report of the Board of Commissioners for the Western District of Louisiana has been received in part. That part is transcribing, to be laid before Congress. When the remainder arrives, it shall be transcribed, and the whole transmitted without delay.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

JOSIAH MEIGS.

The Hon. the Speaker
of the House of Representatives.

Register of Claims to Land in the District East of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on complete grants derived from either the French, British, or Spanish Government, which, in the opinion of the undersigned Commissioner, are valid, agreeably to the laws, usages, or customs of such Government.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.				Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Cultivation and inhabitation.	
					Front.	Deep.	Area in arpens.	Area in acres.					From	To
1	Joseph Chalone	Jean Bte. Roussere	Spanish Gov't	21 June, 1805	40	40	1600	-	Pearl river	John V. Morales	10 June, 1805	Charles Trudeau	1788	March 1813
2	Mary Rochow, and Isabelle Demouy, Louis C. Demouy, Hypolite Z. Demouy, Mary F. Demouy, Marcelle Demouy, Augustin Demouy	Peter Rochon	British Gov't	12 Decemb. 1767	-	-	-	8866	Dog river	Munfort Browne	12 Febr'y, 1767	Elias Durnford	1763	June, 1813
3	Louis Dolive	Jean C. Dupont	British Gov't	2 Decemb. 1772	-	-	-	6	East of Mobile bay	Peter Chester	22 Novem. 1772	Elias Durnford	1809	1813
4	Same	Louis Dolive	Spanish Gov't	19 October, 1808	20	40	800	-	East of Mobile bay	John V. Morales	9 July, 1808	V. S. Pintado	1793	1813
5	Mary Bennet	Peter Deforge	British Gov't	16 April, 1779	-	-	-	228	Tensa river	Peter Chester	22 Septem. 1778	Elias Durnford	1779 or '80	1813
6	Eliphalet Bebee	Maria Rochon	Spanish Gov't	10 October, 1808	30	40	1200	-	Dog river	John V. Morales	11 August, 1808	V. S. Pintado	1798	1813
7	William Fisher	Francis Mazurier	British Gov't	14 March, 1768	-	-	-	200	Bayou Marriette	Munfort Brown	23 June, 1766	Elias Durnford	1803	1813
8	John Forbes & Co.	John Forbes & Co.	Spanish Gov't	25 Septemb. 1807	-	-	310	77½ perches.	Near Mobile	John V. Morales	14 Septem. 1807	V. S. Pintado	1779	1813
9	Same	Same	Spanish Gov't	7 March, 1807	-	-	400	-	Bayou Chatogee	John V. Morales	1 March, 1807	V. S. Pintado	1798	1813
10	Same	Widow Truillet	Spanish Gov't	30 April, 1810	-	-	150	-	Mobile bay	John V. Morales	14 April, 1810	V. S. Pintado	1805	1813
11	Mary Rochon, and Isabelle Demouy, Hypolite Z. Demouy, Mary F. Demouy, Marcelle Demouy, Augustin Demouy, Louis C. Demouy	Mary Rochon	Spanish Gov't	17 October, 1808	-	-	866	-	Fowl river	John V. Morales	30 Septem. 1808	V. S. Pintado	1767	1807
12	Josiah Blakeley	Joseph Chastang	Spanish Gov't	14 August, 1807	-	-	800	-	East of Mobile bay	John V. Morales	12 August, 1807	V. S. Pintado	1780	1801
13	John Forbes & Co.	John Forbes & Co.	Spanish Gov't	17 April, 1807	-	-	600	-	Choctaw Point	John V. Morales	14 April, 1807	V. S. Pintado	A house built in '13 or '14	
14	Same	Same	Spanish Gov't	7 March, 1807	-	-	800	-	Mobile bay	John V. Morales	28 Febr'y, 1807	V. S. Pintado	1797	June, 1813
15	Lefroy Truillet and Idane Chastang	Felicity Chastang	Spanish Gov't	14 August, 1807	-	-	800	-	Mobile bay	John V. Morales	8 August, 1807	V. S. Pintado	1803	1812
16	Eufrasia Lamy	Eufrasia Lamy	Spanish Gov't	26 May, 1810	-	-	800	-	Bon Secour river	John V. Morales	23 Decem. 1809	V. S. Pintado	Formerly and from 1808	1813
17	Charles Armard	Widow Armard	Spanish Gov't	14 March, 1800	20	40	800	-	Bay of St. Louis	John V. Morales	30 Jan'y, 1810	V. S. Pintado	May, 1810	April, 1814
													1794	1814

WILLIAM CRAWFORD, *Commissioner.*

Remarks upon the preceding Grants, according to their numbers.—No. 1. It appears from the face of this grant, that, on the 10th day of March, in the year 1788, twenty arpens front by forty deep, lying on Pearl river, were granted by Stephen Miro to Charles Louvigny; and that the same quantity of land, lying on Pearl river, was granted, on the 2d of June, 1788, by Governor Miro, to John Bte. Roussere; and that John Bte. Roussere, having purchased the title of Charles Louvigny, the two grants were united in favor of John Bte. Roussere, by John V. Morales, on the 21st day of June, 1805. No. 4. Though all grants in Louisiana, since the treaty of St. Ildefonso, are void, and thus declared by the act of Congress passed on the 26th of March, 1804, yet as that act continues grants by the Spanish Government to actual settlers, if such settlement was made prior to the 20th day of December, 1803, that being the day on which the Government in Louisiana west of the Mississippi and Lake Ponchartrain, was changed, it is conceived that, under the equity of that law, this grant ought to be confirmed. The same observations may be made upon all the grants derived from the Spanish Government, which have originated since the 1st of October, 1800.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD, *Commissioner.*

Register of Claims to Land in the District East of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on complete grants derived from either the French, British, or Spanish Government, which, in the opinion of the undersigned Commissioner, are valid agreeably to the laws, usages, or customs of such Government.

TOWN LOTS.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed in feet.			Where situated.	By whom issued.	Surveyed.		Cultivation and inhabitation.	
					Front.	Deep.	Area.			When.	By whom.	From	To
1	John Forbes & Co. -	John Forbes & Co. -	Spanish Government	24 October, 1807	150	194	29,100	Mobile - -	John V. Morales -	18 Oct'r, 1807	S. V. Pintado -	1783	June 1813
2	Same - -	Same - -	Spanish Government	24 October, 1807	108	252	27,216	Mobile - -	John V. Morales -	8 Oct'r, 1807	S. V. Pintado -	1783	" 1813
3	Same - -	Panton, Leslie, & Co.	Spanish Government	9 June, 1802	80	304	24,320	Mobile - -	John V. Morales -	26 Sept. 1806	S. V. Pintado -	1803	" 1813
4	Same - -	Joaquin de Osorno -	Spanish Government	22 Decem'r, 1803	4 arpens		-	Mobile - -	John V. Morales -	12 Dec'r, 1803	Chas. Trudeau -	1804	" 1813
5	Same - -	John Forbes & Co. -	Spanish Government	11 May, 1807	60	304	18,240	Mobile - -	John V. Morales -	28 April, 1807	S. V. Pintado -	1803	" 1813

WILLIAM CRAWFORD, *Commissioner.*

Register of Claims to Land in the District East of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on orders of survey, (requettes,) permission to settle, or other written evidence of claim derived from either the French, British, or Spanish authorities, which, in the opinion of the Commissioner, ought to be confirmed.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.			Where situated.	By whom issued.	Surveyed.		Cultivation and inhabitation.	
					Front.	Deep.	Area in arpens.			When.	By whom.	From	To
1	Jeremiah Henley -	Jeremiah Henley -	Spanish permit -	25 March, 1810	15	40	600	Pearl river -	Simon Favre -	No survey -	-	Feb. 1810	Feb. 1813
2	Burwell Perry -	Burwell Perry -	Spanish permit -	12 June, 1810	15	40	600	Stoney creek -	John B'te Pellerin	No survey -	-	Aug. 1809	" 1813
3	Nathan Smith -	Nathan Smith -	Spanish permit -	25 March, 1810	15	40	600	Hickory nut cr.	Simon Favre -	No survey -	Cultivated -	Nov. 1810	" 1813
4	Charles Taylor -	Charles Taylor -	Spanish permit -	4 October, 1810	15	40	600	Sandy creek -	Simon Favre -	No survey -	-	Dec. 1810	March 1813
5	John Culpeper -	Absolem Johnson -	Spanish permit -	20 August, 1810	15	40	600	Pearl river -	Simon Favre -	No survey -	-	Oct. 1810	" 1813
6	Ambrose Gaines -	Ambrose Gaines -	Spanish ord. survey	4 May, 1810	not specified		500	Pearl river -	John V. Morales -	No date stated;	Wm. Bates without authority.	1802	" 1813
7	Jean B'te Doby -	Jean B'te Doby -	Spanish permit -	26 April, 1809	not specified		-	Bayou Caune -	John B'te Pellerin	No survey -	-	1809	" 1813
8	Mathurin Babin -	Mathurin Babin -	Spanish permit -	18 June, 1810	not specified		800	Pearl river -	John B'te Pellerin	No survey -	-	1809	" 1813
9	William Bates -	William Bates -	Spanish permit -	20 June, 1810	20	40	800	Pearl river -	Simon Favre -	No survey -	-	Feb. 1808	" 1813
10	Jordan Morgan -	Jordan Morgan -	Spanish permit -	14 August, 1809	20	40	800	Pearl river -	Simon Favre -	No survey -	-	Mar. 1810	" 1813
11	Thomas C. Holmes -	Thomas C. Holmes -	Spanish permit -	12 June, 1810	20	40	800	Pearl river -	John B'te Pellerin	No survey -	-	Nov. 1809	" 1813
12	Hugh McColl -	Hugh McColl -	Spanish permit -	12 June, 1810	5	40	200	Pearl river -	John B'te Pellerin	No survey -	-	Nov. 1809	" 1813
13	Daniel McColl -	Daniel McColl -	Spanish permit -	12 June, 1810	5	40	200	Pearl river -	John B'te Pellerin	No survey -	-	Aug. 1809	" 1813
14	Amos Lott - -	Amos Lott - -	Spanish permit -	15 June, 1810	10	40	400	Bolachitta creek	Simon Favre -	No survey -	-	Oct. 1810	" 1813
15	Stephen Lott -	Stephen Lott -	Spanish permit -	15 June, 1810	10	40	400	Reed creek -	Simon Favre -	No survey -	Cultivated -	May 1811	" 1813
16	William Deen -	John Clark - -	Spanish permit -	12 June, 1810	20	40	800	Pearl river -	John B'te Pellerin	No survey -	Cultivated -	Feb. 1810	" 1813
17	Elijah Bates -	Elijah Bates -	Spanish permit -	3 July, 1810	10	40	400	Pearl river -	Simon Favre -	No survey -	-	April 1808	" 1813

18	Joseph Baker -	Joseph Baker -	Spanish permit -	13 June, 1810	5	40	200	Mulatto bayou -	John B'te Pellerin	No survey -	-	April, 1810	" 1813
19	Berthelemy Grelot -	Berthelemy Grelot -	Span. ord. settlem't	26 Decemb. 1793	20	40	800	Wolf river -	Bar. de Carondelet	No survey -	-	Dec. 1793	" 1813
20	Philip Saucier -	Philip Saucier -	Span. ord. settlem't	6 July, 1794	20	40	800	Wolf river -	Bar. de Carondelet	No survey -	-	July, 1794	" 1813
21	Same - -	Etienne Parache -	Span. ord. settlem't	6 July, 1795	20	40	800	Wolf river -	Bar. de Carondelet	No survey -	-	July, 1795	" 1813
22	Martial Nicaise and Joseph Nicaise	Philip Saucier -	Span. ord. settlem't	27 August, 1781	20	40	800	Bay of St. Louis	Peter Piernas -	No survey -	-	Aug. 1781	" 1813
23	Madame Charlo -	John B. Saucier -	Span. ord. settlem't	27 August, 1781	20	40	800	Bay of St. Louis	Peter Piernas -	No survey -	-	Aug. 1781	" 1813
24	Thomas Anderson -	Thomas Anderson -	Spanish permit lost, but proved by the certificate of S. Favre		20	40	800	Pearl river -	Simon Favre -	No survey -	-	1810	" 1813
25	David Burnet -	David Burnet -	Spanish permit -	4 August, 1810	30	30	900	Pearl river -	Simon Favre -	No survey -	-	1810	" 1813
26	James Burnet -	James Burnet -	Spanish permit -	3 June, 1810	30	30	900	Pearl river -	Simon Favre -	No survey -	-	Dec. 1810	" 1813
27	Samuel Cobun -	Samuel Cobun -	Spanish permit -	10 August, 1810	30	40	1,200	Pearl river -	Simon Favre -	No survey -	-	July, 1811	" 1813
28	James Davenport -	James Davenport -	Spanish permit -	10 June, 1810	30	40	1,200	Pearl river -	Simon Favre -	No survey -	-	May, 1811	" 1813
29	John Burnet, jr. -	John Burnet, jr. -	Spanish permit -	8 July, 1810	30	40	1,200	Pearl river -	Simon Favre -	No survey -	-	June, 1810	" 1813
30	John Burnet, sen. -	John Burnet, sen. -	Spanish permit -	8 July, 1810	30	40	1,200	Pearl river -	Simon Favre -	No survey -	-	" 1810	" 1813
31	Daniel Burnet -	Daniel Burnet -	Spanish permit -	6 July, 1810	30	40	1,200	Pearl river -	Simon Favre -	No survey -	-	" 1809	" 1813
32	Frances Nailor -	Frances Nailor -	Spanish permit -	18 August, 1810	30	40	1,200	Pearl river -	Simon Favre -	No survey -	-	" 1810	" 1813
33	Benjamin Howard -	Benjamin Howard -	Spanish permit -	18 July, 1810	20	40	800	Pearl river -	Simon Favre -	No survey -	-	May, 1809	" 1813
34	Amos Burnet -	Amos Burnet -	Spanish permit -	21 August, 1810	30	40	1,200	Pearl river -	Simon Favre -	No survey -	-	Nov. 1810	" 1813
35	John Griffin & Bruno Griffin - -	Samuel Griffin -	Spanish permit -	15 January, 1803	20	40	800	Tensa river -	Joaquin de Osorno	8 May, 1804	J. Collins -	1792	May, 1813
36	Mariane Rouois -	Louis Baudin -	Span. cert. of survey and ord. settlement	7 Novemb. 1806; 22 October, 1792	-	-	600	Fish river -	Bar. de Carondelet	7 Novem. 1806	J. Collins -	1799	" 1813
37	Theophilus Powell -	Michael Hartley -	Spanish permit -	4 March, 1803	20	40	800	Sawmill creek -	Joaquin de Osorno	No survey -	-	1801	" 1813
38	Heirs of John Murrell	John Murrell -	Spanish permit and order of survey	7 May, 1804	20	40	800	Three mile cr'k	Joaquin de Osorno	No survey -	-	1805	June, 1813
39	Gerald Burne -	Gerald Burne -	Spanish permit -	10 July, 1800	not specified		1885.94	Bayou Wilts -	Manuel de Lanzos	No survey -	-	1800	" 1813
40	Charles Hall -	Charles Hall -	Spanish permit -	16 July, 1815	not specified		400	Bay. Honey Cut	Francis Maxent -	No survey -	-	1805	" 1813
41	Catherine Mottus, Gertrude Espejo, Anthony Espejo, Catharine Espejo	Anthony Espejo -	Spanish certificate of survey	11 April, 1804	-	-	800	Potarge creek -	Joaquin de Osorno	18 April, 1804	J. Collins -	1802	" 1813
42	Jean P. Baptiste, Pierre Baptiste, Louise Baptiste, Kenriette Baptiste, Soulange Baptiste, Diego Baptiste	Pierre Baptiste -	Spanish ord. survey	11 October, 1808	40	unknown		Bayou Hamon -	John V. Morales -	No survey -	-	1792	" 1813
43	Heirs of Rob't Wolfington - -	Robert Wolfington -	Spanish permit -	15 Decemb. 1805	24	40	960	Tensa river -	Francis St. Maxent	No survey -	-	1803	" 1813
44	Isabelle N. Campbell	I. N. Campbell -	Spanish permit -	21 August, 1810	20	10	200	E. of Mobile bay	Cayetano Perez -	No survey -	-	1811	" 1813
45	George Hudson -	George Hudson -	Spanish permit -	1 February, 1810	ordina.	quanti.	-	Pascagoula river	Joseph Collins -	No survey -	-	Cul. 1808	Aug. 1813
46	William Ellis -	William Ellis -	Span. ord. survey -	9 Septemb. 1806	unknown		-	East side of Mobile river -	John V. Morales -	No survey -	-	Cul. 1801	June, 1813
47	James Ware -	James Ware -	Spanish permit -	28 July, 1804	-	-	-	Pascagoula river	—— Folch -	No survey -	-	In. 1805 or 6	1813
48	Joseph McClandless	Charles Proffit -	Spanish permit -	28 Novemb. 1811	unknown		-	Mobile bay -	Cayetano Perez -	No survey -	-	Jan. 1803	Nov. 1813
49	Josiah Blakeley -	Joseph Collins -	Span. perm. or certif. from the command't	26 April, 1803	about 4,000 acres			Mobile river -	Joaquin Osorno -	No survey -	-	Oct. 1812	May, 1813
50	Same - -	Henry Sossier -	Spanish permit -	14 October, 1805	about 4,000 acres			Mobile bay -	Fras. St. Maxent -	No survey -	-	1807	" 1813
51	Same - -	Thomas Powell -	Spanish permit -	10 Novemb. 1805	about 4,000 acres			Mobile bay -	Fras. St. Maxent -	No survey -	-	1810	" 1813
52	Diego Alverez -	Diego Alverez -	Spanish permit -	17 August, 1810	unknown		-	Bayou Sarah -	Cayetano Perez -	No survey -	-	1810	" 1813
53	Thomas Malone -	Burwell Perry -	Spanish permit -	3 Novemb. 1806	24	40	960	Sawmill creek -	Fras. St. Maxent -	No survey -	-	Dec. 1811	" 1813
54	Harry Toulmin and Edmund P. Gaines	John Trouillet -	Spanish ord. survey	18 June, 1798	20	40	800	Dog river -	Manuel Gayoso -	7 April, 1804	J. Collins -	Inh. & cul. 1798	3 or 4 years 1809

REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.			Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Cultivation and inhabitation.	
					Front.	Deep.	Area in arpens.					From	To
55	Louis Dolive -	Louis Dolive -	Spanish permit -	23 August, 1805	-	-	74	E. of Mobile bay -	Frans. St. Maxent -	No survey -	- - -	Decem. 1808	May, 1813
56	William McVoy -	William McVoy -	Span. ord. survey -	18 March, 1809	-	-	480	Manette bay -	Courille -	No survey -	- - -	Cul. 1813	June, 1813
57	Charles Conway -	Charles Conway -	Span. ord. survey -	12 Septem. 1806	40	20	800	E. of Mobile bay -	Intend't, according to Pintado's order	No survey -	- - -	1811	1813
58	William Hunt -	William Hunt -	Span. ord. survey -	14 Septem. 1807	Not specified		650	Pearl river -	Same -	No survey -	- - -	1811	1813
59	Thomas Byrne -	Thomas Byrne -	Spanish permit -	15 Febr'y, 1803	20	40	800	Bayou Wilts -	Joaquin Osorno -	No survey -	- - Inh.	1806, cul. 1810,	June, 1813
60	Cath. Mottus, and her children, by Espejo	Jacques de la Saussage	Spanish permit -	2 Decem. 1782	25	40	1,000	Bayou Mattien -	Grimarest -	No survey -	- - -	1802	1811
61	Jacob Bend or Geo. Farragut	Jacob Bend -	Span. ord. survey -	21 October, 1806	-	-	800	Pascagoula river -	John V. Morales -	No survey -	- - -	Fruit trees planted in 1805, 1811	1814
62	Estate of W. Simson	William Simson -	Spanish permit -	10 March, 1803	-	About	22,000	Isla de las Chosas	Joaquin de Osorno -	9 March, 1803	J. Collins -	July, 1803	June, 1813
63	Nicholas Cook -	Nicholas Cook -	Spanish permit -	29 October, 1800	-	-	1,260	Fish river -	Manuel de Lanzos -	18 Octob. 1800	Same -	1800	1809 or '10
64	Eloise T. Innerrarity	J. Innerrarity & wife	Spanish permit -	6 April, 1809	40	30	1,200	Mobile river -	Cayetano Perez -	No survey -	- - -	1809	June, 1813
65	Joseph Fernandez -	Bonnille -	French concession -	27 Decem. 1763	½ lea. by ordin'y depth			Fish river -	Dabbadie -	No survey -	- - -	1780	1804
66	Alexis Truillet and Basile Chastang	Basile Chastang -	Spanish permit -	8 October, 1804	Unknown -		-	Bayou Bucuma -	Joaquin Osorno -	No survey -	- - -	1804	1808
67	Benja. Ward, Daniel Ward, John Ward	Daniel Ward -	Spanish concession	29 April, 1783	35	40	1,400	Bayou Mattien -	Grimarest -	No survey -	- - -	1783	1800
68	Simon Favre -	Simon Andre -	Spanish permit -	10 July, 1798	10	40	400	Mobile river -	Manuel Gayoso -	Used for cutting wood upon.			
69	John Forbes & Co. -	John Linder -	Spanish concession	22 Febr'y, 1797	Unknown -		-	Island Juanna -	Bar. de Carondelet -	12 July, 1796	J. Linder. Inh. &	cul. in 1799, and fm the plantation it appears	previously.
70	Stephen Bradford -	Stephen Bradford -	Spanish permit -	1 May, 1810	-	-	acrs. 800 & 20	Pascagoula river	Francisco Hevia -	No survey -	- - -	1810	1813
71	Benj. Goodin, sr. & wife. Caty Cook -		Spanish permit -	30 April, 1810	-	-	800	Pascagoula river	Francisco Hevia -	No survey -	- - -	1809	1813
72	Heirs of Dominique Dolive	D. Dolive -	Span. ord. survey -	27 Jan'ry, 1787	-	-	1,199	Mobile river -	Stephen Miro -	9 March, 1804	Gordon - -	At differ't times from 1781	1807
73	Aubin de la Forest -	John Bte. Nicholas -	Sp. certif. of survey	25 June, 1807	-	-	960	Pascagoula bay -	Unknown -	25 June, 1807	Collins - -	1799	1813
74	Benj. Goodin, sr. -	B. Goodin, sr. -	Spanish permit -	30 April, 1810	-	-	800	Pascagoula river	Francisco Hevia -	No survey -	- - -	1807	1813
75	Benj. Lanier & wife	Elizabeth Wilson -	Spanish ord. survey	1 Decem. 1803	-	-	600	Pascagoula bay -	Cayetano Perez -	27 June, 1805	J. Collins -	1807	1813
76	Joseph Raby -	Joseph Raby -	Span. ord. settlem't	16 March, 1791	-	-	400	Pascagoula bay -	Stephen Miro -	No survey -	- - -	1806	1813
77	Louis A. Caillavet ..	Augustin Glode -	Same -	18 Decem. 1798	-	-	200	Vieux fort river -	Gayoso -	Fruit trees planted in 1800 or 1801		1811	1813
78	Louisa Bousage -	Louisa Bousage -	Spanish concession	19 August, 1795	Unknown -		-	Bayou Bateria -	Bar. de Carondelet -	No survey -	- - -	1784	Jan. 1814
79	James Caller -	David Gaines -	Spanish permit -	28 Novem. 1805	10	40	400	Tensa river -	Max. St. Maxent -	No survey -	- - -	1805	1809
80	Representatives of Simon Favre	Simon Favre -	A purchase from the Span. Governm't	19 October, 1803	-	-	1,000	Pearl river -	John V. Morales -	No survey -	- - -	1806	Feb. 1814
81	Heirs of J. B. Baudreau	Jean Bte. Baudreau	Spanish permit -	21 Febr'y, 1786	-	-	10,000	Pascagoula bay -	Peter de Faviot -	No survey -	- - -	1780	1813
82	Heirs of C. McCurtin	Cornelius McCurtin	Spanish ord. survey	28 May, 1802	-	-	800	Dog river -	This land is afterwards claim'd by the same persons, under an order of survey. John V. Morales -	No survey -	- - -	1783	1793
83	John Bte. Frenier -	John Bte. Frenier -	Spanish permit -	17 August, 1805	Unknown -		-	Near Escautaba	St. Maxent -	No survey -	- - -	& subsequently 1805	at diff. times 1814
84	Sterling Dupree -	Sterling Dupree -	Sp. certificate surv.	3 July, 1805	-	-	800	Pascagoula river	Unknown -	3 July, 1805	J. Collins -	1805	1814
85	Charles Simmons -	William Wilson -	Spanish permit -	2 Decem. 1803	-	-	800	Pascagoula river	Joaquin Osorno -	1 July, 1805	J. Collins, at diff.	times from 1805	to 1813
86	Regis Duret -	Regis Duret -	Spanish permit -	12 June, 1800	One mile square		-	Near Mobile -	Cayetano Perez -	No survey -	- - -	1809	1814

87	Armand Duplantie and wife	Constance Rochon	Spanish concession	10 Septem. 1798	20	40	800	Bayou Sarah	Manuel Gayoso	No survey	- - -	1798	1803
88	Marie Lou. Dupont	Mary L. Dupont	Spanish permit	1 Decem. 1803	One le	ague s	quare	Pascagoula river	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- - -	1774	1814
89	Francisco Krebs	Francisco Krebs	Spanish permit	29 Novem. 1803	One le	ague b	y three	Bayou Chico	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- - -	1774	1814
90	Baron de Feriet	J. B. Lorendine	Spanish permit	26 May, 1800	80	40	3,200	Bayou Bolan	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- - -	1805	1814
91	Same	J. B. Lorendine	Spanish permit	19 Septem. 1800	6 or 7	40	-	Bayou Bolan	Lanzos	No survey	- - -	1805	1814
92	Aaron Barlow & wife	Sarah Killcreas	Do. confirm'd by Int.	25 Septem. 1806	Unkno	wn	789	Tensa river	John V. Morales	9 Novem. 1804	J. Collins	1805	1814
93	Peter Darrigade	Peter Darrigade	Spanish certificate	20 April, 1801	-	-	377⅓	Bay of St. Louis	- -	No survey	- - -	1806 or '7	1814
94	Heirs of J. B. Baudreau	J. B. Baudreau	Spanish ord. survey	22 October, 1806	Unkno	wn	-	Pascagoula bay or Bellefontain	John V. Morales	No survey	- - -	1780	1813
95	Same	John Bte. Baudreau	Spanish ord. survey	22 October, 1806	Unkno	wn	-	Pascagoula bay	John V. Morales	No survey	- - -	1780	1813
96	Same	Augustin Moro	Spanish ord. survey	16 April, 1788	12	40	480	Pascagoula river	Stephen Miro	No survey	- - -	1783	1813
97	Heirs of R. Gilchrist	Robert Gilchrist	Decree of Intendant	22 Septem. 1806	Unkno	wn	890	Tensa river	John V. Morales	No survey	- - -	1795	1814
98	Francisco Suarez	Francisco Suarez	Spanish permit	5 April, 1800	½ leagu	e by 3	leagues	Andrews bay	Manuel Lanzos	No survey	- - -	1796	1814
99	William Pollard	William Pollard	Sp. certificate that a permit had been granted.	Permit 1805	-	-	800	Hartley's creek	Osorno	No survey	- - -	1805	1813
100	Joshua Kennedy	J. B. Alexander	Spanish concession	9 August, 1787	-	-	12,800	Bayou Mattien	Stephen Miro	No survey	- - -	Formerly cultivated.	
101	Same	Cornelius M'Curtin	Spanish concession	3 July, 1798	Unkno	wn	-	Tensa river	Stephen Miro	No survey	- - -	1785	1813
102	Same	Jn. Bte. Lorendiny	Same	16 August, 1787	Unkno	wn	-	Tensa river	Stephen Miro	No survey	Cultivated for many years previous to		1804
103	Wm. E. Kennedy*	William Price	Span. ord. settlem't	18 Novem. 1798	-	-	60	Near Mobile	Gayoso	No survey	- - -	Cultiv. 1812	1814
104	Same	Francisco Suarez	Span. ord. settlem't	17 July, 1798	-	-	4,800	Mobile bay	Gayoso	No survey	- - -	1807	1813
105	Same	John Ward	Span. ord. settlem't	3 July, 1798	-	-	6,400	Mobile bay	Gayoso	No survey	- - -	About 1800 to	1814
106	Heirs of J. Trouillet & Eliz. Chastang	John Trouillet	Spanish concession	27 Novem. 1787	-	-	800	Tombigbee river	Stephen Miro	Formerly cultivated for a number of years, but the length of time is unascertained.			

WILLIAM CRAWFORD, *Commissioner.*

* [*Note to* 103—*W. E. Kennedy.*] ST. STEPHEN'S, *Nov.* 23, 1817. Hon. J. MEIGS, *Commissioner General Land Office:* SIR: I beg leave most respectfully to solicit your attention to a part of my report on the land claims in West Florida. The claim to which I particularly refer, is that of William E. Kennedy, No. 103, under the following head. "Register of claims to land in the District East of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on orders of survey, permission to settle, or other written evidence of claim, derived either from the French, British, or Spanish authorities, which, in the opinion of the Commissioner, ought to be confirmed." When this claim was reported on, there was no evidence to impeach it, and evidence was adduced to prove that the land claimed had been cultivated according to the Spanish regulations for granting land. No survey accompanied the claim, and it was impossible to know what ground was covered by it: but it is now ascertained that this claim takes in Fort Charlotte and most of the public buildings in and near the town of Mobile. From this circumstance, and some others, I am now convinced that this claim is fraudulent, and ought to be rejected. I beg that this letter may be taken as a part of my report upon the above claim of William E. Kennedy, and that it may be laid before Congress, together with my general report.

I have the honor to be, with very great respect, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM CRAWFORD.

Remarks on the preceding Claims.—Though many of the preceding claims have originated since the treaty of St. Ildefonso, and are therefore void, yet it is conceived that they ought to be confirmed, so far only as they do not exceed eight hundred arpens, under the equity of the 14th section of the act of Congress passed on the 26th of March, 1804, and the 2d section of the act passed on the 2d of March, 1805, which last secures to the actual settler, on the 20th day of December, 1803, (that being the time of the establishment of the American Government in part of Louisiana,) a tract of land of one mile square, provided such settlement was made with the permission of the proper Spanish officer.

Most of the preceding claims which originated previous to the 1st of October, 1800, are forfeited under the Spanish law, for the want of inhabitation and cultivation within the time required by that law, and must rest, for confirmation, on the acts of Congress above recited. It is conceived, therefore, that the quantity confirmed ought not to exceed eight hundred arpens. It may also be observed, that many of the claims have emanated from commandants, whose powers to permit to settle did not extend beyond 800 arpens.

Where a settler who has a claim has fairly purchased other claims, it is supposed that the law recognizes in the purchaser all the right which the original claimant had, and that two or more such claims, where the requirements of the law have been complied with, ought to be confirmed.

The instructions of Gayoso seem to acknowledge a right in the settler, after three years' inhabitation and cultivation.

Where a tract of land has been inhabited and cultivated for three years, with the permission of the proper Spanish officer, I have supposed that the claim ought to be confirmed, though the land has not been regularly inhabited and cultivated afterwards, if it has not been subsequently granted by the Spanish Government.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD, *Commissioner.*

Register of Claims to Land in the District East of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on orders of survey, (requettes,) permission to settle, or other written evidence of claim, derived from either the French, British, or Spanish authorities, which, in the opinion of the Commissioner, ought to be confirmed.

TOWN LOTS.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed, in feet.			Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Cultivation and inhabitation.	
					Front.	Deep.	Area.					From	To
1	Benito Caro	Benito Caro	Spanish permit	1 Decemb., 1803	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- - -	March, 1799	May, 1813
2	Barthelemy Lorent	B. Lorent	Spanish ord. survey	11 May, 1793	72	120	8,640	Mobile	Manuel de Lanzos	No survey	- - -	1793	1813
3	Joseph Haister	James Garland	Spanish ord. survey	4 Septemb. 1797	72	120	8,640	Mobile	Frans St. Maxent	No survey	- - -	1798	1813
4	Mariane Rouois	Mariane Rouois	Spanish permit	3 January, 1812	60	120	7,200	Mobile	John V. Morales	No survey	- - -	March, 1798	1813
5	Gertrude Espejo, Anthony Espejo, Catherine Espejo	Anthony Espejo	Spanish permit	16 March, 1803	150	140	21,000	Mobile	Joaquin de Osorno	No survey	- - -	1798	1813
6	Same	Same	Span. ord. settlem't	20 August, 1804	60	140	8,400	Mobile	Folch	No survey	- - -	1804	1813
7	Andrew Bloque	Andrew Bloque	Span. ord. settlem't	27 October, 1792	70	120	8,400	Mobile	Baron de Carondelet	No survey	- - -	1793	1813
8	Elizabeth Chastang	Raphael Hidalgo	Span. ord. settlem't	26 May, 1798	72	120	8,640	Mobile	Manuel de Lanzos	No survey	- - -	1799	June, 1813
9	Heirs of Simon Landry	S. Landry	Span. ord. settlem't	10 March, 1790	78	120	9,360	Mobile	Stephen Miro	No survey	- - -	1783	1813
10	Same	Simon Landry	Span. ord. settlem't	3 August, 1787	120	150	18,000	Mobile	Stephen Miro	No survey	- - -	1783	1813
11	Same	Simon Landry	Span. ord. settlem't	9 Novemb. 1791	35	120	4,200	Mobile	Stephen Miro	No survey	- - -	1783	1813
12	Same	Simon Favre	Span. ord. settlem't	13 August, 1798	108	120	12,960	Mobile	- - -	No survey	- - -	1783	1813
13	William Mitchell	William Mitchell	Span. ord. settlem't	2 February, 1793	72	120	8,640	Mobile	Baron de Carondelet	No survey	- - -	1780	1813
14	William Fisher	Francis Mazurier	Brit. certif. survey	30 May, 1766	131	85	11,135	Mobile	- - -	30 May, 1766	Henry Fairchild	1780	1813
15	Leon Nicholas	Narcisso Brantin	Span. ord. settlem't	6 May, 1797	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Baron de Carondelet	No survey	- - -	1797	1813
16	Philip, (a free negro)	Philip	Span. ord. settlem't	13 August, 1798	Ordinary quantity			Mobile	Manuel Gayoso	No survey	- - -	1793	1813
17	Regis Duret	Simon de Castro	Span. ord. settlem't	22 August, 1792	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Baron de Carondelet	No survey	- - -	1792	1813
18	Manette Nicholas	Pedro Vivares	Span. ord. settlem't	6 May, 1795	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Baron de Carondelet	No survey	- - -	1795	1813
19	Julia Villars	Julia Villars	Span. ord. settlem't	22 October, 1792	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Baron de Carondelet	No survey	- - -	1793	1813
20	Same	Julia Villars	Span. ord. settlem't	22 August, 1798	36	120	4,320	Mobile	Manuel Gayoso	No survey	- - -	1798	1813
21	Auguste Collin	Auguste Collin	Span. ord. settlem't	2 April, 1793	72	120	8,640	Mobile	Baron de Carondelet	No survey	- - -	1793	1813
22	William Fisher	Francis Mazurier	Brit. certif. survey	30 May, 1766	131	85	11,135	Mobile	- - -	30 May, 1766	H. Fairchild	1780	1813
23	John Forbes & Co.	James Bready	Spanish permit	5 Novemb. 1804	70	120	8,400	Mobile	Joaquin de Osorno	No survey	- - -	Cul. 1801	1813
24	Same	Felix Geraud	Span. ord. settlem't	22 October, 1792	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Baron de Carondelet	No survey	- - -	Cul. 1801	1813
25	John Forbes & Co.	Constantine M'Kenna	Span. ord. settlem't	26 January, 1799	96	120	11,520	Mobile	Manuel Gayoso	No survey	- - -	Cul. 1801	June, 1813
26	Same	Cornelius Dunn	Span. ord. settlem't	12 August, 1796	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Baron de Carondelet	No survey	- - -	1802 or 1803	1813
27	Francis Girard	Francis Girard	Span. ord. settlem't	11 Decemb. 1795	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Joaquin de Osorno	No survey	- - -	1804	May, 1813
28	Mariane Rouois	Christo. S. Saucier	Span. ord. settlem't	1 May, 1793	72	120	8,640	Mobile	Baron de Carondelet	No survey	- - -	Jan'y, 1795	1813
29	Peter H. Hobart	Gabriel Tixerrant	Span. ord. settlem't	11 April, 1797	70	120	8,400	Mobile	Baron de Carondelet	No survey	- - -	1809	1813
30	Honore Collin	Peter Trouillet	Span. ord. settlem't	15 February, 1793	72	120	8,640	Mobile	Baron de Carondelet	No survey	- - -	1796	1813
31	Pierre Lucien	Joseph, (a free negro)	Span. ord. settlem't	13 August, 1798	42	120	5,040	Mobile	Manuel Gayoso	No survey	- - -	1801	1813
32	Joshua Kennedy	George Tucker	Span. ord. settlem't	10 July, 1798	72	120	8,640	Mobile	Manuel Gayoso	No survey	- - -	1811	June, 1813
33	Anne Surtill	Mariah Aygue	Spanish permit	24 March, 1803	120	120	144,000	Mobile	Joaquin de Osorno	No survey	- - -	Cul. 1810	1813
34	Margarit Goguette	M. Goguette	Spanish ord. survey	23 May, 1800	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- - -	Cul. 1809 and a house standing	1813
35	Lucy Lorendiny, Trasy Lorendiny, Daniel Lorendiny, Pierre Lorendiny, Benja. Lorendiny, Claire Lorendiny, Cydoine Lorendiny	M. Triton	Span. ord. settlem't	22 October, 1792	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Baron de Carondelet	No survey	- - -	1797	June, 1813

36	Alban Robeshow	David Barry	Span. ord. settlem't	19 June,	1798	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Gayoso	No survey	Cultivated 1802	Inh. 1809	1813
37	James Innerrarity	James Innerrarity	Spanish permit	1 July,	1804	144	Unknowm		Mobile	Osorno	No survey		1809 or 1810	1813
38	Same	James Bready	Spanish permit	6 Novemb.	1804	60	280	16,800	Mobile	Joaquin de Osorno	No survey		1805	1813
39	Lewis Judson	Thomas Powell	Spanish permit	31 March,	1803	70	120	7,200	Mobile	Joaquin de Osorno	Drained and enclosed in 1808			
40	Peter H. Hobart	Thomas Powell	Spanish permit	4 May,	1798	72	120	8,640	Mobile	Manuel Gayoso	Formerly enclosed, and a house now standing upon it			
41	Same	Protionilla Gallegos	Span. ord. survey	8 April,	1803	120	120	14,400	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	A house was built on the lot in November, 1812			
42	Benjamin Dubroca	Benjamin Dubroca	Spanish permit	21 April,	1803	120	120	14,400	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey		Dec. 1812	June, 1813
43	Louis Dolive	Nicholas Weeks	Spanish permit	26 May,	1803	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Joaquin de Osorno	No survey	Enclosed in 1805	1811	1813
44	Same	Margarit Gollet	Spanish permit	23 May,	1800	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey		1812	1813
45*	Joshua Kennedy	J. B. Lorendiny	Spanish concession	17 June,	1798	-	-	-	Mobile	Gayoso	No survey		Cul. 1805	1814
46*	Henry Baudain	Henry Baudain	Spanish concession	10 July,	1798	-	-	-	Mobile	Gayoso	No survey	A house upon the lot built in 1806		
47	William. E Kennedy	Joshua Baker	Spanish concession	4 May,	1798	72	120	8,640	Mobile	Gayoso	No survey	A house is upon the lot		
48	Heirs of T. Price	James Bready	Spanish concession	4 May,	1798	72	120	8,640	Mobile	Gayoso	Inhabited and cultivated for many years last past			

WILLIAM CRAWFORD, *Commissioner.*

* Memorandum, in pencil mark, in copy, referring to letter of 4th April, 1828, from the Register at St. Stephens, stating the claim to be fraudulent; and letter of 12th April, 1830, to same.

Register of Claims to Land in the District East of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on grants said to be derived from either the French, British, or Spanish Government, which, in the opinion of the undersigned Commissioner, are not valid, agreeably to the laws, usages, or customs of such Government.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Cultivation and inhabitation.
1	Harry Toulmin aud Edmd. P. Gaines	John Trouillet	Spanish Government	14 August, 1807	800 arpens	Deer river	John V. Morales	11 Aug. 1807	V. S. Pintado	Unoccupied for 12 or 15 years.
2	John Forbes & Co.	John Forbes & Co.	Spanish Government	7 March, 1807	5,040 arpens	Tensa river	John V. Morales	26 February	V. S. Pintado	From 1803 to June, 1812.
3	Claire R. Carman	Margaret Collon	Spanish Government	18 June, 1805	1,600 acres	Pearl river	John V. Morales	26 Nov. 1802	C. Trudeau	Not proved to be inhab. nor cultiv.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD, *Commissioner.*

Remarks on the preceding Grants.—All these grants have been made by the Spanish Government since the right of Spain to Louisiana has ceased to exist, and are therefore void; nor are they entitled to the benefit of the proviso contained in the 14th section of the act of Congress passed on the 26th of March, 1804, in favor of settlers, because the grantee was not a settler at the date of grant, nor has been since; except in No. 2, which cannot be confirmed, because the quantity exceeds that allowed by law, and the claimant has other claims coming within the proviso of the law. Some of these grants refer to ancient grants or concessions, and purport to be made in consideration thereof.

No. 1 refers to a grant said to have been made by the French Government, and destroyed at the time of the conquest of the Floridas by the Spaniards. These claims cannot derive any validity from the grants or concessions said to have been anciently made, because they do not appear; nor from the subsequent confirmation, because, at the time of confirmation, Spain had no right to Louisiana; nor can the subsequent grant be any evidence of a former grant or concession, because the evidence adduced, if any, to prove that there was a former grant, was before a tribunal which had no cognizance of the case.

It is certainly remarkable that Spain should not have confirmed, until the year 1807, a grant said to have been destroyed at the conquest of the Floridas, after a rightful possession of the country for twenty years. If any reference in a grant void in itself were sufficient to render it valid, the whole of Louisiana might have been granted by Spain after she had transferred her right, even without the control of the true proprietor.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD, *Commissioner.*

Register of Claims to Land in the District East of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on orders of survey, (requettes,) permission to settle, or other written evidence of claim, derived from either the French, British, or Spanish authorities, which, in the opinion of the Commissioner, ought not to be confirmed.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.			Where situated.	By whom issued.	Surveyed.		Cultivation and inhabitation.
					Front.	Deep.	Area in arpens.			When.	By whom.	
1	James Wilkinson	J. Moreau	Span. ord. settlem't	1 August, 1781	Unknown			Mobile bay	Galvez	No survey		Not inhabited nor cultivated.
2	Jerome Ryan	Joseph Nichola	Spanish permit	28 June, 1810	10	40	400	Vieux fort	John B. Pellerin	No survey		Not inhabited nor cultivated.
3	Eloise T. Innerarrity	Peter Trouillet	Spanish permit	15 July, 1782	30	35	1,050	Bayou Mattien	Grimarest	No survey		In 1811.
4	Louis Trouillet	Louis Trouillet	Spanish permit	15 Septemb. 1810	20	40	800	Mobile river	Cayetano Perez	No survey		From 1811 to 1812.
5	Michael McKinsey	Francis Monpreuell	Spanish permit	13 October, 1803	25	25	625	Bon Secours river	Cayetano Perez	No survey		Not inhabited nor cultivated.
6	Gertrude Espejo, Anthony Espejo, Catherine Espejo	Anthony Espejo	Spanish permit	22 March, 1803	40	80	3,200	Bayou del Salta	Joaquin Osorno	No survey		From 1806 to 1813.
7	Alexis Trouillet	Alexis Trouillet	Spanish permit	16 January, 1808	7	40	280	Bay Minette	Antonio Salazar	No survey		From 1809 to 1810.
8	John Cook and Francis Lennan	John Cook	Spanish permit	10 Decemb. 1803	25	30	750	Bon Secours river	Cayetano Perez	No survey		From 1810 to 1812.
9	Conrad Jacobs and Francis Lennan	Conrad Jacobs	Spanish permit	11 October, 1803	25	25	625	Bon Secours river	Cayetano Perez	No survey		Never inhabited nor cultivated.
10	James Caller	William Hartley	Spanish permit	2 May, 1802	1½ league		square	Bayou Saray	Cayetano Perez	No survey		Not proved to be inhab. nor cul. The signature does not appear to be that of Perez.
11	Margarite Goguette	M. Goguette	Spanish permit	30 March, 1810	Unknown			Pascagoula river	Francisco Hevia	No survey		Not inhabited nor cultivated.
12	Miguel D. A. Eslava	M. D. A. Eslava	Spanish ord. survey	26 March, 1803	20	40	800	Mobile bay	Joaquin Osorno			Not inhabited nor cultivated.
13	Miguel Eslava	Miguel Eslava	Spanish permit	25 February, 1803			5,000	Dog river	J. Osorno	28 May, 1809	J. Collins	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
14	Louis Dolive	Louis Dolive	Spanish permit	3 Decemb. 1803			20,025	East of Mobile bay	Cayetano Perez	No survey		Not inhabited nor cultivated.
15	Diego McVoy	Diego McVoy	Spanish ord. survey	8 Novemb. 1806			484	Near Mobile	V. S. Pintado	15 Nov. 1806	J. Collins	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
16	Samuel Kitchen	Richard Wantman	Spanish ord. survey	11 October, 1806			400	Chickasaw bayou	John V. Morales	No survey		Not inhabited nor cultivated.
17	Cornelius Rane and Prudence Rane	Cornelius Rane	Spanish permit	8 October, 1787			480	Tensa river	Stephen Miro	No survey		Inhabited and cultivated three or four years by the present claimant, but afterwards by Gilchrist, another claimant.
18	James Bready	James Bready	Spanish permit	12 February, 1810			800	Bayou Chotoge	Cayetano Perez	No survey		Not inhabited nor cultivated.
19	Thomas Hutchins	Thomas Hutchins	Spanish ord. survey	2 April, 1810			800	Pascagoula river	Hevia	No survey		Not inhabited nor cultivated.
20	William Tarvin	Samuel Moore	Span. ord. settlem't	3 August, 1787	12	40	480	Tensa river	Stephen Miro	No survey		Not inhabited nor cultivated.
21	Same	William Tarvien	Spanish permit	19 Septemb. 1806	12	40	480	Tensa river	Morales	No survey		Not inhabited nor cultivated.
22	Jacob Bend	Jacob Bend	Spanish permit	22 August, 1809			820	Bayou Rillieux	Joseph Collins	25 August, 1809	J. Collins	From 1803 to 1813. Bend has another claim in his own name, which has been reported upon favorably.
23	Charles Conway	Louis Dolive	Spanish permit	8 October, 1804	15 miles long, and 8 wide			Bayou Rose	Joaquin Osorno	No survey		A part cultivated in 1809 to 1813.
24	Narcisso Brentin	Narcisso Brentin	Spanish permit	10 January, 1794			800	Tombigbee river	B. de Carondelet	No survey		Not inhabited nor cultivated.
25	Hypolite Alexandre	H. Alexandre	Spanish permit	9 January, 1803			3,000	Bayou Frais	Joaquin Osorno	No survey		Not inhabited nor cultivated.
26	Asa Hartfield	Alexander Durant	Spanish permit	21 April, 1810	20	40	800	Pascagoula river	Francisco Hevia	No survey		From Oct. 1810, to Dec. 1810.
27	William Hall	Charles Hall	Spanish permit	6 June, 1810			300	Pascagoula river	John V. Morales	No survey		Not inhabited nor cultivated.
28	Nathan Smith	William Smith	Spanish permit	12 June, 1810	20	40	800	Pearl river	John B. Pellerin	No survey		Feb. 1810, to Feb. 1813. The claim of Smith was transferred within less than three yrs. from the date of permit.

29	Burwell Perry	Thomas Griffin	Spanish permit	12 June, 1810	10	40	400	Near Pearl river	John B. Pellerin	No survey	-	From August, 1810, to 1813. The same observations apply to Perry's claim.
30	Dugald McColl	Dugald McColl	Spanish permit	12 June, 1810	5	40	200	Pearl river	John B. Pellerin	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
31	Robert French	William Sharplin	Spanish permit	12 June, 1810	10	40	400	Pearl river	John B. Pellerin	No survey	-	From Jan. 1811, to Feb. 1813.
32	Joseph Cooper	Joseph Cooper	Spanish permit	14 August, 1809	20	40	800	Pearl river	Simon Favre	No survey	-	From December, 1810, to 1813.
33	Mark O'Conner	Hercules O'Conner	Spanish ord. survey	15 Novemb. 1806	not specified.		4,000	Pearl river	Grand Pret	30 Novem. 1806	Not stated	From 1809 to 1810. O'Conner's order of survey does not specify the place; and it is doubtful whether Grand Pret had any jurisdiction where the land lies.
34	Chas. Roberts & wife	Ralph Philips	British ord. survey	22 June, 1778	-	-	2,000	Pascagoula river	Chester	7 Novem. 1776	E.Durnford	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
35	John Forbes & Co.	John Forbes & Co.	Spanish permit	11 Septemb. 1810	-	-	1½	Adjoining Mobile	Cayetano Perez	Ditched and fenced.		
36	Benj. Goodin, sen.	Benj. Goodin, sen.	Spanish permit	10 May, 1810	-	-	784	Pascagoula river	Francisco Hevia	9 April, 1810	J. Collins	From 1810 to 1813. Goodin has another claim, and he and his wife also one.
37	Louis Dolive	Dominique Dolive	Spanish permit	7 January, 1803	-	-	800	Bayou Bottella	- - -	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
38	Nicholas Weeks	Nicholas Weeks	Spanish permit	2 April, 1803	-	-	3,200	Mobile bay	Cayetano Perez	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
39	Same	Same	Spanish permit	14 April, 1803	1½ leagues by 40 arpens			Point Clara	Cayetano Perez	Used for a cow range		Not inhabited nor cultivated.
40	Francis Gerard	William Simson	This is a part of the land originally claimed by Wm. Simson, and lying on the Isla de las Chosas.							- - -	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
41	Eugenio Lavalle	Eugenio Lavalle	Spanish ord. survey	22 May, 1800	-	-	1,600	Fish river	Cayetano Perez	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
42	Same	Same	Spanish ord. survey	19 May, 1800	-	-	1,600	Point Clara	Cayetano Perez	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
43	Same	Same	Spanish ord. survey	29 May, 1800	-	-	1,600	Olive Point	Cayetano Perez	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
44	Same	Same	Spanish ord. survey	16 May, 1800	-	-	1,600	Fish river	Cayetano Perez	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
45	Isabelle N. Campbell	Isa. N. Campbell	Spanish permit	2 August, 1810	-	-	4	Adjoining Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
46	Heirs of Wm. Simson	John Lynd	Spanish ord. survey	28 Septemb. 1803	-	-	41,606	Pascagoula river	John V. Morales	2 Decem. 1803	V.S.Pintado	Not inhabited nor cultivated. Enclosed in 1812.
47	James Ellis	James Ellis	Spanish permit	4 August, 1810	-	-	600	Pearl river	Simon Favre	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
48	John Wright and Thomas Hutchins	Thomas Hutchins	Spanish permit	24 May, 1794	-	-	47,040	Pearl river	Manuel Lanzos	25 July, 1800	J. Collins	Not inhabited nor cultivated for the present claimants.
49	Benj. Lanier & wife	Gerald Byrne	Spanish concession	19 Novemb. 1798	-	-	1,600	Pascagoula river	Manuel Lanzos	12 March, 1804	J. Collins	Cultivated in 1807, but not since.
50	Same	Thomas Byrne	Same	19 Novemb. 1798	-	-	1,600	Pascagoula river	Manuel Lanzos	At different times in 1804–'5		From 1807 to 1809.
51	Heirs of C. Baudreau	Catalina Baudreau	Same	1 August, 1781	6 leagues in length with various widths			Gulf of Mexico	Galvez	Cattle have been generally kept upon the island, and formerly negroes to attend them, vated.		but not inhabited nor cultivated.
52	Heirs of R. Farmar	John Anault	French concession	20 Decemb. 1710	70	toises by 170 [ses		Dauphin island	Bienville	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
53	Same	Rene Deniot	Same	1 October, 1712	3 arpens by 100 toises			Dauphin island	Bienville	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
54	Same	John Anault	Same	15 Septemb. 1715	60 feet by the same			Same	Is. Buclos	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
55	Same	Same	Same	15 Septemb. 1715	60 feet by the same			Dauphin island	Buclos	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
56	Reps. of James White	James White	Spanish ord. survey	2 January, 1802	-	-	638	Pascagoula river	Joaquin Osorno	14 June, 1805	J. Collins	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
57	Same	Same	Spanish ord. survey	2 February, 1802	-	-	1,964	Petit Bois	Joaquin Osorno	14 Jan. 1795	J. Collins	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
58	Reps. of Simon Fauze	Simon Fauze	Span. ord. survey, recogn'g a Brit. grant	5 March, 1804	-	-	1,200	Pearl river	John V. Morales	No survey	-	Fomerly inhab. and cultivated.
59	Same	Same	Same	5 March, 1804	-	-	1,200	Pearl river	John V. Morales	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
60	Same	Same	A pur. from Span. Gt.	19 October, 1803	20	40	800	Pearl river	John V. Morales	No survey	-	Inhab. and cultivated in 1806.
61	Armand Duplantier	A. Duplantier	Span. cert. of survey	13 August, 1806	-	-	1,738	Pascagoula bay	Unknown	15 Oct. 1806	J. Collins	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
62	Same	Same	Same	13 August, 1806	-	-	2,822	Sea coast	Unknown	2 Oct. 1806	J. Collins	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
63	Margaret Conway	Margaret Conway	Spanish ord. survey	5 August, 1806	between 80 &	96	40	Mobile bay	John V. Morales	Not proved to be		Inhabited nor cultivated.
64	Catalina Moultmaz	C. Moultmaz	Span. ord. settlem't	21 August, 1787	84	40	3,360	Bayou Minette	Stephen Miro	No survey	-	From 1763 to 1781 or 1782.
65	Augustin Lacoste	Augustin Moro	Spanish concession	8 March, 1788	12	40	480	Pascagoula river	Stephen Miro	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
66	Same	Augustin Lacoste	Spanish permit	2 Decemb. 1803	Unknown		-	Bon Secours river	Cayetano Perez	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.

REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed. Front.	Deep.	Area in arpens.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	Surveyed. When.	By whom.	Cultivation and inhabitation.
67	George E. Collins, Sidney E. Collins, Joseph Collins	Thomas Hutchins	Spanish permit	17 May, 1794	Unknown			Pearl river	Manuel Lanzos	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
68	Same	Joseph Collins	Span. cert. of survey	21 October, 1800	-	-	684	Fish river	Unknown	23 May, 1800	C. Trudeau	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
69	Same	Simon Cumbest	Spanish permit	25 February, 1810	20	40	800	Pascagoula river	Joaquin Osorno	5 Jan. 1805	J. Collins	Cultivated in 1803.
70	Same	Joseph Collins	Spanish permit	26 April, 1803	Unknown			Town of Mobile	Joaquin Osorno	3 Jan. 1803	J. Collins	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
71	Same	Joseph Krebs	Spanish permit	1 Decemb. 1803	-	-	800	Pascagoula river	Cayetano Perez	6 July, 1805	J. Collins	A cabin built in 1812.
72	Same	Joseph Collins	Spanish permit	26 April, 1803	About		800	Mobile river	Joaquin Osorno	3 Jan. 1803	J. Collins	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
73	John McDonald	John McDonald	Span. ord. settlement	10 July, 1798	80	40	3,200	Bayou Sarah	Manuel Gayoso	The claimant states, in his notice, that he cultivated the land in 1799, and that he has cultivated it for two years last past; but has not produced any evidence.		
74	Same	Same	Same	10 July, 1798	-	20	Unknown	Mobile river	Manuel Gayoso			
75	John Gravier	Santiago Moguier	Span. cert. of survey	4 August, 1805	-	-	480	Bay of Biloxy	Unknown	4 August, 1805	J. Collins	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
76	John Gravier	Santiago Moguier	Same	25 Septemb. 1806	-	-	760	Same	Unknown	25 Sept. 1806	J. Collins	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
						acres	$72\frac{1}{2}\frac{3,000}{10,000}$					
77	Nicholas J. Peter	Nicholas J. Peter	Spanish ord. survey	6 March, 1806	40	40	1,600	Bay of St. Louis	John V. Morales	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
78	Carriere Momburn	Francisco Carriere	Span. ord. settlement	25 June, 1781	50	120	6,000	Pass Christiane	Galvez	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
79	Same	Same	Same	16 July, 1783	30	40	1,200	Bay of St. Louis	Grimarest	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
80	Constancio Tardif	Constancio Tardif	Spanish concession	10 February, 1789	20	40	800	Bay of St. Louis	Stephen Miro	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
81	Melite Lessassier	Louis A. Lessassier	Span. certificate from the auditors of war	12 Decemb. 1798	15	40	600	Bay of St. Louis	And. L. Armesto	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
82	Cyrus Sibley	Cyrus Sibley	Spanish permit	13 Novemb. 1809	40	40	1,600	Tensa river	Cayetano Perez	No survey	-	Inhab. and cultivated in 1810.
83	Joseph Labat	Joseph Labat	Spanish permit	9 Septemb. 1810	20	40	400	Bay of St. Louis	John B. Pellerin	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
84	Josiah Blakeley	Theophilus Powell	Spanish ord. survey	13 October, 1806	Unknown			Pascagoula river	John V. Morales	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
85	Charles Proffit	C. Proffit	Certificates from the Spa. secretaries that the titles were vacant in 1811	- - -	-	-	18,000	Near Mobile Point	Fr. Canedo, &c.	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
86	Heirs of J. B. Beaudeau	Joseph Bosdere	Spanish ord. survey	21 August, 1787	Unknown			Bay of St. Louis	Stephen Miro	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
87	Cayetano Perez	Widow Duret	Spanish permit	27 May, 1807	35	40	1,400	Mobile bay	Cayetano Perez	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
88	Joshua Kennedy	Richard Tervin	Spanish concession	16 August, 1787	-	-	12,800	Tensa river	Stephen Miro	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
89	Same	Joshua Kennedy	Spanish ord. survey	7 August, 1806	Unknown			Cannon river	John V. Morales	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
90	Joaquin Barela	Joaquin Barela	Spanish ord. survey	13 Septemb. 1806	Unknown			Mobile river	John V. Morales	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
91	Joshua Kennedy	William Weekly	Spanish concession	13 Decemb. 1798	Unknown			Tensa river	Manuel Lemos	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
92	Same	George Tucker	Spanish concession	21 Septemb. 1798	-	-	6,400	Dog river	Manuel Lemos	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
93	William Kennedy and Joshua Kennedy	Wm. McVoy	Spanish ord. survey	13 August, 1806	-	-	19,200	Mobile river	John V. Morales	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
94	Same	Same	Same	13 August, 1806	-	-	20	Near Fort Charlotte	John V. Morales	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
95	Martin de Madrid	M. de Madrid	Spanish ord. survey	15 Septemb. 1806	Unknown			Mobile river	John V. Morales	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
96	Wm. E. Kennedy	William E. Kennedy	Spanish ord. survey	23 July, 1806	40	80	3,200	Mobile river	John V. Morales	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
97	Same	Nicholas Cook	Span. ord. settlement	27 July, 1798	80	80	6,400	Bayou Chotoga	Gayoso	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
98	Same	John B. Lozendine	Same	4 Septemb. 1798	About		6,200	Raft river	Gayoso	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
99	Same	Louis Christin	Spanish ord. survey	3 Septemb. 1806	-	-	12,800	Mobile river	John V. Morales	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
100	Same	Alex. Baudain	Spanish concession	10 July, 1798	-	-	7	Near Mobile	Gayoso	Improved by making a levee, anciently.		
101	Francisco G. Amoys and Wm. E. Kennedy	F. G. Amoys	Spanish ord. survey	2 Decemb. 1803	Unknown			Island Lona	Gilbert Leonard	Stock formerly kept upon it.		

102	Wm. E. Kennedy	Nicholas Cook	Span. ord. settlem't	2 August, 1798	-	-	6,400	Mobile river	Gayoso	No survey	-	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
103	Same	Benjamin Dubroca	Spanish permit	26 February, 1803	-	-	800	Bayou Chatoga	Osorno	A house formerly built upon a short time past.			it, and inhabited and cultivated
104	Joseph D. Degoutin	J. D. Degoutin	Span. ord. settlem't	12 Septemb. 1804	50	40	2,000	Perdido river	Folch	No survey	-	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
105	Joseph M'Candless	Patrick Finn	Spanish permit	6 January, 1803	-	-	7,744	Tombigbee river	Cayetano Perez	Surveyed by private persons without authority.			Not inhabited nor cultivated.
106	Same	Dennis Eruin	Spanish permit	8 March, 1803	-	-	10,240	Three mile creek	Cayetano Perez				Not inhabited nor cultivated.
107	Same	Roger Doud	Spanish permit	1803	-	-	2,560	Choctaw Path	Cayetano Perez				Not inhabited nor cultivated.
108	Same	Dermot Connor	Spanish permit	4 March, 1803	-	-	1,440	Choctaw Path	Cayetano Perez				Not inhabited nor cultivated.
109	Joshua Kennedy	Corn'ls McCurtin	Span. ord. settlem't	16 August, 1787	-	-	12,800	Tensa river	Stephen Miro	No survey	-	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
110	Jesse Rouch	Jesse Rouch	Span. cert. of survey	20 April, 1800	-	-	750	Pearl river	Unknown	20 April, 1807		Kneland	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
111	Jesse & Wm. Rouch	J. & W. Rouch	Same	16 April, 1807	-	-	1,504	Pearl river	Unknown	16 April, 1807		Same	Not inhabited nor cultivated.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD, *Commissioner.*

Remarks on the preceding Claims.—The preceding claims are forfeited—most of them under the Spanish law, for the want of inhabitation and cultivation; and do not appear to be entitled to confirmation under any law of the United States. A few are derived from officers who had no right to grant, or, at most, not on so extensive a scale.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD, *Commissioner.*

Register of Claims to Land in the District East of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on orders of survey, (requettes,) permission to settle, or other written evidence of claim, which, in the opinion of the Commissioner, ought not to be confirmed.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed, in feet.			Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Cultivation and inhabitation.
					Front	Deep.	Area.					
1	Silvaint Mottus	Silvaint Mottus	Spanish permit	21 April, 1803	60	40	4,800	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
2	Gertrude L. Eslava	G. L. Eslava	Spanish permit	23 February, 1803	56	113	6,328	Mobile	Joaqn. de Osorno	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
3	Joshua Kennedy	Thomas Price	Span. ord. settlement	21 August, 1798	300	120	36,000	Mobile	Manuel Gayoso	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
4	Michael Eslava	Michael Eslava	Spanish ord. survey	4 February, 1803	120	100	12,000	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
5	James Wilson	Joseph Pol	Spanish permit	2 December, 1803	120	120	144,000	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
6	Hilaize Dubroca	Benjamin Dubroca	Spanish permit	2 March, 1803	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Joaqn. de Osorno	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
7	Euphrosine Andry	Euphrosine Andry	Span. ord. settlement	13 August, 1798	72	120	8,640	Mobile	Manuel Gayoso	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
8	Gertrude L. Eslava	G. L. Eslava	Spanish permit	2 April, 1803	56	63	3,528	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
9	Joel Robertson	Joseph Colar	Spanish permit	25 March, 1803	70	120	8,400	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
10	Eugenio Lavalle	Eugenio Lavalle	Spanish permit	21 November, 1811	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
11	Same	Same	Spanish permit	21 November, 1811	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
12	Louis Dolive	Louis Dolive	Spanish permit	6 January, 1813	Unkn.	120	Unknown	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
13	Samuel H. Garrow	Joseph P. Collar	Spanish permit	15 March, 1803	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
14	Miguel Eslava	Miguel Eslava	Spanish ord. survey	21 December, 1802	150	116	7,400	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
15	Same	Same	Spanish ord. survey	22 December, 1802	648 by 6 arpns		-	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
16	Anne Surtill	Joachina Alvarez	Spanish permit	27 March, 1803	-	120	Unknown	Mobile	Joaqn. de Osorno	No survey	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.

REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed, in feet.			Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Cultivation and inhabitation.
					Front.	Deep.	Area.					
17	Telder Nicholas	Telder Nicholas	A certificate from Perez that he had given a permit	Unknown	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
18	Leon Nicholas	Leon Nicholas	Spanish permit	12 Septemb. 1810	60	40	2,400	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
19	Miguel Eslava	Miguel Eslava	Spanish ord. survey	14 April, 1803	230	3,200	730,000	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
20	Margarite Goquette	Margarite Goquette	Spanish ord. survey	27 May, 1800	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
21	Same	Same	Spanish ord. survey	24 May, 1800	Unknown		-	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
22	Same	Same	Spanish ord. survey	22 May, 1808	90	120	10,800	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
23	Benito Caro	Benito Caro	Spanish ord. survey	22 August, 1805	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Francis St. Maxent	Enclosed in 1803	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
24	Jean B. Nicholas	Jean B. Nicholas	Spanish permit	2 May, 1811	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
25	Silvaint Nicholas	Silvaint Nicholas	Spanish permit	10 May, 1811	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
26	John Forbes & Co.	Panton Leslie & Co.	Spanish concession	8 July, 1802	Canal and wharf		-	Mobile	Salcedo	Canal and wharf made in 1802 or 1803, but since destroyed.		
27	Gertrude L. Eslava	G. L. Eslava	Spanish ord. survey	24 Novemb. 1803	70	70	4,900	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
28	Harry Toulmin	Francisco H. Hevia	Spanish permit	4 April, 1799	Unknown		-	Mobile	Manuel Lanzos	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
29	James Nadeau	Anthony Bassot	Spanish concession	12 May, 1786	350	500	175,000	Mobile	Galvez, afterwards confirmed by Miro	22 Dec. 1813	Pedeselow	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
30	Miguel Eslava	Miguel Eslava	Spanish ord. survey	15 April, 1803	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
31	Same	Same	Spanish ord. survey	15 April, 1803	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
32	Same	Same	Spanish ord. survey	15 April, 1803	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
33	Same	Same	Spanish ord. survey	15 April, 1803	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
34	Same	Same	Spanish ord. survey	15 April, 1803	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
35	Same	Same	Spanish ord. survey	15 April, 1803	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
36	Same	Same	Spanish ord. survey	15 April, 1803	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
37	Same	Same	Spanish ord. survey	15 April, 1803	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
38	Miguel D. Eslava	M. D. Eslava	Spanish ord. survey	5 April, 1803	82	64	5,248	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
39	Same	Same	Spanish ord. survey	5 April, 1803	82	64	5,248	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
40	John Armstrong	Margarite Gollet	Spanish permit	26 May, 1800	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
41	Eugenio Lavalle	Eugenio Lavalle	Spanish permit	21 Novemb. 1811	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
42	Eugenio Lavalle	Eugenio Lavalle	Spanish permit	21 Novemb. 1811	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
43	Daniel Johnson	John Linder	Spanish ord. settlem't	12 August, 1796	72	120	8,640	Mobile	Bar. de Carondelet	No survey	Picketed in about 15 or 20 years ago, and continued until 10 or 12 years ago.	
44	Same	Same	Same	12 August, 1796	72	120	8,640	Mobile	Same	No survey		
45	William Pollard	William Pollard	Spanish permit	11 Decemb. 1809	Unknown		-	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
46	Wm. E. Kennedy	Wm. E. Kennedy	Spanish ord. survey	27 Septemb. 1806	Unknown		-	Mobile	John V. Morales	No survey	- -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
47	Samuel Acre	Margarite Goquette	Same	23 May, 1800	60	120	7,200	Mobile	Cayetano Perez	No survey	A house commenced on the lot in June, 1814.	

WILLIAM CRAWFORD, *Commissioner.*

Remarks on the preceding Claims to Lots.—The preceding claims to lots are forfeited under the Spanish law, for the want of inhabitation and cultivation, and do not appear to be entitled to confirmation under any law of the United States. It is probable, in the highest degree, that most of those orders of survey and permits to settle, which bear an ancient date, but the inhabitation and cultivation are recent, or where the land claimed has not been inhabited nor cultivated, are ante-dated.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD, *Commissioner.*

Register of Claims to Land in the District East of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on Grants derived from the British Government, with the conditions upon which the grants were made; the land claimed being neither inhabited nor cultivated.

The following grants were upon these conditions, viz. That the grantee should, within three years from the date of the grant, clear and cultivate three acres for every fifty acres of plantable land, and should further, for every fifty acres of barren land, put and continue upon it three neat cattle, until three acres out of every fifty of barren land be fully improved, or should drain three acres of marsh land for every fifty. That if the land be rocky, and unfit for present cultivation, he should build a house upon it within three years, and should employ one able hand for every hundred acres thus granted, in digging a stone quarry. It has not been proved that any of the above conditions have been complied with.

No.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed, in acres.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Remarks.
1	Charles Roberts and wife	John Payne - -	12 December, 1776	2,000	Pearl river -	Peter Chester -	7 Nov. 1776	Elias Durnford	The chain of title is not continued to the present claimants, nor has any evidence been produced to show that they are the legal representatives of Gould, under whom they claim.
2	Same - -	George Gould -	12 December, 1776	2,000	Pearl river -	Peter Chester -	7 Nov. 1776	Elias Durnford	
3	Adam Bingaman -	Alexander McIntosh	25 May, 1779	4,650	Bay of St. Louis -	Peter Chester -	7 May, 1779	Elias Durnford	
	A TOWN LOT.								
1	Heirs of R. Farmar -	Jeremiah Terry -	7 January, 1776	Unknown -	Mobile -	Geo. Johnston	No survey -	This lot was granted upon condition of paying six pence per annum as a quit-rent.	

The following grants were made upon condition that the grantee should pay a quit-rent of one half penny sterling per acre, and have the grant registered in the register's office. It does not appear that the land has been inhabited or cultivated, nor has it been proved that the quit-rent was paid.

1	William Collins -	William Collins -	12 September, 1778	100	Pascagoula river -	Peter Chester -	16 July, 1778	Elias Durnford	No conveyance from grantee to the present claimant.
2	Same - -	James Peterkin -	29 December, 1778	500	Pascagoula river -	Peter Chester -	13 May, 1778	Elias Durnford	
3	Heirs of Jas. Dallas -	Samuel Cooper -	1 July, 1779	300	Tombigbee river -	Peter Chester -	5 June, 1779	Elias Durnford	
4	Heirs of Wm. M'Kinnon	Patrick Gallicand -	5 August, 1778	700	Pascagoula river -	Peter Chester -	8 August, 1778	Elias Durnford	

WILLIAM CRAWFORD, *Commissioner.*

Register of Claims to Land in the District East of Pearl river, in Louisiana, derived from either the French, British, or Spanish Government, which, from the circumstances, require a special report.

No.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed. Front.	Deep.	Area in arpens.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	Surveyed.	Cultivation and inhabitation.
1	Heirs of Nicholas Baudin -	Nicholas Baudin -	French concession	15 Septemb. 1713	-	Abo	ut 14,360	Fowl river -	La Mothe Cadillac	No survey	Proved from 1804 to 1813.
2	Heirs of Joseph Chastang -	Mr. Dixon - -	- - -	7 Novemb. 1733	150	150	22,500	Mobile river -	- - -	- -	From 1797 to October, 1813.
3	Harry Toulmin - -	Francisco H. Hevia	- - -	29 January, 1793	-	-	-	Pearl river -	Manuel Lanzos -	No survey	Not inhabited or cultivated.
4	Same - - -	Same - -	- - -	13 October, 1793	-	-	-	Pascagoula river	Manuel Lanzos -	No survey	Not inhabited or cultivated.
5	Same - - -	Same - -	- - -	3 Novemb. 1793	-	-	-	Mobile river -	Manuel Lanzos -	No survey	Not inhabited or cultivated.

[SPECIAL REPORT ON THE PRECEDING REGISTER OF CLAIMS.]

REPORT.

The claim of the heirs of Nicholas Baudin to an island in Fowl river, being ten or twelve miles in length, and from two to three miles wide, is founded on the following documents:

(Translated from the French.)

We, lieutenant of the King, and commandant of Fort Louisiana, and Dartiguette, King's counsellor, commissary ordinary of marine, sent by the order of the court into this colony, have agreed, for the good of his Majesty's service in the advancement of this colony, to give contracts of cessions (des contracts des cessions) to several inhabitants, to wit: to Mr. Nicholas Baudin the land of Grose point, to begin at, and run along the course of, Fowle river till it reaches the oysters (oyster pass,) which separate Massacre island from the main land, in order to raise cattle thereon. Of the said land we have made to him for, and in the name of, his Majesty the entire cession and transfer, with its circumstances and dependencies, in order that he, his children, heirs, or assigns, may enjoy and use it from henceforward and forever, without being liable to be troubled or disturbed in the peaceable possession thereof: not pretending, nevertheless, to derogate in any manner from the rights and pretensions which his Majesty might have thereto for the good of his service.

Done at Fort Louis of Louisiana, this 12th November, 1710.

DARTIGUETTE and
BIENVILLE.

Below is written:

We, the Governor of the province of Louisiana, approve and ratify the said present concession. Done at Fort St. Louis, this 15th September, 1713.

LA MOTHE CADALLAC.

On the margin is sealed a writing, of which the following is a copy:

This day, the 16th of July, in the morning, 1761, came to the office of the Superior Council of the province of Louisiana, Mrs. Frances Paille, widow of the deceased Nicholas Baudin, called Mingoin, an inhabitant of this town, who requested us to receive in deposite, in order to be enrolled on our minutes, the above piece and the other parts, in order that recourse may be had thereto when necessary, and copies thereof delivered to whomsoever of right may demand them; and declared that she did not know how to write, nor sign this according to the ordinance. In presence of, and assisted by, Claude Boriteldet la Leine, her son-in-law.

BOUTLE,

And we the undersigned clerk, CHATAU COU.

And joined to the original is a small paper attached thereto by a pin, on which is written in English:

Received from Mr. Monlouis two originals and two copies of land grants.

LUKE RUSSEL.

27 December.

I certify that this present copy is conformable to the original among the archives of the Government of Mobile. This 16th June, 1783.

JAMES DE LA LAUSAGAE, *N. Public.*

The original of this, which has been presented to me, exists in the archives of Government under my care.—Mobile, 18th June, 1783.

HENRIQUE GRIMAREST.

(Inhabitation and cultivation.)

Thomas Powell being sworn, saith that he knows, of his own knowledge, that land claimed by the representatives of Nicholas Baudin, on Fowl river, called the island, has been inhabited and cultivated since the year 1804, and that he believes it was inhabited and cultivated before that period: that four or five acres had been cultivated.

THOMAS POWELL.

REPORT.

The claim of the heirs of Joseph Chastang to a tract of land called St. Louis, lying on the west side of Mobile river, three miles above the town of Mobile, is founded on the following documents:

(Notice to the Commissioner.)

To the Commissioner of land claims for that part of Louisiana which lies east of Pearl river: Be pleased to take notice, that Gabriele Montelimar, widow of the late Joseph Chastang, now deceased, and Pierre Chastang, Eugene Chastang, Bruno Chastang, Elizabeth Chastang, Benjamin Dubroca, (husband of Jeane Chastang,) Daniel Jussant, (husband of Magalatte Chastang,) and Manette Chastang, heirs at law of the said Joseph Chastang, do claim a tract of land lying one league from the town of Mobile, known by the name of St. Louis, bounded on the north by creeks called Boucouma and Techibeau, on the south by Cheateaque creek, on the east by the river, on the west by vacant land, containing about one hundred and fifty arpens front, with the same number deep; which tract of land was originally granted on the 7th November, 1733, by Monsieur Bienville, Governor, and Salmon, commissary ordinary of Louisiana, to M. Diron, by whom it was transferred to Charles Marie de la Lande, and sold eventually on the 6th of June, 1746, to Joseph Barbant, from whom it passed to his sons Louis, Joseph, and Antoine Barbant, and was by them sold on the 19th of July, 1759, to Mons. de Bonville, and descended, by inheritance, through Jean Baptiste Louisa to Margaritte Clavallier Deville, by whom and her husband, Peter Mary Cabazet, it was sold in 1797, and the sale confirmed the 30th June, 1807, to John Baptiste Lorending, and by him sold on the 25th August, 1807, to Joseph Chastang: all of which will more fully appear from the original documents accompanying this notification. Wherefore, the widow of the said Joseph Chastang, and the heirs at law above mentioned, claim the said tract of land in the proportions established by the laws existing at the time of the decease of the said Joseph Chastang, which took place on the — day of —, in the year of —. All of which is respectfully submitted in their behalf, by their attorney in fact; as witness my hand this 13th day of June, 1813.

HARRY TOULMIN.

(Certificate, translated literally from the French.)

We, the undersigned, ancient inhabitants of this place, certify that we have an entire knowledge that the boundaries of the plantation called St. Louis, distant one league from Mobile, begins towards the south from the entrance of bayou Chatogue, and run to the north to the disembogument of bayou Baukouman, which forms a peninsula. In testimony whereof, we have signed the present.

Mark ordinary of
REGIS BERNODY.
BARTHOLOME LORENT.
BAPTISTE TRENIER.

(Inhabitation and cultivation.)

Pierre Lorendine being sworn, saith, that the land claimed by the widow and heirs of Joseph Chastang, called St. Louis, has been inhabited and cultivated, to his own knowledge, for sixteen years last past; and that he has understood, and believes, that it has been inhabited and cultivated for many years previously under the same title.

REPORT.

The claims of Harry Toulmin to three tracts of land, containing, together, though not surveyed, probably not less than three or four hundred thousand acres, are founded on the following documents:

(Notice to the Commissioner.)

To the Commissioner of land claims for that part of Louisiana which lies east of Pearl river: Please to take notice, that, by virtue of a Spanish grant executed by the Governor General, the Baron de Carondelet, bearing date the 29th January, 1793, in favor of Don Francisco Hermeterio de Hevia, I claim a tract of land on Pearl river, bounded on the south by the bayou known by the name of Bolo Chitto, on the west by Pearl river, on the north by a line beginning opposite the mouth of bayou Lousa, or Black creek, and extending towards the east back to the path of the Choctaw Indians, and on the east by the said path, including the island in the barranca of Wakia, a Choctaw Indian; which will more fully appear from copies of the original papers, duly authenticated, accompanying this notification; and which said tract of land has been transferred to me by the said F. H. Hevia, by endorsement on the said papers, bearing date the 9th day of November, 1813.

HARRY TOULMIN.

(Translation from the Spanish.)

Don Vincent Sebastian Pintado, captain of infantry and surveyor general of West Florida: I certify, that in one of the rolls of decrees of concession, executed by the General Government of Louisiana, which are deposited in this office under my charge, a document is therein lodged of the following tenor:

Mr. Commandant: Don Francisco Hermeterio de Hevia, with due respect presents himself before you, and declares that, having found a vacant tract of land, situated in the district of Mobile river, within the jurisdiction of Mobile, bounded on the south by a creek known by the name of Bolo Chitto, on the west by Pearl river, on the north by a line beginning opposite the mouth of bayou Lousa, or Black creek, and extending towards the east as far as the Choctaw Indian path, and on the east by the said path, including an island in front of the barranca of Wakia, a Choctaw Indian; and, as the said tract of land is not, nor has been granted, being desirous of establishing a cowpen on the above land, and making provisions on the said island, as well for my own support as that of my servants, he solicits you to grant him permission to settle himself as above mentioned, and, when what may be necessary has been completed, to transmit whatever has been effected, to the Governor General, to obtain the requisite title in form. Mobile, the 1st January, 1793.

Mobile, 4th January, 1793.—By the representations which this person makes in the preceding memorial, you are to notify Domingo de Oliva and Urbana de Muy, inhabitants of the district, of this petition, that, from their knowledge, they may inform you of what they know, whether it can occasion or not any injury in the concession; which information will be returned in form, as by this decree I have ordered, and thereunto set my hand this day and date.

MANUEL DE LANZOS.

On said day, the fourth of the current month of January, I notified the inhabitants, Domingo de Oliva and Urbana de Muy, of the preceding decree; who, being informed of the contents of the memorial, and of the concession of land which it solicits, under oath, which they made to state the truth, they declared that, from the knowledge which they have of some old inhabitants of the country, they know that the lands and island which Francisco Hermeterio de Hevia petitions for by memorial, are vacant tracts, and that, in the concession thereof by Government, no prejudice will be done to any person, it rather favors the country by clearing and by roads; that what they have said is the truth; and Domingo de Oliva, not knowing how to write, made the sign of the cross; Urbana de Muy signed it with me, the commandant, which I certify.

Mark of the cross of Domingo de Oliva, Urbana de Muy, before me,

LANZOS.

Mobile, 7th January, 1793.—In consequence of the two preceding depositions, made by two of the oldest inhabitants, known to be men of probity, and being invested with powers from the Governor General, the Baron de Carondelet, for these concessions, with the knowledge of his lordship, and in consideration that no prejudice can ensue from what is petitioned for, the special surveyor of this jurisdiction will measure the land solicited in the memorial, provided it be vacant, and cause no injury to any person neither in its ingresses nor egresses; drawing a figurative plat in form, to remit to the Governor General, that, on his inspection (should his excellency find it convenient or suitable,) he may transmit me his title of property in form; this in interim serving as such until he receives it.

MANUEL DE LANZOS.

New Orleans, 29th January, 1793.—In consequence of the information communicated by the commandant of Mobile, concerning the land which Francisco Hermeterio Hevia solicits in his memorial, you may put him in possession of it, it being well understood that it be vacant, and cause injury to no person; and let it be returned to me, that it may be deposited in the Secretary's office of this Government, and for the information of the surveyor general of this Province.

CARONDELET.

Mobile, 3d March, 1793.—In compliance with the order of the Governor General, the Baron de Carondelet, bearing date the 2d January, 1793, the special surveyor of this jurisdiction will put Francisco Hermeterio de Hevia in possession of the land he petitions for, which, under the same date, I have executed.

MANUEL DE LANZOS.

Manuel de Lanzos, captain of the Louisiana standing regiment, civil and military commandant of the town of Mobile and its jurisdiction, sub-delegate of Royal finance in the same: I certify that the preceding copy is taken from the original, which has been transmitted to the Governor General of these provinces. In testimony whereof, I sign this in Mobile, on the 9th of March, 1793.

MANUEL DE LANZOS.

It agrees with the document to which I have recourse, and in consequence of a decree from the principal minister of public revenue, bearing date the 28th September last past, at the request of the party, I give the present on two sheets of common paper, there being no stamp paper in use in the town of Pensacola, on the 12th day of October, 1813.

VINCENT SEBASTIAN PINTADO.

Mathew Gonzales Manrique, colonel of the national army, military commandant of West Florida, and sub-inspector general of the troops within the same, &c.: I certify, that Vincent Sebastian Pintado is a captain of infantry, and surveyor general of this province, and that the preceding signature is his hand-writing; that it is the same he makes use of in all his judicial and extra-judicial writings, and that full faith is given to it both in and out of courts of justice; and in testimony whereof, I give the present in Pensacola, signed with my hand, and sealed with the escutcheon of my arms, and countersigned by the underneath secretary of this Government, on the 15th October, 1813.

MATHEW GONZALES MANRIQUE.

CHARLES REGGIO.

(In English.)

For a valuable consideration, I do hereby assign, transfer, and make over to Harry Toulmin, of Mobile, all my right, title, claim, and interest, to the within described tract or parcel of land, as witness my hand, at Pensacola, this 9th December, 1813.

FRANCISCO HERMETERIO DE HEVIA.

Witnesses present:

MIG'L BETANCOURT. MARIANO LATADY.

(Documents.—Registered.)

We, Pierre Annibal Deville, knight of the royal and military order of St. Louis, ancient King's lieutenant at Mobile, do certify that M. Bonville holds and possesses, about four and a half years, a plantation called St. Louis, a league from this town, on the river of Mobile, such as it exists and extends every way: to begin from the bayou called Chateaugite, the which he bought by sale of a private signature, dated the 19th July, 1759, of Sieurs Louis, Joseph, and Antoine Barbant Borsdore, brothers, whose fathers had purchased it of Mr. Charles Marie de la Lande d'Apremont. In testimony whereof, we have delivered to the said M. de Bonville the present certificate, to serve and avail to confirm his titles of property to the said plantation and its dependencies, at Mobile, 28th December, 1765.

DEVILLE.

Remark.—By comparing the above copy, which is taken from a translation which appears to have been made by order of the British Government, with the original written in the French language, it appears there is a mistake in the date, and that 1765 has been put instead of 1763.

We, the director general, commanding for the King at New Orleans, do certify, that the plantation above mentioned, is to belong, in full property, as well as its dependencies, to Monsieur de Bonville, agreeable to the intentions of his Most Christian Majesty, and the power by him granted to his governors and ordonators to permit his subjects to settle in this department of Mobile, where they saw fit. In testimony whereof, we have signed the present certificate, and caused our seal at arms to be set thereunto, and to be countersigned by our secretary, at Mobile, this 28th December, 1763.

DABBADRE.

By my lord: DUNERGE.

A just translation of the annexed.

E. LAGARDERE, *P. T. & J.*

Remarks.—The original grant stated that, in the notice to have been made on the 7th November, 1733, by Monsieur Bienville, Governor of Louisiana, to M. Diron,

has not been produced, and is not mentioned in any of the papers accompanying the notice, except the conveyance from Charles Marie de la Lande and his wife to Joseph Barbant de Borsedore; nor does it appear from the papers that there has been any conveyance from M. Diron, the original grantee, to Charles Marie de la Lande, the first seller, yet it appears to have been subsequently confirmed to Monsieur de Bonville by Dabbadre, the director general, commanding at New Orleans, and the chain of title from Monsieur de Bonville to the present claimants is unbroken. Though the heirs of Joseph Chastang claim, in their notice, one hundred and fifty arpens front by the same quantity deep, yet none of the papers show the front or depth, or the number of superficial arpens contained in the tract of land called St. Louis. A map has been produced and certified, on the 27th May, 1807, by a Mr. Lafon, of New Orleans, engineer and geographer, to be conformable to the original, which had been put into his hands; though the boundaries of the said tract of land are marked in the said map, yet the quantity is unascertained.

To the Commissioners of land claims for that part of Louisiana which lies east of Pearl river: Please to take notice, that, by virtue of a Spanish grant executed by the Governor General, the Baron de Carondelet, bearing date the 3d of October, 1793, in favor of Don Francisco Hermeterio de Hevia, I claim a tract of land on the river Pascagoula, bounded on the north by Black creek, on the west by the river Pascagoula, on the south and east by a large, known by the name of Escataba, and opposite to a red bluff, bounded on the northeast and west by the said river Pascagoula, comprehending the bayou Creole, and on the south by the bayou Rigolet and the passage; which will more fully appear from copies of the original papers, duly authenticated, accompanying this notification; and which said tract of land has been transferred to me by the said F. H. Hevia, by endorsement on the said papers, bearing date the 9th day of November, 1813. Mobile, 17th November, 1813.

HARRY TOULMIN.

(Translation from the Spanish.)

Don Vincent Sebastian Pintado, a captain of infantry, and surveyor general of West Florida: I certify, that in one of the files of decrees relating to concessions, executed by the General Government of Louisiana, which remains in this office under my charge, there is deposited a document of the following purport: Mr. commandant: Don Francisco de Hemeterio de Hevia, with due respect presents himself before you, and says that, having found a vacant tract of land, situated in the in the jurisdiction of Mobile, bounded on the north by Black creek, on the west by Pascagoula river, on the south and east by a great creek known by the name of the Escataba, including the island which is a little above the mouth of the said Escataba, and opposite a red bluff, bounded on the northeast and west by both Pascagoula rivers, the Creole bayou included, and on the south by bayou Rigolet and the passage; and being desirous of establishing a plantation for pitch and tar, and on the island to make his provisions and cotton, he solicits you to grant him permission to settle himself on said island, and, when the business is completed, to transmit what is effected to the Governor General, to obtain the requisite title in form. Mobile, 17th July, 1793.

By the representations which this person makes in the annexed memorial, and in consideration of the prayer which it contains, the original will be sent, for the best of purposes, to Joseph Krebs, syndic of Pacagoula, that, by his information, and that of any other ancient inhabitant, they may give me such knowledge as they have, that I may grant or not the tract of land and island which Francisco Hermeterio de Hevia solicits, that by its concession it may not prejudice any one; which I have so ordered by this my decree; which sign on the day above written. MANUEL DE LANZOS.

Mr. Commandant of Mobile: In consequence of what is commanded by your decree preceding, on the petition of Francisco Hermeterio de Hevia, being accompanied by Augustin Krebs, an ancient inhabitant of the district, and both being informed of the contents of the petition, we learned that the lands and the island for which he solicits a concession, are vacant, and that the concession will not be prejudicial to any person, by cultivating it as his own property; on the contrary, it will be a benefit to the district, by being more cleared and cultivated; upon which you will determine what to you may seem meet. Pascagoula, 28 July, 1793. JOSEPH KREBS.

Mobile, 2d Sept. 1793.—By virtue of the foregoing information upon Don Francisco Hermeterio de Hevia's petition, whereby it does not appear to be prejudicial to any one according to the information, being empowered therefor by the Governor General of the province, the Baron de Carondelet, for these concessions, the surveyor appointed for this jurisdiction will measure the land petitioned for in the preceding memorial, provided it be vacant, and cause not the slightest prejudice to any person in its ingoings or outgoings, drawing a figurative plat in form to transmit to the Governor General, who, in his wisdom, will be pleased to furnish the interested with the title in form, should these vouchers meet his approbation.

MANUEL DE LANZOS.

New Orleans, 13th Oct. 1793.—By virtue of the information communicated by the commandant of Mobile respecting the land which Francisco Hermeterio de Hevia solicits, let him be put in possession of the same, provided it be vacant, and cause not the slightest injury to any person, and return me the original, that it may be deposited in the secretary's office of this Government, and for the surveyor general of this province.

CARONDELET.

Mobile, 19th January, 1794.—In fulfilment of the Governor General, the Baron de Carondelet's order, bearing the above date, the special surveyor of this jurisdiction will put Don Francisco Hermeterio de Hevia in possession of the land which he solicits, which under this same date I have executed.

MANUEL DE LANZOS.

Don Manuel de Lanzos, a captain of the standing regiment of Louisiana, civil and military commandant of the town of Mobile and its district, sub-delegate of royal finance in the same: I certify that the preceding copy is taken from the original, which has been transmitted to the Governor General of these provinces; and to serve and avail all purposes, I sign it in Mobile, on the 23d January, 1794. MANUEL DE LANZOS.

It agrees with said document to which I have recourse, and in consequence of a decree of the principal minister of public revenue, bearing date the 28th of September last, passed at the request of the party, I give the present on two sheets of common paper, there being no stamp in use in the town of Pensacola, on the 12th of the month of October, 1813.

VINCENT SEBASTIAN PINTADO.

Don Mathew Gonzales Manrique, colonel of the national army, military commandant of the province of West Florida, and sub-inspector of the troops in the same, &c.: I certify that Vincent Sebastian Pintado is a captain of infantry, and surveyor general of this province, and that the preceding signature is his hand-writing, and the same he makes use of in all his judicial and extra-judicial writings, and to which full faith is given both in and out of courts of justice; and in testimony whereof, I give the present in Pensacola: signed with my hand, and sealed with the escutcheon of my arms, and countersigned by the underwritten secretary of this Government on the 15th of October, 1813.

MATHEW GONZALES MANRIQUE.

CHARLES REGGIO.

(In English.)

For a valuable consideration, I do hereby assign, transfer, and make over, to Harry Toulmin, of Mobile, all my right, title, claim, and interest, in and to the within described tract and parcel of land; as witness my hand at Pensacola, this 9th of November, 1813.

FRANCISCO HERMETERIO DE HEVIA.

Witness present:

MICHAEL BESSAMONY, MARIANO LATADY.

To the Commissioner of land claims for that part of Louisiana which lies east of Pearl river: Please to take notice, that, by virtue of a Spanish grant, executed by the Governor General, the Baron de Carondelet, bearing date the 3d of November, 1793, in favor of Don Francisco Hermeterio de Hevia, I claim a tract of land lying on both sides of Mobile river, that is to say, the western channel thereof, viz. an island situated in the said Mobile river, bounded on the north and northeast by the bayou called Lizzard's creek, on the east by the river Tensa, on the south by the same river Tensa and a portion of the bay of Mobile, and on the west by the river Mobile, together with the high lands on the west side of

the said river Mobile, in front of said island, that is to say, beginning ten arpens lower than the first barranca, which is a little above said Lizard's creek, and extending down the river Mobile as far as Mill creek, with a depth having ten arpens more to the west than the old mill of Lizard; and which said tract of land has been transferred to me by indorsement on the said papers, bearing date the 9th day of Nov. 1813. And whereas it has been attempted to be proved, on the part of the representatives of William Simpson, to whom a part of said land was granted by a commandant of Mobile, long after the grant of the Governor to the said F. H. de Hevia, that the grant to Hevia was not made at the time expressed therein, I have deemed it proper to annex to the papers accompanying this notice, the official certificate of Don Francisco de Lambarre, formerly of the secretary's office, in the time of the Governor de Carondelet, proving that it is within his full recollection, that, during the administration of the said Governor, such titles to land in favor of Don Hevia actually did pass the secretary's office; reserving however to myself full power to exhibit hereafter, whenever the question as to the authenticity of Don Hevia's claims shall be legally and judicially a point of controversy, other documents and evidences in behalf of the same; solicits, at the same time, more for the detection of fraud, and the establishment of justice, than the ratification of any individual claim. Mobile, 18th November, 1813.

HARRY TOULMIN.

(*Translation from the Spanish.*)

In consideration of the foregoing statement in the memorial of Francisco Hermeterio de Hevia, Vincent Pintado, captain of infantry, and surveyor general of West Florida, I certify that in one of the files of decrees relating to concessions executed by the Government of Louisiana, which lies in this office under my charge, there is a document of the following tenor.

Mr. Commandant: Don Francisco Hermeterio de Hevia with due respect presents himself before you, and says, that his intentions being to establish a rice plantation on Mobile river, he solicits you to grant him the island in said river, bounded on the north and northeast by the bayou called Lizard's creek, and on the east by the river Tensa, and on the west by the said river Mobile, which is only suitable for the cultivation of rice; and as no place is found high enough on said island to build upon it a dwelling-house and other edifices which are necessary for the lodging of negroes and storehouses, in order to lay up the crop, I have concluded to obtain of you permission to erect the said buildings on the land in front of the said island, that is to say, beginning ten arpens lower than the first bluff, which is a little above the said Lizard's creek, and extending below Mobile river as far as the Mill creek, with a depth of ten arpens more to the west than the old mill of Lizard; a favor which he hopes to receive from your kindness; and when the necessary documents are completed, to remit them to the Governor General, to obtain the due title in form. Mobile, 23d August, 1793.

FRANCISCO HERMETERIO DE HEVIA.

Mobile, 24th August, 1793.—By the representation made by this person in the preceding memorial, you are to notify Peter Trouillet and Anthony Espejo, that, as ancient inhabitants in the district, they may depose what they know concerning the lands which Francisco Hermeterio de Hevia solicits, and whether this concession can or cannot be made without injury to a third person; and when the business is completed, it will be returned in form, as I have decreed and ordered by this my decree, at the town of Mobile, dated as above.

LANZOS.

In the town of Mobile, on the 1st of September, 1793, before me, Manuel de Lanzos, captain of the standing regiment of Louisiana, military and political commandant of the said place and district, appeared Don Pedro Trouillet and Anthony Espejo, who, under oath which they made in due form, to communicate all the information they had concerning the lands solicited by Francisco Hermeterio de Hevia, whether they really belong to the King, and do not belong to any person, reply, that they are in fact vacant; that they have always known that they do not belong to any individual; and that by their concession a benefit will ensue by clearing the uncultivated lands, tending to the health of the country; and being informed of this deposition, they signed it before me, the aforesaid commandant, which I certify.

Before me, MANUEL DE LANZOS.

Witness: PETER TROUILLET, ANTHONY ESPEJO.

Mobile, 2d September, 1793.—In consideration of the foregoing statement in the memorial of Francisco Hemeterio de Hevia, by virtue of what the aforementioned Peter Trouillet and Anthony Espejo have declared, as old inhabitants under oath, and no injury resulting to any person, as is reported, the proper permission is granted him to use and cultivate the said land, as his memorial points out, as if it were properly his own estate; and for that purpose, the surveyor will draw a plat in due form, and send it to the Governor General, that his excellency, being informed of the formality of these proceedings, may condescend to grant him the property he solicits, as he thus petitions it of his excellency.

MANUEL DE LANZOS.

New Orleans, 3d November, 1793.—In consequence of the information of the commandant of Mobile, Don Manuel de Lanzos, relative to the land which Francisco Hermeterio de Hevia solicits in his memorial, let him be put in possession of it, if it be vacant, and if it be in no manner prejudicial to any one, and return to me the original, that it may be deposited in the secretary's office of this Government, for the information of the surveyor general of this province. CARONDELET.

Mobile, 25th November, 1793.—In compliance with the order of the Governor General, the Baron de Carondelet, bearing date the 3d of November, 1793, the special surveyor of this district will put Francisco Hermeterio de Hevia in possession of the land he solicits, which under this same date I have executed.

MANUEL DE LANZOS.

Manuel de Lanzos, captain of the standing regiment of Louisiana, civil and military commandant of Mobile and its jurisdiction, and sub-delegate of royal finance in the same: I certify that the foregoing copy is taken from the original, which has been sent to the Governor General of these provinces; and in testimony whereof, I sign this in Mobile, on the 23d of November, 1793.

MANUEL DE LANZOS.

It agrees with the document to which I have recourse, and in consequence of a decree from the principal minister of public revenue, bearing date the 28th of September last past, at the solicitation of the party, I give the present on two sheets of common paper, there being no stamp in use in the town of Pensacola, on the 12th day of the month of October, 1813.

VINCENT SEBASTIAN PINTADO.

Mathew Gonzales Manrique, a colonel of the national army, military commandant of the province of West Florida, and sub-inspector of the same, &c. I certify that Vincent Sebastian Pintado is a captain of infantry, and surveyor general of this province, and that the preceding signature is in his hand-writing, the same which he uses in all his judicial and extra-judicial writings, and to which full faith is given, as well in office as out of it. In testimony whereof, I give the present in Pensacola, signed with my hand, sealed with the escutcheon of my arms, and countersigned by the underwritten secretary of this Government, on the 15th October, 1813.

MATHEW GONZALES MANRIQUE.

CHARLES REGGIO.

(*In English.*)

For a valuable consideration, I do hereby assign, transfer, and make over to Harry Toulmin, of Mobile, all my right, title, claim, and interest in and to the within described tract of land. As witness my hand, this 9th day of November, 1813.

FRANCISCO HERMETERIO DE HEVIA.

Witness present: MICHAEL BETANCOURT, and
MARIANO LATADY.

(*Translation from the Spanish.*)

Francisco de Lambarry, lieutenant of the Louisiana regiment of infantry: I certify, that on the different and repeated occasions which I have been employed by the Baron de Carondelet, who was the Governor of the province of Louisiana at the time of the Spanish domination, to write in the secretary's office, I passed through my hands various concessions in favor of Francisco Hermeterio de Hevia, which I know passed at the same time to the archives of Charles Trudeau, surveyor general, that they might take the proper course, putting the interested in free and complete possession of the same. In testimony whereof, I give this, at his request, in Pensacola, on the 29th of October, 1813.

FRANCISCO RODRIGUEZ DE LAMBARRY.

Mathew Gonzales Manrique, colonel of the national army, political and military governor of the province of West Florida: I certify that the preceding signature and declaration of Francisco Rodriguez de Lambarry, is from under his own hand, and the same which he is accustomed to use in all of his writings, and to which full faith and credit has been given both in and out of office; and to serve and avail all purposes, I give the present, signed with my hand, sealed with the seal of my arms, and countersigned by the underwritten secretary of this Government. Pensacola, 29th of October, 1813.

MATHEW GONZALES MANRIQUE.

CHARLES REGGIO.

Evidence introduced to show that the preceding claims of Harry Toulmin are fraudulent.

Agreement between Harry Toulmin and John Smith with Francisco Hevia and his wife, under the following conditions, to procure titles to the following tracts of land.

The said Harry Toulmin and John Smith pledge themselves to pay all costs and charges which may be incurred in obtaining the titles of the above tracts of land, without having any claims against the said Hevia or wife should the titles be confirmed or not. And we furthermore pledge ourselves to remit to the said Hevia or his wife, or any other person who hereafter may be appointed by them, authentic plans and titles of the abovementioned tracts of land, that they may know the contents of each tract, and to dispose of them according to the intention and sentiments of the contracting parties.

We, Hevia and his wife, have agreed that, after the said H. T. and J. S., or either of their representatives, remit to any of us, or those we may hereafter appoint, the plans and titles of the Government in due form, to give a bill of sale to the said H. T. and J. S. of two-thirds of the lands which may be confirmed by the Government, more or less, and to consent that they should be divided immediately into three equal parts, in a manner that it may be equitable to the concerned. Or we, Hevia and his wife, will consent that they should be sold, and the proceeds to be divided into equal shares, one to us, and the other two to the said T. and S., drawing the writings in a manner that we may secure the amount of our third part, that we may receive it, or the person we may hereafter appoint. In testimony whereof, we have hereunto set our hands, in Pensacola, this ——; the said Smith pledging himself to carry the same to be signed by H. T. in Mobile, in presence of two witnesses.

I, Joseph M. Fernandez, do depose and say that the above is a correct translation of an original paper written in the Spanish language, with the exception of the lands, and the names of the witnesses, and formal part, which are omitted; which original paper was presented to me for translation by Harry Toulmin; and that I was requested by Harry Toulmin to keep the contents of the said paper secret.

J. M. FERNANDEZ.

Sworn and subscribed before me, at the town of Mobile, this 21st of October, 1813.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD,
Commissioner East of Pearl river, in Louisiana.

Cayetano Perez, the commandant at the time of the change of the Government, being sworn. Question. Do you know when Hevia first came to this place—that is, Mobile? Answer. I know that he was here before the year 1800, but I do not know how long. Q. Of what age do you think Hevia now is? A. I suppose about thirty-eight or thirty-nine years. Q. Did you ever hear of Hevia's ever having any land claims? A. In the year 1810 or 1811, Hevia informed me that he had a claim to two lots in Mobile, and to a tract of land upon Pascagoula, but to how much he did not say. Q. Did you ever understand from the Spanish records, from the Spanish Government, or in any other manner, that Hevia had a claim to 100,000 or 150,000 arpens, lying upon the three rivers Pearl, Pascagoula, and Mobile? A. I have no knowledge of such claims. Q. Was Hevia poor or was he rich? A. He was neither poor nor rich. Q. Have you any idea how long Hevia was here before the year 1800? A. I suppose about two years.

CAYETANO PEREZ.

Sworn and subscribed before me, at the town of Mobile, this 7th day of May, 1814.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD,
Commissioner in the District East of Pearl river, in Louisiana.

William Mitchell being sworn. Question, by James Innerarrity. Do you know that the island called Isla de las Chosas, or Simpson's Island, bounded by bayou Beauchamp, Lizard's creek, Mobile river, and Raft river, belongs to the estate of William Simpson, or that he got a grant of it from the Spanish Government? Answer. I have understood, and heard it generally said, that the said island has belonged to William Simpson since the year 1803, by virtue of a grant from the Spanish Government, and that this has been generally understood in the town of Mobile. Q. Has not Lieut. Hevia, for the most part of his time, resided in the town of Mobile, since 1803, until about two years last past? A. In the affirmative. Q. Do you suppose Hevia could be ignorant of what all the town knew, viz. that the said island belonged to William Simpson? A. I do not suppose he could be ignorant that the island belonged to Simpson. Q. Did you ever hear, before this day, that Hevia had any claim to said island? A. I never heard, before this day, that Hevia, or any person other than Simpson, had any claim to the island. Q. Did you ever know or hear that Hevia, or any person, ever cultivated the island? A. I never did. Q. Do you know that Simpson ever cultivated the island? A. I know that he had two negroes upon the island for several years, and they are now upon it.

Hilaire Dubroca being sworn. First question repeated. Answer. I have generally understood that the island belonged to Simpson. Q. Did you ever hear, before this day, that Hevia had any claim to said island? A. I never did.

Benjamin Dubroca being sworn. Did you rent the island for your mother from Simpson, in July, in the year 1803, and pay rent for it? A. I did rent it in July, 1803, and paid rent to him for it. Q. When you rented the island, had you heard any thing of Hevia's claim to it? A. I had not. Q. Did Hevia, or any person for him, cultivate the island? A. He never did cultivate the island, nor any person for him. Q. Did Simpson cultivate it? A. Yes, he had negroes upon it. Q. Has it not been generally known, since 1803, to almost every person in Mobile, that the island belonged to Simpson by virtue of a Spanish grant? A. in the affimative. Q. Had not Lieut. Hevia been a resident at different times, for a number of years, in the town of Mobile; and has he not, in the absence of the commandant, at sometimes acted as commandant, and at others as secretary? A. He has at different times resided in Mobile, and has, in the absence of the commandant, sometimes acted as commandant, and at others as secretary. Q. Did he live on terms of intimacy with Mr. Simpson? A. He appeared friendly to Mr. Simpson, and I never heard of any difference between them. Q. Do you suppose that Hevia could possibly be ignorant of Simpson's claim and right to that island? A. I do not suppose that he could be ignorant that it belonged to Simpson. Q. Did you ever hear that Hevia, while he resided here, ever made any question of Simpson's right to that island, or ever claimed it for himself? A. I never heard that Hevia ever questioned Simpson's right, or ever claimed it for himself. Q. What was Hevia's relation to Don Manuel Lanzos? A. Hevia married the daughter of Lanzos. Q. Suppose copies of titles were now shown to you, dated while Lanzos was commandant at this place, being previous to Osorno, and of course previous to the grant to Simpson, granting to Hevia three large tracts of land, one of which being the island claimed by Simpson, with a certificate attached to the bottom of them, stating that he had sent on the originals to the Baron de Carondelet, what would you think of such a paper? A. I should really think that they were ante-dated. Q. Supposing Lanzos now alive, would it not be as easy for him to issue as many pretended titles and certificates as he pleased, of this nature? A. I suppose it would be easy for him to issue them if he were not an honest man. Taken at the town of Mobile, this 21st day of October, 1813.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD.

(*Translation from the Spanish.*)

In the town of Pensacola, on the 16th day of December, 1813, before me, Vincent de Ordorgosti, constitutional mayor, appeared John Innerarrity, of this vicinity, merchant, and Placide Forestall, his cash-keeper: both declared under their respective oaths, that the preceding copy, with the exception of some orthographical errors, is conformable to that which was delivered last spring to the said John Innerrarity, proposing to him indirectly the purchase of the lands which are therein mentioned; and for the purposes that may be required, they have so signed and declared with me and the witnesses of assistance which they certify.

JOHN INNERARRITY.
PLACIDE FORESTALL,
AMAST. MONTE DE OCA.

VINCENT DE ORDORGOSTI.
DOMO. LAUSA.

Remark.—The copy produced and sworn to be a true copy of that which was presented to John Innerarrity for purchase, is the same with the three preceding claims entered in the office by Harry Toulmin, except the certificate of Pintado, which appears to have been subsequently obtained.

To the Commandant of the province: James Innerarrity, a partner of the house of Forbes & Co., with due respect declares to you that he has instituted a suit in the American court in Mobile, for the maintenance of which he requires, through the major's department of the Louisiana reginent of infantry, or through the proper authority, a certificate annexed to this petition, specifying the names of the officers and cadets who were detached to the town of Mobile from the 1st of January, 1792, to the end of December, 1798; for which favor you will receive my thanks. Pensacola, 9th Dec. 1813.

JAMES INNERARRITY.

Pensacola, 10th December, 1813.—The colonel of the Louisiana regiment will order the serjeant major to give James Innerarrity the certificate he solicits.

MATHEW GONZALES MANRIQUE.

Pensacola, 11th December, 1813.—The serjeant major of the regiment under my command will give the certificate solicited by James Innerarrity.

ST. MAXENT.

Louis Piernas, serjeant major of the Louisiana regiment: I certify that on the inspection returns from the 1st of January, 1792, to the end of December, 1798, there appears to have been, in this space of time, in the town of Mobile, the officers of this regiment, Vincent Folch, Joseph Deville Degoutin, Peter Foucher, Anthony Sotoy, Vaillant and John Anthony Bassot; and of those who are still in the said regiment, Francis Bellesta, Francis Morales, John Bte. Pellerin, Peter Rolla, and Francis Dalcour, without having mentioned many others, who have been at the said place, since dead; and that it may be made manifest where required, I give the present, by virtue of the foregoing decrees from the Governor of the province and the colonel of my regiment.

LOUIS PIERNAS.

Pensacola, 14th December, 1813.—Mathew Gonzales Manrique, colonel of the national army, military commandant of West Florida, and sub-inspector of the troops within the same, &c.: I certify that Louis Piernas, whose signature appears to the foregoing certificate, is a sergeant major of the Louisiana regiment of infantry; to whose signature full faith and credit are and ought to be given, as well in his official capacity as out of it, being his own hand-writing, and which he uses in his writings, whether judicial or extrajudicial. And in testimony whereof, I give this, in Pensacola. Signed with my hand, and sealed with the seal of my arms, and countersigned by the underwritten secretary of this Government, on the 15th December, 1813.

[SEAL.] MATHEW GONZALES MANRIQUE.
CHARLES REGGIO.

Senior commandant of the province: James Innerarrity, an inhabitant of the town of Mobile, with due respect represents to you, that, to elucidate better the suit that he has instituted in the said place, he requires that through the major's department of the Louisiana regiment of infantry, to a certificate to be given him annexed to this, of the station or stations in which the present Captain Francisco Hermeterio de Hevia was during the year 1793, his grade and seniority in that year, also at what time he was first attached to the town of Mobile. Wherefore, he supplicates you to order, through the major's department of said regiment, the said certificate to be given to him; for which favor you will receive many thanks. Pensacola, 13th December, 1813.

JAMES INNERARRITY.

Pensacola, 13th December, 1813.—The colonel of the Louisiana regiment of infantry will order the sergeant major of the said corps under my command to give the certificate solicited by the petitioner.

MATHEW GONZALES MANRIQUE.

Pensacola, 14th December, 1813.—The sergeant major of the regiment under my command will carry into effect the foregoing decree.

ST. MAXENT.

Louis Piernas, sergeant major of the Louisiana regiment of infantry: I certify that by the list of seniority which accompanies the muster roll of the services to the end of December, 1793, it appears that Francisco Hermeterio de Hevia (now a captain of this regiment,) was a cadet, and the seventh of his class; that, by the inspection returns of said year, he was then attached to regiment in New Orleans, and by those of the subsequent year, in that of the month of April, 1799, it is the first in which he appears to have been detached to the town of Mobile. And to serve and avail all necessary purposes, I give the present, in compliance with the order of the preceding decrees of the Governor of this province, and of the colonel of my regiment. Pensacola, 15th December, 1813.

LOUIS PIERNAS.

Mathew Gonzales Manrique, colonel of the national army, military commandant of West Florida, and sub-inspector of the troops of the same, &c.: I certify that Louis Piernas, by whom the preceding certificate appears subscribed, is sergeant major of the Louisiana regiment of infantry, to whose signature full faith and credit are and ought to be given, as well on duty as off; it being his proper hand-writing, and which he makes use of in his judicial and extrajudicial writings; and that it may be made manifest when required, I give this present in Pensacola. Signed with my hand, and sealed with my arms, and countersigned by the underwritten secretary of this Government, 15th December, 1813.

[SEAL.] MATHEW GONZALES MANRIQUE.
CHARLES REGGIO.

The following letter and accompanying papers were received from Harry Toulmin.

FORT STODDART, *29th August*, 1814.

SIR: Be pleased to file among the papers relating to the claims of Hevia, the following documents. It was matter of much more importance, in my view, to rescue my character from the imputations thrown upon it by the false oath of Warren Dodge, than to establish any land claim whatever. It was at the request of Governor Holmes that I applied to the Spanish Governor for the public records. A trunk full was accordingly delivered to me at Mobile. I found not among them the original titles to town lots in Mobile. I therefore made a second application. It was this that was carried by Mr, Dodge, and no other whatsoever, from me. I have not been able to find any copy of my letter, but the oath of Mr. Garrow shows its substance. I annex the Governor's reply, and also his reply to Captain Wilkinson. As to the claims themselves, I have taken what pains I could to obtain testimony both for and against them; but no additional light, either one way or the other, has come to my knowledge since they were filed; and the situation of public affairs has been such as to render it prudent or expedient that I should myself visit Pensacola in search of testimony. The Spanish papers annexed, and marked D, E, F, were sent to me before the claims were filed; but I did not deem it important to send them with the original papers. Let them have whatever weight they are entitled to, be it in one scale or the other. I am, sir, yours, &c.

HARRY TOULMIN.

TO WILLIAM CRAWFORD, Esq.
Land Commissioner.

The affidavit of Mr. Dodge was omitted in its proper place, but is here inserted.

I, Warren Ross Dodge, do depose and say, that, on or about the —— day of September, in the year 1813, I went, at the instance of James B. Wilkinson, then postmaster in the town of Mobile, and son-in-law of Harry Toulmin, to Pensacola, for the American mails, which had been carried thither by the Creek Indians; and that I was requested by the said James B. Wilkinson to carry a letter from Judge Toulmin to the Governor of Pensacola, which I refused to do unless I was permitted to see the letter, as I might thereby be brought into difficulty; that the letter was then shown to me, and that it was for the purpose of inquiring whether entries for certain lands were on record in Pensacola; that I believe that the lands respecting which information was asked, consisted of three very large tracts, and know that one of which was upon Mobile river, and that he did not pay sufficient attention to ascertain the situation of the other tracts; that the said James B. Wilkinson informed me that the letter was of a private nature, and requested me not to speak of it; that Pintado, the surveyor general, was translator of the said letter which I bore to the Governor, and acted as interpreter between the Governor and me, and answered for the Governor to my inquiries, that no such lands had been granted, and that there

were no entries on record for such lands; and that Pintado, the said surveyor general, informed me for himself that no such papers were on record in his office.

W. R. DODGE.

Sworn and subscribed before me, at the town of Mobile, this 17th day of February, in the year of our Lord 1814.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD,
Commissioner East of Pearl river, Louisiana.

The following are the papers or documents which accompany the letter of Mr. Toulmin.

I, S. H. Garrow, do depose that, on or about —— day of July, 1813, was requested by James B. Wilkinson, then postmaster in the town of Mobile, to copy a letter written by him to the Governor of Pensacola, to demand a mail bag that had been taken by the Creek Indians, and carried there. Captain Wilkinson, at the same time, showed me a letter written by Judge Toulmin to the Governor of Pensacola, the purport of which was to request the Governor to send the titles and records belonging to the lots of the town of Mobile, and that the letter did not contain any inquiries respecting any particular tracts of land; that after copying the abovementioned letter, it was closed, together with Judge Toulmin's letter, under one cover, and sealed in my presence. I do not believe Mr. Dodge had any access to any of the letters, or that any other letters were sent, except the above mentioned. And Mr. Dodge was employed after the package was closed. Mr. Dodge was not employed in September, as Captain Wilkinson left Mobile in August, and died at Dauphin Island in the commencement of September. I do certify that the following is a true and correct translation of the Governor of Pensacola's answer to Judge Toulmin's letter. I have received your letter of the 2d of the present month, containing a representation, that among the records which have been delivered, there are not found the titles of individual property of the lots in the town of Mobile, nor a plan of it. I am very desirous of giving liberty to the powers which might afford the means of effecting any thing for the advantage of the good inhabitants, but as they are in the possession of the fugitive from arrest, Don Cayetano Perez, to whose care the said documents had been committed, it does not come within my means to effect that object. May God preserve you many years. Pensacola, 29th July, 1813. Mathew Gonzales Manrique. Don Harry Toulmin.

Sworn before me, at St. Stephen's, 4th June, 1814.

WM. HENRY, *J. P.*

To Harry Toulmin, Esq.: General Post Office, July 10th, 1814. Dear Sir: Enclosed you have the Spanish Governor's letter, which you requested might be returned to you in your letter of the 28th February. Yours, respectfully, ABRAHAM BRADLEY.

(*Translation from the Spanish.*)

By Mr. Dodge, I received your letter of the 25th, in which was enclosed another from the judge of your district, calling for one hundred papers relative to the land titles of those inhabitants. Under the same date I reply to the said magistrate, and take the liberty of enclosing my letter to you, to have it sent to him. It is certain that many Indians of the Creek nation have come here to receive presents, which the munificence of my sovereign has assigned to them annually. Arms they have not received, the custom not warranting the distribution of any. To Mr. Dodge I have ordered the delivery of the valise of letters which the said Indians left here, which you have requested in your favor to which I reply. God preserve you many years. Pensacola, 29th July, 1813.

MATHEW GONZALES MANRIQUE.

(*Translation from the Spanish.*)

The minister of war, under date of the 10th of January last, gives me the following advice. By your excellency's letter of the 27th August last, there have been received the extracts of inspection returns, and the rolls of service of the officers, first sergeants, and cadets, of the standing regiment of Louisiana; but it is observed, that in those referring to the members of the last class, notwithstanding what has been represented in the royal order of the 20th January last, a seniority (anteguedad) of more than two or three years service is given to Anthony and Joseph Ninez and to Anthony Gayarre, who are not sons of captains or officers of a superior grade, nor are they more than 16 years of age, (the eldest of all at the time of the dates of said rolls of service;) wherefore, by the king's order, your excellency will inform the sub-inspector and colonel of the corps to arrange them conformably to the ordinance; as neither in this nor in the royal decree, nor any resolution, is there any decision that can have given them foundation or power for a procedure, whereby a known prejudice ensues to so many others, who, to be admitted in the service, have waited to arrive to the age prescribed by the ordinance. I transmit it to your excellency for your information and government in future, enclosing the rolls of service. God preserve you many years. 30th April, 1792.

BARON DE CARONDELET,
Col. of the Louisiana Regiment of Infantry.

LOUIS DE LAS CHOSAS.

Francis Maxim. de St. Maxent: I certify that the preceding copy is conformable to the original which is in the archives of this regiment under my charge, and that Captain Francis Hermeterio, of the same corps, was one of those comprehended in the loss of seniority (anteguedad) by virtue of the preceding royal order, by being placed in the same situation as those therein mentioned. And that it may be made manifest, and at his request, I give the present, in Pensacola, 30th October, 1813.

FRANCIS MAX. DE ST. MAXENT.

Mathew Gonzales Manrique, colonel of the national army, civil and military governor of the province of West Florida: I certify that Manuel de Lanzos has been a captain of the Louisiana regiment of infantry, and that in the years 1793 and 1794 he was commandant of the town of Mobile; and was at that time the commandant of the posts, had the power to allow the establishment of vacant king's lands, by persons known to aid those under the licenses or vouchers effected by said commandant to the General Government of the province, in solicitation of the titles in form, who had the power of granting them at that time. And to serve and avail the purposes required, I give the present. Signed with my hand, and sealed with the seal of my arms, and countersigned by the underwritten secretary of this Government. Pensacola, 29th October, 1813.

[SEAL.] MATHEW GONZALES MANRIQUE.

CHARLES REGGIO.

(*Translation from the Spanish.*)

I, James McBoy, do certify that, having been at the house of Madam Fisher, I heard Jacob Galgari say to said lady, that Francis H. de Hevia, who was then commandant of Pascagoula, was desirous to purchase of him or make an exchange for a piece of land, which descended from Madam Bochas, his mother, which was adjoining John Bte. Baudrieua, for a like quantity on the river of said Pascagoula, of a concession which the said Hevia holds; but it did not take place, through the insurrection of the inhabitants in that year, 1810. The whole whereof I pledge myself to depose in court, and swear to, as I now do. In testimony whereof, I give this, in presence of Mariano Latady and Francis Martines, officers of the Louisiana regiment. Pensacola, 29th October, 1813.

JAMES McBOY.

MARIANO LATADY.
FRANCIS MARTINES.

Remarks.—The three preceding claims of Harry Toulmin purport to be founded on orders of settlement given by the commandant of Mobile, at different times, in the year 1793, at the instance or on the petition of Francis H. de Hevia, dated at the town of Mobile, in the same year. But it is proved by official documents that Francis H. de Hevia was not at the town of Mobile in the year 1793, and that he did not arrive there until the year 1799; and it is farther proved that, in the year 1793, Hevia was only a cadet, and the seventh in his class, and not more than sixteen or seventeen years of age. Here it may be remarked that the claimants in these cases were furnished with a copy of this evidence many months before the close of the office, and if Hevia had been at Mobile before the year 1799, it would have been easy for them to have proved it by some person in Mobile or Pensacola; or if he was of higher rank than cadet in 1793, it would have been easy to have proved it by the commission of Hevia, who appears to be one of the partners in the claims. By the instructions of Governor Gayoso de Lemos, and also by those of John Ventura Morales, the commandants of posts had not power to grant permits for more than 800 arpens, and permits could be granted only upon condition of inhabitation and cultivation within one year thereafter. Yet

the papers in the three preceding claims of Harry Toulmin purport that permits or orders of settlement were given in the year 1793, by the commandant of Mobile, in favor of Francisco H. de Hevia, then a boy, for not less than three or four hundred thousand acres of land! It appears that no part of the above claimed lands were ever cultivated by Hevia, or any person for him; and that no one ever heard of these claims of Hevia until the commissioner in that part of Louisiana which lies east of Pearl river had opened his office for the purpose of receiving land claims. The late commandant of Mobile knew nothing of such claims. If the orders of settlement under which Harry Toulmin claims had actually been made by the commandant of Mobile, the originals should have been placed among the archives at Mobile; but the archives of record have been delivered up, and no such papers are found among them. In the papers upon which Mr. Toulmin founds his claims, it is stated that the orders of settlement were made by the advice of Domingo Dolives, Urbana Demouy, and two other persons. All of these persons are dead, so that it is impossible to prove any fraud by them; and it is equally impossible to prove that they did not sign such papers, because the papers produced are said to be copies. The only testimony attempted to be rebutted by the claimants is that of Mr. Dodge. In this case it is not material as to the validity of the claims, whether Mr. Dodge was mistaken as to the particular lands about which Harry Toulmin inquired of the governor of Pensacola, or not. But no one can decide upon the relative weight of the testimony of Mr. Dodge and of Mr. Garrow, without some knowledge of the circumstances, and also some knowledge of the persons.

It appears by the secret agreement between Harry Toulmin and John Smith, and Francisco H. de Hevia, which is recorded with the other evidence, that Toulmin and Smith were to have two-thirds of the lands, and Hevia and his wife the remaining third part. It is certainly remarkable that, if Hevia knew his claims to be genuine, he should consent to give Harry Toulmin and John Smith two-thirds of three or four hundred thousand acres of land for the small service of laying his claims into the land office; and it is certainly extraordinary that Harry Toulmin and John Smith, if they believed the claims of Hevia to be genuine, should have demanded a reward so enormous for a service so small. In this case as in others of the like nature, the pretence of fairness, after the fraud has been detected, can operate but little in favor of the transaction.

From the evidence adduced in this case, it is believed that the three preceding claims of Harry Toulmin, or of Toulmin, Smith, and Hevia, are fraudulent, and ought to be rejected.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD,
Commissioner.

From a desire that every thing touching the preceding claims might be laid before Congress, a letter from Judge Toulmin has been spread on the record; since the preceding report was concluded, a letter has been received from James Innerarrity, executor of the last will of William Simpson, deceased, on the subject of these claims, which, from a like desire of presenting a full view of the case, I beg leave to return into the General Land Office, and to make a part of this report.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD,
Commissioner.

WASHINGTON CITY, *20th July*, 1815.

SIR: I have the honor to enclose a letter from James Innerarrity, executor of the last will of William Simpson, deceased, relative to the claims of Harry Toulmin, Smith, and Hevia. This letter was received after my report upon those claims was concluded. From a desire that Congress might have a full view of the subject, a letter from Harry Toulmin, touching those claims, was entered on the record; from the same desire, I beg leave to make the letter of James Innerarrity a part of my report upon those cases.

I have the honor to be, with very high esteem, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM CRAWFORD,
Commissioner of Land Claims.

HON. JOSIAH MEIGS,
Com. of the Gen. Land Office.

SIR: As from what you were pleased to inform me of in a late conversation, it appears that Mr. John Smith and Judge Toulmin still continue to press upon your attention and that of the Government, their extensive, and, as I deem, surreptitious claims to land in your district, under titles transferred to them by Capt. Hevia, and as it is interesting to me that their pretensions should be viewed in their proper light, I now take the liberty of troubling you in this manner, as I formerly did verbally, with a history of those claims, so far as it has come to my knowledge, and with a few comments, that will probably serve to show their true character. Being at Pensacola during the latter days of March, 1813, when some rumors had transpired of the intended occupation of this place by the troops of the United States, a gentleman, in conversation with me, mentioned that Hevia held considerable tracts of land in this district, which he believed might be purchased on very reasonable terms, and which he recommended to me to buy. I was at the moment somewhat surprised at the information, as I had known Hevia as simply a poor lieutenant ever since 1802; and for some years back, say from 1807, we had been neighbors and intimate, yet, in this interval, I never heard, either from himself or others, a single syllable that could give an idea of his being a land owner. It struck me, however, as I had heard that there existed some considerable old French grants in the place, more particularly mentioned (Pascagoula) that he might latterly (since he had left Mobile for Pascagoula, about eighteen months before) have acquired the property or disposal of some of these. This idea passed transiently and indifferently through my mind, as I had at the moment but little inclination to purchase, and I so expressed myself to my informant; at the same time, however, saying that if the titles were good, and the price not too great, I would give the matter a consideration. The gentleman promised to procure me a sight of the titles, and inform me of the price demanded, but a few days afterwards I left Pensacola without again seeing or hearing from him. Towards the end of April (the change of Government here having taken place,) I wrote to my brother at Pensacola, desiring him to procure and send me sketches of the different tracts, the titles, terms of sale, &c., &c. In the beginning of May I left Mobile for New Orleans, and returned the latter part of June. Soon afterwards I received from my brother *copies* of the titles of Hevia to the three tracts now claimed under him by Messrs. Smith and Toulmin, one of which I perceived, with astonishment, interfered with the title of my lately deceased friend, William Simpson, to the Isla de las Chosas. Up to the moment of their reception I never had an idea in anticipation of their true character, but this burst upon me by a single reading: the fabrication, (for such it most decidedly was and is, in my opinion,) although extremely well calculated for imposing on those ignorant of the Spanish usages, would not bear the touch of my examination: accordingly I wrote my brother in answer, (without inquiring about the terms on which they were offered, and which I had not yet learnt,) that I would have nothing to do with them, as they were not worth six pence, being gross fabrications.

I heard no more about these pretended titles until some time in the ensuing October, when I chanced to make, in a very singular manner, the discovery that they were in the hands of Judge Toulmin and Mr. Smith, who had made a very curious bargain for them (through the agency of the latter) with Hevia and his wife. The information was given me by my clerk, Joseph M. Fernandez, to whom the agreement for the purchase and other papers respecting them had been given by Toulmin (then holding court here) for translation, accompanied by an injunction of *secrecy*. Nor was it the young man's fault that this pledge was violated: an unintentional word gave me a key to the mystery, and, on finding I was interested, he thought himself bound to disclose to me the whole. You happened, sir, to be in town, but about to set off for Pascagoula, and believing that your office would close in December, and that another favorable opportunity of producing evidence in support of the claim of W. Simpson's estate to the island de las Chosas, in opposition to the probable pretensions of those gentlemen, might not offer, I deemed that no time was to be lost. I went immediately, therefore, to see Judge Toulmin, in the hope, by a fair statement of Simpson's claim, (which, however, he could not be ignorant of,) and of my knowledge of the nature of Hevia's, of inducing him to desist from his pretension. The Judge, however, was busy with his court, but I saw Smith, and determined on opening the matter to him. I called him aside for that purpose; mentioned to him what I had discovered; stated to him Simpson's claim, and my knowledge of the nature of his; informed him that the same titles had previously been offered for sale to me, but were rejected as fabrications; and concluded, after some conversation, by requesting to know how he intended to act, as, if he persisted in prosecuting the claims, I should

be under the necessity of producing such evidence as would go to d—n them. He tried hard to get from me the grounds of my strong assertions, but as I did not choose to give him that satisfaction, from a conviction that he only wanted to profit of my superior knowledge of circumstances for covering the weak parts of his pretensions, he finally told me that his determination was to persevere. I therefore left him, called upon you, sir, informed you of what had occurred, produced evidence before you in support of Simpson's claim in opposition to those intended to be presented, and informed you of all the particularities of these latter, (although I had not seen the titles in Smith and Toulmin's hands,) which you have since found to be correct, on the presentation of them by those gentlemen.

I will now take the liberty of troubling you with some comments on the titles themselves, although your own penetration must on their perusal, and that of the evidence adduced, have disclosed to you their no value.

The first petition, dated *1st January*, 1793, is for a large tract of land on Pearl river, said to be within the jurisdiction of Mobile. I believe, sir, that the records of your office will not show another instance of land granted on Pearl river by a commandant of Mobile; their jurisdiction never extended so far to the best of my knowledge. The tract is petitioned for as for a *cowpen*, and a large island to raise provisions on for *himself and servants!* On this petition, the commandant, Lanzos, demands and receives information from Domingo de Olivia and Orbanne Demouy, neither of them inhabitants on Pearl river, but *residents on this bay*. These men, plain worthy farmers, who knew as much of the state of property on Pearl river as they did of the geography of the moon, who would have shuddered at the idea of an oath on any subject that they were not perfectly acquainted with; these men are made to have *sworn*, from the *hearsay of others*, that the lands in question are vacant, and that to grant them to the boy, Hevia, will be a public benefit. Of course, Commandant Lanzos grants them by a decree, dated 7th January, 1793. The Baron de Carondelet (the most able and vigilant Governor that Louisiana ever had) confirms the grant! Lanzos, in consequence, on the *3d of March*, orders the deputy surveyor for the district to put Hevia in possession, and it is incumbent on us to believe that Mr. deputy surveyor did so, although there was no such officer at the time for Mobile district. To all this the commandant, Lanzos, certifies; and, further, that he had sent on the originals to the Baron de Carondelet, as witness his hand, at Mobile, the *9th March*, 1793.

The second tract petitioned for *17th July*, 1793, for a pitch and tar plantation, to raise provisions and cotton, comprises a great extent of ground on Pascagoula river. The same formalities *appear* to have been practised on this petition as on the former, and the grant is doubtless entitled to equal credit.

The third tract petitioned for the *23d August*, 1793, comprises, besides the island claimed by me for W. Simpson's estate, an extent of country on the main land on the west side of this river, of about twelve miles in length, by six or seven in breadth. On this petition, Commandant Lanzos calls on Peter Trouillet and Antonio Espejo, as *old inhabitants*, for information, and who are made to have given it, as in the former cases, very favorably: the other formalities of the grant, confirmation, &c., follow of course. It may be observed, en passant, that if this petition had truly been made at the date it bears, Commandant Lanzos would not have asked for information from Antonio Espejo, "as an old inhabitant." This Espejo was a discharged soldier, who came from Pensacola to Mobile at or about that very time, certainly not many years before, and settled here: he made himself a kind of busy body, spy, and half domestic, to the different commandants. Now, although at that time this man would never have been consulted, yet his name was one that would very readily occur as proper to be made use of for sinister purposes at an interval of 16 or 18 years afterward. Another observation occurs more particularly on this grant: it treads so fast on the heels of the former, that they appear as if both had been going the rounds of official formalities at the same time: it is petitioned for only five weeks after the former, and appears as if confirmed by *the Baron de Carondelet only three weeks after he is made to have put his signature to its predecessor*. It is to be remarked, also, that all the persons from whom Lanzos pretends to have asked information on each and all of these petitions previous to issuing the grants, are long since dead. This may be said to show policy—*dead men tell no tales*.

The incongruities in these pretended titles, taken in whole, are indeed so many and so glaring, that it appears to me no person, save one wilfully blind, and who hoped at same time, by his arts of deception, to be able to blind others, would have had the folly to have purchased the claims, or the unblushing effrontery to have prosecuted them.

In the first place, sir, I would beg you to inquire among the Creole French and Spanish inhabitants, whether any of them ever knew or heard from Hevia or others, during a period of eleven years that he principally resided here, any thing that could lead to an idea of his being a great land-owner? Whether he was not known to every one in or near the place as a poor ensign or lieutenant, who subsisted scantily, although with some decency, on his pay and his wife's industry? Whether any one ever knew Hevia to be possessed of a single negro, other than one or two house wenches? or that he ever cultivated a spot of ground, other than a little garden attached to his rented dwelling-house? or that he ever owned a head of cattle, even a single milch cow? You will find, sir, no one who will say he was a land-owner, a cattle or slave proprietor, in the sense these pretended titles appear to indicate. His circumstances could hardly be supposed to have escaped Judge Toulmin's knowledge, who lived in our neighborhood, and knew every one of the least note in our little village; at least he certainly knew that the Island de las Chosas had been claimed and occupied by W. Simpson since the year 1803, without molestation by any one; and that there were other inhabitants, the Hartleys and Powells, on the main land, part of the tract lying on this river, who, although Hevia himself had at sundry times occupied the situation of commandant ad interim, had never been troubled in their possessions. It is, indeed, remarkable, that both Simpson and Hartley derived their titles from Commandant Orsono, to whom Hevia was second in command, yet no claim or opposition to those grants was made by him at that time or afterwards, until those fabricated grants were brought forward. Surely such circumstances alone ought to have made Judge Toulmin doubt and inquire as to the validity of these titles. He was, however, it appears, contented with the bargain, and he consented to run the risk; the gain, if gained, was immense; the loss, in a pecuniary view, could be nothing, although the risk of character attendant on the prosecution of a fraudulent claim on that Government which had adopted him, a stranger, and invested him with the sacred functions of a judge, ought to have made him pause. He has not paused, however, but proceeded onward; and I am, therefore, bound to proceed in dissolving the visionary fabric of his claims, till not a wreck is left behind.

You will have observed, sir, that no originals are shown or pretended to be shown; the titles are only *copies of copies*. It might be well to cause the *original copies* said to be deposited in the land surveyor's office at Pensacola to be examined by competent judges in those matters. But supposing these to be complete, to be wanting in no essential requisites as copies, to what would this amount? Their authenticity must still depend on the truth of Lanzos' certificate attached to the bottom of each, purporting that he had transmitted the *real originals* to the Baron de Carondelet. If this was the case, then one of two alternatives must be admitted—either they were lost on their passage, which is not pretended, but the contrary, or they must be still in the land office of Louisiana, and it is the business of the claimants to produce them. Is it to be believed, however, that these originals ever had existence? Is it probable that Lanzos, a man of mature age, sound and penetrating judgment, no ways calculated for a dupe, would, at that time, when he could not, even in prospect, have had any connexion with Hevia, have granted to him, to a boy of 16 or 18 years of age, (at the *utmost*,) within the short space of eight or ten months, those tracts of land of such extent, of the richest in this part of the province, on the three principal rivers in it, and at such distances from each other? Supposing him capable of acting so absurdly, provided he had had no superior to whom he owed an account of his actions, would he, a subaltern commandant of a post or district, have dared to have transmitted such evidences of his folly or of his guilt to the Baron de Carondelet? No, it is not credible. Is it then possible to believe that the Baron would or did confirm those lavish grants to a youth of that age, not distinguished by talents, birth, or powerful friends? to a cadet, (and only the seventh of the class,) who probably was at the very time standing sentry at his door? It will not be believed. It is unfortunate for those gentlemen that they have presented the *three* claims—*one* might with difficulty have got down, but the *three*, *under such circumstances*, can never be digested.

I have rested the argument hitherto on the evidence furnished by the pretended titles themselves, tested by Hevia's age at the time of their date, and his posterior circumstances, &c. I will now, sir, take other ground. Many a thief has escaped the gallows by a false alibi; a true one shall, I hope, condemn those claims to their deserved fate. The two certificates that I have furnished you with from the office of the major of the Louisiana regiment in Pensacola, where all its records are kept, will show that, in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three, Hevia was a *cadet* in that regiment, and only the seventh in rank of his class; that he was stationed during that year in *New Orleans*, and *not in Mobile*, where his petitions are dated; and that he was not detached, and consequently could not come to the latter place until the year 1799. If these official documents should be deemed insufficient to establish this point, you can take the testimony of Don Cayetano Perez, late commandant, Don Miguel Eslava, late public store-keeper, Mr. Benjamin Dubrocat, Mr. Louis Dolive, or any other old inhabitant you may please to select. Against such evidence, I presume the certificate produced by Smith and Toulmin from a Spanish officer, stating that he had seen the original titles in the Government secretary's office at New Orleans, will weigh as nothing. The certifier is an insignificant drunken wretch, that would sign any thing for a gill of taffia.

It may be asked, what could have induced Lanzos to have lent his name to this fraud? Possibly the following reason: Hevia had married his daughter some time in or about the year 1801, and had a family of children by her. Lanzos was alive, in New Orleans, about two years ago, and I *believe* these titles to have been fabricated some short time previous to his death. The American Government had claimed the country as far as Rio Perdido, and no one doubted but it would speedily take possession, and Lanzos might think it a venial crime to enrich his son-in-law at its expense. There was nothing to prevent him from signing away the whole province in the same way the day before he died; and if his signature alone authenticates impossibilities, that of others, who are still alive, may yet do the same. Moreover, sir, is not the bargain made by Messrs. Toulmin and Smith with Hevia, of itself a strong proof that the titles were not worth a rush; and ought not the very terms of it to have excited in the minds of those gentlemen the greatest suspicion of their real nature, supposing them to have been ignorant of it? Could they imagine that any man, not absolutely a candidate for bedlam, possessing a *good title* to a *very extensive* property, would give two-thirds of that property to any one merely for the trouble and expense of having it surveyed, (which it ought to have been before,) and taking the easiest steps necessary to have his *good title* confirmed? Or if they were persuaded it was a good title, must we not be constrained to think rather uncharitably of their procedure, as taking a very unfair advantage of the ignorance of a simpleton? All these difficulties vanish, however, if we suppose both parties informed of the real nature of the claims. The transaction then becomes (between the individuals at least) a fair bargain and sale. We may then figure to ourselves Mr. Smith addressing Mr. Hevia in some such terms as these: "Your titles, sir, are pretty well contrived, and although there are some strange incongruities in them, these may not be apparent to every eye; nevertheless, I could not venture to give real value for them; but, sir, you know the standing I hold in the United States: I have great connexions there and powerful friends. I am intimately acquainted with all the leading men in the Government and country, and possess some influence with them. You know his honor Judge Toulmin also, who is to be concerned with me in this business: he has great interest, and a very general acquaintance with all the principal characters, with whom he keeps up a constant correspondence, and even with the President himself; by his exertions and mine, united, I have no doubt but we could get your titles confirmed, but as it is a matter of much trouble and great delicacy, and not unattended with risk, you must give us two-thirds of the whole as our compensation." We may then suppose Hevia answering: "I am very sensible of the correctness of what you say, sir; the titles might have been better contrived, but as they cannot now be altered, my good father-in-law being dead, and as I have great confidence of success from your exertions, and those of his honor Judge Toulmin, I accede to your proposals, as, after all, half a loaf is better than no bread, according to the adage."

One word regarding myself, sir, and I shall close this long address, which must, I fear, have tired your patience. I am very sensible, and indeed meet daily proofs that I have made Mr. Smith and Judge Toulmin my most bitter enemies, by thus daring, in a contest that they forced upon me, to assert rights that I was bound to protect. They have, I am pretty well informed, done every thing in their power to instil the most villanous suspicions of me and my connexions in the minds of the officers of Government, both into this quarter and at the city of Washington. They have, however, confined themselves to private slander, dark hints, and artful inuendoes. When they shall think proper to bring forward their charges in a tangible shape, I shall feel bound to answer, as, until then, I do to despise them. Suffice it at present to say, that all my views and prospects, for many years back, have been turned towards the United States; that by far the most valuable part of my property lies within their dominions; and that, setting aside these considerations, I trust I have so much honor as never to be, directly or indirectly, in thought, word, or deed, the enemy of the country or people where or among whom I find protection. Let these gentlemen lay their hands on their hearts and say as much if they can. I beg your pardon, however, for introducing these observations into a discussion to which they are totally irrelevant.

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JAS. INNERARRITY.

Register of Claims to Land in the District East of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on private conveyances, which have passed through the office of the Commandant, but founded, as the Claimant supposes, on grants lost by time or accident.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Where situated.	Quantity claimed.				Cultivation and inhabitation.
				Front.	Deep.	Area in arpens.	Area in acres.	
1	Nicholas Cook -	Lavallé - -	Bon Secours river -	-	-	12½	-	From 1780 to May, 1813.
2	Same - -	Same - -	Bon Secours river -	-	-	25	-	From 1780 to May, 1813.
3	Heirs of Valentine Dubroca	Joseph Badon -	Tensa river - -	-	-	-	456	Not inhabited nor cultivated since the Spaniards took possession of the country.
4	Same - -	Peshon - -	Faouca river -	6 leagues in circ			-	Formerly inhabited and cultivated, but neither inhabited nor cultivated for the six years last past.
5	Gerald Byrne -	Peter Vivarent -	Tensa river - -	-	-	630		From 1792 to June 1813.
6	William Fisher -	Montlimar - -	Tensa river - -	-	-	1600		Inhabited and cultivated formerly, & for 3 or 4 years last past by William Fisher, the present claimant.
7	Same - -	Francis Mazurier -	Tensa river - -	unknown		-	-	From Feb., 1813, to June, 1813.
8	Same - -	Same - -	Bayou Mano -	-	-	-	800	Inhabited while the English possessed this country.
9	Charles Conway -	John Truillet -	Tensa river - -	-	-	800	-	Cult. 1810 to June, 1813.

REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Where situated.	Quantity claimed. Front.	Deep.	Area in arpens.	Area in acres.	Cultivation and inhabitation.
10	Jean P. Baptiste - Pierre Baptiste - Louise Baptiste - Henriette Baptiste - Soulange Baptiste - Diego Baptiste -	P. Rochon -	Fowl river - -	unk	now	n -	-	About 1780 to 1799.
11	Regis Bernody -	Joseph Munora -	Mobile river -	-	-	600	-	From 1809 to 1813.
12	Henri Boden -	Daniel Jusan -	Fish river - -	-	-	1600	-	About 1780 to 1813.
13	Thomas Powell -	Louis Boudin -	Fish river - -	-	-	-	240	From 1783, to June, 1813.
14	Benjamin Ward - Daniel Ward - John Ward -	Unknown - -	Fish river - -	-	-	400	-	Inhabited and cultivated for about 20 years last past.
15	Same - -	Unknown - -	Fowl river - -	-	-	200	-	About 1783 to about 1800.
16	Hilaire Dubroca -	Valentine Dubroca -	Mobile river -	-	-	640	-	From 1789 to June, 1813. Though H. & M. Dubroca claim, by virtue of a grant from the French Government to their father, yet they have not produced any written evidence whatever.
17	Maximilian Dubroca	Valentine Dubroca -	Mobile river -	-	-	640	-	From 1789 to June, 1813.
18	Amaranthe Lasize -	Charles Chappelle -	Pascagoula bay -	unk	now	n -	-	From 1803 to Nov., 1813.
19	Heirs of C. Baudreau	C. Baudreau -	Pascagoula river -	unk	now	n -	-	From 1744 to 1764. The conveyance upon which this claim is founded, has not passed through the office of the commandant.
20	Heirs of A. Moro -	Augustin Moro -	Pascagoula bay -	12	46	-	-	From 1783 to Jan., 1814.
21	Heirs of R. Farmar	St. Michel - -	Tensa river - -	unk	now	n	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
22	Same - -	Robert Farmar -	Extend'g from Mobile bay to the river dido, with a width of 5 miles, 62 toises by 40 arpens.				Perches	This claim is founded on a grant said to have been made by the Creek Indians to Robert Farmar on the 28th Oct., 1763, but does not appear to have been confirmed by any Government, nor to have been inhabited nor cultivated.
23	Same - -	A. Rochon - -	- - -	-	-	-	-	From 1764 to 1768 or '9.
24	Same - -	Joseph Barbeiuer -	Mobile river -	unk	now	n -	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
25	Same - -	Sheffield Howard -	Horn island - -	unk	now	n -	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
26	Reps. of Sim. Favre	Simon Andry -	Near Mobile -	unk	now	n -	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
27	H'rs of J. B. Baudreau	A. Duvernai -	Pascagoula bay -	30	40	1200	-	From 1780 to 1813.
28	Same - -	Baptiste Rousere -	Bay of St. Louis -	unk	now	n -	-	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
29	Miguel Eslava -	Joseph Chastang -	Near the Fort -	20 ar	pens	4 to. by	25 ar	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
30	Widow Lafontaine -	Julian Azevedo -	Opposite Deer island	7	40	280	-	From 1805 to 1813.
31	Heirs of C. M'Custin	I. de la Sausage -	Fowl river - -	-	-	160	-	From 1809 to 1814. A French grant is referred to in the papers, which was decreed to be delivered up to Allard, the present claimant, by John B'te Baudreau, in whose possession it was said to be by the Spanish Government. The decree was made by Maximillian St. Maxent, comd't of Mobile, on the 10th day of May, 1807.
32	Alard, for himself and mother	Chamount - -	Bayou Chamount -	200	200	40000	-	Formerly inhabited and cul.
33	Anthony Campbell -	Bernard Croizat -	Pascagoula bay -	-	-	-	-	Inhab. and cultivated, 1809.
34	James Nardeau -	Unknown - -	Lying between Fowl and Deer rivers	-	-	-	-	Not inhab. nor cultivated.
35	Heirs of Bobe Desclauseaux	Unknown - -	Town of Mobile -	12	40	480	-	Not inhab. nor cultivated.
36	Same - -	Unknown - -	Mobile - -	12 to	ises s	quare	-	Not inhab. nor cultivated.
37	Same - -	Unknown - -	Mobile - -	12½	do b	y 20	-	Not inhab. nor cultivated.
38	James Navarn -	Polecagie Lorriens -	Mobile bay - -	unk	now	n -	-	Not inhab. nor cultivated.
39	Widow Chonriac -	Unknown - -	7 leagues fr. Mobile	unk	now	n -	-	Not inhab. nor cultivated.
40	Heirs of Borsdore -	Lucer - -	Choupoulou -	unk	now	n -	-	Not inhab. nor cultivated.
41	Francis Alexander -	C. Lardass - -	Mobile bay - -	35	40	1400	-	It was proved that the land claimed by Francis Alexander has been generally understood to belong to the Alexander family for more than 25 years, and that a house was built upon the land 12 or 13 years ago, and is now standing.
42	Heirs of Mrs. Baden	Unknown - -	10 leagues fr. Mobile	unk	now	n		
43	Same - -	Unknown - -	Mobile bay - -	unk	now	n -	-	Anciently cultivated.
44	Same - -	Unknown - -	Dog river - -	unk	now	n -	-	Generally understood to belong to Mrs. Baden.
45	Francis Gerard -	Manon (a free negro)	Bayou Rahon					
46	Widow Guillory -	Peter Guillory -	Mobile bay - -	1	40	-	-	From 1780 to 1800.
47	H'rs of J. B. Baudreau	Unknown - -	Pascagoula river -	unk	now	n -	-	Inhab'd and cult'd while the Eng. possessed the country.

REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Where situated.	Quantity claimed. Front.	Deep.	Area in arpens.	Area in acres.	Cultivation and inhabitation.
48	H'rs of J. B. Baudreau	Unknown - -	Pascagoula river -	unk	now	n		
49	Same - -	Unknown - -	Pascagoula bay -	unk	now	n		
50	Same - -	Chaumont - -	Pascagoula river -	-	-	40000	-	Anc. inhab. and cultivated.
51	Daniel Johnson -	John Lynder -	Mobile bay - -	-	-	5000	-	Formerly inhab. and cultivated by Lynder. The date of the bill of sale to Johnson appears to have been altered.
52	John McAlister -	John Lynder -	Honey Cut island -	-	-	5000	-	Formerly inhabited and cultivated by Lynder.
53	Heirs of D. & B. Joshua & John Ward	Unknown -	Island Cowemla -	-	-	500	-	No evidence has been introduced respecting the claims of the Wards.
54	Same - -	Unknown - -	Mobile bay - -	-	-	2000		
55	Same - -	Unknown - -	Bayou Farange -	-	-	500		
56	Same - -	Unknown - -	Bayou Farange -	-	-	500		
57	Aaron Barlow -	Samuel Day -	Pascagoula river -	-	-	400	-	No evidence.
58	Joseph McChandless	Patrick Finn -	Tombigbee river -	-	-	7744	-	Jos. McChandless has since entered claims to the same places, founded on Spanish papers.
59	Same - -	Dennis Bruin -	Three Mile creek -	-	-	10240		
60	Same - -	Roger Doud -	Choctaw Path -	-	-	2560		
61	Same - -	Dermot Conner -	Choctaw Path -	-	-	1440		
62	Bartholemew Pellerin	Widow Masmer -	Bay of St. Louis -	-	-	17084	-	From 1775 to 1814.
63	Thomas Durnford -	Durnford - -	Saw Mill creek -	⅛ of	100,	000 ac.		
64	Same - -	Same - -	Mobile bay - -	-	-	200		
65	Same - -	B. Morgan - -	Alabama river -	unk	now	n -	-	The commencem'tunknown
66	Charles and Francis Paxent - -	Francis Paxent -	Mobile bay - -	-	-	500	-	No evidence.
67	Same - -	Same - -	Mobile bay - -	-	-	160	-	No evidence.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD, *Commissioner.*

Remarks.—Though the original grants upon which the preceding claims are founded, have been lost, yet it is conceived that the claims to such lands, not exceeding a reasonable quantity, as were inhabited and cultivated under the Spanish Government, ought to be confirmed.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD, *Commissioner.*

Register of Claims to Land in the District East of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on private conveyances, which have passed through the Office of the Commandant, but which are founded, as the claimant supposes, on grants lost by time or accident.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Quantity claimed in feet. Front.	Deep.	Area.	Where situated.	Cultivation and inhabitation.
1	Elizabeth Chastang	Joseph Chastang -	72	120	8,640	Mobile - -	From 1799 to May, 1813.
2	Heirs of Simon Landry -	Rochon - -	120	150	18,000	" - -	From 1783 to May, 1813.
3	Francis Girard -	Benjamin Dubroca	12	unk	n -	" - -	From 1804 to May, 1813.
4	Bazile Chastang -	John Chastang -	145	281	40,745	" - -	From 1782 to May, 1813.
5	Lewis Judson -	Madam Faure -	70	120	8,400	" - -	From 1793 to May, 1813.
6	Regis Bernody -	Fran. Fontinillas -	79	120	8,640	" - -	From 1783 to May, 1813.
7	Same - -	Louis Durant -	30	120	3,600	" - -	do do
8	Same - -	Isabelle Chastang -	72	120	8,640	" - -	From 1781 to May, 1813.
9	Same - -	Same - -	40	199½	4,500	" - -	do do
10	Mary J. Kreps Mary J. Kreps Etienne Kreps Genevieve Kreps Placide Kreps						
11	Same - -	M. Fran. Buisnan -	60	unk	nown	" - -	From 1787 to 1813.
12	Same - -	James Campan -	70	120	8,400	" - -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
13	Nicholas Cook -	John Chastang -	108	120	12,960	" - -	From 1801 to 1813.
14	Dominique Salle -	John B. Ham -	unk	now	n -	" - -	From 1765 to June, 1813.
15	Mary Rochon - Isabelle Demouy - Hypolite Demouy - Marcelle F. Demouy Augustin Demouy -	Augustin Rochon -	unk	now	n -	" - -	From 1767 to 1813.
16	Benjamin Dubroca -	M. Kreps - -	unk	now	n -	" - -	From 1781 to June, 1813.
17	Baptiste Freniez -	P. Gilchrist - -	72	120	8,640	" - -	From 1801 to June, 1813.
18	Mariane D. Franiez -	Mariane Guillory -	60	120	7,200	" - -	From 1783 to June, 1813.
19	Same - -	Margarite Narbonne	108	120	12,960	" - -	do do
20	Thomas Powell -	Dominique Salle -	107	250	26,750	" - -	From 1780 to June, 1813.
21	William Mitchell -	J. L. Lusser -	72	unk	nown	" - -	do do
22	Same - -	Same - -	76	unk	nown	" - -	do do
23	Alban Robeshow -	Francis Alexander -	36	120	4,320	" - -	Cul. 1811, inh. 1812, to June, 1813.
24	Sillien Nicholas -	Joseph Ortis -	60	120	7,200	" - -	Cultivated 1801, to June, 1813.

REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Quantity claimed in feet.			Where situated.	Cultivation and inhabitation.
			Front.	Deep.	Area.		
25	Ann Surtill - -	Diego McVoy -	60	120	7,200	Mobile -	From 1800 to June, 1813.
26	Same - -	Valentine Dubroca -	100	110	11,000	" - -	From 1782 to 1813.
27	Same - -	Same - -	39	98	1,091	" - -	do do
28	Same - -	John Murrell -	60	120	7,200	" - -	From 1809 to 1813.
29	Same - -	John Murrell -	60	120	7,200	" - -	do do
30	Same - -	John Murrell -	60	120	7,200	" - -	do do
31	Same - -	Joseph Ortis -	60	120	7,200	" - -	From 1783 to 1813.
32	Isabelle Bourrier -	Pierre Lucien -	156	90	14,040	" - -	From 1792 to 1813.
33	Pierre Lucien -	Mrs. Toinette -	90	156	14,040	" - -	From 1780 to 1813.
34	James Wilson -	Jack Jaco - -	72	120	8,640	" - -	From 1807 to 1813.
35	Philip, a free negro	Joseph, a free negro	unk	now	n -	" - -	From 1799 to 1813.
36	Constance Hugon -	Francis Suarez -	115	135	15,525	" - -	From 1798 to 1813.
37	Lucy Lorinding - Trasy Lorinding - Daniel Lorinding - Pierre Lorinding - Benjamin Lorinding Clare Lorinding - Cydoine Lorinding	Joseph Chastang -	90	120	10,800	" - -	From 1793 to 1813.
38	Pierre Lorindine -	Raphael Hidalgo -	99	110	10,890	" - -	From 1809 to 1813.
39	Lucy Landry -	Maria A. Dufey -	24	120	2,880	" - -	From 1793 to 1813.
40	Louisa, a free negro	Nicholas Mangula -	unk	now	n -	"	
41	Alexis Trouillet -	Etienne Fievre -	76	156	11,856	"	
42	Same - -	Antonio Espejo -	60	120	7,200	"	
43	Joseph Ortiz -	Francisco Fontanille	60	70	4,200	" - -	From 1801 to 1813.
44	Same - -	Antony Espejo -	124	156	19,344	" - -	do do
45	Same - -	Peter Vincent -	60	120	7,200	" - -	From 1799 to 1813.
46	Stephen Spalding -	Pedro Garzon -	60	120	7,200	" - -	From 1802 to 1813.
47	Heirs of Louis Duset	Jean de Lusser -	unk	now	n -	" - -	From 1787 to 1813.
48	John Forbes & Co. -	Unknown - -	90	213	19,140	" - -	From 1783 or 84 to 1813.
49	Same - -	John Bosage -	63	300	18,900	" - -	From 1783 to 1813.
50	Same - -	Unknown - -	60	156	9,360	" - -	From 1788 to 1813.
51	Same - -	do - -	138	71	9,798	" - -	From 1795 to 1813.
52	Same - -	do - -	72	unk	nown	" - -	From 1783 to 1813.
53	Same - -	do - -	72	120	8,640	" - -	From 1805 to 1806, both inclusive.
54	Melany Rochon -	Cuffy, a free negro -	41½	86	3,569	" - -	Cultivated from 1803 to June, 1813.
55	Rosalie Jacques -	Angelica, do -	72	120	8,640	" - -	From 1799 to June, 1813.
56	Jean Chastang -	Joana Montlimar -	unk	now	n -	" - -	From 1793 to June, 1813.
57	Lewis Judson -	Augustin Rochon -	75	120	9,000	" - -	From 1784 to June, 1813.
58	John Chavana -	Joseph Ortis -	62	156	9,672	" - -	From 1763 to June, 1813.
59	Benito Caro -	Francisco Alexander	60	120	7,200	" - -	From 1798 to 1813.
60	Same - -	Vincent Gonzales -	60	120	7,200	" - -	Inhab. at different times since 1808.
61	Lewis Judson -	Nicholas Weeks -	60	140	8,400	" - -	A warehouse built in 1811.
62	Francis Baudin -	Lordas - -	60	120	7,200	" - -	From 1768 to June, 1813.
63	Wm. Pollard -	Charles Baron -	60	120	7,200	" - -	Inhab. and cult. from 1800 to 1807, and cultivated till 1810.
64	Armand Duplantier -	Simon Andry -	210	156	32,760	" - -	From 1805 to November, 1813.
65	Martha B. Stewart -	J. T. Franier -	60	120	7,200	" - -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
66	Same - -	Same - -	60	120	7,200	" - -	do do
67	Clara Favre - -	Jaques Jaco -	66	120	7,920	" - -	From 1801 to June, 1813.
68	Augustin Colin -	Julia Villars -	unk	now	n -	" - -	From 1784 to January, 1814.
69	Ferine Frenier -	Francis Alexander -	20	16	320	" - -	From 1811 to January, 1814.
70	Heirs of R. Farmar -	Grondel - -	84	unk	-	" - -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
71	Diego Alverez -	Joshua Gracie -	-	do	-	" - -	From 1780 to February, 1814.
72	Heirs of C. M'Curtin	Suanion & M'Gillfray	-	do	-	" - -	From 1784 to 1814.
73	Same - -	James de la Sausage	114	16½	-	" - -	do do
74	Heirs of A. Rochon	Fievre - -	unk	now	-	" - -	Inhab. and cultiv. about 36 years.
75	Same - -	Same - -	do	do	-	" - -	do do
76	Same - -	Same - .	do	do	-	" - -	do do
77	Francis Hendersburg	Mary Josefa -	40	160	6,400	" - -	From 1786 to 1814.
78	Heirs of Jesse Embree	Andrew Bernard -	60	120	7,200	" - -	No evidence.
79	Miguel Eslava -	Joq'n de Osorno -	unk	now	n -	" - -	From 1800 to 1814.
80	Same - -	- - -	60	120	-	" - -	From 1798 to 1814.
81	Same - -	- - -	unk	now	n -	" - -	From 1799 to 1814.
82	Same - -	Peter Lansevien -	12 t	oises	square	" - -	From 1798 to 1814.
83	Heirs of Leroy -	- - -	75	120	7,200	" - -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
84	Achille Burrell -	Burrell - -	123	123	2,829	" - -	do do
85	Pierre Lucien -	Unknown - -	72	120	8,640	" - -	From 1781 to 1785. The house upon the lot claimed by P. Lucien was destroyed in 1805, by order of Government, it being too near the fort.
86	John Cuffee -	William Fisher -	60	120	7,200	" - -	A house was built upon it about four years ago.
87	Madam Freniez -	Matthew Flaux -	unk	now	n -	" - -	Inhabited while the English possessed Florida.
88	Boisbriant - -	Unknown - -	210	150	36,600	" - -	No evidence.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD, *Commissioner.*

Remarks.—Though the original grants, upon which the preceding claims are founded, have been lost, yet it is conceived that the claims to such lots as were inhabited and cultivated under the Spanish Government, or such as were built upon by permission of the Spanish authorities, ought to be confirmed.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD, *Commissioner.*

A List of actual Settlers in the District East of Pearl river, in Louisiana, who have no claims derived from either the French, British, or Spanish Governments.

No.	Present settler.	Original settler.	Date of present settlement.	Date of original settlement.	Where settled.
1	Noah Nichols - -	Noah Nichols -	December, 1810	December, 1810	Pearl river.
2	Henry Lopkan -	Henry Lopkan -	July, 1811	July, 1811	Stoney creek.
3	Jesse Magehe -	Jesse Magehe -	January, 1813	January, 1813	Near Pearl river.
4	John Strahan - -	Augustus Hubbard -	Sept. or Oct., 1812	July, 1811	Pearl river.
5	John Walker - -	John Walker -	February, 1812	February, 1812	Bolachitta creek.
6	James Buckley -	James Buckley -	April, 1811	April, 1811	Pearl river.
7	Edward Buckley -	Edward Buckley -	April, 1811	April, 1811	Pearl river.
8	William Parker -	William Parker -	October, 1811	October, 1811	Near Pearl river.
9	Zachariah Lea -	George Farley -	1812	March, 1807	Pearl river.
10	James Roddie -	James Roddie -	March, 1807	March, 1807	Pearl river.
11	Alexander Frazare -	Alexander Frazare -	October, 1811	October, 1811	Pearl river.
12	Moses Murphey -	Moses Murphey -	August, 1811	August, 1811	Pearl river.
13	Jacob Lotte -	Jacob Lotte -	July, 1812	July, 1812	Reedy creek.
14	John Lotte - -	John Lotte -	May, 1811	May, 1811	Reedy creek.
15	Solomon Lotte -	Solomon Lotte -	December, 1810	December, 1810	Pearl river.
16	Henry Henninger -	Henry Henninger -	July, 1811	July, 1811	Pearl river.
17	William Farmar -	John Gardner -	March, 1813	July, 1811	Taylor's creek.
18	Thomas Smith -	Thomas Smith -	March, 1813	March, 1813	Pearl river.
19	John Shave -	John Shave -	February, 1812	February, 1812	Near Pearl river.
20	James Fate - -	James Fate - -	March, 1810	March, 1810	Pearl river.
21	Isaac Baker -	Arthur McQuaid -	January, 1811	March, 1810	Pearl river.
22	Michael Beck -	John Coze - -	September, 1806	March, 1805	Pearl river.
23	Robert Carter -	Robert Carter -	March, 1805	March, 1805	Pearl river.
24	Henry Jarrel - -	Robert Lotte -	February, 1813	February, 1811	Pearl river.
25	Robert Deen -	Milly Barker -	September, 1811	February, 1810	Pearl river.
26	Samuel Wallis -	Samuel Wallis -	December, 1811	December, 1811	Pearl river.
27	John Bte. Ladner -	John Bte. Ladner -	1806	1806	Jordan river.
28	Littlebury West -	William Langton -	February, 1813	March, 1805	Pearl river.
29	Charle Favre -	Charle Favre -	1806	1806	Binachoua.
30	John Bte. Lardasse -	John Bte. Lardasse -	1803	1803	Bay of St. Louis.
31	Nicholas Larina -	Nicholas Larina -	1809	1809	Jordan river.
32	Thomas Colbert -	Thomas Colbert -	1811	1811	Pearl river.
33	Green Young -	Green Young -	November, 1812	November, 1812	Pearl river.
34	Richmond Colbert -	Richmond Colbert -	November, 1812	November, 1812	Pearl river.
35	William Oates -	William Oates -	1810	1810	Pearl river.
36	Polly Bilbo - -	Polly Bilbo - -	December, 1812	December, 1812	Bolachitta creek.
37	Francis Baudin -	Angelica Lardas -	1773	Beyond memory	Town of Mobile.
38	John Alby - -	-- —— Beaunil -	1791	1783	Town of Mobile.
39	Henry Daniel -	Henry Daniel -	December, 1812	December, 1812	Dog river.
40	Alexander Baudin -	Alexander Baudin -	1807	1807	Fall river.
41	William Mills -	William Mills -	1805	1805	Honey Cut creek.
42	Labin Smith - -	Labin Smith -	January, 1810	January, 1810	Saw Mill creek.
43	Henry Weathers -	Henry Weathers -	1811	1811	Bayou Sara.
44	Eugene Chastang -	Eugene Chastang -	1808	1808	Bayou Free.
45	Pierre Chastang -	Pierre Chastang -	1802	1802	Bayou Mattien.
46	Louis Chastang -	Louis Chastang -	1801	1801	Mobile river.
47	Anne Kilchrist -	Anne Kilchrist -	1795	1795	Tensa river.
48	Aaron Barlow* -	Aaron Barlow -	1805	1805	Bayou Pasqual.
49	Charine Eddinfield -	Charine Eddinfield -	1807	1807	Tensa river.
50	Moses Collins, jr. -	Moses Collins, jr. -	January 1812	January 1812	Pascagoula river.
51	Benjamin Youngblood	Benjamin Youngblood	February, 1812	February, 1812	Pascagoula river.
52	Samuel Williams -	Samuel Williams -	January, 1812	January, 1812	Pascagoula river.
53	Travis George -	Travis George -	March, 1810	March, 1810	Chickasaw Bogue.
54	Burwell Pitman -	Burwell Pitman -	December, 1811	December, 1811	Chickasaw Bogue.
55	Thomas Bilbo -	Lewis Parker -	February, 1812	August, 1809	Pascagoula river.
56	Samuel J. Stroud -	Samuel J. Stroud -	November 15, 1812	Novem'r 15, 1812	Pascagoula river.
57	Hubbard Parker -	Aaron Parker -	1810	1810	Pascagoula river.
58	John Ward - -	John Ward -	Sept. or Oct., 1807	Sept. or Oct. 1807	Pascagoula river.
59	Moses Ward - -	Moses Ward -	August, 1808	August, 1808	Pascagoula river.
60	Patrick Ward -	Patrick Ward -	August, 1811	August, 1811	Pascagoula river.
61	John J. Abner -	John J. Abner -	Aug. or Sept., 1808	Aug. or Sept. 1808	Pascagoula river.
62	Walter Denny -	Walter Denny -	June, 1811	June, 1811	Pascagoula river.
63	Gabriel Burns -	Gabriel Burns -	February, 1812	February, 1812	Pascagoula river.
64	Isaac Riand - -	Isaac Riand -	December, 1812	December, 1812	Pascagoula river.
65	John Richardson -	James Grayham -	May or June, 1811	May or June, 1811	Pascagoula river.
66	Jacob Page - -	John Hog - -	December, 1812	January, 1812	Pascagoula river.
67	Thomas Lantrip -	—— Wilson -	March, 1812	November, 1811	Pascagoula river.
68	Walter Davis† -	Walter Davis -	January 22, 1810	January 22, 1810	Pascagoula river.
69	Samuel Davis -	Samuel Davis -	March 1, 1812	March 1, 1812	Pascagoula river.
70	Henry Wills -	Henry Wills -	March 1, 1812	March 1, 1812	Pascagoula river.
71	Lewis Parker -	Lewis Parker -	January, 1812	January, 1812	Pascagoula river.
72	Noah H. Hudson -	Gabriel Burrus -	January, 1811	March, 1808	Pascagoula river.
73	Joseph J. Pierce -	Joseph J. Pierce -	February, 1812	February, 1812	Pascagoula river.
74	William Ball - -	William Ball -	October, 1811	October, 1811	Pascagoula river.
75	John Miller - -	John Miller -	October, 1811	October, 1811	Pascagoula river.
76	Edmund Smith -	Jacob Miller -	1807	1807	Pascagoula river.
77	John Eubanks -	John Eubanks -	1807	1807	Pascagoula river.
78	William Eubanks -	William Eubanks -	1807	1807	Pascagoula river.
79	George Eubanks -	George Eubanks -	1807	1807	Pascagoula river.
80	Mary Davis - -	Mary Davis -	January, 1807	January, 1807	Pascagoula river.
81	Cassandra Carter -	Cassandra Carter -	September, 1811	September, 1811	Cedar creek.
82	George Williamson -	George Williamson -	October 2, 1811	October 2, 1811	Pascagoula river.
83	Daniel Green -	Daniel Green -	Nov. or Dec., 1811	Nov. or Dec., 1811	Pascagoula river.
84	Caleb Howell -	Caleb Howell -	October 2, 1811	October 2, 1811	Pascagoula river.
85	Samuel Powers -	Samuel Powers -	October 2, 1811	October 2, 1811	Pascagoula river.
86	Jesse Graves -	Jesse Graves -	October, 1811	October, 1811	Pascagoula river.
87	William Holland -	Solomon Armstrong -	1811	1811	Pascagoula river.

* Aaron Barlow, since his entry as a settler, claimed by virtue of a Spanish title; he cannot, therefore, be numbered among the settlers.
† A caveat against patent issuing to Walter Davis. See letter of E. D. White, dated Donaldsonville, Louisiana, November 15, 1820.

REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

No.	Present settler.	Original settler.	Date of present settlement.		Date of original settlement.		Where settled.
88	Henry Hoskins -	John Ford - -	July,	1813	December,	1811	Pascagoula river.
89	John Bridges -	John Bridges -	March,	1812	March,	1812	Pascagoula river.
90	William Mars -	William Mars -	February,	1811	February,	1811	Red creek.
91	Minor W. Johnson -	Minor W. Johnson -	January,	1812	January,	1812	Bayou Ward.
92	Charles Holland -	Charles Holland -	December,	1811	December,	1811	Pascagoula river.
93	Wm. Withrington, jr.	Wm. Withrington, jr.	March,	1812	March,	1812	Bayou Ward.
94	John Haven - -	James Haven -		1812	April,	1812	Pascagoula river.
95	Malcon Monroe -	Isaac Melton -	May,	1812	Novem. 24,	1811	Pascagoula river.
96	Moses Collins, sen'r -	Gabriel Burnas -	January,	1812	January,	1811	Pascagoula river.
97	William Cochran -	William Cochran -	January,	1810	January,	1811	Leaf river.
98	Burwell Cochran -	Burwell Cochran -	January,	1810	January,	1810	Leaf river.
99	Malcolm Black -	Daniel Dwire -	April,	1812	September,	1811	Pascagoula river.
100	Archibald McManus -	Charles Simmons -	January,	1813	October,	1811	Pascagoula river.
101	James Mizell -	James Mizell -	November,	1811	November,	1811	Pascagoula river.
102	Simon Cumbest -	Simon Cumbest -		1799		1799	Pascagoula river.
103	Ezekiel Coward -	Ezekiel Coward -	October,	1811	October,	1811	Pascagoula river.
104	Philip Howell -	Philip Howell -	May,	1810	May,	1810	Pascagoula river.
105	William Mills -	Abraham Bird -	November,	1812	February,	1811	Pascagoula river.
106	George Davis -	Samuel Lyons -	March,	1811	October,	1809	Cedar creek.
107	William Howell -	William Howell -	January 4,	1812	January 4,	1812	Pascagoula river.
108	Wheeler Gresham -	Wheeler Gresham -	November,	1811	November,	1811	Chickasaw way.
109	Charles Daily -	Charles Daily -	August 18,	1811	August 18,	1811	Pascagoula river.
110	Bryant Terrell -	William Goff -	August,	1811	June,	1811	Pascagoula river.
111	William Carter -	William Lyons -	August,	1811	October,	1809	Pascagoula river.
112	William Goff -	Edmund Goff -	December 1,	1812	Feb. or Mar.,	1812	Pascagoula river.
113	Mathew Carter -	Mathew Carter -	April 20,	1812	April 20,	1812	Pascagoula river.
114	John Ship -	John Ship - -	June,	1813	June,	1813	Pascagoula river.
115	Absalom Lott -	Absalom Lott -	July,	1813	July,	1813	Pascagoula river.
116	John Self - -	John Self - -	July,	1813	July,	1813	Pascagoula river.
117	James Hunt - -	James Hunt - -	January,	1812	January,	1812	White's creek.
118	Lofton Fairchild -	George Williams -	December 8,	1812		1809	Pascagoula river.
119	Robert Smith -	Robert Smith -		1812		1812	Pascagoula river.
120	James Baker - -	James Baker -	July,	1811	July,	1811	Pascagoula river.
121	Christopher Baker -	Christopher Baker -	July,	1811	July,	1811	Pascagoula river.
122	Elias Woodruff -	James Cader -	January,	1812	January,	1812	Pascagoula river.
123	Willis Holder -	Willis Holder -		1812		1812	Pascagoula river.
124	Edward Williamson -	Edward Williamson -	January,	1812	January,	1812	Leaf river.
125	Nathan Shackelford -	Nathan Shackelford	May 3,	1811	May 3,	1811	Cedar creek.
126	John M. Long -	John M. Long -	Spring,	1811	Spring,	1811	Pascagoula river.
127	Charles Ely - -	Charles Ely - -		1788		1788	Choctaw bayou.
128	Edward Haven -	Edward Haven -		1810		1810	Pascagoula river.
129	Alexis Nicholas -	Alexis Nicholas -		1810		1810	Bluff creek.
130	Mary Graham -	Mary Graham -		1803		1803	Bayou Ecore.
131	Laird Graham -	Laird Graham -		1809		1809	Pascagoula river.
132	Joseph Graham -	Joseph Graham -		1810		1810	Pascagoula river.
133	Pierre Lardnier -	John Haven -		1809		1802	Pascagoula river.
134	Perry King -	Perry King -	Spring,	1813	Spring,	1813	Bayou Ward.
135	Ignatius Grantham -	Ignatius Grantham -	December,	1811	December,	1811	Pascagoula river.
136	Samuel Hains -	Samuel Hains -	May,	1813	May,	1813	Tensa river.
137	George Farragut -	George Farragut -	February,	1811	February,	1811	Pascagoula river.
138	William Flurry* -	William Flurry -		1811		1811	Black creek.
139	Joshua Cates -	Joshua Cates -	February,	1812	February,	1812	Bayou Ward.
140	William Cates -	William Cates -	February,	1812	February,	1812	Bayou Ward.
141	James Garnet -	William Mills -	Spring of	1812		1809	Pascagoula river.
142	Jacques Marthurin -	Jaques Marthurin -		1793		1793	Bay of Biloxy.
143	Louis Fasiar - -	Louis Fasiar -		1793		1793	Bay of Biloxy.
144	Angelique Fasiar -	Angelique Fasiar -		1793		1793	Bay of Biloxy.
145	Wm. Withrington, jr.	Wm. Withrington, jr.	March 5,	1812	March 5,	1812	Bayou Ward.
146	Dositte Richard -	Dositte Richard -		1807		1807	Biloxy.
147	Joseph Mathurin -	Joseph Mathurin -		1805		1805	Bay of Biloxy.
148	Charles C. Russell -	Charles C. Russell -	April,	1809	April,	1809	Bayou Relliaux.
149	Hardy Jernigan -	Hardy Jernigan -	February	1812	February,	1812	Pascagoula river.
150	William Kirkwood -	Madame Dupont -	November,	1810	1803, & continued 2 years		Pascagoula river.
151	Jesse Roe - -	Jesse Roe - -	August,	1810	August,	1810	Straight creek.
152	John Cumbest -	John Cumbest -		1810		1810	Escautaba river.
153	John Moore - -	John Moore -	September,	1812	September,	1812	Dog river.
154	Richard Roberts -	Alexander Durant -	January,	1811	January,	1811	Pascagoula river.
155	William Lyons -	William Lyons -	December,	1811	December,	1811	Escautaba river.
156	William Stanfield -	William Stanfield -	February,	1811	February,	1811	Pascagoula river.
157	Joseph Ladner -	Joseph Ladner -		1793		1793	Bay of Biloxy.
158	John Bte. Ladner -	John Bte. Ladner -		1800		1800	Bay of Biloxy.
159	John Bte. Carquette	John Bte. Carquette		1790		1790	Bay of Biloxy.
160	Dominique Ladner -	Dominique Ladner -		1802		1802	Bay of Biloxy.
161	Joseph S. Moore -	Joseph S. Moore -		1799		1799	Belle Fontaine.
162	Antoine Ely - -	Antoine Ely - -		1803		1803	Pascagoula river.
163	Mary R. Dupont -	Mary R. Dupont -		1791		1791	Pascagoula river.
164	Timothy McGrath -	Timothy McGrath -	February,	1812	February,	1812	Bayou Coden.
165	A. P. K. Jones -	A. P. K. Jones -		1813		1813	Near Mobile Point.
166	William Baker† -	William Baker -	July,	1811	July,	1811	Pascagoula river.
167	William Graham -	William Graham -	August 20,	1811	August 20,	1811	Pascagoula river.
168	John Brewer - -	John Brewer -	January,	1812	January,	1812	Pascagoula river.
169	Daniel Dwire -	Daniel Dwire -	September,	1813	September,	1813	Pascagoula river.
170	Jonathan Suleer -	Alexander Durant -	August,	1810	December,	1808	Pascagoula river.
171	William Hamilton -	William Hamilton -	December,	1812	December,	1812	Pascagoula river.
172	Angus Colquhoon -	A. Colquhoon -	June,	1810	June,	1810	Pearl river.
173	J. Bouquie - -	J. Bouquie - -	February 1,	1813	February 1,	1813	
174	Thomas Johnson -	Thomas Johnson -		1810		1810	

It is believed that some of the settlers are upon lands claimed by other persons, but it is impossible to particularize them, as few maps accompany the claims.—This report was completed on the 20th day of October, 1814, and the recording, by the clerk of the claims, in extenso, about the 10th June, 1815.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD, *Commissioner.*

* Lives with John Haven, but cultivates separately.

† Lives with his father, but cultivates separately.

A.—*Register of Claims to Land in the District West of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on complete grants derived from either the French, British, or Spanish Government, which, in the opinion of the undersigned Commissioner, are valid agreeable to the laws, usages, or customs of such Government.*

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Inhabitation and cultivation.	
										From	To
1	William Barrow	Israel Smith	Spanish patent	9 April, 1790	500	Feliciana	E. Miro	10 Novemb. 1789	C. Trudeau	1806	*1814
2	Do	Thomas Holmes	Do	4 Septemb. 1789	1000	Do	Do	22 Septemb. 1788	Do	1802	1814
3	Do	William Kirkland	Do	24 Septemb. 1797	900	Do	G. de Lemos	16 Decemb. 1797	Do	1814	1814
4	Heirs John Turnbull	John Turnbull	Do	25 April, 1792	1000	Do	Carondelet	16 April, 1793	Do	1800	1814
5	Do	Do	Do	20 July, 1796	2000	Baton Rouge	Do	14 June, 1796	Do	1799	1814
6	Do	John Joyce	Do	25 April, 1793	1000	Feliciana	Do	16 April, 1793	Do	1800	1814
7	Do	John M. Garthley	Do	21 May, 1796	500	Do	Do	20 May, 1796	Do		
8	Do	Robert Yair	Do	22 Decemb. 1803	470	Baton Rouge	Morales	6 July, 1799	V. Pintado	1800	1803
9	Heirs David Bradford	Do	Do	6 Septemb. 1796	900	Feliciana	Carondelet	2 July, 1796	C. Trudeau	1804	1814
10	Do	William Dortch	Do	26 January, 1794	600	Do	Do	2 Decemb. 1793	Do	1794	1814
11	Heirs David Lane	William Kirkland	Do	2 March, 1798	800	Do	G. de Lemos	1 October, 1798	V. Pintado	1797	1814
12	Do	Thomas M. Green	Do	23 Novemb. 1796	240	Do	Carondelet	15 Septemb. 1788	C. Trudeau	1800	1814
13	Frederick Kimball	Do	Do	11 February, 1799	500	Do	G. de Lemos	1 October, 1798	V. Pintado	1797	1814
14	Alexander and Buller	David White	Do	26 May, 1797	600	Baton Rouge	Carondelet	10 April, 1797	Do	1801	1814
15	C. Baldwin et alias	Juan Roy	Do	31 March, 1797	800	Do	Do	6 Decemb. 1798	C. Trudeau		
16	Heirs James Smith	James Smith	Do	2 Decemb. 1797	720	Do	G. de Lemos	5 March, 1797	V. Pintado		
17	Do	Do	Do	24 Decemb. 1797	413	Do	Do	7 March, 1797	Do	1797	1814
18	Richard Devall	John Buhler	Do	30 August, 1790	1200	Do	E. Miro	1 July, 1790	C. Trudeau		
19	Do	Richard Devall	Do	21 August, 1797	500	Do	G. de Lemos	28 July, 1797	V. Pintado	1800	1814
20	Do	Francis Deverges	Do	7 October, 1786	240	Do	E. Miro	4 Septemb. 1786	William Dunbar	1785	1814
21	Thomas Lilly & Co.	Joseph Molier	Do	13 October, 1797	762	Feliciana	G. de Lemos	3 Septemb. 1797	C. Trudeau		
22	Do	Anthony Blanchard	Do	13 October, 1797	500	Do	Do	30 Septemb. 1797	Do		
23	Thomas Lilly	Thomas Lilly	Do	20 August, 1790	480	Baton Rouge	E. Miro	3 July, 1790	Do	1798	1814
24	Thomas Lilly & Co.	William Adison	Do	11 February, 1799	500	Do	G. de Lemos	15 January, 1798	Do	1799	1814
25	Thomas Lilly	Thomas Lilly	Do	3 August, 1797	400	Do	Carondelet	3 August, 1797	Do		
26	Heirs John Fridge	John Fridge	Do	26 August, 1790	800	Do	E. Miro	2 July, 1790	Do	1794	1814
27	Levi Ratliff	Christian Bingaman	Do	20 April, 1791	550	Feliciana	Do	28 August, 1788	Do	1789	1814
28	Anthony Dougherty	William Brown	Do	30 March, 1796	400	Do	Carondelet	25 February, 1795	William Dunbar		
29	Do	John Eldergill	Do	4 February, 1798	500	Do	G. de Lemos	3 July, 1797	C. Trudeau		
30	Do	Robert Munson	Do	24 May, 1796	1024	Do	Carondelet	5 July, 1794	Do	1808	1814
31	Do	Anthony Dougherty	Do	30 March, 1796	800	Do	Do	21 Novemb. 1790	Do	1796	1814
32	Robert Young	Solomon Hopkins	Do	2 January, 1795	500	Do	Do	22 Septemb. 1794	Do	1795	1814
33	Thomas Young	Thomas Young	Do	24 Decemb. 1797	1000	Do	G. de Lemos	24 Septemb. 1797	Do	1797	1814
34	Heirs John Mills	John Mills	Do	26 May, 1796	690	Do	Carondelet	24 May, 1797	Do	1807	1814
35	Do	Do	Do	4 Septemb. 1789	800	Do	E. Miro	29 August, 1789	Do	1794	1814
36	A. D. Smith	Claudia Trenony	Do	13 August, 1787	750	Do	Do	13 August, 1787	Do	1800	1814
37	John Murdock	John Alston	Do	28 January, 1789	590	Do	Do	26 January, 1789	Do	1794	1814
38	Do	Anselmo Blanchard	Do	12 October, 1796	410	Do	Carondelet	1 October, 1796	Do		
39	Do	John Murdock	Do	21 August, 1797	1000	Do	G. de Lemos	14 June, 1797	V. Pintado	1804	1814
40	Do	Marcoss Kerr	Do	10 July, 1798	410	Do	Do	13 June, 1798	Do	1800	1814
41	B. Carter	David White	Do	20 July, 1796	1000	Baton Rouge	Carondelet	14 June, 1796	C. Trudeau	1796	1814
42	Thomas Carney	Thomas Carney	Do	12 June, 1798	600	Feliciana	G. de Lemos	14 June, 1797	V. Pintado		

* Claims received prior to the 1st September, 1814.

(A.)—REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Inhabitation and cultivation.	
										From	To
43	Thomas Carney	Matthew McFarland	Spanish patent	20 October, 1798	480	Feliciana	G. de Lemos	22 March, 1798	C. Trudeau	1796	1814
44	Zedoc Brashears	Zedoc Brashears	Do	26 May, 1797	1000	Do	Carondelet	16 January, 1797	V. Pintado	1798	1814
45	Juan Garcie	Joseph Cabo	Do	20 August, 1790	200	Baton Rouge	E. Miro	14 February, 1797	C. Trudeau	1788	1814
46	Pablo Shap	Pablo Shap	Do	30 May, 1797	400	Do	Do	25 April, 1787	Do	1785	1814
47	James Foster	James Foster	Do	11 February, 1799	500	Feliciana	G. de Lemos	5 Novemb. 1798	V. Pintado	1801	1814
48	Heirs Wm. Conway	William Conway	Do	1 August, 1785	1520	Baton Rouge	E. Miro	21 Septemb. 1785	C. Trudeau	1792	1814
49	Do	Patrick Conway	Do	1 Decemb. 1786	1520	Do	Do	27 Septemb. 1785	Do	1792	1814
50	Do	Do	Do	1 Decemb. 1786	1520	Do	Do	25 Septemb. 1785	Do	1792	1814
51	H. & Celesta Degrampre	H. & C. Degrampre	Do	4 October, 1798	1000	Do	G. de Lemos	2 Septemb. 1798	V. Pintado		
52	Robert McCaslin	Robert McCaslin	Do	12 June, 1798	500	Feliciana	Do	6 April, 1796	C. Trudeau	1799	1814
53	Philip Hickey	William Marshall	Do	27 January, 1798	700	Baton Rouge	Do	18 January, 1797	Do		
54	Do	Lewis Faun	Do	27 Septemb. 1798	1000	Do	Do	26 Septemb. 1798	Do		
55	Heirs Hubert Rowell	Charles Boardman	Do	13 May, 1787	800	Do	E. Miro	21 April, 1787	Do		
56	Do	Hubert Rowell	Do	21 May, 1796	800	Do	Carondelet	15 Novemb. 1796	Do		
57	John Rhea	J. M. de la Barba	Do	20 Novemb. 1789	1015	Do	E. Miro	16 Novemb. 1789	Do		
58	Thomas Ambrose	Thomas Ambrose	Do	21 May, 1796	500	Feliciana	Carondelet	20 March, 1796	Do	1796	1814
59	Heirs Henry Richardson	H. Richardson	Do	2 March, 1798	700	Do	G. de Lemos	14 February, 1798	V. Pintado	1798	1814
60	James Hillin]	Abijah Russ	Do	29 July, 1794	540	Baton Rouge	Carondelet	12 Decemb. 1793	C. Trudeau	1798	1814
61	A. Harbour	William Webb	Do	3 February, 1790	480	Do	E. Miro	10 April, 1789	Do	1780	1814
62	John Rhea	William McDermot	Do	14 August, 1794	400	Feliciana	Carondelet	17 April, 1794	V. Pintado		
63	Do	Francis Linman	Do	3 August, 1798	800	Do	G. de Lemos	27 July, 1798	Do		
64	James Rault	James Rault	Do	2 Decemb. 1790	334	Do	Do	1 October, 1797	Do	1790	1814
65	Do	Do	Do	21 August, 1797	680	Do	Do	22 July, 1797	Do		
66	Do	Do	Do	26 May, 1797	500	Do	Carondelet	4 May, 1797	Do		
67	Do	Nicholas Curtois	Do	11 May, 1797	500	Do	Do	25 July, 1797	Do		
68	Thomas Durnford	John Burton	Do	7 February, 1793	360	Baton Rouge	Do	15 January, 1793	C. Trudeau	1812	1814
69	Valerian Allen	Augustus Allen	Do	5 May, 1794	1880	Feliciana	Do	18 January, 1791	Do		
70	Do	Do	Do	1 February, 1797	825	Do	Do	9 January, 1797	Do		
71	Marino Bourge	M. Bourge	Do	26 May, 1797	500	Do	Do	4 May, 1797	V. Pintado		
72	Heirs of Rich'd Swazey	Richard Swazey	Do	13 October, 1797	1500	Do	G. de Lemos	3 October, 1797	C. Trudeau		
73	David Lajeune	David Lajeune	Do	13 April, 1798	456	Do	Do	10 October, 1798	V. Pintado		
74	Do	Do	Do	16 January, 1796	160	Do	Carondelet	15 January, 1796	C. Trudeau		
75	Do	Joseph Robertson	Do	20 April, 1797	500	Do	Do	5 March, 1797	Do		
76	Do	John Sights	Do	10 February, 1795	240	Do	Do	10 February, 1795	Do		
77	John Morrice	John Morrice	Do	12 June, 1798	300	Do	G. de Lemos	3 March, 1798	V. Pintado		
78	Heirs of Antonio Grass	Antonio Grass	Do	12 June, 1798	1000	Baton Rouge	Do	16 April, 1798	Do		
79	Heirs of Hubert Rault	Miguel Mayer	Do	8 April, 1789	240	Do	E. Miro	1786	C. Trudeau	1789	1814
80	Do	Michael Bitancourt	Do	25 May, 1793	270	Do	Carondelet	10 March, 1790	Do		
81	Robert Cochran	R. & F. Friley	Do	25 January, 1799	300	Feliciana	G. de Lemos	24 January, 1799	Do		
82	Do	Samuel Tuel	Do	10 February, 1799	2000	Do	Do	10 February, 1799	Do		
83	James Carpenter	Anna Higgins	Do	24 Decemb. 1797	600	Do	Do	22 Decemb. 1797	Do		
84	George Klinepeter	George Klinepeter	Do	27 January, 1791	260	Baton Rouge	E. Miro	6 January, 1791	Do		
85	Do	Do	Do	30 May, 1787	400	Do	Do	24 April, 1785	Do	1785	1814
86	Joseph Charp	Joseph Charp	Do	30 May, 1787	420	Do	Do	24 April, 1787	Do	1785	1814
87	Stephen Bell	Moria Mulco	Do	21 May, 1796	300	Feliciana	Do	20 May, 1796	Do	1785	1814

88	James Penny	Thomas Young	Do	24 Decemb. 1797	500	Do	G. de Lemos	24 Decemb. 1797	Do	1802	1814
89	Do	Alexander Montgomery	Do	10 May, 1797	600	Do	Carondelet	1 August, 1795	Do	1796	1814
90	Richard Bell	Richard Bell	Do	6 Decemb. 1791	400	Do	E. Miro	23 May, 1791	Do		
91	Hercules O'Connor	H. O'Connor	Do	21 August, 1797	500	Do	G. de Lemos	12 August, 1797	V. Pintado	1797	1814
92	Heirs of Ruffin Gray	Ruffin Gray	Do	31 March, 1797	700	Do	Carondelet	26 August, 1796	C. Trudeau	1800	1814
93	Lucretia Alston	Esther King	Do	3 August, 1797	800	Do	Do	4 August, 1797	Do	1812	1814
94	Do	Ambrose Dupais	Do	2 Decemb. 1797	700	Do	G. de Lemos	15 July, 1797	V. Pintado	1805	1814
95	Heirs of Luther Smith	Jer. Kelsey	Do	13 October, 1797	600	Do	Do	2 October, 1797	C. Trudeau		
96	Fergus Duplantier	James Hillins	Do	12 Decemb. 1786	1054	Baton Rouge	E. Miro	10 Decemb. 1786	Do		
97	Do	John Joyce	Do	9 April, 1794	1000	Do	Carondelet	2 January, 1793	Do		
98	Philip Hickey	Jos. Vancheret	Do	24 Decemb. 1797	600	Do	G. de Lemos	1 Septemb. 1797	V. Pintado		
99	Widow Jones	Daniel Davis	Do	3 October, 1796	366⅔	Do	E. Miro	6 Novemb. 1785	C. Trudeau	1784	1814
100	Do	Fermin Landry	Do	8 August, 1789	60	Do	Do	3 February, 1789	Do		
101	John Babin & Co.	John Babin	Do	7 Decemb. 1789	1200	Do	Do	24 April, 1789	Do	1798	1814
102	Heirs of Beauregard	Widow Fusilier	Do	26 May, 1796	830	Do	Carondelet	30 March, 1793	Do	1796	1814
103	Philip Hickey	Daniel Hickey	Do	12 Novemb. 1788	800	Do	E. Miro	8 Novemb. 1788	Do	1796	1814
104	Do	Do	Do	22 Septemb. 1796	800	Do	Carondelet	22 Novemb. 1796	Do	1796	1814
105	Antonio Grass & Co.	Francis Deverges	Do	11 October, 1786	240	Do	E. Miro	4 Septemb. 1786	Wm. Dunbar	1786	1814
106	Do	N. Schalion	Do	7 Decemb. 1787	240	Do	Do	6 Decemb. 1787	C. Trudeau		
107	Heirs of Samuel Steer	Samuel Steer	Do	26 March, 1795	800	Do	Carondelet	10 February, 1795	Do	1796	1814
108	George Mather	Jane Daigle	Do	4 January, 1792	174	Do	Do	15 August, 1791	Do	1796	1814
109	Daniel Hickey	James Laroche	Do	5 February, 1799	194	Do	G. de Lemos	24 January, 1799	Do	1794	1814
110	V. S. Pintado	V. S. Pintado	Do	12 Decemb. 1798	900	Feliciana	Do	23 Novemb. 1798	Do	1804	1814
111	Joseph Videll	Jos. Martimer	Do	26 June, 1798	500	Baton Rouge	Do	8 May, 1798	Do		
112	West & Lenon	Jesse Munsar	Do	2 October, 1797	500	Feliciana	Do	27 Septemb. 1797	Do		
113	Robert Davis	Thomas Dawson	Do	24 Decemb. 1797	700	Do	Do	23 July, 1797	Do	1800	1814
114	Lewis Davis	John Beasland	Do	1 Septemb. 1795	800	Do	Carondelet	1 Novemb. 1795	Do	1808	1814
115	James Young	James Young	Do	3 August, 1796	500	Feliciana & B. Rouge	Do	3 August, 1797	Do	1796	1814
116	George Overacre	George Overacre	Do	24 Decemb. 1797	1000	Feliciana	G. de Lemos	7 July, 1797	Wm. Dunbar	1795	1814
117	John Hamilton	Daniel Clark	Do	3 Septemb. 1793	1000	Do	Carondelet	5 Septemb. 1793	C. Trudeau	1806	1814
118	William Weaks	Reuben Procktor	Do	8 April, 1789	400	Baton Rouge	E. Miro	31 March, 1789	Do	1792	1814
119	Do	William Weaks	Do	8 April, 1789	950	Do	Do	12 Septemb. 1788	Do	1792	1814
120	Do	William Penrice	Do	20 April, 1797	480	Feliciana	Carondelet	28 January, 1796	Do	1792	1814
121	David Weaks	Thomas Brennon	Do	2 July, 1798	500	Do	G. de Lemos	25 August, 1797	V. Pintado	1804	1814
122	Abner Green	Honrato Detrehan	Do	10 July, 1798	300	Do	Do	23 July, 1798	Do		
123	Do	Richard Hawkins	Do	26 Decemb. 1797	600	Do	Carondelet	3 March, 1797	Do	1797	1814
124	Do	Thomas Brennan	Do	26 April, 1797	480	Do	Do	3 March, 1797	Do	-	1797
125	Do	Abner Green	Do	26 April, 1797	1000	Do	Do	3 March, 1797	Do	1797	1814
126	Do	Do	Do	2 May, 1797	350	Do	Do	30 April, 1797	C. Trudeau	1797	1814
127	Ann Marbury	James J. Marbury	Do	9 June, 1798	500	Do	G. de Lemos	7 July, 1797	V. Pintado		
128	William Marbury	Ann Marbury	Do	9 June, 1798	500	Do	Do	11 May, 1798	C. Trudeau	1800	1814
129	John Harber	Michael Jones	Do	9 June, 1798	500	Do	Do	24 July, 1797	Do		
130	Joseph Charp	Joseph Charp	Do	27 January, 1791	200	Baton Rouge	E. Miro	23 Septemb. 1790	Do	1808	1814
131	Do	Do	Do	5 February, 1799	240	Do	G. de Lemos	4 February, 1799	Do	1808	1814
132	Do	Jacob Charp	Do	27 Jauuary, 1791	235	Do	E. Miro	4 January, 1791	Do		
133	Do	Do	Do	30 May, 1787	433⅓	Do	Do	1787	Do	1785	1814
134	John Dabenport	Gregory Babin	Do	5 February, 1799	310	Do	G. de Lemos	4 Novemb. 1799	Do	1785	1814
185	Philip Anglehart	Simon Daigle	Do	1 October, 1790	450	Do	E. Miro	22 Septemb. 1790	Do	1785	1814
136	Do	Philip Anglehart	Do	27 January, 1791	130	Do	Do	5 January, 1791	Do		
137	Jos. Petitepiere	Jos. Petitepiere	Do	8 October, 1787	400	Do	Do	24 April, 1787	Do	1786	1814
138	Jos. Klinepeter	Jos. Klinepeter	Do	3 January, 1795	180	Do	Carondelet	10 Novemb. 1794	Do		
139	Fermin Landry	Fermin Landry	Do	27 January, 1791	1200	Do	E. Miro	17 Novemb. 1788	Do		

Remarks. No. 105. Certified a true copy by C. de Grandpre, the 30th Sept. 1805. No. 108. The plat contains 204 arpens.

REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Cultivation and inhabitation.	
										From	To
140	Josan Klinepeter	Frs. Rivas	Spanish patent	17 Decemb. 1792	400	Baton Rouge	Carondelet	19 August, 1792	C. Trudeau	1799	1814
141	George Garrig	Philip Hickey	Do	12 Novemb. 1788	800	Do	E. Miro	5 Septemb. 1788	W. Dunbar	1794	1814
142	Heirs of Juan Rene	Juan Rene	Do	30 May, 1787	329½	Do	Do	23 April, 1787	C. Trudeau	1785	1814
143	Josan Klinepeter	John Klinepeter	Do	30 May, 1787	333⅓	Do	Do	24 April, 1787	Do	1785	1814
144	Henry Thomas	Henry Thomas	Do	30 May, 1787	800	Do	Do	24 April, 1787	Do	1788	1814
145	Emerick Adams	Emerick Adams	Do	28 January, 1788	400	Do	Do	8 January, 1788	Do	1788	1814
146	Jacob Miller	Lewis Ory	Do	30 May, 1787	400	Do	Do	25 April, 1787	Do	1798	1814
147	Bryan McDermott	Nicholas Kemplin	Do	31 March, 1797	400	Feliciana	Carondelet	8 July, 1796	Do	1798	1814
148	Do	Christopher Bolling	Do	21 May, 1796	1025	Do	Do	3 April, 1796	Do	1798	1814
149	Do	Henry Flower	Do	5 August, 1797	450	Do	Do	5 August, 1797	Do		
150	Do	Jos. Degoutin	Do	27 Decemb. 1798	1000	Do	G. de Lemos	19 Septemb. 1798	V. Pintado		
151	Do	Barnaba McDermott	Do	3 August, 1798	1000	Do	Do	27 January, 1798	C. Trudeau		
152	William Davis	Nathan Dorths	Do	18 Decemb. 1798	400	Do	Do	20 March, 1796	Do	1799	1814
153	Do	Jonathan Clark	Do	1 August, 1798	400	Do	Do	24 June, 1796	Do	1799	1814
154	Alex'r Stirling's heirs	Nathan Lytle	Do	22 June, 1791	400	Do	E. Miro	6 May, 1790	Do		
155	Do	Alex'r Stirling	Do	22 July, 1795	800	Do	Carondelet	10 February, 1795	Do	1802	1814
156	Do	Do	Do	10 July, 1787	600	Do	E. Miro	10 March, 1787	Wm. Dunbar	1787	1814
157	Do	Do	Do	22 Septemb. 1796	800	Do	Carondelet	22 Septemb. 1796	C. Trudeau	1796	1814
158	Do	John Collins	Do	22 Septemb. 1796	800	Do	Do	5 Novemb. 1794	Do		
159	Do	Isaac Johnson	Do	5 Decemb. 1796	600	Do	Do	2 October, 1795	Do	1797	1814
160	Do	Alex'r Fulton	Do	7 October, 1795	1000	Do	Do	2 October, 1795	Do	1803	1814
161	Do	James Stewart	Do	11 April, 1797	800	Do	Do	20 February, 1797	Do		
162	Robert Cochran	George Cochran	Do	21 Septemb. 1797	1700	Do	G. de Lemos	18 Decemb. 1797	Do	1798	1814
163	Heirs of Gilbert Mills	Gilbert Mills	Do	5 Decemb. 1795	500	Do	Carondelet	2 October, 1795	Do	1795	1814
164	John H. Johnson	Wm. Williams	Do	14 January, 1796	500	Do	Do	4 Novemb. 1795	Do	1797	1814
165	Samuel Stocket	Daniel Miller	Do	18 Novemb. 1803	500	Do	Morales	3 April, 1799	V. S. Pintado		
166	John Scott	Isaac Johnson	Do	29 Novemb. 1803	1000	Do	Do	23 March, 1799	Do	1807	1807
167	Courtland Smith	Hugh Coil	Extract	- - -	1000	Do	-	24 Decemb. 1797	- - -		
168	Courtland Smith	John Wilson	Do	- - -	1000	Do	-	24 Decemb. 1797	- - -	1805	1814
169	William Ratliff	William Henderson	Spanish patent	28 June, 1796	-	Do	Carondelet	2 June, 1796	C. Trudeau	1796	1814
170	Henry Zimmerman	H. Zimmerman	Do	30 Decemb. 1803	450	St. Helena	J. Morales	21 February, 1799	V. Pintado		
171	William Shaw	William Shaw	Do	24 March, 1804	600	Do	Do	1 July, 1800	C. Trudeau	1800	1814
172	Brazel Burgess	Isabel McFarland	Do	12 April, 1804	200	Feliciana	Do	17 Decemb. 1803	V. Pintado	1804	1814
173	Thomas Carney	John Johnson	Do	4 October, 1802	300	Do	Do	27 March, 1791	Do	1813	1814
174	Juan Garcia	Juan Garcia	Do	3 Novemb. 1803	300	Baton Rouge	Do	20 October, 1801	Do	1800	1814
175	Mrs. Lavigne	Stephen Lavigne	Do	9 January, 1804	350	Do	Do	16 May, 1799	Do	1804	1814
176	Thos. C. Stanard	David McCullough	Do	2 Novemb. 1803	300	Do	Do	31 June, 1802	Do		
177	Philip Hickey	Fras. Pausset	Do	7 April, 1804	1000	Do	Do	9 Novemb. 1802	Do		
	Do	Daniel Hickey	Do	18 Novemb. 1803	800	Do	Do	23 Decemb. 1798	Do		
178	Do	Philip Hickey	Do	9 Novemb. 1803	600	Do	Do	16 April, 1799	Do		
179	John Rhea	John Say	Do	24 March, 1804	584	Feliciana	Do	2 Novemb. 1797	William Dunbar	1800	1811
180	Archibald Palmer, sen.	Philip A. Gray	Do	15 February, 1802	600	Do	Do	- - -	- - -	1795	1814
181	Samuel Vaughan	Patrick Tygart	Do	21 June, 1804	500	Do	Do	16 August, 1798			
182	Samuel Wahan	Samuel Wahan	Do	23 Decemb. 1803	320	Do	Do	1 August, 1799	V. Pintado	1802	1814
183	James Hillin	John Russ	Do	14 February, 1810	320	Baton Rouge	Do	3 Novemb. 1809	Do	1809	1814

184	Benjamin S. Cook	John F. Mayer	Do	24 Septemb. 1803	800	Do	Do	10 February, 1799	Do	1807	1814
185	Calvin Smith	Calvin Smith	Do	24 Septemb. 1803	350	Do	Do	10 January, 1799	Do		
186	Thos. Lilly & Co.	Cornelius Shaw	Do	24 March, 1804	400	Do	Do	15 October, 1798	Do	1802	1814
187	Peter Delorroche	Peter Delorroche	Do	29 October, 1803	800	Do	Do	25 October, 1802	Do		
188	Do	Baptista Rouland	Do	29 October, 1803	800	Do	Do	27 October, 1802	Do		
189	John Rhea	James Foster	Do	5 October, 1803	240	Feliciana	Do	20 February, 1799	Do		
190	Do	Edward Hawes	Do	30 January, 1804	220	Do	Do	17 May, 1802	Do	1794	1814
191	M. J. Delanda	M. J. Delanda	Do	11 Septemb. 1809	720	Baton Rouge	Do	1 Septemb. 1798	Do		
192	John Rhea	Sarah Fulson	Do	22 Septemb. 1803	240	Feliciana	Do	21 February, 1799	Do	1789	1814
193	Robert McFarland	Robert McFarland	Do	30 Septemb. 1803	320	Do	Do	- - -	-	1793	1814
194	Gabriel Blackburn	G. Blackburn	Do	18 Septemb. 1809	400	Do	Do	27 July, 1799	V. Pintado	1800	1814
195	John Scott	John Scott	Do	31 October, 1803	600	Do	Do	10 Septemb. 1797	C. Trudeau	1805	1814
196	Heirs of Chas. Parent	M. R. Parent	Do	18 July, 1805	1600	St. Tammany	Do	18 May, 1804	Do	1790	1814
197	Courtland Smith	Courtland Smith	Do	24 Novemb. 1802	250	Baton Rouge	Do	10 Septemb. 1799	V. Pintado		
198	David McCauly	Jos. Johnson	Do	4 October, 1802	300	Feliciana	Do	5 March, 1799	Do	1806	1814
199	E. Boné	John B. Leonard	Do	14 October, 1803	800	Do	Do	20 July, 1803	Do		
200	Joseph Carter	Joseph Carter	Do	14 Novemb. 1803	500	Baton Rouge	Do	11 Decemb. 1799	Do	1813	1814
201	William Weatherspoon	Peter Marigne	Do	18 Novemb. 1803	1000	Feliciana	Do	26 March, 1797	Do	1812	1814
202	David Weaks	James Murray	Do	30 Decemb. 1803	300	Baton Rouge	Do	13 March, 1799	Do	1812	1814
203	Nathaniel Horton	J. M. de la Porchet & wife	Do	7 Septemb. 1809	2000	Feliciana & B. Rouge	Do	29 July, 1799	Do	1812	1814
204	Heirs of Jona. Smith	Jonathan Smith	Do	31 October, 1803	400	Baton Rouge	Do	29 August, 1799	Do		
205	John Dabenport	John Dabenport	Do	13 October, 1803	420	Do	Do	12 April, 1799	Do		
206	Philip Anglehart	Philip Anglehart	Do	31 October, 1803	500	Do	Do	13 April, 1799	Do		
207	John Buillon	John Buillon	Do	2 Novemb. 1803	350	Do	Do	17 June, 1798	C. Trudeau	1785	1814
208	James McElroy	Samuel Brashears	Do	17 Novemb. 1803	300	Feliciana	Do	26 July, 1799	V. Pintado	1798	1810
209	Do	John Sidden	Do	18 Novemb. 1803	300	Do	Do	29 August, 1799	Do	1798	1814
210	Do	J. B. Hevia	Do	27 Septemb. 1803	500	Do	Do	5 Novemb. 1802	Do		
211	Alexander Stirling	Archibald Robertson	Do	29 October, 1803	300	Do	Do	25 January, 1799	Do		
212	John Crocker	James Brannon	Do	7 April, 1804	640	Do	Do	25 June, 1799	Do		
213	Lewis Stirling	Hugh Mulhannon	Do	18 Novemb. 1803	600	Do	Do	17 January, 1798	Do	1807	1814
214	Richard Devall	John Bulher	Do	17 Novemb. 1803	800	Baton Rouge	Do	15 Septemb. 1796	C. Trudeau	1809	1814
215	Richard Devall	Thomas Calvet	Do	1 October, 1803	500	Do	Do	7 July, 1789	Do		
216	Thomas Lilly & Co.	Sylvester Russ	Do	7 Septem. 1802	200	Do	Do	27 July, 1797	V. Pintado		
217	Heirs Abijah Russ	Abijah Russ	Do	24 Novem. 1803	500	Do	Do	15 January, 1799	Do	1807	1814
218	Abelard Bradford	Abelard Bradford	Do	28 April, 1802	500	Feliciana	Do				
219	Edmund Bradford, jun.	E. Bradford	Do	28 April, 1802	500	Do	Do	- - -	-	1802	1810
220	David Bradford, jun.	D. Bradford	Do	28 April, 1802	500	Do	Do				
221	H'rs David Bradford, sen.	D. Bradford, sen.	Do	28 April, 1802	500	Do	Do	- - -	-	1809	1814
222	James Raoult	James Raoult	Do	16 Decem. 1809	500	Do	Do	4 Decem. 1798	C. Trudeau		
223	Rachel Sweezie	Rachel Sweezie	Do	10 February, 1804	276	Do	Do	4 Decem. 1798			
224	Fergus Duplantier	John Bacon	Do	19 Decem. 1803	250	Baton Rouge	Do	11 October, 1799	C. Trudeau		
225	Do do	Susanna Vanheret	Do	21 January, 1804	390	Do	Do	9 August, 1799	V. Pintado	1798	1802
226	Joseph Charp	Paulin Allen	Do	17 Novem. 1803	500	Do	Do	25 January, 1799	C. Trudeau		
227	Do do	Widow Patin	Do	17 Novem. 1803	500	Do	Do	5 Decem. 1798	Do	1800	1814
228	Alexander & Buhler	Richard Duval	Do	28 Septem. 1803	600	Do	Do	14 June, 1802	V. Pintado		
229	Anna O'Bryan	Anna O'Bryan	Do	9 April, 1804	240	Do	Do	19 January, 1799	Do	1784	1814

Remarks. No. 166. Confirmation of concession made by G. de Lemos, 18th Sept. 1798. No. 167. Given by Register of Land Claims, Orleans. No. 168. The same. No. 180. The patent has reference to the plat.
No. 187. The patent refers to an order of survey from Morales, dated 10th November, 1803. No. 199. The patent refers to an order of survey from Morales, the 4th and 5th October, 1802.
No. 208. The Intendant (Morales) states that he gives this title because the order for the survey issued before he received orders to deliver that country to the French Republic.
No. 213. The patent refers to an order of survey by Morales, dated 17th February, 1802. No. 214. The patent refers to an order of survey from Morales, dated 13th October, 1802.
No. 219. Refers to an order of survey from Moralis, 9th August, 1802.

The patents included between the Nos. 169 and 250, to which no discriminating remarks are attached, uniformly refer to orders of survey issued by Miro, Carondelet, and de Lemos, prior to the acquisition of Louisiana by the United States.

REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Inhabitation and cultivation.	
										From	To
230	Heirs W. B. Klinesmith	Charles Parent	Spanish patent	18 July, 1804	1675	St. Tammany	J. Morales	20 May, 1804	V. Pintado		
231	John Doughney	John Doughney	Do	23 May, 1804	240	Feliciana	Do	8 May, 1802	Do	1791	1814
232	E. Beauregard	E. Beauregard	Do	28 February, 1802	1000	Baton Rouge					
233	Manuel Lopez	Manuel Lopez	Do	30 April, 1802	1000	Feliciana	Do	1 March, 1799	V. Pintado		
234	Do do	Do do	Do	28 June, 1810	240	Baton Rouge	Do	20 February, 1810	J. C. Kneeland	1809	1814
235	Draugham et als.	Pedro Sides	Do	11 April, 1804	550	Do	Do	10 Decem. 1803	V. Pintado	1798	1814
236	Mrs. Haws	John Tuly	Do	11 April, 1804	200	Do	Do	9 October, 1803	Do		
237	Israel Smith et als.	Pedro Tabret	Do	3 February, 1804	1000	Do	Do	11 January, 1799	C. Trudeau	1806	1814
238	Charles Buhler	John Skinner	Do	15 Novem. 1803	380	Do	Do	29 October, 1802	V. Pintado	1807	1814
239	Frederick Fort et als.	Frederick Kimball	Do	6 October, 1803	500	Feliciana	Do	12 October, 1798	C. Trudeau	1810	1814
240	John Draugham	John Draugham	Do	14 Novem. 1803	400	Baton Rouge	Do	15 February, 1799	V. Pintado	1800	1814
241	John Kinnard	Nehemiah Power	Do	14 Novem. 1803	500	Do	Do	12 May, 1799	Do	1804	1814
242	Patrick Sullivan	P. Sullivan	Do	22 Septem. 1802	400	Do	Do	15 October, 1799	Do	1803	1814
243	Alexander & Buhler	Richard Duvall	Do	28 Septem. 1803	600	Do	Do	14 June, 1802	Do		
244	Martin Vesoso	Martin Vesoso	Do	16 Septem. 1803	600	Do	Do	6 Novem. 1802	Do		
245	John Dutton	Francis Allen	Do	4 Novem. 1803	400	Do	Do	3 Novem. 1801	Do		
246	Heirs Solomon Alston	Solomon Alston	Do	9 April, 1790	1070	Feliciana	E. Miro	20 Septem. 1809	C. Trudeau		
247	Heirs Isaac Johnson	Gideon Hopkins	Do	3 January, 1795	500	Do	Carondelet	23 Decem. 1794	Do	1797	1814
248	Do do	John Barnhill	Do	3 May, 1798	500	Do	G. de Lemos	16 Decem. 1798	Do	1798	1814
249	John Collins	James Deaux	Do	10 Decem. 1803	1610	St. Tammany	Morales	9 April, 1803	Do	1800	1814
250	T. Gaillard, rep. William Marshall	Henry Morrison	British patent	12 February, 1776	150	Baton Rouge	Peter Chester	12 February, 1776	Name defaced.		
251	Thomas Durnford's rep.	Charles Blanchard	Do	27 Septem. 1773	200	Feliciana	Do	27 Septem. 1773	E. Durnford		
252	Theodore Gaillard's rep.	Nicol Bower to Wm. Marshal	Lease & release	2 & 3 Marc. 1778	1000	Baton Rouge.					
253	Do do	William Marshall	British patent	26 March, 1777	1500	Do	Peter Chester	17 March, 1777	E. Durnford		
254	Heirs Evan & James Jones	Charles Clayton	Do	1 August, 1772	1000	Feliciana	Do	1 August, 1772	Do		
255	Heirs Evan & James Jones	William Grant	Do	10 Septem. 1775	1500	St. Helena	Do	4 March, 1775	W. Wilton		
256	Do do	Do do	Do	10 April, 1775	500	Do	Do	4 March, 1775	Do		
257	Reps. William Johnson	John Gaston	Do	13 October, 1777	1000	St. Tammany	Do	25 July, 1777	E. Durnford		
258	Do do	Thomas Waistcoat	Do	28 July, 1772	300	Feliciana	Do	2 July, 1772	Do		
259	Thomas Durnford's rep.	David Hodge	Do	11 February, 1772	1000	Do	Do	10 February, 1772	Do		
260	Do do	Eliza. Hodge	Do	11 Septem. 1772	1000	Baton Rouge	Do	11 February, 1772	Do		
261	Do do	David Hodge	Do	30 July, 1772	500	Feliciana	Do	30 July, 1772	Do		
262	Do do	Israel Matthews	Do	24 July, 1772	200	Baton Rouge	Do	24 July, 1772	Do		
263	James Amos	Andrew Rainsford	Do	28 January, 1777	500	St. Helena	Do	4 January, 1777	Do		
264	Thomas Durnford	James Amos	Do	5 April, 1777	Town lot Harwich	Baton Rouge	Do	12 February, 1777	Do		
265	James Amos	Andrew Rainsford	Do	28 January, 1777	500	St. Helena	Do	4 January, 1777	Do		
266	Thomas Durnford	Captain Colin Graham to David Hodge	Lease & release	11 July, 1775	2000	Feliciana					
267	Do	Thomas Gamble, Esq. to David Hodge	Lease & release	23 & 24 Apr. 1773	550	Baton Rouge					
268	Elihu H. Bay	James Eliot to Elihu H. Bay	Bargain and sale	30 March, 1776	500	Feliciana					

269	Do	Jonathan Ogden and Mary his wife, to Elihu H. Bay	Do	2 May, 1778	500	Do						
270	Do	Elihu H. Bay	British patent	22 April, 1777	Town &	pasture lot. B. Rouge	Peter Chester	12 February, 1777	E. Durnford			
271	Do	John Delifon	Do	29 October, 1778	1,100	Feliciana	Do	30 July, 1778	Do			
272	Miss Jane Marshal	Thomas Organ	Do	9 July, 1772	500	Baton Rouge	Do	15 May, 1772	Do			
273	Jacob Bertell	William Bryan	Do	16 April, 1777	400	St. Tammany	Do	20 January, 1777	Do	1798	1814	
274	Heirs Morgan Edwards	Mag. Spell	Do	24 January, 1777	100	Do	Do	1 January, 1777	Do	1780	1814	
275	Elijah Ambrose	Rebecca Ambrose	Do	15 August, 1777	200	Do	Do	11 August, 1777	Do			
276	A. Harber	William Bryan	Do	28 July, 1772	316	Baton Rouge	Do	25 July, 1772	Do	1794	1814	
277	John Rhea	Thomas Hutchins	Do	18 April, 1776	2,000	Do	Do	6 April, 1776	Do			
278	Alexander McCullough	John Larimer to Alexander McCullough	Bargain and sale	25 Novem. 1776	375	Feliciana						
279	Do	James Mart to Alexander McCullough	Do	25 Novem. 1776	250	Baton Rouge						
280	Do	Alexander McCullough	British patent	4 February, 1772	1,000	Do	Peter Chester	1 February, 1772	E. Durnford			
281	Do	Philip Barber	Do	12 February, 1776	500	St. Helena	Do	5 February, 1776	Do			
282	Do	Thomas Underwood to Alexander McCullough	Bargain and sale	8 Decem. 1779	400	Baton Rouge						
283	Do	John Sommers to Alexander McCullough	Lease & release	1 & 2 May, 1776	750	St. Helena						
284	Do	John A. Martin to Alexander McCullough	Do	1 & 2 March, 1776	250							
285	Do	Wm. Johnson & Angelique his wife, to A. McCullough	Do	19 & 20 Oct. 1774	1,500	Baton Rouge						
286	Do	James Eliott to Alexander McCullough	Bargain and sale	30 March, 1776	500	St. Helena						
287	Do	Joseph Eliott	British patent	17 October, 1774	200	Do	Peter Chester	5 October, 1774	E. Durnford			
288	Do	William Marshal to Alexander McCullough	Release	5 May, 1775	100	Baton Rouge						
289	Do	James M. Prevost to Alexander McCullough	Lease & release	1 & 2 Oct. 1778	1,700	Feliciana & St. Helena						
290	Elihu H. Bay	Elihu H Bay	British patent	22 April, 1777	Town &	pasture lot. B. Rouge	Peter Chester	13 February, 1777	E. Durnford			
291	Do	Do	Do	22 April, 1777	do	Do	Do	13 February, 1777	Do			
292	Do	Do	Do	22 April, 1777	do	Do	Do	13 February, 1777	Do			
293	Do	Do	Do	22 April, 1777	do	Do	Do	13 February, 1777	Do			
294	Do	Do	Do	22 April, 1777	do	Do	Do	13 February, 1777	Do			
295	Do	Do	Do	22 April, 1777	do	Do	Do	13 February, 1777	Do			
296	Do	Do	Do	22 April, 1777	Do	Do	Do	13 February, 1777	Do			
297	George Gold	George Gold	Do	28 July, 1772	1,000	Feliciana	Do	5 July, 1772	Do			
298	Philip Trott	Philip Trott	Do	15 January, 1779	500	St. Helena	Do					
299	Ann Organ	Ann Organ	Do	9 July, 1772	500	Baton Rouge	Do	5 May, 1772	E. Durnford			
300	Heirs Benjamin Ward	Mary Organ	Do	9 July, 1772	500	Do	Do	14 May, 1772	Do			
301	T. Gaillard, rep. William Marshal	Michael Kirkman	Do	28 January, 1772	1,000	Do	Do	14 Novem. 1772	Do			
302	Thomas Yarrow	Thomas Yarrow	Do	25 March, 1777	250	Do	Do	20 March, 1777	Do			
303	Elihu H. Bay	Andrew Bay	Do	8 October, 1777	2,000	Feliciana	Do	29 Septem. 1774	Wm. Wilton			
304	James Buchannan	James Buchannan	Do	17 October, 1774	200	St. Helena	Do	4 October, 1774	Do			
305	John Lorimer	John Lorimer	Do	21 Novem. 1776	1,000	Baton Rouge	Do	7 Septem. 1776	E. Durnford			
306	John A. Martin	John A. Martin	Do	12 February, 1776	1,000	St. Helena	Do	5 February, 1776	Do			
307	Elihu H. Bay	J. Summers to E. H. Bay	Lease & release	1 May, 1776	250	Do						
308	Do	Philip Livingston, jr., to E. H. Bay & Wm. Bay	Do	10 & 11 Apl. 1777	375	Baton Rouge						

Remarks. No. 243. The patent refers to an order of survey from Morales, dated 17th February, 1802. No. 244. Ditto, 13th October, 1802. No. 249. Ditto, 9th August, 1802. No. 273. The surveyor general, Trudeau, notes that this claim was registered; the note dated 22d January, 1788. No. 277. Re-surveyed by V. S. Pintado, 5th March, 1803.

REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Inhabitation and cultivation. From	Inhabitation and cultivation. To
309	E. H. Bay	Peter Chester and Philip Livingston, jr., to E. H. Bay	Bargain & sale	24 February, 1799	250	Baton Rouge					
310	Theodore Gaillard, rp.	William Wilton to William Marshal	Lease & release	14 Novem. ——	500	Feliciana					
311	Do do	Same to same	Do	18 & 19 Nov. ——	200	Do					
312	Do do	Oliver Pollock to William Marshal	Lease	31 August, 1773	500	Baton Rouge					
313	Do do	Same to same	Do	23 Novem. 1773	500	Do					
314	Do do	Wm. Marshal	British Patent	24 October, 1774	500	Do	Peter Chester	25 August, 1774	Wm. Wilton		
315	Louis Legras le Vauberci	Robert Farmer	Do	22 Septem. 1775	2,000	Do	Do	27 May, 1775	Do		
316	Heirs Evan & Jas. Jones	Evan Jones	Do	9 July, 1772	1,000	Do	Do	14 April, 1772	E. Durnford		
317	Heirs E. & James Jones	James Jones	Do	14 May, 1772	1,000	Do	Do	14 April 1772	Do		
318	Heirs E. & James Jones	Daniel Bush	Do	15 October, 1775	1,000	Do	Do	12 October, 1772	Wm. Wilton		
319	Do do	Nathaniel Fontaine	Do	2 Decem. 1772	200	Do	Do	27 Novem. 1772	E. Durnford		
320	Do do	John Southwell	Do	1 August, 1772	100	St. Helena	Do	5 August, 1772	Do		
321	Do do	Joseph Blackwell	Do	18 October, 1775	1,000	Do	Do	7 October, 1775	W. Wilton		
322	Do do	Jacob Blackwell	Do	14 May, 1772	1,000	Baton Rouge	Do	14 April, 1772	E. Durnford		
323	Do do	Evan Jones	Do	30 July, 1772	600	Feliciana	Do	29 July, 1772	Do		
324	Do do	Matthew McHenry	Do	15 Decem. 1768	1,000	Do	Wm. Brown	16 July, 1768	Do		
325	Reps. William Johnson	Alexander Sutherland	Do	17 October, 1774	200	Baton Rouge	Peter Chester	4 October, 1774	Wm. Wilton		
326	Do do	E. R. Wegg	Do	9 July, 1772	1,000	Do	Do	23 April, 1772	E. Durnford		
327	Do do	James Barbut to William Johnson	Lease & release	25 & 26 Oct. 1774	1,000	Do					
328											
329	Thomas Durnford, exr. of David Hodge	Oliver Pollock	British patent	24 Septem. 1774	1,000	Do	Peter Chester	7 Septem. 1772	E. Durnford		
330	Do do	Francis Murphy	Do	1 February, 1775	400	Do	Do	15 January, 1775	Wm. Wilton		
331	Do do	William Wilton	Do	29 January, 1778	950	Do	Do	26 Decem. 1777	E. Durnford		
332	Do do	George Law	Do	6 August, 1779	750	St. Helena	Do	29 June, 1779	Do		
333	Do do	Do	Do	6 August, 1779	750	Do	Do	29 June, 1779	Do		
334	Do do	Do	Do	6 August, 1779	750	Do	Do	29 June, 1779	Do		
335	Do do	Do	Do	6 August, 1779	750	Do	Do	29 June, 1779	Do		
336	Andrew Knowles	Andrew Knowles	Do	7 Novem. 1776	2,000	Do	Do	29 August, 1775	Do		
337	James Amos	David Gilliss	Do	12 Novem. 1776	500	Do	Do	8 Novem. 1776	Do		
338		Humphrey Grant	Do	28 July, 1772	500	Feliciana	Do	23 July, 1777	Do		
339	Thomas Durnford	Wm. McIntosh to David Hodge	Lease & release	12 & 13 May, 1774	833	Baton Rouge					
340	Thomas Durnford	John and Catharine Morrison to E. Durnford and David Hodge	Lease & release	12 & 13 May, 1774	600	St. Helena					
341	Do do	Antho. Foster to E. Durnford	Lease & release	1 & 2 Sept. 1773	550	Baton Rouge					
342	Do do	J. Mitchell to D. Hodge	Lease & release	5 & 6 Mch. 1773	500	Do					
343	Do do	Wm. Gaslin and Mary, his wife, to David Hodge	Lease & release	4 & 5 Oct. 1773	575	Feliciana					

344	Heirs Nicholas Trist -	Philip Barber to Nicholas Trist - - -	Release -	3 Novem. 1777	1,000	Baton Rouge -	- -	- -	- -	1800	1814
345	Heirs Esaciah Russ -	Esaciah Russ - -	British patent -	30 July, 1772	1,000	Feliciana. - -	Peter Chester -	29 July, 1772	E. Durnford		
346	John Ramsay - -	John Walker - -	Do -	24 April, 1769	1,000	Do - -	John Eliott - -	10 March, 1769	Do		
347	—— West - -	Joseph Goodby - -	Do -	— July, 1772	300	Baton Rouge -	Peter Chester -	5 July, 1772	Do		
348	Levi Holinsworth -	Alexr. Fowler - -	Do -	6 May, 1776	1,000	Do - -	Do - -	15 April, 1776	Do		
349	Levi Holinsworth -	Alexr. Fowler - -	Do -	10 April, 1775	1,000	St. Helena - -	Do - -	3 March, 1775	W. Wilton		
350	John Henderson -	William Morris - -	Do -	12 October, 1776	200	Feliciana - -	Do - -	3 October, 1776	E. Durnford		
351	Philip Hickey - -	Wm. Marshal to Wm. Marshal - -	Lease & release	30 January, 1776	250	Baton Rouge -	- -	- -	- -	1777	1814
352	Brown and Dawson -	Thos. Hutchins - -	British patent -	17 October, 1774	2,000	Baton Rouge -	Do - -	2 October, 1774	W. Wilton		
353	Thos. Durnford - -	George Urquehart to Harry Alexander - -	Sale - -	2 February, 1777	600	Do					
354	Do - -	George Urquehart -	British patent -	2 Decem. 1772	200	Feliciana - -	P. Chester - -	2 Septem. 1772	E. Durnford		
355	Do - -	Do - -	Do -	5 May, 1773	887	Do - -	Do - -	22 April, 1773	Do		
356	Heirs James Jones -	James Jones - -	Do -	14 May, 1772	200	Baton Rouge -	Do - -	20 April, 1772	Do		
357	Wm. Canty - -	Wm. Canty - -	Do -	28 July, 1772	50	Do - -	Do - -	28 July, 1772	Do - -	1771	1778
358	Do - -	Do - -	Do -	28 July, 1772	300	Do - -	Do - -	25 July, 1772	Do - -	1771	1778
359	H. Nicholson to - -	L. Davis - -	Lease & release	30 & 31 Dec. 1777	200	St. Helena - -	- -	- -	- -	1778	1781
360	James Dunlop - -	Turbull Francis - -	British patent -	12 February, 1776	2,000	Baton Rouge -	Peter Chester -	10 February, 1776	Do		
361	James Barbut - -	James Barbut - -	Do -	17 October, 1774	2,000	Feliciana - -	Do - -	- -	- -	1809	1814
362	Heirs Patrick Strachan -	Patrick Strachan -	Do -	12 Septem. 1775	1,000	Do - -	Do - -	21 July, 1775	W. Wilton		
363	Estime Griffin - -	Catha. Quintana -	Spanish patent -	26 June, 1798	1,000	Feliciana - -	G. de Lemos -	11 April, 1798	C. Trudeau		
364	John McDonough -	Isaac Galair - -	Do -	23 Septem. 1796	1,500	Baton Rouge -	Carondelet - -	15 June, 1796	Do		
365	James Penny - -	James Penny - -	Do -	11 February, 1799	500	Do - -	G. de Lemos -	14 February, 1798	V. Pintado - -	1785	1814
366	John Baker - -	John Baker - -	Do -	24 Decem. 1797	500	Feliciana - -	Do - -	17 August, 1797	Wm. Dunbar -	1798	1814
367	Jacob Taylor - -	Jacob Taylor - -	Do -	3 February, 1790	500	Baton Rouge -	E. Miro - -	10 April, 1790	C. Trudeau -	1790	1814
368	William Webb, sen. -	John Meeke - -	Do -	3 February, 1790	400	Do - -	Do - -	10 April, 1789	Do - -	1790	1814
369	John McKirgeoug -	John McKirgeoug -	Do -	10 February, 1795	480	Do - -	Carondelet - -	15 June, 1793	Do - -	1790	1814
370	A. P. Walsh - -	A. P. Walsh - -	Do -	24 Decem. 1797	815	Feliciana - -	G. de Lemos -	30 April, 1797	Do - -	1806	1814
371	Do - -	Daniel Clark, jr. -	Do -	2 Decem. 1797	1,000	Do - -	Do - -	25 Decem. 1797	Wm. Dunbar -	1806	1814
372	William Pate, et als. -	Robert Collins - -	Do -	9 February, 1797	500	Do - -	Carondelet - -	1 February, 1797	C. Trudeau -	1794	1814
373	Antho. Bonebell -	Anth'o. Bonebell -	Do -	22 January, 1799	400	St. Tammany -	G. de Lemos -	15 January, 1799	Do - -	1789	1814
374	L. C. Griffith - -	Robert Warham -	Do -	13 October, 1797	300	Feliciana - -	Do - -	3 October, 1797	Do - -	1801	1814
375	Stephen Sweezie -	Jacob Lytle - -	Do -	21 June, 1791	400	Do - -	E. Miro - -	21 June, 1791	Do - -	1801	1814
376	Francis Daigre - -	Francis Daigre - -	Do -	5 February, 1799	500	Baton Rouge -	G. de Lemos -	4 February, 1799	Do - -	1799	1814
377	J. B. Daigre - -	J. B. Daigre - -	Do -	5 February, 1799	310	Do - -	Do - -	4 February, 1799	Do - -	1799	1814
378	Francis Revas - -	Paul Daigle - -	Do -	17 Decem. 1790	206	Do - -	E. Miro - -	3 October, 1790	Do - -	1794	1814
379	Paul Daigle - -	Paul Daigle - -	Do -	17 Decem. 1790	200	Do - -	Do - -	3 October, 1790	Do - -	1794	1814
380	J. B. Trahan - -	J. B. Trahan - -	Do -	5 February, 1799	202⅔	Do - -	G. de Lemos -	4 February, 1799	Do - -	1801	1814
381	Joseph Richard -	Joseph Richard - -	Do -	5 February, 1799	189	Do - -	Do - -	4 February, 1799	Do - -	1804	1814
382	James Hughes - -	Joseph Acosta - -	Do -	29 January, 1791	248	Do - -	E. Miro - -	8 January, 1791	Do - -	1794	1814
383	Frederick Cobb - -	Solomon Alston - -	Do -	20 Novem. 1792	400	Feliciana - -	Carondelet - -	14 Novem. 1793	Do - -	1798	1814
384	John Gready - -	John Gready - -	Do -	1 Septem. 1795	400	Do - -	Do - -	20 May, 1795	Do - -	1794	1814
385	Leblanc et als. - -	Joseph Leblance -	Do -	7 Decem. 1790	1200	Do - -	Do - -	29 October, 1791	Do		
386	Rebecca Shurlock -	Francis Cobb - -	Do -	24 Dec'r, 1797	500	Do - -	G. de Lemos -	5 Novem., 1796	W. Dunbar - -	1799	1814
387	Christian Bingamon -	C. Bingamon - -	Do -	20 April, 1791	800	Do - -	E. Miro - -	16 April, 1791	C. Trudeau - -	1796	1814
388	Do do -	Do - -	Do -	20 April, 1791	400	Do - -	Do - -	10 October, 1789	Do - -	1796	1814
389	Heirs of John O'Conner -	Margaret O'Conner -	Do -	24 March, 1790	400	Do - -	Do - -	10 Novem. 1789	Do - -	1789	1814
390	Do do -	John O'Conner - -	Do -	12 April, 1794	1,200	Do - -	Carondelet - -	4 May, 1793	Do		
391	Do do -	Anna O'Conner - -	Do -	24 March, 1790	407	Do - -	E. Miro - -	12 Decem. 1789	Do		

Remarks. No. 350. Claims received from 1st Sept. to the 18th Oct., inclusive. No. 351. Re-surveyed by Bolling; certified by Pintado 18th Nov., 1805. No. 352. Confirmed by the Spanish Government 2d Oct., 1788. No. 373. Certified a true copy by Lafon, surveyor of Orleans, 31st March, 1814.

REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Inhabitation and cultivation.	
										From	To
392	Heirs of John O'Connor	John O'Conner	Spanish patent	24 March, 1790	600	Feliciana	E. Miro	9 Novem. 1789	C. Trudeau.		
393	Do do	Do	Do	24 March, 1790	415	Do	Do	9 Novem. 1789	Do		
394	Robert Percy	Julia Robertson	Do	30 June, 1795	600	Do	Carondelet	16 Decem. 1794	Do	1794	1814
395	Do do	Luke Collins	Do	25 February, 1795	1,000	Do	Do	3 August, 1792	Do	1794	1814
396	Do do	Joseph Murray	Do	26 June, 1795	600	Do	Do	3 August, 1792	Do	1804	1814
397	Nathaniel Evans	William Vausdan	Do	14 April, 1790	800	Do	E. Miro	22 March, 1790	Do	1791	1814
398	Do do	Do	Do	29 August, 1791	800	Do	Do	2 April, 1791	Do	1804	1814
399	Margaret Wisdom	William Cook	Do	20 April, 1797	500	Do	Carondelet	3 March, 1797	Do	1800	1814
400	Thomas Taylor	Lewis Evans	Do	24 Dec'r, 1797	1,100	Do	G. de Lemos	10 August, 1797	W. Dunbar		
401	Gilbert Leonard	G. Leonard	Do	24 Nov'r, 1798	1,000	Baton Rouge	Do	15 Novem. 1798	V. Pintado		
402	Lewis Beauregard	L. Beauregard	Do	31 October, 1787	800	Do	E. Miro				
403	Do	Do	Do	1 January, 1788	800	Do	Do				
404	S. & P. Harty	William Hughes	Do	26 March, 1794	240	Feliciana	Carondelet	20 May, 1790	C. Trudeau		
405	Do	S. & P. Harty	Do	28 March, 1791	240	Do	E. Miro	28 March, 1791	Do		
406	A. Beauvais	John Cammock	Do	7 Decemb'r, 1797	400	Do	G. de Lemos				
407	Luke Collins	Luke Collins	Do	6 May, 1797	800	Do	Carondelet	16 Decem. 1796	C. Trudeau		
408	Heirs of J. V. Vahamonde	J. V. Vahamonde	Do	29 Sept. 1797	500	Baton Rouge	G. de Lemos	7 May, 1797	Do		
409	Charles Norwood	Archibald Rhea	Do	2 October, 1797	500	Feliciana	Do	29 Septem. 1797	Do		
410	S. & P. Harty	Edward Easy	Do	22 June, 1791	400	Do	E. Miro	21 June, 1791	Do		
411	Patrick Foley	Abner Marble	Do	21 April, 1789	600	Do	Do	22 Septem. 1778	Do		
412	Do	M. Frogmorton	Do	8 May, 1797	1,000	Do	Carondelet	6 April, 1797	Do		
413	Richard King	John Eldergel	Do	22 Septem. 1793	1,000	Do	G. de Lemos	16 July, 1798	Do		
414	Eugenia Karr	W. E. Hughlins	Do	1 February, 1797	1,000	Do	Carondelet	9 Decem. 1796	Do		
415	Brown & Browder	Joseph Vidall	Do	20 April, 1804	1,000	Do	J. Morales	1 August, 1798	V. Pintado	1800	1814
416	Jesse Roach	John Russ	Do	29 October, 1803	200	Baton Rouge	Do	12 January, 1799	Do		
417	Joseph McNeal	Mrs. Mulholand	Do	8 March, 1804	800	Feliciana	Do	7 Decem. 1803	Do	1808	1814
418	Elizabeth Dortch	Pedro Bourge	Do	18 Septem. 1809	320	Do	Do	13 August, 1799	C. Trudeau	1804	1814
419	Jaque Lorance	Cha. Parent	Do	18 July, 1805	2,657	St. Tammany	Do	18 May, 1805	Do	1804	1814
420	Francis Revas	Frs. Revas	Do	16 February, 1808	170	Baton Rouge	Do	29 January, 1806	V. Pintado	1804	1814
421	Heirs of Luther Smith	Geo. Weakley	Do	17 Decem. 1794	800	Do	Carondelet	20 Septem. 1795	C. Bolling		
422	Constance Rochan	Armand Duplantier	Do	1 Septem. 1794	1,000	Do	Do	8 February, 1800	V. Pintado		
423	Joseph Sharp	Adam Boyde	Do	14 February, 1799	500	Do	G. de Lemos	5 Novem. 1799	Do		
424	Viano Henson	Viano Henson	Do	20 January, 1785	440	Do	E. Miro				
425	Pedro Andres	Pedro Andres	Do	20 July, 1786	240	Do	Do	10 February, 1795	C. Trudeau	1784	1814
426	Heirs of Sam'l Steer	Sam'l Steer	Do	14 August, 1799	1,000	Do	G. de Lemos	25 February, 1798	Do		
427	Heirs Widow Badon	Widow Badon	Do	2 February, 1786	1,600	St. Tammany	E. Miro	-	Morgan & Tenton	1786	1814
428	Heirs Hubert Rowel	H Rowel	Do	24 Decem. 1785	800	Baton Rouge	Do				
429	Elijah Adams & Wm. Cobb	Alex. Russ	Do	30 March, 1796	1,000	Feliciana	Carondelet	5 February, 1796	C. Trudeau		
430	E. Adams et al.'s	Peter Walker	Do	12 April, 1794	1,000	Do	Do	8 April, 1794	Do		
431	E. Adams	Ezekiel Dewitt	Do	19 Decem. 1798	300	Do	G. de Lemos	23 Novem. 1798	J. Lovelace		
432	S. Smith	S. Smith	B. patent	-	200	St. Tammany	-	-	-	1774	1814

Remarks.—Nos. 402 & '3. Certified true copy by P. Grimes, register, 18th July, 1809. No. 406. Certified true copy by C. C. Claiborne, 9th March, 1805. No. 422. Certified true copy by intendant general, (Morales,) 8th November, 1813. No. 425. Certified true copy by V. S. Pintado, surveyor general, 7th July, 1810. No. 427. Certified true copy by C. Trudeau, surveyor general, 20th Nov., 1804. No. 432. Mutilated, re-surveyed by Trudeau, 15th January, 1799.

B.—*Register of Claims to Land in the District West of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on orders of survey, (requettes,) permission to settle, or other written evidence of claims derived from either the French, British, or Spanish authorities, which, in the opinion of the Commissioner, ought to be confirmed.*

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Cultivation and inhabitation. From	Cultivation and inhabitation. To	General remarks.
1	John F. Myers	John Frasher	Order of survey	1 Febr'y, 1799	240	Baton Rouge	G. de Lemos	30 June, 1800	V. Pintado	1799	1814	Claims recorded prior to the 1st September, 1814.
2	William Nash	Moriah Lajune	Do	2 Oct. 1798	200	Do	Do	19 Jan. 1802	Do	1802	1814	
3	Heirs of M. Edwards	Morgan Edwards	Do	1 Dec. 1787	800	St. Tammany	E. Miro	8 Jan. 1799	Gilman	1781	1814	
4	Do. do.	Do. do.	Do	2 June, 1783	1,000	Do	Do	1799	Do	1781	1814	
5	John Harbour	John Harbour	Do	27 Dec. 1798	100	Feliciana	G. de Lemos	21 July, 1803	V. Pintado	-	-	The original order for land in Baton Rouge removed by order of Grandpre, 28th Aug., 1801.
6	Do. do.	Adonijah Harbour	Do	27 Dec. 1798	740	Do	Do	16 Sept. 1800	Do	1808	1814	
7	Mary Sholler	William Dortch	Do	6 Sept. 1796	700	Do	Carondelet	23 Dec. 1798	Do	1794	1814	
8	Thomas Carney	Barbara Hodges	Do	9 Nov. 1798	300	Do	G. de Lemos	27 March, 1798	Do	1802	1814	
9	John Carney	Pedro Antonio Saez	Do	27 Dec. 1798	200	Do	Do	18 June, 1799	Do	1798	1814	
10	James Richardson	James Richardson	Do	1 Feb. 1799	400	Do	Do	June, 1799	Christ'r Bolling	1801	1814	
11	Rob't & Lewis Davis	R. and L. Davis	Do	27 Dec. 1798	600	Baton Rouge	Do	1794	Do	-	-	Extract from the Span. records, given by P. Grimes, register.
12	Policarpio Regillio	Policarpio Regillio	Do	27 Dec. 1798	500	Feliciana	Do	9 March, 1799	V. Pintado			
13	Do. do.	Domingo Lorero	Do	6 July, 1798	300	Do	Do	14 June, 1800	Do	1798	1814	
14	William Adams	William Adams	Do	27 Dec. 1798	270	Do	Do	22 June, 1799	Do			
15	Heirs Wm. Conway	Maurice Conway	Do	1 Sept. 1787	1,520	Baton Rouge	E. Miro	- - -	- - -	1792	1814	Extract from the Span. archives, given by register.
16	Do. do.	Do. do.	Do	1 Sept. 1787	3,800	Do	Do	- - -	- - -	1792	1814	Extract from the same, given by same.
17	Patrick Foley	Patrick Foley	Do	14 Feb. 1799	800	Do	G. de Lemos	- - -	- - -	-	-	Certified true copy of the original order, by V. S. Pintado, 6th February, 1815.
18	Israel Leonard	Israel Leonard	Do	27 Dec. 1798	300	Feliciana	Do	29 July, 1799	V. Pintado	1802	1814	
19	William Stewart	William Stewart	Do	23 Sept. 1797	500	Do	Do	22 Jan. 1798	Do	1797	1814	
20	Creed West	Creed West	Do	4 August, 1798	300	Baton Rouge	Do	27 May, 1797	Do			
21	James Penny	James Penny	Do	17 Nov. 1787	600	Do	E. Miro	- - -	- - -	-	-	Extract from the Spanish archives, given by register.
22	John Rhea	Asa Brashears	Do	28 July, 1798	400	Feliciana	G. de Lemos	26 July, 1799	V. Pintado	1794	1814	
23	Heirs B. & D. Ward	Daniel Ward	Do	3 Oct. 1786	3,200	E. Miro						
24	Charles Cason	Charles Cason	Do	1 Feb. 1799	750	Feliciana	G. de Lemos	6 Sept. 1799	V. Pintado	1805	1814	
25	Mrs. Marion	Lorenzo Seguir	Do	8 Jan. 1789	800	Do	E. Miro					
26	Do. do.	Do. do.	Do	8 Jan. 1789	800	Do	Do					
27	Do. do.	Do. do.	Do	16 June, 1797	800	Do	Do					
28	Do. do.	John Sterrit	Do	21 April, 1789	800	Do	Do					
29	David Lajune	Adam Zaits	Do	21 Jan. 1792	800	Do	Carondelet					
30	Juan Garcie	Philip Orrosco	Do	22 Feb. 1792	200	Baton Rouge	Do					
31	Augustin Lambardo	Joseph Pauley	Do	14 Dec. 1793	800	Do	Do	23 Dec. 1792	W. Dunbar	1783	1814	
32	James H. Ficklin	Zacha. Richardson	Do	14 Feb. 1799	150	Feliciana	Do	- - -	- - -	1804	1814	
33	Heirs Bartlet Collins	Richard Teakell	Do	23 Sept. 1797	300	Do	G. de Lemos	12 Jan. 1798	V. Pintado	1798	1814	
34	Heirs M. Williams	Michael Williams	Do	5 Nov. 1798	400	Do	Do	- - -	- - -	1805	1814	
35	Levi Shouler	Jacob Allen	Do	19 Jan. 1799	480	Do	Do	26 June, 1803	V. Pintado	1803	1814	

B.—REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Cultivation and inhabitation. From	Cultivation and inhabitation. To	General remarks.
36	Heirs Alex. Stirling	John Woible -	Order of survey	2 March, 1793	500	Feliciana -	Carondelet -	5 Dec. 1797	C. Trudeau -	1803	1814	
37	Hippolite Mallet -	H. Mallet -	Do -	2 Oct. 1798	250	Baton Rouge -	G. de Lemos -	19 Jan. 1802	V. Pintado			
		Richard Tekell -	Do -	23 Sept. 1797	300	Feliciana -	Do -	12 Jan. 1798	Do -	1798	1814	
38	Thomas Lilly -	Thomas Lilly -	Do -	2 Jan. 1799	270	Baton Rouge -	G. de Lemos -	17 July, 1799	C. Trudeau -	-	-	500 surveyed.
39	Anthony Dougherty	Bartho. Bestos -	Do -	28 March, 1794	240	Feliciana -	Carondelet -	25 July, 1797	W. Dunbar -	-	-	400 surveyed.
40	Edward Ogden -	John Babcox -	Do -	5 Nov. 1798	240	Do -	G. de Lemos -	22 July, 1799	V. Pintado -	1797	1814	
41	James Turner -	Justo Andrews -	Do -	27 Dec. 1798	550	Do -	Do -	5 Feb. 1800	Do -	1806	1814	
42	Joseph Vedall -	Joseph Vedall -	Extract of order	22 Jan. 1793	1,000	Baton Rouge -	- - -	2 Oct. 1794	W. Dunbar -	-	-	Extract of the order given by the register.
43	Heirs Leon. Marbury	L. Marbury -	Do -	5 Sept. 1796	2,000	Feliciana -	- - -	1793	C. Bolling -	-	-	Extract of ditto, given by same.
44	John Garthley -	John Garthley -	Do -	12 April, 1793	600	Baton Rouge -	- - -	1793	C. Bolling -	-	-	Ditto of ditto, given by same.
45	Robert Creton -	Robert Creton -	Order -	16 Jan. 1799	350	Do -	G. de Lemos -	23 July, 1799	C. Trudeau			
46	John Garthley -	Catharine Minor -	Do -	22 Sept. 1797	240	Do -	Do -	24 Dec. 1797	W. Dunbar -	1801	1814	
47	Jos. Lavantara -	Joseph Lavantara -	Do -	29 Oct. 1798	400	Do -	Do					
48	Henry Tibedeaux -	H. Tibedeaux -	Do -	2 Jan. 1799	400	Do -	Do -	29 August, 1798	V. Pintado			
49	Thomas Lilly & Co.	Pedro Broskley -	Do -	24 April, 1798	200	Feliciana -	Do -	17 June, 1799	C. Trudeau -	-	-	225 surveyed.
50	Richard Ratliff -	Moriah Jones -	Do -	28 Jan. 1802	1,000	Do -	J. Morales -	15 May, 1804	V. Pintado -	1801	1814	
51	Samuel Harbour -	William Webb -	Plat and certific.	- - -	400	Baton Rouge	- - -	6 March, 1793	J. Sharp -	1793	1814	Original papers said to be lost.
52	Zedo Brashears -	Z. Brashears -	Do -	- - -	2,370	Feliciana -	- - -	9 Sept. 1792	P. Tygart -	1802	1814	The deputy surveyor (Tygart) mentions an order from surveyor general.
53	Nathaniel Batson -	Francisco Villemont	Do -	- - -	400	Baton Rouge	- - -	30 Dec. 1793	C. Trudeau			
54	Stephen Mayes -	Stephen Mayes -	Do -	- - -	1,000	Feliciana -	- - -	5 August, 1798	W. Dunbar -	1802	1814	Certified true copy by V. S. Pintado, surveyor gen'l, 5th September, 1805.
55	John Rhea -	Frederick Kimball -	Do -	- - -	250	Do -	- - -	3 Oct. 1797	C. Trudeau -	1804	1814	
56	Heirs Hubert Rowel	Victor Forest -	Do -	- - -	240	Baton Rouge	- - -	20 March, 1799	Do -	1796	1814	
57	James McGeel -	James McGeel -	Do -	- - -	250	Do -	- - -	20 June, 1799	Do			
58	John Dabenport -	Pierre Guedrey -	Do -	- - - 11 toises front, 40	3 arp's, back.	Do -	- - -	11 May, 1793	J. Sharp -	1785	1814	
59	John Skinner -	Charles Bulher -	Do -	- - -	300	Do -	- - -	25 April, 1799	V. Pintado -	1800	1814	
60	Baley Chaney -	Baley Chaney -	Do -	- - -	800	Feliciana -	- - -	8 Aug. 1799	Do			
61	Heirs Hubert Rowel	James Molaison -	Do -	- - -	226	Baton Rouge	- - -	21 March, 1803	Do -	1796	1814	
62	Do. do. -	Hubert Rowel -	Do -	- - -	256	Do -	- - -	15 May, 1802	Do			
63	George Mather -	F. A. Daigle -	Do -	- - -	256	Do -	- - -	15 August, 1791	W. Dunbar -	1788	1814	
64	Joseph Martinez -	Joseph Martinez -	Do - 27 toises,	- - - one foot front, 40	3 arp's, back.	Do -	- - -	- - -	J. Sharp -	1794	1814	
65	Euglo. Decassas -	Charles Profit -	Do -	- - -	400	Do -	- - -	3 Oct. 1797	C. Trudeau			
66	Henry Bradford -	H. Bradford -	Do -	- - -	2,697	Feliciana -	- - -	16 June, 1802	C. Bolling -	1803	1813	Order stated to be dated in 1802, and lost.
67*	Alexander Bookter -	Alexander Bookter -	Do -	- - -	1,000	Do -	- - -	19 Jan. 1798	Do			
68	Dan. & Polly Bookter	Alexander Bookter -	Do -	- - -	1,000	St. Helena -	- - -	29 Nov. 1802	V. Pintado -	1800	1814	Certified true copy 20th June, 1805, by V. S. Pintado.
69	Rebecca Bookter -	Jacob Gallop -	Do -	- - -	200	Do -	- - -	29 Nov. 1802	Do -	1800	1814	Do do do do

* See letter of 13th October, 1826, to the register at St. Helena.

70	Moriah & D. Bookter	M. and D. Bookter -	Do -	- - -	300	Do -	- - -	24 Nov. 1802	Do -	1798	1814	Certified true copy 17th September, 1807, by ditto.
71	Daniel Bookter -	John Mink -	Do -	- - -	600	Do -	- - -	30 Nov. 1802	Do -	1800	1814	Certified true copy 21st June, 1805, by ditto.
72	Anna Bookter -	Anna Bookter -	Do -	- - -	342	Do -	- - -	1 Dec. 1802	Do -	1800	1814	Certified true copy 21st June, 1805, by ditto.
73	James Young -	James Young -	Order of survey	1 Sept. 1806	-	Fel'a & B. Rou.	C. Degrandpre	6 Nov. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1807	1814	
74	George Brown -	George Brown -	Do -	20 Nov. 1806	-	Baton Rouge	Do -	- - -	- - -	1796	1814	
75	John Shaffet -	John Shaffet -	Do -	2 Sept. 1806	300	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1810	1814	
76	M. McGinley -	M. McGinley -	Do -	1 Sept. 1806	-	Feliciana -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1802	1814	
77	Philip McHugh -	Philip McHugh -	Plat and certific.	19 Jan. 1809	550	Baton Rouge	- - -	22 Jan. 1802	V. Pintado -	1801	1814	
78	Martin Doyle -	Martin Doyle -	Order of survey	11 Aug. 1806	-	Feliciana -	C. Degrandpre	22 Sept. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1807	1814	
79	William Webb -	William Webb -	Do -	22 Sept. 1806	-	Baton Rouge	Do -	- - -	- - -	1806	1814	
80	Heirs C. Weeks -	John Shafferd -	Do -	2 Sept. 1806	800	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1804	1814	
81	Robert Hickland -	Thomas Spell -	Do -	12 Nov. 1806	1,000	St. Tammany	Do -	- - -	- - -	1810	1814	
82	James Jackson -	John Robertson -	Do -	22 August, 1806	500	St. Helena -	Do -	15 Sept. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1802	1814	
83	Lewis Gardner -	L. Gardner -	Do -	29 May, 1806	-	Feliciana -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1807	1814	Survey proved by the oath of W. H. Boner, D. S.
84	Heirs Thomas Fields	Polli Regillio -	Do -	6 Sept. 1806	1,000	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1807	1814	
85	Brazeal Burgis -	Isham Strange -	Do -	5 Sept. 1806	-	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1802	1814	Certified vacant by V. S. Pintado, 17th October, 1801.
86	Heirs Robert Barrow	Robert Barrow -	Do -	14 July, 1806	1,000	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1802	1814	
87	Heirs Steph. Winter	Stephen Winter -	Do -	26 July, 1806	-	Baton Rouge	Do -	- - -	- - -	1807	1814	
88	George Shrim -	Jonathan Longstretch	Do -	26 July, 1806	402	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1807	1814	
89	Robert McCauslin -	R. McCauslin -	Do -	30 July, 1806	1,000	Feliciana -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1802	1811	
90	Kindred Williams -	K. Williams -	Do -	28 July, 1806	1,000	St. Helena -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1800	1814	
91	Jacob Cobb -	Jacob Cobb -	Do -	18 Sept. 1806	800	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1802	1814	
92	Daniel Rainer -	D. Rainer -	Do -	25 August, 1806	1,000	Do -	Do -	10 Nov. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1803	1814	
93	Philemon Chance -	Wm B. Brown -	Do -	28 August, 1806	500	Do -	Do -	29 Jan. 1807	Do -	1806	1814	
94	Wm. E. Adams -	Charles Adams -	Do -	19 August, 1806	-	Feliciana -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1804	1814	The plat has no signature.
95	James Nelson -	George Berry -	Do -	3 Oct. 1806	3,000	Baton Rouge	Do -	8 April, 1809	J. C. Kneeland	1807	1814	
96	Jean Poret -	Peter Chebert -	Do -	1 August, 1806	4	Do -	Do -	2 April, 1806	Richard Dupin	1806	1814	
97	James Harris -	Thomas Spain -	Do -	1 Dec. 1806	650	St. Helena -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1804	1814	
98	Elizabeth Fail -	Philip Spiller -	Do -	1 Nov. 1806	1,000	Do -	Do -	11 Feb. 1807	J. Harris -	1802	1814	
99	Heirs Hugh O'Donnel	Hugh O'Donnel -	Do -	23 June, 1806	507	Feliciana -	Do -	15 August, 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1805	1814	
100	Benjamin Curtis -	Benjamin Curtis -	Do -	26 June, 1806	1,000	St. Helena -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1802	1814	
101	James Arbuthnot -	James Arbuthnot -	Do -	1 Feb. 1806	3,000	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1804	1814	
102	Heirs Sattoon -	Nancy Sattoon -	Do -	23 Oct. 1806	1,000	Do -	Do -	13 Jan. 1807	J. C. Kneeland	1805	1814	
103	Elizabeth Starnes -	Elizabeth Starnes -	Do -	10 Oct. 1806	600	Do -	Do -	30 Nov. 1802	V. Pintado -	1804	1814	Certified true copy by V. S. Pintado, 20th June, 1805.
104	Reuben Curtis -	Reuben Curtis -	Do -	26 June, 1806	-	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1801	1814	
105	Jesse Hooper -	Jesse Hooper -	Do -	28 July, 1806	-	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1803	1814	
106	Samuel Watson -	Samuel Watson -	Do -	28 July, 1806	-	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1801	1814	
107	James Glasscock -	Samuel Glasscock -	Do -	26 Sept. 1806	500	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1805	1814	
108	James Lea -	James Lea -	Do -	3 Oct. 1806	5,000	Do -	Do -	9 Dec. 1806	S. Lea -	1810	1814	
109	J. Hughes -	David Clark -	Do -	10 July, 1806	1,000	St. Tammany	Do -	- - -	- - -	1800	1814	
110	James Divin -	James Divin -	Do -	13 August, 1806	600	Feliciana -	Do -	10 Nov. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1810	1814	
111	P. Gray -	John Fridge -	Do -	8 April, 1805	600	Baton Rouge	Do -	11 August, 1806	Do -	1810	1814	
112	Thomas Lilly -	Thomas Lilly -	Do -	- - -	471	Do -	Do -	20 Oct. 1806	Do -	1798	1814	
113	Richard Ratliff -	Richard Ratliff -	Do -	14 July, 1806	300	Feliciana -	Do -	28 Jan. 1807	Do -	1800	1814	
114	Levy Ratliff -	Wm. Ratliff -	Do -	14 July, 1806	800	Do -	Do -	28 Jan. 1807	Do -	1802	1814	
115	Robert Young -	Hugh Thompson -	Do -	23 May, 1806	500	Do -	Do -	31 Dec. 1806	Do -	1809	1814	
116	James Felps -	James Felps -	Do -	11 Nov. 1806	1,000	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1803	1814	
117	Lewis Yarborough -	L. Yarborough -	Do -	11 Nov. 1806	1,000	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1805	1814	

B.—REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Cultivation and inhabitation. From	Cultivation and inhabitation. To	General remarks.
118	David Felps	David Felps	Order of survey	11 Nov. 1806	1,000	Feliciana	C. Degrandpre	- - -	- - -	1804	1814	
119	Eldred Barker	Eldred Barker	Do	23 June, 1806	400	Do	Do	21 August, 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1805	1814	
120	Samuel Barker	Samuel Barker	Do	23 June, 1806	540	Do	Do	30 Sept. 1806	Do	1805	1314	
121	Burwell Barker	Burwell Barker	Do	23 June, 1806	500	Do	Do	25 Sept. 1806	Do	1805	1814	
122	Penelope Jones	Benjamin Lanear	Do	9 Oct. 1806	1,000	St. Tammany	Do	- - -	- - -	1806	1814	
123	Abner Womack	Luke Blunt	Plat and certific.	- - -	715	St. Helena	- - -	2 Dec. 1806	Do	1803	1814	
124	Nicholas Highland	N. Highland	Do	- - -	1,133	Do	- - -	20 Dec. 1806	Do	1801	1814	
125	Benjamin Abbot	James Blunt	Do	- - -	473	Do	- - -	8 Jan. 1807	Do	1801	1811	
126	James Blunt	James Blunt	Do	- - -	400	Do	- - -	10 Jan. 1806	Do	1808	1814	
127	Philip Simms	Joseph Simms	Do	- - -	400	Do	- - -	8 Jan. 1807	Do	1806	1814	
128	John W. Leonard	David Ellison	Do	- - -	334½	Do	- - -	15 Nov. 1806	Do	1801	1814	
129	Do	Bledsoe White	Do	- - -	515	Do	- - -	15 Nov. 1806	Do	1802	1814	
130	Heirs Hubert Rowel	Hubert Rowel	Do	- - -	280	Baton Rouge	- - -	24 May, 1805	- - -	1805	1814	
131	James Nelson	George Berry	Do	- - -	1,200	Do	- - -	22 Mar. 1806	R. Dupin	1807	1814	
132	Do	George Mars	Do	- - -	898	Do	- - -	2 June, 1809	J. C. Kneeland	1804	1814	
133	Jacob Krumbolt	J. Krumbolt	Do	16 Dec. 1808	350	Do	- - -	22 April, 1779	V. Pintado	1798	1814	Refers to an order of survey from G. de Lemos, 18th September, 1798.
134	William Corner	William Corner	Do	- - -	248	Do	- - -	14 Oct. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1800	1814	
135	F. Cumming	John Sidon	Do	- - -	500	St. Helena	- - -	4 Dec. 1806	Do	1802	1814	
136	George Freeland, jr.	G. Freeland, jr.	Do	22 April, 1809	320	Feliciana	- - -	22 April, 1809	V. Pintado	1796	1814	Refers to an order of survey from Morales, 14th September, 1803.
137	George Freeland, sr.	Do sr.	Do	- - -	391	Do	- - -	24 April, 1809	Do	1795	1814	Refers to an order of survey from Morales, 14th September, 1803.
138	Heirs Wm. Nowland	Wm. Nowland	Do	- - -	640	St. Helena	- - -	14 Nov. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1803	1814	
139	John Rhea	John Reed	Do	- - -	240	Feliciana	- - -	6 Dec. 1806	Do	1810	1814	
140	Henry Hall	Margery Halida	Do	- - -	800	St. Helena	- - -	10 Nov. 1806	Do	1801	1814	
141	Kitty Richardson	Wm. Richardson	Do	- - -	350	Feliciana	- - -	11 May, 1805	V. Pintado	1800	1814	Refers to an order of survey from G. de Lemos, 1st February, 1799.
142	Joseph Boon	Richard Ogden	Do	- - -	493	Do	- - -	3 Feb. 1807	J. C. Kneeland	1800	1814	
143	Wm. Rheams	Wm. Rheams	Do	- - -	514	Do	- - -	7 Jan. 1807	Do	1800	1814	
144	John Bartell	Stephen Ross	Do	- - -	149	Baton Rouge	- - -	1 Jan. 1807	J. W. Roach	1806	1814	
145	Heirs Caleb Weeks	Samuel Eddy	Do	- - -	240	Feliciana	- - -	8 April, 1804	C. Bolling	1794	1814	
146	Thomas Carney	Christopher Bolling	Do	- - -	240	Do	- - -	12 Jan. 1809	V. Pintado	1797	1814	Refers to an order of survey from Morales, 14th September, 1803.
147	Jacob Drake	Jacob Drake	Do	- two half	acre lots	Baton Rouge	- - -	1 Aug. 1806	R. Dupin	1806	1814	
148	V. S. Daulton	V. S. Daulton	Do	- - -	300	Do	- - -	10 April, 1805	V. Pintado	1795	1814	
149	Jacob Drake	Jacob Drake	Do	9 June, 1809	285	Do	- - -	9 June, 1809	J. C. Kneeland	1784	1814	Proved, by oath, to have been originally granted by E. Miro in 1784.

150	Heirs Eleanora Adams	Eleanora Adams -	Plat and certific.	- - 1809	160	Feliciana -	- - -	6 Dec. 1804	V. Pintado -	1794	1814	Refers to an order of survey from G. de Lemos, 27th December, 1798.
151	Samuel Harbour -	William Webb -	Do -	- - -	400	Baton Rouge	- - -	6 March, 1793	J. Sharp -	1793	1814	Original papers said to be lost.
152	Wm. Redding -	Abraham Jones -	Do -	- - -	250	St. Helena -	- - -	6 August, 1806	J. C. Knecland	1805	1814	
153	Henry Collins -	Henry Collins -	Do -	- - -	425	Baton Rouge	- - -	30 Jan. 1807	- - -	1803	1814	Kneeland, D. S., certifies this land was surveyed in 1803.
154	Thomas C. Stanard -	John Cooper -	Do -	- - -	430	Do -	- - -	10 Oct. 1806	Do -	1806	1814	
155	John Fort -	Isaac Johnson -	Do -	- - -	258	Feliciana -	- - -	16 Oct. 1806	Do -	1810	1814	
156	Frederick Fort -	Peter Walker -	Do -	- - -	500	Do -	- - -	16 Sept. 1807	Do -	1805	1814	
157	Jesse Ratliff -	J. A. Row -	Do -	- - -	400	Do -	- - -	1 July, 1806	Do -	1807	1814	
158	Robert Russell -	R. Russell -	Do -	- - -	405	Do -	- - -	3 Sept. 1806	Do -	1807	1814	
159	Armaud Duplantier -	A. Duplantier -	Do -	- - -	3 a. 19 ps. 69 feet	Baton Rouge	- - -	26 May, 1806	R. Dupin -	1806	1809	
160	Patrick McDermot -	Noel McCan	Do -	- - -	400	Do -	- - -	25 Jan. 1809	V. Pintado -	1806	1809	Refers to an order of survey from G. de Lemos, 17th November, 1798.
161	Heirs Samuel Steer -	John P. Trahan -	Do -	- - -	201	Do -	- - -	21 Mar. 1803	Do -	1798	1814	Resurvey.
162	Wm. Cunningham -	W. Cunningham -	Do -	- - -	117	Do -	- - -	21 Dec. 1808	Do -	1788	1814	
163	Manuel Gacio -	Manuel Gacio -	Do -	- - -	3 a. 88 ps. 188 feet	Do -	- - -	6 Dec. 1805	Do -	1805	1814	
164	Augustina Selano -	A. Selano -	Do -	- - -	3 a. 88 ps. 188 feet	Do -	- - -	6 Dec. 1805	Do -	1805	1814	
165	Heirs widow Creips	Widow Creips -	Do -	- - -	2,108½	St. Tammany	- - -	30 July, 1804	C. Trudeau -	1808	1814	
166	Hugh Connelly -	H. Connelly -	Do -	- - -	450	Feliciana -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1808	1814	The plat has no date.
167	Mary Roach -	Philip Gray -	Do -	- - -	523 84 ps.	Baton Rouge	- - -	5 Feb. 1810	R. Dupin -	1802	1814	
168	John Fridge -	John Fridge -	Do -	- - -	617½	Do -	- - -	1 July, 1806	J. W. Roach -	1804	1814	
169	Heirs John Higgins -	Henry Williams -	Do -	12 April, 1804	250	Feliciana -	- - -	1796	C. Bolling -	1804	1814	
170	Robert Piper -	Robert Piper -	Order of survey	27 August, 1806	500	Do -	C. de Grampre	1 Dec. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1800	1814	
171	Robert Barrow* -	George Dismouch -	Do -	14 July, 1806	800	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1801	1814	
172	Eulogio de Casas† -	Eulogio de Casas -	Do -	11 April, 1810	5 lots	Baton Rouge -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1810	1814	Provided no objections were made by S. Government.
173	George Gainhart -	James Cader -	Do -	6 March, 1804	250	Feliciana -	C. Morales -	28 Jan. 1807	Do -	1804	1814	
174	Samuel Clark -	James Foster -	Do -	7 Oct. 1803	240	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1802	1814	Plat and certificate of survey said to be lost.
175	Nimrod Glasscock -	Nimrod Glasscock -	Reference -	11 March, 1805	500	St. Helena -	C. de Grampre	- - -	- - -	1803	1814	To the surveyor to ascertain whether vacant. Certified vacant 11th March, 1805.
176	Vinson Chance -	Vinson Chance -	Do -	26 March, 1806	-	Feliciana -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1804	1814	Petition to remain on land referred to Intendant General.
177	James Crane -	James Crane -	Do -	24 Jan. 1805	302	Baton Rouge	Do -	5 Sept. 1806	Do -	1803	1814	Addressed to the surveyor to certify whether vacant or not.
178	William Chance -	Stephen Chance -	Do -	25 March, 1806	-	Feliciana -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1804	1814	Petition to remain on land referred to Intendant General.
179	Cha. Wolstoncroft -	Edward Ross -	Recommendation	29 April, 1806	-	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1807	1814	Directed to Intendant General.
180	Wm. Weaks -	William Penrice -	Do -	- - -	140	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1803	1814	Do. Petition dated in 1801. No date to the recommendation.
181	Samuel Chidester -	Samuel Chidester -	Do -	16 April, 1801	350	Baton Rouge	Do -	- - -	- - -	1800	1814	Directed to the Intendant Gen'l.
182	Hezekiah Williams -	Hezekiah Williams -	Do -	20 Feb. 1801	800	St. Helena -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1800	1814	Do. do. do.
183	Isaac Brown -	David Holstein -	Do -	27 Sept. 1806	600	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1802	1814	Plat and certificate of survey presented without signature.

* See letter of 31 Oct, 1828, from the Register and Receiver at St. Helena, in relation to an interfering survey of the settlement claim of Gilbert Piper. † Patent not to be issued. The survey has been made on pub. property.

B.—REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Cultivation and inhabitation. From	Cultivation and inhabitation. To	General remarks.
184	Adam and A. Palmer	Archibald Palmer	Recommendation	29 July, 1806	450	Feliciana	C. de Grampre	- - -	- - -	1806	1814	Directed to the Intendant Gen'l.
185	Champness Terry	Champness Terry	Do	24 April, 1805	1,000	St. Helena	Do	- - -	- - -	1805	1814	Do. do. do.
186	John Murdock	Edward Ross	Do	2 Jan. 1790	480	Feliciana	M. de Villars	22 Dec. 1792	W. Dunbar	1798	1798	Do. do. do.
187	Charles Tannerett	J. A. Rodriguez	Do	25 Jan. 1794	320	Baton Rouge	Do	8 May, 1794	C. Bolling	1796	1810	Do. do. do.
188	Nicholas Fortin	Nicholas Fortin	Permission	12 Feb. 1806	500	Do	C. de Grampre	21 Oct. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1806	1814	To occupy a certain tract of land.
189	Thomas Collado	Thomas Collado	Possession	3 Jan. 1809	3 a. 57 ps. 97 feet	Do	Do	3 Jan. 1809	V. Pintado	1806	1814	By virtue of a general provision made by the Intendant in 1805.
190	John West	Henry Jacob	Adjudication	- - -	251	St. Helena	J. Dehevia	- - -	- - -	1801	1814	Possession adjudged, and order of survey proved by oath.
191	Lewis Gardner	Lewis Gardner	Do	8 July, 1806	-	Feliciana	C. de Grampre	13 April, 1804	C. Bolling	1807	1814	Possession adjudged on condition of paying intestant's debts.
192	John W. Leonard	John Cavet	Do	17 Dec. 1805	-	St. Helena	William Bell	- - -	- - -	1803	1814	Possession adjudged by the alcade; survey proved by an extract from J. C. Kneeland's books, given by his executor.
193	Do	John W. Leonard	Public sales	16 Dec. 1808	-	- - -	J. Dehevia	- - -	- - -	1804	1814	
194	John H. Johnson	John H. Johnson	Do	20 May, 1810	2 lots, 120 & 290 ar	Feliciana	Tho. Estevan	19 May, 1810	J. C. Kneeland	1764	1814	
195	Do	George Shrim	Do	20 May, 1810	1 lot, 132 arpens	Do	Do	19 May, 1810	Do	1764	1814	
196	Do	H. Richardson	Do	26 July, 1800	240	Do	J. Johnson	- - -	- - -	1792	1814	
197	Do	Philip Brashears	Do	3 April, 1800	255	Do	V. Pintado	- - -	- - -	1774	1814	
198	Ann B. Hughes	John Hughes	Private sale	20 Nov. 1811	12,600 sq. feet	Do	- - -	- - -	- - -	1794	1814	
199	N. and A. Palmer	Archibald Palmer	Do	21 Oct. 1812	590 arps.	Do	- - -	- - -	- - -	1807	1814	
200	Jacob Drake	Henry Thibadeau	Do	23 Sept. 1805	half acre lot	Baton Rouge	- - -	- - -	- - -	1785	1814	
201	Asa Brown	John and Sam'l Carnes	Do	23 Oct. 1812	-	Feliciana	- - -	- - -	- - -	1801	1814	
202	Samuel Harbour	Wm. Webb	Do	11 Oct. 1808	676	Baton Rouge	- - -	- - -	- - -	1794	1814	
203	Charles Cason	Daniel Carney	Do	18 May, 1812	680	Feliciana	- - -	- - -	- - -	1804	1814	
204	John Klinepeter	Mrs. Hopgood	Do	14 April, 1814	240	Baton Rouge	- - -	- - -	- - -	1786	1814	
205	Moses Babin	Simon Foret	Do	23 Nov. 1807	120	Do	- - -	- - -	- - -	1785	1814	
206	Joseph Stevens	Do	Do	24 Feb. 1813	120	Do	- - -	- - -	- - -	1780	1814	
207	Lebannon Smith	Jacob Miller	Do	5 June, 1797	200	Do	- - -	- - -	- - -	1788	1814	
208	Martha Thompson & children	C. de Armas	Do	15 June, 1809	400	Feliciana	- - -	- - -	- - -	1805	1814	
209	Robert Barrow	Oliver Pollock	Do	5 Feb. 1811	800	Do	- - -	- - -	- - -	1800	1814	
210	William Ratliff	Thomas Lilly	Do	6 July, 1810	400	Baton Rouge	- - -	- - -	- - -	1784	1814	
211	Turnbull & Joyce	——— Dupuis	Do	11 Oct. 1791	240	Do	- - -	- - -	- - -	1784	1814	
212	George Mather	——— Reoman	Do	- -	110	Do	- - -	- - -	- - -	1788	1814	
213	Joseph Berry	Joseph Berry	Constable sale	1 April, 1811	-	Do	- - -	- - -	- - -	1810	1814	
214	John Bartell	John Bartell	Sheriff sale	26 June, 1813	340	Do	- - -	- - -	- - -	1799	1814	
215	David Weeks	David Weeks	Do	15 Sept. 1812	400	Feliciana	- - -	- - -	- - -	1794	1814	
216	John Hughes	John Hughes	Do	23 Jan. 1812	500	Do	- - -	- - -	- - -	1802	1814	

217	Isaac Johnson -	Isaac Johnson -	Do -	26 Aug. 1811	495	Do -	- - -	- - -	- -	1779	1814		
218	John Hughes -	George McGuire -	Cons'able sale -	25 Feb. 1812	200	Do -	- - -	- - -	- -	1794	1814		
219	A. Harbert -	C. Turnbull -	Private sale -	13 May, 1809	600	Do -	- - -	- - -	- -	1800	1814		
220	Samuel Leonard -	Wm. Vordeman -	Extract -	- -	-	St. Helena -	- - -	- - -	- -	1803	1814	From the books of J. C. Kneeland, proving order of survey, and survey in 1806.	
221	John W. Leonard -	Joel Jarrell -	Do -	- -	600	Do -	- - -	- - -	- -	1804	1814	From the same, proving survey of 600 arpens, made 14 June, 1806.	
222	Nancy Sattoon -	John Burrows -	Exemplification	14 Dec. 1811	400	Do -	- - -	27 Nov. 1812	V. Pintado -	1801	1814	Of a plat and certificate of survey, given by Intendant, 14 Dec. 1811.	
223	Heirs H. Rowell -	Henry Bostler -	Do -	13 April, 1809	720	Feliciana -	N. Fenneil -	19 March, 1796	C. Bolling -	1800	1814	Of a plat by N. Fenniels, keeper of surveyor general's office, P. T. 13 April, 1809.	
224	V. Judiff - -	V. Judiff - -	Order of survey	4 May, 1791	800	St. Tammany	E. Miro -	- - -	- - -	1791	1814		
225	Antoine Foucher -	A. Foucher -	Do -	23 May, 1787	1600	Do -	Do						
226	F. L. Tournier, et als	Jose Rebosca -	Do -	13 Feb. 1790	1200	Do -	E. Miro -	- - -	- - -	1790	1814		
227	F. Dubuisson -	F. Dubuisson -	Do -	9 April, 1810	800	Do -	J. Morales -	- - -	- - -	1788	1814		
228	Brazil Kreps -	Brazil Kreps -	Do -	11 March, 1795	400	Do -	Carondelet -	30 July, 1804	C. Trudeau -	1809	1814		
229	Zed. Melon -	Zed. Melon -	Do -	29 Oct. 1794	1200	Do -	G. de Lemos						
230	Leon Melon -	James Melon -	Do -	14 May, 1787	1200	Do -	E. Miro -	- - -	- - -	1804	1814		
231	N. Ducra - -	Mrs. Floriar -	Private sale -	9 Feb. 1789	1600	Do -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1789	1814		
232	James McCaleb -	James McCulloch -	Recommendation	1 Feb. 1790	400	Baton Rouge	M. de Devillier	- - -	- - -	-	-	Order dated 1 Sept. 1790; proved by the certificate of Thos. Estaval, Spanish commandant, 7th Nov. 1803.	
233	John Wilton -	John Wilton -	Order of survey	15 Feb. 1788	200	Feliciana -	E. Miro						
234	Thomas Carney -	Thomas Carney -	Do -	19 Sept. 1806	-	Do -	Morales -	- - -	- - -	1810	1814		
235	James McElroy -	James McElroy -	Recommendation	7 Nov. 1806	800	St. Helena -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1805	1814	Recommended by Fiscal, to whom it was referred by the Intendant General for his opinion.	
236	Patrick Strachan -	Patrick Strachan -	P. and certificate	- - -	950	B. Rouge -	- - -	7 Sept. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	-	-	Re-survey of a British patent.	
237	James Nadaud -	J. C. Faubre -	Do -	- - -	1417 a. 96¾ ps.	-	- - -	9 May, 1807	V. S. Pintado	-	-	Do. do. do.	
238	Peter Keller -	P. Keller - -	Order of survey	12 May, 1798	300	Feliciana -	G. de Lemos -	12 May, 1798	C. Trudeau -	-	-	Certified true copies by V. S. Pintado, 20 Aug. 1809.	
239	A. Webb, et als -	E. Gibbions -	Do -	28 July, 1798	240	Do -	G. de Lemos -	5 June, 1799	V. S. Pintado	-	-	Claims received from 1 Sept. to the 18th Oct. inclusive.	
240	Samuel Dabenport -	Breton Barker -	Do -	23 June, 1806	400	Do -	G.de Grampre	15 Aug. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1803	1813		
241	George E. Chany -	Charles Adams -	Do -	17 Nov. 1798	450	Do -	G. de Lemos -	10 March, 1801	V. Pintado -	1801	1814		
242	Thomas Samplier -	Thomas Samplier -	Do -	5 Nov. 1798	450	Do -	Do -	10 March, 1801	Do -	1801	1814		
243	Richard Tekell -	Richard Tekell -	Do -	17 Nov. 1798	500	Do -	Do -	13 Aug. 1799	Do				
244	James Melon -	James Melon -	Do -	15 May, 1787	-	St. Tammany	E. Miro -	- - -	- - -	1784	1814		
245	Rob't Weatherstrand	Philip Brashears -	Do -	23 Sept. 1797	320	Feliciana -	G. de Lemos -	26 July, 1799	C. Trudeau -	1797	1814		
246	Do - -	William Taylor -	Do -	1 Feb. 1799	240	Do -	Do -	1 Aug. 1799	Do -	1797	1814		
247	Heirs M. Montegudo	M. Montegudo -	Do -	5 Nov. 1798	400	Do -	Do -	29 Nov. 1803	V. Pintado -	1804	1812		
248	Heirs Bathan -	Frs. Bernard -	Do -	9 Sept. 1781	800	St. Tammany	E. Miro -	20 May, 1809	Morgan & Fenton	1784	1814		
249	Heirs Wm. O'Conner	William O'Conner -	Do -	27 Dec. 1798	420	Feliciana -	G. de Lemos -	18 Aug. 1799	C. Trudeau				
250	Felix Hughes -	John Montgomery -	Do -	5 June, 1788	300	Do -	E. Miro						
251	Heirs Cunningham -	Edmund Harris -	Do -	17 Aug. 1806	400	Do -	G.de Grampre	- - -	- - -	1810	1814	318 arpens stated to have been surveyed by Kneeland; no plat presented.	
252	Anner Carbett -	N. Highland -	Do -	3 July, 1806	1000	St. Helena -	Do -	20 Dec. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1803	1814		

B.—REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Inhabited and cultivated. From	Inhabited and cultivated. To	General remarks.
253	N. Highland	N. Highland	Order of survey	2 July, 1806	1500	St. Helena	G. de Grampre	21 Dec. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1806	1814	
254	Morgan Prior	M. Prior	Do	10 Oct. 1806	2000	Do	Do	- - -	- - -	1806	1814	
255	F. Cousin	Stephen Rene	Do	10 Sept. 1789	1000	St. Tammany	E. Miro					
256	John Gustavus	William Cattrell	Do	28 Aug. 1806	600	Do	G.de Grampre	3 Jan. 1807	J. C. Kneeland	1807	1814	
257	Heirs of Samuel Llewellen	Samuel Llewellen	Do	23 Sept. 1806	5000	Feliciana	Do	10 Jan. 1806	Do	1806	1814	
258	Do do	Do	Do	10 June, 1806	-	Baton Rouge	Do	20 Sept. 1806	Do	1806	1814	
259	Jesse Roach	Jesse Roach	Do	2 Aug. 1806	-	Do	Do	6 Aug. 1806	Do	1806	1814	The order not accompanied by the petition; no name in order.
260	Jesse Lea	Jesse Lea	Do	3 Oct. 1806	1500	St. Tammany	Do	10 Oct. 1806	Sairo Lea	1806	1810	
261	James Wade	James Wade	Do	24 July, 1806	-	Do	Do	- - 1799				
262	Sarah Winfree	Philip Estrep	Do	21 Aug. 1806	-	Baton Rouge	Do	10 Oct. 1806	R. Dupin	1806	1814	
263	William Ross	John Lanear	Do	20 May, 1806	800	St. Helena	Do	- - -	- - -	1794	1814	
264	Richard Spain	Henry Stroud	Do	28 Aug. 1806	600	St. Tammany	Do	- - -	- - -	1807	1810	
265	Samuel Brashears	Samuel Brashears	Do	20 April, 1806	-	Baton Rouge	Do	1 Oct. 1806	R. Dupin	1794	1814	
266	Robert Skurlock	John Carlisle	Do	24 Oct. 1806	1000	St. Helena	Do	- - -	- - -	1800	1814	Certified vacant by V. S. Pintado; Surveyed 20 Oct. 1801.
267	John Brown	John Say, jun.	Do	18 June, 1806	300	Feliciana	Do	5 Dec. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1802	1814	
268	Heirs M. Deaz	Moriah Vierra	Plat & certificate	- - -	250	St. Helena	Do	30 June, 1809	V. Pintado	1812	1814	
269	James Penny	James Penny	Do	- - -	116	Baton Rouge	Do	10 Nov. 1806	J. W. Roach	1785	1814	
270	Heirs Nath. Tomlinson	Nath'l Tomlinson	Do	- - -	800	Feliciana	Do	29 Aug. 1790	W. Dunbar	1810	1814	
271	M. Hughes	M. Hughes	Do	- - -	500	Do	Do	20 Sept. 1798	C. Bolling	1798	1814	Obtained from C. Trudeau, (formerly surveyor general,) since the organization of the American Governm't in W. Florida.
272	Thomas Williams	Thomas Williams	Do	- - -	150	Do	Do	30 Sept. 1806	J. W. Roach	1806	1814	
273	Lawrence Miller	L. Miller	Do	- - -	800	St. Helena	Do	3 April, 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1801	1814	The certificate refers to an order of survey from Grandpre, dated 14 Nov. 1804; states the order was stolen from him.
274	Patrick McDonel	P. McDonel	Do	15 May, 1805	300	Feliciana	Do	- - 1800	C. Bolling			
275	John Wells, jun.	Pearson Wells	Do	- - -	581	St. Helena	Do	- - -	- - -	1802	1814	Certificate of survey without any date.
276	John Wells	John Wells	Do	- - -	400	Do	Do	8 Jan. 1807	J. C. Kneeland	1802	1814	
277	Thomas Spell	Thomas Spell	Do	- - -	360	St. Tammany	Do	20 Jan. 1798	Guillemer	1774	1814	Certified by C. Trudeau since the organization of the American Government.
278	Thomas Spell	James Goodby	Do	- - -	-	Do	Do	20 Jan. 1798	Guillemer	1790	1814	
279	J. & W. Collins	Matthew Kinchin	Do	- - -	1380	St. Helena	Do	4 Sept. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1801	1814	
280	Margaret Bruss	M. Bruss	Do	- - -	364	Baton Rouge	Do	24 Feb. 1801	James Sharp	1802	1814	
281	Charles Tuillier	Lewis Daigle	Do	- - -	110	Do	Do	16 Aug. 1791	C. Trudeau	1794	1814	
282	J. C. Tuillier	J. C. Tuillier	Do	- - -	81	Do	Do	19 Dec. 1804	V. Pintado	1799	1814	
283	J. F. Tuillier	J. F. Tuillier	Do	- - -	183 83ps.	Do	Do	22 Dec. 1798	Do	1799	1814	
284	Peter Aucoin	Peter Aucoin	Do	- - -	120	Do	Do	24 Feb. 1800	J. Sharp	1796	1814	
285	Francis Trahan	Jos. Trahan	Do	- - -	206	Do	Do	6 Feb. 1799	C. Trudeau	1799	1814	
286	D. Provanchez	D. Provanchez	Do	- - -	364	Do	Do	6 Feb. 1794	Do	1794	1814	

287	J. A. Rodriguez -	J. A. Rodriguez -	Do -	- - -	240	Do -	Do -	30 May, 1794	C. Bolling -	1802	1814	Certified by C. Trudeau since the organization of the American Government.
288	John Nelson -	John Nelson -	Do -	- - -	300	Do -	Do -	15 July, 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1803	1814	
289	William Cobb -	James McWaters -	Do -	- - -	273	Feliciana -	Do -	6 Jan. 1803	Do -	1798	1814	
290	John Keetly -	Jaun Green -	Do -	- - -	400	Do -	Do -	14 Feb. 1791	W. Dunbar -	1794	1814	
291	Lewis Bingamon -	L. Bingamon -	Do -	- - -	320	Do -	Do -	27 March, 1793	C. Trudeau -	1800	1814	Refers to an order of survey from the General Government, 21 Jan. 1792.
292	Samuel Lloyde -	Samuel Lloyde -	Do -	- - -	562	St. Tammany	Do -	18 May, 1804	M. & Fenton -	1798	1814	Certified by C. Trudeau since the organization of the American Government.
293	Peter Aucoin -	J. Gwedrey -	Do -	- - -	158	B. Rouge -	Do -	24 Feb. 1800	C. Trudeau			
294	Richard Barrell -	Richard Barrell -	Recommendation	8 March, 1797	800	St. Tammany	G. de Lemos -	- - -	- - -	1810	1814	Directed to the Intendant Gen'l.
295	J. Dunbar -	John Sydon -	Do -	20 March, 1797	500	Feliciana -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1794	1814	Do do do
296	S. Webb -	Jona. Currington -	Do -	26 March, 1791	500	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1790	1814	Do do do
297	John Boyde -	John Boyde -	Do -	29 March, 1797	1000	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1797	1814	Do do do
298	Ardine Howard -	Ardine Howard -	Do -	21 March, 1797	800	St. Helena -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1802	1810	Do do do
299	Parker Caradine -	P. Caradine -	Do -	29 March, 1797	500	Feliciana -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1807	1810	Do do do
300	Jno. & Jos. Caradine	Jno. & Jos. Caradine	Do -	2 April, 1797	500	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1808	1811	Do do do
301	Rd. & Jos. Caradine -	R. & Jos. Caradine -	Do -	29 March, 1797	1000	St. Helena -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1809	1812	Do do do
302	David Brannon -	D. Brannon -	Do -	15 March, 1795	500	Feliciana -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1800	1814	Do do do
303	Daniel Harrison -	D. Harrison -	Do -	17 Nov. 1795	500	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1800	1814	Do do do
304	David Hopkins -	D Hopkins -	Recommendation	30 March, 1797	800	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1800	1814	Do do do
305	James Hightower -	James Hightower -	Do -	27 March, 1797	800	Do -	Do -	- - -	- - -	1800	1814	Do do do
306	Brown & McDonough	P. Robinson -	Permission -	20 Jan. 1804	-	St. Helena -	T. Estevan -	- - -	- - -	1809	1814	To occupy a certain tract of land.
307	William Kirkland -	W. Kirkland -	Plat -	- - -	1600	Feliciana -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1804	1814	Surveyed in 1802; proved by oath, as also the loss of the order or permission.
308	Jesse Kirkland -	Jesse Kirkland -	Do -	- - -	400	Do -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1803	1814	Same situation.
309	Heirs Sam'l Kirkland	Samuel Kirkland -	Do -	- - -	-	Do -	- - -	- - -	- - -	-	-	Surveyed in 1806; proved by affidavit.
310	William Whitaker -	William Whitaker -	Do -	- - -	620	Do -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1803	1814	The order and survey dated respectively in 1801 or 1802 lost; proved by affidavit.
311	Robert Fluker -	James Blunt -	- - -	- - -	-	St. Helena -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1802	1814	Acknowledging payment of money for surveying said land.
312	Manuel Montiagudo	Zedoc Brashears -	Private sale -	5 April, 1806	200	Feliciana -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1800	1814	
313	J. A. Rodriguez -	Catharine Percyrd -	Do -	4 Aug. 1813	3 57ps.	90ft. B. Rouge	- - -	- - -	- - -	1805	1814	
314	Ursula O'Conner -	John O'Conner -	Do -	30 Dec. 1802	240 arps.	Feliciana -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1799	1814	
315	William Cobb -	Benja. McWaters -	Do -	20 April, 1814	500	Do -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1798	1814	
316	Mrs. Darby Dunycan	Philip Le Dols -	Do -	10 Jan. 1803	800	St. Tammany	- - -	- - -	- - -	1786	1814	
317	George T. Ross -	William Lucas -	Extract -	- - -	542	St. Helena -	- - -	5 June, 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1802	1806	Survey proved by an extract from Kneeland's books.
318	CatharineCunningham	C. Cunningham -	Order of survey	15 Nov. 1806	400	Feliciana -	C. de Grandpre	- - -	- - -	-	-	Handed in at the close of the office; stated to have inhabited and cultivated many years.
319	Heirs Jno. M. Cristy -	John M. Cristy -	Do -	15 Nov. 1806	400	Do -	- - -	- - -	- - -	-	-	Do do do
320	William Weeks -	William Weeks -	Do -	15 Nov. 1806	10,000	Do -	- - -	10 Dec. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1806	1814	990 surveyed.

C.—*Register of Claims to Land in the District West of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on grants said to be derived from either the French, British, or Spanish Government, which, in the opinion of the undersigned Commissioner, are not valid, agreeable to the laws, usages, or customs of such Government.*

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed. Arpens.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Cultivation and inhabitation. From	Cultivation and inhabitation. To	General remarks.
1	Wm. Plunkett et als	Margaretta Plunkett	Spanish patent	2 Dec. 1803	550	Baton Rouge	J. Morales	15 Nov. 1803	V. Pintado	1801	1814	*Claims received prior to the 1st of September*, 1814.
2	William Comer	William Comer	Do	12 Dec. 1803	400	Do	Do	18 Nov. 1803	Do	1800	1814	
3	Thomas Billis	Christopher Miller	Do	17 May, 1804	600	Feliciana	Do	5 April, 1804	Do			
4	Caleb Weeks	Caleb Weeks	Do	24 Dec. 1803	313	Do	Do	10 Nov. 1803	C. Trudeau	1794	1814	Sold at 18¾ cents per arpen.
5	John P. Sanderson	James McLeroy	Do	25 June, 1804	800	St. Helena	Do	2 June, 1804	V. Pintado	- -	- -	Sold at 12½ cents per arpen.
6	Manuel Garcia	Manuel Garcia	Do	1 Sept. 1806	15,000	Feliciana	Do	25 April, 1804	Do	- -	- -	Sold at 7 cents per arpen; refers to an order of survey from Morales, Sept. 1803.
7	John Rhea	William Gardner	Do	25 June, 1804	200	Do	Do	22 April, 1804	Do	1804	1814	
8	William Vardeman	William Vardeman	Do	22 May, 1810	1,200	St. Tamany	Do	10 Oct. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1808	1814	
9	John Rhea	James Foster	Do	4 July, 1804	1,200	Feliciana	Do	15 Nov. 1803	V. Pintado	1804	1814	Sold at 25 cts. per arpen, refers to an order of survey from Morales 11 Nov. 1803.
10	David Lejeune	David Lejeune	Do	8 Octob. 1806	142	Do	Do	27 Jan. 1806	Do	1799	1814	
11	John Rhea	James Brennan	Do	9 July, 1804	1,000	Do	Do	14 June, 1804	Do	- -	- -	Sold at 18¾ cents per arpen.
12	John Rhea	John Higgins	Do	4 June, 1804	400	Do	Do	20 April, 1804	Do	- -	- -	Sold at 18¾ cents per arpen.
13	Do	Antonio Son	Do	3 July, 1804	784½	Do	Do	16 June, 1804	Do			
14	Do	James Clark	Do	21 Jan. 1804	200	Do	Do	24 April, 1804	Do	- -	- -	Sold at 18¾ cents per arpen.
15	Heirs Ja's Innerarrity	Charles Ramos	Do	5 March, 1804	20,000	Feliciana and St. Helena	Do	23 Dec. 1803	Do	- -	- -	Sold at 10 cts. per arpen; refers to an order of survey from Morales, 1 Oct. 1803.
16	Chew & Relf, ex'rs of D. Clark	Gilbert Andry	Do	29 Feb. 1804	30,000	Feliciana, Baton Rouge, & St. Helena	Do	23 Dec. 1803	Do	- -	- -	Sold at 9 cts. per arpen; refers to an order of survey from Morales, 3 Oct. 1803.
17	Thomas Power	Bernard Villars	Do	17 Jan. 1805	40,000	St. Helena	Do	24 April, 1804	C. Trudeau	- -	- -	Sold at 4 cts. per arpen; refers to an order of survey from Morales, 19 Oct. 1803.
18	Chew & Relf, ex'rs of D. Clark	Thomas Urquhart	Do	29 Nov. 1803	10,263	Baton Rouge & St. Helena	Do	October, 1803	V. Pintado	- -	- -	Sold at 18¾ cts. per arpen; refers to an order of survey from Morales, 12 Aug. 1803.
19	John Lynd	John Lynd	Do	12 July, 1806	32,025	Feliciana and Baton Rouge	Do	15 March, 1804	Do	- -	- -	Sold at 10 cts per arpen; refers to an order of survey from Morales 28 Sept. 1803.
20	A. Va. de la Gord	A. Va. de la Gord	Do	17 May, 1804	1,000	Baton Rouge	Do	15 March, 1804	Do	- -	- -	Sold at 12½ cents per arpen.
21	Francis Herault	Francis Herault	Do	3 Oct. 1806	2,000	Do	Do	8 June, 1806	R. Dupin	1807	1814	Sold at 25 cents per arpen.
22	Chew & Relf, ex'rs of D. Clark	George Pollock	Do	5 Jan. 1805	40,000	St. Helena	Do	17 April, 1804	C. Trudeau	- -	- -	Sold at 4 cts. per arpen; refers to an order of survey from Morales, 5 Oct. 1803.
23	Do Do.	Philip E. Dagues	Do	17 Jan. 1805	40,000	Do	Do	29 April, 1804	Do	- -	- -	Sold at 3 and 7 cts. per arpen; refers to an order of survey from Morales 27 Oct. 1803.
24	Charles Proffit	Charles Proffit	Do	18 Nov. 1803	1,000	Baton Rouge	Do	23 Nov. 1803	V. Pintado	- -	- -	Certified true copy by Morales, 18 Oct. 1808.
25	Ex'r of Isaac Johnson	Isaac Johnson	Do	10 Dec. 1803	143½	Feliciana	Do	1 Oct. 1803	Do	- -	- -	Sold at 50 cts. per arpen.
26	Lilly & Co.	Cornelius Seely	Do	23 Nov. 1804	155	Feliciana	Do	9 Jan. 1804	Do	- -	- -	Sold at 25 cts per arpen; refers to an order of survey from Morales, 22 Nov. 1803.
27	Do	Thomas Anderson	Do	3 July, 1804	400	Baton Rouge	Do	13 June, 1804	Do			
28	Robert Young	Pedro Delogny	Do	17 May, 1804	800	Feliciana	Do	18 March, 1804	Do	- -	- -	Sold at 6¼ cents per arpen.

29	John Murdock	Widow Corno	Do	20 July, 1804	320	Do	Do	23 Jan. 1804	Do	- -	- -	Refers to an order of survey from Morales, 1 Jan. 1803.
30	Do	Pedro R. Delogny	Do	23 May, 1804	427	Do	Do	- - -	-	1810	1814	Sold at 12½ cents per arpen.
31	John B. Labetut	John B. Labetut	Do	20 Jan. 1804	16,000	St. Helena and Baton Rouge	Do	31 Oct. 1803	V. Pintado	- -	- -	Sold at 12½ cts. per arpen; refers to an order of survey from Morales, 28 Sept. 1803.
32	A. Duplantier	A. Duplantier	Do	26 April, 1804	10,000	St. Helena, Feliciana, and Baton Rouge	Do	7 March, 1804	Do	- -	- -	Sold at 10 cts. per arpen; refers to an order of survey from Morales, 3 Nov. 1803.
33	Anthony Grass	A. Grass	Do	20 Jan. 1804	3,000	Baton Rouge	Do	24 Nov. 1804	Do	- -	- -	Sold at 12½ cts. per arpen; refers to an order of survey from Morales, 7 Oct. 1803.
34	Do	Do	Do	20 Oct. 1806	80	Do	Do	11 Oct. 1806	Do	- -	- -	Sold at 12½ cents per arpen.
35	John Martin	James Jackson	Do	11 June, 1805	256	Feliciana	Do	10 July, 1804	Do	- -	- -	Sold at 18¾ cents per arpen.
36	James Martin	John McGowen	Do	15 March, 1805	400	Baton Rouge	Do	14 June, 1804	Do	- -	- -	Sold at 15 cents per arpen.
37	V. S. Pintado	V. S. Pintado	Do	23 Feb. 1804	1,250	St. Helena	Do	3 July, 1804	Do			
38	Do	Do	Do	22 May, 1810	283	Feliciana	Do	25 Feb. 1810	J. C. Kneeland			
39	Do	Do	Do	20 May, 1810	200	Do	Do	5 March, 1810	Do			
40	Do	Do	Do	22 May, 1810	108	Do	Do	5 March, 1810	Do			
41	Do	Do	Do	22 May, 1810	279	Do	Do	2 March, 1810	Do			
42	F. Guedray	F. Guedray	Do	14 Aug. 1806	4 6ts. 5ft.	Baton Rouge	Do	16 Jan. 1804	C. Trudeau			
43	C. & M. de Armas	C. & M. de Armas	Do	23 Oct. 1806	20,000	Feliciana and St. Helena	Do	6 Dec. 1803	V. Pintado	- -	- -	Sold at 7 cts. per arpen; refers to an order of survey from Morales, 19 Oct. 1803.
44	Eulogo de Cassas	J. Rufinaco	Do	1 April, 1807	14 18 ps.	15ts. B. Rouge	Do	21 July, 1807	R. Dupin			
45	Joseph Reynes	Joseph Reynes	Do	2 Jan. 1804	40,000	Feliciana and St. Helena	Do	19 Nov. 1803	V. Pintado	- -	- -	Refers to an order of survey from Morales, 1 Sept. 1803.
46	Alexander Bookter	Alexander Bookter	Do	7 Feb. 1804	1,000	St. Helena	Do	12 Nov. 1803	Do	1798	1814	
47	Eliza Bookter	David Jones	Do	12 April, 1804	400	Do	Do	9 April, 1804	C. Trudeau	1804	1814	Survey ordered by Morales, 18 Nov. 1803.
48	Catholics of Feliciana	Catholics of Feliciana	Do	1 Sept. 1804	62	Feliciana	Do	22 Aug. 1809	V. Pintado	- -	- -	Used as a church and burying ground 20 years.
												Claims received from 1st September to 18th October, inclusively.
49	Brown & McDonough	G. Lachiapella	Do	28 March, 1804	120,000	St. Helena, et als	Do	14 Jan. 1804	C. Trudeau	- -	- -	Sold at 4 cents per arpen, refers to an order of survey from Morales, 7 Oct. 1803.
50	Bernard Marigny	G. Lachiapella	Do	28 June, 1804	35,000	Feliciana	Do	28 Jan. 1804	V. Pintado			
51	Bernard Marigny, et als	Jas. Jorda	Do	2 Jan. 1804	40,000	Do	Do	27 Oct. 1803	Do	- -	- -	Sold at 12½ cts. per arpen; refers to an order of survey from Morales, 3 Dec. 1803.
52	William Kirkland	Isabel Waltman	Do	3 July, 1804	500	Do	Do	9 Jan. 1804	Do	1799	1806	Refers to an order of survey by Morales, 4 Sept. 1803.
53	Jas. Johnson, et als	Manuel Langos	Do	2 Jan. 1804	35,000	Do	Do	3 Nov. 1803	C. Trudeau	- -	- -	Sold at 12½ cts. per arpen; refers to an order of survey from Morales, 30 Sept. 1803.
54	A. Dupuie	A. Dupuie	Do	13 Aug. 1806	175	Baton Rouge	Do	18 Feb. 1806	V. Pintado	1795	1814	
55	Miss de Grampree	Miss de Grampree	Do	5 Oct. 1803	1,500	Do	Do	19 Sept. 1803	Do	- -	- -	Refers to an order of survey by Morales, 3 Oct. 1803.

Remarks.—On the tract of 120,000, claimed by Brown and McDonough, there are thirty or forty families established, who have cultivated the land for several years. Some of them hold under Brown and McDonough; others have entered their places as settlement claims. Brown and McDonough have also a large farm, grist mill, saw mill, &c. on the same tract.

The patent for 10,263 arpens, No. —, in the name of T. Urquhart, claimed by Chew and Relf, executors of Daniel Clark, proved to be a part of 50,000 arpens granted at the same time to the said Urquhart, both by reference to the patent and by the oath. Mr. Cox, of Philadelphia, who deposes that the other grants, &c., making up that quantity, were destroyed by fire. Certified copies of the plats and certificates thus burned given by N. Finiels, keeper of the surveyor general's archives P. T. given in 1809, and entered with the above patent.

D.—*Register of Claims to Land in the District West of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on orders of survey, (requettes,) permission to settle, or other written evidence of claim, which, in the opinion of the Commissioner, ought not to be confirmed.*

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When Surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Cultivation and inhabitation. From.	Cultivation and inhabitation. To.	General remarks.
1	John Mink	John Mink	Order of survey	27 June, 1806	6,000	St. Helena	C. de Grampre					*Claims received prior to the 1st September, 1814.*
2	Calvin Smith	Calvin Smith	Do	21 August, 1806	-	B. Rouge	Do	20 Oct. 1806	J. C. Kneeland			
3	John Rhea	Clement Stewart	Do	11 Oct. 1806	2,000	St. Tammany	Do	15 Nov. 1805	Do			
4	John Barton	John Barton	Do	24 May, 1806	-	B. Rouge	Do					
5	Kitty Richardson	Wm. Richardson	Do	29 Sept. 1806	-	Feliciana	Do					
6	Luther Smith	Luther Smith	Do	26 July, 1806	412½	Do	Do	31 Dec. 1806	J. C. Kneeland			
7	Heirs Joash Miller	Joash Miller	Do	20 August, 1806	1,000	B. Rouge	Do	10 Dec. 1806	Do			
8	W. R. Dodge	Jas. Carpentier	Do	22 April, 1806	3.77 ps	Do	Do	7 May 1806	R. Dupin			
9	James Young	Wm. Walker	Do	18 Nov. 1806	1,000	St. Tammany	Do	-	Wm. Cotrell	-	-	Survey proved by receipt of surveyor, acknowledging payment for it.
10	Ann Carpenter	Ann Carpenter	Do	27 August, 1806	500	Do	Do	22 Dec. 1806	J. C. Kneeland			
11	Parker and Young	John Higgins	Do	July, 1806	300	Do	Do					
12	D. Holstein	D. Holstein	Do	15 Oct. 1806	1,800	St. Helena	Do					
13	M. Braningham	Michael Braningham	Do	23 August, 1806	300	Do	Do	31 Dec. 1806	Do	-	-	Only, 295 arpens surveyed.
14	Wm. Weeks	Wm. Weeks	Do	31 May, 1806	1,500	Feliciana	Do	27 Sept. 1806	Do	-	-	11th Oct., W. Weeks petitioned Intendant General for this land, and was refused.
15	John Vardiman	John Vardiman	Do	10 Sept. 1806	800	St. Tammany	Do	10 Sept. 1806	Do			
16	Thos. Spell	Thomas Spell	Do	10 Nov. 1806	1,000	Do	Do					
17	John Love	Thomas Jones	Do	25 Sept. 1801	1,000	St. Helena	Do	-	-	-	-	Every appearance indicates this to be a forgery.
18	Wm. Harriss	John Taylor	Do	16 June, 1806	-	Feliciana	Do	-	-	1806		To be surveyed, if settled and cultivated.
19	James Bryson	James Bryson	Do	8 August, 1806	600	Do	Do	-	-	1806		
20	Malaccai Burnes	Edward Metcalf	Do	11 August, 1806	300	Do	Do	7 Jan. 1807	W. H. Boner	1811	1814	
21	James Richardson	Ellis Mulky	Do	6 Sept. 1806	500	Do	Do					
22	C. Baldwin	Patrick Forbes	Do	13 July 1806	600	B. Rouge	Do	-	-	-	-	Recommended by Grandpre, Governor, 15th Oct. 1803.
23	Abner Womack	A. Womack	Do	22 Oct. 1806	600	St. Helena	Do					
24	Jacob Collins	Jacob Collins	Do	10 Sept. 1806	-	Feliciana	Do					
25	J. W. Roach	Frs. Wise	Do	3 Oct. 1806	1,000	B. Rouge	Do	10 August, and 10 Sept. 1806	J. W. Roach	1808	-	Conveyance from Wise to present claimant (Roach) is suspicious.
26	William Rucker	Wm. Rucker	Do	4 August, 1806	500	Feliciana	Do	2 Oct. 1806	J. C. Kneeland			
27	Thomas Baxter	William Aires	Do	21 August, 1806	300	Do	Do					
28	James Nelson	George de Mars	Do	9 Nov. 1806	50	B. Rouge	Do					
29	John Nelson	Wm. Atkinson	Do	15 Feb. 1806	300	Do	Do	22 March, 1806	R. Dupin			
30	John Poret	John Poret	Do	24 Oct. 1806	600	Do	Do					
31	George Killian	Geo. Killian	Do	11 Nov. 1806	2,000	St. Helena	Do	15 Jan. 1806	J. C. Kneeland			
32	Joseph Killian	Jos. Killian	Do	11 Nov. 1806	1,000	Do	Do	10 Jan. 1806	Do			
33	Sarah Carpenter	Sarah Carpenter	Do	24 Dec. 1806	500	St. Tammany	Do	24 Dec. 1806	Do			
34	William Lewis	Wm. Lewis	Do	27 August, 1806	500	Do	Do	20 Dec. 1806	Do			

35	James McElroy	Jas. McElroy	Do	19 Sept. 1806	600	Feliciana	Do							
36	Heirs Solomon Alston	Solomon Alston	Do	12 May 1806	-	Do	Do							
37	Gilbert Piper	G. Piper	Do	25 August, 1806	-	Do	Do							
38	Catharine Turnbull	C. Turnbull	Do	12 August, 1806	600	B. Rouge	Do	27 Jan. 1807	Do					
39	Charles Proffit	C. Proffit	Do	7 Sept. 1806	2 Islands 560 & 650	Do	Do	8 Oct. 1806	Do					
40	C. Baldwin	N. Karr	Do	9 Oct. 1806	Islands	Do	Do	-	-	1806	1807			
41	Lilly and Thomas	Lilly and Thomas	Do	16 Jan. 1806	405	Do	Do	31 Sept. 1806	Do					
42	Lilly and Fulton	Lilly and Fulton	Do	19 Sept. 1806	806	Do	Do	3 Jan. 1807	Do					
43	Thomas Lilly	Charles Proffit	Do	28 April 1806	-	Do	Do	10 May 1806	Do					
44	David Karr	Jas. Hagerty	Do	26 Aug. 1806	1,000	Do	Do	14 Sept. 1806	Do					
45	Heirs John Fridge	John Fridge	Do	16 Sept. 1806	1,000	Do	Do	-	-	1811	1814			
46	Hamilton Pollock	H. Pollock	Do	3 July 1806	1,028	Feliciano	Do	22 Dec. 1806	Do					
47	Heirs Ed. O'Conner	Edward O'Conner	Do	8 August, 1806	310	Do	Do	25 Feb. 1810	Do					
48	Philip Barker	Philip Barker	Do	23 June, 1806	320	Do	Do	6 Sept. 1806	Do					
49	K. M'Ray	K. M'Ray	Do	-	2,000	Do	Do	-	-	1811	1814			
50	Isham Hilling	Isham Hilling	P. and certificate	-	335	B. Rouge	Do	31 Dec. 1806	Do					
51	Charles M'Macon	C. M'Macon	Do	17 July, 1812	1,000	St. Tammany	Do	1 Sept. 1806	Do	-	-	Certified true copy, by N. Feniells, 17th July, 1812.		
52	Richard Womack	Samuel Dresden	Do	-	300	St. Helena	Do	3 Dec. 1806	Do					
53	William Allen	William Allen	Do	-	320	Do	Do	16 Nov. 1806	Do	1812	1814			
54	Heirs Caleb Weeks	Caleb Weeks	Do	-	300	Feliciana	Do	19 May, 1810	Do					
55	Philip Simms	Jos. Simms	Do	-	400	St. Helena	Do	14 Nov. 1806	Do					
56	Hosea Carney	A. Richardson	Do	-	201¾	Feliciana	Do	2 Feb. 1807	Do	1811	1814			
57	Stephen Ross	Stephen Ross	Do	-	271	B. Rouge	Do	6 Sept. 1806	J. W. Roach					
58	Charles M'Micken	C. M'Micken	Do	17 July, 1812	1,000	St. Tammany	Do	1 Sept. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	-	-	Certified true copy, by V. S. Pintado, 17th July, 1812.		
59	Do	Do	Do	Do do	1,000	Do	Do	1 Sept. 1806	Do	-	-	Do do.		
60	Do	Do	Do	Do do	2,280	Do	Do	1 May 1808	Do	-	-	Do do.		
61	Gilford Jones	G. Jones	Do	-	1,000	Do	Do	1 Dec. 1807	Do					
62	Luther Smith	Luther Smith	Do	-	1,000	St. Helena	Do	14 Dec. 1807	Do					
63	James O'Conner	Jas. O'Conner	Do	-	240	Feliciana	Do	17 Nov. 1804	C. Bolling					
64	Thos. Urquhart	Thos. Urquhart	Do	-	910	-	Do	9 Oct. 1803	V. Pintado	-	-	Part of a patent of 50,000.		
65	Heirs John Fridge	John Fridge	Do	-	234½	B. Rouge	Do	31 Dec. 1806	J. C. Kneeland					
66	Fergus Duplantia	Samuel Moor	Do	3 Nov. 1813	390	Do	Do	2 Sept. 1806	Do	-	-	Certified true copy by V. S. Pintado, 8th November, 1803.		
67	Do	A. Duplantia	Do	-	344	Do	Do	7 June, 1805	C. Trudeau	-	-	Trudeau states this to be the complement of concession in '94.		
68	Philip Hickey	J. M. de La Barba	Do	-	3,000	St. Helena	Do	2 May, 1805	Do	-	-	Part of a patent of 40,000.		
69	Samuel Fulton	Samuel Fulton	Do	-	800	B. Rouge	Do	3 Jan. 1807	J. C. Kneeland					
70	Do	Do	Do	-	1,024	Do	Do	17 May 1805	V. Pintado					
71	Manuel Diaz	Manuel Diaz	Do	-	250	St. Helena	Do	7 Jan. 1809	J. C. Kneeland					
72	David Lajeune	David Lajeune	Do	-	168	Feliciana	Do	23 July, 1808	Do					
73	Francis Herault	Francis Herault	Do	-	127	B. Rouge	Do	17 June, 1809	Do	-	-	A purchase from representatives of G. de Lemos.		
74	John Rhea	Thomas Pollock	Private Sale	22 March, 1806	400	Feliciana	-	-	-	1806	1806			
75	John I. Rault	Rene Como	Do	12 Feb. 1812										
76	John Forbes	John Lynd	Do	11 Aug. 1808	15,134	Feliciana								
77	Thomas Daulton	Jacob Drake	Do	5 June, 1800	½ acre lot	Baton Rouge								
78	A. & N. Palmer	Archibald Palmer	Do	21 Oct. 1812	500 arp's	Feliciana								
79	Uri Brooks	Abel Curtis	Do	30 March, 1813	600	Baton Rouge								
80	Joseph Sharp	George de Passeau	Do	22 January, 1810	80	Do								
81	John Kinnard	John Webster	Do	4 May, 1798	240	Do								
82	John Turnbull	Francis Pausset	Do	15 April, 1797	660	Do								
83	John Turnbull	Joseph Cabo	Do	23 Jan'y, 1796	230	Do								

D.—REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Cultivation and inhabitation. From	Cultivation and inhabitation. To	General remarks.
84	W. S. Klinesmith -	Francis Parent -	Private sale -	30 Dec'r, 1805	1,600	St. Tammany						
85	W. S. Klinesworth -	P. Gerault -	Do -	3 July, 1805	1,600	Do						
86	Merino Burg -	Merino Burg -	Exemplification	28 Jan'y, 1813	320	Feliciana -	V. Pintado -	22 August, 1810	J. C. Kneeland	-	-	Of a plat and certificate given by V. S. Pintado, 28th Jan. 1813.
87	John Brown -	John Brown -	Certificate of vacancy	9 Feb'y, 1806	-	Do -	Do					
88	Patrick Foley -	Patrick Foley -	Recommendation	3 Oct'r, 1803	5,000	Baton Rouge -	C. de Grandpre	- -	- -	-	-	Directed to the Intendant Gen'l.
89	John Porrett -	John Porrett -	Permission -	21 Oct'r, 1806	Lot	Do -	Do					
90	Heirs of James White	James White -	Do -	5 Jan'y, 1799	-	St. Tammany -	G. de Lemos -	- -	- -	-	-	Permission to form with neighbors settlement on Pearl river.
91	Philip Hickey -	Garrett Rapalja -	Adjudication -	17 Feb'y, 1808	200	Baton Rouge -	Thos. Lilly -	- -	- -	-	-	Authorized by V. S. Pintado.
92	Gilbert Piper -	Gilbert Piper -	Recommendation	5 Sept'r, 1803	300	Feliciana -	C. de Grandpre	- -	- -	-	-	Directed to the Intendant Gen'l.
93	Moriah F. Paget -	M. F. Paget -	Order of survey	11 April, 1810	300	Baton Rouge -	J. Morales					
94	John Breeding -	John Breeding -	Sheriff sale -	11 August, 1814	250	Feliciana						
95	Bartlett Collins -	Bartlett Collins -	Do -	7 May, 1814	100	Do						
96	William H. Boner -	W. H. Boner -	Order of survey	2 July, 1806	20,000	St. Tammany -	C. de Grandpre	22 June, 1806	J. C. Kneeland			
97	William H. Boner -	Charles Boner -	Do -	3 Nov'r, 1806	10,000	Do -	Do -	- -	- -	-	-	Certificate of survey said to be lost.
98	Boner & Kneeland -	J. C. Kneeland -	Do -	1 July, 1806	3,000	St. Helena -	Do -	7 Sept'r, 1806	Boner & Cotrell	1804	1806	
99	Jose Bahan -	Jose Bahan -	Do -	18 Jan'y, 1804	800	St. Tammany -	Morales -	8 May, 1806	C. Trudeau			
100	A. P. Matrose -	Jose Bahan -	Private sale -	-	400	Do						
101	Francis Herault -	Francis Herault -	Order of survey	11 Sept'r, 1806	1,050	Baton Rouge -	Morales -	1 Aug. 1809	J. C. Kneeland			
102	L. Latill -	L. Latill -	Do -	23 July, 1806	-	St. Tammany -	Morales -	8 Sept. 1806	J. Lerance -	-	-	Surveyed 3,200 aps. Inhabited and cultivated six years, but not by the claimant or any person holding under him.
103	Alexander Freeland	A. Freeland -	Do -	14 Sept'r, 1803 / 15 Aug. 1806	-	St. Helena -	do & Grandpre	- -	- -	-	-	Morales ordered Grandpre to have it surveyed if occupied.
104	Matthew O'Fallan -	M. O'Fallan -	P. and certificate	10 Nov'r, 1806	600	- -	- -	10 Nov. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	-	-	Recommended by Grandpre in 1805.
105	L. C. Griffith -	L. C. Griffith -	Order of survey	19 Sept'r, 1806	600	Feliciana -	Morales					
106	Cornelius Baldwin -	William Marshall -	Do -	12 April, 1804	1,000	St. Helena -	Do					
107	John Logan -	Moses Caradine -	Recommendation	29 March, 1797	500	- -	G. de Lemos -	- -	- -	-	-	Directed to the Intendant Gen'l.
108	John Merideth -	James Wade -	Do -	29 March, 1797	500	- -	Do -	- -	- -	-	-	Do do.
109	Robert Barrett -	David Evans -	Order of survey	29 July, 1806	300	Feliciana -	C. de Grandpre					*Claims received from 1st Sept. to 18th October, inclusively.*
110	Heirs of J.C.Kneeland	J. C. Kneeland -	Do -	23 Sept'r, 1806	-	Do -	Do		C. Bolling			
111	Patrick Vaughan -	P. Vaughan -	Do -	20 Sept'r, 1806	-	Baton Rouge -	Do -	- -	C. Bolling	-	-	Survey of 400 acres, proved by C. Bolling's receipt, dated 8th August, 1808.
112	N. Highland -	N. Highland -	Do -	22 Aug. 1806	1,000	St. Helena -	Do -	11 Sept. 1806	J. C. Kneeland			
113	David Coulter -	Duncan McIntire -	Do -	3 July, 1806	-	St. Tammany -	Do					
114	David Coulter -	Duncan McIntire -	Do -	3 July, 1806	500	St. Helena -	Do					
115	John Eagan -	William Cayson -	Do -	23 Aug. 1806	300	Feliciana -	Do -	10 Nov. 1806	J. C. Kneeland			

116	John Baker	John Baker	Do	18 Sept'r, 1806	600	Do	Do	16 Aug. 1806	Do				Neither the certificate or signature Kneeland's hand-writing.
117	John Young	John Young	Do	20 June, 1806	400	Do	Do	16 Aug. 1807	Do				
118	Simon Grimlair	S. Grimlair	Do	23 July, 1806	500	Do	Do	3 Sept. 1806	Do				
119	Peter Jones	Peter Jones	Do	20 Sept'r, 1806	300	St. Helena	Do	4 Oct. 1806	Wm. Cotrell				
120	John Truly	William Bell	Do	24 July, 1806	1,000	Do	Do						
121	Heirs Jas. Cavenaugh	James Kavenaugh	Do	28 June, 1806	-	Feliciana	Do	- -	- -	-	-		Estimation ordered at the same time.
122	Do	Do	Do	25 June, 1806	-	Do	Do	26 July, 1806	J. C. Kneeland				
123	Do	Do	Do	7 May, 1806	-	Do	Do						
124	Do	Do	Do	18 Nov'r, 1806	2,000	St. Tammany	Do						
125	Do	Do	Do	31 July, 1806	1,000	Feliciana	Do	29 Jan. 1809	J. C. Kneeland				
126	Do	Do	Do	18 Nov'r, 1806	2,300	St. Tammany	Do						
127	Heirs Geo. Kavanaugh	George Kavenaugh	Do	18 Nov'r, 1806	2,000	Do	Do						
128	Thomas Moor	Thomas Moor	Do	30 July, 1806	-	Feliciana	Do	- -	- -	-	-		Certified vacant, by V. S. Pintado, 5th August, 1801.
129	Fickland & Horton	Samuel Creswell	Do	30 August, 1806	-	Do	Do	28 Jan. 1807	J. C. Kneeland	-	-		Certified vacant, by V. S. Pindado, 15th September, 1800.
130	James Arbuthnot	James Arbuthnot	Do	1 July, 1806	500	St. Tammany	Do						
131	Do	Do	Do	1 July, 1806	600	Do	Do						
132	Do	Do	Do	1 July, 1806	500	Do	Do						
133	John Morrow	William Morrow	Do	13 June, 1806	1,000	St. Helena	Do						
134	Preston Bruin	Elijah Moss	Do	4 August, 1806	-	Feliciana	Do	20 Nov. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1805	1806		
135	Do	Joash Miller	Do	22 October, 1806	250	Do	Do	20 Oct. 1806	Do	-	-		Estimation ordered and valued at 14 cents per arpen.
136	Eliza Dunbar	William Marbury	Do	27 August, 1806	500	Do	Do	20 Dec. 1806	Do				
137	S. Packwood	Jesse Efferson	Do	5 Dec'r, 1806	1,000	St. Helena	Do	3 Dec. 1810	J. Harriss				
138	Edward Randolph	Isaac Brumfield	Do	30 July, 1806	1,000	St. Tammany	Do	10 Nov. 1806	J. C. Kneeland				
139	Do	Do	Do	14 Oct'r, 1806	2,000	Do	Do	10 Nov. 1806	Do				
140	Robert Yair	Robert Yair	Do	8 August, 1806	1,000	St. Helena	Do						
141	James Say	James Say	Do	18 June, 1806	300	Feliciana	Do	22 April, 1810	J. C. Kneeland				
142	H. McNeely	H. McNeely	Do	10 Sept'r, 1806	1,000	St. Tammany	Do	15 Nov. 1806	Do				
143	Nehemiah Power	N. Power	Do	22 Sept'r, 1806									
144	John McDonough	Lewis Decluet	Do	15 Nov'r, 1803	50,000	St. Helena, &c.	J. Morales	- -	- -	-	-		Payment of the estimated value, (3 cents per arpen) proved by the certificate of two witnesses. Certified plats of the surveys made in 1803, given by C. Trudeau, 14th Sept. 1814.
145	John McDonough	L. & A. Decluet	Do	16 Nov'r, 1803	40,000	Do	Do						
146	Hutchins & Write	Thomas Hutchins	Do	7 Jan'y, 1807	68,652	St. Tammany	Do	15 June, 1807	J. C. Kneeland	-	-		Petition for land designated by certain boundaries, 68,652 arpens surveyed.
147	Widow Gayare	Widow Gayare	Do	3 August, 1810	-	Baton Rouge	Do	- -	- -	-	-		Pentado states he ordered Kneeland, 7th Aug. 1810, to survey this land. His certificate dated 13th July, 1812.
148	Widow Ramos	Widow Ramos	Do	3 August, 1810	500	Do	Do	- -	- -	-	-		Do do.
149		Battis Harman	Recommendation	28 April, 1806	500	Feliciana	C. de Grandpre	- -	- -	-	-		Directed to the Intendant Gen'l.
150	Daniel Rainer	Willis Bluford	Do	10 March, 1795	500		G. de Lemos	- -	- -	-	-		Do do.
151	Nicholas Highland	John Siddon	Do	29 March, 1797	500	St. Helena	Do	- -	- -	-	-		Do do.
152	Michael Jones	Michael Jones	Do	12 Feb'ry, 1806	500	Do	C. de Grandpre	- -	- -	-	-		Do do.
153	David Dunbar	James Oglesby	Do	29 March, 1796	500	Feliciana	G. de Lemos	- -	- -	-	-		Do do.
154	Alexander Freeland	Edmund Dunbar	Do	20 March, 1795	800	Do	Do	- -	- -	-	-		Do do.

D.—REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Cultivation and inhabitation. From	Cultivation and inhabitation. To	General remarks.
155	Stephen Freeland	William Robbs	Recommendation	29 March, 1797	500	Feliciana	G. de Lemos	-	-	-	-	Directed to the Intendant Gen'l.
156	James Cheney	James Cheny	Do	3 Sept'r, 1803	1,000	Do	C. de Grandpre	-	-	-	-	Do do.
157	A Freeland	J. Strickland	Do	29 March, 1797	500	St. Tammany	G. de Lemos	-	-	-	-	Do do.
158	Benjamin Howard	M. Hanny	Do	28 March, 1797	500	Do	Do	-	-	1801	1814	Do do.
159	Benjamin Howard	Daniel Walt	Do	29 March, 1797	1,000	Do	Do	-	-	1810	1814	Do do.
160	Henry Hill	James Oglesby	Do	29 March, 1797	800	Do	Do	-	-	1811	1814	Do do.
161	Hezekiah Williams	H. Williams	Do	16 March, 1797	800	Do	Do	-	-	-	-	Do do.
162	Kindred Williams	Kindred Williams	Do	29 March, 1796	800	St. Helena	Do	-	-	-	-	Do do.
163	Anthony Cruzat	Anthony Cruzat	Plat & certificate	-	3,19 p's. 69 p.	Baton Rouge	-	19 July, 1805	V. Pintado			
164	Anthony Cruzat	Do	Do	-	1,068	Felicina	-	24 March, 1809	Do			
165	Benjamin Lanear	Benjamin Lanear	Do	-	400	St. Tammany	-	1 Dec. 1806	J. C. Kneeland			
166	Edward Randolph	Isaac Brumfield	Do	-	1,000	Do	-	10 Nov. 1806	Do			
167	Edward Randolph	P. & Thomas Say	Do	-	470	Feliciana	-	18 Oct. 1806	Do			
168	Christian Bingamon	C. Bingamon	Do	-	114	Do	-	8 Aug, 1805	C. Bolling			
169	Beauchamp & Penny	W. Stewart	Private sale	23 June, 1813	250	Do						
170	John Horton	- -	Sheriff sale	22 Janua. 1813	350	Do						
171	James Fletcher	E. & J. Georgean	Private sale	26 June, 1800	640	Do						
172	Peter Ledlow & Co.	Christival de Armo s	Do	14 April, 1809	1000	Do						
173	Henry Harrison	Patrick Vaughan	Do	23 Dec. 1811	400	Do						
174	Stephen Swazey	A. Gorham	Do	8 June, 1811	300	Do						
175	George S. Cavener	John Gainer	Do	16 July, 1806	126	Do						
176	William Whitaker	Manuel Lopez	Do	16 March, 1810	476	Do						
177	William Williams	- -	Sheriff sale	5 Sept. 1814	300	Do						
178	Brown & McDonough	Brown & McDonough	Permission	5 March, 1806	-	St. Helena	Thos. Estevan	- - -	- - -			
179	Heirs J. C. Kneeland	J. C. Kneeland	P. & certificate	26 March, 1806	2000	St. Tammany	- - -	26 March, 1806	J. C. Kneeland	-		Certified true copy by V. S. Pintado, 21 July, 1812.
180	E. Adams	E. Adams	Do	- - -	625	Feliciana	- - -	20 Nov. 1806	Do			
181	Heirs J. C. Kneeland	J. C. Kneeland	Public sale	20 May, 1810	700	Do	Thos. Estevan					
182	Isham Johnson	Joseph Bonner	Recommendation	- - -	500	- - -	G. de Lemos	- - -	- - -	-	-	Directed to the Intendant Gen'l.
183	Bennet Joplin	Peter Boyde	Do	29 March, 1797	500	- - -	Do	- - -	- - -	-	-	Do do
184	James J. Davidson	Stephen Wood	Do	29 March, 1797	500	- - -	Do	- - -	- - -	-	-	Do do
185	William Robertson	John Fridge	Order of surve y	25 Sept. 1802	1500	St. Helena	C. de Grandpre	- - -	- - -	-	-	Forgery.
186	Samuel Caleb	G. Rupellec	Do	25 Sept. 1801	1500	St. Tammany	Do	- - -	- - -	-	-	Do
187	Willis Bonner	W. Bonner	Do	- - -	1000	Do	Do	- - -	- - -	1799	-	Date altered.

A LIST OF ANOMALOUS CLAIMS.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Cultivation & inhabitation. From	Cultivation & inhabitation. To	General remarks.
1	John Murdock	-	-	-	913	Feliciana	-	-	-	-	-	Papers said to be lost.
2	Do	-	-	-	356	Baton Rouge	-	-	-	-	-	Papers of survey and plat lost or carried away by the Spanish officers.
3	Do	-	-	-	10000	-	-	-	-	-	-	Petition said to be in Pensacola.
4	Isaac Browning	-	-	-	440	-	-	-	-	1800	1814	Order in 1800, survey in 1802 lost.
5	John Glasscock	-	-	-	440	-	-	-	-	1790	1791	Papers said to be lost.
6	Ex'r of John Gainer	-	-	-	243	Feliciana	-	-	-	1795	1814	Patent dated in 1792 or '3; document in court.
7	Nath'l McCulloch	-	-	-	1000	Baton Rouge	-	-	-	1790	1793	Order and plat lost.
8	Landon Davis	-	-	-	100	Do	-	-	-	1776	1781	British patent lost.
9	Do	-	-	-	300	Do	-	-	-	1772	1776	British patent lost.
10	William Webb	-	-	-	774	-	-	-	-	1776	1777	Entered in the Spanish office and never returned.
11	Heirs Jaque Carrier	-	-	-	800	St. Tammany	-	-	-	1776	1814	Grant in 1783 lost, proved by oath.
12	Robt. & L. Davis	-	-	-	800	-	-	-	-	1777	1779	British patent, lost, proved by oath.
13	Theodore Gillard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	British patent, not presented.
14	Thomas Dernford	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sundry patents not presented.
15	Gabriel Blackburn	-	-	-	800	Feliciana	-	-	-	-	-	Papers carried to Pensacola by V. S. Pintado.
16	John Glasscock	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1790	1791	Papers lost.
17	Hrs. Benj. & D. Ward	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	British patent, not presented.
18	Rep. James Ramsay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Papers not presented.
19	John Simms	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Order lost.
20	John F. Carmichael	-	-	-	500	Feliciana	-	-	-	1803	1814	
21	Francis Cousin	-	-	-	4800	St. Tammany	-	-	-	1769	1814	Original papers burned in Orleans, proved by certificate of C. Trudeau.
22	Heirs Solomon Alston	-	Recommendation	30 Jan. 1806	249	Feliciana	-	12 May, 1806	J. C. Kneeland	-	-	The Fiscal recommends the Intendant General to sell the applicant 249 arpens, surplus contained in the lines of a former grant of 1070 arpens.
23	Jno. & Js. E. Johnson	-	-	13 Sept. 1805	220	Do	Morales	4 Oct. 1806	Do	-	-	Decree of preference and estimation of 220 arpens, surplus contained in a former grant of 500 arpens.
24	William Ratliff	Wm. Hendson	-	-	1660	Do	-	-	-	1794	1814	These claims, founded on Spanish patents, dated in 1780 or '90, destroyed by fire; the mutilated remains presented in proof of their having issued.
25	Do	Do	-	-	400	Do	-	-	-	1800	1814	
26	Do	Do	Sale	-	600	-	-	-	-	1794	1814	
27	J. Vidal	J. Rufinaco	Petition for titles	for 12700 arpens	comprehending a plat		and certificate of J. C. Kneeland's the 8th			August	1806	An order of survey and estimation from Grandpre, refused by Intendant the 1st December, 1806.
28	Thomas Spell	James Goodby	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Papers lost.
29	John Nelson	George de Mars	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Receipt of order of survey, plat, and certificate for 1,200 arpens.
30	Jacob Collins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Papers lost.

REMARKS ON THE PRECEDING REPORT.

REGISTER A.—Comprehends patents derived from the British and Spanish Governments, at a time when they possessed and exercised the undisputed sovereignty of the soil; and therefore they ought, in the opinion of the undersigned Commissioner, to be confirmed by the Government of the United States. In relation to the claims derived from the British Government, it may not be inapplicable to remark, that they are distinguishable in one prominent feature from those granted by the Spanish Government prior to her treaty of retrocession to the French Government. By the treaty of peace between Great Britain and Spain, in 1783, the absolute time of eighteen months was given to his Britannic Majesty's subjects to enable them to sell their estates and remove their effects; accompanied by a declaration that should not that time be sufficient to answer those purposes, his Catholic Majesty would give a prolongation proportioned to that end. In 1785 a prolongation of four months was given by the King of Spain. Not one out of fifty of the British claimants availed themselves either of the original limitation or of its subsequent extension. Hence the Spanish Government considered the lands held under British patents, which had not received its confirmation, as being vacant. That such was the decision of that Government is clearly demonstrated by the course which it pursued in relation to them. So far as comes within the Commissioner's knowledge, it is a fact that the lands covered by British patents, of the last mentioned description, were indiscriminately regranted by the Spanish Government whenever application was made for them, conformably to the laws, usages, and customs of that Government. How far this circumstance ought to affect the validity of those patents in relation to individual conflicting claims, or what its operation ought to be consistently with the laws of nations, the principles of distributive justice, and the rights of individuals, the Commissioner leaves for the consideration of those who are the constitutional guardians of public and private property. He deemed it his duty simply to note the fact without subjoining any comments.

REGISTER B.—Comprehends orders of survey, &c. issued by Mero, Carondelet, de Lemos, Moralis, and de Grandpre. Those grants which were made by Miro, Carondelet, and de Lemos, and in some few instances by Moralis, ought, in the opinion of the Commissioner, to be confirmed by the Government of the United States. They were originated by the Spanish authorities, prior to the purchase of Louisiana by the United States, and agreeably to the laws, usages, and customs of the then existing Government would have been completed by the same power which granted them. In relation to those claims issued by Morales, subsequently to the aforesaid purchase, and to the whole of those which emanated from de Grandpre, the Commissioner begs leave to observe that although in his estimation they do not occupy the same grade with those of the first class, yet he conceives it just and equitable that they should be confirmed. This opinion is not predicated upon the validity of their orders of survey, but simply upon the fact that they occupied and cultivated their lands, and complied with all the requisitions of the Government which at that time exercised ownership over the soil. By reference to the register it will be seen that some of the last mentioned claims exceed in quantity the ordinary donations made by the Spanish Government prior to the purchase of Louisiana by the United States. Where this is the case, it is believed that the Government of the United States may limit its confirmations to any extent which it may be deemed just both in regard to the number of arpens claimed in each tract, and the number of tracts claimed by the same person.

REGISTER C.—The claims embraced in Register C, are such as, in the opinion of the Commissioner, ought not to be confirmed by the Government of the United States. This opinion is founded upon the following considerations: 1st. The Government of the United States claim an absolute property in all that country comprehended within the boundaries of Louisiana, in virtue of her treaty with France.

2d. It is believed that the Spanish Government herself considered that treaty as divesting her of all right, title, or interest in the soil. That such was the understanding of that Government is inferred from the following fact; the course which she pursued in the distribution of her unappropriated territory posterior to her treaty with France, was materially and essentially different from what it had been prior to that time. In all her grants made anterior to that epoch, the number of arpens given was apportioned to the situation and circumstances of the applicant. Patents for large extent of country had been issued, but they were granted for specific purposes, and were defeasible upon a noncompliance with certain prescribed conditions.

So far as comes within the knowledge of the Commissioner, sales of land were never made in the abovementioned country by that Government until after she had ceased to be the legal owner of the soil. This departure from her known laws, usages, and customs previously adopted and invariably observed, warrants the inference that that Government was sensible of the illegality of her claim, and had a view only to her own emolument. The fact also that the King of Spain, by a special royal order, in 1805 ratified and confirmed the sales made by Moralis, enjoining him to make that branch of his business as profitable as possible to the coffers of the Royal Treasury, is an additional evidence in support of this inference. By a reference to the register it will be discovered that the patents for lands purchased from the Royal Treasury at a price of estimation generally refer to orders of survey given in the latter part of 1803, and specify the valuation per arpen. The payment of the whole amount is uniformly acknowledged in the patents; admitting the claim of the United States to the country abovementioned to be unquestionable (and I see no reason to doubt it,) the question then arises how far the possession of that country by the Spanish Government, after the right of the United States accrued, ought to affect those claims which were granted by the former Government during the time which intervened between the purchase and the time when possession was taken by the United States. If the United States had taken possession of West Florida at the same time that they did of Louisiana west of the Mississippi, many serious injuries to individuals might have been prevented. As this was not the case, it becomes an inquiry of interest and importance, whether the Government is not morally bound, both by considerations of equity and policy, to make them a compensation commensurate to the injuries they may have sustained? This could be done by making them donations of any quantity of land which the Government may deem just; particularly that class of claimants who have improved and cultivated their lands. They are not numerous, and with few exceptions their claims are moderate. It may not be impertinent also to remark that, generally speaking, they were such persons as were most liable to be deceived by the Spanish officers. In relation to that class of claimants who have not inhabited or cultivated their lands, which is generally the case with those who hold large claims, it appears to the Commissioner that the Government of the United States is not legally bound to confirm them. Nevertheless, from a variety of considerations which will doubtless enter into the decision of this question, the Government may deem it politic either to confirm their claims to a certain extent, or in some way to effect a compromise with them. Their unlimited confirmation would, in the opinion of your Commissioner, seriously injure many individuals, some of whom probably resided on the lands before they were surveyed for the patentees.

REGISTER D.—The claims embraced in Register D, ought not, in the opinion of the Commissioner, to be confirmed by the Government of the United States. The reason for this opinion will be found in his report on the claims contained in register C. They apply with additional force to the claims embraced in the present register. He deems a repetition of them unnecessary. The above claims are founded upon orders of survey, &c. given by de Grandpre; the applicants generally petitioned for leave to purchase lands of the Royal Treasury at a price of estimation; de Grandpre's orders only authorised the surveyor to survey the lands, directing the party to make application to the office of the Intendancy General for title. Except in a very few instances the lands were never valued, and of course nothing was paid for them. In the few cases where the lands have been inhabited and cultivated, such inhabitation and cultivation commenced since the organization of the American Government in West Florida.

ANOMALOUS CLAIMS.—In relatian to these claims the Commissioner conceives it useless to make any remarks. A reference to the list will show that in most cases the title papers which ought to have accompanied the notices are stated to have been lost or destroyed. The same provisions which shall be made respectively for the claims embraced in registers A, B, C, and D, will, he presumes, be applicable also to Anomalous Claims, when the nature of the titles, upon which they are said to be founded, shall be established by satisfactory proof.

JAMES O. COSBY,
Commissioner of Land Claims.

No. 4.—Abstract, containing a List of the Names of Actual Settlers on Land in that part of Louisiana, which lies East of the Mississippi River and Island of New Orleans, and West of Pearl River, who have no claims thereto, derived from the French, British, or Spanish Governments.

Names of Settlers.	Claimants by settlement and purchase.		Time of settlement.	
	No. by settlement.	No. by purchase.	Month.	Year.
PARISH OF FELICIANA.				
William Row - -	1	-	Aug.	1804
William Barker for Asonah Stout - - -	1	-	-	1804
Rob't Macausland, administrator of Mark Macausland, deceased - -	1	-	-	1803
Robert Macausland -	-	1	-	1807
Stephen, for Sarah Cobb -	-	1	-	1799
Joseph Stout - -	1	-	-	1810
Clement Stewart - -	1	-	-	1810
John Young - -	1	-	-	1803
William Barrow - -	-	1	-	1800
Do do executor of Lane - - -	1	-	-	1801
Thomas Dawson - -	1	-	-	1803
William Dawson - -	1	-	-	1803
John Simpson - -	1	-	-	1803
William Cobb - -	-	1	Jan'y,	1810
Samuel Davis - -	-	1	-	1797
John, for David Caliham -	-	1	-	1801
John Gale - -	1	-	-	1809
Robert Davis - -	1	-	-	1803
John Detart - -	-	1	-	1809
Henry McNeely - -	1	-	-	1806
Thomas Smith - -	1	-	-	1805
Benjamin Brown - -	1	-	-	1805
John McNeely - -	1	-	-	1806
Samuel Lee - -	1	-	-	1808
James Brown - -	1	-	-	1807
James Hay - -	1	-	July,	1812
Joseph Smith - -	1	-	-	1808
John Howard - -	1	-	-	1807
Elizabeth Carnes - -	-	1	-	1805
James Dees - -	1	-	-	1807
Russell Jones - -	-	1	-	1809
William B. Harris -	-	1	-	1811
Benjamin Hammond -	1	-	-	1810
Roger Cagle - -	1	-	-	1810
Leonard & David Rinebrew	1	-	-	1810
Michael Blocker - -	1	-	-	1811
John Cooper - -	1	-	-	1812
Peeree Noland - -	1	-	-	1803
John Chance - -	1	-	-	1804
Isham Nichols - -	1	-	-	1810
Frederick Annel - -	-	1	Feb'y,	1811
Chesley Jackson - -	1	-		1806
Thomas Young - -	1	-	June,	1811
Thomas Rouse - -	1	-	-	1809
Thomas Scott - -	-	1	-	1809
Thomas Plane, senior -	1	-	-	1810
Jacob Esely - -	-	1	-	1798
Thomas Jackson - -	1	-	-	1807
Zachariah Richardson -	-	1	-	1802
Adam Palmer - -	-	1	-	1806
John O'Flyn - -	1	-	March,	1806
David F. Dearmond -	1	-	Oct'r,	1803
Elizabeth Bruce - -	1	-	July,	1806
Margaret Jackson - -	1	-	-	1806
Janett McCrory - -	-	1	-	1806
Mary Reed - -	1	-	-	1806
Cooper Vick - -	1	-	Oct'r,	1809
Mansan McDonald -	1	-	Nov'r,	1811
John McCallister - -	1	-	Oct'r,	1804
James McNabb - -	1	-	-	1810
Spencer Fisher - -	1	-	-	1811
David Bell - -	1	-	-	1810
Elias Blount - -	1	-	March,	1809
Benjamin Chance - -	1	-	-	1809
Vincent Chance - -	1	-	-	1809
Reuben Ponder - -	1	-	-	1810
William Taylor - -	-	1	-	1806
Mary Stewart - -	1	-	-	1806
Elijah Bush - -	-	1	Feb'y,	1806
William Allen - -	1	-	March,	1812
Joseph Brown - -	1	-	June,	1810
Mark Noble - -	1	-	Jan'y,	1811
Jesse Edwards - -	-	1	Dec'r,	1810
John M. Holden - -	1	-	Nov'r,	1810
Joseph Holden - -	1	-	-	1810

Names of Settlers.	Claimants by settlement and purchase.		Time of settlement.	
	No. by settlement.	No. by purchase.	Month.	Year.
Coonrood & Lenoar Cagle	1	-	-	1810
Ely Chance - -	1	-	Jan'y,	1812
Robert Cook - -	1	-	-	1812
William Leonard - -	1	-	Feb'y,	1812
John Moor - -	-	1	March,	1812
Samuel Sympson - -	-	1	-	1809
Adam Barnes - -	1	-	-	1810
Elias Vicker - -	1	-	-	1812
Richard Brown - -	1	-	-	1806
Tarlton East - -	-	1	-	1809
James Albritton - -	1	-	May,	1810
Thomas F. Dearmond -	-	1	-	1805
Daniel Cleveland, for Cs. Ingram - -	1	-	Nov'r,	1810
Daniel Cleveland - -	1	-	-	1812
William Bruce - -	-	1	Sept'r,	1810
Elijah Ferguson and R. Jackson - -	-	1	-	1809
Thomas East - -	-	1	-	1809
Robert Dyer - -	-	1	-	1809
David T. W. Cook -	-	1	-	1810
Membrance Williams -	1	-	-	1812
Timothy Rogers - -	1	-	-	1806
Thomas Hudson - -	1	-	-	1808
Elizabeth Hase - -	1	-	Jan'y,	1810
Abraham Nuson - -	1	-	-	1810
Evan Eddards - -	1	-	Dec'r,	1812
James McMullans -	1	-	Jan'y,	1807
Enock Hooper, for Betsey Cook - - -	1	-	-	1810
William Brian - -	1	-	May,	1808
Isham Carr - -	1	-	July,	1810
John East - -	-	1	-	1809
Isaac East - -	-	1	-	1809
William Thompson -	1	-	-	1812
Arch'd Palmer & Henry Bennet - -	-	1	-	1806
Thomas Henry - -	1	-	August,	1801
John Millican - -	1	-	-	1808
Nathaniel Curtis - -	1	-	Dec'r,	1811
Cornelius Carr - -	1	-	May,	1811
James McNeely - -	-	1	-	1802
James Mays - -	1	-	-	1807
William Morrow - -	1	-	July,	1809
Agnes Morrow - -	1	-	-	1809
Philip Noland - -	1	-	-	1805
Peeree Noland, jun. -	-	1	-	1805
James Scott, sen. - -	1	-	-	1807
Francis Grubbs - -	1	-	Jan'y,	1811
Josiah Nighton - -	-	1	-	1806
William Furlow - -	1	-	August,	1803
Billington Taylor -	-	1	-	1803
Richard Taylor - -	1	-	-	1803
Hardy Brian - -	1	-	Sept'r,	1809
William Neatherlin -	1	-	Jan'y,	1804
Samuel Harrill - -	-	1	-	1804
Peter Humble - -	1	-	-	1810
Henry Lisenbe - -	1	-	Nov'r,	1809
John Morrow - -	1	-	-	1809
John Offut - -	1	-	-	1807
Samuel Rourk - -	1	-	Dec'r,	1812
David Fluker - -	1	-	June,	1811
Samuel Dearmond -	1	-	-	1808
Jacob Lilly - -	1	-	-	1810
Stephen Williams - -	-	1	-	1807
Mark Powers - -	-	1	-	1801
Hiram Hatcher - -	1	-	-	1807
James Story - -	1	-	-	1807
James Simmons - -	-	1	-	1804
Robert Nettles - -	1	-	May,	1804
Nathaniel Cobb - -	1	-	Jan'y,	1807
William Bird - -	1	-	-	1804
George Nettles - -	1	-	-	1809
James Curtis - -	-	1	-	1805
Philemon Chance - -	1	-	August,	1808
Jesse Fairchild - -	1	-	Feb'y,	1812
Elie Chance - -	-	1	-	1810
Lewis Yarborough -	-	1	March,	1806
Levi Harrell - -	1	-	April,	1807
Hezekiah Harrell -	1	-	Dec'r,	1806
Lewis Harrell - -	1	-	-	1808

ABSTRACT OF ACTUAL SETTLERS—Continued.

Names of Settlers.	Claimants by settlement and purchase.		Time of settlement.	
	No. by settlement.	No. by purchase.	Month.	Year.
Hezekiah Harrell	1	-	Dec'r,	1808
James Higginbotham	1	-	-	1810
John Webb	1	-	April,	1810
Stephen Yarborough	1	-	-	1803
Joshua Lewis	1	-	Feb'y,	1812
Thomas Knight	1	-	August,	1810
Matthew Edwards	1	-	-	1805
William McMurray	1	-	March,	1805
Needham Marsh	1	-	-	1810
Thomas Felps	1	-	-	1807
David Andrews	1	-	-	1810
Jacob Higginbotham	1	-	-	1811
James Yarborough	1	-	Dec'r,	1812
John Lusk	1	-	-	1810
William Harris	1	-	-	1801
Coonrod Andrews	1	-	-	1810
Henry Pegott	1	-	Nov'r,	1812
Adam Andrews	1	-	-	1810
Samuel Scott	1	-	-	1806
Zachariah Knight	1	-	Dec'r,	1810
Jesse Morgan	1	-	-	1810
David Pettypool	-	1	-	1804
Peter Sandifeer	1	-	-	1812
John Carr	-	1	August,	1810
John Vandell	1	-	Nov'r,	1808
John Morgan	1	-	March,	1802
Caleb Gale	-	1	-	1811
E. Smith, for Bozwell's heirs	-	1	-	1807
James Hinter	1	-	Sept'r,	1806
James Bryan	-	1	Do	1804
David D. Felps	1	-	-	1804
Jesse Hooper	-	1	-	1802
William Blunt	1	-	Sept'r,	1807
James Parker	1	-	March,	1802
Wilfred Bowles	1	-	Aug't,	1811
James Felps	1	-	-	1810
Morgan Morgan	1	-	Feb'y,	1802
Cyrus Marsh	-	1	March,	1802
David McCauts	1	-	-	1810
James Grubbs	1	-	July,	1812
Richard Pry	1	-	-	1812
Levi Brown	1	-	-	1807
James Brown	1	-	-	1810
Godfrey Dreker	1	-	Oct'r,	1811
William Brown	-	1	Jan'y,	1805
James Felps	1	-	Nov'r,	1803
James Higginbotham	1	-	-	1812
John Whitten	1	-	-	1804
Arthur Sladen	1	-	-	1810
Elisha Selser	-	1	Aug't,	1803
E. West	1	-	Feb'y,	1806
Isham Dun	1	-	Nov'r,	1809
Francis Ballard	-	1	Feb'y,	1810
Jacob Stokes	1	-	Jan'y,	1810
Daniel Davis	1	-	August,	1807
Ransom Thacker	-	1	-	1808
Wilson F. Cummings	1	-	Jan'y,	1810
Willliam McKay	-	1	Sept'r,	1804
Stephen Callender	1	-	Dec'r,	1807
Daniel Rettrel	1	-	Nov'r,	1809
William Hatchell	1	-	April,	1810
Timothy Dun	1	-	-	1806
John McGrew	1	-	-	1807
William McGrew	1	-	-	1807
James Napper	-	1	-	1810
Ralph Stovall	-	1	-	1810
William Liles	1	-	-	1804
John James Simmons	1	-	May,	1811
Charles Liles	1	-	-	1810
Peeree Noland, sen.	-	1	-	1806
Do do	1	-	-	1805
Do do	-	1	-	1803
Do do	-	1	-	1806
James Jarvis	-	1	-	1810
James, for Stephen Mays	1	-	-	1811
Robert Draughan	-	1	-	1801
Thomas Plane, jun.	-	1	March,	1802
Benjamin Curtis	-	1	-	1802
Joshua Miller	1	-	August,	1810
George Reller	1	-	August,	1802
Richard Bell	-	1	-	1802
Jesse Sims	-	1	Feb'y,	1810
John Hobgood	1	-	-	1803

Names of Settlers.	Claimants by settlement and purchase.		Time of settlement.	
	No. by settlement.	No. by purchase.	Month.	Year.
Thomas Broadaway	1	-	-	1807
Solomon Bonds	1	-	-	1809
William Scott, jun.	1	-	-	1807
Joseph Higginbotham	1	-	Jan'y,	1812
Joseph Thomas	-	1	-	1807
William Newman	1	-	-	1812
Batson Morgan	-	1	-	1804
Do do	-	1	-	1808
Do do	-	1	-	1806
Do do	-	1	-	1810
Do do	-	1	-	1809
William Hudson	1	-	Sept'r,	1808
Levi Doughty	-	1	-	1805
Hugh Barfield	1	-	-	1809
Elizabeth Morgan	-	1	-	1809
John Downey	1	-	Oct'r,	1812
John Rentz	-	1	-	1808
James McNeely	1	-	August,	1810
William Simpson	1	-	-	1806
Thomas Simpson	1	-	-	1807
Philip Lewis	1	-	-	1811
A. B. Sympson, agent for Hugh Sympson	1	-	Feb'y,	1806
Reddin Ratcliff	1	-	-	1811
John Rowley	1	-	Jan'y,	1813
Samuel M. Sympson	1	-	July,	1807
Do do	-	1	August,	1810
James Walker	1	-	-	1809
William Allen	1	-	Oct'r,	1810
Hall Jeter, jun.	1	-	-	1806
Hall Jeter	1	-	-	1806
Alexander Scott, sen.	1	-	Feb'y,	1813
Robert Scott	-	1	-	1804
Robert S. White	-	1	-	1807
Nimrod Taylor	1	-	-	1808
William Silliman	-	1	Feb'y,	1805
Thomas Irwin	-	1	-	1805
Joseph White	-	1	-	1808
James Jeter	1	-	-	1810
Benjamin Fauver	1	-	Dec'r,	1810
Nathaniel Fauver	1	-	-	1810
Atchmett Fauver	1	-	-	1811
Temple Nix	1	-	-	1810
William G. Dixon	1	-	-	1812
William Jeter	1	-	-	1807
Jesse Morgan	1	-	-	1802
Isaac Miller	1	-	-	1803
John Powers	1	-	-	1812
Merideth Hobbs	1	-	-	1812
John Rent	-	1	-	1803
Alexander Callendar	1	-	-	1807
Joseph Dove	1	-	-	1810
David Lambert	-	1	Jan'y,	1809
Samuel Reller	1	-	-	1803
Richard Kenner	1	-	-	1808
Vincent Valentine	1	-	-	1811
Jeremiah Nutterville	1	-	Feb'y,	1811
William Bailey	1	-	-	1810
John Dickenson	1	-	Jan'y,	1810
Bazell Burgess	1	-	-	1805
James Napper	1	-	-	1811
William F. Noland	1	-	-	1805
William Phris	1	-	July,	1810
Reuben Pharis	1	-	-	1806
Robert Graves	1	-	Feb'y,	1810
John Benton	1	-	-	1811
William Lanham	-	1	May,	1812
Isaac Polk	1	-	-	1807
Hardy Briant	1	-	-	1806
John White	1	-	-	1805
Mark Woodward	1	-	-	1812
John Crawford	1	-	-	1812
William Chapman	-	1	March,	1810
Isaac Bush	1	-	-	1806
Joseph Anderson	1	-	Dec'r,	1805
Thomas Egan, by agent	1	-	June,	1810
William E. Phillips	1	-	Sept'r,	1810
James Crawford	1	-	-	1810
Charles Bruce	1	-	Feb'y,	1806
James Scott	1	-	Feb'y,	1807
Isaiah Booker	1	-	-	1811
Hardy Booker	-	1	June,	1810
Benjamin Grubb	-	1	-	1811

ABSTRACT OF ACTUAL SETTLERS—Continued.

Names of Settlers.	Claimants by settlement and purchase.		Time of settlement.	
	No. by settlement.	No. by purchase.	Month.	Year.
William Booker	1	-	June,	1812
William Ingram	1	-	Sept'r,	1812
John Lee	1	-	-	1812
Robert Singleton	1	-	Feb'y,	1810
William M. Dawson	-	1	-	1811
Donald McQuien	-	1	-	1808
Samuel Nicholson	-	1	-	1810
	235	89		
Parish of Baton Rouge.				
Webb Nash	1	-	Feb'y,	1810
Francis Millum	1	-	-	1809
Joseph Pulliam	1	-	-	1809
Lewis Pyburn	1	-	Sept'r,	1812
William Sullivan	1	-	-	1801
Hugh R. Blunt	1	-	Nov'r,	1812
John Sides	1	-	August,	1810
James Sides	1	-	-	1810
Joshua Ammonds	1	-	-	1810
James Powers	1	-	-	1810
James Jackson	1	-	-	1797
Peter McArthur	1	-	-	1810
Lewis Pyburn	1	-	May,	1812
James Jackson	1	-	-	1812
Henry Roache	-	1	Jan'y,	1803
John Sims	1	-	August,	1802
William Dixon	1	-	-	1812
Joseph Parnell	1	-	March,	1812
John Waltman	1	-	-	1811
William Cain	-	1	-	1810
Jonathan Kuy Kundall	-	1	-	1797
Do Do	1	-	Dec'r,	1810
John Powers	1	-	August,	1810
Watson Boon	1	-	-	1810
William Draughan	1	-	-	1811
Gideon Allen	1	-	May,	1812
James Jones	1	-	Dec'r,	1810
George Night	1	-	Oct'r,	1811
Andrew Hambleton	1	-	-	1811
Cornelius Thames	1	-	August,	1811
Jacob Chambers	-	1	Feb'y,	1803
Elizabeth Collins	1	-	-	1806
James McArthur and William Hawes	1	-	-	1811
John Forbus	1	-	Sept'r,	1802
Leonard L. S. Sims	1	-	-	1803
Aaron and John West	1	-	-	1810
Nathaniel M. Baker	-	1	-	1810
David McCollough	1	-	Sept'r,	1809
Isaac Chambers	1	-	-	1810
Michael Chambers	1	-	-	1810
Jacob Sides	-	1	-	1793
John Poret	-	1	-	1798
Samuel Chilester	1	-	Jan'y,	1811
Henry Beard	1	-	Do	1811
The heirs of T. V. Dalton	-	1	-	1805
Evan Vaughan	1	-	Feb'y,	1812
James Crane	-	1	-	1811
John Fridge	-	1	-	1805
Jeremiah Draughan	1	-	-	1809
	39	10		
Parish of St. Helena.				
Cornelius Thames	-	1	Feb'y,	1802
Harrison Cooper	1	-	-	1804
Rosanna Harris	1	-	Dec'r,	1811
Robert C. Ratcliff	1	-	Nov'r,	1812
William Taylor	1	-	-	1802
William Glover	1	-	-	1807
Cecilia Nettles	1	-	-	1804
Isaac Daws	1	-	March,	1805
Robert Cotton	1	-	-	1800
Priscilla Spiller	1	-	-	1806
Elizabeth Spiller	1	-	-	1805
Richard Tekell	1	-	-	1805
John Mills	1	-	August,	1805
James Sullivan	1	-	-	1807
Elijah Self	1	-	Oct'r,	1809
David Mezell	-	1	Nov'r,	1810

Names of Settlers.	Claimants by settlement and purchase.		Time of settlement.	
	No. by settlement.	No. by purchase.	Month.	Year.
John Noblet	-	1	-	1809
William Hickman	1	-	Nov'r,	1812
Thomas Christmass	1	-	-	1807
Richard Albritain, sen.	1	-	Oct'r,	1810
Assa Brashiers	1	-	-	1803
Skipeth Durben	1	-	-	1798
William Self, jun.	1	-	-	1810
Pleasant Glass	-	1	-	1802
Anderson Lain	-	1	-	1809
John Quillins	1	-	-	1808
Hillery Lanier	1	-	-	1806
Alexander Hogue	1	-	-	1805
John Albriton	-	1	Oct'r,	1810
William Smith	-	1	-	1802
William Dawson	1	-	-	1807
Robert Holloway	1	-	-	1800
Samuel Mains	1	-	August,	1808
Solomon Hogue	1	-	-	1809
William Bell	-	1	August,	1801
Elizabeth Starns	1	-	-	1808
William S. Starns	1	-	March,	1805
Jacob Rheam	1	-	-	1802
Samuel Starns	1	-	Oct'r,	1811
Michael Stelly	1	-	-	1811
Thomas Courtnay	1	-	-	1810
William Dennis	-	1	Jan'y,	1804
Rodney Cooper	1	-	-	1805
Tarlton Cooper	-	1	-	1798
John Breed	-	1	Dec'r,	1802
Jonathan Kemp	-	1	-	1801
Thomas Middleton	1	-	-	1809
Caleb Kemp	1	-	-	1805
James Durbin	-	1	Jan'y,	1811
James Bellew	-	1	-	1810
Joseph Slattew	-	1	-	1801
Hezekiah Wheat	1	-	-	1801
John R. Courtnay	1	-	-	1812
Absalom Pennington	1	-	-	1810
Joseph Clayton	-	1	-	1804
Avery Breed	-	1	Nov'r,	1810
James Starns	-	1	Jan'y,	1809
Willis Watson	1	-	March,	1812
Benjamin O. Williams	-	1	-	1803
Caswell T. Tood, for heirs of Carter	-	1	Nov'r,	1802
James Rheims	1	-	-	1804
John Jacob Repsher	1	-	April,	1803
George Repsher	1	-	-	1803
Richard Hagans	1	-	-	1802
Do do	-	1	-	1805
Josiah Drigar	-	1	-	1807
Peter Hutchinson	1	-	-	1809
Robert Hutchinson	1	-	-	1802
Absalom Trailer	1	-	August,	1808
F. Cumming, for E. J. F. Cumming, a minor	-	1	-	1806
Chandler Lindsay	-	1	-	1809
Fortescue Cumming	-	1	-	1811
Thomas Kenedy	-	1	-	1808
James Norton	-	1		
James J. White	1	-	-	1812
Do do	1	-	-	1811
James Norton, administrator	1	-	May,	1810
Jeremiah Bryan	1	-	-	1809
John Gancy	1	-	-	1803
Alexander R. Ganoy	1	-	-	1810
Do do guardian	-	1	-	1810
John Repsher jun.	-	1	-	
John Core, for son (a minor)	-	1	-	1809
John Core	1	-	-	1808
Joel Simmons	-	1	-	1807
William Spinks	-	1	-	1803
John Sims	-	1	-	1803
Micasah Spiller	1	-	Oct'r,	1811
Do do for daughter, a minor	1	-	-	1809
Henry Arnold	-	1	-	1808
Gaston Raoul	1	-	July,	1810
Elizabeth Butler	1	-	-	1810
Antoine Parez	-	1	-	1805
William Watson	-	1	Sept'r,	1804

ABSTRACT OF ACTUAL SETTLERS—Continued.

Names of Settlers.	Claimants by settlement and purchase.		Time of settlement.	
	No. by settlement.	No. by purchase.	Month.	Year.
Thomas Clayton	1	-	-	1810
Hezekiah Williams, jun.	1	-	July,	1801
Richard Odum	1	-	March,	1810
Aaron Grinage	1	-	-	1804
Elias Halley	1	-	-	1807
Samuel Richardson	-	1	-	1804
Samuel Richardson	-	1	-	1804
Do do	1	-	-	1805
William Elsey	1	-	-	1812
Etherbed Singleton	1	-	-	1806
Thomas Fail	1	-	-	1807
Stephen Spikes	1	-	Oct'r,	1811
Absalom Glover	-	1	-	1804
William Dyches	1	-	Oct'r,	1807
George Killian, sen.	-	1	-	1806
Do do	-	1	-	1804
Charles Williams	1	-	-	1804
Stephen Stenson	1	-	Jan'y,	1813
Thomas D. Quillins, ex'r	1	-	-	1805
William West	1	-	-	1805
Jacob Sides	1	-	-	1805
William Wamak	1	-	Oct'r,	1810
John F. Moyers	-	1	-	1806
Joseph Kellian	-	1	Sept'r,	1803
Henry Leace	1	-	-	1811
John George, sen.	1	-	-	1804
Christopher Witty	1	-	-	1805
Ephraim Smith	1	-	-	1803
David Kemp	-	1	Nov'r,	1810
Wm. Elsey, guardian of John L. Dixon	1	-	-	1807
Abraham Wamack	-	1	-	1802
Moses Taylor	1	-	-	1812
Micajah Spiller, ex'r	-	1	-	1802
Thomas East	-	1	Jan'y,	1811
Wiley Young	1	-	-	1811
Dixon Wainwright	1	-	August,	1807
Thomas J. Davidson	-	1	-	1807
Do do	-	1	-	1808
Do do	-	1		
Elizabeth Burns	1	-	-	1803
Benjamin Key	-	1	-	1801
James Jackson	1	-	-	1808
Benjamin Key	1	-	-	1810
Job Key	1	-	-	1810
Abraham Jones, agent for James Jones	-	1	-	1801
Thomas J. Davidson et al, ex'rs	1	-	-	1804
Joseph A. Leech	1	-	-	1812
Absalom Williams	-	1	Jan'y,	1805
David Mitchell	1	-	August,	1811
Jonathan Kemp, jun.	1	-	May,	1811
Daufin B. Harris	-	1	-	1810
Freeman George	1	-	-	1805
John George, jun.	1	-	-	1806
Jacob Watson	1	-	-	1805
William George	1	-	-	1804
Thomas Acres	-	1	-	1809
William Kirkland, ex'r	1	-	-	1807
Elijah Peerson	1	-	August,	1811
Simon Barnay	1	-	Nov'r,	1810
Reuben, for Hugh Denham	1	-	-	1810
Samuel Curtis	1	-	-	1812
John Gayler	-	1	-	1802
Vincent Chance	1	-	June,	1811
Alex. Bookter, for Alexander Bookter, jun.	-	1	-	1810
Do do do	-	1	-	1801
Do do for Daniel Bookter	1	-	-	1801
Do do do	-	1	-	1801
Ezekiel Cobb	-	1	-	1810
Do do	-	1	-	1812
Alexander Bookter	-	1	-	1810
L. H. Moore, agent for estate of R. Childres	-	3	-	1800 & 1801
Edmund D. Hunt	-	1	-	1805
John Amacher	-	1	Feb'y,	1805
Dennis Dicks	-	1	-	1812
Thomas C. Warner, by agent	-	1	-	1806

Names of Settlers.	Claimants by settlement and purchase.		Time of settlement.	
	No. by settlement.	No. by purchase.	Month.	Year.
Ephraim Bates	1	-	-	1799
William Day	1	-	-	1802
William Spiller	-	1	-	1802
Do do	-	1	-	1801
Do do	-	1	-	1809
Do do	-	1	-	1803
George Gordon	-	1	-	1803
Thomas Day	1	-	-	1802
Ephraim Bates	-	1	-	1799
John Corkern	1	-	-	1803
Daniel Donaho	-	1	-	1800
Elisha Waller	1	-	Jan'y,	1804
Edward Garrett	1	-	Feb'y,	1804
William Hoff	-	1	-	1802
Jacob Wamack	-	1	July,	1810
Jeremiah Strickland	-	1	-	1802
John Tate	1	-	Sept'r,	1810
Lenoar Westmoreland	1	-	Do	1810
Reuben Roberts	1	-	Dec'r,	1811
John Roberts	1	-	August,	1812
Francis Strother	-	1	-	1804
Nancy Tate	1	-	Sept'r,	1810
Richard West	1	-	-	1806
John Watson	1	-	-	1803
John Rollins	-	1	-	1802
Robert Girley	1	-	-	1810
John Wells	1	-	-	1801
Philip Sims	1	-	-	1810
Isaac Kemp	-	1	-	1800
Charles Tate	-	1	-	1810
William Wells	1	-	Sept'r,	1803
Do do	-	1	-	1801
Thomas Methoin	1	-	-	1806
Cader Raby	1	-	-	1801
Samuel Harper	-	1	-	1809
Demsey Kemp	-	1	-	1801
L. Miller, for John Miller	1	-	-	1802
Peter Hutchinson, sen.	-	1	-	1801
Benjamin Parker	1	-	Sept'r,	1811
Charles Stewart	1	-	Sept'r,	1802
Humphrey Stewart	-	1	-	1803
John W. Leonard	-	1	-	1807
John W. Leonard	-	1	-	1806
Do do	-	1	-	1807
Do do	-	1	-	1805
Do do	-	1	-	1808
Thomas Williams	1	-	-	1801
Gilbert McNabb	-	1	-	1803
William West	-	1	-	1803
Abraham Anderson	-	1	-	1802
James Martin	1	-	Jan'y,	1810
William Parker	1	-	Oct'r,	1810
David Ellison	1	-	July,	1810
Raney Lee	-	1	-	1800
James Lilley	1	-	-	1803
Daniel Cryer	1	-	-	1812
John West	-	1	-	1801
Do do	1	-	-	1800
George Reddin	1	-	-	1809
Archelus Kirkland	-	1	March,	1804
Britton Addison	-	1	Do	1804
George Bailey	-	1	-	1803
Jubiter York	-	1	-	1803
James Rodye	-	1	-	1809
Do do for Jas. Esha	1	-	-	1809
Abraham Spears	1	-	-	1802
Thomas Crittendon	-	1	March,	1802
George Murfey	-	1	-	1803
William Sharburt	1	-	-	1810
Jesse Lee	-	1	-	1800
Do do	-	1	-	1803
David Lee	-	1	-	1803
Patsey Bedwell	-	1	-	1801
John Bates	-	1	-	1803
Nancy Wilson	-	1	Oct'r,	1810
Amos Smith	1	-	-	1801
John Bates	1	-	-	1803
John Giner	1	-	-	1803
Joseph Bates	1	-	-	1802
Paul Breeden	1	-	-	1802
James Hughes	1	-	-	1805
David House	-	1	-	1804
Nathaniel Allen	1	-	-	1803

ABSTRACT OF ACTUAL SETTLERS—Continued.

Names of Settlers.	Claimants by settlement and purchase.		Time of settlement.	
	No. by settlement.	No. by purchase.	Month.	Year.
John Johnston - -	1	-	-	1806
Samuel Lanier - -	-	1	-	1802
Jacob Ott - -	-	1	-	1807
David Wamack - -	-	1	-	1804
John D. Wilds - -	-	1	-	1802
Zedekiah Martin - -	1	-	Sept'r,	1807
Fortesque Cumming -	-	1	-	1805
Do do - -	-	1	-	1802
John Glasscock - -	-	1	-	1798
Do do - -	1	-	-	1809
Nicholas Highland -	-	1	-	1809
John Knight - -	-	1	-	1809
James Goyne - -	1	-	-	1810
Rebeccah Sharburt, ex'r -	-	1	May,	1804
Thomas Bell - -	1	-	-	1807
Edward Wailes - -	1	-	-	1801
William Williams -	1	-	-	1809
William Vaughan -	1	-	-	1807
John Goyne - -	1	-	-	1800
James Hall - -	1	-	-	1810
Benjamin McWaster -	1	-	-	1807
James Blunt - -	-	1		
Richard Williams -	1	-	-	1806
Samuel Burton - -	-	1	-	1804
Matthew Stewart - -	-	1	-	1803
Ezekiel West - -	-	1	-	1801
Uriah Prewitt - -	1	-	-	1808
John Morrow - -	-	1	-	1806
John Bell - -	1	-	-	1810
John Williams - -	1	-	-	1809
James H. Harvey - -	1	-	-	1808
David Kemp, for Jno. Honeye - - -	1	-	-	1805
Thomas Kemp - -	-	1	-	1804
Stephen Williams -	1	-	-	1806
Ephraim Dean - -	1	-	August,	1811
Stephen Waller - -	-	1	-	1803
William Boykin - -	-	1	-	1801
William Bell - -	1	-	Nov'r,	1810
Absalom Wells - -	-	1	-	1810
A. Jones, for Michael Jones	1	-	-	1800
Stephen Waller - -	-	1	-	1805
Henry Hall - -	-	1	-	1803
William Kinchen - -	-	1	-	1803
Wiley Thomson - -	1	-	-	1807
John Storch - -	-	1	-	1804
Elizabeth Gorman -	-	1	-	1801
John Breed - -	-	1	-	1802
Alexander Freeland -	-	1	-	1801
Do do -	1	-	-	1802
William T. Philips -	1	-	-	1808
William Spiller - -	1	-	Nov'r,	1810
John H. Wamack -	-	1	-	1808
James West - -	1	-	-	1805
John H. Wamack -	-	1	-	1811
Cady Raby, sen. - -	-	1	-	1802
W. King, for Chas. Bushnell - - -	-	1	-	1810
Uriel King - -	-	1	-	1803
Do do for self and Jas. Norton - - -	-	1	-	1802
William McKay - -	-	1	-	1800
Benjamin Abbot - -	1	-	Feb'y,	1805
Daniel Bookter - -	-	1	-	1803
	170	144		
Parish of St. Tamany.				
James Bennett - -	1	-	-	1807
John Wax - -	1	-	Feb'y,	1812
Johnston Marchbanks -	1	-	Do	1811
Jesse Barker - -	1	-	Nov'r,	1809
David Taylor - -	1	-	-	1812
Gronow Floyd - -	1	-	-	1806
John Eddy - -	1	-	-	1811
Thomas Addison - -	1	-	-	1810
Sarah Rogers - -	1	-	Dec'r,	1811
Benjamin Barrow - -	1	-	-	1811
Eli Haden - -	1	-	-	1811
Francis Ross - -	1	-	Jan'y,	1812
Cullen Sanders - -	1	-	-	1808
David Robinson - -	1	-	-	1808

Names of Settlers.	Claimants by settlement and purchase.		Time of settlement.	
	No. by settlement.	No. by purchase.	Month.	Year.
Thomas Williams - -	1	-	May,	1811
Blanset Sanders - -	1	-	-	1811
Moses Jordan - -	1	-	-	1808
William W. Collins -	1	-	-	1803
Bledsow White - -	1	-	Nov'r,	1810
Henry Hughes - -	1	-	-	1812
Massy Baker - -	1	-	-	1813
Allen Headen - -	1	-	April,	1807
William Brockham -	1	-	-	1812
John W. Collins - -	-	1		
Eli Crocket - -	1	-	-	1810
William Hickman -	1	-	-	1811
Nancy Chapman - -	1	-	Nov'r,	1809
Uriah Stephens - -	1	-	Nov'r,	1812
Elijah Chavers - -	1	-	-	1810
John Morgan - -	1	-	-	1812
Martin B. Brown - -	1	-	-	1809
Reuben Beavers - -	1	-	-	1809
William Haden - -	1	-	-	1811
John Haden - -	-	1	-	1811
Isaac House - -	1	-	-	1811
John Reed - -	1	-	-	1810
John Chapman, sen. -	1	-	June,	1810
Thomas Shropshire -	1	-	Dec'r,	1811
James McDaniel - -	1	-	-	1806
William Hickman -	-	1	-	1812
Church Dixon - -	1	-	Oct'r,	1810
Benjamin Barrow, guardian for Thomas Canty -	1	-	-	1811
Jemimy Smith - -	-	1	-	1808
John Adams - -	1	-	-	1810
Jesse Bagget - -	-	1	-	1809
Do do - -	1	-	-	1810
Jesse Chapman - -	1	-	-	1810
Nathan Smith - -	-	1	-	1810
Barden Dyches - -	1	-	-	1810
Silas Chapman - -	1	-	-	1810
Joseph Martindill - -	1	-	Oct'r,	1810
Jonathan Taylor - -	1	-	-	1810
Middleton Berry - -	1	-	-	1810
Renez Baam - -	1	-	-	1806
John Vernon - -	1	-	-	1806
Joseph Cutterer - -	1	-	-	1804
John Castonquat - -	-	1	-	1795
John Dicks - -	1	-	-	1810
David Porter - -	1	-	-	1812
John Galloway - -	1	-	-	1809
Charles Galloway - -	-	1	-	1809
William Berry - -	-	1	-	1807
James Lorreins - -	1	-	-	1809
Horatio Gerrill - -	1	-	August,	1810
William Cooper - -	1	-	-	1802
William Wilson - -	-	1	-	1802
Do do - -	-	1	-	1802
Henry Cooper, jun. -	1	-	-	1801
Henry Cooper, sen. -	-	1	-	1800
Joshua Browning - -	1	-	-	1812
John Lanier - -	-	1	-	1810
Lawrence Sticker -	1	-	-	1809
Levi Bankston - -	1	-	-	1812
Josiah Dyches - -	1	-	-	1806
Lott Ridgdell - -	1	-	June,	1806
William Galloway -	1	-	-	1809
Peter Galloway - -	1	-	-	1810
Leonard Hornsby -	1	-	-	1812
Elijah H. Hornsby -	1	-	-	1811
Samuel Hornsby - -	1	-	-	1813
John Bankston - -	1	-	-	1812
Peter Fruny - -	-	1	-	1810
Peter Bankston - -	1	-	-	1809
Daniel Edwards - -	-	1	-	1810
Burrell McClendon -	1	-	Nov'r,	1810
Jesse McClendon - -	-	1	-	1810
Shadrick McClendon -	-	1	-	1811
John Badow - -	1	-	-	1805
Zachariah Faircloth -	-	1	-	1796
Amos Richardson - -	1	-	-	1809
John Sardin - -	1	-	-	1807
Mary C. Loyd - -	1	-	-	1806
John, for Peter Badon -	1	-	-	1808
Stephen E. Cooper -	1	-	Nov'r,	1810
John Powell - -	1	-	-	1811
William Hogins - -	1	-	Feb'y,	1811

ABSTRACT OF ACTUAL SETTLERS—Continued.

Names of Settlers.	Claimants by settlement and purchase.		Time of settlement.	
	No. by settlement.	No. by purchase.	Month.	Year.
Matthew Robertson	1	-	Dec'r,	1804
Joseph Slatten	1	-	-	1799
Wiley Robertson	1	-	-	1806
Abner Jenkins	1	-	-	1807
Jaben Seely	1	-	-	1812
John Spell	-	1	-	1811
William Seaman	1	-	Dec'r,	1811
David Gaines	-	1	-	1807
Do do	1	-	-	1811
Leonard L. Marbury	-	1	-	1806
John Spell	-	1	-	1798
Nathan Maples	1	-	Sept'r,	1810
Sarah Slocum	-	1	-	1807
George Brewer	1	-	Nov'r,	1811
William P. Rose	-	1	-	1810
Abner Bickham	1	-	Dec'r,	1807
Do do	-	1	-	1809
Thomas Roberts	1	-	-	1809
Luke Lea	1	-	-	1810
James Lea	-	1	-	1810
William Maples	1	-	Sept'r,	1812
William Magee	1	-	-	1810
Bartlet Brown	1	-	-	1813
Jonas Short	-	1	Oct'r,	1811
George Stokes	1	-	-	1811
Susannah Roberts	1	-	-	1809
Isham Chisum	1	-	-	1807
John Wright	1	-	-	1812
Thomas Ard, jun.	1	-	Jan'y,	1812
Thomas Ard, sen.	1	-	August,	1810
Elias Ford	-	1	-	1811
Thomas Clack	1	-	Nov'r,	1812
William McCormick	1	-	-	1812
William Busby	-	1	-	1810
Joseph Ard	1	-	Jan'y,	1812
William Ard	1	-	Do	1813
Jeremiah Thompson	-	1	-	1806
Simon Holden	1	-	-	1810
William Pool, sen.	1	-	-	1811
John Pearson	1	-	-	1810
Jesse Pravitt	-	1	-	1810
Harvy Pearson	1	-	-	1810
Lewis Dunn	1	-	Feb'y,	1812
Hugh Calquhun	1	-	-	1812
Uriah Smith	-	1	-	1806
John Evans	1	-	-	1812
Jesse J. Evans	-	1	-	1812
John Edwards	1	-	-	1811
John Andrews	1	-	-	1810
Samuel York	1	-	-	1811
Squire Lea	1	-	-	1807
James Berry	1	-	-	1811
John Jemeyson	1	-	-	1811
William Peters	1	-	August,	1811
William Thompson	-	1		
Elisha Roberts	-	1	-	1810
Do do	-	1		
John Smith	1	-	Sept'r,	1810
John Wheat	1	-		
Evan James	1	-	Sept'r,	1811
Alexander Gelasby	-	1	August,	1812
John Cook	1	-	-	1812
Simon Williams	1	-	Nov'r,	1810
Joshua Smith	1	-	-	1812
Andrew Smith	1	-	-	1809
Jesse Whitmiar	1	-	Dec'r,	1810
William Davis	1	-	-	1810
Henry Shilling	1	-	-	1811
William Smith, jun.	-	1	-	1811
Isaac Roberts	1	-	May,	1809
Isaac Milton	1	-	-	1812
Richard Milton	1	-	-	1813
William Lourance	-	1		
Do do	1	-	Sept'r,	1807
William Wheat	1	-	-	1812
John Shilling	1	-	-	1811
William Hickman	1	-	-	1812
Gilbert Chavous	1	-	-	1810
Delaney Bird	1	-	-	1809
Micajah McCullen	1	-	-	1807
William Davis	-	1	-	1810
Michael Jones	1	-	-	1809
Nathan Blackkwell	1	-	Jan'y,	1812

Names of Settlers.	Claimants by settlement and purchase.		Time of settlement.	
	No. by settlement.	No. by purchase.	Month.	Date.
John Mitchell	1	-	Nov'r,	1809
William Boyls	1	-	Feb'y,	1811
John Brady	1	-	Dec'r,	1812
Joseph Spell	1	-	-	1810
William Carter	-	1	-	1807
Robert Hicklin	1	-	June,	1810
James Cotton	-	1	Nov'r,	1810
Reuben Mayfield	1	-	-	1810
Denis Crane	1	-	Jan'y,	1811
William Bickham	-	1	-	1809
Do do	-	1	-	1808
Do do	-	1	Sept'r,	1810
Bobert Fluker	-	1		
Stephen Richardson	-	1	-	1812
Thomas Wainwright	-	1	-	1802
Philip Magee	-	1	-	1811
Do do for his wife Jamime	1	-	Dec'r,	1811
James Miller, sen.	-	1	-	1807
Moses Miller	1	-	-	1808
Samuel Hide	1	-	-	1808
Thomas Bickha	1	-	Dec'r,	1807
Do do	-	1	-	1808
Isaac Evans	1	-	-	1807
Do do	-	1	Feb'y,	1809
Amos Duncan	1	-	Jan'y,	1809
Benjamin Bickham	1	-	Do	1809
Fanny Richardson	1	-	Dec'r,	1811
Patrick Munroe	1	-	-	1813
Joseph Williams	-	1		
William Morris	1	-	Feb'y,	1811
Aaron Robinson	-	1	-	1808
Samuel Neely	1	-	Nov'r,	1812
Robert McCay	-	1	July,	1812
James Hays	1	-	Dec'r,	1808
George Skipworth	1	-	Nov'r,	1809
Malcomb Munroe	-	1	-	1810
William Lucus	1	-	Dec'r,	1810
Thomas Nichols	1	-	Do	1808
William Maines	1	-	-	1808
Wiley Jones	-	1	-	1809
Daniel Laurin	-	1	Sept'r,	1811
Henry Hill	1	-	-	1807
Woody Jones	1	-	-	1807
William Fussell	-	1	-	1809
James Berry	1	-	-	1811
David Bohannon	1	-	Feb'y,	1813
William Brumfield	-	1	-	1809
Ezekiel Brumfield	1	-	-	1810
Isaac Dykes	1	-	Oct'r,	1810
John Jemmison, jun.	1	-	-	1812
Michael P. Jones	-	1	-	1810
Do do	-	1	-	1808
Ridley Brumfield	1	-	-	1801
Rice Wells	-	1	Dec'r,	1807
John M. Dromgoole	-	1		
Stephen Stefford	1	-	Nov'r,	1809
Thomas Morris	-	1		
Jeremiah Jones	-	1	-	1809
Robert Simmons	-	1	-	1808
Richard Burch	1	-	Jan'y,	1812
John Gordon	1	-	July,	1812
John Irwin	-	1	-	1809
Robert M. Simmons	-	1	-	1812
John M. Alston, for Absalom Alston	-	1		
Thomas James	-	1		
Henry Black	1	-	-	1809
Elisha Roberts	-	1	-	1809
Do do for William Roberts	-	1		
Rice Wells	-	1		
Isaac Irwin	-	1	-	1806
John Slocum	1	-	-	1810
Wm. Cole, for J. Chiney	-	1	-	1807
James Tate	1	-		
Joseph Brooks	1	-	August,	1812
John Gustavus	1	-	-	1806
James Gwin	-	1	-	1808
Benjamin Toney	1	-	-	1808
John Bickham	1	-	Dec'r,	1807
William Wallis	-	1	-	1809
Elisha Hornsby	1	-	Dec'r,	1810

ABSTRACT OF ACTUAL SETTLERS—Continued.

Names of Settlers.	Claimants by settlement and purchase.		Time of settlement.	
	No. by settlement.	No. by purchase.	Month.	Date.
Stephen Lee - -	1	-	-	1808
John Stephenson - -	1	-	-	1808
Do do - -	-	1	-	1807
William Lea - -	1	-	-	1807
Edwin Fussell - -	1	-	-	1809
Elisha Estus - -	1	-	May,	1812
John B. Stuart - -	1	-	-	1809
John Talley - -	-	1	-	1808
Cornelius Cooper -	-	1	-	1808
John Holden - -	1	-	-	1807
William Cole - -	-	1	-	1808
Do do - -	1	-	-	1813
James Graham - -	1	-	-	1810
John Miller - -	1	-	Nov'r,	1807
Samuel Rutledge - -	1	-	April,	1810
Ally Lankton - -	1	-	Sept'r,	1810
John Wright - -	1	-	Jan'y,	1808
Levey West - -	1	-	July,	1810
Mahlon Holden - -	1	-	March,	1807
William Nickels - -	1	-	Do	1807
William Waskam - -	-	1	-	1808
Thomas Franklin - -	1	-	-	1811
Francis Passons, for A. Lundy - - -	-	1	-	1808
Thomas Holden, sen. -	1	-	-	1810
Joseph Adams - -	1	-	March,	1810
Aaron Adams - -	1	-	Do	1810
James Dougherty -	1	-	-	1810
Isaac Cortrayer - -	1	-	-	1807
Sarah Cortrayer - -	1	-	-	1807
Thomas C. Warner -	-	1	-	1810
Do do - -	1	-	-	1809
Do do for Charles Busnell and Thomas C. Warner - -	-	1	-	1807
John Tatum - -	1	-	Oct'r,	1812
William Williams -	1	-	Dec'r,	1811
Price Cornelly - -	1	-	-	1811
Isaac Lindsay - -	1	-	Oct'r,	1810
Ebenezer Cobourn -	1	-	Jan'y,	1810
Nathaniel Peters - -	1	-	May,	1809
Jacob Alford - -	1	-	Dec'r,	1807
Henry Cotreer - -	1	-	-	1807
Gideon S. Chavers -	1	-	-	1813
Joseph C. Chavous -	1	-	-	1810
Abel Dyche - -	1	-	June,	1812
John H. K. Goff - -	1	-	Jan'y,	1808
Noble Butler - -	1	-	Do	1808
David Terry - -	1	-	June,	1809
David Gorman - -	-	1	-	1810
Do do - -	1	-	-	1810
Joseph Waller - -	-	2	-	1810
Aaron Binleson - -	-	1	-	1810
Robert Mitchell - -	1	-	Nov'r,	1809
David Glover - -	1	-	Jan'y,	1810
John Mitchell - -	1	-	Do	1810
Gideon Rester - -	1	-	-	1812
John Brinkley - -	1	-	July,	1810
Frederick Rester - -	1	-	April,	1810
Abraham Craker - -	-	1		
John Durdino - -	1	-	August,	1810
John Richardson - -	1	-	Do	1810
John Craker - -	1	-	April,	1813
John Willeford - -	-	1	-	1807
Do do agent for Nathan Bond - -	-	1	-	1810
Charles Roberts - -	1	-	-	1809
Zachariah Graham -	1	-	Dec'r,	1811
John Williams - -	1	-	Do	1811
Henry Day - -	-	1	-	1808
Richard Albritan - -	1	-	Dec'r,	1812
John Wootan - -	1	-	Jan'y,	1812
Jonathan McGehee -	-	1	Do	1808
David Mizell - -	1	-	Do	1812
John Mizell - -	1	-	Jan'y,	1812
James Thomas - -	1	-	Dec'r,	1812
Benjamin Richardson -	1	-	Nov'r,	1810
John Dunford - -	1	-	Jan'y,	1813
Elisha Harral - -	1	-	Feb'y,	1812
Gideon Yarborough -	-	1	-	1809
Zadok Barrow - -	1	-	-	1809
Allen Vince - -	1	-	-	1813
Joseph Erin - -	-	1	-	1807
Rob't Singleton, jun. -	1	-	August,	1809
Jesse Day - -	-	1	March,	1812
George Ellis - -	-	1	-	1810
Do do - -	-	1	-	1807
James Gray - -	-	1	-	1808
James Corker - -	1	-	Oct'r,	1808
William McGhee - -	-	1	-	1809
Duncan McIntyre -	1	-	-	1810
James Berion - -	1	-	-	1810
John Simmons - -	1	-	Feb'y,	1812
William Hays - -	-	1	-	1809
John Talley, sen. - -	-	1	-	1811
Joseph Eastep - -	1	-	-	1812
Edmund D. Hunt - -	1	-	-	1808
Do do - -	-	1	Jan'y,	1811
	249	106		
	693	349	Total No. 1,042	

JAMES O. COSBY, *Commissioner.*

June 7th, 1813.

A Supplementary List of the number of Actual Settlers in that part of Louisiana which lies East of the river Mississippi and Island of New Orleans, and West of Pearl River.

Persons' names.	Number.	Date of settlement.	Number of claims by purchase.	Number of claims in Feliciana.	Number of claims in East Baton Rouge.	Number of claims in St. Helena.	Number of claims in St. Tammany.	General remarks.
William B. Littleton -	1	- 1811	-	39				
Samuel Phares - -	1	- 1811	-	40				
Joseph White - -	1	- 1807	-	41				
Samuel Oliver - -	1	- 1796	-	42	-	-	-	Claimed also by Hughes.
J. D. Slarnes - -	1	- 1804	1	-	-	23		
William Day - -	1	- 1802	1	-	-	24		
Moses Richardson -	1	- 1809	1	-	-	25		
J. & R. Teceenaus -	1	- 1804	-	-	-	26		
James Johnsons -	1	- 1809	-	-	-	27	-	Partially improved only.
Benjamin Courtney -	1	- 1810	1	43				
Daniel Cobb - -	1	- 1804	1	44				
Daniel Cobb - -	1	- 1804	1	45	-	-	-	Cultivated only.
Lewis H. Guerlain -	1	- 1810	-	-	-	28		

SUPPLEMENTARY LIST OF ACTUAL SETTLERS—Continued.

Person's names.	Number.	Date of settlement.	Number of claims by purchase.	Number of claims in Feliciana.	Number of claims in East Baton Rouge.	Number of claims in St. Helena.	Number of claims in St. Tammany.	General remarks.
Abraham Jones -	1	- 1805	1	-	-	29		
John Cropper - -	1	- 1813	-	46				
Margaret Skolfield -	1	- 1791	-	-	-	30		
William Sharplin -	1	- 1811	-	-	-	-	11	
Patrick Crawford -	1	Nov. 1812	-	-	-	-	12	
Richard Ricketson -	1	- 1811	-	-	-	-	13	
George Rudd - -	1	- 1813	-	-	-	-	14	
J. Williams - -	1	- 1810	-	-	-	3	14	By permission of Spanish Government, 28th Jan. 1810.
William Sharplin -	1	- 1812	-	-	-	-	15	
James Gaines - -	1	- 1801	-	-	-	-	16	Cultivated only.
John Marler - -	1	Jan'y 1813	-	-	-	-	17	
Jeremiah Thompson -	1	- 1802	-	-	-	-	18	
Pierre Bahan - -	1	- 1782	-	-	-	-	19	
Nathan'l Peters, et alias	1	- 1810	-	-	-	-	20	Partially improved only.
Elijah Ambrose -	1	30 Mh. 1812	-	-	-	-	21	
Robert Carter - -	1	- 1798	-	-	-	-	22	1 year, then driven away by Ind'ns.
William West - -	1	- 1798	-	-	-	-	23	Do do
Littleberry West -	1	- 1798	-	-	-	-	24	Do do
Bleasar White - -	1	- 1810	1	-	-	-	25	Cultivated 1 year.
John House - -	1	June, 1812	-	-	-	-	26	
Rice Wells - -	1	April, 1810	-	-	-	-	27	
Rice Wells - -	1	- 1810	-	-	-	-	28	
David B. Morgan -	1	- 1807	-	-	-	-	29	
Nathaniel Peters -	1	- 1810	-	-	-	-	30	Partially improved only.
William Cooper -	1	- 1809	1	-	-	-	31	
William Crier - -	1	- 1810	-	-	-	-	32	
John Spell - -	1	- 1792	-	-	-	-	33	
Duncan McCall -	1	- 1809	-	-	-	-	34	
Shared Adams - -	1	- 1810	-	-	-	-	35	
William Rowan -	1	- 1812	-	-	-	-	36	
Ezekiel Lott - -	1	- 1811	-	-	-	-	37	
Frederick Anderson -	1	- 1810	-	-	-	-	38	Never inhabited or cultivated.
Isham Bradford -	1	3 Mh. 1812	-	-	-	-	39	
John Sprenkle - -	1	- 1801	-	-	-	-	40	By permission Spanish Government, 12th July, 1809.
Zachariah Brassfield -	1	- 1810	-	-	-	-	41	Inhabited and cultivated a few months.
Richard Smith - -	1	Sept. 1809	-	-	-	-	42	
John Bickham - -	1	- 1799	-	-	-	-	43	1 year, driven off by Indians.
Coulter, by agent -	1	- 1811	-	-	-	-	44	
Richard Tekill - -	1	- 1805	1	-	-	31		
Wilson Page - -	1	- 1814	-	-	-	32		
Peter Branne - -	1	- 1809	-	-	-	33		
James Higginbotham -	1	- 1811	1	46				
Jacob Jarrel - -	1	- 1805	-	-	-	34		
Elizabeth Stilly -	1	- 1809	1	-	-	35	-	Continued until 1813.
Matthew B. Angers -	1	- 1803	1	47				
Nicholas Highland -	1	- 1799	1	-	-	-	45	Never inhabited or cultivated by present claimant.
Lewis Dunn - -	1	- 1810	1	-	-	36		
David House - -	1	- -	1	-	-	37	-	Sale of an improvement.
John Tally - -	1	- 1802	1	-	-	-	46	
Zacarias Morgan -	1	- 1810	1	48				
Zacarias Morgan -	1	- 1810	1					
Alexander Bookter -	1	- 1802	1	-	-	39	-	Cultivated only.
John Rich - -	1	- 1808	1	49				
Jemima Perry - -	1	- 1810	-	-	-	-	47	Partially improved only.
John Mink - -	1	- 1809	1	-	-	-	48	1 or 2 years only.
R. Richardson - -	1	- 1805	1	50				
Heirs of Jeremiah Ray -	1	- 1803	-	-	-	-	49	Continued 1 year.
Margaret Skolfield -	1	- 1803	-	51				
Philemon Thomas -	1	- 1808	-	-	10			
Benjamin Thomas -	1	- 1808	-	-	11			
Garland Chillis - -	1	- 1810	-	-	12			
Gamelin Peas - -	1	- 1803	1	-	1			
Do - -	1	April, 1810	1	-	2			
E. White - -	1	- 1808	1	1				
Squire Lea - -	1	- 1808	1	-	-	1		
James Foster - -	1	Jan. 1810	1	-	-	-	1	
Do - -	1	- 1813	1	-	-	-	2	Ousted by force, winter of 1813.
Heirs of John Suly -	1	April, 1803	-	2	-	-	-	Inhabited and cultivated from 1803 to 1807.
Do do -	1	- 1803	-	3	-	-	-	Cultivated from 1803 to 1807.
Daniel Rainer - -	1	- 1810	1	4	-	-	-	Never inhabited or cultivated.
Samuel Clark - -	1	- 1807	-	5				
John Chain - -	1	- 1803	-	6				
Evan Shelby - -	1	- 1776	-	-	2	-	-	Inhabited and cultivated 1 year.
Stephen Chinault -	1	- 1794	1	-	-	2		
Daniel Carney - -	1	- 1806	1	7				
Policarpe Rigills -	1	- 1805	-	8				
Philip Waltman -	1	- 1805	-	9	-	-	-	Compelled to leave it in 1808.
James Routen - -	1	- 1812	-	10				
Zachariah Nittles -	1	- 1807	1	-	-	3	-	Left it in 1810.
Theodore Richardson -	1	- 1803	-	11				

SUPPLEMENTARY LIST OF ACTUAL SETTLERS—Continued.

Person's names.	Number.	Date of settlement.	Number of claims by purchase.	Number of claims in Feliciana.	Number of claims in East Baton Rouge.	Number of claims in St. Helena.	Number of claims in St. Tammany.	General remarks.
John Crawford -	1	- 1804	-	-	-	4		
Rachel Dally - -	1	- 1804	-	12				
Thomas Young -	1	- 1804	-	-	3	-	-	Partially improved.
Thomas Young -	1	- 1811	1	-	4			
Archibald Palner -	1	- 1806	1	13				
H'y Bennett & A. Palner	1	- 1809	1	14	-	-	-	Never inhabited or cultivated.
Isaiah & Jona'n. Drigans	1	- 1811	1	-	-	-	3	
Joel Robertson - -	1	- 1803	1	15				
Andrew Hambleton -	1	- 1811	-	-	5	-	-	Partially improved.
John Kerr - -	1	- 1810	-	16	-	-	-	Do
Ralph Frazer - -	1	- 1800	-	17	-	-	-	Continued until 1808.
Samuel Kenner -	1	- 1814	-	18				
Elizabeth Jones -	1	- 1805	-	-	-	5	-	Only a few months.
Machael Jones - -	1	- 1812	-	-	-	-	4	Partially improved.
John Miller - -	1	- 1809	-	-	-	6		
Anthony Johnson -	1	- 1810	-	19	-	-	-	Occupied and cultivated in 1813.
John Calliham - -	1	- 1799	-	-	-	-	5	Occupied 1 year, viz. 1799.
William Phares -	1	- 1801	-	20	-	-	-	Dispossessed in 1805.
Thomas McKee -	1	- 1806	-	21				
James Foster - -	1	- 1810	1	-	-	-	6	
Same - -	1	- 1813	1	-	-	-	7	
William Connell -	1	- 1804	1	22				
William H. Collins -	1	- 1807	-	-	-	6	-	Cultivated only.
Henry McNeily, jr. -	1	Aug. 1810	-	23				
John Silser - -	1	- 1809	-	24	-	-	-	Inhabited & cultivated 1809 & '10.
William Drake - -	1	Aug. 1810	1	25	-	-	-	Cultivated but not inhabited.
David McElroy -	1	- 1804	1	-	-	7		
Samuel Lanear -	1	- 1806	1	-	-	8	-	A mill in occupation 2 years.
Joseph Price - -	1	- 1811	-	-	-	9		
Thomas H. Weeks -	1	- 1810	-	-	-	10	-	Partially improved only.
David Lea - -	1	- 1805	1	-	-	11	-	Discontinued in 1806.
Jesse West - -	1	- 1800	-	-	-	12		
William Strother -	1	- 1807	-	-	-	13	-	Partially improved only.
George Spiller - -	1	- 1810	-	-	-	14	-	Do do
Abner Womack -	1	- 1804	-	-	-	15		
John Knight - -	1	- 1808	1	-	-	16	-	Cultivated 2 years.
William Latimore -	1	- 1803	1	-	-	17		
A. Plumlie - -	1	- 1812	1	-	-	18	-	Partially improved only.
John S. Drigans -	1	- 1804	-	-	-	19		
Heirs of Nathan Dodge	1	- 1807	-	26	-	-	-	Discontinued in 1810.
Hugh Hossgood -	1	- 1807	-	27	-	-	-	Cultivated only.
John W. Leonard -	1	- 1809	1	-	-	20		
Wiley Lebitter -	1	- 1812	-	-	-	21		
William Chain - -	1	- 1810	-	-	-	-	8	
Charles Davis - -	1	- 1804	1	28				
Sampson P. Trummell -	1	- 1810	1	-	6	-	-	Cultivated one year.
John Trummell -	1	- 1810	1	-	7	-	-	Partially improved only.
John Trummell -	1	- 1810	-	-	8	-	-	Do do
Uriah McGran -	1	- 1810	1	29	-	-	-	Held by an adverse claimant.
Gordon T. Lenibrero -	1	Jan. 1810	-	30				
Heirs of John G. Herd	1	July, 1810	1	31	-	-	-	Partially improved only.
Jn. Wright & Bu. Barron	1	- 1805	1	-	-	-	9	
S. Hatch - -	1	- 1806	1	-	9	-	-	Cultivated only.
James Turner - -	1	- 1805	1	32				
Hannah Thomas -	1	- 1806	-	33				
P. A. Noland - -	1	- 1806	-	34	-	-	-	Partially improved only.
Solomon Morgan -	1	- 1801	-	35				
Thomas McKay -	1	- 1806	1	37				
F. Starnes - -	1	- 1811	1	-	-	22	-	Partially improved only.
Nancy Ryan - -	1	- 1811						
Nancy Ryan - -	1	- 1810						
Alexander Lea -	1	- 1811	-	-	-	-	10	Cultivated only.
William Brannon -	1	- 1813	-	38				
Joseph Thomas -	1	- 1809	-	-	-	50		
Thomas McClung -	1	- 1809	-	-	-	51		
Joseph Herd - -	1	- 1808	-	-	-	52		
Daniel McNeal - -	1	- 1809	-	-	-	53		
John L. Picou - -	1	- 1809	-	-	-	54		
Reuben Denham -	1	Oct. 1808	-	-	-	55		
Wm. & John Denham -	1	Aug. 1808	-	-	-	56		
Samuel Crowdson -	1	- 1814	-	-	-	57		
A. Thames - -	1	- 1805	1	-	13			
Kenneth McKae -	1	- 1813	1	51				
Wm. Lennan - -	1	- 1810	-	52				
D. Wooten - -	1	- 1812	-	53				
John Smith - -	1	- 1812	-	-	-	-	49	
Amos Donnelly -	1	- 1811	-	-	-	-	50	
James Voluntine -	1	- 1811	-	54				
Thomas Voluntine -	1	- 1813	-	55				
Thomas Cockerham -	1	- 1811	-	56				
Joshua Vining -	1	- 1812	-	57				
Philip Brashears -	1	- 1803	1	58				
Robert Tikell - -	1	- 1805	1	-	14			
J. B. Dinelle - -	1	- 1805	1	-	-	-	51	
George Packwood -	1	- 1810	-	-	-	58		

SUPPLEMENTARY LIST OF ACTUAL SETTLERS—Continued.

Persons' names.	Number.	Date of settlement.	Number of claims by purchase.	Number of claims in Feliciana.	Number of claims in East Baton Rouge.	Number of claims in St. Helena.	Number of claims in St. Tammany.	General remarks.
Absolom Dixon -	1	- 1810	-	-	15			
Matthew Tool - -	1	- 1811	1	59	-	-	-	One year, then dispossessed.
Robert M. Geilly -	1	- 1806	1	-	-	-	52	Partially improved only.
M. Hendry - -	1	- 1812	-	60				
James Phelps - -	1	- 1811	-	61	-	-	-	Cultivated only.
Brown & McDonough -	1	- 1802	1	-	-	59		
Samuel Moody - -	1	- 1809	-	62				
John Robertson -	1	- 1809	1	63				
Joseph Johnson -	1	- 1802	1	-	-	60	-	Dispossessed in 1809.
Isaac Johnson, jr. -	1	- 1801	-	-	-	61		
Same - -	1	- 1801	1	-	-	62		
John Calliham - -	1	- 1798	-	-	-	-	54	Continued in inhabitation and cultivation 1 year.
Cornelius Suly - -	1	- 1799	-	-	-	-	55	Inhabited and cultivated 1 year by Spanish permission.
Baley Chency - -	1	- 1800	1	64				

JAS. O. COSBY, *Commissioner.*

14th Congress. **No. 235.** 1st Session.

LAND CLAIMS IN THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE, JANUARY 19, 1816.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
18th January, 1816.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit, herewith, a report of the Commissioners appointed for the purpose of ascertaining and adjusting claims to land in the western district of the late territory of Orleans, now State of Louisiana; this report is in continuation of their report transmitted to Congress from this office, on the 21st June, 1813: their supplementary report is daily expected to arrive. [See No. 237.]

The claims marked B ought, in the opinion of the said Commissioners, to be confirmed. The claims marked C, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

The report embraces claims in the counties of Natchitoches, Opelousas and Attakapas; in the county first named there are six claims not marked B or C, and on those claims the Commissioners have declined to decide, for reasons given in the report.

I have the honor, &c.
JOSIAH MEIGS.

The HON. the PRESIDENT
Of the Senate of the United States.

REGISTER'S OFFICE,
Opelousas, May 26, 1815.

SIR: The board of Commissioners appointed for the purpose of ascertaining and adjusting claims to land in the western district of the late territory of Orleans, now State of Louisiana, closed their duties and made a final adjournment on the 11th of the current month; they have decided on three thousand one hundred and sixty-five claims, of which they have confirmed - - 2,278
And reported for the consideration of Congress - 887
3,165

The claims reported are within—

the county of Concordia -	240
the county of Washitta -	59
the county of Rapides -	184
the county of Natchitoches -	79
the county of Opelousas -	132
the county of Attakapas -	142

Supplemental report embracing claims in—

the county of Attakapas	20	
the county of Opelousas	8	
the county of Rapides	8	
the county of Natchitoches	12	
the county of Washitta	2	
the county of Concordia	1	
	—	51
		887

The report on claims in the counties of Concordia, Washitta, and Rapides, have been transmitted to the Treasury Department for the consideration of Congress; the report on claims in the county of Natchitoches, you will receive herewith, those on claims in the counties of Opelousas and Attakapas, by the two mails succeeding the one by which this will be transmitted, and the supplemental report, as soon as it shall be transcribed. The claims embraced by the supplemental report are such as were postponed at the time of making our former reports, from the expectation that we should derive such information from oral testimony, or surveys of the lands, as would authorize their confirmation.

Some of them are for lands so subject to inundation as to render the surveying of them difficult, if not impracticable, at most seasons. Those in the county Natchitoches are principally for lots in the village of Natchitoches, where, from controversies between the proprietors, they seem reluctant to have them surveyed.

The certified extract from the minutes of the board of Commissioners at their dissolution is enclosed, to establish their claim to draw for the five hundred dollars to which each Commissioner and Clerk is entitled by law, on the completion of the business assigned to them.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect, sir,
Your obedient servant,
LEVIN WAILES.

HON. JOSIAH MEIGS,
Com. Gen. Land Office,
Treasury Department.

LAND OFFICE, WESTERN DISTRICT,
State of Louisiana, May 4, 1815.

To the Honorable Commissioner of the General Land Office in the Treasury Department of the United States.

The undersigned, Commissioners appointed for the purpose of ascertaining the rights of persons to lands within the district aforesaid, have the honor to report in continuation, the following list of claims to land within the county of Natchitoches, classing the same agreeably to the order observed in their report made on the 16th of October, 1812, of claims in the county of Concordia, to which they beg leave to refer. [See Vol. II. No. 217.]

Claims to Land in the County of Natchitoches.

Reported No.	Register's No.	By whom claimed.	Original proprietor or claimant.	Quantity claimed.	Nature and date of the title or claim.	Class.
1	98	John Adley	Not mentioned	160 acres	Not mentioned	C.
2		John Adley	John Adley	600 arpens	Spanish concession	C.
3	127	John B'te Anty	Not mentioned	Not mentioned	Possession and occupancy	C.
4	1	William Ash	Not mentioned	640	Settlement	C.
5	2	Joseph Maria Armand	Joseph Maria Armand	Unknown	Spanish concession	C.
6	D. 160	Hypolite Bourdelin	Dehuste, an Indian	843 acres	Purchased from an Ind. in 1790	C.
7	3	John Burnet	John Cuyerrier	620.75 do	Settlement by permission	C.
8	261	François Bossié	François Bossié	237 arpens	Use of the timber	C.
9	88	Mary, Ruth, Booker, and Wm. Etridge	Antoine Booker	One league square	Grant	C.
10	132	Placide Bossié	Placide Bossié	312 acres	Spanish usages	C.
11	2	Sylvester Bossié	Sylvester Bossié	800 arpens	Order of survey	B.
12		Louis Godfroy Belhumeur	Pierre Gagnier	560 do	Spanish title, dated 21 Ap. 1792	C.
13		David Case	Maria Antoine	800 do	Order of survey	B.
14	47	Alexis Cloutier	Alexis Cloutier	640 acres	Settlement	C.
15	223	Pierre Cheletre	Joseph Maes	Not ascertained	Spanish patent, dated in 1794	C.
16	4	Samuel Coburn	Antoine Lenoir	585.40 acres	Settlement by permission	C.
17	21	Louis Cleaseau	Louis Cleaseau	215 do	Spanish grant	C.
18	161	David Case	Widow St. Denis	480 arpens	Not mentioned	C.
19	54	Louis Cuyerrier	Antoine Poisot	640 acres	Settlement	C.
20	184	François Dubois	Nicholas Mercier	280 arpens	Grant	C.
21		Wm. Duncan & Alex. Bailie	Marsel de Soto	5,890 acres	Order of survey in 1763	B.
22	143	Louis Fostin	Not mentioned	3.2 do	Settlement	C.
23		Benj. Goodin & Alex. Bailie	Joseph Petit	480 arpens	Order of survey	B.
24		Do do	Baptiste Migneron	585.40 acres	Not mentioned	C.
25		Do do	A. Lenoir and M. Rombar	640 do	Settlement	C.
26		Antoine Grillet	Marin Grillet	280 do	Spanish grant, 16 May, 1794	B.
27		Maria Louisia Grillet	Marin Grillet	280 do	Spanish grant, 16 May, 1794	B.
28	89	Genevieve Gone	Not known	146.57 do	Not mentioned	C.
29		Francois Grappe	Cajadet, an Indian	8,296 arpens	Purchase from Indians	B.
30		Pierre Gagnier	John Sohano, a Christian Indian	213.13	Purchase and settlement	C.
31	265	Antoine Grillet	François Le Vassure	280 arpens	Grant	B.
32	264	Antoine Grillet	Dubois	54.99 acres	Settlement	C.
33	74	Antoine Hymel	Widow Hymel	718.50 do	Grant, dated 24 May, 1796	B.
34	107	Nicholas Lauve	Not mentioned	Lot, village Natchitoches	Not mentioned	C.
35	76	Thomas M. Leonard	Etienne Duget	640 acres	Settlement	C.
36	1	Pierre Joseph Maes	Widow Dartigaux	Not ascertained	Grant, dated 16 May, 1794	C.
37	1	Pierre Joseph Maes	Pierre Joseph Maes	Not ascertained	Grant, dated in 1794	C.
38		Edward M'Laughlin	Joseph Procello	400 acres	Settlement	C.
39		Maria Lousia Marriotte	Antoine Bergeon	160 arpens	Settlement	C.
40	60	Bertrand Ma lloux	Santeago Faure	723 do	Spanish grant, 27 March, 1795	B.
41	18	Pierre Mailloux	Not mentioned	46.77 acres	Settlement	C.
42	155	Maria Jean, free negress	Joseph Bissounet	400 arpens	Not mentioned	C.
43	13	Pierre Metoyer	Widow Alorge	Not ascertained	Purchased 15 February, 1778	C.
44		Pierre Metoyer	Daniel Pain	Not ascertained	Purchased 7 June, 1771	C.
45		Heirs of James Morrison	James Morrison	8,944.38 arpens	Spanish grant, 12 June, 1790	C.
46		Edward Murphey & others	Edward Murphey	4 leagues square	Spanish grant, 1 July, 1798.	
47		Edward Murphey	Edward Murphey	2,222.84 acres	Spanish grant, 18 Oct., 1791.	
48		Edward Murphey	John Quingelty	4 leagues square	Spanish grant.	
49		Edward Murphey & others	Jacinto Mora	6 leagues square	Spanish grant, 14 Nov. 1795.	
50		Edward Murphey	Not mentioned	727 acres	Spanish grant	C.
51		Augustin Mettoyer	William Le Brem	200 arpens	Order of survey, 8 June, 1797	B.
52		John Nicholls	William Soderlin	700 acres	Complete title, in June, 1798	B.
53		Joseph Piernass	Jacinta Mora	26,280 arpens	Spanish grant.	
54		Margaret B. Prudhomme	Antoine St. Denis	Not known	Not known	C.
55		Theresa Mallette	Not mentioned	A league square	Grant which has been lost	B.
56		Maria Louise Porter	Not mentioned	10 acres front	Settlement	C.
57		Antoine Prudhomme	Jaques Le Vasseur	59 acres	Grant dated 24 May, 1796	C.
58		John B'te Piedfirm	A. Lenoir and J. B. Larenadier	1,600 arpens	Not mentioned	C.
59		John B'te Piedfirm	Antoine Lenoir	800 arpens	Not mentioned	C.
60		Charles Paire	Not mentioned	Lot in Natchitoches	Occupancy	C.
61		Charles Paire	Athanaze Lecour	800 arpens	Order of survey, 18 April, 1789	B.
62		Charles Paire	John B'te Dartigaux	640 do	Order of survey, 13 Mar. 1797	B.
63		Maria Louise Porter	John B'te Dartigaux	2 leagues square	Spanish grant, 31 July, 1797	
64		François Roquier, sen.	François Roquier, sen.	400 arpens	Grant dated 22 August, 1796	B.
65		Louis B. Rachel	Jaques Le Vasseur	59 acres	Grant dated 24 May, 1796	C.
66		Andre Rambin	Ignace Mailloux	259.51 do	Order of survey	C.
67		Andre Rambin	Cayacaille, an Indian and his wife	Not ascertained	Purchase from Indians	C.
68		Andre Rambin	The Chavallier Poiret	Lot in Natchitoches	Not mentioned	C.
69		Louis Barthelemy Rachel	Not mentioned	An island	Not mentioned	B.

CLAIMS IN NATCHITOCHES—Continued.

Reported No.	Register's No.	By whom claimed.	Original proprietor or claimant.	Quantity claimed.	Nature and date of the title	Class.
70		Barthelemy Rachel -	Not mentioned - -	Not known -	Spanish grant, 27 March, 1791	C.
71		Madam B. Rachel -	Louis Totin - -	Not ascertained -	Spanish grant - -	C.
72		Louis Simeon Rachel -	Not mentioned - -	92.50 acres -	Not mentioned - -	C.
73		Pierre Rousseau -	Pierre Rousseau -	1,600 arpens -	Order of survey, 12 July, 1786	B.
74		John Sibley - -	Not mentioned - -	640 acres -	Settlement - - -	C.
75		John Sibley - -	Not mentioned - -	Not ascertained -	Not mentioned - -	C.
76		Felix Trudeau - -	Not mentioned - -	640 acres -	Settlement - - -	B.
77		Edward D. Turner -	Nicholas Lauve and wife	730 arpens -	Occupancy - - -	C.
78		Ed. Teal, A. Downey, & P. Sydec - -	Not mentioned - -	640 acres -	Settlement - - -	C.
79		Noble Wilkins - -	Noble Wilkins - -	Not known -	Order of survey, 6 May, 1795	B.

REMARKS ON THE FOREGOING LIST OF LAND CLAIMS, WITH REFERENCES TO THE REPORTED NUMBERS.

No. 1. John Adley, one hundred and sixty acres on Red river. No evidence to establish a title to this claim has been adduced. The tract claimed is believed to be embraced by a confirmation to Thomas M. Lennard, certificate B, No. 2,117. This claim, therefore, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 2. John Adley. This claim is for fifteen arpens front, by the depth of forty arpens on Red river, and appears to be a duplicate entry for a tract of which the title has been confirmed by Commissioners' certificate B, No. 2,132. This ought not to be confirmed.

No. 3. John Baptiste Anty. This claim is for two acres on each side of Red river, the depth not mentioned. No proof or other evidence of title has been adduced in support of the claim. Supposed to be confirmed to Remy Lambert.

No. 4. William Ash, six hundred and forty acres, claimed under settlement, on the east side of the Sabine. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any evidence of title, and, therefore, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 5. Joseph Maria Armand claims the "land on which the ancient village or settlement called Adaize was situate, bounded westwardly by the bayou Adaize, eastwardly by the bayou Le Gleese, and extending up and down said bayous, two leagues." The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any evidence of title, and ought not to be confirmed.

No. 6. Hypolite Bordelin. This claim is for a tract of land of about four arpens and eight poles, in front on each side of Red river, with all the depth thereunto belonging, and claimed under a purchase from an Indian Chief of the Natchitoches village, by deed, bearing date the 23d June, 1808, for the price and sum of eighty dollars. The following is a translation, in substance, of a document filed with a notice of the claim. Louis C. De Blane, Commandant of the Post of Natchitoches, &c. In consequence of the death of Tomoc, chief of the Natchitoches nation of Indians, and finding that the said Indians are now inhabiting land not belonging to them, in the settled parts of this post, I grant to them, subject to the will of the Governor, Don Esteven Miro, twenty arpens of land on each side of Red river, at a place called Lac De Meures, about ten leagues above the post of Natchitoches. October 3, 1790.

LOUIS C. DE BLANE.

Bertrand Pleasance, before the Board, the 24th January, 1812, hath deposed "that the land claimed has been inhabited and cultivated for eighteen consecutive years, immediately preceding the present date, by Dehuste and the present claimant." Gaspard Boudin, on the 21st October, 1812, hath deposed "that the said tract was the property of the claimant twelve years ago; and that he, the deponent, was, for that time, residing for the claimant on that land, which was cultivated ever since, and sometime before." The evidence of François Grapp, taken without commission from the Board, before John C. Carr, then Parish Judge of Natchitoches, the 19th July, 1812, has been filed in the claim, and translated, is as follows: "That the said Grapp was called about seven years ago, by the Indian tribe Natchitoches, to be interpreter for them in making a sale of a portion of the land granted to them by the Spanish Government, on Lake de Mure, above Compte, to erect their village, and that, to his knowledge, the said portion of land was then adjudged to Hypolite Bordelin, for ninety dollars, by consent of all the Indians; which sum of ninety dollars was paid down by said Bordelin." The Indians had only a provisional grant of the land claimed from the Commandant. No evidence has been adduced, of the ratification of the title, by any Governor of Louisiana. Even if their title was valid, the land was purchased from them at a time when laws of the United States, then in force in Louisiana, forbade such purchases. The claimant can have no pretension to a right from occupancy; his occupancy could not have commenced previous to the purchase, and the occupancy of the Indians could vest no right in a person to whom they could not legally sell. The claim, therefore, in the opinion of the Board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 7. John Burnet, six hundred and twenty and seventy-five hundredths acres. The notice of this claim is accompanied with a deed of conveyance from Louis Cuyerrier, to the claimant, dated 8th October, 1804, and a plat of survey, by an authorized surveyor, dated 14th February, 1806, from which survey it appears that 504 thirty-eight-one-hundredth acres of the land claimed, is within the claim of the heirs of James Morrison, deceased. No other document of title has been adduced. The depositions of Placide Bossie, Sylvestre Bossie, and François Perot, and Alexis Cloutier, taken before Judge Carr, of Natchitoches, the 9th October, 1811, by commission from the Board, are as follows: Placide Bossie hath deposed "that, in December, 1803, Louis Cuyerrier was in possession of a tract of land, situate on the left hand side of the bayou saline, in ascending the same: that the said Louis had inhabited, and cultivated the same many years previous to the said epoch, and that this deponent heard the Commandant of the post of Natchitoches, give to the said Louis permission to establish the said land." Sylvestre Bossie hath deposed "that Louis Cuyerrier established the tract of land on which the salt wells of Mr. Burnet are now situate, about eighteen or twenty years ago; and that he remained thereon seven or eight years to the best of the knowledge of this deponent." François Perot hath deposed "that, in the year 1794, the Commandant of the post of Natchitoches, for the time being, (Mr. De Blane,) directed the deponent to mark out a piece of land for Louis Cuyerrier, to include a lick and salt well, which the said Cuyerrier had then made; and that this deponent marked out the land, and put the said Louis in possession thereof, the said saline situate on the left side of bayou saline, in ascending the same—the grand saline, or the public saline, being on the right thereof." Alexis Cloutier hath deposed "that between sixteen or seventeen years ago, he was at the saline, and saw Louis Cuyerrier at work, making salt: that the said Louis had a house, and a small crop of corn, pumpkins, &c.: that the deponent believes that the said Louis, from all appearances, might have been three or four years established at said place, previous to the epoch above alluded to. This deponent cannot tell how long the said Louis remained thereon since that time. The claimant has exhibited no document of title from the former Government of Louisiana. The donation from the United States, to actual occupants, does not extend to a claim embracing a salt spring." This, therefore, in the opinion of the Board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 8. François Bossier, two hundred and thirty-seven arpens on the river of the Black Lake. The claimant

sets forth, in his notice, that he has taken his wood from the land claimed, since 1794, and claims the land in consequence of having made such use of it. No document of title, or proof of occupancy, has been offered in support of the claim. One claim, under a title to François Bossier, has been confirmed by certificate B, No. 220; and this, in the opinion of the Board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 9. Mary, Routh, Booker, and William Etridge, claims one league square, under a title said to have been made to Antoine Booker. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any evidence of title, and, in the opinion of the Board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 10. Placide Bossier, three hundred and twelve acres on Red river. This claim is founded on occupancy, but no evidence has been offered in support of it. A plat of survey, by an authorized surveyor, dated 29th December, 1806, is the only document accompanying the notice. The claim ought not to be confirmed.

No. 11. Sylvester Bossier, eight hundred arpens. This claim is held under an order of survey, of the usual form and conditions, and bearing date, 18th April, 1789. Joseph Lamber, before the Board, the 23d February, 1813, hath deposed, "that the land was always known by him, and every other person that he spoke with on this subject, to be the property of the claimant: that he had every opportunity to know it, as he has been constantly residing in the quarter where the land lies, where he was born and raised, being now aged thirty-two years." Joseph Touzin, before John C. Carr, then Parish Judge of Natchitoches, the 9th September, 1811, commissioned by the Board to take his evidence, hath deposed, "that he recollects very distinctly that Sylvester Bossier was living upon the tract of land granted to said Bossier by the concession, (above mentioned,) sometime in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight; and that the said Bossier was then occupied in clearing said land by his slaves." The deponent says the said land is situate on the bayou plat, in the parish aforesaid. Louis Metoyer, by his attorney, has made known to the Board that the said Louis Metoyer claims the land in question, under an order of survey, dated 18th May, 1796, and that the said Louis has complied with the requisitions of the Spanish Government, in perfecting his title, except in having the land surveyed, which could not be done on account of the then surveyor of the post having become blind, &c. There has also been filed with the notice of the claim, a certificate by John Bte. Paillett, calling himself surveyor of the District of Natchitoches, dated 11th June, 1815, and setting forth that he had, at the request of Sylvester Bossier, surveyed the land claimed by said Bossier, according to his concession, dated 18th April, 1789, in presence of the adjoining neighbors, who made no objections thereto: but they found on the land Louis Metoyer, a free man of color, who said he considered himself as having an equal right to said land. A letter from Louis C. De Blane, justice of peace in Attacapas, to the judge of Natchitoches, of which the following is a translation, has been filed: That, having been Commandant of Natchitoches, gives the judge information that there is in his office a file containing several requettes for land, which has been remitted to the domain by several inhabitants; among others, one of S. Bossiers, who, in relinquishing his, said to me that the land was not worth the expense of the half of a bridge he should have to make on bayou plat, his limit. The said land was afterwards granted to Louis Metoyer, a free mulattoe, who has been for several years in peaceable possession of the same. I swear on my religion, my conscience, and my honor, that this declaration is true; that you may be on your guard against those who now wish to claim those titles, to make an unjust use of them, having lost all right to them, not only by their reunion to the domain, the same land having been granted to others, but because they have not complied with the words of the decree, as the law directs. June 20, 1805. Another letter from M. De Blane to Pierre Metoyer, on the same subject, and of the same date, is likewise filed with the notice. The original petition of Bossier, for the land in question, together with the order of survey, having been adduced, and filed with the notice, and there appearing no written abandonment of title, the undersigned commissioners are of opinion, that the claim of the said Bossier ought to be confirmed, leaving the question of right between the adverse claimants for their own adjustment, or to be determined by course of law.

No. 12. Lewis Godfroy Belhumer, five hundred and sixty arpens. The original claim, of which this title is a part, having been confirmed to the grantee, Pierre Gagnier, by Commissioners' certificate B, No. 1791, it is deemed unnecessary to notice the documents filed in the claim, which ought not to be confirmed.

No. 13. David Case. This claim is founded on an order of survey to Mary Antoine, for ten arpens, front with the ordinary depth, if found on each side of the river of Cannes, at a place called St. Morris, &c. The order of survey, dated 12th May, 1792, of the usual form, and on the usual conditions, is filed with the notice of the claim. No proof of occupancy has been offered, nor any deed of conveyance from the original claimant adduced; presuming, however, that such a conveyance may have been made, and considering it to be such a claim as would have been valid under the usages of the Spanish Government. The confirmation is recommended.

No. 14. Alexis Cloutier, six hundred and forty acres, claimed by settlement. Baptiste Rachel, before the Board, 16th November, 1811, hath deposed "that the land claimed has been inhabited and cultivated for these last thirteen years." No other evidence of title has been offered, and the claimant having one claim, of which he is the original proprietor, confirmed to him by commissioners' certificate B, No. 1701. This is not embraced by the provisions of any act of Congress, and, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 15. Pierre Cheletre. This claim is for part of a tract of land, the title to which has already been confirmed to the grantee by certificate A, No. 1733. This claim, therefore, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 16. Samuel Coburn, 585 40-100th acres, including two salt wells on the right bank of Bayou saline. With the notice of this claim are filed a deed of conveyance for six hundred and forty acres from Antoine Lenoir to Samuel Coburn, and witnessed by Ger. M. Tier and John Burnet, under date, 21st October, 1805, and acknowledged before John Sibly, justice of the peace, the 17th February, 1806, and not appearing to have been recorded. Also a plat of survey, by an authorized surveyor, dated February, 1806, embracing the quantity of 585 40-100th acres, of which quantity 292 80-100th acres appears to be within the claim of the heirs of James Morrison, deceased. No other evidence of title has been adduced, and no proof of occupancy. Goodin & Bailey claim 640 acres, by purchase from Antoine Lenoir, supposed to be the same land—see report, &c., No. 25—embracing a salt spring, is not within the provisions of any law of the United States, and, therefore, in the opinion of the Board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 17. Louis Clauseau, two hundred and fifteen acres, claimed under a Spanish grant. The notice is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, and it is believed the claim is for the same tract of which the title has been confirmed to the claimant, by certificate A, No. 1,647, under another entry; consequently this claim ought not to be confirmed.

No. 18. David Case, 480 arpens. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, and ought not to be confirmed.

No. 19. Louis Cuyerrier, 640 acres, claimed under settlement. A plat of survey, dated 1806, is the only document filed with the notice, and no proof of occupancy adduced. It is supposed that a part, if not the whole of the claim, is within that of the heirs of James Morrison, deceased. The claim, in the opinion of the Board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 20. François Dubois, 280 arpens. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document, or evidence of title, and is believed to be for the same tract of which the title has been confirmed by the certificate of the Commissioners, marked B, No. 2,203. This claim ought not to be confirmed.

No. 21. William Duncan and Alexander Baillie, 5,890 acres, claimed under a title to Marcel de Soto. The following document accompanies the notice of this claim, a raquette of which the following is a translation:

To Monsieur Chevalier De Villier, Captain Commandant, &c., for the King, at the post of Natchitoches, humbly supplicates Madam Maria de St. Denis, wife of Mr. Manuel de Soto, saying that, wishing to form an establishment for herself and successors, if it please you, sir, to accord her, on her ordinary depth, a piece of land named the Laurel, between two little bayous, which run out of the Quesechase, above that which is cultivated by the name Goutier for cultivation, and as much land on this side of the said Bayou, to establish a vacheré. The supplicant desires to work there at the present time. Natchitoches, 11th September, 1769.

MARIA DE ST. DENIS.

From the above petition we have accorded, on the ordinary depth, to the aforesaid Madam de St. Denis

Soto, the land which she demands as much for to make a crop as to establish a vacheré. In testimony of which, we have signed at Natchitoehes, 12th September, 1769.

LE CHER DE VILLIER.

On the back of the requette, are the following endorsements, without date: "I assign the within requette to François Perault, value received." Marcel de Soto. "Pass to Fulsom." François Perault.

A deed of sale passed before Edward D. Turner, Esq. one of the justices of the peace of the county of Natchitoehes, the 14th July, 1806, by which, for the consideration of one thousand dollars, Ebenezer Fulsom conveys the land, agreeably to the requette of Chevalier de Villier, to Alexander Baillie and William Duncan, reserving one thousand acres conditionally sold to Josiah S. Johnson. Following the deed of conveyance, and on the same paper, is a short mortgage of the premises, by Ballie & Duncan to Edward Murphy & Co., dated the same 14th day of July, 1806, and executed before private witnesses, to secure to the said Edward Murphy & Co. the payment of the sum of one thousand dollars. The Commissioners have examined the requette, and Commandant's certificate, which appear to them to be authentic documents. The deed of conveyance and mortgage appear to be copies unauthenticated. It would seem, from the notice, that the claimants have supposed themselves entitled to the quantity contained in a league square measure of Paris. It should be noticed, however, that no area is specified in the original documents under which they claim. No evidence of occupancy has been addueed, and, with papers so vague, the undersigned must report this as a claim which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed for the quantity claimed. They recommend the confirmation to the extent of six hundred and forty acres only.

No. 22. Louis Fostin, three and two-hundredths acres, claimed by settlement. A plat of survey, dated 1807, is the only document accompanying the notice of the claim. No proof has been offered. The claim, therefore, in the opinion of the Board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 23. Benjamin Goodin and Alexander Baillie, 480 arpens on the bayou saline, claimed under an order of survey to Joseph Petit. With the notice of this claim is filed the petition of Joseph Petit, addressed to Felix Trudeau, then Commandant of Natchitoches, for a grant of land of twelve arpens front by forty arpens of depth, at a place called the bayou of the saline, that he may render it valuable to himself, and promote the interest of his Majesty. Natchitoches, January 17, 1798.

4th February, 1798.—Felix Trudeau, as Commandant of Natchitoches, certifies that no objections are known by him to exist to granting the request of the petitioner. The order of survey, bearing date in New Orleans, 5th March, 1798, under the signature of Emanuel Gayoso, and conceding the land conformably to the said petition, and on the usual conditions of cutting the roads, making levies, &c., is annexed to the said petition. A plat of survey, by an authorized surveyor, dated 1806, is filed, but is not in conformity with the usual mode of laying out lands under the Spanish Government, held under such titles. A greater extent of front on the bayou has been given, than the title would embrace, and not giving the depth required. It may be remarked, too, that the survey should, perhaps, have been confined to one side of the bayou, and not have extended to both sides as has been done. The whole of the claim appears to be within that of the heirs of James Morrison, deceased, and 142 acres is covered by that of Samuel Coburn, reported under No. 16. A receipt, dated 28th February, 1806, for the deed of conveyance from Joseph Petit, taken out of the claim by Alexander Baillie, is also filed with the notice. The deposition of Baptiste Migneron, taken in the claim, before Judge Carr, of Natchitoches, the 15th May, 1812, by commission from the Board, is as follows: "That Joseph Petit, in the year 1798, settled on, and cultivated the said land; that he resided thereon for upwards of five years, and sold the same to Goodin & Baillie; and that the said land was actually inhabited and cultivated the 20th day of December, 1803. The said witness, Baptiste Migneron, before the said Judge Carr, (then not in office,) and John Sibly, justice of peace, the 26th November, 1812, and being requested to give such information as he might be in possession of, respecting the above claim, and some others on the bayou saline, hath deposed "that Joseph Petit lived at the saline about eighteen years ago, and made salt thereon, and continued to reside thereon, and to make salt for at least six years thereafter; and that about eighteen years ago, Mr. Lenoir, commonly called Leston, resided on the land opposite the land claimed by Petit, on the bayou saline; that he built a house thereon, and resided there, to his knowledge, near one year at one time; and that he saw him making salt there in the fall of several years afterwards: that Mr. Petit was living on the land claimed on the right bank of the bayou saline, during the year 1803, and in the fall and winter particularly; and that Lenoir was living, during the same year, opposite; and, in the fall of 1803, and winter following, the deponent saw both Petit and Lenoir making salt on their respective places—but he cannot say particularly with regard to the occupation—on the 20th day of December, 1803; but believes they were there on that day. The deponent further states that, during all that time, from the begining of the establishment until the change of Government, Mr. Petit kept his stock of cattle on his vacheré, near the saline, particularly during the year 1803." The concession to Petit, appears to have been made with the usual conditions to be performed by grantees, and the evidence has established very satisfactorily the performance of these conditions. The Commissioners have no power to confirm the claim, because of its embracing a salt spring, but believing it to be such a one as would have been valid under the Spanish Government, recommend its confirmation, not according to the plat, but agreeably to the concession with which the survey seems to be at variance, taking a much greater front than was conceded.

No. 24. Benjamin Goodin and Alexander Baillie, 585 40-100th acres on bayou saline. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a plat of survey, dated 1806, by which it appears that 292 60-100th acres of the claim is within that of the heirs of James Morrison, and 142 acres within another claim of the said Goodin & Baillie. A deed of conveyance from Baptiste Migneron to the said claimants, dated 17th May, 1805, by which the said Migneron conveys his right to a certain saline called Bardash, with the buildings and improvements thereon, is also filed. Remy Perot, before Judge Carr, of Natchitoches, the 14th June, 1812, hath deposed "that about thirteen or fourteen years ago, Antoine Lenoir, with his wife, and a child he had brought up, inhabited a tract of land on the right hand side of said bayou saline, in descending the same; but the deponent doth not know how long said Antoine resided thereon. Deponent says that about the same time, viz. thirteen or fourteen years ago, Joseph Petit inhabited and cultivated a tract of land on the left hand side of the said bayou, nearly opposite to the first mentioned tract, and who resided upon, and cultivated the same four or five years consecutively from that time—and further saith not. No other evidence has been offered in support of the claim. It may be proper to remark, that the claim under consideration, (as appears from the plat,) is situated on the right bank of the bayou saline. The witness hath stated that the said Antoine Lenoir, about the years 1798 and 1799, inhabited a tract of land on that side of the bayou saline, but could not say how long he resided there, nor is it established that his residence was on the tract claimed. It will be seen, also, that Migneron has only conveyed his right to the saline called Bardash, with the buildings and improvements, without having mentioned any quantity of land. The undersigned Commissioners are, therefore, of opinion, that it is such a claim as ought not to be confirmed, and report it accordingly.

No. 25. Benjamin Goodin and Alexander Baillie claim 640 acres on bayou saline, by assignment from Antoine Lenoir. With the notice of this claim are filed a plat of survey, dated in 1806, and an assignment from Antoine Lenoir, in the following words:

"We, by these presents, doth certify that myself and Michael Rombar improved and cultivated a place and Saleen, on the Saleen Bayou, by the consent of the then Commandant, in the year 1799, and we, for a consideration, doth relinquish all our rights and titles to Benjamin Goodin, 3d November, 1805.

ANTOINE LENOIR, his mark."

No other evidence of title has been adduced, although the claimants have set up a claim for 640 acres of land, under the transfer from Lenoir. It will be seen, from the above assignment, that no quantity was mentioned by the original claimant. The transfer is very informal, not even having been attested by any witness. One claim of 800 arpens, of which Antoine Lenoir is the original claimant, has been confirmed by Commissioners' certificate B, No. 1,884. The undersigned Commissioners are of opinion that this claim ought not to be confirmed.

No. 26. Antoine Grillet, 280 arpens, claimed under a grant to Marin Grillet. A deed of gift from the widow Mary Louise Grillet to her son, the claimant, dated 9th April, 1805, is the only document accompanying the notice of this claim. On the abstract of complete titles one is found which corresponds in name, quantity,

and date, with the claim under consideration, and the next following claim, each being for a moiety of the grant to Marin Grillet, under a belief that this claim is held under a complete title, as above mentioned. The confirmation is recommended, and the claim only reported for the want of the title to enable the Commissioners to describe its situation and boundaries according to the patent.

No. 27. Maria Louise Grillet, 280 arpens, being the other moiety, or half part of the grant to Marin Grillet, as mentioned in the claim next preceding this. The claim is reported, and the confirmation recommended for the same reasons as expressed in No. 26. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document.

No. 28. Genevieve Grillet, 146 57-100th acres, having five arpens front, with the depth of twenty-five, and claimed under a purchase from Antoine Prudhomme. The notice of the claim is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, except a plat of survey dated in 1806. The claim, in the opinion of the Board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 29. François Grapp claims a tract of land on Lake Bestiano, under a purchase from Cahada, an Indian. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a plat not signed by any surveyor; a certificate, by John Paul Badin, stating that the said Badin was employed by the claimant to make an improvement on the land claimed, and that he resided on the land three years before 1790: that he heard, from the Indians, that the claimant purchased the land three years previous to that time, (1790,) from an Indian called Cajadet. This certificate bears date 14th September, 1806. Another certificate of Louis C. de Blane, dated 5th October, 1806, in Attacapas, stating that, in the year 1788, when he was Commandant of Natchitoches, the Indian of the Cado tribe, called Cajade, came before him, and declared to have sold to François Grapp a tract of land, which was known by his nation to have been his property, by inheritance, from his ancestors; and which had been inhabited and cultivated by him and them at a place called Lake Bastiano, on the east side of Red river, on the road from Compte to the little Cado village: that he had received pay from the purchaser, and relinquished his right and claim to the said land. The affidavit of François Durcey, taken before Judge Carr, of Natchitoches, the 4th March, 1812, stating that the deponent was present when the surveyor, Mr. Cook, attempted to survey the land in question, and that Mr. Cook told him he could not run out the depth from the lake on account of high water. Barthelemy Rachel, before the Board, 22d January, 1812, hath deposed "that the tract of land has been inhabited and cultivated for more than twenty consecutive years immediately preceding this date." The undersigned Commissioners refer to their report of claims in the county of Opelousas. From the investigation of the Indian title in No. 1, of that report, it will be seen, that the ratification by the Government of the Province, was necessary to the validity of any sale from an Indian or tribe of Indians, except from those denominated Christians. The claimant, in this case, has not only failed to show any ratification of his purchase, but has not even established satisfactorily a sale from the Indians. A plat of survey, by William B. Jackson, a deputy surveyor, dated 12th December, 1813, has been lately filed in this claim. This plat represents the land as lying nearly in form of a parallelogram, stretching in a direction nearly parallel to the general course of the lake on the east side, for upwards of seven and a half miles, and taking in an area of 5,716 acres. In the opinion of Commissioners there is nothing in any document filed that could authorize a survey for such a quantity, or in such a form. The claimant does not prove that, "within the ascertained boundaries of the tract claimed" by him, a quantity equal to two thousand acres is included; otherwise under the second section of the act of the 3d of March, 1807, his occupancy might have entitled him to the confirmation of his claim to that extent. Nevertheless, the length of time which this tract of land appears to have been in the possession and occupancy of the claimant, and the general understanding that vacheré claims are seldom for a less quantity than two thousand acres, induce the Commissioners to recommend the confirmation to that extent, either in an oblong to embrace the buildings and other improvements at the vacheré, and extend thence towards the lake, or in a square, if the claimant shall prefer it in that form.

No. 30. Pierre Gagnier, 213 13-100th acres, claimed under a purchase from John Sohana, an Indian, with settlement, &c. The notice of the claim is accompanied by a plat of survey dated in 1806, embracing 42 20-100th acres on the left, and 168 93-100th acres on the right bank of Red river; and a deed of conveyance from the said Sohano to Pierre Gagnier, dated 26th September, 1804, for two arpens and a half, and twelve feet front, with the ordinary depth on the right bank of Red river, at a place called Lak Aux Mures, and four arpens front by the ordinary depth, on the left bank of said river. Pierre Elie, before the Board, 15th June, 1812, hath deposed "that the land claimed has been inhabited more than twenty years by John Sohano, a civilized or Christian Indian, and other Indians of the Natchitoches village, and those claiming under the said John Sohano. No evidence has been offered to establish that John Sohano was of that class of Indians denominated Christian, under the Spanish Government, by which he might have been entitled to the privilege of holding and conveying land in his own right. The oral testimony, which has been adduced, has not been deemed sufficient to establish that fact. The confirmation of the claim cannot, therefore, be recommended.

No. 31. Antoine Grillet claims seven arpens front, with forty arpens in depth, on both sides of Red river. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a deed of conveyance from François Le Vasseur, dated 26th February, 1790, setting forth that the land had been conceded to the seller by a title from Estevan Miro, then Governor of Louisiana, the 18th January, 1787. In the deed the land is described as lying about five leagues below Natchitoches, on both sides of the river, bounded above by the said François Le Vasseur, and below by John Louis Verchier. This deed appears to have been executed with all the necessary formalities, before the Commandant of the District, is found on the records of the Parish of Natchitoches, and contains a reference to the concession from the Spanish Government to François Le Vasseur. This is strong presumptive evidence that such a grant did exist. Not being found on the abstract of complete patents, it is presumable it was what was usually termed Primere Concession, (order of survey,) which were seldom recorded. No evidence of occupancy has been adduced, and the Commissioners cannot, therefore, confirm the claim: But, as from the early date of the concession, the formal sale passed before the Commandant, and the particular description of the land, they can entertain no doubt of the conditions on which the completion of the title depended, having been performed. They are of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 32. Antoine Grillet, 54 99-100th acres, claimed under different conveyances and occupancy. A plat of survey, dated in 1806, is the only document filed with the notice. Bertrand Plaisance, before the Board, 24th January, 1812, hath deposed "that, from his earliest recollection, (being more than thirty years,) the land claimed has been constantly inhabited and cultivated, first, by a person named Dubois, who, as the deponent supposes, sold to a Mr. Pin, through whom, and Madam Mongenot, it has been transferred to the present claimant." This claim is supposed to be embraced by the confirmation to François Dubois, by certificate B, No. 1,669, and, therefore, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 33. Antoine Hymel, 718½ acres, claimed under a grant to the widow Hymel, dated 24th May, 1796. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title. The abstract of complete titles made by the Spanish Government, shows one which comports with the notice of this claim. It is, therefore, presumable that the claim is valid, and ought to be confirmed; but, as the title has not been produced to enable the Board to describe the situation of the land claimed in their certificate, it is thought best to report it, recommending the confirmation conformable to the tenor of the grant, which it is incumbent on the claimant to produce.

No. 34. Nicholas Lauve claims a lot in the village of Natchitoches, by virtue of a deed of conveyance from Joseph Armand and wife. The notice of the claim is unaccompanied by any evidence of title, and it has been understood that the claim has been confirmed to the original claimants, Joseph Maria Armand and Theresa his wife, by Commissioners' certificate A, No. 1,679. This claim ought not, therefore, to be confirmed.

No. 35. Thomas M. Leonard, 640 acres. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any evidence of title, and is believed to be for the same land, of which the title has been confirmed to Charles Woolsoncroft, by certificate B, No. 1,777. Consequently, this claim ought not to be confirmed.

No. 36. Pierre Jos. Maes, thirteen arpens front, on both sides of Red river, with the depth which may be found, claimed under a grant to the widow Dartigo, dated 16th May, 1794. No evidenee of title accompanies the notice of the claim, and it is believed to have been embraced in the confirmation of the grant, by Commissioners' certificate A, No. 1,676, to the grantee. This claim, therefore, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 37. Pierre Jos. Maes, seven arpens front, by what depth may be found on each side of Red river, claimed under a grant to said Maes, dated 1794. The notice of this, as in the next preceding claim, is unaccompanied by any evidence of title; but it is believed to be for the same land, of which the title has been confirmed by Commissioners' certificate A, No. 1,733, and, consequently, ought not be confirmed.

No. 38. Edward McLochlin, 400 acres, claimed under occupancy and purchase from Joseph Procillas. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a certificate of Felix Trudeau, dated 23d July, 1804, setting forth that he gave Jos. Procela permission to settle on the bayou Jean de Jean, on a tract of land of ten arpens front, in December, 1801. The deed of conveyance from Jos. Procela to Edward McLochlin, duly executed, and acknowledged before Edward D. Turner, acting as Commandant of Natchitoches, the 24th July, 1804, is also filed, with a plat of survey by an authorized surveyor, dated 1806. No proof of occupancy has been offered. This is, therefore, such a claim as, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 39. Maria Louisa Mariott, free negress, claims two acres front on each side of Red river, with the depth of forty arpens, if so much may be found, by deed of conveyance from Antoine Bergeron, with occupancy, &c. No document of title, nor proof of occupancy has been adduced, consequently the claim is such as, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 40. Bertrand Mailloux, 723 arpens, claimed under a patent to Santiago Faure, dated 27th March, 1795. The notice is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title; but, on the abstract of Spanish grants, there is one which comports with the description given in the notice of the claim, from which it is presumable this claim may a valid one, and ought to be confirmed. From a want of the documents of title to enable the Commissioners to describe the land, and designate its limits in their certificate, they are constrained to report this claim, but recommend its confirmation, agreeably to the tenor of the patent, which may hereafter be produced by the claimant.

No. 41. Pierre Mailloux, 46 77-100th acres, claimed under occupancy. A plot of survey, dated in 1806, is the only document filed with the notice, and no proof of occupancy has been offered. The claim, therefore, in the opinion of the Board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 42. Maria Jeane, free negress, claims four acres front, on each side of Red river, with all the depth thereunto belonging. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any evidence of title, and is believed to be for the same land, of which the title has been confirmed by Commissioners' certificate B, No. 2,009. This claim, in the opinion of the Board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 43. Pierre Metoyer claims a piece of ground, with the buildings, in the post of Natchitoches, by purchase of the estate of Paul McCally, in August, 1804, who held it under François Prudhomme, by act dated 9th November, 1781, who claimed under John Peperes, who purchased it from the widow Alorge, by deed, dated 15th February, 1778. The notice of the claim is unaccompanied by any evidence of title; and, although it is presumable that the deed mentioned in the notice may exist, and the claim be a valid one, yet, without there having been adduced or proven to have existed, the confirmation of the claim cannot consistently be recommended; and it is, therefore, reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the Board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 44. Pierre Metoyer claims land adjoining the post of Natchitoches, by virtue of a purchase made at the sale of Mr. Hubert, who held it under Daniel Pain, by sale, dated 7th June, 1771, as set forth in the notice of the claim. No document of title, or proof of occupancy, has been adduced in support of this claim, and the undersigned are under the necessity of reporting it as one which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 45. The heirs of James Morrison, deceased, claim a league square of land, embracing the salt springs on the Bayou Saline of Natchitoches; and also two thousand acres to be located in said county, or that of Rapides, by virtue of a concession of the Spanish Government, of which the following is a translation:

Don Estevan Miro, Brigadier of the Royal Army, Governor and Intendant of the Province of Louisiana and West Florida, and Inspector of the King's troops, &c. &c., I grant permission to James Morrison to explore both banks of Red river, the lands under the jurisdiction of Rapides and Natchitoches, but not to enter those belonging to Nacogdoches, or any of the internal provinces of New Spain, for the purpose of finding a situation fit to erect salt works, and these ascertained, *and, in conformity to the notice which he is to give to the Government*, there shall be granted to him the land that shall be necessary for the said fabric; and, moreover, two thousand arpens of land to make a plantation for the subsistence of his family. He is also permitted to go to the United States of America, from whence he may return with his property, converted into the produce of the settlements of Ohio, utensils and implements of agriculture, house furniture, and provisions for one or two years, giving him all the protection, depending on the Government for the encouragement of said fabric. These presents, signed with my hand, sealed with my arms, and countersigned by the Secretary of this Government, for his Majesty. New Orleans, 12th June, 1790.

ESTEVAN MIRO.

By order of his Lordship.

ANDRES LOPEZ ARMESTO.

At the bottom of the same paper, Mr. Filihol, the Commandant of the post of Washitta, certifies, that he has seen and taken a copy of the foregoing, 24th April, 1796. The above, with two plats of survey by Samuel Cook, a deputy surveyor, dated 1806, are the only documents which have been filed with the notice of this claim. No evidence to establish occupancy has been adduced. It should be noticed that it was incumbent on Morrison to notify the Government of the place he might have selected for his establishment: That, conformably to such notification, the land necessary to erect his fabric, and thousand arpens for the establishment and subsistence of his family, should be conceded to him. No quantity of land was specified for the establishment of the salt works. This, it is presumable, was to depend on the knowledge the Government should acquire of the local situation, after a selection had been made. In thirteen years, which had elapsed between the time of granting this permission to Morrison, and the cession of Louisiana to the United States, there is no evidence of his having made the contemplated selection of the site for salt works, nor of the tract for cultivation. The only evidence (and that merely presumptive) of his having explored any part of the country, whilst it was subject to Spain, for the purposes specified in his permission, is to be inferred from the note of the Commandant of Washitta, subjoined to the Governor's permission. The survey, under which the heirs claim, was made nearly three years after the change of Government. That the Government must have proposed to itself some advantage, from the promised concession of Morrison, cannot be doubted. Either it expected to derive some direct revenue, or anticipated benefits to the community, which would result from cheapening the article of salt. It appears that, through the default of Morrison, none of the benefits were realized. The value which the Government set upon salt springs, and the determination not to deprive the community of the benefit of them, is manifested in a concession by Governor Miro to a former Commandant of Natchitoches, Pierre Rousseau, made four years prior to the permission granted to Morrison for land on the same bayou, if not the precise situation now claimed by Morrison's heirs, in which is the following reservation: "It is well underssood that the salt spring on the said land shall be always free to the public, and that neither the present holder, under this concession, nor his successors, nor assignsees, shall, in consequence of this grant, or any other pretext, impede, or hinder any person from making salt at said saline at any time." From a full and deliberate investigation of the pretensions of the claimants, the undersigned, Commissioners, are of opinion that the engagement of Governor Miro had, through the delinquency of the party claiming, ceased to be binding on the Spanish Government before the cession of Louisiana: that, consequently, it cannot now be binding on the Government of the United States. The claim is, therefore, reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 46. Edward Murphy, Samuel Devanport, William Barr, and Luther Smith, claim four leagues square of land situate east of the river Sabine, in that part of the country called the Province of Texas. The following is a translation, in substance, of the document of title under which the land is claimed:

Edward Murphy represents to Don Maria Gaudiana, Second Lieutenant of Artillery, and Commandant Military and Civil of the Post of Nacogdoches, that, having, with the knowledge of the predecessor of said Commandant, established a vacheré at a place known by the name of Laguna de Juan Mora, on which he has paid tithes to the priest, and this not being sufficiently stocked with cane for his large stock of cattle, he asks a concession of a tract of land at a place called Nana, (mother,) on the

east side of the river Sabine, about seven leagues from its margin, on the road from Nacogdoches to Natchitoches, to be taken by lines from the centre of the tract, to be each two leagues in length, making four leagues on each front of the tract, running north and south, east and west. 22d February, 1798.

EDWARD MURPHY.

At Nacogdoches, 1st July, 1798. The Commandant orders that the proper officer shall put the petitioner in possession of the land solicited.

On the 1st of August, 1798, being on the land petitioned for, Joseph Cayetano de Sapeda Syndic, &c., certifies, that, being on the land solicited, and having satisfied himself that there were no neighbors who could receive any injury from the possession of this land by said Murphy, the nearest inhabitant being at least eight leagues distant, he has put the said Murphy in possession, conformable to the decree of the Commandant, by taking the said Murphy by the right hand, stepping several steps in each direction from the centre of the land, the said Murphy pulling up grass, cutting twigs, and taking turf, &c., as an evidence of the full possession of the land given, in presence of witnesses, in the name of his Majesty, &c.; and, as a further proof and evidence of possession, he has given to the said land the name of St. Pedro de la Nana (St. Peter's mother.) Under date, 4th of August, 1798, the Commandant ratifies the possession given by the Syndic, and concedes the land so the said Murphy as his full property, to be peaceably enjoyed, &c. On the 3d November, 1798, Edward Murphy conveys the land to the above-named claimants. Bertrand Plaisance, before the Board, 29th October, 1812, hath deposed "that, about sixteen years ago he saw a tree on the said road, marked with the letter P, which tree was newly marked, and stands about ten arpens west of where the road from Nacogdoches to Natchitoches crosses a small bayou called Bayon Pierre, and about ten leagues west of the town of Natchitoches, at which time he was told by Samuel Devanport, one of the claimants, that said tree was a boundary mark of the above described tract of land: that, at that time, he saw another tree marked in the same manner, on the said road, about six leagues from the Sabine river, which he understood, from the same person, was marked as a boundary of the said tract: that an American, by the name of Burges, was settled on the land in question, sixteen years ago, and that said Burges continued to reside there until about three or four years past, when he left the place, which was immediately occupied by a Spaniard: that Burges was employed by the claimants as a vacheré keeper: that large stocks of horses and cattle were kept on the land during the last sixteen years: that there is a house and a small farm on the land, which has been occupied and cultivated during the time above mentioned, by the said vacheré keepers." The above evidence was taken in the claim of the above-named claimants, for a tract of six leagues square, reported under No. 49, but, from the description of the situation of the land given by the deponent, it appears that he must have had reference to the claim under consideration. See note at the end of this report.

No. 47. Edward Murphey, 2,222 84-100th acres, situate east of the Sabine river, in the former Province of Texas, claimed under a Spanish concession, of which the following is a translation in substance:

Edward Murphey petitions for a tract of land on the Bayou Hondo, in the limits of the Province of Texas, where a cove is formed between the road leading from the Bayou Hondo to the Bayou St. John, and which cove forms a convenient situation for a vacheré, where the cattle of petitioner may be collected. 17th October, 1791.

Nacogdoches, 18th October, 1791. The Commandant, knowing the land to be in the Province of Texas, and vacant, grants it as solicited.

ANTOINE GIL Y LEARVO.

A plat of survey, by Samuel Cook, dated 7th December, 1806, is also filed with the notice.

Samuel Devanport, before the Board, 6th May, 1814, hath deposed "that he has been an inhabitant of Louisiana for at least twenty-eight years past: That, from the year 1798 to the year 1813, his settled residence was in the village of Nacogdoches, where, from having obtained from the Commandant General of the Internal Provinces of Mexico, the grant of an exclusive privilege to himself and his co-partner in trade, (a Mr. Barr,) to carry on trade with the Indians, and, from his particular intimacy with the several Commandants, and other Spanish officers at Nacogdoches, during the above period, he acquired an accurate knowledge of the Spanish usuages, in relation to the dispositions of lands, in what was at that time understood to be the Province of Texas: That he is perfectly acquainted with the Spanish language, and has so thorough a knowledge of the hand-writing of the several Commandants, who have served at Nacogdoches, between the terms above stated, that it is scarcely possible he could be deceived in any of them: That he has examined the documents filed in said claim, (signed,) Antoine Gil Y. Learvo, which he knows to be the signature of said Y. Learvo, who, from circumstances within the knowledge of the deponent, and particularly from his having been removed from office, either in the year 1798, or the preceding year, to the best of the deponent's recollection, is known to have been Commandant Civil and Military, at Nacogdoches, for near twenty years. The deponent further saith, that the document above referred to, is in the form usual in conceding lands in said Province at that date. The deponent further saith, that it is a fact well understood, that the Commandants of Nacogdoches, from the remote situation of the post, were vested with full powers to concede absolutely any lands within the limits of the jurisdiction of Nacogdoches, which, until after the cession of Louisiana to the United States, was bounded on the east and south by the river Hondo, Lake la Terre Noir, bayou Casache, and river Kelkechute, and, on the west, by the river Trinity: That five of the internal provinces of Mexico were under the Government of a Commandant General, and these provinces separately governed by a Governor, within the same, whose business it was to make periodical visits to the several posts under his jurisdiction, for the purpose of redressing grievances, and settling controversies between the inhabitants, but who always regarded the right of the Commandants to concede lands, as full and complete, without any ratification being necessary on his part." See note at the end of this report.

No. 48. Edward Murphey claims four leagues square on a lake called Juan de Mora, setting forth in his notice, that the land is situate in the territory in dispute between the Government of the United States and his Most Catholic Majesty, "under a deed of conveyance from John Quingetty, which deed is in the archives of the Province of Texas, at Nocogdoches." The notice of the claim is unaccompanied by any document. Bertrand Plaisance, before the Board, 29th October, 1812, hath deposed "that the land was originally granted for a vacheré to a man by the name of John Quingetty, at least twenty-five years ago; and that it has been kept up ever since as a vacheré, having also a small part in cultivation every year, by those residing there as vacheré keepers. See note at the end of this report.

No. 49. Edward Murphey, Samuel Devanport, William Barr, and Luther Smith, six leagues square, say 211,570 2-100th acres, under a Spanish concession, to Jacinta Mora, of which the following is a translation in substance:

Jacinta Mora, inhabitant of Nacogdoches, solicits six leagues square of land on the east side of the Sabine river, in the Province of Texas, at a place called Les Ormigas, the place called the ("los Yndios,") or Indian ford, to be in the centre of the front line, and the lines to run east, west, north, and south, at right angles. Nacogdoches, 14th November, 1795.

Under the same date, at Nacogdoches, Bernardo Fernandes, Commandant of Nacogdoches, orders that the proper officer, Jose Cayetano Syndix, to put the party in possession of the land solicted, taking care that it shall not prejudice any other person. 2d December, 1795.

Joseph Cayetano de Sepeda Syndic, &c., in compliance with the order of the Commandant, and in the presence of J. Moras, with the assisting witness, (using the same ceremony as in report No. 46,) puts the party in possession, and names the place St. Maria Adalaid, of Ormegas. On the 15th December, 1795, John Bernardo Fernandes, Lieut. of Cavalry, and Lieut. Governor of Nacogdoches, confirmed the possession given by the Syndic, and concedes the land in perpetuity to the petitioner and his heirs, &c. On the same paper, and following the foregoing, is a transfer of the land from the said Moras to William Barr & Co., passed before the Commandant Dionesio Valle, dated 22d July, 1805.

Gaspard Boudin, before the Board, the 29th October, 1812, hath deposed "that the land has been made use of as a vacheré for the last thirty-five years: That Edward Murphey has claimed the land from the time of his earliest recollection, he being now upwards of forty-six years of age: That stocks of horses and cattle have been kept on the said land constantly for the last thirty-five years, by persons employed by said Murphey, and that, during that time, there has been a house and small farm on the land, which was occupied and cultivated by those who resided on the place as stock keepers." Bertrand

Plaisance, aged thirty-eight years, deposeth "that the land above mentioned has been occupied as a vacheré as above stated, for at least sixteen years; but he is not able to say for a longer time, as he was not in that part of the country at an earlier date. 29th October, 1812."

Don Bernardo Dortolant, of the county of Natchitoches, before Barthelemew Fleming, justice of peace of said county, the 14th March, 1814, hath returned the answers annexed to the following interrogatories propounded by the Board of Commissioners:

Interrogatory 1. Do you know who were the Commandants at Nacogdoches from the year 1791 to 1798?

Answer. Don Bernardo Fernandes was the first, and Don Jose, Mr. Gaudina, his successor in office.

Interrogatory 2. Do you know whether said Commandants had the power of granting lands, and under what restrictions?

Answer. Yes, they were authorized; and conceded lands to the inhabitants in proportion to their stock, which was the sole restriction to which they were subject, and of which the procurer of the people had to give his opinion before they got possession and titles.

Interrogatory 3. Were those grants considered as complete titles, or as mere permission to settle, subject to the future order of some superior authority or tribunal?

Answer. These grants were considered as complete titles when executed in the manner following, to wit: The individual presented to the Commandant his memorial, praying the concession of a certain piece of land, situate as specified in the writing, and exposing his merit and right to such a gift. The Commandant consulted with the Attorney General, and if they agreed that the petitioner merited the extent of land prayed for, or part of it, he ordered the attorney to put him in possession of all, or a part, according to the determination, without prejudice to a third. The attorney proceeded in consequence thereof, accompanied by the interested party, and two assisting witnesses, to the land, where, in the form prescribed by law, he put him in possession, according to the order, giving it all possible strength with his witnesses, and the person receiving the gift; gives his proceedings to the Commandant, who confirms them, and places them in the archives, and gives a testified copy to the individual to serve as a title.

Interrogatory 4. Were grants, of the extent claimed, common in that country?

Answer. They were common, and were conceded for grazing ground, or increase the stocks; therefore, the inhabitants are few in that country where they keep cattle, and possess land according to their means.

Interrogatory 5. Do you know Jacinta Mora, and had he claims on the Spanish Government for larger grants than usually given?

Answer. I know Jacinta Mora. The time the Spaniards had the Adays, about forty years ago, who, with his family, claimed the land, called the Armigas, situate on the east side of the Sabine; since when he has had his pastures there, where he had cattle, cavalcades, &c.; and that he has held in good faith since 1795; all which I know.

Interrogatory 6. Do you know the firm of Murphey, Barr, Devanport, and Smith, and had they, in consequence of any service rendered, any claims for grants of lands of greater extent than other individuals under the Spanish Government? Relate all you know with respect to the said lands?

Answer. I know the above-named company; that they had a large trading house at Nacogdoches for a long time; they were acknowledged as citizens of the Government; had a great many persons in their employ; had large stocks, and, in consequence, needed large pastures, (they had the trade with the Indian nations of the north,) which was all seen by the Government; and, I believe, they merited much of it for their services with Indian nations.

The foregoing interrogatories being also put to Pedro Procela, of the said county of Natchitoches, at the same time and place as the above, and by the said Fleming, justice of the peace, he hath answered in the same to each interrogatory, and hath added the following: "I also know Dionicia Valle, who was Commandant of Natchitoches in 1805. I also know his signature, affixed to the testified copy of the title for the lands of Ormigas, granted to Jacinta Mora, and sold by him to Barr and Devanport. I also know the signature of J. Ma. Gaudiana, affixed to the sale given to the said company." The deponents, from probably not understanding the English language, have preferred answering the interrogatories in their native tongue, (Spanish,) from which the foregoing is a translation. See note at the end of these reports.

No. 5. Edward Murphey, 727 acres on the bayou St. John, claimed under a grant from the Spanish Government. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document of title. Gaspard Bondin, before the Board, 29th October, 1812, hath deposed "that a Spaniard, whose name is not known to the deponent, but is generally known by the name of St. John, settled on the land in question for said Murphey, fourteen years ago; and has continued to reside on, and cultivate the same ever since, without intermission, for the use and benefit of said Murphey, or his representatives: (said Murphey having died about three years ago:) That said Murphey was the head of a family on the 20th day of December, 1803, and then resided in the county of Natchitoches. It is believed that the land claimed, under this entry, is embraced in the confirmation in favor of the heirs or legal representatives of said Murphey, by Commissioners' certificate, No. 2,110 or 2,131. The confirmation of this claim, therefore, cannot be recommended.

No. 51. Augustin Metoyer, two and an half arpens front, on each side of Red river, the depth not mentioned. In support of this claim has been filed an order of survey for two and an half arpens, front on each side of Red river, in favor of William Le Brun, dated 8th June, 1797. The land is described in the petition of the said Le Brun, on which the order of survey is issued, to be bounded on the upper side to the petitioner, and, on the lower side, by land of Margaret, a free negress, and asked for to enlarge his plantation, and not to settle on. No evidence has been offered to establish the occupancy of the land. The Commissioners being of opinion that it is such a claim as would have been valid, under the usages of the Spanish Government, recommend its confirmation, giving the depth of forty arpens on both sides of the river, as has been customary, in such cases, under the said Government.

No. 52. John Nicholls, 700 acres, claimed under a complete title to William Soderlin, dated in June, 1798. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title. The abstract of complete titles, made by the Spanish Government, shows one which comports with the notice of the claim, but no document having been adduced to show the situation or boundaries of the tract, or that it has been regularly conveyed to the claimant, it is deemed most advisable to report the claim, recommending its confirmation according to the tenor of the patent, which, with the deeds of conveyance, it is incumbent on the claimant to produce.

No. 53. Joseph Piernass, 262,080 acres (supposed to be arpens) in the former Province of Texas, east of the river Sabine, claimed under a title to Jacinta Mora, from the Governor of Nacogdoches, in the said Province of Texas. The notice of the claim is accompanied by a bill of sale, passed before Carlos Xemenes, notary public at New Orleans, 25th April, 1796, of which the following is a translation: Let it be known, Jaciento Mora sells to Joseph Piernas a tract of land, under the jurisdiction of Nacogdoches, about twenty-five leagues from the village, at a place called the Hormegas, (prismire,) which leads from north to south on the east bank of the river Sabine, which land is the same that was granted to me the 14th November, 1795, by the Government of said place, conformable to the limit boundary, and other circumstances mentioned in the petition and concession. A plat of survey, not appearing to be authentic, nor believed to have been made from actual survey, is also filed, and no other document nor testimony has been offered. See remarks at the end of these reports.

No. 54. Margaret B. Prudhomme claims a tract of land left to her by the deceased widow Louis Antoine St. Denis, by will of which the following is a translation in substance: The testatrix gives to Mary Margaret Prudhomme a tract of land, and its appendages, opposite the post of Natchitochss, and any other land of which she may be possessed. January 21, 1799. A certified copy of the will is the only document or evidence of title accompanying the notice of the claim, the claimant not having exhibed any document or evidence whereby it might be known what lands the testatrix died possessed of, and to which she, as legatee under the will, may be entitled. This claim is classed among those which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 55. Therese Mallatte, widow of Gaspard Phiol, claims one league square of land on the bayou Goutierre, by virtue of a Spanish concession, which is supposed to be lost. The notice of the claim is unaccompanied by any document of title. Gaspard Boudin, before the Board, the 16th June, 1812, hath deposed "that the land claimed, was inhabited and cultivated upwards of twenty years ago, by the husband of the claimant, and that the same has been inhabited and cultivated by Emanuel

Flores and others, without intermission, until two years ago, when the house was destroyed by fire." Louis Derbanne, before the board, the 10th October, 1812, hath deposed "that he is now forty-five years of age, and that whilst he was a boy, at least thirty years prior to the present date, he was with his father on the land above mentioned, and that, at that time, Gaspard Phiole, husband of the claimant, had a large vacheré on the place, with considerable improvements, such as buildings and cultivated land, &c.; and that, from common report, he has reason to believe that the place has been occupied in the same way to this time, by the widow of the deceased, as above mentioned: but this he does not know of his own knowledge." The Commissioners have no data by which to determine the limits or situation of the land claimed; and, if there has actually been a concession, they are uncertain whether it may not have emanated from the authorities at Nacogdoches, in which case the land would be found to be within the disputed territory, or what was considered a part of the province of Texas. The length of time which, from the testimony, the land appears to have been occupied, would entitle the claimant, under the third section of the act of the third of March, 1807, to a part of the land claimed. The Commissioners could only confirm, under that section, the title to two thousand acres. If the original documents in the claim had been produced, it is probable the board might have been induced to recommend the confirmation to the full extent claimed. Under the circumstances of the case, they can only recommend a confirmation of the title to two thousand acres, with the proviso that so much shall be found within the acknowledged limits of the tract claimed.

No. 56. Maria Louise Porter claims, by settlement, ten acres front on the left hand side of the bayou which empties into the Lake De Yate, on the southeast of the prairie called De Koocoque, (or Yanacoco,) at the junction of a run which comes from said prairie. The notice is unaccompanied by any document. No proof has been offered. Supposed to be for the same tract claimed by Mrs. Porter, and reported under No. 63.

No. 57. Antoine Prudhomme, 59 acres, claimed under a grant to Jacques Le Vassure, dated 24th May, 1796. The notice is unaccompanied by any document, and the claim has been confirmed to the grantee, by Commissioners' certificate A, No. 1,732. This claim ought not to be confirmed.

No. 58. John Bte. Piedfirm claims 20 arpens front, with the ordinary depth on each side of Red river. The notice is accompanied by a relinquishment by John Bte. Larenodier to the claimant, of his right, and that of his partner Antoine Lenoir, to 20 arpens of land which he possessed in common with Antoine Lenoir, at the place called Leguna Pauledeau. Another instrument of writing, dated 25th June, 1808, by which Antoine Lenoir certifies that John Bte. Larenaudier has sold to John Bte. Piedfirm twenty arpens of land, that is to say, ten arpens front on each side of Red river, at a place called Lake Pauldeau, the joint property of him the said Lenoir and John Bte. Laranodier, to each of whom one hundred dollars had been paid. (Signed,) mark ordinary of Antoine Lenoir. Attested by Benoist Montanery and Ete. Lauve. No testimony has been taken in the claim. The claim, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 59. John Bte. Piedfirm claims 20 arpens front on each side of Red river, by virtue of two different purchases, one from Antoine Lenoir, and the other from John Bte. Larenaudier. The notice of the claim is accompanied by a certificate of Antoine Lenoir, dated 25th June, 1808, acknowledging to have sold to John Bte. Piedfirm ten arpens front on each side of Red river, with the ordinary depth, at a place called Lake Pauldeau, and for which he had received one hundred dollars in payment. No testimony has been taken in the claim, and, from the description of the land in the above certificate, it is supposed to be for the same tract claimed and reported under No. 58.

No. 60. Charles Pavie claims a lot in the Post of Natchitoches, supposed to have 122 or 127 French feet in front, with the depth to the hill, bounded above by land of Madam Fontenot, and below by Joseph Maria Armand. The notice is unaccompanied by any evidence or document of title. The board are, therefore, constrained to report the claim as one which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 61. Charles Pavie claims eight arpens front, with the ordinary depth on each side of Red river, conceded to Joseph Dartigaux, 13th March, 1797. The notice of the claim is accompanied by the order of survey, dated as above, (13th March, 1797,) in favor of John Bte. Dartigaux, jun., in the usual form, and with usual conditions, together with a deed of sale to the claimant for fifty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens on each side of that part of Red river called the river of Cannes. The said fifty arpens of front embracing this and three other tracts sold at public vendue at Natchitoches, the 31st March, 1806, of which three tracts the title to two has been confirmed by Commissioners' certificate B, No. 2,202 and 2,204, the first having twelve arpens front, and the other twenty arpens front. No proof has been offered to establish the occupancy of the land claimed under this order of survey, but the Commissioners believing it to be such a claim as would have been valid under the usages of the Spanish Government, recommend its confirmation by Congress.

No. 62. Charles Pavie, ten arpens in front by forty arpens in depth on each side of the river of Cannes, claimed under an order of survey to Athanaze Labour, dated 18th April, 1789. The order of survey, of the usual form, and in the usual conditions, accompanies the notice of the claim, together with the copy of the deed of conveyance mentioned in the next preceding number. This claim being also embraced in the said fifty arpens of front, the confirmation of the claim is recommended for the reasons as set forth in preceding number.

No. 63. Madam Louise Porter claims a tract of land of two leagues square at the prairie Leaunacucou, under a title to John Bte. Dartigaux, of which the following is a translation:

John Bte. Dartigaux petitions Mr. Gaudiana, lieutenant governor of Nacogdoches, for a tract of land of two leagues square, so as to include the prairie Leaunacucou. Nacogdoches, 31st July, 1797.

Nacogdoches, 31st July, 1797. Ordered, by the Lieutenant Governor, that the proper officer put the petitioner in possession of the land solicited, if he should find it will not prejudice a third person.

GAUDIANA.

A deed of sale from said Madam Louise Le Compté, wife of Porter, to John Bte. Le Compté, (son,) dated 19th June, 1813, is also filed with the notice, together with a plat of survey by Joseph Irwin, deputy surveyor, dated in 1813.

Gaspard Bourdin, before the board, the 26th October, 1812, hath deposed "that thirteen or fourteen years ago, a man by the name of Jacques, an Englishman, was put on the land by Madam Monet, who had possession of said tract of land in exchange for another tract, and that the said land has been inhabited and cultivated ever since for the claimant's use. Lands within the disputed territory—see remarks at the end of these reports.

No. 64. François Rouquier, sen'r, claims four hundred arpens on the road from Opelousas to Natchitoches, about nine miles from the latter place. The notice of the claim is accompanied by the following documents, to wit:

The petition of François Rouquier for ten arpens front, by the ordinary depth, at a place called the Bayou Blue, between the Bayou Provincial and the Bayou Toris; the petitioner setting forth that he has not pasture enough for his cattle, and asks a grant of this piece of land for that purpose. August 22, 1796.

Under the same date, Felix Trudeau, then commandant of Natchitoches, gives permission to the party to take possession of the land until he could be provided with a title in form. John Ris, aged about fifty-three years, before the board, the 17th February, 1813, hath deposed "that the land was inhabited and cultivated for the claimant for twenty-five years back, and has been to this day, being the vacheré of the deceased Roquier." No other evidence of title has been adduced. It would appear, from the testimony of John Ris, that the land had been occupied from the year 1788, but the petition of the party being of a much later date, to wit, 1796, at which time permission is given by the commandant to the claimant to take possession of the land, it is to be presumed that the party had no pretensions to a claim for the land earlier than the year 1796, and, having had other titles for land under the Spanish Government, which have been confirmed by the board, the claim under consideration must be reported. The confirmation is recommended on the grounds of its being such a claim as, in the opinion of the Commissioners, would have been valid under the usages of the Spanish Government.

No. 65. Louis Bartelemy Rachel, 59 acres, claimed under a complete title to Jacques Le Vassure. This notice is for part of a tract of land, the title of which has been confirmed to the original grantee, by certificate A, No. 1,732. This claim ought not to be confirmed.

No. 66. Andre Rambin, 259 51-100th acres, claimed under a title to Ignace Mailloux. The notice of this claim is for part of a tract of land, of which the title has been confirmed by certificate B, No. 2,043. This con-

firmation was made through mistake, or a want of correct information, in favor of the heirs of Francois Rouquier, for the whole of the original tract. It is very evident that Andre Rambin is entitled to the part which he claims; and, as this right is admitted by the heirs of Roquier, there is no likelihood of his right being impaired by the confirmation of the title as above. This claim, therefore, needs no further confirmation.

No. 67. Andrew Rambin claims a tract of land under a purchase from an Indian called Cayacaillé, and his wife, in the year 1790. The quantity of land claimed is not mentioned, and the notice is unaccompanied by any evidence of title. The claim, therefore, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 68. Andre Rambin claims a lot in the town of Natchitoches, under a deed of conveyance from the Chevalier Poiret, dated in the year 1678. The notice of this claim also is unaccompanied by any evidence of title, and, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed. There can be no doubt but that the date 1678, is a mistake. It is probable it should have been 1778.

No. 69. Louis Bathelemy Rachel claims a tract of land on the river of the Lake a la Croix, forming an island containing one league in circumference, named the Island of De Maron. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a plat of survey, by Joseph Irwin, deputy surveyor, dated in 1812, and by no other document of title. The plat of survey shows the quantity of land claimed to be 287 57-100th acres. Bertrand Pleasance, before the board, the 28th October, 1812, hath deposed "that the land claimed has been inhabited and cultivated by a son of the claimant for upwards of sixteen years past, until the present date." This claim cannot be confirmed by the board on account of the claimant's having had one claim confirmed, under a title in his own name, from the Spanish Government. See the certificate of the Commissioners, marked B, No. 1,678. In consideration of the length of time, however, which the land has been inhabited and cultivated by a son of the claimant, and taking into view the small extent of the claim which has been confirmed, three hundred and eight arpens, the Commissioners are of opinion that the claim under consideration ought to be confirmed in conformity with the usages of the Spanish Government.

No. 70. Barthelemy Rachel claims a tract of land sixteen arpens front on each side of Red river, bounded above by Dorclas, a free negro, and below by Lewis Verchare, under a grant from the Spanish Government, dated 27th March, 1791. No evidence of title accompanies the notice of the claim, and no proof has been offered to establish occupancy. The claim is, therefore, reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 71. Madam Berthelemy Rachel (Francois Le Barry) claims seven arpens front on each side of Red river, under a title from the Spanish Government to her brother, Louis Fontin. The title to the land claimed under the notice has been confirmed in the name of the original claimant, Louis Fontin, by Commissioners' certificate B, No. 1,638. This, of course, is reported as a claim which ought not to be confirmed.

No. 72. Louis Simien Rachel claims ninety-two and 50-100th acres on Red river, at a place called Ecor. A plat of survey by Daniel Coleman, assistant surveyor for Samuel Cook, dated in 1807, is the only document accompanying the notice of the claim. No proof has been offered. The claim, therefore, is reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 73. Pierre Rousseau claims a tract of land of forty arpens front, by the depth of forty arpens on the right bank of the Bayou Saline, in the county of Natchitoches, under a title, of which the following is a translation in substance:

Pierre Rousseau, captain of the army, and commandant civil and military of the post of Natchitoches, represents to Governor Miro that, intending to establish a vacheré on a tract of land situate on the right bank of the bayou of the Saline in ascending, taking for the centre of his establishment the source of the Saline, distant about ten leagues northeast, (supposed from the post of Natchitoches,) this land being fit only for a vacheré, and subject to inundation, begs it may please the Governor to grant him forty arpens front by the ordinary depth, bounded on all sides by vacant land. June 13, 1786.

PIERRE ROUSSEAU.

New Orleans, 12th July, 1786. The Governor issued the order of survey, conceding the land in the usual form, except the following proviso: "It is well understood that the salt spring on said land shall always be free to the public, and that neither the present proprietor or holder under this concession, nor his successors or assignees, shall, in consequence of this grant, or any other pretext, impede or hinder any person from making salt at the said saline at any time."

MIRO.

Louis Deblane, before the board, 11th ——, 1809, hath deposed "that he commanded at the post of Natchitoches from the year 1787 to the year 1796, during which period the claimant regularly paid his proportion of the expenses of the said post, for the land claimed, which was the only species of tax imposed by the Spanish Government upon the inhabitants of the said post: That the claimant was, from the period first mentioned, until the American Government took possession of this territory, considered as possessor of said land, subject to the conditions mentioned in the order of survey with respect to the salt water upon the said land. The deponent also believes that all the grants upon the said saline had conditions similar to those expressed in the order of survey filed in this claim. No other proof has been offered in support of the claim. The Commissioners are of opinion that the concession, by the Spanish Government, above recited, has vested in the claimant a valid title to the land claimed, with the exception of the salt springs; and, therefore, report the claim as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed, with the exception aforesaid.

No. 74. John Sibley claims 640 acres, more or less on Red river, at a place called the settlement of Compté, under a purchase from Nicholas Mercier. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any evidence of title, and is understood to be for the same tract claimed by Hypolite Bordelen, to whom the title has been confirmed by Commissioners' certificate B, No. 1,884. The claim is, therefore, reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 75. John Sibley claims a tract of land having ten arpens front one side, and fifteen arpens front the other side of Red river, with the depth of forty arpens on both sides, under a purchase from Louis Mercier, (supposed to be Francois Mercier.) The notice of the claim is accompanied by a deed of sale from Francois Mercier and wife to John Sibley, dated 25th January, 1806, for said land. On the back of which deed, and of the same date, is a certificate by Felix Trudeau, in the French language, of the following import:

Felix Trudeau, captain of infantry, heretofore commandant of Natchitoches, for his Majesty, certifies that, in the year 1802, he gave permission to Louis Mercier and his family to settle on a tract of land about the Lake Peauldau, and on the river, bounded above by Antoine Poisot, and below by a bayou, and ten arpens on the opposite side.

F. TRUDEAU.

No evidence of occupancy has been adduced in this claim, and none to corroborate the declaration of Mr. Trudeau as to the fact of granting permission. This claim is, therefore, reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 76. Felix Trudeau claims 640 acres under settlement. A plat of survey, by Samuel Cook, dated in 1806, embracing an area of 822 45-100th acres, is the only document of title filed with the notice of the claim. James Teal, before the board, the 14th February, 1812, hath deposed, "that, about fourteen years ago, he was on the land claimed, when he found it occupied, and under cultivation by a tenant of the claimant, whose name the deponent does not know; and having frequently passed the same plantation since, (the public road leading through it,) and finding it inhabited and cultivated, the deponent has reason to believe that the settlement and cultivation has been regularly maintained from the time he had first a knowledge of it, to the latter end of the year 1803. No other evidence has been offered in support of the claim. The only confirmations in favor of the claimant, are by the certificates of Commissioners, marked B, No. 1,720 and 1,721, for very small tracts, the two together not amounting to eighty-five acres, and appearing not to have been conceded to him, but acquired by purchase. This considered, and proof having been made that the land was occupied as early as the year 1798 by a person acknowledging himself to have been the tenant of the claimant, induce the Commissioners to report this claim as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed as far as the extent of six hundred and forty acres, to include the settlement made by the tenant.

No. 77. Edward D. Turner claims ten and three-fourths acres of land in front, with forty acres in depth on the right bank, and seven and a half acres in front, with forty in depth on the left bank of Red river. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a deed of conveyance from Nicholas Lauve, jun. and wife, to Edward D.

Turner, dated 26th May, 1804, for a tract of land "situate on the Red river, about two miles from the post of Natchitoches, being the same tract formerly owned by the Widow Poisot," having a front of nine arpens or more if to be found, bounded above by land of Madam Mongenot, and below by that of John Adley, and on the left bank of said river, having a front of seven and a fourth arpens or more if to be found, bounded as above mentioned, with such depth, not exceeding forty arpens, as may be found not to interfere with the rights of others. The following is a translation of a certificate which has been filed with the notice:

"We, the undersigned, certify and declare to have full and entire knowledge that the plantation actually possessed by Mr. Edward D. Turner has been settled and cultivated for about forty-five years by Mr. Athanaze Poisot, sen'r, which said plantation has passed in succession to the children and grandchildren of the said Poisot. We also certify—though not quite certain of the precise quantity contained in the said plantation—we know that it is from the limit of Madam Mongenot to that of John Adley, owner of a part of the plantation which formerly belonged to the said Poisot: Besides which we believe that, at the time of the conflagration of the house of Madam Poisot, the documents of title of the said land situate on that side of the river called the Desert Land, were burned." Natchitoches, 28th February, 1806.

FRANCOIS GRAPP.
ANDRE RAMBIN.

I certify, that Andre Rambin and Francois Grapp have acknowledged, before me, that the signatures to the within certificate was their deed. Natchitoches, 27th February, 1806.

BARTHOLEMEW SHAMBURY, *J. Peace.*

No other evidence of title has been adduced. The declaration of Francois Grapp and Andre Rambin, though acknowledged before a justice of the peace, and although the Commissioners have no reason to doubt the truth of their assertions, cannot be regarded as evidence of the facts intended to be established. The claim, therefore, is necessarily reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 78. Edward Teal, Alexander Downey, and Pierre Sedic, claim a tract of land of 640 acres in the prairie Yanakoka, on a bayou emptying into the Sabine river below the Consate village. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, and, of course, is reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 79. Noble Wilkins claims twenty arpens front of land on each side of Red river, with all the depth which may be found, under an order of survey in his favor, ———, 1795. The original petition of the claimant for the land, with the approbation of the commandant, accompanies the order of survey, which is filed with the notice. The petitioner sets forth that the land has no depth at the time of high water, and obliges himself, conformable to the usages of the district, to erect half the bridge over the bayou Platt, which is the upper boundary of the tract claimed, the lower side being bounded by Baptiste Lattice. The order of survey is in the usual form, and on the usual conditions, conceding the land with the required front, because of its only having four or five arpens of depth. On the back of the order of survey is written the following words:

"I, Noble Wilkins, authorize and empower Jo. A. Parrot, of Opelousas, to recover, compromise, sell, or otherwise to dispose of, all my right, title, claim, and interest to the tract of land within mentioned."

NOBLE WILKINS.

Witness: R. Smith.

November 6, 1805.

The small depth expressed in the order of survey is believed to have allusion only to the arable land. The Commissioners, therefore, believing this claim to be such as would have been valid, agreeably to the usages of the Spanish Government, recommend the confirmation for the quantity of front expressed in the order of survey, with the ordinary depth of forty arpens on both sides of the river.

Note.—Several claims entered with the deputy register for the county of Natchitoches, are known to be for lands lying west of the Rio Hondo, and within that part of Louisiana the United States' claim to which has been disputed by the Spanish Government. The Commissioners have not hesitated, on account of the doubt as to which nation the sovereignty of the country may belong, to decide on the claims of persons deriving their rights from acts of Congress granting donations from occupancy, &c.; because, however the question of sovereignty may ultimately be decided, no inconvenience, they conceived, could result from their decision: but, if the question should be settled in favor of the United States, there would be this advantage, that the inhabitants would be quieted in their possessions.

The claims on this report, numbered 46, 47, 48, 49, 53, and 63, are also for lands lying west of the Rio Hondo, and the documents of title under which they are held, have emanated from Spanish authorities at Nacogdoches, of whose powers and authority the Commissioners have had no means of acquiring satisfactory information, and, therefore, decline deciding on those claims. It will be seen that most of them are for very large tracts of land, which, from the tenor of the petitions, were designed principally for vacheré establishments. The Commissioners have remarked that, to persons holding offices under the Spanish Government, and persons who may have rendered services to the Government, it has been customary to make very large concessions of land.

That Samuel Davenport, William Barr, Luther Smith, and Edward Murphy, joint copartners in commercial houses established at Nacogdoches and Natchitoches, who are the principal claimants of the land thus circumstanced, did, for many years, enjoy, under the Spanish Government, in the province of Texas, the exclusive right of trading with the Indians in that quarter, is a matter of public notoriety. Mr. Davenport, one of said copartners, has submitted to the board a number of original letters from governors, and other persons in authority in the said Spanish province, dated between the years 1804 and 1812, in which they are sometimes styled "Traders General." In one of those letters, the commandant of Nacogdoches (Sebastian Rodrigus) informs William Barr that the Governor of the province (Antonia Cordera) had ordered him to furnish the said Barr with twenty soldiers, under the command of an intelligent sergeant, with ammunition and provisions for a voyage of two months, to enable Mr. Barr to explore and sound the mouths of the rivers Carriente, Sabine, and Antoyayue, travelling by land, &c. In another letter to Mr. Barr from said commandant, he acknowledges the receipt of documents of observation made for the purpose of ascertaining the mouth of the river Calcasuit, and hopes he will soon be furnished with the rest of his commission. In another letter from Simon Eterrara to Samuel Davenport and William Barr, they are requested to furnish the troops of the quarter with provisions, and that they will be thanked for this new proof of being good servants to the King. In another letter to the same persons from Governor Salcedo, it is stated that there is enclosed a memorandum of toys, goods, &c. for the use of the Indians in their jurisdiction. From the foregoing, the Commissioners are induced to believe that a part of the lands above alluded to may have been conceded as a recompense for the services and loyalty of the above-named persons, and as a remuneration of disbursements which it is likely they may have made for the use of the Government. Signed duplicates.

WM. GARRARD.
LEVIN WAILES.
GIDEON FITZ.

By order of the Board.

LLOYD POSEY, *Clerk.*

LAND OFFICE, WESTERN DISTRICT,
State of Louisiana, 6th April, 1815.

To the Honorable Commissioner of the General Land Office in the Treasury Department of the United States:

The undersigned Commissioners, appointed for the purpose of ascertaining the rights of persons to lands within the said district, have the honor to report, in continuation, the following list of claims to land within the county of Opelousas, classing the same agreeably to the order observed in their reports made on the 16th of October and 14th of December, 1812, and 9th of March, 1813, to which they beg leave to refer. [See vol. 2, No. 217.]

Claims to Land in the County of Opelousas.

Reported No.	Register's No.	By whom claimed.	Original proprietor or claimant.	Quantity claimed.	Nature and date of the title or claim.	Class.
1		Pierre Arseneau	Attakapas Indians	Indefinite	Purchase from Indians	C.
2	70	Antoine Blanc	Same	3,333⅓ arpens	Same	B.
3	86	William Bard	Unknown	639.96 acres	Settlement	C.
4		Widow of Jacob Bohm	Jacob Bohm	320 arpens	Order of survey, 14 Ap. 1794	B.
5	52	Charles Barre	Mr. Courtableau	8,800 do	Patent, 21 May, 1765	B.
6	38	Widow of Ant. Boisdore	Widow Manette Boisdore	Indefinite	Requette, 13 July, 1784	B.
7	35	Antoine Boisdore	Maria De St. Denis	5,971 acres	Order of survey	B.
8	61	Maria Therese Berthelot, widow	Attakapas Indians	640 do	Purchase from Indians	C.
9	63	Simon Burney	Not specified in the notice	640 do	Settlement	C.
10	79	Antoine Belard	Pierre Aucoin	200 arpens	Order of survey	C.
11	32	Genevive Boisdore	Genevive Boisdore	800 do	Requette	C.
12	60	Maria Therese Berthelot, widow	Attakapas Indians	640 acres	Purchase from Indians	C.
13	42	Francois Cesar Boutte	Blaise Brasseur	120 arpens	Order of survey	C.
14	43	Same	Not specified in notice	18 do	Occupancy	B.
15	132	Francois Carmouch	Attakapas Indians	Indefinite	Purchase from Indians	C.
16	113	Louis Carriere	Antoine Anselin	54 acres	Order of survey	C.
17	135	John Coleman, sen.	Not specified in the notice	640 do	Settlement	C.
18	133	John Coleman	Attakapas Indians	3,333 arpens	Purchase from Indians	C.
19	120	Pierre Chritien	Same	Indefinite	Purchase from Indians	C.
20	40	John Corneau	Same	Do	Same	C.
21	158	John B'te Castille	Same	3,360 arpens	Same	C.
22	106	Daniel Callaghan	Edward Foreman	640 acres	Settlement	C.
23	111	Same	Richard	20 arpens	Not specified in the notice	C.
24	107	Same	Choctoo Indians	11,933 acres	Purchase from Indians	B.
25	94	Theophilus Collins & others	Pellerin	Indefinite	Patent or title in form	B.
26	96	Theophilus Collins	Same	340 acres	Same	B.
27	99	Luke Collins	Luke Collins	400 arpens	Requette	B.
28	104	John Collins	Louis Boisdore	About 20 arpens	Not known	B.
29	110	Daniel Callaghan	Daniel Callaghan	About 10¼ acres	Requette and settlement	C.
30	487	Martin Donato	Pellerin	240 arpens	Patent or title in form	B.
31	181	Same	Same	240 arpens	Same	B.
32	214	Etiene D'Aigle	Etiene D'Aigle	406.20 acres	Settlement, &c.	C.
33	211	William Darby	Mr. Lamorandier	80 arpens	Not known	C.
34	47	Hatch Dent	Lacasine Indian	7,056 do	Purchase from an Indian	C.
35	208	Joseph Doucet	Anselm Doucet	200 acres	Settlement	C.
36	173	Martin Duralde	Martin Duralde	Indefinite	Order of survey	B.
37	217	Baptiste De Brocar	Madam Donato	203.7 acres	Spanish patent	C.
38	221	Heirs of Wm. Ellis	William Ellis	625 do	Order of survey	B.
39	262	Margaret Fisher	Margaret Fisher	640 do	Settlement	C.
40	260	John Frenchbois	Brignac	120 arpens	Spanish grant	B.
41	292	Bradley Gardner	Bradley Gardner	640 acres	Settlement	C.
42	291	Same	Same	640 do	Same	C.
43	269	John W. Gurley	Demossellier	1,600 arpens	Concession from French Government	C.
44	294	Joshua Garret	Joshua Garret	1,600 do	Requette	B.
45	296	Widow and heirs of Gonor	Le Bray De Gonnor	800 do	Order of survey	B.
46	270	John Gradinego	John Gradinego	1,200 do	Order of survey	B.
47	271	John Gradinego	Charles Vige	800 do	Order of survey	B.
48	285	David Guidry & J. Mouton	Celestine Le Tortue	2,800 do	Purchase from Indians	C.
49	285	Same	Same	2,000 do	Same	B.
50	276	Louis Guillory	Louis Guillory	1,200 do	Requette, &c.	B.
51	282	Joseph Guillory	Widow Donato	200 do	Unknown	C.
52	299	Seth Hanchet	Seth Hanchet	640 acres	Occupancy	C.
53	310	Thomas & F. Huffpower	Thos. and F's Huffpower	800 arpens	Order of survey	B.
54	313	Thomas Huffpower	Thomas Huffpower	640 acres	Settlement	C.
55	325	Henry Hargroider	Andrew Boudreau	360 arpens	Spanish concession	C.
56	323	Henry Hebert	Indians	400 do	Purchase from Indians	C.
57	322	Francis Herault	Antoine Langlois	480 do	Unknown	C.
58	341	Michel Imel	Michel Imel	800 do	Same	C.
59	348	Inhabitants of Bellevue	Inhabitants of Bellevue	1,317 acres	Order of survey	B.
60	338	John Joy	Demossellier	1,600 arpens	Concession from French Government	C.
61	351	George King	Pellerin	253.90 acres	Patent or title in form	B.
62	352	Same	Pellerin	209 arpens	Same	B.
63	396	Joseph Labaum & others	J. Labaum and others	960 do	Order of survey	B.
64	164	Philip Auguste Delachaise	Celestine, an Indian	1,000 do	Purchase from Indians	C.
65	374	Michel Leger	Same	400 do	Same	C.
66	384	David Lesley	David Lesley	400 do	Requette, &c.	B.
67	381	Joseph Landry	Joseph Landry	1,200 do	Requette, &c.	B.
68	369	Sarah Lacomb	Sarah Lacomb	640 acres	Settlement by permission	C.
69	372	Michael Leger	Michael Leger	677 do	Settlement by permission	C.
70	370	Sarah Lacomb	Sarah Lacomb	200 arpens	Settlement by permission	C.

REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

Reported No.	Register's No.	By whom claimed.	Original proprietor or claimant.	Quantity claimed.	Nature and date of the title or claim.	Class.
71	361	Jacques & Dennis Lemel	Lemel	169.36 acres	Unknown	C.
72	386	Representatives of E. Leonard	Pellerin	200 arpens	Patent or title in form	B.
73	428	John Mouton (nephew)	Jacob, an Indian	1,600 do	Purchase from Indians	C.
74	440	Catharine Pipre, widow of Geo. Miller	Catharine Pipre	240 do	Unknown	B.
75	423	Walter M'Morrice	Jesse Kirkland	240 do	Requette, &c.	B.
76	426	William M'Koy	Unknown	200 do	Unknown	C.
77	451	John Meche	Robert Burley	235.78 acres	Occupancy	B.
78	417	Dennis M'Daniel	Dennis M'Daniel	640 do	Settlement	B.
79	420	Peter M'Daniel	Peter M'Daniel	507.54 do	Requette, &c.	B.
80	414	John M'Daniel	John M'Daniel	685.85 do	Requette, &c.	B.
81	436	Andrew Martin	Celestine Le Tortue	1,523 do	Indian purchase and occupancy	B.
82	422	Roger M'Pike	Jesse Kirkland	203 do	Unknown	B.
83	461	William Norris	William Norris	640 do	Settlement	C.
84	473	Peter O'Conner	Peter O'Conner	677 do	Settlement by permission	C.
85	474	Evan O'Conner	Evan O'Conner	640 do	Same	C.
86	769	William O'Donegan	William O'Donegan	1,015.54 do	Requette and settlement	B.
87	347	Inhabitants of Opelousas	Inhabitants of Opelousas	Unknown	Spanish concession	B.
88	501	Adm'rs of J. C. Poiret	Louis Caillivat	1,200 arpens	Unknown	C.
89	503	Same	John Gagnaird	480 do	Unknown	C.
90	493	Benj. P. Porter and Wm. Darby	Albert Beausargent	480 do	Unknown	C.
91	493	Same	Francois Clement	160 do	Settlement	C.
92	500	Michel Perrault	Perrault	800 do	Requette, &c.	B.
93	494	B. P. Porter and Wm. Darby	Francois Clement	120 do	Unknown	C.
94	499	Michel Papilon	M. Papilon	640 acres	Settlement	C.
95	530	Samuel Reed	Samuel Reed	338.51 do	Requette and settlement	B.
96	511	Louis and Pierre Richard	John, Attakapas Indian	3,200 arpens	Purchase from Indians	B.
97	518	John B'te Richard	John B'te Richard	507.77 acres	Settlement	C.
98	534	Andrew A. Ryan	Routh	640 do	Same	C.
99	532	Remy	Pierre Borre	400 arpens	Occupancy	B.
100	535	Hellen Robleau	H. Robleau	640 acres	Settlement	C.
101		Jas. Rumsey's heirs	Fr's Lemel	800 arpens	Unknown	B.
102	585	Helene Soleau	Not mentioned in notice	240 do	Unknown	B.
103	552	Raphael Smith	Celestine Le Tortue	7,144.38 do	Purchase from Indians	C.
104	548	Benjamin A. Smith	Same	7,144.38 do	Purchase from Indians	C.
105	580	Augustin Soileau's heirs	Unknown	138 acres	Unknown	C.
106	579	Heirs of Peter Styx	Louis, an Indian	480 arpens	Purchase from Indians	C.
107	560	Maria Semien	Unknown	240 do	Unknown	B.
108	555	Same	Maria Simien	200 do	Requette and occupancy	B.
109	588	Nicholas Simon	Mahy Poly, an Indian	1,400 do	Purchase from Indians	C.
110	578	Heirs of Peter Styx	Bernard, an Indian	240 do	Purchase from Indians	C.
111	589	Charles Simon, son of Nicholas	Mahy Poly, an Indian	600 do	Purchase from Indians	C.
112	570	Heirs of Fr's Stely	Rev. Fr's Stely	1,200 do	Requette, &c.	B.
113	220	Heirs of Maria De St. Denis	Maria St. Denis	1,600 do	Order of survey	B.
114	569	David F. Sacket	Henry Hargroider	1,000 do	Requette and occupancy	B.
115	540	Charles Smith	Charles Smith	300 acres	Requette, &c.	B.
116	612	Juliana Thomas	Unknown	280 do	Unknown	C.
117	609	Heirs of Pierre Thibodeau	Philip Dagneau	160 arpens	Requette and French decree	C.
118	603	Christopher Teal's representatives	Chr. Teal	426.33 acres	Settlement	C.
119	598	Robert Taylor	Julien Lesassier	40 arpens	Order of survey	B.
120	598	Robert Taylor	Luke Collins, jr.	200 do	Same	B.
121	598	Robert Taylor	Luke Collins, sr.	21 do	Spanish patent	C.
122	622	Noel Vasseur	Chevalier Villier	Unknown	Unknown	C.
123	625	C. Voorhies, guardian for the heirs of Lagotrie	Unknown	1,600 arpens	Unknown	C.
124	638	Roger West	Isaac Frazer	640 acres	Settlement	C.
125	639	Nathaniel West	Nathaniel West	400 arpens	Requette, &c.	B.
126	640	Andrew Weaver	William Hay	640 acres	Settlement	C.
127	249	Benjamin Winfrey	B. Winfrey	640 do	Settlement	C.
128	635	Philip Winfrey	P. Winfrey	640 do	Settlement	C.
129	630	William Wikoff, sen.	W. Le Tortue, an Indian	2,733 do	Purchase from Indians and occupancy	B.
130	629	William Wikoff, sen.	Wm. Wikoff, sen.	1,354 do	Requette	B.
131	631	William Wikoff, jr.	W. Wikoff, jr.	1,600 arpens	Requette	B.
132	632	Francisca Wikoff	F. Wikoff	500 do	Order of survey	B.

REMARKS ON THE FOREGOING LIST OF LAND CLAIMS IN THE COUNTY OF OPELOUSAS, WITH REFERENCES TO THE REPORTED NUMBERS.

No. 1. Pierre Arseneaux claims one-third part of the land lying between the Coule de Aigle and Frederick Mouton's land, being in depth forty arpens. This land was purchased by the said Pierre from Frederick Mouton, who purchased from an Indian chief of the tribe of Attakapas. The notice of this claim is accompanied by the following documents: 1st. A certified copy of a deed of sale by Achenoya, chief of the Attakapas tribe of Indians, vested with power by Jacob Le Tortue, junr., and Baptiste (as set forth in the said deed of sale) to Frederick Mouton, for a tract of land in the quarter called Bayou de Blanc, in the county of Opelousas; bounded on one side by other land of the purchaser, and on the other side by the Coule de Aigle, with the depth of forty arpens, for the consideration 115 dollars. Sale passed 29th July, 1802, before Honore de la Chaise, then acting as com

mandant for the post of Opelousas. 2dly. A sale by the said Frederick Mouton to the said Pierre Arseneaux, passed the 5th of October, 1804, before the said Honore de la Chaise, then styling himself "Commandant for the United States of America" of the post of Opelousas, for one-third part of the land purchased by the said Mouton from the Indians, to be taken next the Coule d'Aigle. No evidence has been adduced in this claim to establish a title by occupancy. It is, therefore, to be inferred that the claimant relies on the validity of the Indian title, and presumes the transfer passed before the commandant to be good and sufficient.

It may not be improper here to inquire whether and how far this case, and others similarly circumstanced, may be affected by the laws of the United States restraining the purchasing the lands of Indians by unauthorized individuals. By an act of Congress, passed the 30th of March, 1802, for "regulating trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers," it is enacted "that no grant, lease, or other conveyance of lands, or of any title or claim thereto, from any Indian, or nation, or tribe of Indians, *within the boundaries of the United States*, shall be of any validity unless made by treaty or convention made pursuant to the constitution." And it is made a misdemeanor, punishable by fine and imprisonment, for any person not employed under the authority of the United States to negotiate any treaty or convention with the Indians, or treat with them, for the title or purchase of any lands held by them. See the 12th section of the above recited act.

The provisions of the statute above quoted were by an act of Congress passed the 26th of March, 1804, entitled "an act erecting Louisiana into two territories, &c.," extended to those territories to take effect *from and after the 1st day of October*, 1804. Anterior to the said first day of October, an act passed the 31st of October, 1803, entitled "an act to enable the President of the United States to take possession of the territory ceded by France to the United States, and for the temporary government thereof," was to remain in force. By the last mentioned act neither the right of the Indians to sell their lands, nor of any individual to purchase from them, has been interdicted or restrained. No doubt therefore can exist of the Indians, within the limits of Louisiana, having had the same right to pass sales of their lands at any time *previous to the first day of October*, 1804, that they enjoyed whilst Louisiana continued to be a colony of Spain. Such sale, however, could only vest in a purchaser the kind of title which the Indians held. It therefore becomes necessary next to examine the nature and tenure of the Indian title to lands in Louisiana.

The Spanish functionaries seem to have made a distinction between Indians who had partaken of the rights of baptism, and the ordinary tribes or nations of Indians within the limits of Louisiana. The former ever denominate Christian Indians, a term usually, if not invariably, incorporated in the body of the instrument by which their titles to lands were transferred to others.

These Indians seem to have been considered capable of holding and enjoying lands in as full and ample manner as any other subjects of the crown of Spain. That the tenure of the title to lands held by Indians not denominated Christians may be more clearly comprehended, and that repetition may be avoided in the progress of this report, the undersigned Commissioners think it necessary here to insert such extracts both from the testimony adduced, and written documents filed in other claims held under purchases from Indians, as may appear in any degree applicable to the one under consideration, to which they may find it convenient and useful to make frequent references in their remarks on other claims similarly circumstanced. From testimony given in the claim of Thomas Nicholson (which will be reported among the claims of the county of Attakapas) by Louis C. De Blanc, esq., formerly exercising the office of commandant civil and military for the district of Natchitoches, and afterwards the same office for the district of Attakapas, the following is extracted: "The right of the Indians to sell their lands always was recognized and admitted by the Spanish Government." "We always considered the title from the Indians to their villages the best of titles, because the original property of the soil was in them; and when this country was conquered, the laws of the conquerors were enforced, but the property of the aboriginies was held sacred. Hence the difference between the titles of Indians and other subjects. The other subjects who wanted land must demand and have a written title. It was not necessary for the Indians, because they already had a title to the land they claimed. Their title originated in, first, occupancy, cultivation, and settlement. The Indians never claimed other lands than their villages, and when they did, it was given them by the Government. There never was an instance of the Government of Spain taking land from Indians, especially their villages. Even when the Indians had abandoned some old villages because their hunting was exhausted, and had established new ones, by the grant of the Spanish Government their villages deserted were always considered as their property, subject to their disposal, and the inhabitants never suffered to settle there, but were always driven off." "There was no time fixed in which a deed must be presented for approbation. It could be presented in one year, or an hundred years, and it would receive the sanction of the Government. The laws made it necessary when the Indians sold their lands to have the deeds presented to the governor for approbation. This was only a form, as the governor in all cases approved, and never refused." "The villages of the Indians never consisted of less than a league, and often two leagues or more in front; and it was the custom of the Spanish Government, *whenever they granted land to Indians*, to give them a league or more square."

In the claim of Miller and Fulton for a tract of land on Bayou Bœuf, in the county of Rapides, purchased from Indians, which will be reported by the Register and Receiver of this district, pursuant to the provisions of an act of Congress passed the 27th February, 1813, will be seen the testimony of Charles Laveau Trudeau, many years surveyor general of the province of Louisiana under the Spanish Government, from which the following is extracted: "The deponent knows of no ordinances or regulations under any governor of Louisiana, except O'Reilly, by which the Indians inhabiting lands within the province were limited in their possessions to one league square about their villages, but these regulations have not been adhered to by any of his successors. The deponent knows that the custom was, that when a tribe of Indians settled a village *by the consent of the Government*, that the chief fixed the boundaries; and when there were one or more neighboring villages, the respective chiefs of those villages agreed upon, and fixed the boundaries between themselves; and when any tribe sold out its village, the commandant uniformly made the conveyance according to the limits pointed out by the chief. The lands claimed by the Indians *around their villages*, were always considered as their own, and they were always protected in the unmolested enjoyment of it by the Government against all the world, and has always passed from one generation to another, so long as it was possessed by them, as their own property. The Indians could always sell their land *with the consent of the Government;* and if, after selling their village, and the lands around it, they should, *by the permission of the Government*, establish themselves elsewhere, they might again sell, having *first obtained the permission of Government*, and so on, *as often as such permission was obtained;* and no instance is known where such permission has ever been refused or withheld. These sales were passed before the commandant of the district, and was always considered good and valid without any order from the Government."

In the claim of Miller and Fulton for land on Bayou Bœuf, the following is an extract from the testimony of Mr. Valentine Layssard, late commandant under the Spanish Government for the post of Rapides: "The deponent has never known a smaller quantity than a league square of land to be assigned to any one tribe of Indians, let their numbers be what they might; and in one case, namely, the Appalachie tribe (a small tribe) a much larger quantity than a league square of the first quality and situation on Red river was assigned to them." See Rapides Report, No. 125.

Extract from the testimony of the same person in the claim of Miller and Fulton for land on Red river: "The deponent saith that he had been agent of Indian affairs for many years under the Spanish Government for the post of Rapides; spoke the language of the Indians, &c. That, in the year 1803, the Appalachie and Tensaw tribes of Indians came to the deponent, as Indian agent, to inform him of their having sold their land to Miller and Fulton, and requested him to pass the sale. That the deponent replied to the Indians, that neither himself nor them could dispose of or convey their lands without the authority and approbation of the Governor of the province." By referring to the documents filed in the claim, it will be seen that application was made to the Governor, who gave his written permission for the chief to sell, with the consent of his nation." See Rapides Report, No. 126.

In the claim of Patrick Morgan and Daniel Clark for a tract of land in the county of Attakapas, which will be reported among other claims of the said county, it will be seen that M. Fusilier de la Clair had purchased from Kinemo, chief of the Attakapas village, called in French "Lamourier," the said village and land depending thereon, of two leagues in front from north to south, limited on the west by the river Vermillion, and on the east by

the river Teche. This sale was passed in November, 1760, when Louisiana was subject to France, and being executed before Mr. Kerleric, then governor of the province, is evidence that the consent of the governor, to sales passed by Indians, was, at that date, considered necessary to their validity. About the same time that the above sale was passed, three or four other purchases were made from the Indians of Attakapas, by which a very large proportion of the lands of that district, and nearly or quite all the valuable lands on the river Teche, were embraced. After Louisiana had changed sovereigns, and become a colony of Spain, the Count de O'Reilly, the first governor of the province under the Spanish monarchy, passed regulations or ordinances by which no grant for land in Opelousas, Attakapas, or Natchitoches, could exceed one league square. It would seem that, in some cases, these regulations were intended to have a retrospective operation; for we find that Mr. de la Clair, in the year 1770, petitioned the governor for a grant of one league front by a league in depth, expressly admitting in his petition that the sale from the Indians was "not sufficient to assure to him the property of the said land." On this petition the said Governor O'Reilly, on the 2d of March, 1770, made what was denominated a provisional concession, ordering the surveyor to mark out the limits to the petitioner of a tract of land of one league in front by one league in depth. In like manner have the other purchases from Indians been reduced to one league square, the surplussage not having been considered as reverting to the Indians, but as making a part of the royal domain, which has been granted, from time to time, as it may have been petitioned for by other individuals. In the claim of Stephen Lynch (Rapides Reports, No. 108,) it will be seen that Lynch purchased from the attorney in fact of the Reverend Mr. McGuire, who purchased from Indians; and that the said attorney expressly covenants, in the deed by which the title to the land is transferred, that the seller is to be entitled to receive nothing in payment from the purchaser *until the sale made by the Indians to McGuire shall have been ratified by the governor.* In the same claim a document is filed which appears to be a transcript of a judicial investigation and decision of the conflicting claims of the said Lynch, and a man named Carrigan, before Cæsar Archinard, alcalde of the district, who has decided that Lynch's title is good provided Carrigan shall not be able to produce a prior conveyance from McGuire or his attorney; and provided, also, that the sale from the Indians to McGuire *shall be ratified by the governor.*

In the claim of Joseph Gillard, (Rapides Report, No. 67,) in passing the sale from the Indians to Collin la Cour, the commandant of Natchitoches, before whom it was executed, Louis C. De Blanc has inserted a condition *making it necessary that the deed should be presented to the governor general of the province for his approval and confirmation.*

In the claim of John Lyon for a tract of land on the bayou Queue de Tortue, purchased from an Indian of the Attakapas tribe named Celestine, the commandant who wrote the deed of sale, and before whom it was executed, (Louis C. De Blanc,) has included a provision whereby it was made necessary to present the deed *for the approbation of the governor general of the province.*

In the foregoing documents strong evidence is perceived of the general understanding that the sanction of the governor of the province, whilst Louisiana continued to be a Spanish colony, was necessary to the validity of all sales made by Indians other than those denominated Christians; and it necessarily results that titles held under such sales were inchoate until that sanction was obtained. The sales by the Indians transferred the kind of right which they possessed. The ratification of the sale by the governor must be regarded as a relinquishment of the title of the crown in favor of the purchaser. May the Indians, on account of being the aboriginies of the country, be considered as having, at all times, had a right to the unappropriated or unoccupied lands, and can their sales for lands which they did not occupy be taken as vesting in a purchaser an indefeasible title? It will be noticed, that in the extract made from the testimony of Mr. De Blanc, there is an assertion that the title of the Indians, especially to the lands including their villages, was considered under the Spanish Government as "the best of titles;" and that this title was held sacred on account of their being the aboriginies of the country. The same witness has also said that even the villages abandoned by the Indians were afterwards regarded as their property, and subject to their disposal. The undersigned commissioners do not perceive the orthodoxy of these assertions. If the Indian title really possessed the dignity which Mr. De Blanc has assigned to it, a formal extinction of that title, by treaty or purchase by the French or Spanish Governments, ought to have preceded all grants made by either of those Governments, because there was not perhaps a spot of the country susceptive of settlement which the roving natives had not at some past period occupied. It will be observed that, in another part of his testimony, Mr. De Blanc has insinuated that this country was conquered from the Indians. The inquiries and researches of the undersigned, however, afford them no evidence of any fact which can induce them to consider the country as having been acquired by conquest. On the contrary, the Indians seem to have permitted the European emigrants to usurp the sovereignty of the country without making any opposition to them; and the right, thus obtained by the crown of France, and afterwards transferred to that of Spain, has acquired force and validity by prescription—has been legitimated by the tacit acquiescence of the natives in that usurpation. If it should be asked what evidence exists of the law of prescription operating to the extinction of the Indian title to lands in Louisiana? it might be replied that the evidence is to found in the various acts of the Spanish Government in relation to the Indians, evincing that the Government recognized no title in them independently of that derived from the crown, a mere right of occupancy at the will of the Government, else why was the sanction of the Government necessary to all sales passed by Indians, which may be clearly established by a recurrence to written documents and testimony of Messrs. Trudeau, De Blanc, and Layssard, and was it not necessary to have such sanction of the sales made by other subjects of the Spanish Government? The force and effect of prescription in abolishing the Indian title to lands in Louisiana is further established by the Indians permitting themselves to be removed from place to place by Governmental authority; by their condescending, in some cases, to ask permission of the governors to sell their lands, and, when that permission was not solicited, assenting to the insertion of a clause in their deeds of sale, expressly admitting that their sales could be of no validity without the ratification of the governor.

"There was no time fixed," says Mr. De Blanc in another part of his evidence, "in which a deed must be presented for approbation; it might be presented in one year, or an hundred years, and would always receive the sanction of the Government." Would it not be a very preposterous regulation under any form of government, and very unlikely to have existence under a monarchical one, that should require the acts of an inferior to be submitted to a superior officer for his scrutiny and approbation, and, at the same time, deny to such superior the right of rejection? That, therefore, the governors of the Spanish colony of Louisiana had the right not only of rejecting Indian sales, but of actually annulling them, it is conceived will not be denied. Nor is it at all probable that the governors either "*would always sanction,*" or have always sanctioned such sales. Let it be remembered that, in the whole extent of the western district, there are not more than three, out of the many sales made by the Indians since Louisiana became a colony of Spain, which are known to have received the governmental sanction. And let it be remembered also, that a sale which may have been rejected by any governor, would not have been exhibited to the Board of Commissioners as evidence of title. Therefore, although the Board of Commissioners have no means of producing any proof of the rejection of any Indian sale, it does not follow that none have been rejected. The practice, by Governor O'Reilly, of reducing the quantity of land embraced by sales which had been made by Indians under the sanction of the governors when Louisiana was a colony of France, was much more arbitrary. But, if it could be established that no Indian sale was ever rejected by the Spanish Government, this would only prove that none had been presented but such as were admissible—not that a case might not occur which would demand the exercise of the governor's negative. Suppose, for example, a sale from the Opelousas Indians, at a time when that tribe had dwindled down to not more than twenty persons, which should embrace half the unoccupied land in the county of Opelousas, can it be imagined that such a sale would not have been rejected by any governor of Louisiana? Many of the sales from Attakapas Indians were obtained about the time of the change of Government by which Louisiana was transferred to the United States; some of them subsequent to that change, and at a time when it is known, from good information, that those Indians were reduced to one single village, the inhabitants of which were short of one hundred. In some cases, as will appear by the subjoined schedule of Indian sales, six or eight distinct tracts have been sold by the same individual Indian. It is not probable that if sales had been passed under circumstances such as are stated above, before the change of Government, or prospect of such a change, they would have been rejected? Although no

time may have been prescribed within which the sales of Indians were to have been presented for ratification, the purchasers could not have been ignorant that the regulations required that they should be presented at some time for ratification, because the condition was generally expressed in the face of the deed, and therefore they must have known that their titles were incomplete at all times before the ratification.

The undersigned Commissioners are of opinion that there is a wide difference between the titles of such persons as have purchased lands from Indians, which such Indians were actually occupying at the date of their sales, and the titles and claims of persons who purchased from Indians not in the actual occupancy of the land at the date of their sales. Purchasers of the first description, although the deeds of transfer may not have been presented, and of course could not have received the governmental sanction, may be considered as having extinguished the kind of title which the Indians enjoy, and are, therefore, in the opinion of the Commissioners, equitably entitled to so much at least of the land claimed as would be a full indemnity for the consideration they may have paid for it. Purchasers of the second description would not, in the opinion of the board, be entitle to any remuneration, because it is conceived the Indians in such cases were selling a thing to which they had no kind of title.

The investigation of claims for lands purchased from Indians seems to have brought into view four distinct classes. First. Claims for lands purchased from Indians denominated Christians, whose sales are generally for small tracts of such extent as an Indian and his family might be supposed capable of cultivating—passed before the proper Spanish officer, and duly filed of record. These sales are believed to have been valid by the usages of the Spanish Government without ratification being necessary. Secondly. Claims for lands purchased from some tribe, or chief of some tribe, of Indians, the sales of which may have been ratified by the governor of the province. These are also considered as valid—the Indian sale transferring their right; the ratification of the governor being regarded as a relinquishment in favor of the purchaser of the right of the crown. Thirdly. Claims for land purchased from Indians of the description last mentioned, who, from the evidence adduced before the board, shall appear to have been in the actual occupancy of the land at the date of their sales, but whose deeds of sale may not have been presented for the ratification of the Governor. In this case, the Indians are considered as having transferred only the right of occupancy *which they held at the will of the Government*. The title is incomplete, but the purchaser supposed to have an equitable claim for the confirmation of his title to so much of the land claimed as would be a full indemnity for the consideration he may have paid. Fourth and lastly. Claims for lands sold by Indians of the last description, who did not occupy them at the date of their sales, and whose sales have not been ratified by any governor of Louisiana. Such sales are considered as vesting no title in the purchasers; and the claims such (unless accompanied by some equitable circumstance in their favor) as, in the opinion of the Board of Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

Of this last class is the claim at present under consideration; unattended by any circumstance, known to the Board of Commissioners, which might entitle it to confirmation.

The number of tracts sold by each tribe, or chief of each tribe of Indians, with the date of sale, quantity sold, where it can be ascertained, &c., exhibited at one view in the following schedule.

Schedule of the sales made by Indians of Lands in the Counties of Opelousas and Attakapas.

Date of the sale.	Before what judge or commandant executed.	Names of the purchasers.	In what county situate.	Names of the Indians selling, with the quantity of land sold by each in superficial arpens.										
				Ashnova, Attakapas Indian.	Tacoble Tortue, Attakapas.	Tichou, Attakapas Indian.	Celestine le Tortue, Attakapas chief.	Nementou, Attakapas chief.	Lauisine, Attakapas Indian.	Louis, Attakapas Indian.	Jonn, Attakapas Indian.	Mahy Polie, Attakapas Indian.	Bernard, Attak pas chief.	John Baptiste, Attakapas Indian.
1784. April 16	Mr. A. D. Clouet	Antoine Blanc	Opelousas	-	-	-	-	3333						
1803. Nov. 10	Mr. H. La Chaise	M. T. Berthelot, [widow	Do	-	-	-	Undefined							
1802. Aug'st 19	Mr. L. C. Deblanc	John Coleman	Do	-	-	-	3360							
1803. Nov. 10	Mr. H. La Chaise	Pierre Chritien	Do	-	-	-	Undenfied							
1802. July 21	Mr H. La Chaise	John Comeau	Do	Undefined										
1804. March 17	Mr. H. La Chaise	John Bte. Castile	Do	-	-	-	3360							
1799. June 1	Private witnesses	Catharine Le Blue	Do	-	-	-	-	-	7056					
1803. Dec. 29	Mr. H. La Chaise	P. A. de la Chaise	Do	-	-	-	1000							
Same date	Same	D. Guedry and J. [Mouton	Do	-	-	-	4960							
	Unknown	Henry Hebert	Do											
1804. April 16	Mr. La Chaise	Michel Leger	Do	-	-	-	400							
1803. Dec. 29	Same	J. Mouton, nephew	Do	-	1600									
	Same	Andre Martin	Do	-	-	-	1523							
1801. June 29	Same	L's & Pr. Richard	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3200			
1804. Sep. 28	Same	Raphael Smith	Do	-	-	-	7056							
Same date	Same	Benj. A. Smith	Do	-	-	-	7056							
1804. April 16	Same	Pierre Styx	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	960				
1804. April 17	Same	Nichs. Simon	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1400		
1803. Nov. 5	Mr. Duralde	Pierre Styx	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	240	
1804. April 17	Mr. H. La Chaise	Charles Simon	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	600		
1791. April 16	Mr. E. Forstall	Wm. Wikoff	Do	-	-	-	2733							
		Frs Carmouch	Do	Undefined										
1802. July 29	Mr. H. La Chaise	Frederick Mouton	Do	Undefined										
1802. June 28	Same	Francois Stely	Do	-	-	Undefined in the deed claimed for 640 acres								
1800. Sept. 10	Mr. L. C. De Blanc	Francois Broussard	Attakapas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	unde	fin'd
1805. Nov. 19	Mr. E. C. Nicholls, [judge	Hyacinth Bernard	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1040
1802. Aug'st 19	Mr. L. C. De Blanc	John Lyon	Opelousas	-	-		2000							
1801. Feb. 25	Mr. Duralde	Same	Attakapas	-	-	2240								
1802. Aug'st 19	Mr. De Blanc	Marin Mouton	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4351	
1802. Oct. 6	Mr. De Blanc	Thos. Nicholson	Do	3360										

No. 2. Antoine Blanc claims a tract of land of one league front by the depth of forty arpens, on the Bayou Plaquemine Brulee. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a deed of sale from Nementou, chief of the Attakapas tribe of Indians, signed also by thirteen of his warriors, or inhabitants of the village, to the claimant, executed on the 16th of April, 1784, before Alexander Chevalier De Clouet, then commandant of the district of Opelousas and Attakapas, witnessed by William Hays and Louis Latiolais, for a tract of land of one league front by the ordinary depth of forty arpens, measure of Paris, (giving an area of 2,820 86-100 American acres,) on the Bayou Plaquemine Brulee, "adjoining the land of Hays, an American;" for the consideration of sundry articles of merchandize invoiced or specified in the deed. On the back of the deed is the certificate, dated 10th June, 1784, of Louis Latiolais and Joseph Roy, stating that they were present when the merchandize specified in the deed was delivered to the Indians. No evidence has been adduced to establish either that the land claimed was in the occupancy of the Indians at the date of the sale, or that it has been actually occupied by the claimant since that date. It will, however, be observed, that the tract is very specially located on the Bayou Plaquemine Brulee, adjoining the land of Hays, an American. In the concession from the Spanish Government to Bosman Hays, whose claim has been confirmed by the Board of Commissioners, by their certificate marked B, No. 594, it is seen that the said Hays's land is situate on the Bayou Plaquemine Brulee, and was adjacent to the Indian village at the date of the concession. This is, at least, strong presumptive evidence that the land was occupied by the Indians at the time of their sale to the claimant. This circumstance considered, together with the early date of the sale, the deed having been signed by a number of the Indians with their chief, and the subsequent payment of the consideration so satisfactorily established, induce the undersigned to class this among claims which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 3. William Bard claims, by right of settlement, a tract of six hundred and thirty-nine and 96-100 acres of land, situate on Bayou Tortue. A plat of survey by James Gordon, dated the 18th November, 1805, the only document accompanying the notice. No evidence of occupancy has been adduced. The claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 4. The widow of Jocob Bohm claims three hundred and twenty acres of land lying in the Prairie Lasonde. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a requette, in the name of the said Jacob Bohm, dated the 3d of January, 1794, in which he has represented that, in the year 1781, he obtained a grant from the Spanish Government for five arpens of land front, between the lands of Yarborough and Roger Fields, with the depth of forty arpens; and, finding himself deficient of arable land, has prayed a grant of the land remaining vacant between the same boundaries, being eight arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, which is conceded by the Baron Carondelet by an order of survey dated the 14th of April, 1794. A plat of survey by Luke Collins, an authorized surveyor under the Spanish Government, bearing date the 14th of September, 1801, and filed with the notice, appears to embrace an area equal to that petitioned for. Seth Hanchet, sworn in this claim, and examined before the board on the 28th of May, 1812, hath deposed that the land in question has been occupied by using the timber thereof, and occasionally extending the cultivated fields thereto, from the time the said Bohm petitioned for it, and some years before, to the present time; that the land was always respected as the rightful property of the said Bohm during his life-time; but the deponent was not certain whether the habitation of the said Bohm was actually on this tract or an adjoining one. This land seems to have been conceded as an appendage to the tract on which the said Bohm resided; and, although the proof of occupancy does not come within the provisions of the acts of Congress, the title is such as would have been valid under the Spanish Government; and the claim therefore such as, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed. The widow claimed as well under the title of her deceased husband as by transfer in her favor of the respective interests of his children and heirs. Her death, since the claim was entered, having been suggested to the Commissioners, they intimate the propriety of confirming the claim to her legal representatives.

No. 5. Charles Barre claims 8,800 acres (should be arpens) of land on the river Courtableau, purchased by him from William Reed and wife. This claim is founded on a complete patent to Mr. Courtableau, dated the 21st of May, 1765, and signed by Charles Philip Aubry and Dennis Nicholas Foucault, the first commanding for the King, and said to have been governor; the latter intendant, styling himself ordonnateur, when Louisiana was subject to France, for one hundred arpens front, on the right bank of the river of Opelousas, (sometimes called the river, or Bayou Courtableau) with the depth of eighty arpens, and twenty arpens front, on the opposite side of the said river, with the depth of forty arpens. After the death of Mr. Courtableau, the lands in question were sold, agreeably to the usages of the county, at public sale on the 15th of October, 1774, by Chevalier De Clouet, and bought by Mr. Lamorindier for Madame Marcantel. This lady is said to have intermarried with William Reed, from whom the present claimant holds. The deed of sale from Reed and wife to Charles Barre, is dated November the 7th, 1786. A plat of survey, dated in 1800, representing the land claimed, and embracing the exact quantity conceded, accompanies the other documents in this claim: it was projected for Charles Barre, and is certified by Mr. Carlos Laveau Trudeau, then surveyor general of the province of Louisiana. This claim, being for a larger quantity of land than the Commissioners are authorized to confirm a title for, they are constrained to report it for the consideration of Congress, remarking that the patent, which has been submitted to their scrutiny, is unquestionably a genuine one, in the form usual under the French Government. They entertain no doubt, therefore, of this being a valid and just claim.

No. 6. Manette Boisdore, widow of Antoine Boisdore, claims a tract of land, of which the quantity has not yet been ascertained, from the boundary of Eugene Boisdore to the place called the Pointe of Marronnes, on the Bayou Cannes, in the Prairie Mamou. A requette for the land as above described in the name of the claimant, dated the 15th of July, 1784, approved and signed by the then commandant, Chevalier De Clouet, the 14th of August, 1784, is the only document accompanying the notice of this claim. No evidence of occupancy has been adduced. From the belief that this claim would have been valid under the Spanish Government, the confirmation is recommended to the extent of six hundred and forty acres.

No. 7. Antoine Boisdore claims 5,971 acres of land on the Bayou Canne, in the prairie Faquetcke. This claim is founded on a requette and order of survey conceded to Maria de St. Denis, for 84 arpens front by the depth of 84 arpens. From the requette, which is dated the 26th of February, 1799, it appears that this land was solicited on account of services which had been rendered to the Spanish Government by the father of the claimant. The order of survey was accorded by Governor Galvez without any conditions of settlement, &c. In a deed of sale, dated the 1st of October, 1784, from the said Maria to the present claimant, which was executed before the then commandant, Chevalier De Clouet, there is an express reservation by the vender of the use of the plantation and houses thereon for one year after the sale. A plat of survey by William Darby, a deputy surveyor, dated 12th October, 1806, and representing the land as fronting on the left bank of Bayou Cannes, accompanies the foregoing documents. Andre Martin, sworn in the claim on the 11th of May, 1813, hath deposed that the land in question has been inhabited and cultivated for twenty-five consecutive years, immediately preceding the date of his testimony, by or for the use of the claimant. The terms of the sale establish, very clearly, that the land was occupied for some years previous to the time stated by the witness. This claim exceeds the area of one league square by about 94 acres. The Commissioners have not the right of confirming for more than one league square. Satisfied that this claim is a just one, they recommend it for confirmation.

No. 8. Marie Therese Berthelot, widow of Francois Stely, claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Queue de Tortue. A deed of sale from Tichaw, a chief of the Attakapas Indians, to the said Francois Stely, dated the 28th June, 1802, and executed before Honore de la Chaise, then acting as commandant of the post of Opelousas, is the only document accompanying the notice of this claim, except a plat of survey, dated in 1810, and embracing six hundred and forty acres in an oblong form, 27.50 chains wide by the depth of about forty arpens of each side of the Bayou Queue de Tortue. In the deed the land is described as lying adjoining the land of John Lyon on one side, and the land of the Indians on the other. John Teller, before the board on the 20th of June, 1812, has deposed "that the land claimed was settled about twelve years ago by the husband of the claimant, who kept an overseer and some negroes on the same until about three years past." The Commissioners refer to the report, No. 1, of claims in the county of Opelousas, for their exposition of claims derived from Indians, by which it will be seen that this claim falls within the 4th class of purchases from Indians, and, therefore, ought not to be confirmed.

The claimant can have no pretensions to a right under the laws of the United States giving donations to settlers, because such right is barred by the titles under which the deceased husband of the claimant held other lands under the Spanish Government. The certificates marked B, No. 229, and A, No. 1188, were issued in confirmation of claims to land conceded to Francois Stely, the one by complete patent, the other by order of survey.

No. 9. Simon Burney claims six hundred and forty acres of land in Pine prairie, on waters of Bayou Nezpique, by settlement. A plat of survey dated in 1806, is the only document filed with the notice. Peter Sedick, before the board on the 12th of July, 1808, hath deposed "that, in the year 1802, the deponent first became acquainted with the land claimed, and the improvements on it appeared to have been made two or three years before, but it was neither inhabited nor cultivated during that year, but in the next year, to wit, 1803, an Indian with his family, at the instance and on behalf of John McDaniel, settled upon the land, and has continued to reside there ever since." John McDaniel, before the board on the 10th of February, 1812, hath deposed "that about fourteen years ago there was a cabin built, and about sixteen hundred rails split and used in enclosing cow-pens, and some small fields which were put in cultivation by the deponent who continued to reside thereon one year, when he put a man on the land by the name of Synes, but how long the said Synes continued on the tract of land, the deponent does not know on account of his having left the neighborhood." Isaac Carpenter hath deposed "that, in the year 1803, a man by the name of Synes left the place claimed, having been placed there three or four years by John McDaniel, and who cultivated the same for that time, and that it has been cultivated and inhabited ever since by the claimant, and those claiming under him." It appears from the evidence that this claim is held under a settlement made originally by John McDaniel, to whom another claim has been confirmed under a requette and settlement. As but one claim under the right of settlement can be held by the same individual, Burney's right can derive no force from the settlement originally made on the land by McDaniel. The evidence which relates to the occupancy by the Indian named Synes is contradictory, and, at any rate, he is only to be considered as occupying the land at the will and for the use of McDaniel. Burney, the present claimant, does not appear to have occupied the land until the year 1803, has produced no deed by which the right was transferred to him by any former proprietor, and no evidence of permission from the former Government to settle. His claim, therefore, does not come within the provisions of the acts of Congress which only embrace claims occupied at the time of the transfer of Louisiana to the United States, by the permission of the proper Spanish authority, or occupancy three consecutive years before such change, which is to be taken as evidence of tacit permission to settle. This claim is, therefore, reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, cannot be confirmed.

No. 10. Antoine Belard claims five arpens front of land by the depth of forty arpens, at the Manches a Mallet, by virtue of an order of survey to Pierre Aucoin, for ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, sold by the widow of the said Pierre Aucoin to Pierre Aucoin, junr., from whom the claimant purchased. The notice is accompanied by a plat of survey, dated in 1806, and two deeds of conveyance, the first from Magdaline Gautrot, widow of Aucoin, to Pierre Aucoin, her nephew, dated 20th February, 1806, for ten arpens front with the ordinary depth, at the pass of the Bayou Mallet, such as it was ceded to Pierre Aucoin, her husband, which concession she has delivered to her said nephew; and the other from Pierre Aucoin, the younger, to Antoine Belard, the claimant, dated 24th February 1806, for five arpens front with the ordinary depth, part of the tract of land described in the deed from the widow, bounded on one side by Mr. Carrier, and on the other by the seller. Both these deeds were passed before private witnesses, and do not appear to have been enregistered in the parish records, which is considered a requisite to give them validity. The original concession referred to in the first deed of sale has not been produced, nor any record of it, nor has any evidence been offered to establish occupancy. The claim is, therefore, reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 11. Genevive Boisdore claims twenty arpens front of land by the depth of forty arpens, at a place called Point of Pines, in the Prairie Mamou, by virtue of a requette. The notice is accompanied by the requette of the claimant, dated 15th October, 1797, setting forth that the land solicited had been conceded in the year 1784, but the papers being lost, the petitioner wished to revive her claim. In the margin of the paper, and under date, New Orleans, 7th December, 1797, Governor Gayoso requests information from the commandant of Opelousas. The requette is not certified by the commandant, and no evidence has been adduced to show that the information required by the Governor was afforded, and, there being no proof of the land having been occupied, the Commissioners are of opinion that the claim ought not to be confirmed, and report it accordingly.

No. 12. Maria Theresa Berthelot, widow of Francois Stely, claims 640 acres of land on the River Nementou, by virtue of a purchase from the Indians. The notice is accompanied by the deed of sale from Tortue, Indian chief, but signed by Celestine, (perhaps the same Indian,) to the said Francois Stely, for a tract of land on the west side of the river and lake of Nementou; bounded on one side by the Bayou Chonpique, and on the other by the end of the Woods of the Lake, passed before Honore de la Chaise, acting for Mr. Duralde, commandant, 10th December, 1803. No proof to establish occupancy either by the Indians at the date of the sale, or by the purchaser at any time, the claim is reported under the fourth class of purchases from Indians, as enumerated in No. 1 of the claims of Opelousas, which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 13. Francois Cesar Boutte claims three arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, in the cove of Bellevue, by virtue of an order of survey to Blaze Brasseur, by whom it was sold to Collingwood, and which the claimant purchased of Anaclet Cormier. This appears to have been a duplicate entry for a tract of land of which the title has been confirmed by Commissioners' certificate marked B, No. 727. This claim, therefore, cannot be confirmed.

No. 14. Francois Cesar Boutte claims, by right of possession, a tract of land of about eighteen superficial arpens, situate in the Prairie Bellevue. In this claim Hubert Janis, aged forty-three years, being sworn, deposeth "that he has been raised in the neighborhood of the tract of land in question, and has known it from his earliest infancy; that it has been cultivated by Louis Chachere, by the consent of the claimant, for more than twenty consecutive years preceding the present date; that a part of the said tract is now occupied by a flourishing orchard of peach-trees, and a part in sugar cane; that the said Chachere resides on an adjoining tract very near the line which separates it from the tract in question." Sworn before the board the 24th March, 1815. In this case, both the claimant and person occupying by his permission, having had other lands conceded to them by the Spanish Goverment, neither could be entitled to a donation under the acts of Congress providing for claims founded on settlement and cultivation, nor can they be entitled under the ten years' occupancy, because the evidence does not go back so far: nevertheless, as the land appears to have been constantly occupied and cultivated for at least eight years before the transfer of Louisiana to the United States, and ever since, the claim is reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought to be confirmed.

No. 15. Francois Carmouche claims one-third of the land betwixt the Gully de l'Aigle and Frederick Mouton's land, with the depth of forty arpens, by purchase from Frederick Mouton, who purchased it from Indians. The deed of sale from the said Mouton to the claimant, dated 5th October, 1804, is the only document accompanying the notice, and no proof to establish occupancy has been adduced. This being part of the same tract of which Pierre Arseneau claims a part, and whose claim is reported under No. 1 of the Opelousas report, the Commissioners refer to that claim for reasons why this is reported as a claim which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 16. Louis Carrier claims fifty-four acres of land at the pass of the Grande Prairie, being part of tract said to be granted to Anselim. The claimant having purchased this of Louis Rion, who purchased of Alexis Janis, who purchased from the Widow Quibedo, who had it from the grantee. The notice is accompanied by a plat of survey, dated 1806, and the several deeds of sale. This claim appears to be embraced by the confirmation of the claims of Henry Bureau and Antoine Anselim, by Commissioners' certificate marked B, Nos. 2,005 and 2,006. The claim under consideration is, therefore, reported as one which cannot be confirmed.

No. 17. John Coleman claims 640 acres at the Bayou Cane, by virtue of settlement by permission. The notice is accompanied by no document or evidence in support of the claim: it is, therefore, reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 18. John Coleman claims the land contained between James Dunman and Benjamin Winfrie, being about a league on the Bayou Queue de Tortue, by virtue of a purchase from the Indians. The notice of the claim is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title

except the deed of sale from Celestine Bernard, and other Indians, acting for their nation, for the price of sixty dollars, passed before Louis C. de Blanc, the 19th August, 1802, and to be submitted to the Governor for his approbation. No proof having been adduced to establish that the Indians were in the occupancy of the land at the date of the sale, or that it has been occupied by the claimant, the claim falls within the fourth class of purchases from Indians as enumerated in report No. 1 of the claims of Opelousas; and which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 19. Pierre Chretien claims the land contained in the cove of Madame Latiolay, between the said Madame Latiolay and the Queue de Tortue, at the Grand Point, by virtue of a purchase from the Indian chief Le Tortue. The deed of sale from the said Indian to the claimant, passed before Honore de la Chaise, acting for Martin Duralde, commandant, the 10th November, 1803, for the price of one hundred dollars, payable in cattle, is the only evidence of title adduced in support of the claim. This claim is also within the fourth class of purchases from Indians, is unsupported by any evidence of occupancy, and, therefore, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 20. John Comeau claims the land "comprehended between Foreman and the island, by the ordinary depth, at the Queue de Tortue," by virtue of a purchase from Indians. The notice is accompanied by the deed of sale from Achenoya, chief of the Attakapas, to the claimant, passed before Honore de la Chaise, acting for Martin Duralde, commandant, the 21st July, 1802, for the price of one hundred and thirty-six dollars, to be paid in cattle. This claim being similarly circumstanced with the one next preceding, is, in like manner, reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 21. John Baptiste Castile claims eighty-four arpens front with the depth of forty arpens, in the prairie Nespique, on the Bayou Robert, by purchase from Celestine, Attakapas chief. The notice is accompanied by the deed of sale from said Indian to the claimant, passed before Honore de la Chaise, acting as commandant for the United States, the 17th March, 1804, for the price of three cows and three calves, and one three year old beef. This comes within the fourth class of purchases from Indians as enumerated in No. 1 of Opelousas claims; and, for the reasons there given, is reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 22. Daniel Callaghan claims 640 acres on the west branch of the Bayou Plaquemine Brulee, by purchase from Robert Brazil, who is said to have purchased from Edward Foreman, who claimed under his brother. An informal deed of sale from said Brazil to the claimant for ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, including a limekiln made by Bazzeel Lynchomb, dated 3d May, 1805, is the only document of title filed with the notice of the claim, except a plat of survey embracing 640 acres, dated in 1806. Francois Daniel, the 24th April, 1810, hath deposed "that, about twenty years ago, the land claimed was settled by Edward Foreman; that he lived on the land three or five years, but which he does not recollect, who sold it to Robert Brazil, who sold it to the present claimant. The deponent does not recollect whether it was inhabited or cultivated on the 20th December, 1803; the original claimant was upwards of twenty-one years of age, and an inhabitant of Louisiana." No transfer from the original claimant (who is the only person by whom the land is proven to have been occupied) having been adduced, and no evidence to show that the occupancy had been maintained by the latter claimants, or that the original claimant had a valid title in the land, the Commissioners are of opinion that the claim ought not to be confirmed, and report it accordingly.

No. 23. Daniel Callaghan claims 220 arpens of land in the cove of Prairie Bellevue, by virtue of two purchases from Philip and Oliver Richard, who held it as a part of their father's estate. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document of title, and it is believed to be for land the title of which has been already confirmed. This is, therefore, reported as a claim which, in opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 24. Daniel Callaghan claims 11,943 acres of land on the Bayou *Cucketree*, (supposed to be *Crocodile*,) by virtue of a purchase from the Widow Prue, who claimed the same by purchase from Indians. The notice is unaccompanied by any document of title. Joaquin Ortega, before the board the 7th March, 1811, hath deposed "that, in the year 1793, Madame Manuel Prue bought of an Indian named Chape Cancier, a Choctaw chief, at least the son of a chief, a tract of land on the Bayou Crocodile, county of Opelousas, but what number of acres he does not know. He knows well that Madame Prue, the purchaser, removed on the land bought, and continued on the same for several years, but what number he does not recollect. She then left the land he thinks about the latter part of the year 1797. Neither does he know she had a sale passed before the commandant, never having seen it or heard of one. He also says he never knew of any village being there, but its being the residence of the Indian who sold it. He further states that he never heard any person claiming the said land; when she first removed on the land claimed, said widow went into the house formerly occupied by the said Indian chief. After the death of her husband she removed to another part of the land, distant about fifty acres. He states further that the payment was made in mares, but what number he does not know, at fifteen dollars each." Francois Hebert, 23d November, 1811, hath deposed "that, about eighteen years ago, he was on the land claimed, at which time a chief of the Choctaw tribe of Indians named Hipo Cancier was residing thereon with his family, and several young men of his tribe, who continued to reside on the same land until about fourteen years ago, when, both the old chief and his wife dying, their children, and the other Indians of the village, having, as the deponent was informed by young Hipo Cancier, (son of the old chief,) sold all their right and pretensions to the widow by the name of Prue, removed therefrom; whereupon, the said widow took possession of the premises, and continued to reside thereon, and cultivate the same, for four or five years without intermission, after the removal of the Indians, when the said Widow Prue also removed from the said land; and the deponent does not know whether it has been occupied since." In this claim no deed transferring the right of the Indians to the Widow Prue, (who is said to have purchased from them,) nor any from the said widow to the present claimant, has been produced. It appears, from the testimony of Mr. Ortega, an ancient and respectable inhabitant of the country, that the said widow made a purchase from an Indian, who was understood to be the descendant of a deceased Choctaw chief, of some land, but that no written sale was passed to his knowledge; and it appears that the right of this lady was so far respected by the Spanish Government, that she was permitted to take possession, and did actually occupy and cultivate the land four or five years, to wit, from the year 1793, to the latter part of the year 1797, the evidence of Hebert corresponds with that of Ortega as to the number of years in which the land was occupied by the widow, but differs as to dates. The Commissioners are of opinion that this claim derives no validity from any title the Indians may have had to the land, but from being permitted by the Spanish Government to occupy it as above stated, and not having, to the knowledge of the Commissioners, abandoned the right thus acquired. They are of opinion that legal representatives of the widow of Emanuel Prue ought to be confirmed in their claim to six hundred and forty acres of land, to be laid out in such form as will embrace the ancient improvements of said widow.

No. 25. Theophilus Collins, Luke Collins, and John Collins, claim a tract of land in the Prairie Basse, by virtue of two deeds of conveyance from Julien Lesassier, one to Theophilus and John Collins, and the other to Luke Collins, being part of a grant made by the French Government to Louis Pellerin. The following documents of title are filed with the notice of the claim: 1st. A copy of the grant to Pellerin, certified by the clerk, Leonardo Mazange, to have been furnished at the request of Madame de Lamorandier, by order of Governor Miro, of which grant the following is a translation:

"To Monsieur Dabbadie, Commissary General of Marines, and Commandant for the King of the Province of Louisiana:

"Louis Pellerin has the honor to pray you, saying, that, on the permission you have given to settle the lands of Opelousas and Attakapas, he decided to make an establishment in the quarter of Opelousas for a vacheré and culture, for which reason he begs of you to be so good to grant him the concession of a prairie of a league and a half in depth southwest and northeast, the front of which is three-quarters of a league southeast and northwest, and likewise the cane and wood which surround the said prairie for half a league on every side, according to the plat annexed. He has to represent to you, further, that he has four children; that he intends to carry these, as well as Madam Pellerin, his wife, to prove to you the solidity and promptitude with which he intends to work at the said concession, which he has the honor to solicit, and which he expects you will be pleased to grant him. He begs of you, also, to give to the said concession the name of Martha." July 1, 1764.

PELLERIN.

John Jacques Blaze Dabbadie, director general, and commandant for the King at Louisiana, on the demand that has been made to us by Mr. Pellerin, reformed officer of the troops of this colony, to concede to him a prairie situate at the quarter of Opelousas, having sixty-three arpens front southeast and northwest, as well as some other lands where there is cane and wood, the whole mentioned in the requette preceding, conformably to the plat that has been made and is here annexed, and seen and signed by us, and on which he has made an establishment that he named St. Martha: We, in virtue of the power given to us by his Majesty, and seeing the contents of said requette, have granted, and do grant by these presents, the said prairie, and other land such as they are mentioned above, well understood that they shall be within the limits that may have been fixed between the French and Spanish possessions of those parts; in which case Mr. Pellerin, as well his heirs or assigns, may hereafter enjoy and dispose in all property as a thing belonging to him, under the said name of St. Martha, under the condition that he shall continue the said establishment; that, in one year from this day, he shall put them in full value, and report on default of which, the said term being elapsed, they shall be reunited to the domain of his Majesty, who may dispose of it as if this present concession had not been granted, and on condition to pay such impositions on said land as may hereafter be established in this colony, reserving, besides, for his Majesty all timber necessary for the construction of forts, magazines, or other works that may hereafter be ordered, and also for the repairing of his vessels at any time when necessary; also the lands necessary for highways and fortifications. As to the courses which are to limit the said prairie and other lands, they shall be regulated by boundaries which shall be planted for that purpose, of which process-verbal shall be made and annexed to these presents, after being recorded in the records of concessions. Given at New Orleans, under the seal of our arms, and countersigned by our Secretary. 2d July, 1764.

J. DABBADIE, by my Lord,
DUVERGER.

Recorded in the Records of Grants, in the Government at New Orleans, same date. 2d. Plat of survey, representing the prairie and adjacent woods, swamps, &c., shaded with different colors, and represented to be a plan of the concession demanded by Mr. Pellerin, at Opelousas, 1764. On the back of which plat is the following certificate: "Seen by us, Director General and Commandant for the King." J. Dabbadie.

3d. Deed of sale from Valentine Moreau to Etienne Lamorandier, dated 28th June, 1764, passed before private witnesses, and the Commandant Chevalier De Clouet, for a tract of land such as it is, adjoining Marcantel, acquired by donation under private writing from Pierre Mallet, and in conformity with the title and acts of sale passed by Pellerin, first owner of said land. The transcript of this sale is given on the same sheets on which the concession is copied, and is supposed not to embrace any part of the land claimed by Messrs. Collins. It would seem, also, that the copyist had committed an error in the date, (28th July, 1764,) which is antecedent to the date of the grant, and, as further evidence of error, Mr. De Clouet, the commandant before whom it appears to have been passed, is known to have arrived in Louisiana from Europe subseqently to the above date. 4th. Extract from the sale of the estate of Jacques Courtableau, dated 14th October, 1774: "A tract of land in the Prairie Basse, of eighty arpens, with a negro cabin adjudged to Marcantel, for five livres; the prairie said to be covered with water six months in the year, and the swamp to be in common for the use of all the inhabitants." 5th. Deed of sale from Francois Marcantel to Noel Chattlereau and Joseph Mayou, dated 23d November, 1777, for a portion of land in the Prairie Basse, to be taken from the road of Little Bridge, of Lasson, ascending on the hill to the boundary of the deceased Madam Marcantel for front, containing what it may, such as it is, with the right of community of swamp. 6th. Certificate of the Commandant Chevalier De Clouet, dated 23d April, 1778, setting forth that the land of the prairie Basse, heretofore of the estate of Courtableau, appertains to Marcantel, to whom it has been adjudged at public sale of the property of said estate, on conditions that the swamp alone shall remain in community for the inhabitants of the post, no person being allowed to make commerce of it. 7th. Deed of sale from Francois Marcantel to the Widow Bordelou, dated 29th April, 1778, for six arpens front, with its ordinary depth, adjoining on one side to Joseph Mayeux, and on the other to the seller; the whole in conformity to the sale of the estate of Courtableau. 8th. Deed of sale from Noel Roy and Joseph Mayeux to Jacob Schnell, dated 6th March, 1780, for fifteen arpens front in Prairie Basse, by the depth designated in the title of Marcantel, from whom it proceeds, bounded on one side by the Widow Bordelou, and on the other to Joseph Roy. 9th. Deed of sale from the Widow Bordelou to Florentine Poiret, dated 2d January, 1783, for six arpens front on the ordinary depth, adjoining on one side to Joseph Mayeux, and on the other to Joseph Picknard. 10th. Deed of sale from Francois Marcantel to Augustin Soileau, dated 28th November, 1785, for all his pretensions of land, building, and fences, at the Prairie Basse, with the exception of three arpens front by the ordinary depth, bounded on one side by land of Francois Marcantel, jun., by donation, and on the other side by a man named La Rouille. 11th. Deed of sale from Augustin Soileau to Julien Lesassier, dated 3d December, 1789, for all his pretensions of land, buildings and fencing, at Prairie Basse, the boundary of which is to be taken from the land of Touriae, with the exception of eight arpens front on the depth of half the Prairie Basse, a part which the seller reserves to himself. The sale made in conformity with the title of Mr. Pellerin, the gully behind the house being the boundary between the inhabitants of the Prairie Basse and those of the Hill, (Coteaux,) it being agreed that the eight arpens reserved by the seller shall take from the boundary of the land of Cam, a free mulatto, and run towards the land now sold. 12th. Deed of sale from Julien Lesassier to Theophilus and John Collins, dated 12th March, 1790, for a portion of the land which he has purchased from Augustin Soileau, in Prairie Basse, to be taken from the actual boundary of said Augustin Soileau, in the east-northeast, which portion of land shall go until it reaches the half the Prairie Basse, the quantity to be determined by a line to be drawn in the middle of said Prairie Basse, running on the Little Woods, as well as the woods that shall be annexed to it. The said portion of land sold in conformity to the sale made by the said Soileau, who has proven the property by the title remitted to said Lesassier. 13th. Deed of sale from Julien Lesassier to Luke Collins, jun., dated 12th March, 1790, for a portion of the land which he has purchased from Augustin Soileau, of five arpens front, adjoining the land of Cam, free mulatto, which crosses the Prairie Basse, and goes to the gully, the depth of which shall go to the half of the Prairie Basse. Moreover, the half of the land which is between the establishment of the seller, running on the woods which front on the Bayou Teche; also, another portion of land, which is opposite, or in front of the Bayou Teche, which shall be bounded on the land which the said Luke Collins holds on the gully, and, on the other side, by the boundary of Theophilus and John Collins, the whole as purchased from Augustin Soileau, and in conformity with the title remitted to him. 14th. Deed of sale from Julien Lesassier to Luke Collins, jun., dated 22d September, 1791, for the portion of land which he had reserved out of the land he purchased at the Prairie Basse from Soileau, except two arpens which he, Lesassier, has promised to cede to Antoine Godo, on the side towards the Hill, (Coteaux,) and two arpens more on the same side, in case that Messrs. Collins should not cede to him two arpens on the other side, in the prolongation of the said land, according to the title of Prairie Basse, and then the four arpens should have depth only from the gully to the half of the prairie, with the houses, woods, fences, &c. 15th. Deed of sale from Florentine Poiret to Jacob Schnell, dated 3d November, 1790, for three arpens front, by the ordinary depth, at the Prairie Bassa, bounded on one side by other land, which the seller purchased from Joseph Millouch, and on the other side by Touriae. 16th. Deed of sale from Jacob Schnell to Luke Collins, jun., dated 5th November, 1790, for eighteen arpens front, by the ordinary depth, proceeding from the purchases made from Noel Roy and Maillouch, and from Florentine Poiret, bounded on one side by Joseph Roy, and on the other side by the place called the Point Brulee. 17th. A plat of survey by Christopher Bolling, an authorized surveyor, dated 10th February, 1806, embracing an area of 609 32-100th acres. Charles Barre, before the board, 10th Sept., 1808, hath deposed "that this deponent was present when an act of sale took place, and was executed by Louis Pellerin, the original grantee in the present claim, to Mr. Mallet, to begin at a picket placed near a barn in the prairie, to a run twenty acres westwardly to a burnt bridge, and from the same picket southwardly over the hill, and in the opposite direction from the same picket half a league; that the said Mallet gave the said Pellerin, in exchange for the said land, a tract of land of twenty acres front, lying on the Bayou Courtableau, running from Louis Langlois' up the bayou, and which he believes to

be the tract of land that Mr. John Collins at present owns; that, at the same time when this deponent was also present, the said Louis Pellerin executed another act of sale to Jacques Courtableau for the remainder of the Prairie Basse tract, excepting six acres by ten, which he had previously sold to Antoine Paillet, and which, he believes, at present belongs to Michel Prudhomme; that this deponent well recollects the price which the said Courtableau gave for the said land, to wit: five cows and calves and a three year old bull; that the said Pellerin, at the time that the said acts of sale took place and were executed, acted as commandant of this post, to wit, of Opelousas; that the exchange of land mentioned above to have been between Pellerin and Mallet, was actually made between Pellerin and Courtableau for and on behalf of Antoine and Pierre Mallet, Courtableau acting, at that time, as guardian to Antoine and Pierre Mallet, who were minors; when the said Antoine and Pierre Mallet came of age Antoine Mallet sold his part of the same to a Mr. Moreau, who sold the same to Esteven Rodebar de Lamorandier, who sold it to one of the claimants, Theophilus Collins; that Pierre Mallet sold his part of the said land to Mr. Marcantel, who sold the same to Wible, who sold it to Luke Collins, senior, who sold it to one of the claimants, Theophilus Collins." Said witness, Charles Barre, before the board, 12th October, 1808, being cross-examined by the heirs of Louis Pellerin, deceased, hath deposed as follows: "Deponent knows that Mr. Pellerin (pere,) passed a sale to Mr. Courtableau of the Prairie Basse tract, and that the same was written by Mr. Pellerin himself, at his own house, on the border of said prairie; that there was no person present at the time except the witness and the two contracting parties: this deponent says that he did not sign the sale as a witness, inasmuch as Mr. Pellerin was at that time commandant; the deponent did not read the sale, but it was read in his presence by Mr. Pellerin; that, in reality there were two acts of sale passed at that time, one in the name of Pierre and Antoine Mallet, but the contract was made by Mr. Courtableau for and in their behalf, who were at that time minors, the other was in the name of Courtableau; that the consideration in the sale to Courtableau was five cows and calves, and a three year old bull. Deponent says that he first came to this country in the year 1763, and that it was, as he believes, four or five years after when the sales aforesaid were passed. Deponent says he is sixty-four years of age. This deponent further says, he has seen the aforesaid sale or exchange of land to the Mallets, together with the same plat now in the Commissioners' office, in the possession of Don Carlos Levau Trudeau, at the time he was running the line between Mr. Lemorandier and Mr. Collins, the father of the present claimants, but that he does not know where the same is at this time, and that he does not know whether the same was an original or a copy, or whether it was signed by Mr. Pellerin, the father; that Mr. Courtableau and the Mallets, and the persons claiming under them respectively, have been in possession of the said land from the time of their taking possession in consequence of the said sales, which was some short time after the execution of the sales aforesaid." Madam V. Hollier, before the board the 28th September, 1808, hath deposed "that she had heard that Mr. Pellerin had sold the land mentioned to Mr. Courtableau, but that she had never seen the deed for the same." The widow and heirs of Louis Pellerin, deceased, by their attorney Nathan Morse, have filed a protest against the foregoing claim, of which the following is a copy: "To the honorable the Board of Commissioners for the adjustment of land titles in and for the Territory of Orleans—The memorial of Martha Pellerin, widow of Louis Pellerin, deceased, Francoise Darby, widow of St. Mare Darby, Louis Pellerin, Barthelemy Pellerin, Chatellin Pellerin, Don Martin Pellerin, Charlotte de la Houssaye, wife of Louis de la Houssaye, Jocitant de la Houssaye, wife of Alexander Chevalier de la Houssaye, Hubert Pellerin, Josephine Pellerin, Celeste Fontenelle, wife of Jacques Fontenelle, children and heirs at law of the said Louis Pellerin, deceased, respectfully represent, that your memorialists are the legal and rightful owners of a certain tract of land situate in the county of Opelousas, known by the name of Prairie Basse, together with the woodland and swamp adjoining, to the depth of half a league on all sides, by virtue of a concession or grant by John Jacques Blaze Dabbadie, director general of Louisiana, bearing date on the 2d day of July, 1764, to the husband and father of your memorialists, &c. Your memorialists do hereby protest against the establishment or confirmation of any other right or title of what nature or kind soever to the said premises, or any part thereof, by any person or persons whatever. And your memorialists do further protest, particularly against any claim or title of Theophilus Collins, Luke Collins, or John Collins, or either of them, or either of their heirs or assigns. Opelousas, 11th August, 1808.

NATHAN MORSE,
in behalf of, and attorney for the widow and heirs of Louis Pellerin, deceased.

Before entering upon the investigation of the title of the claimants in this case, the undersigned Commissioners propose to examine the grant under which Pellerin held from the French Government. The concession to Mr. Pellerin, a copy of which the claimants have produced as the basis of their title, is evidently a conditional one; but the conditions on which the completion of the title depended, ("putting the land in value and report,") are supposed to have been performed. Mr. Barre, a person of undoubted veracity, has stated, on oath, that Pellerin was residing on the borders of the Prairie Basse, about the year 1768, when he sold the land to Courtableau and the Mallets. He has spoken also of a barn in the prairie at the time, near to which a boundary was established for the purpose of dividing the land between the purchasers from Pellerin; from which, it is presumed, such improvements had been made by the grantee as were required of him by the Government. The Commissioners are therefore of opinion, that, by this concession, and the subsequent performance of its conditions, the title of the crown has been alienated, and an indefeasible one vested in the grantee and his assigns to the prairie, called "the Prairie Basse," and the woodland by which the said prairie is circumscribed, to the extent of half a league from the margin of said prairie on every side, provided the woodland shall extend so far; but, if it shall be found from a survey of the premises in question, that in some parts the woodland does not extend half a league in depth from the said Prairie Basse, the Commissioners are of opinion that the claim must be limited by the woodland, however narrow that may be, as it was manifestly intended that this grant should not embrace any part of any other prairie. The evidence in some of the claims for lands in this prairie may be such as would entitle them to confirmation by the Board of Commissioners, from the length of occupancy; but the whole grant taken together, greatly exceeding the quantity the Commissioners are authorized to confirm a title for, they have decided to report the whole of the claims within it, with their opinion for the information of Congress, taking the plat, which has been filed in the claim, as a mere eye-draft of the prairie Basse, not made by actual survey. The extent given of the prairie is supposed to be mere conjectural: sixty-three arpens front by the depth of one league and a half would, in a regular parallelogram, produce an area 7,874 26-100th arpens, equal to 6,664 acres. Of the quantity of woodland properly appertaining to this grant, no estimation can be made; it can only be determined by actual survey. It will be noticed that, in the public sale made by the commandant on the 14th October, 1774, a provision is inserted that "the swamp shall be in common for the use of all the inhabitants." By the word swamp, it is supposed was meant the timber growing on that part of the land which might be so denominated, because, giving the common use to all the inhabitants of the irreclaimable swamp land, would be absurd. The authority of the commandant to make any such disposition either of the land or the timber of a tract formally granted by the competent authority, is, in the opinion of the Commissioners, very questionable. The reservation in the grant itself only extends to such timber as the King might require for constructing and repairing his fortifications, magazines, vessels, and other public works. The claimants, in this case, have not produced any deed of conveyance from the grantee. This deed is the only one wanted to complete the chain of conveyances. Mr. Barre has stated that deeds were executed by Mr. Pellerin, at his own house, to Courtableau and Pierre and Antoine Mallet; at which time he, Barre, was, as he has said, the only person present, except the contracting parties; that he was not called upon to subscribe as a witness to the deeds, "Mr. Pellerin being at that time commandant"—from which it may be inferred Mr. Barre was under an impression that to deeds passed by commandants for transferring their own estates, witnesses were not absolutely necessary. Mr. Barre has also stated the consideration given by the Mallets for their part of the Prairie Basse tract, to have been a tract of land on the Bayou Courtableau, which he has described in his evidence, and supposed then to be the property of Mr. John Collins. From an examination of the documents of title in the claim of John Collins, it is found that the said tract of land was

sold by Louis Boisdore to Francois Lemelle, on the 18th May, 1772, and that it is in the deed described to be the same land which the seller had obtained from Louis Pellerin. This circumstance corroborates Barre's evidence of the sales, which he has said was executed by Mr. Pellerin to the Mallets and Courtableau, although no deed transferring the right of Pellerin to Courtableau has been produced by the claimants. If the evidence of Barre has left any doubt of such transfer having been made, the circumstance of the land having been sold by the commandant, Mr. De Clouet, after the death of Courtableau, as being part of his estate, must tend greatly to remove such doubt, and create a strong presumption in favor of Courtableau's title. In the protest of the heirs of Pellerin against the confirmation of the claim of the Messrs. Collins, no reasons are given, except the memorialists are the rightful owners of the land. It is presumed that their objections are founded on the failure of the claimants to produce a deed from the grantee. This objection can have little weight, when it is considered that Courtableau's title was recognized by the commandant who sold his estate, and that Courtableau, and those holding under him, have enjoyed the uninterrupted use and possession of the premises for more than forty years, as established by the evidence of Barre, and the various acts of sale by which the title has been transferred. The Commissioners, therefore, decide that this claim is a valid one, and ought to be confirmed, conformably to the deeds of sale from Marcantel to Soileau, from Soileau to Lesassier, and from Lesassier to the claimants.

No. 26. Theophilus Collins claims three hundred and forty superficial arpens of land at a place called Coteaux Petit, (Little Hill) in the county of Opelousas. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a deed of sale from Etienne R. de Lamorandier to Theophilus Collins, dated 27th October, 1801, and passed before Martin Duralde, then commandant of the post of Opelousas and Attakapas, for a tract of land of ten arpens front by the depth of thirty-four arpens, at the place called Coteaux Petit, bounded on one side by land of Luke Collins, and on the other by Baptiste Fontenot and John Sappington, and a plat of survey by Thomas Berwick, dated 18th June, 1784, who certifies the land to be part of a tract conceded to Pellerin. On the back of the notice is endorsed, in the hand-writing of the late register, "This claim is derived from Pellerin's grant for the Prairie Basse, and was sold by Pellerin to Mallet." Joseph Andrus, aged fifty-five years, sworn in this claim, deposeth and saith, "that he is well acquainted with the tract of land, which is less than a half mile distant from the habitation of the deponent; that, when the deponent arrived in county of Opelousas, in the year 1780, Mr. Etienne R. Lamorandier was residing on the land in question, and continued constantly to inhabit and cultivate the same to the time of his selling the same to Mr. Collins, about twelve or thirteen years ago, and that the said land has been constantly cultivated by the negroes of the said Collins since it was transferred to him. Sworn before the board, January 8, 1815. The remarks on the claim reported under the next preceding No. are applicable to the one under consideration, which is understood to be embraced by the same concession from the French Government. This claim is therefore reported as a part of the Prairie Basse tract, which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed.

No. 27. Luke Collins claims 400 superficial arpens on Bayou Maria Crocant, by virtue of a requette certified by the commandant, 15th January, 1802. The notice of the claim is accompanied by said requette, in the name of the claimant, for said tract of about 400 superficial arpens in the fork of said bayou, "making an angle bounded on one side by land of Luke Hollier, and on the other by the river Teche." To which requette is subjoined the certificate of the commandant, Martin Duralde, setting forth that, according to the testimony of the syndic and witnesses, the land petitioned for is vacant. It is believed that this tract was solicited on account of the wood and timber, and not to settle on, the petitioner being settled on another tract in the vicinity of the one claimed. No evidence to establish occupancy has been adduced, but the Commissioners viewing it as a claim which, in their opinion, would have been valid under the Spanish Government, recommend its confirmation.

No. 28. John Collins claims 28 arpens and 12 toises of land in front, by the depth of 40 arpens, on the west side of Bayou Courtableau, in the county of Opelousas, by virtue of a purchase from Charles Vige, who purchased from John Gradnigo, who purchased from Louis Boisdore, who had it from Louis Pellerin. The notice of the claim is accompanied by a plat of survey by Carlos Trudeau, then surveyor general under the Spanish Government, dated in May, 1782, giving 28 arpens 12 toises front on said bayou. Three deeds of sale have also been filed with the notice. The first from Louis Boisdore to Francois Lemel, dated 18th May, 1772, for twenty-nine arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by Duplichin, and on the other by Langlois. In this deed the land is described as being the same tract which the seller had obtained from Louis Pellerin. Subjoined to the deed is a certificate by the then commandant, Chevalier De Clouet, dated 13th June, 1777, setting forth that said Lemel had conveyed the land to John Gradnigo, and that said certificate should serve the said Gradnigo as a title in form. 2d. A deed of sale from John Gradnigo to Charles Vige, dated 27th September, 1791, for twenty-three arpens and 12 toises front, to be taken from the road; and 27 arpens and 12 toises front, to be taken from the land of Joseph Rosat, and go to that of Madam Vidrine, with the depth conformably to the plat by Mr. Trudeau. 3d. A deed of sale from said Vige to the claimant John Collins, dated 16th December, 1803, for the lands as described in the deed last mentioned, but representing the land formerly owned by Rosat to be then the property of Pierre Jerome. By certificate marked B, 1999, this claim has been confirmed to John Collins for so much of the land claimed as appeared to be embraced by his deed from Vige, leaving one arpent front by the depth from the bayou to the road, (which is about twenty arpens) in the lower part of the original tract; the title of which has not been confirmed for want of a knowledge, by the Commissioners, of the proper owner. The confirmation of the title for this part of the tract, about twenty superficial arpens, to the legal representatives of the deceased John Collins, or such other person as may produce the necessary evidence of title, is recommended on the ground of its being part of an original tract to which the title of the Government has been alienated.

No. 29. Daniel Callaghan claims two hundred and sixty arpens of land by occupancy and cultivation for twenty-one consecutive years preceding the year 1806. The notice is accompanied by the requette of the claimant, which was sanctioned by the competent Spanish authority on the 27th August, 1794, of which the following is a translation in substance: "To the Baron de Carondelet, governor, &c., of the province of Louisiana: Daniel Callaghan, an inhabitant of this district, finding himself on his plantation with but little wood, supplicates you to grant him a portion of about six arpens of land in front, with the ordinary depth, situate in the cove of the bayou, in the quarter of the Bellevue, bounded on one side by the land of the petitioner, and circumscribed, (enveloppie) on the other sides by the said bayou." A note without date, but in the hand-writing of the late register (Mr. Thompson,) and signed by the claimant, is affixed to this notice, by which he begs leave so to amend it as to claim 640 acres of land by right of settlement, if so much should be found vacant, as he had not claimed any specific quantity under the Spanish Government. From the evidence of occupancy, the Commissioners have issued their certificate marked B, No. 1142, in confirmation of the claim for six arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, making the bayou the boundary on the north and east. From a plat of survey made of the premises, by order of the principal deputy surveyor, and approved by him, it is found that 192 84-100 acres of land have been included, and that no more, applicable to this claim, and unincumbered by titles of superior dignity, can be had on the south and west side of the bayou. James Stille, who purchased at sheriff's sale all the right of the said Callaghan to the tract of land in question, contends that the lines ought to cross the Bayou Bellevue, and take in on the northeast side so much as will supply the deficiency on the opposite side, which is found to be about ten and one-fourth acres. His reasons for believing himself entitled to the completion of the quantity originally solicited by Callaghan will be found in the letter addressed to the Commissioners, in the following words: "To the Commissioners of Land Claims of the western district of the State of Louisiana: Gentlemen—It is known to you, from papers which have been before you, that the late Daniel Callaghan, deceased, during the time of the Spanish Government in this country, presented to the proper Spanish officer a requette for a tract of six arpens by forty, of land, in the quarter of Bellevue, in the parish of St. Landry, the title to this land, at present, and for a considerable time back, being in me; and having learnt that you are about making and forwarding to the General Government your report of claims of this district, I deem it a fit time to address a few observations to you on the subject of this, my claim. To confirm this claim, in part, you have not hesitated, but entertain doubts as to the propriety of confirming it in its full extent: your doubts are

grounded on the terms of the requette, which, though it calls for six arpens front by forty deep, names the bayou which runs on the north, at the beginning, commonly known by the name of Church bayou, as the north boundary. To this I answer, that it may have been the only data the petitioner had for a north boundary, being ignorant whether the lands on that side, on which it would butt, were vacant or otherwise, or if owned by individuals, who they were, and confidently believing at the same time, as every person must, that it was not vitally essential to the validity of his title that all and every part of that, or of any or either of the other boundaries should be precisely set forth, but it is most likely it was named from an impression that the quantity of land asked for would be found without its being necessary to cross the bayou. Be this as it may, the basis—the most material part of the petition, viz. that it should contain six by forty arpens, was accorded. It surely would not be pretended, if A buy a piece of land of B, of six by forty arpens, which is stated in the conveyance to be bounded on the north by C and D, and on a farther investigation it should be found that the same land is bounded not only by C and D, but also by E, F, and G, that A should not be entitled to the last mentioned part, but should stop at land of C and D, even though it fell far short of his quantity. The two cases I maintain, are strictly parallel; it is the more reasonable that this claim should be confirmed in its full extent, as the lands embraced in it were at the time of the date of the requette, and still are, vacant. I cannot help flattering myself, gentlemen, that, on a due consideration of all the circumstances of this claim, you will no longer entertain any doubts as to the reason and justness of it, and that you will act on it accordingly, so that I may be spared the trouble and expense of having the question tried by a court at law. I am, gentlemen, respectfully your obedient servant, James Stille. Bellevue, 16th February, 1814." In these reasons, conclusions appear to be drawn from premises not applicable to the case under consideration. In the requette of Callaghan, he has solicited about six arpens of front of land, by the ordinary depth, in the cove of the bayou, in the quarter of Bellevue, bounded on one side by the land of the petitioner (understood to be the tract granted to Thomas Prisme,) and circumscribed on the other side by the said bayou. The Commissioners in this case, as they have uniformly done in all similar cases, have decided that the claimant could only be entitled to the land in the situation in which it was solicited, and could not be permitted to make up the deficiencies arising from a part of the land being occupied by more ancient titles, by taking land in different situations from that in which it had been solicited. It does not appear, from the requette, that the original claimant contemplated a concession of any land on the northeast side of the bayou. The Commissioners, therefore, decide that the claim now set up by the successor of Callaghan ought not to be confirmed, and report it accordingly. The pretensions of Callaghan to six hundred and forty acres of land, as suggested in the proposal to amend the notice of his claim, must be rejected, on the ground that, in limiting the donation, by right of settlement, to a quantity "not exceeding six hundred and forty acres," the intentions of Congress to confine such claims to the quantities found within their acknowledged and ascertained boundaries, are strongly implied.

No. 30. Martin Donatto claims six arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, in the Prairie Basse, and more, if Marcantel, from whom he purchased, has a right to more. The notice is accompanied by a deed of sale from François Marcantel to Cam, a free mulatto, dated 28th November, 1785, for all his pretensions in land, and buildings, and fencing, at the Prairie Basse, except three arpens front by the ordinary depth, belonging to Francois Marcantel, junior, by donation, adjoining to land of Laurille, man of color. Another deed from Francois Marcantel, senior, to Cam, dated 16th January, 1790, for three arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by Augustine Soileau's land, and, on the other, by that of Larouille. Also a deed of sale from Augustin Soileau to Cam, dated 7th August, 1804, for three arpens front, by such depth as may be found proceeding from a purchase made from Francois Marcantel, bounded on one side by the seller, and on the other by the purchaser. Also a deed of sale from Antoine Cam, alias Fusilier, free mulatto, to Martin Donatto, 22d January, 1806, for six arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, "purchased by halves," from Francois Marcantel and Augustin Soileau. The claimant, relying on the validity of his claim as being established by the documents filed, has not, it is believed, thought it necessary to adduce testimony to establish occupancy. The deeds of conveyance, all of which appear to have been executed before the proper officers, establish that the title to the land in question had been alienated by the Spanish Government, and held as private property more than eighteen years before the change of Government; and although the conveyance from the original grantee has not been produced, it is understood to be derived from a complete patent to Louis Pellerin, referred to in the claim of Theophilus Collins, and others reported under No. 25. The Commissioners are, therefore, of opinion that this claim is a valid one, and ought to be confirmed.

No. 31. Martin Donatto claims six arpens front by the depth of forty arpens in the Prairie Basse, and so much more as Marcantel, who formerly held it, had a right to. The notice of this claim is accompanied by the following deeds of conveyance, arranged according to their dates. 1st, Deed of sale of Francois Marcantel to the Widow Bordelou, dated 29th April, 1778, for six arpens front by the depth of forty arpens in Prairie Basse, bounded on one side by Joseph Mayeux, and on the other to the seller, subject to the conditions of the first sale of the succession of Courtableau. 2d, Sale widow Bordelou to Florentine Poiret, dated 2d January, 1783, for six arpens front by forty arpens in depth, in Prairie Basse, adjoining on one side to Joseph Mayeux, and on the other to J. Ricard. 3d, Sale from Augustin Soileau to Edward Marshall, dated 28 July, 1784, for three arpens in front by forty in depth, bounded on one side by Joseph Pickard, and on the other to Florentine Poiret, from whom these three arpens proceed by purchase from the Widow Bordelou. 4th, Sale from Edward Marshall to William Lett, dated 26 July, 1787, for three arpens front by forty in depth, bounded on one side by Joseph Pickard, and on the other to Florentine Poiret. 5th, Sale from William Lett to John Pierre Touriac, dated 1 August, 1787, for three arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, the same boundaries mentioned as in the last noted deed. 6th, Sale from Julis Marcantel, wife of Michel Voible, to John Pierre Touriac, dated 8 Sept. 1787, for three arpens in front by forty in depth, being part of four arpens front which she received from her father Marcantel, bounded on one side by land purchased from Marshall by Touriac, and on the other by the residue of the four arpens which the seller retains. 7th, Sale from John Pierre Touriac and wife to Theophilus Collins, dated 29 December, 1792, for six arpens front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by Messrs. Collins, and on the other by Cam, a free mulatto. 8th, Sale from Theophilus Collins to Joseph Frozard, dated 29 Dec. 1799, for six arpens front, the same that he bought from John Pierre Touriac and wife, by deed bearing date 29 Dec. 1792. 9th, Sale by the Commandant Honore de la Chaise, dated 12 March, 1804, of a tract of land the property of Joseph Frozard, for six arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, at the Prairie Basse, bounded on one side by Luke Collins, senior, and on the other by Cam, a free man of color, adjudged to Martin Donatto, the claimant. This claim is within the grant of the Prairie Basse tract, and reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed. The remarks in the claim of Theophilus Collins and others, reported under the No. 25 to which the board refers, are applicable to this.

No. 32. Etienne d'Aigle claims 406.20 acres on Plaquemine Brulee, by virtue of settlement. A plat of survey, dated in 1806, is the only document of title filed with the notice. Joseph d'Aigle, before the board the 3d Jan. 1812, hath deposed "that eight years from August last, the land claimed has been inhabited and cultivated by the claimant, and to the present time." On the sixth April, 1813, the claimant presented a written permission to establish himself on the land of his Majesty, on the west side of the Bayou Plaquemine Brulee. This permission bears date 4 July, 1801, and is signed "Honore de la Chaise, interime." The late date at which this document is produced, and its differing in point of form from the proceedings under the Spanish Government at the time of its date, induce the Commissioners to regard it not as a legal permission. The claim must therefore rest on the settlement without permission, which could only be valid from occupancy three consecutive years previous to the change of Government. The claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 33. William Darby claims two arpens front by the ordinary depth, say 80 superficial arpens, by purchase from Albert Bousergent, and said to be part of a tract granted to Mr. Lemorandier. The notice is unaccompanied by any document except an informal deed of sale from said Bousergent to the claimant, dated 20 April, 1806. The claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 34. Hatch Dent claims eighty-four arpens square of land, say 7056 superficial arpens, on Lake Ruelque-

shoe, by virtue of a purchase from Charles M. Audibert, who purchased from Catharine Le Bleue, who purchased from Lacacina, Indian chief of the Attakapas tribe. An informal bill of sale from the said Lacacina to the said Catharine Le Bleue, dated 1 June, 1799, passed before private witnesses, and not sanctioned by any public officer, is filed in this claim, on the back of which bill of sale, and under date the 1st January, 1805, is an assignment of the title by said Catharine, with the consent of her husband, Charles Sallier, to Charles Marie Audibert. A deed of sale from Charles M. Audibert to the claimant, dated in New Orleans, 4 May, 1805, passed before Henry Brown, notary public, is likewise filed in the claim, and no other document of title. No proof to establish occupancy has been adduced. This falls within the fourth class of claims held under Indians, as described in No. 1 of Opelousas reports; and, in the opinion of the Board of Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 35. Joseph Doucet claims 200 acres on Plaquemine Brulee, under the settlement of his brother Anselm Doucet. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, and the claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 36. Martin Duralde claims a tract of land at the back of Mr. Lejune's land, adjoining the land of Antoine Lambert, Madam Carron, and other land of the claimant, quantity not ascertained. The notice of this claim is accompanied by the petition of the claimant for said tract, without date, and an order of survey by Governor Miro, dated 23 June, 1783. No proof of occupancy has been adduced. The Commissioners, however, viewing it as a claim which, in their opinion, would have been valid under the Spanish Government, recommend its confirmation.

No. 37. Baptiste Debroca, free negro, claims 203.07 acres, on Bayou Mallet, by virtue of a purchase from Madam Donatto Bello, to whom the land is said to have been granted by the Spanish Government. The notice of the claim is accompanied by a deed of sale from said Madam Bello to the claimant, dated 26 July, 1804, and a plat of survey, dated in 1806. No proof to establish occupancy having been adduced, and the documents of title not being sufficient to establish the fact that the land had been conceded to the said Widow Bello by the Spanish Government, the Commissioners report it as a claim which ought not to be confirmed.

No. 38. The heirs of William Ellis, claim 625 acres on the Bayou Maria Oroquant, by virtue of an order of survey in favor of the said William Ellis, which order of survey bears date 20 June, 1781, and filed with the notice of the claim. A plat of survey by an authorized surveyor, dated in 1806, is also filed. No proof to establish occupancy has been adduced, and it is understood that the same tract is held and claimed under an order of survey to Charles Barré, of subsequent date, which has been confirmed to Joseph Andrus by the certificate of the commissioners, marked B, No. 1203. Keeping out of view the question of right between the contending claimants, which the Commissioners are not authorized to decide, the confirmation of the claim under consideration is recommended on the ground of its being such an one as would, in the opinion of the board, have been valid under the usages of the Spanish Government.

No. 39. Margaret Fisher claims 640 acres on Beaver bayou, by virtue of settlement. A plat of survey, dated 1806, is the only document of title filed with the notice. John Corkran and Denis McDaniel, on the 12th March, 1807, have deposed "that the deponents, at the instance of the claimant, assisted in raising a cabin on the said land, in the month of October or November, 1803, and that the land was not settled until the spring following. The deponents further say, that the claimant was at that time over the age of twenty-one years, and the head of a family. No permission to establish this land has been produced, and the settlement having been made since the change of government, the claim is reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 40. John Trenchebois claims two arpens front on the west, and one arpent front on the east side of the Bayou Courtableau, with the depth of forty arpens on each side of said bayou, say 120 superficial arpens, by virtue of a purchase from Louis Rideau and the widow of Michel Brignac, his wife, and said to be part of a tract granted to Michel Brignac. The deed of conveyance from said Rideau and wife to the claimant, dated 26 March, 1788, is the only document filed with the notice. Although the original title under which this claim is held has not been produced, and no evidence offered to establish occupancy, the early date of the sale, passed before competent authority, leaves no doubt in the minds of the Commissioners of the validity of the claim, which is therefore recommended for confirmation.

No. 41. Bradley Gardiner claims 640 acres on the Bayou Lacasena, by virtue of settlement. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, and the claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 42. Bradley Gardiner claims 640 acres ou the Bayou Lacasena, by virtue of settlement. The notice is unaccompanied by any evidence of title, and the claim, therefore, is reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 43. John W. Gurley, of New Orleans, claims forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on Bayou Ouakche, bounded on one side by the land of Madam Lemel, by virtue of a purchase from John Joy, who is said to have purchased from Pelega Daupeine. The deed of conveyance from John Joy to the claimant, dated 19 August, 1807, is the only document filed with the notice of the claim. No proof to establish occupancy has been offered, and the claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 44. Joshua Garret claims forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on Bayou Nezpique, by virtue of his petition, sanctioned by the commandant under the Spanish Government. The notice of the claim is accompanied by said petition, bearing date the 26th Oct., 1789, to which is subjoined the certificate of the commandant, Forestall, dated 27 October, of the same year, setting forth that the land solicited was vacant. The land being solicited for the purpose of establishing a vachere, and it being usual, under the Spanish Government, to concede tracts of that extent for these purposes, in such parts of the country as were esteemed of little value on account of marshes or sterility of soil, the Commissioners are induced to recommend the confirmation of the claim.

No. 45. The widow and heirs of Mr. Le Bray de Gonor claim 20 arpens front by the depth of 40 arpens, in Cole's cove, at a place called the Point of Pines, by virtue of an order of survey, dated 11 June, 1787, in favor of the said Le Bray de Gonor. The notice of the claim is accompanied by the petition of the said Gonor, for said land, to establish a vachere. Bounded on one side by the land of Antoine Blanc, and on the other by the domain of the King, dated 3 Jan. 1787, and certified by the commandant, Chevalier De Clouet, the 5th of the same month and year, to which is subjoined the order of survey, in the usual form, by Governor Miro, dated in New Orleans, the 11th June, 1787, as above mentioned. A plat of survey, by an authorized surveyor, dated in 1810, is likewise filed. Joseph Andrus, esq., aged fifty-four years, before the board, the 28th December, 1813, hath deposed "that he is well acquainted with the claimants, and was also acquainted with the late Mr. Gonor in his life-time; that he is also perfectly acquainted with the situation of the land, which the deponent has reason to believe has never been occupied nor cultivated by the said Mr. Gonor in his life-time, nor any person for the use of his heirs since his death. The deponent further saith, that to his knowledge the said Mr. Gonor died in the year 1788, leaving a widow and four minor children, the eldest of which he supposes was not exceeding seven or eight years of age at the death of their father, who, the deponent has been informed, and has reason to believe, was drowned during his minority. That, in about two years after the death of her husband, the widow, finding it not convenient to reside in Opelousas, removed with her family of children to New Orleans. The deponent has no knowledge of the said Mr. Gonor having had any other concession for land from the Spanish Government, and believes he never had." This is reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, would have been valid under the former Government of Louisiana, and ought to be confirmed by the present.

No. 46. John Gradnigo claims 30 arpens by the depth of 40, say 1200 arpens, at the back of his land fronting on the Bayou Courtableau, by virtue of an order of survey in his favor, dated 7 July, 1791. The notice of the claim is accompanied by the petition of the claimant for said land, setting forth that his other land was without cypress to supply the use he had for cypress timber on his farm, on which account he solicits this tract. Subjoined to this petition is the certificate of the commandant, Forestall, setting forth the vacancy of the land, which certificate is followed by the order of survey by Governor Miro, dated as above mentioned, on the 7th July, 1791. The Commissioners are of opinion that this claim would have been valid under the Spanish Government, and therefore recommend its confirmation.

No. 47. John Gradnigo claims twenty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, at the gully of Hickory point, (des Noyers,) by purchase from Charles Vige, who held it under an order of survey in favor of Charles Vige, for twenty arpens front of land at said place, running to-

wards the Indian village, and fronting to the island called "Langlois," dated 20 March, 1790. The deed of sale from Vige to the claimant, dated ——, and a plat of survey by Portion, dated in 1806, is likewise filed in the claim. Bello Donatto, before the board the 6th August, 1811, hath deposed "that, in the year 1793, he passed through the land claimed, when the son and hands of John Gradnigo were cutting rails and timber on the said land for the use of the said plantation at the island, and that they have ever since cut wood and timber on the said land for the use of the said plantation." This claim is reported on account of its not having been inhabited and cultivated as required by the acts of Congress; nevertheless, the Commissioners, believing it to be a valid claim under the usages of the Spanish Government, recommend its confirmation.

No. 48. David Guidery and John Mouton claim 70 arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the west side of the river Nementou, by virtue of a purchase from Celestine Le Tortue, chief of the Attakapas Indians. The notice of this claim is accompanied by the deed of sale from said Indian chief to the claimants for said land, bounded on one side by the Bayou Hanhecha, and on the other to the land reserved by the Indians between the land of Francois Stely and that of the purchasers. Deed passed before Honore de la Chaise, acting as commandant for the French Government, 29 Dec. 1803. In this claim, no evidence has been adduced to show that the Indians were occupying the land at the time of their sale, nor could the sale have received the sanction of any governor of Louisiana representing the Spanish Government, because it was made subsequently to the transfer of the sovereignty to the United States. The claim, therefore, falls within the fourth class of Indian sales, as designated in the report No. 1, unattended with any circumstance known to the Commissioners which should entitle it to confirmation, and is therefore reported as a claim which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 49. David Guidery and John Mouton claim 50 arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the west side of river Nementou, by virtue of a purchase from Celestine, Indian chief, acting for one of his men named Potate. The notice of the claim is accompanied by the deed of sale from Celestine La Tortue, chief of the Attakapas Indians, acting for one of his men named Potate, to the claimants, for 50 arpens on the west side of the river Nementou, with the depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by John Bte. Mouton, and on the other to the Bayou Schoupique, the old village being in the centre of the fifty arpens. Sale passed before Honore de la Chaise, acting as commandant under the French Government, the 29th December, 1803. John Bte. Chiason, aged about fifty years, before the board, the 15th August, 1811, hath deposed "that, when he was about thirteen or fourteen years of age, he was on the land claimed, when the Indians resided there in a village which he believes they had inhabited for many years previous to that time; that, about twenty-five years ago, he went to the said village with Samuel Levi Wells, who made the Indians proposals for the purchase of their land, when they refused to sell, and that the said Indians continued to inhabit the said village, and cultivate a part of the land within the limits of their claim, to the time of their having sold to the claimants." The purchase in this case appears to have been for lands which the Indians were occupying at the date of their sale. It comes within the third class reported No. 1. The claimants, therefore, in consequence of having extinguished the kind of title which the Indians enjoyed, are, in the opinion of Commissioners, entitled to a confirmation of their claim to so much of the land as would fully indemnify them for the consideration given for it, which, according to the deed, is one hundred dollars.

No. 50. Louis Guillory claims 30 arpens front by the depth of 40 arpens, on the woods of the Bayou Chicot, by virtue of a requette sanctioned by the commandant. The notice of the claim is accompanied by the petition of the claimant for said tract of land to establish a vacherie, dated 26 Sept. 1791, and certified by the commandant, Forstall, on the 27th of the same month. This claim is similarly situated with that of Joshua Garret's, reported under No. 44, and the confirmation recommended for the reasons therein given.

No. 51. Joseph Guillory, free man of color, claims five arpens front by the depth of eighty arpens, at a place called Nid D'Aigle, by virtue of a purchase from the widow Donatto Bello, who is said to have held it as a part of a larger tract to which she had a title. The deed of sale from the said widow to the claimant, dated 26 July, 1804, is the only evidence of title adduced in support of the claim. The Commissioners are therefore under the necessity of reporting it as one which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 52. Seth Hanchett claims 640 acres of land by virtue of settlement. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document of title. John Bte. David, before the board, in November, 1812, hath deposed, "that the land in question lies adjoining a tract of land now occupied by Mr. De Bayou; that the claimant, whilst residing adjoining the land in question, cultivated a part thereof, and took his fire-wood and timber therefrom, sixteen or seventeen years ago, and in that manner continued to occupy the said land, without intermission, to the year 1803, and since." The claimant, holding other land under the Spanish Government, and never having resided on the claim under consideration, could not, in the opinion of the board, acquire a title in the land by the use made of it as set forth by the witness. The claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 53. Thomas and Francois Huffpower claim 20 arpens front by the depth of 40 arpens, on the Bayou Tortue, by virtue of an order of survey dated 7th July, 1786. The notice of the claim is accompanied by the order of survey, dated as above, in favor of Huffpower's sons, (understood to be the above claimants,) for said tract of land, bounded on one side by the land of Huffpower, and on the other by vacant land. A plat of survey by an authorized surveyor, dated in 1806, is likewise filed: no proof to establish occupancy has been adduced. Nevertheless, the Commissioners, being of opinion that it would have been valid under the usages of the Spanish Government, recommend its confirmation according to the tenor of the said order of survey.

No. 54. Thomas Huffpower claims 640 acres on Bayou Tortue, by virtue of settlement. A plat of survey by an authorized surveyor, dated in 1805, is the only document of title filed with the notice. Peter Stouts, before the board, the 7th of February, 1813, hath deposed "that the claimant, Thomas Huffpower, commenced improving the land upwards of thirteen years ago, counting from the 15th day of the ensuing month of March; the said claimant, Thomas Huffpower, removed his family on the land, where he has continued to reside and cultivate the same ever since, except the last four years, during which last four years it has been occupied for his benefit, the said claimant having removed on the same again about five weeks ago." The claim, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed. The claimant does not show any title from the former Government, and the order of survey under which he claims, conjointly with his brother in another tract of land, bars, by express provisions of an act of Congress, his claim to this.

No. 55. Henry Hergeroder claims nine arpens front by the depth of forty, on the waters of the Bayou Petit Pass, by virtue of a concession from the Spanish Government to Andrew Boadrow, of which this is a part. The notice is unaccompanied by any evidence of title, and is believed to be for the same land of which the title has been confirmed by Commissioners' certificate B, No. 1,566. This is, therefore, reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 56. Henry Hebert claims 400 arpens on Bayou Plaquemine Brulé, by virtue of a purchase from William Norris, who is said to have purchased it from the Indians. The deed of sale from said Norris to the claimant, dated 21st May, 1804, with a plat of survey, dated in 1806, are the only documents filed with the notice. No proof to establish occupancy has been adduced: the claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 57. Francois Herault claims 12 arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on Plaquemine Brulé, by purchase from Antoine Langlois, the grantee. The notice is unaccompanied by any evidence of title, and the claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 58. Michel Immel claims 20 arpens front by the depth of 40 arpens, on the waters of the Bayou Plaquemine Brulé, by virtue of a concession from the Spanish Government to the claimant, by Governor Miro, dated 4th March, 1780. The notice is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, and the claim is on that account reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 59. Inhabitants of Bellevue claim a tract of woodland on the waters of Vermillion river, by virtue of a title from the Spanish Government, of which the following is a translation, the original of which is filed in the claim:

"Louis Levergne, Charles Comeau, Joseph Bourque, Silvire Sonnier, and Cyril Thibadeau, inhabitants of Bellevue, in the post of Opelousas, representing all the inhabitants in said quarter, with due respect present themselves before your lordship, and say, that they are

so situated by the loss of their suit with Mr. Duplissis, that they are likely to be under the necessity of abandoning their farms for want of cypress, and other wood necessary for their culture; but as there is another swamp adjoining to that, which cannot be of any detriment to others, and belonging to his Majesty, of about forty or fifty arpens, they humbly beg of your lordship to order that the commandant, Mr. Duralde, should put them in possession of the same. 10 March, 1797."

New Orleans, 13 March, 1797. The commandant, or the deputy surveyor of the post of Opelousas, shall lay out and mark the forty or fifty arpens of swamp solicited for the use in common of all and every one of the inhabitants of the quarter of district of Bellevue, being ordered under the express conditions that said swamp shall never be granted to any one, to avoid the disputes and process that originated for the first forty arpens, which gave birth to the suit between Duplissis and those inhabitants; and the survey made, it shall be remitted to me, that I may give the title in form.

BARON DE CARONDELET. Regdo. gratis.

Although the concession to the inhabitants of Bellevue is much less explicit than that of a subsequent date to all the inhabitants of the county of Opelousas, which embraces the quarter called Bellevue, the Commissioners are of opinion that the concession in question can only be construed to confer on the said inhabitants a right in common to cut and use the cypress and other timber on the swamp land, within the extent of the forty or fifty arpens front described in the requette to which the concession is subjoined. The petitioners represent that they are induced from want of wood and timber for the use of their plantations, to solicit the concession, and although the decree of the governor contains an engagement to give the title in form on the return of the survey, it is believed from the proviso contained in the same decree, "that the said swamp shall never be granted to any one," it was intended to reserve to the crown of Spain the fee-simple in the soil. The Commissioners believing as above premised, that the claimants, to wit, the inhabitants of the quarter called Bellevue, would have enjoyed in common, under the Spanish Government, the privilege of cutting and taking for the use of their plantations, the wood and timber on the tract of land in question, are of opinion that the said inhabitants ought, by the Government of the United States, to be confirmed in that privilege so far as it can be done without a relinquishment of the right of soil. No survey of the land was made whilst Louisiana continued to be a province of Spain: the omission, however, may not be imputable to remissness of duty on the part of the claimants. From a plat returned by William Darby, a deputy surveyor under the Government of the United States, dated 12th November, 1806, it appears that about 1,317 acres have been embraced by the survey of the land claimed under the above concession. This is less by about thirty-seven acres than the area that would be produced by 40 arpens square. The survey does not appear to have been made strictly in conformity with the concession. The lines appear to have been run in such a manner as to avoid interferences with adjoining private claims; but beside taking in the swamp land, a portion of high arable land is understood to have been included, though not represented in the plat. The Commissioners wish to be distinctly understood, that how much soever the swamp land may be deficient of the quantity petitioned for, the privilege to which they think the claimants entitled must be confined to the use of the timber growing on the land, which may properly be denominated swamp, and cannot, by any fair construction of the title, be extended to timber growing on adjacent arable land.

No. 60. John Joy claims forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on Bayou Nah'che, by purchase from the heirs of Madam Pereine Demosellier, to whom it is said to have been conceded by the French Government, being part of 80 arpens front by said depth, bounded on one side by land of one Lemell, and on the other by vacant land. The deed of sale from Pelaige Daupeine to the claimant, for 80 arpens front by the depth of 40 arpens, bounded on one side by Madam Lemell, and on the other by vacant land passed before Narcissus Broutin, notary public of New Orleans, the 13th August, 1807, is the only document of title accompanying the notice of the claim. Joseph Cretien, before the board, the 29th September, 1807, hath deposed "that a man by the name of Sansaucy, who had been a soldier in the army, resided on the Bayou Ouaxey, about forty years ago; that about that time the deponent heard the said Sansaucy mention that he had recommended it to the officer under whom he had formerly served, Monsieur Demissillier, to procure a grant of land at or near that place; and this deponent understood that the said Monsieur Demissillier did obtain a grant lying from the mouth of the Bayou Ouaxey, down the Bayou Courtableau, on northeast side of the said bayou, and that the said land was generally said to be the property of the said Monsieur Demissillier. This deponent never saw any grant or any title paper for the said land, neither does he know that it was ever surveyed or settled." The claimant having failed to produce any document of title from the French or Spanish Governments, and the evidence not having established the occupancy of the land as required by the acts of Congress, the Commissioners are of opinion that the claim ought not to be confirmed, and report it accordingly.

No. 61. George King claims 253 90-100th acres, the Prairie Bass, fronting on the Bayou del Puente, being part of the land claimed under Pellerin. A deed of conveyance from Luke Collins to the claimant, dated 15th March, 1806, with a plat of survey, dated in 1806, are filed with the notice of the claim. It will be seen by reference to the concession in the claim of Theophilus Collins and others, reported No. 25, that this must be embraced by said concession, and, therefore, ought to be confirmed.

No. 62. George King claims 209 arpens in the Prairie Bass, by purchase from Luke Collins, being part of a grant to Pellerin, reported under No. 25 of this report. The deed of sale from said Collins to the claimant, dated 12th February, 1808, is the only document accompanying the notice. This claim is also within Pellerin's grant, and, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed.

No. 63. Joseph Labaum, Jacques Patin, Luke Hollier, and Jacques Roman, claim twenty-four arpens front by the depth of forty arpens on the Bayou Teche, opposite the Petit Bois, by virtue of a title of which a copy certified by John W. Gurley, register of the eastern district, is filed with the notice, and which is in substance as follows:

The petition of the abovenamed persons, dated the 1st November, 1779, soliciting twenty-four arpens front by the depth of forty arpens of swamp on the north side of Bayou Teche, fronting the plantation of the petitioners, and setting forth that their place of residence being at the prairie of the Petit Bois, they were totally without timber or wood necessary for the use of their farms. Order of survey by Governor Galvez, dated 23d March, 1779, subjoined to the petition, by which the commandant is ordered to put the parties in possession of the land solicited: following the order of survey, and under date the 6th June, 1779, is the certificate of the commandant, Chevalier De Clouet, setting forth that he had, according to the decree of the governor, given full possession to the petitioners, as well as to all the other inhabitants of the prairie of the Petit Bois, of the twenty-four arpens front by the depth of forty arpens of the woods and swamp mentioned in the petition, where he had fixed the boundaries. The undersigned Commissioners are of opinion, that the concession to the four abovenamed claimants would have been valid under the Spanish Government, and, therefore, recommend the confirmation to the legal representatives of the said claimants as a common property, conformably to the boundaries established by the Spanish commandant in putting the parties in possession.

No. 64. Philip August de la Chaise claims twenty-five arpens front of land on the river Nementou, by virtue of a purchase from Celestine, an Indian chief of the Attakapas tribe. The deed of sale from said Indian to the claimant, dated the 29th December, 1804, passed before Honore de la Chaise, father of the claimant, acting as civil commandant of Opelousas, is filed with the notice of the claim. The land to be on the right bank of the said river, above the village which was inhabited by the Indians, and commencing at a large gully which is near the village, and bounded on the other side by the claim of John Mouton, price thirty dollars, fifteen in cash paid down, and the other fifteen to be paid in April ensuing. No proof to establish occupancy has been adduced, and the sale not ratified. It comes within the fourth class of Indian purchases, reported No. 1, and, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 65. Michel Leger claims nine or ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens on the river Nementou, by virtue of a purchase from Celestine, an Indian chief of the Attakapas tribe. The deed of sale for said tract, bounded on one side by the land of Martine Laudrigue, and on the other to August. Nezet, passed before Honore de la Chaise, acting as commandant under the Government of the United States, the 16th April, 1804, is the only document filed with the notice of the claim. Price paid by the purchaser, forty dollars. This claim also comes within the fourth class of Indian purchases, as reported under No. 1, and, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 66. David Lesley claims ten arpens front by the

depth of forty arpens on the Bayou Cocodre, or Crocodile, by virtue of a requette certified by the commandant. The notice of this claim is accompanied by the requette of the commandant for said land, the road crossing the said bayou to be in the centre of the front of the tract; which requette is certified by the commandant, Martin Duralde, the 10th of September, 1803, setting forth that the land solicited was of the domain of the King. Certificates by John Hay and Simon Burney, who are understood to be residents of the neighborhood, and one by Godfroy Kreigen, syndic, setting forth the vacancy of the land, are also filed in the claim, with one from Luke Collins, surveyor of the post, dated in October, 1803, representing that the land might be conceded without prejudice. A plat of survey, by an authorized surveyor, dated in 1805, is likewise filed. The Commissioners being of opinion that this would have been a valid claim under the usages of the Spanish Government, report it as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 67. Joseph Landry claims thirty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, in the Prairie Faquetaike, by virtue of a requette sanctioned by the commandant, and by settlement on said land, made about the year 1800. The notice is accompanied by the requette of the claimant, dated 9th of September, 1801, setting forth the number of his family, (ten children,) and wanting pasture for his stock, &c., prays that the land may be conceded to him at the woods of the Bayou Mallet, to be bounded on one side by land of Michel Prudhomme, and on the other by vacant land. Subjoined to said petition is the certificate of the commandant, Martin Duralde, in the usual form, and accompanied by the certificate of Michel Prudhomme, describing the situation of the land, and its being of the domain of the King; also, one from Michel Carrier, syndic, to the same purport, dated in December, 1800; and, likewise, one from Luke Collins, surveyor of the post, dated the first of January, 1801. Andre Martin, the fourth of October, 1811, hath deposed "that the land claimed was cultivated and inhabited on and previous to the 20th day of December, 1803." Under the act of Congress allowing 640 acres to settlers, the claimant would be entitled to that quantity of the land claimed, if he had not held other land from the former Government of Louisiana; but holding another tract conceded to him by the Spanish Government, renders the reporting of this claim necessary. The Commissioners, however, being of opinion that this would have been a valid claim according to the usages of the Spanish Government, report it as one which ought to be confirmed.

No. 68. Sarah Lacomb claims 640 acres on the waters of Bayou Mallet, by virtue of settlement. The notice is unaccompanied by any evidence of title, and is, on that account, reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 69. Michel Leger claims 677 acres of land on Bayou Queue de Tortue, by virtue of settlement by permission. The notice of the claim is accompanied by a plat of survey dated in 1806, and by no other document. The claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 70. Sarah Lacomb claims five arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, at Plaquemine Brulé, by virtue of permission from Captain John Bowyer, then commandant of Opelousas, which permission, in writing, is said to be lost. The notice of the claim is unaccompanied by any evidence of title, and the claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 71. Jacques and Denis Lanell claim 169 36-100ths acres on the Bayous Courtableau and Carron, by virtue of a purchase at the sale of their father's estate. A plat of survey, dated in 1808, is the only document filed with the notice of the claim. It is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 72. The representatives of Eleanor Leonard, deceased, claim two hundred arpens of land by virtue of a purchase from Joseph Roy, being part of the grant to Pellerin, in the Prairie Bass. The notice is accompanied by the deed of sale from Joseph Roy to the claimant, dated 16th September, 1793, and an informal transfer from Noel Roy to Joseph Roy, dated 29th November, 1780, also, a plat of survey dated in 1806. This claim is derived from Pellerin's grant for the Prairie Bass tract; and for the reasons set forth in the claim of Theophilus Collins and others, reported under the No. 25, ought, in the opinion of the Commissioners, to be confirmed.

No. 73. John Mouton, (nephew,) claims forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the right bank of the river Nementou, by virtue of a purchase from Jacob, an Indian, of Attakapas. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a deed of sale from said Indian, who sells by the consent of his chief, forty arpens front by the depth of forty, situate thirty arpens from the village, beginning at an oak marked 50, and bounded below by Ticho, where there is another tree, marked 50. Deed of sale passed before Honore de la Chaise, acting as commandant of the French Government, the 29th December, 1803, price one hundred dollars. No evidence being adduced to establish occupancy of the land in this claim, and the sale not having been ratified, the claim comes within the fourth class of Indian purchases, as reported under No. 1, and, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 74. Catharine Reter, widow of George Miller, claims six arpens front by forty arpens in depth, on Bayou Maria Croquent, by virtue of a purchase made by her deceased husband, at the sale of the estate of Catharine Pipre, deceased. The notice of this claim is accompanied by the deed of sale passed as abovementioned, at the sale of the estate of Pipre, dated 7th July, 1780. The sale having been passed in a regular manner by the commandant at so early a date, no doubt is entertained of the validity of the title, and the claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed.

No. 75. Walter McMorris claims six arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the east side of Bayou Chicot, by virtue of the requette of Jesse Kirkland, sanctioned by the commandant. The notice of the claim is accompanied by the said requette, certified by the commandant, 2d April, 1789, bounded at the time petitioned, on one side by the land of John Wells, and on the other by vacant land. A deed of sale from Denis Le Barge to the claimant, dated 27th March, 1804, and a plat of survey, dated in 1806, by an authorized surveyor, is also filed. Presuming the title to be vested in the present claimant, though that fact is not established by the documents filed in the claim, and being of opinion that the claim would have been valid under the usages of the Spanish Government, it is reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought to be confirmed.

No. 76. William McKoy claims five arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the Bayou Mallet, by virtue of the following transfers, which are filed with the notice of the claim: 1st. Deed of sale from Michel Carrier to the claimant, dated 1st April, 1806, for two arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, bounded on the southeast side by land of the seller, and by that of Michel Levergne on that of the other side. 2d. Deed of sale from Joachim Tissier to Gabriel Ledeau, dated 6th June, 1794, for three arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by Michel Carrier, and on the other by Baptiste Tisseneau; at the foot of which transfer, and on the same paper, is a transfer of the title of the same tract of land from Gabriel to Michel Levergne, dated 12th October, 1797; and on the back of the same paper is a transfer from the said Ledeau to the claimant, for said three arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, 18th February, 1806. A plat of survey embracing the whole claim of five arpens front by the depth of forty, by an authorized surveyor, dated in 1806, is also filed with the notice. The claimant having failed to adduce any evidence to establish occupancy, or that the land had been conceded by the former Government, and all of the deeds of sale having been passed before private witnesses, and not appearing to have been certified or recorded by any public officer, the Commissioners are under the necessity of reporting the claim as one which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 77. John Mash claims 235 78-100th acres in the prairie Grand Couteau, by virtue of settlement. A plat of survey by an authorized surveyor, dated in 1806, is the only document of title filed with the notice of the claim. Robert Burliegh, before the board, the 6th February, 1808, hath deposed "that the tract of land claimed was settled about twenty-seven years ago by the deponent, and that it has been inhabited and cultivated by some person claiming under him, for fifteen years past; that, when the said deponent first settled upon the land, he supposed his improvements to have been made on a tract of land for which he has since obtained an order of survey; but that tract having been lately surveyed, it is found that no part of the improvements are on it, and that he has reason to believe that all those who have since resided upon the land, were impressed with the opinion that they were living on the tract claimed by the order of survey. For the purpose of including the improvements, and the land which was supposed to have been embraced by the order of survey, the Commissioners recommend the confirmation of the claim, in part, in the form represented by the plat of survey filed with the notice, leaving out only that part of the tract claimed, which lies at the southeast end of John Taylor's land, which part shall be taken off by a line to be run from the southeast corner of the said Taylor's survey, on a course of south, 51° 30′ east, until it

intersects the back line of the claim under consideration, which back line, according to the plat filed, runs south 74° 15' west.

No. 78. Dennis McDaniel claims 640 acres of land on the waters of Bayou Chicot, and near the waters of Bayou Cane, by virtue of settlement. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a certificate by Samuel Reed, of which the date is supposed to have been worn off, setting forth that the said Reed had taken to himself the vacant land on the left of the point of Mr. Forstall, and on the right of a large gully. Following the certificate on the same paper, is a certificate by Godfroy Krieger, syndic, dated 12th ——, 1803, (the name of the month not legible,) setting forth that he knew of no claim for the land between the vacheries of Mr. Forstall and Mr. August. Fontenott, in the Prairie Mamou. A plat of survey by an authorized surveyor, dated in 1805, is also filed. Simon Burney, 27th October, 1806, before the board, hath deposed "that, in the year 1802, the claimant, a man above the age of twenty-one years, and the head of a family, built a cabin, and established a vacherie on the said land; that, in the month of October, in the following year, he removed thereon with his family, and planted a nursery, and has continued to reside there, and cultivate the same ever since." William Thomas, on the same day, hath deposed "that, in the month of October, 1803, the claimant, a man above the age of twenty-one years, and the head of a family, was residing upon the land claimed; but this deponent does not recollect to have seen any part of it in cultivation; that the claimant has resided on and cultivated the same ever since; that the house of the claimant, when this deponent was there, in the year 1803, appeared to have been built for several years." John McDaniel, 21st February, 1809, hath deposed "that the claimant commenced an improvement late in the year 1800; that, in the year 1801, he built a cabin, and, in the year 1802, Joseph Gomez removed into the cabin; that, during the same year, he, Gomez, removed from the land, and the next year the claimant removed on the land; that Gomez was settled on the same tract of land by this deponent, for the purpose of keeping his and the claimant's stock of cattle." Bridget Rone, before the board, the 28th October, 1811, hath deposed "that, about the month of October, 1803, the claimant removed to the land claimed, and had a variety of vegetables in cultivation, and was actually inhabiting the same on the 20th December, 1803. The deponent further saith, that the land had been inhabited and cultivated the year before by a man of the name Joseph Gomez." It appearing from the evidence, that the claimant, with his family, has been residing on, and cultivating the land in question for several years previous to the change of Government, and the Commissioners not knowing of any concession to him from the former Government of Louisiana, the confirmation of this claim is recommended, though not provided for by any act of Congress.

No. 79. Peter McDaniel claims 507 54-100th acres in Prairie Mamou, by virtue of settlement by permission. The notice of this claim is accompanied by the requette of the claimant, dated 9th November, 1802, for fifteen arpens front by the depth of forty arpens in Prairie Mamou, on the west side of the east branch of Bayou Cane, bounded on one side by the land of Dennis McDaniel, and on the other side by vacant land. Subjoined to said requette, is the certificate of the commandant, Martin Duralde, dated 16th November, 1802, setting forth that the land solicited was vacant, as represented by Luke Collins, surveyor of the post, and by the syndic and neighbors. A plat of survey by an authorized surveyor, dated in 1806, is also filed with the notice. Anthony Corkran, aged 74 years, before the board, the 5th August, 1812, hath deposed "that, in the year 1803, the deponent thinks in the spring of the year, Peter McDaniel, the claimant, cut and hauled logs for a house which he contemplated building on the land claimed, and split some fence rails, neither of which were ever put up, to the knowledge of the deponent. The deponent has no knowledge of the said tract of land ever having been inhabited or cultivated, and believes it never has been; but he knows the land in question has always been spoken of, and respected in the neighborhood as the property of the claimant, who never has owned or held any other tract of land under the Spanish Government, in his own right, to the knowledge of the deponent." This claim is reported on account of its not having been inhabited and cultivated on the 20th day of December, 1803, as required by the acts of Congress, allowing donations to settlers. The Commissioners, however, being of opinion that it would have been valid under the usages of the Spanish Government, report it as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 80. John McDaniel claims 685 85-100th acres of land on the waters of Bayou Cane, by virtue of settlement by permission. The notice of the claim is accompanied by the requette of the claimant, dated the 9th of November, 1802, for the land lying between Peter McDaniel and Denis Le Barge, being about ten arpens more or less. The certificate of the commandant, Martin Duralde, dated 16th November, 1802, in the usual form, is subjoined to said requette. A plat of survey by an authorized surveyor, dated in 1805, is also filed with the notice. Anthony Corkran hath deposed "that the claimant kept his stock upon the land claimed, in the years 1802 and 1803; the stock were managed by the sons of the claimant, who lived in the neighborhood; and, in the year 1801, to the best of his recollection, the Widow Sloan and her children went to live upon the land for the purpose of keeping the claimant's stock. This claim being similarly circumstanced with that of Peter McDaniel, reported under the number next preceding, its confirmation (to the extent of four hundred superficial arpens) is recommended for the same reasons as there given, the quantity of four hundred arpens being that which would be embraced by ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens.

No. 81. Andre Martin claims 1523 acres on the river Nementou, by virtue of a purchase from the Indians of one of their villages, which the claimant sets forth in his notice was purchased in the year 1799, but the sale not passed in writing until 1803. With the notice of the claim is filed a plat of survey, by an authorized surveyor, dated in 1806, and the deed of sale from Celestine Le Tortue, chief of the Attakapas Indians, to the claimant, for 40 arpens front by the depth of 40 arpens, on the right bank of said river, adjoining the lower side of the village then occupied by the Indians, and on the other side by the cypress gully which empties into the said river, passed before Honore de la Chaise, acting as commandant for the French republic, 29 Dec. 1803; price one hundred dollars. Louis de la Houssaye, aged 52 years, being sworn in the claim, deposeth "that, from the earliest recollection of the deponent, Nemantou, the chief of the village on the river of that name, with the other Indians of the tribe, were residing on the land now claimed by Andre Martin, where they have ever since continued to reside, and have never had any other village, to the knowledge of the deponent. That, to the knowledge of the deponent, the said Martin has had his vacherie on the land claimed for more than twenty consecutive years preceding the present date. That the said Martin, as the deponent has been informed, made a purchase of the Indian title about the time he established his vacherie, but omitted to take the written sale for many years thereafter. Being requested to state how many villages of the Attakapas or Opelousas Indians, in the district composed of the counties of Opelousas and Attakapas, he had known, where were the situations of those villages, and the names of the chiefs of said villages, and the date of the settlement and abandonment of those villages, and the number of the inhabitants, answereth, that he has already said that a village of the Attakapas Indians was established on the west side of river Nemantou, at his recollection, of which Nemantou was the chief. The inhabitants of this village were very numerous when the deponent first knew it. He recollects that about thirty years past, when there was a Spanish expedition against Baton Rouge, then in the hands of the British, there were about four hundred Indian warriors who joined the Spanish army, of which about one hundred and twenty were from the Nemantou village, sixty from the village on the Vermillion, of which Skenemo was then the chief; that Skenemo's village was on the west side of the river Vermillion, at the first recollection of the deponent, at the place now occupied by Anselm Thibadeau. That a gully still known by the name of the Skenemo Gully, was the lower boundary of the village. That he has been informed that there was another small village of Attakapas Indians low down on the Vermillion, but not having ever been at it, he does not know what the chief was called. That he has heard of several other villages of Attakapas and Opelousas Indians on the Bayou Plaquemine Brulé, and the other parts north and west of that bayou, but never was at them. 28 February, 1814." The evidence of La Houssaye, establishing the occupancy of the land in question, both by the Indians and claimant, for more than ten consecutive years before the transfer of Louisiana to the United States, induces the Commissioners to report this as a claim which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 82. Roger McPike claims 203 acres of land on the Bayou Chicot, by virtue of a purchase from John McGlaughlin, who had it by purchase from Jesse Kirkland. The notice of the claim is accompanied by a deed of sale from said McGlaughlin to the claimant, dated 11 August, 1792, for fifteen arpens front by the depth of forty arpens

on the other side of the Bayou Chicot, on the road to Natchitoches, about twenty arpens from the house of Gabriel Martin, with another tract of six arpens front with a like depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by vacant land, and on the other by land of John Wells, conformable to the titles of concession which the seller delivers to the purchaser. Also, a deed of sale from Jesse Kirkland to John McGlaughlin, dated 29 July, 1791, for the same tracts of land, conformable to the titles of concession delivered by the seller to the purchaser. A plat of survey for six arpens front with forty arpens in depth, on the right bank of the Bayou Chicot, by an authorized surveyor, dated in 1806, is likewise filed with the notice. The claimant not having produced any document of concession from the Government, and no proof to establish the occupancy of the land, the claim is reported for the consideration of Congress, recommending the confirmation, however, on the grounds of its having been held as private property, as appears by the deeds of sale which have been regularly passed before the commandant more than ten consecutive years prior to the cession of Louisiana to the United States.

No. 83. William Norris claims 640 acres on the waters of Plaquemine Brulé, by settlement. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any evidence of title, and is therefore reported as a claim which ought not to be confirmed.

No. 84. Peter O'Conner claims 677 acres on the right bank of Bayou Cane, by virtue of settlement by permission. A plat of survey dated in 1806, is the only document of title filed with the notice. Robert Taylor, before the board the 2d of February, 1809, hath deposed "that about seven years ago, he, this deponent, carried a requette of the claimant to Orleans for the purpose of getting a title for the land prayed for; that he delivered it to Mr. Leonard for that purpose, but never could get it again; that he does not know where the land lies that the requette was for." Patrick McCauley, the 18th Sept. 1809, hath deposed "that, about five years last July, he passed by the place claimed, and discovered a cabin, which appeared to have been built some time before; the deponent does not recollect that there were any person living there at that time, neither did he observe any crop of any kind growing, but he is certain the place was known to be Peter O'Conner's, the present claimant." John Corkran, 19 Sept. 1809, hath deposed "that, about the last of May or June, in the year 1803, the claimant did build a small cabin on the land claimed, but did not live on it neither that year nor since, and that he the deponent does not know of any culture being made upon said land to this day." No original document of title being produced, this claim must rest on the right of occupancy; the proof does not establish the settlement and cultivation of the land, as required by the several acts of Congress allowing donations to actual settlers. The claimant has moreover held other lands under the Spanish Government, which further invalidates his title to the claim under consideration. It is therefore reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 85. Evan O'Conner claims 640 acres in the Prairie Mamou, by virtue of settlement. Clark Barton, on the 21st November, 1808, hath deposed "that, sometime in the year 1803, this deponent assisted the father of the claimant in making a settlement on the land claimed, but that no crop was cultivated on the land that year, neither was it inhabited or cultivated on the 20th day of December, 1803. At the time above mentioned, the claimant was under the age of 21 years, and was not the head of a family." This claim being unsupported by any document of title, and the claimant being a minor, is reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 86. William O'Donnegan claims 1015.54 acres of land on Bayou Chicot, by virtue of settlement by permission. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a plat of survey, dated in 1806, and the petition of the claimant, dated 1 February, 1792, for ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, at the end of the depth of William Borgeau's land, and 20 arpens front by the usual depth, to be taken at the boundary of the land of the said Borgeau, and running to the east—the petitioner setting forth that he is an inhabitant of the post of Opelousas, and wishing to form an establishment and a vacherie. Subjoined to the petition, and under date the 3d February, 1792, is the certificate of the commandant, setting forth the vacancy of the land and the verity of the petition. Anthony Corkran, before the board the 5th of March, 1812, hath deposed "that about twenty years ago, this deponent went, in company with the claimant, to the land claimed, where the said O'Donnegan had commenced an improvement by deadening the timber, and had erected a camp covered in part with bark and part with boards, to the best of the recollection of this deponent, under which the claimant and the deponent lodged during the night of the day on which they visited the place as before mentioned. That the said William O'Donnegan resided at the time in the family of John McDaniel; that he knows that this land has been constantly respected as the property of the said O'Donnegan from the time he took possession of it to the time of his death, two or three years ago; and that he knows that the said O'Donnegan did pay taxes under the Spanish Government for the said tract of land." John McDaniel, 25 March, 1808, hath deposed "that, about 15 years ago, he, this deponent, moved the claimant and his family up to Bayou Chicot, where he continued to reside two or three years, but, whether on the land claimed or not, he does not know." It will be seen by the testimony of Corkran, that the claimant, whose requette appears to have received the sanction of the commandant, had been in possession of this tract of land for about ten years previous to the change of Government; that his right was respected and recognized by the neighbors, and that he had paid taxes for it. The Commissioners are of opinion, therefore, that this would have been a valid claim agreeably to the usages of the former Government, and ought to be confirmed by the present one.

No. 87. Inhabitants of Opelousas claim, by virtue of a concession from the Baron Carondelet, all the cypress swamp in the county of Opelousas not granted prior to the 12th April, 1797. For a translation of the documents of title on which this claim is founded, the Commissioners refer to pages 77 and 78 of the appendix to the book entitled Land Laws, &c. The terms of the concession are so clear and unequivocal as to leave no doubt of the intention of the Government to grant to the inhabitants of Opelousas the common use of all the cypress timber standing on any unappropriated land within the limits of that district, at the date of the concession, to wit, the 12 April, 1797. The intention of the Government to retain the fee simple in the soil is also clearly expressed. The Commissioners, with due deference, cannot forbear differing in opinion with the author of the remarks in the introductory part of the same book, pages 25 and 26, that the "grant, from its nature, would seem to be revocable at will, and, if continued unrestrained, would prove equally injurious to the public domain, and ultimately to the settlement itself." The Commissioners, so far from believing any such consequence would result from the confirmation of this claim, are confident that the ratification of the claim would prevent, and the revocation of the grant undoubtedly produce, the very consequences which the author of those remarks seems to apprehend. When we reflect that there are hundreds of thousands of acres of arable land within the limits of Opelousas without one stick of timber growing on them, and that at least nineteen-twentieths of all the settled plantations within the whole extent of the county have but a very narrow border of timbered land in front, the residue being prairie, we must be forcibly struck with the infinite injury that would be done to the present inhabitants, and the utter impossibility of selling to emigrants the vacant prairie land, if the use of the cypress timber was prohibited to the one or the other. From a due consideration of the claim, the Commissioners are of opinion that the faith of the Government is pledged for the confirmation of the privilege conceded by the Baron Carondelet to all the inhabitants of Opelousas, which, from the nature of the concession, they are of opinion was intended to apply as well to future inhabitants as to those who resided in the county at the date of said concession, and that this confirmation is dictated equally by justice and sound policy.

No. 88. Martineau and Landreau, as administrators of the estate of Joseph Chevalier Poiret, deceased, claims 30 arpens front of land, with the depth of forty arpens, in Bellevue, by exchange with Florentine Poiret. The deed of exchange, dated in 1794, is the only document filed with the notice of the claim, and it is believed to be for the same land claimed by, and of which the title has been confirmed to, Henry Lastrappe, by Commissioners' certificate A, No. 1091, under a grant to Etienne R. Lamorandier. The claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 89. Martineau and Landreau, as administrators of the estate of Chevalier Poiret, deceased, claim 12 arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, by purchase from John Tesson. The deed of conveyance from said Tesson to said Poiret, dated 25 June, 1778, is the only document filed with the notice, and it is believed to be for the same land claimed by Martin Donatto, to whom the title has been confirmed by Commissioners' certificate marked A, No. 871, under a grant to Jacques Ganard. The claim is therefore reported as one which ought not to be confirmed.

No. 90. Benjamin P. Porter and William Darby claim twelve arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, by purchase from Albert Beausergent. The deed of conveyance from Beausergent to the claimants, dated 21 March, 1806, and a plat of survey by an authorized surveyor, dated in 1806, are the only documents filed with the notice. The land claimed in this case is said to be part of a grant to Helene Soileau, (Widow Fuseliere,) but no evidence to establish this fact having been adduced, and no proof of occupancy, the Commissioners are under the necessity of reporting this as a claim which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 91. Benjamin P. Porter and William Darby claim four arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, by virtue of a purchase from Francois Clement, who is stated to have claimed under settlement. The deed of conveyance from Clement to the claimants, dated 21st March, 1806, and a plat of survey, dated also in 1806, are the only documents filed with the notice of the claim. No proof of occupancy having been adduced, and no document to show that the land was ceded by the French or Spanish Governments, the claim is reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 92. Michel Perrault claims twenty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens on Bayou Cane, by virtue of a requette in the name of the father of the claimant, and approved by the then commandant of the port of Opelousas, Forstall, the 13th June, 1791. Said tract to be bounded on one side by land of Antoine Doza, and running for complement towards that of Francois Fruge. The requette, with a plat of survey by an authorized surveyor, dated in 1808, are filed with the claim. Joseph Moreau, before the board, the 21st August, 1812, hath deposed "that Joseph Landry, about four or five years ago, did settle on the land, and that it was not inhabited nor cultivated by any body before that time, as far as he can recollect; and that the said Landry did not settle the said land for the claimant, but believes it was for himself." The claimant, in this instance, is personally known to the board, and that he was a minor until several years subsequent to the cession of Louisiana to the United States, is not doubted; and that his father, of whom he was the only son, was murdered in the county of Opelousas by his own negroes, several years before the said cession, is a matter of public notoriety. It is understood that there never was an abandonment of the claim; and if, under the usages of the former Government, it was necessary that the land should have been settled within a limited time, it is believed it would neither comport with the usages of the Spanish Government, nor with the principles of equity, to extend such act of limitation to the case of a minor; on which ground, therefore, the confirmation of the claim is recommended.

No. 93. Benjamin P. Porter and William Darby claim three arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, by purchase from Francois Clement. The deed of sale from said Clement to the claimants, dated 21st March, 1806, and a plat of survey dated in 1806, are the only documents filed with the notice of the claim. It is stated in the notice that the land was granted to Vidrine, but no document having been adduced to establish this fact, and no proof of occupancy furnished in support of this claim, it is reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 94. Michel Paplion claims, by settlement, 640 acres of land on Bayou Serpent, in Prairie Nezpique. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document, except a plat of survey dated in 1806, and no proof has been adduced to establish occupancy. The claim is, therefore, reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 95. Samuel Reed claims 338 51-100th acres on Bayou Cane, by virtue of settlement by permission. The notice of this claim is accompanied by the requette of the claimant for ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, at the fork of Bayou Cane, at the old road between the land of Morris, and the vacherie of Jacques Duprie, which requette was sanctioned by the then commandant, Martin Duralde, the 15th October, 1803. A plat of survey dated in 1805, is also filed. Joseph Buller, on the 12th March, 1807, hath deposed "that, in the month of September, 1803, the claimant, a man above the age of 21 years, and the head of a family, commenced his improvement on the land claimed; that, in the month of October, he raised his cabin, and that within three days before, or three days after Christmas, this deponent does not recollect which, the claimant removed his family thereon, and has continued to reside there, and cultivate the same ever since." This claim is reported on account of the evidence not having established the occupancy of the land, as required by law, on the 20th December, 1803: but its confirmation is recommended on the grounds of its being such a claim as, in the opinion of the Commissioners, would have been valid under the usages of the Spanish Government.

No. 96. Louis and Pierre Richard claim 80 arpens front by the depth of 40 arpens, say 3,200 superficial arpens, on the Bayou Ouache, in Prairie Quelqueshoe, by virtue of a purchase from John, an Indian chief of the Attakapas tribe. The deed of sale from the said Indian to the claimants, dated 5th January, 1801, passed before private witnesses, and deposited with Honore de la Chaise, then acting a commandant pro tem. for the county of Opelousas, the 29th June, 1801, is the only document filed with the claim. Silvest. Mouton, before the board the 23d January, 1813, hath deposed "that he was present at the passing of the sale from the Indian chief, John, to the claimants; at which time the said John informed the deponent that he had sold the land to the claimants, and received his pay for it a long time before; and that he, the deponent, knows that there was a considerable Indian village on the said land, and he does not know that said John ever sold any other tract." At the request of the claimants the same witness, Silvest. Mouton, aged 34 years, was again sworn and examined before the Board of Commissioners, on the 27th August, 1814, when he gave the following testimony: "That the land claimed is situate above the vacherie of Mr. Wykoff, on a bayou, the name of which the deponent does not recollect. This deponent does not remember the date when the claimant purchased of the Indians, (it is so long ago,) although he was a witness to the sale, and knows the Indians were in possession of the land when the purchase was made; that the Indian village was on the land at the time of the purchase, and that the Indians made crops thereon. This deponent knows, of his own knowledge, that the Indians were established on the land in question since he can remember, and has reason to believe it was established long before he was born." The sale in this case is informal, not having been passed before the commandant, nor does it appear to have received the sanction of the Governor of the Province. To say the most which the Commissioners conceived can be said for the claim, it comes within the third class of purchases from Indians, as designated in the report No. 1, of Opelousas claims, to which the board refers. The claimants, therefore, can only be entitled to so much of the land claimed as might be deemed a remuneration for extinguishing the kind of title which the Indians possessed.

No. 97. John Baptiste Richard claims 507 77-100th acres on Bayou Plaquemine Brulé, by settlement. A plat of survey, dated in 1806, is the only document filed with the notice of the claim. No proof to establish occupancy has been adduced, and the claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 98. Andrew A. Ryon claims 640 acres on Bayou Chicot, by settlement. The notice is unaccompanied by any document of title. John McDaniel, before the board the 4th August, 1812, hath deposed "that the land in question was settled and cultivated about 30 years ago by Mr. Routh, who had his family then with him; that said Routh resided there about two years and then moved off; that the deponent has understood that said Routh conveyed his right in said land to a Mr. Clayton, of the parish of Avoyelles, and Clayton conveyed to Ryon, the present claimant. He, personally, knows nothing of these conveyances, but believes that the present claimant, Ryon, settled on the land in the year 1802; that the said Ryon continued there that year and the year following, to wit, 1803; but the deponent does not know this of his own knowledge; that Ryon is an infirm man, and procured subsistence by hiring himself in the neighborhood of said land, and, consequently, has resided on the land only occasionally since the year 1803." Anthony Corkins, before the board on the same day, hath deposed, "that he was frequently in the neighborhood of said land about the year 1798; that he always understood, from common report in that neighborhood, that said land was first claimed by a Mr. Routh, with whom he was formerly acquainted; that, from common report, he also learned that the land in question was occupied by said Routh, and that it was conveyed from him to some other person, and that the land has been regularly claimed from the time Routh possessed it to the present time; that the claim to said land has passed through several persons; that, in the year 1802 or 1803, he, the deponent, was passing through the land, and saw preparations for a field on part of the tract; that a Mr. Johnston was then at work there for the present claimant, and informed this deponent that the original improvements were in the bend of the bayou at a small distance from where he was then at work, but the deponent was never at the place where said

original improvements were made." Ryon claims by right of settlement; but the evidence is not such as would entitle him to the land under the acts of Congress providing for such claims. If the land was conveyed to the claimant by Clayton, it would have been in the power, and was incumbent on the claimant, to have produced the evidence of that fact from record. This he has not done, nor has he shown that there was ever any concession for the land to Routh, said to have been the original proprietor: with evidence so little satisfactory, and without the production of any documents of title, the Commissioners cannot avoid reporting this as a claim which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 99. —— Remy claims ten arpens by the depth of forty arpens, in the Grand Prairie, by purchase from Pierre Maurice, who purchased from Pierre Barre, free mulatto. The deed of conveyance from Barre to Maurice, dated 8th November, 1790, is the only document accompanying the notice. It is stipulated in the conveyance, that the purchaser should take immediate possession of the fencing and cabin, from which it would appear that the land was occupied at the date of the sale. No evidence has been offered to show that the land has continued to be occupied since that time; but, presuming that the seller had a valid title in the land, the Commissioners recommend the confirmation of the claim.

No. 100. Helene Robleau claims 640 acres of land near the Bayou Chicot, on the waters of Bayou Nepique, on which her house is situate; which tract of land is bounded on one side by land of Lucote Dan Manuel. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, and is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 101. James Rumsey's heir claims 800 acres, supposed to be arpens, by purchase from Francois Lemell, by deed, bearing date the 3d of December, 1777. The said deed of conveyance is the only document accompanying the notice of the claim; and no proof to establish occupancy has been offered. The deed of conveyance, however, having been passed in a regular manner before the then commandant of the post, no doubt is entertained of the validity of the claim, and it is therefore recommended for confirmation.

No. 102. Helene Soileau claims six arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, in the Grand Prairie, by purchase, but from whom is not set forth in the notice. A deed of conveyance from Albert Beausergent to Joseph Gunard, dated 20th June, 1791, is the only document of title filed, and no proof of occupancy has been offered. The Commissioners entertaining no doubt of the validity of the title under the above deed of conveyance, and presuming that it has been conveyed to the claimant, recommend the confirmation of the claim.

No. 103. Raphael Smith claims one league square of land on the Bayou Caomen, in the Prairie Nezpique, by purchase from an Indian calling himself Celestine Le Tortue, chief of the Attakapas tribe of Indians. The deed of sale from said Indian chief to the claimant passed before Honore de la Chaise, acting as civil commandant of Opelousas, dated 28th September, 1804, is the only document filed with the notice of the claim. It is set forth in the deed that the land is "situate at the place where the village of the Indians is, and which has been constantly inhabited by the Indians for fifty years at least." The consideration paid by the purchaser, one hundred dollars. See the evidence of John Teller, in the claim of Benjamin A. Smith, which applies also to this claim. It appears that the village, and land depending thereon, which the said Indians have sold to the two Mr. Smiths, had been abandoned by them for four or five years before the sales were passed. This claim, therefore, comes within the fourth class of titles held under Indians, as reported in No. 1; and, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 104. Benjamin A. Smith claims one league square of land on the Bayou Coamen, in the Prairie Nezpique, by purchase from an Indian calling himself Celestine, chief of the Attakapas Indians. The notice of the claim is accompanied by the deed of sale from said Indian to the claimant, passed before Honore de la Chaise, as civil commandant of Opelousas, the 28th September, 1804, setting forth, in the said deed, that the land is situate at the place where the village of said Indians has always been inhabited by them for at least fifty years, bounded on one side by land purchased by Raphael Smith, and on the other by the end of the woods, forming a point on the east side of said Bayou Coamen: price paid by the purchaser one hundred dollars. John Teller, aged about forty-eight years, before the board the 16th May, 1814, hath deposed, "that he is well acquainted with the land claimed, and has been particularly acquainted in that quarter for about twenty-seven years; that, at the time when this deponent first became acquainted in that part of the country, the Attakapas Indians had their village at the Island of Woods, now known by the Island of Lacasine, of which an Indian called Lacasine was understood to be the chief; that their village extended the whole length of said island, which the deponent supposes may be about two leagues; that the principal settlements were at the upper end of the island, which is embraced by the claim in question; that the chief, Lacasine, has been dead about fifteen years; that, about the time of his death, the village was abandoned by the surviving inhabitants, the principal part of whom removed to the now only remaining Attakapas village, on the river Nementou; that the Indians, so far as the deponent knows, did not abandon their claim to the land at the said Island of Lacasine, but, on the contrary, he knows they continued to claim it as their property until they sold it to the two Mr. Smiths; that an Indian chief, named Celestine, now residing on Nementou, is understood to have succeeded Lacasine in his authority and power to dispose of the property of the said village, and the deponent has heard the said Indians of the Attakapas village frequently say that the said Celestine had made the sales to the above named gentlemen expressly with their consent, and that the payments had been applied to their use. The deponent further saith, that, from hunting for many years with the Attakapas Indians, and especially with the Indians of Lacasine village, he became well acquainted with most of them, and understood their language perfectly. The deponent further saith, that he was present when Messrs. Benjamin and Raphael Smith contracted with the Indians for the purchase of said village, and land depending thereon, about two or three months before the contract was finally closed, by passing the sale before the commandant, Mr. La Chaise, at which ceremony the deponent was also present, when, to the best of the recollection of the deponent, he served as translator between the commandant and the Indians. The deponent further saith, that he was in company with Mr. Jackson, the surveyor, when he surveyed the land for the Mr. Smiths, and knows that the surveys embraced the ancient Indian village before mentioned." The circumstances of this claim are, in every respect, the same of those attending the claim of Raphael Smith, and, like that, coming within the fourth class of purchases from Indians, as reported under the No. 1, is decided to be such a claim as, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 105. Augustin Soileau's heirs claim 138 acres in Prairie Bass. Conformable to the plat of survey, filed with the notice of this claim, the nature of the title is not set forth in the notice, which is unaccompanied by any other document of title or evidence, except the said plat, which bears date the 19th April, 1806. The claim is, therefore, reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 106. Heirs of Peter Styx claim twelve arpens front by the depth of forty arpens on both sides of the Bayou Queue de Tortue, by purchase from an Indian. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a deed of sale from Louis, an "Indian of the Attakapas tribe," to Pierre Styx, free negro, passed before Honore de la Chaise, as civil commandant of Opelousas, the 16th April, 1804, the tract to be bounded on one side by the claim of Huffpower and Peter Stouts, and on the other to the purchaser; price thirty dollars. No other document of title, nor proof of occupancy, has been adduced. The claim is, therefore, placed under class No. 4 of Indian claims, as reported under the No. 1, and, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 107. Maria Simien claims six arpens in front, by the depth of twenty arpens in the Big Woods, by purchase at the sale of the estate of Joseph Thery. The notice of the claim is accompanied by a deed of conveyance, passed before Martin Duralde, then commandant of the post of Opelousas, for the said tract of land, dated 20th July, 1800, which tract is bounded on one side by land of the deceased Rideau, and on the other by land sold by the deceased Thery to Pierre Jubert. A plat of survey by Luke Collins, dated the 17th March, 1802, and certified to have been made in pursuance of the said deed of conveyance, is also filed with the notice. Laurent Dupré, aged thirty-five years, before the board, the 25th Jan. 1812, hath deposed "that Joseph Thery, from whom the said Maria derives her title, and those under whom he claimed, have been in the constant practice of cutting and taking wood off of the tract of land in question from the earliest recollection of the deponent, and that their rights have always been respected as valid; that the land was petitioned for not to be cultivated or settled upon, (not being esteemed arable land,) but for wood for fuel and timber." The Com-

missioners entertain no doubt of the validity of this claim, and therefore report it as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 108. Maria Simien, (free negress,) claims 200 arpens in the Prairie of Bellevue, by a concession from the Spanish Government. The notice of this claim is accompanied by the petition of Maria Simien, setting forth that she had, on the 26th April, 1799, solicited a grant of same tract, which petition being lost or mislaid, she desires to renew her request, subjoined to which, and under date of 25th July, 1801, is the certificate of Martin Duralde, then commandant, setting forth that what was deposed by the petitioner was true, and that the surveyor had certified the vacancy of the land, the said tract being situate at the back of land granted to Farron and Charles Normand, and Campiramo; a plat of survey by Francois V. Potier, dated in 1806, is also filed with the notice. James Clark, before the board, the 5th August, 1809, hath deposed, "that the tract of land claimed has been in cultivation every year from the year 1799, until last winter two years; and that, during that time, no person has actually resided upon the said land. That the claimant resided upon a tract of land adjoining the tract abovementioned. That, on the 20th day of December, 1803, the said claimant was above the age of 21 years, and an inhabitant of Louisiana." The Commissioners, believing this to be a valid claim under the usages of the Spanish Government, recommend its confirmation.

No. 109. Nicholas Simon, (free mulatto,) claims thirty-five arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the Lake Karkasiou, by purchase from Indians. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a deed of sale from "Mahy Poly, of the Attakapas nation," to the claimant, passed before Honore de la Chaise, as commandant of the post of Opelousas, the 17th April, 1804; the said tract to be bounded on one side by the gully of the village, and on the other by a large gully called Accouche; price paid by the purchaser for the land eighty dollars. A plat of survey, dated in 1807, is likewise filed. No proof to establish occupancy has been offered, nor can the sale have been sanctioned. The claim is therefore within the 4th class of purchases from Indians, as reported in No. 1, and, consequently, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 110. Heirs of Peter Styx claim six arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the west side of the Bayou Vermillion, by purchase from an Indian. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a deed of sale from Bernard, an Indian of the Attakapas tribe, acting for and in behalf of his daughter Constance, passed before Martin Duralde, then commandant of Opelousas and Attakapas, the 5th November, 1803, the said tract to be taken at the gully Dessaules in ascending towards land of Anselm Thibodeau, and represented in the deed of sale to be part of the land appertaining to the village of Escanimou, grand chief of the Attakapas Indians, being within the limits of said village, as marked out by Mr. De Clouet, as appeared by a certificate exhibited by Mr. Bernard, in whose hands it was. The want of evidence of occupancy by the Indians at the date of their sale, constrains the Commissioners to consider this claim as falling within the fourth class reported No. 1, and, consequently, one which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 111. Charles Simon, (son of Nicholas Simon,) claims 15 arpens front by the depth of 40 arpens, on the Lake Carcouchion, by purchase from an Indian. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a deed of sale from "Maypole, of the Attakapas nation," to the claimant, passed before Honore de la Chaise, acting as commandant of the post of Opelousas, the 17th April, 1804. The said tract to be bounded on one side by land of the father of the claimant, and on the other to that of Martin Comasac, where there are two pines for a boundary on the bank of said lake: price paid by the purchaser thirty dollars. A plat of survey, dated in 1806, is likewise filed, and no other evidence in support of the claim. This also is within the fourth class of purchases form Indians, as reported under No. 1, and, therefore, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 112. Heirs of Francois Stely claims thirty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the Bayou Queue de Tortue, by virtue of the documents of title of which the following is a translation in substance. Petition of Francois Stely, setting forth the number of his stock, and soliciting the above tract for a vachere, 18 February, 1800, to which is subjoined the certificate of the then commandant, Mr. Duralde, stating that the land solicited was vacant, as he had been informed by the petitioner and others, 18 February, 1800. (Signed) Martin Duralde. "Let it go to the fiscal for his opinion. (Signed, two paraphs.)" I certify that the above two paraphs or flourishes, are those of Don Ramon de Lopez E. Angulo, intendant general, &c. who made his flourish by the advice of the assessor general of the intendancy, and the other the flourish of the said assessor general. (Signed) Carlos Himines. On the same day, notice is given to Francois Stely, of the preceding decree. (Signed) Himines. "On the same day, I lay the antecedent decree before the royal fiscal." (Signed) Himines. The fiscal of the royal treasury, Hacinda, on the communication made to him of the petition of Francois Stelly, inhabitant of Opelousas, soliciting thirty arpens front by the ordinary depth, of land vacant and uncultivated on the bayou known by the name of Queue de Tortue, to form a vacherie, is of opinion that you may, if it meets your approbation, grant him the title of property, after the survey shall have been made, and a plat returned by the surveyor general; but the tribunal may act as they think most conducive to justice, which is what the fiscal decrees. "New Orleans, 18 May, 1802." (Signed) Gilbert Leonard. Decreed. (Signed) Morales. "Ordered by Don Juan Ventura Morales, contador principal of the army, acting intendancy of the royal hacidenca of the province of Louisiana and West Florida, who signs with the advice of the assessor general of the intendancy. New Orleans, 19 May, 1802." (Signed) Carlos Himines. New Orleans, 2 June, 1802. "Let the petitioner prove what quantity of land and the number of animals he has, that a decree may be made on sight of it." (Signed) Morales, and countersigned Sicde. Serreno. Before me, (Signed) Charles Himines. John Taylor, before the board the 20th January, 1812, hath deposed "that the land claimed was settled about twelve years ago, by John Lyon, and it has continued to be inhabited and cultivated by some of the members of the said John Lyon's family ever since. It is deemed proper to remark, that John Lyon has made known to the board, that it was never his intention to have settled on the land of Mr. Stely, and that he claims the land himself on which he has resided on the Bayou Queue de Tortue. The Commissioners are of opinion that this claim would have been valid under the usages of the Spanish Government, and report it as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 113. Heirs of Maria St. Dennis claim two tracts of land each, of forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, near the spring of the Bayou Chicot, by virtue of an order of survey of the Spanish Government. The notice of this claim is accompanied by two separate petitions of Maria St. Denis, for said tracts of land, to adjoin each other, in consideration of services rendered by her deceased husband, in commanding the King's troops, by whom the conquest of Attakapas and Opelousas is said to have been effected. The order of survey by Governor Miro, dated 5 January, 1785, directing the surveyor general to put the party in possession of the two tracts without condition of settlement, &c. is likewise filed with the notice. Proof of occupancy as required by law having been adduced for one of the tracts, the claim to that has been confirmed by certificate B, No. 1216; and the confirmation of the claim to the other tract, which is the one under consideration, is recommended, first, because the party may have conceived the settlement on one of the tracts as being sufficient, and, secondly, the land having been solicited on account of services rendered the Government, the usual conditions of settlement seem to have been dispensed with.

No. 114. David F. Sackett claims 1000 arpens on the Bayou Nezpique, by virtue of a purchase from Henry Hergroeder, who held it under a requette approved by the commandant. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a petition of said Hergroeder, for twenty-five arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the Bayou Cane, in the Prairie Mamou, at the first grand point west of said prairie, for a vacherie, which petition is approved by the commandant, Forstall, under date 9 Sept. 1789. Anthony Corkran, before the board the 1st October, 1811, hath deposed "that, in consequence of the ravages committed by the Indians on the stock and plantation of John McDaniel, who had resided on the land several years, he, John McDaniel, was obliged to remove from the same; and that himself and several other persons who had settled in the neighborhood, were obliged to remove for the same reason." John Hays, before the board the 13th July, 1810, hath deposed "that, in the year 1789, the land was inhabited and cultivated, and continued to be for five or six years, and is now in cultivation; that he has always heard that there was a requette for said tract of land." This claim would have been valid, in the opinion of the board, under the former Government, and ought to be confirmed by this.

No. 115. Charles Smith claims 300 acres on the east side of the Bayou Borbeau, by virtue of a concession from the Spanish Government. The notice of this claim is accompanied by extracts of documents of title, certi-

fied by J. W. Gurley, register of the eastern district, to be truly taken from the originals in his office, which, translated, are in substance as follows: 1st. Certificate by Luke Collins, deputy surveyor, dated 14th October, 1799, setting forth that the land solicited by Charles Smith (describing its situation) is vacant, and may be conceded to him without being prejudicial. 2d. Certificate by the syndic, Michel Leger, that the land solicited by Mr. Smith had not been demanded by any other person. 3d. Certificate by John Tyson and Michel Leger, that they knew of no opposition for the land demanded by Mr. Smith, Grand Coteaux, 6th September, 1799. 4th. Petition of the claimant to Juan Ventura Morales, intendant, for said tract of land, bearing date 31st October, 1799. 5th. Certificate by Martin Duralde, commandant, that the land petitioned for by Charles Smith was vacant, as appeared from the certificate of Mr. Luke Collins, surveyor of the post, and the syndic, and neighbors, November 3d, 1799. 6th. Order by Lopez, that the translator, Don Pedro Derbigny, should translate the antecedent documents after the usual manner, and then they should be communicated to the fiscal, and, with his answer, to be laid before the assessor, New Orleans, 25th January, 1800. 7th. Opinion of fiscal, Gilbert Leonard, that the tribunal may accede to the solicitation of the petitioner, if no objections be known to exist, New Orleans, 23d April, 1800. John Teller, before the board the 9th August, 1811, hath deposed "that 18 or 19 years ago he knows of the claimant taking wood off the land for the use of his farm, at which time it was understood by the deponent, and he believes by the neighbors generally, that the land was claimed by the said Charles Smith, who had continued to occupy, use, and possess the same ever since to the present date." By a survey made of the land claimed, by order of the principal deputy surveyor, it is found to contain 193 20-100th acres, equal to about two hundred and thirty arpens. From the long use which the claimant has enjoyed of this land, and a persuasion that the title would have been perfected under the Spanish Government, the Commissioners report this as a claim which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 116. Juliana Thomas claims 280 acres of land at a place called the old village, on the waters of the Bayou Teche. A plat of survey dated in 1806, is the only document filed with the notice; and no proof has been adduced to establish occupancy. The claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 117. Heirs of Pierre Thibedeau claim four arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, say 160 superficial arpens, in the settlement of the Acadiens. The notice of this claim is accompanied by the petition of Philip Dagneau, for four arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, in the place where the Acadiens are to be settled by order of the executive; the petitioner setting forth that he can be useful to the Acadiens on account of his possessing the talent of bleeding. Subjoined to the petition, and under date New Orleans, 27th December, 1767, is the decree of the commandant, which, translated, is as follows: "Under the good will of Mr. De Ulloa, governor of this colony under his Catholic Majesty, we do grant the four arpens of land petitioned for to Philip Dagneau, for him and his heirs to enjoy peaceably." On the back of the paper, and under date the 13th March, 1768, is a transfer of the right and title of Dagneau and wife to Pierre Thibedeau, for the sum of six livres. The permission on which the claim is founded is, in the opinion of the board, a mere nullity. Although it was granted by the French Government nearly forty years before the transfer of Louisiana to the United States, it is not pretended that, either by the original holder of this paper or his assignee, any land has been occupied under it; nor that the right has ever been recognized by the Spanish Government. The claim therefore, in the opinion of the Commissioners, cannot be confirmed.

No. 118. Christopher Teal's representatives claim 426 33-100th acres, on Bayou Chicot, by settlement. The notice of the claim is accompanied by a plat of survey dated in 1806, and by no other document or evidence of title. The claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 119. Robert Taylor claims one arpent front by the depth of forty arpens at the Hill of Opelousas, by virtue of an order of survey in favor of Julian Lasassier. The notice of this claim is accompanied by the petition of Luke Collins (son) for said tract, bounded on one side by land of Godeau, and on the other by that of Thomas Huffpower, which petition bears date the 7th January, 1790. The said Collins having transferred his right of said land to Julian Lasassier, he, the said Lasassier, obtained an order of survey for the same, date 23d April, 1796, which order of survey is filed with the notice of the claim. No proof to establish occupancy has been adduced, but the Commissioners having a knowledge of the situation of the land, entertain but little doubt of its having been cultivated, perhaps since the date of the title, and, believing it to be a valid claim under the usages of the Spanish Government, recommend its confirmation.

No. 120. Robert Taylor claims five arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, under an order of survey to Luke Collins, jun., bearing date 19th April, 1797, which order of survey, with the petition of said Collins for said land, dated 13th January, 1790, are filed with the notice of the claim. William Collins, before the board, hath deposed in substance, "that the wood and timber necessary for the adjoining establishment of the claimant, and those from whom he derives his title, has been taken from the land claimed ever since the date of the abovementioned petition in the year 1790, the land having been petitioned for on account of the wood, and not to settle on. The Commissioners entertain no doubt of the validity of the title, and report it as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 121. Robert Taylor claims twenty-one superficial arpens of land, part of a larger tract granted to Luke Collins, sen., father of the wife of the claimant, and being a donation from the said Collins to his daughter. By the certificate of the Commissioners, marked A, No. 1,174, in confirmation of the claim to the legal reprentatives of Theophilus Collins, deceased, this claim is understood to be embraced, and consequently there can be no necessity for any further confirmation to the claimant.

No. 122. Noel Vasseur claims six and a half arpens front by the depth from the bayou to the gully forming the boundary between his land and that of Charles Veger, being part of a tract surveyed by the surveyor general, Carlos Trudeau, in the year 1794, then owned by Chevelier Villier. The notice is accompanied by a deed of sale from John Jubert to the claimant, dated 21st February, 1806, and by no another document or evidence of title; and, although the board have no reason to doubt what is set forth in the notice, yet, without other evidence in support of the claim, they are under the necessity of reporting it as a claim which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 123. C. Voorhies, as guardian of the heirs of Logotrie, claims 1,600 arpens on Bayou Courtableau, lying between the land of William Collins, and that of Baptiste Rivier. No document of title or evidence has been adduced in support of this claim: it is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 124. Roger West claims 640 acres on Bayou Chicot, by purchase from Frazier, the original claimant. A plat of survey dated in 1806, is the only document of title filed with the notice of the claim. Patrick McCauly, before the board, 20th March, 1812, hath deposed "that he is well acquainted with Roger West, the present claimant, and was also well acquainted with the original proprietor, Isaac Frazier, now deceased, and the land claimed: that he knows that the said Isaac Frazier settled upon the land claimed, twenty-three years ago, and at that time had a part of the land under cultivation. How long he continued on the land the deponent does not know: That, some years afterwards, but he cannot recollect in what year, he was again on the land, when he found it inhabited and cultivated by John McLaughlin, who married the daughter of said West, and whom the deponent supposes to have been the agent or tenant of his said father-in-law; that the said McLaughlin made one crop on the land, and might have made more, but not to the knowledge of the deponent; that, in the latter end of the year, to which the deponent alludes, the said McLaughlin, finding the Indians very troublesome, and his wife becoming alarmed, removed off the land, gathering his crop before it was fully ripe; that, removing out of the neighborhood about that time, the deponent does not know whether the land has been occupied since McLaughlin left it or not." John McDaniel, before the board, the 20th March, 1812, hath deposed "that, to his knowledge, the original claimant, Isaac Frazier, settled on the land in question, twenty-nine years ago, and continued to inhabit and cultivate the same until he sold it to Roger West, about twenty years ago, who took possession thereof two or three years thereafter, and remained on it perhaps about one year, and then left it to pursue his trade as carpenter on the Mississippi river, having previously established his son-in-law, John McLaughlin, on the land, who was obliged to abandon it about eighteen years ago, in consequence of the Indians being troublesome to him, and alarming his wife, and that the said land has not since been occupied, except by Indians: that this tract of land has been respected as

the property of West since his purchase from Frazier." A claim of 640 acres, founded on the right of settlement of Isaac Frazier, has been confirmed to his heirs by the certificate of the Commissioners, B, No. 829. The claimaint, in the case under consideration, has not shown any title from the former Government of Louisiana, nor any deeds of conveyance from former proprietors, by which the nature, validity, and extent of this claim might be judged of. These circumstances considered, the Commissioners are induced to report the claim as one which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 125. Nathaniel West claims 400 arpens in the Prairie Mamou, by virtue of a requette approved by the commandant. The notice is accompanied by the requette of the claimant for ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, adjoining on one side to the land of James Campbell, dated 3d August, 1799, and certified by the commandant, Mr. Duralde, and the surveyor of the post, Luke Collins. A plat of survey, by an authorized surveyor, dated in 1806, is likewise filed. Samuel Reed, before the board, the 7th October, 1807, hath deposed "that, in the year 1803, Godfroy Kreiger built a log house on the land claimed, but never resided thereon; neither was the land inhabited or cultivated until the year 1805, when the present claimant, a man above the age of 21 years, and the head of a family, settled thereon, and has continued to reside there ever since." The Commissioners viewing this as a claim which, in their opinion, would have been valid under the usages of the Spanish Government, report it as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 126. Andrew Weaver claims 640 acres by settlement, on the waters of Bayou Cane. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a plat of survey, by an authorized surveyor, dated in 1806, and a certificate by Godfroy Kreiger, syndic, dated the 23d November, 1801, and one by Joseph Buller of the same date, setting forth that the land on which William Hay had built a cabin in Prairie Mamou, on one of the branches of Bayou Cane, was vacant. John Corkran, before the board, the 12th March, 1807, hath deposed "that, in the year 1798 or '99, a house was built on the land claimed by William Hay, but he did not go to reside thereon; that, in the year 1801, Robert McKim and Madam Moris removed on the same land, and resided thereon, and cultivated the same, until the latter end of the year 1802, or the beginning of the year 1803, when they left it, and it continued vacant until about Christmas, in the year 1804, when the present claimant removed thereon, and has continued to reside there, and cultivate the same ever since. The abovementioned Robert McKim and Madam Moris were both over the age of twenty-one years, and had families. The present claimant claims the same by purchase from John Laughley, who purchased from Madam Moris, who claimed the same under William Hay." Samuel Reed and Joseph Buller, before the board, the 7th October, 1807, have deposed "that, in the year 1799, William Hay built a cabin on the land claimed, with an intention to reside thereon, but never did move to the said land; that about the month of August, 1801, Mrs. Moris and her son, a man of one or two and twenty years of age, without a family, removed on the same, and continued to reside there until the fall of the year 1802, when she left the same; that during that year she cultivated about an acre or an acre and a half of corn, and planted several plumb and peach trees; that immediately after the removal of Mrs. Moris the place was occupied by James O'Brien, who resided thereon three or four months, when he left it. The place then remained uninhabited until the fall of the year 1804, when the present claimant removed thereon, and has resided there and cultivated ever since. The improvements at present consist of a good log dwelling-house, and several other necessary out-houses, and of about seven or eight acres of cleared land, enclosed with a good fence." The claimant having adduced no deed of conveyance from the original occupant, nor any title from the former Government, whereby the nature and extent of the claim might be understood, and it appearing from the evidence that the land was occupied from the early part of the year 1803, to the latter end of the year 1804, the Commissioners are induced to report the claim as one which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 127. Benjamin Winfree claims 640 acres on the Lake Tortue, by virtue of settlement. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, and is therefore reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 128. Philip Winfree claims 640 acres on Plaquemine Brulé, by virtue of settlement. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a plat of survey dated in 1806, and by no other document of title. Bosman Hays, before the board the 24th December, 1807, hath deposed "that, about six years last August, the claimant, a man above the age of twenty-one years, and the head of a family, went with his family to reside upon the land claimed for the purpose of keeping a stock for David and Jacob Harman; that he kept their stock there, and cultivated the land for three years, when the said David and Jacob Harman removed their stock; that the said claimant continued to reside on the land and cultivate the same two years longer, when he removed therefrom, in consequence of part of his improvements being included in the survey of David Harman; that the said claimant was actually residing upon the said tract of land on the 20th day of December, 1803; that, previous to the claimant's going to reside on said land to keep the abovementioned stocks of cattle, David Harman obtained the usual certificate from this deponent, and one or two other persons residing in the neighborhood, and, as he informed this deponent, made a petition to the commandant for a requette for the said land, but which he did not obtain; and that after the removal of the said stock, the said claimant and the said Harman both claimed the land." It appearing from the testimony, that the claimant in this case was the tenant or stockeeper of David Harman, whose claim to the land has been confirmed by the certificate of the Commissioners B, No. 597; this is, on that account, reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 129. William Wikoff, sen., claims 2,733 acres on the River Nezpique, by virtue of a purchase from Indians. The notice of this claim as accompanied by a deed of sale from La Tortue, an Indian, calling himself chief of the village Nezpique, and his son Celestine, to the claimant, for one league in front by the ordinary depth, bounded above by a marked tree about half a league from the village, and below by a small gully where there is another tree marked, passed before Forstall, then commandant of the post of Opelousas, the 16th April, 1791; consideration, ten cows and calves. A plat of survey by an authorized surveyor, dated in 1806, is likewise filed with the notice. Mark Lee, before the board the 22d Sept. 1808, hath deposed "that the tract of land claimed was settled by this deponent for and in behalf of the claimant, William Wikoff, 18 years ago; that he himself remained upon the land from the first of September until the first of November, when he went to Kentucky for his family; that in the May following, he arrived on the land with his family, and continued to live on and cultivate the same for three years, when the Indians being very troublesome, he removed therefrom; that the land continued unoccupied until within a few years past; that this deponent, as well as the said William Wikoff, were, on the 20th day of December, 1803, above the age of 21 years, and heads of families, and lived in Louisiana; that during the time this deponent resided upon the land, he kept a stock of horses and cattle for the said claimant, William Wikoff." John Clark, before the board the 5th Sept. 1814, hath deposed "that he is well acquainted with the land in question; that, to the knowledge of the deponent, the said William Wikoff had a vacherie on the said land more than twenty-three years past, when Mark Lee resided on the land as stockkeeper for the said William Wikoff; that at the time when the deponent was on the said land, about twenty-three years ago, the Indians had their village either on the land now claimed by Mr. Wikoff, or some short distance, not exceeding one mile and a half above the vacherie. The deponent further saith that, from common report, he has reason to believe, and does believe, that the said Wikoff has occupied the above tract of land as a vacherie constantly for the last twenty-three or twenty-four years, and that, during the said term, the stockkeepers or negroes of the said Wikoff have cultivated corn on the same." Thomas Berwick, before the board on the same day of the above witness, hath deposed "that he was also on the tract of land now claimed by William Wikoff, on the Bayou Nezpique, about twenty-three years ago, when he recollects perfectly the Indian village was in sight of the vacherie, and he thinks not more than one mile above it. The deponent further saith that, having heard the evidence of Mr. John Clark in this claim, he has good reason for believing that what the said Clark has stated is just and true." By reference to the report No. 1, of Opelousas claims, it will be seen that the Commissioners attach no other consequence to the sales of Indians, which had not been ratified by some governor of the province of Louisiana, than to consider them as extinguishing the kind of title which the Indians possessed. In the case under consideration, however, from the long occupancy of the land, the claimant comes under the provisions of the second section of the act of Congress passed the third of March, 1803, and is therefore, in the opinion of the Commissioners, entitled

to a confirmation of his claim to the extent of two thousand acres.

No. 130. William Wikoff, sen., claims 1,354 acres of land on the bayou or river Nezpique, by virtue of a concession from the Spanish Government in the year 1789. In support of this claim has been filed the petition of the claimant for forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens on the west part of Bayou Nezpique, about a league below the highest crossing place of the Indians, bounded on both sides by vacant land petitioned for for a vacherie, and certified by the commandant, Forstall, the 30th September, 1789. A plat of survey by an authorized surveyor, dated in 1806, has likewise been filed. No proof to establish occupancy has been adduced; nevertheless, the Board of Commissioners considering this such a claim as would have been valid under the former Government, recommend the confirmation.

No. 131. William Wikoff, jun., claims forty arpens front by the depth of 40 arpens, say 1,600 superficial arpens, on the bayou or river Nezpique, by virtue of a concession from the Spanish Government, in the year 1789. The notice of this claim is accompanied by the petition of the claimant for said tract, bounded on one side by the land of Mr. Wikoff, his uncle, and on the other by vacant land petitioned for for a vacherie; to which petition is subjoined the certificate of the then commandant, Forstall, dated 30th September, 1789, setting forth that the land solicited is of the domain of the King. A plat of survey by an authorized surveyor is likewise filed with the notice, dated 17th February, 1806. No proof to establish occupancy has been adduced in support of the claim. This claim is reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed for the reasons given in the case immediately preceding.

No. 132. Francesca Wikoff claims 500 arpens on the Bayous Courtableau and Ouache, by virtue of an order of survey dated 20th December, 1798. The notice of this claim is accompanied by the petition of the claimant for said tract of land, fronting on the Bayou Courtableau, and bounded on one side by land of William Wikoff, the younger, and on the other by vacant land, dated 9th December, 1789; also, the order of survey by Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, then governor of Louisiana, dated as abovementioned, on the 20th day of December, 1798, and plat of survey by the late surveyor general of Louisiana, Carlos Trudeau, dated the 3d September, 1798. Certified to be comformable to the survey returned by Luke Collins, deputy surveyor. No proof to establish occupancy has been adduced in support of the claim. The Commissioners, however, believing it to be such a claim as would have been deemed valid under the usages of the Spanish Government, report it as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

Signed duplicates.

WM. GARRARD,
LEVIN WAILES, } *Commissioners.*
GIDEON FITZ,

By order of the Board.

LLOYD POSEY, *Clerk.*

LAND OFFICE, WESTERN DISTRICT,
State of Louisiana, May 1, 1815.

To the Honorable Commissioner of the General Land Office, in the Treasury Department United States:

The undersigned Commissioners, appointed for the purpose of ascertaining the rights of persons to lands within the district aforesaid, have the honor to report, in continuation, the following list of claims to land within the county of Attakapas, classing the same agreeably to the order observed in their report made on the 16th day of October, 1812, of claims in the county of Concordia, to which they beg leave to refer. [See vol. 2, No. 217.]

Claims to Land in the County of Attakapas.

Reported No.	Register's No.	Name of claimant.	Original claimant.	Quantity claimed.	Nature and date of the title or claim.	Class.
1	D. 234	Benjamin Andrus -	Benjamin Andrus - -	640 acres -	Settlement - - -	C.
2	D. 153	David Andrus - -	David Andrus - -	203 4-100 acs.	Order of survey - -	B.
3	3	John Abshire - -	John Abshire - -	338 51-000 acs.	Settlement - - -	B.
4	D. 297	John Berard - -	John Berard - -	136 acres -	Survey under the Span. Gov't	B.
5	D. 89	Francois Brusard -	Bernard, Attakapas chief -	730 acres -	Indian purchase & occupancy	B.
6	20	Widow & h'rs of R'd Bell	Richard Bell - -	400 arpens -	Order of survey - -	B.
7	4	Hillaire Boutle - -	Hillaire Boutle - -	25 by 40 arp.	Order of survey - -	B.
8	D. 2	Claude Broussard -	Claude Broussard - -	280 acres -	Survey under Span.Gov't,&c.	B.
9	9	James Bue - -	James Bue - - -	640 acres -	Settlement - - -	B.
10	22	Joseph Birot - -	Joseph Birot - -	40 by 120 as.	Order of survey - -	C.
11	27	Henry & John Bosler -	H. & J Bosler - -	1,000 arpens -	Requette, &c., - -	B.
12	19	Henry Bosler - -	Same - - -	1,280 acres -	Settlement - - -	C.
13	16	Joseph Borrel - -	Joseph Borrel - -	640 acres -	Settlement - - -	C.
14	12	Hyacinth Bernard -	Baptiste and other Indians -	3,440 arpens -	Purchase from Indians -	C.
15	13	P. Bernard & C. Arseneau	Bernard & Arseneau -	18 by 40 arp.	Order of survey - -	B.
16	13	William Biggs - -	William Biggs - -	640 acres -	Settlement - - -	B.
17	-	John Chote - -	Unknown - - -	640 acres -	Settlement - - -	C.
18	121	John Cormier - -	Simon Le Blanc and others -	360 arpens -	Patent - - -	C.
19	-	Dennis Carline - -	Francois Gravemberg -	800 arpens -	Unknown - - -	B.
20	D. 251	Dennis Carline - -	Madam Guesnard - -	1,600 arpens -	Unknown - - -	C.
21	D. 258	John Bte. Coment -	J. Bte. Coment - -	485 60-100 acs.	Settlement - - -	B.
22	35	John Chote - -	Unknown - - -	800 arpens -	Conc'n from B. de Carondelet	C.
23	34	John Carlisle - -	Unknown - - -	320 arpens -	Unknown - - -	C.
24	D. 98	James Clark - -	James Clark - -	640 acres -	Settlement - - -	C.
25	D. 193	Baptiste Calais - -	Bte. Calais - - -	240 arpens -	Requette, &c., - -	B.
26	D. 51	Joseph Castille - -	Joseph Castille - -	280 arpens -	Requette & Spanish survey -	B.
27	D. 50	Widow Castille & Son -	Unknown - - -	440 arpens -	Spanish survey & possession -	B.
28	39	Michel Cormier & J. Mire	Jacques Roman - -	800 arpens -	Order of survey - -	B.
29	32	Daniel Callaghan -	Robert Brazile - -	640 acres -	Settlement - - -	C.
30	2	Daniel Callaghan -	Francis Daniel - -	400 arpens -	Requette, &c., - -	C.
31	29	Same - -	John Mix - - -	800 arpens -	Unknown - - -	C.
32	31	Same - -	John Reed - - -	640 acres -	Settlement - - -	C.
33	-	Davt've Dubuclet & others	Dubuclet and others about	3,300 arpens -	Order of survey - -	B.
34	-	Louis C. De Blanc -	Louis C. De Blanc - -	2,080 arpens -	Spanish concession - -	B.
35	57	John Bte. Degrouise -	John Bte. Degrouise -	3,200 arpens -	Order of survey - -	B.
36	45	Louis De Clouet -	Louis De Clouet - -	1,200 arpens -	Unknown - - -	C.
37	54	Louis Gorget Demarets -	Louis G. Demarets - -	1,200 arpens -	Order of survey - -	B.
38	10	Heirs of John Dunman -	John Dunman - -	640 acres -	Settlement - - -	C.

CLAIMS IN ATTAKAPAS—Continued.

Reported No.	Register's No.	Name of claimant.	Original claimant.	Quantity claimed.	Nature and date of the title or claim.	Class.
39	41	William Desk	Madame Loiselle	400 arpens	Order of survey	C.
40	72	Same	William Desk	640 acres	Settlement	C.
41	120	Same	Charles Duhon and others	410 arpens	Order of survey	C.
42	120	Same	Charles Duhon and others	-	Same	C.
43	-	John Dennilly	John Dennilly	800 arpens	Requette	C.
44	287	Pierre Dubois	Pierre Dubois	480 arpens	Occupancy	C.
45	55	Heirs of Dunman	Unknown	640 acres	Settlement	C.
46	-	Jacques Dore	John Berard	50 arpens	Unknown	C.
47	D. 115	Madame St. Marc Darby	Alexander D. Bienvenue	700 arpens	Requette, survey, & oc'pancy	B.
48	D. 116	Same	Madam Darby	740 acres	Occupancy	C.
49	D. 82	Lou. & A. De la Houssaye	De la Houssayes	940 arpens	Requette, survey, & oc'pancy	B.
50	D. 85	Louis De la Houssaye	Don Paul De la Houssaye	3,200 arpens	Order of survey, &c.,	B.
51	50	Charles Dugas & others	Charles Dugas and others	1,870 acres	Order of survey	B.
52	-	Pierre Etier	Unknown	410 arpens	Unknown	C.
53	60	Richard Ellis	Richard Ellis	2,400 arpens	Order of survey	B.
54	59	John Ellis	John Ellis	2,400 arpens	Order of survey	B.
55	61	William P. Ellis	William P. Ellis	2,400 arpens	Order of survey	B.
56	1	Michel Elnor	Michel Elnor	640 acres	Settlement	C.
57	64	Claude Frio	Unknown	800 arpens	Unknown	C.
58	67	Edward Forman	Ashnoya and other Indians	Unknown	Purchase from Indians	C.
59	-	Jacques Fontinet	200 arpens	200 arpens	Requette and survey	B.
60	D. 122	Same	Jacques Fontenet	480 arpens	Requette & Spanish survey	B.
61	-	Fontinet & Bienvenue	Fontinet and Bienvenue	467½ acres	Requette, &c.,	B.
62	15	Ed. Forstall, exr. of Darby	Madame Widow Darby	2,400 arpens	Order of survey	B.
63	-	Gravier & Forstall	Dauterive	1,200 arpens	Occupancy	B.
64	-	Same	Gravier and Forstall	1,200 arpens	Unknown	C.
65	6	Francois Gonssoulin	Frs. Gonssoulin	840 arpens	Order of survey, &c.,	B.
66	D. 129	Joshua & William Garret	John Louis Drouet	440 arpens	Occupancy	B.
67	262	William Garret	William Garret	640 acres	Settlement	C.
68	255	Simon Gerouard	Simon Gerouard	160 arpens	Same	C.
69	71	John Gilbeau	Dominic Babineau	400 arpens	Unknown	C.
70	76	Paul Glasco's heirs	Paul Glasco	800 arpens	Occupancy	B.
71	81	Pierre Guidry	Bronier De Clouet	400 arpens	Spanish survey	B.
72	-	Joseph Hebert	Attakapas Indians	160 arpens	Purchase from Indians	C.
73	85	Henry Hargroider	Henry Hargroider	800 arpens	Unknown	C.
74	5	Same	Charles Hargroider	480 arpens	Requette, &c.,	B.
75	4	William Hargrove	William Hargrove	640 acres	Settlement	C.
76	8	Hargroider's guardian	Michel Hargroider	360 acres	Settlement	C.
77	12	John Henry	Unknown	400 arpens	Order of survey	C.
78	10	Francois Hacket	Michel Infil	400 arpens	Order of survey	B.
79	2	Jacob Hamshire	Theoliste Hebert	338 49-100 acs.	Unknown	C.
80	D. 150	Francois Hacket	John Johnson	677 acres	Settlement by permission	B.
81	9	Heirs of Chs. Hargroider	Charles Hargroider	500 arpens	Unknown	C.
82	90	Thomas Huffpower	Thomas Huffpower	320 arpens	Order of survey	B.
83	92	Gideon Hopkins	Gideon Hopkins	400 arpens	Order of survey	B.
84	7	Jacob Jarrard	Jacob Jarrard	640 acres	Settlement	C.
85	94	William Johnson	William Johnson	640 acres	Settlement	C.
86	3	Patrick Johnson	Patrick Johnson	320 arpens	Occupancy	B.
87	D. 152	Samuel Jones	Samuel Jones	677 acres	Requette, &c.,	B.
88	96	Charles Kulls	Charles Kulls	480 arpens	Requette, &c.,	B.
89	10	Fs. C. Y. Luengo	Unknown about	315 arpens	Unknown	C.
90	108	Widow of F. Le Blanc	Simon Le Blanc	160 arpens	Patent	C.
91	13	Hebert Landry	De Jean and Lebeauve	480 arpens	Unknown	C.
92	D. 20	Lewis Legnon	Lewis Legnon	960 arpens	Order of survey	B.
93	15	Francois Louvier	Francois Louvier	1,035 94-100 acs.	Requette and Spanish survey	B.
94	101	Jesse E. Lacy	Benjamin Andrus	600 arpens	Order of survey, &c.,	B.
95	406	John Lyon	Attakapas Indians	2,000 arpens	Purchase from Indians, &c.,	B.
96	406	John Lyon	Attakapas Indians	2,240 arpens	Purchase from Indians, &c.,	B.
97	130	Pat. Morgan & Dl. Clark	Fusilier De la Clair	8,540 arpens	Provisional concession, &c ,	C.
98	2	John Bte. McCarty	Louis Judice, jr.,	2,240 arpens	Order of survey	B.
99	2	Same	Vincent Lesassier & others	6,400 arpens	Unknown	C.
100	2	Same	Antoine Boudousque	3,200 arpens	Unknown	C.
101	2	Same	Pierre Etier	Unknown	Unknown	C.
102	2	Same for son Barth'w	Bartholomew McCarty	1,600 arpens	Order of survey	B.
103	2	Same for son Edmund	Edmund McCarty	1,600 arpens	Order of survey	B.
104	2	John Bte. McCarty	John Bte. McCarty	1,600 arpens	Order of survey	B.
105	129	Charles Morgan	Lebath De Lisle	3,500 arpens	Requette and occupancy	B.
106	118	Andrew Martin	Louis De Clouet	400 arpens	Unknown	C.
107	9	John Merriman	John Merriman	600 arpens	Requette and occupancy	B.
108	13	Lewis Moore	Unknown	640 acres	Unknown	C.
109	113	John McLaughlin	Unknown	480 arpens	Unknown	C.
110	433	Frederick Mouton	Joseph Carriere	400 arpens	Unknown	C.
111	114	Francois Milholm	Francois Milholm	640 acres	Settlement	C.
112	122	James McKeever	Samuel Jones	677 acres	Requette, &c.,	C.
113	111	Pierre Meaux	Pierre Meaux	640 acres	Settlement	C.
114	112	Same	Same	338 50-100 acs.	Settlement	C.
115	-	Marin Mouton	Bernard and other Indians	4,251 acres	Purch'e from Inds. & occup'ny	B.
116	45	John Bte. Mouton	Rene Broussard	190 acres	Occupancy	B.
117	465	Antoine Nezat	Antoine Nezat	252 arpens	Order of survey	C.
118	133	Rufus Nickelson	Rufus Nickelson	640 acres	Settlement	C.
119	15	Thomas Nickelson	Mark Lee	406 21-100 acs.	Requette, &c.,	B.
120	242	Thomas Nickelson	Ashnoya and other Indians	3,333 arpens	Purchase from Indians	B.
121	7	William O'Donegan	William O'Donegan	320 arpens	Requette, &c.,	B.
122	D. 296	Charles O'Devizen	Charles O'Devizen	1,520 arpens	Requette & Spanish survey	B.

CLAIMS IN ATTAKAPAS—Continued.

Reported No.	Register's No.	Name of claimant.	Original claimant.	Quantity claimed.	Nature and date of the title or claim.	Class.
123	-	John O'Reilly - -	John O'Reilly - -	1,600 arpens -	Requette, &c., - -	B.
124	196	Christopher O'Brien's hrs.	Christopher O'Brien -	1,500 arpens -	Settlement by permission -	C.
125	-	Joseph Primo - -	John Berard - -	50 arpens -	Occupancy - - -	C.
126	-	Joseph Piernas - -	Louis Pellerin - -	6,400 arpens -	Unknown - - -	B.
127 } 128 }	496	Frederick Pellerin -	Unknown - - -	1,400 arpens -	Unknown - - -	C.
129	1	Simon Pickard - -	Simon Pickard - -	640 acres -	Settlement - - -	C.
130	-	Joseph Romaro - -	John Desaris - -	320 arpens -	Settlement - - -	C.
131	-	Abraham Roberts -	Abraham Roberts - -	400 arpens -	Order of survey - -	B.
132	160	Eugene Senate - -	Eugene Senate - -	400 arpens -	Order of survey - -	C.
133	10	John Bte. Senate -	Joseph Senate - -	640 acres -	Settlement - - -	C.
134	250	Hypolite Savoy - -	Hypolite Savoy - -	Unknown -	Settlement - - -	C.
135	14	Jonathan Smith's guar'dn	Jonathan Smith - -	640 acres -	Settlement - - -	C.
136	-	John Stine - -	John Stine - - -	320 arpens -	Order of survey - -	B.
137	170	Stephen Sweayze -	Stephen Sweayze - -	400 arpens -	Ord. of survey & Span. surv'y	B.
138	12	Louis Semaire - -	Louis Semaire - -	400 arpens -	Requette, &c., - -	B.
139	-	William Romple -	Unknown - - -	600 arpens -	Unknown - - -	C.
140	7	John Thibedeau - -	Attakapas Indians - -	110 arpens -	Purchase from Indians -	C.
141	114	John Vomser - -	John Vomser - -	480 arpens -	Requette, &c., - -	B.
142	D. 264	Romain & Mary Verdine	R. and M. Verdine - -	640 acres -	Settlement - - -	C.

REMARKS ON THE FOREGOING LIST OF LAND CLAIMS, WITH REFERENCES TO THE REPORTED NUMBERS.

No. 1. Benjamin Andrus, 640 acres, claimed by settlement. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a plat of survey, dated in 1806, and by no other document of title. Francois Borrel, before the board, 16th October, 1810, hath deposed "that, about thirteen years ago, he recollects that the claimant cut timber on the land, and cut roads on the same; that it was considered by the neighbors as his land: he knows of no permission that the claimant had, neither does he know of its being inhabited or cultivated prior to the year 1803." No other evidence has been adduced in the claim. The claimant holding other lands under the Spanish Government, the titles of which have been confirmed either to himself or persons to whom he had sold, and not having settled or cultivated the one under consideration as required by law, it is reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 2. David Andrus claims 203 4-100 acres under an order of survey in his favor, dated 4th May, 1795, for six arpens in front by forty in depth. The order of survey, with a plat, dated in 1806, accompanies the notice of the claim. This being a claim which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, would have been valid under the Spanish Government, its confirmation is recommended, although no proof of occupancy has been adduced.

No. 3. John Abshire claims 338 51-100 acres by settlement. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a plat, dated in 1806, and by no other document of title. George Cummings hath deposed "that, in the year 1798, the claimant was settled on the land claimed, and inhabited and cultivated the same until the year 1801, when he removed therefrom; that he was again residing on it in the year 1805, but whether any person lived on it, or whether it was cultivated between those periods of time, this deponent could not say; that said claimant was, on the 20th day of December, 1803, a man above the age of twenty-one years, and the head of a family." Francis Daniel, before the board, the 23d June, 1808, hath deposed "that, about twelve or fourteen years ago, the claimant resided on the west side of Bayou Vermillion, at the place where George Cummings afterwards resided; that, after living there some years, he left the said land and resided elsewhere; that about four years ago, or better, he settled on the same side of the Vermillion, about ten acres higher up the bayou, and has continued to reside there ever since. Before Richard Cocke, 15th June, 1809, in Attakapas, Peter Lee hath deposed "that his brother, Mark Lee, went in the fall of 1802 to reside upon the land claimed, as the tenant of the present claimant; that he continued to reside thereon until the autumn of the ensuing year, the particular month is not recollected by the deponent, but he thinks it was sometime about Christmas of that year that he moved from the said land. The deponent further says, that the said Mark Lee planted thereon, in the spring of the year 1803, about five acres in corn, which was destroyed by the cattle when the corn was about waist high." It not being established by the evidence that the land claimed was inhabited and cultivated by the claimant, or for his use, on the 20th day of December, 1803, as required by law, the Board of Commissioners report this claim as one which they are not authorized to confirm, but of which, from the length of possession, and a persuasion that the claimant has never abandoned it, they recommend the confirmation.

No. 4. John Berrard claims the land embraced by a survey of Carlos Trudeau, late surveyor general of Louisiana, dated in 1800. In support of this claim has been filed the plat of survey, dated as above, with the petition of the claimant for the land, and an order of survey in his favor. dated 23d January, 1788, for ten arpens in front by the depth of forty, at the back of his land, fronting on the Bayou Teche. From the certificate of the commandant, Chevalier De Clouet, annexed to the said petition, it appears that it was the object of the petitioner to obtain a piece of woodland for supplying cypress timber for fencing the front tract on which he resided. The surveyor general finding that the depth of forty arpens, as conceded by the order of survey, did not reach the woods, has thought proper to extend the depth so far as to cross the claim of Agricole Fusilier, and include about 136 acres of woods on the east side of the said Fusilier's claim. Of the quantity conceded by order of survey, the claim to 214 42-100 acres has been confirmed by Commissioners' certificate B, No. 2,211, leaving 124 acres, the residue of the order of survey, unconfirmed. To pursue the concession or order of survey by the Government, these 124 acres would have conflicted with the land of Agricole Fusilier, which, being discovered by the surveyor general, he has, to use his own expressions, "leaped over the said Fusilier's, and taken the deficiency on the opposite side;" and, also, about twelve acres more than the order of survey was granted for. The Commissioners, doubting the authority of the surveyor general, in locating land, to depart from the tenor of the concession in the manner he has evidently done in the case under consideration, and unwilling to establish a precedent which might govern others similarly circumstanced, by the confirmation of this, have deemed it most proper to report the claim of 136 acres, which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed on the ground of the land being solicited for the use of wood, and the length of time it has been occupied by the claimant, or for his use. The following testimony, in substance, is adduced in support of the claim: John Pierre Decuir, before the board, hath deposed "that the land claimed has been in the constant use and possession of the claimant for more than twenty-two years; that it was petitioned for to supply his contiguous farms with fire-wood and timber, and has been resorted to for that purpose, without interruption, during the above period." Andre Martin hath deposed "that a Mr. Fagot, son-in-law to the claimant, inhabited and cultivated the part on the Big Woods, (Grand Bois) as tenant of the claimant, from the year 1796 to 1808."

No. 5. Francois Broussard claims 730 acres, by pur-

chase, from Bernard, chief of Attakapas Indians, and son of Ashnoya, (whom he represents,) by deed of sale passed before Honore de la Chaise, the 10th September, 1800: with the notice of the claim, is filed the said deed of sale, and a plat of survey, dated in 1806. Andre Martin, before the board, the 5th August, 1811, hath deposed "that the land claimed has been occupied by the claimant as a vacherie twenty-five years, and has been actually inhabited and cultivated by a son of the claimant the last fifteen or sixteen years." It will be seen, that one claim under occupancy has been confirmed to the claimant, by certificate B, No. 1,253. This, therefore, is reported, recommending the confirmation from the length of time which the land has been occupied by the son of the claimant, giving it the form represented by the plat of survey filed with the notice. No importance is attached to the Indian sales not sanctioned by the governor, and for land not occupied by the Indians at the date of their sales. See remarks on Indian sales in report on claims in the county of Opelousas, No. 1.

No. 6. The widow and heirs of Richard Bell claim 400 arpens at a place called Grand Cote. With the notice of this claim is filed the petition of Richard Bell for the land, and an order of survey in his favor, dated at New Orleans, the 18th April, 1792, with a plat of survey by the late surveyor general of Louisiana, Carlos Trudeau, dated in 1799. No proof to establish the occupancy of the land has been adduced, and it has been made known to the Commissioners, that Louis C. De Blanc, of Attakapas, claims the same land under a title of subsequent date, as will be seen by having reference to report No. 34, and the caveat therein transcribed. The Commissioners can have no right to decide between the conflicting claims of individuals. Whether the abandonment mentioned in the caveat of the adverse claimant, and the subsequent concession of the same land, are to be considered as legal, are questions which belong to the courts of justice to decide. Keeping out of view the contestation above suggested, this claim appears fair and just, and, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed.

No. 7. Hilaire Boutte claims twenty-five arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, being the second depth of his land which fronts on the Bayou Teche. The notice of this claim is accompanied by the petition of the party for the land, and an order of survey in his favor for the same, dated the 18th August, 1791, with a plat of survey by an authorized surveyor, dated 4th June, 1793. The land having been solicited for pasture, and on account of the scarcity of wood on the front tract, it is to be presumed that it was not intended for culture, or to be inhabited, although the order of survey requires, expressly, that the conditions of making the road, cutting down the wood, &c., should be complied with, and that, if the land shall not have been settled in three years, the concession should be null; and, also, that the land should be surveyed. No proof of occupancy has been adduced, but the Commissioners, viewing the conditions expressed in the order of survey as a matter of form only, and inapplicable to the purposes of the concession, recommend the confirmation of the claim in the form represented by the plat of survey filed with the notice.

No. 8. Claude Broussard claims 280 acres on Bayou Vermillion, by settlement, and an order of survey, which is supposed to be lost. The notice is accompanied by a plat of survey by an authorized surveyor, dated 9th May, 1796, certifying that the survey was made in virtue of a decree of the Government. John Bte. Broussard hath deposed "that, in the year 1796, the claimant built a cabin on the land claimed, and that he cultivated the said land until the year 1801." Francis Broussard, before the board, 6th October, 1812, hath deposed, in substance, "that the claimant inhabited and cultivated the land from the year 1796 to the year 1806 or 1807; that, about the year 1801, there was a removal of some of the landmarks, in consequence of a lawsuit between the claimant and one Trahan, and he supposed that it was to this circumstance that the before mentioned witness, (John Bte. Broussard,) had reference in his testimony, as it must have been known to said witness that the claimant resided on the land at least five years after 1801." This claim cannot be confirmed under settlement by the board, on account of other lands having been granted to the claimant, and confirmed, as appears by the certificates of the Commissioners, Nos. 1,801, 1,802, 1,803, and 2,186. Giving due credit, however, to the certificate of the surveyor, which states that the land was surveyed in consequence of a decree of the Government, and considering the length of time which the claimant has occupied the land, the board have no hesitation in recommending a confirmation of the claim conformably to the plat of survey filed with the notice.

No. 9. James Bue claims 640 acres on Bayou Salle. The notice of the claim is unaccompanied by any document of title, except a plat of survey, dated in 1806. William Addison, before the board, 14th December, 1808, hath deposed "that, in the year 1796, James Bue obtained a requette from the commandant of Attakapas, for ten acres of land front, lying on the Bayou Salle; that, not being contented with the quantity of land contained in the requette, it was amended so as to include ten acres on the other side of the bayou, with the ordinary depth; that, in the year 1798, he settled upon the said land, and resided on and cultivated the same for two years, since which time the land has remained uninhabited. From the period last mentioned, the said tract of land has always been considered, by the people of the neighborhood, as the property of the same James Bue. At the time the said Bue inhabited the said land he was a man above twenty-one years of age." The evidence in this claim is not such as would authorize the Commissioners to confirm the claim: nevertheless, as it is satisfactorily established that the land had been early occupied, and a respectable witness declares that there had been a concession for it, the confirmation is recommended according to the plat filed in the claim, which appears to embrace only five hundred and forty acres, all the land found vacant between the lands of Samuel Jones and the heirs of William Johnson.

No. 10. Joseph Birot claims 40 acres of land in front by 120 in depth, in the quarter of the Queue de Tortue, at the lower part of the gully of the Tigre, by order of survey, dated at New Orleans, the 18th February, 1783. The notice of the claim is accompanied by the petition of the claimant, dated 15th January, 1783, and a certificate signed Louis Cher. De Clouet, dated 21st January, 1783, declaring the land to be vacant, and the order of survey, as above mentioned, signed Estevan Miro. No proof of occupancy has been offered. The order of survey bears no evidence of its having been recorded in New Orleans, and the Commissioners have doubts of its authenticity. The signatures of the commandant and governor are believed to be counterfeits. The paper itself has also been stained in such a manner as to induce suspicion. Under these circumstances, the Commissioners are under the necessity of reporting this as a claim which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 11. John and Henry Bosler claim 1,000 arpens, equal to 846 28-100 acres of land, immediately above the junction of a branch of the Chafalaya with the Bayou Teche. The notice of the claim is accompanied by the petition of the claimants for 25 arpens front by the depth of 40 arpens, dated 7th December, 1801, and sanctioned by the then commandant, Louis C. De Blanc. The claimants having adduced testimony to establish occupancy, by which, under the provisions of the acts of Congress, they are entitled to 640 acres of the land, their claim has been confirmed, to that extent, by the certificate of the Commissioners, B, No. 1,415. Although the Commissioners do not think themselves authorized to confirm the whole claim, they are of opinion it would have been valid under the Spanish Government, and therefore recommend the confirmation of the title for the remaining 206 acres.

No. 12. Henry Bosler, for himself, and as administrator to the estate of John Bosler, deceased, claims two tracts of land, each of 640 acres, making, together, 1,280 acres, by settlement. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any evidence or document of title, except two plats of survey dated in 1806, each for 640 acres, embracing the same land claimed by John and Henry Bosler in their notice, No. 11, next preceding this. This, therefore, is reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the Board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 13. Joseph Borrel claims 640 acres on the east side of Bayou Teche. No document of title accompanies the notice of the claim. John Baptiste Borgoise, before Woodson Wren, justice of the peace of the parish of St. Martins, 6th August, 1812, hath deposed "that the land claimed was cultivated and inhabited in the year 1799, and continued to be inhabited and cultivated five or six years in regular succession." The witness has not stated that the claimant was the head of a family, not [nor] that the land was occupied or cultivated by him, or for his use. It is understood he is still a single man, perhaps from thirty to thirty-five years of age, and resides in the family of his mother. A claim has been confirmed under occupancy by certificate B, No. 1,205, to the heirs of Joseph Borrel, of whom the claimant is one. This claim, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 14. Hyacinth Bernard claims about forty-three arpens in front, of land on each side of Bayou Teche, by three deeds of conveyance, which accompanies this notice. The first, dated the 1st of March, 1804, passed

before Henry Hopkins, civil commandant of Attakapas and Opelousas, by which "Baptiste, chief of the Indians called Chitimachas," sells to the claimant one tract of eight arpens front, on each side of the Bayou Teche, descending from the boundary of Frederick Pellerin, for the sum of three hundred and twenty dollars. The other tract, having twelve arpens front on both sides of said bayou, ascending from the boundary of Baptiste Carmouche, for the sum of three hundred dollars, making, together, the sum of six hundred and twenty dollars, which the seller acknowledges to have received; the said tracts of land to have all the depth which the Indians are entitled to from the Spanish Government. The second deed, passed before said commandant, bears date the 29th April, 1804, by which Philip Verret acknowledges to have sold to the claimant 11½ arpens front, on both sides of the Bayou Teche, with the common depth, lying between the land of Baptiste Lorrain and Vallery Martin, for the sum of one thousand five hundred dollars. The third deed passed before Edward C. Nichols, judge, the 19th November, 1805, by which Solieau Ronge and Arconane, son of Baptiste, chief of sword, acting in behalf of their village, sell to the claimant thirteen arpens front on each side of the bayou Teche, adjoining to the eight arpens which the said Indians had already sold to said claimant, and two other arpens adjoining the above, to be taken above their village, for which they acknowledge to have received payment. The notice is unaccompanied by any other document, and no evidence has been offered to establish the title of the Indians from whom the claim is derived. The Commissioners refer to No. 1, of their report on claims in the county of Opelousas, by which it will be seen that this claim is of a description which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 15. Pierre Bernard and Cyprien Arseneau claim 18 arpens front by the depth of forty, being a prolongation of the depth of the land on which they reside, on Bayou Vermillion. The notice of the claim is accompanied by a certified copy of the original document by William Gurley, register of the land office in New Orleans, which, translated, is in substance as follows:

March 6, 1801, Cyprien Arseneau makes known that, having purchased a tract of land on the Bayou Vermillion, adjoining Will. Carothers, on which the woods extend to a considerable depth from the bayou, and in the prairie part there being much low, marshy land unfit for culture, he prays a grant of forty arpens in depth as a prolongation of the one he had purchased, of 18 arpens front; 23d April, 1802, ordered, by the acting intendant, that the petition be laid before the fiscal. 20th May, 1802, the fiscal, Gilbert Leonard, certifies that, on viewing the papers, the land may be granted if it will not prejudice the neighbors. 2d of June, 1802, decreed, as the petitioner is already settled on the land, let him be notified that he may have the land petitioned for for its value, and that it shall be taxed, and when the estimation shall be known he shall be provided with his complete title.

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The occupancy of the land seems to have been admitted by the intendant. There is no evidence of the claimant having obtained any other concession from the Spanish Government. This claim, therefore, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed.

No. 16. William Biggs claims 640 acres of land on the Bayou Teche, by settlement. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document of title, except a plat of survey dated in 1806. Louis C. De Blanc, formerly commandant of Attakapas, under date 4th December, 1809, certifies "that, in June, 1801, William Biggs having presented a passport from Governor Grandpre, dated 11th June of the same year, I have permitted him to take possession, and to settle on a portion of land on the east part of the Bayou Teche, a mile, or about a mile from its junction with the Chafaylia, until he could procure the title of the Government; it being understood that this portion of land should belong to the domain, and be of no prejudice to any one." Benjamin Russ, witness, 13th December, 1808, hath deposed "that, in the year 1802, he, the deponent, assisted the claimant in clearing about one acre of ground on the tract of land claimed, on which the claimant planted canes." John Stewart, on the 13th of December, 1808, hath deposed "that, in the year 1803, this deponent was several times on the tract of land claimed, and saw the claimant, with his people, at work thereon. This deponent cannot positively say whether the claimant was residing on the land on the 20th of December, in 1803, but he recollects that it was late in the season when he cut his canes and carried them to the mill. The improvement consisted of about one acre of cleared land, which was cultivated in canes that year, but no house." William Addison, on the 14th December, 1808, hath deposed "that, in the year 1802, the claimant cleared about two or three acres on the land claimed, and planted half an acre in sugar canes; that the year following he cultivated the said canes, and in the fall of the year he cut the same, and carried them to the works of the said deponent to be manufactured; that neither the claimant nor any person for him resided upon the land during the time mentioned above; that the claimant, at that time, was a man above the age of twenty-one years, and resided in Louisiana." Edward Marshal, on the 12th of April, 1810, hath deposed "that, in the year 1802, the claimant sent a man by the name of Charles McMullin to reside on the land and improve it, for which he was to have the use of it for some years; that when he left the neighborbood, in the fall of the year 1804, the said Charles McMullin was living on the land claimed, by the permission of the claimant; that the claimant was over twenty-one years of age, and the head of a family. He further states, that he always heard that the claimant had permission from the proper Spanish officer to settle on the aforesaid tract of land." Benjamin Russ, on the 12th April, 1810, hath deposed "that, in the spring of the year 1802, he cleared about an acre of land for the claimant, which was planted in cane that spring; that also he, the deponent, recollects perfectly that the following year he had a man living on it in behalf of the claimant; that he thinks further, that he was residing on the land about Christmas; of this he is not positive. Louis C. De Blanc, before Judge Johnson, of Attakapas, the 15th September, 1812, hath deposed "that, on or about the first of January, 1801, whilst acting as commandant of Attakapas, he gave the said claimant a written permission to settle the land claimed, but does not know what has become of it." Wm. Addison and Jonathan Smith, before Jehu Wilkins, parish judge of St. Mary's, Attakapas, by commission from the board, 16th July, 1814, hath deposed, in substance, "that the land claimed was inhabited and cultivated on, and prior to the 20th day of December, 1803, by one Charles McMullin, for the use and benefit of William Biggs, and that the land has been inhabited and cultivated for the use and benefit of said Biggs, without intermission, from that time to the present, 16th July, 1814." The evidence in this claim is too contradictory to authorize the board to confirm it; nevertheless, as the claimant seems to have cultivated the land by express permission of the competent Spanish authority, and as there is no evidence of his having obtained any other concession from the Spanish Government, the confirmation of this claim is recommended, confining the location to so much front as will, with forty arpens in depth, include the quantity claimed, six hundred and forty acres.

No. 17. John Choat claims 640 acres on [at] Chafalaya island, called the island of St. Clair. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, and appears to be for the same land, the title of which has been confirmed by the certificate of the Commissioners, marked B, No. 1,973. This, therefore, is reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 18. John Cormier claims 4½ arpens front on the bayou Caron Crow, with the depth of forty arpens on each side, by donation of three arpens on each side from Simon Le Blanc, and one and a half arpens on each side by purchase from St. Julien. The title, of which this is a part, having been confirmed to the grantee, Simon Le Blanc, by Commissioners' certificate, marked A, No. 1,225, this is reported as a claim which ought not to be confirmed.

No. 19. Dennis Carline claims 20 acres front, on the east side of Bayou Petitance. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a deed of conveyance, dated 30th December, 1786, from Francois Gravemberg to Francois Pomet, for twenty arpens front, on the west side only of Bayou Petitance, at the place called Tallow Island, adjoining to Francois Gravemberg on one side, and on the other, in descending, to Francois Lelue: also, a deed of conveyance, dated 26th July, 1794, from Madam John Bte. Bourgeois and husband, to Dennis Carlin, for 20 arpens front by forty arpens in depth, on the Bayou Petitance; bounded below by Francois Lelue, and above by the Widow Pellerin: the seller delivering the title to the purchaser in the presence of the commandant. No other document has been adduced in support of the claim, nor proof to establish occupancy; but, from the length of time the claimant has been possessed of the land, as appears by the date of the deeds, the Commissioners have no hesitation in recommending the confirmation of the claim to the extent of fifteen arpens front by the depth of forty arpens. The other five arpens front being within a claim already confirmed to Francois Gravemberg, the grantee, in whose claim is filed a plat of survey by an authorized

surveyor under the Spanish Government, embracing the claim now under consideration.

No. 20. Dennis Carlin claims 20 arpens front of land on both sides of the Bayou Teche, with the depth of forty, said to be part of a tract granted to Madam Guesnard. The notice of the claim is unaccompanied by any evidence of title, and the claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 21. John Bte. Comment claims 485 60-100 acres of land in the prairie of Cotegelle, by settlement. Joseph Soulier, on the 12th June, 1809, hath deposed "that, about seven years ago, the claimant commenced cultivating and improving the land claimed, and has continued to cultivate the same ever since, and that him, nor any other person for him, resided thereon on the 20th day of December, 1803—at that day the claimant was twenty-one years of age, and the head of a family; that about three years ago the claimant settled on the land claimed, and continued to reside thereon ever since." Pierre Grange, 23d November, 1812, hath deposed "that it is about 14 years ago when he removed to the county of Attakapas to reside, and that, about two years after, the claimant went to reside on the land claimed, and he continued to reside on and cultivate the same ever since." Joseph Landry, 28th October, 1812, hath deposed "that, about eleven or twelve years ago, he does not recollect which, the claimant settled on the land claimed, and that it has continued to be inhabited and cultivated ever since." The deponent further observes: "He knows of no permission the claimant had from any Spanish authority." The evidence is contradictory, and the claim reported on that account. From the evidence of Joseph Soulier, it would appear that the land was not occupied on the 20th day of December, 1803. The other two witnesses, Grange and Landry, concur in their testimony, that the land was occupied at least three consecutive years previous to the change of Government. It does not appear that there has been any land conceded to the claimant by the Spanish Government. The confirmation of the claim is recommended.

No. 22. John Choat claims 10 arpens by 80, on both sides of the Bayou Teche, by concession, from the Baron Carondelet, dated 7th day of August, 1792. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, and therefore report it as a claim which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 23. John Carlisle claims eight arpens by 40, on the waters of the Bayou Teche, by a title to some person deceased, not named. The notice is unaccompanied by any document. William Knight, 31st August, 1812, hath deposed "that, about the year 1800, the claimant was improving the land claimed by planting trees and building a house, and cultivating a part of the land, but that he did not reside on the land, and, in the year 1802, he sold the said tract of land to John and Henry Bosler, neither of whom resided on the land, but continued working on the same until they sold to Philo Norton about the year 1808. The deponent knows of no permission from the Spanish Government to the claimant for the above tract of land." No other evidence has been adduced in support of the claim. From the evidence of the land not having been inhabited, either by the original claimant or any person claiming under him, the Commissioners are induced to report this as a claim which ought not to be confirmed.

No. 24. James Clark claims 640 acres on Bayou Salle, claimed under settlement. A plat of survey, dated in 1806, is the only document filed with the notice. Pierre Virdine, the 15th day of December, 1808, hath deposed "that, about seven years ago, James Clark put his cattle on the Bayou Salle, and cut some timber on the land claimed; that, previous to the 20th day December, 1803, it was neither inhabited nor cultivated; that, at the time he drove his cattle to the Bayou Salle, he claimed the said tract of land; that about four years ago he cleared about four acres of land on the said land, and intended to settle thereon, but was prevented by the orders of Colonel Hopkins, then commandant of Attakapas. No other evidence in support of the claim has been offered; and one claim under settlement having been confirmed to the claimant, as appears by Commissioners' certificate B, No. 1,619, this is reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 25. Baptiste Calais claims six arpens front by 40 in depth, at the back of his land, fronting on Bayou Teche, and setting forth that he has no other land conceded to him by the Spanish Government. The notice of the claim is accompanied by his petition for the land, dated 17th August, 1801, setting forth that the land solicited is necessary for his culture and pasturage for his cattle, and that he has never obtained a grant of land from the Government; to which is subjoined the certificate of the commandant, Louis C. De Blanc, of the same date, stating that the land is vacant, and that the petitioner has a family, and is the son of an ancient inhabitant, and that not the least objection, in his opinion, exists to a compliance with the request of the petitioner. This being such a claim as the Commissioners believe would have been valid under the usages of the Spanish Government, they recommend its confirmation by Congress.

No. 26. Joseph Castile claims seven arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, at the back of the lands which front on the Bayou Teche. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a plat of survey by the late surveyor general of Louisiana, Carlos Trudeau, who certifies that the land was laid off to the claimant in consequence of his petition, and the letter of office of the commandant, dated the 10th December, 1802. The *proces verbal* (certificate) of the surveyor general bears date the 18th January, 1803. As it does not appear that the claimant has had any other land conceded to him in Louisiana, and being the father of a large family, as set forth in his notice, the Commissioners are of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed, in conformity with the usages of the Spanish Government, and recommend its confirmation accordingly.

No. 27. Widow of Joseph Castile and her son, Joseph Castile, claim four arpens front on one side, and seven arpens front on the other side of the Bayou Teche, with the depth of forty arpens on each side of the said bayou, by two deeds of conveyance which are filed with the notice. The first from Joseph Babin, Joseph Doucet, John Baptiste Semar, Michael Doucet, and Bonaventure Martin, to Joseph Castile, for four arpens front on each side of said bayou, dated 18th July, 1782; the commandant setting forth in this deed that the purchaser, Joseph Castile, has two other arpens front adjoining the above, by concession from his Majesty. The second sale, dated 20th April, 1793, to said Joseph Castile, is from Michel Doucet, by his agent, for one arpent front by the ordinary depth, on the east side of said bayou, adjoining to John Charles Dugas on one side, and on the other to Madam Widow Castile. A plat of survey for seven arpens front by the depth of forty, on the east side of the said bayou, by Francois Goussoulin, an authorized surveyor, dated 16th April, 1799, is also filed with the notice. No evidence has been offered to establish the occupancy of the land, but, from the documents filed in the claim, the Commissioners have no hesitation in reporting it as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 28. Michel Cormier and Joseph Mire claim 20 arpens front of land, by the depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by the Bayou Vermillion, and following the branch that empties into the Teche, in a cove on the northwest of the prairie of Mr. Fusilier. The notice of the claim is accompanied by an order of survey for said land, of twenty arpens in front by forty in depth, in favor of Jacques Roman, by Governor Galvez, without date, but subjoined to the petition of said Roman, which is certified by the commandant, Che'r De Clouet, under date 3d March, 1778. A deed of sale from Jacques Roman to the claimant, for said land, bearing date the 17th Aug. 1798, is also filed. The order of survey is without conditions of settlement, &c., and no proof has been offered to establish occupancy. The Commissioners recommend the confirmation of the claim, as being one which, in their opinion, would have been valid under the usages of the Spanish Government.

No. 29. Daniel Callaghan claims 640 acres of land under the settlement of Robert Brazil, on Bayou Salle. The notice of the claim is accompanied by a plat of survey, dated in 1806, and a bill of sale from Robert Brazil to the claimant, for four hundred arpens on said bayou, being ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, dated 29th April, 1805, setting forth that it is the land on which the seller had lived for eight years past; consideration paid, three hundred dollars. Thomas Chote, on the 24th March, 1809, hath deposed "that Robert Brazil, under whom the present claimant claims, settled upon the land about nine or ten years ago, and continued to reside on and cultivate the same for two or three years; that he then removed off the land, because there were no inhabitants near him, and he was a poor man, and could not live out of the settlement, but that he did not abandon his claim to the land, but always talked of returning to the land again." Creed West, aged forty-seven years, before the board the 21st November, 1812, hath deposed "that he is well acquainted with the land claimed, and was acquainted with the claimant, the said Daniel Callaghan, in his life time; that the land in question is situated on both sides of Bayou Salle, about six miles above its mouth; that there has been no occupant on the land for the last fifteen or sixteen years, to the

knowledge of the deponent; that it was occupied and cultivated for two or three years by Robert Brazil, the original proprietor, the deponent thinks from about the year 1793 to 1796 or 1797, and not since." The Commissioners have made it a rule to confirm no claim founded on settlement, when the evidence is contradictory, as is the case with the claim under consideration. Both witnesses have failed to establish that the land was inhabited on the 20th of December, 1803; and the last has declared it has not been occupied since the year 1797. The claimant has produced no document but an informal sale from the original proprietor, acknowledged before private witnesses, and not recorded in any office of record. The claim is reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, would not have been respected under the Spanish Government, and ought not to be confirmed.

No. 30. Daniel Callaghan claims 400 arpens of land, on the waters of the Bayou Vermillion, by exchange of land with Francis Daniel, to whom this tract was conceded by the Spanish Government. The notice is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, and the claim to the same land has been confirmed to Francis Daniel, the original claimant, by Commissioners' certificate B, No. 731. This, therefore, is reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 31. Daniel Callaghan claims ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on each side of Bayou Sallé, by purchase from John Mix, the original claimant. The notice of this claim is accompanied by no document or evidence of title, other than a bill of sale from Mary Mercey, formerly the wife of said Mix, dated 29th of November, 1810, disposing of her right in said land for the consideration of one hundred dollars in hand paid. This sale is executed before a private witness, and not recorded. The claim, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 32. Daniel Callaghan claims 640 acres on the Chafalaya bay, by purchase from John Reed, who claimed by settlement. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document of title. March 7th, 1811: Thomas Berwick hath deposed, in substance, that the land was first improved by a man named Page Belew, some time before Louisiana was possessed by the United States; that he has heard from the claimant, that Belew had no permission for settling the land, and knows not whether any person lived on the land, on the 20th of December, 1803. William Knight hath deposed, in substance, that Page Belew settled on the land in 1802, and cultivated about three or four acres, when he sold it to George Thompson, who sold to John Reed, who never resided on the land, nor any one for him; and no one has inhabited and cultivated it since. No other evidence has been offered in support of the claim, and it is, therefore, reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 33. Dautrieve Dubuclet, Benoist de St. Clair, and Francois Gonssoulin, claim an island called Belle Isle. The notice of this claim is accompanied by the petition of the claimants, dated 20th March, 1783, setting forth that there is an island of woods on the Bayou Chafalaya, about four leagues west of the mouth of Chafalaya, and about thirty-two leagues from Attakapas, (supposed the church,) which island is surrounded by trembling prairie or marsh, only fit for raising hogs, which the petitioners propose to engage in for the purpose of supplying the city of New Orleans with the article of pork, representing the island to contain about one league in front by the ordinary depth. Subjoined to the petition, and of the same date, is the certificate of the commandant, Chl. De Clouet, stating that what is exposed by the petitioner is true, and that the island petitioned for is only fit for the purpose for which it is solicited. The order of survey by Governor Miro, dated at New Orleans, 2d May, 1783, directing the surveyor general to put the parties in possession of the island solicited, confining them to the front and depth mentioned in the petition, and without expressing any conditions of settlement, &c., is subjoined to the commandant's certificate. No proof of occupancy, or other evidence of title, except the above, has been offered in support of the claim. This claim, in the opinion of the Commissioners, would have been valid under the usages of the Spanish Government, and therefore ought to be confirmed.

No. 34. Louis C. De Blanc claims a tract of land on the island called the Grand Cote, containing 2,080 superficial arpens. The following is the translation of the documents filed in the claim. Don Louis Charles De Blanc, commandant, &c., having presented himself in this tribunal, soliciting the title in form, (grant,) of a tract of land in the post of Attakapas, at a place vulgarly called De Judice, exposing that the above said lands were granted to several Englishmen, one of whom, Weeks, being the only one who constructed cabins and made fields, but abandoned his settlement in that place some years ago, and retired on the other side of the Mississippi, without having left any one to represent him, and not having paid the public charges of the district, for which reason I have ordered the surveyor general to give his information, who informs that the said land had been granted by the government general to Joshua Garret, Gideon Hopkins, William Weeks, and Rachel Bell; that the first of those was the only one who obtained the title in form, in the year 1797; the three others were included in the return of the twenty-four surveys remitted to me the 4th September, 1799, and that, from that epoch, the interested have not presented themselves to solicit the title. On sight of this information, I caused it to be passed to the fiscal, who said that the abandonment of the possession given to those individuals, being three in number, as informed by the surveyor general, he sees no reason why the land asked for a vacherie, should not be granted to Louis Charles De Blanc; consequently by my decree of the 16th September last, I ordered that notice should be given to said De Blanc, that if he agreed to pay the value at which the land was taxed ——. But the said De Blanc, representing that he has a large family, and no fortune, and that he has married some of his children, without having any means of purchasing land, and that he has had, as yet, no concession of land; in consequence, I ordered that the said proceeding be delivered to the surveyor general, that he might make the plat and measurement of the abovementioned land, which he did, and by which plat it is shown that the said land forms an island, vulgarly called Grand Coast, and that the whole island contains 2,080 superficial arpens, measure of Paris, (18 feet to the perch,) which is the land measure of this province, situate in the post of Attakapas, in the quarter of the small cove in front of the lower part of Grand river, bounded on all sides by marshes. I ordered, this day, that the title, in form, should be given for so much. Making use of the faculty vested in this intendancy, in the name of the King our lord, (whom God preserve,) I grant to the above Louis Charles De Blanc the said land, conformably to the plat of survey, giving him gratis, and without contribution, as I do give entire to him, that he may enjoy the same at his will, &c., without prejudice to a third person who may have a better right. Recorded the same day, in page 85 of the record book, dated 6th November, 1802. (Signed) Juan Ventura Morales. The plat of survey by the surveyor general, Carlos Trudeau, dated 5th Nov'r, 1802, is also filed, the said surveyor setting forth in his certificate, that the island has been heretofore surveyed and divided between Joshua Garret, Gideon Hopkins, William Weeks, and Rachel Bell, as represented by the dotted lines of the present plan, the first of whom, Joshua Garret, only, had obtained the title of concession, the others having never presented themselves to claim their right, which appears by the documents remitted to the intendancy general, in date, 4th September, 1799, and in execution of the decree of the 26th of October last past. He gives these presents with the figurative plan. No proof has been adduced to establish occupancy. The claim of Joshua Garret, for 480 arpens of the land embraced by the plat of survey abovementioned, being founded on a complete title, has been confirmed by the certificate of the Commissioners, marked A, No. 1,574. The other three claims, to wit, Rachel Bell, Gideon Hopkins, and William Weeks, will be found in the report, under reported No. 6. In this claim, the claimant has filed a caveat, of which the following is a copy: The undersigned represents to the Board of Commissioners for ascertaining and adjusting titles and claims to land in the western district of the territory of Orleans, that the title for a tract of 2,080 arpens of land, on the Grand Coast, in the county of Attakapas, for which the undersigned has filed a notice with the register of the land office for the said district, is in dispute between the undersigned and the persons named in the document of title, which the undersigned has exhibited, to wit, Joshua Garret, William Weeks, Gideon Hopkins, and Rachel Bell; and that between the undersigned and one of the persons abovenamed, to wit, William Weeks, a suit is now actually pending in consequence of their conflicting pretensions; that it was in consequence of such abandonment of the title of the persons abovenamed, as (at that epoch was contemplated by the laws and usages of the Spanish Government,) that the land in question was re-united to the domain of the King, and subsequently conceded to the undersigned, which he has no doubt it will be in his power to establish to the entire satisfaction of the Board of Commissioners. The undersigned being apprised by the board, that it cannot

consistently with the acts of Congress, and the instructions under which it acts, give a certificate in confirmation of his title, because of its bearing date subsequent to the year 1800, but that his claim must be reported for the consideration of Congress, asks that this may be regarded as his caveat and protest against the issuing of certificates in confirmation of any of the conflicting claims before enumerated, which he believes the Commissioners will deem it proper also to report for the consideration of Congress, in consequence of their abandonment as aforesaid. Opelousas, 7th August, 1812. Louis C. De Blanc. This document has already been referred to in the claim reported under No. 6, of which the confirmation has been recommended. The Commissioners cannot decide between adverse claimants. They are of opinion that in either of the claims, the right of the crown of Spain to the land has been alienated, and in order that the parties may go into a court of justice on an equal footing, the confirmation of this claim, so far as it can be confirmed by Congress under the existing circumstances, is recommended.

No. 35. John Bte. De Grouise claims 40 arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on each side of the Bayou Teche. The notice of this claim is accompanied by the petition of John Bte. De Grouise, dated 25th November, 1776, for himself and brothers, for forty arpens front of land, with the depth of forty arpens on the east side of the river Teche, and such depth as may be found on the west side to a morass, by which it must be limited, bounded on one side by the settlement of the Dutch, and running towards Fausse Point. Subjoined to the above is the order of survey, by Governor Galvez, dated at New Orleans, the 19th June, 1777, directing the surveyor general to put the party in possession of the land as solicited, no conditions being expressed. On the margin of the same paper is a certificate, appearing to be in the hand-writing of Carlos Trudeau, dated 11th June, 1798, stating that there is no more than 261 arpens of land unincumbered by the anterior titles of the neighborhood. Two letters of office from Governor Gayoso to the commandant of Attakapas, dated in 1797 and 1798, and the reply of the said commandant to the governor, dated also in 1798, respecting a contention which has arisen between the claimant and Andre and Alexander Hebert, concerning the boundaries of this claim, have been filed with the notice; also, a letter from the Marquise Casso Calvo to said commandant, dated 6th August, 1800, on the same subject, and a connected plan of survey by the surveyor general, Carlos Trudeau, without date, but given for the purpose of elucidating the nature of the dispute, and to enable the commandant, with the assistance of the surveyor of the post, to ascertain and settle the boundaries of the land claimed by De Grouise. The surveyor general having made his report, as appears by his letter, the auditor, Nicholas Ma. Vidal, under date 29th August, 1799, decrees that Andre and Alexander Hebert have voluntarily settled themselves on the land of De Grouise, contrary to the admonition of the commandant of Attakapas, Louis C. De Blanc, as appears by his letter of office, dated 21st July, 1798, and that the said commandant should remove them from the land, after the crop was made, and allowing them to take off their buildings and fencing. On the 2d January, 1800, the said commandant notifies Andre and Alexander Hebert, (the former acting for his brother,) of the said decree, and allows fifteen days for the removal of their houses, fencing, &c. No evidence of occupancy has been adduced. That the claimant was legally in possession of the land, is manifested from the surveyor general's report. The Commissioners therefore report the claim as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed to the extent of about two hundred and sixty-one superficial arpens, the part which the surveyor general has represented as not clashing with the more ancient titles of the neighborhood, on the left bank of the river Teche, and the whole extent claimed on the opposite bank of the said river, to wit, forty arpens front by the depth of forty.

No. 36. Louis De Clouet claims thirty arpens of land in front by the depth of forty arpens, under an order of survey dated ———. A plat of survey by Francois Gonssoulin, dated in May, 1793, for the survey on the east side, and in April, 1796, for the survey on the west side of the Bayou Teche, is filed with the notice of this claim. The survey embraces this and another tract held under another order of survey. In his certificate the surveyor has reference to the order of survey under which the claim under consideration is held; but the order of survey not being adduced, and no other evidence of the title furnished, the Commissioners are under the necessity of reporting the claim as one which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 37. Louis George De Marets claims thirty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens of land, at the Cote Blanche. The notice of the claim is accompanied by the petition of the claimant for the land, and the order of survey by Governor Miro, dated New Orleans, 17th November, 1790, with the usual conditions of settlement; also, two letters of office from the governor, Miro, to Don Juan de la Villebeavre, the first dated at New Orleans, 10th March, 1791, which letters, translated, are as follows: "You shall not permit any person to settle on the thirty arpens of land which I have granted, on the 17th November of last year, to Louis George De Marets." Second letter, dated 24th May, 1791, in answer to yours, No. 71, on the petition presented by John Bell to obtain land to form a saline, I say to you that this land, being granted to De Marets, it cannot now be granted to Bell. Joseph Sorrel, before the board, 19th January, 1809, hath deposed "that, about fifteen years ago, the family of the Bells were settled on the land claimed, and the claimant obtained an order of the Government for their removal therefrom; that, in consequence of the said order, an accommodation took place between the said claimant and the said Bell; the said Bells were to have a part of the land, but what part, this deponent doth not recollect. This deponent further knows that, from the period first mentioned to the present time, the claimant has always claimed the said land. Eighteen months or two years passed from the time of the settlement of said Bells to the accommodation abovementioned, and they continued to reside thereon three years afterwards, when they removed from the said land, and settled on the Bayou Teche, where they resided about two years; after which they removed entirely out of the country." Although there has been no positive evidence adduced of the land having been occupied by or for the use of the claimant, there can be on question that the concession from the Spanish Government is valid; that the claim, under the usages of that Government, would have been respected as an equitable one, and the title perfected upon proper application. It is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed, leaving the question of right between the conflicting claimants to be decided in the courts having cognizance of such cases.

No. 38. The heirs of John Dunman claim 640 acres, fronting on the river Vermillion, by settlement. The notice is accompanied by a plat of survey, dated in 1807, embracing about the quantity claimed. Thomas Parr, sworn as a witness in this claim, and examined before Richard Coke and William Garrard, esquires, in Attakapas, the 27th June, 1809, hath deposed "that, about eighteen or nineteen years ago, the father of the claimants settled upon the land claimed, and continued to reside thereon, and cultivate the same, for three or four years; after which he removed therefrom, nor has the said land ever been occupied or cultivated since. No document has been adduced to establish a title from the former Governments of Louisiana, and the occupancy has not been such as could give a valid title under any law of the United States. The claim is, therefore, reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 39. William Desk claims 400 arpens, to wit: five arpens front by the depth of forty, on both sides of the Bayou Teche, purchased from Pierre Etier, who is said to have purchased from Madam Loisel. A plat of survey by Potier, dated in 1806, is the only document filed with the notice, and which is believed to be for the same land, of which the title has been confirmed to the claimant by Commissioners' certificate, No. B, 1,440, or B, 1,543. This, therefore, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 40. William Desk claims, by settlement, 640 acres of land on the Bayou Teche. The notice is unaccompanied by any document of title. John Nofper, before the board, the 3d March, 1812, hath deposed "that about twenty, or perhaps as much as twenty-five years ago, Pierre Etier, who owned and occupied the land of the right bank of the river, opposite the land in question, cut timber on the tract on the left bank for a small house, which was occupied by a Spaniard, who kept a vacherie for the said Etier. The deponent further saith that, since the time of taking the timber off of the said tract of land as before mentioned, the said Etier, and others claiming under him, have constantly had the same in possession, occasionally cultivating the same; but that no person has resided thereon, to the knowledge of the deponent." No other evidence has been offered in support of the claim. This claim, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

Nos. 41 and 42. William Desk claims five arpens front by the depth of forty on the north, and forty-two arpens in depth on the south side of the river Teche.

The part on the south side, proceeding from a concession to John Bte. Duhon, sold by him to Madam Loisel, (Widow Borrel,) and by her to Pierre Etier, who sold to the claimant. The part on the north side, conceded to said Widow Borrel, otherwise Catharine Toupart. The order of survey to John Baptiste Duhon, by Governor Galvez, for ten arpens front by the depth of forty, on the west side of the river Teche, bounded by Charles Duhon on one side, and by Claude Duhon on the other, is filed with the notice. The title (order of survey) to Catharine Toupart, wife of Loisel, by Governor Miro, dated 27th July, 1784, for fifty arpens front by the depth of forty, on the east side of the river Teche, is filed in the claim of Francois Provost. The necessary deeds of conveyance are also filed, and sufficient proof of occupancy. The claim appearing, however, to be for the same land claimed in reported No. 39, and, also, by another notice, under which it has been confirmed to the claimant by Commissioners' certificate, marked B, No. 1,440 or 1,543; these are reported as claims which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 43. John Danilly claims twenty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, "at the end of the depth of the inhabitants, and running in the large woods." The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, except the petition of the claimant for the land, addressed to Louis C. De Blanc, as commandant of Attakapas, under date 20th March, 1802, setting forth that the petitioner is an American by birth, and a carpenter by trade, and has resided in the district several years. The petition is for twenty arpens front by the depth of forty, to be on "each side, beginning on Petit Vanson, and ascending to the depth by the Bayou Teche." The claim being unsupported by proof of occupancy, is reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 44. Pierre Dubois claims twelve arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the west side of the river Teche, having kept his cattle there, and cut timber on the same from 1796. The notice is unaccompanied by any document of title, and no proof has been offered in its support. The claim is, therefore, reported as one which cannot, in the opinion of the board, be recommended for confirmation.

No. 45. The heirs of Dunham claim 640 acres, by settlement, on the east side of Bayou Vermillion. No document or evidence of title accompanies the notice of this claim, and it is believed to be for the same land claimed under reported No. 38. The claim is reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 46. Jacques Dore claims one and a quarter arpens front of land, with the depth of forty arpens, by purchase of a part of a tract conceded to John Berard. The notice is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, except the acknowledgment of John Berard before Richard Coke, commissioner, the 24th June, 1809, that the said Berard had sold to the deceased Dore, sen., all his right to a concession in favor of his son, of fifteen arpens front by forty in depth, at a place called Cypress island, for which the said Berard had received payment. The original document of title alluded to by Mr. Berard, sen., has not been produced, nor any evidence of its ever having existed, or of the occupancy of the land. The claim is, therefore, necessarily reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 47. Madam St. Marc Darby claims thirty-five arpens front by the depth of twenty arpens, adjoining land which she purchased from Alexander Devince Bienvenue. The notice is accompanied by the petition of the claimant, dated 10th July, 1797, for the continuation of five-and-twenty arpens front of the land she had purchased from Alexander Devince Bienvenue, by the depth of twenty arpens, at the Isle Pevert, to enlarge her vacherie, representing that it was the only purpose for which she was induced to make the purchase, and which continuation is rendered necessary to her from the increase of her cattle. Subjoined to the petition is the certificate of the commandant, as follows:

Translation. "It being in proof to me, that the land expressed in the petition is belonging to the domain, and it can only be useful to her, since it is low and will not admit of settlement, but fit only for pasturage, and the utility of the wood, I ordered and directed (saving the pleasure of the governor) that the private surveyor of the district shall put the party in possession of the land solicited. Attakapas, July 10, 1897.

LOUIS C. DE BLANC."

A plat of survey by the surveyor general, Carlos Trudeau, also accompanies the notice of this claim, setting forth that there had been surveyed for the Widow Francois Pellerin St. Marc Darby, a tract of 2,200 superficial arpens of land, at a place called Pare Perdu, proceeding from three grants of concession; the first in the name of Alexander Devince, bearing date the 5th November, 1787, for ten arpens in front by forty in depth, and ten other arpens of depth, with the same front, (500 arpens.) The second concession, of twenty-five arpens front by forty in depth, to Don Francisco Pascalis de la Barre, dated 17th May, 1797; and the third, a decree of concession, dated 10th July, 1797, in favor of the interested, for thirty-five arpens front with twenty in depth, opposite, and on the same limit, and on the same courses of the land which she has purchased from Alexander Devince Bienvenue, before Louis C. De Blanc, dated 22d June, 1797. Olivier Devizen, before the board, 26th January, 1809, hath deposed, in substance, that, for sixteen or seventeen years past, Mr. Devince, Mr. La Barre, and Madam Darby, have cut wood and timber on the land claimed—the two first until they sold the adjoining tracts to Madam Darby, and since by the claimant. Louis C. De Blanc, the commandant before mentioned, before the board, 9th May, 1812, hath deposed that the land has been granted for the benefit of the timber, and that the claimant, and the persons from whom she purchased, (Devince and Forstall,) have constantly possessed the said tract, and paid the taxes for the last twenty years. The titles held under the concessions to Mr. Bienvenue and Don Francisco Pascalis de la Barre, have been confirmed by the certificates of the Commissioners, marked B, No. 2,245 and 2,246. Evidence has been adduced to establish the occupancy of the land—three adjoining tracts—but, as it relates to the one claimed as a continuation, is not such as can authorize the Commissioners to confirm that part of the claim. They are, nevertheless, of opinion that the approval of the requette by the commandant, and the subsequent possession given by the surveyor, as established by the plat of survey, are sufficient to constitute a valid claim, and that it ought to be confirmed.

No. 48. Widow St. Marc Darby claims, by occupancy, about 740 acres, on the back of her claim, on the east or left side of the river Teche. The title by which the claimant holds the land in front on the said river at this place, being for the depth of ten arpens only on that side of the river, she has, in extending her claim to the depth of thirty arpens, in addition to the ten arpens conceded on the bayou, with a front of thirty-nine arpens, the lines so converging in going out from the bayou as to include no more than the quantity above expressed. The following evidence has been taken in the claim. Deposition of Louis Judice, taken before the board, the 20th August, 1811: "That the claimant, and those she claims under, have, for more than thirty consecutive years previous to this day, enjoyed and cultivated the said forty acres, for which she and they have constantly paid every public imposition." Louis Chachere, before the board, 28th September, 1811, hath deposed "that the claimant, and those she claims under, have, for more than twenty years, possessed, enjoyed, and cultivated the said land; that they have constantly, from the above epoch, paid the taxes requested, and been known as the owners of the same." It does not appear, from the notice of this claim, that the claimant intended to claim to the extent now contended for. On the contrary, she has claimed conformably to the concessions, which are for the ten arpens in depth, of which the titles have been confirmed by the Commissioners, by their certificates, marked A, Nos. 874 and 875. It is thought probable that, in soliciting only ten arpens in depth, the grantees wished for nothing more than to obtain the woodland on that side of the river, which is fully embraced in that extent, as appears by the surveyor's return. It does not appear that the claimant, or the person under whom she held, had ever been legally put in possession of the additional thirty arpens for which her heirs now contend, to complete the usual depth of forty arpens; and if, (as is inferred from the testimony,) the cultivated fields have sometimes been extended beyond the first ten arpens of depth, so as to be within the thirty arpens now contended for—the Commissioners are of opinion that such usurpation of use could not confer a valid right under the former Government of Louisiana, is not sanctioned by any law of the United States; and therefore report the claim as one which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 49. Louis and Alexander de la Houssaye claim 940 arpens, second depth to their land, which fronts on the Bayou Teche. In support of this claim is filed the petition of the claimants, dated 20th May, 1800, for thirty arpens front by the depth of thirty arpens, for pasturage for their cattle, to which is subjoined the certificate of the commandant, Louis C. De Blanc, which, transla-

ted, is as follows: "It appears to me that there is no obstacle to the prayer of the petitioners, they having use for the land to pasture their stock, and that no injury will arise to any one by granting the land." A plat of survey of the land by the surveyor general, Carlos Trudeau, dated in 1800, embracing the quantity of land above mentioned, in a triangular form, is also filed with the notice. Louis C. De Blanc, before Judge Lewis, by commission from the board, hath deposed, in substance, that the land fronting on the Bayou Teche, of which this is a continuation or second depth, has been inhabited and cultivated for more than thirty consecutive years, and that, under the Spanish Government, the second depth was considered as forming, with the first grant, but one tract of land or plantation. No other evidence has been offered in support of the claim. The Commissioners, believing this to be such a claim as would have been valid under the usages of the Spanish Government, report it as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 50. Louis de la Houssaye claims a tract of forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on both sides of the river Teche. The notice of this claim is accompanied by documents of title, of which the following is a translation in substance. 18th September, 1771, Don Paul A. P. Chevalier de la Houssaye petitions for forty arpens of land front, with the depth regulated, in any place where he may desire to take it, either in Opelousas or Attakapas, 19th September, 1771. Mr. De Unzaga, then governor of Louisiana, orders the commandant to put the party in possession of the land solicited, 8th October, 1771. The commandant of Attakapas, Mr. Fusilier de la Clair, certifies that he has put the party in possession of the land solicited, adjoining, on one side, to the land of Mr. De Vaugine, and on the other to the domain of the King. In the petition, the word Teche is interlined, in a different hand-writing, to supply a word which is erased, and which appears to have been Vermillion, thereby showing that possession was given of the land on Bayou Teche. In the margin of the petition is a note, appearing to be made by Mr. Trudeau, then surveyor general, to this effect: "Of front, on both sides, one side of the river being without wood, and serving for common." This note is supposed to have been made at the time of making the survey, which is certified by the said surveyor to have been done in the year 1796 on the east side, and 1799 on the west side. The plat of survey and certificate by said surveyor general, is filed with the notice; of which plat and certificate, the following is a translation. Don Carlos Trudeau, surveyor general, &c. In consequence of the decree of concession of the deceased governor general, Louis De Unzaga, bearing date 19th September, 1771, I certify that there has been measured, &c., in favor of Don Louis de la Houssaye, as heir of Don Paul Augustin Pelletier Chevalier de la Houssaye, his father, a tract of land of forty arpens front, on the river Teche, with the ordinary depth of forty, the limits opening by thirty-five degrees conformably to the winding of the river on the opposite side, which forms a total superfices of 2057 arpens (measure of Paris) land, situate in the post of Attakapas, quarter of Fause Point, about twelve miles south of the church, bounded on one side by land of Joseph Broussard, and on the other by the Widow Hebert: the upper line being at the place fixed on by Mr. Fusilier de la Clair as the common limit between this and the land of Mr. Vangine, and acknowledged as such by both parties, (Mr. La Houssaye and Mr. Broussard.) This survey, made 20th June, 1796, on the east margin of the river; but, in virtue of a declaration given before the commandant, Don Louis De Blanc, bearing date 15th April, 1779, the tenor of which is as follows, to wit: This day, 15th April, 1799, before me, Don Louis C. De Blanc, commandant of Attakapas and dependancies, has appeared, at the requisition of Mr. La Houssaye, Mr. John Bte. Broussard, militia officer and trustee of the church of this parish, who has declared and confessed that, in the year 1772, Mr. De la Houssaye (here) arrived in the post for the purpose of settling in it with his family; he, the deponent, Sylvaine Broussard, the deceased Simon Broussard, and John Frahan, their brother-in-law, have ceded, by their free will, all their pretensions to the said La Houssaye, not only on their lands situate at Fause Point, which they occupied seven years previous to that date, but he, the deponent, on his building where he immediately settled, cultivated, and resided for five years; and the land ceded by the four first named contained forty arpens on each side of the river Teche. In witness, &c. Signed by said Broussard, Frahan, and witness. In consequence of the preceding declaration, we have figured on this same plat the land situate on the west side of the river under the same courses and limits of the east side; but, as to the forty arpens of depth, which Louis de la Houssaye claims, it shall be completed if it does not injure the inhabitants on the other side of the river, whose lands have not been surveyed. November 5, 1799. (Signed) Carlos Trudeau. Documents from which the following extracts are taken, have been adduced in support of the claim. 9th June, 1798, Louis de la Houssaye, in New Orleans, solicits the governor for an order to compel John Bte. Guidery Donato, Peter and Firman Bro, to pay the price of the forty arpens of land which they purchased from the petitioner, part of a grant made to the father of the petitioner in the year 1772, or to return the land of which they have been put in possession, 11th June, 1798. The governor, Gayoso, requests information of Don Francisco Y. Loringo, commandant of Attakapas, who furnishes the governor with a letter he had formerly written to the Baron Carondelet, setting forth that he, the commandant, had, from documents presented to him, given his opinion that La Houssaye was entitled to the forty arpens of land, as being a part of the grant to the father of said La Houssaye for a larger quantity, and included in the inventory of the estate of the deceased, as the commandant had been informed, 26th June, 1798. The governor decrees that the commandant shall re-possess Mr. La Houssaye of the said forty arpens of land on his indemnifying the said Guidery and others for the improvements which they may have made on it, unless said Guidery and others shall pay for the land, agreeably to their contract, 18th July, 1798. The commandant notifies the above named persons of the governor's decree, who asks an appeal, 17th May, 1799. La Houssaye makes known to the governor that the above named persons had refused to comply with the decree of his lordship, and requests that it may be enforced, 29th May, 1799. The governor decrees that La Houssaye, having proven that the forty arpens of land was his rightful property, the decree of the 26th June, 1798, should be enforced, 17th July, 1799. The commandant notifies said Guidery and others of the preceding decree, 12th August, 1799. The parties concerned enter into an agreement to restore the land to La Houssaye, and appoint arbitrators to value the improvements made on the land. Louis C. De Blanc, before Judge Lewis, 27th May, 1812, by commission from the board, hath deposed in substance: That, in virtue of an order of Governor Gayoso, (contained in the documents above referred to) the deponent put the claimant in possession of forty arpens front on each side of the bayou, which he did in his quality of commandant, and that the said land has been inhabited and cultivated on each side of the bayou, by the claimant, and those to whom he sold portions of it, for the last thirty years. Andrew Martin, aged 44 years, before the board, 14th April, 1814, hath deposed "that he has perfect knowledge of the land claimed; that the father of the present claimant was inhabiting and cultivating the land in question at the earliest recollection of the deponent; that Mr. La Houssaye resided on the left side of the river Teche, where his principal fields of cultivation were; that the field negroes of the said La Houssaye, about thirty in number, resided on the right or west bank of the river, where they cultivated small enclosures in potatoes, &c.; that the said La Houssaye, the elder, continued to inhabit and cultivate said land for a number of years, and that his negroes continued to inhabit and cultivate the same after his removal to the neighborhood of the church; that the part on the west, or right side of the Teche, was sold by Louis de la Houssaye after the death of his father, from whom he inherited, to Firman Bro, who has divided the same into four portions between his children; that either by the said Firman Bro, or his children, or persons to whom they have sold, the said tract of land on the west side of the Teche has been constantly inhabited and cultivated from the time the said Bro purchased, about twenty-four years ago, to the present time. The deponent does not know whether the said La Houssaye ever executed any formal or regular sale to Bro, but presumes he did not, from his having claimed it in his own name, the deponent supposes, with a view to obtain a confirmation of his title, and enable him to perfect the title in the said Bro, or his assignees. No other evidence has been adduced. From the certificate of the commandant, Fusilier de la Clair, it appears that the father of the claimant was put in possession of the forty arpens front of land at the place made choice of on the Bayou Teche, the 8th October, 1771. From the certificate of the surveyor general, it appears that the forty arpens front, on the east side of the river was laid out in the year 1796, the upper and lower limits extending from the bayou to the depth of forty arpens, opening by an angle of thirty-five degrees, and including about three hundred and ninety acres, over and above the area that would have been produced by extending

the upper and lower limits parallel to each other. In consequence of the declaration of John Baptiste Broussard, before the commandant, the 5th April, 1799, the surveyor general extended the lines on the plat of survey so as to represent the form of the land claimed by La Houssaye, on the west side of the river, remarking that the title to the depth of forty arpens on that side might be completed, if it did not injure the claims of the inhabitants on the other side of the river, whose surveys had not been made. From the declaration of the said John Baptiste Broussard, referred to above, it appears that himself, Sylvain Broussard, Simon Broussard, and John Frahan, were occupying the land claimed in the year 1772, when La Houssaye came to reside in the country, and had been residing on it for seven years before; that their claim extended to both sides of the river Teche, and that they had ceded all their pretensions to La Houssaye. From the decree of the governor, under date 29th May, 1799, it may be inferred that the persons to whom La Houssaye had sold part of the land, either had doubted the validity of his title, or had set up a claim to the land themselves under some other, and consequently refused to pay La Houssaye for it. In the same decree, however, the right of La Houssaye to the land is admitted by the governor, and by an agreement entered into between the parties, under date 12th Aug. 1799, the purchasers relinquished their claim to the land. The Commissioners, therefore, have issued their certificate, No. B, 947, in confirmation of the title, to the extent of forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the east side of the river, which they conceived to be embraced by the order of survey, giving an area of about 1,354 acres. But, being of opinion that the title of the claimant to the residue of his claim would have been valid under the usages of the Spanish Government, it is reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the board, ought to be confirmed. This opinion and recommendation is to be understood to embrace, in addition to the quantity of 1,354 acres on the east side of the river, the triangular piece before mentioned, of about three hundred and ninety acres, produced by the opening of the lines of depth on that side; and, also, the part claimed on the west side, which, from following the direction of the lines of the opposite side, would be so narrowed as to give an area of not more than eight hundred and eighty acres, provided the full depth of forty arpens could be had, but will probably be much less, as, agreeably to the report of the surveyor general, the depth must terminate when it reaches the boundaries of the lands conceded on the other part of the river.

No. 51. Charles Dugas, John Charles Dugas, Joseph Grangé, Osite Dugas, Margaret d'Aigle, Olivier Thibedeau, Theodore Thibedeau, Marin Martin, André Martin, Armant Dugas, John Dugas, and Pierre Dugas, claim 1870 acres of land on the west side of Bayou Vermillion, under an order of survey in their favor, dated 30th May, 1796. The following is a translation of the title: The above named persons, "inhabitants of Attakapas, with respect present themselves before your lordship, and say, that, being settled on their lands, situate at a place called Grand Prairie, for the fourteen years past, with the belief that they had, in community, the woodland lying between the depth granted to Philip Wise, and the Bayou Vermillion, without which they cannot subsist, the petitioners solicit it, with the front, to run from the boundary of Charles Dugas to Armant Dugas's boundary, in which interval their plantations are included." 12th May, 1796. The land petitioned for is of his Majesty's domain, and cannot, from its situation, be of any utility, except to the petitioners in common, whose plantations cannot do without. Attakapas, 13th May, 1796. (Signed) Francs. Caso Y. Lungo. "New Orleans, 13th May, 1796. Let the swamp be granted, as asked, in common for the use of the petitioners." (Signed) The Baron de Carondelet. A plat of survey, dated in 1806, representing the boundaries of the claim, and setting forth the quantity included to be 960 acres and 227-605ths of an acre, is filed with the notice; but, by a re-survey ordered by the board, the quantity has been found to be 1870 acres. No evidence has been offered to establish occupancy: the land was solicited on account of the wood, and conceded without conditions of settlement. The board are of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed, and report it accordingly.

No. 52. Pierre Etier claims five arpens front on both sides of the river Teche, with the depth of forty-two arpens on the south side, and forty in depth on the north side. The notice is unaccompanied by any evidence of title, and is believed to be for the same land to which the claim has been confirmed, under another entry, by Commissioners' certificates 1439 and 1531. This, therefore, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 53. Richard Ellis claims thirty arpens of land front, on both sides of the Bayou Teche, with the depth of forty. The notice is accompanied by an order of survey in favor of the claimant for said land, dated 20th June, 1781, and by no other document or evidence of title. From the requette preceding the order of survey, the land appears to be bounded on one side by the land of Madam Cuny, and on the other by that of John Ellis. Although no evidence of occupancy has been adduced, the Commissioners are of opinion that this claim would have been valid by the usages of the former Government, and therefore report it as one which ought to be confirmed.

No. 54. John Ellis claims thirty arpens front, with the depth of forty arpens, on both sides of the river Teche. The order of survey in favor of the claimant for said tract of land is filed with the notice, bearing date 20th June, 1781. No proof of occupancy has been adduced. This claim being similarly circumstanced with that of Richard Ellis, is also reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought to be confirmed.

No. 55. William C. Ellis claims thirty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on both sides of the river Teche, under an order of survey in his favor for said tract, dated 20th June, 1781. The notice is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, except the order of survey. This claim is also reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought to be confirmed. It adjoins the one of John Ellis, and is under like circumstances.

No. 56. Michel Elnor claims 640 acres on the east side of the Bayou Vermillion, by settlement. The notice is accompanied by a plat of survey, dated in 1806, and by no other document. George Borrel and William Smith, before the board, the 27th June, 1809, hath deposed, "that the claimant settled upon the land claimed some time in the spring of the year 1802; and that year, and every year since, except the present, he has resided upon and cultivated the same. He was actually residing upon and cultivating the said land, on the 20th December, 1803, and was at that time over twenty-one years of age, and the head of a family. It is believed this claim is within the bounds of complete titles, which have been confirmed by the board, and it is therefore reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 57. Claude Frio claims 20 arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, at L'Isle Piquant, by an order of survey which is supposed to be lost. The notice is unaccompanied by any evidence of title, and is represented as a claim which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 58. Edward Foreman claims a tract of land, quantity not mentioned, on the Bayou Queue de Tortue, by purchase of an Indian named Ashnoya, 11th January, 1802. The notice is unaccompanied by any evidence or document of title, except the deed of sale from said Indian, passed before Louis C. De Blanc, acting as commandant of Attakapas, stipulating that the land shall extend from one small bayou to another, where the said Indian should set pickets: it being part of the land which the seller inherited from his father, for which he was to receive from the claimant eight cows with their calves, and a beef, to be paid as soon as the boundaries should be fixed. For reasons given in reported No. 1, of Opelousas claims, this is reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 59. Jacques Fontenett claims five arpens front by forty in depth, on Lake Tasse. The notice is accompanied by the petition of the claimant for said tract, dated 10th June, 1797, setting forth that the land had been abandoned by the settlers of New Iberia. Subjoined to said petition is the certificate of the commandant, Louis C. De Blanc, dated 12th June, 1797, representing that the land had been abandoned by the settlers of New Iberia, who had left no one to pay the public contributions as the laws required, and that no objections existed to regranting the land—consequently, the commandant had ordered the surveyor of the post to survey the same, and put the party in possession. A plat of survey by the surveyor general, dated 8th of April, 1781, made for Quintard, is filed with the notice. Louis Chevalier de Villier, before the board 24th June, 1812, hath deposed "that the land claimed was established more than twenty years ago by Spaniards, and that it has been constantly inhabited and cultivated since, until the last two or three years." The claimant having had other lands conceded to him by the Spanish Government, of which the title has been confirmed by the board, this is reported:—The confirmation is recommended as being a claim which, in the opinion of the board, would have been valid under the usages of the Spanish Government.

No. 60. Jacques Fontenett claims twelve arpens front

by the depth of forty arpens, being the third depth of his land on Bayou Teche, lying on the east side of the same. The documents filed with the notice show that the claimant petitioned for a prolongation of his land in 1795, so as to include a piece of woodland which he represents to be subject to annual inundation, and only useful for the timber. On this petition the governor issued an order of survey in favor of the claimant, dated 20th February, 1795, for twelve arpens front by the depth of forty arpens. On the 10th April, 1797, the claimant makes known that the concession for the second depth did not reach the woods, and solicits an extension of his title to a third depth. On the 22d of April, 1797, the commandant, Louis C. De Blanc, certifies that there is no objection to granting the request of the petitioner, it being agreeable to justice and necessary to his settlement. A plat of survey by the surveyor general, Carlos Trudeau, dated 28th November, 1799, embracing this with the first and second depths, as claimed, is also filed.—Louis de la Houssaye, before the board, hath deposed to the following effect: "That the tract of land claimed, being the prolongation of the second depth on the left bank of the Bayou Teche, has been in the constant and uninterrupted possession and occupancy of the claimant for twenty or twenty-one years, during which time the claimant has taken his wood for the use of the farms in the first and second depths previously conceded to him off this prolongation. The deponent having had the collection of the taxes under the Spanish Government sixteen or seventeen years ago, knows that the said Fontenett did, at that time, pay taxes on the prolongation in question. It is also known to the deponent that the second depth was petitioned for to obtain wood, which was necessary for the front tract; and, although he was constantly in the practice of taking wood from the back of his tract, did not ascertain, by actual measurement, that the second depth would not include the wood land, until the year 1791, when he petitioned for the prolongation.

Extract from the testimony of Charles Olivier Devezin, in the claim of the said Fontenett, taken before Seth Lewis, esq., judge of the parish of St. Martin, authorized by commission from the Board of Commissioners:—"The said Olivier further deposeth, that he has knowledge that the said Fontenett has regularly cut his firewood on the land lying on the west side of said bayou, since the demand made for the same. The board is not authorized to confirm this claim, on account of the claimant holding and having had confirmed to him titles for other land conceded by the Spanish Government. But, from the claimant having been put in possession of the land under the former Government, and retaining possession, as appears from the surveyor's plat, and the evidence adduced, the Commissioners are of opinion that the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 61. Jacques Fontenett and Alexander Bienvenue claim all the vacant land on the island of Petitance. The notice of this claim is accompanied by the petition of the claimants for said land, dated 8th October, 1796. In the margin of the petition, under date 18th October, 1796, the Governor requests information from the commandant as to the quantity of land, and any other information the commandant may think proper to give on the subject. On the 24th August, 1797, the commandant, Mr. De Blanc, orders the surveyor of the post to lay out the lands of the proprietors of the said island, and ascertain what may remain vacant for the petitioners, which should be done in the presence of the interested parties, to be called together by the surveyor. No other document of title is filed. By a survey made in 1810, at the request of the board, by Thomas Orme, deputy surveyor, it appears there remains 467 50-100th acres on said island, not embraced by any other claims. Louis Pellerin, aged fifty years, before the board, 19th August, 1813, hath deposed "that, about twenty years ago, Mr. Fontenett, one of the claimants, and Mr. Olivier, his carpenter, united in establishing a vacherie on the land claimed, which was continued until within seven or eight years. The negroes of the proprietors residing on and cultivating the land, claimed the greater part, if not the whole of the term; that, in the year 1800, a man named Caruthers inhabited and cultivated the said land with the consent and for the use of the claimants." No other evidence has been offered in support of the claim. For reasons before suggested, the Commissioners are not authorized to confirm this claim. The witness has stated that the land claimed had been occupied for twenty years before the year 1813, when his testimony was taken, which would be about three years previous to the date of the requette of the claimants. This seeming inconsistency is reconciled from an examination of the requette, in which the petitioners represent that they had already made an establishment on the land claimed, and apply for a title in form. The Commissioners are of opinion that the claimants have acquired an equitable title from the long occupancy of the land, and report the claim as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 62. Edward Forstall, executor of the estate of the Widow Darby, claims sixty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the east side of the river Teche. In support of this claim is filed an order of survey in favor of the Widow Darby for thirty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on both sides of the river Teche, dated 22d October, 1776, with a plat of survey bearing date 28th April, 1782, under the signature of Carlos Trudeau, giving sixty arpens front by the depth of forty on the left side of the Bayou Teche; the said surveyor, in his certificate, setting forth that the land solicited on one side of the bayou was claimed and occupied by Mr. Barthelemy and Dauterieve; in consequence of which, at the request of the claimant, he had laid out the whole tract on one side of the bayou, as represented by the plat. The Commissioners, however, attach no importance to the plat of survey in this instance, which is understood to have been recently obtained, and supposed to be in the handwriting of a daughter of said surveyor, to which he has affixed his signature. Louis de la Houssaye, before Judge Lewis, of Attakapas, the 27th May, 1812, by commission from the board, hath deposed, in substance, as follows: That the concession was for thirty arpens front on each side of the Bayou Teche; but, by an agreement between Messrs. Barthelemy, Gravemberg, and Dubuclet, Mrs. Darby consented that the land should be all surveyed on the east side to accommodate the above named gentlemen; that, in consequence, they have taken theirs on the other side; that the said Madam Darby inhabited the land to the time of her death, and her son for several years after; that she paid taxes for the land under the Spanish Government. The Commissioners are of opinion that the voluntary relinquishment of her right to the thirty arpens front of land on the west side of the river, could not entitle the claimant to an equal quantity on the east side, which is not embraced by the order of survey. They therefore report this as a claim which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed for only thirty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens on the east side of the river.

No. 63. John Gravier and Edward Forstall claim thirty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens on Bayou Tortue, said to be part of a grant to Dautrieve for a league and a half front. The notice of the claim is accompanied by a certificate of the commandant, Chevalier De Clouet, of which the following is a translation: "1775, Dec. 8th. In execution of the order of his lordship, Mr. De Unzaga, governor general of this province, I, the undersigned, captain commandant of Opelousas and Attakapas, certify to have given possession to Mr. Dauterieve, an ancient captain of infantry, of a tract of land of one and a half leagues front and half a league in depth on the west of Bayou Tortue, at Vermillion, bounded on one side by a cluster of oaks, and on the other by a point of small live oaks, in presence of Mr. Louis and Francois Gravemberg, the undersigned, whom we have appointed to be witnesses to the survey." Signed by the witnesses and commandant. "I certify that the foregoing is a copy conformable to the original remaining in our hands." (Signed) Chevalier De Clouet, 13th December, 1775. The following deeds of conveyance are filed with the notice: Francois Gonssoulin to Laurent Segu, sale dated 13th November, 1787, for sixty arpens front, or more, with the depth of forty arpens, bounded by Madam Faverot on one side, and Simon Broussard on the other, representing that the title to the land proceeded from Mr. Degrouise, acting for his wife, the Widow Dauterieve, who would pass a deed of sale to the purchaser when demanded. No deed to the seller, Gonssoulin, has been adduced. 22d October, 1789, Laurent Segu sells the same tract for $5,000, to John de Lavillebeauve, who conveys to John Gravier thirty arpens front by the depth of forty, bounded on one side by Ozane, and on the other by Charles, a free mulatto; this last sale, dated 24th May, 1805. Such documents as have been adduced leave no doubt as to the validity of the title. It is reported for the want of the original concession, and because no proof of occupancy has been offered. The claim is such a one as, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed.

No. 64. John Gravier and Edward Forstall claim thirty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, at the back of the claim last abovementioned, under an order of survey, which the claimants engage to adduce. No evidence in support of this claim has been offered, and it is therefore reported as one which ought not to be confirmed.

No. 65. Francois Gonssoulin claims eight hundred and forty arpens of land on Bayou Teche, being fourteen ar-

pens front by the depth of forty arpens on the left, and the same front by twenty arpens in depth, on the right bank of the said bayou. The following is the substance of the title filed in support of the claim: 10th October, 1801. Petition of the claimant for the land, representing that he had a family of twelve children; had resided in Louisiana twenty-two years, without having any grant of land, and that the tract which he solicits had been asked for by Mr. La Houssaye, in 1795, who had had a quantity of land granted to him. 9th March, 1802, the intendant, Morales, asks information on the subject from the commandant. 27th May, 1802, the commandant, Louis C. De Blanc, reports that he had been informed by Mr. Gonssoulin, surveyor, in 1798, that there was sixteen arpens front between the land of said Gonssoulin and Mr. Vangine, remaining vacant at that time; and, having executed the order of Government of the 28th August, 1798, he sent back, directed to Governor Gayoso de Lemos, the petition of the widow Pellerin, 14th July, 1802. The intendant, Morales, directs the foregoing to be laid before the fiscal. 5th July, 1802, the fiscal reports that the sixteen arpens front which the commandant had informed was vacant, and that in consideration of the petitioner not having obtained any grant of land, and having a large family, it is his opinion the grant may be given of the sixteen arpens, after it shall have been surveyed. The surveyor general is then ordered to certify whether the land had been granted or not. Notice is given to the surveyor general, 30th October, 1802. The surveyor general, Carlos Trudeau, reports that no concession of land in the post of Attakapas had been made since the date of the letter of Mr. De Blanc to the governor, Don Manuel, &c. And if any had obtained a first decree, it must be made null, as expressed in the decree, in those terms: "And this concession should be null, if at the end of three years the land is not settled;" and, moreover, if any one had any pretensions, they had lost their right by not having complied with the articles 21 and 22 of the regulations made by the intendancy, the 17th July, 1799; that if the land solicited by Mr. Gonssoulin had not been surveyed and settled, it should be considered as vacant, and at the disposal of the intendant. 8th November, 1802, the intendant, Morales, orders that the surveyor general should make the plat which should precede the grant. The plat of survey, by the surveyor general, dated 1803, is also filed with the notice. Athanaze Hebert, before the board, the 24th September, 1812, hath deposed in substance that the part of the tract on the east side of the bayou had been cultivated by the claimant and others the last eighteen years; that Edward and Alexander Broussard, who purchased part of the land on that side of the bayou, then resided on it; that Mr. Gonssoulin, at the date of his testimony, resided on the west side of the bayou, but whether on the same tract the witness could not say. It is not established, by the evidence adduced, that the land claimed has been actually inhabited previously to the change of Government; but it is shown that it has been under cultivation by the claimant and others holding under him, for several years before and since that change. This circumstance, together with that of the claimant being put in possession by the proper authority, induce the Commissioners to report this claim as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed, although the concession bears date subsequent to 1800.

No. 66. Joshua and William Garret claim eleven arpens front by forty arpens in depth, on the east side of the Bayou Teche. With the notice of this claim is filed a deed of conveyance from John Louis Drouet to John Bte. Senate, dated in 1799, for eleven arpens front by the depth of forty arpens on each side of the Bayou Teche, bounded on one side by Eugene and Honora Senate, and on the other by land of James Moulon, purchased by Drouet, five arpens front from J. Moulon, and six arpens front from Joseph Drouet, John Bte. Honora and Eugene Senate, with the depth of forty arpens on both sides of the bayou, in both cases. On the back of this deed is an assignment from Joshua Garret to John and William Garret, dated 5th September, 1805; a deed of conveyance from John Bte. Senate to Joshua Garret, dated 29th October, 1801, for eleven arpens front, by the depth of eighty arpens on the west, and forty on the east side of the said bayou, deriving his purchase from John Louis Drouet, and by a grant of the second depth on the west side of the bayou: two deeds of conveyance from Joshua Garret, dated 20th September, 1805, one of which to John Garret and the other to William Garret—the first for five arpens front, and the other for six arpens front, with the depth of forty arpens on the east and eighty arpens in depth on the west side of said Bayou Teche. The land claimed on the west side of the bayou was conceded by the Spanish Government, the first depth of forty arpens to Nicholas Forstall, and the second depth to J. Bte. Senate. The claim has been confirmed for those two tracts by the certificates of the Commissioners, A, No. 1584, and B, No. 1577. A third tract is that which is embraced by the claim now under consideration, for eleven arpens front, with the depth of forty arpens on the east side of the bayou. The claimants have not shown that any concession was obtained from the Spanish Government for this tract; but, from the length of time it has been in possession of the father of the claimants, as appears by the deed of conveyance above cited, and from the evidence of Pierre Verdine and John Bte. Verdine, who have declared that the land was settled and cultivated from the year 1802 to the change of Government, 20th December, 1803, by the claimants, or others for their use, the Commissioners are of opinion that the claimants have an equitable title, and therefore report the claim as one which ought to be confirmed.

No. 67. William Garret claims, by settlement, 640 acres of land on Bayou Sallé. Alexander Verdine, before John Thompson, esq., hath deposed, in substance, that about the year 1801 the claimant kept his cattle on the land, but did not reside on it nor cultivate it until about 1804; that he had heard the claimant say that Colonel Hopkins, then commandant, ordered him off of the land, on which account he left it. Sworn to the 13th December, 1808.—Jacob Hamilton, before the same person, and on the same day, hath deposed "that, three years ago this last fall, this deponent assisted the claimant in bending his corn, and that he supposes the said claimant, on the 20th day of December, 1803, to have been above the age of one-and-twenty years, and he was at that time the head of a family."—Nicholas Robeneau, before Jehu Wilkinson, justice of the peace, the 15th June, 1812, by commission from the board, hath deposed "that a tract of land situate on the Bayou Sallé, adjoining or nearly adjoining the land sold by the deponent to John Reeves, was claimed, settled and cultivated, about the year 1798, by William Garret, who continued to cultivate, and was settled on said tract of land until about the year 1804 or 1805, when Mr. Hopkins, the then commandant, ordered all the inhabitants on Bayou Sallé off their land, and threatened to cut down their corn. Garret was alarmed, and rather abandoned the land, but made a crop that same year, that is, 1804 or 1805. This deponent further saith, that he well recollects that the said tract of land was inhabited all the month of December, 1803, and cultivated by him that year in corn and pumpkins."—Pierre Verdine, before the parish judge of St. Mary's parish, the 2d November, 1813, by commission from the board, hath deposed "that, about the beginning of the year 1802, and about the first of February that year, William Garret made settlement on the said land, and raised about two hundred barrels of corn, and a great quantity of pumpkins; that said William Garret has always, since the first of the year 1802, until about the year 1810, claimed and occupied the said land, kept his stock on it, and worked it more or less during that time: and he further states, that the said Garret was in peaceable possession of said land on the 20th of December, 1803, and residing on it, unless called off on necessary business; and this deponent further states that the commandant, Hopkins, after he arrived here, ordered the inhabitants off from Bayou Sallé, which alarmed said Garret, and consequently prevented him from working and improving said land as much as he would have done; but he kept possession, and did not abandon the same."—It will be seen that the evidence in this claim is extremely contradictory. According to the first two witnesses, the land was neither inhabited nor cultivated earlier than the year 1804. The last two have averred that it was both inhabited and cultivated from the year 1801 or 1802, and that the claimant was in the uninterrupted occupancy of the land during the whole of the month of December, 1803. Admitting the correctness of the latter testimony, the claimant would not be entitled, under any act of Congress, unless he had shown that the land was occupied by permission from competent authority, under the Spanish Government; which they have not done. Under all the circumstances, the Commissioners are of opinion that this claim ought not to be confirmed.

No. 68. Simon Gerouard claims four arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, by settlement, on Bayou Tortue, at the Cootegellé. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title; and therefore, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 69. John Gilbeau claims ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, said to be part of a complete title filed in the claim of Dominique Babineau. No document of title accompanies the notice, and no evidence has been offered in the claim. It is necessarily reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 70. Paul Glasco's heirs claim ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on both sides of Bayou Sallé, entered by Daniel Callaghan, as administrator to the estate. The notice is unaccompanied by any document of title. Louis C. De Blanc, before the board, the 7th March, 1811, hath deposed "that, in the year 1798, when commandant of the county of Attakapas, he granted permission to Paul Glasco for ten arpens in front by forty in depth, on each side of the Bayou Sallé, in the Attakapas, claimed by Daniel Callaghan, adjoining land granted some time before that to John O'Reilly."—Creed West, aged about forty years, before the board, 21st November, 1811, hath deposed "that, about three years or upwards before the change of Government, the claimant commenced cultivating the land, and resided on the west side of the bayou, but cultivated the land on the opposite side; that the deponent is confident he raised three crops on the laud, but can't be positive that the claimant was residing there on the 20th day of December, 1803. The deponent further states, that, from information, he always understood that the claimant, Paul Glasco, had a requette for the land claimed."—William Addison, before Judge Goforth, of St. Mary's parish, the 8th June, 1813, by commission from the board, hath deposed, in substance, that the land was cultivated in the year 1798, by Paul Glasco; that he had been told by Paul Glasco that he, Glasco, had a requette for the land from Mr. Le Blanc, he thinks in the year 1798; that the deponent lived near that place at that time, after which he, the deponent, moved away, and could give no further information about it. The Commissioners cannot, from the evidence before them, grant a certificate in confirmation of this claim; but as it appears from the evidence of the late commandant that permission was given by him to Paul Glasco to occupy the land which is claimed by the heirs, as it was established that the land was cultivated, though not inhabited, by Glasco, for at least three years before the change of Government; and as it does not appear that there has been any abandonment of the claim, it is reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought to be confirmed.

No. 71. Pierre Guidery claims ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on Bayou Teche, by exchange of land with Bronier De Clouet. A plat of survey, by Francois Gonssoulin, made for a Mr. Caillavet, 26th May, 1793, is the only document of title filed with the notice of the claim. No proof has been adduced to establish occupancy. Presuming that the said Guidery is the rightful owner, and the plat of survey being evidence of possession by Caillavert as early as the 26th May, 1793, the confirmation of the claim is recommended by the board.

No. 72. Joseph Hebert claims four arpens front by the depth of forty arpens by settlement, and by purchase from Anselm Thibodeau, who purchased it from the Attakapas Indians on Bayou Vermillion. The notice is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, and, therefore, the claim reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 73. Henry Hergeroder claims ten arpens front by the depth of eighty, on the waters of the Bayou Sallé, by virtue of a concession from the Spanish Government, dated 23d April, 1796. The notice is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, and is believed to be for the same land of which the title has been confirmed by Commissioners' certificate B, No. 1,744, under another entry. This is, therefore, reported as a claim which ought not to be confirmed.

No. 74. Henry Hergeroder claims, as heir to his son, six arpens front, by the depth of forty arpens, on both sides of the Bayou Teche. In support of this claim is filed the petition of the claimant, in favor of his son, Charles Hergeroder, for said tract, dated 26th September, 1795, to which is subjoined the certificate of the commandant, Francois Casse Y. Luengo, of the same date, "that the land solicited is of the domain of the King." A plat of survey, dated in 1806, is also filed. John Nofper, before the board, 2d March, 1812, hath deposed "that the land was inhabited and cultivated for the use of the original claimant, on and previous to the 20th December, 1803, by John Carlisle. The claimant, Henry Hergeroder, however, has made known to the board that the witness, Nofper, was mistaken in his evidence, the settlement of Carlisle being on an adjoining tract, and not on the claim under consideration. The claimant has also made known to the board that his son Charles was about twelve or thirteen years of age at the date of the requette. It having been usual, under the Spanish Government, to concede land to minors, and the claim under consideration having progressed thus far in a regular manner towards the completion of a title, the Commissioners are of opinion that it ought to be confirmed, and report it accordingly.

No. 75. William Hargrove claims, by settlement, 640 acres on Hargrove's Gully, near the Vermillion river. The notice is unaccompanied by any document of title. Rufus Nickolson, before John Thompson, register in Attakapas, 18th December, 1808, hath deposed "that, in the latter part of the winter, or beginning of the spring, seven years ago, this deponent was at the house of the claimant, who was residing upon the land claimed, and the only improvement which he saw upon the land was a pretty good framed house. How long he continued to reside there, the deponent does not know; that, in the yeat 1804, the deponent was again at the same place, and saw the house still remaining there, but uninhabited. The tract of land to which this deponent refers, lies upon Hargrove's Couli, opposite to the tract on which the father of the claimant resided at that time. Benjamin Hargrove, before the board, the 30th June, 1809, hath deposed "that the claimant settled on the land claimed, about the year 1800, the latter part of the summer of that year, and that the following year he had, in corn and cotton, about eight acres; that he continued upon the same about three years, but cannot say whether it was before or after the 20th of December, 1803, he left it; that the land has continued unoccupied ever since; that the claimant was above the age of twenty-one years, and the head of a family. From information had from the surveys in the neighborhood of this claim, it is supposed to be embraced in the boundaries of one or more complete titles which have been confirmed by the board, and, therefore, is reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 76. Henry Hergeroder, as natural guardian of Michel Hergeroder, claims nine arpens front by forty in depth, on Bayou Teche. No document of title has been adduced in support of this claim. Charles McDonnel, before John Thompson, register in Attakapas, 18th of December, 1808, hath deposed "that, for nine years last past, Henry Hergeroder cultivated about fifteen acres on the land claimed, but himself, nor any person for him, ever resided thereon." The claim being unsupported by any evidence of title under the Spanish Government, and it being understood that Michel Hergeroder is a minor, whose father has obtained several tracts of land from the said Government of Spain, of which the titles have been confirmed by the board, this is reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 77. John Henry claims four hundred arpens on Bayou Teche, under an order of survey dated in 1786. This claim, it is believed, has been confirmed, under another entry, to William Moore, by Commissioners' certificate B, No. 1,201, and is therefore reported as one which ought not to be confirmed. The notice is unaccompanied by any evidence of title.

No. 78. Francois Hacket claims ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the Bayou Teche. An order of survey in favor of Michel Infil, for ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, bearing date 6th September, 1797, is filed with the notice. In the petition of Infil, preceding the order of survey, the land is described as being situate on the west side of the river Teche, at Prairie Jacob, adjoining Knight above. On the back of the title paper is an assignment of the right and title from Infil to Hacket, dated 4th September, 1806. William Knight, before the board, 6th October, 1812, hath deposed "that, about fifteen or sixteen years ago, the original claimant commenced a settlement on the land claimed, and continued occasionally to cultivate and inhabit the same, until he sold it to the present claimant, since the change of Government. The deponent does not know whether either the original claimant, or any person for him, was residing on, or cultivating the said tract of land on the first day of October, 1800." Thomas Berwick, before the board, the 27th January, 1814, hath deposed "that he was well acquainted with the said Michel Infil in his life time, and also is perfectly acquainted with the tract of land which he claimed, situate on the right bank of the river Teche, or Chafalaya, below the junction of the two rivers about five or six miles; that, in the year 1803, to the best of the knowledge of the deponent, Michel Infil began to improve the land, and built a small cabin, and planted some fruit trees, but neither inhabited nor cultivated any part of the land, to the knowledge of the deponent, either at that time or any subsequent period. The deponent being asked if he knew of the said Infil having sold the land in question to Francois Hacket, and whether the said Francois, or any person for him, had ever occupied or cultivated the said land after the purchase, answers that he had been informed by the said Hacket that he had purchased from Infil, but does not know of said Hacket, or any other person for him, having, at any time, or in any manner, occupied the said land. The deponent fur-

ther saith, that, in surveying a tract of land belonging to the estate of Thomas Berwick, deceased, father of this deponent, Mr. Gonssoulin, the then authorized surveyor under the Spanish Government, would, if the survey had been completed, have included within the lines of Berwick's land the whole, or greater part of the land claimed by Infil, at which time this deponent, as one of the heirs, forbid the said Infil taking possession, or making any improvement on the land: Nevertheless, he did afterwards erect his house with the logs he had previously hauled in place for that purpose; that, at the time Mr. Gonssoulin was making the survey above mentioned, several persons, whose lands adjoined, objected to his proceeding, and particularly the heirs of Knight, on which account the said surveyor discontinued his operations; that, some years afterwards, and since the deponent has disposed of his claim in the land belonging to the estate of his deceased father, the same has, as he has been informed, been surveyed in such a manner as not to conflict with the land which is claimed by Hacket, under Infil. The deponent supposed that the said Infil was about forty years of age in the year 1803, and then, and for several years before, resided in the family of his sister." From the surveys lately made on the lower part of the Bayou Teche and Chafalaya, it appears that the Prairie Jacob does not extend below the junction of said waters more than about half a mile; that the claims of the Knights, which this is said to adjoin, are in the upper part of said prairie, on the bayou Teche; that the settlement of Berwick is in the lower part of said prairie, near its termination, and that there may be about 280 acres lying in a triangular form, between the land of Berwick and that of the heirs of Knight, which may be embraced in the claim under consideration, without interfering with other claims. It would appear, too, from the surveys, that the last witness may have been mistaken in supposing the lines of Berwick's claim would have taken in the improvement of Infil, which he supposes to have been five or six miles below the junction of the Teche and Chafalaya. The settlement of Berwick appears to be about half a mile below the junction of these waters; and the whole depth of the claim of Berwick is about two miles and three-fourths; therefore, it would seem probable that the witness might have had allusion to some other claim of Infil. Without taking into view any interference which may happen in locating this title according to its calls, and not being authorized to decide between individuals in such cases, the Commissioners recommend the confirmation according to the tenor of the title, and report it accordingly. Their reasons for reporting the claim are, that the evidence has not established the occupancy of the land as required by law, on the first day of October, 1800.

No. 79. Jacob Hamsher claims 338 49-100ths acres on the west side of Bayou Vermillion, by settlement, and by transfer from Joseph Duhon, as heir to Theoliste Hebert, the grant for the land said to have been burnt. The notice is accompanied by a deed of conveyance, dated 15th November, 1803, from Joseph Duhon to the claimant, for ten arpens front, by the depth of forty, on the right bank of Bayou Vermillion, adjoining below to Pierre Meaux, and setting forth that the said Duhon became possessed of it by his intermarriage with Scolastic Hebert, daughter of Theoliste Hebert, deceased, it being his dividend of the estate of said Hebert, and that the titles of the land were destroyed by the conflagration of the house, and other articles it contained. A plat of survey of the land, dated 1806, by an authorized surveyor, is also filed, and no other document of title. The claim being unaccompanied by any concession from the Government, and no proof having been adduced to establish occupancy, or that the said Hebert, deceased, had a valid title for the land, the Commissioners are under the necessity of reporting it as one which ought not to be confirmed.

No. 80. Francois Hacket claims 677 acres, to wit, ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on both sides of Bayou Sallé, by purchase of the title of John Johnson, who held it under settlement by permission, the claimant having filed the requette of John Johnson, sanctioned by the commandant, and having produced proof of occupancy, by which, under the laws of Congress, he became entitled to 640 acres, the Commissioners have confirmed the claim to that extent by their certificate marked B, No. 1245, and recommend the confirmation, by Congress, of the residue of the title, being about thirty-seven acres.

No. 81. Heirs of Charles Hergeroder claim 500 acres of land on the Bayou Teche, by settlement. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, and the claim is reported as one which ought not to be confirmed.

No. 82. Thomas Huffpower claims eight arpens front with the depth of forty arpens, by virtue of an order of survey in his favor, dated 31st August, 1795, for said land, at a place called Grand Island, in Attakapas, bounded on one side by a lake, and on the other by the King's domain at the date of the title. The said order of survey, with the petition of the claimant for the land, is filed with the notice. No proof of occupancy has been adduced. The Commissioners report the claim as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 83. Gideon Hopkins claims 400 arpens on the island called Grand Cote, near the river Vermillion, by an order of survey. The notice is accompanied by the petition of the claimant, dated 12th March, 1792, representing that he had been an inhabitant of Natchez, and, having obtained permission from Governor Miro to settle in the Attakapas, solicits of Baron Carondelet ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, at Grand Cote, bounded on one side by Richard Bell, and on the other by the domain of the King. The order of survey by the Baron de Carondelet is subjoined to the petition, bears date 18th of April, 1792, conceding the land as asked, with the usual conditions. A plat of survey by the surveyor general, Carlos Trudeau, dated in 1799, is also filed. No proof has been adduced to establish occupancy. The land is claimed by Louis C. De Blanc, by a title of subsequent date, as may be seen by reference to reported No. 34, of this report, where the caveat of said De Blanc against the confirmation of this and some other claims has been inserted at his request. Keeping out of view the contestation between adverse claimants, which the Commissioners are not authorized to decide, they report the claim under consideration as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 84. Jacob Jerrard claims 640 acres by settlement, on the east side of the Bayou Teche. This entry is believed to be for the same land claimed under another notice, and confirmed by the certificates of the Commissioners, marked B, Nos. 1179 and 1180, the first to Jacob Jerrard, the other to James L. Johnston. The Commissioners report this as a claim which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 85. William Johnson, a minor, by his guardian, Patrick Johnson, claims 640 acres, by settlement, on the Bayou Teche. A plat of survey, dated in 1806, giving an extensive front on the left bank of the Bayou Teche, the back of the tract being a mile in extent, and the bayou running obliquely from the upper to the lower side of the tract, is filed with the notice, and no other document. From the plat of survey, it appears that the tract is bounded on the lower side by the claim of John and Henry Bosler, and covering the same, or part of the same land, which is claimed by William Biggs, whose claim is reported and recommended for confirmation. See reported No. 16. No evidence has been adduced in this claim, and it is reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 86. Patrick Johnson claims eight arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the right bank of Bayou Teche, bounded above by Barthelemy Gravemberg, and below by land claimed by John and Henry Bosler. A plat of survey dated 1806, and including 270.77 acres, is the only document of title filed with the notice. Charles McDonnel, before John Thompson, register in Attakapas, 18th December, 1808, hath deposed "that, about eight or nine years ago, the claimant and his father cultivated about four acres of corn on the land claimed, and this deponent doth not know that it has been cultivated since." Henry Hergeroder, before the board, 7th October, 1811, hath deposed "that the land claimed was inhabited and cultivated in the years 1800 and 1801; that, in the year 1801, the father of the said Patrick (John Johnson, the original claimant,) having been accidentally killed in falling a tree, his family, consisting of a wife and two orphan children, were compelled to abandon the land, from their helpless situation, not being able to support themselves, and the land has not been inhabited since." William Addison, before William Biggs, justice of peace, the 14th August, 1813, by commission from the board, hath deposed "that he understood and believes that John Johnson, deceased, bought the abovementioned tract of land from one Millhorn, and moved on it with his family about the year '99; and that the land had some improvements on it before Johnson bought it, as he, this deponent, saw corn growing on the place the year before Johnson went there. This deponent further states, that Johnson lived on the land two years or more; and this deponent states that, after Johnson had resided two years and more, he was cutting out a road on the Bayou Sallé, and was killed by a limb falling from a tree on him, as this deponent believes, from all appearances, where he was found wounded, which caused his death.

And this deponent further states, that the family resided for some time on the land after the death of Johnson, and then left it, as he believes they were not able to subsist, being only a woman and a few small children. And this deponent says, that the heirs of said Johnson have always claimed the said land, as they have some years ago had it surveyed." The right of the said Patrick Johnson to the land has been sold for the taxes of the year 1807 and 1808, when Hayes, White, and John Wilkinson, became the purchasers for the sum of $12 23, the amount of taxes and costs, and have filed their deed of conveyance from the then parish judge, dated 24th November, 1809, with the claim. Whether the sale by the tax collector should alienate the title of minors, is a question not for the consideration of this board. The occupancy of the land in question appears to have been maintained as long as the circumstances of the case would permit. The claimants are considered at least as having an equitable title in the land, and the claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed.

No. 87. Samuel Jones claims 677 acres, to wit, ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on both sides of the Bayou Sallé, by virtue of his requette for said land, approved by the commandant, Mr. De Blanc, the 3d January, 1797, and by settlement, as required by law. The claimant having filed his said requette with the notice of the claim, and adduced proof of occupancy, by which, under the acts of Congress, he became entitled to 640 acres, the Commissioners have confirmed the claim to that extent by their certificate marked B, No. 2180; but being of opinion, according to the usages of the Spanish Government, the whole of the claim ought to be confirmed, they recommend the confirmation by Congress of the residue thereof, being thirty-seven acres.

No. 88. Charles Kulls claims six arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on both sides of the Bayou Teche. The notice of the claim is accompanied by the petition of the claimant, dated 16th September, 1795, for six arpens front by the depth of forty, on both sides of said bayou, at a place called the Big woods. Subjoined to the petition is the certificate of the commandant, Francis Caso Y. Luengo, of the same date, setting forth that the land solicited is of the King's domain, and, if the governor should think proper to grant it, let it adjoin John Vomser. This claim is reported for want of evidence of the occupancy of the land. It is believed that Kulls, the claimant, has never enjoyed any other grant of land under the Spanish Government. There is no evidence of his having abandoned his title to this. The Commissioners are of opinion that the title would have been valid under the former Government, and therefore recommend the confirmation.

No. 89. Don Francois Caso Y. Luengo claims seven and a half acres, and three and a half chains front by the depth of forty arpens, on the east side of the Bayou Teche, at a place called Grosse Isle, bounded on one side by the concession of Mr. Veillon, and on the other by that of F. Decuirs, now belonging to Mr. Fontenell. The notice is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, and the claim is on that account reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 90. Widow Frederick La Blanc claims four arpens of land in front by the depth of forty arpens, on Bayou Caron Crow, three arpens of which front being a donation from Simon Le Blanc to the deceased husband of the claimant, the remaining one arpent front by purchase from Agricole Le Blanc, the whole coming out of a complete patent to Simon Le Blanc. The confirmation to Simon Le Blanc, by Commissioners' certificate A, No. 1225, embraces this claim; it is therefore reported as a claim which ought not to be confirmed to the widow.

No. 91. Hebert Landry claims a tract of land of six arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on each side of the river Teche, in the neighborhood of Fausse Point, by a concession to John Degan and Baptiste La Beauve, sold by them to Philip Duelolange, and by him to Isidore Louviere, and by said Louviere to the present claimant. The deed of sale from Duelolange to Louviere for twelve arpens front by the depth of forty on each side of the river, is the only document of title filed in the claim. For want of evidence of the existence of the original grant from the Spanish Government, or of the occupancy of the land, the claim is reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 92. Louis Legnion claims twelve arpens front with the ordinary depth of forty arpens, on each side of the river Teche, under an order of survey granted to the claimant by Governor De Carondelet. The order of survey which accompanies the notice is dated 27th May, 1794, and granted by Baron De Carondelet for 12 arpens front by the depth of 40 arpens, on both sides of the river Teche, at the place mentioned in the memorial of the claimant, which is between the land of Borlees & Prevost. Subjoined to the order of survey, and under date 7th November, 1798, is the certificate of Louis C. De Blanc, then commandant of the post of Attakapas, of which the following is, in substance, the translation: "To quiet all differences, and to prejudice no person, the above concession is to be taken adjoining above to Frederick Pellerin, and below to Nicholas Gagniard." On the back of the order of survey is an assignment of title by Louis Legnion to Philo Norton, executed and acknowledged on the 21st December, 1808, before John Thompson, then register of the land office of this district. Henry Hergeroder, before the Board of Commissioners, on the 19th Nov'r, 1812, hath deposed, "that the land claimed is situated on the river Teche, and is bounded on the upper side by the tract of land at present inhabited by the said Louis Legnion; that fifteen years ago, the said Louis Legnion, then about forty-five years of age, and the head of a family, was residing on the land in question, on the west bank of the Teche, and cultivated on both sides; that he continued to reside thereon for about three years, and then removed a short distance higher up the river, and established himself on an adjoining tract of land, where he has resided ever since, but has cultivated on both tracts; that on the lower tract, being the one under consideration, a man by the name of Warford, who married the daughter of the said Legnion, settled by the consent of his father-in-law, about five years ago, and continued on it two or three years; that the said tract of land has been constantly cultivated either by the said Legnion, or persons claiming or holding under his title, for at least fifteen years in regular succession, immediately preceding this date, but has not been actually inhabited every year within that time." In this claim, the commandant having located the land at a place different from the one for which it was conceded by the Spanish Government, and the evidence not establishing the occupancy as required by the statutes of the United States, the Commissioners consider themselves not authorized to confirm the claim: nevertheless, as it has been established that, at the place where the land is now claimed, and where it has been located by the commandant, a settlement was made in the year 1797, and although it was not actually inhabited in the year 1800, as it appears to have been constantly cultivated to the present time, by the original proprietor and those holding under him, the claim, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed agreeably to the plat of survey returned by the principal deputy surveyor, which shows that there may be about five hundred and forty-three acres of land on the right bank of the Teche, and about seventy-eight acres on the left bank, free from interferences with other surveys.

No. 93. Francois Louvier claims 1,035 94-100ths acres, at the back of his land, fronting on the east side of the Bayou Teche. The notice of the claim is accompanied by documents, of which the following is a translation: Francois Louvier exposes that he has lost the concession of the second depth of the land which he occupies on the east side of the Teche, in the quarter of Fausse Point, which had been granted to him by the Baron De Carondelet, and not being able to support his large family without it, humbly begs a grant for the said second depth, following the course of the limits of the front tract: this petition is dated 18th October, 1802. Written on the margin of the petition is the certificate and decree of Louis De Blanc, then commandant of the post of Attakapas, dated 20th October, 1802, as follows: It being in proof by the certificate here annexed, that the land petitioned for by Mr. Francois Louvier is vacant, and as it is certain it has been conceded already to him, and that for the support of his numerous family this additional concession is absolutely necessary to him, the surveyor of this post, Mr. Francois Gonssoulin, shall put him in possession and furnish the plat of survey, that he may recur to the tribunal of the intendancy general for the completion of his title. A plat of survey by Francois Gonssoulin, dated 20th October, 1802, certified to have been executed in consequence of the order of the commandant, is also filed with the notice. Baltazar Neville De Clouet, before the board, hath deposed, in substance, that the son of the claimant settled on the land in 1801, and inhabited and cultivated it one year and a half, after which Benjamin Louvier, brother of the claimant, inhabited and cultivated it until it was taken possession of by the claimant. Joseph Broussard, before the board, 24th October, 1812, hath deposed "that the land has been inhabited and cultivated, without intermission, for the last thirteen years, either by the claimant or for his use." The claimant having had other lands conceded to him by the Span-

ish Government, bars his claim to a settlement right; but the Commissioners are of opinion, from the documents filed in the claim, that it is such a one as would have been valid under the usages of the Spanish Government, and therefore report it as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 94. Jesse E. Lacy claims 600 arpens of land on Bayou Teche, by virtue of an order of survey in favor of Benjamin Andrus, dated 18th June, 1802, and conveyed to the claimant. The notice is accompanied by the petition of Benjamin Andrus for said land. Subjoined to the petition is the commandant's certificate, stating that the petitioner is an ancient inhabitant, has a large family, that the land is vacant, and that he sees no objection to its being granted. The order of survey by the intendant, Morales, bears date 18th June, 1802. A plat of survey by the surveyor general, Charles Trudeau, dated 17th September, 1802, also accompanies the notice, which, as well as the certificate of the surveyor, shows the land to have been laid out on the right bank of the river Teche, whereas the petition and order of survey is for land on the left side of said river. A bill of sale from Benjamin Andrus to the claimant for the land, dated 23 February, 1806, is likewise filed. No proof of occupancy has been adduced in support of the claim. The proprietors of the adjoining land above and below the tract claimed, being the same, both in the plat and survey and the requette of the claimant, it is presumable that it was intended to solicit the land on the right bank of the river, and that the mistake is attributable to the draughter of the requette using the word "oriental" instead of "occidental." Being put in possession of the land on the west side, the Commissioners entertain no doubt but that, under the Spanish Government, the title would have been perfected on that side, and therefore recommend the confirmation of the claim conformably to the plat returned by the surveyor general.

No. 95. John Lyon claims a tract of land of about fifty arpens front by the ordinary depth, on the west side of Bayou Queue de Tortue, by purchase from Indians. The notice is accompanied by a deed of sale from Celestine, of the village of Attakapas, with Bernard, chief, and Little John, captain, to the claimant, passed before Louis C. De Blanc, then commandant, the 19th August, 1802, "reserving the approbation of the governor general of the province, being so authorized by the 31st article of the new regulations of the intendancy general:" price eighty-seven dollars. For testimony and remarks of the Commissioners respecting this claim, see the next following No.

No. 96. John Lyon claims a tract of fifty or fifty-six arpens front on the east side of Bayou Queue de Tortue, by purchase from an Indian named Tichot. The deed of sale from said Tichot, married to the Widow Potate, and acting for her and the Attakapas Indians, passed before Martin Duralde, commandant, 25th February, 1801, to the claimant, is filed with the notice. The land to be bounded on one side by Francois Stelly, and on the other by vacant land opposite to, and fronting, the place then occupied by the claimant, for four cows and four four year old beeves. A letter from Mr. Duralde to the claimant, of which the following is a copy, is also filed with the notice: "Mr. Lyon, an Indian Attakapas, has applied to me to complain that, in spite of him, you have taken his land, and made on it your cow-pen; if it is so, you cannot keep it, except you buy it from him in form, and in such manner that neither he nor any body else may trouble you in your possession. I am your servant, (Signed) Mr. Duralde, 17th November, 1800." Paul Bantin, before the board the 28th November, 1812, hath deposed "that, some time in the year 1800, this deponent was present when a sale was passed by an Indian chief of the Attakapas tribe, named Tichot, to John Lyon, before Mr. Duralde, then commandant of the post of Opelousas, for a tract of land on the south side of Bayou Queue de Tortue, when the deponent recollects to have heard the said John Lyon inform the commandant that the land which he had then, by his directions, bought from the Indians, was the same tract, or embraced the same tract, for which the said Lyon had been informed the commandant had sanctioned and signed a requette to Mr. Francois Stelly; to which the said commandant, in reply, acknowledged "that he had sanctioned such a requette; that he had done it without a knowledge of the land being occupied by the said Lyon; and further observed, that the requette could not affect the Indian title, for that five hundred requettes could not take the land from them without their voluntary consent." The deponent saith further, that Michel Lyon, one of the sons of John Lyon, settled on the land purchased by the said John Lyon from the Indians about the year 1800; that the said M. Lyon was more than twenty-one years of age, and the head of a family; that John Lyon, jr., another son of the said John Lyon, has been married about seven or eight years and settled on a part of the same land immediately thereafter; that Gabriel Lyon, another son, has been married five or six years, and settled on the said land; that Samuel, another son of the said John, has been married about one year and is settled on the land in question; that Elizabeth Lyon, a daughter of the said John, has been married seven or eight years, and with her husband settled on the land in question, where she resided about one year with her husband, and then removed off. That the said John Lyon has two other sons unmarried, and living with him, the youngest about fourteen years old. That by these several marriages the said John Lyon has ten or eleven grand-children living, and that the whole of his family, the daughter and her offspring excepted, are now residing on the lands which he purchased from the Indians; and, so far as has come to the knowledge of this deponent, neither hold nor claim any other land in this State, either by grant from the Spanish Government or by purchase from any other person." John Coleman, before the board 28th November, 1812, having reference to this and the next preceding claim, hath deposed "that he is well acquainted with the tracts of land on both sides of the bayou, and knows that the said Lyon now resides on the tract on the north side of the said bayou which was purchased from the Indian named Celestine; that this deponent was present in the year 1800, to the best of his knowledge, though it may have been in the early part of the year 1801, and was then called upon to witness the setting of certain bound-posts at the upper and lower extremities of the tract, on the south side of the said bayou, by the Indians who had sold those lands to Mr. Lyon; that there were present at this ceremony as many as three or more Indians, among whom was the chief called Tichot. That the post set at the upper extremity of the tract stands on a point of high land near the lower margin of a marais called the Grand Marais, and about one mile above the present habitation of Michel Lyon, who settled at the old village of the said Indians; and that the lower boundary was established about two miles below the habitation of the said Michel Lyon, but the precise distance is not known to this deponent, as no measure was used at the time of establishing those boundaries. That, in setting the lower boundary, the Indians would have gone lower down the bayou—and pointed to a point of woods at least one mile further down, which they proposed to make the boundary—but the said Lyon being content to go no further, they stopped and established the boundary as above mentioned. The deponent further saith, that he was present and witnessed the establishing of boundaries on the tract on the north side of the said bayou, in the summer of the year 1802, when there were present fifteen or twenty Indians, perhaps more, among whom was Celestine, the chief, who had sold the tract on that side. That a wild cherry-tree standing about one mile and a half above the present habitation of the said John Lyon was marked for the upper boundary, and that a post was set at the lower extremity of what was then considered the purchase, about two miles in a right line below the cherry-tree, to which the Indians were all consenting. That the establishment of these boundaries were by express directions of the commandants before whom the sales were passed. The deponent further saith, that the points above mentioned embraced a tract of land which he had purchased from the Indians, as well as Mr. Lyon's part, and that, in establishing the boundary, it was understood that the deponent's part was to extend from the cherry-tree down to a certain point of woods about three hundred yards above the house of the said Lyon, which has ever since been respected by the deponent and the said Lyon as the division between their said lands. That the limits above mentioned, on the north side of the bayou, are known by the deponent to embrace an old village which had been inhabited by the Indians, and that some of the posts of their huts were standing at the time the boundaries were established." A survey has been made of the land by Joseph Aborn, deputy surveyor, to whom the following certificate was furnished by the claimant, and filed with the notice: "We, John Lyon, sr. and Michel Lyon, do hereby certify that Joseph Aborn commenced running the said John Lyon's Indian claim on the east side of Bayou Tortue, where the Indians established the claimant's post, and did not extend the front of the claim as far up the bayou, by a considerable distance, as the point where the Indians established the upper post of the claim, the claimant not wishing to take in any more land; and we do hereby hold ourselves responsible to prove, to the satisfaction of the Board of Commissioners, that the above statement is correct." (Signed) Michel Lyon, his mark, John Lyon, teste, Samuel Laverty, November

10th, 1810. Any title which the claimant, John Lyon, could have derived to the tract of land in question from settlement founded on acts of Congress, is barred by his sale of a tract of land held under settlement right, which has been confirmed to George King, by the certificate of the Commissioners, marked B, No. 980. His right, therefore, to the land in question, must depend on his purchase from the Indians. In the report of claims for the county of Opelousas, No. 1, the board have already shown that the ratification by the governor of the province, whilst Louisiana was a Spanish province, was necessary to give validity to Indian sales. Neither the sale in this case, nor in that referred to in No. 95, have received the sanction of the governor; but the letter of Mr. Duralde, then commandant of the post, not only urging the necessity of a purchase from the Indians as a means of extinguishing their title, but giving strong intimations that it would secure him against the claims of all other persons, must have had great influence with the claimant in inducing him to make the purchase. This, together with the circumstance of the many families which have been established on the land, children of the claimant, some before the change of Government, none of whom appear to have held any other land under the Spanish Government, and therefore, under the provisions of the acts of Congress, might, if they had so claimed, been entitled to a part of the land in question, are at least strong equitable circumstances in favor of these claims. Although, as will appear by the testimony, several of the children of the claimant have established themselves on the land in question subsequently to the change of Government, yet, as it is probable they have done so in full confidence that their fathers' purchase under the circumstances of the case was a valid one; if Congress should not deem it proper to confirm the claim to its full extent, about the area of a French league square, 5,876 95-100ths acres, the board would recommend the confirmation of the title for at least 640 acres to each family settled on the land, giving an area of 3,840 acres.

No. 97. Patrick Morgan and Daniel Clark claim 8,540 arpens of land. The notice of the claim is accompanied by the documents of which the following is the substance of the translation. November, 1760, deed of sale from Kanimo, chief of Attakapas nation of Indians, (called, in French, La Murier,) to Fuselier de la Clair, passed before Mr. Kerlerie, then governor of Louisiana, and Mr. Trudeau, aid major, and Oskealak, of the same village, (of La Murier,) for about two leagues of land at the Attakapas, running from north to south from the actual settlement of the said Kanimo until it reaches about two leagues; the whole limited on the west by the river Vermillion, and on the east by a small river called Teche, on the condition that the said Fuselier shall pay certain articles of merchandise stipulated. On the 18th February, 1770, Fuselier de la Clair makes known to Governor O'Reilly that he had, by sale passed before Mr. Kerlerie, governor of Louisiana, purchased from the chiefs of the nation Attakapas, his village, and the land depending thereon, consisting of about two leagues, running north and south, limited on the north and west by two branches of the river Vermillion, on the east by the river Teche, and on the south by a line running east and west, and the said sale not being a sufficient title to assure the purchaser the property of said land, he asks a grant of a league in front on a league in depth. 2d March, 1770, Governor O'Reilly decrees that there shall be granted to Mr. Fuselier de la Clair a league of land in front by one league in depth, the limits of which shall be given by the surveyor, who has been appointed for that purpose, observing, in this particular, to follow what is prescribed by our regulations of the 18th February last, and a concession, in form, shall be delivered to him on the proces verbal, which shall be made, ordering that Garee, notary public, &c., shall record this provisional concession. 13th August, 1783, Mr. Fuselier de la Clair gives to Augustin Soileau eight arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the river Teche. 7th September, 1784, Mr. Fuselier de la Clair sells to Hillaire Boutte and brothers the whole tract of land granted to him by Governor O'Reilly the 2d March, 1770, for the sum of $17,000, except the part given to Augustin Soileau. 17th February, 1785, Augustin Soileau conveys his part to Hillaire Boutte and brothers: Hillaire Boutte conveys the land to Arthur Strother. 28th July, 1796, plat of survey for Arthur Strother, by Carlos Trudeau, purporting to be a copy of a plat made by Francois Gonssoulin in 1793, and sanctioned in the month of April of the present year, (1796,) said to have been made in consequence of the decree of the 2d March, 1770, according to the local situation, which gives the benefit of survey of 1,444 superficial arpens, without prejudice to any person. 2d September, 1803, Patrick Morgan, attorney for the syndic of the creditors of Arthur Strother, in London, sells to Gasparde De Buis the land before described, conformably to the plat given by Mr. Trudeau, for the sum of $4,500. The following evidence has been adduced in this claim: Before the board the 4th March, 1812, Louis Chacheré, sworn, deposeth that he has been well acquainted with the tract of land in question for more than thirty years; that, when he first became acquainted with it, it was inhabited by the original claimant, who had a considerable portion of it under cultivation; and that the buildings and other improvements on it were, at that time, more elegant, and the land in a higher state of cultivation, than any other tract of land in the country. The deponent further saith, that the cultivation of the said land has been continued, to his knowledge, during the last twenty years, and, he has reason to believe, during the whole time that has elapsed since his first knowledge of the place." Also, before the Board of Commissioners on the 5th March, 1812, Nemessie Bossier, aged about fifty years, being sworn, deposeth and saith "that he has resided in this country from the year 1775 to the present time, except two years, in which he resided at Point Coupie; that, when he first came to this country, the house inhabited by Mr. Fuselier de la Clair on the tract of land in question was by far the most elegant and costly, in appearance, in the two posts of Opelousas and Attakapas, and a portion of the said land then in as high a state of cultivation as any other in the quarter, from which time until some years subsequent to the cession of Louisiana to the United States, the said land has been inhabited and cultivated without intermission: six years of which time the deponent resided on the land in person. The Board of Commissioners would have deemed the documents of title and evidence in support of this claim sufficient to authorize the confirmation to the full extent embraced by the plat of survey; but, as that exceeds the area of one league square, (the extent of their jurisdiction) they are under the necessity of reporting it for the consideration of Congress. It is not thought necessary to go into a consideration of the deed by which Mr. Fuselier de la Clair purchased from the Indians a much larger quantity of land than is now claimed, because, in applying to Governor O'Reilly to perfect his title to one league square only, he is considered as having virtually abandoned the Indian transfer. The only question the Commissioners conceive that can arise, relates to the quantity of land to which the claimant may be entitled: the concession is for one league square, which, in the measure in Paris, then in use in the Spanish claims, would give an area of 5,876 95-100ths American acres; whereas the surveyor general has, in his plat, returned 8,540 arpens, which are equal to 7,227 24-100ths American acres, explaining the surplussage to arise from the *benefit of the survey*. It is evident, however, from comparing the plat of the Spanish surveyor with one returned by a careful person who made a re-survey by order of the principal deputy surveyor of this district, that the water courses, forming natural boundaries on two sides of the tract, were either not surveyed at all, or very negligently surveyed, under the Spanish Government. From the re-survey, which the Commissioners believe may be relied on for its accuracy, the surveyor has found within the boundaries established under the Spanish Government no more than 6,598 51-100ths acres, less by near 629 acres than the quantity given by the surveyor under the Spanish Government, though exceeding the area of a league square by about 721½ acres. This excess arises partly from curves in the river Teche and Bayou Fuselier, which are natural boundaries on two sides of the tract, giving what has been called the benefit of survey, and partly from the surveyor under the Spanish Government taking 84 arpens instead of 2,500 toises, or 83⅓ arpens, for the measure of a league. In both respects the survey comports with the usages of the Spanish governors', giving the benefit of survey when the local situation would authorize it, (as was the case with the claim in question,) seems to have been a universal custom with the surveying, and has been as universally sanctioned by the executive department of the Spanish Government in the province of Louisiana; and, although the exact measure of a league has been sometimes employed in land surveying, 84 arpens has been more generally adopted as the measure of a league. The Commissioners, therefore, decide that this claim ought to be confirmed agreeably to the limits established under the former Government.

No. 98. John Bte. McCarty claims a tract of land of twenty-eight arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on both sides of the river Teche, by purchase from Louis Judice. The notice of this claim is accompanied by an order of survey in favor of Louis Judice, jr., for twenty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the west

side of the river Teche, and six other arpens front on the opposite side of the said river. The order of survey is signed by Governor Unzaga, and is without date, but subjoined to the certificate of the commandant, setting forth the vacancy of the land, which bears date 8th April, 1775, and precedes the process of the same commandant, Mr. De Clouet, putting the party in possession of the land, which is written on the same paper, and dated 6th October, 1775. A plat of survey by Ferdinand Potier, dated in 1805, also accompanies the notice. For the decision of the board on this claim, see No. 104.

No. 99. John Bte. McCarty claims eighty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on both sides of the river Teche, say 6,400 superficial arpens. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a ratification of a sale, of which the following is a translation: May 12th, 1804, Mary Modesto Barbin, widow of Vincent Lesassier, before Pierre Pedescleaux, notary public of New Orleans, acknowledges, under oath, that her deceased husband did, in his lifetime, to wit, sometime about the year 1780, pass a public sale to John Baptiste McCarty for a tract of land of eighty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on both sides of the river Teche, making a superficial quantity of 6,400 arpens, bounded at the time of the said sale, above, by the public domain, or land belonging to Mr. Borel, and below by the land of Victor and Charles Duhon; that, to her knowledge, the said McCarty did, at the time of the sale aforesaid, pay to her deceased husband the full value of the said land; that the said sale was made under the promise of her ratification, which has not been done on account of the title papers having been destroyed by conflagration in New Orleans, in the year 1794—the title being for land conceded by the Government to her said husband, together with some other tracts received from Acadiens in exchange for land on the river Vermillion; that this ratification is made and given as a duty which she owes to herself, having jointly, with her husband, promised to do so, and knowing Mr. McCarty to have enjoyed peaceable possession of said land for about twenty-two years past. Lepelletier de la Houssaye, before Judge Eastin, of the Attakapas, the 5th April, 1813, by commission from the board, hath deposed that he knows of Colonel McCarty's having purchased of Vincent Lesassier eighty arpens front of land with the depth of forty arpens, on each side of the Bayou Teche, and that the said Lesassier purchased the same of four other persons, and was bounded above and below on said bayou by lands of Madam Loisel; that he knows the land in question was inhabited and cultivated about thirty years ago by Vincent Lesassier, as an indigo plantation, and afterwards sold to Colonel McCarty, who, for some years, inhabited the same by keeping a stock of horses and cattle thereon, and that, afterwards, Colonel McCarty sold said land to Nicholas Provost, who has since continued the cultivation thereof. The deponent further states, that the said land has, for many years before the change of Government, and ever since the sale from Vincent Lesassier, been known to him, and generally, as the property of Colonel McCarty, and that frequent applications were made to the Spanish Government for the same land, and the applicants refused, in consequence of Colonel McCarty's claim, and that the taxes were always paid by Colonel McCarty up to the time said land was sold to Nicholas Provost." For the decision of the board on this claim, see No. 104.

No. 100. John Bte. McCarty claims, by purchase, forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on both sides of the Bayou Vermillion, say 3,200 superficial arpens, at a place called Prairie Sorrel. The notice is accompanied by a ratification of a sale by Antoine Boudonsque to the claimant, of which the following is a translation in substance: Antoine Boudonsque, under oath before Pierre Pedescleaux, notary public of New Orleans, the 16th June, 1804, saith that he ratifies a sale which he had made to John Bte. McCarty, about the year 1784, for a tract of land above described, of which the title was burned in the conflagration of New Orleans in 1788: he cannot recollect the date of the title, nor the neighbors by whom the land was bounded, that quarter being thinly populated at that time. The grant, however, was by Bernado de Galvez, then governor of Louisiana, and the consideration paid by said McCarty for the land was four hundred dollars cash, the said McCarty being the only and true proprietor of the land for the last twenty years. A plat of survey by F. N. Potier, dated in 1805, is also filed with the notice. No other evidence of title has been adduced, and no proof to establish occupancy. For the decision of the board on this claim, see No. 104.

No. 101. John Bte. McCarty claims, under Madam Widow Etier, married since the deed to William Desk, a quantity of land of which no measure is expressed. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a document, of which the following is a translation: "I, the undersigned, Philip De Claslonge, at the request of Edmund McCarty, and by the authority of Henry Hopkins, commandant of Attakapas, have been at the house of Catherine Bondin, Widow Etier, now wife of William Desk, for the purpose of taking the examination of said lady relative to a tract of land sold by her many years ago to Mr. John Bte. McCarty; and, under the solemnity of an oath, the said Widow Etier declares that, after the death of her said husband, Pierre Etier, she did sell to Mr. John Bte. McCarty a tract of land situate in Attakapas, at the Prairie Sorrel, with all the buildings, &c., then being on it, for the sum of $400, then paid to her: she does not recollect the quantity of land by her sold, nor whether the sale was passed before a public notary or under private signature, but that she did sell to said McCarty all the land which she did possess at that place conformably to a grant made to her deceased husband at that place, of the Prairie Sorrel, claiming nothing on said land which was then her property; giving this to serve as a complete sale, vesting the said McCarty with a full enjoyment of the said land which lies on both sides of the Bayou Vermillion, and of equal extent on each." A plat of survey by Ferdinand Victor Potier, dated 26th April, 1805, is also filed with the notice, but does not comport with the above title deed, the survey being for 2,300 arpens in the Prairie Sorrel, and not on both sides of the Bayou Vermillion, as set forth in the deed. For the decision of the board on this claim, see No. 104.

No. 102. John Bte. McCarty, for his son Bartheleme, claims forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, adjoining Joseph Pinte de Pin and Joseph Therry. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a certified order of survey by J. W. Gurley, then register of the land office New Orleans, taken from the records in his possession, 27th December, 1806. The order of survey bears date 5th July, 1786, in favor of Bartheleme McCarty, for forty arpens front by the ordinary depth, bounded by "Jose Pinte de Pin and Joseph Therry, in Attakapas." A plat of survey by Ferdinand V. Potier, giving forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on both sides of Vermillion, is filed with the claim, dated 19th April, 1805. No proof to establish occupancy has been adduced. For the decision of the board on this claim, see No. 104.

No. 103. John Bte. McCarty, for his son Edmund, claims forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, from the end of the land of his brother Bartheleme McCarty, and running towards Therry. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a certified copy of an order of survey by J. W. Gurley, then register of the land office, New Orleans, taken from the Spanish records in his office. The said order of survey being in favor of Edmund McCarty for forty arpens front, with the ordinary depth, situate as above described, bears date 5th July, 1786. A plat of survey by Ferdinand V. Potier, dated 20th April, 1805, giving forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on both sides of Bayou Vermillion, is also filed with the notice. No proof has been adduced to establish occupancy. For the decision of the board in this claim, see the next No., 104.

No. 104. John Bte. McCarty, for himself, claims forty arpens in front by forty arpens in depth, being at a place called Point de Pin, bounded by Joseph Therry and Antoine Blanc. The notice is accompanied by a copy from the record of an order of survey for the said tract in favor of the claimant, dated 5th July, 1786, by J. W. Gurley, register of the land office New Orleans. The following are the interrogatories put to Mr. Charles Trudeau, late surveyor general of Louisiana, before the judge of the city New Orleans, the Hon. Moreine Lislet, annexed to the commission from the board, dated 24th Feb. 1813. Interrogatory the first. Have you any knowledge of title papers having been obtained from former Governments for any or all of the above described lands; if so, which tracts, what was their nature, whether requettes, orders of survey, or complete grants? 2d. If you have any knowledge of title papers having existed for those lands, by what means did you derive it? 3d. Do you know what has become of those papers, if ever any existed? 4th. Relate all you know with respect to said papers and lands. To which he hath answered, 28th April, 1813, to the first interrogatory, that he has no knowledge of the several tracts of land mentioned in the commission as having been purchased from Louis Judice, Vincent Lesassier, Pierre Etier, S. Boudonsque, but that he has a knowledge of a tract in the name of the late John Bte. McCarty, on the Vermillion, having eighty-four arpens front by the same depth towards the sea; that the deceased had not a complete grant for the same, but only a decree or order rendered on requette, by

Governor Miro, as it was usually done on every application for grants, and which was called the first decree of grants, (premier decret de concession;) that he has this knowledge, because he saw the original paper which was delivered to him by the late John Bte. McCarty himself, when he, this appearer, sometime in the year 1782 or 1783, went to Opelousas; that he, this appearer, has a knowledge of four grants made to the late John Bte. McCarty, and to his three children, on both sides of the Vermillion, having each forty arpens front, by the depth of forty, which made for the four tracts one hundred and sixty arpens front, by the depth of forty, on both sides of the Vermillion; that the deceased, and his children, had only obtained the original decree or order on requette for these grants, from Governor Miro; and that he, this appearer, saw these original orders, which were delivered to him in the time, in order to make the necessary surveys; that he, this appearer, has no knowledge of the lands which are said to have been possessed by the late John Baptiste McCarty, or his children at Opelousas. To the second interrogatory, that he got a knowledge of the title papers, which he has before mentioned, because the original decrees were delivered to him in order to go and make the survey of the lands so granted to the late John Bte. McCarty and his children, and to several other persons at Attakapas and Opelousas. To the third interrogatory, that he, this appearer, having received these papers from the interested parties for the aforesaid purpose, went at first to Opelousas, and that when there he was called to Natchez by Governor Miro to superintend the fortifications, and was so prevented to go to Attakapas to execute his commission, because, being at Natchez, he fell sick, and, to recover, was compelled to return to New Orleans, where he remained in possession of the papers which had been delivered to him, as well as of those belonging to his office as surveyor general, as far as the year 1788, when the whole was burnt in the conflagration which took place in this city about the month of March of the said year. To the fourth question, that he recollects that, among the papers which were delivered to him by John Bte. McCarty as aforesaid, there were several, besides the decrees and orders by him mentioned; but that, having not particularly examined them, he cannot say if they were relative to the other lands purchased by him, or granted to him or his children at Opelousas." The manner of introducing the evidence in the claim of Mr. McCarty, reported in the Nos. 98 to 104, inclusive, makes it necessary to investigate them collectively. It will be noticed that, in the evidence of Mr. Trudeau, he has declared that he had no knowledge of the tracts of land claimed under Judice, Lesassier, Etier, and Boudonsque, which were the claims on which the commission to take his examination issued from this board; the commission has, therefore, been used to obtain Mr. Trudeau's testimony in other claims of John Bte. McCarty for lands said to have been conceded to said McCarty and his sons, which are understood to be those reported under Nos. 102, 103, and 104. Extracts given by the former register of the eastern district, from the concessions in favor of McCarty and sons, prove that Mr. Trudeau's impressions have been erroneous. The concessions are dated in 1786, three or four years subsequently to the time he has said he was in Opelousas and Attakapas for the purpose of making surveys. He has said they were for forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens *on both sides of the Vermillion river:* they are for forty arpens front with forty arpens in depth only, which would give only half the area he has assigned to them. The word Vermillion is no where to be found in these documents; on the contrary, the lands are located in the concessions adjoining to persons who are not known to have possessed lands on the Vermillion river. Three receipts to John Bte. McCarty for taxes paid on his lands in the Attakapas, in the years 1794, 1797, and 1800, have been produced before the board. They must certainly be regarded as evidence of his being the proprietor of land in that district at those dates; but they are not specific as to the tracts charged, nor do they as to quantity comport with the claims of the said McCarty before this board. The receipts in every case are for 246 arpens of land, supposed to be arpens of front; whereas, by summing up the fronts which have been claimed on each bank of the rivers Teche and Vermillion, they are found to amount to four hundred and sixteen arpens, exclusively of the tract claimed under the Widow Etier, which they do not know the contents of. The quantities stated in the reports Nos. 102, 103, and 104, correspond with the copies of the orders of survey obtained from the register's office, New Orleans, since the notices were filed. The notices in those cases are for forty arpens in depth on both sides of the river Vermillion, double the quantity conceded. This, to say the least, betrays the claimant's ignorance of the quantity of land to which he was entitled, and suggests the propriety of circumspection on part of the board in relation to the claims for which the titles are said to have been destroyed by the fire in New Orleans. These are the claims: No. 99, held under Vincent Lesassier; the claim under Boudonsque, reported No. 100, and the claim under the Widow Etier, No. 101. The confirmation of claims, under orders of survey, is recommended agreeably to the concessions. These are, No. 98, claimed under Louis Judice, jun. The notice of this claim is for twenty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on both sides of the river Teche. The order of survey recently produced, is for tweny arpens front by the depth of forty arpens on the west side, and six arpens front on the east side of the river Teche. The Nos. 102, 103, and 104, each for forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens on orders of survey in favor of John Bte. McCarty and his two sons. It should be noticed, however, that these last mentioned orders of survey are for three tracts of land adjoining to each other in the county of Attakapas, without expressing any water course: one of them calling to join Antoine Blanc, and the Commissioners knowing of no land conceded to that person in the county of Attakapas, except a tract on the river Nementou, the claim to which has been confirmed by certificate B, No. 1,119, are of the opinion that the intention has been to concede the land for the three last mentioned numbers in that quarter. The board cannot recommend the confirmation of the three other claims—that held under Vincent Lesassier, that under Boudonsque, nor that under the Widow Etier, to the extent claimed. It appears from the declarations, on oath, of Madam Widow Lesassier and Mr. La Houssaye, that Vincent Lesassier purchased the land, the claim for which is reported under No. 99 of this report, in separate portions, from four persons whose names are not mentioned. The deeds of sale from these persons, if produced, would doubtless afford useful information as to the quantity and situation of the land to which the claimant may be entitled. It can hardly be doubted but that some or all of those deeds might be found on the record either of the county of Attakapas, or in the city of New Orleans. In the other two claims, Nos. 100 and 101, the only evidence adduced, and that by no means satisfactory, is that of the vendor in the one case, and the widow of the vendor in the other. The depth of the claimant, John Bte. McCarty, having been suggested, the board would deem it reasonable that Congress should indulge his representatives with time to search for, and produce, some further written evidence of title in the three last mentioned claims, to wit, the one held under Lesassier, the one under Boudonsque, and the one under Etier; and, in the event of the failure in the production of such documents, the board is of the opinion the claims in question ought not to be confirmed.

No. 105. Charles Morgan claims twenty-five arpens front by the depth of one hundred arpens on one side, and forty arpens on the other side of Bayou Portage, say 3,500 superficial arpens. In support of the claim, the following documents of title have been filed:

Translation, in substance, 8th January, 1803. A certificate by A. Bontie, syndic, Francois Gonssoulin, surveyor of the district, and two of the neighbors, stating that the land, fifteen arpens above, and fifteen arpens below the portage in Attakapas, is vacant. This given to Labarthé de Lisle, 12th January, 1803. Petition by Don Raymond Frix Labarthé de Lisle to Don Louis C. De Blanc, commandant, &c., for a tract of land of twenty-five arpens front on each side of Bayou Portage, the usual ferrying place at Fausse Point, to be the centre, with the depth on the right side until it reaches the depth of the lands fronting on the river Teche at Fausse Point, the depth on the opposite side not mentioned, but supposed to be the customary depth of forty arpens: the petitioner urging in support of his pretensions, that no lands had been granted to him by the Government; that the tract on which he resided was a purchase, and circumscribed by the second depth, having been granted to another person; that he intended to be useful to the public in the establishment of a ferry; that he wished to establish a vacherie, his stock of cattle having increased so much as to make it necessary to enlarge his pasturage; and that the land he solicited was subject to inundation, and fit only for pasturage, renouncing all pretensions to an exclusive right to the cypress on said land. 25th January, 1803. Certificate. Mr. De Blanc, commandant, certifies that, knowing the land petitioned for to be vacant, as set forth by the syndic, &c., and knowing it to be subject to inundation, and only fit for pasturage, it is ordered, consequently, that the surveyor of the post, Mr. Francois Gonssoulin, shall survey the land petitioned for, and put the interested party in possession, that he may

resort to the intendant general, and obtain his title in form; it being understood that the petitioner is to have no claim to the cypress, to the exclusion of the other inhabitants of the post, to whom it belongs in community." 21st December, 1806. Deed of conveyance from La Barthe De Lisle to the claimant, for the land as asked for in the above mentioned petition, consideration of $2,555. 23d April, 1808, before Judge Dorminon, of Point Coupee, and under oath, the said La Barthe De Lisle certifies that, previous to the 20th day of December, 1803, he planted and cultivated corn, peas, and pumpkins, and built a cabin on a certain tract of land known by the name of Fausse Point, or Bayou Portage, the same being granted to him by the Spanish Government, as would appear by said grant bearing date 25th day of January, 1803; and immediately after said land was granted to him, he took said land in his possession, and held the same as his real property until he sold the same to Charles Morgan, as would appear by the grant and deed which was in the possession of said Morgan; and that he had no kind of interest whatever in the said property. The evidence of the former proprietor, given at the time of selling the land to the present claimant, is the only evidence of occupancy, and this is objectionable on the ground, first, of the witness being interested, and, secondly, the informal manner of taking it without authority from the board. The depth of forty arpens on one side of the bayou, and on the other until it should reach other land conceded on the Teche, is solicited. From the plat returned, the depth of one hundred arpens is taken on one side, and forty on the other. The Commissioners are of opinion that not more than the depth of forty arpens on each side of the river would have been conceded by the former Government, and they believe the title would have been considered valid to that extent: they, therefore, recommend the confirmation of the claim to twenty-five arpens front by the depth of forty arpens on each side, with the exception of the cypress timber, which seems to have been understood to belong to all the inhabitants of the country in common.

No. 106. Andrew Martin claims ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the east side of the Vermillion river, by purchase from Don Louis C. De Clouet, being part of a larger tract. A deed of sale and a plat of survey are the only documents of title filed with the notice of claim. No proof to establish occupancy has been adduced, and it is believed to be for part of a tract of which the title has been confirmed by the board in the name of the original claimant, Mr. De Clouet; on which account this is reported as a claim which ought not to be confirmed.

No. 107. John Merriman claims fifteen arpens front by the depth of forty, on the east side of the Bayou Vermillion. The notice is accompanied by the petition of the claimant, dated 7 December, 1796, for said land, bounded below by the Trembling prairie or marsh, which petition is sanctioned by Mr. De Blanc, commandant, 9 December, 1796, who certifies that the land being vacant as certified by the syndic, he knows of no impediment to its being granted. Jesse White and William White, before the board, 28 June, 1809, hath deposed that, about ten or eleven years ago, they saw two men who said they had been employed by the claimant to make an improvement on the land claimed, and that they were then going to make the improvement. They also saw them four or five weeks after, and were informed by them that they had made an improvement upon the said land. The deponents further state, that they were upon the land claimed about six weeks after the return of those two men above mentioned, at which time the improvements consisted of a cabin built thereon and covered with palmettoes, and about one acre of cane cut down; that they have been frequently upon the land since, but have never seen any appearance of cultivation, or farther improvements thereon; that, on the 20th day of December, 1803, the claimant was over twenty-one years of age, and the head of a family, and at that time resided in the province of Louisiana.—From such evidence, the Commissioners do not think themselves authorized to confirm the claim; but, believing it to be such a title as would have been perfected under the former Government, report it as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 108. Louis Moore claims six hundred and forty acres of land on the river Chafalaya, adjoining lands of William Moore. The notice is unaccompanied by any document of title, and no proof has been taken in the claim. It is therefore reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 109. John McGlaughlin claims six arpens front by the depth of eighty arpens, on both sides of the Bayou Teche, by virtue of a concession from the Spanish Government. The claim is unsupported by any evidence of title or proof of occupancy, and is therefore reported as one which ought not to be confirmed.

No. 110. Frederick Muton claims ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the Morais prairie, by virtue of a concession for twenty-two arpens front to Joseph Carrier, sold to John Savois, Augustin Boudreau, and the father of the claimant, the title said to have been carried to New Orleans on account of a suit. The notice is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, and the claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed. By Commissioners' certificate B, No. 1467, a claim has been confirmed under the occupancy of Joseph Carrier, at Morais prairie, accompanied by a plat of survey by the surveyor general, Carlos Trudeau, dated in 1797, and bounded above by John Muton, and below by Babineau, but it is not known to the board whether or not this is part of the same original claim.

No. 111. Francois Milholm claims by settlement the land between the claim of John Ope, by a line running S. 60° W. and N. 60° E. and the river Chafalaya, not exceeding in quantity six hundred and forty acres. The notice is unaccompanied by any document of title. Henry Hergeroder, before the board, the 20th November, 1812, hath deposed, that, in the years 1802 and 1803, he, the deponent, frequently passed by the place above mentioned, where he saw some small cabins on the land, in which the claimant deposited his corn and pumpkins that was in those two years raised on the land in question, and that there were one or two camps or shelters made of palmetto, which he supposed the claimant staid in occasionally whilst cultivating the land; that there were about five or six acres cleared and cultivated by the claimant and the brother of the claimant, Joseph Milholm, both of whom resided on the opposite side of the said river, on a tract which Francois Milholm had purchased from a Mr. Carline. The deponent further saith, that he doth not know whether the land in question was used or occupied after the fall of the year 1803; that the claimant, Francois Milholm, was more than twenty-one years of age on the 20th day of December, 1803, and resided at that time with his brother, Joseph Milholm, as above stated.—John Chote, on the 20th November, 1812, hath represented to the board that he has purchased the land from Joseph Milholm, in the year 1812; and that Patrick Marin, who entered the claim, was directed by him to enter it in the name of Joseph Milholm, instead of Francois Milholm. By Commissioner's certificate B, No. 1569, it will be seen that one claim under an order of survey and settlement by Francois Milholm has been confirmed. The evidence in this could not be deemed sufficient on which to recommend the confirmation of the claim either to Francois or Joseph Milholm, both of whom, the witness hath stated, resided on the opposite side of the river, on another tract, in the years 1802 and 1803, and only on the tract claimed occasionally, for the purpose of attending their crop. The claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 112. James McKeever claims a tract of land formerly the property of Samuel Jones, on the Bayou Sallé, and sold to satisfy a judgment obtained against the said Jones, when the said McKeever became the purchaser. The notice is unaccompanied by any document of title, except the deed of sale by John Tifferny, constable, to said McKeever, dated 20 August, 1807, in which the quantity of land is not mentioned, nor its situation described. The two following certificates are filed with the notice: "Parish of Attakapas, August 20, 1807. We, the undersigned, do hereby certify that Samuel Jones did institute a settlement, and improve the same, on a tract of land on the Bayou Sallé, now purchased by James McKeever, and in conformity with the Spanish laws entitled himself to a fee-simple in the said land. Given under our respective hands. (Signed) Wm. Addison, H. Hergeroder." "The within undersigned do also certify, that the said Samuel Jones built on said improvement a log house, planted a considerable number of peach trees, cultivated about eighteen acres, and made four crops of Indian corn and potatoes," &c. Signed as above. No testimony has been taken in the claim, and it is supposed to be for the same land the title to which has been confirmed to Samuel Jones, by Commissioners' certificate B, No. 2181. This is reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 113. This claim is entered in the name of Pierre Meaux, for six hundred and forty acres, on the waters of a creek called Folks Cooly, a branch of Bayou Vermillion. The notice is accompanied by a plat of survey, dated in 1807, by Patrick Marin. On the face of the plat is written—"Peter Mott sold to Patrick Marin and Rufus Nickelson." Before John Thompson, register, in At-

takapas, 18 December, 1808, Rufus Nickelson hath deposed that the claimant, Peter Meaux, went to reside upon the land claimed in the latter end of 1801, and that he resided thereon and cultivated the same until the latter part of 1804; that the said Peter Meaux was the head of a family, and, as the deponent supposes, above the age of twenty-one years. "The settlement to which this deponent alludes lies on the cane island Coulee, about a mile and a half or two miles from J. Bte. Simon." On the 28 April, 1812, Peter Meaux, before the board, hath declared "that he does not claim any land at the place mentioned in this notice, nor ever did." The claim is reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 114. This claim is entered in the name of Peter Meaux, for 338.50 acres on Bayou Vermillion, by R. Nickelson. The notice is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title. John Bte. Broussard, in presence of the board, hath stated, "that he understood from Pierre Meaux that he had sold his claim and pretensions to Rufus Nickelson for a mare; the said Meaux at the same time declared he had no right. The claim is reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 115. Marin Mouton claims 4,251 acres of land on the west side of Bayou Vermillion, by purchase from Bernard Medal, chief of the Attakapas nation of Indians, in company with Petit, John, and Celestine. The notice is accompanied by a deed of sale from the above named Indians to the claimant, syndic of that quarter, passed before Don Louis C. De Blanc, commandant, the 19th August, 1802, reserving the approbation of the governor general, and said to be authorized by the 31st article of the new regulations of the intendant general: the land to be about one league in front on the west of the Vermillion, bounded above by John Dunman, and below by the little bayou of Point Cypress. Consideration, fifty dollars cash paid down. A certificate by Bernado, chief, &c., that he had delivered the land he had sold to the claimant, and had fixed the boundaries, with the assistance of his colleagues, and in presence of the purchaser, who was satisfied, is also filed, with a plat of survey by an authorized surveyor, dated in 1806. Theodore Broussard, before the board, 16 October, 1811, hath deposed, "that the said Mouton purchased the land claimed two or three years previous to the date of the deed above alluded to, and that the claimant hired Simon Gaspard, with the son and son-in-law of the said Gaspard, to settle on the land, and improve it by cultivation, and preparing buildings and fencing for the claimant; that said Gaspard, his son and son-in-law, moved on the land, and commenced improving it, at least two years prior to the date of the deed of sale, and that he, the deponent, has the best reason to believe that the settlement has been regularly kept up, from its commencement to the present time, though he doth not know it from his own knowledge, not having resided immediately in that neighborhood. Of the same date of the above testimony, Louis Gaspard, one of the persons above mentioned, and who was employed by the claimant to improve the land claimed, hath deposed, "that he has continued to reside on the said land from the time of the commencement of the settlement until the present time, (October, 1811); that, in a few months after going to work on the place, there were comfortable and necessary buildings erected, and a field enclosed with cypress pens, and that the place has been cultivated from that time to the present." Michel Prevots, aged thirty-five years, before the board, 19th February, 1813, hath deposed that, twelve or thirteen years ago, the claimant settled on the land claimed, and has established the following persons on different parts of the same tract, to wit, Francois Hebert, having a wife and three children, Charles Boudoin, having a wife and one child, Marin Mouton, son of the claimant, having a wife and one child, the wives of Hebert and Boudoin, being the daughters of the claimant. That several other persons are also established on the tract of land in question, on separate portions sold and allotted to them by the said Marin, to wit, Pierre Boudoin, having at present a wife and four children, Alphonso Boudoin, having at the present date a wife and two children, Ambrose Stoots, having now a wife and two children, the widow of Andrew Lemaire, having five children; that Francois Hebert was established on the land at the same time of the original claimant; that the other persons have been subsequently established thereon, some of them about seven years. The deponent further saith, that all the families above mentioned are at present residing on said land, and he has reason to believe that none of them hold, or have held, any land under the Spanish Government conceded in their own names. The deponent further saith, that he has always understood, and has reason to believe, that the said Marin Mouton made the purchase of this large tract of land at the request of some of the present proprietors, and with the view to form a compact settlement or neighborhood of persons, most of whom were connected in their families with each other." Francois Primo, aged twenty-six years, sworn in the same claim, and having heard the testimony of Michel Prevots read and explained, saith, "that he has a perfect knowledge of the facts stated therein, and fully concurs with the said Prevots in his narrative thereof." The circumstances attending this claim are very much the same of those in the claim of John Lyon, reported under No. 96, with this difference, that in this case the tract of land is less than that claimed by John Lyon, and more families have been established on it. The sanction of the governor to the sale made by the Indians, (an indispensable requisite to its validity, in the opinion of the board, for reasons which have been stated in No. 1 of reported claims, for the county of Opelousas,) does not appear to have been obtained. From the testimony of two witnesses, it has been shown that eight families have been established upon this tract of land, seven besides the family of the claimant—part of them the children of the claimant, others holding under him by purchase. Dividing the tract equally between them, would give about five hundred and thirty acres to each family. There is little doubt but that all have made their establishments in full confidence of the title being a valid one. The Commissioners, in consideration of the foregoing equitable circumstances, recommend the confirmation of this claim.

No. 116. John Bte. Mouton claims eight arpens front by the depth of 40, in the prairie west of the Vermillion, together with the low land between the margin of said prairie and the west bank of the Bayou Vermillion, being about a mile in depth; also, eight arpens front by the depth of twelve arpens, on the east side of said bayou, opposite the above mentioned tracts. This claim has been confirmed by the board, by certificates B, Nos. 2,230 and 2,231, except for the low lands lying between the margin of the prairie and the west branch of the Vermillion river, supposed to contain between 180 and 190 acres, which is the part of the claim under consideration. No document of title for this part has been adduced to show that it was formerly claimed by the proprietors of the adjacent tracts, of which the title has been confirmed by the board, except the plat of survey made by an authorized surveyor, in 1796, on which plat lines are dotted, and the river Vermillion represented, so as to show the situation and form of the claim under consideration. Joseph Sonnier, before the board, 12th August, 1813, first having reference to that part of the claim lying in the prairie, hath deposed "that he, the deponent, did reside on the said tract of land more than twenty years ago, by the permission of René Broussard, and continued many years to occupy and cultivate the said land; that the said Broussard was then understood to be the proprietor of the said land, to the extent of forty arpens in depth from the hills or high prairie, and also the land lying between the hills and the west bank of the river; that the land from the river to the hills was wet and unfit for cultivation, but was used and enjoyed by this deponent for the advantage of the fire-wood, as well as by others who have since held under Broussard. That the occupancy of the whole of the said tract of land, and the cultivation of part of the high prairie, has been regularly kept up for more than fifteen years in regular succession, preceding the 20th day of December, 1803, and is at present occupied by the present claimant." Andrew Martin, before the board, the 4th February, 1814, hath deposed "that the first settlement on the said land was made very near to the right bank of the Vermillion, (where there is a narrow ridge of land somewhat higher than that more remote from the river,) more than twenty-five years ago, by Theodore Thibedeau, who continued on that part of the land for about three years, and was then under the necessity of removing out of the hills or high prairie on account of a high fresh which inundated the land about his first establishment. That the whole tract, as well that between the highland and the river, as the extent of forty arpens in depth from the highland westwardly, has been constantly occupied either by cultivation or cutting and using wood on it for the last twenty-five years preceding this date." The Commissioners have been induced to report this claim on account of the part between the highland and the river not seeming to be embraced by the documents of title under which the claimant holds. They are, however, of opinion, from the long occupancy of the land, and the general understanding in the neighborhood that this part of the tract was properly an appendage of the tract conceded, that the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 117. Antoine Nezat claims six arpens front by

the depth of 42 arpens, on the Bayou Carrion Crow, by an order of survey in his favor, dated 20th June, 1781, by Governor Galvez. The notice is accompanied by the petition of the claimant for said land, together with the order of survey and certificate of the commandant that he had fixed the limits, 20th January, 1782. No proof has been taken in the claim, and it is believed to be for the same land of which the title has been confirmed under a patent to the claimant, presented to the board subsequently to the filing of the order of survey. See Commissioners' certificate A, No. 1,787. This is reported as a claim which ought not to be confirmed.

No. 118. Rufus Nickelson claims by settlement 640 acres of land west of the Bayou Vermillion, as represented by the plat of survey filed with the notice of his claim. The notice of the claim is accompanied by a plat of survey, dated 28th February, 1806, and by no other document of title. By their caveat, dated 8th March, 1808, the children of Michel Meaux have represented to the board that this claim conflicts with theirs; that they employed their step-father, (the father of the claimant,) to enter the claim in their name, and get the title secured to them according to law, and they would, as a recompense for his trouble, give to his two sons a part of it; but in place of this he had surveyed the land and entered the claim in the name of his two sons, (Thomas and Rufus Nickelson,) who were unwilling to let the said Meauxs have any part of it. By surveys made subsequently to the date of the plat filed with the notice of the claim under consideration, it has been ascertained that the settlement of Nickelson, and also the greater part of his claim, is not within the limits of that of the Meauxs, whose claim has been confirmed by the board, by certificate B, No. 2,046. The following testimony of Michel Broussard and Valeré Broussard has been taken in the claim, in the hand-writing of Mr. Cocke, Commissioner, in Attakapas, 20th June, 1809. "Michel Broussard and Valeré Broussard, being first sworn in the claim contested between the heirs of Michel Mot and Rufus Nickelson, deposes and says, that the claimants settled upon the land claimed twenty-five or twenty-six years ago, and have continued to reside thereon and cultivate the same ever since. That on the 20th of December, 1803, all the claimants were twenty-one years of age, except one. That Rufus Nickelson, about four or five years ago, settled either upon the land claimed or upon the land granted to Michel Mot, the father of the claimants, he is not certain which, but believes upon the land granted to the father, where he continued to reside between three and four years." Simon Dagle, before the board 9th November, 1812, hath deposed "that in the year 1801, the claimant was then living on the land claimed, and continued to inhabit and cultivate the same on and after the 20th of December, 1803. The deponent has every reason to believe, from the appearance of the improvements, that he had been residing on the land previous to the time he has first above stated, and such was the report of the neighborhood." John Coleman, before the board the 28th October, 1812, hath deposed "that the habitation of the claimant is situated on a small gully near the margin of the prairie west of the Bayou Vermillion, and near the termination of the depth of the land granted to Michel Meaux; that the claimant, Rufus Nickelson, was, to his knowledge, residing on and cultivating the land in question, in the year 1799, where he continued to reside and cultivate the same, the witness believes, four years, without intermission, when he left the place about two years, and then returned to the place again, where he continued to reside and cultivate the same until the year 1809. That the claimant is considered to be the son of Thomas Nickelson, who was formerly married to the Widow Meaux; that the claimant was over 21 years of age on the 20th day of December, 1803, and the head of a family." It will be seen that the testimony of the two first named witnesses is at variance with that of the two latter; the first two stating that the claimant settled either on the land claimed, or upon land granted to Michel Meaux about the year 1804 or 1805, where he continued to reside three or four years; the third witness, Mr. Dagle, stating that the claimant was residing on the land in 1801, where he continued to reside and cultivate, until after the 20th of December, 1803; and Mr. Coleman, the last named witness, that the claimant settled on the land in 1799, and, he believes, continued to reside on it the next four years, say to the year 1803. The testimony of the two last witnesses, taken together, if it had not been rendered somewhat questionable by that of the first, would have been deemed sufficient to entitle the claimant to a confirmation of so much of his claim as did not conflict with the claim of the Meauxs. Unwilling to decide between the credibility of witnesses, the Commissioners have in such cases made it a rule to report the claims for the consideration of Congress. As this case is involved in doubt, and they are liable to error whether they decide for or against the claim, they think it best, if they do err, to do so on the lenient side, and therefore recommend the confirmation of the claim, as nearly as practicable in conformity with the plat of survey filed with the notice, and excluding those parts which conflict with the claims of the Meauxs already confirmed.

N. B. See the evidence of Theodore Thibodeau and Augustin Comeau, after the report No. 142.

No. 119. Thomas Nickelson claims 406 21-100ths acres of land, by purchase from Mark Lee, who claimed under a requette sanctioned by the commandant 21st October, 1796. The notice is accompanied by said requette, in the name of Mark Lee, for twelve arpens front on the west side of Bayou Vermillion, with the depth of forty arpens at Grand Prairie, bounded on one side by land of John Broussard, and on the other by that of John Grichine, dated 20th October, 1796. Subjoined to the petition is the certificate of the commandant, Mr. Sorrel, "that it appears from certificates here annexed, that the land is reunited to the domain, and that no objection can exist to accord it to the petitioner:" 21st October, 1796. An informal deed of conveyance from Mark Lee to Thomas Nickelson, dated 4th February, 1806, is likewise filed. Benjamin Hargrove, witness, the 30th June, 1809, hath deposed "that, about twenty years ago, the land was first settled by one John Forks, who was then keeping one Petit Jos's vacherie, and remained thereon two years, after which time he doth not recollect who was on said land." Jacob Ryon, on the same day, 30th June, 1809, hath deposed "that, about twelve years ago, Mark Lee resided on the land claimed, and cultivated about fifteen acres in corn and other vegetables, and continued thereon four succeeding years; that the said Mark Lee was then a man above the age of twenty-one, and the head of a family." The board recommend the confirmation of the claim as one which, in their opinion, would have been valid under the usages of the Spanish Government.

No. 120. Thomas Nickelson claims, by purchase from an Indian, a tract of land of one league in front by the depth of forty arpens, on the west side of Bayou Vermillion. The following is a translation of the deed of sale filed with the notice of the claim. "This day, the sixth October, in the year one thousand eight hundred and two, before me, Don Louis Charles De Blanc, captain of infantry, commandant, civil and military, of the post and its dependencies, in default of a notary public in the said place then performing the functions, appeared Ashnoya, considered of the Attakapas nation, authorized by Bernard, a medal chief, who declares and confesses by these presents, and in the best form possible of law, to have sold, ceded, and transferred all the right, now and forever, will warrant against all troubles, debts, mortgages, and other hindrances, generally, whatever, to Thomas Nickelson, inhabitant of this district here present, and accepting for himself, his heirs, and assigns, a tract of land of wood and low prairie on the west side of Bayou Vermillion, of use only for the wintering of cattle, containing about one league in front by the ordinary depth: this sale, cession, and transfer, being made, saving or with (mayennant) the approbation of the General Government of this province, and in virtue of the 31st article of the regulations of the intendant general, for the price and sum of one hundred dollars, one half in cash, one half in cattle paid in hand. The present serving as a general acquittance to the purchaser, who by this means may enjoy and dispose of the said land as a thing belonging properly to him, the seller renouncing to every thing contrary. Bounded above by the land that Marin Mouton acquired of the chief Bernard, and below by the Trembling prairie of the sea. Done and passed at said place of Attakapas, the said day, month, and year, as aforesaid, in presence of Mr. Thomas W. Collins, John Kershaw, assisting witnesses, who have signed with the contracting parties. Ashnoya has made his ordinary mark, and we, the said commandant, of which I give faith." Signed, mark ordinary of Ashnoya, John N. Kershaw, Thomas Nickelson, Thomas W. Collins, Louis C. De Blanc. For the information of Congress relative to the 31st article of the regulations of the intendant general, referred to in the foregoing deed of sale, the board have thought proper to insert the translation of said article, which follows: By Morales. "No one shall inquiet or disturb, in any manner, the Indians who possess lands in the extent of this Government. They shall be, to the contrary, protected and supported, and the commandants, syndics, and surveyors, ought to pay the greatest attention to give information in consequence." Mark Lee, aged about sixty years, before the board 21st August, 1812, hath deposed "that, about ten years ago, the

claimant purchased the above tract of land of the Attakapas Indians, for the express purpose of keeping his stock on, and he recollects to have seen the claimant driving his stock on the same, and continuing them thereon, but he knows of no part of the land being in cultivation. Louis C. De Blanc, before William Brent, esq., justice of the peace in the county of Attakapas, on oath, hath made the following answers to the following interrogatories. Interrogatory 1st. Had the Indian who sold Thomas Nickelson the land mentioned in a deed, a right to sell it, and did the land so sold belong to the said Indian? Answer to the 1st interrogatory. The land which Asnoya sold to Thomas Nickelson belonged to him, as much so as the land of any Spanish subject did to said subject, and as his property he had a right to sell it, and the right of the Indians to sell their lands was always recognized and admitted by the Spanish Government: the contrary is unheard and unknown; for we always considered the titles from Indians to their villages as the best of titles, because the original property of the soil was in them, and when this country was conquered the laws of the conquerors were enforced, but the property of the aborigines was held sacred: hence the difference between the titles of Indians and other subjects. The other subjects who wanted land must demand and have a written title. It was not necessary for the Indians, because they already had a title to the land they claimed; their title originated in *first occupancy, cultivation, and settlement;* the Indians never claimed other lands than their villages, and where they did it was given them by the Government. The land claimed by Nickelson was an old village, which had long beyond the memory of man been inhabited and cultivated by the Indians who sold it to him, and of course I consider his title to said land as one of the best: it is so from the laws of nations, the laws of Spain, and her usages and customs. Interrogatory 2d. Were you the commandant who passed the said deed for the said tract of land mentioned in the within dedimus? Answer to the 2d interrogatory. I was; I have filled several stations of honor and profit under the Spanish Government, and have been always in office, from my earliest days until my hairs have grown gray. My opportunities to be acquainted with the laws, usages, and customs of the French and Spanish Governments have been great. Interrogatory 3d. Did the Spanish Government, according to its laws, usages, and customs, authorize Indians, such as the one who sold Nickelson the said land, to hold lands in full and complete title, and to sell, give, and dispose of said lands in any manner the said Indians thought proper? Answer to the 3d interrogatory. They did, and I never thought it could be doubted. The Indians under the Spanish Government were as free as any of her subjects, and had as full power over their lands. Their villages were their own, and were held sacred as their property. We were strangers amongst the Indians; this was their home, and the laws of Spain, her usages and customs, authorized the Indians to sell and do as they pleased with their lands, and so did the laws of conquest and of nations. I need only to refer to the writers upon that subject, and also to the ordinances of Spain which are written and on file. They place it beyond a doubt, and every man who lived in those days can verify the usages and customs to be as I have stated. There never was an instance of the Government of Spain taking land from Indians, especially their villages, such an one as Nickelson's was, and even where the Indians had abandoned some old villages, because their hunting was exhausted, and had established new ones by the grant of the Spanish Government, their villages deserted were always considered as their property, subject to their disposal to sell or do with at pleasure, and the inhabitants were never suffered to settle there, but were always driven off, because the villages belonged to the Indians before Spain or France knew this country, and their occupancy, cultivation, and settlement, gave them a prior title to even Spain or France, which was always guarantied to them by their treaties, by law, by usages, and by customs: the Spanish Government always gave to Indians lands, but never took any from them, without they did it by purchase or by treaty. The purchasers of lands from the Indians had always, under the Spanish Government, the best of titles, and such titles were considered equal, if not better, than any Spanish grant, because the Indians were first owners of the soil, which always continued in them, and does to this day, if they have not sold it, or if any be living. I speak of their old villages, and of land granted to them after the Government of Spain was in possession of this country. Interrogatory 4th. Was there any time, according to usage, custom, or law, in which a deed, after it had passed before the commandant, must be presented to the General Government of the province for their approbation? And if a deed should be presented, say two, four, ten, or fifteen years after it had been made, before the commandant, would it be in sufficient time to be approved? Answer to the 4th interrogatory. There was no time fixed in which a deed must be presented for approbation. It could be presented in one year or an hundred years, and it would always receive the sanction of Government. The laws made it necessary, when Indians sold their lands, to have the deed presented to the Governor for approbation. This was only a form, as the Governor, in all cases, approved, and never refused. It was not necessary for Nickelson to have presented his deed immediately, and if the Spanish Government existed at this time, and Nickelson should present his deed upon this day, or any other, his deed would be approved, and his title confirmed; for the principle is well established, that a deed for lands from Indians or their chief, who in all cases sells in his name for them, is as valid and good, and the title as complete, (provided the land sold was a village or part of a village,) as if the title was given by the Government of Spain itself, and I should suppose better. The villages of the Indians never consisted of less land than a league, and oftener two leagues and more in front; and it was the custom of the Spanish Government, whenever they granted land to Indians, to give them a league or more square. Interrogatory 5th. Do you know that Nickelson ever had a grant or requette given him for the same land he claims, and which he purchased afterwards from the Indians, and whether he settled on it, and if he did, why he left said settlement? Answer to the 5th interrogatory. I do well recollect that Nickelson had settled upon this same land, and worked upon it, in consequence of a title which he had for the same, but do not recollect whether it was a complete title or not; but I do remember well, that, in consequence of Nickelson's working upon the said land, the Indians made their complaint to me, as the proper person to decide, and that I issued an order for Nickelson to appear before me, which he did, and upon an hearing and examination of the case, I adjudged the title of the Indians to be a good one, and I ordered Nickelson off, and officially put a stop to his work. I considered his title good from the Government for the same, had not the land belonged to the same Indians who sold it afterwards to him. The nature or name of the title I do not recollect at this remote day, but upon the trial I saw it; and it is certain he had a title to said land, and did comply with all the conditions, until he was stopped by the order of the commandant, who adjudged the lands to the Indians. The consequence of this order, and Nickelson's being put off the land, led to the purchase; and Ashnoya, a chief of the Attakapas nation, to whom the said land belonged, came before me, authorized with full powers by his nation, and Bernard their chief; and I being satisfied with his said powers and his right, conveyed in proper form, according to the laws, usages, and customs of Spain, the said land to Thomas Nickelson for a valuable consideration, which said deed is good so soon as it is approved by the proper authorities, which cannot be refused according to the laws, usages, and customs of Spain, if it has not already been done. Interrogatory the 6th and last. When the Spanish Government gave the Indians lands without a written grant, was such gift complete, and could the claimers under such grant sell or otherwise dispose of said lands? What were the usages and customs in such cases? Answer to the 6th interrogatory. The Spanish Government considered the Indian lands or villages as the best and oldest titles, and never disturbed them; and, as I have said before, always granted lands to Indians when requested; and the usages and customs were such, that after land was granted, although it was not in writing, if the Indians settled and cultivated, their title was as complete as if it had been made in writing, and became as good and valid as their old villages, and they were authorized to sell, and the title of those who held under them was as good as any title in the Spanish Government. Mr. De Blanc, in giving his testimony, has assigned reasons, and drawn conclusions, some of which the Commissioners have been constrained to reject. The light in which his evidence has been viewed respecting Indian titles, will be seen by reference to the No. 1 of claims reported for the county of Opelousas, in which it has been noticed. By reference to the claim of Marin Mouton, reported under No. 115, it will be seen that Bernard, Attakapas chief, whose name is mentioned in the claim under consideration as having authorized Ashnoya to sell, had previously sold more than one league front of land to said Mouton. Mr. De Blanc has spoken of a title which Nickelson had from the Spanish Government for the same, or part of the same, land purchased from the Indians, but does not recollect what description of title it was, but that his title was valid if it had not interfered with that of the Indians. It was incumbent on Nickel-

son, in the opinion of the Commissioners, to produce this title, without which his claim must be considered as resting on the Indian sale, or on such claim as he might have derived under the laws of the United States from occupancy. Mr. De Blanc has said, that he "recollects well that Nickelson had settled upon this same land, and worked upon it, in consequence of a title which he had for the same," but has not mentioned the time, or how long such occupancy was continued. Mr. Lee hath stated that the land was occupied as pasturage for the claimant's cattle, but "knows of no part of the land being in cultivation." The occupancy of the land not being established to the satisfaction of the board on which to recommend the confirmation of the claim, and the Indian sale not having been sanctioned by the governor of the province, the claim is considered as coming within the third class enumerated in No. 1 of claims reported for the county of Opelousas; and the confirmation of so much of the claims as would be a full remuneration for the consideration paid, is accordingly recommended.

No. 121. William O'Donegan claims eight arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, say 320 arpens, at the Grand Woods of the lower part of the river Teche, by virtue of a requette sanctioned by the commandant the 24th June, 1796. The notice of the claim is accompanied by said requette, in the name of the claimant, for said tract of land, bounded on one side by land of Francois Bronde, and on the other to John McLaughlin, dated June 23, 1796, certified by the commandant, Francisco Caso Y. Luengo, the 24th June, 1796, setting forth that the land solicited is of the domain of his Majesty. No evidence has been adduced to establish occupancy. The death of the claimant has been suggested, and it is known to the board that he has left a widow and several children in needy circumstances. Being of opinion that this would have been a valid title under the former Government, the Commissioners recommend the confirmation.

No. 122. Charles Olivier De Vezin claims 1,520 arpens of land west of the river Teche, behind the lands fronting on the said river. The notice of the claim is accompanied by the requette of the claimant for 38 arpens front, to be taken from the line of his father's land, and for the depth of the same parallel adjoining the lines of the depth of the lands of Chicot Noir, dated 15th March, 1797. Subjoined to the petition is the certificate of the commandant, Louis C. De Blanc, dated 10th April, 1797, setting forth that the land or Island of Woods petitioned for, bounded by the concession of his father, being vacant, and it being of no prejudice to the neighbors, he has ordered the surveyor of the district to put the petitioner in possession of the said land and island. A plat of survey by the surveyor general, Carlos Trudeau, dated 14th November, 1797, embracing 1,520 arpens, and certifying that the survey had been made, and the party put in possession of the land, agreeably to the order of the commandant, is also filed. The claimant having adduced proof of the occupancy of the land, (from the date of the requette, 1797, to the date of the testimony, 1811,) by which he became entitled, under the laws, to 640 acres, equal to 756 27-100th arpens, the Commissioners have issued their certificate B, No. 1,466, in confirmation of the claim to that extent, leaving the residue of the claim, 763 73-100ths arpens, to be reported for the consideration of Congress; the confirmation to which is recommended on the grounds of its being a claim which, in the opinion of the board, would have been valid under the usages of the Spanish Government.

No. 123. John O'Reily claims twenty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens on both sides of Bayou Sallé, say 1,600 arpens, equal to 1,354 acres, by virtue of a concession from the proper Spanish officer, in 1798, which is said to be lost. The notice of the claim is accompanied by documents, of which the following are translations: 1st. Mr. Addison shall permit Paul Glascoy to choose two tracts of land on each side of the Bayou Sallé, one for Mr. O'Reily, the other for himself, which land they shall settle as soon as they receive the permission of the Government General. Attakapas, February, 1798. (Signed) De Blanc. 2d. "When you survey the lands on Bayou Sallé, you will apply to Mr. Addison as syndic of the quarter, who will instruct you as to the grants given for lands on said bayou. Those who should have complied with the conditions of their grants, it would appear to me to be unjust to dispossess them; but you shall order them, from me, that they shall do what is necessary to entitle them to a completion of their title; in which case you shall make surveys of their lands without delay or difficulty. If any persons are absent, leaving no one to represent them, and pay the public demands for them, you may take information thereof from the commissary, and reduce it to writing, attested by two witnesses, that their lands may be reunited to the domain, and granted to other persons. John O'Reily, a long time since, has obtained from me a concession for twenty arpens of land front on each side of that bayou. I have myself sent the concession and money to town; but a short time afterwards, the intendant being specially charged with the land department; from this change the papers have been mislaid; but, as this man did obtain permission, from the deceased Mr. Gayoso, to settle there, with orders to give him land, and as he has cleared and settled the tract in question, you will make his survey, and furnish him with the necessary document on which to obtain his title in form." 20th December, 1802. (Signed) L. C. De Blanc. Francois Gonssoulin, surveyor, certifies that the foregoing is a true copy of the original in his hands, given at the request of John O'Reily, 3d February, 1806. (Signed) F. Gonssoulin. 3d. By Louis C. De Blanc, commandant of Attakapas: I certify that, in February, 1798, being then commandant of Attakapas, I did grant for John O'Reily a requette for land on Bayou Sallé, twenty arpens front on each side; that the said title has been approved by the General Government of this colony, and, being lost, I have given orders to Mr. Francois Gonssoulin, surveyor of the post, 20th December, 1802, to make the survey, and deliver the plat to said John O'Reily as his property; on which land an improvement has been made, as I have been informed by the interested. March 4, 1804. (Signed) L. C. De Blanc. Peter Earlocker, before Woodson Wren, justice of peace in the county of Attakapas, by commission from the board, 21st September, 1811, hath deposed "that the land claimed was cultivated and inhabited in the year 1799, and continued so to be inhabited and cultivated for five or six years in regular succession." For want of the documents of title in this claim, which are said to have been lost, the Commissioners have been under the necessity of considering the claim as being only within the provisions of the acts of Congress granting a right by settlement, &c.; they have, therefore, only confined the claim to the extent of 640 acres, giving so much front on the bayou as, with forty arpens on each side, will include that quantity: but from the evidence, particularly that of the late commandant, Mr. De Blanc, the Commissioners are induced to believe that the claimant is equitably entitled to the residue of his claim, being about 713 acres, and therefore report it as a claim which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 124. Christopher O'Brian's heirs claim 1,500 acres of land on the Bayou Teche, near its mouth, adjoining the lands of Dunleavy, by virtue of a grant or order of survey from the Spanish Government to the father of the claimants, which title papers accompany the notice of their claim. The following is a translation, in substance, of the documents of title filed with the notice: 15th December, 1801, Christopher O'Brian petitions for land (quantity not mentioned) on the Bayou Teche, adjoining above, to Talmadge Dunleavy, and another tract on the Bayou Fourche, about a league from the mouth of the canal, if from the number of his family he is entitled to more than one tract. 19th December, 1801, said O'Brian represents to the Governor that he has been under the necessity of leaving New Madrid on account of the ill health of his family, and had a passport from the commandant at Baton Rouge to visit Opelousas and Attakapas to look for land to settle on, and begs permission to settle in the place he may choose, and that he wishes to keep a tavern. 23d December, 1801, Salcedo admits said O'Brian to be a subject of his Catholic Majesty. 8th January, 1802, Morales, intendant, and Licenciado Serano, orders that the opinion of the fiscal be had on the case. 27th January, 1802, the fiscal, Gilbert Leonard, gives his opinion that O'Brian may have a portion of land where he may choose it; that the quantity of land should be governed by the regulations of Morales, having regard to the number of his family, and that there is no objection to his keeping a tavern on certain conditions, &c. William Biggs, before the board, 26th September, 1811, hath deposed "that, in the year 1801, Christopher O'Brian, father of the claimants, went to reside on the land claimed, which is in the Big Woods, a few leagues above Berwick's bay, adjoining, as this deponent believes, the land of Dunleavy. The said Christopher having purchased the right of a man by the name of Samuel Stout, who had resided on the land several years previous to his having sold it to Brian. The deponent further saith, that the settlement and cultivation of the said tract of land has been regularly maintained from the time Brian took possession of it to the 20th December, 1803. It will be noticed that the quantity of land which the father of the claimants might have been entitled to, according to the opinion of the fiscal, Gilbert Leonard, should be governed by the regulations of Morales, and according to the number of his family.

No information has been given to the board respecting the number of the said family. It is stated by the witness, Mr. Briggs, that the father of the claimants purchased the right of a Mr. Stout to the land on which he settled; but as no deed of conveyance from said Stout has been adduced, and the witness believing that the land occupied by Stout lay adjoining to Dunleavy's, the place named by said O'Brian in his petition, the board have been induced to suppose that the said O'Brian might have only purchased the improvements and good will of the said Stout, without intending to derive any title in the land on account of such purchase: they have, therefore, issued their certificate B, No. 1,945, in confirmation of the claim to the extent of 640 acres, and report the residue of said claim as one which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 125. Joseph Primo claims one acre and one quarter of an acre in front, with the depth of forty arpens in the Cypress Island, by purchase from J. L. Champagne, heir of Mr. Doré, who purchased from Jm. Berrard, to whom it was granted; but said grant cannot be found. He also claims under settlement made in 1800. The following is a translation of the only document or evidence of title filed with the notice: "I, the undersigned, Louis Champagne, acknowledge to have sold to Joseph Primo a tract of land of one arpent and one quarter front by forty deep, situate at Cypress Island, the property in which I acquired as one of the heirs of the deceased Margaret Doré, having received payment thereof. Attakapas, 26th December, 1806. (Signed) John Louis Champagne, jun., his mark. Witness, W. C. Maquillé." No proof of occupancy being adduced, and it not being known to the board that the title of Berrard, of which this is said to be a part, is a valid one, the claim is reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 126. Joseph Piernass claims eighty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on each side of the river Nementou, say 6,400 arpens. The notice is accompanied by documents, which are translated as follows: "Attakapas, 21st June, 1796, before me, Don Francisco F. Y. Luengo, commandant, has appeared Donna Martha Hubert Pellerin, widow of Don Louis Pellerin, who says she has received, a long time past, of Joseph Piernass, lieutenant of infantry, retired from service, the sum of two hundred dollars, which is what was remaining due by said Joseph Piernass for the sale which she made to him on the 4th July, 1786, before John Darby, then commandant of New Iberie, of a tract of land of eighty arpens front on the depth of forty, situate on each side of the river Nementou; of which sum she acknowledges herself satisfied. (Signed) Martha Hubert Pellerin, Simon Meisoner, Francisco Caso Y. Luengo, Louis C. De Blanc." 1807, December 23, Joseph Piernass, the claimant, before a justice of the peace for the parish of New Orleans, on oath, hath declared "that, on the 4th July, 1787, he purchased, by deed executed before the commandant of New Iberie, J. Darby, from the widow of Louis Pellerin, acting as curatrix for her minor children, and of Louis Pellerin, first son of said lady, and of her daughters, Jane and Charlotte Pellerin, well and duly authorized by their husbands, Louis and Alexander de la Houssaye, a tract of land of eighty arpens front and forty in depth, on both banks of the river Nementou, to be taken, commencing at the upper end of the Little Lake, and thence ascending the river, to complete the eighty arpens front, which land was granted some years preceding that date by the governor general of this province to Louis Pellerin, jr., (fils) for him, his brothers and sisters; that he received on the day of the sale, from the said widow, the titles of concession of said land, as follows: First, the petition of Louis Pellerin, (fils) asking said land in his name, and for his brothers and sisters, being of the Hiberniana family. Secondly, the decree following, giving order to the commandant of the post to make information as to the vacancy of the land, &c. Thirdly, the information of the said commandant proving the said land to be of the royal domain, &c. Fourthly, the decree of the General Government ordering the said commandant to give possession to the said Louis Pellerin, his brothers and sisters, of the land solicited, on both sides of the said river. Fifthly, the certificate of said commandant, Mr. De Clouet, that he had put the persons in possession of said land; that a few days afterwards the deponent, on his way to Nacogdoches, in crossing the river Sabine on a small raft, upset, by which he lost the valise containing the papers above mentioned, for which reason he is not now enabled to produce them. "Louis Chevalier De Villier, before the board the 24th June, 1812, hath deposed that, twenty-three years ago, he was on the land claimed, when the widow of Louis Pellerin had a vacherie thereon; and that the land in question has been inhabited and cultivated ever since, until the last six or seven years preceding this date." The acknowledgment of Madam Martha Hubert Pellerin, in 1796, before the then commandant of the district, is strong presumptive evidence of her having had a title in the land claimed. The evidence is not such as could authorize the Commissioners to confirm the claim in its full extent: they however report it as a claim which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

Nos. 127 and 128. Frederick Pellerin claims twenty-five arpens front by the depth of forty, on the east side of the Bayou Teche, and ten arpens front by the depth of forty on the west side of said bayou; both of which tracts he claims by virtue of a decree from Governor Miro, dated 11th May, 1787, which he has not been able to procure. The notices of these two claims are unaccompanied by any evidence of title, except a plat of survey, which is believed to be for the same tracts, of which the title has been confirmed by Commissioners' certificate B, No. 803, under another entry: these are therefore reported as claims which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 129. Simon Pickard claims six hundred and forty acres, by settlement, on Hargrove's Gully, branch of Bayou Vermillion, adjoining land surveyed for and claimed by Michel Pevetto. John Bte. Broussard, before the board 12th November, 1810, hath deposed that, about six years ago, he went on the land claimed, and began an improvement, and continued on the land about one year; that the improvement was a dwelling, store-house, and cow-pen; that he had no part of the land in cultivation; that, at the time of his leaving the land claimed, he sold it to a man who still resides on the tract. He does not know of the claimant's having any permission." Michel Pevetto, on the same day, before the board, concurs in the facts stated by the above named witness, John B. Broussard, and adds, that "he engaged the claimant to settle on the land as being vacant about six years ago." From the evidence, it appears that the land was not settled until about the year 1804. The claim is reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 130. Joseph Romaro claims eight arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, say 320 arpens, on Lake Tax, by virtue of a purchase from John Garée, who claimed by settlement. A deed of conveyance from John De Saras to the claimant, passed before Henry Hopkins, commandant, 7th March, 1804, for eight arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on Lake de Flemmand, bounded on one side by Julien Dargelan, and on the other by Mr. Romais' land, is the only document or evidence of title adduced. The claim is therefore reported as one which ought not, in the opinion of the board, to be confirmed.

No. 131. Abraham Roberts claims a tract of land of ten arpens front, in a place called Cote Blanche, by virtue of an order of survey in his favor, dated 10th April, 1782, say 400 arpens. The notice is accompanied by the petition of Abraham Roberts, dated 12th March, 1792, for ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, at a place called Cote Blanche, bounded on one side by William Bell, and on the other by the royal domain. Subjoined to the said petition is the order of survey, in the usual form, by the Baron Carondelet, for said land, dated 18th April, 1792. A plat of the land, by Francois Gonssoulin, dated 18th April, 1802, certified to have been made in consequence of the decree of the Government of the 18th April, 1792, is likewise filed with the notice. No proof of occupancy has been adduced. The Commissioners believing it to be such a claim, however, as would have been deemed valid under the usages of the Spanish Government, report it as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 132. Eugene Senate claims ten arpens front by the depth of forty, say 400 arpens, on the waters of the Bayou Sallé, by concession, from the Baron Carondelet, dated 4th and 5th January, 1797. The notice of the claim is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, and is believed to be for the same land of which the title has been confirmed under another entry by Rufus Nickelson, by certificate B, No. 2,077. This is, therefore, reported as a claim which ought not to be confirmed.

No. 133. John Bte. Senate claims 640 acres, by settlement, for his son Joseph Senate, (as his natural guardian,) situate on the waters of the Bayou Teche. The notice of the claim is unaccompanied by any document of title. Charles McDaniel, 25th January, 1809, hath deposed "that, fourteen years past, John Bte. Senate hath cultivated the land claimed, but this deponent doth not know that any person except Indians ever resided on the same." Jacob Jarrard, witness, 22d June, 1809, hath deposed "that, about eight or nine years ago, the claim-

ant settled on a tract of land opposite to the land claimed, where he has resided ever since, and cultivated every year as well the tract claimed as the one on which he resided; that, about six or seven years ago, the claimant had a cabin on the land claimed, in which his negroes then resided, but how long they resided there the deponent cannot say." The claim being for a minor, and unsupported by any evidence of title derived from the Spanish Government, it is necessarily reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 134. Hypolite Savoy claims, by settlement, a tract of land (quantity not mentioned) at the end of the depth of the tracts fronting on the east side of Bayou Teche. The notice is unaccompanied by any evidence of title or proof of occupancy; and, on that account, is reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 135. Jonathan Smith, a minor, by William Addison, acting as his guardian, claims 640 acres on Bayou Teche, by virtue of settlement. A plat of survey dated in 1806, is the only document of title filed with the notice. Henry Harkrider, before John Thompson, esq., late register, 18th December, 1808, in Attakapas, hath deposed "that William Addison hath cultivated the land claimed for eight years last past; that he had resided, during that time, on the opposite side of the bayou; that there hath been a camp upon the land for the purpose of sheltering those that labored on it from the weather; that Jonathan Smith is, at this time, of the age of sixteen years. This deponent further saith, that he hath always understood from Mr. Addison that the commandant had promised him a requette for the said land in the name of the above mentioned Jonathan Smith." Charles McDaniel hath deposed "that William Addison hath cultivated the land in question fifteen consecutive years; that this deponent himself hath cultivated and resided on the land for the claimant from the year 1801 to the year 1804, inclusive." It will be seen that the evidence of the two witnesses is at variance; that, according to the evidence of the first, the land was cultivated by Mr. Addison from 1800 to 1808; and, according to the latter, that it had been cultivated fifteen years, and from 1801 to 1804 by the deponent himself. The claimant being a minor, however, and the claim unsupported by any document of title from the Spanish Government, is on that account reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 136. John Stine claims eight arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, say 320 arpens, on the Grand Cote, by virtue of an order of survey from the Spanish Government. The notice is accompanied by the petition of the claimant for said land, bounded by vacant land, dated 6th April, 1795, to which is subjoined the certifiate of the commandant, certifying the vacancy of the land, and the order of survey by the Baron Carondelet, dated 4th May, 1795. Joshua Garret, senr., before Samuel Cook, justice of the peace in the county of Attakapas, 14th December, 1811, hath deposed "that he, the deponent, was on Grand Cote island about 17 years ago, in company with John Stine, and helped him to do some work on a tract of land which he, Stine, had a requette for on the said Grand Cote island, and fourteen years ago he saw a crop of corn, potatoes, &c., growing on said land, and Mr. Stine had a house or cabin on the land at that time; and further, he has not been on the land since to see or know what Mr. Stine has done on the land in question since the time stated of fourteen years; and further the deponent saith not." The claimant having failed to prove the occupancy of the land on the first of October, 1800, as required by law, the claim is, on that account, reported for the consideration of Congress. The Commissioners, believing it to be a claim which would have been deemed valid under the usages of the Spanish Government, recommend its confirmation.

No. 137. Stephen Sweayze claims four hundred arpens of land in Attakapas, by virtue of an order of survey dated 9th December, 1795. The notice is accompanied by the petition of said Sweayze, inhabitant of Natchez, dated 20th November, 1795, for ten arpens of land on each side of the gully, called Cypremart, with the small depth that may be found, bounded on one side by land of Samuel and John Bell, and on the other by the royal domain. Subjoined to the petition is the order of survey by the Baron Carondelet, dated 9th December, 1795, for the ten arpens front solicited, with the depth that may be found, not exceeding forty arpens. A plat of survey by William Atchison, dated Attakapas, 16th December, 1796, embracing four hundred arpens in a square form, is also filed. No proof of occupancy has been offered, and the claim is reported on that account. The Commissioners, believing it to be a claim which would have been deemed valid under the Spanish Government, recommend its confirmation in conformity with the tenor of the order of survey, giving ten arpens front on said gully, with the depth of twenty arpens on each side, embracing an area of 400 arpens.

No. 138. Louis Semaire claims 10 arpens front by the depth of 40, at the back of the land of his mother; representing in his notice that the land is low and wet, fit only for pasturage, which use he had made of it, residing on the tract of which this is a continuation. The petition of the claimant for said land, dated 17th August, 1801, is filed with the notice, to which is subjoined the certificate of the commandant, Louis C. De Blanc, of the same date, setting forth that the petitioner is the son of a family of ancient inhabitants of Attakapas, of good conduct, has supported his mother, and wishes to settle himself; never had any previous grant of land, and that the land, being vacant, may be conceded. The Commissioners are of opinion that the claim would have been valid under the usages of the Spanish Government, and report it, therefore, as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 139. William Rumple claims a tract of 15 arpens front by the depth of 40 arpens, on the west side of the river Teche or Chafalaya, at their junction. The notice of this claim was entered by Jonathan Thompson, as agent for the claimant. The notice evidently embraces a claim of 10 arpens front by the depth of 40 arpens, of which there has been a confirmation to the claimant by the certificate of the commissioners, marked B, No. 1170. The claimant having produced no documents nor evidence to establish a title to the remaining five arpens front, the claim is reported as one which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 140. John Thibodeau claims 2¾ arpens of land front on the Bayou Vermillion, by the depth of 40 arpens, by purchase from Anslem Thibodeau, and also by settlement, the said Anslem deriving his right by purchase from Indians. The notice is unaccompanied by any document or evidence of title, and therefore reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 141. John Vomser claims six arpens front by the depth of 40 arpens, on both sides of the Bayou Teche, by virtue of his requette, sanctioned by the commandant the 16th September, 1795. The notice of the claim is accompanied by the petition of the claimant, John Vomser, of the Dutch nation, dated 16th September, 1795, for said land at a place called the Grand Woods, adjoining the land solicited by Henry Hergeroder, with whom the petitioner had labored seven years. Subjoined to the petition is the certificate of the commandant, Francisco Caso Y. Luengo, of the same date, certifying that the land solicited is vacant. A plat of survey by Patrick Marin, dated in 1807, giving 12 arpens front on the east side of the river Teche, by the depth of 40, is also filed. Patrick Marin was not an authorized surveyor at the time of making the survey, and his operations are entitled to no respect. The Commissioners recommend the confirmation of the claim, not according to the plat, but agreeably to the documents of title which the claimant held from the Spanish commandant, giving six arpens front by the depth of 40 arpens on each side of the bayou, or so much as may be found not to conflict with any superior claim.

No. 142. Romain and Mary Verdine claim 640 acres of land on the east side of the Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, by virtue of settlement. The notice is unaccompanied by any document of title. John G. Garret, before John Thompson, esq., late register of the land office, 13th December, 1808, hath deposed that, about four years ago, Pierre and Baptiste Verdine, with their people, made a clearing upon the land claimed, and have continued to work thereon ever since; and he has heard the said Pierre and Baptiste Verdine say that they made the said improvement for Romain and Mary Verdine. Same date, Alexander Verdine, before said register, hath deposed that, about four years ago, the land claimed was settled by Pierre and Baptiste Verdine, and that they have cultivated four crops thereon; that, when they made the said settlement, he understood that they made it for themselves, and that the said claimants are both at this time under the age of one-and-twenty. Charles McDonel, before Woodson Wren, esq., justice of the peace in the county of Attakapas, 4th October, 1811, by commission from the board, hath deposed "that the said Verdines (Romain and Mary) settled the said tract of land three years previous to December 20, in the year 1803, and continued to inhabit and cultivate the same for three years, and was then, at the said 20th of December, 1803, inhabitants of the said tract of land, and had the same under cultivation." It will be seen that the testimony of the last witness, McDonel, is at variance with

the evidence of the other two, John G. Garret and Alexander Verdine, and that the claimants are minors. The board are of opinion that the claimants, being minors, and their claim unsupported by any document of title derived from the Spanish Government, are not entitled to the land claimed, and therefore report it as a claim which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

In the claim of Rufus Nickelson, reported No. 118, the testimony of Theodore Thibodeau and Augustin Comeau was omitted in the transcribing, and is inserted in this place as follows: "In the claim of Rufus Nickelson for a tract of land situate on the west side of the river Vermillion, in the Parish of St. Martin, Theodore Thibodeau, aged 53 years, being sworn, deposeth that, fourteen or fifteen years past, Rufus Nickelson, the claimant, resided in the family of David Caruthers, from which place he removed about fourteen years past, and settled upon the tract of land claimed, in a small house 12 or 15 arpens distant in a westerly direction from the present habitation of John Coleman, where he continued to reside for five or six years; being a blacksmith by trade, at which business he was principally occupied during his residence at the said place, the deponent is not certain that he cultivated any part of the land except in a garden. The deponent further saith, that the said Nickelson got married about the time he first established himself on the land in question, and is now about forty years of age." Sworn before ——, the 4th of April, 1814. In the same claim, Augustin Comeau, aged thirty-five years, being sworn before the board on the same day, deposeth "that, having heard the evidence given by Theodore Thibodeau, he knows the facts therein stated to be correct and true."

By order of the Board.

WILLIAM GARRARD, LEVIN WAILES, GIDEON FITZ, } *Comm'rs.*

LLOYD POSEY, *Clerk.*

14th CONGRESS. **No. 236.** 1st SESSION.

DISCOUNT ON PROMPT PAYMENTS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 29, 1816.

MR. ROBERTSON, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Samuel Dick, William Bruce, and Asa Kitchel, reported:

That the petitioners, on the 7th April, 1801, purchased three sections of land of the United States, lying within the Cincinnati district, for which they paid respectively the amount in full, as calculated by the receiver of public moneys, under the express direction of Mr. Dexter, then acting Secretary of the Treasury, and obtained their final certificates. Some short time after the purchase was completed, the successor of Mr. Dexter in the Treasury Department construed the law allowing discounts on prompt payment differently, and issued his instructions to the receivers of public moneys accordingly. The petitioners applied for patents on their final certificates, but they were withheld, on the ground that full payment had not been made under the law, as construed by the then Secretary of the Treasury. The committee, without adverting to the law to ascertain which is the correct construction, are clearly of opinion that it was competent for the Secretary of the Treasury to issue his instructions under the law directing the mode of calculating discounts; and purchases made and completed under such construction cannot, in justice, be set aside by the United States. The purchases of the petitioners were made at a public sale, the rate of discounts being known, was not only an inducement to make prompt payment, but also to give a higher price for the land: afterwards to demand a further sum, under the pretence that the law had been incorrectly construed, would be materially varying the contract to the prejudice of the purchaser, which neither policy nor justice could sanction. It is sufficient that the terms were made known by the official agent of the Government, acting under the direction of the Treasury Department; the purchaser, in acceding to the terms, became bound to a compliance, nor is the obligation on the Government less binding. The difference of amount produced by the construction under which the petitioners purchased is small, but on the ground of principle they are equally entitled to relief, as if the sum were much larger. The committee therefore report a bill.

14th CONGRESS. **No. 237.** 1st SESSION.

LAND CLAIMS IN THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 2, 1816.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, *January* 29, 1816.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit, herewith, the supplementary report of the Commissioners appointed to ascertain and adjust claims for land in the late Territory of Orleans, now State of Louisiana. A report (on claims in the same district, filed with the register under the acts of Congress passed the 10th of March, 1812, and 27th February, 1813) from the register and receiver, acting as Commissioners, may be expected in the course of the present session of Congress. I have the honor to be, most respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

JOSIAH MEIGS.

The Hon. the SPEAKER *of the House of Representatives.*

LAND OFFICE, WESTERN DISTRICT, STATE OF LOUISIANA, *May 11th*, 1815.

To the Hon. Josiah Meigs, Commissioner of the General Land Office, in the Treasury Department.

The undersigned Commissioners, appointed for the purpose of ascertaining and adjusting claims to land in the western district of the late Territory of Orleans, now State of Louisiana, have the honor to make the following supplemental report for the revision and final decision of Congress; classing the claims herein enumerated agreeably to the order observed in their report made on the 16th day of Oct. 1812, on claims for land in the county of Concordia.

Reported number.	Register's number.	By whom claimed.	Original proprietor or claimant.	Quantity claimed.	Nature of the title.	In what county situated.	Class.
1	7	Pierre Broussard -	Louise & Carline De Clouet	982 acres	Order of survey -	Attakapas	B.
2	5	Same - -	Mr. Ledé - -	Unknown	Occupancy, &c. -	Attakapas	B.
3	23	Maria Babin, widow of C. Martin	Francois Ledé - -	Unknown	Same -	Attakapas	B.
4	DR. 96	Placide Boissier -	Pierre Derbanne -	640 acres	Settlement -	Natchitoches	B.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT—Continued.

Reported number.	Register's number.	By whom claimed.	Original proprietor or claimant.	Quantity claimed.	Nature of the title.	In what county situated.	Class.
5	427	Dl. Callaghan's reps. -	Daniel Callaghan -	162 arpens	Ord. of sur. & occ'y	Opelousas	B.
6	427	Same - -	Same - -	162 arpens	Do do -	Opelousas	B.
7	DR. 146	John Callender - -	Baptiste Bercar - -	Unknown	Occupancy -	Natchitoches	B.
8	DR. 149	Michael Charmard -	Dartigeau - -	Unknown	Occupancy -	Natchitoches	B.
9	-	Louis C. De Blanc -	Joseph Collet - -	2400 arpens	Spanish patent -	Attakapas	B.
10	DR. 243	J. Gravier & E. Forstall -	Dauterieve - -	200 arpens	Occupancy -	Attakapas	B.
11	DR. 243	Same - -	Same - -	Unknown	Occupancy -	Attakapas	B.
12	DR. 243	Same - -	Same - -	Unknown	Occupancy -	Attakapas	B.
13	DR. 76	Alexander Fulton -	John McLaughlin -	200 arpens	Unknown -	Rapides	C.
14	-	Alexander Fulton -	Alexander Fulton -	Unknown	Unknown -	Rapides	C.
15	83	Joseph Guidry - -	John Berard - -	Unknown	Order of survey -	Attakapas	B.
16	79	Dav. Guidry & Jn. Mouton	Louise & Carline De Clouet	3000 arpens	Order of survey -	Attakapas	B.
17	272	John Gradinego - -	Louis Pellerin - -	595 acres	Occupancy -	Opelousas	C.
18	DR. 92	James Griffin - -	McLaughlin & Wells -	880 arpens	Unknown -	Rapides	C.
19	DR. 116	John Heberard - -	John Heberard - -	707½ acres	Order of survey -	Rapides and Concordia	C.
20	-	Sarah Jeune - -	Sarah Jeune - -	400 arpens	Spanish concession	Rapides	B.
21	-	James Jeune - -	James Jeune - -	400 arpens	Spanish concession	Rapides	B.
22	DR. 9	John N. Kershaw -	Joseph Carlin - -	40 arpens	Spanish concession	Attakapas	B.
23	378	John Leger - -	Michel Leger - -	128 acres	Occupancy -	Opelousas	B.
24	380	Antoine Lambert -	Louis Pellerin - -	911 acres	Occupancy -	Opelousas	C.
25	DR. 280	Jaques Moulon - -	Jaques Moulon - -	2200 arpens	Occupancy -	Attakapas	C.
26	121	Charles McDaniel -	Charles McDaniel -	640 acres	Settlement -	Attakapas	B.
27	DR. 54	Pierre Jos. Maes -	Menard & Derbanne -	Unknown	Occupancy -	Natchitoches	B.
28	DR. 55	Same - -	Andre Escloven -	Unknown	Occupancy -	Natchitoches	B.
29	5	Alexander Norris -	John Punche and others -	100 arpens	Occupancy -	Attakapas	B.
30	DR. 6	Edward C. Nichols -	Joseph Carlin - -	Unknown	Spanish concession	Attakapas	B.
31	DR. 60	Emanuel Prudhomme -	Widow de St. Denis -	Unknown	Occupancy -	Natchitoches	B.
32	-	Joseph Quays - -	Joseph Quays - -	400 arpens	Spanish concession	Rapides	B.
33	DR. 140	Victor Romaine - -	Unknown - -	400 arpens	Unknown -	Attakapas	C.
34	DR. 141	Heirs of Francois Rambin	Francois Rambin - -	Unknown	Occupancy -	Natchitoches	B.
35	DR. 3	Francois Roquier -	Unknown - -	109 acres	Unknown -	Natchitoches	C.
36	-	George T. Ross - -	Baron De Bastrop -	3000 acres	Spanish concession	Washita	C.
37	241	James Robinson - -	James Robinson -	640 acres	Settlement -	Concordia	C.
38	19	J. B'te Senate, for his son	Senate, for the use of his son	640 acres	Settlement -	Attakapas	C.
39	559	Mary Simean - -	Michel Briginac -	80 arpens	Spanish concession	Opelousas	C.
40	287	Fs. Soubadon - -	Francis Soubadon -	1120 arpens	Order of survey -	Rapides	C.
41	13	John Sibley - -	Paul Bouit Laffitte -	260 arpens	Occupancy -	Natchitoches	C.
42	73	Same - -	Madam Sans Regret -	195.35 acres	Occupancy -	Natchitoches	C.
43	DR. 3	Same - -	John Lambre - -	Unknown	Occupancy -	Natchitoches	B.
44	DR. 3	Same - -	Louis Mercier - -	1000 arpens	Occupancy -	Natchitoches	C.
45	2	Nichs. Thibodeau -	Louis De Clouet -	252 arpens	Occupancy -	Attakapas	B.
46	3	Widow Olivier Thibodeau	De Clouet -	421 arpens	Occupancy -	Attakapas	B.
47	3	Same - -	Pierre Broussard -	160 arpens	Unknown -	Attakapas	B.
48	-	Juliana Thomas - -	Pedro Bourdelon & others	280 arpens	Unknown -	Opelousas	C.
49	183	Louis Veillon - -	Louise & Carline De Clouet	480 arpens	Order of survey -	Attakapas	B.
50	624	Charles Vige - -	Villier & Figuran -	300 arpens	Spanish concession	Opelousas	B.
51	22	M. La Villian La Chapelles	M. La Vn. Chappelles -	200 arpens	Settlement -	Washita	C.

REMARKS ON THE FOREGOING CLAIMS TO LAND, WITH REFERENCES TO THE REPORTED NUMBERS AND DECISIONS OF THE BOARD.

No. 1. Pierre Broussard claims nine hundred and eighty-two acres of land in the prairie Gross Chevrie, by virtue of a purchase. A plat of survey by Francois Gonssoulin, deputy surveyor under the Spanish Government, dated 27th May, 1793, made for Martin Sondrie, is the only document of title filed with the notice. Andre Martin, before the board the 20th Aug. 1811, hath deposed "that the land claimed is a part of Louise and Carline De Clouet's order of survey, and hath been inhabited and cultivated on and previous to the 1st of October, 1800, and without intermission to this day." The claim ought, in the opinion of the Commissioners, to be confirmed, on the claimant's producing the necessary deeds to establish his right, and its being ascertained, from a re-survey, to be within the concession to Louise and Carline De Clouet.

No. 2. Pierre Broussard claims thirty arpens front of land, with the depth from the Bayou Teche to the Vermillion river, in the county of Attakapas, by virtue of a purchase at the public sale of the deceased Ledée. In this claim is filed, from the office of the judge of the county of Attakapas, an exemplification of the record of the public sale of the estate of the deceased M. Ledée, by which it appears that a tract of land of ninety arpens front on the river Teche, with a depth of forty arpens on the east side, and the depth from the Teche to the Vermillion on the west side, was sold on the 14th day of March, 1786, in nine separate portions or lots, in the presence of Don Carlos Leveau Trudeau and others, and conformably to the operations of said Trudeau, as surveyor general of said province, giving to each lot ten arpens of front with forty arpens of depth on the east side of the Teche, and on the west to the Bayou Vermillion; at which sale the several lots were struck off to the following persons as highest bidders, viz. to Pierre Broussard, front to be taken from the land of Mr. De Clouet, commandant, ten arpens. To Mr. Solomon, adjoining Broussard, ten arpens. To Pierre Broussard, adjoining the preceding, ten arpens. To Francois Begnaud, adjoining the above, ten arpens. To Baptiste Melancon, adjoining the preceding, ten arpens. To Fremin Bro, ten arpens. To Pierre Broussard, ten arpens. To Claude Martin, ten arpens. To Joseph Martin, adjoining Claude Martin, and distant about one arpent from Madam Castayo, ten arpens. Andrew Martin sworn and examined before the board on the 20th August, 1811, hath deposed "that the tract of land claimed is part of Ledee's grant, and has been inhabited and cultivated for more than twenty-five consecutive years, and without intermission to this day." Although no grant or other concession from the French or Spanish Governments to Francois Ledée, the original proprietor, has been produced, the claim is reported as one which ought, in the opinion of the Commissioners, to be confirmed. The public sale of the tract divided into lots by Mr. Trudeau, then surveyor general of the province of Louisiana, being regarded as sufficient evidence of a good title in Ledee. The evidence of Andre Martin establishing the occupancy of the land as required by law. The depth is unknown to the Commissioners, not having been able to procure a survey of the land, and the operations of the Spanish Government being confined, as is supposed, to a measurement of the front, and giving the direction of the lines of depth, as was the usage of the country; but of which no plat having been filed, the quantity of land must be determined hereafter by survey.

No. 3. Marie Babin, widow of Claude Martin, claims ten arpens of land in front on each side of the Bayou Teche, with the depth of forty-two on the east side, and on the west with the depth from the said Bayou Teche to the

Bayou Vermillion, by virtue of a grant in favor of Francois Ledée for a larger quantity, sold at vendue by parcels, and bought by Claude Martin at said vendue, as may be seen by papers filed in the claim of Pierre Broussard in the register's office. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document of title. Louis Judice, before the board the 21st August, 1811, hath deposed "that the land claimed is a part of Ledée's grant for a larger quantity, and hath been inhabited and cultivated for more than forty consecutive years preceding this day." This claim ought, in the opinion of the Commissioners, to be confirmed for so much land as may, from re-survey, be found to lie within the limits of the grant to Ledee.

No. 4. Placide Bossier claims six hundred and forty acres at a place called St. Maurice, purchased from the heirs of the deceased Peter Derbanne, who settled and possessed it from the year 1772, to the time of his death, 1796. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document of title. Sylvester Bossie, aged forty-six years, before the board the 23d February, 1813, hath deposed "that the land claimed has been settled, inhabited, and cultivated from the year 1786, until about eight or nine years ago, by the said deceased Derbanne and those claiming under him." Having stated in his notice that the land was purchased from the heirs of Pierre Derbanne, it was incumbent on the claimant to adduce the deed of sale, by which the quantity and situation of the land would probably have been explained. The Commissioners are of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed for the quantity of land which shall appear to have been conveyed, not exceeding 640 acres.

No. 5. The legal representatives of Daniel Callaghan, deceased, claim one hundred and seventy-seven surperficial arpens of land on the waters of the Bayou Bellevue, by virtue of an order of survey in favor of said Callaghan, bearing date the 3d April, 1788, for six arpens front by the depth of forty arpens; out of which order of survey there has been confirmed to Louailler's brothers twelve arpens, by Commissioners' certificate B, No. 1,900: to William McKoy, by certificate No.1,901, thirty-six arpens; and to the inhabitants of the county of Opelousas fifteen arpens, by certificate B, No.2,278, leaving the above quantity 177 arpens for which no regular entry has been filed, but of which the Commissioners recommend the confirmation to the legal representatives of Daniel Callaghan, to whom the land was conceded by the above order of survey of unquestionable authority.

No. 6. The legal representatives of Daniel Callaghan, deceased, claim one hundred and seventy-seven arpens of land on the waters of Bayou Bellevue, by virtue of an order of survey in favor of said Callaghan, bearing date 24th September, 1789, for six arpens front by the depth of forty arpens. The two first confirmations mentioned in the next preceding number embrace equal quantities in each of the orders of survey, and the two claims being similarly circumstanced in other respects, this is likewise reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commisioners, ought to be confirmed to the legal representatives of said Callaghan for the above quantity of 177 arpens remaining after deducting from the order of survey fifteen arpens embraced by certificate B, No. 2,276, to the inhabitants of Opelousas.

No. 7. John Callender claims two lots of ground in the village of Natchitoches, of which the quantity is not set forth in the notice, and the title papers are said to be lost or mislaid. The notice of claim is unaccompanied by any document of title. Gaspard Boudin, before the board the 15th June, 1812, hath deposed "that the lands claimed were inhabited about sixteen years ago by one Baptiste Bercar, and that the same has been constantly inhabited ever since by the said Bercar and those claiming under him, until within the last two or three years of the present date." This claim is reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed on the occupancy, but for what quantity they are unable to say, because the claimant has adduced no document by which the quantity can be ascertained.

No. 8. Michel Chamard claims a lot of ground in the town of Natchitoches, of which the quantity is not set forth in the notice, fronting on Red river, bounded below by land of Francois Roquier, senior, and above by that of Francois Roquier, junior, and on the west side by the street, held by purchase from Francois Roquier, junior, attorney for Mr. Dubois, and by cultivation. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document of title. Francois Davion, before the board the 19th November, 1811, hath deposed "that the said lot has been inhabited and cultivated for more than thirty years ago by one Mr. Dartigeau, and every year since by those claiming under him." The claimant having adduced no document of title, the Commissioners can only report this as a claim which ought to be confirmed for the quantity which may be found hereafter.

No. 9. Louis C. De Blanc. This claim is founded on a complete patent granted by Governor Galvez on the 5th January, 1777, to Joseph Collet, for thirty arpens front of land on the west bank of the river Teche, in the county of Attakapas, with the depth of eighty arpens. The double depth being conceded, as appears from the papers, in consequence of the grantee having constructed his indigo works at the distance of fifty arpens from the front. On the abstract of complete patents furnished for the use of the Board of Commissioners, the one recorded in the name of Joseph Collet, and agreeing as to date and other particulars with the above, is entered as containing 2,400 superficial arpens, which is the area that would be embraced by extending the lines of depth parallel to each other. The claimant has, however, presented with his patent a plat of survey, in which the lines of depth are represented as diverging from each other by an angle of 75 degrees and thirty minutes, including about 4,200 arpens. The patent is unquestionably authentic, but the survey can add no dignity to the claim; it was made in 1805 by Ferdinand V. Potier, unknown and unacknowledged by the surveying department, but who certifies that he was authorized to survey by a commission from his excellency Governor Claiborne. When lands have been conceded by the Spanish Government for an equal depth on both sides of a water course, which, from the local situation, required that the lines of depth should close on one side, they have generally opened on the opposite, by which an area would be included on the two sides equal to that which would be had by extending the lines of depth parallel to each other; and sometimes in grants lying wholly on one bank of a water course, where the calls are to adjoin other concessions above and below, the lines of depth have been made to diverge or converge, as the case may require, to correspond with the courses of the adjacent land. In the claim under consideration, however, it appears from the requette of the claimant that the land solicited, thirty arpens front, was bounded on one side by the land of Joseph Collet, and on the other side by the domain of the King. The order of survey requires that the commandant should put the party in possession of the land as solicited. And the commandant, Chevalier De Clouet, certifies that he had, on the 23d November, 1776, in virtue of the decree of the governor general, established the party on the land petitioned for, thirty arpens front on the west side of the Bayou Teche, with the depth of eighty arpens, at a place called the end of the "Fausse Point," opposite the Three Islands, bounded on one side by Mr. Collet, and on the other by the domain. The patent or title in form by Governor Galvez, dated 5th January, 1777, is made conformably to the act giving possession by the commandant. No courses are specified as governing this concession in any of the original documents of title; and the Commissioners, seeing no reason why the lines of depths should be run otherwise than parallel to each other, are of opinion that this claim should be confirmed in such manner as to confine the land claimed to that form, and the quantity which would thereby be included.

No. 10. John Gravier and Edward Forstall claim five arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the Bayou Tortue, being part of a larger tract granted to Mr. Dauterieve. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document of title. Andre Martin, before the board, 20th August, 1811, hath deposed "that the land claimed by Gravier and E. Forstall, of five arpens front by the depth of forty, on the east side of the Bayou Tortue, hath been inhabited and cultivated by the claimants, and those under whom they claim, for more than thirty years preceding this date, in regular succession." In this claim it is incumbent on the claimants to produce the deed by which the title was transferred to them from Dauterieve or his successors; and the claim is reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed on the production of the said deed or deeds, or an exemplification of them from record.

No. 11. John Gravier and Edward Forstall claim a tract of land of four arpens front on the Bayou Tortue, and running in depth until it meets the forty arpens of depth from the Bayou Teche. This claim is unaccompanied by any document of title, but is set forth in the notice to be a part of a grant of a league and a half front on both sides of the bayou Teche to Mr. Dauterieve. Andre Martin, before the board 20th August, 1811, hath deposed "that this tract, which is a part of the grant said to be given to Dauterieve, hath been possessed by the claimants, and those under whom they claim, for more than forty years, and that said land hath always been taxed for the public works, and the owners acknowledged as the proprietors." It has not been attempted to prove that this claim has been settled or cultivated. It has been possessed, as stated by the witness, by the several proprietors more than forty years, and acknowledged as their pro-

perty, &c. The claim is reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed, for the quantity of land which may be found within the concession of Dauterieve, and for which the claimants may adduce satisfactory titles.

No. 12. John Gravier and Edward Forstall claim a tract of land of three arpens front, on the Bayou Tortue, with the depth until it meets the forty arpens of depth from the Bayou Teche; being part of Mr. Dauterieve's grant of a league and a half front, on both sides of the Bayou Teche. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document of title. Andre Martin, before the board 20th August, 1811, hath deposed "that the tract of land of three arpens front on Bayou Tortue, with the depth to meet the 40 arpens from the Bayou Teche, being part of the grant said to be given to Dauterieve, claimed by J. Gravier and E. Forstall, hath been by the claimants and those they claim under, possessed for more than forty consecutive years, and that they have always paid the public contributions to the present day." This is claimed also as being within the concession to Dauterieve. It is in all respects similarly circumstanced with the claim next preceding, and, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed for the quantity found from the survey to be within the grant, the claimants adducing satisfactory documents to establish their title.

No. 13. Alexander Fulton claims two hundred arpens of land situate in the county of Rapides, which is said to have been conceded by the Spanish Government to John McGlaughlin on the 8th June, 1798. Several deeds are referred to in the notice of this claim, as well as the concession to McGlaughlin, none of which are found with the other papers of Mr. Fulton; and, not appearing to have been enregistered in the book kept by the deputy register of the district of Rapides with whom the entry was made, and no evidence of occupancy having been adduced, the claim is presumed to have been withdrawn, and therefore, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 14. Alexander Fulton claims a tract of land on Bayou Trudeau, in the county of Rapides, by virtue of a grant from the Spanish Government, which he alleges was obtained about the year 1799, and lost or mislaid in the office of the surveyor general at New Orleans. The notice was filed with the deputy register at Rapides, and has been so chafed and defaced in transmitting the papers to Opelousas that the quantity of land claimed cannot be seen. The claim is unsupported by any evidence, and therefore, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 15. Joseph Guidry claims the quantity of land granted to John Berrard by order of survey dated the 10th March, 1785, (except ten arpens front,) by virtue of a purchase made by the claimant from said Berrard. The notice of this claim is accompanied by the following documents, to wit: The requette of John Berrard, dated the 13th January, 1785, setting forth that where his vacherie then was he was bounded by the Coule Desnoix, which crossed his land, and, on account of the augmentation of his cattle and the cattle of his children, prayed a concession of a continuation on the west side of said Coule, for the quantity which should be ascertained by the surveyor. On the 15th February, 1785, the Chevalier De Clouet, commandant of Attakapas, certifies the verity of what is exposed by the petitioner. On the 10th March, 1785, Governor Miro orders the commandant to establish the demandant, J. Berrard, on the 40 arpens of land in depth, to be taken behind the vacherie mentioned in the writing on the other side, (this order being written on the same paper on which the requette is made,) and following the same courses of the vacherie, that he may be provided with his title in form. On the 10th March, 1806, John Berrard, by deed in due form, sells to Joseph Guidry, the present claimant, the land conceded by the decree of 10th March, 1805, with the exception of ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens. Andre Martin, before the board the 20th August, 1811, hath deposed "that the land in question, to wit, a tract of fifty arpens front on the first forty arpens west of the Vermillion, by an order of survey in favor of John Berrard, has been inhabited and cultivated on and before the 1st of October, 1800, and without intermission since to the present date," the day on which his evidence was taken. The order of survey under which Mr. Guidry claims is for no specific quantity. Berrard petitions for a continuation of the land he held on the west side of the river Vermillion, and the concession is for the land solicited. The claimant has had surveyed to him forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the back of a tract conceded to Berrard, one other tract conceded to Labbe, jun., and extending to a part of the back line of a tract conceded to Labbe, sen. To entitle the claimant to a confirmation of the claim as surveyed, it is necessary that he should adduce the deeds of sale to establish that he was the proprietor of the lands granted to the two Labbes at the date of his requette, the 13th January, 1785. If it shall appear, from the production of the deeds from the two Labbes, that Berrard was the proprietor of the tracts conceded to them at the date of his petition for this continuation, the board is of opinion that the claim ought to be confirmed for the quantity claimed, forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, leaving ten arpens front to Berrard. But if, on the contrary, it shall appear from the deeds that the lands were acquired from the Labbes subsequently to Berrard's requette, the board are of opinion that the confirmation should be confined to the quantity which may be immediately back of the tract conceded to Berrard.

No. 16. David Guidry and John Mouton claim seventy-five arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, and such other depth as the original grant and conflicting claims will admit, lying on the river Teche, in the county of Attakapas, by virtue of a purchase from Alexander De Clouet, to whose children the said land was granted. A deed of conveyance from Alexander De Clouet to the claimants is the only document of title accompanying the notice of the claim. Andre Martin, before the board 16th Jan. 1812, hath deposed "that the land claimed was settled more than thirty years ago by the late Chevalier Alexander De Clouet, who continued to cultivate it for about 12 years, since which time it has been occupied and cultivated by Messrs. Martin Duralde, Pierre Nezat, Joseph Pierre Nezat, August Nezat, Soleste Roy, Joseph Latiolet, Philip Dupletion, Pierre Broussard, Marcelle Pattin, Nicholas Thibedeau, Ceril Thibedeau, John Thibedeau, Pierre Guidry, Louis Guidry, Olivier Guidry, and others, by whom the occupancy and cultivation of the land has been regularly and constantly maintained for the last 30 years or more, and to the present date." This claim is reported merely because the Commissioners have not been able to obtain information of its extent: several attempts have been made by the surveyors to survey the land, but all have failed on account of an extensive swamp by which it is intersected. It is believed that this claim is wholly within the concession from the Spanish Government to Louise and Carline DeClouet, which has been occupied and cultivated, as appears from the evidence of Andre Martin, more than twenty consecutive years before the transfer of Louisiana to the United States. The Commissioners are therefore of opinion that this claim ought to be confirmed for three thousand superficial arpens, equal to 2,538.84 American acres: provided that so much shall be found within the limits of the concession to Louise and Carline De Clouet, or for so much of the quantity short of the said 3,000 arpens as shall be found, by a correct survey, to be within the limits of said concession.

No. 17. The legal representatives of John Gradenigo claim two thousand seven hundred and seven and ninety-two-hundredths acres of land at a place called "L'Isle a L'Anglois," by purchase from Charles Vege, who bought from Francois Lemell, who purchased from Louis Pellerin, the grantee. The notice is accompanied by a deed of sale from Louis Pellerin to Francois Lemell and Charles Vege, dated 21 April, 1780, for all the island called L'Anglois, with its appurtenances, as accorded to said Pellerin by the Spanish Government; a deed of sale from Francois Lemell to Antoine Boisdore, dated 15th January, 1782, for the half of the island called L'Anglois, setting forth in the deed that the other half had been given up to Mr. Charles Vege, who, by an arrangement which appears to have been entered into before the commandant, dated 18th February, 1782, stipulating for a divisional line, by which, after two years, he, said Vege, was to relinquish his claim to the upper or northern part of said island to said Antoine Boisdore in exchange for the lower part, the said Vege retaining three arpens front in the said northern part, and reserving the privilege of removing, after the expiration of said two years, his houses, fences, and fruit trees from said northern part. A deed of sale dated 27th September, 1791, from Charles Vege to John Gradenigo for his right to said island, as he had it from Antoine Boisdore, with the exception of ten arpens front by the ordinary depth, which had been conveyed to Nicholas Rousseau and Mary J. Lemell. A plat of survey by an authorized surveyor, dated in 1806, including the quantity claimed in the notice. In support of this claim, the following evidence has been adduced: John Bte. Figurant, aged 69 years, before the board 6th August, 1811, hath deposed "that, about twenty-three years ago, a man by the name of Vege made an establishment on the land claimed; that the said Vege, about 18 or 20 years ago, passed this land to John Gradenigo in exchange for some other land; from which time the said Gradenigo continued to inhabit and cultivate the said land to the time of his death, which happened about two years ago; that he has frequently

heard Chevalier De Clouet, the former commandant of the post of Attakapas and Opelousas, say that there was a complete patent from the Spanish Government to Pellerin, former commandant of Opelousas, for said island, and half a league around it." Being asked whether he was of opinion that it was intended that the half league should include any part of the woods, or be taken wholly in the prairie, the deponent answers "that it is his opinion, and he believes that it is the general understanding in the neighborhood, that the half league in depth should be taken wholly in the prairie, that is, that the back lines should in no part approach the woods of the island nearer than half a league." The deponent further saith, "that he never did see the title papers on which this claim is founded, but that he has heard others, as well as Mr. De Clouet, say that there was a complete patent for it, and this appears to be the prevailing belief in the neighborhood." Louis de la Houssaye, by commission from the board, before Woodson Wren, justice of the peace in Attakapas, 26th November, 1811, hath deposed in answer to the following interrogatories: Interrogatory 1st. Do you know of a patent or any other description of title having issued by any governor, or other public functionary under the French or Spanish Governments of Louisiana, to a Mr. Pellerin, for a tract of land embracing a body of woods called L'Isle L'Anglois, in the county of Opelousas? Interrogatory 2d. If you have any knowledge of the existence of such a concession or grant, in whose hands have you seen it? Relate circumstantially any knowledge you may have of the tenor, &c. of said concession. Answer to the 1st interrogatory. "That about thirty years ago, as near as his recollection serves him, he was at Mr. Lemell's, where he found Mr. Louis Pellerin, the original proprietor of the land mentioned in the commission, and Mr. De Clouet, the commandant, when Mr. Pellerin proposed to Mr. Lemell to purchase the above mentioned tract of land, which was done while at dinner, and immediately after the conveyance was passed by the commandant. He, this deponent, saw Mr. Pellerin deliver the original grant to Mr. Lemell as soon as the conveyance or sale was signed and delivered, to which this deponent was a subscribing witness, but he did not examine the contents of said original grant, but was informed, and fully understood, that it comprehended the island, with the forty acres around it." The two following certificates given by Martin Duralde have been filed in the claim, but do not appear to have been given under the solemnity of an oath: Translation. "I, undersigned, certify to have seen a concession of a place known by the name of L'Isle a L'Anglois, situated in this post, granted to the deceased Mr. Pellerin, saying either half a league or forty arpens of prairie all around said island, on part of which island John Gradenigo inhabits, and where he has all his improvements. Given to be of use before whom it may appertain. Opelousas, 7th December, 1805." "I, undersigned, being questioned as to my knowledge of a concession for the Isle a L'Anglois, answer, that it was said at all times that all that island had been granted to Mr. Pellerin, deceased, with forty arpens of depth all around it; that I cannot affirm it as a certainty, but I believe those titles to have been seen by me in the hands of the deceased, Antoine Boisdore, or some others. What confirms me still more in the opinion that those titles did really exist is, that in the transfer of that property from the deceased Francois Lemell to the deceased Antoine Boisdore, they are expressly mentioned, and said to have been annexed to the said sale. This given to be of use where it may appertain. Attakapas, August 9th, 1810." Although the notice of the claim had been made for a specific quantity of land, conformable to the plat of survey, it has been contended by his representatives, since his death, that the notice was so made without his fully understanding it; and that the claimant as well as his said representatives, and those from whom their title was derived, always contended that the island was conceded by the Spanish Government to Pellerin, with 40 arpens of prairie in depth all round said island; and that, having bought conformably to the concession to Pellerin, they are entitled to a confirmation of their claim to that extent. The claimants, however, having failed to adduce the concession from the Spanish Government, or any record thereof, the commissioners have deemed it just to confine them to the quantity which they might hold under the act of Congress, allowing two thousand acres from occupancy ten consecutive years preceding the change of Government. Considering the length of occupancy, as established by the most respectable testimony, and the probability that the concession, which appears to have been lost or mislaid, may have been for a larger quantity of land, the board has decided that, as two notices of claims had been regularly filed for the same island and its appendages, one under the claim of Vege, who held the southern moiety, with an addition of three arpens front out of the northern, and one under Boisdore, who held the residue, that it would be correct to appropriate four thousand acres to the two claims. They have accordingly, by their certificate, No. 2,234, confirmed to Antoine Lambert, who held under Boisdore, the quantity of 1,797 acres; to E. R. Lamorandier, by certificate No. 2,235, 677 acres; to C. Voorhies, by certificate No. 2,236, 338.51 acres, and to Louis Carrier, by certificate No. 2,237, 1,178.49 acres, making 4,000 acres. The three last named persons holding under Gradenigo, who held, under Vege, and the part which appears from the evidence to have been transferred to Nicholas Rousseau, leaving out of the claim of the heirs of Gradenigo, about five hundred and five acres, the title to which the claimants have failed to establish to the satisfaction of the Commissioners, who are therefore of opinion it ought not to be confirmed.

No. 18. James Griffin claims eight hundred and eighty superficial arpens of land on Bayou Rapide, in the parish of Rapide, by purchase from Anslem Wells, brother and only heir of John Wells, deceased, who purchased 480 arpens thereof from James McGlaughlin; claiming the sidue, 400 arpens, by a requette in the name of the said John Wells, which is stated to have been lost or mislaid, and on occupancy of both tracts, which lie adjoining each other. The deed from McGlaughlin to John Wells appears to have been executed before the proper Spanish officer, on the 26th May, 1801; and the evidence of occupancy being satisfactory as to that part of the land, the title to it has been confirmed by the Board of Commissioners, by their certificate B, No. 942. The residue of the claim, 400 arpens, ought not, in the opinion of the Commissioners, to be confirmed, the claimant having failed to establish the occupancy of that part of the land, or show a valid title from the Spanish Government to himself or any former claimant.

No. 19. John Hebrard has claimed 3,200 superficial arpens of land on Black river, forty arpens front with the depth of forty arpens, on the right bank of the river, in the county of Rapides, and a like front and depth on the left bank, in the county of Concordia, near the junction of Washita with Black river. An order of survey conceding the land as above described, dated 22d March, 1786, with the name of Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana, subscribed to it, has been filed with the notice of this claim. From the appearance of this document, and comparing the signature with others of Governor Miro, the Commissioners have been induced to believe it a forgery. Nevertheless, the evidence introduced in the claim establishing very satisfactorily that the land in question has been inhabited and cultivated constantly from the date of the concession more than seventeen years before the delivery of Louisiana to the United States; and that, from the year 1791 or earlier, a public ferry has been kept at the place by the said Hebrard, or those holding under him; and as it appeared that the present claimants had paid fair prices for the land, and could not be considered as parties in the fraud, if any had been practised, the Commissioners have confirmed the claim to the full extent, which might be claimed under occupancy for ten consecutive years, to wit, two thousand acres, by their certificates B, Nos. 1754 and 1755 to Cha's Miles and John Henry, each for 1,000 acres, leaving out of the original claim about 837 arpens, equal to about 707½ acres, the title for which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed, unless, by a recurrence to records, the claimants may be enabled to establish that the concession is a genuine one.

No. 20. Sarah Jeune claims four hundred arpens of land on the Bayou Rapide, in the county of Rapide. The notice of this claim is accompanied by the petition of the claimant, dated 6th January, 1802. The certificate of the syndic of the post of Rapide, Joseph Chevalier Poiret, dated 11th January, 1802, stating that the land solicited was of the royal domain. The decision of the royal fiscal, to whom the requette was referred, dated at New Orleans, the 15th November, 1802, followed by the decree of the intendant general of the province, Juan Ventura Morales, in favor of the claimant, to which is annexed the plat of survey and certificate of Carlos Trudeau, then surveyor general of the province, dated in 1802, representing a tract of 400 arpens of land fronting on the right bank of the Bayou Rapide, bounded on one side by vacant land, and on the other side by the land of Joseph Quays; the survey of which had been made, and a plat returned, by his deputy, Hugh Coyle. The decree of Morales, late intendant general, in this case, differs from the form which was usual in granting orders of survey anterior to his administration of the Government of Louisiana; yet, as the proceedings in the surveying department have given to it the effect of an order of survey, and as the survey of the land by an authorized surveyor is the best

evidence of the claimant having been legally put in possession of the premises in question, although no evidence of actual occupancy has been adduced, the Commissioners are of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed in conformity with the usages of the Spanish Government.

No. 21. James Jeune claims four hundred arpens of land on the right bank of Bayou Rapide, bounded on one side by land of Joseph Quays, and on the other side by the land of Michel Hooter. This claim being in all respects similar to the one reported under the next preceding number, is likewise reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed.

No. 22. John N. Kershaw claims one arpent front by the depth of forty arpens, on the south side of Bayou Teche, in the vicinity of New Iberia, being part of a complete title said to have been made to Joseph Carline, of ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on both sides of the said bayou; the claimant having purchased from Francois Prevost six arpens front on each side of the bayou, sold to Alexander Hebert six arpens front on the north side, and three arpens front on the opposite side to Mongenot and Myer, from whom the above one arpent front was purchased by Wm. Collins, who sold it to the claimant by deed bearing date the 10th October, 1805, which last mentioned deed of sale accompanies the notice, describing the said one arpent front to be bounded on the lower side by land of Mongenot, and above by that of William Smith. No other document accompanies the notice, and no proof of occupancy. From the documents filed in the claim of Edward C. Nichols, which will be found reported under No. 30, to which the claimant refers in his notice, the Commissioners are of opinion that this claim is a part of a tract conceded by the Spanish Government to Joseph Carline at an early date, and therefore ought to be confirmed.

No. 23. John Leger claims one hundred and twenty-eight acres of land in or adjacent to the prairie Grand Coteaux, by virtue of settlement by Michel Leger, from whom he derives his claim. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document of title, except a plat of survey dated in 1806. The claimant sets forth that the claim is situate adjoining to and at the back of a tract which was conceded to Paul Boutin, who sold to Michel Leger, under whom the claimant holds; that when Michel Leger settled, he supposed his establishment to be on the tract conceded to Boutin, and it was not until he had the land surveyed, about twelve months ago, (say in December, 1806,) he discovered his mistake. John Teller, before the board the 23d November, 1808, hath deposed "that the tract of land claimed was settled upwards of twelve years ago by Michel Leger, who purchased it from Paul Boutin, the original grantee, and that it has been inhabited and cultivated ever since; that the present claimant was residing on it in the year 1803, and that he is a man above the age of twenty-one years, and the head of a family." The claim being for a small quantity of land to cover the improvements which the claimant and Michel Leger had erroneously made on the public domain, and it not appearing that the claimant ever had any grant of land from the Spanish Government in his own name, the Commissioners are of opinion that the claim ought to be confirmed, and report it accordingly.

No. 24. Antoine Lambert claims 2,707.92 acres of land in the quarter De Pleasance, county of Opelousas, by purchase made by him at the vendue of the estate of the deceased Antoine Boisdore. In this claim Jacques Dupre, aged forty-one years, examined under oath before the board, deposeth "that he is well acquainted with the land in question, being in the neighborhood of his nativity; that he recollects perfectly when Mr. Charles Veger, a former proprietor, was residing on the said land at the northern extremity of the said island, more than twenty years past; that the said Veger continued to inhabit and cultivate at the said north end of the island for several years, and until, by an exchange with Mr. Antoine Boisdore, the said Veger transferred his right to Mr. Boisdore; since which time the land in question has been constantly respected as the property of Mr. Boisdore, and the persons who have claimed under him, to the present date, 16th May, 1814." The Commissioners refer to the claim of the representatives of John Gradenigo, reported under No. 17, by which it will be seen that this claim is for part of the tract said to have been conceded to Louis Pellerin; that much of the evidence in Gradenigo's claim applies equally to this; that the Commissioners have issued their certificate to this claimant, in confirmation of his title to 1,797 acres, in consequence of the long uninterrupted occupancy; and that the residue of the claim, being about 911 acres, is unsupported by any legal document or evidence which might entitle it to confirmation, and therefore, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 25. Jacques Moulon claims fifty-five arpens of land front on both sides of the Bayou Teche, the land on the west side being claimed by virtue of a purchase of eighty arpens front from Nicholas Forstall; that on the east or left bank claimed under occupancy. The following testimony has been adduced in support of the claim: John Bte. Senate, before John Thompson, esq., late register, 13th December, 1808, hath deposed "that, about three or four and twenty years ago, the tract of land claimed was settled by John Louis Drouet for the present claimant; that he resided on the same for thirteen or fourteen years, and cultivated it; that when he left it he put a family of free negroes thereon; that the said claimant, not being satisfied with the free negroes residing on the land, sent up a mulatto man, slave to the claimant, to occupy the same, who resided thereon about six years, when he died; that, during the time he resided on said land, he cultivated it, and took care of the cattle which the claimant had on that side of the bayou; that the said land has always been known in the neighborhood for the property of the said claimant, and that the deponent would have applied for it himself if he had not believed it to be his property; that the said claimant, on the 20th December, 1803, was an old man and the head of a family, and that he resided at New Orleans at that time; that he has always paid taxes for the same land, as the receipt which this deponent has in his possession will show." Andre Martin, before the board 4th October, 1811, hath deposed, "that the land claimed has, since the purchase made by said Moulon, and for more than 20 years, been known as the property of the claimant, who possessed it, and paid the taxes for the same from the above said time." Louis Drouet, on the 11th November, 1812, before Judge Lislet, of New Orleans, under a commission from the board, after being sworn and examined in this claim, hath answered as follows: "Interrogatory 1st. Do you know the situation of the land in question, and where is it situate? Answer. That the land in question is situate in the lower part of the Bayou Teche, having fifty-five arpens front on both sides of the said bayou, with the usual depth. Interrogatory 2d. Was the said land inhabited and cultivated on the left side of the Sayou Teche on the 20th day of December, 1803; if so, by whom, and how long previous to that time? Answer. The said land has been permanently inhabited and cultivated on both sides of the said bayou by the negroes of James Moulon, of the city of New Orleans, under the direction of either him, this deponent, or his brother the late Nicholas Drouet, or of his brother-in-law the late John Ba'te Senate, or by some person employed by the said James Moulon, since twenty years and upwards, and until the year 1805, and even later. Interrogatory 3d. Relate all you know with respect to said land? Answer. He has stated all he knows with respect to said land, but thinks it necessary to declare that Joseph and Nicholas Drouet, his brothers, as well as John Bte. Senate, his brother-in-law, are all dead." A receipt given to John Bte. Senate by Wm. Moore, as collector of taxes, for Jas. White, parish judge of Attakapas, dated 19th February, 1808, for nine dollars and 62 cents, for the taxes due by Jacques Moulon, for the year 1807, without describing the property on which said taxes were paid, is filed with the notice, and is believed to be the receipt to which the said Senate has referred in his evidence taken by the late register. The claim for so much of the land as lies on the right bank of the Teche has been confirmed to the claimant under a complete Spanish patent, made in favor of Nicholas Forstall, by the certificate of the Commissioners marked A, No. 1,575. From the general terms in which the testimony of John Bte. Senate is expressed, the Commissioners are in a great degree left to conjecture his meaning; nor is the evidence of Drouet, taken before the parish judge for the city of New Orleans, as perspicuous as could be wished: they both speak generally of the land on both sides of the Teche. The board is induced to believe that the habitation of the persons who superintended for the claimant must have been on that side of the Teche to which his title was unquestionable, to wit, on the right bank; and if the negroes of the claimant who had charge of his cattle did sometimes cultivate on the royal domain on the left bank, and should even sometimes have resided on that side, the board are of opinion that this would not have constituted a title under the Spanish Government; that it is not such a claim as was contemplated by Congress in granting a right from ten consecutive years' possession, by the 2d section of the act of the 3d March, 1807, and therefore ought not to be confirmed.

No. 26. Charles McDaniel claims whatever the board may grant, not exceeding 640 acres, by virtue of a right of settlement within a survey made by order of William Biggs on the eastwardly side of the river Teche, about a mile above its confluence with the river Chafalaya. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document of

title. John Henry, before the board, the 6th May, 1812, hath deposed "that, sixteen years ago, this deponent was employed by the claimant to plough for him on the land claimed; that, from the appearance of the buildings and other improvements on the land, he supposes the claimant may have inhabited it for several years preceding the date at which the deponent was employed as aforesaid, and that the land in question has been constantly inhabited and cultivated ever since, until within the last two years." The land claimed is acknowledged to be within the claim of William Biggs, reported No. 16, Attakapas claims, and conflicting with a claim for land occupied by permission of the proper Spanish authority, is reported for the consideration of Congress. The question of right between the adverse claimants ought to be left to the adjudication of the courts of justice. The Commissioners cannot judge as to the credibility of the witnesses in the two claims, and report this as a claim which, in their opinion, ought also to be confirmed.

No. 27. Pierre Joseph Maes claims a tract of land in the bourg of Natchitoches, containing such front as may be found between the land occupied by Charles Pavie in the said bourg, and the land sold by the claimant to a Mr. John Nancarrow, with such depth as may be found, suppose forty arpens, by virtue of his right as heir, and by intermarriage with Madame Widow Mary David, the daughter of Pierre Dartegeau—the said Dartegeau having purchased the same of a certain Mr. Marmillion, who held it by purchase at the sale of the estate of Pierre Derbanne, who purchased it from Louis Menard, who purchased it from Mathew Monet and Barbet Rachel, who purchased from Francois Mezier, who purchased from Gaspard Derbanne. The notice of this claim is accompanied by the following deeds of sale: 1st. Deed of sale from Mr. Marmillion to Pierre Dartageau, dated 22d August, 1776, for two lots of ground, (suppose in the village of Natchitoches,) the lot formerly purchased from Pierre Derbanne, and another lot adjacent to the above, which the seller purchased at the sale of the estate of Louis Menard; the two lots composed of 14 toises and 11 feet front on the road, bounded south by Sorrel, a blacksmith, north by Andre Esclovan, east by the river, and west by the hills. 2. Deed of sale from Louis Menard to Pierre Derbanne, dated the 2d October, 1758, for one acre seven toises and five feet on the ordinary depth, with the building, &c. on the land, for the consideration of one thousand livres and one cow and calf:—sale executed in Natchitoches, and understood, from an endorsement on the back, to be for a lot in the town, since belonging to Marmillion. 3. Sale dated 28th December, 1756, from Mathew Monet and wife to Louis Menard, for a lot with the building and improvements, supposed to be the same sold by Menard to Derbanne. 4. Sale from De Mezier, dated 26th January, 1756, to Monet for a house and lot and plantation on the other side of the river, such as he bought from Gaspard Derbanne. 5. Sale dated 23d March, 1753, from Gaspard Derbanne to Mr. De Mezier, for the land from Monet's fence to his ancient boundary. Antoine Prudhomme, before the board the 20th November, 1811, hath deposed "that the land claimed has been constantly, and without intermission, inhabited and cultivated for thirty years preceding the present date." The Commissioners not having been able to ascertain the quantity of land in this claim, report it as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed for the quantity which may be found within the boundaries set forth in the deeds of sale filed in the claim.

No. 28. Pierre Joseph Maes claims a tract of land in the post of Natchitoches, bounded on the north by land of Mr. Rambin, and on the south by land then occupied by Pierre Dartegeau, by virtue of a purchase from Pierre Gagnor, the 7th April, 1786, who purchased the same at the sale of the estate of the deceased Andre Esclovan. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a deed of sale from Pierre Gagnor to Pierre Joseph Maes, dated 17th April, 1786, for a house in the village of Natchitoches, with a lot fronting on the woods, bounded on one side by Mr. Rambin, and on the other by Mr. Dartegeau, such as he bought it at the sale of the estate of the deceased Andre Esclovan. No other document of this title has been adduced. Antoine Prudhomme, before the board the 30th November, 1811, hath deposed "that the said lot has been inhabited and cultivated by one Andre Esclovan, and those claiming under him, for more than thirty consecutive years." The Commissioners are of opinion that this claim ought to be confirmed for the quantity of land which, from survey, may be found within the boundaries of the lot, as described in the above deeds of sale filed in the claim.

No. 29. The legal representatives of Alexander Norris claim two and a half arpens of land, lying in the town of New Iberia, on the Bayou Teche, by purchase from John Punche, and sold by Louis Robeau, who sold to William Collins and Kershaw, the latter of whom sold his part to said Collins, from whom the claimant purchased. The deeds of sale above referred to, except that of Punche to Robeau, accompany the notice, all of them, except the last, having been executed before the Spanish authorities, whose duties, it is believed, required that they should be satisfied of the right of the seller, ought to be regarded as sufficient evidence of title. The claim, therefore, although no evidence of occupancy has been adduced, ought, in the opinion of the Commissioners, to be confirmed.

No. 30. Edward C. Nichols claims seven arpens front by the depth of forty arpens on the west side of the Bayou Teche, and seven arpens front on the east side of said bayou, opposite the above, of which four arpens extends to half of the depth of the woods, and the other three to the whole depth of the woods, by virtue of two purchases, one from Francois Cesar Boutle, acting for Philip Boutle, for four arpens front on both sides of the bayou, with the depth of forty arpens on the west side, and to half of the depth of the wood on the east side of said bayou; the other from J. N. Kershaw and wife, for three arpens front by forty in depth on the west, and the like front on the east side, and extending to the depth of the woods. Philip Boutle purchased from Joseph Carlin, who is said to be the grantee. Kershaw and wife purchased from Francois Provost, who purchased from the said Carline. The deeds of sale establishing the transfers above mentioned accompany the notice. An affidavit is found among the papers in this claim, without date, but known to be in the hand-writing of Mr. Cocke, late a member of the Board of Commissioners, subscribed by Edward C. Nichols, the claimant, in the following words: "Edward C. Nichols, being first sworn in the presence of the board, says, that he has good reason to believe, and actually does believe, that the complete title mentioned in his notice made in favor of Joseph Carline, and upon which his title is founded, is lost, so that it will not be in his power to obtain the said original grant." No evidence of occupancy has been adduced. The Commissioners are of opinion that the deeds, all of which were executed before the change of Government before the proper Spanish authorities, and duly recorded, except those from Boutle and Kershaw to Nichols, which were executed since the change of Government, before L. C. De Blanc, justice of the peace, ought to be taken as sufficient evidence of title, and that the claim ought to be confirmed to the legal representatives of the deceased claimant, Edward C. Nichols.

No. 31. Emanuel Prudhomme claims a tract of land on the left side of Red river descending, containing about six arpens front, depth not mentioned, by virtue of a purchase from Madam Widow St. Denis, in 1788. The notice is accompanied by the deed of sale from the Widow St. Denis to Emanuel Prudhomme, dated 11 March, 1788, passed before Louis C. De Blanc, commandant of Natchitoches, "for the land which the said widow has occupied to this moment," situate on the other side of the river, bounded below by the Bayou de la Mobile, and above by land of Pierre Badin, such as it is, in exchange for another tract of land described in the deed. Antoine Prudhomme, before the board on the 20th November, 1811, hath deposed "that the said land, situate on the left side of Red river, was inhabited in the year 1788 by said St. Denis, and has been by those holding under her, without intermission, to the present date. The Commissioners consider the title to the land sufficiently established by the evidence of Antoine Prudhomme, and the deed of sale, but not having been able to ascertain the quantity to which the claimant is entitled, report the claim as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed for so much as may be found from survey to be within its proper limits.

No. 32. Joseph Quays claims 400 arpens of land in the county of Rapide, on the Bayou Rapide, by virtue of a concession from the Spanish Government, bearing date 15th November, 1802; and plat of survey by the late surveyor general, Carlos Trudeau, dated also in 1802; which tract is bounded on one side by the claim of Sarah Jeune, and on the other side by that of James Jeune. This claim being in all respects similar to those of Sarah Jeune and James Jeune, reported under Nos. 20 and 21, is likewise reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed.

No. 33. Victor Romaine claims ten arpens of land front by the depth of forty arpens, on the east side of the Bayou Teche, with a right in three acres on the west side of said bayou, by purchase from Louis Judice, who purchased it from Mr. Dauterieve, to whom it was conceded. A plat of survey dated in 1806, and an acknowledgment by Louis Judice, dated 24th December, 1806, to

have sold twelve arpens front on Bayou Teche by the depth of forty arpens, to Victor Romaine, bounded on one side by Forstall, and on the other by the seller, are the only documents filed in the claim. No proof of occupancy having been adduced, and the documents of title not being sufficient to establish the claim, or to show that it is part of a tract conceded by the Spanish Government, the Commissioners are under the necessity of reporting it as a claim which, in their opinion, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 34. The heirs of Francois Rambin claim a lot of land in the post of Natchitoches, fronting on the river, and running for depth to the street; bounded above by land of Andre Rambin, and below by that of Mr. Maes, by virtue of settlement and cultivation. The notice is unaccompanied by any document of title. Francois Perault, before the board the 14th December, 1811, hath deposed "that the said lot has been inhabited and cultivated for more than forty years immediately preceding this date." Barthelemy Rachel, on the 24th January, 1812, hath deposed "that the said lot has been inhabited and cultivated for more than thirty consecutive years immediately preceding this date." The witnesses have not stated by whom the lot was occupied. The Commissioners take it for granted it must have been the deceased Francois Rambin, or his representative, or some person for their use. The validity of the title being therefore established by the evidence, the Commissioners are of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed for the quantity which may be found within the known limits of the lot by survey.

No. 35. Heirs of Francois Rouquier claim 109 acres of land on the right bank of Red river, in a triangular form; bounded on the upper side by land claimed by Antoine Vascour, and on the lower side by land of the claimants. This claim being unsupported by any evidence of title, is reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 36. George F. Ross claims three thousand acres of land in the county of Washita, by virtue of a purchase from Nicholas Meriwether, attorney for Charles Lynch, who claimed under a concession of twelve leagues square of land from the King of Spain to the Baron de Bastrop. The notice of this claim is accompanied by an informal plat of survey, without date, showing the quantity of land claimed, and its situation on the left bank of the bayou Barthelemy. The deed of sale from said Meriwether, as the attorney of Charles Lynch of the State of Kentucky, is written on the same paper containing the plat of survey, and bears date 19 July, 1805. No other document of title, and no proof of occupancy, has been adduced in support of the claim: it is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 37. James Robertson claims 640 acres of land on the Mississippi river, in the county of Concordia, by virtue of settlement and cultivation, and by deed of conveyance from Philip Love, dated 29th January, 1806. The deed of sale above mentioned is the only document of title accompanying the notice of the claim. John Maylone, 1st March, 1806, hath deposed "that, in the spring of the year 1804, he was on the land claimed for the first time; that he knows that, in the month of September, 1803, Philip Love, with several negroes, were making an improvement on said land; that, in the spring following, they had built a small cabin, and cleared about two acres of land, which was planted in corn and pumpkins, but not cultivated during that season, and the land has remained uninhabited ever since." Isaac Burley, before Richard Cocke, esq., late land Commissioner, 7th March, 1809, at Concordia, hath deposed "that, on the 20th Dec. 1803, Philip Love, under whom the present claimant claims, was over twenty-one years of age, but his place of residence at that time is unknown to the deponent." George Ritchie, on the 5th October, 1810, hath deposed "that, in the month of September, in the year 1803, he was on the tract of land situate on the right bank of the Mississippi river, about nine miles above the mouth of Cole's creek, then claimed by Philip Love, and since transferred, as this deponent has understood, to James Robertson; that at that time the said Love was residing on the premises in question, had two or more cabins on it, and a small piece of ground cleared and under cultivation in cabbage and other vegetables; and that he, the said Love, did continue to inhabit and cultivate said land to the end of the year 1803, and for some years afterwards; and that he does not know or believe that the said Love did hold or claim any other land in the Territory." Elijah Cushing hath deposed "that, in the month of November or December, 1803, this deponent was on the land claimed, where he found Philip Love superintending several negroes, who were employed in cutting timber for market, for the benefit of Major Benjamin Kitchen, at that time an inhabitant of the Mississippi Territory; and that he does not believe that the said Love had at that time any intention of cultivating or claiming the land." The evidence of Elijah Cushing makes it appear that Philip Love, from whom James Robertson derives his claim, was on the land only as the agent of Benjamin Kitchen, and that Love had no intention of cultivating or claiming the land at the time he was on it in November or December, 1803. And no evidence having been adduced to establish that Love had any permission from the proper authority to occupy the land, the Commissioners are of opinion the claim ought not to be confirmed, and report it accordingly. It is understood that the claim of Benjamin Kitchen, derived from William Turner, and confirmed by Commissioners' certificate B, No. 1,533, is for the same, or part of the same, land.

No. 38. John Bte. Senate, as natural guardian for his son, Joseph Senate, claims 640 acres of land on the waters of Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas, by virtue of a settlement made previous to the year 1803. The notice of this claim is unaccompanied by any document of title. Charles McDaniel, before John Thompson, esq., late register, 25 January, 1809, hath deposed "that, for ten years past, the claimant, John Bte. Senate, hath cultivated the land claimed, but this deponent doth not know that any person except Indians hath ever resided on the same." Jacob Jarrard, before Richard Cocke, esq., late one of the members of the board, on the 22d January, 1809, hath deposed "that, about eight or nine years ago, the claimant settled upon a tract of land opposite to the land claimed, where he has resided ever since, and cultivated every year as well the tract claimed as the one on which he resided; that, about six or seven years ago, the claimant had a cabin on the land claimed, in which the negroes of the claimant then resided, but how long they had resided there the deponent cannot say." This claim does not come within the intendment of the act of Congress granting donations from the right of settlement, and, in the opinion of the board, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 39. Maria Simien, free negress, claims two arpens of land in front, with the depth of forty arpens, in the Big Woods, by virtue of inheritance from her son, who purchased it from the Widow Rideau. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a deed of sale from the Widow Rideau to Antoine Simien, dated in 1801, and a plat of survey of the land by Luke Collins, deputy surveyor under the Spanish Government, dated 31 December, 1800; the said surveyor setting forth, in his proces verbal, that it is part of a tract of twelve arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, granted to Michel Brignac, the 5th of March, 1778. The title to Brignac has been confirmed by the board, by certificate A, No. 1,918, of which this claim is believed to be a part, and therefore needs no further confirmation.

No. 40. Francois Sanbadon claims forty arpens front of land by the depth of forty arpens, on the right bank of the Mississippi river, between Red river and Chafalaya, by virtue of his petition, and the consequent decree of Governor Miro. The claimant having filed with the notice of his claim, the order of survey by Governor Miro, dated 7th February, 1785, on which the claim is founded, and which, being for the quantity of twelve arpens front by the depth of forty arpens only, the claim for that quantity has been confirmed by the certificate of the Commissioners, marked B, No. 1,037. The residue of the claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 41. John Sibley claims, under Paul Boit Laffitte, a tract of land containing about six and a half arpens, more or less, fronting Red river, with the usual depth of forty arpens back, bounded southerly or down the river by Louis St. Prie or Pierre Benoist, and northerly or up the river by the mouth of a large bayou called Coochenaha. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a certified copy of a deed of sale from Paul Boit Laffitte to John Sibley, dated 12 March, 1807, of which the following is a translation: "Before Marcell. de Soto, commandant, civil and military, at Bayou Pierre, in the province of Texas, on the 12th March, 1807, Boit Laffitte, inhabitant of Bayou Pierre, declares to have sold to John Sibley a tract of land in the vicinity of Grand Ecor, bounded above by the river and Benoist Montanery, until it strikes the Bayou Coachenaha." John Ris, aged about 53 years, before the board 18 February, 1813, hath deposed "that the land has been inhabited and cultivated for more than thirty consecutive years preceding this date." No other evidence of title has been adduced in support to the claim. The 2d section of the act of Congress of the 3d March, 1807, on which this claim is founded, restricts the benefit granted by that section to the person in possession, or the legal representative of the

person in possession of the land on the 20th December, 1803. It does not appear from the evidence adduced, that Paul Boit Laffitte was in possession of the land on the 20th December, 1803, and the board is disposed to believe he was not so in possession, because it has been suggested by Major E. Lamorandier, who is acquainted with Laffitte, that he has been many years an inhabitant of the Bayou Pierre settlement, where he was residing at the time of executing the sale, and because no document of title has been adduced to establish such possession. Even if it had been ascertained that he was the person in possession of the land as aforesaid, the Commissioners would not be inclined to recognize as legal and valid a deed of sale executed before a person subscribing himself "*Commandant for the district of Bayou Pierre, in the province of Texas, in the year* 1807;" 1st, because they have no means of knowing that he ever held such an office; and 2d, because it is contended that that settlement is within the proper limits of Louisiana, as ceded by the French Republic to the United States. The present claimant cannot, therefore, be considered the *legal representative* of Laffitte. For these reasons the Commissioners are of opinion the claim ought not to be confirmed.

No. 42. John Sibley claims under John Horn 195.35 acres of land in the county of Natchitoches, on the west side of Red river, about one mile below the town of Natchitoches, bounded east by that part of the river called False river, north and south by land supposed to be vacant, and west by Lake Terre Blanc, as it is called. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a plat of survey by a deputy surveyor, dated the 7th February, 1806, and a certified copy of a deed of sale from John Horn to John Sibley, dated 31 May, 1806, neither of which documents were presented to be filed with the notice of the claim until the 7th April, 1814. The course of the upper and lower lines of the plat, extending from the river to the lake, appear to have been altered, the one from S. 43° E. to S. 83° E., and the other from N. 43° W. to N. 83° W., the last mentioned courses agreeing with those inserted in the deed of sale. A duplicate of the plat being filed in the office of the principal deputy surveyor, by the said deputy, is found to correspond with what appears to have been the courses originally set on the lines of the plat filed in the claim, viz. the upper and lower sides, extending from the river to the lake, are S. 43° E. and N. 43° W. Pierre Elie, before the board the 16th June, 1812, hath deposed "that the land has been inhabited and cultivated for more than 20 consecutive years, first by Madam Sans Regret, and others claiming under her, to this day. No other evidence has been offered in support of the claim. The evidence of Pierre Elie, making it appear that Madam Sans Regret was the original claimant, and there being no document adduced to show that she had transferred her claim, or by which the nature and extent of the claim as originally held might be ascertained; and the other documents being unsatisfactory, together with the circumstance of there being one claim under an order of survey to John Horn confirmed, as may appear by Commissioners' certificate B, No. 1,955, this claim, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed, and they report it accordingly.

No. 43. John Sibley claims a lot of land in the town of Natchitoches on which he resides, bounded on the south by the river and by the lot on which the church stands, west by a public road or street, and extending back 200 poles. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a certified copy of a deed of sale from John B. Ailhaud St. Ann to Augustin Le Clerk, dated in 1801, for a lot of ground in the village of Natchitoches, containing half an arpent front on the river, bounded below by the church lot, above by the large road, and in the depth by the gully bordering the hill, which ——— presented to have been the property of the said St. Ann by purchase from John Lambre, as per deed in the records of the post of Natchitoches. A deed of sale from Louis Beltremaux, as testamentary executor of the estate of Le Clerk, to John Sibley and Timothy Terrel, dated 28th March, 1803, for said lot, with the house on it, and a receipt for the payment dated 20th February, 1804; also, the release of said Terrel to Sibley, in the same year, for all his right and title in the said lot, and a plat of survey by a deputy surveyor, dated in February, 1806, which last document was filled in the claim in April, 1814. Barthelemy Rachel, before the board the 23d January, 1812, hath deposed "that the land claimed has been inhabited and cultivated by the claimant and those under whom he claims, for more than thirty consecutive years immediately preceding this date." John Ris, on the 18th February, 1813, hath deposed "that the said lot has been inhabited and cultivated for a garden for more than thirty years immediately preceding this date." The plat of survey filled in the claim, not appearing to have marked the gully as a boundary on the back of the lot, conformably to the deed of sale from Ailhaud St. Ann, the Commissioners have required a re-survey of this, with other lots in the village of Natchitoches, but not having been able to obtain it on account (as the deputy surveyor of the district has asserted) of contentions between adjoining proprietors, this claim is reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed for the quantity which, from a satisfactory survey, shall be found within the proper limits of the lot.

No. 44. John Sibley claims under Francois Merceir and wife fifteen arpens front on the north, and ten arpens front on the opposite side of Red river, with the depth of forty arpens on each side, say one thousand superficial arpens. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a deed of sale from Louis Mercier and wife to John Sibley, dated 25th January, 1806, for all their right and pretensions to a tract of land on which the said Mercier and wife then resided, and on which they had lived for three years then last past; the situation and extent of which tract of land is not set forth in the deed of sale, but reference is had to the certificate of Felix Trudeau, of the same date with the deed, 25th January, 1806, written on the back of the paper containing the deed of sale, and of which certificate the following is a translation in substance: "Felix Trudeau, captain of infantry, heretofore commandant of Natchitoches for his Majesty, certifies that, in the year 1802, he gave permission to Louis Mercier and his family to settle on a tract of land about the Lake Paulideau, and on the river, bounded above by land of Antoine Poisot, and below by the bayou, and ten arpens on the opposite side." The quantity of land to which Louis Mercier and wife might have set up a claim under the permission of Mr. Trudeau, as above stated, is uncertain and undetermined, and the evidence of permission is, from having been given since the change of Government, and not under the solemnity of an oath, insufficient. No proof to establish occupancy has been adduced, and the claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed. The notice is supposed to be erroneous in claiming under Francois instead of Louis Mercier, whose deed is filed.

No. 45. Nicholas Thibedeau claims six arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the east side of the Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas, and twelve arpens superficial on the opposite side of said bayou, at the Prairie Grocheveriel, by virtue of a sale from Don Louis De Clouet. The notice is accompanied by a deed of sale from said De Clouet to the claimant, dated 2d May, 1796, for a tract of land situate on both sides of the river Teche, at a place called Grand Point, to wit, six arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the left or east bank, and twelve superficial arpens, (four arpens front by the depth of three arpens,) on the right or west bank of said river—bounded on one side by land of Jesse E. Lacy, and on the other side by the land of the seller. No proof has been offered to establish occupancy or possession. The Commissioners are of opinion that the deed passed before the commandant, and duly enregistered, ought to be taken as evidence of title, and that the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 46. Widow Olivier Thibedeau claims ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the east side of the river Teche, at a place called Prairie Grocheveriel, and twenty-one superficial arpens on the west side of said river, county of Attakapas, by virtue of a purchase from Jesse E. Lacy, by her deceased husband. The notice of the claim is accompanied by the deed of sale from Chevalier De Clouet, acting for his brother, Louis De Clouet, to Jesse E. Lacy, dated 2d May, 1796, for ten arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, at a place called Grand Point, on the east bank of the Bayou Teche, joining land sold by same to Pierre Guidry, on one side, and on the other side by land of the seller, and seven arpens front by the depth of three arpens on the west side of the Teche, descending from a place opposite the boundary of Pierre Guidry. The claimant has produced no evidence of occupancy, nor does it appear how De Clouet became the proprietor of the land. The Commissioners are of opinion, however, that the sale executed before the commandant as early 1796, should be taken as evidence that De Clouet had a valid title in the land at that time. This deed being in the possession of, and produced by, the claimant, is at least strong presumptive evidence of Lacy's having transferred his title, as stated in the notice. The claim is therefore reported as one which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed to the present claimant, conformably to the sale from De Clouet to Lacy.

No. 47. Widow Olivier Thibedeau claims four arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, on the east side of the

Bayou Teche, at the Prairie Grocheveriel, by virtue of a sale from Pierre Broussard to her deceased husband. Although no original document of title nor proof of occupancy has been adduced in this claim, the introduction of an authentic deed of sale from Pierre Broussard to the deceased husband of the claimant, passed before the proper authority under the Spanish Government, is such evidence of title as to induce the Commissioners to report the claim as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 48. Julien Thomas, (widow,) claims a tract of land of seven arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, say 280 superficial arpens, in the Prairie of the Hill, county of Opelousas, by virtue of two complete titles, one to Pedro Bourdelon, and the other to —— ——, and by occupancy and regular conveyances. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a plat of survey made for Pedro Bourdelon by the late surveyor general, Charles Trudeau, for six arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, dated in 1791, and by no other document or evidence of title. Although the claim is unsupported by any evidence of occupancy, and no grant is found in the name of Pedro Bourdelon on the abstract of complete titles furnished the board, yet the plat of survey by the surveyor general under the Spanish Government, so early as the year 1791, ought, in the opinion of the Commissioners, to be taken as sufficient evidence of title, and the claim confirmed for the land included in the survey. The residue of the claim, to wit, one arpent front by the depth of forty arpens, being unsupported by any evidence of title, cannot be recommended for confirmation.

No. 49. Louis Veillon claims twelve arpens of land front by the depth of forty arpens, in the Prairie Grocheveriel, county of Attakapas, by virtue of a purchase from Martin Sondrique. Andre Martin, before the board the 11th May, 1813, hath deposed "that the land claimed is part of Louise and Carline De Clouet's concession, and sold to Martin Sondrique, who inhabited and cultivated the same constantly for twenty years past, and until he sold the same to Louis Veillon, who continued to have the land inhabited and cultivated to this day." The claimant, in his notice, refers to a plat of survey which is believed to be the same filed in the claim of Pierre Broussard, which appears to have been made for Martin Sondrique, and for the quantity of land claimed by Veillon. The claim, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed for the land claimed, if found within the tract conceded to Louise and Carline De Clouet, and on the claimant's producing the transfers necessary to establish his right.

No. 50. Charles Veger claims seven arpens and a half front with the depth to the gully, which divides his land from that of Noel Vasseur and his front line, six arpens and a half of which front is part of a survey of fourteen arpens front, made by the late surveyor general, Carlos Trudeau, on a deed of sale from Chevalier Villier to Francois Fontenot, who sold it to John Bte. Demarais, who sold to the claimant. The residue, to wit, one arpent front, is claimed as a part of a tract granted to Jo. Bte. Figurant. The notice of this claim is accompanied by a plat of survey by Carlos Trudeau, late surveyor general of the Spanish Government, dated in 1794, embracing four arpens front by the depth of forty, for Bte. Demarais, the said surveyor setting forth in his proces verbal, that a contestation between Baptiste Demarais and Joseph Andrepont, each having a concession for the same land, had been settled by establishing Demarais on four arpens front, and Joseph Andrepont on the residue of the tract. A deed of conveyance from Francois Fontenot to Jno. Bte. Demarais for six and a half arpens front, with the depth from the gully, which is the limit of the land of Victor Forest, and running —— Prairie, called Joseph Forest, —— 1801, and also a deed of sale from John Bte. Demarais to the claimant, for seven and a half arpens front, dated 4th January, 1804. No proof to establish occupancy has been taken in the claim. The Commissioners are of opinion that the plat of survey by the surveyor general, filed in the claim, and the deed of transfer from Fontenot to Demarais, which has been regularly passed before the commandant, in the year 1801, should be taken as sufficient evidence of title; and therefore report the claim as one which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed for the quantity claimed, not exceeding 300 arpens, equal to seven and a half arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, to be ascertained by the survey.

No. 51. Michel le Villain la Chapelle claims 360 arpens of land on the Bayou Siard, 160 arpens of which he claims under an order of survey to William Dawson, and the remaining 200 arpens by right of settlement. A plat of survey by James McLaughlin, a deputy surveyor under the Spanish Government, dated 26th February, 1801, embracing four arpens and a half front by the depth of forty arpens, on both sides of said Bayou Siard, is filed in the claim, together with the order of survey and deeds of sale to the claimant. By the testimony of James McLaughlin, taken in the claim, it is established, that on one side of the bayou, which is prairie land, and held under the order of survey, has been settled and cultivated from the year 1795, and that the tract on the opposite side of the bayou is woodland, unfit for culture. The claim to 160 arpens held under the order of survey, has been confirmed by Commissioners' certificate B, No. 416, leaving the residue, 200 arpens of woodland, the claim to which being unsupported by any document of title, except the plat of survey, and no proof of occupancy, is reported as a claim which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought not to be confirmed.

Signed duplicates, one whereof transmitted to the Commissioner of the General Land Office in the Treasury Department, the other deposited in the office of the Register of the Land Office at Opelousas.

WM. GARRARD,
LEVIN WAILES, } *Comm'rs.*
GIDEON FITZ,

By order of the Board:
LLOYD POSEY, *Clerk.*

14th CONGRESS. **No. 238.** 1st SESSION.

MILITARY BOUNTY LANDS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE, FEBRUARY 6, 1816.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

It is represented that the lands in the Michigan Territory, designated by law towards satisfying the land bounties promised to the soldiers of the late army, are so covered with swamps and lakes, or otherwise unfit for cultivation, that a very inconsiderable proportion can be applied to the intended grants. I recommend, therefore, that other lands be designated by Congress for the purpose of supplying the deficiency.

February 6, 1816. JAMES MADISON.

[The following documents were subsequently submitted to the Senate by the Committee on Military Affairs.]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, *Feb.* 16, 1816.

SIR: The enclosed papers contain all the information which the department can give upon the several subjects embraced by the resolution of the Senate transmitted to me in your letter of the 25th ultimo.

It is known that desertion to a very considerable extent, both before and since the peace, prevailed in the army. That portion of the men who now compose the peace establishment will not be entitled to their warrants until the expiration of their term of service. It is therefore probable that the appropriation of lands will not be found insufficient to satisfy the demands of those whose claim to military lands is now complete.

From the evidence transmitted, it is manifest that a change ought to be made in the location of the military tract lying in the Michigan Territory. The opinion of the Commissioner of the General Land Office will direct the attention of the committee to the lands which may be given in exchange for that tract.

I have the honor to be, respectfully,
Your most obedient and humble serv't,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

Hon. JAMES BARBOUR,
Chairman of the Military Committee of the Senate.

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
September 25, 1815.

SIR: It will, undoubtedly, become necessary for Congress, at their next session, to make further appropriations of land, to enable the Government to fulfil its contracts

with soldiers who enlisted into the army under the several acts of December 24, 1811, January 11, 1812, and December 10, 1814. To ascertain the quantity, reference must be had to the enlistments conformably to those acts.

The recruiting accounts furnish the best evidence; and, in fact, no other exists. The casualties of service were not reported to this office in the early part of the war; and it was not until after I came into the office that returns were procured, by which I can only ascertain the number of men in service after the last campaign.

Reference must therefore be had to the recruiting accounts of all officers, as rendered to your department for settlement. A list, showing the names of officers who have rendered recruiting accounts, the number of men enlisted by each, stating the number for five years, for the war, for one year, and for eighteen months, since the passing of the act of December 24, 1811, will furnish the necessary data, and enable me to make the estimate required. It is presumed nearly all the enlistments will have come in by the 1st of December next, at which time the information will be wanted.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
D. PARKER, *A. and I. Gen'l.*

ROBERT BRENT, Esq.
Paymaster of the Army.

ARMY PAY OFFICE,
City of Washington, December 23, 1815.

SIR: In answer to your letter of the 25th of September, I herewith enclose to you a statement showing:

1st. The number of recruits enlisted prior to the 10th of December, 1814, for the several periods of, "during the war," "five years," "eighteen months," and "twelve months."

2d. The number enlisted since the 10th of December, 1814, for the periods of "during the war," and "five years." And,

3d. The aggregate or whole number enlisted since the 24th of December, 1811.

This statement, it must be borne in mind, is necessarily imperfect, and falls far short of the number actually enlisted; and for the following reasons:

1st. Because it does not include any of the recruits contained in recruiting accounts which were *settled* in this office previous to the 24th of August, 1814, the *copies* of which were destroyed by the enemy; the originals were, as usual, sent up to the other offices of the Government.

2d. Because there may be, as there undoubtedly are, many recruiting accounts not yet lodged in this office; whilst there are probably others that have been lost or destroyed by unavoidable casualty, and never can be lodged here by the officers to whom they belonged.

I have taken the 10th of December, 1814, as a dividing point between the enlistments, on account of the increase of the land bounty from 160 to 320 acres, by the law of that date.

I am, respectfully, sir, your most obedient,
ROBERT BRENT,
Paym. U. S. Army.

BRIG. GEN. DANIEL PARKER,
Adjutant and Inspector General U. S. Army.

STATEMENT,

Showing, as far as can well be ascertained from the accounts rendered to this office, the number of recruits enlisted under the several acts of Congress, passed since the 24th of December, 1811, *for the several periods of, "during the war," "for five years," "for eighteen months," and "for twelve months;" taken from the recruiting accounts which have been settled since the 24th of August,* 1814, *and from those remaining unsettled.*

Enlistments prior to December 10, 1814.				Enlistm'ts since Dec. 10, 1814.		Aggregate.			
For the war.	For five years.	For 18 months.	For 12 months.	For the war.	For five years.	For the war.	For five years.	For 18 months.	For 12 months.
16,663	16,660	3,386	6,713	814	480	17,477	17,140	3,386	6,713

RECAPITULATION.

For the war,	17,477	
For five years,	17,140	34,617
For 18 months,	3,386	
For twelve months	6,713	
	44,716	

ARMY PAY OFFICE,
City of Washington, Dec. 23, 1815.
ROB. BRENT,
Paymaster U. S. Army.

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
February 9, 1816.

SIR: Conformably to your orders, I have the honor to lay before you the best information I have been able to collect relative to the number of men who are entitled to lands for military services during the late war.

The imperfection and irregularity of the returns in the early part of the war, compelled me to resort to the recruiting accounts as rendered to the pay office; and I enclose the report of the paymaster of the army on this subject, by which it will appear that he has no certain information of more than 34,617, who were enlisted under the acts giving bounty lands. The first correct report I was able to obtain after I entered on the duties of this office, was a return and descriptive list of the army in February, 1815, by which it appears, there were in service at the close of the war 34,000, who had been enlisted conformably to the acts giving bounty lands for military services. If to this number be added those of the same description whose enlistments have been returned to the accounting officers, it will give an estimated aggregate of 68,500 men, who are entitled to 160 acres each, equal 10,960,000 acres of land for military services, rendered by the non-commissioned officers, musicians, and privates of the army, during the late war.

I have the honor to be, with perfect respect,
Sir, your most obedient servant,
D. PARKER, *A. and I. Gen'l.*

The SECRETARY OF WAR.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, *January* 22, 1816.

SIR: It appears from the representations of the persons employed in surveying the lands in the Michigan Territory, designated by an act of Congress for satisfying the land bounties promised to the soldiers of the late army, that the greatest portion of those lands are not fit for cultivation, and cannot, according to the provisions of that act, be granted in discharge of the obligation on the part of the Government to grant lands fit for cultivation. As it is presumed that Congress will appropriate other lands in lieu of those which have been found to be unfit for cultivation, I will thank you to designate the tract of country which it will be most expedient to set apart for that purpose. It may also enter into the policy of Congress to change the location of the military tract upon the Arkansas to the public lands east of the Mississippi, if such change can be made without injury to the public interest. Any information which you may be able to furnish upon this subject, will oblige, sir, &c.
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

JOSIAH MEIGS, Esq.
Commissioner of the General Land Office.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, *January* 26, 1816.

SIR: Your note of the 22d of this month was received yesterday. It requests me to designate a tract of country which it may be most expedient to set apart for satisfying military land bounties for services during the late war, in the place of two millions of acres directed to be surveyed in the Territory of Michigan.

It is believed, from the representations made to this office from the surveyor general, (of which a copy accompanies this,) that a sufficient quantity of land cannot be found in that Territory of such quality as was intended by law to be applied to the reward of the soldiers of the late army.

The tract of country ceded by the treaty of St. Louis, November 3, 1804, contains, by estimation, at least nineteen millions of acres. This tract is believed to be generally very good land. Two millions of acres, lying in the fork of the rivers Mississippi and Illinois, are now surveying. I therefore recommend that two million acres, in lieu of that in the Territory of Michigan, be appropriated in the Illinois cession.

Should it be the policy of Congress to change the location of the military tract upon the Arkansas, I recommend that the appropriation be on that tract which was ceded by the treaty of Fort Wayne, September 30, 1809, which is commonly called Harrison's Purchase.

This tract contains about two millions eight hundred and thirty-four thousand acres; it is already surveyed; it is excellent land; and, if offered at public sale, would speedily be purchased.

There are large quantities of land in the several land districts northwest of the Ohio, which are now in market at two dollars an acre. Whether it may consist with good policy to permit the application of any part of those lands to the satisfaction of military claims, must be left to the wisdom of Congress to decide.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, yours,
JOSIAH MEIGS.

The Hon. Wm. H. Crawford,
Secretary of War.

Surveyor General's Office,
Chillicothe, November 30, 1815.

The surveyors, who went to survey the military land in the Michigan Territory, have been obliged to suspend their operations until the country shall be sufficiently froze so as to bear man and beast. Knowing the desire of the Government to have the lands surveyed as soon as practicable, and my earnest importunities to urge the work forward, they continued at work, suffering incredible hardships, until both men and beasts were literally wore down with extreme sufferings and fatigue. The frost set in early, and the ice covered nearly the whole country, but broke through at every step, and the pack horses could not be got along with them. They were therefore obliged to submit to the climate and its attendant rigors, and desist for a while, intending to attack them again so soon as they think it possible to proceed.

I annex a description of the country, which has been sent to me, and which, I am informed, all the surveyors concur in: it was only yesterday I received it, and heard of their return. So soon as their health and strength is recruited I expect to see them all, only one of them having been here yet. In the mean time, I think it my duty to give you the information, believing that it is the wish of the Government that the soldiers should have (as the act of Congress expresses,) lands fit for cultivation; and that the whole of the two millions of acres appropriated in the Territory of Michigan will not contain any thing like one hundredth part of that quantity, or is worth the expense of surveying it. Perhaps you may think with me, that it will be proper to make this representation to the President of the United States, and he may arrest all further proceedings, by directing me to pay off what has been done, and abandon the country.

Congress being in session, other lands could be appropriated in lieu of these, and might be surveyed as soon as those in Michigan; for when the ice is sufficiently strong to bear man and beast, a deep snow would still embarrass the surveyors. I shall, therefore, wait to hear your answer to this communication before I proceed any further, thinking I should be unfaithful to my trust if I had lost any time in communicating the information received.

Description of the military lands in Michigan Territory.

The country on the Indian boundary line from the mouth of the great Auglaize river, and running thence for about fifty miles, is (with some few exceptions,) low wet land, with a thick growth of underbrush, intermixed with very bad marshes, but generally very heavy timbered with beech, cottonwood, oak, &c.; from thence continuing north, and extending from the Indian boundary line eastward, the number and extent of the swamps increases with the addition of numbers of lakes from twenty chains to two and three miles across: many of the lakes have extensive marshes adjoining their margins, sometimes thickly covered with a species of pine called "tamirak," and other places covered with a coarse high grass, and uniformly covered from six inches to three feet (and more at times) with water: the margins of the lakes are not the only places where swamps are found, for they are interspersed throughout the whole country, and filled with water as above stated, and varying in extent. The intermediate space between the swamps and lakes, which is probably near one half of the country, is, with a very few exceptions, a poor barren sandy land, on which scarcely any vegetation grows, except very small scrubby oaks. In many places that part which may be called dry land is composed of little short sand hills, forming a kind of deep basins, the bottom of many of which are composed of a marsh similar to those above described. The streams are generally narrow, and very deep, compared with their width; the shores and bottoms of which are (with a very few exceptions) swampy beyond description; and it is with the utmost difficulty that a place can be found over which horses can be conveyed. A circumstance peculiar to that country is exhibited in many of the marshes, by their being thinly covered with a sward of grass, by walking on which evinced the existence of water, or a very thin mud, immediately under that thin covering, which sinks from six to eighteen inches from the pressure of the foot at every step, and at the same time rising before and behind the person passing over. The margins of many of the lakes and streams are in a similar situation, and in many places are literally afloat, On approaching the eastern part of the military lands towards the private claims, in the straits and lake, the country does not contain so many swamps and lakes, but the extreme sterility and barrenness of the soil continues the same. Taking the country altogether, so far as has been explored, and to all appearance, together with the information received concurring, the balance is as bad, there would not be more than one acre out of a hundred, if there would be one out of a thousand, that would in any case admit of cultivation.

With great respect, I am
Your obedient servant,
EDWARD TIFFIN.

The Hon, Josiah Meigs,
Comm'r General Land Office, Washington.

Extract of a letter from the same to the same, dated 11*th December*, 1815.

I am very anxious to hear from you since my representation of Michigan went on. Subsequent accounts confirm the statements, and make the country out worse (if possible) than I had represented it to be.

14th Congress. **No. 239.** 1st Session.

CLAIMANTS UNDER BRITISH GRANTS IN THE MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 12, 1816.

Mr. Robertson made the following report:

The Committee on the Public Lands, to whom were referred the memorial of the House of Representatives of the Mississippi Territory, and the memorials of sundry inhabitants of said Territory, as also the memorial of Seth Hunt on the same subject, respectfully submit the following report:

The Legislature and people of the Mississippi Territory express much solicitude in relation to a general and grievous litigation which is likely to arise in that section of country between residents claiming lands under Spanish grants, and non-residents claiming the same lands under British grants, and pray that Congress may interpose to prevent the consequences which such a state of things may produce.

As this is a subject of considerable interest, and one which requires much investigation, the committee have given it particular attention, and have now to submit the following views to the consideration of the House.

In the year 1763 the British Government obtained from France, by treaty, all that part of Louisiana which lies east of the Mississippi river and Island of New Orleans: and, in some short time afterwards, added to it the adjacent territory, extending eastwardly to the Appalachicola and northwardly to the Yazoo, and called

the whole West Florida. In 1780, during our revolutionary war, this country fell into the hands of Spain by conquest, limited as above described. By the preliminary articles of peace between the United States and Great Britain, signed in November, 1782, the 31st degree of north latitude was agreed upon as our southern boundary. By the preliminary articles of peace between Spain and Great Britain, signed in January, 1783, West Florida was ceded to the former; and by the treaties of peace concluded in September, 1783, the above preliminaries were finally confirmed.

Notwithstanding our southern limit was thus clearly defined, Spain continued to hold possession of the country as far north as the mouth of the Yazoo, which lies in about 32° 30″ north latitude, under the pretence that it formed a part of West Florida, which had been ceded to her. In 1795 a treaty was concluded between that country and the United States, by which the 31st degree of north latitude, established in 82 and 83, is again acknowledged to be our rightful boundary; and the territory lying between that line and the mouth of the Yazoo was delivered up to us in 1798.

It has been before stated, that, from 1764 to 1780, this country belonged to England. Whilst in her possession a large portion of it was granted away to her subjects, in tracts of various magnitude. It has been also stated that, from the latter period to 1798, it remained in the possession of Spain. Spain exercised complete jurisdiction over it during this time, followed the example of England, and made grants of land to the inhabitants, as her subjects. These latter grants covered many tracts for which British patents had previously issued; and hence the conflicting claims to a great portion of the most valuable settled lands in the Mississippi Territory.

A concise view of the principles which influenced the different Governments through whose hands this country has passed, in granting lands to their subjects, will not be deemed improper, and may facilitate the decision of the question which is submitted to the consideration of the House.

It will appear, from an examination of a proclamation of the King of England, dated on the 7th of October, 1763, (see Land Laws, p. 14,) that it was an early policy of the Government to increase the population of the province by making moderate concessions of royal domain to actual settlers. This principle, it is believed, was seldom departed from. It had before regulated the French Government, whilst the country below the 31st degree of latitude belonged to France. Although some large grants have been made, it is probable that this was done under special circumstances, or was a departure from the usual policy of the country. It will be seen too, from the instrument above alluded to, that cultivation and improvement were conditions of the grants, and that the power to issue them was given to the Governor alone. These principles were recognized and acted upon by the Spanish Government, when the country subsequently fell under their administration. It appears from the treaty between these two powers, dated in 1783, that the subjects of his Britannic Majesty were secured in their rights of property, or authorized to sell their estates, and remove their effects, as well as their persons. Time was given for these sales to be effected; and, subsequently, the lands not actually possessed and occupied in virtue of British grants, were re-granted by the Spanish Government to the inhabitants and settlers as vacant land appertaining to the royal domain.

It is not for the committee to say whether the British grants are void on account of their magnitude, because the conditions on which they were made may not have been performed, or because they were disregarded by the Spanish authorities, and the tracts covered by them re-granted as vacant land. Nor do they deem it incumbent on them to decide how far Spain was founded in keeping possession, granting lands, and performing other acts of sovereignty over the country, from the date of the treaty of peace of 1783 to the time of her yielding it up in 1798; or how far she had a right to annul the grants previously made by the British Government. In ascending to the source of the evils which exist, and which threaten with vexations the most intolerable, or entire ruin, a numerous and respectable portion of our fellow-citizens, they are found to flow from an omission on the part of the United States to take an earlier possession of the country in question; and, therefore, the present inhabitants, who may be the innocent victims of the course pursued, are, in the opinion of the committee, clearly entitled to the just and benevolent interposition of their Government.

Having concisely examined the proceedings of the British and Spanish Governments in relation to this subject, it may be proper now to inquire what has been done by our own, and what, in some measure in consequence thereof, yet remains to be done.

The State of Georgia claimed, in her individual capacity, the tract of country composing the Mississippi Territory. By certain articles of agreement between that State and the United States, the former cedes to the latter that district, under various stipulations. Among these is the following in relation to British and Spanish grants.

Article the 2d provides "that all persons who, on the 27th day of October, 1795, were actual settlers within the Territory thus ceded, shall be confirmed in all the grants legally and fully executed prior to that day by the former British Government of West Florida, or by the Government of Spain."

It would seem that the principle expressed in the above mentioned articles of agreement, is in some measure departed from by Congress in subsequent proceedings relative to the adjustment of private claims in the Mississippi Territory.

By the 6th section of the act of March 3, 1803, the Commissioners are authorized to give certificates, stating that claimants are confirmed in their titles by virtue of the said articles; but by a subsequent clause, this confirmation amounts to nothing more than a relinquishment of claim on the part of the United States. It may be proper further to state, that, by the first section of the above recited act, certain incomplete titles derived from Spain are confirmed by the United States; that, by the second section, donations are made to one description of actual settlers; and that, by the third, rights of pre-emption are given to another description. But by the sixth section, already referred to, if any of the lands claimed by virtue of either of these three sections are also claimed under a British grant legally and fully executed, and recorded according to law, the Commissioners are to state in the certificates the existence of the adverse (British) claim; and the claimants under this act are not entitled to a patent, unless they shall have obtained in their favor a judicial decision in a court having jurisdiction of the case.

It will appear from the above, that, by the articles of agreement with Georgia, the inhabitants of the Mississippi Territory who hold Spanish grants legally and fully executed, are confirmed in their titles; and that, by the act of Congress referred to, the confirmation of these titles is made to depend on a circumstance superadded, viz. that the lands claimed by them should not have been before granted by the British Government. Thus their rights have been rendered less secure, and the British grantees encouraged to come forward with their claims, which by the acts of the Spanish Government, and by the articles above mentioned, were, if not annulled, at least disregarded.

Under this view of the case, it becomes a question how far the Government of the United States would be bound in law to compensate the Spanish grantees for the losses they may sustain by any decision which would transfer the lands to British grantees. Without deciding it, the committee are of opinion that, considering the omission of the Government to take earlier possession of the country in question, the acts passed subsequently to the agreement with Georgia, the vexatious litigation to which the inhabitants are liable, and the ruin which may by possibility be brought upon them, it becomes the justice as well as the beneficence of the Government to avert the evil, by appointing some tribunal to decide on the validity of the British grants, and, in the event of their being established, to make those interested in them that compensation with which they will probably be satisfied; and thus rescue from ruin those who have expended their labor and industry on lands which have been held quietly for years past, by themselves or their predecessors, and which, had the dominion of Spain continued, never would have been even claimed, much less taken from them.

The committee, therefore, respectfully submit a bill for quieting and adjusting claims to lands in the Mississippi Territory.

A List of British Grants filed with the Register of the Land Office at Washington, Mississippi Territory, and claimed by non-residents.

	Acres.	Situation.
Earl of Eglinton	20,000	Near Natchez.
F. A. Haldeinan	1,500	Three tracts, near Natchez.
Sir G. B. Rodney's heirs	5,000	On Mississippi, above Natchez.
John Stevenson	3,000	Three tracts, a few miles from Natchez.
Augustin Prevost	9,000	Do do do
Mrs. Wegg	3,000	Do do do
Elihu Hall Bay (of South Carolina)	16,375	Several tracts.
Alexander M'Cullah (of South Carolina)	3,700	Do
Philip Barbour	2,000	On Mississippi, at Grand Gulph.
Robert Farmer's heirs (Pennsylvania)	3,000	On Tombeckby.
Thomas Davy, now Admiral Spry	3,500	Bayou Pierre, &c.
William Wilton's heirs	1,600	Several tracts.
James Amos	600	On Mississippi.
Legal representative of Thad. Lyman (John Peck, of Boston)	20,000	Bayou Pierre.
	92,275	
The following claimed by Seth Hunt:		
For the heirs of Herbert Munster	2,000	Near Natchez.
For the representatives of Major Francis Hutchinson	3,000	Do
For Sir William Dalling	5,000	On Mississippi, above Natchez, 5 miles.
For the heirs of the Hon. John Vaughan	1,000	Above Natchez.
For the heirs of Thomas Creik	1,000	Do
For the heirs of Captain Thomas Boyd	1,350	Do
For the heirs of John Bradley	4,140	Near Natchez.
For Major Thomas Gamble	2,000	Do two tracts.
For Admiral Sir Richard Onslow	1,000	On Mississippi, below Natchez.
For the heirs of Major John Small	3,000	Near Natchez.
For Sylvester Fanning	2,000	At Loftus' Heights.
For the heirs of John Jones	600	Do
For the Earl of Harcourt	10,000	Forks of 2d and Homochitto.
For Admiral Fergusson	3,000	Back of Natchez.
For Captain Nunn	3,000	Do
For Admiral McDougal	3,000	Bayou Pierre.
For the heirs of Arthur Neil	3,500	Bayou and Buffalo.
For the heir of William Burrows	600	
For the heir of Thomas Comyn	10,000	On Mississippi.
For Admiral Bentinck	10,000	
For the heirs of Philip Affleck	5,000	
For Robert Tindall, Esq.	2,000	
For Samuel Fortenelle	3,000	
For Lewis Gordon	3,000	
	174,465	

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.

The Legislative Council and House of Representatives of the Mississippi Territory in General Assembly convened, view with anxious solicitude and sympathy of feeling, the dangerous and distressed situation to which a numerous part of their fellow citizens are exposed by pretended claims, under British patents, to a great portion of the lands situated in this district, now held by virtue of Spanish patents, and claims derived from the United States by donation and purchase.

Although your memorialists are not of opinion that the said British claimants are legally or justly entitled to the lands claimed by them, still they are apprised of the trouble, vexation, and uncertainty of a lengthy law suit, which must finally be determined in the Federal Court of the United States, and not by a jury of the county. Your memorialists therefore appeal to your honorable body, and pray that you will, (in the plenitude of your power,) put the subject at rest, by a compromise or otherwise, as to you, in your wisdom and justice, may seem most proper.

As there are, perhaps, many of your honorable body who, from distance of residence, may not be entirely acquainted with the nature of those conflicting claims, your memorialists beg leave to state such facts as may be of importance.

The patents by which those British claims are held, were granted prior to the treaty of seventeen hundred and eighty-three. The tracts of land covered by them are, for the most part, of enormous size, and granted to the favorites of England. In many cases the lines were never run, nor had they any other than natural boundaries, and but few of the grantees, if any, were ever in possession. One great ground upon which they assert their claims is, the treaty commonly known by the name of Jay's treaty; but it appears to your memorialists that they could not have been included in the just meaning of that treaty, as the United States were not in the possession of the territory at its date; but if those claimants were included therein, their claims were forfeited by their laches under proclamations of the Spanish Government.

At the close of the revolutionary war, the Spaniards were left in possession of this part of the Territory as the sovereign of the soil. The Government of Spain, seeing the evil consequences which would result to the country from land claims lying dormant, issued several proclamations, which had extensive publicity in the dominions of Great Britain, requiring those claimants to come forward by a given time and manifest their titles, or they should be considered as forfeited and re-granted. They either neglected or refused to comply, and the Government of Spain accordingly proceeded to re-grant those lands. The present holders, or persons from whom they have purchased for valuable consideration, under the full faith and credit of the Spanish Government, received those grants, and, wading through all the toil, difficulty, and danger attending the settlement of a new country, have improved those lands (which at that time were considered of little or no value) at the expense of vast labor and treasure, until they have risen in value from ten to thirty dollars per acre. Under the Spanish Government those settlers remained in quiet and peaceable enjoyment of their lands, because the British claims (with which our citizens are now threatened) were considered as invalid. They lay dormant, and would forever have slept, had it not been for the event of the United States getting possession of the Territory, an event which has been hailed by every emigrant from the United States, and of whose Government they have shown themselves worthy, and have handsomely supported by their conduct during the late war.

Whether Spain was entitled to the sovereignty or not, your memorialists consider alike immaterial, as it is an immutable principle in all Governments that the acts of the ruling power (even of an usurper) have always, we believe, been considered valid by the succeeding Go-

vernment. The United States have confirmed every act of the Spanish Government, except that making void British claims; and this, although not confirmed, is not disavowed, but left yet to be determined. The United States have considered that not only the grantees of the Spanish Government who were actual settlers at a certain time, but even those who had made settlement under expectation of obtaining patents, should be confirmed in their claims. Can it then be just—can it be reasonable, that the subjects of Great Britain, who, from their laches, forfeited under one Government their claim to those lands, should be put in possession of immense bodies of the most valuable and fertile part of our country, which has been highly improved, at the expense of the vast labor and treasure of that numerous and respectable portion of our citizens who must either become tenants or be ousted from their possessions? Common sense forbids it. In behalf of these distressed people, your memorialists appeal to your honorable body as the only power that can afford them relief; as a body not bound down by what may be conceived the strict rules of jurisprudence, but whose province it is to legislate from the immutable principles of justice, from a sense of the moral and political fitness of things; and pray that in your wisdom your honorable body will reconsider the subject touching a compromise of those conflicting claims. And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will forever pray, &c.

Representatives' Chamber, Nov. 21, 1815.

GABRIEL MOORE,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

D. P. JANUARY, *Clerk.*

Council Chamber, Nov. 21, 1815.

THOMAS BARNES,
President of the Legislative Council.

FELIX HUGHES, *Secretary.*

14th CONGRESS. **No. 240.** 1st SESSION.

VIRGINIA MILITARY BOUNTY LAND CLAIMS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE FEBRUARY 13, 1816.

Mr. BARBOUR, from the committee to whom was referred the resolution relating to the claims of the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line on State and continental establishment, for bounty lands, reported:

That it appears to your committee that sundry laws to promote and encourage the raising troops to carry on the war of the revolution, were passed by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia, by which certain bounties in land were promised to such meritorious persons as should, by their military services, bring themselves within the provisions of such laws. There were other laws enacted by the same authority, whereby, in consideration of military services already performed, this Commonwealth was pledged to remunerate other meritorious persons with a donation of public lands. That, in pursuance of their public engagements, many warrants for land were issued by that Commonwealth, which yet remain unsatisfied. That, to discharge these promises, Virginia had set apart her vacant and unappropriated lands lying upon the waters of the Cumberland, on the confines of the State of North Carolina. The boundary line between Virginia and North Carolina was then not settled; but this being afterwards fixed upon principles of justice and equity between the States, a portion of this land which had been supposed to belong to Virginia, actually proved to belong to North Carolina; and so this land fund, set apart to satisfy the bounties, became inadequate to its object. That there were lying within the chartered limits of the Commonwealth of Virginia other large tracts of unsettled lands, which were considered, at least by the people of that State, as the property of the Commonwealth, from which it was intended that these bounties, on the failure of the fund first appropriated for their satisfaction, should be fully discharged. That the old Congress, to promote the general interests of the Union, had recommended to the several States holding tracts of unsettled lands, to cede them to the United States for the purpose of forming one common fund for the benefit of the whole. The Commonwealth of Virginia with promptitude obeyed the patriotic call. On the 2d day of January, 1781, the Legislature of that State adopted resolutions containing propositions to cede to the United States all her vacant lands lying to the northwest of the river Ohio. But knowing that her troops, both on continental and State establishment, had claims upon her for bounties promised for military services, she annexed to the proposals for this cession stipulations for these bounties for her troops. That, among the terms proposed, the following were contained:

"TUESDAY, *January* 2, 1781.

"*General Assembly Resolve.*

"That, in case the quantity of good lands of the southeast side of the Ohio, upon the waters of the Cumberland river, and between the Green river and the Tennessee river, which have been reserved by law for the Virginia troops upon continental establishment, and upon their own State establishment, should, from the North Carolina line bearing in further upon the Cumberland lands than was expected, prove insufficient for their legal bounties, the deficiency shall be made up to the said troops in good lands, to be laid off between the rivers Scioto and Little Miami, on the northwest side of the river Ohio."

In this resolution, provision is proposed to be made for the Virginia troops, both on State and continental establishment, to satisfy their promised bounties in lands. These proposals for the cession of public lands, on the part of Virginia, were transmitted to Congress. Some of them were accepted by Congress unconditionally; others were accepted with alterations and modifications; and others were totally rejected. This proposal respecting the bounty lands, denominated the 5th in the series of propositions, was accepted by Congress as reasonable. But your committee find, that, in transcribing this proposition, as appears on the journals of the old Congress, an omission of the words "on State establishment" occurs; the cause of which cannot be pronounced upon with certainty. But as no discrimination is made between the officers and soldiers on the different establishments in approving the condition proposed by Virginia in regard thereto, the inference may be fairly deduced, that the omission of those on State establishment was accidental. This opinion is fortified by the consideration, that, where the terms of this cession did not meet their approbation, the objections are stated at length, and supported by reasons. On the contrary, where they were approved, their approbation was given without remark, save only that they were reasonable. This omission pervades all the subsequent legislative acts relating to this cession, and in the deed of cession made in pursuance of legal authority by the Virginia commissioners, transferring to the United States the lands northwest of the river Ohio, the omission equally exists.

Your committee submit to your consideration whether as this condition being found in the original terms proposed for the cession, as appears by the journals of the General Assembly of Virginia, embracing the troops on State establishment, of which they consider that the old Congress must have had notice, and being afterwards casually pretermitted, it would not comport with the equity and justice due from this nation to their revolutionary soldiers, to supply this accidental omission. It is worthy of remark, that the laws of Virginia, promising these bounties in lands to her State troops, were adopted previously to the cession made to the United States of her vacant lands; and, in a court of honor and conscience, it would perhaps be hardly questioned whether some latent equity to this subject was not created in behalf of these meritorious characters; and whether it would not follow this subject in the transfer to the United States,

and in their possession. Your committee further submit to your consideration whether, if the incapacity of Virginia to fulfil her engagement to her State troops has resulted from this accidental omission, it would comport with the magnanimity or justice of the United States to compel a member of the confederacy to be guilty of a breach of faith, whose consequences would affect the claims of the widows and orphans of the heroes of the revolution by whose valorous spirit the independence of these States was achieved, and who have every claim to the gratitude as well as the justice of their country.

The committee forbear to enter into an inquiry of the original title of Virginia to the ceded territory, as that question has been already decided by the acquiescence of the Union. It is from Virginia that the United States hold the territory, and subject to the conditions which she prescribed. Virginia asks of the Union scarcely one thousandth part of those fertile regions which she ceded without compensation, and she asks not for herself, but for the surviving relatives of those of her citizens who fought the battles of the revolution, many of whom are pining in want; for, unfortunately, the loss has fallen chiefly on orphans, and the poorest of her citizens.

This view of the subject leads the committee to recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That provision should be made, by law, for satisfying the claims for land bounty of the officers and soldiers of the said State on her own establishment.

14th Congress. **No. 241.** 1st Session.

LANDS CONTAINING PRECIOUS METALS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 13, 1816.

Mr. Middleton made the following report:

The Select Committee, to whom was referred the petition of Lewis Bringier, praying "that a law be passed permitting citizens of the United States, upon certain conditions, to open and work mines of the precious metals discovered upon the public lands," respectfully submit the following report:

That, by an ordinance of Congress under the confederation, bearing date 20th May, 1785, for the regulation of the sale of the lands situated within the territories ceded by individual States to the United States, and purchased of the Indian inhabitants, one-third part of all gold, silver, lead, and copper mines, was reserved to be disposed of as should be thereafter directed; and, by all the subsequent acts of Congress relating to the disposal of lands acquired since that period by treaty or otherwise, salt springs and lead mines only are reserved to the public. Under the existing laws, therefore, of the United States, there is no prohibition to the granting such tracts as may contain mines of the precious metals, such grants being, nevertheless, subject to the aforesaid reservations, when situated within the aforesaid limits respectively. The mines of the precious metals, presumed to exist upon the testimony of the petitioner, are by him represented as being situated westward of the Mississippi, in a tract of country not yet surveyed or offered for sale under the public authority, although the Indian title thereto appears to have been extinguished previous to the acquisition of Louisiana by the United States.

Your committee deem it unnecessary to inquire whether any, or what precise degree of encouragement should be given in the present state of our country to the opening and working of mines of the precious metals. They are not unaware that the true wealth of a nation consists in the abundance of those articles of prime necessity which either serve to the subsistence of man, or which exercise his industry; yet, the precious metals, in themselves destitute of intrinsic value, having become the conventional signs of value among all civilized nations, their abundance or scarcity cannot be a matter of indifference—the search for them, wherever they are to be found, is a pursuit of the most inviting kind, and powerfully stimulates the cupidity of mankind. If, then, it be a fact that nature has placed any portion of these metallic riches within the bounds of our territories, it cannot be doubted but that the progress of population and of national industry will lead our citizens to avail themselves of the advantages to be derived from their extraction and purification; and, in such case, it must be desirable so to direct and control the operation, as to enable the Government simultaneously to derive a fair advantage from its possessions, without imposing such tax or duty as might induce the clandestine and fraudulent extraction of the precious metals from the public domain.

With a view to the attainment of this object, and to avoid acting upon the subject of the petition without the necessary information, your committee would recommend a reference of the whole matter to the Executive Department of the Government; for which purpose they ask leave to report a bill enabling the President to lease out or grant, for a term of years, mines of the precious metals discovered upon the public lands.

14th Congress. **No. 242.** 1st Session.

PRE-EMPTION RIGHTS, AND DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE AMOUNT RECEIVED FOR LAND SOLD AT PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SALE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 15, 1816.

General Land Office, *February* 14, 1816.

Sir: In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives, dated 12th instant, I transmit, herewith, an estimate of the number of acres of land to which rights of pre-emption have been granted to individuals, so far as the said grants appear on the records in this office. Other pre-emption rights have been granted by law, which do not yet appear on the said records: for instance, in the Illinois Territory, where the claimants may enter their claims until the 1st of May next, agreeably to the act of 27th February, 1815. I also transmit a statement of the difference in the amount of moneys for lands sold at public and at private sale.

I have the honor to be,
Most respectfully, sir,
Your obedient servant,
JOSIAH MEIGS.

The Hon. the Speaker
of the House of Representatives.

Estimate of the number of acres of land to which rights of pre-emption have been granted.

In the State of Ohio, - - - -	93,719
In Mississippi Territory, - - -	117,051
In Michigan Territory, - - -	1,094
Acres,	211,864

Statement of the difference in the amount of moneys for lands sold at public sale, and at private sale.

The sales of public lands from the opening of the land offices till the 30th of September last, were—

N. W. of the river Ohio,	5,922,732.72	for	$12,495,991 75
Mississippi Territory,	582,968.85	for	1,200,884 87
Acres,	6,505,701.57	for	13,696,876 62
If the above quantity had been sold at private sale, at $2 per acre, it would have produced - - -			13,011,403 14
Extra price obtained by public sales -			$685,473 48

—equal to about 10½ cents extra per acre upon the whole quantity sold.

14th Congress. No. 243. 1st Session.

CLAIM OF GABRIEL WINTER AND OTHERS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MARCH 8, 1816.

Mr. Robertson, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Gabriel Winter and others, reported:

That, on the 27th day of June, 1797, the governor general of the province of Louisiana and East Florida, then in the possession of Spain, conceded to Elisha Winter one thousand arpens of land square in the district of Arkansas; and to William Winter and Gabriel Winter, sons of Elisha Winter, each five hundred arpens square in the same district, by a deed of concession of that date. That the same was made upon the application of Elisha Winter, who was a citizen of the United States, and who had, previous to that time, erected at New Orleans, upon land granted by the provincial Government, an extensive rope-walk. The petitioners were required by the terms of the concession, as a condition precedent to the completion of their title to the lands thus conceded, to make settlements upon their respective tracts within the period of one year from the date of the concession: upon failure to comply with this condition, the concession was declared void. The petitioners were put into possession of their respective tracts in a short time after the concession was made, by the commandant of the district of Arkansas, who was charged by the governor general with the execution of the designs of the Spanish Government in this respect. It has not been proven to the committee that the condition of the settlement has been complied with by any of the original grantees except William Winter, who, with Elisha Winter, made an actual settlement upon William's tract agreeably to the terms of the concession, and erected a dwelling-house, and cleared land at great expense.

They continued to occupy and cultivate the land thus settled from the time of the settlement until the country was taken possession of by the United States. The provisions of the law respecting land titles in that section of country have been complied with by the petitioners, and their title papers and other proofs of their claims recorded in the proper office. The encouragement of agriculture and the population of the district are the reasons assigned upon the face of the concession for its execution. In addition to these, it is proven that the Messrs. Winters were favorites with the governor general of the province; and that Elisha Winter, the father, had experienced great losses in the destruction of his rope-walk at New Orleans by fire: this, it may be well presumed, was a strong inducement with the governor for making so large a concession. It is as well proven as any fact of the kind can be, that, if the Spanish Government had retained the title to this country, the claim thus conceded would have been perfected by a complete grant.

The principal difficulty in deciding in favor of the claims of the petitioners, arises from the quantity contained in the concessions. It has been the invariable practice of this Government to confirm to all claimants their concessions for the usual quantity of land conceded to settlers by the governors of the province, upon the proofs of a concession similar to the one made to the petitioners. The committee cannot say, with certainty, as to the extent of the powers of the governors in making grants: they however believe that, when the grant was simply for land, their powers were very unlimited. They are of opinion that the concession, so far as it relates to the five hundred arpens square, ought to be confirmed to the heirs of Elisha Winter, and that the prayer of the petitioners as to the balance of the claim be rejected. They report a bill for that purpose.

Note.—See Nos. 261, 316.

14th Congress. No. 244. 1st Session.

LAND TITLES IN LOUISIANA AND MISSOURI.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MARCH 23, 1816.

Mr. Robertson made the following report:

The Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the resolution of the 18th of December last, instructing them to inquire what amendments, if any, are necessary to the act of 12th April, 1814, "for the final adjustment of land titles in the State of Louisiana and Territory of Missouri," and certain resolutions of the General Assembly of the Territory of Missouri, presented on the 14th day of February last, as well as the petitions of sundry of the inhabitants of the State of Louisiana and Territory of Missouri, report:

That, soon after the acquirement of Louisiana by the United States, an act of Congress passed for ascertaining and adjusting the titles and claims to lands in that Territory, the principles of which were variously modified, and in some instances enlarged, by several successive acts, until that of 12th of April, 1814. In all the preceding acts the basis of confirmation or of grant was the acts of the claimant, to wit, the inhabitation, cultivation, or possession, of the lands claimed. The rigor of principle and of construction discoverable in these preceding acts, and in their execution, is supposed to have arisen from a distrust which was justly entertained by the Government of the genuineness or authenticity of some of the papers, purporting to be orders of survey which were presented at the public offices; but, after repeated adjudications and reviews, during ten years, it was fairly to be presumed that what was ante-dated or otherwise fraudulent, had been discriminated from the bona fide pretensions of the people. Congress, therefore, (the rubbish being thus cleared,) assumed enlarged and liberal principles, the exercise of which, at an earlier period, might have fostered speculations, which it was their desire to repress with every harshness consistent with the rights of the honest and the undesigning. We find them in their act of 12th April, 1814, with great propriety, confirming on the acts of the late Spanish Government, without very strictly inquiring as to the particular acts of ownership exercised by the claimant. Had these general provisions been made in the first instance, every class of claim might have been expected to occupy its proper place in the report of the Commissioners, according to its respective grade of merit; but, as the business has been conducted, much injury has been suffered, which we doubt not Congress will be disposed to remedy as far as circumstances will now permit. We find that, by the 3d section of the act of 13th June, 1812, the permission to settle, required by former laws, as well as the cultivation prior to, and on the 20th December, 1803, are dispensed with, if the party shall have cultivated eight months thereafter; and, in the following section of the same act, the recorder of land titles is required to make, without delay, an extract from the books of the Commissioners of those cases thus entitled to grant, when it is probable that, as *cultivation on 20th August*, 1804, was not sufficient under former laws for the grant of a claim, no evidence in relation to such a fact could be found on the books of the Commissioners as a matter of official course. There are indeed instances of their

reporting facts of a later date, but we have been assured that it was contrary to the usual order in which their business was transacted. The committee is of opinion that time should be given for the introduction of testimony as to cases of this description.

The 4th section of the act of 3d March, 1813, provides that, where the principle of donation has been previously settled by the Commissioners or by the recorder, and less granted than 640 acres, there shall be an extension to that quantity, provided the party claimed as much, and provided he were possessed thereof by known and ascertained boundaries. The committee remark that, under the pre-existent laws, and the instructions of the Secretary of the Treasury by virtue of the 8th section of the act of 21st April, 1806, the general impression must have been that the claimant under settlement right could only be entitled to quantity according to the number of his family, that is to say, one hundred arpens on his own account, one hundred arpens for his wife, fifty arpens for each child, and twenty-five arpens for each slave, and that he would probably claim only in that proportion, and we are assured that he did frequently claim only in that proportion. We think, therefore, that this extension should be made general, and not confined to those who disregarded the former arrangements, by claiming more than, under that state of things, they were entitled to hold.

The first section of the act of 12th April, 1814, provides for the confirmation of incomplete French and Spanish grants, or concessions, warrants, or orders of survey, with certain limitations therein expressed, provided the same contained a special location, or had been surveyed at the times respectively when the lower and upper provinces were actually transferred. At this period Congress appears, for the first time, (for very sufficient reasons, already stated,) to rest the validity of claims on the acts of the predecessor Government, and to avow the determination to complete all those which had been regularly inchoated. Why, then, so peremptorily insist on a survey? The party was in possession of the concession, order, or warrant, and it might, and probably was his misfortune, and not his fault, that it remained unexecuted. The surveying districts were extensive, and it was frequently a length of time after the receipt of an order before the officer was at leisure to describe the lands by metes and bounds. After the cession it became a penal offence to intrude upon the public lands, under whatever pretext, and no holder of these warrants or concessions could cause them to be surveyed until their abstract validity were recognized by the United States' Government. Thus has this class of claimants been kept out of rights derived from a former Government: wherefore, the committee advise that justice, however tardy, be now done, and provision made for the confirmation of such claims.

11th Congress. **No. 245.** 1st Session.

LAND CLAIMS IN THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APRIL 8, 1816.

General Land Office, 6 *April*, 1816.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit a copy of the report of the register of the land office and the receivers of public moneys at Opelousas, acting as Commissioners on claims for lands in the western district of the State of Louisiana.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,
JOSIAH MEIGS.

The Speaker *of the House of Representatives.*

To the Honorable Josiah Meigs, *Commissioner of the General Land Office, in the Treasury Department of the United States:*

The register of the land office and receiver of public moneys of the western district of the late Territory of Orleans, now State of Louisiana, have the honor to report their decisions and opinions, for the revision of Congress, on the following claims to land within the said district, which were filed with the register pursuant to the acts of Congress, entitled "An act giving further time for registering claims to land in the western district of the Territory of Orleans," passed the 10th March, 1812, and the act entitled "An act giving further time for registering claims to lands in the eastern and western districts of the Territory of Orleans, now State of Louisiana," passed the 27th February, 1813, classing and arranging the same as follows, viz.

Class No. 1, will comprise claims for lands held under complete patents, of unquestionable authenticity, which, having been filed with the register previous to the dissolution of the Board of Commissioners appointed for the purpose of ascertaining and adjusting titles and claims to lands in the said district, and found of record, have been transferred to the said board for confirmation, pursuant to the 5th section of an act of Congress entitled "An act for ascertaining and adjusting titles and claims to lands, &c." passed the 2d March, 1805. See note A, at the end of the report.

Class No. 2, will comprise claims founded on authentic orders of survey, conceded by the Spanish Government of Louisiana, which, with or without proof of occupancy, ought, in the opinion of the said register and receiver, to be confirmed. See note B, at the end of the report.

Class No. 3, will comprise claims founded on requettes, approved and sanctioned by the competent Spanish authority, or for lands which may have been surveyed by an authorized Spanish surveyor previous to the change of Government; and which, whether accompanied or not by proof of occupancy, ought, in the opinion of the said register and receiver, to be confirmed. See note C, at the end of the report.

Class No. 4, will comprise claims unsupported by any requette or concession under the former Government of Louisiana; but which, from regular transfers of title, bearing date anterior to the change of Government, before the authority competent to judge, and whose duty it was to decide on the validity of the title of the seller, whether supported or not by evidence of occupancy, ought, in the opinion of the said register and receiver, to be confirmed. See note D, at the end of the report.

Class No. 5, will comprise claims for lands which have been occupied or possessed ten consecutive years previous to the 20th day of December, 1803, which, in the opinion of the said register and receiver, ought to be confirmed for the quantity of land claimed, or within the acknowledged and ascertained limits thereof, provided the same shall not exceed the quantity of two thousand acres, pursuant to the second section of the act of Congress of the 3d March, 1807. See note E, at the end of the report.

Class No. 6, will comprise claims for lands on which settlements had been made prior to the 1st day of October, 1800; and inhabited and cultivated for three consecutive years from that date, by persons over the age of twenty-one years, or the heads of families, and not claiming or holding, in their own right, any grants or concessions for other lands from the French or Spanish Governments, ought to be, in the opinion of the said register and receiver, confirmed, pursuant to the first section of the act of Congress of the 21st April, 1806, for the quantity claimed, or within the acknowledged and ascertained limits of the same, not exceeding one mile square, or 640 acres. See note F, at the end of the report.

Class No. 7, will comprise claims founded on occupancy subsequent to the 1st of October, 1800, and previous to the 12th day of April, 1814; and claims founded on occupancy, commenced previous to the said 1st day of October, by persons holding, or having held, other lands in their own names in Louisiana, under French or Spanish grants, or concessions; and which claims do not come within the purview of classes Nos. 5 or 6, ought not, in the opinion of the said register and receiver, to be confirmed, the right of pre-emption to the extent of one hundred and sixty acres (a quarter of a section) being secured to the settler by an act of Congress passed the 12th of April, 1814. See note G, at the end of the report.

Class No. 8, will comprise claims which, being accompanied by no document of title, of date anterior to the 20th day of December, 1803, nor proof of occupancy

and cultivation prior to the 12th of April, 1814, ought not, in the opinion of the register and receiver, to be confirmed. See note H, at the end of the report.

Class No. 9, will comprise claims for land occupied as vacheries; and whether with or without evidence of occupancy, ought not, in the opinion of the register and receiver, to be confirmed. See note I, at the end of the report.

Class No. 10, will comprise claims for land purchased from Indians, or tribes of Indians, whose sales, not having been ratified by any governor of Louisiana, are deemed null; and the claims such as, in the opinion of the register and receiver, ought not to be confirmed. See note K, at the end of the report.

Class No. 11, will comprise claims for land founded on documents of title, suspected to be counterfeit, or fraudulently obtained; and, in the opinion of the register and receiver, ought not to be confirmed; as well as claims founded on evidence of occupancy discredited by the register and receiver. See note L, at the end of the report.

FIRST CLASS.

No. 1.

32.* The heirs of Pierre Joubert claim 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. 12 arpens front by 40 in depth, situated in Grand Prairie, county of Opelousas; bounded on one side by land of Francois Petre, and on the other by vacant, at the date of the grant; held under a complete patent, granted to Pierre Joubert on the 4th May, 1776, under the signature and seal of Louis de Unzaga, then governor of Louisiana, for the quantity as claimed. The notice is accompanied by the patent, and a plat of survey by C. Bowling, for $406\frac{130}{605}$ acres, dated the 27th April, 1806. The evidence of Louis Fontenot, aged fifty years, taken the 5th June, 1813, establishes the land to have been constantly inhabited and cultivated, from the year 1779 or 1780, by Pierre Joubert, to the time of his death in 1812, and subsequently by his children.

No. 2.

37. Alexander Hebert claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 40 in depth, on both sides of Bayou Petite Anse, in the county of Attakapas; bounded on one side by land of Mathurin Hebert, and on the other by that of Anselm Martin; held under a complete patent to Joseph Hebert, granted the 23d June, 1781, under the signature and seal of Bernardo de Galvez, then governor of Louisiana, for the quantity as claimed. The notice is accompanied by the patent, and a certified copy of the judicial sale of said land to the claimant, sold as the property of Joseph and Francois Hebert; dated the 14th July, 1814, for 11 arpens front on the said bayou.

No. 3.

50. Margaret Boutin, widow of John Savoy, claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 40 in depth, situated in the Grand Prairie of Bayou Caron Crow, county of Opelousas; bounded, at the date of the grant, on one side by land of Pedro Guidry, and on the other by vacant; held under a complete patent to John Savoy, granted the 9th July, 1777, under the signature and seal of Bernardo de Galvez, then governor of Louisiana. The notice is accompanied by the patent, and a plat of survey by Carlos Trudeau, dated the 17th November, 1798, for the quantity of land as claimed. The evidence of David Guidry, taken the 8th July, 1812, states that the land has been possessed by the claimant and her deceased husband for more than thirty years, by taking their firewood and timber off this tract for the use of their farm on which they reside, about one mile above; but that it was not inhabited until about the year 1800, when the son of the claimant settled on the same, and still continues thereon.

No. 4.

184. Francois Gonssoulin claims 180 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by 30 in depth, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas; bounded, at the date of the grant, by the land of Michel Trahan on the north, and that of Joseph Martin on the south; held under a complete patent granted on the 17th February, 1772, to Michel Doucette, under the signature and seal of Louis de Unzaga, then governor of Louisiana, for six arpens on the west side of the bayou, forming a triangle ending at the depth of thirty arpens, and six arpens front by forty in depth on the east side of said bayou. The notice is accompanied by the patent, and two deeds of sale certified as copies; one dated the 11th December, 1795, from Pierre Darby, authorized by his mother, Marie Berchemin, to the claimant, for three arpens front on each side of Bayou Teche; the other, dated the 19th May, 1796, from Widow St. Marc Darby, as tutoress of her minor children, to the claimant, for three arpens front on each side of the Bayou Teche by the ordinary depth.

No. 5.

185. Francois Gonssoulin claims 180 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by 30 in depth, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas; held under a complete patent, granted the 17th February, 1772, to Bonaventure Martin, under the signature and seal of Louis de Unzaga, then governor of Louisiana, for six arpens front on the west side of Bayou Teche, forming a triangle ending at the depth of 30 arpens, and six arpens front by 40 deep on the east side of said bayou. The notice is accompanied by the patent, and a certified copy of a deed of sale from Thomas Berwick, attorney of Alexander Henderson, to the claimant, dated the 9th February, 1789, for 12 arpens front by 40 deep.

No. 6.

186. Francois Gonssoulin claims 180 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by 30 in depth, situated on the right bank of the Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas; held under a complete patent, granted to Antoine Bordas the 17th February, 1772, under the signature and seal of Louis de Unzaga, then governor of Louisiana, for six arpens front on the west side of the Bayou Teche, forming a triangle ending at 30 arpens in depth, and six arpens front by 40 in depth on the east side. The patent alone accompanies the notice.

No. 7.

201. Louise de Clouet, widow of Benoist de St. Clair, claims a tract of land of six arpens front on the west side of the Bayou Teche, in a triangle closing at the depth of 30 arpens, and six arpens front by 40 in depth on the east side of said bayou, in the county of Attakapas; bounded on the north by land of Jn. Baptiste St. Marc, and on the south by that of Michel Trahan; held under a complete patent, granted to Joseph Broussard the 17th February, 1772, under the signature and seal of Louis de Unzaga, then governor of Louisiana. The patent alone accompanies the notice, and is for the quantity of land as claimed.

No. 8.

240. John Hays claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by 40 in depth, situated on the left bank of Bayou Petite Anse, in the county of Attakapas, being the south moiety of a tract patented to Mathurin Hebert. This claim is supported, first, by a complete patent granted to Jean Louis Bondin on the 23d June, 1781, for 10 arpens front on each side of the Bayou Petite Anse, by the depth of 40 arpens, under the signature and seal of Bernardo de Galvez, then governor of Louisiana. Second, a deed of sale from Philip Verret to Joseph de Rouen, dated the 25th March, 1797, for five arpens front on Bayou Petite Anse, by the ordinary depth, and one arpent on the other side of the bayou by the same depth. Third, a deed of sale from Joseph de Rouen to Charles Trahan, for three arpens front by the ordinary depth, and one arpent opposite, by the same depth, on the Bayou Petite Anse, dated the 25th March, 1797. Fourth, a deed of sale from Joseph de Rouen, sen. to Joseph de Rouen, jun., dated the 28th January, 1800, for two arpens front on the east side of the Bayou Petite Anse, by the ordinary depth. And fifth, a private sale from Charles Trahan to Joseph de Rouen, fils, dated the 12th October, 1805, for three arpens front, by the ordinary depth, on Bayou Petite Anse. The patent, together with certified copies of said sales, accompany the notice.

No. 9.

218. Jean Baptiste Broussard claims 420 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 42 deep, situated on the Bayou Tortue, in the county of Attakapas; bounded on one side by land of Madam Dauterieve, and on the other by that of Freme Robichot, at the time granted; held under a complete patent, granted to the claimant for the land as claimed, the 6th September, 1776, under the signature and seal of Louis de Unzaga, then governor of Louisiana. The patent accompanies the notice.

No. 10.

219. Jean Baptiste Broussard claims 420 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 42 deep, situated on the Bayou Tortue, in the county of Attakapas; bounded on one side by land of the claimant and on the other by that of Pierre Broussard, at the time granted; held under a complete patent, granted to Freme Robichot, for the land as claimed, dated the 6th September, 1776, under the signature and seal of Louis de Unzaga, then governor of Louisiana. The patent alone accompanies the notice.

* Register's Numbers.

No. 11.

264. Olivier Landry claims 210 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by 42 deep, situated on Bayou Tortue, in the county of Attakapas; bounded on one side by land of the claimant, and on the other by the remaining half of the grant claimed by Grange; held under a complete patent to Francois Broussard, granted the 5th January, 1777, under the signature of Bernardo de Galvez, then governor of Louisiana, for 10 arpens front by 42 in depth. The notice is accompanied by the patent, and a plat of survey and proces verbal by Gonssoulin, for 7½ arpens front by 40 deep, dated the 22d Dec. 1794; and a certified copy of a sale from J. de la Roche, for five arpens front by 40 deep, dated the 20th December, 1791.

No. 12.

274. Firman Giroird claims 210 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by 42 deep, situated on the Bayou Tortue, quarter of the Cote Gelee, in the county of Attakapas; held under a complete patent granted to Pierre Broussard the 6th September, 1776, under the signature and seal of Louis de Unzaga, then governor of Louisiana, for 10 arpens front by 42 in depth. A part of the tattered and defaced grant, with a plat of survey by Gonssoulin, accompanies the notice.

☞ The other half of the patent is claimed under reported No. 119.

No. 13.

289. Gabriel Fusilier claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by 40 in depth, situated in the Prairie Long, on the gully of the Island of Cypress, in the county of Attakapas; bounded on one side by land of Paul Trahan, and on the other by vacant; held under a complete patent granted to Athanase Trahan the 4th May, 1776, under the signature and seal of Louis de Unzaga, then governor of Louisiana, for the land as claimed. The notice is accompanied by the patent, and a deed of sale from Athanase Trahan to Francois Gonssoulin, dated the 22d October, 1787.

No. 14.

290. Gabriel Fusilier claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by 40 in depth, situated in Prairie Long, on the gully of the Island of Cypress, in the county of Attakapas; bounded on one side by land of John Charles Hebert, and on the other by that of Athanase Trahan; held under a complete patent, granted to Paul Trahan, the 4th May, 1776, under the signature and seal of Louis de Unzaga, then governor of Louisiana, for the land as claimed. The notice is accompanied by the patent, and a deed of sale from Paul Trahan to Francois Gonssoulin, dated the 22d October, 1787.

No. 15.

291. Gabriel Fusilier claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by 40 in depth, situated in Prairie Long, on the gully of the Island of Cypress, in the county of Attakapas; bounded on one side by land of Paul Trahan, and on the other by vacant; held under a complete patent granted to Jean Charles Hebert the 4th May, 1776, under the signature and seal of Louis de Unzaga, then governor of Louisiana, for the quantity as claimed. The notice is accompanied by the patent, and a deed of sale from the widow of Michel Trahan to Francois Gonssoulin, dated the 22d October, 1787.

No. 16.

267. Joseph Grange claims 200, or 210, superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by 40, or 42, in depth, situated on Bayou Tortue, in the county of Attakapas; bounded on one side by land of Joseph Landry, and on the other by a part of the same grant, claimed by Olivier Landry; held under a complete patent to Francois Broussard, dated the 5th January, 1777, for 10 arpens front by 42 deep, filed in the claim of Olivier Landry, reported No. 11. The notice is accompanied by a plat of survey, and proces verbal for 200 arpens, five front by 40 deep, by Francois Gonssoulin, dated the 22d December, 1794.

No. 17.

385. Michel Cormier claims 320 superficial arpens of land, viz. eight arpens front by 40 in depth, situated in the Grand Coteau, county of Opelousas; bounded on one side by land of George Stelly, and on the other by vacant; held under a complete patent, granted to the claimant the 1st August, 1781, by Bernardo de Galvez, then governor of Louisiana. The patent accompanies the notice.

No. 18.

386. Michel Cormier claims 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front on each side of the Bayou Teche, by 40 arpens in depth, situated at Point *de Repos*, in the county of Attakapas; bounded above by land of the claimant, and below by that of Peter Higby; held under a complete patent, granted to Jean Baptiste Broussard, the 20th June, 1771, by Louis de Unzaga, then governor of Louisiana, for the land as claimed. The patent alone accompanies the notice.

SECOND CLASS.

No. 19.

1. Joseph Barbier claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by 40 in depth, situated on the left bank of the river Washita, at a place called the "Prairie Manoir," in the parish of Washita; held under an order of survey granted to Antoine Mathuline, dated the 15th September, 1797, and signed by Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, then governor of Louisiana, for 10 arpens front by 40 in depth. The notice is accompanied by the order of survey; a priva e sale from the Widow Mathuline to Francois Le Boeuf, dated the 8th January, 1802, for 10 arpens by 40; a certificate of the clerk of the court of Washita, that there is on file in his office a deed of sale from Francois Le Boeuf to Joseph Tafar, for two arpens front by 40 deep of the said land; a certified deed of sale from Joseph Tafar to Joseph Barbier, dated the 10th October, 1807, for two arpens front by 40 deep; a certified deed of sale from John Filhiol, sen., attorney of Messrs. Lille, Sarpy and Cortes, to Joseph Barbier, for four arpens front by 40 deep, dated the 15th March, 1809; a certificate of John Filhiol, certifying that, by virtue of a power from Louis Mailloux to Lille, Sarpy and Cortes, to sell his plantation on Prairie Manoir, which he purchased of Fs. Le Boeuf the 29th March, 1809, he, (Filhiol,) has made the above sale to Joseph Barbier. The evidence of John Hughes, taken the 27th May, 1812, establishes the land to have been constantly inhabited and cultivated from the year 1799 or 1800, its present occupancy, by a Mr. Jones, tenant of the claimant, and that Joseph Barbier, upwards of thirty years of age, has resided in the county of Washita for about ten years, to deponent's knowledge. The other six arpens front of this order of survey, are claimed under reported No. —.

No. 20.

3. Margaret Desbordes, widow of Clorée, and formerly wife of Francois Brunet, claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated on Bayou Placquemines Brulées, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of David Lejeune, and on the other by vacant; held under an order of survey, dated the 20th June, 1781, by Bernardo de Galvez, then governor of Louisiana, to J. F. Brunet, senior. The notice is accompanied by the order of survey. The evidence of Joseph Young, aged 35 years, taken the 29th October, 1812, establishes the occupancy of the land for the last seven years, by Alexandre D'Aigle, as tenant of the claimant; that no other tenants were on it before D'Aigle, and his belief of its having been inhabited and cultivated for at least fourteen years past.

No. 21.

9. Joseph Grangé claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by 40 in depth, (if to be found,) situated in the Prairie Sorrel, in the county of Attakapas, bounded on one side by land of Ozile Dugas, and on the other by the woods; held under an order of survey in favor of Jean Baptiste Landry, dated the 19th January, 1787, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana, for the land as claimed. The notice is accompanied by the order of survey, and a plat of survey dated the 25th January, 1806, by G. Flaujac, for 169 155-605ths acres, and a certified copy of a deed of sale from Joseph Broussard, Joseph Giroir, and their wives, to Joseph Grangé, dated the 3d March, 1806, for five arpens front by 22 deep. The evidence of Louis Richard, taken the 14th June, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated by the claimant, without intermission, since 1786, except two years of the time he resided with his father, on account of his health.

No. 22.

14. Charles Smith claims 106 90-100ths superficial arpens of land, viz. 38 Paris perches front by 280 Paris perches in depth, situated on the north or left bank of Bayou Bellevue or Bourbeux, bounded above by lands formerly belonging to John Tyson, and on the east and north by lands of Lorenzy Baillé; held under an order of survey in favor of Jacob Miller, for ten arpens front by forty in depth, dated the 3d June, 1789, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The notice is accompanied by the order of survey, a plat and proces verbal by Carlos Trudeau, dated the 31st January, 1801, who certifies that no more land was found vacant than 106 90-100ths arpens.

No. 23.

27. Madam Bertrand claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. 20 arpens front by 40 in depth, situated on the Bayou Placquemines Brulées, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of Bertrand Tailleur, and on the other by vacant; held under an order of survey in favor of the claimant dated the 19th May, 1787, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey accompanies the notice.

The evidence of Chevalier Villier, taken the 12th August, 1813, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for thirty consecutive years previous to the taking of his testimony.

No. 24.

29. Francois Ardoin claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by 40 in depth, situated in the Grand Prairie, in the county of Opelousas; bounded on one side by land of Jean Louis Fontenot, and on the other by the remaining half of the original tract; held under an order of survey in favor of Martin Camarsac, dated the 22d August, 1788, and signed by Estevan Miro, then Governor of Louisiana, for ten arpens front by 40 deep. The notice is accompanied by the order of survey, and a deed of sale from Martin Camarsac to the claimant, for one entire moiety, or five arpens front by 40 in depth, dated the 17th May, 1810.

No. 25.

33. Pierre Joubert claims 360 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by 40 deep, and the back half of the remaining six arpens front, situated in the Grand Prairie, county of Opelousas; held under an order of survey in favor of Joseph Thiery for 12 arpens front by 40 in depth, dated the 4th July, 1786, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The notice is accompanied by the order of survey, a plat of survey and proces verbal by Carlos Trudeau, late surveyor general, dated the 1st March, 1794, for 480 arpens, and a deed of sale from Joseph Thiery to the claimant, dated the 19th February, 1795, for the land as claimed. The evidence of Augustin Gradenigo, taken the 7th September, 1813, establishes the land to have been solicited merely on account of its timber; that the original proprietor, and those claiming under him, have constantly taken their timber off said land, which has always been respected as their property; and that, to his knowledge, the land has neither been inhabited nor cultivated.

No. 26.

35. Joseph Andrepont claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by 40 in depth, situated at the "Passe à Mallet," in the county of Opelousas; held under an order of survey in favor of Baptiste Figurant, dated the 23d June, 1781, and signed by Bernardo de Galvez, then governor of Louisiana. The notice is accompanied by the order of survey, a deed of sale from Figurant to the claimant, dated the 17th of January, 1811, and a plat of survey by James Haggard, dated the 30th January, 1811. The evidence of Baptiste Jeansonne, aged 38 years, taken the 30th May, 1814, establishes that the land was inhabited and cultivated by the claimant about 23 years ago for two years; that, for the last two or three years, Fs. Morin has inhabited and cultivated the same by permission of the claimant, but cannot say whether it was inhabited between the time that Andrepont left it and Morin took possession.

No. 27.

47. The heirs of Jean Dartesse claim 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front on both sides of a mount near the Bayou Cassine, in the county of Attakapas, by 40 in depth; held under an order of survey in favor of Jean Dartesse, bearing date the 30th December, 1793, and signed by the Baron Carondelet, then governor of Louisiana. The notice is accompanied by the order of survey. The evidence of Honore de la Chaise, taken the 28th April, 1814, states that the land was inhabited and cultivated by Dartesse for two or three years, at the time Carondelet was governor, and knows he was cultivating there a considerable length of time.

No. 28.

49. Margaret Boutin, widow of John Savoy, claims 160 superficial arpens of land, viz. four arpens front by 40 in depth, situated on the left bank of Bayou Caron Crow, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of Pierre Guidry; held under an order of survey in favor of Jean Valais, and signed by Galvez, governor of Louisiana. The order of survey accompanies the notice. The evidence of David Guidry, aged 42 years, taken the 8th July, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated by the claimant and her deceased husband, from his earliest recollection to the date of taking his testimony.

No. 29.

67. Garrique Flaujac claims 1,600 superficial arpens of land, viz. forty arpens front by forty in depth, situated in the Prairie Faquetyque, at the Hazle Nut Point, in the county of Opelousas; held under an order of survey in favor of Joseph Thery, dated the 6th September, 1785, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey alone accompanies the notice.

No. 30.

76. Eufrosine Boisdoré claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, at the Woody Point of Grand Prairie, in the county of Attakapas, bounded on one side by land of Louis Boisdoré; held under an order of survey to the claimant, dated the 6th July, 1781, and signed by Galvez, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey accompanies the notice, in which Boisdoré prays for the "Woody Point of the Grand Prairie," the quantity to be established by the surveyor, which is granted by Galvez. See note P.

No. 31.

127. John Lacomb claims eighty superficial arpens of land, viz. two arpens front by forty deep, situated in the Prairie of Avoyelles, parish of Avoyelles, bounded on one side by land of the claimant, and on the other by that of Jo. Jeaffrion; held under an order of survey in favor of Louis Badins, dated the 26th July, 1794, and signed by the Baron Carondelet, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey accompanies the notice.

No. 32.

130. The legal representatives of Hilaire Joseph Doucet claim 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, at a place called the Little Cow Island, in the county of Attakapas; held under an order of survey dated the 4th February, 1783, in favor of H. J. Doucet, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey accompanies the notice.

No. 33.

141. Susanah Moreau, widow of Donatto Bello, claims 1,600 superficial arpens of land, viz. forty arpens front by forty deep, situated at the Eagle's Nest, on Mallet's Woods, in the county of Opelousas; held under an order of survey to Donatto Bello, dated the 19th May, 1787, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The notice is accompanied by the order of survey; and a plat of survey and proces verbal by Carlos Trudeau, dated the 18th June, 1791, for 3,200 arpens. The evidence of Philip Lacaze, aged fifty years, taken the 6th June, 1813, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated, without intermission, for these thirty-five years.

No. 34.

143. Cornelius Voorhies claims 320 superficial arpens of land, viz. eight arpens front by forty deep, situated opposite to L'Isle à Langlois, in the county of Opelousas; held under an order of survey in favor of Francois Lemel, for twenty arpens front by forty deep, dated the 20th February, 1787, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The notice is accompanied by an order of survey; a certified copy of a discharge for the purchase money from Jac. Lemel to N. Rousseau, dated 6th April, 1795, before Forstall; a private sale from Rousseau to the claimant selling the titles, dated the 10th August, 1812. The evidence of Laurent Dupré, taken the 16th May, 1814, states that the land has been inabited and cultivated for twenty consecutive years previous to this date. See reported No. 67, the residue of the survey being claimed therein.

No. 35.

145. Dawson Hull claims 320 superficial arpens of land, viz. eight arpens front by forty in depth, in the county of Rapide; held under an order of survey to the claimant, dated the 18th April, 1793, and signed by the Baron de Carondelet, then governor of Louisiana, for any vacant land in Rapide. The order of survey accompanies the notice. (See note B, at the end of the report.)

No. 36.

152. Joseph Juneau, senior, claims 360 superficial arpens of land, viz. nine arpens front by forty deep, situated in Avoyelles Prairie, in the parish of Avoyelles, bounded on one side by land of George Guyot, and on the other by that of Jn. Jos. Juneau, junr.; held under an order of survey in favor of Joseph Guyot for ten arpens front by forty deep, dated the 18th May, 1796, and signed by Baron de Carondelet, then governor of the province of Louisiana. The notice is accompanied by the order of survey, on which is a transfer from Joseph Guyot to the claimant, dated the 4th February, 1806, and a certified copy of a sale from said Guyot to the claimant for nine arpens by forty, dated the 1st August, 1807. The testimony of J. B. Dozat, taken the 27th December, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land by the claimant for the last fourteen years, at which time it was an old establishment. The other arpent is claimed under reported No. 43, by B. Gagnard.

No. 37.

164. John Nancarrow, legal representative of Philip Henry T. Bastrop, claims 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. twelve arpens front by forty in depth, situated on the Bayou Toupar, about one league above Fort Miro, in

the county of Washita; held under an order of survey to Joseph de la Baume, dated the 22d February, 1797, and signed by Baron de Carondelet, then governor of Louisiana. The notice is accompanied by the order of survey; and a plat of survey dated the 24th April, 1802, by J. McLaughlin, an authorized surveyor, for twenty-one arpens front, surveyed for the Baron de Bastrop. The evidence of John Hughes, taken the 26th November, 1813, states that Baron de Bastrop was residing on, and cultivating the land, previous to the 20th December, 1803; and that it has ever since been inhabited either by him or those holding under him. The other nine arpens front of the survey are claimed under reported No. 130.

No. 38.

165. Maria Lamalatie, widow of Barthélemi Rachal, claims four arpens front on the left bank of Red River, in the county of Natchitoches—the lower line running with the boundary of La Cour's land, N. E., and the upper N. E. ¼ E. with Baillo's land; held under an order of survey to B. Rachal, (torn at the date) and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey accompanies the notice. The evidence of Bertrand Plaisance, aged thirty-eight years, taken the 28th September, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated by the claimant from his earliest recollection.

No. 39.

252. Louis Mettoyer claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, each side of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Jn. Bte. Dearbonne, and below by that of Charles Duret; claimed under an order of survey in favor of Louis Monet for twenty arpens by forty, each side of the river, dated 28th May, 1788, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. Accompanying the notice is the order of survey, and a certified copy of a deed of sale from J. B. Tessier, alias Lavigne, to the claimant, dated the 17th January, 1812; and plat of survey by Jos. Irwin, for 266 50-100ths acres. The evidence of Louis Dearbonne, taken the 9th October, 1812, states that J. B. Tessier resided on and cultivated the land eighteen years ago, and has continued to inhabit and cultivate the same until he sold to the claimant.

No. 40.

263. Olivier Landry claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated on Bayou Tortue, in the county of Attakapas, bounded on one side by land of René Trahan, and on the other by that of Claude Broussard; held under an order of survey in favor of the claimant for the land as claimed, dated the 2d January, 1788, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey accompanies the notice. The evidence of Benjamin Mere, taken the 13th October, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated by a son of the claimant for eleven or more years, in regular succession.

No. 41.

297. Richard Lovelace claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated on a small bayou near the Cattahoula prairie, county of Rapide, adjoining lands of Michael Hooter; held under an order of survey in favor of the claimant for the land as claimed, dated the 19th November, 1792, and signed by the Baron de Carondelet, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey accompanies the notice.

No. 42.

370. —— La Houssaye claims 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. twelve arpens front by forty deep, situated on the east bank of Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas, bounded on one side by lands of Messrs. La Houssayes; held under an order of survey in favor of Louis Gravemberg for the quantity as claimed, dated the 4th March, 1788, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana; which order of survey, alone, accompanies the notice. The claimant adducing no deed of sale from the original grantee, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of Louis Gravemberg.

No. 43.

404. Bernard Gagnard claims forty superficial arpens of land, viz. one arpent front by forty deep, situated in the Avoyelles prairie, county of Rapide, bounded on one side by land of Joseph Juneau, of which this is a part, and on the other by that of the claimant; claimed under an order of survey in favor of Joseph Guyot for ten arpens front, nine arpens of which are recommended for confirmation to Jo. Juneau, under reported No. 36, this being the other arpent of said order of survey. The notice is accompanied by a plat of survey for 33 86-100ths acres by K. McCrummin, dated the 17th September, 1812. The evidence of J. B. Dozat, taken the 27th December, 1813, states that this land is part of that claimed by Joseph Juneau, who, twelve years ago, sold it to John Juneau, who sold it to the claimant; and that said land has been constantly inhabited and cultivated for the last fourteen years.

No. 44.

434. The heirs of Luke Collins, senior, claim 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. twelve arpens front by forty deep, situated on the Bayou Teche, (joining the Cypress Swamp conceded to the inhabitants of Petit Bois,) in the county of Opelousas; held under an order of survey in favor of Luke Collins for the depth to the Prairie Basse, dated the 5th October, 1786, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey accompanies the notice.

No. 45.

442. Francois Bossier claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, situated at the old Yatassé village, in the county of Natchitoches; held under an order of survey in favor of Pierre Bouette Laffite, fils, dated the 1st October, 1787, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey accompanies the notice for the land as claimed, on which is a transfer from Laffite to Jacob Hoopock, the 21st November, 1788, and a like transfer from Hoopock to the claimant the 30th December, 1789. The evidence of Stephen Duquet, taken the 24th October, 1812, states the land to have been occupied as a vacherie for twenty-two years past, and cultivated during the whole of that time.

No. 46.

444. Nanet Larnodier claims 360 superficial arpens of land, viz. four and a half arpens front by forty deep, situated on both sides of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches; held under an order of survey in favor of Jn. Bte. Denis and Widow Bodoin for four and a half arpens front by forty deep, each side of Red river, dated the 18th January, 1787, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The notice is accompanied by the order of survey; a deed of sale from Pierre Boudoin to the claimant, dated the 3d February, 1808; and a plat of survey by J. Irwin for 221 40-100ths acres. The evidence of Michel Du Roy, aged 42 years, taken the 22d July, 1814, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for upwards of thirty consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 47.

495. The heirs of Alexis Grappe claim a tract of land—the quantity is not as yet ascertained—situated on Black lake, in the parish of Natchitoches, bounded on one side by land of Jean Lalonde; held under an order of survey in favor of Louise Grappe, for all the front by two arpens deep, dated the 4th March, 1773, and signed by Unzaga, then governor of Louisiana. The notice is accompanied by the order of survey. See note P.

No. 48.

496. Jean Pierre, a free negro, claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated at a place called Compté, on the left bank of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches; held under an order of survey in favor of the claimant, dated the 18th April, 1789, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana, for the land as claimed. The order of survey accompanies the notice.

No. 49.

526. Joseph Sorrel claims 180 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by thirty deep, situated on Bayou Teche, at "L'Isle Ronde," in the county of Attakapas, claimed under an order of survey in favor of Jacques Sorrel for the quantity as claimed, dated the 1st June, 1768, and signed by Antonio De Ulloa, then governor of Louisiana for the French, which order of survey accompanies the notice. The claimant adducing no deed of sale, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of Jacques Sorrel.

No. 50.

No. 529. The heirs of Pedro Lamero claim 3,200 superficial arpens of land, viz. forty arpens front on both sides of Bayou Boeuf, by forty arpens in depth, in the county of Opelousas; held under an order of survey to Pedro Lamero, dated the 2d October, 1791, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey accompanies the notice, and is for forty arpens front on each side of the bayou, at the most convenient place being vacant. No conditions are attached thereto. See note B, at the end of the report.

No. 51.

531. Jacques Dupré claims 3,200 superficial arpens of land, viz. forty arpens front by forty deep, situated on each side of Bayou Boeuf, at the cabins of Joseph Lalibamon, in the county of Opelousas; held under an order of survey in favor of Jacques Lafleur for the land as claimed, dated the 22d October, 1791, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The order

of survey alone accompanies the notice. The claimant adducing no deed of sale from the original grantee, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of Jacques Lafleur.

No. 52.

534. Charles Barré claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, situated on the Bayou Courtableau, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of Jean Barré, and on the other by the domain; held under an order of survey to Alexander Patin for the land as claimed, dated the 28th January, 1787, and signed Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey alone accompanies the notice. The claimant adducing no deed of sale, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of Alexander Patin.

No. 53.

535. Charles Barré claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, situated on the Bayou Courtableau, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of Alexander Patin, and on the other by the domain; held under an order of survey in favor of Nemessie Bossier, for the land as claimed, dated the 22d January, 1787, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey alone accompanies the notice. The claimant producing no deed of sale from the original grantee, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of Nemessie Bossier.

No. 54.

538. Philip Boutté claims 600 superficial arpens of land, viz. 15 arpens front by forty deep, situated at a place called "La Bûtte á Peigneur," in the county of Attakapas; held under an order of survey to Gilbert Andry, for the land as claimed, dated the 8th January, 1783, and signed by "Miro," then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey alone accompanies the notice. The claimant adducing no deed of sale from the original grantee, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of Gilbert Andry.

No. 55.

539. The legal representatives of Jean Baptiste Uval claim 1,600 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, on each side of Bayou Teche, where Blondin had a concession, in the county of Attakapas; held under an order of survey to Blondin, dated the 27th May, 1774, and signed by "Unzaga," then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey alone accompanies the notice.

No. 56.

555. Francois Vascocu claims 280 superficial arpens of land, viz. seven arpens front by forty deep, situated at the extremity of the Grand Ecore, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on one side by land of Joseph Martin; at the date of the grant held under an order of survey to Joseph Jenrise, dated the 14th August, 1787, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey accompanies the notice, on which is a transfer from Jenrise to Antoine Vascocu, and a like transfer from said Antoine to the claimant; both dated the 4th June, 1791.

No. 57.

574. The heirs of Joseph Carline claim 1,000 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty-five arpens front by forty deep, situated at a place called the "Bûtte à Peigneur," in the county of Attakapas, bounded on the northeast by land of Francois Prevost, and on the opposite by vacant, or land of Fs. Senequier; held under an order of survey in favor of Jos. Carline, dated the 4th February, 1784, and signed by "Miro," then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey accompanies the notice. The evidence of Joseph Andrus, taken the 30th December, 1813, states that, upwards of 31 years ago, he was at the house of Carlines, who then resided on the land, at which time, from the appearance of the houses and fruit trees, the land must have been inhabited and cultivated for several years previous thereto; and that said Carlines continued to occupy the land for a number of years: but whether they, or any person for them, inhabited the land on the 20th December, 1803, deponent cannot say.

No. 58.

590. Charles Mulholland claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou de Canne, or Lumoré, in the county of Rapide, bounded on one side by land of Charles Kenan, and on the other by the domain; held under an order of survey in favor of Jacques McAnulty, for five arpens front by forty deep, dated the 25th January, 1798, and signed by Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey alone accompanies the notice. The claimant adducing no deed of sale from the original grantee, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of Jacques McAnulty.

No. 59.

674. David Guidry claims 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. twelve arpens front by forty deep, situated on the west side of Bayou Plaquemines Brulées, in the county of Opelousas; held under an order of survey to Pierre Guidry, dated the 4th March, 1788, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey alone accompanies the notice. The claimant adducing no deed of sale from the original grantee, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of Pierre Guidry.

No. 60.

680. Joseph de la Baume, Jacs. Patin, Luc. Hollier, and Jacques Roman, claim 960 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty-four arpens front by forty deep, situated on the north side of Bayou Teche, in the county of Opelousas; held under an order of survey to the claimants for the land as claimed, (cipriere,) dated the 23d March, 1779, and signed by Galvez, then governor of Louisiana. The notice is accompanied with a certified copy by P. Grymes, register of the eastern district, of the said order of survey.

No. 61.

688. Louis Demaret claims 2,000 superficial arpens of land, viz. fifty arpens front by forty deep, situated in the county of Attakapas, on the west side of Bayou Vermillion, commencing on the Little Bayou and running down; held under an order of survey in favor of the claimant, for the quantity claimed, on any vacant land in the county of Attakapas, dated the 20th July, 1786, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey accompanies the notice. See note B, at the end of the report.

No. 62.

831. The legal representatives of Laurent Bailley claim 1,200 superficial arpens of land, viz. thirty arpens front by forty deep, situated on Bayou Queue de Tortue, in the county of Opelousas, bounded, in descending, by land of John Tyson, and on the other by the domain; claimed under an order of survey in favor of Laurent Bailley for forty arpens front by forty deep, dated the 13th January, 1787, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The evidence of Nemessie Bossier, taken the 18th December, 1813, states that the original claimant established a vacherie on the land about twenty years ago, superintended by John Tyson; said vacherie was continued about eight years, when the grantee, selling part of said land to Tyson, he removed his stock; from which time Tyson remained on the part he had purchased, and then sold to one Foreman, who has occupied the land ever since. Deponent, not having been on the land within the time referred to, cannot say whether any part of the land was cultivated. Also, the evidence of Auguste Nezatte, taken same day, states that the facts in Bossier's testimony are true; and adds that, having been frequently on the land while inhabited by John Tyson, he knows that corn and rice were cultivated by said Tyson.

No. 63.

884. The legal representatives of Francois Rouquiere claim 1,600 superficial arpens of land, viz. forty arpens front by forty deep, situated below the island of the Grand Batture, of the lake called the *Terre Noire*, about one and a half leagues from the post, in the county of Natchitoches; held under an order of survey in favor of Fs. Rouquiere for the land as claimed, dated the 9th May, 1795, and signed by the Baron de Carondelet, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey accompanies the notice. The deposition of Charles Levigné, taken the 14th November, 1814, states that, about fourteen or fifteen years ago, Dominique Prudhomme first established the land by Fs. Rouquiere's permission, and thereon cultivated four or five years; since when deponent knows not if any one has inhabited said land.

No. 64.

972. Joseph Taylor claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Washita river, at or near the Prairie Canot, in the county of Washita, bounded on the north and west by land of John Poiret, and on other sides by the domain; held under an order of survey to the claimant, dated the 27th June, 1788, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey alone accompanies the notice.

No. 65.

980. The heirs of Antoine Plaide claims 160 superficial arpens of land, viz. four arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Washita river, in the Prairie Menoir, parish of Washita, claimed under an order of survey granted to Antoine Matheline, dated the 15th

September, 1797, and signed by Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, then governor of Louisiana, for ten arpens front by forty deep; said order of survey is filed with the claim of Joseph Barbier, reported No. 19, who claims the other six arpens. The notice is accompanied by a private deed of sale from Francois Le Boeuf to A. Plaide, dated the 26th November, 1802, in which he obligates himself to make a regular transfer as soon as he gets his titles in form.

No. 66.

1,010. Cyprien La Cour claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Rapides, in the parish of Rapides, commencing from the land of Mr. Cuney, and descending for front towards the land of Jh. Archinard; held under an order of survey in favor of the claimant for the land as claimed, dated the 28th of April, 1795, and signed by Baron de Carondelet, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey accompanies the notice.

No. 67.

1,237. Etienne Lamorandier, junior, claims 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. twelve arpens front by forty deep, situated opposite to the L'Isle à Langlois, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by the other part of the tract claimed by C. Voorhies; held under an order of survey in favor of Francois Lemel for twenty arpens front by forty deep, dated the 20th February, 1787, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana. The order of survey is filed in the claim of C. Voorhies, reported No. 34, who claims the residue of the grant. The claimant producing no deed of sale from the grantee, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of Francois Lemel.

THIRD CLASS.

No. 68.

7. Anthony Corkran claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated on the east side of Bayou Boeuf, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of Nathan'l West, and on all others by the domain; claimed under a requette by John Hay, with certificate of vacancy dated the 24th October, 1803, by Martin Duralde, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice, on which is a transfer from John Hay to Reuben Ray, the 1st June, 1809. The evidence of James Campbell, aged forty-eight years, taken the 1st September, 1812, states that, in 1801, this deponent and one West made a dam across the bayou on said land for watering their cattle, which was removed in 1803; that he knows the land was unoccupied until about four years ago, when John Estep settled thereon; since when it has been constantly inhabited and cultivated by Estep and others, and is at present occupied by John W. Litle, who purchased, as deponent has understood, from the claimant.

No. 69.

13. Charles Smith claims 349⅓ superficial arpens of land, viz. eight arpens twenty-two toises front by forty arpens deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Bellevue, or Bourbeux, in the county of Opelousas, bounded above by land of the claimant, and below by land of Stelly; claimed under a plat of survey and proces verbal, dated the 9th November, 1796, by Luke Collins, a surveyor under Trudeau, and approved by said Trudeau in favor of Jacob Miller; and a judicial sale of the land as belonging to the estate of said Miller, dated the 6th April, 1806, by the judge of the parish, to the claimant. The notice is accompanied by certified copies of the plat and sale. The evidence of Michel Prudhomme, senr., aged seventy-two years, taken the 16th June, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated by Jacob Miller, or those holding under him, constantly since the year 1775 or 1776 to the present date.

No. 70.

24. Charles Lacasse claims 200 arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated at the "Point des Marrons," or Mullet's Woods, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on all sides by the domain; claimed under a requette by the claimant, with certificate of vacancy dated the 8th April, 1791, by Forstall, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice. The deposition of Francois Marcantell, taken the 29th June, 1812, states that, twenty-two years ago, he assisted Lacasse to build a small house on the land; that Lacasse, not being satisfied with his situation, removed in the fall of the year 1790 or 1791, since when it has been uninhabited.

No. 71.

30. Simon Le Blanc claims 160 superficial arpens of land, viz. four arpens front by forty deep, situated on the west side of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, bounded on one side by land of Michel Pevoto, and on the other by vacant; held under a requette by the claimant, and certificate of vacancy, dated the 3d September, 1798, by Louis C. De Blanc, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice. The evidence of Andrew Martin, taken the 4th of July, 1812, establishes the occupancy of the land for two or three years by the claimant; about thirteen years ago, when removing to a tract he purchased of Jn. Bte. Simon, and which he still owns, the land remained unoccupied until about three years ago, when the claimant resumed his settlement, erecting his house about ten acres from his old dwelling.

No. 72.

31. George Folk claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated on the west side of the Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, behind the lands of Pedro Darby and Amant Broussard; claimed under a requette by Jacob Ryan, with certificate of vacancy, dated the 7th September, 1798, by Louis C. De Blanc, then commandant. The requette alone accompanies the notice. The evidence of Benjamin Hargrove, aged seventy-one years, taken the 20th June, 1812, establishes the land to have been constantly inhabited and cultivated since the year 1797 or 1798, either by J. Ryan or George Folk. The claimant producing no sale from J. Ryan, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of Jacob Ryan.

No. 73.

36. Joseph Guinart claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated at a place called Eagle's Nest, in the county of Rapides, bounded, at the date of the requette, by land of J. B. Vabale on the east, and by land of Francois Tiernan on the west; claimed under a requette by the claimant, with certificate of vacancy, dated the 15th August, 1803, by Joseph Jaffrion and Baptiste Mayeux, alcades. The requette accompanies the notice. The evidence of J. B. Dozat, taken the 27th December, 1813, states that, eight or nine years ago, he assisted in making the mud walls of a house on the land, in which the claimant resided for three or four years; when removing, Old Le Bord made two crops thereon, since when it has not been inhabited or cultivated. Also, the evidence of Jean Bonnet, taken by commission the 2d November, 1814, states that, in August, 1803, he came to reside in the parish of Avoyelles, at which time Guinart was settled on the land, where he continued to live for three years.

No. 74.

38. Jean Guidry claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded above by land of F. Moreau, and below by that of Joseph Castille, part of a larger tract granted to Mr. Ledee, from whom the claimant derives his title; claimed under a plat of survey and proces verbal by Carlos Trudeau, dated the 19th January, 1803, in favor of Jean Guidry, for five arpens front by eighty deep; the first forty arpens being the concession of Ledee, and the other forty arpens, surveyed in conformity to De Blanc's order of the 10th December, 1802, surveyed for the second depth. The plat accompanies the notice.

No. 75.

39. Ceril Thibedeau claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, situated at the back of a tract of land claimed by Jean Guidry, claimed under a requette by Jean Guidry, with certificate of vacancy, the 17th July, 1801, by Louis C. De Blanc, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice, in which reference is had to the plat of survey filed in the preceding claim, reported No. 74.

No. 76.

51. The heirs of Joseph Bourque claim 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 40 deep, situated at the cove of the vacherie of Sylvain Saunier, on Bayou Placquemines Brulées, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of said Saunier, and on the other by vacant, claimed under a requette by Anthony Corkran, and certificate of vacancy dated the 29th May, 1788, by Forstall, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice. The evidence of Joseph Saunier, aged fifty-seven years, and of Ceril Thibedeau, aged forty years, taken the 19th September, 1812, the first of whom proves the verbal sale of the land from Corkran to Jo. Bourque, about thirty years ago; and that verbal sales in good faith were very usual at that period. The second proves that, upwards of twenty years ago, Corkran resided on the land, but whether he cultivated any part, or how long he resided thereon, he cannot say; and that, for the last two years, it has been occupied by Jo. Doucet, who keeps a vacherie for Md. Latite, he believes, by permission of Madam Bourque. Also, the evi-

dence of Joseph Young, taken the 17th November, 1813, states that the well sunk by Corkran more than twenty years ago is still on the land; that he has seen the house built thereon by said Corkran, which has been since burned, and does not believe the land ever was cultivated by Corkran, its first cultivation being last year by Jo. Doucet. The claimants producing no sale from Corkran, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of Anthony Corkran.

No. 77.

55. Louis Pellerin claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. 20 arpens front by 40 deep, situated at a place called the Cypremart, in the county of Attakapas, claimed under a requette of the claimants, with certificate of vacancy by Francisco Caso'y Luengo, then commandant, dated the 31st March, 1795. The requette accompanies the notice. The evidence of Jacques Fontenot, aged sixty years, taken the 28th September, 1813, states that about twelve years ago the claimant built a house on the land, and put some person (name unknown) therein, who remained there five or six years, and cultivated part of the tract, which has been unoccupied for the last six or seven years.

No. 78.

57. Joannesse claims 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. 12 arpens front by 40 deep, situated (according to the tenor of the requette) on the other side of Bayou Placquemines Brulées, in the county of Opelousas, claimed under a requette by Joannesse, with certificate of vacancy dated the 27th October, 1788, by Forstall, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice, by which it is seen that the land is bounded on one side by land of Mondon, and on the other by vacant.

No. 79.

64. The heirs of Firman Bro claim 640 superficial arpens of land, viz. sixteen arpens front by forty deep, situated at the back of a tract of land fronting on the right bank of the Bayou Vermillion, in the Grand Prairie, county of Attakapas, claimed under a requette by Donato Bro, Pierre Bro, Athanase Hebert, husband of Felice Bro, Louis Bondin, husband of Elizabeth Bro, and Ceril Thibedeau, husband of Scolastie Bro, with certificate of vacancy dated the 3d March, 1801, by F. Gonssoulin, then surveyor of the post. The requette accompanies the notice.

No. 80.

66. Cerille Thibedeau claims 200 superficial arpens of land. viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated on the back of a tract of land on the east bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded below by Joseph Castille's land, and above by vacant, fronting on land of Jean Guidry, claimed under a plat of survey, and proces verbal, by C. Trudeau, dated the 19th January, 1803, for the land as claimed in favor of Jean Guidry, filed in the claim reported under No. 74. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of sale from Jean Guidry to the claimant, dated the 31st January, 1809. This appears to be for the same land as claimed under reported No. 75, and the sale filed in this claim ought to be transferred to said number.

No. 81.

89. Etienne Vedrine claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated on the Grand Woods of Wells, in the county of Opelousas, bounded by the land of Pierre Vedrine on one side, and vacant land on the other, claimed under a requette by the claimant, and certificate of vacancy by the commandant, Mn. Duralde, dated the 22d September, 1796. The requette accompanies the notice.

No. 82.

129. Joseph Andrus claims 1,200 superficial arpens of land, viz. thirty arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Canne, at or near the mouth of Bayou Bourbeau, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on both sides by vacant land, claimed under a requette by the claimant, with certificate of vacancy, dated the 16th April, 1791, by Forstall, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice. The evidence of John Clarke, aged forty-eight years, taken the 20th June, 1814, states that upwards of sixteen years ago he kept a vacherie on the land for the claimant for two years, when the stock being removed, the land has remained unoccupied ever since.

No. 83.

144. William Miller claims a tract of land containing the quantity of one-third of a league square, situated within a few miles of Red river, including the falls of a bayou called Row Gully, in the county of Rapide, claimed under a requette by the claimant, with certificate of vacancy, dated the 25th February, 1802, by Valentine Layssard, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice.

No. 84.

147. David Caruthers claims about forty-six superficial arpens of land, viz. two arpens and nine toises front by twenty arpens deep, situated on the west side of Bayou Vermillion, at the end of a tract of land conceded to Jn. Bte. Melançon, in the county of Attakapas, bounded on the north by land of Pierre Bernard, and on the south by that of J. B. Melançon; claimed under a requette by said Caruthers, with certificate of vacancy, dated the 6th March, 1801, by Louis C. De Blanc, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice.

No. 85.

166. The legal representatives of Maria De St. Denis Soteaux claim 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. twelve arpens front by forty deep, situated at a place called Ecore, on the right bank of that branch of Red river, called river Cane, in the parish of Natchitoches, bounded on the upper side by land conceded to La Cour de la Prelle, claimed under a decree of possession in favor of Jean Bte. Dubois, dated the 31st July, 1764, and signed by Dabbadie, then director general of Louisiana. The decree accompanies the notice, on which is a transfer from J. B. Dubois to Madam Soteaux, dated 20th February, 1768.

No. 86.

John Ripley Folk claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated on Yarbry's Coulé, west side of the Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, bounded on the lower side by land formerly claimed by Charles Hanks, claimed under a requette by the claimant, with certificate of vacancy dated the 7th September, 1798, by Louis C. De Blanc, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice.

No. 87.

189. Bisanté Irnandez claims four lots of land, Nos. 1, 4, 7, and 10, situated in the town of Concordia, county of Concordia, claimed under a requette by Francois Bruyette, approved by J. Vidal, then commandant, the 10th October, 1801; and a plat of survey dated the 15th September, 1802, by Pedro Walker, an authorized surveyor, approved by J. Vidal, for the land as claimed in favor of said Bruyette. The notice is accompanied by the requette and plat of survey; also, a certified copy of said survey from the parish records of Concordia, and an authenticated deed of sale from said Bruyette to the claimant, dated the 7th November, 1809, for the lots as claimed and surveyed. The evidence of Francois Augustin and Domingo Garcia, taken by commission, the 17th December, 1813, states that it was the received opinion that the Spanish Government reserved a piece of ground in the post of Concordia, for a town, which was laid off by John and Peter Walker, Spanish surveyors, into lots, whilst Vidal was commandant; that there were legal and actual occupants for every lot in said reserve, and that they were all improved previous to the 20th December, 1803. The names of the grantees recollected are, Edward McCabe, Mion, or André Ramirez, Fs. Brullette, Jn. Vidal, Elizabeth Middleton, John Gomez, and Peter House.

No. 88.

190. Charles Forget claims two lots of land, Nos. 2 and 5, situated in the town of Concordia, county of Concordia. The notice is accompanied by a regular bill of sale from Edward McCabe to the claimant, dated the 6th January, 1804. Reference is had to the evidence in Bisanté Irnandez's claim, reported No. 87, and the plat of survey filed in the claim of Edward McCabe, reported No. 90.

No. 89.

191. Mary Stewart claims two lots of land, Nos. 3 and 6, in the town of Concordia, county of Concordia. Reference is to be had to the evidence in B. Irnandez's claim, reported No. 87.

No. 90.

192. Edward McCabe claims two lots of land, Nos. 8 and 11, in the town of Concordia, county of Concordia, claimed under a plat of survey by Pedro Walker, an authorized Spanish surveyor, and approved by Joseph Vidal, commandant, the 16th of May, 1802, for four lots in the town of Concordia, Nos. 2, 5, 8, and 11. The notice is accompanied by the plat of survey. Reference is to be had to the evidence in B. Irnandez's claim, reported No. 87. The lots, Nos. 2 and 5, were sold by the claimant to Charles Forget, and are entered under reported No. 88.

No. 91.

193. Peter Herrero claims two lots of land, Nos. 9 and 12, in the town of Concordia, county of Concordia, claimed under a plat of survey by Pedro Walker; approved by Vidal, the 13th September, 1802. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of the plat of survey. Reference is to be had to the evidence in B. Irnandez's claim, reported No. 87.

No. 92.

194. John Akers claims four lots of land, Nos. 13, 16, 19, and 22, in the town of Concordia, county of Concordia, claimed under a plat of survey by Walker; approved by Vidal, the 13th September, 1803. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of the plat of survey. Reference is to be had to the evidence in B. Irnandez's claim, reported No. 87.

No. 93.

195. The legal representatives of John Gomez claim two lots of land, Nos. 15 and 18, in the town of Concordia, county of Concordia, claimed under a plat of survey by Walker, dated the 27th October, 1802. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of the plat of survey; on the back of which is delineated lots Nos. 14 and 17. Reference is to be had to the evidence of B. Irnandez's claim, reported No. 87.

No. 94.

196. Joseph Saxton claims two lots of land, Nos. 14 and 17, in the town of Concordia, county of Concordia. Reference is had to the evidence in B. Irnandez's claim, reported No. 87, on the delineation on the back of the plat in reported No. 93.

No. 95.

197. James Dunlap claims four lots, Nos. 20, 21, 23, and 24, in the town of Concordia, county of Concordia. Reference is to be had to the evidence in B. Irnandez's claim, reported No. 87.

No. 96.

198. Magdalen Fitzgerald claims one lot No. —, containing two acres of land in the town of Concordia, county of Concordia. The notice is accompanied by authentic sales from P. Walker to F. Augustin, dated the 12th September, 1809, and from said Augustin to the claimant, dated the 5th April, 1811. Reference is to be had to the evidence taken in B. Irnandez's claim, reported No. 87.

No. 97.

200. Louise de Clouet, widow of Benoist de St. Clair, claims the continuation on the first forty arpens in depth, owned by said widow in the county of Attakapas, bounded on the northwest by land of Eloi and Louis Dugat, and on the northeast by vacant, claimed under a plat of survey by F. Gonssoulin, dated the 20th December, 1802. The notice is accompanied by the plat of survey, and a certificate of the neighbors, syndics, and surveyor, that the land is vacant, dated the 18th October, 1802. The evidence of Frederique Louvier, taken the 24th October, 1812, states that no person actually inhabits the land, but that this deponent cultivates, by permission of the claimant, a part thereof, for these seven or eight years; that the claimant had a vacherie on the land about twelve years ago, when it was cultivated by her negroes, who lived on an adjoining tract; said vacherie was continued until about two years ago; that, ten or twelve years ago, this deponent assisted Gonssoulin in surveying this tract: the posts then planted, he could now point out, but the back lines were not run.

No. 98.

203. Edward Lovelace claims 1,200 superficial arpens of land, viz. 30 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the other side of the Cuttahoula, in the county of Rapide, bounded on all sides by vacant land, claimed under a requette by the claimant, with certificate of vacancy, dated the 28th April, 1796, by V. Layssard, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice. See note Q.

No. 99.

213. Thomas Choate claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Cote, in the county of Rapides, bounded above by land of John Henderson, now occupied by Madam Burney, claimed under a requette by the claimant for the quantity claimed, above land of Baptiste Valerie, dated the 19th May, 1797, with certificate of vacancy by V. Layssard, then commandant. The notice is accompanied by the requette, and the separate certificates of Jn. Lattier, Bte. Poirier, Jn. Bte. Dubois, and Jn. Bte. Valerie; that the land above Jn. Bte. Valerie is vacant, dated the 14th May, 1797. The evidence of Benjamin Grubb, taken the 27th May, 1814, states that the claimant settled on the land in October, 1803, and cultivated for one year or more, having made a crop in 1804, at which last date deponent removed from that neighborhood, and knows not of his own knowledge that the land has been occupied since, but has reason to believe it has.

No. 100.

217. Joseph Zamora claims a lot of land of two superficial arpens, in the town of Concordia, county of Concordia, bounded on the northeast by land of J. Vidal, and on the southeast by land of Ramirez, claimed under a requette by the claimant, with an order for its survey, dated the 18th November, 1802, by Joseph Vidal, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice, together with a plat of survey for the land as claimed, dated the 26th November, 1802, by J. Pedro Walker, an authorized surveyor. Reference is had to reported No. 87.

No. 101.

228. Joseph Prevost, sen., claims 960 superficial arpens of land, viz. by 24 arpens front 40 deep, situated at the Bûtte à Peigneur, in the county of Attakapas, held under an order of survey in favor of the claimant for the island of the Bûtte à Peigneur, dated the 6th February, 1778, and signed by Galvez, then governor of Louisiana. The notice is accompanied by the order of survey, on which is a proces of possession by A. C. De Clouet, commandant, dated the 15th January, 1780, but not signed, for thirty arpens front. The evidence of Charles McDonall, taken the 24th May, 1813, states that he knows a vacherie was kept on the land sixteen years ago, but does not know who had charge of the stock, and has reason to believe the land has been constantly occupied since the year 1798 or 1799, until within about four years, when the cattle of Prevost, sen., were removed from the land. The other six arpens front of the order of survey are claimed under reported No. 102.

No. 102.

229. Joseph Prevost, jun., claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by forty deep, situated on Lake Penire, in the county of Attakapas, bounded above by vacant land, and below by that of Carline, claimed under an order of survey in favor of Jo. Prevost, sen., filed in the preceding claim reported No. 101, to which order of survey, as well as the evidence of Charles McDonall, taken in said claim, he refers, this being a part of the said original tract, as appears by the deed of sale passed the 30th September, 1812, from said J. Prevost, sen., to the claimant, a certified copy of which accompanies the notice.

No. 103.

235. John Nofper claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the Prairie des Allemandes, county of Attakapas, claimed under a requette by the claimant, with certificate of vacancy dated the 22d October, 1793, by Francisco Caso y Luengo, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 104.

239. John Nofper claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of the river Chafalaya, in the county of Attakapas, claimed under a requette by the claimant for ten arpens front by forty deep, with certificate of vacancy dated the 26th August, 1802, by Louis C. De Blanc, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice.

No. 105.

269. Julie Broussard, wife of Robert Bell, claims 150 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by fifteen deep, situated on the Bayou Tortue, in the county of Attakapas, bounded above by land of Simon Broussard, claimed under a requette by the claimant, with certificate of vacancy dated the 31st December, 1802, by Louis C. De Blanc, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice. The evidence of George Burrell, aged sixty-two years, taken the 9th November, 1812, states that there was a family (deponent believes the heirs of Broussard) residing on and cultivating the land in the years 1800, 1801, 1802, and 1803. Also, the evidence of Michel Ellinger, aged thirty-four years, taken same day, states the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for fourteen or fifteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 106.

270. Margaret Trahan, widow of René Le Blanc, claims 1,760 superficial arpens of land, viz. forty-four arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of the Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas, bounded above by land of Joseph Trahan, and below by that of Firman Landry, claimed under a plat of survey and proces verbal, dated the 6th August, 1800, by Francois Gonssoulin, surveyed in favor of Nicholas Rousseau, in virtue of a deed of sale passed the 23d May, 1783, by Alexander De Clouet, commandant. The notice is accompanied by the plat of survey and a certified copy of a deed of sale from Nicholas Rousseau to René Le Blanc, dated the 27th August, 1802. The evidence of Marin Mouton, fils, aged thirty years, taken the 12th February, 1813, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for seventeen consecutive years preceding that date.

No. 107.

272. Benjamin Mere claims 120 superficial arpens of land, viz. three arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Atta-

kapas, bounded below the other half of the tract claimed by Simon Granger, reported No. 108, claimed under a plat of survey and proces verbal in favor of Vital Landry, dated the 30th April, 1795, by F. Gonssoulin, surveyed in virtue of the act of the 4th June, 1794, for six arpens front by forty deep, situated in the quarter of the Cote Gelée, on the south side of Bayou Tortue. The plat of survey alone accompanies the notice. The claimant producing no sale from Landry, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of Vital Landry.

No. 108.

273. Simon Granger claims 120 superficial arpens of land, viz. three arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, being the lower moiety of a tract of six arpens front, surveyed by Fs. Gonssoulin for Vital Landry, as will appear by the plat of survey filed in the claim of Benjamin Mere, reported No. 107. No document accompanies the notice. The claimant producing no sale from Landry, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of Vital Landry.

No. 109.

280. Samuel Lampkin claims 800 superficial arpens of land situated on Lake St. Peter, in the county of Concordia, bounded on the north by land of Ezekiel Cooley, and on the south by that of Royal Bill, claimed under a plat of survey dated the 15th July, 1803, by Peter Walker, with certificate of approval same date, by J. Vidal, then commandant, a certified copy of which accompanies the notice. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 110.

236. Adam Tate claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated in the prairie of Avoyelles, county of Rapides, bounded at the time petitioned for by land of John Hay on one side, and by that of Jesse Kirkland on the other, claimed under a requette by the claimant, with certificate of vacancy the 12th December, 1796, by Jacques Gagnard, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice.

No. 111.

287. Adam Tate, heir of Joseph Tate, deceased, claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated in the prairie of Avoyelles, county of Rapide, bounded at the time petitioned for by land of Mr. Bundick on one side, and on the other by that of Robert Rogers, claimed under a requette in the name of Joseph Tate, with certificate of vacancy dated the 12th December, 1786, by Jacques Gagnard, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice.

No. 112.

372. The legal representatives of John Buhler claim 1,200 superficial arpens of land, viz. thirty arpens front by forty deep, situated on the Bayou Tortue, in the county of Opelousas, bounded when petitioned for by vacant land, claimed under a requette by John Buhler, sanctioned the 26th July, 1785, by Chevalier De Clouet, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice.

No. 113.

389. John Vidal claims a lot of land of one and a half acres in the village of Concordia, county of Concordia, bounded by lots of Joseph Vidal, Edward McCabe, and Francois Bruyette, claimed under a plat of survey by J. P. Walker, dated the 27th November, 1802. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of the plat from the parish records, and an affidavit of Joseph Walker, dated the 13th December, 1813, stating "that Joseph Vidal was authorized to make a reserve of a piece of land by the Spanish Government, for public purposes, in the county of Concordia; the said reserve was laid out into town lots by, and under, authorized officers: he remembers many of the grantees, and that they or their agents improved some of said lots previous to the 20th December, 1803." Reference is had to reported No. 87.

No. 114.

399. Hugh Bailly claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, situated on the north side of Red river, at a place called Point Maigre, in the county of Rapide, adjoining the land of Widow Mary La Croix, claimed under a plat of survey for 800 arpens in favor of Nicholas Grubb, by William Cook, a surveyor under the Spanish Government, dated the 7th November, 1791. The notice is accompanied by the plat of survey. The evidence of Terence Clarke, taken the 24th October, 1812, states that, fourteen or fifteen years ago, the land was inhabited and cultivated by Mark Powel, who continued thereon until he sold to the present claimant, about twelve years ago, who continued on the land until about four years ago, when deponent, having left that neighborhood, does not know who has occupied the land since.

No. 115.

414. Frederique Louvier claims —— superficial arpens of land, situated on the east side of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded on the west by land of Francois Louvier, on the north by that of Antoine De Buclet, and on the south by Amant Broussard's claim, at the extremity of Fs. Louvier's land, claimed under a requette by Francois Louvier (complainant's father) for a continuation of his depth, with certificate of vacancy dated the 14th January, 1796, by Francisco Caso y Luengo, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice. The evidence of Neuville De Clouet, taken the 23d October, 1812, states that, about eighteen years ago, the land was cultivated by the negroes of Gravemberg, but how long he does not know; that, upon their removal, Tierney Broussard took possession and cultivated it two or three years; that, for the last seven years, the land has been unoccupied; but that the claimant has, since Broussard's removal, taken his fire-wood and timber off it for the use of the adjoining tract, on which he resides, and which is destitute of wood. See note P.

No. 116.

445. Samuel Davenport claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Rapide, county of Rapide, bounded below by land of the estate of John Burney, and above by that of John Henderson, claimed under a requette in the name of Hugh Coyle, with certificate of vacancy dated the 11th January, 1800, by Jh. Cr. Poiret, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice. The evidence of Benjamin Grubb, taken by commission the 13th May, 1814, establishes the land to have been constantly inhabited and cultivated since the year 1801 or 1802. An authentic deed of sale from Hugh Coyle to the claimant, for the land as claimed, dated the 5th August, 1808, is filed with the notice.

No. 117.

448. John Hollaway claims 600 superficial arpens of land, viz. fifteen arpens front by forty deep, situated on a small creek, called Middle Fork bayou, above the head of Charlite's prairie, between Dyson's creek and Horse Pen creek, in the county of Rapide, bounded by land of James Hollaway on one side, and by vacant on the other; claimed under a requette by the claimant, with certificate of vacancy dated the 1st August, 1796, by V. Layssard, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice.

No. 118.

463. Sylvestre Mouton claims 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. twelve arpens front by forty deep, situated on the east side of Bayou Nementou, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on the one side by land of Nezat, and on the other by vacant land, claimed under a requette by Jean Mouton, with certificate of vacancy dated the 3d March, 1785, by Le Che. De Clouet, then commandant. The requette alone accompanies the notice. The claimant producing no sale from J. Mouton, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of Jean Mouton.

No. 119.

464. Simon Mire claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Tortue, in the county of Attakapas, bounded on the southeast by land of Firman Giroird, and on the other side by that of Vital Landry, held under a plat of survey and proces verbal in favor of the claimant, dated the 30th April, 1795, by Gonssoulin, then assistant surveyor. The plat of survey accompanies the notice. This claim has been entered inadvertently in this class; it should have been reported in the first class, being a moiety of the tract conceded to Pierre Broussard, under whom Firman Giroird claims the other half. See reported No. 12.

No. 120.

477. Francois Rouquiere claims a tract of land embracing the whole on an island called Rouquiere's Island, in that branch of Red river called Riviere Brulée, in the county of Natchitoches, claimed under a requette by Francois Rouquiere, jun.; approved the 10th April, 1798, by Felix Trudeau, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice.

No. 121.

523. William Bundick claims 320 superficial arpens of land, viz. eight arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Cannes, in the county of Opelousas, bounded by land of Kirkland on one side, and on the other by the domain, claimed under a requette by William Bertholomi, with certificate of vacancy by Forstall, commandant, the 4th December, 1789. The requette accompanies the notice. The claimant producing no sale from Bertholomi, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of William Bertholomi.

No. 122.

525. Francois Roze claims 1,056 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty-six arpens and four perches front by forty arpens deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Catar, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of Michel Prudhomme, and on the other by the grant of Jos. Arman; claimed under a plat of survey and proces verbal by Carlos Trudeau, for the land as claimed, in favor of the claimant, in conformity to his concession, dated the 10th November, 1795; no more land found than twenty-six arpens four perches front, his concession being for forty arpens front, survey dated the 31st January, 1801. A certified copy of the plat of survey accompanies the notice. The evidence of the Chevalier De Villier, taken the 5th September, 1814, states that the land was conceded to Roze upwards of thirty years ago, but was never inhabited or cultivated, and that it has always been respected as Roze's property.

No. 123.

527. Joseph Sorrel claims 280 superficial arpens of land, viz. seven arpens front by forty deep, situated on the back of other lands of the claimant, on the west side of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, claimed under a requette by the claimant, for six or seven arpens front, with certificate of vacancy dated the 28th November, 1795, by Francisco Caso y Luengo, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice.

No. 124.

561. John Hay claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated in the parish of Avoyelles, claimed under a requette by the claimant for any vacant land in Avoyelles, of ten arpens by forty, approved the 12th December, 1786, by Jacques Gagnard, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice. See note Q.

No. 125.

588. Jean Louis Lacroix claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Rapide, in the county of Rapide, bounded above by land of Nicholas Welsh, and below by vacant; claimed under a requette by Michel Hooter, fils, for the land as claimed, dated 25th June, 1801, with certificate of vacancy, 22d July, 1801, by Cesar Archinard, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice. The claimant producing no sale from Hooter, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of Michel Hooter, fils.

No. 126.

599. Joseph Landry claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Tortue, in the county of Attakapas; claimed under a plat of survey and proces verbal, dated the 1st May, 1795, by Francois Goussoulin, then surveyor of the district, in favor of Joseph and Firman Landry, brothers, and in conformity to a decree of Government of the 5th February, 1783, for the land as claimed, in favor of Claude Broussard. The notice is accompanied by the plat of survey, and a certified copy of a deed of sale from Claude Broussard to Joseph and Firman Landry, dated the 27th August, 1787.

No. 127.

673. John Lee claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated in the county of Attakapas, claimed under a requette by the claimant, for the quantity as claimed, on any vacant land in Attakapas, with an order dated the 18th August, 1798, of Gayoso, for the commandant to inform himself. The requette accompanies the notice. See note Q.

No. 128.

677. John Tear, James Tear, and Ignatius Tear, claim 1,600 arpens of land, viz. forty arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Red river, in the parish of Rapide, bounded above by the Bayou De Coraille, and below by vacant land, claimed under a requette and order of survey in favor of the claimants, dated the 23d June, 1802, by Gilbert Leonard, then intendant of Louisiana. The requette accompanies the notice.

No. 129.

684. John Holley claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, situated on Bayou Hemphill, in the county of Rapide, bounded on one side by land of Henry Holson, and on all others by vacant land; claimed under a requette by the claimant, with certificate of vacancy, dated the 10th January, 1802, by V. Layssard, then commandant, and a plat of survey dated the 6th September, 1803, by Hugh Coyle, then a Spanish surveyor; both of which accompany the notice.

No. 130.

691. John Nancarrow, as legal representative of the Baron de Bastrop, claims 360 superficial arpens of land, viz. nine arpens front by forty deep, situated on Bayou Toupar, about one league above Fort Miro, in the county of Washita; claimed under a plat of survey by J. McLauchlin, a Spanish surveyor, dated the 24th April, 1802, in favor of Baron de Bastrop, for twenty-one arpens front, twelve arpens of which he purchased of La Baume; the other nine was conceded to him. The plat of survey is filed with the claim, reported No. 37, the residue of the survey being therein claimed; which see for plat and evidence.

No. 131.

758. The heirs of Jesse Kirkland claim 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated in the prairie of Avoyelles, county of Rapides, bounded by land of Adam Tate on one side, and by that of William Snoddy on the other; claimed under a requette by the claimant, Jesse Kirkland, with certificate of vacancy, dated the 12th December, 1786, by Jacques Gagnard, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice.

No. 132.

774. Joseph Aborn claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Chicot, at a branch about half an arpent from the road to Natchitoches, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on both sides by land of the domain; claimed under a requette by Edward Foreman for the land as claimed, with certificate of vacancy dated 31st July, 1785, by Chevalier De Clouet, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice, on which is an unsigned transfer to the claimant, dated the 7th July, 1813. The claimant producing no sale from Foreman, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of Edward Foreman.

No. 133.

791. Jonathan Thompson claims 583 superficial arpens of land, situated on the southwest side of Lake Concordia, in the county of Concordia, bounded on one side by land of the domain, and on the other by the Bayou Crocodile; claimed under a plat of survey in favor of Daniel Douglas for the land as claimed, by Pedro Walker, a Spanish surveyor, with the certificate of approval, by J. Vidal, then commandant of Concordia, dated the 7th September, 1802. The plat of survey accompanies the notice, together with an authentic deed of sale for said land, from Elisha Smith, curator of the estate of D. Douglas, to the present claimant, dated the 4th May, 1813.

No. 134.

810. The legal representatives of John Burney claim 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, situated on Bayou Bushnell, in the parish of Cattahoula, claimed under a requette by John Burney, with certificate of vacancy, dated Rapides the 21st February, 1795, by V. Layssard, then commandant. The notice is accompanied by the requette, and a plat of survey for the land as claimed, dated the 4th September, 1803, by Hugh Coyle, a Spanish surveyor.

No. 135.

814. Joseph Babin claims 750 superficial arpens of land, viz. thirty arpens front by twenty-five deep, situated on the east side of Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas, (being the second depth,) bounded above by land of Jean Guidry, and below by that of Joseph Babin; claimed under a requette by the claimant, demanding thirty arpens front by twenty-five deep, for his five sons. Certificates of vacancy by the syndics, surveyor, and commandant, dated the 21st July, 1801, and the opinion, decree, and sentence of Morales, intendant, and Gilbert Leonard, fiscal, dated the 19th May, 1802, for the said land. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of said proceedings from the archives of the land office in the eastern district.

No. 136.

942. Edmond Fahey claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Boeuf, at the mouth of Sandy Bayou, thence descending the Boeuf for the front, in the county of Rapide; claimed under a requette by Edmond Fahey, for the land as claimed, with the usual certificate of V. Layssard, the commandant, dated Rapide, 10th May, 1800. The notice is accompanied by the requette.

No. 137.

951. Amant Broussard claims 1,600 superficial arpens of land, viz. 40 arpens front by 40 deep, being the double depth of the land on which the claimant now resides, on the east side of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas; claimed under a requette by the claimant, and approved the 31st December, 1800, by Louis C. De Blanc, then commandant, for the land as claimed, reserving the cypress for the use of the neighbors. The requette accompanies the notice. The evidence of Pierre Broussard, junior, taken the 18th December, 1813, states that the land was solicited for by the claimant on account of the wood, the tract on which he resides being entirely

destitute of timber. The claimant has occupied the land, by taking his firewood off it, for these fifteen years past: that some of his negro cabins have been erected thereon, his second depth being low and unfit for culture.

No. 138.

953. Amant Broussard claims a tract of land in the county of Attakapas, at a place called the Butte à Peigneur, in the vacancy between the lands of Francois Prevost and Madam Fontenette; claimed under a requette by Alexis Carline, with an order for its survey dated the 13th January, 1803, by Louis C. De Blanc, then commandant. The requette alone accompanies the notice. The claimant producing no sale from Carline, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of Alexis Carline.

No. 139.

955. Pierre Baillio claims 600 superficial arpens of land, viz. 15 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the right bank of Red river, opposite to Bayou Marteau, about four leagues above the village of Alexandria, in the county of Rapide; claimed under a requette by the claimant for said land, with the usual certificate, dated Rapide, 5th June, 1794, by V. Layssard, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice. The evidence of Pierre Parent, taken the 29th December, 1813, states that the land never has been inhabited or cultivated, being too low for culture; that P. Baillio has been in the constant practice of cutting wood and timber on it for seventeen years preceding this date, during which time it has always been respected as his property.

No. 140.

981. Maria Dennis, widow of Xavier Robichaut, claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 40 deep, situated in Cattahoula prairie, in the county of Rapide, bounded below by land of Dr. Green, and above by that of Victor Babin; claimed under a requette by X. Robichaut, with the usual certificate, dated the 3d December, 1798, by Cesar Archinard, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice.

No. 141.

1004. Joseph Giron Mallet fils, and only heir of Pierre Mallet, claims 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. 12 arpens front by forty deep, situated at a place called Point of Marrons, a wood of Bayou Placquemines Brulées, in the county of Opelousas, bounded by vacant land; claimed under a requette by Pierre Mallet for the land as claimed, with the usual certificate by Martin Duralde, then commandant, dated Opelousas, 24th September, 1803. The requette accompanies the notice. The evidence of Bonaventure Martin, aged fifty-eight years, taken the 8th November, 1813, states that the land was occupied and cultivated several years previous to the change of Government in 1803, by Bradley Gardner, who sold to P. Mallet, who inhabited and cultivated the same until about nine years ago, (the time of his death:) that Mallet having no title from Gardner, applied for and obtained the commandant's approval of his settlement.

No. 142.

1049. David Devor claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. 20 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on Bayou Bushley, parish of Cattahoula; claimed under a requette by the claimant, approved the 19th September, 1802, by V. Layssard, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice.

No. 143.

1123. Francois Tournier claims 880 superficial arpens of land, viz. 12 arpens front on one side and 10 arpens front on the other side, by 40 arpens deep on each side of a bayou going to Bayou Boeuf, in the parish of Avoyelles; the 12 arpens front are to be taken from one coulle to another coulle; claimed under a requette by the claimant, with certificate of vacancy by Joseph Jeaffrion, alcade, dated the 23d September, 1803. The requette accompanies the notice. The evidence of Clement Carmouche, aged thirty-eight years, taken the 12th October, 1814, states that the claimant, twelve or thirteen years ago, first inhabited the land, where he remained one year; that it then remained unoccupied until 1813, when he returned, and has inhabited and cultivated the same ever since.

No. 144.

1125. The legal representatives of Charles McKernon claim 400 or 500 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Red river, near the ferry, on the road from Avoyelles to Alexandria, in the county of Rapides; claimed under a plat of survey and certificate, dated the 8th May, 1798, by Hugh Coyle, an authorized Spanish surveyor, made in favor of Milling Wooley, in conformity to a requette signed by his excellency Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, produced to said surveyor. The plat of survey and proces verbal accompanies the notice, together with a certified copy (from the archives of the land office of the eastern district) of an order of survey "to Milling Wooley for 10 arpens of land front by 40 deep, on Red river, in the district of Rapides, bounded by land of Francisco Revant on one side, and the domain on the other," dated the 13th February 1798. The evidence of John Amon, aged twenty-five years, taken the 26th December, 1813, states that Milling Wooley was inhabiting the land about twelve or thirteen years ago, where he remained three or four years, when, removing, the land has not been occupied since, to deponent's knowledge, who does not recollect if any part of said land was cultivated by said Wooley, who was a merchant, and since whose removal deponent has always heard the land spoken of as his property, and has been informed and believes it has been regularly taxed as his property. Also, the evidence of Milling Wooley, taken by commission the 28th May, 1814, states that sometime, he believes, in 1797, he petitioned the Spanish Government, through Cesar Archinard, then alcade of Rapide, for 400 acres of land in that district, which was obtained, a survey of the land made, and possession given him: that he remained in possession two or three years, and cultivated during that time a small part of it, erected a dwelling-house and store, and sunk a well. That soon after the American Government took place at Natchez, he removed to that place; and that McKernon then purchased of this deponent, who did not guarantee the title, except against himself and those claiming under him.

No. 145.

1178. The heirs and legal representatives of Joseph Chevalier Poiret claim 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. 20 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Rapides, in the parish of Rapides, bounded above by land of Levi Wells, and below by vacant; claimed under a requette by J. C. Poiret, with the usual certificate, dated Rapide, 25th February, 1797, by V. Layssard, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice.

No. 146.

1233. The heirs of John Biggs claim 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. 12 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Robert, in the county of Rapide, bounded above by land of William Powers, and below by that of Jeremiah Dow; claimed under a requette by John Biggs, with certificate of vacancy by J. C. Poiret, alcade, dated the 14th November, 1799. The requette accompanies the notice.

No. 147.

1234. Nicholas Welsh claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on Bayou Rapide, in the county of Rapide; claimed under a requette by Nicholas Welsh, praying for 20 arpens front by forty deep, for his two sons Nicholas and Gros Welch, on Bayou Rapide, bounded above by land of Louis Huit, and below by that of Mr. Wells, approved the 14th August, 1801, by V. Layssard, then commandant. The requette accompanies the notice. The other half of the land is claimed by G. Welsh, reported No. 148.

No. 148.

1235. Gros Welsh claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on Bayou Rapide, in the county of Rapide, bounded by the other half of the original tract; claimed under a requette filed in the preceding claim, reported No. 147, which see.

No. 149.

1252. James Griffin claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Rapide, in the county of Rapide, bounded above by land of James McLauchlin, and below by vacant; claimed under a requette in the name of John Wells, sanctioned by Cesar Archinard the 27th June, 1801. The notice is accompanied by the requette, and a plat of survey by K. McCrummin, a deputy U. S. surveyor, for 338 51-100ths acres, dated the 19th July, 1814. The evidence of J. B. Vincent, taken by commission the 30th June, 1814, states that the land has been constantly inhabited and cultivated from the year 1802 to the present date. The claimant producing no sale from Wells, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of John Wells.

No. 150.

236. William Mock claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 40 deep, situated in the prairie of Cattahoula, county of Rapides, joining lands of James Leven; claimed under a requette by the claimant, sanctioned the 11th January, 1802, by V. Layssard, then commandant, which requette accompanies the notice.

No. 151.

131. The Widow Leger, and her two sons Michel and Louis Leger, claim 360 superficial arpens of land, viz. nine arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the west side of Bayou Placquemines Brulées, in the county of Opelousas, bounded above by land of James Andrus; claimed under a requette by the claimants, sanctioned the 30th

March, 1787, by Chevalier De Clouet, then commandant, for 24 arpens front by 40 deep. This requette is found recorded in page 378 of book No. 1, in the register's office, 15 arpens of which tract have been confirned to the representatives of James Andrus, under certificate B, 687, leaving the nine arpens front now claimed unconfirmed, to which the widow and her sons are doubtless entitled. The confirmation is therefore recommended.

No. 152.

510. Joseph Grange claims for himself and others a tract of land in the Prairie Sorrel, county of Attakapas, being such part of said prairie as may not be embraced by the confirmation of the former Board of Commissioners. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of a decree of Governor Miro's of the 4th June, 1783, confirming the land as apportioned to five Acadian families, by De Clouet, who certifies to have put those families in possession of the vacancy between René Trahan and Olivier Thibedeau, in the said prairie, containing about 25 arpens. By the Commissioners' certificates, Nos. 2,065, 2,066, 2,067, and 2,068, it appears that 820 arpens of land have already been granted to Dugas and others, making a part of the Prairie Sorrel, a small portion of which remains unconfirmed; and as the Spanish Government appears to have relinquished its title to all the said prairie, the confirmation of the remainder contained in the vacancy between Trahan and Thibedeau is recommended to the claimants on their producing a plat of survey for the same.

No. 153.

652. Sarah Collins claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. 20 arpens front by 40 deep, situated in the Bayou Chicot, commonly called the Pine prairie, county of Opelousas. Accompanying the notice is the contract of marriage between Julien Lesassier and the claimant, passed the 26th October, 1786, before the then commandant, Le Chev. De Clouet, in which mention is made of a tract of land belonging to Sarah Collins, and making part of her marriage portion, situated in the Bayou Chicot, having the number of arpens, &c. conformable to the titles, estimated at six hundred dollars. The evidence of William L. Collins, taken the 30th May, 1813, states, that, about the year 1784 or 1785, Chevalier De Clouet, then commandant of the post, granted to this deponent, his father, brother, and sister, the present claimant, each a tract of land of 20 arpens front by 80 deep, situated in the Pine prairie, adjoining lands granted at the same time to Charles Percy. That the usual papers were made out by De Clouet for each tract, which, two or three years afterwards, were taken to New Orleans by deponent's father, and the titles in form obtained. as his father informed him, but were forgot, and remained in Miro's hands, and have not since been heard of, nor any steps taken for their recovery, being considered as safe in Miro's possession. That these lands, being all in the family, were considered as joint property; the stock of cattle has always been kept there, and persons employed to take care of it and the lands.

From the marriage contract, dated twenty-nine years ago, the clause of which that affects this claim is in the well known hand-writing of Mr. De Clouet, then commandant of the posts of Attakapas and Opelousas, it appears that a tract of land in the Bayou Chicot prairie, contents not mentioned, but admitted to be the lawful property of the now claimant, was estimated at six hundred dollars, which, as lands are believed to have been valued at that time, is considered a high valuation for 800 arpens. Although no document to establish a title under the Spanish Government, except the marriage contract, has been adduced, yet it is presumed that the land would not have been inserted therein unless the commandant had been well assured of the claimant's right thereto; and further, as it is in his own hand-writing, and he mentions titles for the same, referring thereto for particulars, the claim is recommended for confirmation for the quantity as claimed.

FOURTH CLASS.

No. 154.

2. Michel Prudhomme, senior, claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by forty deep, situated in the county of Opelousas, bounded, at the time surveyed, on the south by land of John Ortolan, and on the north by that of Bte. C. Fontenot; claimed under a certificate from Chevalier Poiret, passed the 5th September, 1780, before C. De Clouet, then commandant, "that the original papers being lost. he certifies that he has sold to Michel Prudhomme." The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of the certificate, and a plat of survey and proces verbal by Carlos Trudeau, surveyor general, dated the 8th June, 1782, for six arpens front by eighty deep, in favor of the claimant, and in consequence of the above certificate, and an order of Galvez, dated the 3d June, 1782, in favor of Prudhomme, for six arpens by 40 in continuation. The evidence of Louis Chachere, taken the 3d June, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for twenty-two consecutive years preceding this date, and is now occupied by Baptiste Tesenau.

No. 155.

4. Margaret Desbordes, widow of Clorée, and formerly wife of J. F. Brunet, claims 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. 12 arpens front by forty deep, situated on the Grand Woods of Bayou Cane, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of C. Comeau, and on the other by that of Poiret; claimed under a deed of sale from Poiret and wife to F. Brunet, passed the 24th August, 1787, before N. Forstall, then commandant. A certified copy of said sale accompanies the notice. The evidence of Joseph Young, aged thirty-five years, taken the 29th October, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated from his earliest recollection to the present date.

No. 156.

5. Margaret Desbordes, widow of Clorée, and formerly wife of J. F. Brunet, claims 160 superficial arpens of land, viz. four arpens front by 40 deep, situated at the hill of the Church bridge, in the county of Opelousas; claimed under a deed of sale from John Caratche to J. F. Brunet, passed the 28th October, 1785, before C. De Clouet, then commandant. A certified copy of said sale accompanies the notice. The evidence of Noel Roy, aged forty years, taken the 1st December, 1812, states that, from his earliest recollection, Jean Caratche was inhabiting and cultivating the land, and continued thereon until he sold to Brunet, who cultivated said land from that time till about seven or eight years ago.

No. 157.

6. Margaret Desbordes, widow of Clorée, and formerly wife of J. F. Brunet, claims a tract of land situated at the hill of the Church bridge, in the county of Opelousas, bounded by land formerly belonging to Jean Caratche on one side, limited by the road, the contents to be hereafter ascertained by a survey; claimed under a deed of relinquishment from Bertrand Auret to Chevalier De Clouet, dated the 4th November, 1780, conformable to his titles, and in pursuance of a decree of the Government; and a deed of sale from said C. De Clouet to J. F. Brunet for the same land, passed the 28th October, 1785, certified copies of which sales accompany the notice. The evidence of Joseph Young, taken the 29th October, 1812, states that, on this land, was the residence of Brunet, upwards of twenty years ago, and believes he died there, since when, his widow put Michel Odebert on it as tenant, who resided many years thereon, deponent cannot say how long, but is certain that this land has been constantly occupied until within the last two or three years.

No. 158.

15. Maria Louise Villfranche, wife of Gaspard Badin, claims 96.56 American perches, situated in the village and county of Natchitoches; bounded on the north by land of Berthelemi Shamberg, and on the south and east by streets in said village; claimed under a deed of sale from Jn. Bte. Roujot to Madam Francois Lemaitre, passed the 24th March, 1792, before Nicolas Forstall, then commandant of Opelousas. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of said sale, and a plat of survey by Samuel Cook, an United States' deputy surveyor, dated the 27th February, 1807, in favor of Dassel Hay. The evidence of Pierre Elie, aged thirty-nine years, taken the 17th June, 1812, states, that, from his earliest recollection, the land has been inhabited and cultivated, to the present date. Also, the evidence of Hypolite Bordelon, aged forty-three years, taken the 21st October, 1812, states that the land has been occupied more than twenty years, but to his knowledge the claimant and her family have inhabited and cultivated the same for fifteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 159.

40. Athanase Hebert claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the east bank of Bayou Teche, in the quarter of the Fausse point, county of Attakapas; bounded above by land of De la Houssaye, and below by that of Deguiy, or Alexander Hebert; claimed under a deed of sale from Louis Pelletier de la Houssaye to the claimant, passed the 13th August, 1799, before Louis C. De Blanc, then commandant. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of the sale.

No. 160.

41. Donato Bro claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the east side of Bayou Teche, in the quarter of the Fausse point, county of Attakapas, bounded below by land of Atha-

nase Hebert, and above by that of De la Houssaye; claimed under a deed of sale from Louis Pelletier de la Houssaye to the claimant, passed the 14th August, 1799, before Louis C. De Blanc, then commandant. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of sale.

No. 161.

44. Athanase Hebert, Donato Breau, Pierre Breau, Ceril Thibedeau and Louis Bonain, joint heirs of Firman Breau, claim 100 superficial arpens of land, viz. 2½ arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the west side of the Bayou Vermillion, in the Grand prairie, county of Attakapas, bounded on one side by land of Firman Breau, and on the other by that of Amant Broussard; claimed under a deed of exchange from Joseph Broussard to Firman Breau, passed the 15th March, 1792, before Louis De Clouet, then commandant. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of the sale.

No. 162.

45. Athanase Hebert, Donato Breau, Pierre Breau, Ceril Thibedeau, and Louis Bonain, joint heirs of Firman Breau, claim 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the west side of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, bounded on both sides by land of Firman Breau; claimed under a deed of exchange from Athanase Hebert to Firman Breau, passed the 15th March, 1792, before Louis De Clouet, then commandant. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of the sale.

No. 163.

48. The heirs of Victor Richard claim 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the west side of Buller's bayou, a branch of Bayou Placquemine Brulées, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of Roger Field, and on the other by that of Mr. Hanchette; claimed under a deed of sale from Edward Forman to Victor Richard, passed the 19th May, 1794, before Louis C. De Blanc, then commandant. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of the sale. The evidence of Thomas Huffpower, aged seventy-six years, taken the 8th July, 1812, states that the land was occupied by Foreman more than thirty years ago for several years; that, after the sale to Richard, one Premo occupied the same on Richard's account for two or three years, after which Forman was employed to tend Richard's cattle, where he resided and cultivated for five successive years, since when it has neither been inhabited nor cultivated.

No. 164.

53. Joseph Saunier claims 208 superficial arpens of land, viz. four arpens front by 12 deep, on the east side of said Bayou Vermillion, and four arpens front by 40 deep, on the west side of the bayou; claimed under a deed of sale from the widow of Petite René Broussard and Jean Broussard, tutor to the minors, to Joseph Saunier, for four arpens front by 12 deep on the east, and six arpens front by 40 deep on the west side of the Bayou Vermillion, passed the 26th September, 1800, before Louis C. De Blanc, then commandant. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of the sale.

No. 165.

54. Joseph Saunier claims 80 superficial arpens of land, viz. two arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the west side of the Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, adjoining other lands of the claimant, claimed under a deed of sale from René and Jean Broussard to Joseph Saunier, filed in the preceding number, 164.

No. 166.

62. Augustin Bordelon claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by 40 deep, situated in Avoyelles' prairie, county of Rapide; bounded on one side by land of Hypolite Mayeux, and on the other by that of Nicholas Tassin; claimed under a deed of sale from Pierre Bordelon to Augustin Bordelon, passed the 9th October, 1797, before Jn. Bte. Mayeux and Joseph Jaffrion, then alcades of the post of Avoyelles, for two arpens front by forty deep; a deed of sale from Pierre Mayeux to Hilaire Bordelon, passed the 20th July, 1802, before the aforesaid alcades, for "four arpens of land;" a deed of sale from Hilaire Bordelon to Francois Gremillon, passed the 26th August, 1803, before the aforesaid alcades, for four arpens front by forty deep. The notice is accompanied by certified copies of said sales, and a certificate of Thomas F. Oliver, judge of the parish of Avoyelles, certifying "that there was a sale passed from Fs. Grimillon, fils, to Augustin Bordelon, in 1807, before Philip Reibilt, judge of aforesaid parish, for four arpens of land."

No. 167.

63. The heirs of Firman Breau claim 100 superficial arpens of land, viz. 2½ arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas; bounded by land of Jn. Bte. Hebert on one side, and that of Joseph Hebert on the other; claimed under a deed of sale from Anselme Thibedeau to Firman Breau, for 2½ arpens by forty, on the Vermillion, and a like quantity on the same line on the other side of the river, passed the 29th December, 1780, before Chevalier De Clouet, then commandant. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of the sale.

No. 168.

65. Jean Baptiste Guidry claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by 40 deep, embracing a cypress swamp, situated on the west side of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas; claimed under a deed of sale from William Bundick to the claimant, dated the 23d March, 1801, and passed before Louis C. De Blanc, then commandant, for five arpens front by forty deep, on the east side of Bayou Teche; said land to enjoy the cypress swamp as expressed in the act passed the 29th August, 1799, between Charles Dugas and William Bundick. A certified copy of said sale accompanies the notice.

No. 169.

68. Jean Pierre Decuir claims 800 or 840 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty or forty-two deep, situated on the west bank of Bayou Tortue, in the county of Attakapas, bounded on one side by land of Mr. Ozenne, and on the other by that of Gravemberg; claimed under a deed of sale from Louis Pellerin to the claimant, passed the 17th April, 1792, before Jean de la Villebeuvre, then commandant, for twenty arpens by forty, on the west side of the bayou, and on the east side, the "L'Isle des Alise," in all its extent, although separated in several parts: the seller holding the twenty arpens by concession, and the island by purchase from Pelletier de la Houssaye, by sale passed in the office. A certified copy of the sale accompanies the notice. The evidence of Hilaire De Cuix, aged thirty-five years, and of Louis Chaceré, taken the 31st December, 1813, establishes the claimant to have inhabited and cultivated the land for eighteen or nineteen consecutive years preceding this date. The 800 arpens, together with the whole of the island, is recommended for confirmation according to the tenor of the sale. See reported No. 197.

No. 170.

79. Antoine Patin claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded on one side by land of J. Derowen, and on the other by that of Joseph Derowen, jun.; claimed under a deed of sale from Joseph Derowen to the claimant, passed the 20th November, 1788, before Chevalier De Clouet, then commandant. A certified copy of the sale accompanies the notice.

No. 171.

93. Henry Hebert claims six arpens of land front on the right bank of Bayou Teche, with the depth to the Vermillion bayou, in the county of Attakapas, bounded above by land of D. Melançon, and below by that of Valery Martin; claimed under a deed of sale from Pierre Broussard to the claimant, passed the 29th November, 1797, before Joseph Sorrel, then commandant pro tem. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of said sale. See the evidence in reported No. 205.

No. 172.

115. Pierre Broussard claims twelve hundred superficial arpens of land, viz. thirty arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas; bounded above by land of Nicolas Thibedeau; claimed under a deed of sale from Chevalier De Clouet to the claimant, passed the 10th May, 1796, before Francisco Caso y Luengo, then commandant; a certified copy of which sale accompanies the notice. The evidence of Andrew Martin, taken the 6th August, 1812, establishes that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for nineteen or twenty consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 173.

121. Louis Charles De Blanc claims a tract of land, of which the superfical contents has not yet been ascertained, but which will hereafter appear from a plat of survey to be exhibited by the claimant, viz. four arpens front (more or less) on the right bank of Bayou Teche, by 40 arpens deep, at the village of New Iberia, in the county of Attakapas, bounded below by land of the representatives of Mills, and above by other land of the claimant; and seven arpens front on the left bank of said river, in part opposite to the four arpens; the lines of this last part so converging in going out from the river as to intersect at a distance short of forty arpens on either line; bounded above by other land of the claimant, and below by that of John Stine: claimed under a deed of sale from Joseph Borrel to the claimant, dated the 18th August, 1797, for four arpens front (more or less) by forty deep,

on the west side of Bayou Teche, coming from Joseph Poras, by act passed in the office the 30th November, 1789; and seven arpens front by the depth that may be found on the east side of said bayou, coming from Francois Prevost, by act passed in the office the 16th January, 1790; bounded as explained in said acts. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of the sale from the Attakapas records, and a plat of survey by James L. Johnson, an United States' deputy surveyor, dated the 17th August, 1812, for two tracts of Le Blanc's, one of seven arpens front, and the other three and an half arpens front, both represented as lying on the left bank of the Teche, embracing together the quantity of 131.63 acres.

No. 174.

125. Louis Charles De Blanc claims a tract of land of four arpens front by 40 deep, on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, and 3½ arpens front on the left bank of said bayou, the lines of depth on that side so approximating as to intersect at a distance short of 40 arpens, bounded above and below by other lands of the claimants; claimed under a private deed of sale from Juan Torres to the claimant, dated the 15th February, 1797, for four arpens front on the west, and three and an half arpens front on the east side of the Teche, "with the depth of New Iberie." The deed of sale accompanies the notice. ☞The deed of sale does not appear to have been passed before the competent authority; consequently this claim ought to have gone into the 8th class.

No. 175.

148. Louise Veillon claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, in the Prairie Gros Chevreuil, bounded on one side by land of Duralde, and below by that of Lastrappe, claimed under a deed of sale from Louis De Clouet to Pierre Styx, (free negro,) passed the 22d October, 1791, before Nicholas Forstall, then commandant, and a deed of sale from said Pierre to the claimant, the 18th October, 1802, before Martin Duralde, then commandant. The notice is accompanied by certified copies of the said sales.

No. 176.

150. Francois Bordelon claims 1,000 superficial arpens of land, viz. 25 arpens front by 40 deep, situated in the prairie of Avoyelles, county of Rapides, claimed under a deed of sale from J. B. Duplechin to Noel Soileau, passed the 26th August, 1786, before Jacques Gagnard, then commandant, for 50 arpens front by 40 deep, bought of the deceased Antoine Bordelon; and a deed of exchange, passed the 3d September, 1796, before Carlos De Grandpré, governor of Red river, Ouachita, and their dependencies, between N. Soileau, who exchanges a tract of land in Avoyelles, of 25 arpens front by 40 deep, with Juan F. Escoffier for a tract situated in Opelousas, of 17 arpens front by 40 deep. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy "from a copy from the original in the archives of Avoyelles," the original of the deed of exchange, and a receipt for money, in consequence of a deed of sale passed the 21st June, 1810, before the judge of Avoyelles, by Francois Moreau, widow of Escoffier, to the claimant, for 25 arpens front by 40 deep, more or less. The evidence of Pierre Mayeux, taken the 24th August, 1812, states, that the land claimed is known by this deponent to be a part of a tract of 50 arpens front by 40 deep, conceded by the Spanish Government to Antoine Bordelon, upwards of thirty years ago, since when it has been constantly occupied and cultivated to this date, either by the said Antoine or those claiming under him, viz. Francois Bordelon, John Bonton, Zenon Ferret, Pierre L'Eglise, Jean Bte. Mayeux, and Lambert De Sel.

No. 177.

154. John Muggah claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by 400 deep, situated on the right bank of the river Chafalaya, in the county of Attakapas, claimed under a deed of sale from Joseph Derowen to John Chote, for 20 arpens front, passed the 12th August, 1795, before Francisco Caso y Luengo, then commandant, a deed of sale from said Chote to David Holstein, for ten arpens front, passed the 10th November, 1798, before Louis C. De Blanc, then commandant. The notice is accompanied by certified copies of said sales, together with a private deed of sale from Holstein for ten acres front, passed the 10th May, 1803, to Elizabeth Wattman, acknowledged the 28th March, 1811, before the parish judge of East Baton Rouge, and a certified copy of a deed of sale from said Wattman to the claimant, for ten acres, dated 25th March, 1811; also a plat of survey by Evan Bowles, for 338 49-100 acres in favor of E. Wattman, on the right bank of Bayou Teche. The evidence of William Knight, aged twenty-three years, taken the 31st August, 1812, states, that in the year 1799 or 1800, John Chote settled on the land, and continued thereon two years, when he sold his right to David Holstein, who transferred said right to Elizabeth Wattman, who took possession about 18 months after Choate's removal; that in the interval the land was occupied by several persons, supposed to have been tenants of Holstein or Wattman; that said Wattman sold to the present claimant, who has been in possession these four last years.

No. 178.

157. Joseph Gaspard claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by 40 deep, situated in the prairie of Avoyelles, county of Rapides, bounded on one side by land of J. B. Lemoin, and on the other by that of H. Ducotté, claimed under a deed of sale from Augustin Juneau to Joseph Guinard, dated the 3d October, 1803, and a deed of sale from said Guinard to the claimant, dated the 4th October, 1803, both passed before J. B. Mayeux and Joseph Joffrion, then alcades of the post of Avoyelles. The notice is accompanied by certified copies of said sales. The evidence of J. B. Dozat, aged twenty-six years, taken the 27th December, 1813, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for fourteen years constantly preceding this date, the first four years by Jacques Gagnard, and subsequently by the claimant, aged about 35 or 40 years, and the head of a family.

No. 179.

182. Francois Gonssoulin claims 540 superficial arpens of land, viz. 18 arpens front by 30 deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, claimed under a deed of exchange from Amand Broussard to the claimant, for 18 arpens front by the depth that may be found, passed the 2d December, 1795, before Francisco Caso y Luengo, then commandant. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of the sale, and a plat of survey by Gonssoulin, dated the 23d July, 1795.

No. 180.

183. Francois Gonssoulin claims 180 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by 30 deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, claimed under a private deed of exchange from Benoist De St. Clair to the claimant, dated the 12th December, 1795. The notice is accompanied by the sale. The plat of survey filed in the preceding claim, reported No. 179, delineates this land as well as that in reported Nos. 4, 5, 6, and 179.

No. 181.

188. Joseph Broussard claims a tract of land of six arpens front by the depth to the opposite lines, situated on the east side of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded above by land of Le Blanc, and below by that of Joseph Guilbeau, claimed under a deed of sale from Louis Pelletier de la Houssaye to the claimant, passed the 26th May, 1800, before Louis C. De Blanc, then commandant, coming from the succession of his deceased father, with the use of the wood on the west side of the bayou, a certified copy of which sale accompanies the notice. See note P.

No. 182.

221. Hilaire De Coux claims 640 superficial arpens of land, viz. 16 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the west side of Bayou Tortue, quarter of the Cote Gelée, in the county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of Ozenne on both sides, claimed under a deed of sale from Pradier and wife to Jean Pre. Decuir, passed the 28th October, 1788, before A. C. De Clouet, then commandant. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of the sale, and a certified copy of a deed of sale from said Decuir to the claimant, passed the 25th May, 1805. The evidence of Louis Chaceré, taken the 31st December, 1813, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for twenty-two or twenty-three consecutive years preceding said date. The first occupancy known to deponent was the claimant's mother, and that the claimant is thirty-five years of age, and head of a family.

No. 183.

222. Francois Lambert claims 205 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by 40 deep, on the east side of Bayou Vermillion, and five arpens front by one in depth, on the west side of said river, in the county of Attakapas, bounded above by land of Jean Broussard, claimed under a sale from Amant Gotro to Joseph Broussard, passed the 25th February, 1793, before Caso y Luengo, then commandant, transferred by said Broussard to St. Julien, the 18th December, 1807. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of the sale, and a certified copy of a deed of sale from said St. Julien to the claimant, passed the 17th September, 1808, before the judge of the parish. The evidence of Claude Broussard, aged sixty-two years, taken the 6th October, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for thirty consecutive years previous to said date.

No. 184.

432. Widow Joseph Renois claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the Bayou Rapide, in the county of Rapides, claimed under a deed of sale from Robert McKim to the claimant's husband, passed the 29th October, 1785, before Etienne M. Layssard, then commandant of the post of Rapides, for "five arpens of land above the lands of the Apalaches, and joining a bad cabin." The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of the sale.

No. 185.

494. The heirs of Alexis Grappe claim 440 superficial arpens of land, viz. eleven arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the right bank of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, claimed under a judicial sale of the land, as belonging to the estate of De Blanc, dated the 18th September, 1763, to Alexis Grappe. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy from the archives of the parish of Natchitoches of an extract from said sale. The evidence of Francois Lavasseur, taken by commission the 14th March, 1814, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for more than twenty consecutive years preceding this date by the claimants, who are Francois Grappe, aged seventy-seven years, Madam Fontenot and Madam Benoist Montorany, aged each about seventy-three years.

No. 186.

524. The Rev. Louis Buhot, minister and guardian of the Roman Catholic church of the county of Opelousas, claims a tract of land, the superficial contents of which is at present unknown, being for about six arpens front on the right bank of the river of Opelousas, with the depth thence to that branch of Bayou Teche, called Grand Louis Bayou; claimed under a certificate dated the 15th November, 1776, by Fusilier de la Claire, certifying that he had sold to the churchwardens, for the use of the church, a piece of land belonging to the estate of Courtableau, and endorsed below, "seen by us, commandant, this 10th February, 1778," and signed "Le Chevalier De Clouet."

No. 187.

528. Jean Charles Hebert claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front on each side of the Bayou Vermillion, by the depth of 40 arpens, in the county of Attakapas, bounded on one side by land of Anselme Thibedeau, and on the other by that of Firman Bro; claimed under a deed of sale from Anselme Thibedeau to Jean Baptiste Hebert, passed the 29th December, 1780, before Alex. Chev. De Clouet, then commandant. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of the sale.

No. 188.

559. Charles Calderon claims a tract of land of about seven and a quarter arpens front on the right bank of the Bayou Vermillion, in the Prairie Basse, county of Attakapas, by 40 arpens deep, the side lines so converging as to intersect at about that distance from the river, claimed under a deed of sale from Sam, a free mulatto, to Nicholas Boulris, passed the 24th November, 1782, before Alex. Chev. De Clouet, then commandant, and a deed of sale from said Boulris to the present claimant, passed the 10th February, 1802, before Louis Charles De Blanc, then commandant, certified copies of which sales accompany the notice, with a plat of survey for the land as claimed by M. Ludlow, an United States' deputy surveyor, dated the 4th April, 1814.

No. 189.

661. Etienne Lamorendier claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated at L'Isle à Langlois, in the county of Opelousas, bounded northwardly by land of Antoine Lambert, and southwardly by that of Cornelius Voorhies, with a front on the east side of said island of about ten arpens, running thence westwardly through the island into the prairie, along the lines of said Voorhies and Lambert, taking so much depth as will embrace the quantity claimed; claimed under a deed of sale from Charles Viger to F. Lemelle for ten arpens front, with the depth stipulated in Pellerin's titles, passed the 24th October, 1784, before Alex. Chev. De Clouet, then commandant. A certified copy of said sale accompanies the notice. The confirmation by the late Board of Commissioners to John Gradinego, includes all the land to which the claimant is rightfully entitled: the claim is therefore not recommended.

No. 190.

690. Andrew Shamard claims a tract of land, the superficial contents to be hereafter ascertained, situated in the county of Natchitoches; claimed under a deed of sale from Ignatius Anty, alias Laforme, to Marie Jucheraud De St. Denis, for two tracts of land, one of four arpens, below the large raft, and the other along the island called "Roberts," both tracts conceded by Coulon de Villier and Roujot, former commandants of Natchitoches, passed the 22d April, 1774, before Athanase De Meziere, then commandant, to which sale is attached the certificate of the clerk of the county court of Natchitoches, the 8th October, 1812, that the requette mentioned in said sale is not on file in his office; also a deed of sale from said M. J. De St. Denis to Bouette Lafitte, "for all the land," passed the 18th October, 1781, and a transfer from said Lafitte to the present claimant, passed the 4th January, 1798. The notice is accompanied by certified copies of the said sales.

No. 191.

807. Michel Prudhomme claims 920 superficial arpens of land, viz. 20 arpens front by 40 deep, on the east side of Bayou Marie Crocan, and 10 arpens front by 12 deep on the west side of said bayou, in the county of Opelousas; claimed under an act of relinquishment for land on Bayou Marie Crocan, by Courtableau, in favor of Lasonde, passed and approved the 6th March, 1767, by Pellerin, then commandant, and a deed of sale from Antoine Pilette, alias Lasonde and his wife, to the present claimant, for the land as claimed, passed the 27th June, 1774, before Le Chev. De Clouet, then commandant. The notice is accompanied by the aforesaid act of relinquishment, and a certified copy of the sale.

No. 192.

940. Louis Bellestre, senior, claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on the south by other land of the claimant; claimed under a deed of sale from Louis De Villars to Joseph De Villier, passed the 5th May, 1793, before Nicolas Forstall, then commandant, and left by the said De Villier as a legacy to the present claimant, the 8th November, 1794. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of said sale, and a certified extract from the will of De Villier, with a plat of survey for 480 arpens by J. Dinsmore, an United States' deputy surveyor, the 18th December, 1810, one-half of which survey has been confirmed to the claimant by certificate A, 2,197. The evidence of Nemesse Bossier, taken the 27th January, 1814, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land by the claimant, or some one for his use, for twenty-one consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 193.

952. Armant Broussard claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated on the west side of Bayou Petite Anse, in the county of Attakapas, bounded on one side by land of F. Gravemberg, and on the other by that of Louis Bonain; claimed under a deed of sale from Bte. Prevost to Carlin for ten arpens by forty, on the west side of Bayou Petite Anse, passed the 3d September, 1785, before Alex. Chev. De Clouet, then commandant, and a sale from said Carlin to Joseph Broussard for ten and one-third arpens on the west, and three and a half arpens on the east side of the bayou, passed the 15th February, 1805, before Henry Hopkins, then commandant, from which it appears the land is a joint purchase between Amant Broussard, Jo. Broussard, fils, and Jo. Broussard. Certified copies of which sales are filed with the notice.

No. 194.

1,015. Alexander Milne claims 1,600 superficial arpens of land, viz. forty arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of the Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, bounded on one side by land of Amant Broussard, and below by that of Bernard and Mouton, claimed under a deed of sale from Messrs. de la Houssaye to John Gretien, for ten arpens by forty, on the west side of Bayou Vermillion, passed the 3d October, 1790, before J. De la Villebeuvre, then commandant. A deed of sale from Louis Desorman to J. Gretien for six arpens by forty, passed the 26th April, 1792, before the same commandant; and a sale from said Gretien to Alexander Milne and James Jones, for forty arpens by forty, passed the 3d January, 1804, before L. C. De Blanc, then commandant for the French republic, in which mention is made that the land came to Gretien by an act of the 23d October, 1790, from De la Houssayes, for ten arpens; and another dated the 3d May, 1802, for twenty arpens, and the other ten arpens, (making the forty arpens now sold,) by acts from Louis Desormeaux, dated the 2d June, 1791, and the 26th April, 1792, which acts are deposited in the office, copies having been delivered to said Gretien. Certified copies of said sales accompany the notice. The confirmation is recommended to Milne and Jones, as the claimant produces no relinquishment of title from Jones. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 195.

1,066. The heirs of Jacob Harman claims 320 superficial arpens of land, viz. eight arpens front by forty deep, situated on Bayou Placquemines Brulées, in the county

of Opelousas; bounded on one side by George, a free mulatto's land, and on the other by the domain; claimed under a sale from Joseph Picard to Charles Navarre, free negro, passed the 17th May, 1782, before A. C. De Clouet, then commandant, and a sale from said Navarre to Jacob Harman, passed the 21st December, 1790, before Louis C. De Villars, then commandant. The notice is accompanied by certified copies of said sales.

No. 196.

1,203. Charles Carriere (free mulatto) claims 500 superficial arpens of land, viz. fourteen arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Tortue, in the county of Attakapas; claimed under a deed of donation from Juan De la Villebeuvre to the claimant, passed the 1st October, 1801, before Louis C. De Blanc, then commandant. A certified copy of which deed accompanies the notice, together with a plat of survey by Patrick Marin, not known as an authorized surveyor, dated the 7th October, 1809, for 473 91-100ths acres. The evidence of J. P. Decuir, taken by commission the 5th October, 1814, states that the claimant, aged about sixty years, has inhabited and cultivated the land constantly from the year 1799 to the present date.

No. 197.

69. Jean Pierre Decuir claims the whole of *L'Isle des Alize*, on the east side of Bayou Tortue, county of Attakapas, claimed under a deed of sale from Louis Pellerin, dated the 17th April, 1792, filed in reported No. 169. The evidence of Hilaire De Coux states, that this land is only separated from that on which the claimant resides by a small gully; that the island is understood to have been granted to De la Houssaye for the use of the timber, the opposite tract having no wood; that the land is low, and subject to inundation; is not susceptible of culture, and consequently has never been inhabited or cultivated.

FIFTH CLASS.

No. 198.

8. Joseph Lejeune claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, situated on the branches of Bayou Canes, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of Landry Jones, and on the other by vacant. Accompanying the notice is a plat of survey by Wm. Darby, an United States deputy surveyor, dated the 16th December, 1806, for 677 acres. The evidence of Louis Richard, taken the 14th June, 1812, establishes the claimant to have inhabited and cultivated the land for twenty-two consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 199.

16. Joseph Jeanrise claims 585 superficial acres of land, viz. 25 four pole chains front, on each side of Red river, by forty arpens deep, at or near Blackberry pond, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Michel Chagneau, and below by that of the heirs of J. B. Grappe. The evidence of Pierre Elie, taken the 17th June, 1812, states that the claimant was settled on the land upwards of twenty years ago, and has continued to inhabit and cultivate the same ever since, until the last four years, when the same has been occupied by Louis Vascocu, his tenant.

No. 200.

26. Claude Broussard claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the west side of the Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, bounded above by the concession of Louis Trahan, and below by the claim of Francois Broussard. The evidence of Michel Broussard and Francois Broussard, taken the 5th October, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated by the claimant for twenty-five consecutive years preceding that date. Deponents cannot say whether the habitation of the claimant during that term has been on the tract claimed, the line between it and the adjoining tract below not having been run, but they have reason to believe when said line shall be correctly run, it will be found to pass within three arpens of the claimant's place of residence. And the evidence of Olidon Broussard, Valery Broussard, and Pierre Maux, taken the 14th February, 1814, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land for twenty-five or thirty consecutive years preceding that date. The claimant is sixty-five years of age, and has a family of *nineteen* children.

No. 201.

28. Margaret Boutin, widow of John Savoy, claims 640 superficial acres of land situated on the left bank of Bayou Caron Crow, in the county of Opelousas, bounded below by other land of the claimant, and on other sides by vacant. The evidence of David Guidry, aged forty-two years, taken the 8th July, 1812, establishes the cultivation of the land by the claimant and her deceased husband, for more than thirty consecutive years preceding that date; one year of which term it was actually inhabited, and has always been respected by the neighbors as the property of said Savoy and his heirs.

No. 202.

86. Pierre Forest claims about eighty superficial arpens of land in the Prairie de Langlois, county of Opelousas, bounded by lands of Joseph Andrepont, Jacques Dupré, Baptiste Johnson, and the claimant. The evidence of Baptiste Johnson, aged thirty-eight years, taken the 30th July, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for twenty consecutive years preceding this date; first by the widow of Pierre Peter, whom the claimant married about seventeen years ago, and subsequently by the claimant and his family.

No. 203.

88. Antoine, Pierre, Louis, Charles, Augustin, Joseph, Adelaide, and Eugenie Godo, children and heirs of Antoine Godo, deceased, claim 2,000 superficial arpens of land, viz. fifty arpens front by forty deep, situated in Bayou Rouge prairie, county of Rapide. The notice is accompanied by a plat of survey for 2,000 arpens, by C. M. Lawson, an United States deputy surveyor, dated the 27th September, 1812. The evidence of Wm. L. Collins, aged fifty years, taken the 5th October, 1812, states that he was informed by Joseph Jaffrion, former alcade in Avoyelles, that the chief of the Tunica tribe of Indians, Penroy, had sold the claim of said tribe to one-half the Island and Prairie Rouge, to Antoine Godo and others, extending from the east to the west fork of Bayou Rouge; and that, to his knowledge, the tract claimed by A. Godo has been inhabited and cultivated by said Godo and heirs for nineteen or twenty consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 204.

80. Francois Broussard claims 120 superficial arpens of land, viz. three arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, bounded below by land of the heirs of Meau, and above by that of Claude Broussard. The evidence of Olidon Broussard, Valerie Broussard, and Francois Broussard, taken the 14th February, 1814, states that the claimant has been in the constant practice of cutting his fire-wood and other timber on this land, for the use of his plantation on the other side of the bayou, and which has no wood, for these thirty-five or forty years past; that, thirty years ago, he sold or exchanged with Michel Meau that part which is prairie, and which has now improvements on it, to the amount of $2,000, and for which he is accountable under his warranty deed, and that the land has always been considered and respected by the neighbors as his property. Also, the evidence of Isaac Baldwin, esq., taken the 21st September, 1815, states "that he is well acquainted with this claim, and all the facts on which it is founded, from original title papers, deeds of conveyance, and oral testimony, as well as from common information, statements made, and facts which have come to his knowledge, during a long legal investigation of the true location of a grant made to René Trahan, which was immediately connected with the present claim, and in which he was counsel for one of the defendants. The facts are these: On the 4th of May, 1776, René Trahan obtained a grant from the Spanish Government for forty arpens front on each side of the Bayou Vermillion, by forty deep, and a grant made to Michel Maux, of the same date, joined this. The grants were located to bind on each other by the claimants, and on the 20th July, 1778, Trahan sold to Francois Broussard, the present claimant, two arpens front on each side of said Vermillion, by forty deep, part of said grant to bind on the lower line of the tract of the said Maux, and which two arpens on one side of the Vermillion is the tract now claimed. These two tracts remained as they had been thus located, joining each other, and the said Trahan sold off other tracts or parcels of said grant, and put the purchasers in possession, as it had been thus located, and no opposition was made to it until the year 1796, when, a dispute arising, it was contended that the location was improperly made; a suit was instituted during the time of the Spanish Government, and was not finally determined until the year 1807, when it was adjudged that the said grant ought not to begin on Maux's line and run up the river for quantity, on the west side, but that it ought to begin at a place called the Gum Island, and run towards Maux's grant, or, in other words, run down the said Vermillion for quantity. By running it in this manner the grant to Trahan did not include the two arpens now claimed, but left it on vacant land. Maux's tract still remains in the same situation as located, and those holding parts of it have remained in peaceable possession to this day, except one trespass committed on it, for which suit has been brought, and is yet undetermined."

No. 205.

91. Jean Charles Dugas claims a tract of land of five arpens front on the right bank of Bayou Teche, with the depth to the Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas; bounded by the land of Joseph Castille on the lower side, and on the upper by that of Francois Moreau. The evidence of Andrew Martin, aged forty-two years, taken the 6th August, 1812, states that this tract of land is well known to him to be included in a tract of ninety-two arpens front on the right bank of Bayou Teche, with depth to the Vermillion Bayou, and forty arpens deep on the left bank of said Teche, conceded by the Spanish Government to Francois Ledée; that, in the year 1785, Solomon Maliens, testamentary executor of said Ledée, came from New Orleans to Attakapas, accompanied by the then surveyor general, Carlos Laveau Tradeau, and that the said surveyor then proceeded to lay off said land into nine lots, eight of ten arpens front and one of twelve arpens; that said executor then proceeded to sell, at public outcry, the said lots, pursuant to the will of the testator, which were purchased and taken possession of by different persons, among whom was Joseph Martin, under whom J. C. Dugas claims, having married said Martin's daughter; that, from the date of the sale as aforesaid, the various portions of said land have been constantly inhabited and cultivated by the different purchasers, or those claiming under them; that the said lands have since been subdivided, and are now in possession of about thirty different persons, viz. the claimant, Jean Charles Dugas, Francois Moreau, holding five arpens front on the right bank of the Teche, with depth to the Vermillion; Henry Hebert six arpens front by same depth; Dominique Melancon four arpens front, same side and depth; Adelaide Breaud four arpens front, same side and depth; Margaret Breaud six arpens front, same side and depth; Francois Bernard ten arpens front, same side and depth, with two and a half arpens by forty deep on the left; Widow Dorien six arpens front on the right bank of the Teche, with depth to the Vermillion; Francois Begnaud fifteen arpens front, same side and depth; Charles Valot, one arpent front, same side, by forty deep; Charles C. Delorme eighty-one arpens front, same side, by forty deep; John Guidry five arpens front, left bank, by forty deep; Celestin Gravemberg four arpens front, right bank, by forty deep; Jacques, a free mulatto, two arpens front, right bank, by forty deep; legal representatives of J. P. Etie two arpens front by forty deep; Louis Ledée four arpens front, the two upper arpens forty deep, and the two lower arpens depth to the Vermillion; John Savoy five arpens front, left bank, by forty deep; Raphael Cormier four arpens front, left bank, by forty deep; John Caillet four arpens front, left bank, by forty deep; Agricole Breaud eight arpens front, left bank, by forty deep; Chas. Melancon six and a half arpens front, left bank, by forty deep; Valentine Landry two and an half arpens front, left bank, by forty deep; Marcel Le Blanc, five arpens front by same depth; Pierre Broussard forty-two arpens front by same depth; Christopher Gath four arpens front by same depth, left bank of the Vermillion; Basten Castego six arpens front by same depth, left bank of Vermillion; Pierre Broussard three arpens front by same depth; Francois Begnaud four arpens front by same depth; James Keith three arpens front by same depth; and Constant Breaud eighteen arpens front by same depth.

No. 206.

92. Francois Moreau claims five arpens of land front by the depth to the Vermillion, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded above by land of Valery Martin, and below by that of J. C. Dugas. See the evdence in the claim of J. C. Dugas, reported No. 205.

No. 207.

94. Dominique Melancon claims four arpens of land front by the depth to the Bayou Vermillion, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded above by land of Adelaide Braud, and below by that of Henry Hebert. See the evidence in the claim of J. C. Dugas, reported No. 205.

No. 208.

95. Adelaide Braud claims four arpens of land front by the depth to the Bayou Vermillion, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded below by land of D. Melancon, and above by that of Widow Margaret Braud. See the evidence in the claim of J. C. Dugas, reported No. 205.

No. 209.

96. Margaret Braud claims six arpens of land front by the depth to the Bayou Vermillion, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded below by land of Adelaide Braud, and above by that of Francois Bernard. See the evidence in J. C. Dugas's claim, reported No. 205.

No. 210.

97. Francois Bernard claims ten arpens of land front by the depth to the Bayou Vermillion, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, and two and a half arpens front by forty deep on the left bank of said Teche; the ten arpens bounded below by land of Margaret Braud, and above by that of Widow Duon; and that on the left bank, bounded by lands of Charles Melancon below, and Widow Robichaud above. See the evidence in the claim of J. C. Dugas, reported No. 205.

No. 211.

98. Widow Dorien claims six arpens of land front by the depth to the Bayou Vermillion, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of Francois Bernard below, and Francois Begnaud above. See evidence in the claim of J. C. Dugas, reported No. 205.

No. 212.

99. Francois Begnaud claims fifteen arpens of land front by the depth to the Bayou Vermillion, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of Widow Dorien below, and Mr. Valot above. See the evidence of J. C. Dugas's claim, reported No. 205.

No. 213.

100. Charles Valot claims forty superficial arpens of land, viz. one arpent front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of C. Gravemberg above, and by F. Begnaud below. See the evidence in J. C. Dugas's claim, reported No. 205.

No. 214.

101. Celestin Gravembert claims 160 superficial arpens of land, viz. four arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of C. Valot below, and of Jacques, a free mulatto, above. See the evidence in J. C Dugas's claim, reported No. 205.

No. 215.

102. Jacques, a free mulatto, claims eighty superficial arpens of land, viz. two arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of C. Gravembert below, and the heirs of Etie above. See the evidence in J. C. Dugas's claim, reported No. 205.

No. 216.

103. The legal representatives of John Pierre Etie, claim eighty superficial arpens of land, viz. two arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of Jacques below, and Louis Ledée above. See the evidence in J. C. Dugas's claim, reported No. 205.

No. 217.

104. Louis Ledée claims four arpens of land front, on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, the two upper arpens forty deep, and the two lower arpens depth to the Vermillion, bounded by lands of Jacques below, and Chevalier Delorme above. See evidence in J. C. Dugas's claim, reported No. 205.

No. 218.

105. Charles Chevalier Delorme claims 320 superficial arpens of land, viz. eight arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of Louis Ledée below, and Mr. De Clouet above. See the evidence in the claim of J. C. Dugas, reported No. 205.

No. 219.

106. Jean Guidry claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded below by land of Pierre Broussard, and *below* by that of Joseph Savoy. See evidence in the claim of J. C. Dugas, reported No. 205.

No. 220.

107. Joseph Savoy claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of John Guidry below, and David Rees above. See the evidence in J. C. Dugas's claim, reported N. 205.

No. 221.

108. Raphael Cormier claims 160 superficial arpens of land, viz. four arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of David Rees below, and John Caillet above. See the evidence in J. C. Dugas's claim, reported No. 205.

No. 222.

109. John Caillet claims 160 superficial arpens of land, viz. four arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attaka-

pas, bounded by lands of Raphael Cormier below, and Agricole Braud above. See the evidence in J. C. Dugas's claim, reported No. 205.

No. 223.

110. Agricole Braud claims 320 superficial arpens of land, viz. eight arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of John Caillet below, and Charles Melancon above. See the evidence in the claim of J. C. Dugas, reported No. 205.

No. 224.

111. Charles Melancon claims 260 superficial arpens of land, viz. six and a half arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of A. Braud below, and V. Landry above. See evidence in the claim of J. C. Dugas, reported No. 205.

No. 225.

112. Valentine Landry claims ninety superficial arpens of land, viz. two and a half arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of C. Melancon below, and Marcel Le Blanc above. See the evidence in the claim of J. C. Dugas, reported No. 205.

No. 226.

113. Marcel Le Blanc claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of V. Landry below, and Pierre Broussard above. See evidence in the claim of Dugas, reported No. 205.

No. 227.

114. Pierre Broussard claims 1,680 superficial arpens of land, viz. forty-two arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of M. Le Blanc below, and other land of the claimant above. The notice is accompanied by a plat of survey by C. M. Lawson, an United States' deputy surveyor, for said land, dated the 2d September, 1812. See the evidence in the claim of J. C. Dugas, reported No. 205.

No. 228.

116. Christopher Gath claims 160 superficial arpens of land, viz. four arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of A. De Clouet below, and Bastien Casteyo above. See evidence in the claim of J. C. Dugas, reported No. 205.

No. 229.

No. 117. Bastien Casteyo claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of Louis Ledée below, and C. Gath above. See evidence in J. C. Dugas's claim, reported No. 205.

No. 230.

118. Francois Begnaud claims 160 superficial arpens of land, viz. four arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of Louis Ledée above, and Pierre Broussard below. See the evidence in the claim of J. C. Dugas, reported No. 205.

No. 231.

119. Pierre Broussard claims 120 superficial arpens of land, viz. three arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of F. Begnaud above, and James Keith below. See the evidence in the claim of J. C. Dugas, reported No. 205.

No. 232.

120. James Keith claims 120 superficial arpens of land, viz. three arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of Pierre Broussard above, and Constant Breaud below. See the evidence in the claim of J. C. Dugas, reported No. 205.

No. 233.

121. Constant Breaud claims 720 superficial arpens of land, viz. eighteen arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas, bounded above by land of James Keith. See the evidence in the claim of J. C. Dugas, reported No. 205.

No. 234.

123. Sebastien Casteyo claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded below by land of J. C. Dugas, and above by other land of the claimant. The evidence of Andrew Martin, aged forty-two years, taken the 6th August, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for forty consecutive years preceding this date, first by Latiulep, then for thirty years by Doucet, and subsequently by those claiming under him.

No. 235.

149. Narcisse Mayeux claims 160 superficial arpens of land, viz. four arpens front by forty deep, situated in the Avoyelles prairie, county of Rapides, bounded on one side by land of Jos. Gautiere, and on the other by that of Jacques Paul. The notice is accompanied by a deed of sale from Nicholas Tassin to Julien Poydrass, dated the 20th October, 1791, passed before Noel Soileau, then commandant, [it appears to be a copy, but is not certified as such,] for twenty arpens front by forty deep. A plat of survey by K. McCrummin, an United States' deputy surveyor, for 135 44-100ths acres, dated the 24th September, 1812, and a certified copy of a deed of sale from Jo. Mayeux, fils, to the claimant, dated the 7th April, 1809, before F. Oliver, judge of the parish of Avoyelles, for four arpens front by forty deep. The evidence of Pierre Mayeux, taken the 24th August, 1812, states, that Nicholas Tassin, to whom a tract of land was conceded by the Spanish Government, (the land claimed forming a part thereof,) settled on the land twenty-six or twenty-seven years ago; and that said land has been inhabited and cultivated constantly ever since, either by Tassin or those claiming under him, and the evidence of J. B. Dozat corroborates the above testimony. This evidence refers to reported Nos. 245 to 249.

No. 236.

151. Lambert De Sell claims 133 13-100ths superficial arpens of land, viz. about five arpens front by the depth represented in the plat of survey filed with the notice dated the 30th August, 1806, by Mathew Stone, an United States' deputy surveyor, in favor of Thomas West, situated on the southwest side of Grand River, in the county of Rapides. The claimant refers to the testimony of Pierre Mayeux, taken in the claim of Francois Bordelon, reported No. 176, this being a part of the original tract of fifty arpens.

No. 237.

161. Louis St. Julien claims 1,200 superficial arpens of land, viz. fifteen arpens front by eighty deep, situated on the southwest side of Bayou Tortue, in the county of Attakapas, bounded above by land of C. Carriere, and below by that of Forstall and Gravier. The notice is accompanied by a plat of survey by J. L. Johnson, an United States' deputy surveyor, for 573 30-100ths acres, dated the 14th March, 1813. The evidence of David Caruthers, aged forty-six years, taken the 28th March, 1814, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for twenty-five consecutive years preceding this date, the first eight years by De la Villebeuvre, then by his widow three or four years, when it was sold at auction, and deponent's father became the purchaser; and, after staying on it four or five years, being unable to pay the purchase money, he gave it up to Beauvre's heirs, who sold it to the claimant, who has cultivated it ever since; also, the evidence of Joseph Boudreau, aged forty-seven years, taken the same day, states the land to have been constantly inhabited and cultivated for twenty-six years, about which time the house had the appearance of being three or four years old. The claimant, in his notice, refers to a document filed in the claim of Gravier and Forstall, recorded in page 262 of the Attakapas records, from which it appears that, on the 8th December, 1775, Le Chev. De Clouet, in pursuance of an order from Governor Unzaga, puts Mr. Dauterieve in possession of a tract of land situated on the west side of the Bayou Tortue, in the county of Attakapas, of one and a half leagues front by half a league in depth. It appears from the plat filed with the notice, that the regular front of this tract measures thirty-four chains ninety-one links, which, with the depth of half a league, say 121 chains 21 links, will give an area of 423 14-100ths American acres, to which quantity the claim should be reduced, striking off the excess at the back of the tract, allowing the irregular part of the bayou as is represented in said plat.

No. 238.

180. Joshua Lewis claims 640 superficial acres of land, viz. sixteen acres front by forty deep, situated on Lake Flamin, at the "Nid Daigle," in the county of Attakapas. The deposition of Louis Pellerin, sworn to the 28th April, 1814, before a justice of the peace in New Orleans, states that he has resided upwards of thirty years in Attakapas, and knows that the land claimed has been inhabited and cultivated for nearly, or quite twenty years, either by the first settlers, who were put in possession at the time Governor Galvez made his expedition against Baton Rouge, or those claiming under them; also, the evidence of Francois Gonssoulin, taken by commission the 23d September, 1814, states that he knows the claimant purchased a tract of land of sixteen arpens front

at Nid Daigle, which was cultivated from 1780 and 1783, inclusive, by the proprietors; that, one year after his arrival in the parish, viz. 1779, the said land belonged to some Spanish families, who continued in their possession until they sold to Mr. Petavin; said land was afterwards sold to the deponent, to Barriere, to Forstall, to Dque. Bouligny, and, lastly, to the claimant; and a letter from the judge of the parish of St. Martin, wherein he mentions that, in the archives of the parish, he finds a regular chain of conveyance for the land as claimed, viz. 11th April, 1795, Gabriel Lopez and Jn. Garridio to Jn. Bte. Petavin; and from Petavin to Gonssoulin, 4th May, 1795; and from said Gonssoulin to the Rev. M. B. Barriere, 1st July, 1800. The other sales mentioned in Gonssoulin's deposition he does not find.

Note.—As the claimant produces no sale from Barriere, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of the Rev. Barriere.

No. 239.

214. Augustin Berza claims eighty superficial arpens of land, viz. two arpens front by forty deep, situated in the Grand Prairie, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of Pre. Bte. Fontenot, and on the other by that of Henry Fontenot, accompanied by an authentic deed of sale from S. Bellevue Fontenot to the claimant, dated the 11th November, 1811. The evidence of Jean Lafleur, aged forty-six years, taken the 19th March, 1814, establishes the land to have been constantly inhabited and cultivated from his earliest recollection, for the last seven years, by the claimant, aged forty-five or forty-six years, and the head of a family, and thirty years previous thereto, by Jacques Lafleur, deponent's father, who sold eight arpens to P. B. Fontenot, and two arpens to S. B. Fontenot, who sold to the claimant.

No. 240.

247. Maria Jeanne Crette, widow of Louis Anty, claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Canes, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Gaspard Lacour, and below by that of Alexis Cloutier, accompanied by an authentic deed of sale from John Bte. Anty to the claimant, for five arpens front by the depth that may be, dated the 17th July, 1810; and a plat of survey dated the 24th January, 1813, by J. Irwin, an United States' deputy surveyor, for 26 6-100ths superficial acres in favor of the claimant. The evidence of Pierre Baudin, taken the 9th October, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for twenty-four consecutive years preceding said date, the first seven years by J. B. Anty, and the last seventeen by the claimant and her husband.

No. 241.

249. Alexis Cloutier claims 160 superficial arpens of land, viz. two arpens front by forty deep on each side of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Athanase La Cour, and below by that of Charles Dagneau, accompanied by a deed of sale from the sheriff of Natchitoches to the claimant, sold as the property of C. Dagneau, dated the 19th May, 1805. The evidence of Pierre Labombarde, taken the 9th October, 1812, establishes the land to have been been inhabited and cultivated for twenty consecutive years preceding this date, the first thirteen years by C. Dagneau, and subsequently by tenants of the claimant.

No. 242.

256. Jean Francois Girod claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by 40 deep, situated in Prairie Chicot or Manoire, on the left bank of Washita river, in the county of Washita, bounded on one side by land of Joseph Barbier, and on the other by that of Pierre Olivas. The affidavit of John Filhiol, a commandant under the Spanish Government, sworn to before the judge of the parish of Washita, states, that, when he arrived in Washita in 1782, Joseph Itier was then established on the land, and that Grandpré, during his stay in Avoyelles, ordered Itier to trace a road between that post and Washita, and as a recompense accorded him a tract of land in Prairie Chicot of five arpens front by 40 deep. As the claimant produces no sale from Joseph Itier, the confirmation is recommended to the legal representatives of said Itier.

No. 243.

257. The widow and heirs of Joseph Etier claim 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. 20 arpens front by 40 deep, situated in Prairie Du Lait, on the left bank of Washita river, in the county of Washita, commencing at the mouth of Bayou Du Lait, and running up the river, bounded above by vacant lands. The evidence of Nicholas Fogle, aged forty years, taken the 9th October, 1812, establishes that said land has been constantly inhabited and cultivated from his earliest recollection to the present date, by Joseph Etier and family. ☞ From the evidence of Filhiol in the preceding claim, the evidence of Fogle in this claim is rendered questionable: a further investigation is therefore recommended.

No. 244.

261. Pierre Baudin claims 600 superficial arpens of land, viz. seven arpens front by 40 deep on the right bank, and eight arpens front by 40 deep on the left bank of that part of Red river called the "Riviere aux Cannes," in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by other lands of the claimant, and below by that of J. B. Brosset, accompanied by a plat of survey by Jo. Irwin, jr., United States' deputy surveyor, for 180 16-100ths acres, viz. 136 40-100ths acres on the right bank, and 43 76-100ths acres on the left bank. The evidence of Louis Dearbonne, taken the 10th October, 1812, establishes that, in the year 1788, the mother of the claimant inhabited the land, which has been constantly inhabited and cultivated ever since; in the year 1788 it was an old establishment. It is understood that the claimant can only hold the quantity of land as returned by the surveyor, viz. 180 16-100ths acres.

No. 245.

276. Antoine Dozat claims 135 44-100ths superficial acres of land, situated in the prairie of Avoyelles, county of Rapide, bounded by lands of Angelic Deshotel on one side, and Valerie Dozat on the other. Accompanying the notice is a certified copy of a deed of sale from Julien Poydrass to the claimant, dated the 24th October, 1807, for four arpens front by 40 deep, and a plat of survey by K. McCrummin, an United States' deputy surveyor, for the land as claimed, dated the 21st September, 1812. The evidence of Jean B. Dozat, taken the 27th December, 1813, states that he knows that this land is part of a larger tract conceded by the Spanish Government to Nicholas Tassin, who sold to Julien Poydrass, who sold it in separate parcels to other persons, viz. a portion to the claimant, one to Valerie Dozat, one to Angelic Deshotel, one to Joseph Roy, one to Joseph Gautier, one to Narcisse Mayeux, and one to Urban Plauché, all of whom have inhabited and cultivated their respective purchases from six to fourteen years to the present date. See the evidence in reported Nos. 235 and 248.

No. 246.

277. Valerie Dozat claims 101 58-100ths superficial acres of land, situated in the Prairie Avoyelles, county of Rapides, bounded by lands of Antoine Dozat on one side, and Joseph Roy on the other. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of a deed of sale from Julien Poydrass to the claimant, dated the 10th November, 1807, for three arpens front by 40 deep, and a plat of survey for the land as claimed, by K. McCrummin, an United States' deputy surveyor, dated the 22d September, 1812. See the evidence in reported Nos. 235, 245 and 248.

No. 247.

401. Joseph Gautier claims 160 superficial arpens of land, viz. four arpens front by 40 deep, situated in the prairie of Avoyelles, county of Rapides, bounded on one side by land of Narcisse Mayeux, and on the other by that of Joseph Roy. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of a deed of sale from Plauchés, freres, to Joseph Gauthier, fils, dated the 29th April, 1809, and a plat of survey for 135 43-100ths acres by K. McCrummin, an United States' deputy surveyor, dated the 6th February, 1810. See the evidence in reported Nos. 235, 245, and 248.

No. 248.

402. Joseph Roy claims 211.61 superficial acres of land, being about six and a half arpens front by forty deep, situated in the prairie of Avoyelles, county of Rapides, bounded on one side by land of Joseph Gautier, and on the other by that of C. Dozat. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of a deed of sale from Plauchés, freres, to the claimant, for seven arpens front, more or less, by forty deep, dated the 22d April, 1809, and a plat of survey for the land as claimed, by K. McCrummin, an United States' deputy surveyor, dated the 6th February, 1810. The evidence of Joseph Coco, aged twenty-five years, taken the 16th March, 1813, states, that this land is a part of the same tract out of which Urban Plauché, Joseph Gautier, Valery Dozat, and Antoine Dozat, claim; all of whom hold by purchase, either directly or indirectly, from Julien Poydrass: whether the land was conceded to Poydrass deponent does not certainly know, but believes it was not, he having purchased at so early a date that deponent was too young to remember the first proprietor's name. Deponent knows positively that the land has been inhabited and cultivated constantly for the last sixteen years. At his earliest recollection it was respected as the property of Poydrass, who had a vacherie on it, and whose negroes cultivated for his use. That the several claimants before mention-

ed are now residing on their respective parts, and have so resided on and cultivated the same, some about twelve years, others not more than five or six; and that they are all heads of families. See the evidence in reported Nos. 235 and 245.

No. 249.

403. Urban Plauché claims 120 superficial arpens of land, viz. three arpens front by forty deep, situated in the prairie of Avoyelles, county of Rapides, bounded on one side by land of Narcisse Mayeux, and on the other by that of Leonard. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of a deed of sale from J. Poydrass to Joseph Guyot, fils, for three arpens by forty, dated the 24th September, 1806, and an authentic deed of sale from Alexander Plauché to Urban Plauché, dated the 24th January, 1811, and a plat of survey for 101.58 acres, by K. McCrummin, an United States' deputy surveyor, dated the 22d September, 1812. See the evidence in reported Nos. 235, 245, and 248.

No. 250.

426. William Lalonde claims 2,400 superficial arpens of land, viz. forty arpens by sixty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Opelousas, bounded below by land of Augustin Gradinego, and above by land supposed to be vacant. The evidence of Nemessie Bossier, taken the 14th August, 1812, establishes that the claimant, aged fifty-five years, and the head of a family, has, to his knowledge, inhabited and cultivated the land for twenty-four consecutive years preceding this date. The deponent has always understood that said claimant held twelve arpens front by the ordinary depth, but knows not that he had any grant. Also, the evidence of Philip Duplechin, taken the 18th June, 1814, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated, to his knowledge, for twenty-two consecutive years preceding said date, by claimant, aged fifty-six or fifty-eight years, and the head of a family. The claimant is to be confined to the twelve arpens front by the ordinary depth, mentioned in the evidence of Bossier, making a superficial quantity of 480 arpens.

No. 251.

451. Baptiste Trichel, jun. claims a tract of land situated on the right bank of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, about two miles above the village of that name, bounded on all sides by vacant land; the quantity to be hereafter established by a plat of survey to be filed by the claimant. The evidence of Bertrand Plaisance, aged thirty-eight years, taken the 26th October, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated constantly, from his earliest recollection to the present date, by the family of the claimant. See note P.

No. 252.

453. Arnaud Lauve claims a lot of land in the village of Natchitoches, having half an arpent front by depth to Bayou Jaco, in the county of Nachitoches, bounded below by land of Pavie, and above by that of the claimant. The evidence of Bertrand Plaisance, aged thirty-eight years, taken the 29th October, 1812, establishes that the front of the lot of which this is a part, has been inhabited and cultivated from his earliest recollection.

No. 253.

454. Jean Jacques Paillet claims one arpent square of land on the southwest side of Red river, near the lower extremity of the village, in the county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Bertrand Plaisance, aged 38 years, taken the 26th October, 1812, establishes this lot to have been inhabited and cultivated from his earliest recollection to the said date.

No. 254.

457. Louis Vascocu claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by eighty deep, situated on the north side of Black lake, in the county of Natchitoches. The evidence of John Lalonde, aged forty-two years, taken the 27th October, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated from his earliest recollection to the present date; that this is well known to have been the birth place of Madam Vascocu, daughter of P. Villedaigle, now upwards of forty years of age; and that the first forty arpens of this land is poor and sterile, and the fields are beyond the first forty arpens. The claimant is forty-eight years of age, and the head of a family. The claimant ought to be confined to forty arpens in depth, which will reduce the superficial quantity to 400 arpens.

No. 255.

512. Jean Francois Lavasseur claims 600 superficial arpens of land, viz. fifteen arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, and about one league above the village thereof; bounded above by land of Francois Mercier. The evidence of Bertrand Plaisance, aged 38 years, taken the 28th October, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated from his earliest recollection to the present date, by the family of said Lavasseur.

No. 256.

530. The Reverend Mr. Izabé, minister of the Roman Catholic church of the county of Attakapas, claims for the said church 480 superficial arpens of land, on which the church now stands, viz. six arpens front on each side of the Bayou Teche, by forty deep. The evidence of Jean Berrard, taken the 2d December, 1815, by commission before the parish judge of St. Martin, states that he has resided in said parish for fifty-one years, and is seventy-seven years of age; that the right of the church to the land came by a donation made by one Mr. Dauterieve, as his share or portion of the contributions for the edification of the church and priest's house, in the year 1771. The west side of the bayou has been occupied ever since the said year 1771, by the church and priests' houses, and afterwards successively by settlements made by persons with the consent of the priests and churchwardens, who pay rent to the church for the same. The other part of said land, on the east side of the bayou, has been cultivated by Father Geffrotin, in the year 1785, and for the last six years by Father Izabé.

No. 257.

568. Marie Bordon Chamard claims a lot of land in the village of Natchitoches, fronting on the street 115 feet, and extending north to the land of Madam Rouquiere, 317 feet. The evidence of Baptiste Adley, aged twenty-seven years, taken the twenty-ninth October, 1812, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land from his earliest recollection to the said date, by the claimant, about sixty years old.

No. 258.

594. Thadeus Rarkwell claims 2,000 superficial acres of land, situated on Lake St. Peter, in the county of Concordia. The evidence of James Jones, taken by commission the 30th November, 1813, that, in 1792, the land was inhabited and cultivated by the claimant, from whose information deponent has reason to believe it has been so by him ever since 1789. The claimant was a soldier in the Spanish service, and settled on the land by permission of Governor Gayoso, who was then at Natchez.

No. 259.

861. John Marrio Pierro claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Regolet du Bon Dieu, in the county of Natchitoches; bounded by land of Antoine Rachal above, and below by vacant. The evidence of Michel Du Roy, taken the 3d of August, 1814, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for twenty-two consecutive years preceding, by the claimant, a widower, aged forty-six years.

No. 260.

873. The Congregation of the Roman Catholic church of St. Francois, in the parish of Natchitoches, claim four and four-tenths superficial arpens of land, situated on the right bank of a small bayou near the village, in said county, accompanied by a plat of survey by J. Irwin, an United States' deputy surveyor, dated the 3d September, 1813. The evidence of Louis Buard, taken the 8th October, 1814, establishes that the land has been inhabited these eighty years by the priests, churchwardens, singers, &c.; part of it was used as a church yard; that no one ever made an establishment thereon, as church lands were held sacred.

No. 261.

914. Pierre Michel claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, on each side of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, accompanied by a private sale from Geago Rami to the claimant, dated the 28th February, 1808. The evidence of Etienne Rachal, taken the 9th December, 1813, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for twenty consecutive years preceding said date, by Geago Rami, aged forty-eight years, and the head of a family, and the claimant, who has cultivated but not resided on the land since his purchase. The residence of Rami is on the right bank, but he has cultivated on both sides. The confirmation is recommended to be made to Geago Rami, claimant producing no authentic deed of sale, confining him to the quantity of 200 superficial arpens on the right bank, the place where he inhabited.

No. 262.

957. Nancy, Anne L. and Jane Morrison, claim 2,000 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Washita river, in the county of Washita; bounded above by Bayou Bèrtélèmì, below by land of Laurent Caveat, and on the southeast by land of J. McLaughlin and others. The evidence of George Hooke, aged thirty-nine years, taken the 19th November, 1813, states that the claimants, aged from thirty-five to forty-three years,

have inhabited and cultivated the land constantly from the year 1794 to the present date: deponent knows, they had permission to settle from Filhiol, commandant of the post. This claim ought to be reduced to the superficial quantity of 640 acres.

No. 263.

1080. The legal representatives of Manuel De Soto claim 640 superficial acres of land, situated in the Pine prairie, in the county of Opelousas, adjoining land of Madam Lucar. The evidence of Michel Papillon, a free man of color, taken the 21st December, 1813, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated for twenty-two consecutive years preceding this date, the first fourteen years by De Soto, and subsequently by his heirs, &c. That deponent was slave to De Soto, and worked on the land until De Soto's death, fourteen years ago, when he was freed by his will. Deponent is aged fifty-two years.

NOTE.—The witness, though a man of color, is known to be highly respectable for his probity and exemplary conduct.

No. 264.

1147. John Stine claims 350 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front on each side of Bayou Teche by forty arpens deep on the right bank, and thirty arpens deep on the left bank, in the village of New Iberia, county of Attakapas. The evidence of William Johnson, aged forty-six years, taken the 29th December, 1813, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for seventeen consecutive years preceding this date, to his knowledge, by different persons, first, by Prevost, now sixty years of age, and for the last ten years by the claimant, aged forty-five years, and the head of a family. Also, the evidence of Joseph Andrus, taken the 30th December, 1813, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for thirty-one consecutive years preceding this date, by Prevost, and those holding under him. As the claimant produces no sale from Prevost, the claim is recommended for confirmation to the legal representatives of Prevost.

No. 265.

1207. Jean Lasauve claims 640 superficial arpens of land, situated on the left bank of Bayou Courant, in the county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Paul Coutil, taken by commission the 19th April, 1814, before the judge of the parish of Natchitoches, establishes that the land has been inhabited and cultivated for twenty-two consecutive years preceding this date, by the claimant, aged fifty years, and the head of a family.

SIXTH CLASS.

No. 266.

11. Jacob Bihm claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Mallet, in the county of Opelousas, bounded above by land of M. Prudhomme, and below by that of J. B. Young; accompanied by a deed of sale from the judge of the parish of St. Landry to Wm. McKoy, sold as the property of Joseph Morice, dated the 13th of February, 1810, and a deed of sale from said McKoy to the claimant, dated same day. The evidence of Michel Prudhomme, jun., taken the 20th June, 1812, states this land to be part of a tract of fifteen arpens front, which it is well understood François Marcantel had a requette for, and on which he settled about thirteen or fourteen years ago, and continued to occupy and cultivate the same for five years, when, removing, it remained unoccupied two years. Joseph Morice and Ben Kidder took possession and cultivated until J. B. Young took possession about two or three years ago, who has thereon continued to the present date.

No. 267.

12. Moise Hebert claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated near the Coulé de Breaud, in the county of Attakapas, bounded on the east by land of Joseph Guidry, and on the south by land of Jacques Faustin; accompanied by a deed of sale from Jean Bte. Guidry to the claimant, dated the 17th of June, 1812. The evidence of Pierre Meaux, taken the 22d of June, 1812, establishes that J. B. Guidry settled on the land about 1797 or 1798, and continued to reside on and cultivate the same for five or six years, when, removing, it remained uninhabited until 1808 or 1809, but was, nevertheless, cultivated during that time by the claimant, who now resides on said land, on which he has made very valuable improvements.

No. 268.

21. William Addison claims 1,120 superficial arpens of land, viz. 14 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on both sides of Bayou Sallé, about three leagues above Verdine's settlement, in the county of Attakapas. The testimony of Creed West, taken the 21st of November, 1812, states that the claimant, near seventy years of age, inhabited the land, and made two or three crops of sugar cane thereon, deponent thinks about the years 1799, 1800, and 1801; about which last year, Addison removing, two or three crops of cane were cultivated thereafter by the negroes, and for the use of Addison, but knows not of his own knowledge that any person occupied the land after Addison's removal. The testimony of Mark Lee, aged sixty-three years, taken the 26th of March, 1813, states that in 1802 or 1803, before the change of Government, Addison was residing on, and cultivating, the land on the right bank; and that, from the appearance of the houses at that time, deponent is induced to believe that Addison may have resided on the land several years before the change of Government, and he believes he remained there several years afterwards.

The evidence of J. N. Kershaw, taken the 21st of March, 1815, states that, to his knowledge, Wm. Addison cultivated the land as late as 1803, and for several succeeding years, but cannot say how long. Deponent has seen an order of survey in his name, granted by the Spanish Government, for fourteen arpens front on both sides of Bayou Sallé.

No. 269.

25. Philip Lacasse claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the woods of Bayou Mallet, in the Cove des Marrons, county of Opelousas; accompanied by a plat of survey by James Haggard, a United States' deputy surveyor, the 19th of May, 1809, for 676 98-100th acres. The evidence of Eustache Morean, taken the 24th of June, 1812, establishes that the claimant, or his brothers for him, have inhabited and cultivated the land for sixteen or seventeen consecutive years preceding said date.

No. 270.

34. Peter Stouts claims 1,400 superficial arpens of land, viz. 35 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Queue de Tortue, in the county of Attakapas. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of a deed of sale from Bernard, a medal chief of the Attakapas tribe of Indians, to the claimant, passed the 6th of September, 1802, before L. C. De Blanc, then commandant. The evidence of Thomas Huffpower, aged seventy-seven years, taken the 2d July, 1812, states that the claimant, aged forty years, has inhabited and cultivated the land for twelve or thirteen consecutive years preceding this date. ☞ It is from the evidence alone that this claim is recommended. To the sale from Indians, not ratified by the proper authority, no validity is attached.

No. 271.

75. Louis Suffier and Louis Longua claim 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Lake Cattahoula, in the county of Attakapas. The notice is accompanied by an authentic deed of sale from Alexander Barra to the claimants, dated the 5th January, 1807. The evidence of Charles Potier, taken by commission the 24th September, 1814, states that the land was inhabited and cultivated by a crop raised on it in 1800, by Alexander Barra, who continued therein till he sold to the present claimants in 1807, one of whom, L. Suffier, at present resides on it, and keeps a tanyard; that he believes Louis Suffier, one of the claimants, to be upwards of forty years of age, and Louis Langlois is upwards of thirty, neither of them married men; and that Barra, the first occupant, is the head of a family.

No. 272.

133. Joseph Duon claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas, bounded above by land of René Broussard, and below by Pierre Maux. The evidence of Claude Broussard, aged sixty years, taken the 12th of August, 1812, states that he was present thirty-two or thirty-three years ago, when C. De Clouet, then commandant of Attakapas, measured the front of a tract of land of 20 arpens front each side of Bayou Vermillion, but the depth was not measured, and put John Bte. Hebert in possession, who, with several others, erected houses, and resided thereon four years, when, removing, said land remained vacant ten or twelve years. That after the death of said Hebert, about twenty-five or twenty-six years ago, his heirs sold said land to John Upshire, who took possession thereof about seventeen years ago, since when the said land has been constantly inhabited and cultivated to the present date. That, by subsequent transfers, the land has become the property of four persons, claiming under Hebert, viz. Joseph Duon has 10 arpens by 40, on the right bank; Pierre Meaux 10 arpens by 40, same bank, below Duon; Charles Bourque the uppermost 10 arpens front on the left bank; and Joseph Bourque the lowermost 10 arpens front, same bank. The deponent believes that Hebert had titles for this land, but has understood they were burnt.

No. 273.

134. Pierre Meaux claims 400 superficial arpens of

land, viz. 10 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas, bounded above by land of Joseph Duon, and below by supposed vacant land. See the evidence in the preceding claim of J. Duon, reported No. 272, being a part.

No. 274.

135. Charles Bourque claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas, bounded above by René Broussard, and below by Joseph Bourque. See evidence in J. Duon's claim, reported No. 272, this being a part.

No. 275.

136. Joseph Bourque claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas, bounded above by land of Charles Bourque, and below by supposed vacant land. See evidence in J. Duon's reported No. 272, this being a part.

No. 276.

209. Pierre Kairey claims 58 acres and 91 perches of land, situated on the right bank of Red river, county of Natchitoches, bounded above and below by land of Alexis Cloutier; accompanied by a plat of survey by J. Irwin, an authorized deputy surveyor, dated the 14th February, 1813, for 60 superficial acres. The evidence of J. B. Rachal establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for fourteen consecutive years preceding the 29th of September, 1812; for the first four years by Baptiste Enjean, and subsequently by the claimant.

No. 277.

230. Pierre La Bombarde claims 720 superficial arpens of land, viz. 18 arpens front by 40 deep, situated in the fork of the Bayou *Ecore Caché*, county of Natchitoches, bounded on all sides by vacant land; accompanied by a plat of survey by J. Irwin, an authorized surveyor, the 12th of February, 1813, for 494 superficial acres. The evidence of Nicholas Bodin, aged thirty-five years, taken the 7th of October, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for fifteen consecutive years preceding the date, by the claimant.

No. 278.

232. Nicholas Bodin claims 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. 12 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Spatulle, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of Pierre La Bombarde, taken the 7th of October, 1812, establishes that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for fifteen consecutive years preceding that date.

No. 279.

233. Jacquez Verchere claims 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. 12 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Derbonne, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on all sides by vacant land; accompanied by a plat of survey by J. Irwin, an authorized surveyor, for 409 acres, dated the 7th of March, 1813. The evidence of Nicholas Bodin, taken the 7th of October, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for fifteen consecutive years preceding said date, by the claimant.

No. 280.

246. Alexis Cloutier claims 640 superficial arpens of land, viz. eight arpens front on each side of river Aux Cannes, by forty deep, opposite a place called the old "Village," county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Nicholas Bodin, and below by land of John L. Bodin, accompanied by a certified sale from Miguel Rosalie Cruz, wife of Lorenze Bodin, deceased, to the claimant, dated the 14th of October, 1808. The evidence of Nicholas Bodin, taken the 9th of October, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for sixteen consecutive years preceding that date; for the first two years by James Young, for one year by his widow Rasalie Cruz, and, subsequently, by Jack, a free negro, with said Rosalie's permission.

No. 281.

258. Nicholas Fogle claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Washita river, in the county of Washita, bounded above by land of Jn. Prudhomme, and below by vacant. The evidence of Pierre Olivas, taken the 10th of October, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for eighteen or nineteen consecutive years preceding said date; for the first fifteen years by the claimant, and subsequently by his tenant, Simon Le Boeuf.

No. 282.

293. Charles Betin claims 340 superficial arpens of land situated on the right bank of Bayou Siard, in the county of Washita, bounded below by land of M. J. S. Breard. The notice is accompanied by a plat of survey by Henry Cassidy, an authorized surveyor, dated the 27th of October, 1812, for 340 acres, connecting this land with that claimed by Marie Jeanne Sophie Breard and Breard Breville; an affidavit of J. Filhiols, former commandant of the post of Washitta, sworn before A. Breard, a justice of the peace of said county, who swears that, in 1795, Breville Breard, Sophia Breard, and Charles Betin, came to Washita under the contract of Marques de Maison Rouge, who was to give them, or get from the Government, a tract of 400 arpens of land each; and that said tracts have been chosen by them and surveyed according to said contract, and that they have paid the territorial and parish taxes for the same; and a printed publication of conditions between the Baron Carondelet, then governor of the province of Louisiana, Francois Randon, intendant, and Joseph de Orue, fiscal, on behalf of the Spanish Government and the Marquis of Maison Rouge, dated at New Orleans, the 17th March, 1795, permitting him to bring to Washita 300 or more families to form an establishment in said county; offering to each white person capable of agriculture or necessary arts, one hundred dollars, in cash, engaging to furnish them the means of transportation from New Madrid to the place of their destination, with the necessary guides and provisions, and to pay from the royal treasury the freight of their baggage by sea, if it does not exceed 3,000 lds. for each family; and an offer, gratis, of ten arpens front by forty deep, on the river, to each family of two white persons, capable of following agriculture, or the arts necessary thereto, with a proportionate augmentation to the number of white persons, with permission to bring Europeans as hirelings to serve them six or more years, on condition that, if they form themselves into families, there will be granted to them lands proportionate to their numbers. De Maison Rouge is also permitted, in a note at the bottom of said conditions, to bring 300 or more *honest* Dutch families. The evidence of Joseph Landerneau, aged 45 years, taken the 16th of October, 1812, states that Charles Betin was residing on the land in 1798 or 1799, and has continued to inhabit and cultivate the same every year since to the year 1811; and deponent believes he still continues on the land, but he (deponent) having removed from that neighborhood about a year ago, cannot, from his own knowledge, speak as to the latter fact.

No. 283.

294. Marie Jeanne Sophie Breard claims 340 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Bayou Siard, in the county of Washita, bounded above by land of Charles Betin, and below by land of Breard Breville, referring to the documents filed in the claim of Charles Betin, No. 282. The evidence of Charles Betin, taken the 16th October, 1812, states that the claimant took possession of the land under a contract with the Marquis of Maison Rouge, in the year 1796, and has continued to inhabit and cultivate the same ever since. See printed contract and plat of survey in the claim of Charles Betin, No. 282.

No. 284.

295. Breard Breville claims 340 superficial acres of land situated on the right bank of Bayou Siard, in the county of Washita, bounded above by land of M. J. J. Breard, referring to the documents filed in the claim of Charles Betin, No. 282. The evidence of Charles Betin, taken the 16th of October, 1812, states that the claimant took possession of the land under a contract with the Marquis of Maison Rouge, in the year 1796, and has continued to inhabit and cultivate the same ever since. See printed contract and plat of survey in the claim of Charles Betin, No. 282.

No. 285.

431. Jean Baptiste Bourgeois claims 200 superficial arpens of land, five arpens front by forty deep, situated on the west bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded above by land of A. J. Sutherland, and below by land of Catharine Hebert. The evidence of Joseph Andrus, taken the 25th June, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land for eighteen or twenty consecutive years preceding this date, by the claimant.

No. 286.

268. Mary Ruth claims 640 superficial acres of land situated on the southeast side of Spanish lake, about nine or ten miles westward of the village of Natchitoches, on what has heretofore been called Neutral Ground, accompanied by a plat of survey by J. Knowlton, a deputy surveyor, dated the 16th May, 1809. The evidence of Peter Sydicks, taken the 27th October, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date, by the claimant.

No. 287.

469. William Eldridge claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the Bayou Léglise, on what has hereto-

fore been called Neutral Ground, accompanied by a plat of survey by J. Knowles, a deputy surveyor, dated the 16th of May, 1809. The evidence of Peter Sydicks, taken the 27th October, 1812, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land for thirteen consecutive years preceding this date, by the claimant.

No. 288.

473. Joseph Taurus claims 460 acres of land, situated on both sides of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches. The notice is accompanied by a plat of survey by J. Irwin, dated the 11th February, 1813, for thirty-two acres on the right bank only, believed to be all the land which can be rightfully held by the claimant. The evidence of John Arnaud Augues, taken the 27th October, 1813, establishes that the claimant, aged about sixty-five or seventy years, having a numerous offspring, has inhabited the right bank, and cultivated on both banks, for seventeen or eighteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 289.

474. Paul Coutant claims 640 acres on both sides of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches. Accompanying the notice are two plats of survey, one by Lacy Ramsey, dated October the 26th, 1809, for twenty-three Paris arpens on the left bank, and one by Jo. Irwin, dated the 12th of February, 1813, for sixty-five and a half acres on the right bank; making, together, the quantity of about eighty-five American acres. The evidence of Jean Arno Augues, taken the 27th October, 1813, establishes that the claimant, aged about forty years, father of six children, has inhabited the right bank, and cultivated on both banks, for seventeen or eighteen years preceding this date.

No. 290.

479. Berthelemi L'Estage claims a tract of land situated on the left bank of Old river, county of Natchitoches; the quantity to be determined by a plat of survey which the claimant engages hereafter to file with the register. The evidence of Soulange Bossier, taken the 8th of October, 1812, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land for fifteen or sixteen consecutive years preceding this date by the claimant, a man about thirty-seven or thirty-eight years of age, and the head of a family.

No. 291.

483. Ebenezer Leech claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated near Spanish lake, one and a half miles from the village of Natchitoches, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Soulange Bossier, taken the 12th October, 1812, establishes that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for fourteen or fifteen consecutive years preceding this date, and is about forty years of age, and the head of a family.

No. 292.

488. Jacques Valerie claims 273 superficial acres of land, viz. 182 acres on the right, and 91 acres on the left bank of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Manuel Derbonne, and below by that of Francois St. Germain, as per plat of survey by J. Irwin, dated the 12th of July, 1814, filed with the notice. The evidence of Baltazar Brevil and Manuel Derbonne, taken the 24th September, 1813, establishes that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 293.

490. Jean Baptiste Morin claims 138 superficial acres of land, viz. 115 50-100ths acres on the left bank, and 22 50-100ths acres on the right bank of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches; bounded on the left bank above by land of Francois St. Germain, and below by that of Pierre Michel; and on the right bank bounded above by land of Joseph Taurus, and below by that of Paul Coutant, as per plat of survey, J. Irwin, dated the 8th of July, 1814, filed with the notice. The evidence of Baltazar Brevil and Manuel Derbonne, taken the 24th of October, 1813, establishes that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for upwards of sixteen years preceding this date.

No. 294.

492. Mary Anne Dupré claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. 20 by 40, left bank of Regolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches, bounded below by land of Louis Lambre. The evidence of Athanase Dupré, aged 32 years, taken the 30th of September, 1813, establishes that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for thirteen consecutive years preceding this date; *is* about forty-three years of age, and head of a family.

No. 295.

508. Charles McMicken claims 380 superficial acres of land, situated on the north side of Red river, at a place called Point Maigre, in the county of Rapides, accompanied by a deed of sale dated the 5th November, 1811, from the judge of the parish of Rapides to the claimant, sold as the property of Francois Arro, to pay his taxes. The evidence of Manuel Laprairie, taken the 29th of October, 1812, establishes that Francois Arro has inhabited and cultivated the land for fourteen or fifteen consecutive years preceding this date. See register No. 509, being the other part of this land. ☞ As F. Arro has a right of redemption in the land according to the laws of the State, the confirmation is recommended to his legal representatives.

No. 296.

509. Francois Arro claims 20 superficial acres of land, situated on the north side of Red river, at Point Maigre, in the county of Rapides. See evidence in the preceding claim, No. 508, this being for the part unsold.

No. 297.

514. Nicholas Fogle claims 640 square acres of land situated on the east side of Washita river, county of , bounded above by land of the heirs of Prudhomme, and below by vacant land. The evidence of George Hooke, taken the 19th of November, 1813, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated by the claimant, (a father and grandfather of children,) or some one for his use, from the year 1798 until within the three last years.

No. 298.

682. Michael Lyons claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the south side of Bayou Queue de Tortue, in the county of Attakapas, at a noted crossing place, bounded on all sides by land of John Lyons, claimant's father. The evidence of Bosman Hays, taken the 14th November, 1812, states that this land is within a tract purchased by claimant's father from Indians; that the claimant now resides where the village stood, and has inhabited and cultivated the same from 1801 to the present date; aud, further, that either the claimant or his father, had pens for their cattle on said land in September, 1800. ☞ Should the claim of Michael Lyons (claimant's father) reported by the late Board of Commissioners, be confirmed, this claim wants no further confirmation, being included therein.

No. 299.

755. Clement Carmouche claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. 20 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the island of the Hill, in the parish of Avoyelles, bounded on all sides by vacant lands. The evidence of Alexander Gillot, aged thirty-two years, taken the 4th October, 1814, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated about fourteen consecutive years preceding said date by the claimant, except one year it was occupied by an Indian, by claimant's permission, during his absence; that the claimant is about thirty years of age, and the head of a family.

No. 300.

775. Andre Marks claims 204 superficial acres of land, viz. six arpens front by the depth from *the eastern limit of the land of F's Stelly, deceased, to the Bayou Teche*, on the right bank of said bayou, in the county of Attakapas, bounded on the north by land of Bellestre, and on the south by that of Andre Mayers, accompanied by a plat of survey for 204 acres, dated the 19th December, 1810, by John Dinsmore, an authorized deputy surveyor. The evidence of John Mash, aged thirty-eight years, taken the 13th of July, 1813, states that he believes the land has been inhabited and cultivated constantly for upwards of twenty years; but knows, from his own knowledge, that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated this land for fourteen consecutive years preceding this date; and is about forty-eight years of age, and the head of a family.

No. 301.

789. Louis Huffman claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by the depth of 40, situated on the left bank of Red river, in the county of Rapides, bounded on the upper side by land of Louisa Huffman, and below by vacant land. The evidence of Auguste O'Neal, aged twenty-seven years, taken the 7th August, 1813, establishes that the claimant, more than twenty-one years of age, and the head of a family, inhabited and cultivated the land from the year 1798 or 1799 to the present date; and, further, that he (deponent) has heard Valentine Layssard say, that, whilst acting as commandant of the district of Rapide, he did give the claimant permission to settle on the land in question. And the evidence of V. Layssard, taken by commission the 31st August, 1813, states that, whilst acting as commandant of the post of Rapide, he did give Louis Huffman a verbal permission to settle on 10 arpens front of land in said post, he thinks about the year 1799 or 1800; that the said Huffman is now residing on said land, but when he settled thereon deponent knows not. Plat of survey by K. McCrummin, dated 26th April, 1814, for 338 51-100ths acres, accompanies the notice.

No. 302.

798. Auguste Roubeau claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of the river Attahoo, in the county of Natchitoches, opposite land claimed by Francois Roubeau. The evidence of Julian Rachal taken the 29th August, 1813, establishes that the claimant, (a man of about thirty-four years of age, and the head of a family,) has inhabited and cultivated the land for fourteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 303.

799. Francois Lavespierre claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of the river Attahoo, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Julien Rachal. The evidence of Francois Roubeau, aged thirty-one years, taken the 29th August, 1813, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated constantly from his earliest recollection to the present date, and to his knowledge for the last 14 consecutive years, by the claimant, a man more than fifty years of age, having a wife and seven children.

No. 304.

812. Manuel Derbonne claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on both sides of Red river, at a place called the Bartew, about ten leagues from the village, in the county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Jean Bte. Boisnette, aged thirty-five years, taken the 11th of September, 1813, establishes that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for sixteen consecutive years preceding said date; is about forty years of age, has a wife and five children. ☞ The claimant ought to be confined to the quantity claimed under his first notice, reported No. 672.

No. 305.

813. Jean Baptiste Boisnette claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on both sides of Red river, county of Natchitoches, bounded below by land of Manuel Derbonne, and above by that of Joseph Rabalais. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, a free man of color, aged forty years, taken the 11th September, 1813, establishes that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date, and is about thirty-five years of age, and the head of a family.

No. 306.

818. Joseph Metoyer claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Little river, being the continuation of the land of Dominique Metoyer, in the county of Natchitoches, and bounded below by land of Joseph Derbonne. The evidence of Pierre Carey, aged thirty-six years, taken the 15th September, 1813, establishes that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for seventeen consecutive years preceding this date; is about forty years of age, and head of a family.

No. 307.

820. Nicholas, a free negro, claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on both sides of the river Attahoo, at a place called Bunch of Canes, in the county of Natchitoches, supposed to be bounded on all sides by vacant lands. The evidence of Pierre Carey, taken the 15th September, 1813, establishes that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for eighteen consecutive years preceding this date; is more than fifty years of age, and the head of a family.

No. 308.

821. Marie Palige, a free mulatto woman, claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Drunkard's bayou, a branch of the Casache, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of Pierre Carey, taken the 5th September, 1813, establishes that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date; is a woman of more than forty years of age, and the head of a numerous family of children.

No. 309.

822. Marie Perine, a free mulatto woman, claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on both sides of Bayou Derbonne, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of Pierre Carey, taken the 15th September, 1813, establishes that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for eighteen consecutive years preceding said date; is thirty-six or thirty-seven years of age, and the head of a family.

No. 310.

823. Pierre Tousant Mettoyer claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Bayou Blue, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of Pierre Carey, taken the 15th September, 1813, establishes that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for fourteen consecutive years preceding said date, is about thirty-four years of age, and head of a family.

No. 311.

827. Maria Gertrude Du Roy claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated on the waters of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by Paul Coutant's land, and below by that of Jean Joseph Rachal. The evidence of Jean Paul Coutant, aged forty-two years, taken the 15th September, 1813, establishes that the claimant, a widow about thirty-four years of age, has inhabited and cultivated the land for sixteen or seventeen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 312.

828. Maria Joseph Du Roy claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated on the waters of Red river, in the parish of Natchitoches, bounded below by land of Marie Rasalie Frederique, and above by vacant land. The evidence of Jean Paul Coutant, taken the 15th September, 1813, establishes that the claimant, a widow thirty-six or thirty-seven years of age, has inhabited and cultivated the land for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 313.

829. Marie Rosalie Frederique claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated on the waters of Red river, in the parish of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Maria J. Du Roy, and below by that of Pierre Derbonne, junior. The evidence of Pierre Carey, taken the 15th September, 1813, establishes that the claimant, a widow aged about forty-five or forty-six years, has inhabited and cultivated the land for fourteen or fifteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 314.

832. Charles Fouchet claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated at the southwest end of Lake Pearl, in the county of Avoyelles, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of Etienne Rachal, aged thirty-eight years, taken the 9th Dec., 1813, states that, about fourteen years ago, the claimant, about forty years of age and head of a family, inhabited and cultivated the land, and thereon continued until about five years past, when, removing to Baton Rouge, it has been constantly occupied by some person for his use ever since.

No. 315.

851. Florentine Conan claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on each side of Little river, in the county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Michel Papillon, a free man of color, aged fifty-three years, taken the 15th May, 1814, states that the claimant was residing on and cultivating the land about ten years ago; that, about two years ago, this deponent was in that neighborhood, and found the claimant still there. And the evidence of Marcellet Martin, taken by commission the 3d August, 1814, establishes that the claimant inhabited and cultivated the land for fourteen consecutive years preceding said date; is about thirty-five years of age, and has no family.

No. 316.

854. Pierre Charrio claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of the river Brulée, below the junction of the river Athao, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Marcellet Martin, taken by commission the 3d of August, 1814, states, that the land claimed has been inhabited and cultivated for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date by the claimant, aged thirty-seven years, and the head of a family.

No. 317.

859. Michel Du Roy claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Red river, at its junction with Catfish bayou, county of Natchitoches. A plat by Jo. Irwin for 175 acres, dated the 13th July, 1814, accompanies the notice. It is understood that the plat represents all the land to which the claimant is entitled. The evidence of Marcelline Martin, aged thirty-three years taken the 22d of July, 1814, establishes that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for fifteen consecutive years preceding the date; is about forty-two years of age, and the head of a family.

No. 318.

860. Jean Joseph Rachal claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Red River, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded below by Michel Du Roy, and above by Maria Jertrude Du Roy. The evidence of Michel Du Roy, aged forty-two years, taken the 22d of July, 1814, states that the land which joins this deponent above has been inhabited and cultivated by the claimant for fifteen and a half consecutive years preceding this date, who is a man of upwards of forty-seven years of age, and the head of a family.

No. 319.

867. Francois Laurent claims 640 superficial acres of land, situate on or near Red river, above Complé, at a place called the Island of Nicholas, being the tract on which the claimant resides. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, taken the 24th September, 1813, establishes

that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date, is more than forty-five years of age, and the head of a family.

No. 320.

868. Simon B. Wiley claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the waters of Red river, on or near the Island Nicholas, above Complé, the tract on which the claimant resides. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, taken the 24th September, 1814, establishes that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date, is more than forty years of age, and the head of a family.

No. 321.

880. Augustin, a free negro, claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on both sides of Red river, two or three leagues above Grand Ecor, in the county of Natchitoches, two-thirds of said land on the left bank, and the residue on the right bank, bounded on the upper side by land of Gagniard. The evidence of Baltazar Brevel, aged forty-three years, taken the 24th September, 1813, establishes that the claimant, aged sixty years, has inhabited and cultivated the land for seventeen or eighteen consecutive years preceding this date. ☞ The claimant should be limited to the side he lives on.

No. 322.

882. Emanuel Fernand claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Nicholas island, on Red river, above Complé settlement, in the county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, taken 24th September, 1813, establishes that the claimant, aged forty-eight years, has inhabited and cultivated the land for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 323.

886. James and Dennis Quinnilty, heirs of John Quinnilty, claim a tract of land one league square, situated on the island Piscadaire, on Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on the north by land known by the name of Wallis's old place. The evidence of José de la Vega, aged fifty-nine years, taken the 28th December, 1813, states, that John Quinnilty settled on the land upwards of twenty years ago, and continued to inhabit and cultivate the same for twelve years, since when it has remained vacant. Deponent knows of no grant for this land which lies within the jurisdiction of Nacogdoches, the commandant of which place usually granted lands from one to two leagues square. This deponent, as collector for the church at Nacogdoches, recollects having receiving tithes from said Quinnilty, the produce of said land.

No. 324.

887. Lawrence Bodin claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on both sides of Bayou Young, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded below by land of James Young. The evidence of Francois Robin, taken the 2d October, 1813, establishes that the claimant, upwards of forty years of age, has inhabited and cultivated the land for fifteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 325.

909. The legal representatives of James Young claim 640 superficial acres of land, situated on both sides of Young's bayou, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Lawrence Bodin. The evidence of Francois Robin, taken the 2d October, 1813, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for seventeen or eighteen consecutive years preceding this date; for the first seven or eight years by James Young, and, subsequently, by his widow and family.

No. 326.

924. Joseph Hill claims 181 superficial acres of land, viz. fifty-four superficial acres on the left bank of Little river, and 127 superficial acres on the right bank of said river, in the county of Natchitoches, as per plat of survey filed with the notice, dated 18th November, 1814, by J. Irwin, a deputy surveyor; that part on the right bank bounded above by land of Victorien Lavasseur, and below by J. P. M. Dubois, and that on the left, on all sides, by vacant land. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, taken the 8th October, 1813, establishes that the claimant, upwards of thirty years of age, and the head of a family, has inhabited and cultivated the land for fifteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 327.

925. Jacques Fabre claims 220 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Bayou Derbonne, county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Joseph Procelle, accompanied by a plat of survey dated the 17th July, 1814, by J. Irwin, a deputy surveyor. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, taken the 8th October, 1813, establishes that the land has been inhabited for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date; the first three years by the hirelings of the claimant, and, subsequently, by the claimant himself, a man about forty-seven years of age, and the head of a family.

No. 328.

926. Philip Frederique claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Old River, in the parish of Natchitoches, five or six leagues below the village thereof. The evidence of Soulange Bossier, taken the 8th October, 1813, estsblishes that the claimant, upwards of forty years of age, and the head of a family, has inhabited and cultivated the land for seventeen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 329.

927. Pierre Schelletre, jr., claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Old river, in the parish of Natchitoches, bounded above by Barthelemi L'Estage. The evidence of Soulange Bossier, taken the 8th October, 1813, establishes that the claimant, upwards of forty years of age, and the head of a family, has inhabited and cultivated the land for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 330.

935. Ignace Seguer claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Regolet du Bon Dieu, one mile above Contamari or Point Coupie, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Baltazar Brevel, taken the 18th October, 1813, states that the claimant, upwards of fifty years of age, has inhabited and cultivated the land for seventeen consecutive years preceding this date. ☞ The claimant, in his notice, has stated that he is thirty-seven years of age: the witness has said he is upwards of fifty—this is so great a difference as to give rise to doubts whether the witness is entitled to credibility. The register and receiver are therefore of opinion the claim ought to be further investigated before it is confirmed.

No. 331.

937. Valery Antie claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Regolet Du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches, bounded above by Joseph Derbonne. The evidence of Baltazar Brevel, taken the 18th October, 1813, establishes that the claimant, aged thirty-seven years, and head of a family, has inhabited and cultivated the land for fifteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 332.

938. Antoine Martin claims 640 superficial arpens of land, situated at the forks of Bayou Pierre, about three leagues from Red river, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Nicholas Bodin, aged forty-six years, taken the 18th October, 1813, establishes that the claimant, aged between fifty and sixty, has inhabited and cultivated the land for sixteen or seventeen years preceding said date.

No. 333.

974. Jean Louis, free negro, claims 640 superficial acres of land, Côte Gélée, Attakapas. The evidence of Michel Broussard, taken the 22d of October, 1815, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land for eighteen consecutive years preceding this date by the claimant, a man more than sixty years of age, and head of a family; that said negro purchased the land from Mr. L. Ville Veubre, who, not having given titles, he claims under occupancy. The notice is accompanied by a plat of survey by J. L. Johnson, an authorized surveyor, dated 2d June, 1814.

No. 334.

977. John Bonaventure claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of the Washita river, in the county of Washita, at the upper part of Prairie du Côté, bounded below by land of Jn. Bte. Leoret. The evidence of John Hebert, taken the 26th November, 1813, states that the claimant, near fifty years of age, and head of a family, settled on the land in the year 1797, and continued to inhabit and cultivate the same for six or seven years, when, removing higher up the river on land of his mother, he left some person on his own land, who continued about two years; that the land is at present occupied by Jacob Hickman for claimant's use.

No. 335.

984. John Litton claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Bayou Tortoise, county of Natchitoches, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of Andrew Jarvis, taken by commission the 26th August, 1814, establishes that the claimant, aged forty years, has inhabited and cultivated the land for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 336.

985. Joseph Santes claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Bayou Tortoise, county of Natchitoches, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of Andrew Jarvis, taken by commission the 26th August, 1814, establishes that the claimant, aged forty years, has inhabited and cultivated the land for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 337.

1,005. Louis Courtesse claims 568 superficial acres of land on both sides of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Paul Prudhomme, and below by land of Maes and Dartigaux, as is represented per plat of survey by K. McCrummin, an authorized deputy surveyor, dated the 26th February, 1813. The evidence of Etienne Rachal, taken the 9th December, 1813, states, that the claimant, upwards of forty years of age, has inhabited and cultivated the land for fourteen consecutive years preceding this date. The claimant resides on, and cultivates the left bank, using the right as a pasturage, and that there is not more than three or four arpens of arable land in depth on each side the river; the rest is swampy, and subject to inundation, and unfit for culture. The confirmation is recommended only for that part of the claim lying on the left bank.

No. 338.

1,006. Paul Prudhomme claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on both sides of Red river, county of Natchitoches, bounded below by land of Louis Courtesse, and above on the right bank by James Poetres's land, and on the left by Dorothy Monet's land, as is represented in a plat of survey filed, dated the 24th November, 1818, by K. McCrummin, an authorized deputy surveyor. The evidence of Etienne Rachal, taken the 9th December, 1813, states that the claimant, aged thirty-six years, has inhabited and cultivated the land for sixteen consecutive years preceding said date. This land is the same in quality of Louis Courtesses. The claimant should be limited to so much of the land as lies on the side he *inhabits*.

No. 339.

1,025. Maria Taurus claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Regolet du Bon Dieu, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on the upper side by land of Louis Guillory, and below by that of Felicity Guillory. The evidence of Joseph Procelle, taken the 14th December, 1813, states that the claimant, widow of Baptiste, (Staleau,) has inhabited and cultivated the land for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 340.

1,078. Michel Boutty claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated in the neighborhood of the Côte Gelé, county of Attakapas, bounded on the east by Michel Broussard's land, and on all other sides by public lands. The evidence of Michel Broussard, taken by commission the 7th June, 1814, states that the land has been consecutively inhabited and cultivated for sixteen or seventeen years preceding this date, first by Vital Landry, and subsequently by his widow and the claimant, who married her about eight years ago. Recommended to be confirmed to the legal representatives of Vital Landry.

No. 341.

1,205. Neuville Gallien claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the ——, *Bayou Tête du Cheval*, county of Natchitoches, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of Pierre Sans Quartier, taken by commission the 16th April, 1814, states that the claimant, aged thirty-eight years, has inhabited and cultivated the land for fifteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 342.

1,208. Pierre Sans Quartier claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Bayou Pierre, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of Pierre La Bombarde, taken by commission the 19th April, 1814, states that the claimant, aged forty-eight years, has inhabited and cultivated the land for nineteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 343.

1,209. Widow Antorne claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Horse-Head bayou, county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of N. Gallien, and below by that of Leandre Lasso. The evidence of Pierre La Bombarde, taken by commission the 19th April, 1814, states that the claimant, aged fifty-five years, has inhabited and cultivated the land for seventeen or eighteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 344.

1,210. Leandre Lasso claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Horse-Head bayou, county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Widow Antonio, and below by supposed vacant land. The evidence of Pierre Sans Quartier, taken by commission the 16th April, 1814, states that the claimant, aged fifty years, has inhabited and cultivated the land for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 345.

1,211. Jean Pamouselle claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Bayou Derbonne, county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Joseph Procelle, and below by land of Andrie Dumas. The evidence of Paul Coutil, taken by commission the 19th April, 1814, states that the claimant, aged forty-years, has inhabited and cultivated the land for fifteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 346.

1,212. Gregoire Gizernac claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on an island called Lachoniere, county of Natchitoches, bounded above by a lake, and below by vacant land. The evidence of Paul Coutil, taken by commission the 19th April, 1814, states that the claimant, aged forty-nine years, has inhabited and cultivated the land for seventeen or eighteen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 347.

1,213. Joseph Procelle claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Bayou Derbonne, county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Jean Fabre, and below by land of Jean Pamouselle. The evidence of Paul Coutil, taken the 19th April, 1814, states that the claimant, aged thirty-nine years, has inhabited and cultivated the land for twenty consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 348.

1,214. Jean Legur claims —— superficial acres of land, situated on Bayou Deyet, county of Natchitoches, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of Pierre La Bombarde, taken by commission the 19th April, 1814, states that the claimant, aged thirty-seven years, has inhabited and cultivated the land for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date. The original notice transmitted to the register in this case, is in the French language, and no quantity expressed in it. The land should be surveyed to determine what the claimant is entitled to.

No. 349.

163. Louis Bertélémi Rachal claims four arpens front by forty deep, the lines opening in depth, situated on the Red river, near Bayou Brevel, county of Natchitoches, on the left side of said bayou, bounded by lands of the claimant above, and A. Prudhomme below. The evidence of Bertrand Plaisance, aged thirty-eight years the 9th December, 1812, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of said land for twenty-five consecutive years preceding that date, for the last fifteen years, by the claimant, who purchased of Sylvester Bossier, and resides on an adjoining tract.

No. 350.

231. Pierre Boudoin claims 500 1-10th superficial acres of land, situated on both sides of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, 481 1-10th acres on the right bank, and 19 acres on the left, as appears by the plat of survey, by Jo. Irwin, filed with the notice. The evidence of Louis Derbonne, taken 7th October, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for upwards of twenty consecutive years preceding said date, for the last 12 years, by the claimant, father of twelve female children, and previously thereto by Antoine Bergeron.

351.

499. The widow and heirs of Martin claims 1,736 superficial arpens of land, being an undivided fourth of a tract of land conceded by the Spanish Government to the heirs of Martin, situated at a place called Bermudas, county of Natchitoches. Accompanying the notice is a permission to the heirs of Martin to settle on the quantity of land they may think necessary at the Bermudas, on condition they conform to the laws, and subject themselves to the superiors of the province of Texas, dated at Nacogdoches, the 18th October, 1791, and signed by Antonio Gil Harvo, captain, &c., of Nacogdoches and its dependencies. The evidence of Michel du Roy, taken by commission the 3d August, 1814, states the land to have been settled for twenty-two consecutive years preceding that date—first by the widow, and then by a Spaniard, the heirs put on after her death. A like quantity of land is claimed by each of the other heirs of Martin, under this permission of A. Gil Harvo; but it is not known how far the commandants of Nacogdoches were authorized to grant such large tracts of land: the permission here filed is kept entirely out of view, and the confirmation recommended *on the settlement alone*, to the heirs in general, for 640 acres. See reported Nos. 1,103, 1,104, and 1,105.

No. 352.

830. Louis Derbonne claims 79 68-100ths superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Red river, county of Natchitoches, as is represented in a plat of survey, by Jo. Irwin, an United States' deputy surveyor, filed with the notice. The evidence of Jn. Bte. Anty, fils, aged thirty-six years, taken the 15th September, 1813, states that the claimant, aged about forty-five years, and the head of a family, "has resided on the land in ques-

tion for at least twenty-five consecutive years preceding said date, but has cultivated largely on both sides during that time, and has always been considered as the lawful proprietor of the land on both sides."

No. 353.

992. Jean Baptiste Piedferme claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front on each side of Red river, by 40 deep, at a place called *Le Lac Poule d'Eau*, county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Hypolite Bordelon, and below that of Stephen Duquet. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of a sale from Antoine Lenoir to the claimant for the land as claimed, dated the 27th June, 1808. The evidence of Pre. Mailleux, taken by commission the 6th January, 1814, that, to his knowledge, the land has been inhabited and cultivated for fifteen consecutive years preceding said date, if not more; that the claimant is at least seventy-five years of age, and head of a family.

No. 354.

993. William Lacey claims 167 superficial acres of land, situated in the prairie of Cattahoula, county of Rapides, bounded on the north by land of David Devor, and on the south by that of Jesse Harper, being part of a tract originally granted to Thomas Dyson. Accompanying the notice is a plat of survey by C. M. Lawson, an United States' deputy surveyor, for the land as claimed, on which is delineated that of J. Harper's, and that claimed in the next succeeding number, the whole being the tract granted to Dyson; and a private bond for titles to this land, dated the 5th January, 1806, from William Mock and David Devor to Jesse Harper, and by him assigned to the claimant. Reference is had in the notice to book A, folio 157, and the evidence adduced in confirmed No. 928 in the register's office, from which it appears that, on the 19th August, 1800, there was accorded to Thomas Dyson a tract of land of 20 arpens front, by the ordinary depth. Said Dyson having sold a part of said grant to Jesse Harper, there was confirmed to him 277 25-100ths acres under certificate B, No. 928, leaving the tract now claimed, together with the next succeeding claim, unconfirmed; which two tracts lie on each side of Harper's land, within the bounds of the original grant, and, as sufficient evidence of occupancy had been adduced before the former Board of Commissioners for the whole of the tract, the confirmation is recommended for the quantity claimed in this as well as the next succeeding claim, to the legal representatives of said Dyson, as the claimant produces no authentic deed of sale from said Dyson to induce a recommendation in his favor.

No. 355.

994. William Lacey claims 103 75-100ths superficial acres of land, situated in the prairie of Cattahoula, county of Rapide, bounded on the northwest by land of Jesse Harper, and on the southeast by that of William Mock, being part of a tract originally granted to Thomas Dyson. See the preceding claim reported No. 354—this being recommended for confirmation therein.

No. 356.

443. Everiste Love claims 80 superficial arpens of land, viz. two arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the right bank of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on one side by land of the claimant, and on the other by that of James Bludworth. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of a sale from the Adley's to the claimant, dated the 29th October, 1811, for eight arpens front on each side of the river. The evidence of Bertrand Plaisance, aged thirty-eight years, taken the 24th October, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated from his earliest recollection. The title to this tract of land appears, from evidence before the late Board of Commissioners, to have been derived from the settlement of Athanase Poisot. By a deed of gift from Nicholas Lauve to John Adley and his wife and nine children, for the tract in question, it was represented as containing eight arpens front, with 40 arpens in depth on each side of Red river; bounded by land of Edward D. Turner above, and that of Murphy below. This front and depth would have given an area of 640 arpens, equal to about 542 acres, whereas, from the documents before the late board, they were induced to confirm the claim of the Adley's for only 256 63-100ths acres of the land. See certificate B, No. 1,877. Everiste Love now produces a deed by which the Adley's convey to him not only the land of which the claim has been confirmed to them by the certificate of the Commissioners before recited, but all the land which they could rightfully hold under the deed of gift from Nicholas Lauve. The present claimant is therefore, in the opinion of the register and receiver, entitled to a confirmation of his claim to the residue of the land between the lines of Murphey and Turner, provided it does not exceed, with the quantity already confirmed to the Adleys, 640 arpens.

SEVENTH CLASS.

No. 357.

59. James Martin claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas. The evidence of John Coleman, taken the 12th July, 1812, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated from 1795 or 1796 to the present date, with the exception of one year, first, for one year by Moses St. Clair, who, being murdered, his father, John St. Clair, established a man thereon, who stayed two years, when John St. Clair took possession, and remained thereon till 1807, when he sold to the present claimant, who has, either for himself, or some one for his use, occupied and cultivated the same ever since. See Note M.

No. 358.

60. Louis Guillory claims 360 superficial arpens of land, viz. nine arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of the Bayou Crocodile, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on the lower side by land claimed by Jacques Deshotel, and on the upper by land of Madame Fusilier. A plat of survey by James Haggard, a deputy surveyor, dated the 24th July, 1812, for 305.13 acres, accompanies the notice. The evidence of Jacques Lafteur, aged 79 years, taken the 19th August, 1812, states that the tract, of which this is a part, was settled about forty years ago by one Rennel, which he believes was conceded to him for twenty-five arpens front; that Rennel dying, left it to one Lamathié, who sold nine arpens to Louis Guillory, six arpens front to Francois Guillory, and ten arpens to Madame Fusilier, and that said land has been consecutively inhabited and cultivated since 1792 or 1793. See Note M.

No. 359.

61. Francois Guillory claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right side of Bayou Crocodile, in Grand prairie, county of Opelousas, bounded by land of Louis Guillory, jun. on the upper side. A plat of survey by William Darby, a deputy surveyor, in favor of Jacques Deshotel, accompanies the notice. See the evidence in the preceding claim of Louis Gullory, No. 358; also, Note M.

No. 360.

70. Simeon Gibson claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated about nine miles above Vidalia, in the county of Concordia, fronting on a swamp which separates it from the Mississippi river, bounded above by land of John Ferguson, and below by land of Edward Cochran. The evidence of Edward Bibb, taken by commission the 21st May, 1814, states that, from the best of his recollection, the land has been in constant cultivation since the year 1802; and the certificate of Joseph Vidal, the 15th June, 1813, certifies that he has reason to believe, from circumstances related to him, that Simeon Gibson was settled on a piece of land in the parish of Concordia, with his permission, when he was commandant in the time of the Spanish dominion. See note N.

No. 361.

81. Blaize Lejeune claims 137 superficial acres of land, situated on the west side of the main branch of Bayou Plaquemines Brulées, county of Opelousas, bounded on the southwest side by land of Henry Raper, and on the northeast by that of C. Bourassas. The notice is accompanied by a plat of survey for 136.79 acres, by James Haggard, dated the 19th January, 1806. The evidence of Charles Trahan, taken the 27th December, 1813, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated for thirteen or fourteen consecutive years preceding this date, either by the claimant or his father, from whom he purchased: claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for the last seven or eight years. Blaize Lejeune claims under his father, who holds a certificate, No. 732, for settlement and occupancy.

No. 362.

85. Job Bass claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia, about six miles below the Petite Gulph, bounded above by land of Lewis M. Fullwood, and extending for quantity to land of Charles S. Lee. The notice is accompanied by a regular deed of sale from John Shorter to Job Bass, dated the 8th June, 1812, and a certificate of Joseph Vidals, dated 6th July, 1812, certifying that, "for considerations related to me, I am induced to believe that John Shorter was an actual resident in the parish of Concordia previous to the 20th December, 1803, and that his settlement must have been made with my consent in the time of the Spanish dominion in this country." The evidence of James Norris,

taken by commission the 27th December, 1813, states that the land was settled in November, 1803, and he believes that it has been cultivated ever since. See note N.

No. 363.

87. Celestin Moreau claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated on Bayou Rouge prairie, county of Rapides, bounded on one side by land of Jacques Deshotel. Accompanying the notice is a plat of survey by C. M. Lawson, for 265.75 acres, dated 23d September, 1812. The evidence of William L. Collins, taken the 5th October, 1812, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated by the claimant for twenty consecutive years preceding this date; that this claim, together with those of Lepointe, and the heirs of Godo, comprehend the northern part of the island, and half the Prairie Rouge, and that the claimant purchased from the Tunica tribe of Indians, as deponent has been informed. Certificate No. 1276 has issued to Martin Donatto, claiming under the settlement of Celestin Moreau.

No. 364.

90. Toussaint and Mare claim 360 superficial arpens of land, viz. nine arpens front by forty deep, situated on Bayou Mallet, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of Joseph Hebert, and on the other by that of Joseph Istre: a deed of sale from S. Hamilton, constable, to the claimants, dated the 4th December, 1811, sold as the property of Jean Frugée, accompanies the notice. The evidence of M. Prudhomme, taken the 5th October, 1812, states that, thirteen or fourteen years ago, the land was inhabited and cultivated by John Frugée, who thereon continued till about two years ago, when, removing, Jacob Boilleau was put in possession, and there inhabited and cultivated until about ten or twelve days ago, when he died. Also, the evidence of L. C. D'Villier, aged 62 years, taken 2d September, 1812, states, that about twelve years ago, the land was settled by one Houquine, who sold to Frugée, who resided thereon four or five years, to deponent's knowledge, and has reason to believe it has been constantly inhabited and cultivated from Houquine's first settlement to the present date. John Frugée has a requet in his own name, for which certificate No. 2,127 has issued.

No. 365.

126. Mark Elisha claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated in the prairie of Avoyelles, county of Rapides, bounded on the north by other land of the claimant, and on the south by land of Francois Tournier. Accompanying the notice is a plat of survey for 338.39 acres, by K. McCrummin, dated 2d September, 1812. The evidence of J. B. Dozat, taken the 27th December, 1813, states that old Tournier settled on the land about fourteen years ago, where he resided four or five years, and then sold to Ludling, who two or three years after sold to the claimant; that, when in possession of Ludling, it was constantly occupied by his permission. The claimant is fifty years of age, and the land has been constantly occupied and cultivated to the present time. Tournier has a requette in his favor, on which a certificate, No. 347, has issued to Edward Mullion.

No. 366.

128. Mary Cunningham and others, widow and heirs of Gideon Walker, claim sixty-three superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Bayou Boeuf, in the county of Rapides, having a front of ten arpens by twenty chains deep, as will appear by the plat of survey for 62 7.100 acres, by Mathew Stone, a deputy surveyor, in favor of Mary Walker, dated 24th May, 1606, filed with the notice. The evidence of Andrew Ryon, aged fifty-four years, taken the 28th June, 1814, states that Gideon Walker was residing on the land in the year 1793, and continued to inhabit and cultivate the same at least five years. His habitation was on the left bank of the bayou, but he cultivated both sides in 1798; said Walker informed this deponent that he had bartered a part of his land to one Marcott, for other lands on the Avoyelles; and this deponent was on the land in 1799, when he found Marcott residing in the house formerly occupied by G. Walker.

No. 367.

137. Louis Hebert claims two hundred superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated at the extremity of forty arpens from the left bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas. The evidence of John Murphy, taken the 13th August, 1812, states that, from January, 1803, the time he first became acquainted with the land, it has been constantly inhabited and cultivated by the negroes of the claimant to the present date.

No. 368.

139. James McNulty claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Red river, at the L'Isle de Racourcie, in the county of Rapides, bounded on one side by land of John Breard, and on the other by land of William Raimon. A plat of survey by K. McCrummin, dated the 10th March, 1814, is filed with the notice. The evidence of Toussant Passano, taken the 14th August, 1812, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land for twelve consecutive years preceding that date; for the first eight or nine years by Francois Brunet, and subsequently Louis Huit and claimant's son. See note M.

No. 369.

140. Toussant Passano claims 320 superficial arpens of land, viz. eight arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Red river, at the *Isle de Racourcie*, in the county of Rapides. The evidence of James McNulty, taken the 14th August, 1812, states that he became acquainted with the claimant in 1801, since which time the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land constantly to the present time.

No. 370.

142. William Luke Collins claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the east fork of Bayou Rouge, county of Rapides, bounded by vacant land on all sides, accompanied by a private sale from Sarah Brown to claimant, dated the 24th September, 1810, and a plat of survey by C. M. Lawson, an authorized deputy surveyor, dated the 29th September, 1812. The evidence of Celestin Moreau, taken the 7th September, 1812, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land for eighteen consecutive years preceding this date, for the first ten years by a man called Doctor, who purchased from an Indian, and subsequently by a Madam Brown and claimant's son. See note M.

No. 371.

153. John Grangé claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated at the extent of forty arpens from the west side of Bayou Vermillion, bounded on the north by land of Michel Pevoto, and on the south and west by vacant land, and on the front by land of Joseph Broussard. The evidence of Pierre Meaux, taken the 29th August, 1812, states that the claimant settled on the land about eleven years ago, and continued thereon one year, but did not cultivate; it then remained unoccupied two years, when Grangé resumed the occupancy thereof, and has continued to inhabit and cultivate the same to the present date.

No. 372.

156. Antoine Duplechin claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Big Bayou Rouge, parish of Avoyelles, bounded above by land supposed vacant, and below by land of Baptiste Norman. The evidence of Israel Deshotel establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for seventeen or eighteen consecutive years preceding the 20th October, 1812, by persons unknown to deponent. See note M.

No. 373.

158. Henry Decotté claims eighty superficial arpens of land, viz. two arpens front by forty deep, situated in Avoyelles prairie, county of Rapides, bounded on one side by land of Pierre Decotté, and on the other by that of Joseph Gaspard. The notice is accompanied by certified copies of sales from Michel Barret to Antoine Dozat, jun., dated the 30th June, 1804, and from said Dozat to the claimant, dated 10th July, 1809, for the land as claimed. The evidence of J. B. Dozat, taken the 27th December, 1813, states that this tract is part of a larger tract out of which Joseph Gaspard (Registers No. 157, Class 4) claims, and was settled about the same time fourteen years ago, by A. Duplechin, who sold to A. Dozat, and he to the claimant, who has inhabited and cultivated the same for the last five years. It being only fourteen years since deponent went to reside in Avoyelles, cannot say that the land was settled at an earlier period, but has often heard from old inhabitants that the land in question was among the earliest established of the parish. Michel Barry has a certificate, No. 1,527, founded on settlement and permission.

No. 374.

159. Jean Pierre Decotté claims 120 superficial arpens of land, viz. three arpens front by forty deep, situated in the Prairie Avoyelles, county of Rapides, bounded on one side by land of Henry Decotté, and on the other by that of Joseph Decotté. The notice is accompanied by certified copies of sale from Michel Barry to Samuel Brown, dated the 3d March, 1805, and from said Brown to the claimant, dated 15th March, 1805, for the land as claimed. The evidence of J. Bte. Dozat, taken the 27th December, 1813, states that this land is also a part of the same tract out of which Jo. Jaspard and Henry Decotté claim; that ever since he went to Avoyelles, fourteen years ago, the land has been inhabited and cultivated constantly, and he believes much longer; that Michel Barry was the first occupant known to this deponent,

who sold five years ago to the claimant, who has inhabited and cultivated the same ever since. Michel Barry has a certificate, No. 1,527, founded on settlement and permission.

No. 375.

162. Francois and Joseph Boudrean claims 450 arpens of land, viz. fifteen arpens front by thirty deep, situated at the extremity of forty arpens from the east side of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, fronting on the land of Joseph Boudrean. Accompanying the notice is a plat of survey for 400 arpens, by J. L. Johnson, dated 15th March, 1813. The evidence of Louis St. Julian, taken the 28th March, 1814, states that the land has been constantly inhabited and cultivated from 1796 to the present date, at which time the fields of the claimants were forty-seven arpens from the bayou, and that the front tract is low and unfit for culture. ☞ It appears to the register and receiver that this land must have been claimed merely because the fields under cultivation have been extended to it from the front tract, which, in their opinion, cannot entitle the claimant to a donation from the United States.

No. 376.

167. Resin Bowie, sen., claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas. The evidence of several persons was taken in this claim in 1812, from which the following facts are drawn: 1st. That John Grecian, of whom the claimant purchased, had been in the practice of getting timber on the land for the purpose of boat-building, for fifteen or twenty years past. 2d. That no improvements were made on the Vermillion below Little bayou until about four years ago.

No. 377.

168. Shadrack Porter claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, bounded on the north by Little bayou. The evidence of Thomas Going, a free man of color, aged fifty years, taken the 6th October, 1812, states that he has known the land for seven years, and that for the last three years it has been inhabited and cultivated by Littlepage Robertson and the claimant: Robertson was the first settler known to this deponent; and the evidence of John Brown, aged thirty-four years, taken the 27th November, 1812, states that, in the year 1799, he, in company with two families, two of the name of Brown and one Robinson, ascended the Bayou Vermillion for the purpose of making an establishment; that Robinson did at that time settle on the tract of land now claimed, and at present occupied by S. Porter; that Robinson continued to inhabit and cultivate the same until 1804, at which time deponent removed, and did not return till 1811, when he found the claimant residing on and cultivating said land. The evidence of Theodore Broussard and Michel Pevoto, taken January, 1803, the first of whom states, that he believes no establishment was made below Little bayou until, about four years ago, one Resin Bowie settled sixty or seventy arpens below said bayou; and that no persons, to his knowledge, by the name of Brown or Robinson settled on said land in 1799 or 1800. The second states, that he knows of no families ever having settled in that quarter until about four or five years ago, one Robinson settled about one league and a half above Little bayou.

No. 378.

172. The legal representatives of John Coleman, jun., claim 160 superficial acres of land, situated about twenty arpens from the right bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, bounded below by land of Michel Meaux, and above by vacant land. The evidence of Gerard Broussard and Theodore Thibodeau, taken the 25th April, 1814, states that, about four years ago last February, the deceased Coleman settled on the land claimed, which has been constantly occupied ever since.

No. 379.

175. James Jarvis claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of the river Mississippi, about thirty miles above Natchez, in the county of Concordia. A plat by the claimant is filed with notice. The evidence of Joseph Watson, taken by commission, states that, from the year 1802 until 1804, he saw the land in cultivation, and is certain Jarvis had the land in cultivation on the 20th December, 1803, and that deponent generally understood the claimant settled by permission of Vidal, but does not know whether it was written or verbal.

No. 380.

176. William H. Collins claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of the Mississippi river, about three miles above the Heights, in the county of Concordia. A plat by the claimant accompanies the notice. The evidence of Joseph Watson, taken by commission, states that he saw the claimant on the land in the spring of 1803, and afterwards a connexion of Coltins named Kettler; that he believes it was settled by permission of Vidal or Gayoso, and has knowledge of an actual survey in 1803.

No. 381.

177. John Kettler claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the west side of the river Mississippi, near the Little Gulf, in the county of Concordia. The evidence of Joseph Watson, taken by commission, states that, in the fall of 1802, Rowling Brown was on the land as tenant of Kettler, and was still there in 1804; that land was in possession of Kettler on the 20th December, 1803.

No. 382.

178. George Rowe claims 400 acres of land, situated on Bayou Boeuf, in the county of Rapides. The evidence of James Clayton, taken the 13th Nov'r, 1813, by commission, states that he assisted in surveying the land, at which time he was informed there was a requette for it, which were put into the hands of Cochran and Rhea, to be passed in the intendancy; he does not know that any person ever inhabited or cultivated the land but Indians, who had their cabins on or near this tract. With the notice is filed a receipt for the surveying fees by Hugh Coyle, dated 24th June, 1801. Also, the deposition of George Rowe, taken before Wm. H. Ruffin, certified by the Governor of the Mississippi Territory to be a justice of the peace thereof, stating that, in 1802, he petitioned the commandant, Cesar Archinard, for three hundred arpens of land on Bayou Boeuf, which was granted, the survey made, and the fees paid to Hugh Coyle, surveyor, which papers were put into the hands of Robert Cochran to have recorded in New Orleans, from whom, on account of his delirium, he has not been able to obtain them. Also, a deposition taken before the same justice of the peace, the 14th December, 1814, of Antoine Fournelle, stating that, in 1802, he was present on Bayou Boeuf, and witnessed the surveying, marking, and laying off, by Hugh Coyle, a Spanish surveyor, of three hundred arpens for George Rowe, on the west side of said bayou; the deponent understood from the said Coyle the survey was made in virtue of a Spanish requette or order of survey; the said Rowe was there put in possession of said land by Coyle: deponent knows that said land was inhabited and cultivated for the use of George Rowe, by William Ash, who was in the occupancy thereof on the 20th December, 1803. ☞ The receipt for the surveying fees is in the well known hand-writing of Hugh Coyle, a Spanish surveyor. This, together with the evidence, have induced the register and receiver, upon a re-investigation of this claim, to consider it equal to a survey under the former Goverment; they therefore recommend its confirmation.

No. 383.

179. John Boyd claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of the river Mississippi, about four miles below Loftus' heights, in the county of Concordia. A plat, by the claimant, accompanies the notice. The evidence of Joseph Watson, taken by commission, states that, in 1803, he was at Collins's, where Boyd pointed out to him his improvement, and offered to sell it to deponent, and that he has often seen it since in cultivation, he believes by Boyd, who cultivated it the 20th December, 1803. It was always spoken of as the same title as Collins's tract.

No. 384.

187. Francois Gonssoulin claims 992 70-100ths superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded above by lands of Francois and Edward Broussard, and below by land of Pierre Broussard, accompanied by a plat of survey by Evan Bowles, an authorized deputy surveyor, dated the 6th August, 1808. The evidence of Athanase Hebert, taken the 24th September, 1812, establishes the cultivation of the land by the slaves of Gonssoulin for eighteen consecutive years preceding this date. See note O.

No. 385.

210. Ursine Hebert claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the Coté du Bro, west side of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, adjoining land of Joseph Guidry, accompanied by a plat of survey by J. L. Johnson, the 4th June, 1809, for 628 acres in favor of Moses and Ursine Hebert, and a private deed of sale from Francois Lambert to the claimant, dated the 28th June, 1813. The evidence of John Charles Manuel, aged sixty-three years, taken the 16th November, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for twenty-nine or thirty consecutive years preceding this date; for the first twenty-six years by Francois Lam-

bert, claimant's brother-in-law, and the last four by the claimant, who is twenty-four years of age, and the head of a family. See note M.

No. 386.

211. Jean Bte. Rachal claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front on each side of the river Canes, by the depth of forty, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded below by land of Athanase, a free negro, and above by land of Owens. The evidence of Pierre Cairy, taken the 29th September, 1812, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated for fourteen consecutive years preceding this date; for the first eleven years by the claimant. It is supposed that the claimant's name is Jn. Bte. Berthelemy Rachal, who has an order of survey in his name, on which certificate No. 1,691 issued to Louis Lambre.

No. 387.

227. The heirs of Baptiste Prevost claim 640 superficial arpens of land, viz. eight arpens front by forty deep, on each side of the Coutée Portage Soudrick, to be taken at the depth of Arman Ducret's land, in the county of Attakapas. The evidence of Pierre Broussard, taken the 8th October, 1812, states that the land has been under cultivation for fifteen consecutive years preceding this date, by B. Prevost, or some one of the family, but that no person has actually resided on the land until within these six or seven years past.

No. 388.

234. Pierre Derbonne, junior, claims 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. twelve arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Chaché, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded below by land of Pierre La Bombarde, and on other sides by vacant land. Accompanying the notice is a plat of survey for 268 acres, by Joseph Irwin, dated the 16th February, 1813. The evidence of Nicholas Bodin, taken the 7th October, 1812, states, that twelve years ago, Fs. Davion established the claimant as vacherie keeper on the land, where he inhabited and cultivated several years, when, marrying Davion's daughter, the land was relinquished to him, and that he has inhabited and cultivated the same ever since. Davion has an order of survey in his name, on which certificate No. 1,862 has issued to him.

No. 389.

237. Anthony Vickner claims 640 superficial acres of land in the county of Attakapas. The evidence of John Brockman, aged fifty years, taken the 16th December, 1812, states that, from 1795 to 1799, the land was inhabited and cultivated by the claimant, who removed in 1799 or 1800 to a tract on the opposite side of the Teche, and has cultivated both sides ever since his removal.

No. 390.

241. Stephen Brown claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the back line of the tract of land now occupied by Antoine Patin, having so much front as, with the depth of forty arpens, will make 640 acres, in the county of Attakapas. The evidence of Pierre Broussard, taken the 8th October, 1812, states that the land has been cultivated for the last twelve years, but that it has not been inhabited until about eight years ago.

No. 391.

242. Walter McBride claims 640 superficial acres of land, on the back of the land of David Rees, eighty arpens from the left bank of Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas. The evidence of Pierre Broussard, taken the eighth October, 1812, states that this land is part of a tract conceded to Louis Arseneau by the Spanish Government, the titles of which is now in his possession, to the best of his knowledge; that the land claimed has been inhabited and cultivated by the claimant for three years past, and not before by any other person, to his knowledge.

No. 392.

243. Anne Henry, widow of Alexander Daniel, claims 640 acres of land, L' Isle á Chaland or Boeuf, county of Attakapas. The evidence of John Brockman, taken the 16th December, 1812, states that the land was first settled about 1801 by Alexander Daniel, who continued thereon for four or five years, when deponent was put in possession, where he inhabited and cultivated four years for the use of said Daniel, the husband of the claimant; that said Daniel abandoned his family four years ago, and has not since been heard of. The evidence is accompanied by a memorial addressed to Congress by the claimant, stating that her husband not being heard of since 1808, has left her in indigent circumstances, with two small children. She will find herself reduced to the last degree of misery should this land be taken from her, as it, with her own industry, being the only means of present support, and liquidating the former debts of her husband, as well as paying those of her own contracting since his departure. She therefore prays a confirmation of said land, one half to her two children, the other to herself, for the purposes already mentioned.

No. 393.

244. Alexis Cloutier claims 320 superficial arpens of land, viz. four arpens front, on each side of Red river, by forty deep, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of M. Rosalie Bodin, and below by land of Fs. St. Germain. Accompanying the notice is a certified sale from John Laurent Bodin to the claimant, dated the 14th October, 1808. The evidence of Nicholas Bodin, taken the 9th October, 1812, states that, sixteen years ago, the land was inhabited and cultivated by J. L. Bodin, who continued thereon three years, when, removing to the province of Texas, he permitted one Michel to occupy the land, who also continued three years, when he removed, and no one has since actually inhabited said land, although it has been constantly cultivated by or for the use of the present claimant.

No. 394.

248. Alexis Cloutier claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the river Canes, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Andrew Michel, and below by that of Baptiste Ratbois. The notice is accompanied by a deed of sale from the judge of the parish of Natchitoches, dated the 29th August, 1810, to the claimant; sold as the property of A. Michel. The evidence of Nicholas Bodin, taken the 9th October, 1812, states that, about sixteen years ago, Joseph Rabalais settled on the land, and inhabited and cultivated the same until about two years ago, when it was sold as the property of A. Mitchell, to whom it had been sold by said Rabalais. After the sale, Bte. Rachal, was put in possession by the claimant, by whose permission he has cultivated ever since. See note M.

No. 395.

250. Alexis Cloutier claims 320 superficial arpens of land, viz. four arpens front on each side of Red river, by the depth of forty, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded below by land of Porter, and above by that of Jean Baltazar. The notice is accompanied by a private deed of gift from Louis Monet to Nicholas Bodin, dated the 23d September, 1804, a deed of sale from said Bodin to the claimant, dated the 4th August, 1812, for the land as claimed, and a plat of survey by Dl. Coleman, the 29th December, 1806, in favor of Cola Bodin for 52.8 acres on the right bank, and 88 acres on the left. The evidence of Louis Derbonne, taken the 19th October, 1812, states that the wife of Nicholas Bodin has inhabited and cultivated the land from 1798 until Bodin sold to the claimant. Marie Anne Bodin has an order of survey in her own name, on which a certificate, No. 1,730, has issued.

No. 396.

253. Joseph Derbonne claims 488½ superficial acres of land, viz. about fifteen arpens front on the left bank of Regolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Jn. A. Agues, and on other sides by vacant land. The evidence of Pierre Boudoin, taken the 9th October, 1812, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land for fourteen consecutive years preceding that date, by the claimant's negroes, under an overseer. See note O.

No. 397.

259. John Williams claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the left bank of Washita river, in the county of Washita, bounded above by lands of Dr. Woods, and on the lower by vacant land. The evidence of John Etier, taken the 9th October, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for twelve consecutive years previous to said date, by John Brosea, and those holding under him. See note M.

No. 398.

260. Perine Perkins claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Washita river, in the county of Washita, opposite the Prairie Manoir, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of John Etier, taken the 12th October, 1812, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date, first by Joseph Martin, then by Joseph Etier, and now by the claimant. Joseph Martin has a certificate, No. 1,778, for a settlement, and Joseph Etier has a requette in his favor, on which certificate No. 424 has issued.

No. 399.

268. John Harman claims 640 acres of land, situated on the left bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, bounded on one side by land of John Merriman. The evidence of Michel Élingar, taken the 9th November, 1812, states that the land was occupied as vacherie of David Harman fifteen years ago, and that

the claimant settled on the land about eight or nine years ago, and has continued to inhabit and cultivate the same ever since.

No. 400.

279. Augustin Bordelon claims 233 10-100ths acres of land, situated in the prairie of Avoyelles, county of Rapides, bounded on one side by land of Nicholas Tassin, and on the other by that of Joseph Roy. Accompanying the notice is a plat of survey for the land as claimed, by K. McCrummin, dated the 16th August, 1812. The evidence of J. B. Dozat, taken the 27th December, 1813, states that, from the time he first went to Avoyelles, about fourteen years ago, the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land constantly, until about fourteen days ago, the time of his death: he has left a wife and twelve or fourteen children. Augustin Bordelon has a requette in his own name, on which certificate No. 1,114 has issued to Nathaniel Badger.

No. 401.

282. Jesse White claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, bounded above by land of the heirs of John White, and below by land of John Dummon's heirs. A certified deed of sale from Gibson Johnson to Thomas Goin, and by him transferred to the claimant, dated the 25th November, 1812, accompanies the notice. The evidence of James Dunman, taken the 15th October, 1812, states that, in the fall of 1803, Gibson Johnson settled on the land, but did not cultivate, and having sold his right to Thomas Goin, in the spring of 1804, he removed, and Goin took possession, cleared about four acres, and cultivated that year, since when it has been cultivated ever since, and is now inhabited by the deponent, the claimant being on an adjoining tract above.

No. 402.

283. Thomas Goin claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of James Dunman, taken the 15th October, 1812, states, that John Chavers built a camp on the land about fourteen years ago, where he continued three months; that it remained unoccupied from that time until 1810, when the claimant having purchased, deponent believes, of (Chavers,) took possession, and has occupied and cultivated ever since.

No. 403.

284. Francis Rodgers claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, bounded below by land of Shadrack Porter, and other sides by vacant land: a private deed of sale from Barnaba Beal to the claimant, dated the 16th September, 1812, accompanies the notice. The evidence of James Dunman, taken the 15th October, 1812, states, that Joshua or John Willborn built a cabin on the land in 1809, sold his right the year following to Barnaba Beal, who placed a family on it that have cultivated ever since.

No. 404.

285. Alexander Stephens claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated about one mile west of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, at a place called the Pine Cove, on woods of Little bayou. The evidence of Jacob Ryon, aged forty-seven years, taken the 11th June, 1814, states that, sixteen or seventeen years ago, James Dunman made two crops of rice on the land, and that Alexander and William Stephens reside at present on the land, and deponent believes has inhabited and cultivated the same for the last four years.

No. 405.

288. George Cummins claims 640 acres of land, situated on the right bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas. The evidence of Jesse White, taken the 15th October, 1812, states, that in the year 1799, he assisted Edward Murray in cutting and hauling timber for a house and blacksmith shop which were erected same year on the land; that, in February or March of the following year, Murray established his shop, but left it in the fall; that early in the spring of 1801, he returned and cultivated a crop that year. Deponent believes he remained there three years, and that the land has been unoccupied for the last six or seven years.

No. 406.

337. Oliver Miller claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the east bank of Lake Tensas, in the county of Concordia, bounded on the north by land of Robert Hughes, and on the south by land of Benjamin H. Wells. The evidence of Ezekiel Williams, aged fifty-seven years of age, taken the 20th December, 1813, states that the claimant and family began to improve the land in the year 1800, and has continued to inhabit and cultivate the same ever since.

No. 407.

361. John Shults claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Red river, in the county of Rapides. The evidence of James McLaughlin, taken the 20th of February, 1813, states that the land was settled by the claimant in 1802, who thereon continued four consecutive years, and that, subsequent to his removal, the land has been cultivated for his use by Green Welch. The evidence of Thomas Patterson, taken same day, states that he is well acquainted with the claimant, and has frequently heard that he settled and resided on Red river before the change of Government, and that he was never on the land. The evidence of Valentine Layssard, taken by commission the 28th December, 1813, states that he gave permission to John Shults to settle on lands in the post of Rapides in 1801 or 1802. He does not recollect whether said permission was verbal or written, but the land was situated on the left bank of the river, and does not know if he inhabited the same land. See note N.

No. 408.

363. The heirs of Gabriel Martin claim 250 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Bayou Rapides, in the county of Rapides, bounded above by land of Alexander Innes, and below by that of Valentine Deville. The testimony of Mathew Nugent, aged fifty-seven years, taken the 11th November, 1812, states that, about eighteen years ago, Samuel Cooke surveyed said land, and placed a free man of color, named J. Minner, thereon, Cooke making it his place of occasional residence; Jack resided about two years; and that for the last sixteen years Gabriel Martin and family have cultivated the same, residing on an adjoining tract. A plat of survey by Mathew Stone, deputy surveyor, dated 2d November, 1812, for 48 60-100ths acres, accompanies the notice. ☞ The land should have been inhabited as well as cultivated, to comply with the requisitions of the law granting donations to settlers.

No. 409.

377. The heirs of Jn. Baptiste Duplechin claim 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 40 deep, both sides of Bayou Boeuf, in the county of Rapides, bounded above by N. Chattlin's land. The evidence of Antoine Duplechin, taken the 22d October, 1812, states that J. B. Duplechin settled on the land claimed twenty-five years ago, and continued to inhabit and cultivate the same for four years, when, removing, it remained unoccupied three years; at the expiration of that time it was taken possession of by a person, name unknown, without permission, as this deponent believes, of the original proprietor, and that said person has continued to inhabit and cultivate the same ever since.

No. 410.

171. John Prather claims about 170 superficial acres of land, situated on the east side of Hanchett's saw mill gully, in the county of Opelousas. The notice is accompanied by an authentic deed of sale, Azariah Prather, to the claimant, dated the 5th November, 1812. The evidence of Tyler Prather, taken the 12th August, 1815, states that Azariah Prather, father to this deponent, settled with his family on the land more than four years ago, and that it has been inhabited and cultivated every year since, either by said Azariah or the claimant, or William Lyon, who purchased the right and title of John Prather.

No. 411.

378. David Duplechin claims 20 arpens front by 40 deep of land, situated on Bayou du Lac, in the county of Rapides. The evidence of Antoine Duplechin, taken the 22d October, 1812, states that the claimant settled on the land eighteen years ago, where he remained three years, when, removing, it has remained unoccupied ever since. Also, the evidence of John Ponsony, taken the 24th December, 1813, states that the claimant settled on the land twenty-two years ago, and made improvements, and that he left it nineteen years ago, since when it has been *uninhabited.*

No. 412.

415. Louis Stevan claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the west side of Bayou Teche, near the canal leading to the Grand Coté, in the county of Attakapas. The evidence of Frederique Louvier, taken the 24th October, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for twelve or thirteen consecutive years preceding this date; for the first six or seven years by a person named Robertson, and subsequently by the claimant. See note M.

No. 413.

417. Jean Baltazar Neuville De Clouet claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the east side of Bayou Teche, about 80 arpens from the bayou, in the county of Attakapas. The evidence of Frederick Louvier, taken

the 23d October, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for nineteen or twenty consecutive years preceding said date; for the first nine or ten years by Charlite Dugas, and the residue of the time by Isidore Louvier, who sold to the claimant. That the improvements may be valued at $6,000 that have been made by claimant, who now resides on said land, and has inhabited and cultivated the same for the last five or six years. Charles Dugat has a certificate, No. 868, for a patent in his own name.

No. 414.

420. Remy Lamber claims 1,600 superficial arpens of land, viz. 40 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on Lake Saline, about eight leagues above the village of Natchitoches, on the left side of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on one side by land of Manuel Prudhomme, and the other side by vacant. The evidence of Jean Lalond, aged 42 years, taken the 24th October, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for eighteen or twenty consecutive years preceding this date: for the first seven or eight years by Charles Durette, and subsequently by claimant's negroes, or some white person employed by him. See note M.

No. 415.

421. Antoine Dubois claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the right bank of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded below by land of John Adley, and above by vacant land, about two leagues above the village of Natchitoches. The evidence of Gaspard Boudoin, taken the 24th of October, 1812, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land for thirteen or fourteen consecutive years preceding the date, by the claimant. Certificate No. 1874 has issued to the heirs of Louis Fontenot 10 arpens front, occupied by said Dubois, Louis Vascour, and Jean Poiret.

No. 416.

422. Antoine Lenoir claims 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. 12 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the right bank of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, about one league above Campté settlement, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of Gaspard Boudoin, taken the 24th October, 1812, states that the claimant settled on the land about twenty-two years ago, and resided on and cultivated the same for seven years, since when it has remained uncultivated and uninhabited, a vacherie only being kept there by the claimant.

No. 417.

423. Antoine Prudhomme claims — superficial arpens of land, viz. — arpens front by — deep, situated on the right bank of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, in the county of Natchitoches, joining land of said Antoine Prudhomme. The evidence of Bertrand Plaisance, taken the 24th October, 1812, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for twenty-five or twenty-six consecutive years preceding said date; for the first ten years by Pierre Derbonne, and subsequently by the claimant's negroes. Claimant is between forty-five and fifty years of age: deponent has seen the written act transferring said land from P. Derbonne to the claimant. ☞ The claimant ought to have produced the sale. Oral evidence cannot establish the existence of a written deed, which ought to be had from record.

No. 418.

424. The heirs of Gaspard Derbonne claim a tract of land having 14 arpens front, with the depth that may be found, not to exceed 40 arpens, situated on Tigre island, county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Louis Vascocu. The evidence of Bertrand Plaisance, taken the 24th October, 1812, states that, about eighteen years ago, Gaspard Derbonne inhabited and cultivated the land, who thereon continued six or seven years, since when it has been unoccupied, except as a vacherie by Derbonne's heirs.

No. 419.

430. Pierre Bonvellon claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Bayou Du Sol, in the county of Attakapas, between the Grand and Sea Marsh, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of Jn. Baptiste Ranget, taken the 16th June, 1813, states that, about fourteen or fifteen years ago, the claimant established Urinick Ortise as stock-keeper on the land, who cultivated three years, when the claimant took possession and cultivated three years more; and that Agricole Le Blanc resides on and cultivates said land for claimant's use, and has so done for the last three years.

No. 420.

435. Baptiste Plaisance claims about forty superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front, with all the depth of which it is susceptible without interfering with the rights of other persons, situated on the left bank of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, about half a league above the village of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Madam Pantaloon, and below by land of Catharine Badin, a free negro wench, accompanied by a certified deed of sale from Grand Guilloume, a free negro, to the claimant, dated the 27th October, 1807. The evidence of John Lalonde, aged forty-two years, taken the 24th October, 1812, establishes the land to have been constantly inhabited and cultivated from his earliest recollection to the present date.

No. 421.

436. Ambroise Le Compte claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, situated in the Prairie Yanecoocoo, on the left bank of a bayou of the same name, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded by vacant lands. The evidence of Gaspard Boudouin, taken the 24th October, 1812, states that, eighteen or nineteen years ago, the deponent kept the claimant's stock on said land, and cultivated the same for two years; the vacherie was afterwards continued, attended either by the negroes or some white person for the claimant, until Pierre La Bombarde took possession, by claimant's permission, about six or seven years ago, and thereon continued until Julien Boudouin, deponent's brother, about four or five years ago, was put in possession by the claimant, and said Julien now does and has inhabited and cultivated the land for the last four or five years.

No. 422.

439. Manuel Lavasseur claims a tract of land of one arpent and thirteen toises front by twenty-five arpens deep, situated on the left bank of Red river, about two miles above the village of the county of Natchitoches, bounded by land of Bertrand Plaisance, and below by land of the claimant. The evidence of Bertrand Plaisance, aged thirty-eight years, taken the 24th October, 1812, establishes that the land has been inhabited and cultivated, without intermission, from his earliest recollection.

No. 423.

456. John M. Martin claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Boeuf, in the county of Rapides. The evidence of Aaron Reeder, taken the 6th June, 1813, states that, in 1802, he was on the land which was occupied by John Marcot, and, from the appearance of the buildings and peach orchard, has reason to believe it was cultivated for at least ten years previous to said date. Also, the evidence of Ignatius Tear, taken the 14th September, 1814, states that, sixteen years ago, the land was an old improvement, had a fine peach orchard, and was occupied by one Marcot and family; that he lived six or seven years within five miles of the land, and knows it was inhabited and cultivated during that period. See note M.

No. 424.

458. William Hay claims 200 superficial arpens of land, situated on the west bank of the western branch of Bayou Canes, bounded above by part of same tract, sold at collector's sale to Samuel Hamilton, and below by land of Margaret Fisher, in the county of Opelousas, accompanied by a plat of survey by Wm. Darby, an authorized surveyor, for 338 43-100ths acres. The evidence of Jn. Bte. Young, aged twenty-five years, taken the 1st January, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land from his earliest recollection to the present date, first by one Dozat, then by McKim, then by Wm. Hay from 1803 to 1811, and subsequently by one Hughes, by permission of the claimant. See note M.

No. 425.

471. Jean Baptiste Berthelemi Rachal claims — superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Regolet du Bon Dieu, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of Jean Arno Agues, taken the 27th October, 1812, states that the claimant has occupied the land as a vacherie for fifteen years, and has resided on and cultivated the same for the last two years.

No. 426.

472. Etienne Lacaze claims superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of the river Tahon, county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Auguste Langlois. The evidence of John Arno Agues, taken the 27th October, 1812, states that, thirteen or fourteen years ago, Jacques Lacaze, claimant's brother, established a vacherie on the land, and continued it six or seven years, when, making a donation to his brother, he took possession, built a house, and has inhabited and cultivated the same for the last five years.

No. 427.

475. Jean Baptiste Lattier claims 640 acres of land, situated on the right bank of the river Aux Cannes, in

the county of Natchitoches. Accompanying the notice is a plat of survey by Jo. Irwin, for sixty-eight acres, dated the 8th February, 1813. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, taken the 9th October, 1813, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for twenty-one consecutive years preceding this date, by the negroes and hirelings of the claimant, who resides four or five leagues from the land, on Brevil island. See note O.

No. 428.

505. Alexis Cloutier claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated on each side of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded by land of Athanase Lacour, and below by land of Antoine Coindel, accompanied by a judicial sale from the judge of the parish of Natchitoches to the claimant. Sold as the property of Charles Dagnion the 31st August, 1810. The evidence of Nicholas Badin, aged forty-five years, taken the 19th October, 1813, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for twenty-five consecutive years preceding that date, on both sides of the river, by Charles Dagnion and others. Charles Dagnion was the first occupant known to this deponent, who, after remaining on the land three or four years, set out on a journey, leaving the land in charge of Antoine Coindel, who resided on an adjoining tract, and, immediately on the removal of said Charles, put the whole front of the land claimed by said Charles, of which the tract now claimed makes a part, having ten arpens front on each side of the river, under cultivation, and continued such cultivation until the land was sold by the administrators of said Charles after his decease; and that, since the judicial sale of the land in question has been cultivated by the negroes of the claimant. ☞ The evidence of occupancy is deemed insufficient to entitle the claimant to a donation from the United States.

No. 429.

507. Jn. Bte. Theodore Grillet claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on both sides of Red river, above Compté settlement, Natchitoches. The evidence of Francois Robin, taken the 3d October, 1814, establishes, that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for fifteen consecutive years preceding this date, is about the age of twenty-eight years, and the head of a family. ☞ It is very unlikely that the claimant should have established a plantation at thirteen years of age.

No. 430.

513. Francois Dubois claims ninety-one superficial acres of land, situated on both sides of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, viz. fifty-two on the right bank of said river, bounded above by land of Martin and Bernard, and below by vacant, and thirty-nine acres on the left bank, below a small bayou, bounded above by land of Bernard and Martin, and below by Peter F. Grenobe's land, as is represented in a plat of survey by Samuel Cook for Gaspard Derbonne, dated January, 1808. The evidence of Jean Lalonde, taken the 29th October, 1812, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated for upwards of twenty consecutive years preceding this date; first by Pierre Alorge, who sold to Gasperite Derbonne, after whose death it was sold at public sale and purchased by the claimant, whose habitation is on the left bank of the river; and that the several proprietors have cultivated and claimed on both sides from its first establishment. See note M.

No. 431.

519. Pierre Gagné claims 300 superficial arpens of land, situated on both sides of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded below by land of René Perault, and above by land of Christolm Perault. The evidence of John Lalonde, taken the 29th October, 1812, establishes that the claimant, aged forty-eight years, father of four children, has inhabited on the left bank, and cultivated on both banks, for fifteen consecutive years preceding this date. Pierre Gagné, jr., has an order of survey in his own name, for which certificate No. 1,791 has issued: this is a supposed P. G., junior.

No. 432.

541. Pierre Savoy claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Bayou Mallet, in the Prairie Fauquatyke, county of Opelousas, bounded above by land of Perault, and below by that of Prudhomme, jr. The evidence of J. Bte. Davide, aged forty-three years, taken the 31st May, 1814, states that, seventeen or eighteen years ago, the claimant procured of Mr. Duralde the necessary papers as title for said land; that it was surveyed by Luke Collins, and afterwards by G. Flaujac, which papers deponent believes are lost; that, at that time, Savoy kept his stock on the land, and used the timber thereon for different purposes; and that, eight or ten years ago, the claimant moved on the land, and has inhabited and cultivated the same ever since.

No. 433.

542. Joseph Guilbeau claims eighty superficial arpens of land, viz. two arpens front by forty deep, situated on the west side of Bayou Tortue, in the county of Attakapas, bounded above by land of Gravier, and below by land of St. Julien, accompanied by a certified copy of a deed of sale from St. Julien to the claimant for two acres, passed the 13th July, 1806, before the judge of the county of Attakapas, and a plat of survey by Patrick Marin, a deputy surveyor, the 10th October, 1809, for 67 7-100ths acres of land. The evidence of Jn. Bte. Comeau, taken the 8th December, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land for upwards of twenty consecutive years preceding this date; that Delaville Beauvre, former commandant, was the first occupant known to this deponent, but has been informed, and has reason to believe, it was occupied many years before by Gonssoulin, and some other prior occupants; that it has been inhabited and cultivated by the claimant, aged forty-eight years, and the head of a family, ever since his purchase from St. Julien. See note M.

No. 434.

592. Lavinia Ryan claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia, about fourteen miles from the post of Concordia, bounded above by land of Samuel Morris, accompanied by a private deed of sale from claimant's mother, dated the first of November, 1807, Winifred Ryan. The evidence of John Gardner, taken by commission the 13th July, 1814, states that the land was inhabited and cultivated in 1801, by permission of the proper Spanish officer, by Winifred Ryan, and so continued by her until her death, and subsequently by the claimant, who now inhabits and cultivates the same.

No. 435.

565. Stephen Forest claims 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. twelve arpens front by forty deep, situated in the Prairie Faquetyke, county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of John Chapman. The evidence of Jean Joubert, taken the 10th July, 1813, states that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land constantly from 1809 or 1810 to the present date.

No. 436.

595. Pamela Stewart claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Bayou Chicot or Beaver Dam Bayou, county of Opelousas. The evidence of Stephen L. Wells, taken by commission the 13th July, 1813, states that the land was inhabited and cultivated in 1790, and three years afterwards; that Forstal, the Spanish commandant of Opelousas, granted Pamela Stewart and Lavoissa Bradley, thirty arpens of land front by forty deep, on Beaver Dam, which requette was sent to New Orleans to obtain a patent, but was lost.

No. 437.

596. Lavoissa Bradley claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Bayou Chicot or Beaver Dam bayou, county of Opelousas. The evidence of Stephen L. Wells, taken by commission the 18th July, 1814, states that the land was inhabited and cultivated in 1790, and three years after; and that Forstal, the Spanish commandant at Opelousas, granted Pamela Stewart and Lavoissa Bradley thirty arpens front by forty deep, on Beaver Dam, which requette was sent to New Orleans to obtain a patent, but was lost.

No. 438.

600. Reuben T. Sacket claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the west brach of Cotile or Hemphill's bayou, in the county of Rapides. Accompanying the notice is a deed of sale from John Wyle to the claimant, acknowledged before witnesses, and dated the 23d December, 1811, and a plat of survey by G. J. Williams, a deputy surveyor, not dated, for 640 acres, in favor of Bte. Ponea. The evidence of Lewis Huit, aged thirty-four years, taken the 14th July, 1814, states that the land was first settled upon by Thomas M. Carrol nine years ago last fall, and continued to be inhabited and cultivated for seven consecutive years by said Carrol, and those claiming under him, and that for the last two years the land has been unoccupied.

No. 439.

601. Benjamin Miller claims 800 arpens of land, situated on both sides of Red river, in the county of Rapides, at White Bluffs. The evidence of Valerian Lássard, taken by commission the 26th December, 1813, states that he knows the claimant did settle on the land in 1797 or 1798, on the north side of Red river, and has held and claimed it ever since; that he had a good permission to settle on said land, which, to the best of deponent's recollection, was written; also the evidence of John Young, taken by commission the 18th May, 1815, states that the land on the north or bluff side was inhabited by the claimant as early as 1797, as a stock-farm; and, on

the south or island side, it was cultivated, and a house built, which has been continued ever since. Benjamin Miller has an order of survey in his favor, on which certificate B, No. 826, has issued; also, a requette, on which certificate No. 911 has issued to him.

No. 440.

603. Jean Laflord claims 600 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Red river, at the Cut-off, in the county of Rapides, bounded below by Sandy bayou. The evidence of Toussaint Passino, taken the 30th December, 1813, states that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for twelve consecutive years preceding this date. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 441.

619. Joseph House claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Bayou Chicot, in the county of Opelousas, bounded above by land of McDaniel. The evidence of Joseph Willis, taken the 24th December, 1813, states that the land was first settled in the spring of 1811, by one Hickman, who sold to Joseph Galbraith, who sold in 1811 to Agerton Willis, who sold the land and crop in 1812 to Zebulon Robinet, who sold, after gathering his crop, to the present claimant, who has inhabited and cultivated the same since the fall of 1812.

No. 442.

635. Stephen Fluke claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Red river, county of Rapides. See reported No. 445.

No. 443.

636. Thomas Bays claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Red river, county of Rapides. See reported No. 445.

No. 444.

637. James M. Manedue claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Red river, county of Rapides. See reported No. 445.

No. 445.

638. John M. T. Husk claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Red river, county of Rapides. In these four claims reported, Nos. 442, 443, and 444, the evidence of Samuel Stroud and Baptiste Porea, taken by commission the 29th June, 1814, states that they were acquainted with the claimants, Fluke, Bays, Manedue, and Husk, in 1800; that they settled their lands in 1801, by permission of the proper Spanish officer, which they have cultivated ever since.

No. 446.

660. Pierre Severine Richard claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated in the Prairie Mallet, county of Opelousas, bounded by land of Baptiste de Brocar, a free negro. The evidence of Philip Lacaze, taken the 7th June, 1813, states that, eleven years ago, one Tessier occupied the land, and continued to inhabit and cultivate the same nine consecutive years; that three years ago he moved to adjoining tract, having sold to the claimant, by whose permission he now cultivates thereon. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of a deed of sale from Joasin Tessier to the claimant, dated the 24th May, 1814.

No. 447.

749. David Chote, assignee of Jacques Lafleur, claims 2,000 superficial acres of land, viz. fifty arpens front by the depth, to make the quantity claimed, beginning on the west bank of Bayou Crocodile, at a gully near the lower extremity of a small prairie ascending the bayou, in the county of Opelousas. The evidence of Claude Guillory, taken the 25th August, 1813, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated seven or eight years regularly, the first two years (supposed to be 1803 or 1804) by Jacques Lafleur, and subsequently by one De Rezier, (on Lafleur's account,) who, being drowned two or three years ago, the land has been since uninhabited, except by a Mr. Gibbs, who resides near the boundary line between this tract and that of Lamerandes. This land originally belonged to deponent's father, and was sold to Lafleur by this deponent, and his brother. Deponent's father had a concession for the land from the French Government for six arpens by 40. The evidence of Isaac Carpenter, taken 28th May, 1814, states that Jacques Lafleur was residing on the land in 1802, had a good cabin, and five or six acres of land under fence; and the evidence of Joseph Sylvester, aged seventy-seven years, taken the 18th October, 1814, states that Jacques Lafleur, aged seventy-four years, took possession of the land about thirty-five years ago, and inhabited and cultivated the same for ten consecutive years; since when said land has remained vacant until about two or three years ago a Mr. Gibbs, and, fourteen months past, David Chote settled on the land, although told it was not vacant, but belonged to said Lafleur.

No. 448.

751. Garrigue Flaujac claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated in Grand prairie, county of Opelousas, adjoining land of Pierre Joubert. The evidence of Louis Fontenot, aged fifty years, taken the 7th June, 1813, establishes the consecutive occupancy and cultivation from 1779 or 1780 to the present date, first by P. Joubert, and then by those holding under him. See note M.

No. 449.

752. Jean Jeannot claims not exceeding 300 superficial acres of land fronting on Bayou Bourbeaux, and extending on both sides of said bayou, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of Morin, and on the other by that of Sam Fusilier, a free mulatto. The evidence of Etienne Forest, taken the 23d September, 1813, states that, about fourteen years ago, the claimant, now ninety-two years of age, with his family, resided on the land, and cultivated the same, one year, when he removed; and it has subsequently, up to the present date, been constantly inhabited and cultivated by other persons, but whether by claimant's permission deponent cannot say. Also, the evidence of Michel Languit, taken the 14th October, 1813, states that he, the deponent, settled upon the land about six or seven years ago, under the impression that it belonged to the United States; that, after inhabiting and cultivating said land for four years, he became satisfied, from inquiry, that it belonged to the claimant, from whom he obtained permission to continue in possession, and has ever since considered that he occupied said land by courtesy of said Jeannot.

No. 450.

753. Louis Johnson claims 640 superfical acres of land, situated in the Prairie Faquetyke, county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of Baptiste Doucet, and on the other by vacant land. The evidence of Pierre Nausaire, Jean Bte. Demaret, and John Chapman, taken the 10th July, 1813, states that the land was inhabited for two months, in the year 1809, by Pierre Nausaire, who sold his right to Mathurin Aucoin; that said Aucoin died about eighteen months after said purchase, when his widow made a verbal sale of said land to Louis Johnson, who now inhabits said land.

No. 451.

754. Mammé Janis claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated in Prairie Ronde, county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of D. J. Sutton, and on other sides by vacant land. The evidence of Stephen Forest and Jean Joubert, taken the 10th July, 1813, states that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for the last two or three years.

No. 452.

757. Louis Fontenot claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated at the point of the village Mamou, Prairie Mamou, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of Jacques Dupré, taken the 16th May, 1814, states, that the land has been inhabited and cultivated for twenty-eight consecutive years preceding this date, first by Boisdoré, then on his account by Laviollet, then by Forstal, and for the last fourteen years by the claimant, or some one for his use.

No. 453.

771. Mary Trahan, widow of Jean Bte. Duplechin, claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated at Black Point, on Bayou Plaquemine Brulée, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of Madam Daigle, and on the other by vacant land. The evidence of Etienne Lamorindier, fils, aged forty-five years, taken the 26th June, 1813, states, that the land has been inhabited for more than twenty years, first by Pierre Roussillion, who gave permission to Simon Richard to occupy said land; that, six or seven years ago, said Roussillion relinquished his right to the present claimant, who has inhabited and cultivated the same ever since. The evidence of Pierre Trahan, fils, aged about thirty-two years, taken the 11th September, 1813, states that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for five or six years past: the deponent being at the house of Pierre Roussillion in June last, was informed by said Roussillion that he had abandoned his right to said land to Major Lamorindier for the claimant, (deponent's sister,) and that he, Pierre, only waited the return of the parish judge to pass the sale. Also, the evidence of Louis Belard, aged twenty-eight years, taken the 4th October, 1813, states that, in the fall or winter of the year in which this country was delivered up to the Americans, P. Roussillion built a house on land he supposed belonging to Malvo, his father-in-law; when, on surveying the land some years after, it was found that Malvo's lines did not include Roussillion's house; that, on a resurvey, Roussillion had the lines run not to include his house, for the purpose of acquiring the land by settlement; that Duplechin had

settled near Roussillion, who, in presence of this deponent, relinquished to said Duplechin his right to the said improvement.

No. 454.

776. Madelaine Como, widow of Pierre Doucet, and her son Jean Pierre Doucet, claim 880 superficial arpens of land, viz., twenty-two arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of the principal branch of Bayou Plaquemine Brulée, in the county of Opelousas, bounded above by land of Smith, and below by that of Jacob Harman. The evidence of Anthony Corkran, aged seventy-five years, taken the 20th July, 1813, states that this deponent made a settlement on the land, in 1788 or 1789, for the purpose of keeping the stock of Sylvain Sonnier, and thereon resided one year, when said Sonmer, declining to keep his stock on said land, this deponent removed, and the land has been unoccupied from that time until about three years ago, when, as deponent believes, the claimants took possession; and, further, that this deponent relinquishes all right he may have acquired as being the first occupant, in favor of the claimants. Also, the evidence of Joseph Gadien, aged thirty-two years, taken the 9th August, 1813, states that the deponent and Hilaire Doucet, sons of Madam Doucet, have resided on the land for the three last years, but have only cultivated the last year.

No. 455.

779. Pierre Roussillion claims 439 acres of land, situated on the west side of the principal branch of Bayou Plaquemine Brulée, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of Rosalie Malvo, and on the other by vacant land, accompanied by a plat of survey by William McLester, dated the 9th December, 1811, for 639 acres, including the house of the claimant and Md. Duplechin. The evidence of Blaize Lajeune, aged sixty years, taken the 26th July, 1813, states that, twelve years ago, the land was occupied by the claimant, who inhabited and cultivated the same five or six years; after which, this deponent has reason to believe said land was occupied by Simon Richard, as claimant's tenant; and the evidence of John Robertson, John Hays, and Joseph Mott, taken the 29th June, 1814, states that the land was settled by the claimant about twelve years ago, who continued to inhabit and cultivate the same until about four or five years ago, when he removed, and rented to Simon Richard; and that to their knowledge the claimant never abandoned his right to Widow Duplechin, who now lives on the other side of a gully, at Point Noir.

No. 456.

780. Jean Baptiste Collins, a free negro, claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Bayou Nezpiqué, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of Louis Fontenot, and on the other by that of Daniel Clarke. The evidence of William Martin, aged fifty-five years, taken the 27th July, 1813, states, that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land constantly for the last four years.

No. 457.

790. Martin Despallier claims 120 superficial arpens of land, more or less, viz., about three arpens front by forty deep, situated on Bayou Rapides, in the county of Rapides, bounded above by land of Joseph Lanoir, and below by that of Balon Layssard. The evidence of Alexander Fulton, taken the 7th September, 1813, states that, in 1796, Valentine Layssard and the claimant were both living on the land, and had fields under cultivation; from their appearance, and the buildings thereon, it must have been occupied several years previous to that time; and that V. Layssard has inhabited and cultivated the land ever since. Also, the evidence of Louis Huffinan, taken the 13th December, 1813, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date, either by the claimant or some one for his use. M. Despallier is a brother, and is seldom at home. Martin Despallier has settled land for which Mathew Grey has a certificate, No. 967.

No. 458.

792. Pierre Courville claims 120 superficial arpens of land, viz., three arpens front by forty deep, situated in the Prairie Faquetyke, county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of Frederique Miller, and on the other by that of William Woods. The evidence of Jean Baptiste Young, taken the 14th August, 1814, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated, to deponent's knowledge, for fifteen consecutive years preceding this date, first by John Frugée, and subsequently by the claimant. John Frugée has a requete, for which certificate No. 2127 has issued.

No. 459.

796. Francois Roubeau claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of River Attahoo, a branch of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded below by Little or Middle river, and lying opposite to land of Auguste Boubeau. The evidence of Julian Rachal, taken the 29th August, 1813, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated for twelve or thirteen consecutive years preceding this date, by the negroes of the claimant, who resides about one and a half leagues from the land.

No. 460.

801. Jean Baptiste Julien Rachal claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded below by Baptiste Charlo, and above by Auguste Langlois. The evidence of Francois Roubeau, aged thirty-one years, taken the 29th August, 1813, states that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for twelve consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 461.

809. The legal representatives of William Despau claim 1,200 superficial arpens of land, viz. 30 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on Bayou Bourbeux, county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of Chretien, and on the other by land of Louis Lavergne. The evidence of Pierre Chretien, aged thirty-six years, taken the 7th September, 1813, states that, from the earliest recollection of deponent, the land was inhabited and cultivated until about fifteen years ago, first by Joseph Lathiolet, and then by Despau; the land remained unoccupied from that period until about two years ago, when it was occupied by Laurent Malvot, claiming under Despau's heirs; and that it has always been respected as Despau's. Also, the evidence of Charles Smith taken same day, states that, more than thirty years ago, the land was inhabited and cultivated by Joseph Lathiolet, and, subsequently, by William Despau. Deponent recollects having built a magazine for Lathiolet more than twenty years ago. See note N.

No. 462.

825. Hypolite Bonain claims 880 superficial arpens of land, viz. 22 arpens front by 40 deep, situated at the back line of Paul Bonain, on each side of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, the lines of depth diverging at the same angle as the front tract: accompanying the notice are two papers, one signed by L. C. De Blanc, and dated the 20th December, 1802, stating that, as the surveyor Gonssoulin, and the adjacent neighbors, have given their certificates in favor of Polite Bonain, for the depth of Paul Bonain's land, the said surveyor will signify to said Polite, to present himself without delay to obtain his (De Blanc's) decree for the land, or it would be given to any one that might ask for it. Also, a certificate of said L. C. De Blanc, dated the 9th September, 1813, stating that he had given Polite Bonain the second depth of Paul Bonain's land while he was acting as commandant in the year 1802, on which is endorsed a certificate of Gonssoulin former deputy surveyor, dated the 10th September, 1813, that he had measured for Polite Bonain the second depth of Paul Bonain's land; and that he had delivered the plat and proces verbal of the same to said Polite the 25th December, 1802. The evidence of J. B. N. De Clouet, taken the 4th September, 1813, states that the land was inhabited and cultivated by the claimant in 1802, and continued to be so cultivated and inhabited for three consecutive years thereafter; that it has been unoccupied for several years, but has always been spoken of and respected as claimant's property, who has been regularly taxed for the same.

No. 463.

834. Jean Narces claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, about seven miles above the junction with Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of Athanase Dupré, taken the 20th September, 1813, states that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for four consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 464.

837. Louis Sydic claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, about one and a half leagues above its junction with Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of Joseph Prowl, aged about forty-eight years, taken the 15th December, 1813, states that the claimant, aged twenty-three years, and the head of a family, now resides on, and has resided on, the land from his earliest infancy; that the land was first settled by his god-mother, with whom he resided, and from whom he received a relinquishment of her right. See note M.

No. 465.

838. Felicité Guillory claims 320 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded below by land

of Louis Sydic. The evidence of Louis Sydic, aged twenty-three years, taken the 15th December, 1813, states that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for twelve consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 466.

839. Etienne Derouen claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Louis Sydic. The evidence of Louis Sydic, taken the 15th December, 1813, states that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for twelve consecutive years preceding said date.

No. 467.

843. Paul Poisseau claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of the river Attahoo, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of Baltazar Brevel, aged forty-three years, taken the 23d September, 1813, states that the claimant settled on the land about seven years ago, and has inhabited and cultivated the same constantly until the last year: he went to assist his brother-in-law, but left his furniture with the intention of returning.

No. 468.

931. William Johnson claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 20 deep, situated at Pecan point, county of Opelousas, about eleven chains north of the back line of William Lalonde's land, on the left bank of Bayou Teche, bounded on the west by land of James Coe, and on the east by vacant; accompanied by a plat of survey by the claimant. The evidence of Notley Young and Michel Bte. Stelley, taken the 21st May, 1814: the first of whom states that the claimant was inhabiting and cultivating the land in 1810, and has so continued ever since; and the latter states that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for the last seven years.

No. 469.

933. James Coe claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by twenty deep, situated near Pecan Point prairie, Gros Cheuvenie, county of Opelousas; the front commencing about forty arpens from the left bank of Bayou Teche; bounded on the east by land of William Johnson, and on the west by vacant land; accompanied by a plat of survey by claimant. The evidence of William Johnson, taken the 21st May, 1814, states the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for the two last years.

No. 470.

936. Pierre Aucoin claims 160 superficial arpens of land, viz. eight arpens front by twenty deep, situated on the road from the Grand prairie to the old church, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on the west by land of Florentine, and on the east by that of Alexander Rozat, accompanied by a plat of survey by W. B. Jackson, deputy surveyor. The evidence of Claude Guillory, taken the 4th November, 1813, states that the land is part of a larger tract conceded by the Spanish Government to Perault Guillory, deponent's brother, who sold to his brother Baptiste Guillory, who sold to Joseph Sylvester, claimant's father-in-law; that said Sylvester settled on the land at least twenty years ago, and continued to inhabit and cultivate the same for seven years, since when it has been unoccupied; yet Sylvester and the claimant have constantly taken their timber off said land, which has always been respected as their own property. Mr. Florentine purchased of Sylvester part of the original tract, and deponent believes he has the title papers. See note M.

No. 471.

948. Jean Frugée claims forty superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated on Mallet's woods, in the county of Opelousas. The evidence of William Hay, taken the 1st November, 1813, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated for fifteen consecutive years preceding this date; that John Frugée was inhabiting said land in 1798 or 1799, and, on his removal to the tract he purchased of Honaquine, John Rider was put in possession. John Frugée has a requette, for which certificate No. 2127 has issued.

No. 472.

973. Celestin Prejean claims 370.24 superficial acres of land, situated on the south side of Coulée Fortune, Attakapas. Accompanying the notice is a plat of survey by E. Bowles, dated the 18th March, 1807. The evidence of Michel Boully, aged thirty years, taken the 13th November, 1815, establishes the claimant to have inhabited and cultivated the land for eighteen consecutive years preceding this date, and that the said claimant is about thirty years of age, and the head of a family. ☞It is very improbable that the claimant should have established a plantation at the early age of twelve.

No. 473.

975. Hypolite Sanderneau claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the west side of Washita river, in the county of Washita; bounded above by land of Widow Cholander, and below by land of the heirs of Augustin Ray. The evidence of John Hebert, aged fifty-seven years, taken the 25th November, 1813, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated from the year 1799 to the present date, first by Francois Le Boeuf, and subsequently by the claimant, a man about thirty years of age, and head of a family. See note M.

No. 474.

976. The heirs of Luke McDaniel claim 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Washita river, in the parish of Washita, bounded above by the land of the heirs of Prué. The evidence of Francis Duval, aged fifty-four years, taken by commission the 11th December, 1813, states that the land was inhabited and cultivated by Luke McDaniel seven or eight years previous to the 20th December, 1803; that Luke McDaniel died about 1800, leaving five children, and a widow, who died there in 1804: the children were too young to cultivate the same, but it has ever been kept in possession by them. Luke McDaniel had a requette in his own name, on which a certificate, No. 517, has issued to M. G. Pomies and S. K. Pomies.

No. 475.

978. Louis Le Moin claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated in the Prairie Dulaét, on the left bank of Washita river, in the county of Washita, bounded on the lower side by land of Widow Etier. The evidence of John Hebert, taken the 26th November, 1813, establishes that the land has been inhabited and cultivated for more than ten consecutive years previous to the 20th December, 1803, by the claimant, aged upwards of fifty years, and head of a family, and regularly ever since, by him or his tenants. ☞The register and receiver, upon a reinvestigation of this claim, recommend it for confirmation.

No. 476.

982. Jean Bte. Comeau claims 189 superficial arpens of land, viz. seven arpens front by twenty-seven deep, situated in the county of Attakapas, bounded ——. The evidence of Joseph Guilbeau, taken the 8th December, 1813, states that, from about the year 1802 to the present date, the land has been constantly inhabited and cultivated by the claimant.

No. 477.

983. Asa Beckham claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Bayou Tortoise, in the county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Andrew Jarvis, taken by commission the 26th August, 1814, establishes that the claimant, aged thirty years, and head of a family fifteen years, has occupied the land for fifteen consecutive years preceding this date. ☞It is very unlikely that the claimant should have established a plantation even at the age of fifteen.

No. 478.

1002. Joseph Lavergne claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated at Wolfe point, on Bayou Canne woods, in the county of Opelousas, adjoining land occupied as a vacherie by Wm. McKoy. Accompanying the notice are two relinquishments of title, by Madam Michel Comeau and Baptiste Blaize, in favor of the claimant, dated October, 1813. The evidence of Joseph Chaisson, aged thirty years, taken the 4th December, 1813, states that twelve years ago the land was inhabited and cultivated by Michel Comeau, who continued two years, after which it was unoccupied several years; that Baptiste Blaize was the next occupant, but deponent knows not how long he continued; and that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the same since March last.

No. 479.

1007. James F. Porter claims 640 superficial acres of land, on both sides of Red river, county of Natchitoches, bounded below by land of Dorothy Monet on the left, and P. Prudhomme on the right bank, and above by land of Widow Monet. The notice is accompanied by a private deed of sale, dated the 26th November, 1813, from José Mari Leando to the claimant. The evidence of Etienne Rachal, taken the 9th December, 1813, states that J. M. Leando, of whom the claimant purchased, still resides on the land, and has inhabited and cultivated the same for fifteen consecutive years preceding this date. The claimant has inhabited the land for eight years past. See note M.

No. 480.

1008. Pierre Roberts claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated in Long Prairie of Point Maigre, in the parish of Avoyelles, near the land of John Amon. The evidence of John Amon, aged twenty-five years, taken the 26th December, 1813, states that Joseph Hooter settled on the land about fourteen or fifteen years ago, and sold to claimant the same year, who took possession and inhabited and cultivated the same two years, when, removing, he put the land in possession of Pierre Amon,

who raised one crop thereon, since when the land remained unoccupied until the spring of the present year, when the claimant leased it to Samuel Glass. See note M.

No. 481.

1030. Rosalie Rachal claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Red river, about three leagues above the mouth of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, in the county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Joseph Procelle, taken the 14th December, 1814, states that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for twelve consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 482.

1053. Paul Farriaux claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz., five arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Opelousas, bounded below by land of Augustin Gradinego, and above by that of William Lalonde. The evidence of Nemize Bossier, taken the 18th December, 1813, states that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for twelve consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 483.

1054. William Hays claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of the west branch of Bayou Plaquemine Brulée, in the county of Opelousas, bounded above by land of Eloy Andras, and below by that of William Moore. The evidence of James Foreman, aged thirty-five years, taken the 4th January, 1814, states that the claimant settled on the land about eighteen years ago, where he remained three years; he then removed, and it remained vacant three years, at the end of which time he resumed the occupancy, and continued three years thereon, when he finally left it, which was about 1804, since when it has been unoccupied.

No. 484.

1059. Alexander Fulton claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, situated on the south side of Bayou Rapide, in the county of Rapide, bounded above and below by the land of the heirs of Nicholas Welch. The evidence of Levi Wells, taken by commission the 22d June, 1814, states that he understood that A. Fulton claimed a tract of land one or two years previous to 1804, in which last year the claimant had a public road opened across said land; and that he is the only person, as far as this deponent knows, who has possessed or occupied said land from the time first mentioned to the present date, except such as may have occupied by his permission, and does not recollect how long said land has been inhabited or cultivated. The evidence of Valentine Layssard, taken also by commission the 25th June, 1814, states that, from the best of his recollection, the claimant made a clearing on the land in 1802, and opened a road, by order of the Spanish officers; and that the claimant had permission to settle in the year 1801, since when it has been considered as his property, and was for several years actually occupied and cultivated. Also, the deposition of Leynard Dyson, taken before the judge of the sixth district court, states that, twelve or fifteen years ago, the deponent carried the chain for Hugh Coyle, a surveyor, when he surveyed the land, and that some short time after, perhaps in same year, Mr. Fulton made a road across said land for public use.

No. 485.

1064. John Say, jun., claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia, about ten miles above the mouth of Red river. Accompanying the notice is a private relinquishment of title from Joseph Whitsel to Elijah Bunch, the 20th November, 1803, and a transfer on the back from said Bunch to the claimant, the 24th November, 1808. The evidence of Joseph Coddle, taken by commission the 27th December, 1813, states that the land was settled in 1801, and constantly occupied to 1809.

No. 486.

1067. Joseph Pierre Broussard claims 270 superficial acres of land, situated on the east side of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded on the north by land of Gonssoulin, and on the west by that of J. B. Broussard, as is represented by a plat of survey for 270 58-100ths acres by J. L. Johnson, the 18th June, 1810. The evidence of Eloi Broussard, taken the 18th December, 1813, states that he is twenty-four years of age, and now inhabits the land by permission of the claimant, and that, from his earliest recollection to the present date, the land has been inhabited and cultivated, first by one Vagin, then by Joseph Broussard, who sold it to the present claimant. See note M.

No. 487.

1076. Alexander Lanclost claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the south side of the Grand Marsh, in the county of Attakapas. The evidence of Jean Bte. Bourgeois, taken by commission the 25th July, 1814, states that the land was inhabited and cultivated about 1796, by Francois Ortish, by whom and the claimant it has been constantly inhabited and cultivated ever since. F. Ortish, under whom Lanclost claims, has an order of survey in his own name, on which a certificate No. 1912 has issued to Fors. Broussard.

No. 488.

1081. William Bundick claims 640 superficial acres of land, having forty arpens deep on each side of Bayou Crocodile, with so much front as will make 640 acres, in the counties of Rapides and Opelousas, bounded above by land of the estate of William Bundick, and below by vacant. The evidence of Isaac Carpenter, aged forty-two years, taken the 21st December, 1813, states that, to the best of his recollection, the land was inhabited in December, 1803, by the claimant, but how long he had inhabited previous to said date, or how long after, this deponent does not know; that Thomas Choate now inhabits said land.

No. 489.

1098. Baptiste Lejeune claims 400 superficial arpens of land, situated on the west side of Bayou Plaquemine Brulée, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by Blaize Lejeune, jun., and on the other by that of Baptiste Grangé. The evidence of Charles Trahan, aged thirty-six years, taken the 24th December, 1813, states that, about eleven years ago Anselme Doucet settled on the land for the claimant's use; that it then remained unoccupied until about six years ago, when the claimant resumed the occupancy, where he remained three years, when, removing, he left the land in the occupancy of his father, who has inhabited and cultivated the same ever since.

No. 490.

1099. William L. Collins claims 640 superficial arpens of land, situated on the right bank of Bayou Boeuf, in the parish of Avoyelles, bounded below by land of Richard Vernor, and above by that of the public. Accompanying the notice is a private bill of sale from Cyrus F. Weakly to the claimant, dated 27th December, 1812. The evidence of Anthony Corkran, aged seventy-six years, taken the 21st June, 1814, states that, in the year 1789 or 1790, the land was inhabited by Indians, who removed previous to the change of Government, having parcelled out the land to several individuals; that Cyrus F. Weakly inhabited and cultivated the land some years after the change of Government, but how he acquired his title deponent does not know. The evidence of John Robertson, aged forty-one years, taken the 30th July, 1814, states that, in the year 1803, the deponent was on the land which was then inhabited by Thomas Broadrick; that, in 1810, he met said Broadrick in the neighborhood of the land, who informed him that he had sold his improvements to one Cyrus Weakly. See note M.

No. 491.

1100. Luke Lesassier claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Bayou Boeuf, in the parish of Avoyelles, bounded on all sides by vacant land, about eight miles from the confluence of the Boeuf and Crocodile bayous. The evidence of William Luke Collins, taken the 24th December, 1813, states that the claimant, in the year 1807, made a settlement on the land, cleared and cultivated about six acres, when, removing, said land has been unoccupied ever since, to deponent's knowledge.

No. 492.

1104. John Young claims 320 superficial acres of land, situated in the Prairie Mamou, county Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of John Corkran, and on the other by that of Clarke Barton. The evidence of Clarke Barton, aged thirty-seven years, taken the 27th December, 1813, states that, in March, 1803, the deponent and one Bushnel sawed timber on the land, at which time the claimant, then nineteen years of age, worked with them, and expressed his intention of claiming said land; that, in the fall of the same year, deponent erected a house on the land, which, from the spring of 1804, the time he settled on the land, it has been constantly inhabited and cultivated, deponent did not ask Young's permission to settle, as he did not suppose he had any valid claim to said land.

No. 493.

1117. Jean Amon claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated at Point Maigre, on the north side of Red river, in the parish of Avoyelles, bounded on the west and northwest by lands of John Amon, jun., and William Reed. The evidence of Pierre Jeffrion, aged fifty-six years, taken by commission the 10th February, 1814, states that the land was inhabited and cultivated about fourteen years ago by Louis Pomier, for eighteen months, and has since been cultivated by John Reed and John Amon.

No. 494.

1118. John Reed claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Red river, about one mile above Baley's ferry, in the parish of Avoyelles. The evidence of John Amon, taken the 26th December, 1813, states that the claimant first settled on the land above six years ago, and has continued to inhabit and cultivate the same ever since.

No. 495.

1141. Valerie Dozat claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the southwest side of Luke Pearl, in the parish of Avoyelles, bounded on one side by land of Charles Fouchet, and on the other sides by vacant land. The evidence of Jean Bte. Dozat, aged twenty-six years, taken the 27th December, 1813, states that, about nine years ago, the claimant settled on the land, and inhabited and cultivated the same about two years, when, removing, it has been unoccupied ever since.

No. 496.

1201. Francois Ozenne, jun., claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated out from the Grand Crevasse, in the county of Attakapas. The evidence of Agricole Fusilier, taken by commission the 26th September, 1814, states that the claimant or his father inhabited and cultivated the land about fifteen or sixteen years ago, and continued so to do until about seven or eight years ago; claimant is fifty years of age.

No. 497.

1202. Marié Vincent Labbé claims 391 superficial acres of land, situated on the west side of Ozenne's island, at the Grand Crevasse, in the county of Attakapas, adjoining other lands of the claimant. The notice is accompanied by a plat of survey by C. M. Lawson, a deputy surveyor, the 5th March, 1809. The evidence of Jean Pierre Debuir, taken by commission the 5th October, 1814, states that the land was inhabited and cultivated by Francois Ozenne, sen., about the year 1797, and continued by him three or four years, and that the claimant settled on the land where he now resides about eight years ago, and where he has made extensive improvements.

No. 498.

1204. Francois Dubois claims 641 superficial acres of land, situated at the Grand Ecore, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Gasperite, and below by that of Davion. The evidence of Toussaint Passino, taken the 31st December, 1813, states that, fourteen years ago, he was at the house of the claimant, then residing on the land which he has inhabited and cultivated ever since. Francois Dubois has a certificate, No. 1669, for settlement and permission.

No. 499.

1215. Alexis Dubois claims 760 superficial arpens of land, viz. 19 arpens front by 40 deep, situated above the Grand Ecore, on the right bank of Portage river, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of Pierre Sans Quartier, taken by commission the 16th April, 1811, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated for thirteen consecutive years preceding this date, the claimant or his representatives.

No. 500.

1216. David Caruthers claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 20 deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas, bounded above by land of J'n B'te Melancon, and below by that of Pierre Bernard. The evidence of Louis St. Julien, taken the 8th March, 1814, states that Joseph Prejean had a field on the land from 1790 to 1793; his house was on the front tract; he died about nineteen years ago, when the claimant, aged forty-six years, married his widow. As it is usual to move the fields from time to time, deponent cannot say that the land has been constantly inhabited and cultivated, but supposes it to have been as much so as any other part of the tract.

No. 501.

1220. William Scroggs claims 320 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Red river, in the county of Rapides, nearly opposite the White Bluffs, bounded on all sides by vacant land: an authenticated deed of sale from William Hamilton to the claimant, dated the 16th November, 1810, and a plat of survey by K. McCrummin, dated the 8th March, 1814, accompanies the notice. The evidence of Nicholas N. Burney, taken the 31st December, 1813, states that, in the year 1804, he recollects to have observed the land under cultivation; he was again on the land in 1805, when he found William Hamilton residing thereon, and that the land has been constantly cultivated by said Hamilton or William Scroggs ever since. John Young makes affidavit before the judge of the parish of Rapides, the 28th December, 1813, that, in 1802, William Hamilton began to work, and did continue to work until 1810, on the land now occupied by William Scroggs.

No. 502.

1236. Thomas Welch claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Red river, in the county of Rapide, adjoining land of William Justice: a plat of survey by K. McCrummin, deputy surveyor, dated 3d August, 1814, for 425 acres, accompanies the notice. The evidence of Jean B'te Vincent, taken by commission the 22d June, 1815, states that the land was inhabited by Maurice McLaughlin, who sold, about fourteen years ago, who afterwards sold it to Thomas Welch, about six years ago, for whose use it has been inhabited and cultivated ever since by different persons.

No. 503.

1238. Joseph L. Hanchette claims a section of land each side of the Bayou Boeuf, Opelousas. The evidence of Theophilus Messier, taken the 27th November, 1815, states that, (to the best of his recollection) in the year 1809, he was employed by the claimant and one McCoy to work on lands which they settled on the Bayou Boeuf; that a house was constructed on that claimed by Hanchette, and some land cleared and cultivated by said Hanchette, who occupied and dwelt in said house.

No. 504.

1246. Henry Palmore claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the south side of Red river, in the county of Rapide, bounded by land of Haregrove, and below by vacant land. The evidence of James Thompson and Baptiste Porea, both taken by commission the 29th June, 1814, states that the claimant settled by permission on the land in 1801, which has been in cultivation ever since.

No. 505.

1247. John Sandres claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the south side of Red river, in the county of Rapides, adjoining the claim of Bertrand Myers, (or Mayeux,) on each side of Bayou Shoupike. The evidence of James Thompson and Baptiste Porea, taken by commission the 29th June, 1814, states that, in 1801, the claimant, by permission, settled on the land which has been in cultivation ever since.

No. 506.

1248. John Myers claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the north side of Red river, in the county of Rapides, bounded on one side by the Bayou Marteau. The evidence of James Thompson and Baptiste Porea, taken by commission the 29th June, 1814, states that, in 1801, the claimant, by permission, settled on the land, which has been in cultivation ever since.

No. 507.

23. Pierre Le Berré claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Caron Crow, county of Attakapas, bounded on both sides by land of John Mouton. The occupancy and cultivation of the above land, first by Francois Savoy, senior, the original proprietor, by Dominique Prejean, and the claimant holding under said Prejean, for more than thirty consecutive years preceding the 20th June, 1812, is proved by the evidence of John Mouton, claimant's nephew, aged fifty-three years. See note M.

No. 508.

122. Pierre Broussard claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated in the prairie of the Petite Anse, between Pierre Perdue and Petite Anse, in the county of Attakapas. A certified copy of a deed of sale from Marie José, a free negro woman, to the claimant, passed the 27th November, 1810, accompanies the notice. The evidence of Andrew Martin, aged forty-two years, taken the 6th August, 1812, states that, about thirty years ago, the land was, by John Dartes, inhabited and cultivated for ten years, when, selling to Jo. Prevost, said Prevost took possession and kept his cattle thereon for nine years; that five or six years ago Prevost devised by will said land to Marie José, a free negro woman, and that it has been unoccupied since the death of said Prevost. See note M.

No. 509.

440. Hildevert Bossier claims 600 superficial arpens of land, viz. fifteen arpens front by forty deep, situated on the northeast side of Lake Clear, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on the northwest by land of Dassize Bossier. In this claim, and the next succeeding claim of Dassize Bossier, reported No. —, the evidence of Stephen Duquet, taken the 24th October, 1812, states "that these two tracts of land adjoin and front on a lake called *Lac Clair;* that they have been inhabited and cultivated for twenty-two years in regular succession, except the two last years, in which the tract of Dassize has been unoccupied; that the deponent settled by per-

mission of Hildevert on the land claimed by him twenty-two years ago, and has occupied it ever since; that at the same time a like settlement was made by Antoine Poissot on the tract claimed by Dassize, and continued on it until two years ago; that Dassize Bossier is at present *sixteen* or *seventeen* years of age." A plat of survey by Jo. Irwin accompanies the notice.

No. 510.

441. Dassize Bossier claims 600 superficial arpens of land, viz. fifteen arpens front by forty deep, situated on the northeast side of Lake Clear, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on one side by land of Hildevert Bossier. See the evidence in the preceding claim, reported No. 509. A plat of survey by Jo. Irwin accompanies the notice. ☞According to the evidence, the settlement must have been made for the claimant in anticipation of his birth six or seven years!!! no credence is therefore given to the testimony.

No. 511.

947. John Frugée claims 1,000 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty-five arpens front by forty deep, situated on Mallet's Woods, prairie of Bayou Canne, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of Pierre Fontenot, and the other by vacant. The notice is accompanied by a private deed of sale from Joseph Honaquine Aville to the claimant, dated the 21st July, 1809, on the back of which are the certificates of Michel Carriere and Michel Prudhomme, fils, that the land has been settled since thirteen or fourteen years ago by Honaquine, and a plat of survey by Wm. Darby, for 643 2-100ths acres, dated the 23d December, 1805. The evidence of Wm. Hay, taken the 1st November, 1813, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date, first by Honaquine, who sold to the present claimant about fourteen years ago, but did not pass a sale until within these four or five years; then by the claimant for ten years, and subsequently by his tenants. See note M.

No. 512.

777. Derot Perault, widow of Santiago Criten, claims 640 superficial acres of land, on Bayou Terre Blanche, near Spanish lake, county of Natchitoches. The notice is accompanied by a requete of Santiago Criten, order of possession by José I. de Ugarte, commandant of the post, dated at Nacogdoches, the 17th January, 1803, and certificate of possession by Marcel De Soto, dated the 16th April, 1803. The evidence of Francois Lafleur, aged twenty-six, taken the 20th July, 1813, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated for the last ten years by Santiago Criten and his widow.

EIGHTH CLASS.

No. 513.

10. John Baptiste Young claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Mallet, in the county of Opelousas, bounded above by part of the original tract confirmed to the claimant by the Board of Commissioners of this district, and on the lower and west sides by vacant land. In support of this claim a requete is produced, signed by Francois Marcantel, and dated the 23d September, 1804 stating to the commandant that, having lost the title papers of the land which he has occupied these five years, and fearing to be disturbed, prays to be authorized to continue on said land; and, on the 24th September, 1804, Honore De la Chaise, a former commandant, grants him permission to remain on the land until he be furnished with a title in form, as these fifteen arpens are all he has to subsist his family on, and keep up his vacherie.

No. 514.

19. Etienne Lacaze claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of the river Attahoo, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on all sides by vacant land.

No. 515.

20. Auguste Langlois claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of the river Attahoo, in the county of Natchitoches.

No. 516.

22. The heirs of Joshua Nixon claim 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front on each side of Bayou Teche, by forty deep, situated on the Prairie des Allemandes, county of Attakapas.

No. 517.

43. Athanase Hebert, Donato Breau, Pierre Breau, Cerile Thibodeau, and Louis Bonain, as hers of Firman Breau, claim 680 superficial arpens of land, viz. 17 arpens front by forty deep, on the east side of Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas. Accompanying the notice is a requette by Firman Bro, dated the 19th June, 1797, stating "that, by a survey made last year of the land on the west side of the Vermillion, by Gonssoulin, he finds his habitation is removed in spite of twenty-two years' possession, and notwithstanding that the deceased, De Clouet, then acting as surveyor and commandant, had planted the corners of said land, the said Gonssoulin, by a different operation from that he had run the year before, throws the petitioner seventeen arpens lower down, on a place uninhabitable, and leaves seventeen arpens by this means to the domain, which were demanded by new comers immediately afterwards, to the great prejudice of the petitioner, who prays redress, &c." And, on the margin of said requete, signed by Carondelet, are the following words: "New Orleans, 19th July, 1797. The surveyor, Carlos Trudeau, will inform himself." ☞The requete is not deemed a sufficient evidence of title in this claim, and no proof of occupancy has been adduced.

No. 518.

46. Daniel Grafton claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia, about four miles below Bayou Argent, and nearly opposite the mouth of Fairchild's creek. Accompanying the notice is a plat of survey by Moses Kiddy, dated the 26th August, 1802, and an affidavit by J. Dunlap, sworn to the 10th February, 1810, at the city of Natchez, M. T., before S. Brooks, justice of the quorum, stating "that, in October, 1807, he received of the attorney of the claimant the papers relative to the title of this land, for the purpose of entering them with the Board of Commissioners, which entry he thought he had made at the time, with several others, and which he has since found not to have been done, by some mistake not discovered, until it was too late to enter it under the former laws. Also, a private certificate of J. Vidal, dated 26th August, 1812, viz. "At the request of Mr. Daniel Grafton, I do hereby certify that, in the year of 1802, I have permitted him to settle and take possession of a tract of land in the parish of Concordia, but where, and the number of acres, I cannot ascertain." A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned. See note N.

No. 519.

52. Jean Baptiste Hebert claims 1,600 superficial arpens of land, viz. 20 arpens front by forty deep, each side of the Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 520.

56. Jean Baptiste Chiasson claims a tract of land, the quantity to be hereafter ascertained, situated in the quarter of Plaquemines Brulées, county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land of J. B. Malvot, claimed under a requete by the claimant, and approved the 21st March, 1804, by Honoré De la Chaise, former commandant, filed with the notice.

No. 521.

58. Charles Viger claims 280 superficial arpens of land, viz. seven arpens front by forty deep, being the continuation of the tract on which he resides, in the county of Opelousas, claimed under a requete by the claimant, approved the 19*th May*, 1804, by Honoré De la Chaise, former commandant, filed with the notice.

No. 522.

71. Edward Hart claims 640 acres of land, two and a half miles above the road between the Mississippi and Red river, county of Concordia.

No. 523.

72. Joseph Hernandez claims 640 acres of land, on the right bank of Bayou Queue de Tortue, county of Opelousas.

No. 524.

73. Joseph Hernandez claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Queue de Tortue, in the county of Opelousas, bounded above by other land of the claimant; claimed under a regular deed of sale from the widow of Pierre Styx to the claimant, dated the 13th March, 1811, filed with the notice.

No. 525.

74. Louis C. De Blanc claims 640 superficial arpens of land, viz. sixteen arpens front by forty deep, on the east side of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches.

No. 526.

77. Moïse Wyse, free man of color, claims 640 acres of land on the Grand Woods, in the county of Attakapas.

No. 527.

83. John Bennet claims 640 acres of land on the right bank of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches.

No. 528.

84. Joseph Athanase Breau claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated in Mauvaise prairie, county of Attakapas; claimed under a deed of sale from the sheriff of said county to Jo. A. Parrot, sold as the property of Sylvestre Mouton, dated the 30th August, 1810, and a deed of sale from said

Parrot to the claimant, dated the 5th June, 1811; all which documents are filed with the notice. The evidence of John Savoy, taken the 12th August, 1812, states that, sixteen years ago, a small house was built by this deponent for John Mouton, but was never occupied; that he has frequently passed through the land since, and has always found it unoccupied, and believes it has never been either inhabited or cultivated.

No. 529.

132. Joseph Savoy claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, situated at the back of a tract on the east side of Bayou Teche, in the Prairie Gros Chevreuil, county of Attakapas, bounded by lands of John Guidry on one side, and Bte. Cormier on the other; claimed under a requete by Jean Bte. Breau, with certificate of vacancy, the 7th June, 1803, by P. Broussard, J. B. Cormier, and Jn. Bte. Guidry. The requette accompanies the notice. This requete, wanting the sanction of a commandant, ought not to be confirmed.

No. 530.

816. Baptiste Thibedeau claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by forty deep, to be taken at the end of the first forty arpens of Amon Thibedeau's land, on the east bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded below by land of Widow Paul Thibedeau, and above by that of Michel Martin. The notice is accompanied by a certificate of vacancy signed by Joseph Babin and Francois Gonssoulin, dated the 10th July, 1801. The evidence of Joseph Babin, taken the 14th September, 1813, states that, in July, 1801, he, as syndic, gave the claimant the usual certificate of vacancy; that the land has been cultivated since the date of said certificate to the present time, but not inhabited by any one. The claimant is about thirty-nine years of age, but has no family.

No. 531.

146. Isaac Baldwin claims 70 superficial arpens of land, situated on the Bayou Bellevue, county of Opelousas. The evidence of Peter O'Connor, aged about forty-eight years, taken the 23d December, 1813, states that, in the year 1794, Daniel Callaghan resided on the opposite side of the bayou, and from that period until 1806 the land claimed was always considered and respected as the property of said Callaghan, who, during that time, was in the constant practice of cutting wood and timber on said land. Also, the evidence of Seth Hanchette, aged sixty-four years, taken the 17th August, 1815, states that D. Callaghan had always been in the practice of cutting his timber and taking his bark off said land for the use of his tanyard on the adjoining tract, upwards of twenty-five years ago; and ever since that time said land has always been considered and respected as belonging to said Callaghan; and those claiming or holding under him have constantly, from the aforesaid period to the present date, cut their necessary timber off of said land; and that Callaghan had, from the said time, uniformly claimed the land as his property, until he sold to William Shields; and that this deponent and said Callaghan cut a road through said land, and built a bridge over the bayou that divides said land from the adjoining tracts of said Callaghan. This evidence refers to reported Nos. 1,056, 1,091, and 1,093. See note V.

No. 532.

155. Samuel R. Rice claims 640 acres of land, at Negro island, in the county of Attakapas. A private transfer of the land from Jn. Bte. Mars, a free negro, to the claimant, dated the 14th May, 1808, is filed with the notice.

No. 533.

160. Kenneth McCrummin and Charles Johnson claim 640 acres of land in the parish of Avoyelles, and county of Rapide.

No. 534.

173. Meekins Carr claims 640 acres of land on the left bank of Bayou Boeuf, in the county of Opelousas. Regular transfers, duly recorded in the parish records, are filed with the notice, from Ludlow to Warren the 20th July, 1810, from Warren to Carr the 18th September, 1812, and from Carr to Rawls the 3d October, 1812.

No. 535.

174. John P. Hampton claims 640 acres of land on the right bank of the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 536.

181. William Biggs claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by forty deep, situated on the Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas. Accompanying the notice are certified copies, 1st, of a deed of sale from C. McDaniel to the claimant, dated the 24th of March, 1806, for three arpens by forty; and, 2d, one from C. McDonald to the claimant, dated the 13th May, 1806, for three arpens by forty, each side of the bayou.

No. 537.

199. William Willis claims 640 acres, river Mississippi, county of Concordia.

No. 538.

202. Joseph McClusky claims 640 acres on the left bank of Bayou Boeuf, county of Opelousas.

No. 539.

212. John Pierre Wilds claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by forty deep, on the right bank of Bayou Queue de Tortue, in the county of Opelousas.

No. 540.

208. Henry Knight claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated about two miles above the mouth of Bayou Teche, on an island near its lower end, in the parish of St. Mary's, county of Attakapas, bounded above by vacant land, and below by that of Henry Johnson. The evidence of William Knight, aged twenty-four years, taken the 8th October, 1812, establishes the land to have been constantly cultivated since the year 1797, by the claimant, or some one by his permission, or for his use. Claimant's residence is on the opposite side of the river.

No. 541.

215. Augustin Berza claims eighty superficial arpens of land, viz. two arpens front by forty deep, situated on Bayou Petite Pass, in the Grand prairie, county of Opelousas. The notice is accompanied by a deed of sale from Azariah Prather to the claimant, dated the 16th February, 1808. The evidence of Jean Lafleur, aged forty years, taken the 19th March, 1814, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for fifteen consecutive years preceding that date; by Donnegan six years, by Hy. Fontenot two years, by J. Deborde two years, and by Jacques, a free negro, eight years, as whose property it was sold six years ago at sheriff's sale, and purchased by A. Prather. The title to this tract has already been confirmed by the Commissioners to Jacques Baptiste.

No. 542.

216. Mark Lee claims 640 acres on the left bank of Bayou Boeuf, county of Opelousas.

No. 543.

224. John Etienne Le Febré claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated in the quarter of the Côte Gelée, county of Attakapas, bounded on the northwest by land of Celestin Preimane, and on other sides by vacant land: accompanying the notice is a plat of survey by Evan Bawles, an authorized deputy surveyor, dated the 17th March, 1807. The evidence of André Martin, aged forty-four years, taken the 14th April, 1814, establishes the consecutive occupancy and cultivation of the land from the year 1800 to 1807, by the negroes of the claimant, and subsequently by the claimant himself, who was a merchant, and, for the first five or six years, resided at J. B. Broussard's, near said land.

No. 544.

226. Catharine Boudoin claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, on the left bank of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas.

No. 545.

238. Francois Senequer claims 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. twelve arpens front by forty deep, on Lake Peignier, in the county of Attakapas.

No. 546.

251. Alexis Cloutier claims 160 superficial arpens of land, viz. four arpens front by forty deep, situated on the east bank of the river Aux Cannes, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Baptiste Anty, senior. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of a deed of sale from Wm. Owen to the claimant, dated the 7th May, 1810, and a plat of survey by Joseph Irwin, dated the 24th January, 1813, for 33 47-100ths acres on the left bank. The evidence of Louis Derbonne, taken the 9th October, 1812, states that, twenty-five or twenty-six years ago, the land was inhabited by Pierre Captain, a Christain Indian, who continued thereon to the time of his death, about four or five years ago; that his son continued on the land until the claimant took possession about a year ago; and that William Owen, who sold to Cloutier, claimed it on account of a debt owing to him by said Indian, but is not positive that this is the case. See note M.

No. 547.

82. James Bludsworth claims 1,600 superficial arpens of land, viz. forty arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Red river, opposite to the Petite Ecore, in the county of Natchitoches, claimed under a requete and order of survey to Francois Rouquiere for forty arpens front by forty deep, dated the 27th May, 1786, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisana; which said order of survey, together with a plat of survey for 1361 20-100ths arpens by Jo. Irwin, an authorized

deputy surveyor, dated the 12th April 1813, accompanies the notice. The evidence of Charles Pavy, taken the 23d February, 1813, states that, in the year 1800, he was on the land, when he found it inhabited and cultivated, and from the old appearance of the houses, and other improvements on both sides of the river, as well as from common report, he has no doubt but that it had been inhabited and cultivated for many years previous to said date; that, in 1803, the land was occupied and in cultivation, and that the lands on both sides of the river, as well anterior as subsequent to said dates, have been respected as the property of Fs. Rouquier. On this order of survey, a tract of like quantity on the opposite side of the river has already been confirmed to the legal representatives of said Rouquier, by certificate B, No. 2069. But the claimant contends "that the said order of survey was intended to be given, and was given in such manner as to embrace the lands on both sides of the river, as there is a part of said instrument which has been eaten by worms, a sufficient space between the words, which remain legible, for the usual expressions "*de cada lado*," and the sense could only be completed by supplying them." It is the requette that is defaced, and sufficient space is left for the words *de cada lado*, but the sense is complete without such addition; and as Miro only concedes by the order of survey "forty arpens of land, by the ordinary depth of forty, at the place solicited. The claim ought not to be confirmed, unless the claimant can show that the land was actually located on both sides of the river previous to the change of Government in 1803.

No. 548.

251. Pierre Broussard claims 454 acres, represented in a plat by C. M. Lawson, the 3d September, 1812, filed with the notice on the left bank of Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas.

No. 549.

255. Pierre Broussard claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. 20 arpens of land front by 40 deep, on the right bank of the river Nementou, in the county of Opelousas.

No. 550.

262. Pierre Carriere claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 80 deep, on Nid D'Aigle, in the county of Opelousas. An authentic deed of sale from Joseph Roy, attorney in fact of Joseph Frederic, to the claimant, dated the 8th May, 1809, accompanies the notice.

No. 551.

265. Olivier Landry claims 100 superficial arpens of land, viz. two and a half arpens front by 40 deep, on Bayou Tortue, in the county of Attakapas. An acknowledgment of Joseph Landry, dated the 15th July, 1784, to the claimant, of his having sold him two and a half arpens by 40, and five arpens at Grand Point, and received the payment thereof, accompanies the notice.

No. 552.

266. Olivier Landry claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, at Grand Point, in the county of Attakapas. A certificate of widow Landry, that her husband had sold the claimant two and a half arpens on Bayou Tortue, and five arpens at Grand Point, dated the 5th September, 1805, accompanies the notice.

No. 553.

271. Jean Landry and Julien Melancon claim 280 superficial arpens of land, viz. seven arpens front by forty deep, on the left bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas. A copy of a deed of sale from Neuville De Clouet, to the claimants passed the 3d May, 1808, accompanies the notice.

No. 554.

275. Peter Perkins claims 600 superficial arpens of land, viz. 15 arpens front by 40 deep, on Bayou L'Argent, in the county of Concordia. A certified copy of a sale from Thomas G. Hamberson to the claimant, dated the 7th January, 1809, accompanies the notice. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 555.

278. Joseph Firmin claims 118 46-100ths acres of land, in the prairie of Avoyelles, county of Rapides. A plat of survey by K. McCrummin, the 16th September, 1812, and a certified copy of a sale from Joseph Ferret Pere to the claimant, for four arpens by 40, dated the 2d March, 1811, accompany the notice.

No. 556.

281. Robert Warren claims 540 acres of land on the right bank of Bayou Boeuf, county of Opelousas.

No. 557.

292. Gabriel Fusilier claims a tract of land, the superficial contents of which to be hereafter ascertained, situated on Bayou Tortue, county of Attakapas. A certified copy of a deed of sale from Louis Judice to Jean Pierre De Cuier, dated the 16th October, 1804, for 11 arpens front, accompanies the notice. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 558.

296. Athanase Poissot claims 80 superficial arpens of land, viz. two arpens front by 40 deep, on the left bank of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches.

No. 559.

298. Peter O'Connor claims 640 acres of land on the right bank of Bayou Boeuf, in the county of Opelousas.

No. 560.

299. George W. Humphreys claims 116 acres of land on the right bank of the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 561.

300. Conrad Lindeman claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by 40 deep, on the right bank of Washita river, in the county of Washita. An authentic deed of sale from John Villard to the claimant, dated the 11th January, 1811, accompanies the notice.

No. 562.

301. John Leslie claims 100 acres of land on Island No. 103, river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 563.

302. George Downs claims 100 acres of land on Island No. 103, river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 564.

303. Henry D. Downs claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 565.

304. James Noling claims 481 acres of land at the Cut-off on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 566.

305. Samuel Wallace claims 481 acres of land at the Cut-off on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 567.

306. Turner B. Brashears claims 573 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 568.

307. John Patterson claims 390 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 569.

309. William Wright claims 328 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 570.

309. Peter Smith claims 532 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 571.

310. John Millikan claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 572.

311. John Robertson claims 483 acres 2 roods and 20 perches of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 573.

314. Eleanor Inglis claims 320 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 574.

315. William Clare claims 470 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 575.

316. B. G. Campbell claims 470 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 576.

317. John Rorax claims 470 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 577.

318. William Martin claims 160 superficial arpens of land, viz. four arpens front by 40 deep, in the Grand prairie, county of Opelousas. A certified copy of sale from Joseph Sylvester to the claimant, dated the 15th October, 1812, accompanies the notice.

No. 578.

319. G. N. Matthews claims 465 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 579.

320. Squire Bishop claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 580.

321. John Inglis claims 344 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 581.

322. Thomas B. Robertson claims 344 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 582.

323. Thomas Inglis, junior, claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 583.

324. Enoch Hurdle claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 584.

325. William Cocke claims 290 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 585.

326. Hartwell Cocke claims 465 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 586.

327. Celah Licklighter claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 587.

328. Stephen Galloway claims 320 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 588.

329. George G. Glare claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 589.

330. Johnston Williams claims 640 acres of land on river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 590.

331. Thomas H. West claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 591.

332. Stephen Bragg claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 592.

333. James G. Wilson claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 593.

334. Silas Galvin claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 594.

335. Robert Bradshaw claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 595.

341. Robert Hughes claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Tensaw, in the county of Concordia.

No. 596.

342. Thomas Nichelson claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Tensaw, in the county of Concordia.

No. 597.

343. Levi Whittle claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Tensaw, in the county of Concordia.

No. 598.

344. Benjamin Posey claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Tensaw, in the county of Concordia.

No. 599.

345. Daniel Barney, junior, claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 600.

346. Thomas Galloway claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 601.

347. John Maulding claims 640 acres of land on Lake Tensaw, in the county of Concordia.

No. 602.

348. Hugh Johnson claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 603.

349. Hiram Downs claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 604.

350. John Wier claims 320 acres of land on Lake Tensaw, in the county of Concordia.

No. 605.

351. Thomas Tompkins claims 470 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 606.

352. Francis Tompkins claims 470 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 607.

353. John Skinner claims 470 acres of land on the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia.

No. 608.

354. Martin Price claims 470 acres of land on a bayou, in the county of Concordia.

No. 609.

355. William Elliot claims 470 acres of land on a bayou, in the county of Concordia.

No. 610.

356. Lewellin Price claims 640 acres of land on a bayou, in the county of Concordia.

No. 611.

357. John Henry claims 640 acres of land on Washita river, in the county of Rapides. A bill of sale from Theophilus Hughes to the claimant, accompanies the notice.

No. 612.

358. Joseph Harris claims 640 acres of land on Black river, in the county of Rapides.

No. 613.

359. Joseph Thomas claims 640 acres of land on Black river, in the county of Rapides.

No. 614.

360. Alexander Mahon claims 640 acres of land on Washita river, in the county of Rapides.

No. 615.

362. Robert Wilson claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Black river, in the county of Rapides, bounded above by land of James White. The evidence of Isaac McNutt states that, subsequent to the expiration of former laws, allowing time to enter claims in the Territory of Orleans, deponent received of the claimant a requête in his name, approved by V. Layssard, then commandant, dated, to the best of his recollection, in 1801 or 1802, for twenty arpens front by forty deep, for any vacant land in that district; that this requete was retained in deponent's possession, for the purpose of petitioning Congress for relief, and has been lost or mislaid; that he is well acquainted with the claimant, but whether the land has been inhabited or cultivated, he does not know, not residing in that neighborhood.

A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 616.

364. James Clayton claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia.

No. 617.

365. William Vannarght claims 948 acres of land on Bayou Salée, county of Attakapas.

No. 618.

366. James Dunlap claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Crocodile, county of Concordia.

No. 619.

368. James Clarke claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas.

No. 620.

371. The heirs of Alexandre La Houssaye claim 560 superficial arpens of land, viz. fourteen arpens front by forty deep, on both sides of Bayou Tigre, county of Attakapas.

No. 621.

373. Pedro Zelosas claims 640 acres of land on Lake St. Joseph, county of Concordia.

No. 622.

374. Hyciento Ranus claims 640 acres of land on Lake St. Joseph, county of Concordia.

No. 623.

375. Nathaniel Moss, senior, claims 640 acres of land on the right bank of Bayou Vermillion, in the county of Attakapas. An assignment of the land from William Grecian to Marrin Mouton, and by him transferred to the claimant, dated the 3d April, 1802, is filed with the notice.

No. 624.

376. Charles Hunks claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 625.

379. John Sibley claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Adaize, county of Natchitoches.

No. 626.

380. John Sibley claims one league square of land on Bayou Wallace, county of Natchitoches.

No. 627.

381. Sibley and Quinnelty claim 640 acres of land in the county of Natchitoches.

No. 628.

384. John Sibley, curator of the estate of Chamard, claims 640 acres of land in the county of Natchitoches.

No. 629.

382. John Sibley claims 320 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 630.

383. John Sibley claims 640 superficial acres of land, viz. eight acres front by forty deep, on each side of Red River, county of Natchitoches.

No. 631.

387. Pierre Mailleux claims 120 superficial arpens of land, viz. three arpens front by forty deep, on the south side of Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 632.

388. Pierre Mailleux claims 640 superficial arpens of land, viz. sixteen arpens front by forty deep, on the east side of Black lake, county of Natchitoches.

No. 633.

390. Philip Verrett claims 1,600 superficial arpens of land, viz. forty arpens front by forty deep, behind his own land, county of Attakapas.

No. 634.

391. Archer Burton claims 150 acres of land on Burton's bayou, county of Concordia.

No. 635.

392. James Houston claims 332 acres of land on Bayou Vidal, county of Concordia.

No. 636.

393. Thomas B. Cosby claims 320 acres of land on Burton's bayou, county of Concordia.

No. 637.

394. Noel Houston claims 320 acres of land on Burton's bayou, county of Concordia.

No. 638.

395. Overton M. Cosby claims 550 acres of land on Burton's bayou, county of Concordia.

No. 639.

396. Daniel Bradley claims 301 acres of land on Bayou Vidal, county of Concordia.

No. 640.

897. John Fryer claims 150 acres of land on Burton's bayou, county of Concordia.

No. 641.

498. John Bradley claims 160 acres of land on Bradley's bayou, county of Concordia.

No. 642.

400. Hugh Bailey claims 640 acres of land on Black river, parish of Cattahoula.

No. 643.

405. Charles Fouché claims 160 superficial arpens of land, viz. four arpens front by forty deep, in Avoyelles prairie, county of Rapides.

No. 644.

406. Pierre Dupré claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, in Avoyelles prairie, county of Rapides.

No. 645.

407. Lisle Sarpy claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, in Avoyelles prairie, county of Rapides.

No. 646.

408. Chattilan Pellerin claims 1,280 arpens of land, viz. sixteen arpens front by forty deep, on each side of the river Nementou, in the counties of Opelousas and Attakapas. A private deed of sale from Jos. Piernass, by his attorney in fact, F. V. Potier, dated the 14th June, 1808, and approved by said Piernass, to the claimant, the 9th August, 1812, accompanies the notice.

No. 647.

409. The widow and heirs of Donatto Bello claim 640 superficial arpens of land, viz. sixteen arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Crocodile, in the county of Opelousas, bounded below by land Berthèlémi Dìjean. The evidence of Claude Guillory, aged sixty-four years, taken the 23d October, 1812, states that, about forty years ago, Donatto Bello settled on the land, and inhabited and cultivated the same nine or ten years, when he removed; since when it has remained unoccupied, but has always been recognized as the property of said Bello and his heirs. Deponent has heard, from common report, that there was titles for this land, but never saw them.

No. 648.

410. The heirs of Joseph Valentine Moreau claim 640 superficial arpens of land, viz. sixteen arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Crocodile, in the county of Opelousas, bounded below by land of Donatto Bello. The evidence of Claude Guillory, aged sixty-four years, taken the 23d October, 1812, states that, about forty years ago, J. V. Moreau settled on the land, and inhabited and cultivated the same ten consecutive years; since when it has been unoccupied until a year ago one Gibbs settled on, or adjoining to the land, which has always been respected as belonging to Moreau and heirs. Deponent thinks it probable that Moreau had titles for this land, but does not know it of his own knowledge.

No. 649.

411. The widow and heirs of Donatto Bello claim 640 superficial acres of land, situated in the forks of the Bayous Boeuf and Crocodile, county of Opelousas. The evidence of Claude Guillory, taken the 23d October, 1812, states that the land was settled nearly forty years ago by one Senechal, who, being killed the same year, his widow sold to D. Bello, since when it has been unoccupied.

No. 650.

412. The heirs of Noel Soileau, to wit, Celeste, Victoire, Ortance, Sophie, Jean Baptiste, Etienne, Louis, Charles, Henry, Josephine, Bridget, Marianne, and Millicie Soileau, claim a tract of land of twenty arpens front, to be taken in continuation of land on which their father died, in the Grand prairie, near Bayou Crocodile, in the county of Opelousas. The evidence of Charles Fusilier, taken the 24th May, 1814, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated from his earliest recollection, twelve or thirteen years ago, to the present date, by Noel Soileau, and those claiming under him; that it was an old plantation twelve years ago. Also, the evidence of Pierre Vedrine, aged about fifty years, taken the 26th May, 1814, states that, about seventeen years ago, E. Vedrine, deponent's brother, settled on the land, having bought of Soileau, and inhabited and cultivated the same six years, when he sold it back to Soileau, who immediately sold it to Hilaire Bordelon, the present occupant, who has so occupied said land for these eleven years. He knows that several persons applied to the Spanish Government for permission to settle, but were refused, as Soileau had obtained the necessary papers, which, he has heard, have been lost.

No. 651.

413. James Haggard claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Crocodile, county of Rapide.

No. 652.

418. William Hargrove claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Bayou Boeuf, in the county of Rapides, about four miles above the ferry on the road from Opelousas to Avoyelles, bounded below by land of Thomas Long, and above by vacant. The notice is accompanied by a private deed of sale from Littleton Long to the claimant, dated the 4th October, 1809. The evidence of Terence Clarke, taken the 24th October, 1812, states that, eighteen years ago, the land was occupied as an Indian village, which, being abandoned about 1802, Littleton and Thomas Long established themselves thereon in 1803, their cabins being half a mile or more apart, and continued to inhabit and cultivate the same until they sold to the claimant, whose negroes have occupied or cultivated the same ever since. A commission to take evidence in this claim has not been returned.

No. 653.

419. William Hargrove claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Bayou Boeuf, in the county of Rapides, bounded above by land of Littleton Long. The notice is accompanied by a private deed of sale from Thomas Long to the claimant, dated the 4th October, 1809. (See the evidence of Terence Clarke in the preceding claim.) A commission issued to take evidence in this claim has not been returned.

No. 654.

425. Pierre Doucette, sr., claims 640 acres of land, each side Bayou Courtableau, county of Opelousas.

No. 655.

427. Anne Wade claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Red river, about three miles below the town of Alexandria, in the county of Rapides. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of a deed of sale from George Wolfe to the claimant, dated the 15th July, 1792, and a plat of survey by K. McCrummin, dated the 8th March, 1814. The evidence of Henry Wade, taken by commission, states that the land was inhabited and cultivated in the year 1802, and was continued so until after the change of Government. Also, the evidence of Valentine Layssard, taken by commission, states that Geo. Wolfe, under whom A. Wade claims, had a tract of 800 arpens granted to him by deponent's father while in office, which requete, together with several others, were given to a certain Jacque Gaignard to take to New Orleans for confirmation, and which were by him lost. And the evidence of Terence Clarke, taken by commission, states that he knows the settlement was made in 1802, and that the land was owned by one Wolfe, who sold to Anne Wade, who was in actual possession in 1803.

No. 656.

428. Charles Olivier, sr., claims twelve arpens of land front on Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas.

No. 657.

433. Beverly Chew claims 400 acres of land on Bayou Rapides, county of Rapides.

No. 658.

437. Louis Closseau claims 640 superficial arpens of land, viz. sixteen arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches.

No. 659.

438. Gilbert Closseau claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated on the right bank of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Louis Closseau. In these two claims, reported Nos. 658 and 659, the evidence of Bertrand Plaisance, taken the 24th October, 1812, states that the claimants have inhabited on the left bank, and cultivated on both sides of the river for twenty-five consecutive years preceding this date; that it has been understood in the neighborhood that the claimant's titles extended to both sides of the river, and deponent has been informed they held orders of survey to that effect.

The land having been surveyed only on the left bank (as the deponent has been informed and has reason to believe) the titles were perfected on that side only, and the orders of survey having been sent to New Orleans, it has not been in the power of the claimants to procure them since.

No. 660.

447. Jean Bte. Buard claims 600 superficial arpens of land, viz. fifteen arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of the river of Lake Noir, in the county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Gaspard Bodoin, taken the 26th October, 1812, states that the land has never been inhabited or cultivated, being chiefly cypress swamp and subject to inundation; that the claimant resides seven or eight leagues from the land, and has, for these eighteen or nineteen years, used it by taking timber off of it for the use of the place where he resides.

No. 661.

455. Elisha Miller claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapide.

No. 662.

459. Samuel Hamilton claims 200 superficial arpens of land, situated on Bayou Canne, county of Opelousas. This is a part of Wm. Hay's claim, reported No. 424, and ought to be confirmed to him for the pre-emption right, it having been sold for taxes as Hay's property; but the claimant has relinquished his title thereto, as Hay has refunded him the amount which he had paid at collector's sale.

No. 663.

465. Louis St. Julien claims 120 superficial arpens of land, viz. three arpens front by forty deep, in the Prairie Basse of Bayou Caron Crow, county of Attakapas.

No. 664.

466. Jean Bte. Broussard, jr., claims 640 acres of land in the Cote Gelèe prairie, county of Attakapas.

No. 665.

467. Andrew Weaver claims 320 superficial arpens of land, viz. eight arpens front by forty deep, in the Grand prairie, county of Opelousas.

No. 666.

476. Isabella, a free mulatto woman, claims ninety-six superficial arpens of land, viz. eight arpens front by twelve deep, situated on the right bank of river Aux Cannes, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Pierre Michel, and below by that of J. B. Lattier. Accompanying the notice is a plat of survey by Jo. Irwin, dated the 10th February, 1813, for seventy-two acres.

No. 667.

478. Onizeme and Joseph Buard claim 640 acres of land on both sides of Old river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 668.

481. Antoine Grillet claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, on each side of Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 669.

484. Jean Bte. Porier claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, on the right bank of Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 670.

485. Francois Rachal claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 671.

486. Francois Porier claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 672.

487. Manuel Derbonne claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by forty deep, on the right bank of Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 673.

489. Francois St. Germain claims 640 acres of land on both sides of Red river, county of Natchitoches. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 674.

482. Madam Benoist Montanery claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, on the right bank of Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 675.

491. Pierre Michel claims 109 acres of land on the right bank of Red river, county of Natchitoches. A plat of survey by Jo. Irwin, a deputy surveyor, dated the 11th February, 1813, accompanies the notice.

No. 676.

493. Jean Arnaud Auguste claims 640 acres of land on both sides of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 677.

497. Pierre Bernard claims 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. four arpens front on the right bank, and eight arpens front on the left bank of Red river, by forty deep, in the county of Natchitoches.

No. 678.

498. Jacques Augés claims 640 acres of land on both sides of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches.

No. 679.

500. Richard Earls, sr., claims 640 acres of land, Cattahoula settlement, county of Rapides.

No. 680.

501. Mathew Earls claims 640 acres of land in Prairie Boeuf, county of Rapides. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 681.

502. Benjamin Lindsay claims 640 acres of land in Prairie Boeuf, county of Rapides. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 682.

503. James Levens, jr., claims 640 acres of land on Sicily Island, county of Rapides.

No. 683.

504. James Teal, sr., claims 640 acres of land in Prairie Yanacoocoo, county of Natchitoches. A plat of survey by Daniel Coleman, dated the 21st February, 1807, accompanies the notice.

No. 684.

506. Maria Theresa Coincoin claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, on the right bank of Old river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 685.

511. Margaret Gruillet, widow of Pantaloon, claims seventy-six superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on the north by land of Rouquiere. The evidence of Bertrand Plaisance, taken the 29th October, 1812, establishes the *cultivation* of the land for sixteen or seventeen consecutive years preceding this date; that the residence of the claimant is, and has been, on the left bank.

No. 686.

516. The heirs of James Morrison claims 2,000 superficial arpens of land on Bayou Berthelemi, county of Natchitoches.

No. 687.

518. Carter Hollings claims a tract of land on the north side of Bayou Derbonne, county of Washita.

No. 688.

520. The legal representatives of Thomas Berwick claim 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Caron Crow, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on one side by land conceded, by the Spanish Government, to Anthony Booker, and on the other by vacant land. The evidence of Roger West, aged sixty-three years, taken the 6th January, 1814, states that, thirty years ago, Thomas Berwick applied for, and obtained, a requete, sanctioned by the competent Spanish authority, for this land, which deponent has been informed, and has reason to believe, was sent to New Orleans to obtain a title in form, and has been lost or mislaid; that, to his knowledge, the land has neither been inhabited nor cultivated.

No. 689.

521. John Lee claims 640 acres of land on the west fork of Bayou Plaquemines Brulées, county of Opelousas.

No. 690.

522. Robert Bundick claims 640 acres of land, both sides of Bayou Crocodile, in the counties of Opelousas and Rapides.

No. 691.

532. Francois Bouetté claims 1,200 superficial arpens of land, viz. thirty arpens front by forty deep, in Swamp *Chicot Noir*, county of Attakapas.

No. 692.

533. Maria Louisa, a free negro woman, claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, in the Avoyelles prairie, county of Rapides. A certified copy of sale from Baptiste Mayeux to the claimant, dated the 15th June, 1812, accompanies the notice.

No. 693.

536. Ursin Bouliguy claims 2,000 superficial arpens of land. viz. twenty-five arpens front by forty deep, both sides of Bayou Salé, county of Attakapas.

No. 694.

537. Dominique Bouligny claims 6,400 superficial arpens of land, viz. eighty arpens front by forty deep, on both sides of Bayou Salé, county of Attakapas.

No. 695.

540. Herbert Jany claims 119 10-100ths superficial acres of land on Bayou Bourbeux, county of Opelousas, as is represented in a plat of survey by William Darby, dated the ——, filed with the notice.

No. 696.

543. Joseph Guilbeau claims 126 acres of land on the

south side of Bayou Tortue, county of Attakapas. A plat of survey by Patrick Marrin, dated the 17th October, 1809, accompanies the notice.

No. 697.

544. Pierre Leglise claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, on both sides of Bayou Rouge, parish of Avoyelles. A private deed of sale from John Gart to the claimant, dated the 2d September, 1803, accompanies the notice.

No. 698.

545. Pierre Leglise claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Rouge, parish of Avoyelles. A certified copy of a sale from Jos. de Broe to the claimant, dated the 6th November, 1807, accompanies the notice.

No. 699.

546. Pierre Leglise claims 336 acres of land on the northeast side of Lake Pearl, in the county of Rapides. A deed of sale, certified to be a copy from Augustin Juneaux to the claimant, dated the 9th November, 1807, and a plat of survey by K. McCrummin, dated the 2d August, 1808, accompany the notice.

No. 700.

547. Pierre Leglise claims 338 acres of land on the northeast side of Lake Pearl, in the county of Rapides. A certified copy of a deed of sale from B. Chatelin to the claimant, dated the 9th November, 1807, and a plat of survey by K. McCrummin, dated the 4th August, 1808, accompany the notice.

No. 701.

548. Dominique Richard claims 640 acres of land in the county of ——.

No. 702.

549. Remy Boudreau claims a tract of land, situated in the *Cul de Sac* of Bayou Bourbeux, county of Opelousas. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of a deed of sale from Jn. Chs. Benoist to Augustin Boudreau, passed the 27th February, 1800, before Martin Duralde, then commandant, in which sale mention is made of titles, dated the 29th February, 1788, referring to them for quantity, &c. See evidence in reported No. 1,099—this believed to be for the same land therein claimed.

No. 703.

550. Ebenezer Fulsome claims 5,891 1-10th acres of land on the waters of Bayou Cochata, county of Natchitoches, as per plat of survey by Samuel Cook, dated the 10th January, 1806, filed with the notice.

No. 704.

551. Alex Cloutier claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, on each side of Bayou Derbonne, county of Natchitoches.

No. 705.

552. Maria Therese Langlois claims ten square acres of land in the village and county of Natchitoches.

No. 706.

553. Maria Louise Huberdoix claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, on each side of Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 707.

554. Antoine Michel Rambin claims 120 superficial arpens of land, viz. three arpens front by forty deep, on Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 708.

556. William Barr claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, on the river Cannes, county of Natchitoches. A private sale from Nicholas Pont to the claimant, dated the 19th January, 1809, with the certificates of Richard Symes and Bernard D'Ortolon, certifying that N. Pont lived on the land, and cultivated from the year 1791 to 1794, and a plat of survey by Lacy Ramsey, deputy of S. Cook, for 720 acres 94 perches, dated the 2d June, 1809, accompany the notice.

No. 709.

557. Andrew Vascocu claims sixteen acres seventy-seven perches of land on the west side of Red river, county of Natchitoches, as per plat of survey by Ramsey, dated the 18th August, 1808, filed with the notice.

No. 710.

558. Dominique Sampré claims 57 54-100ths acres of land on the east side of Red river, county of Natchitoches, as per plat of survey by Cook, dated the 3d March, 1806, filed with the notice.

No. 711.

560. Charles Calderon claims sixty superficial arpens of land, viz. one and a half arpens front by forty deep, on the right bank of Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas. A private deed of sale from Lisette Maes, a free woman of color, to the claimant, dated the 3d January, 1806, accompanies the notice.

No. 712.

562. Willis Benner claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Rapides, county of Rapides.

No. 713.

563. Adam Tate claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated in the county of Opelousas, fronting on land conceded to Pierre Brosset. The evidence of John McDaniel, aged sixty years, taken the 8th February, 1813, states that the claimant has been in the practice of cutting timber, and taking his firewood off the land for twelve years, and has cultivated a considerable field on the same for several years, and that it has never been actually inhabited to his knowledge.

No. 714.

564. Anthony McDaniel claims 300 acres of land on Bayou Chicot, county of Opelousas.

No. 715.

569. David Evans claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Crocodile, county of Opelousas.

No. 716.

570. Reuben Ray claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 717.

571. Moses Evans claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 718.

572. Joseph Irwin claims 640 acres of land in Prairie Boeuf, county of Rapides. A private sale from Gardner to the claimant, dated the 16 December, 1809, accompanies the notice.

No. 719.

573. —— Babineaux claims 200 arpens of land in the county of Attakapas.

No. 720.

575. Francois Senequer claims 640 acres of land on Toreau island, county of Attakapas.

No. 721.

576. John Stine claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, on the east side of Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas.

No. 722.

577. Simeon Knight claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, each side of Saline Bayou, county of Natchitoches.

No. 723.

578. John Sibley claims 640 acres of land at Grande Ecore, county of Natchitoches.

No. 724.

579. John Sibley claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Jacko, county of Natchitoches.

No. 725.

580. Mary Prudhomme claims one league square of land on Bayou Pierre, county of Natchitoches.

No. 726.

581. Thomas Wallace claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Pierre, county of Natchitoches.

No. 727.

582. Francois Prudhomme claims one league square of land on Bayou Pierre, county of Natchitoches.

No. 728.

584. Francois Spicer claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Pierre, county of Natchitoches.

No. 729.

585. Francois Prudhomme claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Pierre, county of Natchitoches.

No. 730.

586. Pierre Laffite, jr. claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Pierre, county of Natchitoches.

No. 731.

587. Constant Freeman claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Pierre, county of Natchitoches.

No. 732.

589. Charles Mulholland claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Natchitoches.

No. 733.

591. Richard Bacon claims 680 superficial arpens of land, viz. 17 arpens front by forty deep, situated on the west bank of the river Mississippi, in the county of Concordia, near a willow point, one and a half miles from Homochitta. The affidavit of Sylvestre Russ, dated the 22d October, 1812, was filed with the claim, who states "that, sometime in 1785, he ascended the Mississippi in company with the claimant, to where he had made an improvement on the west side of said river, one and a half miles above the mouth of the Homochitta river; also the affidavit of Louis De Lat, dated the same day, stating that, about sixteen or seventeen years ago, ascending the Mississippi, he saw an improvement on the west side of said river, about one quarter of a mile from the Grand Cut-off, on which corn and pumpkins were growing, and, on making inquiry who the owner was, was informed that it belonged to a Mr. Bacon.

No. 734.

593. Patrick Ford claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia.

No. 735.

597. André Martin claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, on Bayou Caron Crow, county of Attakapas.

No. 736.

598. André Martin claims 200 superficial arpens of land, viz. five arpens front by forty deep, on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 737.

602. Morris McLaughlin claims 800 arpens of land on Little river, county of Rapides. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 738.

604. Paul Cavener claims 640 acres of land on the island of Bayou Lamouré, county of Rapides.

No. 739.

605. James McLaughlin claims 480 acres of land on Red river, county of Rapides. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 740.

606. Charles B. Harvey claims 640 acres of land on Big Creek, parish of Cattahoula. A plat of survey by C. M. Lawson accompanies the notice for 632 32-100ths acres. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 741.

607. William A. Plowden claims 640 acres of land on Davis's bayou, county of Concordia.

No. 742.

608. Bannister M. Plowden claims 640 acres of land on Davis's bayou, county of Concordia.

No. 743.

609. Eliphalet W. Plowden claims 640 acres of land on Robert's bayou, county of Concordia.

No. 744.

610. John Hickland claims 640 acres of land on river Boeuf, Burnt prairie, county of Rapides. The evidence of John Murphy, Z. Kirkland, and William Smith, state that they know nothing of the claimant, or his having settled in Burnt prairie; that, in 1808 or 1809, they were in Burnt prairie, and the only settlers there were Richard Ballard and Edward McLaughlin.

No. 745.

611. John Watson claims 640 acres of land on river Boeuf, Burnt prairie, county of Rapides. The evidence of John Murphy, Z. Kirkland, William Smith, A. Cathey, and Eli Temple, states that they do not know the claimant, or of his having settled in Burnt prairie.

No. 746.

614. John Block claims 640 acres of land on Black river, county of Concordia.

No. 747.

615. Jesse Devour claims 640 acres of land on Black river, county of Concordia.

No. 748.

616. Jesse Wyat claims 640 acres of land on Black river, county of Concordia.

No. 749.

617. David McClure claims 640 acres of land on river Boeuf, Burnt prairie, county of Rapides. The evidence of J. Murphy, Z. Kirkland, W. Smith, A. Cathey, and Eli Temple, state that they know nothing of the claimant, or his having made a settlement in Burnt prairie.

No. 750.

620. William Beasley claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 751.

621. Jacques Derowen claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. three arpens front by forty deep, on each side of Bayou Petite Anse, county of Attakapas. A certified copy of a sale from Alexander Hebert to the claimant, dated the 27th October, 1812, accompanies the notice.

No. 752.

622. Jacques Derowen and Michel Hayes claim 120 superficial arpens of land, viz. three arpens front by forty deep, on Bayou Petite Anse, county of Attakapas.

No. 753.

623. William Casson claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of the west fork of Bayou Cannes, in the county of Opelousas, bounded below by land of James Campbell, and above by that of Larose Fontenet. The evidence of James Campbell, aged forty-seven years, taken the 8th February, 1813, states that he made four crops on this land in the years 1800-'1-'2 and '3, supposing it to be on his own land, which lies adjoining, but when surveyed it proved to be on Casson's tract. The claimant put up a log-house on the land about two years ago, but did not cover it, as Larose Fontenot warned him not to occupy said land, claiming it as part of his own tract that lies adjoining, but which, when surveyed, did not embrace either the field or the log-house; that no person has ever resided on this land to deponent's knowledge, nor has it ever been cultivated, except the four years as aforesaid.

No. 754.

624. Jack Drake claims 640 acres of land at Grasse Isle, county of Attakapas.

No. 755.

625. Louis Richard claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Nezpiqué, county of Opelousas.

No. 756.

626. Samuel P. Moore claims a tract of land of seven arpens front by the depth to make six hundred and forty acres, in Bayou Rouge prairie, parish of Avoyelles. A certified copy of sale from Jacques Deshotel to the claimant, dated the 26th August, 1807, accompanies the notice.

No. 757.

627. Samuel P. Moore claims a tract of land of five arpens front by the depth to make 640 acres, in Prairie Rouge, parish of Avoyelles. A certified copy of a sale from William Penrice to the claimant, dated the 18th August, 1807, accompanies the notice.

No. 758.

628. Samuel P. Moore claims 320 acres of land in Prairie Rouge, parish of Avoyelles. A certified copy of a sale from Celestin Moreau to the claimant, dated the 19th August, 1807, accompanies the notice.

No. 759.

629. William Link claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by 40 deep, on Bayou Mallet, county of Opelousas.

No. 760.

630. Pierre Sidic claims 640 acres of land in Prairie Yanacoocoo, county of Natchitoches. A plat of survey by D. Coleman, dated 23d February, 1807, accompanies the notice.

No. 761.

631. Alexander Downey claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Yanacoocoo, county of Natchitoches. A plat of survey by D. Coleman, dated the 21st February, 1807, accompanies the notice.

No. 762.

632. Stephen Allen claims 640 acres of land in Prairie Yanacoocoo, county of Natchitoches. A plat of survey by D. Coleman, dated the 24th February, 1807, accompanies the notice.

No. 763.

633. Joseph Roy claims 120 superficial arpens of land, viz. three arpens front by forty deep, in Prairie Carriere, county of Opelousas.

No. 764.

634. Robert Scott claims 400 arpens of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia.

No. 765.

639. Felix Trudeau claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 766.

640. Jean Jacques Paillette claims 640 acres of land on Rigolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches.

No. 767.

641. John Green claims 800 arpens of land in the county of Rapides.

No. 768.

642. John Hay claims 160 superficial arpens of land, viz. two arpens front by forty deep, each side of Bayou Petite Anse, county of Attakapas. A copy of sale from Maria Hebert to the claimant, dated the 14th August, 1804, accompanies the notice.

No. 769.

643. Cornelius Voorhies claims 640 acres of land at L'Isle à Langlois, county of Opelousas. The evidence of Paul Ledoux, taken the 28th May, 1814, states that about nine years ago he was hired by the claimant, with whom he stayed one year; that, during that time, and he believes ever since, the claimant has been in the practice of cutting timber and firewood for the use of his plantation off this land; and that all the inhabitants of the island have been under the necessity of taking their wood from Grand Bois, as they have no other place whereat to furnish themselves.

No. 770.

644. Olivier Clarke claims 640 acres on Little bayou, county of Attakapas.

No. 771.

645. Don Manuel Pedro Armand claims 600 superficial arpens of land, viz. 15 arpens front by 40 deep, in the county of Attakapas.

No. 772.

646. Francois Savoy claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 40 deep, on Bayou Mentou, county of Opelousas.

No. 773.

647. Martin Meillon claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 40 deep, on Mallet's woods, county of Opelousas. A plat of survey by James Haggard, dated the 17th May, 1809, accompanies the notice.

No. 774.

648. Antoine Fontenot claims 12 arpens of land front on Bayou Plaquemine Brulée, county of Opelousas.

No. 775.

649. William Callaghan claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. 10 arpens front by 40 deep, on each side of Bayou Queue de Tortue, county of Opelousas.

No. 776.

650. The representatives of Alexis Fulton claim 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. 20 arpens front by 40 deep, on Bayou Caron Crow, county of Opelousas.

No. 777.

651. Francois Leleu claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by forty deep, on Bayou Petite Anse, county of Attakapas. A copy of a sale from Maria Hebert, by her attorney in fact, to the claimant, dated the 6th March, 1804, accompanies the notice.

No. 778.

653. Richard Wade claims 300 acres of land in the parish of Avoyelles. A private sale from Edward Marshal to the claimant, dated the 11th July, 1798, for seven and a half acres front by the usual depth, accompanies the notice.

No. 779.

654. George Kidder claims 2,000 acres of land on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 780.

655. Joseph La Ruchill claims 2,000 acres of land on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 781.

656. Roza Meillon Wells claims 600 superficial arpens of land, viz. fifteen arpens front by forty deep, on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 782.

657. Louis de la Houssaye claims 4,800 arpens of land, viz. one hundred and sixty arpens front by thirty deep, on Bayou Caillon, county of Attakapas.

No. 783.

658. George King claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Plaquemines Brulées, county of Opelousas.

No. 784.

659. Pierre Forest claims 100 acres of land in Grand prairie, county of Opelousas.

No. 785.

662. Estevan Randeau claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, on Lake St. Joseph, county of Concordia.

No. 786.

663. Diego Juan Fernandez claims 720 superficial arpens of land, viz. eighteen arpens front by forty deep, on Bayou Tensaw, county of Concordia.

No. 787.

664. Arnaud Romain claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, on Bayou Cannes, county of Opelousas.

No. 788.

665. Pierre Broussard claims a tract of land in the county of Attakapas, being part of Ledee's grant.

No. 789.

666. Pierre Broussard claims a tract of land in the county of Attakapas, being part of Ledee's grant.

No. 790.

667. Pierre Broussard claims a tract of land in the county of Attakapas, being part of Ledee's grant.

No. 791.

668. John Thompson claims one lot of land, and one lot opposite thereto, in the village of the county of Opelousas.

No. 792.

669. John Thompson claims sixteen acres of land on Bayou Yarborough, county of Opelousas.

No. 793.

670. Louis Chacherie claims 480 arpens of land on Bayou Cannes, county of Opelousas.

No. 794.

671. Etienne Renando claims 500 acres of land on Bayou Tensaw, county of Concordia.

No. 795.

672. Guilliaume Farensco claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Tensaw, county of Concordia.

No. 796.

675. Joseph Senat claims 640 acres of land on the left bank of Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas. The evidence of Dennis Carline, taken the 16th February, 1813, states that, thirteen years ago, deponent purchased sugar-cane on the land; there were considerable fields then under cultivation, but no one inhabited said land; claimant at that time resided with his father. Deponent not having been on the land since that time, does not know of his own knowledge that the cultivation has been kept up; but, from information, believes it has. ☞The notice is believed to embrace a tract of land, the title of which has already been confirmed to Jn. Bte. Senat, father of the claimant.

No. 797.

676. The wife of James Clarke claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Crocodile, county of Opelousas. The certificate of sundry inhabitants, that the land is vacant above the old Alabama landing place, dated the 21st November, 1803, accompanies the notice. A commission to take evidence issued in this claim has not been returned.

No. 798.

678. D. J. McLeode claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, each side Bayou Cypremort, county of Attakapas.

No. 799.

679. P. B. Hennepy claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, each side Bayou Cypremort, county of Attakapas.

No. 800.

681. Francois Bernard claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, each side of Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 801.

683. Joseph Sherry claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 802.

685. John Reeves claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Yokely, county of Attakapas.

No. 803.

686. Michel Meaux and others claim 3,200 acres of land in the county of Attakapas. See note R.

No. 804.

687. Joseph Jeoffrion, sen., claims 463 75-100ths acres of land on Grand river, parish of Avoyelles, as per plat of survey by C. Bolling, dated the 30th December, 1805, filed with the notice, together with a certificate from Jean Normand, dated the 12th October, 1812, that he sold Jph. Jeoffrion, pere, four arpens of land, as per sale in the office, which is at present shut, there being no parish judge.

No. 805.

689. André Chamard claims 943 97-100ths acres of land on Red river, Natchitoches, as per plat of survey by J. Hyland for S. Cook, dated the 7th January, 1807, filed with the notice. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 806.

696. Landlot Porter claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 807.

697. Shadrack Porter claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 808.

698. Shadrack Porter claims 640 acres of land on Little bayou, county of Attakapas.

No. 809.

699. Henry Edson claims 640 acres of land on Lake St. Joseph, county of Concordia.

No. 810.

700. George Carver claims 640 acres of land on Lake St. Joseph, county of Concordia.

No. 811.

701. David Choate claims 600 arpens of land on the River Atchafalaya, county of Attakapas.

No. 812.

702. Joseph St. Geremie claims 2,000 acres of land on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 813.

703. James Thrasher claims 2,000 acres of land on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 814.

704. Alexandré Landré claims 2,000 acres of land on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 815.

705. William Hargrove claims 2,000 acres of land on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 816.

706. James Clarke claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 817.

707. George Burrell claims 2,000 acres of land on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 818.

708. Alexander Grier claims 2,000 acres of land on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 819.

709. Joseph Drake claims 2,000 acres of land on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 820.
710. Joseph Ewin claims 2,000 acres of land on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.
No. 821.
711. James Smith claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.
No. 822.
712. James Virgin claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.
No. 823.
713. Joseph Ring claims 640 acres of land on the River Atchafalaya, county of Attakapas.
No. 824.
714. Stephen Holstein claims 400 arpens of land on Bayou Salé, county of Attakapas.
No. 825.
715. Francis Millen claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Atchafalaya, county of Attakapas.
No. 826.
716. Thomas Railes claims 2,000 acres of land on Bayou Constance, county of Attakapas.
No. 827.
717. Francis Garcia claims 2,000 acres of land on Bayou Constance, county of Attakapas.
No. 828.
718. Thomas West claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Nezpiqué, county of Attakapas.
No. 829.
719. John Walker claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Crocodile, county of
No. 830.
720. William Martin claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Crocodile, county of
No. 831.
721. Jacob Bobs claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Long, county of
No. 832.
722. James Ireson claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Crocodile, county of
No. 833.
723. Royal Bill claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia.
No. 834.
724. William Fackender claims 464 acres of land on Lake Providence, county of Concordia.
No. 835.
725. Henry Collins claims 400 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia.
No. 836.
726. William Collins claims 580 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia.
No. 837.
727. Samuel Tucket claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia.
No. 838.
728. William Moore claims 464 acres of land on Lake Providence, county of Concordia.
No. 839.
729. Thomas Gibson claims 464 acres of land on Lake Providence, county of Concordia.
No. 840.
730. Levi Derbonne claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia.
No. 841.
731. Frederick Gunnals claims 580 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia.
No. 842.
732. Joseph Boyce claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia.
No. 843.
733. Henry Baker claims 470 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia.
No. 844.
734. Abner Bent claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia.
No. 845.
735. Thomas Fowler claims 640 acres of land on Lake Providence, county of Concordia.
No. 846.
746. Jeremiah Miller claims 530.7 acres of land on Lake Providence, county of Concordia.
No. 847.
737. Jacob Keller claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia.

No. 848.
738. John Moffit claims 537.5 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia.

No. 849.
739. Hiram Burch claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia.

No. 850.
740. James Birch claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia.
No. 851.
741. Philip Lewis claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia.
No. 852.
742. James Boice claims 510.4 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia.
No. 853.
743. Jeremiah Jones claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia.
No. 854.
744. William Morris claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia.
No. 855.
745. William Carmonis claims 580 acres of land on Lake Providence, county of Concordia.
No. 856.
746. William Oliphent claims 464 acres of land on Lake Providence, county of Concordia.
No. 857.
747. Ebenezer G. Snow claims 637 acres of land on Lake Vidal, county of Concordia.
No. 858.
750. Joseph Derowen, sen., claims 1,600 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, each side of Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas.
No. 859.
748. Ruth Prather, for herself and the minor heirs of Azariah Prather, claims about thirty-six acres of land, situated on the left bank of Callaghan's bayou, in the county of Opelousas, bounded on the north by land of Paillet and Dubaillon, and on the east by part of the same tract claimed by John Prather under reported No. 410. A plat of survey by William Darby, an authorized surveyor, for 206 acres, dated the 23d September, 1810, accompanies the notice.
No. 860.
756. Peter O'Connor claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Opelousas. A private sale from Wm. McKoy to the claimant, dated the 7th January, 1813, accompanies the notice.
No. 861.
759. Joseph Waukin claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Cannes, county of Opelousas.
No. 862.
760. Antoine Simeon, a free negro, claims 640 acres of land at Grass Point, county of Opelousas.
No. 863.
762. Lawrence Taylor claims 640 acres of land in Prairie Basse, Bayou Bourbeux, county of Opelousas.
No. 864.
763. Aquilla Faulk claims 640 acres of land on the Washita river, county of Washita.
No. 865.
764. Jean Fortin claims 6,944 44-100ths arpens of land on Bayou Casachée, county of Natchitoches.
No. 866.
765. Charles Pelestin claims two leagues square of land on the Rigolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches.
No. 867.
766. Jean Rasado claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches.
No. 868.
767. Julien Casimere claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches.
No. 869.
768. Edward Broussard claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas.
No. 870.
770. Charles Comeau, free man of color, claims 640 acres of land in Prairie Bellevue, county of Opelousas.
No. 871.
772. Stephen Holmes claims 640 arpens of land on both sides of Red river, county of Natchitoches.
No. 872.
773. Peter Henry Renthrope claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas.
No. 873.
787. John McGlauchlin claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Opelousas.

No. 874.
793. Joseph Willis claims 160 acres of land on Boggy Gut, county of Opelousas.
No. 875.
794. Edgington Willis claims 160 acres of land on Boggy Gut, county of Opelousas.
No. 876.
795. John Johnson claims 160 acres of land on Boggy Gut, county of Opelousas.

No. 887.

806. Robert Denis claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 878.

808. Augustin R. Boudreau claims 400 arpens of land on Mallet's Woods, county of Opelousas.

No. 879.

811. Archibald Reed claims 640 acres of land on Horsepond creek, county of Rapides. A private transfer from John Reed to the claimant, dated the 7th January, 1805, accompanies the notice.

No. 880.

815. Eleazer Thibedeau claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by forty deep, to be taken at the back of the first forty arpens of land on the east side of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, bounded in front by other land of the claimant. The notice is accompanied by the certificates of Joseph Babin and Francois Gonssoulin, that the land is the second depth, and vacant, dated the 10th July, 1801. The evidence of Joseph Babin, taken the 14th September, 1813, states that, in July, 1801, he, as syndic, gave the claimant the usual certificate of vacancy; soon after which, claimant's father cultivated a part of said land for his son's benefit, and it was so cultivated until after the change of Government, but has not been actually inhabited either before or since. See note N.

No. 881.

833. Thomas Graham claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Mary A. Dupré. The evidence of Athanase Dupré, taken the 20th September, 1813, states that no person, to his knowledge, has ever inhabited the land, but that the claimant, who resides on an adjoining tract, has cultivated this land for the last seven years constantly.

No. 882.

840. Dorothy Massip claims 640 acres of land between Bayou's Rapides and Cypress, county of Rapides.

No. 883.

842. Jean Bte. Harman claims 640 acres of land on the island of Lake Stumps, county of Natchitoches.

No. 884.

846. Louis Fort claims 400 arpens of land near the Lake of the Stumps, county of Natchitoches.

No. 885.

847. Michel Rambin claims 98 13-100ths acres of land on False river, county of Natchitoches, as per plat of survey by J. Irwin filed with the notice.

No. 886.

848. Francois Lattier claims 640 acres of land on the river Attahoo, county of Natchitoches.

No. 887.

853. Jean Francois Hartzog claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, each side of Little river, in the county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, taken the 9th October, 1813, states that the land was first settled by the claimant about eighteen years ago, and has been ever since inhabited and cultivated by the hirelings and negroes of the claimant, who vends merchandise, and usually resides on the river Cannes, about a league and a half from the land. See note O.

No. 888.

856. Francois Rouquiere claims 640 acres of land on the river Brulée, county of Natchitoches.

No. 889.

858. Louis Rachal, sen., claims 640 acres of land on Little river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 890.

862. Francois St. Germain claims 640 acres of land on Little river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 891.

864. Jean Bte. Derbonne, jun., claims 640 arpens of land on Brosset island, county of Natchitoches.

No. 892.

866. Baptiste Prevost claims 640 acres of land on Gully Nabonchase, Bayou Pierre, county of Natchitoches.

No. 893.

874. James Bludworth claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. A private deed of sale from Francois Robin to the claimant, dated the 3d June, 1813, accompanies the notice.

No. 894.

875. Bludworth and McLaughlin claims 640 acres of land on Bayou *Isle aux Vache*, county of Natchitoches. A private sale from Aimable Langlois to the claimants, dated the 9th July, 1813, accompanies the notice.

No. 895.

877. Michel Rambin claims 121½ acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches, as per plat of survey by J. Irwin, dated the 10th May, 1813, filed with the notice.

No. 896.

878. Louis Lavasseur claims 640 acres of land near Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 897.

879. Louis St. Germain claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 898.

883. Francois Laurent, sen., claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 899.

888. Henry Burger claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Isadial, county of Natchitoches.

No. 900.

890. John Duncan claims 640 acres of land in the forks of Bayous Vidal and Crocket, county of Natchitoches.

No. 901.

893. James A. Parrot claims 640 acres of land on Bayou St. John, county of Natchitoches.

No. 902.

895. William B. Quirk claims 640 acres of land on Rio Pedro, county of Natchitoches.

No. 903.

896. Jonathan Quirk claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Adages, county of Natchitoches.

No. 904.

910. The legal representatives of Madam Don Manuel claim 2,000 superficial acres of land, situated on both sides of Bayou Don Manuel, at its junction with Old river, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on all sides by vacant land. The evidence of Francois Robin, taken the 2d October, 1813, establishes that the land has been inhabited and cultivated for seventeen consecutive years preceding this date. André Chamard was the first occupant known to the deponent. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 905.

911. Lorenzo Sigur claims 6,400 superficial arpens of land, viz. eighty arpens front by eighty deep, situated on the right bank of Washita river, county of Washita, about two leagues below Fort Miro. The notice is accompanied by a certificate of Gilbert Leonard's, formerly fiscal in the time of the Spanish Government. An affidavit of Juan Bte. Bermudez, formerly a writer in the intendancy at New Orleans, and an affidavit of Nicholas Roche, all dated February, 1809, of the following tenor, viz. that L. Sigur, in the year 1795, sent off a boat for Ouachita, with one of his sons and several slaves, for the purpose of settling a cypress swamp in that post, to cut masts for his Catholic Majesty's navy, for which he was contractor, from whence he furnished and still furnishes masts for said use; that, in 1796, he presented a petition to Carondelet for eighty arpens front on each side of a canal he had cut to get out said masts, by eighty arpens in depth, which was granted, registered, and left in the office. Some years after, Segur applied several times at the office to obtain said concessions, but they were refused to him, under the pretence that they were lost or mislaid, and that said concessions were put among the archives and sent to Pensacola, when the province was evacuated. See note T.

No. 906.

912. William Southerland claims 400 arpens of land on Bayou Sallé, county of Attakapas.

No. 907.

913. Etienne, a free negro, claims thirty-one and a half acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches, as per plat of survey by Jo. Irwin, dated the 8th February, 1813, filed with the notice.

No. 908.

915. Joseph Gizernac claims 640 acres of land on each side of Red river, county of Natchitoches. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 909.

916. Jacques Gizernac claims 640 acres of land on each side of Red river, county of Natchitoches. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 910.

917. Simon St. Ramerie claims 640 acres of land on each side of Red river, county of Natchitoches. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 911.

918. Joseph Floreus claims 640 acres of land on each side of Red river, county of Natchitoches. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 912.

922. Roger McPike claims 640 superficial acres of land,

situated on the large Nantaché, Bayou Nahtatike, in the county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, taken the 8th October, 1813: that the claimant first settled on the land more than twenty years ago, from which time to the present date it has been constantly inhabited and cultivated either by hirelings or other persons, for their own use, but by claimant's permission; that R. McPike has no family, is upwards of sixty years of age, and, being a weaver and dyer by trade, has been much of his time from home.

No. 913.

929. Stephen Minor claims 100 superficial acres of land, situated on the river Mississippi, about two miles above the settlement of Vidalia, in the county of Concordia. The evidence of Joseph Vidal, John Minor, and Job Routh, taken by commission the 3d June, 1814, establishes that the land has been constantly inhabited and cultivated, from the year 1788 or 1790, to the said date, by S. Minor and his tenants. The claimant is fifty years of age, and the head of a family. ☞ If the land was cultivated from 1788 or '9, to 1814, it must have been by claimant's negroes or hirelings, as he is known to have resided in the Mississippi Territory.

No. 914.

930. Darling Bradley claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides, about three miles below the old Crossing. The evidence of James Hughes, taken by commission the 29th December, 1813, states that, to his knowledge, the land was inhabited and cultivated from the year 1800 (he thinks the month of March) until 1804. Deponent, as claimant's hireling, went on the land in September, 1800, and there continued four years. See note O.

No. 915.

932. Baptiste Ringuette claims 600 arpens of land on Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas.

No. 916.

939. Peter Young claims 640 superficial arpens of land, situated at La Cass's island, Prairie Frugée, in the county of Opelousas. The evidence of Pierre Courville, aged sixty-four years, taken the 19th October, 1813, states that the claimant and his father have cultivated the land for fifteen consecutive years preceding this date; that they built a small cabin on said land before the change of Government, and that the land has been at no time inhabited, to deponent's knowledge. Claimant acknowledges he was but twenty-two years of age last February.

No. 917.

941. John Nancarrow, as the legal representative of Baron de Bastrop, claims 300,000 superficial arpens of land in the county of Washita.

No. 918.

943. Jonathan Hagarty claims 640 acres of land on both sides of a creek, county of Rapides.

No. 919.

944. John Hagarty claims 640 acres of land on both sides of a creek, parish of Cattahoula.

No. 920.

945. Josiah Cochran claims 640 acres of land on both sides of a creek, parish of Cattahoula.

No. 921.

946. The heirs of Jean Pierre Cloutier claims 170 acres of land, both sides of Red river, at its junction with Rigolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches. A plat of survey by S. Cook, dated 28th March, 1806, is filed with the notice.

No. 922.

949. Peter Henry Renthrop claims 290 acres of land on Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas.

No. 923.

950. James Young claims 640 acres of land on the right bank of Bayou Mallet, county of Opelousas. The evidence of Pierre Courville, taken the 8th November, 1813, states that the father of the claimant has constantly taken his firewood and timber off the land for the last fifteen or sixteen years, but that it has never been inhabited or cultivated. The claimant, who acknowledges himself to be only nineteen or twenty years of age, resides with his brother about three miles from the land, and his father one and a half miles.

No. 924.

956. Louis Cartier claims 280 acres of land, viz. eighteen arpens front by fifty-four chains deep, on Grand Louis bayou, county of Opelousas. The evidence of Pierre Vedrine, taken the 19th November, 1813, states that the claimant has taken his firewood and timber off the land for the use of the adjoining tract on which he resides, and which he purchased of one Frederique, and which, being deficient in quantity, the claimant considered himself entitled to the land now claimed to make up this deficit; that he has regularly paid taxes for the same, and the land has always been respected by the neighbors as his property.

No. 925.

959. Benjamin L. Brown claims 640 acres of land, situated on the east side of Bayou Siard, in the county of Washita, about forty arpens from said bayou, joining land of Baron de Bastrop. The evidence of Patrick Finn, taken by commission the 11th December, 1813, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for fifteen consecutive years preceding said date. The claimant is forty-five years of age, and the head of a family.

No. 926.

695. Levi Campbell claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the west side of Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas, bounded below by Resin Bowie's land, and above by that of S. Porter. The evidence of John Brown, aged thirty-four years, taken the 28th November, 1812, states that a cousin of this deponent settled on the land in the year 1799, and continued to inhabit and cultivate the same until 1804, and that the claimant has occupied said land for the last eighteen months, to deponent's knowledge.

No. 927.

962. William Stroope claims 640 acres of land in the county of Washita.

No. 928.

963. Jacob Stroope, senior, claims 640 acres of land in the county of Washita.

No. 929.

964. Jacob Stroope, junior, claims 640 acres of land in the county of Washita.

No. 930.

967. Joseph Owens claims 400 arpens of land on Bayou Berthelemi, county of Washita.

No. 931.

968. Abraham De Hart claims 400 arpens of land on Bayou Berthelemi, county of Washita.

No. 932.

969. John De Hart claims 400 arpens of land on Bayou Berthelemi, county of Washita.

No. 933.

970. Winault De Hart claims 400 arpens of land on Bayou Berthelemi, county of Washita.

No. 934.

971. Frederique T. Segars claims 400 arpens of land on Washita river, county of Washita.

No. 935.

979. John Hughes claims 400 superficial arpens of land, situated at Mer Rouge, in the county of Washita, within the limits of a tract of land conceded to Baron de Bastrop. The evidence of John Hebert, taken the 26th November, 1813, states that it is a matter of notoriety that the claimant's migration to Washita in 1799, was in consequence of a contract to become a settler under the concession of the Government of Louisiana to Baron de Bastrop; that this tract is within the limits of the survey made for said Baron, but whether the claimant settled on it himself, or got any one to do it for him, deponent cannot say, but believes he did neither.

No. 936.

986. Joseph Maria Muskes claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 937.

987. Louis Whellin claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 938.

995. Lewis Clarke claims 640 acres of land on Lake St. Joseph, county of Concordia.

No. 939.

996. The heirs of Lewis and Edward Clarke claim 640 acres of land on Lake St. Joseph, county of Concordia.

No. 940.

997. Jacob Fairchilds claims 640 acres of land on Big Black island, county of Concordia.

No. 941.

999. John Crain claims 320 acres of land in the county of Washita.

No. 942.

1000. John Hood claims 320 acres of land on Sicily island, county of Rapides.

No. 943.

1003. Edmond Quirk claims 640 acres of land on Dieu Domini, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Felix Trudeau, taken by commission the 17th April, 1814, states "that he knows the claimant; that he resides on Bayou Dieu Domini these thirteen years: he is about sixty-six years of age, and the head of a family.

No. 944.

1009. John and Sarah Thompson claim 640 acres of

land, situated on waters of Bayou Castor, in the parish of Natchitoches. Accompanying the notice is a private deed of sale from Joseph Waker to the claimants, dated the 2d December, 1813, and a plat of survey by K. McCrummin of same date. The evidence of John Mires, taken the 30th December, 1813, states that John Waker, a hunter, built a cabin on the land about ten or twelve years ago, and occasionally visited the same until he sold to the claimants; that Sarah Thompson, one of the claimants, a widow with nine children, has resided on the land for three or four months; and that no person has ever cultivated the land, to the knowledge of the deponent.

No. 945.

1011. Laurent Dupré claims 300 acres of land in Prairie Plaisance, county of Opelousas.

No. 946.

1012. William Chandlers claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Castor, county of Natchitoches.

No. 947.

1013. Jean Bte. Johnson claims 250 acres of land in Prairie Plaisance, county of Opelousas.

No. 948.

1014. John Ponsony claims the continuation of his front tract, viz. eight and a half arpens front by 25 deep, in the Grand prairie, county of Opelousas. The evidence of William Martin, taken the 24th December, 1814, states that the claimant has cut wood on the land, for the use of the front tract, for twelve years past; and that this land is unfit for culture, being subject to inundation, having now ten feet water on it.

No. 949.

1019. Paul Lanusse claims 3,200 superficial arpens of land, viz. 20 arpens front by 40 deep, each side of Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas, as per plat of survey by Potier, dated the 22d April, 1805, filed with the notice.

No. 950.

1020. The legal representatives of Jean Bte. McCarty claim 7,056 superficial arpens of land, viz. 84 arpens front by 84 deep, near Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 951.

1022. Lasieme St. André claims 640 acres of land, on Rigolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches.

No. 952.

1028. Francois Dupré claims 640 acres of land at Dean's Rocks, on both sides of Bayou Jeat, at its junction with Lake Nantaché, county of Natchitoches.

No. 953.

1031. Ursin Schèlètré claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Jeat, county of Natchitoches.

No. 954.

1032. Joseph Procelle claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 955.

1034. Joseph Procelle claims 240 superficial arpens of land, viz. six arpens front by 40 deep, on Bayou Cotie, county of Rapides. A commission to take evidence in this claim has not been returned.

No. 956.

1048. Silas Hall claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Crocodile, county of Opelousas.

No. 957.

1050. Stephen Freeland claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Opelousas. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 958.

1051. William Dalton claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Opelousas.

No. 959.

1052. Bernard Gaignard claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Mallet, county of Opelousas. The evidence of Ursin Lejeune, taken the 4th January, 1814, states that about nine or ten years ago the claimant's father first settled on the land, built himself a house, and moved into it, where he soon after died, since when it has been uninhabited or cultivated.

No. 960.

1055. Lewis Moore claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas.

No. 961.

1056. Andrew Snoddy claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Crocodile, county of Rapides.

No. 962.

1057. William Miller claims 500 arpens of land on Red river, county of Rapides.

No. 963.

1058. The heirs of Charlitte Ledoux claim 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. 20 arpens front by 40 deep, in Charlitte prairie, county of Rapides. The evidence of Edmund McLaughlin, taken by commission the 24th April, 1814, states that about twenty years ago deponent raised a house for Charlitte Ledoux on the land, and there continued about two months; but, whether said land has been inhabited and cultivated since he cannot say.

No. 964.

1060. John McFee claims 640 acres of land on Black lake, county of Natchitoches.

No. 965.

1061. Zachariah McQuidy claims 640 acres of land on Black lake, county of Natchitoches.

No. 966.

1062. John Quinnelty claims 640 acres of land on Black lake, county of Natchitoches.

No. 697.

1063. Joseph A. McClannahan claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Wild Cow creek, in the parish of Rapides, on a small road leading from James White's to Joseph Holmes's. The evidence of Valentine Layssard, taken the 28th December, 1813, states that, about the year 1797, the claimant was a Spanish subject, and an express for the Government; and that, about 1800, deponent gave him permission to establish himself on Wild Cow creek, and to take 20 arpens front by 40 deep. And the evidence of Simson Holstein, taken the 26th December, 1813, states that the claimant, aged thirty-seven years, moved his stock on the land in the winter of 1803.

No. 968.

1065. Anthony Reed claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 969.

1074. John K. Wakefield claims one league square of land on Bayou Nementou, county of Opelousas.

No. 970.

1075. John K. Wakefield claims 400 arpens of land in the county of Opelousas.

No. 971.

1077. Gregoire Artacho claims 640 acres of land on Cypress island, county of Attakapas.

No. 972.

1079. Hebert Landry claims 400 arpens of land on L'Isle des Cannes, county of Attakapas.

No. 973.

1082. Robert Bundick claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 974.

1083. Zebulon Robinette claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 975.

1084. Eleanor Carpenter claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Rapides, county of Rapides.

No. 976.

1085. The legal representatives of Thomas Essex claim 800 arpens of land on Wiggins's bayou, county of Rapides.

No. 977.

1086. Robert Bundick claims 640 acres of land in the Pine prairie, county of Opelousas.

No. 978.

1087. William F. Cheney claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Opelousas.

No. 979.

1088. Leroy Stafford claims a tract of land of 32 chains front by 116 chains deep, on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 980.

1089. John Dunwoody claims 200 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 981.

1090. The heirs of William Pierce claim 400 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 982.

1091. James Stafford claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 983.

1092. Job Rowley claims 400 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 984.

1093. Silas Talbert claims 200 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 985.

1094. David Cheney claims 400 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 986.

1095. Thomas Cheney claims 300 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 987.

1096. Stephen Pierce claims 320 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 988.

1097. Nathaniel Holey claims 320 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 989.

1101. Alexander Freeland claims 800 arpens of land on Little Lake, county of Rapides.

No. 990.

1102. Jacques Deshotel claims 400 arpens of land in Prairie Rouge, county of Rapides.

No. 991.

1103. William L. Collins claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Opelousas.

No. 992.

1105. James Bludworth claims 640 acres of land on Old river, county of Natchitoches, as per deed of sale from John Bennet to the claimant, dated the 15th May, 1813, filed with the notice.

No. 993.

1106. James Bludworth claims 640 acres of land in the county of Natchitoches.

No. 994.

1107. James Bludworth claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Provencal, county of Natchitoches.

No. 995.

1108. James Bludworth claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Provencal, county of Natchitoches.

No. 996.

1109. James Bludworth claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Cannes, county of Natchitoches, as per plat of survey by Lacey Rumsey, dated the 13th December, 1809, filed with the notice.

No. 997.

1110. James Bludworth claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Provencal, county of Natchitoches.

No. 998.

1111. James Bludworth claims 640 acres of land on East river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 999.

1112. James Bludworth claims 640 acres of land on Lake Acassa, county of Natchitoches.

No. 1000.

1113. James Bludworth claims 640 acres of land on Old river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 1001.

1114. James Bludworth claims 640 acres of land on West bayou, county of Natchitoches.

No. 1002.

1115. James Dill claims 640 acres of land on Bayou St. John, county of Natchitoches.

No. 1003.

1116. James Denny claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Isadize, county of Natchitoches, as per plat of survey by William McLister, dated the 16th March, 1810, filed with the notice. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 1004.

1119. Michel Amon claims 640 acres of land on Bayou du Lac, parish of Avoyelles. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 1005.

1120. Stephen Amon claims 640 acres of land on Bayou du Lac, parish of Avoyelles. A commission to take evidence, in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 1006.

1121. Pierre Jeoffrion claims 640 acres of land on Bayou de Glaize, parish of Avoyelles. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 1007.

1122. Pierre Amon claims 640 acres of land on Bayou du Lac, parish of Avoyelles. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 1008.

1124. Richard Adams and Daniel Smithson claim 640 acres of land in the parish of Avoyelles.

No. 1009.

1126. Robert Tanner claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 1010.

1127. William Pearce claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 1011.

1128. Paul Robert claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 1012.

1129. Stephen Jackson claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 1013.

1130. John Grimble claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 1014.

1131. Joseph Tanner claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 1015.

1132. Henry Burger claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Cannes, county of Rapides.

No. 1016.

1133. William L. Brent claims 160 arpens of land on Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas.

No. 1017.

1134. Joseph Prevost, senior, claims 600 arpens of land on Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas.

No. 1018.

1135. The heirs of Joseph Prevost claims 1,200 arpens of land on Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas.

No. 1019.

1136. Clarke Barton and John S. Harrick claim 800 arpens of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 1020.

1137. The legal representatives of Francois Pomette claim 880 arpens of land on Bayou Petite Anse, county of Attakapas.

No. 1021.

1138. Michel Goldrick claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Casatchi, county of Natchitoches.

No. 1022.

1139. Lefroy Prevost claims 640 acres of land on both sides of Bayou Caron Crow, counties of Opelousas and Attakapas.

No. 1023.

1140. John Folk claims 640 acres of land on Bayou de Grosse Isle, county of Attakapas.

No. 1024.

1142. The heirs of the Widow of Jean Bte. Leonard claim forty arpens of land in the prairie of Avoyelles, county of Rapides. A commission to take evidence in this claim has not been returned.

No. 1025.

1143. Benjamin Louviere claims 40 acres of land in the county of Attakapas.

No. 1026.

1144. Angelic Deshotel claims about 50 arpens of land in the parish of Avoyelles. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 1027.

1145. Juana Dedios claims one league square of land on Bayou Chacon, county of Natchitoches.

No. 1028.

1146. Alexander de Clouet claims 2,000 acres of land on Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas.

No. 1029.

1148. Samuel Reed claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on both sides of Bayou Boeuf, county of Opelousas. The evidence of Joseph Olivier, aged thirty-two years, taken the 7th October, 1813, states that, fourteen years ago, William Casson was occupying said land; that the year following, deponent was again on the land, and found Casson still there, and cultivating on both sides of the bayou; that, when deponent was last on the land, it was occupied by persons to him unknown; and that he has reason to believe it has been inhabited and cultivated constantly for the last fourteen years. A private sale from Casson to Reed, dated the 14th April, 1813, accompanies the notice.

No. 1030.

1149. Hebert Janny claims 640 acres of land at Wolfe Point, county of Opelousas.

No. 1131.

1150. Henry Trent claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Le Loutre, county of Washita. See the evidence in reported No. 1048.

No. 1032.

1151. Andrew Goullette claims 600 arpens of land on Washita river, county of Washita. See the evidence in reported No. 1048.

No. 1033.

1152. Pierre Goullette claims 600 arpens of land on Washita river, county of Washita. See the evidence in reported No. 1048.

No. 1034.

1153. Joseph Goullette claims 600 arpens of land on Washita river, county of Washita. See the evidence in reported No. 1048.

No. 1035.

1154. Abel Burger, junior, claims 600 arpens of land on Washita river, county of Washita. See the evidence in reported No. 1048.

No. 1036.

1155. Charles Duchenne claims 400 arpens of land on Washita river, county of Washita. See the evidence in reported No. 1048.

No. 1037.

1156. John Trent claims 600 arpens of land on Bayou Le Loutre, county of Washita. See the evidence in reported No. 1048.

No. 1038.

1157. Louis De Tournier claims 400 arpens of land,

on Washita river, county of Washita. See the evidence in reported No. 1048.

No. 1039.

1158. Michel Burger claims 600 arpens of land on Washita river, county of Washita. See evidence in reported No. 1048.

No. 1040.

1159. Godfroy Jones claims 640 acres of land on Washita river, county of Washita. See the evidence in reported No. 1048.

No. 1041.

1160. William Trent claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Le Loutre, county of Washita. See the evidence in reported No. 1048.

No. 1042.

1161. Thomas Trent claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Le Loutre, county of Washita. See the evidence in reported No. 1048.

No. 1043.

1162. Henry Abrahams claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Le Loutre, county of Washita. See the evidence in reported No. 1048.

No. 1044.

1163. Francois Cheletre claims 600 acres of land on Bayou Le Loutre, county of Washita. See the evidence in reported No. 1048.

No. 1045.

1164. Louis Duchenne claims 600 acres of land on Bayou Le Loutre, county of Washita. See the evidence in reported No. 1048.

No. 1046.

1165. Andrew Sharrow claims 600 acres of land on Bayou Le Loutre, county of Washita. See the evidence in reported No. 1048.

No. 1047.

1173. Joseph Barbier claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Toupar, county of Washita. See the evidence in reported No. 1048.

No. 1048.

1174. Villetta Warnal claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Toupar, county of Washita.

The evidence of Francois Chevallier, in the preceding eighteen claims, reported Nos. 1030 to 1048, taken by commission the 9th April, 1814, before Jacob Klady, a justice of the peace in and for the parish of Washita, after describing each particular tract of land as claimed, deposing that he believes the claimants are each of them upwards of thirty-five years of age, and some of them heads of families as early as 1800, the time he first became acquainted with them, states, "that the lands claimed by each claimant named in the aforesaid commission were actually inhabited and in cultivation in the year one thousand eight hundred, and continued to the present date." See note S.

No. 1049.

1166. David Gleason, junior, claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Corner, county of Washita. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 1050.

1167. James Gleason claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Corner, county of Washita. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 1051.

1168. Solomon Morfort claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Corner, county of Washita. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 1052.

1169. George Demosk claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Corner, county of Washita. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 1053.

1170. John Demosk claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Corner, county of Washita. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 1054.

1171. James Smith claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Corner, county of Washita. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 1055.

1172. John Smith claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Corner, county of Washita. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 1056.

1175. Samuel Hamilton claims fourteen superficial acres of land, situated in Callaghan's Woods, on Bayou Bellevue, county of Opelousas. See the evidence in the claim of J. Baldwin, reported No. 531.

No. 1057.

1176. Middleton W. Limball, curator of the estate of James Weekley Belvin, claims 200 arpens of land on Bayou Robert, county of Rapides.

No. 1058.

1177. Pedro Keano claims 800 arpens of land on each side of the Bayou of the Ferry, county of Rapides.

No. 1059.

1179. Jean De Lavarre claims 640 arpens of land at the Cut-off on Red river, county of Rapides.

No. 1060.

1180. Joseph Jean Riemos claims 720 arpens of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 1061.

1181. Carolus Perres claims 560 arpens of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No.1062.

1182. Pedro Provo claims 600 arpens of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 1063.

1183. Pedro Trava claims 600 arpens of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 1064.

1184. Julian St. Jago claims 400 arpens of land on each side Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 1065.

1185. Jean Baptiste Bellamere claims 360 arpens of land on each side Rigolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches.

No. 1066.

1186. Pierre Du Bois claims 300 arpens of land on each side of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches.

No. 1067.

1187. Pierre Baptiste Ledoux claims 300 arpens of land on each side of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches.

No. 1068.

1,188. Joseph Santus claims 600 arpens of land on each side of Pine Wood creek, county of Natchitoches.

No. 1069.

1189. Jean Pierre Du Bro claims 300 arpens of land on each side of Bayou Castor, counties of Rapides and Natchitoches.

No. 1070.

1193. Pedro Juan Azevédor claims 600 acres of land on Sicily island, county of Rapides.

No. 1071.

1194. Israel T. Thomas claims 640 acres of land on Lake Providence, county of Rapides.

No. 1072.

1195. Jeremiah Petrè claims 450 acres of land on Lake Providence, county of Rapides.

No. 1073.

1196. Theodore Persino claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 1074.

1197. Etienne Leonardi claims 600 acres of land on Lake Providence, county of Rapides.

No. 1075.

1198. Paul Termé claims 640 acres of land on Lake Providence, county of Rapides.

No. 1076.

1199. John P. Farkin claims 640 acres of land on Sicily island, county of Rapides.

No. 1077.

1200. John Harrison claims 640 acres of land on Sicily island, county of Rapides.

No. 1078.

1206. Nicholas Gallien claims three arpens of land front on each side of Red river, county of Rapides.

No. 1079.

1217. Nehemiah Teunas claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 1080.

1218. William Murphy claims 640 acres of land each side of Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 1081.

1219. Barns Clarke claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Row Gully, county of Rapides.

No. 1082.

1221. James Say claims 640 acres of land on Wiggins' creek, county of Rapides.

No. 1083.

1222. John Say claims 800 arpens of land on each side of Bayou Crocodile, counties of Opelousas and Rapides.

No. 1084.

1223. Himbrick Singleton claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Crocodile, county of Opelousas. A private transfer from Martin Allen to David Evans, dated the 20th April, 1813, and a private transfer from said Evans to the claimant, dated the 2d October, 1813, are filed with the notice.

No. 1085.

1225. Joseph Poiret claims 600 arpens of land at the junction of Middle Bayou with Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 1086.

1226. Nicholas Gracia Vedrecin claims 640 acres of land on the right bank of Red river, Rapides county. A plat of survey for 587 acres, by K. McCrummin, dated the 9th March, 1814, is filed with the notice. The evidence of John Young, taken by commission the 23d June, 1814, states that it is sixteen years since said land has been in cultivation by the claimant.

No. 1087.

1227. Major O'Deir claims 640 acres of land, situated on Bayou Boeuf, county of Opelousas. The notice is accompanied by a private sale from Alexander McCaleb to William Darby, dated the 14th February, 1810, and by him transferred to the claimant, dated the 13th May, 1811.

No. 1088.

1228. Jean Pierre De Cuir claims 600 arpens of land in prairie Long, county of Attakapas.

No. 1089.

1229. Thomas Brodrick claims 800 arpens of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides.

No. 1090.

1230. Alexis Janis claims 640 acres of land in Grand prairie, county of Opelousas.

No. 1091.

1231. William G. Knox claims fourteen superficial acres of land, situated in Callaghan's woods, on Bayou Bellevue, county of Opelousas. See the evidence in the claim of J. Baldwin, reported No. 531.

No. 1092.

1232. The heirs of Stephen Tippet claim 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Opelousas.

No. 1093.

1239. Samuel Owens claims —— superficial acres of land, situated in Callaghan's Woods, on Bayou Bellevue, county of Opelousas. See the evidence in the claim of J. Baldwin, reported No. 531.

No. 1094.

1240. Jacob Baker claims 400 superficial arpens of land, situated in the parish of Avoyelles, between the lands of William Innufty and John Stevens. The evidence of John Ryan, taken by commission the 1st February, 1814, states that the claimant, aged twenty-two years, never did inhabit the land, but that his father commenced cultivating about sixteen years ago, and continued so to do for four years, and caused the land to be surveyed for his son in 1790, by Hugh Coyle, for which reason, together with his cultivation of the land, it has ever since been considered as the property of the Bakers. ☞ The land must have been surveyed in anticipation of claimant's birth by two years. Such evidence is not entitled to credence.

No. 1095.

1241. James F. Porter claims 280 arpens of land on each side of Red river, county of Natchitoches.

No. 1096.

1249. William Murphy claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Rapides.

No. 1097.

1250. Barnes Clarke claims 640 acres of land on each side of Row Gully, county of Rapides. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 1098.

1251. Nehemiah Tunis claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Boeuf, county of Rapides. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned.

No. 1099.

220. Augustin Remy Bodreau claims a tract of land (superficial contents unknown,) situated in the little cove of the Prairie Grand Coteâu, in the county of Opelousas, bounded by Bayou Bourbeux, Bayou des Allemandes, and the lands of David Guidry, excepting from the tract embraced by the foregoing boundaries, six arpens front by forty deep, sold by J. C. Benoist to Philip Richard and Louis Lavergne. The surperficial contents of the part claimed will be established by a plat of survey to be hereafter filed by the claimant. Accompanying the notice is a deed of sale from the claimant to C. M. Lawson, for an undivided half of the land claimed, dated the 25th July, 1812. The evidence of James Haggard, (a deputy surveyor,) states that he was employed in the latter part of 1806 to survey several tracts of land on Bayou Bourbeux, among which were the claimant's two tracts; that, to enable him to perform his duties with correctness, he applied for the papers, when the claimant produced a requete of one Lemel, he believes Dennis Lemel, who prayed for the vacant land in the cove of the bayou, to which was affixed De Clouet's certificate, that fifteen arpens front would be the extent of the vacant land; and the governor, in his order of survey, granted fifteen arpens front; that the deponent considered himself only authorized to survey fifteen arpens front, but the claimant objected to such a survey, contending that he was entitled to all the land in the cove; and, on this objection, the survey was not at this time made; that Boudreau moving out of the county, L. Chacheré, claimant's agent, employed this deponent to survey said land, which he did, laying off fifteen arpens front, as the papers of Lemel called for.

No. 1100.

223. Louis Judice claims 160 superficial arpens of land, viz. four arpens front by forty deep, being the third depth, or second continuation, from the Bayou Teche, county of Attakapas. Reference is had in the notice to Attakapas record book, pages 213 and 214, for further explanation; upon examination of which, it does not appear that any thing contained therein is relevant to the claim in question, or ought to entitle the claimant to his land.

No. 1101.

567. John Adley claims half a league square of land on the right bank of Bayou Pierre, on what has heretofore been called Neutral Ground, county of Natchitoches. Accompanying the notice is a paper which, from what can be decyphered of it, appears to be a requete proces of possession, and a decree in favor of the claimant, dated the 27th December, 1795, for the land as claimed, by Bernardo Hernandez, commandant of the post of Nacogdoches, certified as a copy from the archives of Nacogdoches, the 30th May, 1796, by Bernardo Ferme.

Note.—The register and receiver being unacquainted with the signature of the governor of Nacogdoches, as well as with that of the person who certifies said document to be a true copy, cannot take upon themselves to say that the said document is genuine; and, being perfectly unacquainted with the laws, usages, and customs of the province of Texas, of which the Government of Nacogdoches forms a part, or how far the jurisdiction of that place extended, or if the governor thereof was authorized to grant such large tracts of land, have placed the present claim in this class, leaving it to Congress to point out, by law, some means of ascertaining those facts, and allowing to the claimants their respective tracts of land, should it be found that they are justly entitled thereto.

No. 1102.

583. Pierre Dolet claims two leagues square of land on Bayou Pierre, county of Natchitoches. Accompanying the notice is a paper which, from what can be decyphered of it, appears to be a requete proces of possession, and decree, in favor of the claimant, dated the 14th January, 1796, for the land as claimed, by Bernardo Hernandez, commandant of the post of Nacogdoches, certified as a copy from the archives of Nacogdoches, the 30th May, 1796, by Bernardo Ferme. See the note in the preceding claim, reported No. 1101.

No. 1103.

692. Luke Martin, as one of the heirs of Martin, deceased, claims 1,736 superficial arpens of land, being an undivided fourth of a tract of land granted to the heirs of Martin, by Antonio Gil Harvo, at a place called Bermudes, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Michel Du Roy, taken by commission the 3d August, 1814, states that the land was settled as a vacherie twenty-two years ago by the claimant, aged forty-three years, and the head of a family, who has inhabited and cultivated the same ever since. The permission alluded to is filed in reported No. 351.

No. 1104.

693. Dominique Martin, as one of the heirs of Martin, deceased, claims 1,736 superficial arpens of land, being an undivided fourth of a tract of land granted to the heirs of Martin, by Antonio Gil Harvo, at a place called Bermudes, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Michel Du Roy, taken by commission the 3d August, 1814, states that the land was settled by the claimant, aged forty-five years, and the head of a family, twenty-two years ago, and has been inhabited and cultivated by him and his hirelings ever since. The permission alluded to is filed in reported No. 351.

No. 1105.

694. Theresa Martin, as one of the heirs of Martin, deceased, claims 1,736 superficial arpens of land, being an undivided fourth of a tract of land granted to the heirs of Martin, by Antonio Gil Harvo, at a place called Bermudes, county of Natchitoches, which permission is filed in reported No. 351.

No. 1106.

761. John and Edward Bollen claim 1,600 superficial arpens of land, viz. forty arpens front by forty deep, situated about seven leagues above the village of Natchi-

toches, on the road to Bayou Pierre. Accompanying the notice is a concession from Antonio Gil Harvo, lieutenant governor and commandant of the post of Nacogdoches, to Francisco Morven, dated the 16th October, 1790, giving him permission to settle on lands on the road leading to Bayou Pierre. A deed of sale from the Widow Morven to the claimants, dated the 10th January, 1810, for the land as claimed; and a plat of survey by Lacey Rumsey, assistant for S. Cook, dated the 30th May, 1812, for 1,600 acres. As no proof of occupancy is produced, this claim comes under the note in reported No. 1101.

No. 1107.

876. Madalaine Le Berry claims 180 superficial acres of land, situated on the west bank of Red river, county of Natchitoches, as per plat of survey by J. Irwin, dated the 9th July, 1814, filed with the notice, together with a certified copy of the judicial sale of the land to the claimant, by Felix Trudeau, commandant of the post, dated the 29th December, 1799, for ten arpens front on each side of the river; and a certificate of said Trudeau's, dated the 19th June, 1813, certifying that the land came into claimant's possession at the judicial sale of the estate of Jo. Martineau, deceased. It appears, from Commissioners' certificate B, No. 1895, to which reference is made in the notice, that the claimant has been confirmed to all the land to which she was rightfully entitled under the said sale. The confirmation is, therefore, not recommended.

No. 1108.

1016. Bartholomew McCarty claims 1,600 superficial arpens of land, viz. forty arpens front by forty deep, situated at the Point of Pines, in the county of Opelousas. Reference is had in the notice to Attakapas record book, page 374, for the extract of an order of survey in his favor, from which it appears that the land is granted in the county of Attakapas: it therefore has no relevancy to the present claim, and the report of the former Board of Commissioners on claims in the county of Attakapas, will be found to embrace all the land that the McCartys are entitled to.

No. 1109.

1017. Edmond McCarty claims 1,600 superficial arpens of land, viz. forty arpens front by forty deep, situated at the Point of Pines, in the county of Opelousas. Reference is had in the notice to Attakapas record book, page 374, for the extract of an order of survey in his favor, from which it appears that the land is granted in the county of Attakapas: it therefore has no relevancy to the present claim, and the report of the former Board of Commissioners on claims in the county of Attakapas, will be found to embrace all the land that the McCartys are entitled to.

No. 1110.

1018. The legal representatives of John Bte. McCarty claim 1,600 superficial arpens of land, viz. forty arpens front by forty deep, situated at the Point of Pines, in the county of Opelousas. Reference is had in the notice to Attakapas record book, page 374, for an extract of an order of survey in J. B. McCarty's favor, from which it appears that the land is granted in the county of Attakapas: it therefore has no relevancy to the present claim, and the report of the former Board of Commissioners on claims in the county of Attakapas, will be found to embrace all the land that the McCartys are entitled to.

No. 1111.

446. Louis Lambre claims a tract of land, the quantity of which cannot be ascertained until it shall have been surveyed. The claimant alleges that his claim before the former Board of Commissioners has not been confirmed for the full quantity of land to which he is entitled by the concession from the Spanish Government; that the survey made in conformity with the certificate of confirmation would not include his habitation, and that he is entitled to a larger quantity on account of the opening of lines of depth. It appears that the confirmation, Commissioners' certificate B, No. 1793, embraces all the land which the claimant can rightfully hold under the order of survey which is the basis of his title.

NINTH CLASS.

No. 1112.

17. Onizeme Guidry claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Caron Crow, county of Opelousas. The evidence of Pierre Le Berré, taken the 20th June, 1812, states that, thirteen or fourteen years ago, he assisted in making pens on the land, it being designed for a vacherie; same year a house was built, deponent thinks, on the dividing line between this land and that of Moutons; a Mr. Socks was put in possession, who cultivated one year and attended the cattle; and although the land has never been cultivated since Socks left it, yet it and the adjoining tract have always been respected as the property of Mouton and Guidry, fathers of the two claimants, where their cattle have constantly grazed to the present date.

No. 1113.

18. Joseph Mouton claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Caron Crow, county of Opelousas. See the evidence in the preceding claim.

No. 1114.

78. Antoine Patin claims 1,200 superficial arpens of land, viz. thirty arpens front by forty deep, situated on the east side of Bayou Teche, at Patin's island, county of Attakapas. The evidence of Pierre Moreau, aged forty-five years, taken the 20th July, 1812, states that, from the year 1789 to 1803 or 1804, the land was occupied as a vacherie by the claimant, and superintended by this deponent, who united his stock with that of Patin's; that several of the claimant's negroes were inhabiting and cultivating the land until 1803 or 1804. Deponent recollects to have seen an order of survey for the land, signed by Miro, in favor of the claimant, but which, he has reason to believe, has been lost. Also, the evidence of Nicholas Pellerin, aged fifty-nine years, taken the 5th April, 1813, states that he has resided on the land for seven or eight years preceding this date, by Patin's permission; that seventeen or eighteen years previous to his being put in possession, he knows the negroes of the claimant occupied it as a vacherie under the superintendence of one Moreau; and that, from the marks of culture on the land when he took possession, it must have been cultivated.

No. 1115.

138. Michel Cormier claims 500 superficial arpens of land, viz. twelve and a half arpens front by forty deep, situated at the end of the forty arpens of C. Guilbeau, on the right bank of Bayou Caron Crow, county of Attakapas. Accompanying the notice is a certificate of Cadet St. Julien's, dated the 26th April, 1801, certifying that he had deposited in the office of C. L. Trudeau, surveyor general of the province of Louisiana, a concession in favor of Michel Cormier. The evidence of Auguste Roy, taken the 22d October, 1812, states that the land has been occupied as a vacherie by the claimant for fourteen consecutive years preceding said date, but never inhabited or cultivated, nor were the cattle ever penned there.

No. 1116.

204. Manuel Rachal claims 640 acres of land on L'Isle à Noel, county of Natchitoches. See the evidence in reported No. 1118.

No. 1117.

205. Hilaire Rachal claims 640 acres of land on L'Isle à Noel, county of Natchitoches. See the evidence in reported No. 1118.

No. 1118.

206. Antoine Rachal claims 640 acres of land on L'Isle à Noel, county of Natchitoches. In these three claims, reported Nos. 1116, 1117, and 1118, the evidence of Bertrand Plaisance, taken the 28th September, 1812, establishes the occupancy of the lands as a vacherie for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date by the claimants; that the tracts in question have not been inhabited or cultivated, being subject to inundation.

No. 1119.

207. Bertrand Plaisance claims 640 acres of land on Little Tigre island, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Manuel Rachal, taken the 28th September, 1812, establishes the occupancy of the land by the claimant, as a vacherie, for fourteen or fifteen years preceding this date: the claimant resides on another tract about twelve arpens from the land. Deponent does not believe the land was ever inhabited or cultivated, being subject to inundation, and only fit for pasturage.

No. 1120.

225. Littlepage Robertson claims one league square of land, situated on the right bank of Bayou Boine, about seven leagues west of the town of Natchitoches, and one mile above the old town of Adaye, in the county of Natchitoches. The evidence of William McCarty, taken the 7th October, 1812, states that, eighteen or twenty years ago, the claimant resided on the land where he kept a stock, but does not know if he cultivated. At the time of deponent's removal, about two years after, claimant was then on the land. Also, the evidence of James Quinnelty, aged thirty-eight years, taken the 28th December, 1813, states that the claimant inhabited and cultivated the land for three years, about twenty-two years ago, when, removing, it has been uninhabited ever since.

No. 1121.

245. Alexis Cloutier claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Bayou Derbonne, in the county of Natchitoches; accompanying the notice is a plat of survey by Jo. Irwin, dated the 10th March, 1813, for 640 acres. The evidence of Nicholas Boudin, taken

the 19th October, 1813, states that, twenty-four years ago, he made for claimant's use an establishment on the land with three negroes for a vacherie, where he remained one year, but that it has been occupied and cultivated by the claimant's negroes from that time to the present date.

No. 1122.

367. Alexandré Plauché claims 1,080 superficial arpens of land, situated in the parish of Avoyelles. A certified copy of sale from Julien Poydrass to Plauché's brothers, selling the land, stock, and negroes, dated the 18th October, 1808, accompanies the notice. The evidence of Cyprien La Cour, aged thirty-five years, taken the 21st October, 1812, states that this land is part of a tract conceded to one Bermondez, who occupied it as a vacherie several years previous to his selling to Poydrass, about seventeen years ago; that the land has been inhabited and cultivated as is usual on vacheries, by Poydrass's negroes, for the last seventeen years. Also, the evidence of Bellony Chattelin, aged forty-five years, taken the 21st October, 1812, confirms the testimony of La Cour; and further states that, from long residence in the Avoyelles, he knows the land has been occupied as a vacherie by Bermondez, and those holding under him, for twenty-five consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 1123.

369. Alexandré Plauché claims 643 superficial acres of land, situated in the prairie of Avoyelles, county of Rapides. A plat of survey by K. McCrummin, dated the 12th September, 1812, for 527 acres, accompanies the notice. The evidence of Cyprien La Cour, aged thirty-five years, taken the 21st October, 1812, states that it was well understood in Avoyelles that this land was conceded to Jacques Gagnard, a former commandant of that post, by whom it was occupied many years ago: that, on deponent's removal to Avoyelles eighteen years ago, he found it occupied by Poydrass's negroes as a vacherie, and that it has been so occupied ever since until Poydrass sold to Plauché. Also, the evidence of Bellona Chattelin states that, thirty years ago, on settling in Avoyelles, Jacques Gagnard, then commandant of the post, was residing on the land, and that it has been constantly occupied ever since, either by said Gagnard or those holding under him.

No. 1124.

416. Paul Bonain, junior, claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the west side of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, fronting on the back line of the land of Paul Bonain, senior. The evidence of Frederick Louvier, taken the 23d October, 1812, states that, twenty years ago, the family of the Bonains had fields on this land, and cultivated the same seven or eight years: that a vacherie has been kept on the land for fifteen or sixteen years past by the sons of Bonain, who have resided during that time in their father's family; that no person at present inhabits the land, nor has it been cultivated since the establishment of the vacherie. Claimant resides at the Acadian point.

No. 1125.

429. Eugene Borel claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the west side of Bayou Teche, in the county of Attakapas, fronting on the back line of Joseph Sorrell's land. The evidence of Pierre Bouveillon, aged forty-one years, taken the 16th June, 1813, states that, about thirteen or fourteen years ago, the claimant established Charles Numil on the land as vacherie keeper, who remained one year, and cultivated a small field of corn, since when it has remained unoccupied; that the claimant made some inconsiderable improvements on the land after Numil's removal, with an intention (as deponent supposes) to show he did not abandon his claim.

No 1126.

449. Therese Lamalathie (widow) claims one league square of land, measure of Paris, situated about thirty miles west of the village, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded on the lower side by land of Elizabeth David. The evidence is accompanied by a plat of survey by Joseph Irwin, dated in 1814, for 4,800 acres. The evidence of Bertrand Plaisance, taken the 16th October, 1812, states that, eighteen years ago, one Kaitan was sent by the commandant of Nacogdoches with the claimant to choose a situation for a vacherie, and that said Kaitan was established on the land as stock-keeper, and continued to inhabit and cultivate the same until about a year ago, when he, as well as many others, abandoned their lands on account of robbers infesting that part of the country. Deponent knows that it was the constant practice of the commandants of the posts of Nacogdoches and Natchitoches to give verbal permission for land to applicants; and persons occupying lands under such permission have generally reposed as much confidence in them as those who had titles in form; and that it was usual, at the time this land was granted, for very large tracts to be granted as vacheries, and especially in the quarter where this land is situated. Deponent has understood and believes the claimant was authorized to occupy a league or more square.

No. 1127.

450. Elizabeth David claims one league square of land, Paris measure, situated about thirty miles to eastward of the village, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of Therese Lamalathie. Accompanying the notice is a plat of survey by Joseph Irwin for 4,800 acres of land, dated 1814. The evidence of Bertrand Plaisance, taken the 16th October, 1812, states that this land was settled about the same time, abandoned for the same reasons, and was for the same extent as that of Madam Lamalathie, claimant's aunt, by whom she was advised to apply for land, having been left an orphan at an early age, and inheriting a considerable stock of cattle, and a little of other property. Also, the evidence of Jean Lalonde, stating that the facts stated by B. Plaisance are true; and further, that, on application for land to establish vacheries, the commandants made no difficulty in granting any quantity solicited to the extent of four or five leagues.

No. 1128.

452. John Lalonde claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, situated on Bayou Wannacdon, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Bertrand and Plaisance, taken the 26th October, 1812, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie by Louis McDonald for claimant's use for seventeen consecutive years preceding this date.

No. 1129.

460. John Frederiques Mouton claims 640 superficial acres of land on Little bayou, county of Attakapas. See the evidence in reported No. 1131.

No. 1130.

461. John Frederiques Mouton claims 640 superficial acres of land on Little bayou, county of Attakapas. See the evidence in reported No. 1131.

No. 1131.

462. John Frederique Mouton claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Little bayou, in the county of Attakapas. In these three claims, reported Nos. 1129, 1130, and 1131, the evidence of Theodore Broussard was taken the 30th January, 1813, who states that, about fifteen years ago, he settled on one of the tracts of land in question, there kept a vacherie, attending the stocks of the claimant, C. Broussard, a Mr. Nicholson, and his own; that he remained there three years, cultivating a little corn each year, his usual place of residence being about ten leagues above the land, removing down to the vacherie during the spring and summer months to collect the cattle, &c. And the evidence of Michel Pevoto, aged thirty-five years, taken the 12th February, 1813, states that, about eleven or twelve years ago, he was employed by Theodore Broussard to assist in making a watering place, pens, &c., for the cattle; that no crop was raised on the land during the year he staid there, nor had it any marks of previous culture; that a pen-camp was all the shelter for the people employed, and that Broussard's family resided ten leagues higher up the bayou.

No. 1132.

470. Augusté Langlois claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on River Tahan, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Jean Arnaud Agues, aged forty-one years, taken the 27th October, 1812. establishes the occupancy of the land as a vacherie, by the claimant, for fifteen or sixteen consecutive years preceding this date. The land has never been inhabited or cultivated. The claimant resides one league from the land.

No. 1133.

480. Maria Francois Hemel claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Old river, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Antoine Hi[illegible]nel, taken the 28th October, 1812, establishes the occu[illegible]ncy of the land as a vacherie for sixteen consecutive years by the claimant, whose place of residence is in the neighborhood of the land, which has not been inhabited or cultivated.

No. 1134.

769. Joseph de Buelet claims 640 su[illegible]perficial acres of land, situated on Lake Peignier, county of Attakapas, as plat of survey by J. L. Johnson, date[illegible] the 17th August, 1814, filed with the notice. The e[illegible]vidence of Hilarie Decoux, taken 14th September, 1814, establishes the land to have been established as a vache[illegible]ie, and cultivated for eighteen consecutive years prece[illegible]ding this date, by the hirelings of the claimant, who r[illegible]esides four leagues from the land.

No. 11[illegible]35.

797. Julien Rachal claims [illegible]40 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank [illegible] of River Attahoo, county of Natchitoches. The eviden[illegible]ce of Francois Roubeau, taken

the 29th August, 1813, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated, chiefly as a vacherie, for twelve consecutive years preceding this date by the negroes of the claimant, who resides one and a half leagues from this land.

No. 1136.

800. Hilaire Lavaspierre claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of River Attahoo, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Francois Roubeau, taken the 29th August, 1813, establishes the occupancy of the land as a vacherie, and the cultivation thereof, by the negroes of the claimant, under the direction of a white man, for eleven consecutive years preceding this date. The claimant, now twenty-four years of age, resides with his father on another tract.

No. 1137.

802. Jn. Pierre Marie Dubois claims 563 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Little river, in the county of Natchitoches, as per plat of survey by Joseph Irwin, dated the 9th November, 1814. The evidence of Julien Rachal, taken the 29th August, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie by Baptiste Dennis, for the use of the claimant, for twelve consecutive years preceding this date. Dubois resides some distance from the land on another tract.

No. 1138.

803. Antoine Rachal claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Francois Roubeau, taken the 29th August, 1814, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie for fourteen consecutive years preceding this date by the nogroes of the claimant, who resides on another tract.

No. 1139.

804. Sylvester Rachal claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Francois Roubeau, taken the 29th August, 1814, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie for twelve consecutive years preceding this date by a Spaniard named Nacos, for the use of the claimant, who resides with his father.

No. 1140.

805. Narcis Rachal claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Francois Roubeau, taken the 29th August, 1814, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie for twelve consecutive years preceding this date, by a Canadian, for the use of the claimant, who resides two leagues from the land.

No. 1141.

817. Berthélémi Rachal, junr., claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of River Attahoo, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Jean Bte. Anty, taken the 15th September, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie for fifteen consecutive years preceding this date, by Ahilette, for the use of the claimant.

No. 1142.

819. Francois Metoyer claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the Bayou Derbonne, in the county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Pierre Carey, taken the 15th September, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land for a vacherie for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date, by the persons employed by the claimant, who resides on a place he purchased of his brother.

No. 1143.

824. Jn. Bte. Anty, junior, claims ten arpens front (on each side) by ten arpens deep, of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, at Red Cliffs, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Antoine Bmi. Rachal, taken the 15th September, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date, by one Sanches, for the use of the claimant, who resides on another tract.

No. 1144.

826. Maria Aspasia Derbonne claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep, situated on Little river, in the county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Jean Bte. Anty, taken the 13th September, 1813, states that the land has been occupied and cultivated as a vacherie for the claimant, by one Derowen, for seventeen or eighteen consecutive years preceding this date; that, previous to the death of claimant's husband, she resided on the land, but since that event, about twelve years ago, she has resided with her father.

No. 1145.

835. Athanase Dupré claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Thomas Graham, taken the 20th September, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie for five or six consecutive years preceding this date, sometimes by the claimant, and sometimes by others for his use. Claimant resides two leagues from the land.

No. 1146.

836. Louis Guillory (a free man of color) claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Athanase Dupré, taken the 20th September, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land by the claimant for thirteen consecutive years preceding this date, as a vacherie.

No. 1147.

841. Hellaire Rachal claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Jn. Bte. Rachal, taken the 18th December, 1813, states that the land has never been inhabited or cultivated, the claimant having only taken timber off the land and kept his horses and cattle thereon: the claimant resides seven or eight leagues from the land.

No. 1148.

844. Widow Dennis Buard claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on both sides of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Baltazar Brevel, taken 23d September, 1813, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated by the claimant and her family for fifteen consecutive years preceding this date. It was established by the former husband of the claimant, and designed as a vacherie: he has been dead twelve years.

No. 1149.

845. Jean Jacques Lambert claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Bayou Nantaché, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, taken the 9th October, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie, for twenty consecutive years, by the hirelings of the claimant.

No. 1150.

849. Jn. Bte. Brasset, jun., claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Little river, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Baltazar Bevel, taken the 24th September, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie, for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date, generally by the hirelings of the claimant, who resides with his brother-in-law. A small cabin, peach trees, and pens, are all the improvements.

No. 1151.

850. Pierre Victorien Mettoyer claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Bayou Nantaché, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, taken the 24th September, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie, for fifteen or sixteen consecutive years preceding this date, by the hirelings of the claimant, who resides about one and a half leagues from the land.

No. 1152.

852. Pierre Compere claims 800 superficial acres of land, viz. twenty arpens front by forty deep, situated on Little river, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, taken 9th October, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie, for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date, by the hirelings of the claimant.

No. 1153.

855. Joseph Derbonne, sen., claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on each side of Little river, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Baltazar Brevel, taken 24th September, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie, for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date, by the hirelings of the claimant, who resides on another tract.

No. 1154.

857. Jacquet Lecompte claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Red river, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Michel Du Roy, taken by commission the 3d August 1814, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie, for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date, by the hirelings of the claimant, and who died about six months ago.

No. 1155.

863. Valentine Adley claims 300 superficial arpens of land, viz. twenty arpens front by fifteen deep, situated on the right bank of Red river, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Jn. Bte. Bmi. Rachal, taken 13th December, 1813, establishes that the land has never been inhabited or cultivated, although the stock of the claimant has been usually kept there: claimant lives about ten leagues from the land.

No. 1156.

865. Jean Bte. Adley claims 640 superficial acres of

land, situated on the right bank of Red river, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Jn. Bte. Bmi. Rachal, taken the 13th December, 1813, establishes that the land has never been inhabited nor cultivated, although the stock of the claimant has usually been kept there: claimant resides ten leagues from the land.

No. 1157.

870. Marcellitte Martin claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Little river, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, taken 23d September, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie, for thirteen consecutive years preceding this date, by the hirelings of the claimant, who resides on another tract.

No. 1158.

871. Victorean Lavasseur claims 640 superficial acres of land, viz. twenty arpens front on each side of Little river, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, taken 23d September, 1813, establishes the land to have been occupied and cultivated for raising hogs, for fourteen consecutive years preceding this date, by the hireling of the claimant.

No. 1159.

872. Antoine Berjean claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Little river, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, taken the 23d September, 1813, establishes that the claimant has resided on the land for fifteen consecutive years preceding this date; that the establishment was intended as a vacherie, but that Berjean has regularly and constantly cultivated some part of the land.

No. 1160.

881. Baltazar Brevil claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the left bank of river Attahoo, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, taken 24th September, 1814, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie, for nineteen consecutive years preceding this date, by the hirelings of the claimant, who resides about one league from the land.

No. 1161.

919. Placide Bossieur claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the Lake Clear, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Soulange Bossier, taken the 8th October, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie, for twenty-four consecutive years preceding this date, by the claimant and his hirelings.

No. 1162.

920. André Dumas claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Bayou Courant, county of Natchitoches; a plat of survey for 437 acres, by Joseph Irwin, dated the 20th July, 1814. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, taken the 8th October, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie, for fifteen or sixteen consecutive years preceding this date—the first six years by the claimant, and subsequently by his hirelings.

No. 1163.

921. Godfroy Lavasspare claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Rigolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, taken the 8th October, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie, for seventeen consecutive years preceding this date, by the claimant or his hirelings.

No. 1164.

923. Simon Goyé claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the right bank of Little river, county of Natchitoches, as per plat of survey by Joseph Irwin for 318 acres, dated the 30th July, 1814, filed with the notice. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, taken the 8th October, 1813, establishes that the first establishment was made twenty-five years ago by the claimant, who continued thereon three years, and then left it in charge of his hirelings, together with his stock, hogs, &c.; that his hirelings have kept it up ever since.

No. 1165.

928. Emanuel Prudhomme, jr., claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Bayou Dupont, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, taken the 9th October, 1813, states that the land was inhabited twenty-five years ago as a vacherie by the claimant and his negroes and hirelings, but how long continued, he does not know. Also, the evidence of Joseph de la Bega, taken by commission the 14th April, 1814, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated by the claimant about twenty years, deponent having seen him and his slaves thereon thirty years past.

No. 1166.

934. Dominique Rachal claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Rigolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Baltazar Brevel, taken the 18th October, 1813, establishes the occupancy of the land as a vacherie for sixteen consecutive years preceding this date, by the claimaint and his hirelings.

No. 1167.

954. Amant Broussard claims 400 superficial arpens of land, viz. ten arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the east side of Bayou Vermillion, county of Attakapas. The evidence of Francois Le Beauvre, aged thirty-seven years, taken the 18th December, 1813, states that, from his earliest recollection, the land has been occupied as a vacherie by the claimant, until about sixteen years ago, his stock was removed since, when the land has been respected by his neighbors as the property of the claimant.

No. 1168.

1021. Jean Francisco Ortago claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the west side of Bayou Nezpiqué, county of Opelousas. The evidence of Michel Papillon, taken 14th July, 1814, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie from 1801 to the present date, by the hirelings of the claimant, who resides twelve leagues from the land.

No. 1169.

1023. Rose Dupré claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Rigolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Joseph Procelle, taken the 14th December, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie, for thirteen or fourteen consecutive years preceding this date, by the claimant and her negroes.

No. 1170.

1024. Dolino Dolly claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Rigolet du Bon Dieu, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Joseph Procelle, taken 14th December, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie for thirteen or fourteen consecutive years preceding this date, the negroes of the claimant who resides twelve leagues from the land.

No. 1171.

1026. John Smith claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on Bayou Jeat, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Louis Sydic, taken the 5th December, 1813, establishes the occupancy of the land as a vacharie for eleven consecutive years preceding this date, and the cultivation thereof for the last eight years by the claimant's hirelings.

No. 1172.

1027. Sarah Walters claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated on the Bayou Jeat, Turkey Banks, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Louis Sydic, taken the 5th December, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie, for eight or nine consecutive years preceding this date, by the claimant's hirelings.

No. 1171.

1029. Maria Louise Dupré claims 640 superficial acres of land, situated in the Prairie Tancock, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Louis Sydic, taken the 5th December, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie, for twelve consecutive years preceding this date, by the claimant's hirelings.

No. 1174.

869. Baptiste Savoy claims 640 superficial acres of land on Brosse island, county of Natchitoches. The evidence of Manuel Derbonne, taken the 23d September, 1813, establishes the occupancy and cultivation of the land as a vacherie, for fourteen consecutive years preceding this date, by the hirelings of the claimant, who resides on another tract.

TENTH CLASS.

No. 1175.

42. The heirs of Victor Richard claim about 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. from 15 to 20 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on Bayou Queue de Tortue, in the county of Attakapas; claimed under a deed of sale from Ashnoya, an Attakapas Indian, to Edward Forman, passed the 6th April, 1802, before L. C. De Blanc, then commandant; a certified copy of which sale accompanies the notice, transferred, on the back, to Victor Richard, but not dated or signed. The evidence of Edward Forman, taken the 8th July, 1812, states that the purchase was made on account of V. Richard, out of whose stock the purchase money was paid. The commandant refused to insert Richard's name in the deed at the time of the sale, without instructions to that effect from Richard; and that the land never has been inhabited, but a vacherie was kept thereon for three or four years; about thirteen years ago, posts were put in the ground, and timber for a house hauled on the land, which was not put up.

No. 1176.

566. William Gilchrist claims 2,000 superficial arpens

of land, viz. 50 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on Bayou Plaquemines Brulées, in the county of Opelousas, bounded above by land of Duralde. The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of a sale from Jacob, an Indian of the Attakapas tribe, for the land as claimed, dated the 31st December, 1803, passed before Honoré De la Chaise, then acting as commandant for the French Republic. The evidence of Dotrif Andrus, taken the 11th July, 1814, states that, fourteen or fifteen years ago, the Indians abandoned this land, where they had their village, since when it has been uninhabited and cultivated. That the Indian who sold Gilchrist was an Indian of note, but not the chief of the village, as deponent has understood.

No. 1177.

885. Athanase Poisot claims a tract of land situated between the Three Cabins and the small prairie Nabutscahé, where a large bayou passes, in the county of Natchitoches; claimed under a deed of sale from Antoine, chief of the Hyatasse Indians, and other Indians, to the claimant, passed the 18th June, 1784, before Vaugine, then commandant; a certified copy of which sale accompanies the notice.

No. 1178.

908. Reuben Barrow claims 2,000 superficial arpens of land, viz. 45 or 50 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the right bank of Bayou Queue de Tortue, in the county of Opelousas; claimed under a deed of sale from Celestin, chief of the Attakapas Indians, of Mementou, Bernard, a medal chief, and Little John, an Oscal captain, to the claimant, passed the 9th August, 1802, before L. C. De Blanc, then commandant. A certified copy of said sale accompanies the notice.

ELEVENTH CLASS.

No. 1179.

1001. The legal representatives of Benjamin Ritchie claim 480 superficial arpens of land, viz. 12 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the north side of the grand Bayou Cotie, at the Prairie Basse, in the parish of Rapides, bounded above and below by vacant land; claimed under a requete by B. Ritchie, for the land as claimed, with the usual certificate by the commandant, V. Layssard, dated the 15th May, 1801. The requete accompanies the notice. See note L.

No. 1180.

1190. John Cooney claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. 20 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the Bayou Boeuf, in the county of Rapides, bounded below by Manuel Martin's land. Accompanying the notice is a requete by the claimant, approved the 10th January, 1799, by Valentine Layssard, the then commandant. See note L.

No. 1181.

1191. John Moore claims 800 superficial arpens of land, viz. 20 arpens front by 40 deep, situated on the right bank of Red river, in the county of Rapides, a mile below the Bayou Lattaniere. Accompanying the notice is a requete by the claimant, approved the 5th March, 1799, by Valentine Layssard, then commandant. See note L.

No. 1182.

1192. Manuel Martin claims 1,600 superficial arpens of land, viz. 40 arpens front 40 deep, situated below the line of the Beluxy Indians, in the county of Rapides. Accompanying the notice is a requete by the claimant, approved the 25th June, 1797, by Valentine Layssard, then commandant. See note L.

No. 1183.

1224. David Lard claims 320 superficial arpens of land, viz. eight arpens front by forty deep, situated on the left bank of Bayou Rapides, county of Rapides; claimed under a requete by the claimant, and sanctioned by Cesar Archinard, alcade, dated the 13th July, 1801; which requete accompanies the notice. See note L.

No. 1184.

1242. Bernard Martin Despallier claims two leagues square of land, situated on Bayou Castor, county of Natchitoches. Accompanying the notice is a requete by the claimant, conceded the 22d January, 1803, by José Louis de la Bega, commandant. See note L.

No. 1185.

1243. Bisente Florus claims two leagues of land on each side of the rivulet of Bateria, in the county of Natchitoches. Accompanying the notice is a requete by the claimant, conceded the 18th July, 1799, by José Louis de la Bega, commandant. See note L.

No. 1186.

1244. José Maria Mora claims one league square of land, at a place called "The head of the name of God," in the county of Natchitoches, sixteen leagues distant from the post. Accompanying the notice is a requete by the claimant, conceded the 10th July, 1797, by José Louis de la Bega, commandant. See note L.

No. 1187.

1245. Bisenté Travieso claims one league square of land, situated on Bayou Castor, in the county of Natchitoches, distant from the post thirteen or fourteen leagues. Accompanying the notice is a requete by the claimant, conceded the 10th of August, 1798, by José de la Bega, commandant. See note L.

No. 1188.

781. Jean Lafleur claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1189.

782. Bernardo Mario claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1190.

783. Bernardo Grande claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1191.

784. Jacques Charlaise claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1192.

785. Jean B. Lafleur claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1193.

786. George B. Sharp claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1194.

787. Laurent Precillios claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1195.

788. Jean Merrimore claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1196.

891. Antoine La Roche claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1197.

892. Etienne J. Prevost claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1198.

894. Louis Bonain claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1199.

897. Pierre B. Morvin claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1200.

898. Charles Morvin claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1201.

899. Jacques Gizernat claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1202.

900. Pierre Cuille claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1203.

901. Jean Burgard claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1204.

902. Jean Lacase claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1205.

903. Julien Floran claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1206.

904. Pierre Lafon claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1207.

905. Pierre Gaudet claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1208.

906. Charles Gaudet claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1209.

907. Jean Philiberg claims 640 acres of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1210.

988. Jean Bte. Godneat claims two leagues square of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1211.

990. José La Barbe claims one league square of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1212.

991. Jean Pierre Chici claims two leagues square of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. 1213.

No. 1213.

989. Jean Morven claims one league square of land on Red river, county of Natchitoches. See reported No. ——. These twenty-six claims, reported Nos. 1188 to 1213, inclusive, were entered under the act of Congress

of 27th February, 1813, by Richard K. McLaughlin, as agent for the claimants, who applied for, and obtained, on the *written* affidavits of the claimants, commissions to take testimony before the judge of the parish of Natchitoches, or any justice of the peace thereof; and, on the 25th April, 1814, the said commissions were returned to the office with the depositions of different persons thereto annexed, these depositions being in the English language, and signed by one Marcel De Soto, a Frenchman, as having been taken before him as a justice of the peace for said parish. A day or two previous to the said returns being sent to the office, the judge of the said parish, P. D. Lafontaine, had sent to the receiver and register an authenticated copy of a protest made before him by the aforesaid De Soto, protesting against the said McLaughlin and all others concerned, as having sureptitiously obtained his signature to the said returns, they being in a language he was totally ignorant of. This protest, with the several attending circumstances, viz. the affidavits, returns, signatures, &c. being apparently in the said McLaughlin's hand-writing; the names of several of the claimants being found upon inquiry to be fictitious, together with the said McLaughlin's having left the State without attempting to counteract the effects of the protest, although personally shown to him, proves sufficiently the fraudulent intent, and overthrows the validity of said testimony. It is therefore deemed unnecessary to swell the report by transcribing the same.

No. 1214.

312. William Banks claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia. The evidence of Ezekiel Williams, taken the 20th December, 1813, proves the first settlement of the land in 1802, by John Smith, who, having occupied it three years, sold to the claimant, whose overseer and negroes have occupied and cultivated the same ever since. See reported No. 1227.

No. 1215.

313. John Jenkins claims 525 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia. The evidence of Ezekiel Williams, taken the 20th December, 1813, states that the claimant settled on the land in the spring of 1800, and has inhabited and cultivated the same ever since; that the claimant is about thirty-seven years of age, and the head of a family. See reported No. 1227.

No. 1216.

336. Edward Dorsey claims 512 acres of land on Bayou Mason, county of Rapide. The evidence of Ezekiel Williams, taken the 20th December, 1813, states that one Smith settled on the land in the fall of the year 1800, and has continued to inhabit and cultivate the same ever since, for the last three years, as the tenant of the claimant, to whom he sold. See reported No. 1227.

No. 1217.

338. Richard Young claims 640 acres of land on Lake Tensaw, county of Concordia. The evidence of Ezekiel Williams, taken the 20th December, 1813, states that the claimant commenced his improvements on said land at the same time that Miller did in 1800, and has continued to inhabit and cultivate the same ever since, except one year that it was occupied by one Malden, at which time claimant had gone to Pennsylvania for his family. See reported No. 1227.

No. 1218.

339. Benjamin H. Wells claims 640 acres of land on Lake Tensaw, county of Concordia. The evidence of Ezekiel Williams, taken the 20th December, 1813, states that, in December, 1800, or January, 1801, one Baptiste settled on the land, occupied and cultivated the same for four years, when, selling to the claimant, he has inhabited and cultivated the same ever since. See reported No. 1227.

No. 1219.

340. Shadrack S. Inmond claims 640 acres of land on Lake Tensaw, county of Concordia. The evidence of Ezekiel Williams, taken the 20th December, 1813, states that, in December 1800, or January, 1801, Louis Chartier settled on the land, occupied it four years, and sold it to the claimant, who has inhabited and cultivated the same ever since. See reported No. 1227.

No. 1220.

612. Moses Burnet claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia. The evidence of Ezekiel Williams, taken the 20th December, 1813, states that the land has been constantly inhabited and cultivated from the year 1802 to the present date, the first two years by William Moore, then by Enoch Drake, who sold to the claimant about two years ago, and since by John Thompson, as claimant's tenant. See reported No. 1227.

No. 1221.

889. David Lee claims 720 acres of land on Lake Vidal, county of Concordia. The evidence of Ezekiel Williams, taken the 29th November, 1813, by commission, states that the land was improved in the month of June, 1801, and has, the deponent believes, been continued ever since. See reported No. 1227.

No. 1222.

1068. Elisha Whatley claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Mason, parish of Cattahoula, accompanied by a deed of sale from Jacob Springer to the claimant, dated the 15th December, 1813. The evidence of Ezekiel Williams, aged fifty-seven years, taken the 20th December, 1813, states that Springer settled on the land in February or March, 1800; that he still inhabits the land; and deponent has reason to believe that he has constantly inhabited and cultivated the same from 1800 to the present date: the last two years as tenant of the claimant, See reported No. 1227.

No. 1223.

1069. James Nelson claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Mason, county of Rapides, accompanied by a deed of sale from James Nelson to Elisha Whatley, dated the 16th December, 1813. The evidence of Ezekiel Williams, taken the 20th December, 1813, states that the claimant settled on the land in December, 1801, or January, 1802, and has inhabited and cultivated the same ever since. See reported No. 1227.

No. 1224.

1070. Mirrel Boudin claims 320 acres of land in prairie Jacob, parish of Cattahoula. The affidavit of Heziel Williamson, sworn to before Samuel Lightner, judge of the parish of Cattahoula, the 7th January, 1814, states that, some time in the year 1800, he passed through the west end of Prairie Jacob, and there found two young men, named John and Mirrel Boudin, occupying two separate tracts of land which they now occupy, and which deponent has reason to believe they have constantly occupied from 1800 to the present date, having frequently visited that part of the country, and always found them there. See reported No. 1227.

No. 1225.

1073. John Boudin claims 640 acres of land in prairie Jacob, parish of Cattahoula. See the evidence in the preceding claim, and reported No. 1227.

No. 1226.

1071. John Rails claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia. The evidence of Ezekiel Williams, taken the 20th December, 1813, establishes the land to have been constantly inhabited and cultivated, from March, 1801, to the present date, for the first six years by William Thompson, and subsequently by the claimant. See reported No. 1227.

No. 1227.

1072. Solomon C. Phillips claims 640 acres of land on the river Mississippi, county of Concordia. The evidence of Ezekiel Williams, taken the 20th December, 1813, states that the land has been constantly inhabited and cultivated, from February, 1802, to the present date, until the last four or five years, by Samuel Hanna, and subsequently by the negroes and overseer of the claimant. The evidence of William Gardner, aged forty-seven years, taken in the claims of Edward Dorsey and others, reported Nos. 1214 to 1227, inclusive, the 20th December, 1805, being sworn before the register and receiver, deposeth that, in the spring and summer of the year 1807, he explored the lands on the Washita river, the river of Boeuf, Bayou Mason, and Prairie Jacob, in the parish of Cattahoula, with a view of establishing himself in that quarter; at which time he recollects to have been at the cabin of Seth Dean, who had, that spring, commenced a settlement on the left bank of Bayou Mason, not far above its mouth. The deponent further saith that he knows of no settlements on the Bayou Mason, nor any in the Prairie Jacob, at the date above mentioned, except the one made by said Dean, and has good reason to believe that no settlements were made on said bayou, or in Prairie Jacob, earlier than the year 1807; he is the more inclined to believe so, from knowing that Mr. Dean was under the necessity of sending to Mr. Lovelace's, on Sicily island, for his seed corn, which it is presumable he would not have done if he could have procured it nearer to him. Edmund Johnson, aged fifty-three years, being sworn in the same claims, deposeth that he was on the Washita, and in the Prairie Jacob, in the year 1807, when he recollects to have gathered cucumbers on the place where said Gardner had settled that spring; and having heard the evidence of said Gardner, knows that the facts therein stated are substantially true. See note L.

No. 1228.

515. George Hook claims 240 acres of land, situated on Bayou Le Loutre, county of Washita. The evidence of Jonas Segars, taken the 19th November, 1813, establishes the constant occupancy and cultivation of the

land for seventeen years preceding this date, first by John Hull, and subsequently by George Hook. See reported No. 1233.

No. 1229.

517. Carter Hollings claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Derbonne, county of Washita. The evidence of Jonas Segars, taken the 19th November, 1813, establishes the constant occupancy and cultivation of the land by Francois Chevallier, from the year 1796 to 1812, of whom the claimant purchased, and with whom he resided for several years. See reported No. 1233.

No. 1230.

958. James Brown claims 560 acres of land on Washita river, in the county of Washita. The evidence of Jonas Segars, taken the 19th November, 1813, states that the land has been cultivated for seventeen consecutive years preceding this date by the tenants of the claimant, who is an old man, has no family, and, being in bad health, has usually resided with some family in the parish, or been travelling for his health, these seventeen years. See reported No. 1233.

No. 1231.

960. Bagwell Baillio claims 300 arpens of land on Washita river, county of Washita. The evidence of Jonas Segars, taken the 19th November, 1813, states that the land has been cultivated, to his knowledge, for the last seventeen years, and has reason to believe it was occupied previous to his becoming acquainted with it; that the deponent purchased the land from one McCounts, the original occupant, but believes he got no written transfer; that the claimant resides on an adjoining tract, but has cultivated for several years the land in question. See reported No. 1233.

No. 1232.

961. Godfroy Jones claims 400 arpens of land at the junction of Bayou Derbonne with Washita river, county of Washita. The evidence of Jonas Segars, taken the 19th November, 1813, states that the land has been inhabited and cultivated for seventeen years preceding this date, by the claimant, and those under whom he claims. The family of the Goulletts were the first occupants known to this deponent. The notice is accompanied by a private deed of sale from the Widow Goullet to the claimant, dated the 20th June, 1813. Louis Goullet has a certificate, No. 2088, for ten years' occupancy. See reported No. 1233.

No. 1233.

965. Louis Hebert claims 400 arpens of land on Bayou Toupar, county of Washita. The evidence of Jonas Segars, taken the 19th November, 1813, states that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land for sixteen or seventeen years constantly preceding this date. John Hughes, esq. and John Hebert declare that they are well acquainted with Louis Hebert, the claimant, who came to the district of Washita about *thirteen* years ago; that he certainly never did reside on Bayou Toupart, but has, for several years, resided about *sixty* miles below, on Washita river, on lands belonging to Louis Lemy and Joseph Barbier. See note L.

No. 1234.

966. The legal representatives of Dawson Hull claim 240 arpens of land on Washita river, county of Washita. The evidence of Jonas Segars, taken the 19th November, 1813, states that Dawson Hull had inhabited and cultivated the land claimed for fifteen consecutive years previous to his death, which happened about two years ago, aged eighty years. See the evidence in the preceding claim, reported No. 1233.

No. 1235.

613. George Sanderson claims 640 acres of land on Deer creek, on the Island of Sicily, parish of Cattahoula. The evidence of Henry Combs, taken the 15th December, 1813, that the claimant has constantly inhabited and cultivated the land from the year 1803 to the present date. See reported No. ——, and note L.

No. 1236.

618. James Doss claims 640 arces of land on Bayou Mason, parish of Cattahoula. The evidence of Henry Combs, taken the 15th December, 1813, states that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land constantly from the year 1803 to the present date. See reported No. ——, and note L.

No. 1237.

998. John Rutledge claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Mason, parish of Cattahoula. The evidence of Henry Combs, taken the 15th December, 1813, states that the claimant settled on the land in 1803, and has constantly inhabited and cultivated the same ever since. See reported No. ——, and note L.

No. 1238.

1033. Samuel Clements claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Bushley, parish of Cattahoula. The evidence of Henry Combs, taken the 15th December, 1813, states that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land constantly since 1802. See reported No. —, and note L.

No. 1239.

1037. Jonathan Sparks claims 640 acres of land on both sides of Stokeley's creek, parish of Cattahoula. The evidence of Henry Combs, taken the 15th December, 1813, states that the claimant settled on the land in 1803, and has inhabited and cultivated the same ever since. See note L.

No. 1240.

1038. John Lockart claims 640 acres of land on both sides of Stockley's creek, parish of Cattahoula. The evidence of Henry Combs, taken the 15th December, 1813, states that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land from the year 1803 to the present date. See note L.

No. 1241.

1039. Richard Stevenson claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Mason, parish of Cattahoula. The evidence of Henry Combs, taken the 15th December, 1813, states that the claimant has constantly inhabited and cultivated the land from the year 1803 to the present date. See note L.

No. 1242.

1041. Jonas Fitzgerald claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Mason, parish of Cattahoula. The evidence of Henry Combs, taken the 15th December, 1813, states that the claimant has constantly inhabited and cultivated the land from the year 1803 to the present date. See reported No. ——, see note L.

No. 1243.

1042. Jonathan Downey claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Mason, parish of Cattahoula. The evidence of Henry Combs, taken the 15th December, 1813, states that the claimant has constantly inhabited and cultivated the land from the year 1803 to the present date. See reported No. ——, see note L.

No. 1244.

1045. James Gordon claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Mason, county of Rapides. The evidence of Henry Combs, taken the 15th December, 1813, states that the claimant settled on the land in the year 1803, and has constantly inhabited and cultivated the same ever since. See reported No. ——, see note L.

No. 1245.

1046. John Paul claims 640 acres of land on Sicily island, parish of Cattahoula. The evidence of Henry Combs, taken the 15th December, 1813, states that the claimant has inhabited and cultivated the land constantly from the year 1803. See note L.

No. 1246.

1047. John Sanders claim 640 acres of land on Bayou Mason, parish of Cattahoula. The evidence of Henry Combs, taken the 15th December, 1813, states that the claimant settled on the land in the year 1803, and has constantly inhabited and cultivated the same to the present date. See reported No. ——, see note L.

No. 1247.

1035. Henry Combs claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Mason, parish of Cattahoula. The evidence of John Rutledge, taken the 15th December, 1813, states that the claimant settled on the land in 1803, and has inhabited and cultivated the same ever since. See reported No. ——, see note L.

No. 1248.

1036. George Cavenner claims 640 acres of land on both sides of Bayou Funneleur, parish of Cattahoula. The evidence of John Rutledge, taken the 15th December, 1813, states that the claimant settled on the land in 1803, and has inhabited and cultivated the same ever since. See reported No. ——, see note L.

No. 1249.

1044. James Diven claims 640 acres of land on Bayou Fenneleur, parish of Cattahoula. The evidence of John Rutledge, taken the 15th December, 1813, states that the claimant settled on the land in 1803, and has constantly inhabited and cultivated the same ever since. See note L.

No. 1250.

1040. John Layless claims 640 acres of land, situated on Bayou *Mason*, parish of Cattahoula. See note L.

No. 1251.

1043. James Bullock claims 640 acres of land, situated on Bayou *Mason*, parish of Cattahoula. A commission to take evidence, issued in this claim, has not been returned. See note L.

TWELFTH CLASS.

No. 1252.

170. Bosra, an Indian, claims 301 superficial acres of land, situated on the southwest side of Avoyelles prairie, county of Rapides, bounded on one side by land of Hy-

polite Freon, and on the other by that of Joseph Carmouche, as per plat of survey by K. C. McCrummin, dated the 7th May, 1808, filed with the notice, together with a certified copy of a letter from Governor Miro to Jacques Gagnard, commandant of the post of Avoyelles, under date of the 6th October, 1786, of which the following is a translation, viz. "Having informed myself of the Indians, about the abandonment of the land which you speak of in yours of the 20th June last, they exclaim very much against it, saying that they have but one league of land; that, consequently, they have use for their land for their cattle. You will therefore tell Mr. Bordelon and Vitrine to look out for some other part to place themselves, as the lands they demand belong to the Indians, and that they cannot have them but by a formal sale, as the Indians have known rights that ought to be respected every where."

It appears from the plat filed in this claim that the Indian is bounded on each by the claims of other persons, by which he is confined to the small quantity claimed. The register and receiver are of opinion that Bosra has a valid title in the land claimed, with the restriction imposed on other Indian titles within the limits of the United States: they therefore recommend the claim for confirmation.

The following are claims which were reported by the late Board of Commissioners for adjusting claims to land in the western district of the late Territory of Orleans, now State of Louisiana, in which "written evidence or other testimony" has been adduced, in conformity with the second section of an act of Congress, passed the 27th February, 1813, entitled "An act giving further time for registering claims to land in the eastern and western districts of the Territory of Orleans, now State of Louisiana."

CLAIMS TO LAND IN THE COUNTY OF CONCORDIA.

No. 1253.

3. In the claim of Robert Ashley, reported under the No. 3, the evidence of Peter Smith, taken by commission issued by the former Board of Commissioners, the 25th of May, 1812, and returned by John Melikan, judge of the parish of Warren, county of Concordia, as having been duly taken before him on the 9th April, 1813, states that he does not recollect as to the date the land was first settled, but knows that a Mr. Reding and Mr. Sheridan were all the people who lived on the lake, except Cushin and Spellers and Thomas Oliver; deponent does not know whether permission to settle was given; he knows that troops passed down the river while he lived there, and knows that Job Rauth did not settle there for one or two years after, thinks in 1806. The register and receiver discover nothing in the evidence now adduced to induce them to differ in opinion from the late Board of Commissioners in this case. The claim therefore ought not to be confirmed.

No. 1254.

147. In the claim of Richard McFarland, reported under the No. 147, the following documents were filed with the register in due time, viz. a deed of sale from the judge of the parish of Concordia to Charles B. Green, dated the 23d October, 1809, selling a tract of land as the property of Richard McFarland for the taxes, situated on the west margin of the river Mississippi, adjoining lands of Solomon Phelps and others, about twelve or fourteen miles above the post of Concordia, containing 410 acres, more or less, and an authenticated deed of sale from said Green to John Perkins for the same land, dated the 22d February, 1810, the evidence of Sarah Gibbs, taken by a commission issued by the register and receiver, the 11th August, 1813, and returned by Samuel Brooks, a justice of the quorum for Adams county, Mississippi Territory, as having been duly taken before him on the 21st August, 1813, states, that she is acquainted with the land claimed, containing 400 acres, opposite Fairchild's creek, about a mile below the Bayou Argent; that she knows the land was in cultivation, a small part of it cleared, and a cabin erected on it, in the year 1804, and that the cultivation has continued ever since, except when the occupants were obliged to leave it on account of high water; that McFarland is about forty years of age, and head of a family, and John Perkins is about thirty-one or two years of age, and head of a family, about seven years since. From the evidence now offered, the legal representatives of Richard McFarland will be entitled to the right of pre-emption in quarter section of the land claimed.

CLAIMS TO LAND IN THE COUNTY OF WASHITA.

No. 1255.

3. In the claim of Joseph Bonaventure, reported under No. 3, the evidence of Francois Duval, sen., aged sixty-four years, taken by a commission issued by the register and receiver the 26th November, 1813, and returned by Oliver J. Morgan, judge of the parish of Washita, as having been duly taken before him on the 11th December, 1813, states that he knew the claimant fifty years ago, and is well acquainted with the situation of the land, which is on Bayou Berthelemi, at a place well known by the name of the Old Cabins; that he well knows the land claimed has been inhabited and cultivated by the claimant upwards of thirty years ago, continued until the time of his death, and since by his representatives, or some person for them; that the claimant was at least seventy years of age when he died, leaving a large family of children—he was the head of a family when deponent first knew him; and that the claimant purchased the land of one Gallion, upwards of thirty years ago. From the evidence now adduced, this claim is within the fifth class of claims in this report. The legal representatives of the claimant are therefore entitled to a confirmation of their claim. It is, however, incumbent on them to show that there is so much land within the acknowledged and ascertained boundaries of the tract claimed. This may possibly be established by producing the deed of sale under which the claimant acquired his title.

No. 1256.

5 & 6. In the claims of Henry Bry, reported under Nos. 5 and 6, John Hughes, esq., being sworn before the register and receiver on the 26th November, 1813, deposeth that, on his arrival in the district of Washita in June, 1799, both those tracts of land were inhabited and cultivated, and continued to be so until some years subsequent to the change of Government by which Louisiana was transferred to the United States. The claimant is entitled, from the evidence now adduced, to a confirmation of his claim to one of the tracts of land. The same person could not have inhabited and cultivated two tracts of land at the same time. Settlement appears to be the basis of the title in both cases, and both derived from the same person.

No. 1257.

7. In the claim of Jean Bte. Bayargan, reported under the No. 7, John Hebert, senior, aged about fifty-seven, being sworn the 26th November, 1813, before the register, deposeth that Jean Bte. Bayargan, a man more than fifty years of age, and the head of a family, was inhabiting and cultivating the land claimed in the year 1799 or 1800, and that the land in question has been constantly inhabited and cultivated ever since, either by the claimant or some person for his use. The evidence now adduced brings this claim within the sixth class of this report. It ought, therefore, in the opinion of the register and receiver, to be confirmed.

No. 1258.

13. In the claim of Charles Betin, reported under the No. 13, the affidavit of John Filhiot, sworn to before A. Breard, justice of the peace in the parish of Washita, the 4th September 1812, states that Charles Betin has obtained a tract of land of four arpens and a half each side of the Bayou de Saird, joining the plantation of the said Charles Betin, bought from Jacob Stroops, senior; that the said tract has been given to him by the Government for cutting the road and making the bridges, &c., and that nobody would take the said tract of land, being too much work on so small a tract. It will be seen that the confirmation of this claim has already been recommended by the late Board of Commissioners. The certificate, under oath, of Mr. Filhiot, late commandant of the post of Washita, now presented, does, in the opinion of the register and receiver, give some additional force to the claimant's title.

No. 1259.

17. In the claim of William Campbell, reported under the No. 17, the evidence of William Dawson, taken by a commission issued by the register and receiver the 26th November, 1813, and returned by Oliver J. Morgan, judge of the parish of Washita, as having been duly taken before him, states that he is well acquainted with the claimant, William Campbell; that the land is situated on Bayou Siard, adjoining lands formerly belonging to Francis Cavit, purchased by said Campbell of Patrick Finn; that he knows the land has been inhabited and cultivated in 1801, and continued about six years thereafter; that he believes the claimant to be about forty years of age, and that he has been the head of a family about eleven years. From the evidence now adduced, it appears the land was inhabited and cultivated in 1801, and for five or six years

subsequently to that date. From the documents referred to in the report of the late Board of Commissioners, it appears the land was surveyed under the authority of the Spanish Government, in 1802, for Patrick Finn, who afterwards transferred his right to the present claimant. The register and receiver are therefore of opinion that that this claim now comes properly within the fourth class of this report, and ought to be confirmed.

No. 1260.

24. In the claim of Francois Duval, reported under the No. 24, the following is a translation of a private certificate of John Filhiot, filed with the register in due time, viz. "I, the undersigned, declare that I have no knowledge that Mr. Francois Duval did demand or obtain, during the space of eighteen years that I commanded at Washita, any requete for land on the Bayou Berthelemy; that I am not ignorant that, although he sojourned in different places, he never had a fixed residence; for which reason, according to the Spanish ordinances, he could not become proprietor of the places he inhabited, although he should have had the concessions. In testimony of which I have signed at Washita, the 10th June, 1808. (Signed) *Filhiot.*" From the above certificate, the register and receiver cannot but concur in opinion with the late Board of Commissioners that this claim ought not to be confirmed.

No. 1261.

29. In the claim of Charles Gwyn, reported under the No. 29, James Segars, aged about sixty years, being sworn the 19th November, 1813, before the register and receiver, deposeth that the 19th of April next will complete the eighteenth year since deponent arrived in the parish of Washita, where he has resided ever since; that Charles Gwyn, a man more than fifty years of age, and the head of a family, came in company with the deponent to Washita, soon after which said Gwyn was put in possession of the land now claimed by him, where the deponent, though he has not been to the house of Gwyn for several years, has reason to believe he has resided on and cultivated ever since. The register and receiver are constrained to consider this claim in the same light as though no testimony had been adduced, being unwilling, for the reasons assigned in reported No. , to give any credit to the evidence of Jonas Segars.

No. 1262.

36. In the claim of John Pierre Landerneau, jun., reported under the No. 36, John Hughes, esq., being sworn the 25th November, 1813, before the register and receiver, deposeth that the claimant, a man more than thirty years of age, and the head of a family, took possession of the land claimed in the spring of 1802 or 1813, and has inhabited and cultivated the same from that date to the present time. On reference to the late Board of Commissioners in this case, it will be seen that a survey was made of the land in question, by a surveyor under the authority of the Spanish Government, in 1802, which, with the evidence of occupancy now offered, brings this claim within the 4th class of this report. It ought therefore, in the opinion of the register and receiver, to be confirmed.

No. 1263.

37. In the claim of John Pierre Landerneau, sen., reported under the No. 37, John Hughes, esq., being sworn the 25th of November, 1813, before the register, deposeth that the claimant, a man nearly seventy years of age, and the father and grandfather of a numerous offspring, has inhabited and cultivated the land in question constantly from the year 1802 to the present date. In the claim of Abraham Moorehouse, reported by the late Board of Commissioners, Nos. 42, 43, and 44, of Washita report, it appears that the title to one of the tracts of land is derived from an order of survey conceded to John Pierre Landerneau, whose claim to a donation from the United States is thereby barred. But from the above evidence this claim comes properly within the 7th class of this report, entitling the claimant to the pre-emption right of one quarter section.

No. 1264.

45. In the claim of George McIntire, reported under the No. 45, the evidence of William Dawson, taken by commission, issued by the register and receiver the 26th November, 1813, and returned by Oliver J. Morgan, judge of the parish of Washita, as having been duly taken before him, states that he is acquainted with the claimant, George McIntire; the land is situated upon the Bayou Siard, adjoining lands of the deponent, who has no knowledge of the land being inhabited or cultivated; that the claimant is about fifty years of age, and has been the head of a family these six years. Although there has been no evidence of the land's having been actually inhabited and cultivated, it appearing from the plat filed in the claim, as reported by the late Board of Commissioners, that the claimant was legally put in possession of the land, under the Spanish Government, the claim comes within the 4th class of these reports, and ought, in the opinion of the register and receiver, to be confirmed.

No. 1265.

47. In the claim of James McMahan, reported under the No. 47, George Hooke, aged thirty-nine years, sworn the 19th November, 1813, before the register, deposeth that he is well acquainted with the land claimed, which is understood to be within the limits of a body of land claimed by the Baron Bastrop; that the claimant, a man of about forty years of age, the head of a family, settled on the land in question in the year 1802, from which time to the present the land has been constantly cultivated, either by the claimant or for his use. From the testimony now offered, the claimant can only be entitled to the right of pre-emption in a quarter section of the land. The claim therefore comes within the 7th class of these reports.

No. 1266.

51. In the claim of the heirs of Augustin Roy, reported under the No. 51, John Hebert, sen. being sworn the 26th November, 1813, before the register, deposeth that the land claimed was inhabited and cultivated in the year 1799 or 1800, by Augustin Roy, who continued thereon till the time of his death, which, to the best of the recollection of the deponent, happened in the year 1801 or 1802; subsequent to which time the land has been constantly occupied and cultivated either by the widow and heirs of the deceased Mr. Roy, or some person for their use. From the evidence now offered in this claim, it will come within the sixth class of this report, and ought therefore, in the opinion of the register and receiver, to be confirmed.

No. 1267.

52. In the claim of Mordecai Richard, reported under the No. 52, Jonas Segars being sworn the 19th November, 1813, before the register, deposeth and saith that he is well acquainted with the land in question, and was acquainted also with Mordecai Richard; that the said Mordecai Richard settled on the land in the spring of the year 1803, and continued to inhabit and cultivate it until the United States obtained possession of the county, after which the said Richard removed out of the county, and, as this deponent has been informed and believes, sold his land to Mr. Nancarrow. The confirmation of this claim was recommended by the late Board of Commissioners, and their decision is concurred in by the register and receiver, from the consideration that the land was surveyed under the authority of the Spanish Government, without giving any credit to the evidence of Jonas Segars, for the reasons assigned in reported No. ——. See note L.

No. 1268.

53. In the claim of George Stewart, reported under the number 53, George Hooke, aged thirty-nine years, being sworn the 19th November, 1813, before the register, deposeth and saith that the land in question has been constantly inhabited and cultivated from the year 1802 to the present date, either by the original claimant and proprietor, or those claiming under him. From the evidence now offered, and considering that the land was surveyed, and deeds of transfer executed under the authority of the Spanish Government, this claim comes properly within the fourth class of this report, and, in the opinion of the register and receiver, ought to be confirmed.

No. 1269.

55. In the claim of Jonas Segars, reported under the No. 55, there was filed with the register, in due time, a requete by Joseph Segars, dated the 12th May, 1798, in which he prays for the land on which he works, containing ten arpens front on Washita river, between two Marrais, bounded on the south and southwest by Bayou Toupaz, and on the north by vacant land. Filhiot certifies the land to be vacant same date; and, on the 11th June, 1798, Estevan Miro grants the land as being petitioned for, viz. ten arpens front by forty deep. George Hooke, aged thirty-nine years, being sworn the 19th November, 1813, before the register, deposeth that the land claimed has been constantly inhabited and cultivated by the claimant, a man more than fifty years of age, and the head of a family, from the year 1802 to the present date. The production of the order of survey brings this claim within the second class of this report. It ought therefore, in the opinion of the register and receiver, to be confirmed.

The name of Joseph, in the requete to which the order of survey is annexed, is believed to be a mistake, originating in the claimant's agent in his application to the Spanish Government. It should have been Jonas.

CLAIMS TO LAND IN THE COUNTY OF RAPIDES.

No. 1270.

3. In the claim of Maturin Babin, reported under the No. 3, a plat of survey by Mathew Stone, dated the 3d October, 1807, was filed in due time, representing the land as lying on the south side of Bayou Cattahoula, bounded on all sides by vacant land, and containing 640 acres. John Hebert, aged fifty-seven years, sworn the 26th November, 1813, before the register, deposeth that the claimant, a man about thirty-seven years of age, and unmarried, was inhabiting the land claimed as early as the year 1800, and continued to inhabit and cultivate the same from that time to the year 1804 or 1805. The evidence now adduced brings this claim within the sixth class of this report. It ought therefore, in the opinion of the register and receiver, to be confirmed.

No. 1271.

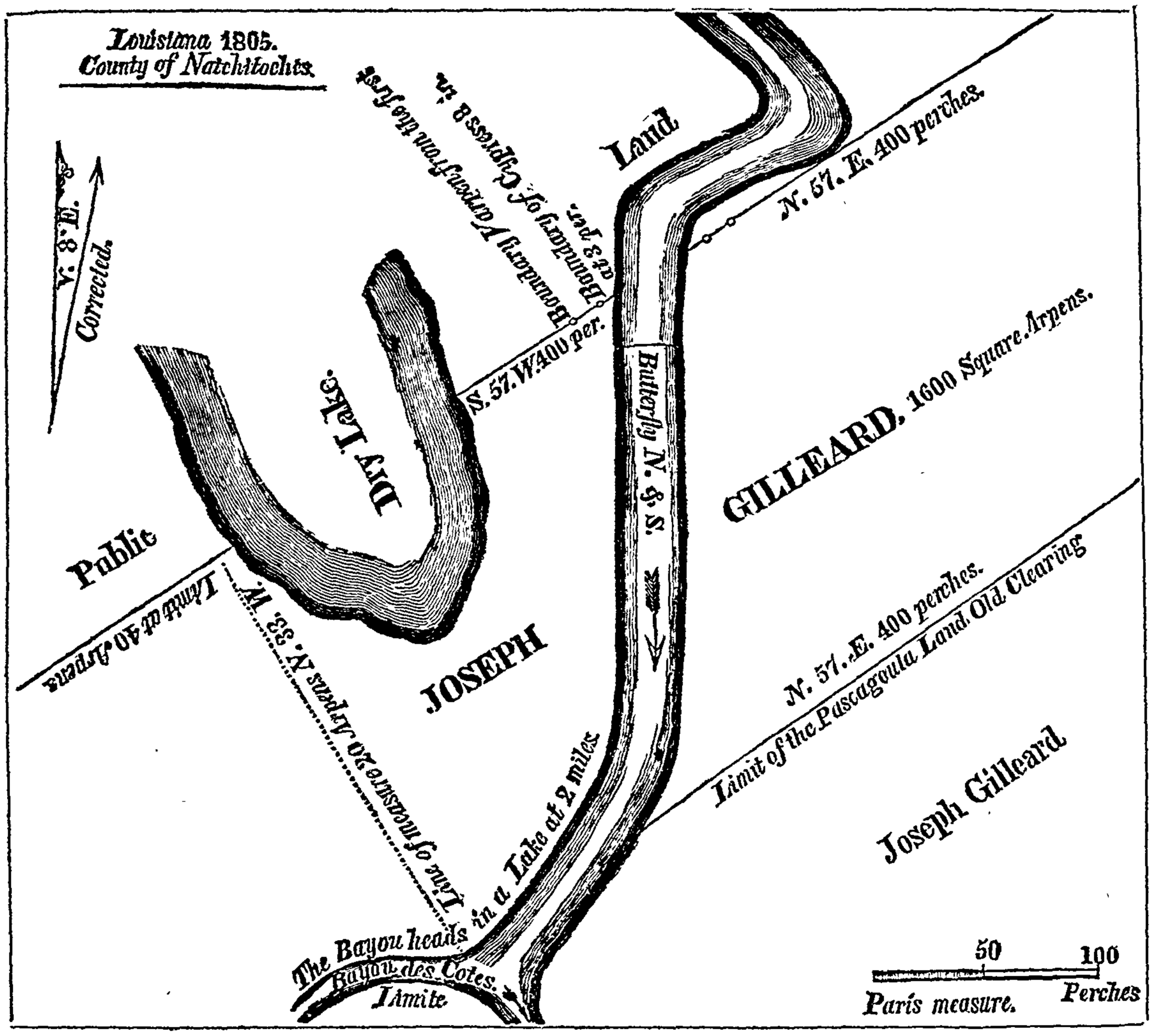
24. In the claim of John Carrol, reported under the No. 24, the evidence of John Rutledge, aged fifty years, sworn the 15th December, 1813, before the register, deposeth that he is well acquainted with the land claimed, and with Mary Campbell, the widow of the deceased John Campbell, who was, with her children, residing on and cultivating the land claimed, throughout the whole of the year 1803, and ever since. The deponent has reason to believe that he does not assert it of his own knowledge that the family was residing on the land in question several years before 1803. The register and receiver are of opinion that no credit should be given to the evidence of John Rutledge, who is the same person that gave testimony in reported Nos. ——. See note L.

No. 1272.

56. In the claim of Richard Earl, reported under the No. 56, the evidence of John Lovelace, sen., taken by a commission issued by the register and receiver the 15th December, 1813, and returned by Samuel Ligner, judge of the parish of Cattahoula, as having been taken before him, states that, in the year 1796, passing through the Cattahoula prairie, (the county was very much inundat ed) he came to Richard Earl's recent habitation, joining the prairie; he knows the land has been inhabited and cultivated in the years 1803 and 1804; he rode past Mr. Earl's settlement, and believes he was still inhabiting the same place; he never heard of his moving, and has reason to believe he still inhabits the same place; that R. Earl is between fifty and sixty years of age, and the head of a family in 1796. The confirmation of this claim has already been recommended by the late Board of Commissioners, and in their decision the register and receiver concur.

No. 1273.

67. In the claim of Joseph Gillard, reported under the No. 67, Placide Bossier being sworn, the 27th October, 1813, before the register, deposeth that he has been well acquainted with the land on Red river, in the vicinity of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, for twenty-four consecutive years preceding the present date; that he was an inhabitant of the district of Natchitoches at the time that Mr. Louis C. De Blanc made a purchase of a tract of land below the mouth of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, from the Pascagoula Indians, for Collin Lacour; that, in the year 1796, this deponent, in descending Red river, met Collin Lacour and his family then ascending the river for the purpose of settling on the land which had been purchased by said De Blanc from the said Indians, at which time they did actually settle on the place now occupied by Joseph Gillard, who, after the death of the said Collin, intermarried with his widow; that Collin Lacour died in a few years, perhaps in less than two, after taking possession of the land in question, but the deponent cannot be very positive as to the precise time of his death. He knows, however, that, within the life-time of the said Collin, Mr. De Blanc established a tract of land on Red river, adjoining the land claimed by Lacour, and lying immediately above it, which the deponent has understood was conceded by the Spanish Government to the said De Blanc; that, in the year 1798, calling at the house of Madam Lacour, the then widow of Collin, who, as administratrix, or by purchase, had become the owner of the land purchased from the Indians as aforesaid, she, the said widow, proposed to sell the said tract of land to the deponent for the consideration of six hundred dollars, and then actually pointed out to the deponent the upper boundary of the tract of land which she claimed, and which was a large bayou called La Varange, about one mile above the habitation of the lady in question, and which separated her land from the land of Mr. De Blanc above mentioned. The deponent further saith, that, from the upper boundary line of the land claimed by Mr. De Blanc to the lower boundary of a tract of land conceded by the Spanish Government to Francois Bossier, the brother of the deponent, which now belongs to Pierre Joseph Mais, and which lies below the mouth of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, there is a space of at least two leagues and a half which has always been respected as land belonging to the Spanish Government, before the change of Government, and, subsequently to that change, as belonging to the Government of the United States. The evidence of Jean Varangue, taken before P. D. C. Lafontaigne, judge of the parish of Natchitoches, authorized to that effect by a commission from the register and receiver, states that he is acquainted with the lands and the settlements on Red river, in the vicinity of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, and with the tract of land claimed by Joseph Gillard for the legal representatives of Collin Lacour; that he acted as interpreter when L. C. De Blanc contracted with the Pascagoula Indians, in behalf of Collin Lacour, for the purchase of the tract of land on which Mr. Gillard now resides, the upper boundary of which was determined in presence of this deponent, by the parties, at the Bayou Déscôté, and the lower boundary was also fixed *in* his presence in the Bayou de la Borne, called, also, Bayou des Appalaches, which he thinks forty acres in depth each side of the river; that he knew that tract of land on Red river which was conceded by Baron de Carondelet to Louis C. De Blanc, jun., the lower boundary thereof is five or six arpens above Mr. Gillard's house; that he knows of but the Indians who came and settled themselves on that tract of land, and Mr. Gillard ordered them out; he knows, by late Mr. Lacour, that the lower boundary was fixed to the Bayou Déscôté, up Red river, and no further; that he knows nothing about the extent of front which the tract of land should have on the river, nor its depth on either side; nor does he know that said land was ever taxed, or given in to be taxed. Also, the evidence of Jean Jacques Paillette, (taken in the same manner as the preceding,) states that he is acquainted with the lands and the settlements on Red river, in the vicinity of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, for, having surveyed one part of them; that he is acquainted with the tract of land claimed by Joseph Gillard; that he does not know the extent of the purchase made at that time from the Indians, but knows that the upper boundaries of the purchase made by Lacour is on each side of Red river, at about a league and a half below Rigolet du Bon Dieu at Boyou Déscôtés, situated above the principal house of the late Lacour; that boundary was shown to him by Mr. Gillard, with a decree from the Spanish Government, dated the 25th June, 1792, which determines the same boundary; that he does know a tract of land conceded on the 6th May, 1795, by Baron de Carondelet to Mr. De Blanc, jun., the lower boundary of that tract of land is placed in the Bayou Déscotés, a little —— the house of Mr. Gillard, formerly the house of Lacour: that tract of land extends itself twenty acres front on each side, going up Red river; and that he knows Mr. Joseph Gillard has paid taxes for that tract of land. And the evidence of Louis Lambre, taken in the same manner as the two preceding, states that he is acquainted with the land and settlements on Red river, in the vicinity of Rigolet du Bon Dieu, and with the tract of land claimed by Joseph Gillard: the upper boundary of the purchase was determined in his presence by the parties, in the Bayou Déscôtés, so was fixed the lower, and in the Bayou des Appalaches, with forty acres in depth on each side of the river; that he knows that tract of land on Red river, which was conceded by Baron de Carondelet to Louis C. De Blanc, jun., the lower boundary thereof is five or six arpens above Mr. Gillard's house; that he knows of but the Indians who came and settled themselves on that tract of land, and Mr. Gillard ordered them out; and knows, by late Mr. Lacour, that the lower boundary was fixed to the Bayou Déscôtés up Red river, and no further; that he knows nothing about the extent of front which the tract of land should have on the river, nor its depth on either side; nor does he know that said land was ever taxed, or given in to be taxed. The following is a delineation of a plat and transcript of the process verbal certificate attached thereto: Certified, 13th December, 1813, by the judge of the parish of Natchitoches, to be a true copy from the original, as the same is recorded in the records of the said parish.



This 27th day of June, 1805, having repaired to the quarters of Pascagoula, county of Natchitoches, present, Messrs. Joseph Gillard, inhabitant and proprietor, Joseph Lambre and Louis Lambre, neighbors and witnesses, Mr. Gillard presented to us a title and decree of the Spanish Government, of the 6th May, 1795, accorded to Mr. De Blanc, and by a subsequent act, now in possession of the said Joseph Gillard, of 20 arpens front setting out from the Bayou Déscôtés, at a little distance above the house of said proprietor, who made known to us the upper boundary of his property, which takes from the said bayou, and runs on the right bank south 57 degrees west, and on the left bank north 57 degrees east, in consequence of the right given the limits which were fixed by a decree of the Government, dated the 25th June, 1792, which he exhibited to us, requiring us to measure to him, according to the tenor of his decree of concession, the 20 arpens front on each side. We established our line of measure on the dividing line at the angle of the bayou on the right bank, directing it north 57 degrees east, where we measured, on a standing wood with a beat road, 20 arpens on level ground, after which we established our dividing line with the lands of the domain, running south 57 degrees west, and planted a post three perches from the river six inches square, and a second one arpent from the first, and terminated our dividing line forty arpens from the river in a pine wood on the left bank; also, planted two posts, one at three perches, and the second one arpent from the first, and ended our line at forty arpens in a standing wood north 57 degrees east, as appears by the annexed plan. The result of our operation has given us a superficial quantity of about 1600 arpens square, bounded below by the plantation of said Gillard, proprietor, and on the other three sides by public land, made duplicates. Done by us, surveyors of the county, year and date as above after the receding.

Signed, GILLARD.

PAILLETTE LOUIS LAMBRE, *witness.*

JOHN LAMBRE, *witness.*

Before me, P. D. CAILLEAN LAFONTAIGNE,
Judge of the Parish of Natchitoches.

Appeared in my office, on this 26th November, 1813, J. Jacques Paillette and Louis Lambre, of this parish, who, being duly sworn, declareth and say that they acknowledge their signatures to the above instruments of writing, and they acknowledge the signatures of Gillard and Joseph Lambre thereto affixed, and further declare that they have seen them sign. Signed,

PAILLETTE LOUIS LAMBRE.
P. D. CAILLEAN LAFONTAIGNE, *J. P. N.*

It should be noticed that the delineation now given is taken from the records of the parish of Natchitoches, and certified by the judge of the parish to be a faithful copy; that Joseph Gillard, who is acting in the claim under consideration in behalf of the representatives of Lacour, has, by his signature to the proces verbal (certificate) of the surveyor annexed to the plat, sanctioned the operations of the said surveyor. This delineation is to be understood as representing the tract conceded to De Blanc, junior, and the bayou therein represented, called *Descotes*, is doubtless the same that is laid down in the plat which accompanied the report of the late Board of Commissioners, as forming a communication between Red river, and the lake which the surveyor has called *Varrant.* This bayou seems to be well understood to be the lower boundary of the tract conceded to De Blanc, and consequently the upper boundary of the tract which was purchased from the Indians for the late Collin Lacour, which would reduce the front of the latter tract to about two miles, producing, with forty arpens of depth on each side of the river, an area of about three thousand five hundred and twenty-four American acres. Although the oral and documental evidence now before the register and receiver so strongly corroborate each other, and are so clear and conclusive as to leave no doubt but the claim under consideration ought to be limited above by the said bayou *Descotes*, yet as the testimony adverse to the original pretensions of the claimants has been taken without their being previously notified, and as it is contended that some of the witnesses were interested in invalidating the title of Lacour, a further investigation of the title by a confidential agent on the premises might be conducive of justice, and is therefore recommended.

No. 1274.

73. In the claim of Philip Green, reported under the No. 73, the evidence of William Mock, taken on the 9th

November, 1813, before James Macom, a justice of the peace for the parish of Cattahoula, authorized to that effect by the former Board of Commissioners, dated the 28th October, 1812, that he is well acquainted with the land claimed, which is situated about two miles from the Cattahoula prairie, on Green Mill creek; that it was actually inhabited and in cultivation on and before the 20th day of December, 1803, and for two or three years previous to that date; that it was settled by himself, and cultivated uninterruptedly by, and ever since known as, his property. And the evidence of William Roe, taken before the same person, states that he is well acquainted with the claimant and with the land claimed, which is situated about one and a half miles from Cattahoula prairie, on Green Mill creek, and was actually inhabited and in cultivation on and before the 20th day of December, 1803, and was three years previous to that date inhabited by permission of the Spanish Government, from what he has generally understood. From the evidence now adduced, the claimant, in the opinion of the register and receiver, is entitled to a confirmation of his claim, which comes within the 6th class of claims in this report.

No. 1275.

80. In the claim of Thomas Hubbs, reported under the No. 80, the evidence of William Roe, taken on the 9th November, 1812, before James Macom, justice of the peace for the parish of Cattahoula, authorized to that effect by a commission from the former Board of Commissioners, dated the 28th October, 1812, states that he is well acquainted with the land, which is situated near the Big prairie, about three miles from the Washita river, and about four or five miles from the Cattahoula courthouse, adjoining lands originally owned by Resin Bowie, now the property of Abraham Bird; that it was actually settled and in cultivation on and before the 20th day of December, 1803, being first settled in the summer of 1803, by Resin Bowie, and afterwards by Thomas Hubbs, for years, and always known and called the property of said Hubbs. And the evidence of William Mock, taken before the same person, states that he is well acquainted with the land, which is situated in the Big prairie, about three or four miles from the Washita river, adjoining land formerly claimed by Resin Bowie, and that it was actually inhabited and in cultivation on and before the 20th day of December, 1803, being first settled and cultivated, to his knowledge, by R. Bowie, for about eleven or twelve years, or upwards; afterwards, about one year, Thomas Hubbs claimed the land, by purchase from said Bowie, and continued to occupy said land, and known as his property ever since, without interference by other claimants. From the foregoing evidence, the claimant can only be entitled to the right of pre-emption in a quarter of a section, one hundred and sixty acres of the land claimed. The claim consequently comes within the 7th class of this report.

No. 1276.

81. In the claim of John Hebert, jun., reported under the No. 81, Stephen Lamorandier, jun., sworn before the register the 25th November, 1813, deposeth, that the claimant, John Hebert, sen., was residing on the land in question in the year 1791, and continued to inhabit and cultivate the same for five or six years subsequent to that date; that the deponent removing from the parish of Avoyelles in the year 1795 or 1796, cannot say of his own knowledge that the land has been occupied since that date, though he has been informed, and has reason to believe, that it has been constantly occupied to the time of the change of Government, when Louisiana was ceded to the United States, if not to the present date.

A certified copy from the records of the eastern district, of a warrant of survey, is (translated) of the following import:

"25th February, 1793: To John Hebert, in the post of Avoyelles, ten arpens of land front with forty deep, contiguous to the land of Madame Widow Bordelon, which formerly belonged to Mayeux."

It will be observed in the report of the late Board of Commissioners in this case, that they were under an impression that the certificate B, 1339, issued to Francois Tournier, was for the same land which is claimed by Hebrard. The register and receiver are now satisfied, as well from information, as the document produced from the office of the register of the eastern district, that they are distinct tracts, and that the claim under consideration, coming within the second class of this report, ought to be confirmed for the quantity expressed in the order of survey, four hundred superficial arpens.

No. 1277.

87. In the claim of Marchal Jones, reported under the No. 87, the evidence of Valentine Layssard, taken the 29th December, 1813, before W. P. Cannon, judge of the parish of Rapides, authorized to that effect by a commission from the register and receiver, dated the 7th September, 1813, states that he does not recollect, while acting as commandant of the post of Rapides, to have given the said Marchal Jones permission to settle a tract of land in the district: he does not recollect whether it was given verbally or in writing, but recollects that Marchal Jones obtained permission three or four years before the change of Government to settle a tract of land on Big creek, about four miles on this side of Little river, on which said tract of land David Jones now lives; that he knows Mr. Jones, and thinks he is about the age of forty: he knows not if he is the head of a family, nor if he cultivated said land, but the same was granted three or four years before the change of Government, and has been cultivated a number of years by his brother David Jones; the precise time he does not recollect.

From the above evidence, the claimant can only be entitled to the right of pre-emption in a quarter section of one hundred and sixty acres of the land claimed. The claim, therefore, comes within the seventh class of this report.

No. 1278.

88. In the claim of Benjamin Jones, reported under the No. 88, the evidence of William Mock, taken the 9th November, 1812, before James Macom, justice of the peace for the parish of Cattahoula, authorized to that effect by a commission from the former Board of Commissioners, dated the 28th October, 1812, states that he is well acquainted with the land, which is situated about one mile from the Cattahoula prairie, on Green Mill creek, about four miles from Bushley creek, and that it was actually inhabited and considerable labor done thereon; and before the 20th day of December, 1803, the settlement was first made, to his knowledge, by Besy Jones, about ten or eleven years since, at which time he labored himself about six weeks; and the evidence of Wm. Roe, taken same day, after describing the situation of the land to be the same as stated by W. Mock, deposes that the land claimed by Benj. Jones was actually inhabited and labor done thereon, on and before the 20th day of December, 1803, and three years actually settled previous to that date; that Jones was the first who inhabited and labored thereon, and it was always known as his property. From the evidence of William Mock, which the register and receiver are more inclined to respect than that of William Roe, it does not appear that the land was actually inhabited and cultivated three consecutive years before the 20th December, 1803. The claim, therefore, comes within the seventh class of this report, entitling the claimant to the right of pre-emption in a quarter section, one hundred and sixty acres of the land claimed.

No. 1279.

124. In the claim of Hugh Mulhollan, reported under the No. 124, the evidence of Valentine Layssard, taken the 22d April, 1813, before R. Claiborne, judge of the parish of Rapides, authorized to that effect by a commission from the former Board of Commissioners, dated the 25th March, 1813, states that the nation of Choctaw Indians had a grant from the Baron de Carondelet for the land which Father Maguire purchased of the said nation of Indians, lying on Bayou Boeuf, and sold to Hugh Mulhollan. The circumstance of the Indians having a grant from the Spanish Government for the land in question can give the claimant no better title to the land he claims, because it was not less necessary, on that account, that the sale of the Indians should have received the sanction of the governor of the province. The register and receiver, therefore, concur in opinion with the late Board of Commissioners, that this claim ought not to be confirmed.

No. 1280.

125. In the claim of William Miller and Alexander Fulton, reported under the No. 125, the evidence of Charles Trudeau, taken the 8th April, 1813, before Joshua Lewis, judge of the city of New Orleans, authorized to that effect by a commission from the former Board of Commissioners, dated the 15th November, 1812, states that he knows of no ordinances or regulations under any governor of Louisiana, except O'Reilly, by which the Indians inhabiting lands within the province, ever limited in their possession to one league square about their villages, but this resolution has not been adhered to by any of his successors; this deponent knows that the custom was, that when a tribe of Indians settled a village, by the consent of Government, that the chief fixed the boundary, and, where there are one or more neighboring villages, the respective chiefs of their villages agreed upon and fixed the boundary between themselves; and whenever any tribe sold out its village, the commandant uniformly made the conveyance according to the limits pointed out by the chief. This deponent says that he has substantially answered in his an-

swer to the first, that the lands claimed by the Indians around their villages was always considered as their own, and was always protected in the unmolested enjoyment of it by the Government against all the world, and has always passed from one generation to another, so long as it was possessed by them as their own property; that the Indians could always sell their lands with the consent of Government, and if, after selling their village and the lands around it, they should, by the permission of Government, establish themselves elsewhere, they might again sell, having first obtained the permission of Government, and so on, as often as such permission was obtained, and no instance is ever known where such permission has ever been refused or withheld. These sales were passed before the commandant of the district, and was always considered good and valid without any from the governor. The following interrogatory was put by the agent of the claimant, in his behalf: In making your survey as surveyor general did you always confine yourself to the precise quantity called for in the warrant or order of survey? To which the deponent answered, I was governed by circumstances and localities when, from the situation of the land, the quantity could not be given without running into the lands of another. I surveyed less, and some times, from certain local conveniences to the grantee, I surveyed more than the warrant or order of survey called for, and the grant always issued conformably to the plat and certificate of survey so made. On the evidence now adduced, the register and receiver have only to observe, that they are strengthened in their opinion of the validity of the claim under consideration, and consequently concur in opinion with the late Board of Commissioners, that it ought to be confirmed, with the limits, however, which have been assigned to it in their report.

No. 1281.

140. In the claim of Benjamin Ritchey reported under the No. 140, the evidence of Valentine Layssard, taken before Benjamin Miller, justice of the peace for the parish of Rapides, authorized to that effect by a commission from the register and receiver, dated the 31st December, 1813, states that, in 1801 or 1802, he left Rapides on public business, and empowered J. C. Poiret, a syndic, to act for him during his absence, who, on his return, reported that he had given permission to one Ben Ritchey to take a piece of land in the pine woods to settle upon—which permission was in writing; but whether for ten or twenty arpens front, he does not know. B. Ritchey was a married man when he moved to the post, between twenty and twenty-five years of age; and that it was very customary to grant twenty arpens front on the north side of Red river; that B. Ritchey lived on the land in 1802, but how long he continued thereon, he cannot say. The evidence now adduced corroborates that heretofore taken. The register and receiver, therefore, concur with the late Board of Commissioners in recommending the confirmation of this claim.

No. 1282.

144. In the claim of John Roe, reported under the No. 144, John Rutledge being sworn, the 15th December, 1813, deposeth that John Roe, now about 27 years of age, and the head of a family, has inhabited and cultivated the land claimed constantly from the year 1803 to the present date. The evidence of John Rutledge is, in the opinion of the register and receiver, entitled to no credit for the reasons assigned in note L. This claim is therefore still rejected.

No. 1283.

126. In the claim of Miller and Fulton for a tract of land on Red river, reported under the No. 126, a doubt entertained by the late Board of Commissioners has been removed by the production of the original letter of Governor Salcedo: the genuineness of which is, in the opinion of the register and receiver, unquestionable. They, however, deem it a duty to lay before the Government a communication made by Doctor John Sibley, then agent of Indian affairs, in a letter addressed to the register of the land office at Opelousas, in the words following: "Natchitoches, January 20, 1814—Sir: Captain Louis, the chief of the Appalaches village, or tribe of Indians, who live on Red river, about twenty miles above the Rapides, has just been with me, with a number of the principal men of the village, to represent that Colonel Fulton and his associates are making them uneasy about their lands. They state that, after the transfer of Louisiana to the United States, they were continually advising them to sell their lands; that the country then belonged to the United States, who would take it from them, and give them nothing for it, and they had better get something for it than have it taken for nothing; that they could find, at that time, nobody who could or would advise them better; and that, finally, they consented, and did pass, to them a sale for the consideration of three thousand dollars, which has never been paid nor any part of it. If their statement is correct, by the laws of the United States the sale is not only null and void, but the purchaser is guilty of a misdemeanor for which a penalty is incurred. They state that Colonel Fulton and his associates are pursuing their claim before your board. It is proper for me to state these facts to you, which I have other reasons than the Indian's story to believe are true, and entering my protest and caveat against your issuing a certificate to those claimants for the land in question. In the year 1805, I received some special instructions from the Executive of the United States relative to Indian lands, to prevent white people from disturbing them, or encroaching upon them. The lands of the Appalaches I had surveyed by a public surveyor, a plat made, a copy of which is filed in the War Office at Washington, and was approved by Government, and I shall do all that is incumbent on me to protect the Indians, even by calling on the military force should it be necessary, and intend to have every transaction scrutinized that is connected with their rights. I do know that, in proving claims before your board, you have been most egregiously imposed upon, and those who have imposed upon you have boasted of their acuteness. Indeed there has been so much false swearing to obtain your certificates, that it is doubtful whether truth or falsehood would preponderate were an estimate of both made. I have been determined to attempt to have some persons indicted for the false testimony given before you, but it has been so common, and within the knowledge of almost every grand-juryman, and many of them would not have to search beyond themselves for an instance, that I do not believe any grand jury, in this part of the country, could be found, who would present a person for proving a claim before your board, however false it might appear. I am, sir, with very great respect and esteem, your obedient servant, John Sibley." Levin Wailes, esquire.

On the 14th June, 1814, Louis, chief of the Appalachee tribe of Indians, attended by Faluktée and Baptiste, two principal men of said tribe, and Louis Deville, their interpreter, presented themselves at the office of the register at Opelousas, and delivered the letter, of which the foregoing is a transcript; which being read, and through the interpreter explained to the said Indians, they, with one voice, declare that so much of it as relates to their transaction with Mr. Fulton is true; that they did consent to sell their lands to Mr. Fulton after the American people took possession of Louisiana, and had the promise of Mr. Fulton to pay them, at the end of three months, about five thousand dollars; but said Fulton, not having, in about ten years which have elapsed since the contract, paid them so much as the value of one picaune (6¼ cents,) they contend that the sale ought to be void, and wish it to be understood that they now enter their caveat and protest against the claim of the said Mr. Fulton and his associates. Being informed by the register that it is stated in a deed which they made to Miller and Fulton, before Mr. Enemon Meullion, dated 16th December, 1803, that they had purchased goods from, and were indebted to Messrs. Miller and Fulton the sum of about 2,600 dollars at the date of their sale, they *deny* having contracted any debt with those gentlemen for merchandise, or on any other account; but admit that the Conchatté tribe of Indians were at that time largely indebted to Miller and Fulton for goods. They allege, however, that those Indians were only occupying and cultivating the lands of the Appalachees by courtesy, and having not the least right to them, they cannot consent that they shall be made answerable for their debts. Being interrogated as to the present state of population, and the present pursuits of the inhabitants of their village; they answer that the village of the Appalachees consists of about twenty-five families, whose pursuits are divided between hunting and agriculture.

NOTES.

A. By the 5th section of the act of Congress, passed the 2d March, 1805, it is provided that the Board of Commissioners shall have power "to decide, in a summary way, according to justice and equity, on all claims filed with the register or recorder, in conformity with the provisions of this act, *and on all complete French and Spanish grants, the evidence of which, though not thus filed, may be found of record*," &c. See book entitled "Land Laws," page 308.

B. The register and receiver are of opinion that, in justice and equity, all claims founded on orders of survey ought to be confirmed, and especially those in the west-

ern district. The conditions, on the performance of which the completion of the title depended, being inapplicable to the local circumstances and situation of the country, it is believed were never insisted upon. Indeed, by clearing the fronts of their lands to a certain depth, the proprietors must, in most instances, have deprived themselves even of fuel. Cutting roads were necessary in very few instances, and making levees in scarcely any. Even claims founded on orders of survey, without special locations, conceded, for example, for any vacant land in the post of Opelousas, are considered as valid. It is known that such concessions were sometimes made for the remuneration of persons from whom lands had been taken by the Spanish Government for garrisons or other public uses. The property so taken from the claimant or his ancestor, has, by the cession of Louisiana, become vested in the United States. Would it then be just to withhold the indemnity for which the former Government had become pledged? There are but few claims of this description, and, if allowed, provision ought to be made for locating them so as to avoid conflicting with other private claims, though founded on titles of subsequent date, or with tracts of land to which occupants, under existing acts of Congress, are entitled to the right of pre-emption.

C. Finding that many persons in the western district, holding lands under no other title than the requete, with the commandant's approval, considered that entirely sufficient, and entertained no apprehensions of being disturbed in their possessions; seeing that lands held under no other title have, in numberless instances, been taken into the inventory of the estates of deceased persons, without any inquiry as to the occupancy; that such lands have sometimes been levied on and sold to satisfy judgments obtained against the proprietors of them; and reflecting on the difficulty with which the inhabitants of this district, and especially the indigent part of them, could procure their titles to be perfected, the late Board of Commissioners for adjusting land claims were induced to think favorably of this description of title. The minds of the register and receiver were also favorably impressed towards them when they began to arrange this report; but, in the progress of investigation, it has appeared to them singularly remarkable that so many claimants holding requetes should have delayed to make their entries until the passage of the two last laws granting indulgence to claimants, and especially in the counties of Rapides and Attakapas, where most of those claims appear to exist, and in both of which deputy registers have resided for the purpose of taking entries under the late register. The register and receiver, therefore, consider it a duty to recommend the adoption of some measure calculated to investigate this description of title more scrupulously than they have had the power of doing. It should be noticed that no means have been afforded *them* of obtaining evidence against claims.

D. Under the Spanish Government, it seems to have been made the duty of commandants in passing sales, transferring titles in lands, to inform themselves of the titles of the sellers. Deeds of sale executed with the requisite formalities, before the change of Government, ought, therefore, to be respected as among the highest evidences of title.

E. Many claimants in the 5th class seem to have considered themselves entitled to 2,000 acres of land, from having occupied or possessed it, as the law requires, ten consecutive years preceding the change of Government, and there are reasons to believe, in some instances, title papers have been kept out of view for the purpose of claiming a larger quantity of land than had been conceded by the Spanish Government. To entitle claimants in this class to a confirmation of their claims, it ought to be incumbent on them to adduce evidence, written or oral, to establish satisfactorily the quantity to which they might have been entitled under the Spanish Government.

F. Some of the remarks in note C. are applicable to claims in class six. It is remarkable that so many claimants should have omitted to avail themselves of the indulgence granted by former laws. When it is considered that the register and receiver must necessarily have been ignorant of the characters of many witnesses who have been introduced for the purpose of establishing titles by proving occupancy, and especially when it is known that some base attempts to impose on the Government have been detected, as will be seen by remarks on claims in the eleventh class, Congress must be aware of the necessity of adopting such measures as they may deem necessary to scrutinize the claims in this class, for the purpose of arresting, as far as possible, the further progress of fraud.

G. The act of Congress granting pre-emption rights, which has been referred to in the seventh class, is silent as to the date at which lands should have been settled. The register and receiver have construed the law as granting the right of pre-emption, as far as one-quarter of a section, to any person who may have inhabited and cultivated the tract claimed, at any time previous to the 12th April, 1814, the day on which the act was passed.

H. Although they have not adduced evidence, it is known that many claimants in this class will be able to establish rights under the pre-emption law. It will be seen that most of the claims in this class have been abridged; it was deemed best not to swell the report by stating more fully claims not sufficiently supported by documental or oral evidence to entitle them to confirmation.

I. From the information which the register and receiver have been enabled to obtain respecting the usages of the Spanish Government, they are of opinion that the mere occupancy of land as pasturage for cattle, without any concession from the Government, gave no title to the individual so occupying.

K. To the claim of Pierre Arseneau, reported by the late Board of Commissioners under the No. 1 of Opelousas claims, the register and receiver refer for an examination of the Indian title generally, and the rights of persons claiming under purchase from Indians.

L. The register and receiver have made up their opinions of such documents of title as accompany claims reported in this class, from the signatures subscribed thereto of persons who are said to have held offices under the Spanish Government, and from the general aspect of the papers themselves. In the claims reported under the Nos. 1184, 1185, 1186, and 1187, the documents of title were presented at the register's office at the same time, and it is remarkable that, although some of them differ as much as six years in their dates, it is evident from the size and texture of the paper that every sheet must have been taken from the same quire. It is, moreover, very apparent that attempts have been made to give these papers an old appearance.

All claims on Bayou Mason, and those in which Henry Combs and John Rutledge have given evidence, have been entered in this class. The register and receiver refer to the following letter from the honorable Josiah S. Johnston, judge of the district court for the district of the State of Louisiana, on the subject of the claims above alluded to.

"March 15, 1814, Alexandria. Dear Sir: I have just returned from Cattahoula court: a recent and shocking murder there has opened a scene of fraud and perjury of considerable extent, of which it is proper you should be apprised. Several persons have associated for the purpose of obtaining land titles. One of the party has entered a considerable number of claims in fictitious names, one or two others prove the settlements, and another passes the sales. It is said in Cattahoula that one Hagarty has been several times at Opelousas, and perhaps had the entries made. A man by the name of Rutledge has been used as a witness, and perhaps others. The lands were entered in different places, but principally on the Bayou Nassan or Masson. A man by the name Mecom was killed, it is said, in consequence of a dispute about the division: two sales of land were found in his possession, one in the name of Fitzgerald, and one in the name of *Downey*, both on Masson: a man by the name of Combs is accused of the murder, and has made his escape as well as Rutledge. It is to be strongly suspected that many of the late entries are fraudulent and supported by perjury. I believe it may be taken for granted all the claims on the Bayou Masson are false, as there was no establishment there during the Spanish Government. It may be strongly suspected, also, if any individual is conducting an unusual number of claims without written titles, that there is something wrong, or if they are proven by the same witness. These hints will enable you to detect the plot. I shall be in Opelousas at court, and will give such information as I may receive: in the mean time this letter is not to be considered as public; on the contrary, *private* and *confidential*. Yours respectfully.

(Signed) J. S. JOHNSTON."

(Note by the register.) "Since the receipt of the foregoing letter by the register, Judge Johnston consented, in a verbal conversation with him at Opelousas, to take off the injunction of secrecy, so far as to permit the letter to be used in reporting the claims to which it refers."

As further evidence of the fraudulent intentions of the claimants for lands on the Bayou Masson, or their agents who filed the notices, and the corruption of the witnesses, see the testimony of Edmund Johnson and William Gardener, both persons of unquestionable probity, in the claim of Edward Dorsey, reported No. 1216. All the claims for lands in which Ezekiel Williams has sworn to the settlement have been entered in this class, his evidence being rendered questionable from his testifying to claims on Bayou Masson. All the claims in which Jonas Segars has sworn to the settlement, have been entered in this class, his evidence being rendered questionable from the testimony of John Hughes and John Hebert, which see in reported No. 1233.

M. The claimants ought to produce authenticated deeds of sale from the previous occupants. It does not necessarily follow that because A had occupied a tract of land in time to entitle him to a donation from the United States, and abandoned his claim thereto, that B, a subsequent settler on the same land, not within the provisions of the law, and without having obtained a legal transfer of the title of A, should be in like manner entitled. The register and receiver have therefore reported against such claims; claimants in all such cases having the right of pre-emption.

N. The mere certificate or testimony of a person who may have acted as a commandant cannot be taken as evidence of permission to settle under the former Government. See remarks of the late Board of Commissioners, in their report on Concordia claims, on the letter of J. Vidal, formerly a commandant of that post.

O. The cultivation of land by the hirelings or negroes of the claimant, and which he himself does not actually inhabit, is not deemed sufficient to give a title to a donation from the United States.

P. No quantity is expressed in the title under which the claimants hold. They should be confined to the quantity which may be ascertained from survey to be within the proper limits.

Q. The register and receiver are of opinion, upon a reinvestigation of these claims, that they ought not to be confirmed.

R. The late Board of Commissioners, by their certificate No. 2046, have confirmed to the claimants, on evidence of occupancy, the title for a tract of land of 640 acres. In their notice before the register and receiver, the claimants to the number of six, to wit: Michel, Francois, Pierre, Athanase, Thule, Meaux, and Vital Lapointe, state that they were most of them of lawful age at the change of Government, and therefore think themselves entitled each to 640 acres of land, making altogether 3,840 acres, from which deducting the 640 acres they have a confirmation for, there remains the quantity now claimed. The register and receiver know of no law providing for such a case, and therefore cannot recommend the claim for confirmation.

S. The evidence of this witness is rendered questionable from having testified to so many as eighteen claims, and stating in such a summary way in them all, the very facts necessary to entitle claimants to hold under the acts of Congress granting donations to settlers. He may have testified truly, but the register and receiver are of opinion that a further investigation of these claims ought to take place before they are confirmed.

T. From the statements of persons who have held offices under the Spanish Government, the register and receiver are induced to recommend a further investigation of this claim before it is finally decided against. It is believed to have been very customary under the Spanish Government to remunerate services to the crown by grants of land.

V. It is understood that the tract of land in question, as well as those reported under the Nos. 1056, 1091, and 1093, lie adjacent to two tracts of woodland conceded by the Spanish Government to Daniel Callaghan, and it appears very evident that the witnesses giving evidence in this claim confound it with those held under said concessions, and, even if they had testified clearly that the timber and tan-bark were taken off the tract now claimed, the register and receiver are of opinion that such occupancy would not have been sufficient to entitle the claimants even to the right of pre-emption, far less to a donation from the United States.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Signed duplicates.

LEVIN WAILES,
Register of the Land Office.
WM. GARRARD,
Receiver of Public Moneys.

OPELOUSAS, 30*th December*, 1815.

By order—Attest:
GUY H. BELL, *Clerk and Translator.*

The claims included in the first six classes of this report are confirmed by the act of the 5th of February, 1825, entitled "An act confirming certain claims to land in the Western District of Louisiana."

14th CONGRESS. **No. 246.** 2d SESSION.

LAND TITLES IN THE MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DECEMBER 6, 1816.

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

The petition of the subscribers, inhabitants of that part of the Mississippi Territory formerly included in the province of West Florida, humbly sets forth:

That your petitioners have awaited for three years, in patient expectation of your honorable body's passing a law for confirming their land claims, and in the confident hope that such law would be conceived in that spirit of liberality and justice that has ever distinguished all your acts. The appearance of the act of 13th April, 1814, "for the final adjustment of land titles in the State of Louisiana and Territory of Missouri," assured them further that their confidence was well grounded. The principle consecrated by that act, of confirming all French and Spanish grants in those Territories up to the day when possession of them was respectively taken, dissipated even their slightest apprehensions, and it never entered into their imaginations that the future law that should be passed in their case would to them be less liberal or less just.

It was therefore, (may it be said without offence to your honorable body,) with sensations of the utmost surprise, and most poignant anxiety, that they learned, towards the close of your last session, that a bill was in progress through the Senate, which, if passed into a law, would blast their hopes completely, would ravish from them what they had fairly obtained from the preceding Government of Spain, and would expose their tenure of the little pittance left to the utmost uncertainty, from the conflicting titles of an host of long forgotten and justly deprived British claimants.

As this bill has not yet become the act of your honorable body, and as the principal object of your petitioners, in their present address, is, humbly but most earnestly to beseech and pray that it be rejected, and a more equitable law be substituted in its place, we beg that no offence may be taken (as surely none is intended) at the free exposure of its features that we shall here attempt. It is incumbent on us to defend our rights, and this privilege will not be denied to us by an American Congress.

The first section enacts "that all claims to land founded on complete grants from the French, British, and Spanish Governments, which claims are, in the opinion of the Commissioners, valid, agreeable to the laws, usages, and customs of the said Governments, be, and the same are hereby recognized as valid and complete titles against any claim on the part of the United States, or right derived from the United States."

On a perusal of this section any one would imagine that complete titles from any of the Governments mentioned

were confirmed as regarded the United States; for although it is expressed, "which claims *are, in the opinion of the Commissioners*, valid, agreeably to the laws, usages, and customs of the said Governments," no one could conceive that the Commissioners could doubt the validity of a complete title issued, of course, agreeably to the laws and customs of the granting Government; nor could any one imagine that they could have given an opinion otherwise than in conformity: yet here it was, may it please your honorable body, that the surprise of your petitioners commenced; for they found, on a particular inquiry, that the minds of the Commissioners had not been left free, but that they had been ordered by instructions from the Secretary of the Treasury to govern their opinions, and the classification of the claims, by sundry acts of Congress passed previous to the taking possession of this country by the United States; and particularly by an act of March 26, 1804, "for dividing Louisiana into two Territories, and providing for their Government;" in which, section 14 declares null, ab initio, all acts of the Spanish Government relative to grants of land in Louisiana posterior to the date of the treaty of St. Ildefonso. Thus then, this first section of the bill, which professes, on the face of it, to judge all complete titles according to their validity under the different Governments that issued them, (the only rule by which we conceive in justice they ought to be judged,) when more narrowly examined into, holds a language diametrically opposite with regard to those issued by Spain subsequent to the date of the treaty of St. Ildefonso: the intrinsic merits of these, this bill will not regard, but condemns them in toto, by a silent and secret reference to an act passed upwards of nine years before this country came under the Government of the United States; an act that, it is firmly believed, not one person in this country ever before heard of.

The second and third sections of this bill speak the same language openly, and refer your distressed petitioners to the date of the treaty of St. Ildefonso, as the period after which all their rights derived from Spain become null and void.

Your honorable body will perceive at once the extremely perplexing dilemma in which your humble petitioners are thus placed; that they cannot defend their dearest rights, their property, thus assailed by this bill, without attacking the principle on which its framer has rested its provisions. After the passage of the act before alluded to, for settling the land claims in the Missouri and Orleans Territories, we reposed in the confident hope that so highly disagreeable a necessity would never exist. In the hard alternative, however, that is thus placed before us, we earnestly beseech your honorable body to condescend to take this our most peculiar situation into your just consideration, and, should any part of our defence be such as not to meet your approval, deign to pardon it.

In addressing your honorable body, your humble petitioners dare not attempt a discussion of the question whether this country was ceded by Spain by the treaty of St. Ildefonso. That important question has been agitated by the diplomatic agents of the United States at the courts both of France and Spain, and the negotiations terminated in 1805 by the positive declaration of both courts that it was not intended to be included. Be this, however, as it may, your petitioners will claim the liberty to observe, that, for a series of years after the cession and delivery of Louisiana proper, the United States not only tacitly, but by deeds and acts acknowledged the sovereignty of Spain over this country. They paid at different times duties to that Government on their own goods passing by the port of Mobile to Fort Stoddart, for the use of their Indian factories; and, on one memorable occasion, so late as the year 1812, *after your honorable body had passed an act for annexing this district to the Mississippi Territory*, and in consequence of that act, the judge of the Washington district, the honorable Harry Toulmin, had acquitted a vessel libelled for a breach of the embargo law, as having touched at Mobile on her passage from New Orleans to Fort Stoddart, the honorable Secretary of the Treasury gave orders to the collector of that district to take out a writ of error for the purpose of having the judgment reversed, and commanded him on all occasions, and to all intents, to consider Mobile as a foreign port whilst Spain held possession of it. Could your petitioners, who were witnesses of these facts, imagine that the sovereignty of Spain over this country was not complete? or could they anticipate that grants of land derived, or purchases made from that Government, would one day be annulled by the very power who thus acknowledged it? Certainly not. This bill, against which your petitioners now humbly represent, refers them, in the way that has been mentioned, for the annulment of their land titles subsequent to October, 1800, to the act of Congress before alluded to, of 26th March, 1804. Now, may we be permitted to say, that it does appear to us that this act was not intended to be applied to this part of the Territory. In the first place, mention is only made therein of Louisiana, and nothing said of West Florida; and, in the next, a power is given to the President to employ military force to remove settlers from public lands, and to prevent surveys or locations of such. We conceive this power to have been granted as to Louisiana proper only, and not as to this country; or, if intended to be extended to this country, it was at least never exercised: had it been so, the question would have been brought to its proper issue at once, and many of your petitioners, and others who have obtained grants subsequently from the Spranish Government, would have had no room for complaint.

Your petitioners have, moreover, ever been under the impression that, before laws can claim obedience, they must be promulgated in the country where this obedience is claimed. Now, neither this law, nor any other of the United States, ever was nor could be promulgated in West Florida until it passed under the Government of those States; but had it even been by some unaccountable means published here, your petitioners would pray permission to observe that they were then subjects of Spain, owing obedience to her laws, and only to her's, while her flag waved over and afforded them protection.

Your petitioners beg leave to submit a case. Suppose that, instead of the extraordinary events which have taken place, such a state of things had arisen as should have prevented the United States from obtaining possession for fifty years yet to come, could the inhabitants of this country, during such a period, be with justice deprived of the most essential right of man, that of acquiring and holding a property in the soil, because there existed a vague *dormant* dispute between the two Governments as to their right to the territory? And supposing the United States finally to get possession at the close of such a period, could they be justified in then applying, as a measure of right, to all the property in the country, this law of 1804? If this cannot be affirmed of the longer period of fifty years, by what rule can such a proceeding be justified after the lapse of ten?

Your petitioners are little versed in subjects involving legal questions, but they have been taught to believe (and it is consonant to reason) that it is a principle of the law of nations that a sovereign de facto is, as to his contracts and deeds that regard the subject, a sovereign *de jure*, and that his acts in this respect are, and ought to be, binding on succeeding sovereigns or governments. Your petitioners pretend not to penetrate the reasons that influenced the United States in their acquiescence in the complete possession of the sovereignty by Spain for so long a period after they set forth their claim; but natural reason seems to authorize them in saying, that since, from whatever motives, those States did think fit to permit Spain to hold and exercise the unmolested sovereignty, they are, by every moral tie, bound to acquiesce in and confirm her acts.

The first public notice that could be said to be given to the inhabitants of this country of the claim of the United States, was the proclamation of the President of 27th October, 1810, which came accompanied by a force that dispossessed the Government of Spain, and established that under which we now have the happiness to live. In this proclamation, however, his excellency still engaged that the question of title should remain open for negotiation; but, above all, we pray your honorable body to observe, he promised that the peaceable inhabitants should be protected in their liberty, their *property*, and religion. We confine ourselves, may it please your honorable body, to this last clause, in which the faith of the united American nation is solemnly pledged, by its chief magistrate, to the people of this country for the protection and security of their property—we again beg leave to observe, *their property*, with all its rights, privileges, and immunities, certainly as it stood vested *at that date*, and *not* as it was upwards of ten years before.

It is on this solemn pledge, and on the principles consecrated by your own honorable body in the act of 12th April, 1814, before cited, which are also the immutable principles of justice, that we mainly rely for the success of this our humble appeal to your honorable body, in defence of our rights. If the principles of that act were just in regard to Louisiana proper, we humbly conceive that we have, on many accounts, a greatly superior claim to have them extended to us.

But, may it please your honorable body, should this bill pass into a law, an event that we most earnestly deprecate, it will not only, as we have mentioned in the beginning of this address, ravish from us the greater part of

our property, fairly obtained from the preceding Government of Spain, but would expose the tenure of the small pittance left, to the utmost uncertainty, from the conflicting titles of an host of long-forgotten and justly deprived British claimants.

To enter on a long argument to prove that they were justly deprived, would be a waste of words. Spain acquired West Florida by the fifth article of the treaty of peace of 1783. By that article British subjects were allowed eighteen months, after the ratification, to sell their estates, and remove their effects; that term was allowed to them, and a further prorogation of it was also given, during which they might either have disposed of their property, or have claimed and held it on the easy condition of becoming subjects of Spain. Those who did neither, ipso facto, abandoned their property, which, of course, escheated to the crown of Spain, and was, by that power, re-granted to others, her subjects. Whilst Spain held the country, neither these men nor their claims were ever heard of, nor would have been heard of had she retained possession. But, since the change of Government, an host of these claimaints have sprung up from the ground like Cadmus's men of old, and armed with musty parchments, dug up from holes and corners where they had for these thirty-five years lain mouldering, they threaten to drive all the Spanish inhabitants from their possessions entirely.

What new rights can those men have acquired by the change of Government? If this country is claimed under the treaties of St. Ildefonso, and of Paris, was it for their benefit that Spain ceded, France sold, and the United States acquired? Was it to them that the third article of the treaty of Paris secures the free enjoyment of their liberty, property, and religion? And was it to them that the President, in his proclamation before alluded to, pledged the faith of the nation for that free security and protection? Undoubtedly not! Their claims are visionary, destitute of all foundation in right reason, and ought not for a moment to be listened to.

No fact is better ascertained than that those claims, by the non-compliance of the holders with the terms of the treaty, and the conditions on which they were allowed to be held, were completely barred before the Spanish tribunals, who were in law and duty bound to defend the grants and liege subjects of the sovereign from molestation by these foreign, long-abandoned, and forfeited claims. The Government of the United States has succeeded to that of Spain. The people of this country now owe to the former that dutiful allegiance that they formerly owed and paid to the latter, and they consequently have an incontrovertible claim to an equal measure of security and protection.

Your petitioners therefore do hope, and most earnestly pray, that your honorable body will, in any law that you may pass on this subject, declare a preference of Spanish grants to those held by, or in any way emanating from, British claimants—save where those were allowed and possessed by them or their representatives under the Government of Spain. A contrary procedure would open a scene of distress that your petitioners want words to describe. It would be equivalent to a decree of confiscation against all the ancient inhabitants.

Finally, your petitioners pray permission to reduce the sum of these observations to this principle, which they believe to be a correct one, viz. that the change of the Government ought not, in any way, to deteriorate their rights of property, but that these ought to stand secure and undiminished in the same situation that they did under the Government of Spain, and that the United States found them in on taking actual possession of the country. On this principle your humble petitioners do most earnestly supplicate and pray that the bill in question be rejected by your honorable body, and a law be substituted in its stead that shall confirm all authentic Spanish grants, warrants, and orders of survey of land lying within the district formerly forming part of West Florida, which were issued prior to the taking of actual possession thereof by the United States, and which shall give to actual settlers, without title, on lands not covered by other claims, such donations as, in your munificence, you may deem proper, and as have usually been given in similar cases in other districts and Territories of the United States: and your humble petitioners will ever pray.

M. McKinsey.
Mig'l Eslava.
Diego Macaboy.
Dque. Salle.
Thos. Powell.
John Hinson.
L. Judson.
Benj'n Dubroca.
Francois Girard.
Z. Delmas.
E. Lewis.
Wm. H. Buford.
Christ. S. Stewart.
Daniel Duval.
P. H. Hobart.
Joshua Kennedy.
Thos. G. Newbold.
R. M. Gilmer.
J. Wilson.
Sam'l Acre.
William E. Kennedy.
Daniel Hartly.
Asa Beebe.
Theron Kellogg.
William Plumley.
E. Glasscock.
John Pritchard.
Patrick Ward.
Jno. Galloway.
Wm. Lyons.
J. Davis.
S. H. Garrow.
Diego Alvarez.
Perretino Alvarez.
James Badger.
Joshua Kennedy, jun.
Conrad Jacobs.
Charles Hall, sen.
William Hall.
George Haupt.
William Richardson.
Samuel Kitchen.
Antonio Hindemberg.
Peter Randon.
Peals Babbit.
Robt. Huston.
Patrick Byrne.
Gerald Byrne.
Charles Hall.
J. P. Kennedy.
Cyrus Sibley.
Aaron Barlow.
William Mitchell.
Jas. Innerarity.
Benito Caro.
William Fisher.
Andrus Plock.
Jno. Forbes & Co.
Jos. McCandless.
Chs. Lyons.
Giacob Chighigoly.
Wycke Whatley.
Silvain Motley.
Daniel Tuzan.
Etienne Krebs.
James F. Long.
Robert Barnard.
Marone Dolive.
Terry McCusker.
M. Perrault.
Wm. Whitehead.
Jacob Page.
J. W. C. Fleeming.
John Warren.
Thos. W. Dailey.
Silas Finch.
Robt. Huston.
Joseph A. McClenahan.
Joshua Clement.
E. Beebe.
Michl. Ward.
W. H. Fisher.
Jas. Dunwodey.
Alvan Robeshow.
L. Nicolas.
Sylvester Nicolas.
Louis Demouy.
Augustine Demouy.
John Cook.
Leon Nicolas.
J. Baptiste Trinnier.
Gerald Byrne.
Philip McLoskey.
Juan Bautista Bollay.
William Conway.
William H. Carroll.
Sideonne Chastang.
John Elliott.
Edward Socie.
Louis Dolives.
Sifroy Dolives.
Simon David.
Bruno Chastang.
Thomas Bler.
Baptiste Chastang.
Jose Gorlot.
Alex. Miller.

14th Congress. **No. 247.** 2d Session.

LAND CLAIMS IN THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 20, 1817.

General Land Office,
16th January, 1817.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit herewith the report of the Commissioners for ascertaining and adjusting claims to land in the eastern district of the State of Louisiana, which report I request may be returned at the close of the session: the only copy of it which has been made has been transmitted to the House of Representatives.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

JOSIAH MEIGS.

The Hon. *the* President *of the Senate.*

To the Hon. JOSIAH MEIGS,
General Land Commissioner:

Are respectfully addressed, for the revision of Congress, the following reports of the register and receiver of public moneys of the eastern district of the State of Louisiana, on land claims filed in the register's office, in pursuance of the act of Congress passed on the 27th day of February, 1813, entitled "An act giving further time for registering claims to lands in the eastern and western districts of the Territory of Orleans, now State of Louisiana."

The following claims to lands are divided into three general classes:

First class comprehends such claims as stand confirmed by law.

Second class comprehends such claims as, in the opinion of the register and receiver, ought to be confirmed.

Third class comprehends such claims as, in their opinion, cannot be confirmed under existing laws.

First class comprehends the following species of claims:

1st. Claims founded on complete titles, granted by the French or Spanish Governments.

2d. Claims founded on incomplete French or Spanish grants or concessions, warrants or orders of survey, granted prior to the 20th of December, 1803.

3d. Claims formerly rejected by the Board of Commissioners for the eastern district of Louisiana, *merely* because the lands claimed were not inhabited on the 20th December, 1803.

Second class comprehends the following species of claims:

1st. Claims founded on possession and cultivation for ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803.

2d. Claims founded on possession and cultivation, began prior to the 1st day of October, 1800.

3d. Claims founded on permission of the proper Spanish officer to settle on lands prior to the 20th of December, 1803.

Third class comprehends the following species of claims:

1st. Claims unsupported by evidence.

2d. Claims not embraced by existing laws.

3d. Claims, although not embraced by existing laws, yet being considered equitable, are therefore recommended for confirmation.

FIRST CLASS.

SPECIES THE FIRST.

406. John McDonough, junior, & Co., claim a tract of land situated in the county of Acadia, on the east shore of the Mississippi, sixteen leagues above New Orleans, containing thirty-two arpens front, with a depth extending as far as Lake Maurepas. This tract of land has formerly been claimed before the Board of Commissioners, and the depth extending beyond forty acres rejected by them for want of evidence of title; but the claimant has since produced a complete French title for the whole quantity claimed, in favor of Delile Dupare, (under whom he claims,) dated the 3d day of April, 1769.

418. Nicholas Dublin claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on the left bank of the Lafourche, containing eleven arpens eighteen toises and four feet in front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Firmin Barbin, and on the other by lands of Anthony Maxent. This claim is founded on a complete title.

443. F. H. Summer claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupee, on the left bank of the Mississippi, at a place called Point Manchac, bounded on one side by lands of A. L. Duncan, and on the other by lands of Madam Powell, containing fourteen arpens in front by forty arpens in depth. This tract of land is claimed in virtue of a complete grant.

448. Victor Bruslé claims a tract of land situate in the county of Acadia, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing two arpens in front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Pierre Lanois, and on the other by lands of Madam Meiller. This tract of land is claimed by virtue of a complete Spanish grant.

453. C. B. Dufau claims two tracts of land situate in the county of Orleans; the first containing three arpens in front, on the right bank of the Missippi, by forty in depth; the second tract, being a second depth, lying immediately back of the first, and containing seventeen arpens and twenty toises front, after the first depth, extending back as far as Bayou Washa. These claims are founded on a complete French grant in favor of L. Chabert, (under whom the claimant holds,) in 1776.

457. James Guidry claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Ascension, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing five arpens seven toises and two feet in front by forty arpens in depth. This claim is founded on a complete title, bearing date in November, 1775.

458. Ledger Landry claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Ascension, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing five arpens twenty-three toises and two feet front by forty arpens in depth. This claim is founded on a complete title, bearing date in November, 1775.

460. Louis Reggio claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on Bayou aux Coeups, containing eighty arpens front, on each side of said bayou, by ten in depth. This tract of land is claimed by purchase under a complete grant made to Peter Thomas by the Spanish Government.

483. Madam Toutant Beauregard claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the east shore of the Mississippi, containing eight arpens, or thereabouts, front by a league and a half in depth, bounded on one side by Mr. Phillipon, and on the other by Rodolphe Ducros. This is part of a tract of land granted by the French Government in the year 1762, now on the records before us.

484. Rodolphus Ducros claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the east shore of the Mississippi, containing about eight arpens in front by one league and a half in depth. This tract of land is claimed as the preceding, being part of a grant made to Charles Le Sassier by the French Government in the year 1762.

503. Alexander Braud claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Ascension, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing thirteen arpens twenty-six yards and four feet front by forty arpens in depth, bounded, in the year 1773, by lands of Simon Landry on the upper side, and on the lower by Pablo Braud. This tract of land is claimed by virtue of a complete title, bearing date in the year 1775.

504. John Landry claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Ascension, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing five arpens ten toises in front by forty arpens in depth, bounded, in the year 1773, on the upper side by Baptiste Landry, and on the lower side by Joseph Granger. This claim is founded on a complete title, dated in 1775.

505. John Landry claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Ascension, on the left bank of the Mississippi, measuring four arpens and four toises front by forty arpens in depth, bounded, in the year 1773, on the upper side by lauds of Pablo Braud, and on the lower by lands of the claimant. This claim is founded on a complete title, dated in 1775.

506. Paul Landry claims a tract of land situate in the district of Lafourche, measuring five arpens twenty toises and five feet, fronting the Mississippi, by forty in depth, and bounded, in the year 1774, on the upper side by lands of Peter Landry, and on the lower side by lands of Isaac Le Blanc. This tract of land is claimed by virtue of a complete title, dated in the year 1775.

508. Paul Landry claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Ascension, containing six arpens and four feet, fronting the Mississippi by forty arpens in depth, and bounded, in the year 1773, by lands of Joseph Granger on the upper side, and on the lower side by lands of John Broussard. This claim is founded on a complete title, dated in the year 1775.

520. Widow Bourgeois claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing eight arpens and a half front by eighty arpens in depth, and was bounded in the year 1787, on one side by lands of Joseph Bourgeois, and on the other by lands of Charles Daringsbourg. This tract of land is claimed by virtue of a complete title, dated in the year 1787.

521. Abraham Bourgeois claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, containing four arpens in front by eighty arpens in depth. This tract of land is claimed by virtue of a complete grant, being part of a tract of twelve arpens and a half front granted to Joseph Bourgeois in May, 1787.

553. Michel Colvin claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, at a place called *Pointe a la Hache*, containing fourteen arpens front by forty in depth, bounded on one side by vacant lands, and on the other side by lands of Ronquilla. This tract of land is claimed in virtue of a complete title, dated in the year 1772.

563. Bernardo Marigny claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, five leagues above the city of New Orleans, containing twenty-five arpens and five inches in front, with a depth extending as far as Lake Washa. This claim is founded on a complete French title, which was duly submitted to the former Board of Commissioners of this

district, and found partly reported by them among the confirmed claims; but not having been definitely acted upon by said board, the claimant has re-entered his claim, which we have no doubt ought to be confirmed to him.

567. Fanny Dupré and Claire Dupré claim a tract of land situate in the parish of Plaquemine, on the left bank of the Mississippi, seven leagues below New Orleans, containing ten arpens front, immediately in the rear of the first depth of forty arpens, extending back as far as Lake Borgne, bounded in front by lands of Celestin Dupré, (formerly a part of this tract,) and on each side by vacant lands. This tract of land is founded on a complete Spanish grant, dated in the year 1774, and in favor of Martin Bragnier.

635. Joseph Ervin claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Iberville, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing four arpens fifteen toises front by eighty arpens in depth, bounded, in the year 1796, on one side by lands of Widow Bruntau. This tract of land is claimed by virtue of a complete title, dated in the year 1796.

All the preceding claims being founded on complete titles, are, in our opinion, confirmed by law.

SAML. H. HARPER, *Register.*
ALFRED LORRAIN, *Receiver.*

SPECIES SECOND:

Of incomplete French or Spanish grants or concessions, warrants or orders of survey, granted prior to the 20th December, 1803.

405. Guy Dufossat claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the Bayou Chefmenteur, having two leagues front, with the depth of an arpen and a half, extending from the Rigolets to Lake Borgne, and bounded on all sides by vacant lands. This claim is founded on an incomplete grant, dated on the 2d December, 1788.

407. John Baptiste Clombe claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the Bayou de la Chemere, containing one thousand superficial arpens, and bounded on all sides by vacant lands, except for a short distance on one of the boundary lines, where it is bounded by the back part of the lands fronting on the Mississippi. This claim is founded on an incomplete title, bearing date the 23d of March, 1797.

409. Louis Liotau claims a tract of land situated in the county of Orleans, on the left bank of Canal Carondelet, leading to the Bayou St. John, containing six arpens in front and forty in depth, and bounded on one side by lands granted by the Spanish Government to Francisco Guardiola, and on the other by vacant lands. This tract of land is claimed by virtue of an order of survey, dated in the year 1802.

410. Robert Fortier claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, about three leagues above the city, on the east side of the Mississippi, containing nine arpens front, and extending in depth to the Lake Ponchartrain; bounded on one side by lands of Mr. Dezilet, and on the other by lands of Mr. Wiltz. This claim is founded on a survey duly executed by a surveyor of the French Government, in the year 1764.

411. Norbert Fortier claims a tract of land situated in the county of Orleans, about three leagues above the city, and on the east side of the Mississippi; bounded on one side by lands of Mr. Lessart, and on the other side by lands of Mr. Lafreniere, containing nine arpens in front, and extending back to Lake Ponchartrain. This claim is derived from purchase under the same title of No. 410, preceding.

412. Charles Jumonville Devilliers claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, between the Bayou Lafourche and Atchafalaya, having a front of eighty arpens on each side of the Bayou Caillou, and a depth of eighty arpens; bounded on the lower side by the place called *L'Ancien Campiment*, of Mr. Derbonne, and on the other by vacant lands. This claim is founded on an order of survey issued by the proper Spanish officer, bearing date the 12th January, 1799.

414. Louis Alexander Rebout claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupee, containing twenty-five acres front on each side of the Bayou *Grosse-téte*, or Grand bayou, by forty in depth, on each side; and bounded on one side by lands of Louis Arsenaux, and on the other by lands of John Franchebois. This claim is founded on an order of survey issued by the proper Spanish officer.

415. John Franchebois claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupee, measuring twenty-five acres in front on each side of Bayou Grosse-téte, or Grand bayou, by forty-acres in depth, on each side; and bounded on one side by lands of L. Alexander Rebout, and on the other by lands of Rosemond Becas. This claim is founded on an order of survey issued by a proper Spanish officer.

420. Newman and Ronquillo claim a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the west side of the Mississippi, containing eighty-four acres in front by forty acres in depth; bounded on one side by vacant lands, and on the other side by lands of Peter Cose. This claim is founded on an order of survey, dated on the 19th of June, 1795.

421. Newman and Ronquillo claim a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the sea coast, near the place called *La Grand Terre*, containing twenty-five arpens in front by forty in depth. This claim is founded on purchase from Bachemin, who obtained an order of survey for the same from the proper Spanish officer, dated 5th February, 1790.

422. Edmond Meanee claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the east side of the Mississippi, about six leagues below New Orleans, containing two arpens front by forty arpens in depth; bounded on one side by lands of John B. Saucier, and on the other by lands of Jacques and Baltazar, Enoul Livaudais. This claim is derived by purchase under an order of survey obtained on the 6th December, 1788.

423. Norbert Fortier claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the east shore of the Mississippi, about four leagues above New Orleans, containing eighteen arpens front, with a depth extending to Lake Pontchartrain; bounded on one side by lands of Hazur Delorme, and on the other by lands of the claimant. This claim is founded on a survey duly executed by a surveyor of the French Government, in the year 1764.

430. Anne Bruneteau claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, as a second depth of a front tract on the west side of the Mississippi, measuring six arpens twenty-seven toises front by a depth of forty arpens. This claim is founded on an order of survey issued by a proper Spanish officer.

435. Isaac Le Blanc claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, on the east side of the Mississippi, containing four arpens in front, with a short depth; bounded above by lands of Zacharie Hebert, and below by lands of Urbain Gagné. This tract of land was purchased by the claimant at public sale: for which Urbain Gagné (from whom it was seized and sold) obtained an order of survey from the proper Spanish officer.

436. Zacharie Hebert claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, containing four arpens front on the Mississippi, amounting in the whole to twenty-five and a half superficial arpens. This tract of land is claimed under the same title as that in No. 435, preceding.

437. Michel Garrieul claims a tract of land situated in the county of Iberville, containing a superficie of twenty-six and a half arpens, having a front of four arpens. This tract of land is claimed by virtue of the same title as the preceding one.

438. Aubry Dupuy claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, having a superficie of twenty-six arpens, and a front of four acres, being part of the same tract mentioned at No. 435, and founded on the same title.

439. Aubry Dupuy claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, containing twenty-one superficial arpens, having a front of four arpens, being part of the tract mentioned at No. 435, and founded on the same title.

440. Joseph Ervin claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, containing four arpens front by twenty-six in depth, being part of the same tract mentioned at No. 435, and held by the same title.

441. Joseph Ervin claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, containing four arpens front by twenty-five arpens in depth, being part of the same tract mentioned at No. 435, and founded on the same title.

442. Jacob Barker claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, containing four arpens front by twenty-three arpens in depth, being part of the tract mentioned at No. 435, and founded on the same title. The plantation of Urbain Gagné, which the preceding eight claimants purchased, was seized from him, and sold in small parcels at auction.

444. Nathan Meriam claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing six arpens front by forty arpens in depth, and bounded above by lands formerly belonging to Chelatre, and below by lands of George Clinpetre. The claimant purchased this tract, and claims it by virtue of an order of survey in favor of the original proprietor, issued by the proper Spanish officer on the 10th July, 1775.

446. Isidore Le Blanc claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Baton Rouge, containing sixteen arpens

front by forty arpens in depth, being a second depth to a tract owned by the claimant, on the right bank of the river Mississippi. This claim is founded on an order of survey actually executed on the 9th day of August, 1800, by order of Governor Grandpré.

458. Margaret Melancon claims a tract of land as a second depth, situate on the Lafourche, in the parish of Ascension, containing five arpens twenty-two toises and two feet front by forty arpens in depth. This claim is supported by an order of survey, dated in March, 1802.

459. Madame Judice claims a tract of land situate in the district of Galvezton, containing twenty arpens front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on all sides by vacant lands. This tract of land is claimed by virtue of an incomplete title granted by the Spanish Government.

461. The heirs of Joseph Babin claim a second depth to a tract of land situate in the parish of Ascension, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing eight arpens eighteen toises and two feet front by forty arpens in depth. This tract of land is claimed by virtue of an incomplete grant made by the Spanish Government, as appears to us of record.

462. William Goforth claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, containing fifty arpens front by forty arpens in depth. This claim is founded on an order of survey issued by the proper officer.

471. Pedro Donzel claims a tract of land on the left bank of the Lafourche, in the district of Valenzuela, containing six arpens and six toises front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Pablo Navarro, and on the other side by lands of Bernardo River. This tract is claimed by virtue of an order of survey duly executed by a surveyor of the Spanish Government in the year 1802.

476. John Baptiste Tounoir claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupee, on the west bank of the Mississippi, containing sixteen arpens front by forty arpens in depth. This tract of land was claimed before the late Board of Commissioners for this district, by Pierre Leglise, and by them rejected for reasons assigned in their reports at No. 123. But the present claimant, who holds by purchase at sheriff's sale, has since produced an order of survey, dated the 24th January, 1777, issued by the Spanish Government for said land.

480. Charles Morgan claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupee, containing six hundred and forty superficial acres, bounded on the upper side by lands of Benj. M. Stockes, and on the lower side by vacant lands, at a place called Racourci. This land was claimed before the late Board of Commissioners for this district, and by them rejected for reasons assigned in their reports at No. 178. The claimant has since produced an order of survey, signed by Governor Galvez, for said land, dated in the year 1777. [See special report at page 234.]

481. The heirs of Alexis Clotier claim a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupee, containing four arpens front by forty arpens in depth. This land was rejected by the late Board of Commissioners for this district, for reasons assigned in their report at the No. 209. The claimant has since produced an order of survey from Governor Galvez, dated in 1777, for said land, in favor of Antoine Provost. Although the claimant has not positively shown a transfer of this land to himself, yet we are of opinion that the circumstance of his having the order of survey in his possession, is sufficient evidence of the fact: for, under the Spanish Government, it was the duty of the vender to deliver to the vendee all his titles; and, among illiterate people, the mere delivery of those titles were thought a sufficient conveyance.

482. John Baptiste Decuir claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupee, at a place called Ance, containing twenty arpens in front, on the river Mississippi, by forty arpens in depth. This claim is supported by a Spanish order of survey, dated in the year 1777.

490. Joseph Chápron claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the left bank of the Mississippi, a short distance below the English turn, containing seventeen arpens in front by forty arpens in depth. This claim is supported by virtue of an order of survey executed by a surveyor of the Spanish Government in the year 1772.

500. Ursin Bouligny claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupee, on the right bank of the Mississippi, at the place commonly called Racourci, containing forty arpens front by forty arpens in depth. This land is claimed, by virtue of an order of survey in favor of the claimant, issued in the year 1796, by the proper Spanish officer.

501. Louis B. McCarty and John Blanque claim a tract of land, as a second depth to the plantation owned by them, about half a league below the city of New Orleans, and on the same side of the river. This claim measures eighteen arpens front, and running back to intersect the lines of the plantations of Gentilly. Lawrence Wiltze, under whom the present claimants hold, obtained from the Spanish Government an order of survey, dated in the year 1794, by virtue of which he and the claimants have had possession ever since.

512. James Melancon claims a tract of land situate in the Acadian coast, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing four arpens twenty-nine toises and two feet front by forty arpens in depth, bounded, in the year 1782, by Pablo Le Blanc on one side, and on the other by Joseph Sonier. This land is claimed by virtue of a certificate of an actual survey having been made, and a commission given by the Spanish Government, in the year 1782.

527. Antoine Foucher claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing a superficie of eight thousand and four arpens one hundred and seventy toises, bounded as follows: From the bank of the Mississippi, running south 32° east, as far as eighty arpens in depth, forming the line between the Nuns and this tract; thence north 33° east, ninety-five toises, also forming the line between the Nuns; thence south 5° 30′ east, five hundred and thirty toises, to reach the river Washa, called Bayou Villier or Barrataria; thence following the course of said river Washa as far as Bayou Tortue; thence returning to the point of departure, and running thence along the shore of the Mississippi south 54° west 30′, one hundred and forty-seven toises; thence south 66° west 40′, sixty-eight toises, forming in all the face of said tract; thence following a line distant from the canal sixty feet, and parallel thereto, as far as the depth of three arpens; thence perpendicularly towards the canal thirty feet; thence at thirty feet distance from said canal, and following the bank of said canal as far as eighty arpens from the river; thence running south 52° 30′ west, four hundred and ten toises; thence south 65°, five hundred and seventy-six toises; thence south 67° west, three hundred and forty toises, all this side bounded by lands of Duplantier; thence south 11° east, nine hundred toises; thence perpendicularly towards the west, four hundred and twenty toises; thence south 16° 30′ east, nine hundred and eighty-six toises; thence north 82° 30′ east, three hundred and forty toises; thence south 32° 30′ east, twelve hundred and fifty toises; thence south 26° west, eight hundred and thirty toises, all this side bounded by lands of Bouligny; thence north 74° east, eight hundred and eighty-five toises, bounded by Gravier on the shore of the river Washa, and thence ascending the said river one league to reach Bayou Tortue. This tract of land is claimed by virtue of two orders of survey obtained on the 12th of August, 1789, by those under whom the claimant holds by purchase. This land has been inhabited and cultivated ever since the date of its location.

529. Daspit St. Amand claims a tract of land situated in the county of German Coast, about nine miles from the banks of the Mississippi, and forming a part of a high ridge called *Les Coteaux de France*. This tract fronts to a water course called Bayou Crocodile, and extends in depth to Bayou *Aux Cannes*, bounded on both sides by marshes, and containing 5,824 superficial arpens. This land is claimed by virtue of an order of survey, dated in the year 1796.

530. Andre Chaixnaitre claims a tract of land situated in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, measuring three arpens one toise and one foot front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of John Robert, and on the other by lands of John B. St. Amant. This tract of land is held by purchase under an order of survey issued by the Spanish Government in the year 1799.

557. Urbain Gagné claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, on the left bank of the Mississippi, measuring seven hundred and seventy-six superficial arpens, bounded on one side by the point of Manchac, and on the other by land of the claimant. This claim is founded on an order of survey dated in the year 1797.

564. John Bachemin claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, at the place called the English turn, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing three arpens front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by land of Benjamin Morgan, and on the other by lands of Francis Wood. This claim is supported by an order of survey of the Spanish Government, dated 4th July, 1786.

565. Francis Wood claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the left bank of the Missis-

sippi, containing three arpens in front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of John Bachemin, and on the other by lands of the claimant. This claim is founded on an order of survey issued on the 4th of July, 1786.

581. Victor Mansuy Pelletier claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, parish of Placquemine, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing nineteen arpens and fifteen toises front by a depth of eighty arpens. This claim is part of one under the same number in the second class. It is claimed by purchase under three orders of survey issued by the Spanish Government, the 2d December, 1788, 11th June, 1790, and 13th June, 1797.

610. Simon Daigle claims a tract of land situate on the right bank of Bayou Lafourche, containing sixty arpens front by forty arpens in depth. This land is claimed by virtue of an order of survey issued in the year 1796.

651. Francisco Anfrey claims a tract of land situate on the Grand Isle of Barataria, bounded on one side by James Regaud, and on the other by Manuel Alcalave, containing 340 42-100ths superficial acres. This land is claimed by virtue of an order of survey issued by Don Estevan Miro, dated 18th January, 1785, and actually located and surveyed.

We are of opinion that all the claims included under the second species of the first class are already confirmed by the act of Congress of the 12th April, 1814.

SAM'L H. HARPER, *Register.*
ALFRED LORRAIN, *Receiver.*

SPECIES THIRD:

Including claims formerly rejected by the Board of Commissioners for the eastern district of Louisiana, merely *because the lands claimed were not inhabited on the 20th of December,* 1803.

408. William Stark claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, on the west bank of the Mississippi, containing six hundred and eighty acres and thirty-seven-hundredths. This claim is founded on a petition or requete, and rejected by the late Board of Commissioners for this district, *merely* because the land claimed was not inhabited on the 20th December, 1803. We are of opinion the claimant ought to be confirmed in his claim to the quantity of six hundred and forty acres only.

427. Charles Hebert claims a tract of land situate on the right bank of the Bayou Placquemine, in the county of Iberville, containing ten arpens in front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper side by lands of Joseph Le Blanc, and on the other by vacant lands. This claim was formerly rejected by the Board of Commissioners, as it appears, *merely* because it was not inhabited and cultivated on the 20th December, 1801; the claimant having in the year 1801 petitioned the intendant general of the province for said land, and obtained the commandant's certificate that the land was vacant.

569. Bella Hubbard claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on both sides of the canal leading to Lake Verret, containing three hundred and forty-five acres, and adjoining on one side lands of Raphael Landry, and on the other by those of Julien Ozelet. This claim is founded on the permission of the commandant of the district in 1802, to settle there. There is evidence of settlement, but the late Board of Commissioners rejected the claim *merely* because the land was not inhabited on the 20th December, 1803.

570. Francis Frillon claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on both sides of the canal leading to Lake Verret, containing two hundred and ninety-four sixteen-hundredths superficial acres. This claim rests upon the same facts and principles with that at No. 569, preceding.

572. John Bte. Roger claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on the left bank of the canal leading from Bayou Lafourche to Lake Verret, containing one hundred and forty-two superficial acres; and bounded on the upper side by lands of Thomas Villanneva, and on the other by lands of Julien Ozelet. The facts in this claim, and the principles upon which it depends, are the same as in No. 569, to which we refer.

576. John Bte. Prille claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on the right bank of the canal leading from Bayou Lafourche to Lake Verret, containing one hundred and ninety superficial acres; bounded on one side by lands of Mathurin Ozelet, and on the other by lands of Julien Ozelet. This claim rests upon the same facts and principles with that at No. 569, to which we refer.

577. John Pierre Landry claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on the left bank of the canal leading from Bayou Latourche to Lake Verret, containing four hundred and seventy-eight superficial acres. For the facts upon which this claim depends, we refer to No. 569.

579. James Owens claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on the canal leading from Bayou Lafourche to Lake Verret, containing six hundred and forty superficial acres. In this claim the facts and principle are similar to that at No. 569, to which we refer.

595. Michel Deval claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on both sides of Bayou Derbonne, containing six hundred and eight seventy-seven-hundredths acres, superficial measure. The circumstances and principles upon which this claim depends are the same with those at No. 569.

573. Mathurin Ozelet claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on the right bank of the canal leading from Bayou Lafourche to Lake Verret, containing six hundred and forty acres, superficial; and bounded on one side by lands of Pierre Moran. The facts in this claim, and the principles upon which it depends, are the same as in No. 569, to which we refer.

We are of opinion all the foregoing claims of this species are confirmed by law.

SAMUEL H. HARPER, *Register.*
ALFRED LORRAIN, *Receiver.*

SECOND CLASS.

SPECIES FIRST:

Including claims founded on possession and cultivation for ten consecutive years prior to the 20th Dec. 1803.

416. William S. Watkins claims a tract of land situate in the county of Acadia, on the left bank of Bayou Lafourche, measuring thirty-eight twenty-seven-hundredths acres in superficie, bounded on one side by lands of Joseph Monsassat, and on the other by lands of the claimant. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated for more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

417. John McDonough, jun. & Co., claim a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the west bank of the Mississippi, containing twenty-seven arpens and twenty toises front by forty arpens in depth. It appears probable, from some documents on the record, that there has been originally a complete title for this tract, but there is no positive evidence of the fact. There is, however, satisfactory proof of its having been occupied at least ninety years by those under whom the claimant holds.

424. Widow Dupare claims a tract of land situate in the county of Acadia, on the right bank of the Missis sippi, containing eight arpens sixteen toises and two feet front on the Mississippi, with a depth of eighty arpens, and bounded on one side by lands of Saturnin Bruno, and on the other by lands of Peter Berteau. The evidence in this claim is the same, in substance, with that at No. 416.

429. Bartholomew Hamilton claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, being a second depth to a tract of land of three acres in front on the Mississippi, with the ordinary depth. This claim was rejected by the late Board of Commissioners for want of sufficient testimony of title, but the claimant has since produced evidence of habitation and cultivation for more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

431. Widow Olivier Hernandez claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, containing three arpens front on the Mississippi, by forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of N. Meriam, and on the other by lands of Dornet. It is proved that this tract of land was inhabited and cultivated by the husband of the claimant from the year 1792. This is a second tract claimed by the claimant: but, as both do not make the quantity of land contained in one mile square, and as the granting of more than one tract to the same individual, in some cases, was conformable to the regulation of the Spanish Government in the year 1799, we are of opinion that this claim ought to be confirmed.

432. N. Meriam claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Iberville, on the west bank of the Mississippi, containing two and one half arpens in front by a depth of forty arpens, bounded above by lands of the claimant, and below by lands of Olivier Hernandez. It is proved that this land has been inhabited and cultivated for more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803, by the claimant, and those under whom he claims.

433. The parish of Iberville claims a tract of land situate in the county and parish of Iberville, containing two arpens in front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of B. Hamilton, and on the other by lands

of N. Meriam. It is proved that this tract of land has been occupied as a church-yard, with a church thereon, for more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

445. Francis Hacket claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing four hundred and ten superficial acres. The claimant has proved more than ten consecutive years possession and cultivation of this tract, prior to the 20th December, 1803.

449. John C. Thuillier claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Baton Rouge, on the east side of the Mississippi, having six arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Belony Hebert, and below by lands of Pierre Palleau. It is proved that this land has been inhabited and cultivated ever since the year 1788.

451. Edmond Meance claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the left bank of the Mississippi, having a front of fourteen arpens and a depth of forty arpens. The claimant proves that those under whom he claims, by purchase, occupied and cultivated this tract more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

452. C. B. Dufau claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the left bank of the Mississippi, having thirty-one arpens front and forty arpens depth, bounded on one side by lands of Daquin, and on the other by lands of James Vinet. The claimant proves that this claim was occupied and cultivated, by those under whom he claims, more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

456. The heirs of Michel Muhers claim a tract of land situate on the west side of the river Mississippi, in the county of Iberville, and district of Baton Rouge, having twenty arpens front and forty arpens depth, bounded on each side by vacant lands. This land has been before claimed before the late Board of Commissioners for the district, who confirmed the claimant in ten and a half arpens front of said land instead of the quantity claimed, without assigning any reason for so doing, as habitation and cultivation was proved from the year 1792. We think it was an oversight in the board, and therefore are of opinion that the balance of the claim, to wit, nine and a half arpens in front by forty arpens in depth, ought to be confirmed.

464. John Bte. Poeyfarré claims two tracts of land adjoining each other, situate in the parish of St. James, on the right bank of the Mississippi; one containing eight arpens front by forty arpens in depth, the other having five arpens front and eighty arpens depth. It is proved that the land claimed was inhabited and cultivated more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

465. D. and F. Deverbois claim a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, on the east side of the Mississippi, about three miles below the Bayou Manchac, at a place called *Pointe de Manchac*, having thirty-six arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Mr. Villars, and on the other by lands of Peter Voisin. The late Board of Commissioners rejected this claim for want of evidence of settlement, but the claimants now prove settlement and cultivation from the year 1775 until after the 20th of December, 1803.

466. The heirs of Vincent Porches claim a tract of land situate in the parish of Point Coupee, on the right side of the Mississippi, having twenty-eight arpens front and forty arpens in depth. The claimant proves occupation and cultivation of this land more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

473. William L. Watkins and Butler Gilbert claim a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on the left bank of the Bayou Lafourche, having two arpens front and forty arpens in depth. The claimants prove settlement and cultivation more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

474. Pierre Braud claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, being a second depth immediately in the rear of a first one, having seven arpens four toises and two feet and a half front and a depth of forty arpens. The claimant proves possession and cultivation more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

485. John Bte. Labranche, Drozin Labranche, and Lucien Labranche, claim a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the east shore of the Mississippi, having twenty-nine arpens and twenty-seven toises front by a depth of forty arpens. The claimants prove that they, and those under whom they claim, occupied and cultivated this land more than ten consecutive years before the 20th December, 1803.

486. John Bte. Labranche claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the west bank of the Mississippi, having three arpens and twenty-eight toises in front and forty arpens in depth. It is proved that this tract has been settled and cultivated more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

487. John Marie Bordeville claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing two arpens front by forty arpens in depth. The claimant proves possession and cultivation more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

488. Adelard Fortier claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing twenty-one arpens two toises and five feet in front, nine arpens two toises and five feet of which, with a depth of forty arpens, and the balance twelve arpens, with a depth extending as far as Lake Maurepas. The claimant proves possession and cultivation more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

489. The heirs of Massicot claim two tracts of land adjoining each other, and situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi; one having a front of sixteen arpens and a depth of forty arpens, the other having a front of four arpens and a depth of eighty arpens. The claimant proves settlement and cultivation of this tract more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

491. Julien Poydrass claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupee, on the river Mississippi, having twelve arpens front and forty arpens in depth. The claimant proves that he, and those under whom he claims by purchase, settled and cultivated this tract of land more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

492. Alexander Harang claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of thirteen arpens and sixteen toises and a depth of eighty arpens. The claimant proves settlement and cultivation more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803.

493. Eugene Fortier claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having twenty-six arpens and ten toises front and forty arpens depth. The claimant proves possession and cultivation ever since the year 1776.

494. Edward Fortier claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having twenty-eight toises in front and forty arpens in depth. The claimant proves settlement and cultivation of this land more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

495. Allain Lavergne claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having one arpent front with forty in depth. It is proved that this land was settled and cultivated more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

496. Francis Champagne claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having three arpens front and forty arpens in depth. The claimant proves settlement and cultivation more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803.

497. Andre Champagne claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having three arpens front and forty arpens in depth. The claimant proves possession and cultivation more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803.

498. Andre Chaixnaitre claims a tract of land situate in the country of Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having one arpent front and forty arpens in depth. The claimant proves settlement and cultivation of this tract more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803.

502. Eleonord Jean Arnoul claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the east bank of the Mississippi, having a front of seven arpens and a depth of forty arpens. The claimant proves settlement and cultivation of this tract more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803.

509. The heirs of Brazilier claim a tract of land situate near *Chef Menteur*, in the Lake Pontchartrain, known by the name of Brazilier's island. The claimants having proved settlement and cultivation of this island more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803, we are of opinion they ought to be confirmed in their claim to a quantity not exceeding two thousand acres.

510. Widow Baptiste Champagne claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, county of German Coast, having two arpens front on the Mississippi,

and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Alphonse Dorvin, and on the other by land of André Champagne. The claimant proves settlement and cultivation of this land more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803.

511. Evariste Champagne claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, containing one arpent in front on the Mississippi, bounded on one side by lands of Mr. Nouchet, and on the other by lands of Paul Champagne. It is proved that the land claimed was settled and cultivated more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803.

513. Honoré Zeringue claims, by purchase, a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, county of German Coast, having half an arpent front on the right bank of the Mississippi, and depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by lands of Margueritte, a free woman of color, and on the other by lands of Henry, a free man of color. The claimant proves settlement and cultivation by those under whom he claims, more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803.

514. Honore Zeringue claims a tract of land by purchase, situate in the county of German Coast, on the left bank of the Mississippi, having five arpens front on the river, and a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by lands of J. Brow, and on the other by lands of Margarette Borne. The claimant proves that those under whom he claims settled and cultivated this land more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

515. Honoré Zeringue claims, by purchase, a tract of land situate on the west side of the Mississippi, in the county of German Coast, having one arpent in front and forty in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Henry Brow, and on the other side by lands of Valentine Roucelle. The claimant proves settlement and cultivation of this land, by those under whom he claims, more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

516. Marie Gregoire Blanc claims a tract of land situate in the county of Acadia, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having three arpens and one toise and a half front, and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Antoine Peytavin, and on the other by lands of A. Sempeyrac. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

518. John Bte. Camus claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having half an arpent front and forty arpens in depth, bounded, in the year 1782, by lands of Chevalier Daringsbourg on one side, and by those of Henry Baufin on the other. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

519. Jacques Kineclair claims a tract of land situated in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having two arpens and one toise front, and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Alin Lavergne, and on the other by those of William Bauvais. The claimant proves habitation and cultivation of this tract more than ten consecutive years before the 20th December, 1803.

525. John Vaudry claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having three arpens and fifteen feet front and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Lebeau, and on the other by those of Abine. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

526. Henry Belson, sen. claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having two arpens and five toises front and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of John Lavergne, and on the other by those of William Francis Bodoning. The claimant proves habitation and cultivation of this land more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803.

528. Antoine Daspit St. Amant claims a tract of land by purchase, situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having twelve arpens and twenty-three toises front and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Widow Bodoning, and on the other side by those of Daniel Lambert. The claimant proves settlement and cultivation, by those under whom he claims, for more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803.

531. Paul Friloux and Peter Friloux claim a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of four arpens and a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by lands of Michel Friloux, and on the other side by those of John Sechenender. The claimants prove habitation and cultivation of this land, by those under whom they claim, more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803.

538. John Lewis Wagespack claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of two arpens sixteen toises five feet and four inches, and a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by lands of Stephen Saixnaitre, and on the other by those of Andrew Wagespack. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803.

539. Andrew Wagespack claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of two arpens sixteen toises five feet and four inches, and a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by lands of John Lewis Wagespack, and on the other by those of George Rixner. The claimant proves settlement and cultivation more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

543. Justus Libeau claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of three arpens and two toises and a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by lands of Francis Champagne, and on the other side by those of John Vaudry. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

548. Etienne Rene claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing one hundred and sixty-nine fifteen-hundredths superficial acres, bounded on one side by lands of Laurent Trepagnier, and on the other by lands of Charles Massicot. It is proved that this land has been inhabited and cultivated more than thirty consecutive years.

551. Widow Rixner claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of two arpens twenty-eight toises and five feet, and a depth of forty arpens, bounded on both sides by lands of Edmond Tortier. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

552. Baltazar Dussuau claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having thirty-nine arpens and twenty-six toises front and a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by lands of Francis Delile Dupare, and on the other by those of Alexander Harang. The claimant proves possession and cultivation of this land ever since the year 1774.

554. Alexander Babin claims a tract of land situate in the county of Acadia, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of six arpens and ten toises and a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by lands of Widow Enselme Le Blanc, and on the other by those of Olivier Landry. It is proved that this land was possessed and cultivated more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

555. James Bachemain claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing twenty arpens in front by forty arpens in depth. It appears that this land was inhabited in the year seventeen hundred and seventy-nine, and has been cultivated ever since.

556. Henry Berthelot claims a tract of land situate in the county of Acadia, on the left bank of the river Mississippi, being a second depth of a tract confirmed to him by the late Board of Commissioners, containing four arpens twenty-seven and two-thirds toises in front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Margarette Rene Bourgeois, and on the other by those of Francis Pochet. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

560. John Peter Roques claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Point Coupee, having six arpens in front and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Augustin Bouryeat, and on the other side by those of Joseph Hennet. The claimant proves possession and cultivation of this land for the last forty years.

581. Victor Mansuy Pelletier claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, in the parish of Plaquemine, on the left bank of the Mississippi, having a front of sixty-nine arpens twenty-two toises and four feet, fifty arpens seven toises and four feet of which have a depth of forty arpens; the balance, to wit, nineteen arpens and fifteen toises, have a depth of eighty arpens—the latter quantity being supported by orders of survey, is found in the same number in class first. The claimant proves pos-

session and cultivation of the first quantity, viz. fifty arpens seven toises and four feet, more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803.

594. William Hammond claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on both sides of Bayou Derbonne, containing four hundred and thirty-nine-hundredths acres. The late Board of Commissioners confirmed to this claimant a part of this tract, to wit, one hundred and fifty-five and fifty-nine-hundredths acres. He proves possession and cultivation of the whole more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803, and therefore we think he is equally entitled to the balance of the claim, to wit, two hundred and forty-four and eighty-hundredths acres.

601. Manuel Albarades claims a tract of land situate on both sides of Bayou Derbonne, in the county of Lafourche, containing one hundred and sixteen and thirty-six-hundredths superficial acres. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

602. Joseph Hebert claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on the left bank of the Bayou Lafourche, containing two hundred and ten and eighty-four-hundredths superficial acres. The claimant proves that this land was inhabited and cultivated more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

603. Francois Durcy claims a tract of land on the left bank of Bayou Lafourche, containing one hundred ninety-two and eleven-hundredths acres in superficie. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of Dec. 1803.

605. John Roger claims a tract of land by purchase, situate on the right bank of the Bayou Lafourche, containing four hundred and ninety-three and fifty-nine-hundredths superficial acres. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

607. Henry S. Thibodeaux claims, by purchase, a tract of land situate on the left bank of Bayou Lafourche, containing five hundred and ninety-five and five-hundredths superficial acres. The claimant proves that those under whom he claims inhabited and cultivated this land more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803.

608. Oliver Guidry claims a tract of land situate on the right bank of the Bayou Lafourche, having seven arpens front and forty arpens in depth. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated more ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

609. James Regaud claims a tract of land situate on the right bank of the Bayou Lafourche, about twelve leagues from the mouth of said bayou, having a front of sixty arpens and a depth of forty arpens. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803. The claimant, in our opinion, is entitled to two thousand acres only.

612. John B. Vardin, Alexander Vardin, and Peter Vardin, claim a tract of land on both sides of Bayou Derbonne, in the county of Lafourche, containing six hundred and twenty-six and thirty-six-hundredths superficial acres. This claim was rejected by the late Board of Commissioners of this district, under a belief that it had been abandoned, but the claimants have since proved that it had been inhabited and cultivated much more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803, and on that day.

614. Mathurin Daigle claims a tract of land situate on the right bank of Bayou Lafourche, containing one hundred and sixteen acres and forty chains in superficie. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

615. Joseph Marlbourough claims a second depth of thirty arpens in depth, lying immediately behind a front of six arpens and a depth of forty arpens, situated on the right bank of the Bayou Lafourche, in the county of Lafourche. The late Board of Commissioners rejected this claim, alleging that the possession of the front did not entitle the claimant to the second depth; but as he has proved possession and cultivation of the whole for more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803, we are of opinion he is entitled to any quantity less than two thousand acres, and therefore ought to be confirmed in his claim.

634. Samuel M. Spraggins claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Iberville, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of seven arpens, four arpens of which has a depth of eighty arpens, and the other three have a depth of forty arpens. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803.

636. Joseph Ervin claims a tract of land by purchase, situate in the county of Iberville, on the river Mississippi, having a front of three arpens and a depth of eighty arpens, bounded on one side by lands of Lewis Leonard, and on the other by those of Widow Pradier. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated, by those under whom the claimants hold, more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

637. Hypolite Tivolier claims a tract of land situate in the district of Iberville, on the left bank of the Mississippi, bounded on one side by lands of Mr. Perret, and on the other by those of Francis Riano, having a front of ten arpens and a depth of forty arpens. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated, by those under whom the claimant derives his title, more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803.

641. Michael Friloux claims a tract of land by purchase, situated in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having ten arpens and sixteen feet front and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Mr. Lartigue, and on the other side by lands of Mr. Baudorier. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated, by those under whom the claimant holds, more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

643. Peter Reine claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of eight arpens and a half and a depth of forty arpens, bounded above by Mme. Trepagnier, and below by Mr. Cabarco. It is proved that this land has been cultivated more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

644. Baptiste Daspit St. Amant claims a tract of land by purchase, situate in the county of German coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a depth of forty arpens, with a front of fourteen arpens twenty-seven toises on the Mississippi. The claimant proves that this land was possessed and cultivated, by those under whom he claims, more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

All the claims reported in the foregoing species, we are of opinion ought to be confirmed.

SAM'L H. HARPER, *Register.*
ALFRED LORRAIN, *Receiver.*

SPECIES SECOND:

Including claims founded on possession and cultivation, prior to the 1st of October, 1800.

434. James Devilliers claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, at point Manchac, having forty-seven arpens in front and a short depth, measuring superficially eight hundred and seventy-four arpens, bounded above and below by lands of Urbain Gagnié. The claimant proves possession and cultivation before the first of October, 1800, and after the twentieth December, 1803, and although the quantity claimed exceeds that contained in a mile square, yet as it is shown that this tract is so situated as to make it necessary to make a levee 47 arpens in front, which the claimant has always kept up at great expense ever since the year 1797, and as this front is greatly disproportionate to the depth, according to the Spanish law upon this subject, we are of opinion the claimant ought to have the quantity claimed.

454. C. B. Dufau claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of five arpens and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of V. Lafrance and on the other side by those of V. Dobar. It is proved that those under whom this claimant holds possessed and occupied this land prior to the first of October, 1800, and continued so to do until the twentieth December, 1803.

467. Francis Huguet claims a tract of land situate in the county of Acadia, on the left bank of the Mississippi, having a front of five arpens twenty-four toises, containing in the whole one hundred and seven superficial arpens, bounded on one side by lands of William Atchison, and on the other by those of Joseph Landry. It is proved that this land was settled and cultivated before the first of October, 1800, and after the twentieth December, 1803.

469. Augustin Serapeyrac claims a tract of land situate in the county of Acadia, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of three toises and one foot and a depth of forty arpens. It is proved that this land was cultivated from before the first of October, 1800 until after the 20th December, 1803.

470. John Bte. Guidry claims a tract of land situate in the county of Acadia, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of two arpens and a depth of thirteen arpens, bounded on one side by lands of Antoine Perceire,

and on the other side by those of Antonio Gomez. The claimant proves that those under whom he claims settled and cultivated this tract from before the first of October, 1800, until after the 20th December, 1803.

472. Bastien Landry claims a tract of land situate in the county of Acadia, on the river Lafourche, having a front of four arpens and a depth of forty arpens. It is proved that this land was possessed and cultivated from before the first of October, 1800, until after the twentieth December, 1803.

517. John Arsenuux claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of one and a half arpens and three feet and a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by John Robert, and on the other by Thifany Saixnaitre. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated from before the first of October, 1800, until after the twentieth December, 1803.

533. Valentin Roussel, a free man of color, claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of one arpent and a depth of thirty-five arpens, bounded on one side by lands of Honoré Zeringue, and on the other by those of Michel Friloux. The claimant proves possession and cultivation from the year 1795.

534. John Louis Belson claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of three arpens and twenty-seven toises and one foot, and a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by lands of H. Zeringue, and on the other by those of Francis Fancheane. The claimant proves that he purchased this land in the year 1795, and that he has occupied and cultivated it ever since.

541. Joseph Chaixnaitre claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of one arpen and twenty-seven toises and three feet and a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by lands of Joseph Wagespack, and on the other by those of John Robert. The claimant proves that this land has been possessed and cultivated by himself and those from whom he purchased ever since the year 1797.

542. Joseph Wagespack claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of seven arpens two toises and one foot, and a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by lands of George Rixner and on the other by those of Joseph Saixnaitre. The claimant proves possession and cultivation of this land since April, 1800.

544. Antoine Morin claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of four arpens twenty toises and two feet and a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by lands of George Saixnaitre, and on the other by Widow Leger. The claimant proves possession and cultivation of this tract from the year 1799 up to the present time.

549. Peter Foxelair claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of eight arpens and a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by lands of George Beaumont, and on the other by those of Widow Peter Brown. The claimant proves habitation and cultivation of this land before the first of October, 1800, and after the 20th of December, 1803.

558. Peter Brotencourt and Widow Michel Brotencourt claim a tract of land situate in the parish of West Baton Rouge, about three leagues below the fort, containing one hundred and thirty-four seventy-nine-hundredths superficial acres. The claimants prove possession and cultivation ever since the year 1795.

559. William Hardy and John B. Ramin claim a tract of land situated in the parish of West Baton Rouge, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing two hundred and thirty-four thirty-two-hundredths superficial acres. The claimants prove possession and cultivation of this land ever since the year 1795.

582. Peter Bergeron claims a tract of land situate on both sides of Bayou Derbonne, containing six hundred and forty superficial acres. The claimant proves settlement and cultivation of this land ever since the year 1798.

586. Constant Pitré claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on Bayou Derbonne, containing six hundred and forty superficial acres. The claimant proves possession and cultivation of this land from before the 1st of October, 1803.

587. Laurent Pichoff claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on Bayou Derbonne, containing five hundred and sixty-nine superficial acres and nineteen-hundredths. It is proved that this land was in possession and cultivation in the year 1798, and that it was so on the 20th of December, 1803.

588. Pierre Dufresne claims a tract of land situate on Bayou Derbonne, measuring six hundred and forty acres, superficially. The claimant proves possession and cultivation of this tract of land, begun in the year 1798, and continued long after the 20th December, 1803.

606. John Boudreaux claims a tract of land situate on Bayou Lafourche, containing one hundred and twenty-three forty-seven-hundredths superficial acres. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated from before the first of October, 1800, until after the 20th December, 1803.

617. Henry S. Thibodeaux claims three islands, called, 1st. Island Timbalier, situate near the mouth of Lafourche; 2d. Island Calina, near the mouth of Bayou Derbonne; and 3d. Island Casta, near the mouth of said bayou. The claimant purchased these islands, and proves that those under whom he claims inhabited and cultivated them several years before the first of October, 1800, but does not show that they were cultivated ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803. We are therefore of opinion that, in strictness, he is not entitled to more than six hundred and forty acres.

619. Henry S. Thibodeau, executor of John Roger, deceased, claims for the heirs a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on Bayou Derbonne, having a front of forty arpens and a depth of forty arpens. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated during the Spanish Gevernment; that the then commandant granted to the said Roger the privilege of taking this tract of forty arpens front in consideration of having but a short depth of cultivateable lands, and of his having a wife and numerous family of children. We are of opinion that, according to the Spanish laws and usages, the land claimed ought to be confirmed to the heirs in its whole extent.

630. Etienne Bion claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on both sides of Bayou Derbonne, containing three hundred and fifty-eight superficial acres, bounded on one side by Pierre Bion, and on the other side by Thomas Clark. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated from before the first of October, 1800, until after the 20th December, 1803.

We are of opinion that the claims found in the preceding species ought to be confirmed.

SAMUEL H. HARPER, *Register.*
ALFRED LORRAIN, *Receiver.*

SPECIES THIRD:

Including claims founded on permission of the proper Spanish officer, to settle on lands given prior to the 20th December, 1803.

413. Alexander Landry claims a tract of land of forty arpens, being a second depth to one of the same front, situate in the county of Lafourche, at a place commonly called Grand Bruslé, in the parish of Assumption. This claim was rejected by the late Board of Commissioners for want of proof of settlement. The claimant has produced a permission from the proper Spanish officer, dated prior to the 20th of December, 1803; and, also, proof of cultivation on that day.

419. Pierre Minou claims a tract of land situated on both sides of Bayou Derbonne, about sixteen miles from Lafourche, containing six hundred and forty superficial acres. The claimant proves permission of the proper Spanish officer prior to the 20th December, 1803, to settle said land, and also proves cultivation on that day.

425. John Baptiste Le Blanc, as tutor of the minor children of Joseph Le Blanc, claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, having a front of ten arpens on the Mississippi and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by Paul Sharp. This claim is founded on permission to settle, by the proper Spanish officer, dated in the year 1801, and cultivation from that time.

426. Michel Lambremont claims a tract of land situated in the parish of Iberville, having a front of three arpens and two-thirds and forty arpens in depth, being a second depth, and immediately back of a first, belonging to the claimant; bounded on one side by lands of Anne Brunteau, and on the other side by those of Jacques Le Blanc. This claim is founded on permission of the proper Spanish officer, given prior to the 20th December, 1803, and subsequent cultivation.

428. Widow Olivier Hernandez claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, having four arpens front and forty arpens in depth, being a second depth of a front one, and immediately behind it, belonging to the claimant, on the west shore of the Mississippi, bounded on one side by lands of Joseph Hebert, and on the other side by those of Thomas Hebert. This claim is founded on permission of the proper Spanish officer, prior to the 20th December, 1803, to settle this land.

468. Walker Gilbert claims, by purchase, a tract of land situate on Bayou Derbonne, in the county of Lafourche, containing six hundred and seventy superficial acres. The claimant has proven permission of the proper Spanish officer, given to Estevan Hernandez prior to the 20th December, 1803, and also cultivation. But as settlers by permission are not entitled by law to more land than the quantity contained in a mile square, we are of opinion the present claimant is entitled only to six hundred and forty acres.

499. Francis Troxclair claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of four arpens, and forty arpens in depth. The claimant proves the permission of the proper Spanish officer to settle this land prior to the 20th of December, 1803; and cultivation.

536. George Kinclair claims a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having a front of two arpens twenty-three toises and four feet, and a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by Henry Delmaine, and on the other side by lands of John Robert. The claimant proves that this land is held by purchase; that the act of sale was passed before the Spanish commandant of the county, on the 3d of July, 1801; and that the land was then inhabited and cultivated. We are of opinion that an act of sale passed before a commandant is tantamount to a permission to settle, and therefore that this claim ought to be confirmed.

550. Zenon and James Rixner claim a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having three arpens in front and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Edmond Fortier, and on the other by lands of Allin Lavergne. The same facts and principle exists in this case as in the one immediately preceding; our opinion is therefore the same.

562. Francis Marionnaux claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, on the right bank of the Mississippi, and forming a second depth to his plantation, having a front of seven arpens and fourteen feet, and a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by lands of Magloire Dupuis, and on the other side by those of —— Leonard. This claim was rejected by the late Board of Commissioners, acting under the then existing laws; but the claimant proves a permission to settle on this land from the proper Spanish officer, dated in the year 1801.

566. Celestin Dupré claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, seven leagues below the city of Orleans, on the left bank of the Mississippi, having a front of ten arpens and forty arpens in depth; bounded, in the year 1774, on one side by lands of M. Caminada, and on the other by lands of Louis Duchesne. Permission to settle this land given by the proper Spanish officer, prior to the 20th of December, 1803, is satisfactorily proven.

568. Joseph Michel Le Blanc claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, as a second depth to his plantation, having a front of four arpens and a half by forty in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Joseph J. Landry, and on the other side by those of Simon Melanson. The claimant proves that the person under whom he claims, obtained for this land, in the year 1802, permission from the proper Spanish officer to settle the same.

583. Augustus Babin claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on both sides of Bayou Derbonne, containing five hundred and sixty-seven and forty-five-hundredths superficial acres. It is proved that this land was settled by permission of the proper Spanish officer previous to the 20th December, 1803.

584. Hubert Bellanger claims a tract of land on Bayou Derbonne, containing six hundred and sixty-three and forty-egiht-hundredths superficial acres. It is proved that this land was settled by permission of the proper Spanish officer, prior to the 20th December, 1803; but as no settler by permission is entitled to more land than six hundred and forty acres, we are of opinion the present claimant cannot be entitled to a greater quantity.

585. Henry S. Thibodaux claims a tract of land situate on Bayou Derbonne, containing six hundred and two and thirty-seven-hundredths superficial acres. It is proved that this land was settled, by permission of the proper Spanish officer, prior to the 20th December, 1803; and cultivation.

589. John Bte. Belgeron claims a tract of land situate on Bayou Derbonne, containing five hundred and sixty-two acres and eight-tenths, superficial. It is proved that the father of the claimant obtained from the Spanish commandant permission, in writing, to settle on public lands, and that, in conformity thereto, in 1802, he settled on this tract, and cultivated the same.

597. Michel Dirdia claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on both sides of Bayou Derbonne, containing three hundred and thirty superficial acres, bounded on one side by lands of Joseph Ganoe, and on the other side by those of Pierre Bion. It is proved that this land was settled and cultivated, by permission of the proper Spanish officer, prior to the 20th December, 1803.

598. Pierre Chasson claims a tract of land on both sides of Bayou Derbonne, containing two hundred and forty superficial acres. It is proved that this land was settled and cultivated, by permission of the proper Spanish officer, prior to the 20th of December, 1803.

616. Pierre Menoux claims a tract of land situate on both sides of Bayou Derbonne, having a front of thirty-eight arpens and four arpens in depth. It is proved that this land was settled and cultivated, by permission of the proper Spanish officer, prior to the 20th December, 1803. We have, at No. 419 of this species, reported in favor of Pierre Menoux, but, from circumstances, we are inclined to believe the present claimant is the son of Pierre Menoux, and as such entitled to the land claimed.

618. Jeremiah Everton claims a tract of land situate forty arpens from Bayou Lafourche, in the rear of L. Wells's plantation, containing six hundred and thirty-nine and twenty-hundredths superficial acres. It is proved that this land was settled and cultivated, by permission of the proper Spanish officer, prior to the 20th December, 1803.

620. Pierre Ganoe claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on both sides of Bayou Derbonne, containing six hundred and forty superficial acres, bounded on one side by lands of Pierre Cazo, and on the other by those of Joseph Ganoe. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated, by permission of the proper Spanish officer, prior to the 20th December, 1803.

621. Joseph Ganoe claims a tract of land situate on both sides of Bayou Derbonne, containing two hundred and ninety-three and forty-five-hundredths acres. It is proved that this land was settled and cultivated, by permission of the proper Spanish officer, in the year 1801.

639. Joseph Orillon claims a tract of land situate on the right bank of Bayou Plaquemine, having a front of twenty arpens, and forty arpens in depth. The claimant proves possession and cultivation of this land from the year 1799, by permission of the proper Spanish officer; but we are of opinion he is entitled to no more than six hundred and forty acres, by virtue of that permission.

645. Baptiste Daspit St. Amant claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the Mississippi, containing one hundred and forty-two superficial arpens, bounded on one side by lands of Etienne Reine, and on the other side by those of Andre Chaixnaitre. It is proved that this land was settled and cultivated, by permission of the proper Spanish officer, in the year 1799. We are of opinion all the claims of the last species ought to be confirmed.

SAML. H. HARPER, *Register.*
ALFRED LORRAIN, *Receiver.*

THIRD CLASS.

SPECIES FIRST:

Including claims not supported by evidence of title.

450.	Valery Belgeron	claims a tract of land.
463.	William Goforth	ditto.
479.	Widow Decuir	ditto.
507.	Augustin Mallet	ditto.
522.	Joseph St. Amant, jr.	ditto.
523.	John Robert	ditto.
524.	Daniel Lambert	ditto.
532.	William Bauvais	ditto.
535.	Andrew Belson	ditto.
537.	Henry John Eldemair	ditto.
540.	Eli Champagne	ditto.
545.	Madame Boudouins	ditto.
546.	Alphonse Frederick	ditto.
547.	Eugene Champagne	ditto.
571.	John Foley	ditto.
574.	Abraham Armstrong	ditto.
575.	Alexander Comeau	ditto.
578.	Antoine Coupelle	ditto.
580.	William Watkins	ditto.
592.	Francis Verret	ditto.
593.	Joseph Verret	ditto.
599.	Hugh G. Johnston	ditto.
600.	Pierre Bion	ditto.
604.	Louis Dantin	ditto.
611.	Peter Daspit	ditto.
613.	Thomas Clarck	ditto.
623.	John Marie Campoé	ditto.
624.	Antoine Boutary	ditto.
626.	Louis Dantin	ditto.
628.	Anthony Babend	ditto,

629. Jean de Jean claims a tract of land.
631. Augustin Coursier ditto.
632. Joseph Jean ditto.
633. Mathurin Le Blanc ditto.
652. Augustin Roger ditto.
653. Jean Baptiste Roger ditto.
654. Barrel Haycock ditto.
655. Alexander Lejeune ditto.
656. John Pierre Dugas ditto.
657. Lewis Moore, sen. ditto.
658. Lewis Moore, jun. ditto.
659. James McGee ditto.
660. James McCauley ditto.
661. Cornelius Baldwin ditto.
662. Santiago Raymond ditto.
663. Songy ditto.
664. Bastien Frederick ditto.
665. Berthelemy Baptiste ditto.
666. Joseph Oudart ditto.
667. Francois Labé Incar ditto.
668. Fontenelle ditto.
669. Pierre Burat ditto.
670. Paul Baptiste ditto.
671. . Bister ditto.
672. Louis Robeau ditto.
673. Joseph Martin ditto.
674. Domingo Rapas ditto.
675. Widow Francis Fontenelle ditto.

688. Heirs of Athanas Dardanes claim a tract of land already confirmed to them by the former board; entered, we presume, through mistake.

The claims of the first species of the third class being unsupported by evidence, we are of opinion ought to be rejected.

SAML. H. HARPER, *Register.*
ALFRED LORRAIN, *Receiver.*

SPECIES SECOND:

Including claims not embraced by existing laws.

625. The Homas tribe of Indians claim a tract of land lying on Bayou Boeuf, or Black bayou, containing twelve sections. We know of no law of the United States by which a tribe of Indians have a right to claim lands as a donation.

640. Joseph Orillon claims a tract of land as a second depth to one of six arpens front by forty in depth, situated in the county of Iberville, on the right bank of the Mississippi. The claimant claims this land by virtue of settlement made in the year 1799. We have already reported in his favor a tract of 640 acres by virtue of permission to settle, and we know of no law by which he is entitled to any more land by virtue of such settlement.

SPECIES THIRD:

Including claims which, though not embraced by existing laws, yet being considered equitable, are therefore recommended for confirmation.

447. Ambroise Garidel claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, and on the river Lafourche, having one arpent and three quarters front by forty in depth. The claim to this tract of land is founded on settlement. The claimant proves that he purchased this land at sheriff's sale in the year 1812, but there is no evidence when the original possession commenced. The claim resting on settlement, and the date of that settlement not being shown, we know of no law by which the claimant is entitled to this land; yet we have very little doubt that this claim has been long inhabited. This is inferred from its having been in a state of cultivation when the claimant purchased it, and from its being in an old settled part of the country.

475. Charles Gross contains a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupée, on the west bank of the Mississippi, containing nine arpens in front by forty arpens in depth, being part of a larger tract heretofore claimed by the late Board of Commissioners for this district, and by them rejected. The claimant holds by purchase at public sale, and the evidence he adduces in support of his claim is as follows: He proves by two old respectable neighboring planters, that Joseph Dufresne obtained a grant from the French Government for eighteen arpens front by forty arpens in depth, of which this claim is a part. That the said eighteen arpens were confirmed to Peter Freret, representative of Joseph Dufresne, by Governor Galvez, about the year 1776 or 1777, when grants were issued by said Governor for all the lands in that neighborhood, that levees, or dikes, a public road, houses, and other improvements, were on this tract, and that it was inhabited a great number of years by said Dufresne and his representatives. That, in the summer of 1779, all dikes, levees, houses, &c., were swept away by the impetuosity of the water of the river, in consequence of its extraordinary rise; so that all the inhabitants of that part of the country were compelled to leave their habitations or settlements. That they, however, always maintained a kind of possession by cutting timber, taking firewood, &c. That said Dufresne never *abandoned* (except by compulsion as aforesaid) this tract of land; but that his heirs afterwards maintained peaceable possession of the same. The same witness further swears that no person was permitted to settle on lands in that part of the country, without having previously obtained a grant from the commandant or governor, but that the people in general, ignorant of the importance of land titles, often lost their grants. It appears from the decisions of the Commissioners that they rejected this claim, and others of a similar nature, principally on the ground of *abandonment* by the occupant, alleging that the Spanish Government would have, upon application, granted the same laws to others, and that it was the custom of that Government to grant other lands in lieu of those which the grantee might be compelled to abandon. We are of opinion, also, that the Spanish Government would have re-granted this land, and those held by similar claims, to others upon application, but the land being uninhabitable during a number of years, we presume was never applied for, there being no evidence of its ever being regranted, neither does it appear that other lands were given in lieu of those which are inundated, but it does appear that those lands have been reoccupied by the original possessors, or their representatives, since they became habitable. Had the first proprietor voluntarily abandoned this land it would have amounted to a forfeiture of his claim, but his removal therefrom was involuntary and forced. We consider the present claimant as being the legal representative of the original occupants in as much as he purchased their property or claim under execution. This claim, resting solely on *settlement*, (the grant for it, if one ever existed, being lost,) and as there is no evidence of that consecutive or uninterrupted possession and cultivation which the law seems to require, we know of no law which exactly embraces this case, either operating its rejection or confirmation; but we think it would be an act of justice, under all the circumstances of the case, to confirm the claim.

477. William G. Johnston claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupee, having fifteen arpens front and a depth of forty arpens. This claim is founded on purchase at sheriff's sale. All the material facts and principles involved in the preceding claim at No. 475, are also contained in this: our opinion is, therefore, the same.

478. Claude Tremé claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupee, on the west side of the Mississippi, containing 236 92-100ths superficial arpens. The circumstances of this claim, and the principles which it involves, are substantially the same with those at No. 475, to which we refer, except that this claimant appears to have been one of the original occupants, and not a purchaser.

561. John Marie Durand claims a tract of land situate in the parish of West Baton Rouge, having a front of ten arpens and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Mr. Jean Marie Durand, and on the other by those of Magloire. It appears the claimant, in 1809, purchased this claim from a person deriving title under Francois Clause, for the sum of twelve hundred and seventy dollars. All the material facts and circumstances attending the original claim of said Clause are substantially the same with those disclosed in the claim of Charles Gross, at No. 475, to which we refer for the deductions we have made, and the opinion we have expressed.

590. Nicholas Leret claims a tract of land situate on Bayou Derbonne, containing six hundred and forty superficial acres. This claim is founded on a certificate of the former Spanish commandant of that district, stating that a person under whom the claimant holds had a concession title for said land. We are of opinion that a *certificate*, not made under oath, is not *legal* evidence of the facts therein stated, or such as the law recognizes as being sufficient to support a claim. Yet we have no doubt of the truth of the declaration of the commandant, and, therefore, think it would be an act of justice to confirm this claim.

591. Hypolite Hebert claims a tract of land on Bayou Derbonne, containing six hundred and twenty-five and six-tenths superficial acres. There is evidence of settlement and cultivation of this land in the year 1801, and ever since, but no proof of permission to settle by the proper Spanish officer. The epoch at which we *positively* know it *was* settled, to wit, in 1801, is not the length of time prior to the 20th December, 1803, in which the law

raises a *presumption* of permission from the proper officer to settle; yet, from the magnitude of the improvements in the year 1801, we think it a fair inference that it was inhabited a considerable time before, and, therefore, are of opinion that it would be an act of justice to confirm his claim.

596. Charles Bergeron claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on both sides of Bayou Derbonne, containing six hundred and forty acres, about nine miles from the river Lafourche, adjoining the lands of Hugh G. Johnston above, and below by those of P. C. Bergeron. The claimant proves that he is entitled to this land by virtue of settlement; but the late Board of Commissioners, through a mistake of the surveyor, confirmed to the claimant, at No. 470 of their decisions, another tract of land on the ground of settlement. The claimant now prays to be confirmed in this claim instead of the tract confirmed to him through mistake. Not possessing the power to revoke or correct the decision of the former board, we can only recommend this case to consideration.

622. Pierre Cazo claims a tract of land on the Bayou Derbonne, containing six hundred and forty acres, bounded on one side by lands of John Dupre, junior, and on the other by those of Pierre Ganoe. It is proved that this land was inhabited and cultivated prior to 1803, but there is no evidence of the precise period when it was first settled, nor is there any evidence of permission to settle by the proper Spanish officer. We consider it as resting on the same circumstances with the claim of Hypolite Hebert, at No. 591, in these reports, to which we refer for our opinion.

642. Michel Friloux claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, bounded above by lands of Valentine Roussel, and below by those of the claimant, containing fifteen toises in front by the depth of forty arpens. The claimant purchased this land at public vendue in the month of April, 1806, with such improvements thereon as induce us to believe that it was long inhabited, although there is no positive evidence of the time when it was first settled. We think it similarly situated to that of Hypolite Hebert, at No. 591 of these reports, to which we refer for our opinion.

646. Ebenezer Cooley claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupee, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing two thousand superficial acres and a fraction. Part of this claim was formerly enregistered in the books of William Wikoff, deputy register of this district, but never acted on by the late Board of Commissioners, apparently through oversight, and the balance of this tract enregistered at New Orleans, which part was rejected by the board for reasons assigned in decision at No. 155. The whole of the claim depends upon similar facts, circumstances, and principles, with that of Charles Gross, at No. 475 of these reports, to which we refer for our opinion.

"REGISTER'S OFFICE, 23*d March*, 1816.

"Ebenezer Cooley claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupee, on the west bank of the Mississippi, containing 2,084 superficial acres, and bounded on the upper side by C. Tremé, and on the lower side by vacant land, which the claimant purchased from Madame Bougeat, to whom she executed an act of sale, as appears of record.

"A part of said land has been claimed before the late Board of Commissioners, and by them rejected, on the ground that it had been abandoned by the original proprietor.

"The other part of the claim has never been acted upon, from some cause, but most probably through oversight.

"Since the rejection of the claim aforesaid the claimant has produced farther evidence in support of it, the substance of which is as follows:

"The depositions of Simon Croizet and Baptiste Lafleur, both very old inhabitants of Point Coupee, taken before Robert McShane, judge of said county, on the 3d March, 1811, prove satisfactorily that said land was granted to Joseph Bougeat, husband of Madame Bougeat, under whom the claimant derives his title, in the year 1767; that said Bougeat cultivated the same as an indigo plantation.

"The fact of the settlement in the year 1767, and continued occupancy, is also proved by the deposition of Francois Gremillon, before the said Robert McShane, on the 5th March, 1811.

"In further support of this claim, the claimant has produced the certificates of several inhabitants of the aforesaid county, to which, though not sworn to, we are inclined to give full credit, from the respectability of the persons who have given them, and particularly that which we find endorsed on the back of the act of sale made by said Madam Bougeat to the claimant, which, being concise, we transcribe it at length—It is as follows:

"County of Point Coupee, this eighth day of December, one thousand eight hundred and six, I hereby certify that the within named Madame Bougeat has held, occupied, and enjoyed, a peaceable possession of the within mentioned and designated tract or parcel of land for more than twenty-five years, to my knowledge,

"Signed, JULIAN POYDRASS,
"*Judge of the County Court.*"

"The other certificates state the same fact in substance—

"Taking into consideration the additional testimony adduced in this case, and the repeal of that part of the act of Congress which required cultivation on the 20th December, 1803, in force when this claim was rejected, we are of opinion that the claimant ought to be confirmed in his claim to the extent of two thousand acres.

"SAM'L H. HARPER, *Reg'r*, } *Comm'rs.*
"LLOYD POSEY, *Receiver*, }
"NEW ORLEANS, 22*d March*, 1816."

"I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the original report in my office,

"SAM'L H. HARPER,
"*Register of the Land Office Eastern District of La.*
"REGISTER'S OFFICE, N. O.,
23*d March*, 1816."

647. Joseph Gabon claims a tract of land lying and being on Bayou Boeuf, county of Lafourche, containing eighty arpens front on each side of said bayou, by forty arpens in depth on each side of the same. The claimant obtained from the Baron de Carondelet, on the 5th November, 1794, a regular order of survey for the above quantity of land, but we have no evidence of its ever having been located, although we think it probable. If this claim has not been located, and the place designated in the order of survey be still vacant, we are of opinion that the claimant ought, in justice, to have the land claimed.

648. Joseph Felice claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on Bayou Boeuf, having a front of one league on each side of said bayou, and a depth of forty arpens on each side of the bayou. The claimant, on the 29th December, 1794, obtained from the Baron de Carondelet an order of survey for this land, but there is no evidence of location. Our opinion, with respect to this claim, is the same with that expressed in the preceding, at No. 647.

649. Joseph Talbo claims a tract of land situate on Bayou Caillon, in the county of Lafourche, having a league in front on each side of said bayou, and a depth of forty arpens on each side of the bayou. The claimant obtained for this land an order of survey, dated the 21st of December, 1794, from the Baron de Carondelet. This claim is similarly situated with the two preceding ones, to which we refer.

650. John Talredo claims a tract of land on Bayou Caillon, county of Lafourche, having a league front on each side of the bayou, and forty arpens in depth on each side of the same. This claim is in all respects similar to that at No. 647, preceding, to which we refer.

The equitable circumstances attending the claims of this species induce us to recommend them for confirmation.

SAMUEL H. HARPER, *Register.*
ALFRED LORRAIN, *Receiver.*

APPENDIX.

Remarks on the preceding Reports.

These reports include all the claims to land filed and enregistered under the last acts of Congress extending the time for that purpose, beginning with number 405, and ending at number 675. The reason that the notices of claims are thus numbered, is because the then register thought proper to follow, in numerical succession, the claims enregistered at New Orleans, and decided by the late Board of Commissioners, which ended at number 404.

In classing the claims, we thought it proper to subdivide those classes into species; for, although we believe that all the claims reported in the first and second classes are, or ought to be, confirmed under existing laws, yet those laws do not confirm them all to the same extent, nor demand the same requisites equally in all to entitle claimants to their lands. Hence, for the sake of perspicu-

ity, and to pursue as nearly as possible the different kinds of claims pointed out by the various acts of Congress, we have adopted the preceding arrangement of claims as being, in our judgment, the best mode.

In the examination of these reports, one case under each division will suffice to determine the correctness of the reports on all that species, for it will be found that all the claims in each species depend upon facts substantially the same, (except where peculiar circumstances sometimes made it necessary to make a special report,) and therefore the law applied to any one case must decide the whole of that kind.

The opinion which we have expressed on land claims, as they are arranged in these reports, have been governed by the following laws and principles:

Those claims which are found under species first of the first class, being founded on complete grants of former governments, we think are good in themselves on general principles, and therefore require no confirmation by the Government of the United States to give them validity.

With respect to the second species of claims in the first class, which are bottomed on incomplete titles, the law at present appears to be this:

Every claim to land, supported by an order of survey granted by the proper Spanish officer prior to the first day of October, 1800, in favor of persons residing in Louisiana on that day, and who have fulfilled the conditions attached to their concessions, must be confirmed in their claims without limitation as to quantity; but when all the conditions attached to the concession have not been fulfilled, yet if it appears that the land has been actually located and surveyed by a proper officer before the 20th of December, 1803, it must be confirmed to the claimant, to an extent not exceeding one league square, provided the order of survey bears date prior to the 20th of December, 1803, and provided also, that the claimant has not received in his own right a donation grant from the United States in the State of Louisiana.

These principles we think are deducible from the acts of Congress passed on the 2d March, 1805, and 12th of April, 1814. Although the last mentioned act seems to apply chiefly to claims heretofore acted upon and rejected by the Board of Commissioners, yet we think the same liberal principles in the spirit of the law were intended to apply to claims since entered under the laws extending the time for filing claims, and we have therefore reported on those claims according to this impression.

By the second section of the act of Congress of the 12th April, 1814, it is provided with respect to certain claims, that, where they have been rejected merely because they were not inhabited on the 20th December, 1803, still those claims are confirmed.

Of this description are the claims found under the third species of the first class. In many instances persons having claims of this nature, and which were rejected by the late Board of Commissioners, have re-entered them in pursuance of the acts giving further time for enregistering claims; to which cases we have applied the provisions of the second section of the act of the 12th of April, 1814, and, consequently, have reported in their favor.

After taking into consideration the various acts of Congress relative to claims depending on possession and permission to settle on lands by the proper Spanish officer, we are of opinion that the law now amounts to this: That claims to land founded on possession and cultivation during ten consecutive years prior to the 20th day of December, 1803, must be confirmed, provided the quantity of land claimed does not exceed two thousand acres, and provided also, that the claimant has not received in his own right any donation grant from the United States; that claims founded on settlements commenced prior to the 1st day of October, 1800, and inhabited three years consecutively, are good to the extent of six hundred and forty acres, and that claims depending on express permission to settle, obtained from the proper Spanish officer prior to the 20th day of December, 1803, when followed by actual settlement, are good to the extent of six hundred and forty acres, provided the claimants in these two last cases have received no donation grants from the United States.

Having this view of the subject, we have reported favorably on all the claims arranged under the three species of the second class.

Those claims found in the third class, which are unsupported by evidence, and which, in many instances, exhibit no description of the land claimed, either as to quantity or locality, we think, of course, must be rejected; but we think it probable that many of those claims are made *bona fide*, and are susceptible of proof, but, owing to the negligence of some, and the ignorance of others of the laws of the United States, and of even the language in which they are written, the proof which is necessary to support their claims has not been made. This, however, is a subject for the consideration of Congress.

As to the claims found under the second species of the third class, which, in our opinion, are unfounded in law, we have nothing to add to the opinion already expressed at the end of that species. But with respect to the claims which we have recommended for confirmation, we will just observe, in addition to what we have said on that subject, that, from instances now on the record, that persons residing in that part of the country which was inundated, having found and produced regular grants for their lands, we are inclined to give full credit to that which the witnesses swore in the case of Charles Gross and others, at No. 475, that is, that grants were issued for all the lands in that district of country, but through negligence have been lost or mislaid.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

SAM'L H. HARPER,
Register of the Land Office, East. Dist. Louisiana.
ALFRED LORRAIN,
Receiver of Public Moneys for lands of the United States in the Eastern District of Louisiana.

Attested: L. J. BARBIN, *Clerk and Translator for the Land Office for the Eastern District of the State of Louisiana.*

NEW ORLEANS, *20th Nov.* 1816.

I certify the foregoing to be a duplicate of the reports on land claims, filed in the office of the register of the land office for the eastern district of the State of Louisiana.

L. J. BARBIN,
Clerk and Translator.

NEW ORLEANS, *20th Nov.* 1816.

SPECIAL REPORT

Of the Register and Receiver of Public Moneys of the Eastern District of the State of Louisiana.

Charles Morgan claims a tract of land situated in the county of Point Coupee, on the west bank of the Mississippi, containing twelve hundred and twenty-four acres, superficial measure; which claim does not appear in the reports exhibited to Congress, through a mistake hereinafter explained.

In the year 1806 the said Charles Morgan filed before the Board of Commissioners of land claims two notices of claim for two several tracts of land situate in the county of Point Coupee, on the west side of the Mississippi, the one measuring six hundred and forty acres, and the other twelve hundred and twenty-four. Neither of these claims having been confirmed by the Commissioners; in 1813, while Mr. Lawson was register, the aforesaid Charles Morgan filed in this office, as additional evidence in support of one of these claims, an order of survey issued by Governor Galvez, in the year 1777, for a tract of land of eighteen arpens in front by forty in depth. This evidence has been filed in support of the claim to the tract of 1,224 acres; but as the same was, as it appears on the record, unaccompanied by a notice descriptive of this tract, or mentioning that the opening of the lines produced that superficial extent, it was naturally construed in framing the reports (supposing the lines running parallel) to be in support of the claim to 640 acres, which has been reported on in our reports, exhibited to Congress at No. 480 of the second species of the first class, instead of the aforesaid tract of 1,224 acres.

Now, therefore, we Samuel H. Harper, and Alfred Lorrain, register and receiver as aforesaid, do hereby report, that the claim of the said Charles Morgan to the said tract of land of twelve hundred and twenty-four acres, superficial measure, ought to be considered as reported in our reports of the register and receiver of public moneys of the eastern district of the State of Louisiana, on land claims filed in the office of the register, in pursuance of the act of Congress passed on the 27th day of February, 1813, entitled "An act giving further time for registering claims to lands in the eastern and western district of the State of Louisiana," instead of the claim of six hundred and forty acres; and that the said claim to 1,224 acres ought, in our opinion, in virtue of the existing laws, to be confirmed to the claimant.

SAMUEL H. HARPER, *Register,*
ALFRED LORRAIN,
Receiver of Public Moneys.

Attested: L. J. BARBIN, *Clerk and Translator of the Land Office Eastern District of Louisiana.*

NEW ORLEANS, *20th December,* 1817.

14th Congress. No. 248. 2d Session.

LEAD MINES AND SALINES.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 21, 1817.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
20th January, 1817.

SIR: In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 17th of April, 1816, requiring the Secretary of the Treasury to procure all the information which he is able to obtain in relation to the lead mines of the United States in the counties of Washington and St. Genevieve, in the Mississippi Territory, and to report the same to the House of Representatives at the next session of Congress, I have the honor to transmit the enclosed correspondence between the Commissioner of the General Land Office and the registers and other officers employed in the land department, and other persons possessing information upon the subject.

I have the honor to be, your most obedient and very humble servant,

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

Honorable HENRY CLAY,
Speaker of the House of Reps.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
December 19, 1816.

SIR: On the 29th of June last, I received a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, requesting me to communicate such information as I possessed, or could obtain relative to the lead mines and salines belonging to the United States, viz.

1st. The situation of the lead mines—their extent—their products—the general character of the ore—their value.

2d. The nature of the adjacent country—the proximity of towns and settlements—the facilities of land and water transportation.

3d. The state of the title generally—the grants and leases of the mines and neighboring lands—the intrusions, either permanent or transitory—the improvements.

4th. The terms on which grants or leases may be made most advantageously to the public—the reservations that should be made—the extent of the lease and the limitation of the demise—the improvements to be made in buildings, works, fences—the timber to be preserved.

5th. Similar information relative to salt works and salt springs.

A circular letter was sent from this office, on the 3d of July last, to the registers of the land offices, to the surveyors general, to the United States' agent for the saline in Illinois Territory, to the recorder of land titles in Missouri Territory, and to several gentlemen (not in the public service) from whom valuable information was expected.

The substance of the information hitherto received is herewith presented in the papers No. 1 to 12, accompanied with topographical sketches.

Among those papers the most interesting appear to be No. 11, from Moses Austin, esq., relative to lead mines, and No. 12, those of the agent for the saline in the Illinois Territory, and of Nathaniel Pope, esq., delegate from that Territory.

From the report No. 9 it appears probable that salines of great value exist in the Missouri Territory, about one hundred and fifty or two hundred miles westwardly of St. Louis.

From the whole of the information hitherto received, it appears that lead, in considerable quantities, is found only on the west side of the Mississippi; that salines are not unfrequent in the States of Ohio and Indiana, and in the Territories of Illinois and Missouri, in Western Louisiana, and in the Mississippi Territory; and that the future management and regulation of the lead mines in Missouri, and of the saline on the Wabash, are evidently of more importance than any other on which information has been obtained.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, yours,

JOSIAH MEIGS.

The SECRETARY *of the Treasury.*

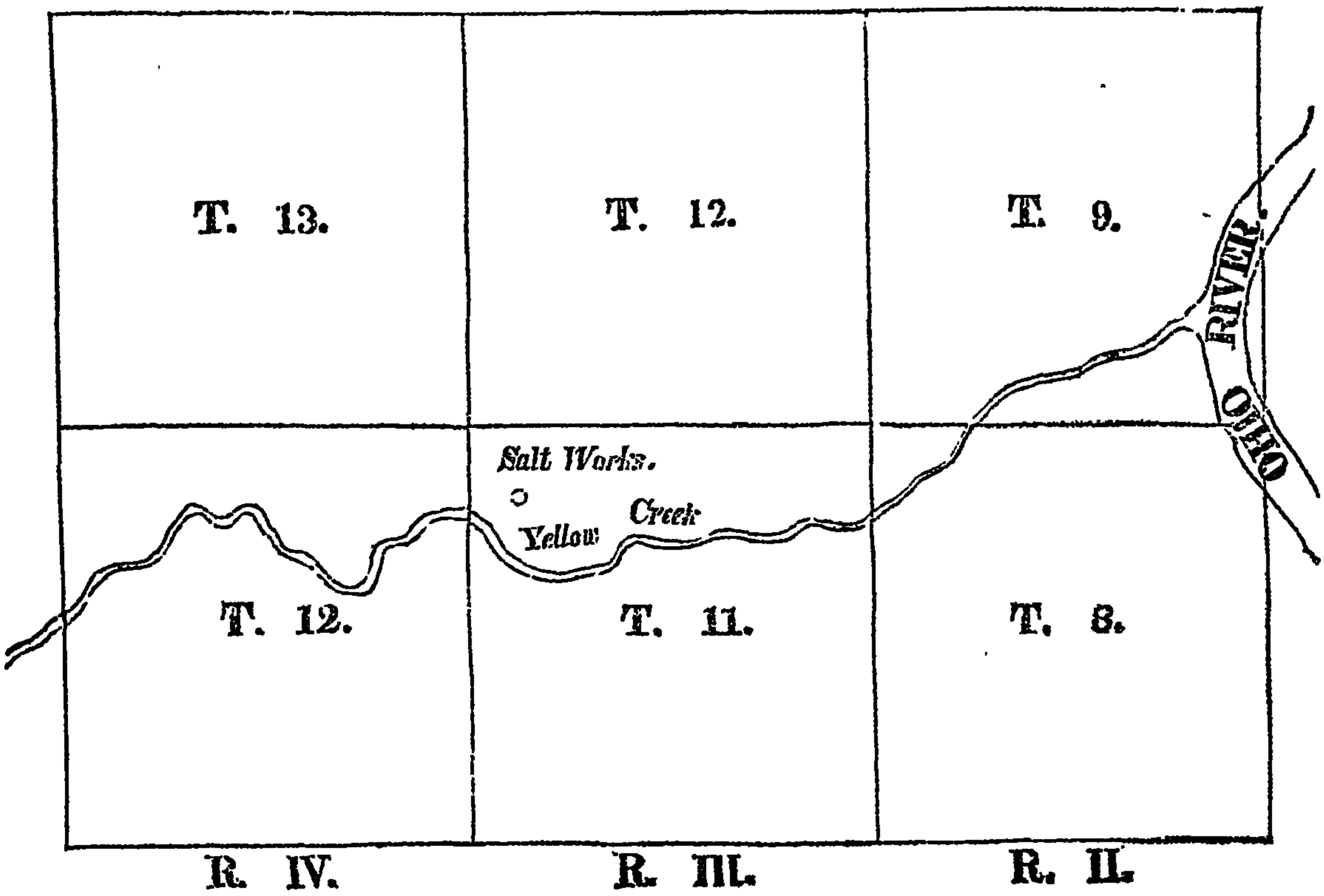
I.

LEAD MINES AND SALT SPRINGS OR SALINES.

Report of David Hoye, Register of the Land Office at Steubenville, Ohio, August 5, 1806.

1. No lead mines in Ohio yet discovered.
2. One salt spring in Yellow creek, in sect. 3, T. 11, R. 3, twenty miles northwesterly of Steubenville.
3. The existing lease of this spring will expire August 12, 1817.
4. This spring yields about twelve bushels a day. It is badly managed.
5. On Yellow creek are about twelve salt works. From four to six cords of wood consumed to make twelve bushels.
6. Policy of reserving salt springs doubtful. Leases should be at least for a term of ten years.
7. Discovery by small crystals of salt in the beds of water courses in hot and dry weather, and by bees collecting on the gravel.
8. Yellow creek is about twenty miles long. It flows through towns 12, 11, 8, 9, of ranges 4, 3, 2, 1, and enters the river Ohio, in sect. 3, T. 9, R. 2.

SKETCH OF YELLOW CREEK.



II.

LEAD MINES AND SALT SPRINGS.

Report of Wyllys Silliman, Register of the Land Office at Zanesville, Ohio.

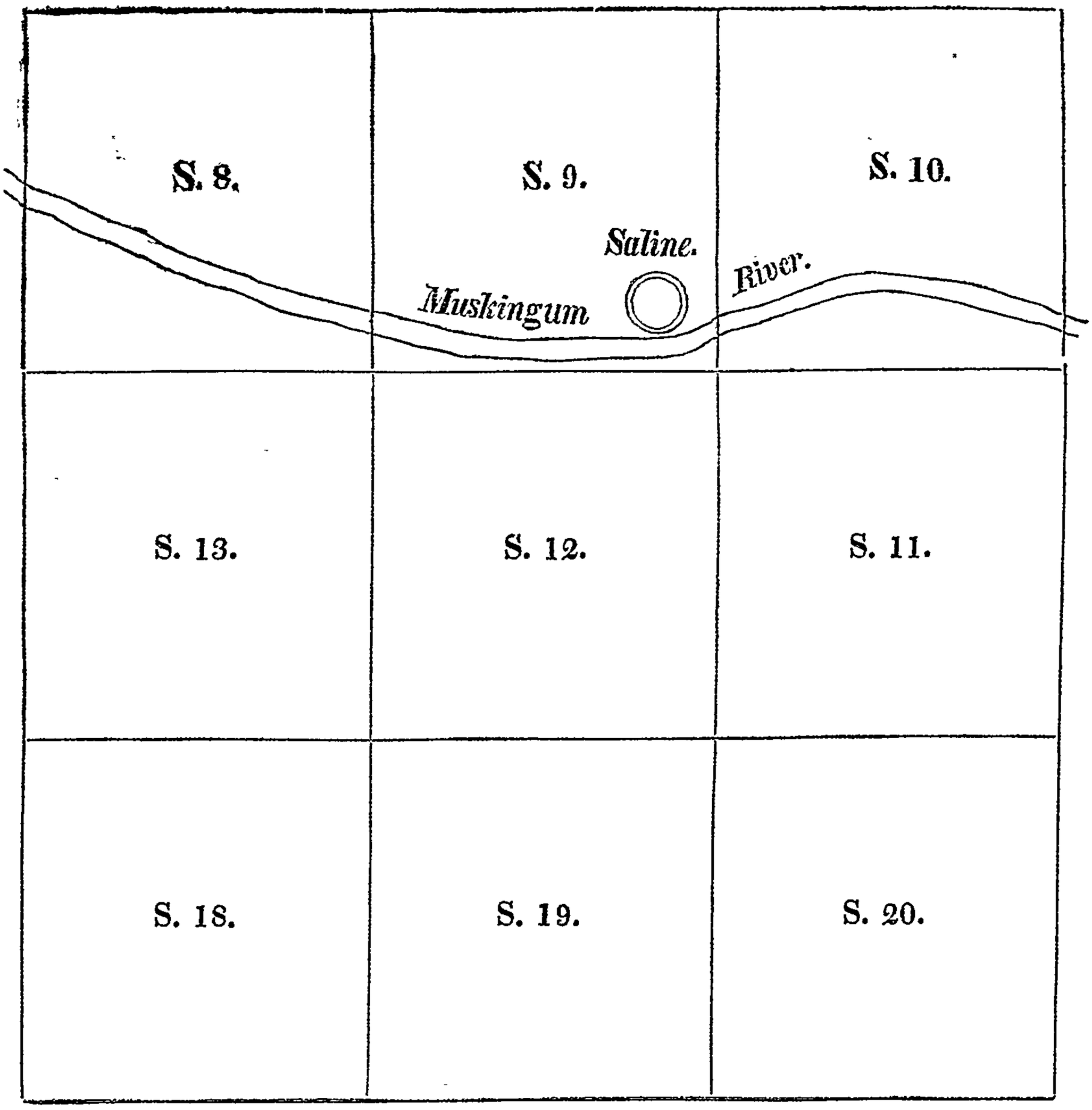
No lead mines have been discovered in the district of Zanesville.

Salt water is found in great quantities, and of good quality in many parts of the district. The quality is inferior to that found on the Kenhawa, Virginia, from whence a large proportion of the salt used in this part of Ohio is brought.

One salt spring only belongs to the United States, viz. sect. 9, T. 11, R. 13, on the banks of the Muskingum. Its situation eligible. Navigation to the place, and for many miles above, (and to the Ohio,) good for large boats five or six months of the year, and for large keel boats at all times.

This section contains but little more than five hundred acres. Several sections adjoining it on the south are vacant, and tolerably well timbered. Good policy to reserve the sections adjoining.

PART OF TOWNSHIP 11, RANGE 13, ZANESVILLE DISTRICT,
About nine miles northeast of Zanesville.



III.

LEAD MINES AND SALINES.

Report of Thomas Freeman, Surveyor General for Lands south of Tennessee, St. Stephens, Sept. 30, 1816.

1. No lead mines within the district of the United States, south of Tennessee.

2. There are two or three small salt springs in the land district east of Pearl river, on the east side of Tombigbee river.

3. There are extensive salt works and springs in the north district of the State of Louisiana, about ten miles north of the town of Natchitoches, on a branch of Red river.

4. There is a large and valuable salt spring on the Sabine river, in the southwest district of Louisiana.

Promises further information.

IV.

LEAD MINES AND SALINES.

Report of Lewis Sewall, Register of the Land Office at St. Stephens, dated August 12, 1816.

1. The only salines in this district where salt has been made for sale, lie on the east side of Tombigbee. There are three: the first, two or three miles from St. Stephens; the second and third are lower down the river.

2. At one of these Salines, 120 gallons of water yield one bushel of salt of fifty-two pounds, and water sufficient to yield 250 bushels a day.

3. At another, 200 gallons are necessary for one bushel, and water for 300 bushels a day.

4. At the third saline, 240 gallons of water are required for one bushel, and 200 bushels may be made in a day.

5. The vicinity of these salines to the ocean, and the river being navigable higher up than the salines, for vessels of a considerable burden, renders these salines of little value, except in time of war, when external supplies may be cut off.

6. Good roads are, or may be made from the salines to the river, which affords an inland barge navigation 200 miles to the northward.

7. Recommends a reservation of two sections of land for fuel for each saline.

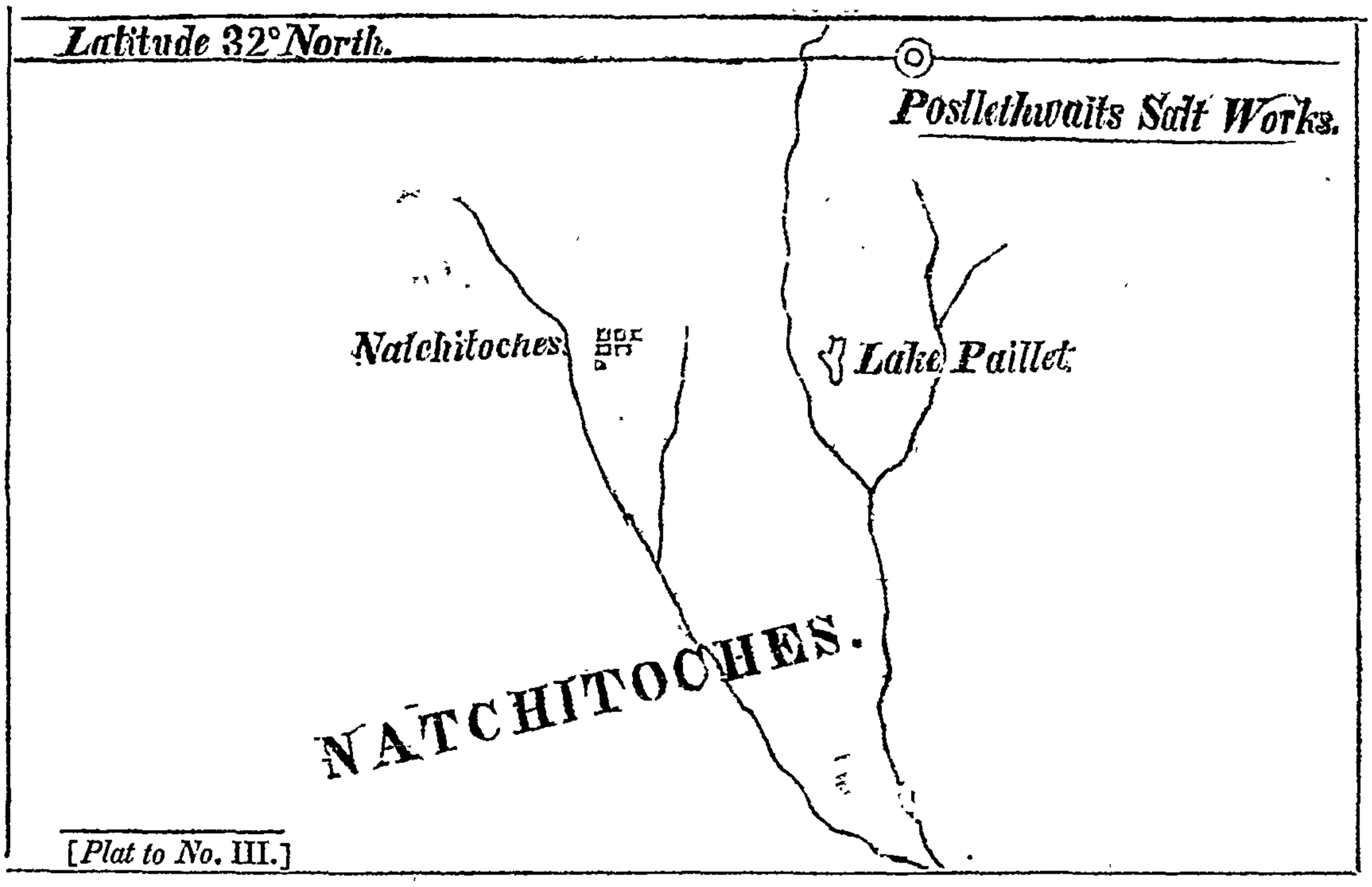
8. Leases ought to be for at least ten years.

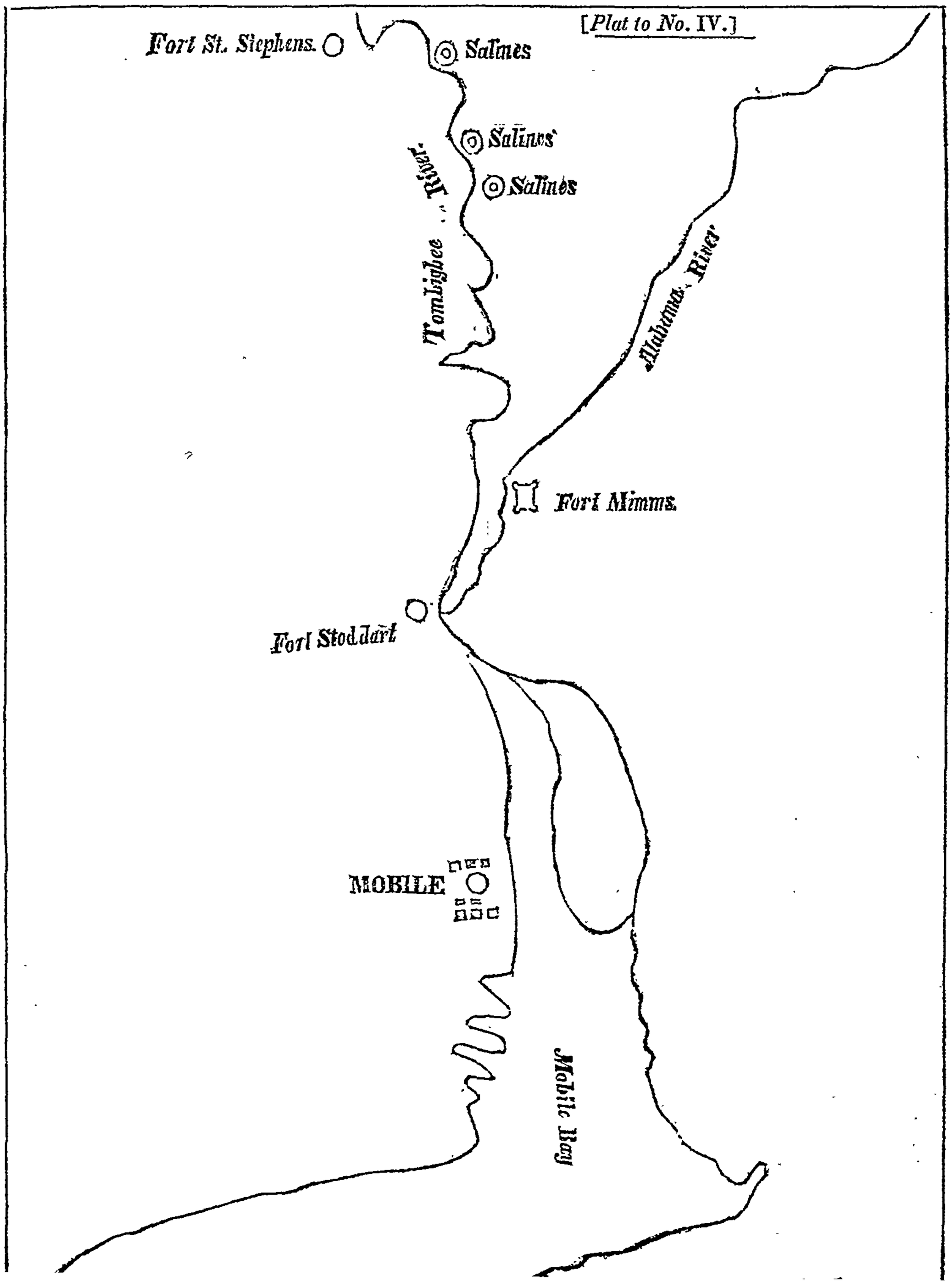
9. An offer has been made to employ 200 kettles, to sell the salt at the works, at seventy-five cents a bushel or fifty pounds weight, and to pay a rent of 200 dollars a year for three years.

10. No lead mines in the district.

The register has not given precise descriptions of the position of the salines, but they are below St. Stephens.

[For plats accompanying III. and IV. see next page.]


Latitude 32° North.
Postlethwaits Salt Works.
Natchitoches
Lake Paillet
NATCHITOCHES.
[Plat to No. III.]


[Plat to No. IV.]
Fort St. Stephens.
Salines
Salines
Salines
Tombigbee River
Alabama River
Fort Mimms
Fort Stoddart
MOBILE
Mobile Bay

V.

LEAD MINES AND SALINES.

Report of Reasin Beall, Register of the Land Office for the District of Canton, dated Wooster, September 6, 1816.

1. No lead mines in the district.

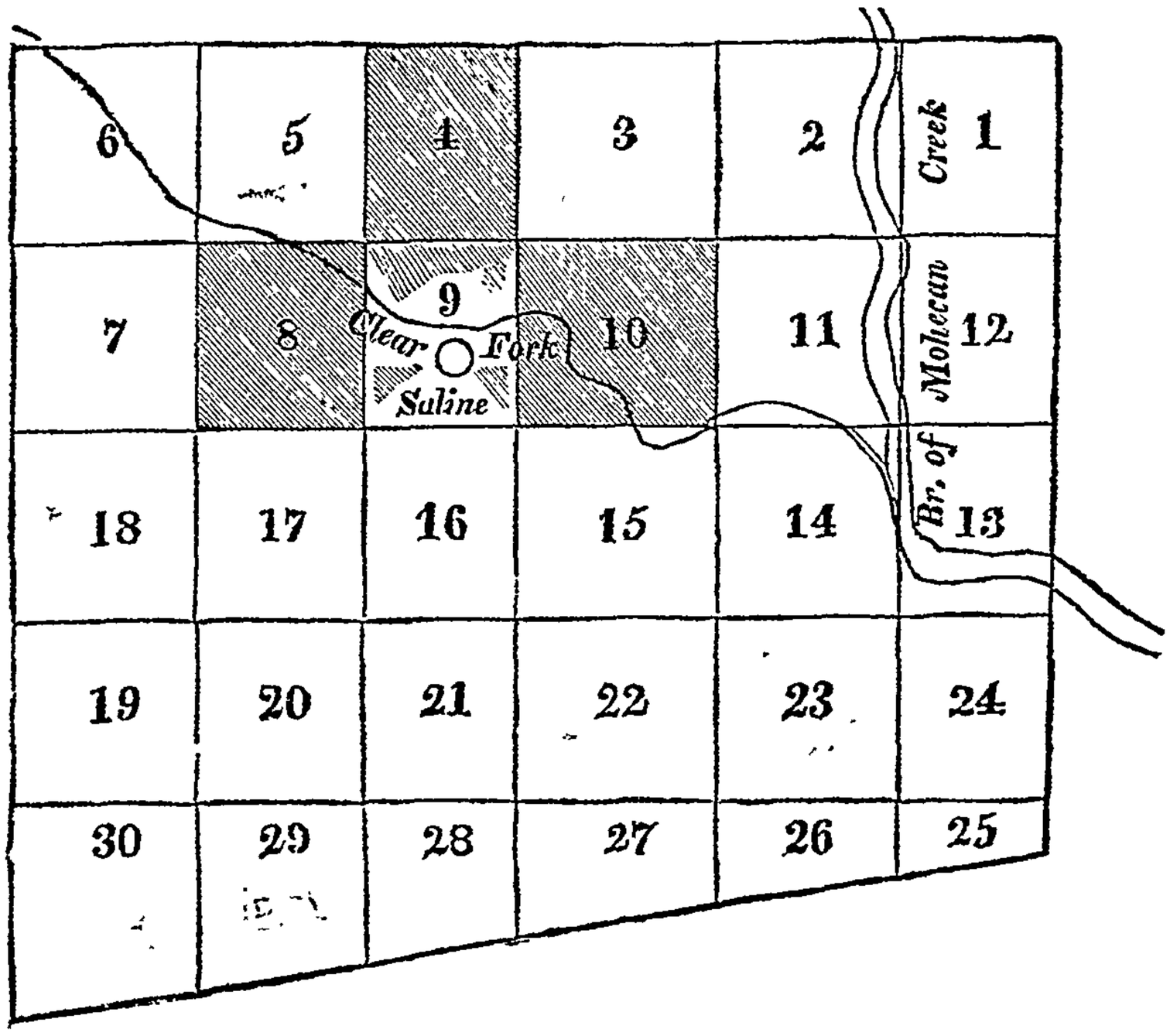
2. One saline marked on the general plat of surveys, viz. Sect. 9, T. 19, R. 16, on Clear Fork of Mohegan creek, a branch of the Muskingum, navigable for small craft.

3. The sections 4, 8, 10, in the vicinity, are reserved for the use of this saline.

4. He believes that no one will lease the salines under the existing laws, because, 1st. The term of three years is too short to justify expenses of the experiment. 2d. In the vicinity of this saline, and, indeed, in almost any place near the streams in this district, where the hills are high and the valleys narrow, salt water can be obtained at the depth of from 200 to 300 feet, with as much certainty at least as to sink at the Licks, which must be done in the first instance. Of course those who incline to embark in salt-making, will prefer trying the experiment on their own lands.

5. Recommends a public sale of the saline (sect. 9, T. 19, R. 16) and the adjoining tracts, (viz. sect. 4, 8, 10,) as promising greater advantage to the United States than the leasing of those on any terms that could be obtained.

TOWNSHIP 19, RANGE 16, DISTRICT OF CANTON.



Mohegan creek is a branch of the river Muskingum. Sections 4, 8, 10 are reserved for the use of the saline which is in section 9.

VI.

LEAD MINES AND SALINES.

Report of Daniel Symmes, Register of the Land Office at Cincinnati, dated September 15, 1816.

1. No lead mine yet known in the district.

2. Several attempts have been made to obtain salt-water by boring, but none has hitherto been discovered worth the trouble of improving.

VII.—LEAD MINES AND SALINES.

Report of Joseph Wood, Register of the Land Office for the District of Marietta, July 31, 1816.

No lead mines or salines in the district.

VII.

LEAD MINES AND SALINES.

Report of Samuel Gwathmey, Register of the Land Office for the District of Jeffersonville, dated November 7, 1816.

1. No lead mines in the district.
2. No salines of any considerable magnitude.
3. Two salines are reserved for the United States, viz.
   1st. Sect. 15, T. 2, north, R. 4, east.
   2d. Do. 28, T. 3, north, do.
4. Neither of these salines is worked at present; nor is it thought they ever can be to any advantage, either to the Government or an individual.
5. The first mentioned saline is on the head water of Great Blue river, a branch of the Ohio. The second is on a branch of the Musiakituck, a branch of White river—a branch of the Wabash. [See plat next page.]

VIII.

LEAD MINES AND SALINES.

Report of Samuel H. Harper, Register of the Land Office for the District of New Orleans. August 16, 1816.

He has no knowledge of any lead mines or salines belonging to the United States in the district of New Orleans, except one said to be in the county of Attakapas, in the western district.

IX.

LEAD MINES AND SALINES.

Report of Alexander MacNair, Register of the Land Office for the District of Saint Louis, Missouri Territory, dated October 20, 1816.

1. He encloses a request for the lease of a saline situated on the middle fork of the river La Moine, about ten miles distant from the Missouri, and about two hundred miles above St. Louis. [For plat, see page 240.]

2. No lease has been granted.

3. The petitioners for a lease represent the saline as being uncommonly rich, and capable of being wrought to great advantage.

4. This saline is in the vicinity of a fertile tract of country, which is rapidly populating, and which must be supplied with salt from this source, or from some other of the numerous salines discovered in that quarter.

X.

LEAD MINES AND SALINES.

Report of John Read, Register of the Land Office for the District of Madison County, Mississippi Territory, September 1, 1816.

He knows not of any lead mines or salt springs within the district.

XI.

LEAD MINES AND SALINES.

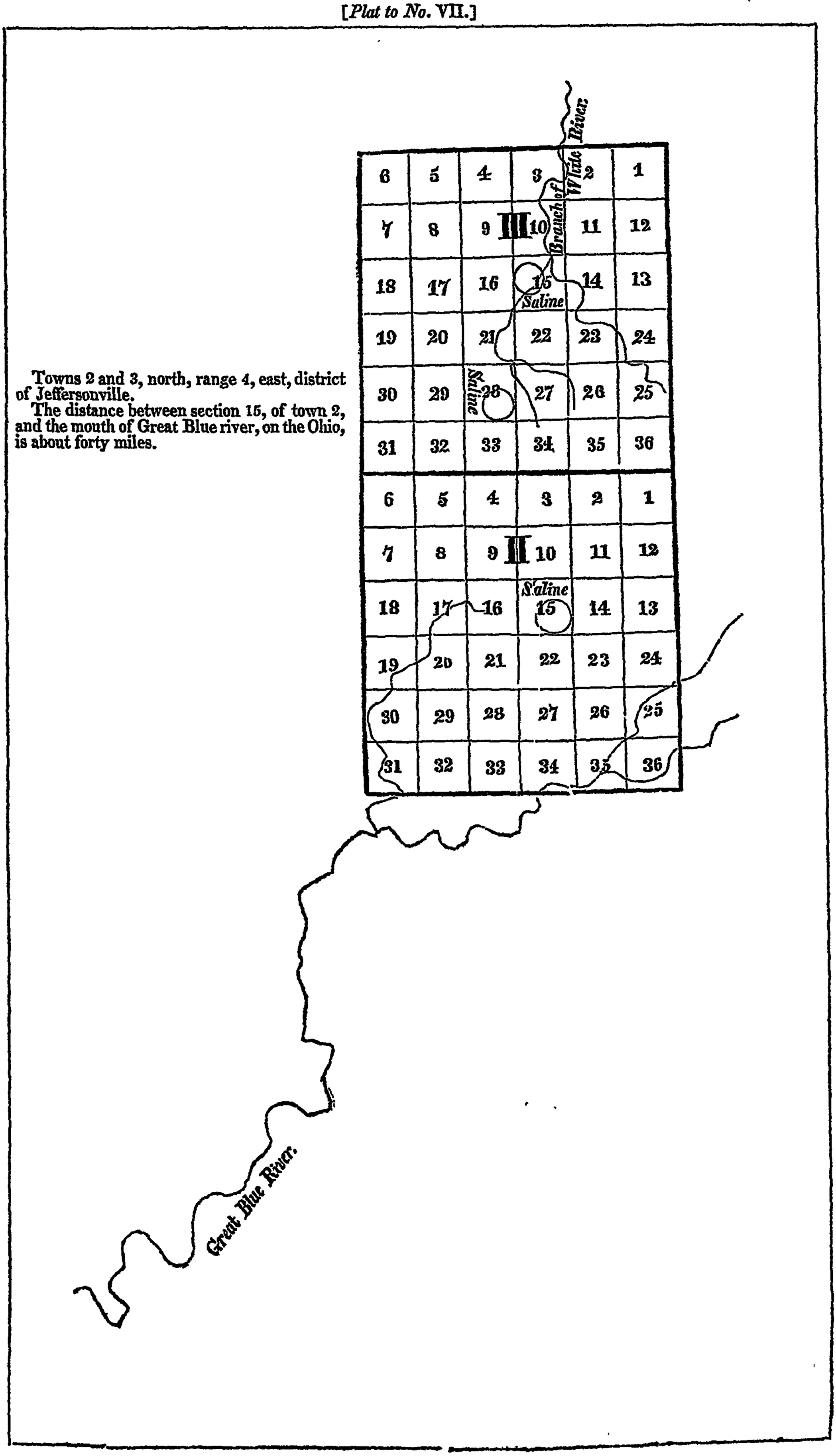
Report of Moses Austin, esq., dated Mine à Burton, Washington County, Missouri Territory.

His report [see No. 407] is probably of more virtue than any other that can be expected. It is the result of the experience, for many years, of the business of lead mines, by a gentleman of intelligence and accurate observation.

We have no actual survey of the lead mine district described by Mr. Austin in the annexed report. I have caused a sketch to be drawn from his description; it accompanies this. [See plat facing page 240.]

Further valuable information relative to these mines is daily expected from the recorder of land titles for the Territory of Missouri, which, when received, shall be communicated to the Secretary.

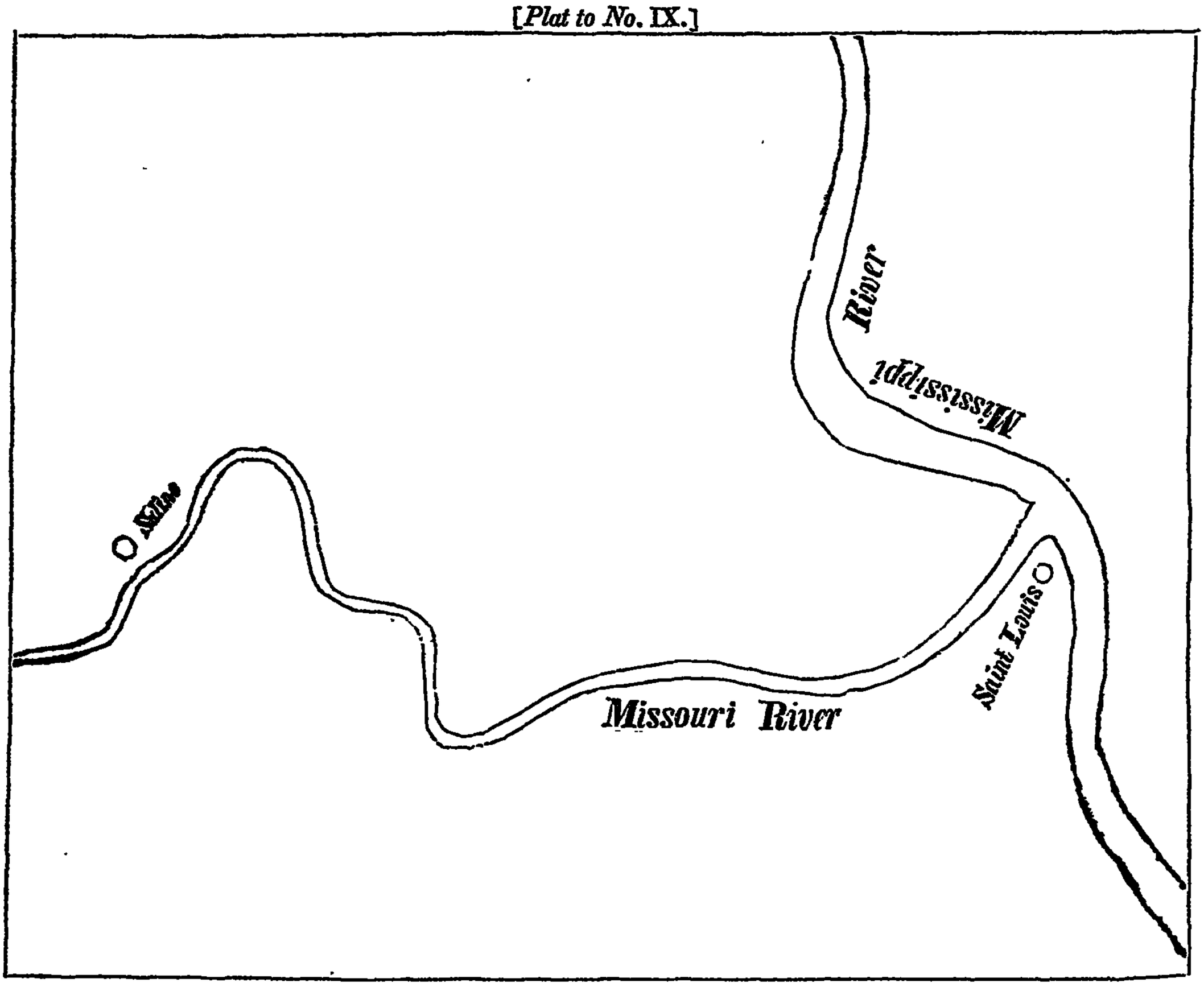
[*Plat to No.* VII.]



Towns 2 and 3, north, range 4, east, district of Jeffersonville.

The distance between section 15, of town 2, and the mouth of Great Blue river, on the Ohio, is about forty miles.

[*Plat to No.* IX.]



XII.

LEAD MINES AND SALINES.

Report of Leonard White, agent for the United States' Saline on the Wabash, August 17, 1816.

Letter from N. Pope, esquire, Delegate from the Illinois Territory.

Mr. White having been for some years United States' agent for the saline, his report is deemed worthy of particular attention.

A sketch of the reservation at the Saline accompanies this. [See plat No. 2.]

Also, a letter of Leonard White's, dated 15th November, 1816, and a plat of the salt works. [See plat No. 3.]

LAND OFFICE AT EDWARDSVILLE,
2d December, 1816.

SIR: From my recent arrival to this country, and a desire to obtain the most satisfactory information in my power relative to the lead mines and salt springs of this Territory, has induced me to defer until this time an answer to your circular of the 3d July last.

The result of my inquiries, however, has not been so satisfactory as I could wish. On the Ohio there is said to be considerable quantities of lead ore, which, with a large tract of land including it, was some few years ago leased by Governor Edwards; but the lessee failed to make any experiments upon it, and consequently its value is entirely unknown.

I know of no other lead mines in the Territory, except those which lie above Rock river, and on the Mississippi and Ouisconsin rivers.

Those, for extent and richness, are universally believed by all who have seen them, and from many partial experiments, to be inferior to none in the world. They, however, lie north of a due west line from the southern extremity of Lake Michigan to the Mississippi river, and are included, as I am informed by Governor Edwards, in a tract of country which the Commissioners appointed to treat with the Indians of the Mississippi and its waters were directed to recede to the Indians.

The same gentleman informs me that the Commissioners were fortunate enough to succeed in introducing it into the treaty. They were instructed to make a stipulation which authorizes the President to reserve, besides three leagues square at the mouth of Ouisconsin, any number of tracts, on and near to the Mississippi and Ouisconsin rivers, that should not in the whole amount to more than would be contained in five leagues square. These reservations, it is thought, will be sufficient to save the most valuable of those mines. Should the President avail himself of the stipulation, the sooner those mines are selected and worked the better it will be; because, otherwise, the Indians will begin to think we have no right to them, which happens in most cases where they are left for any considerable time in the possession of property they are stipulated to cede.

Those mines are a considerable distance from the settled parts of the Territory, and the greatest difficulty will be in supplying the necessary provisions upon the cheapest terms by producing a competition amongst them.

For this purpose, I think it would be advisable that an agent should be appointed to reside at the mines, who should permit all persons, who may go up, to work such parts of them as may be unoccupied, for such a portion of the mineral as experience shall show to be just and reasonable, without confining them to a longer term than they shall choose to continue.

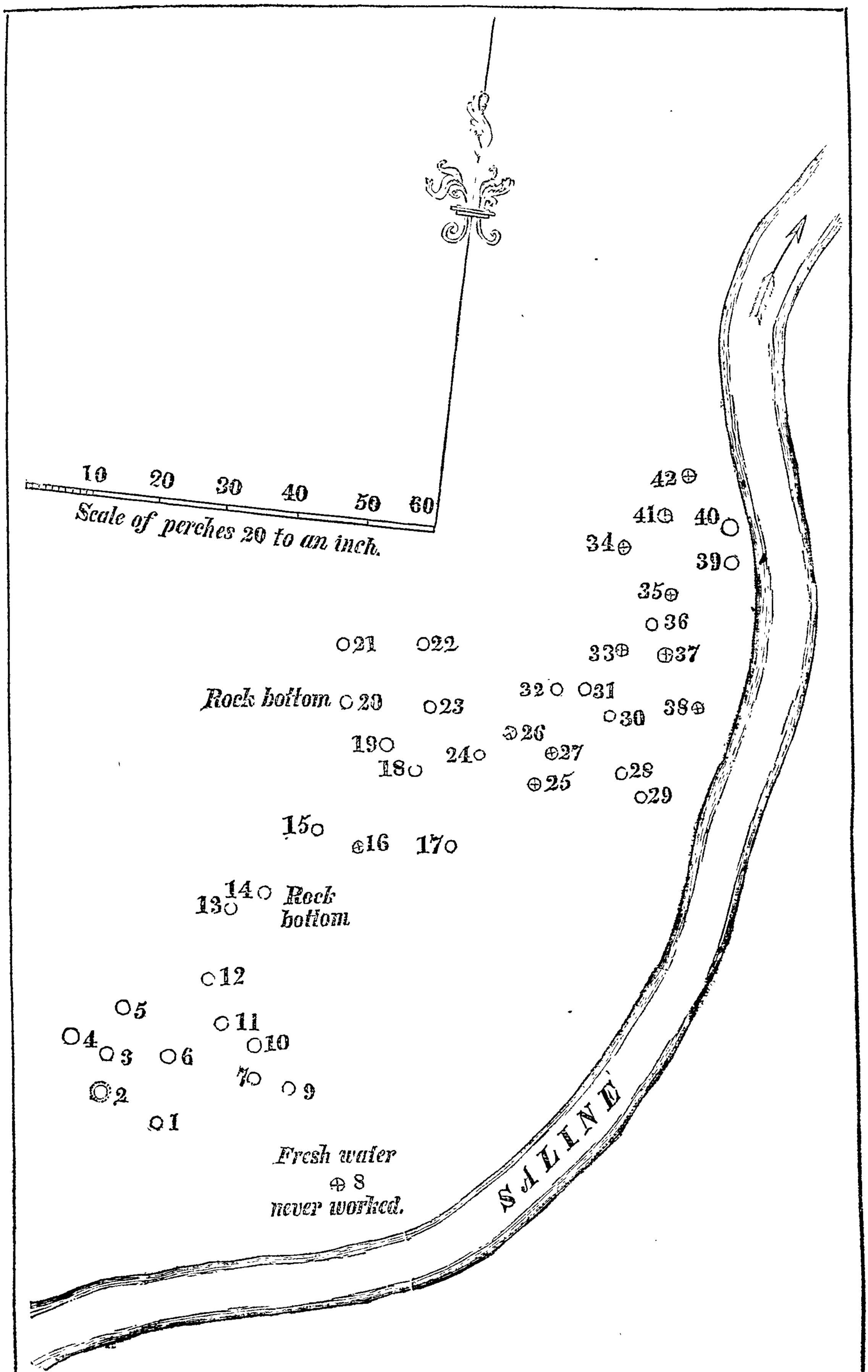
By these means it is believed that those mines will the sooner be explored and more extensively worked than by leasing them to individuals or companies for a term of years; or, if a better plan should be preferred, it ought not to be to the entire exclusion of the farmer; for if the farmers of this country, when carrying up a boat load of privisions, be permitted to work a part of the mines upon reasonable terms, until, by this means and the sale of provisions, they could get a boat load of lead to return with, there are a vast number of them who would avail themselves of all leisure seasons for those purposes; which of all other plans would have the greatest tendency to render provisions cheap and plenty.

Of salt springs, I know of none in this Territory, except the United States' Wabash Saline, which I passed through on my way to this place, and one on Muddy, I have been informed of; both of which I believe are in operation under leases of the Government; and even of them, I know too little to justify me in giving any opinion concerning them. I am informed, and have reason to believe, that there are several valuable salines north of the river Illinois; but, owing to the late war with the Indians, and to the tract of country in which they are contained having until lately been disputed, they have not been sufficiently tested to warrant me in making any representations at present concerning them.

I am, sir, respectfully, your most obedient servant,
JOHN McKEE,
Register of the Land Office at Edwardsville.

MR. JOSIAH MEIGS,
Commissioner of the General Land Office.

MAP OF THE NUMBER OF WELLS IN THE HALF MOON LICK,
Exhibiting the precise situation and distance of one from the other.



NOTE.—Those marked + are useless.
Numbers 2, 3, 4, 5, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27 and 28, were dry during the present lease.

UNITED STATES' SALINE, *Nov.* 15, 1816.

SIR: In addition to a communication I had the honor of making to you on the 17th August, I will beg leave to add that, for some time, I have been convinced that the works at this place have been extended beyond the real interest of the United States. To explain this fact, I have caused a survey of the place to be made, a plat of which I herewith transmit. [See preceding page.] By comparing it with one I transmitted in the year 1810, you will at once observe that, at that time, there were fourteen wells worked, and five useless: at this time there are thirty wells used, and twelve thrown idle. In 1810, there were five establishments, working four furnaces each, which manufactured at the rate of 126,000 bushels of salt per annum: a greater quantity than has ever been returned to me since, and I believe a greater quantity than has been made. In 1814, there was made 124,885 bushels; in 1815, I received no return, but I believe there was not so much made, notwithstanding the increased number of wells and establishments; and it is a fact, the water has been getting weaker as the number of wells increase; which I account for in this way, that scarcely a spring season arrives but what the wells are overflown, and there being so many to receive and retain the fresh water, and particularly those that are not worked at all, out of which this water is not drawn, and from which it communicates to those that are worked; not only so, but those wells are thrown away, because they get too fresh to be worked, by fresh water breaking into them, and being very near to those that are worked, they communicate with them, and it follows, of course, that the whole becomes weaker. To obviate this, I presume if all the useless wells were filled up with earth, and no more suffered to be dug, it would have a good effect; indeed, I believe if all the wells were filled up except sixteen, the water would shortly be as good as ever it was. Heretofore, the Government have required the lessees to make more salt than there really was water to do it with: this, I presume, was done to make the article as plenty and as cheap as possible to the consumer; but there is now no necessity for this precaution, because the article has become so plenty, from the Kenawha and other places, that it has brought the price almost below what it can be made for at this place, and I am of opinion that no person will be found to lease it in the way that it has heretofore been leased, (to wit,) pay for the metal and improvements in advance; but I think it may be leased if the Government furnishes the metal, &c., to be returned at the expiration of the lease, in as good order as when they were received. I would also beg leave to suggest the propriety of leasing some time previous to the expiration of the present lease, so as to give the new lessees an opportunity of procuring the supplies necessary to carry on the works.

I have the honor, &c.,
LEON'D WHITE,
Agent U. S. Saline.

JOSIAH MEIGS, Esq.,
Commissioner General Land Office.

UNITED STATES' SALINE, 17*th August*, 1816.

SIR: I have had the honor to receive yours of the 3d ultimo, wherein I am requested to communicate to you any information I may possess relating to lead mines and salt springs belonging to the United States.

As respects lead mines, I possess but little information on that subject, never having had my attention drawn to that object.

Salt springs, as they are the only salt springs belonging to the United States with which I am particularly acquainted, I will confine my observations to them alone, and, more particularly, to your fourth proposition.

The present lease for this place expires on the 17th day of March next, upon which I will beg leave to observe that, hitherto, the United States have required the new lessee to pay to the old the price of the mettle and improvements, which amounted to a considerable sum, and has operated as a bar to the practical salt-makers, and prevents them from engaging with the United States in the business, and consequently, they become sub-lessees under the lessee, and thereby creates a third party over whom the United States have no immediate control.

Under the present lease, there are so many more of this class than can actually get water, that they have injured the place considerably, first, in using so much more timber for pipes, troughs, &c., than was really necessary; and, secondly, by erecting so many establishments: all of which for the want of water making no more salt than perhaps little more than half the number would have done; by which means the expenses of the place were greatly augmented, and the means of payment not increased in proportion, thereby injuring the credit of the place.

To avoid which I would beg leave, most respectfully, to suggest the following plan for leasing this place. The United States to own all the property attached to the premises, including kettles, (the present being a favorable time to do so, the lessees being largely indebted to them,) divide the lick into five parts: the half-moon lick composing four parts, and the saline spring or lower lick one.

Lease the kettles, &c., with the premises, to be returned in as good order as when they received them, to any persons who will give the greatest quantity of salt per annum, payable weekly or monthly, and for a failure to pay rent, or a breach of any of the stipulations of his contract, to be dispossessed, binding him, as at present, to commit no waste of timber. By this means the United States could, at any time, when improper conduct existed, get into possession, and lease again without doing any individual a great injury, as the only property belonging to the salt-maker would be moveable.

Should this plan meet the approbation of Government, the extent to be leased by each one ought to be laid off previous to leasing, both for water and wood, off of which he ought not to be suffered to go while any timber remained on his lot: this would prevent them from trespassing on one another. Improvements for salt-making are rather of a temporary nature, (being often removed,) and ought to be made by the salt-maker.

Though there are some improvements that might be an advantage to the United States to make. A tavern, for the accommodation of travellers and others, appears to be indispensably necessary, and, for the want of a convenient house, this has been hitherto badly done.

I would also suggest the propriety of the Government building a tolerably comfortable house for the residence of the United States' agent. The reservation for this place.

The intruders on this tract increase, and experience convinces me that their improvements must be destroyed before they will leave it. In fact, if one set leaves it, another comes on it immediately, and they no longer pay any attention to a threat from me.

I am, &c.,
LEO'D WHITE.

HON. JOSIAH MEIGS.

WASHINGTON, *December* 12, 1816.

SIR: Having called on you a few days ago, to remind you that the present lease of the United States' saline near the Wabash, in the Illinois Territory, was about to expire, and having been requested by you to suggest a *projet* for leasing it, I beg leave to submit the following remarks.

Shall the saline be leased entire or divided? If divided, into how many parts?

In few instances have the lessees manufactured salt themselves, but they generally sub-leased the saline in fractions to individuals having no unity of interest, who found no obstacles to a fair and friendly partition of the water. It is fairly inferable that the lessees made such terms with the manufacturers as secured to themselves some profit upon their contract with the United States. If this be the fact, it necessarily results, that the Government lets the saline to the lessees on terms more advantageous to them than could be obtained of the manufacturer, who is the only meritorious person, if it were leased in fractions. It is as obvious, that, whatever profit is pocketed by the lessee, in so much is the price of salt enhanced; because no man can doubt that the manufacturer would contract with the Government on the same terms that he does with the lessee, perhaps better, as he would have more confidence. Men of competent capital to work the whole establishment are generally devoid of the required information, which can only be acquired by a long apprenticeship in the school of experience. That information is most frequently found in men of moderate capital. As those are in fact the manufacturers of the salt on their own funds, it is justice to allow and secure to them all profits derivable therefrom.

If the lessee can subdivide the saline, and create rival interests there, and preserve harmony among his tenants, I see nothing to prevent the United States adopting with success the same plan. I believe the fact to be, that if any collisions appeared at the saline, they arose between the lessee and his tenants, and not between the tenants themselves.

The Old Spring and Half Moon are distant from each other upwards of four miles: they are easily divided. The Half Moon is now, and has for many years, been partitioned out among different persons, without the least jostling, which clearly proves the practicability of the measure. I suppose it might be divided into any number not exceeding five parts. A multiplication beyond

that number would tend to diminish the quantity of salt, in consequence of the increased waste and deterioration of the salt water. The removal of the water from the wells to the wood is always attended with a certain and not inconsiderable loss of water, which loss is not much varied by the quantity conveyed: e.g. the loss on a hundred thousand gallons will not much exceed that on fifty thousand, while the expense is almost the same on both quantities.

As to the deterioration of the water. It is believed by the best informed, that all the wells in the Half Moon derive their supplies from the same fountain or stratum of salt water, and that that fountain or stratum is not inexhaustible, and as the site is liable to annual inundations (at least,) it must be clear that the more apertures that are made into it by digging wells, the more fresh water will find its way to mingle with the salt water, and thereby augment the expense of restoring the salt water to its wonted state of impregnation.

Would it not be expedient for the United States to settle with the present lessee, and pay for all such stock and improvements as he is, by the terms of the lease, entitled to pay for? The moment is propitious, as it is clear the lessee will be in arrear. Upon making a new lease, the tenant shall take the lick, or his part of it, with its appurtenances, and also the kettles, &c. under such stipulations for restitution as the nature of the business shall indicate. The new tenant would then have it in his power to employ all his funds in providing the "ways and means" for a successful prosecution of business. It is also worthy of remark, that the amount to be advanced by new tenants is always wrapt in obscurity, and the old tenant, either from a desire to deter persons from bidding, or from a disposition of human nature to over-rate our own, does not fail to make the impression that the improvements, and stock on hand to be paid for, will amount to a fearful sum.

As to the price of salt. It is impossible to speak on this subject with confidence, unless I could look forward, and with certainty see what regulations will be adopted relative to the currency of the United States, and of the States respectively. It is very clear to my mind, that if no change be effected, the evil will reach us in the west, and produce an enhanced price of labor and provisions, and consequently of salt. But as the Government will have the power of affording appropriate relief, I do not hesitate to recommend that 125 cents be assumed as the maximum price of the saline. It seems to me that the United States have committed a capital error in stipulating not to sell the rent salt at less than the maximum. If it were desired to raise the price of salt, no better plan could have been adopted, because it withdrew from the market all the rent salt, thereby enhancing the price of that necessary article. This stipulation was the offspring of fears suggested by the lessees, that the rent salt would be carried into the market in competition with theirs. What has been the consequence? The consequence has been, that the United States' salt was wasted on hand, while the lessees were, under cover of it, extorting from the people a higher price than would have been asked or paid, if all the salt made had been in the market. Let the Government bind itself to sell none for less than one dollar at the lick, and at no other place for less than that, adding thereto costs of transportation and loss; but with some reservations: for example, reserve the Mississippi and the country near it in the Illinois Territory, and also the Illinois side of the Wabash. I recommend this reservation, because the saline belongs to the Illinois Territory, and also because it would avoid competition with the lessees, who have hitherto sent no salt up the Mississippi, (at least very little.) Some of the United States' salt has been sold at Kaskaskia, but upon hard terms. At the time that the lessees were selling salt at one dollar, we were obliged to pay at Kaskaskia one and a quarter, adding thereto carriage and loss. If this plan be adopted, the rent salt will be of some use. Therefore, let the Government reserve the right to sell as it pleases its rent salt in thoses sections of country, without reference to the wishes or interest of the lessees.

As to the duration of the lease. On this subject I have no doubt. The best lessons of experience admonish me that short leases are very unfriendly to the salt-making business. Much time is elapsed before the works are put into operation, and at the conclusion they are declining, so that it may safely be computed, that, in a lease of three years, from six to nine months are either lost or unprofitably spent. I am persuaded that the public good would be consulted by adopting the longest term.

I cannot refrain from suggesting the policy of allowing each lessee to cultivate ground enough to supply him with hay, and perhaps corn. The former article is so difficult to be procured, that none is used, though much wanted.

As to the rent. It should be let to the highest bidder, payable in salt, monthly, (not quarterly, too much would then be on hand at once, and much loss insured;) retaining a right to distrain and oust for a violation of the stipulations of the lease, allowing reasonable time to get his works in operation. This ought to be confided to the discretion of the agent who leases or superintends the saline, who, from a knowledge of the situation of the establishment, and its state of repair, can form an estimate of the time to be allowed.

The stand for a tavern, store, and blacksmith's shop, must also be rented by the United States. They are very useful, I may say essential. Would it not be well to allow the tavern-keeper to make a meadow?

Upon the whole, I do most humbly submit, that the clear profits of the saline ought to be expended in improvements in the Territory to which it belongs, say in roads. The General Government will be well remunerated in the appreciation of its public lands through which the roads shall pass. Every road would throw into demand all the lands on or near its borders.

I have, &c.

NAT. POPE.

JOSIAH MEIGS, Esq.

14th CONGRESS. No. 249. 2d SESSION.

LAND CLAIMS IN TENNESSEE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 28, 1817.

Mr. GASTON made the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the memorial of the Legislature of North Carolina, remonstrating against the act of Congress passed in the year 1806, entitled "An act to authorize the State of Tennessee to issue grants and perfect titles to certain lands therein described, and to settle the claims to the vacant and unappropriated lands within the same," have taken the subject of the said memorial into their serious consideration, and submit their views thereof in the following report:

The General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, by an act passed at their session begun and held on the second of November, 1789, empowered and required its Senators in Congress to execute a deed on the part and in behalf of the said State, conveying to the United States of America all the right and title which the said State had to the sovereignty and property of a vast tract of western lands, out of which has been since formed the State of Tennessee, but which were then comprehended within the acknowledged limits of North Carolina. In this act the General Assembly declared that the conveyance aforesaid was to take place upon, and subject to, certain conditions therein expressed. Among these conditions were the following: the land, laid off, or directed to be laid off, by former laws of North Carolina, for the benefit of the officers and soldiers of the continental line of that State, should enure to their benefit; and if a defi-

ciency should be found of land fit for cultivation within the limits of the district assigned for that purpose, the officer or soldier not getting his allotment should be permitted to take his quota, or so much of it as was deficient, out of any other unappropriated part of the Territory ceded. Moreover, the governor of North Carolina was to retain the power of completing, by grant, all entries and other imperfect titles; and all such titles, until so perfected, were, after the cession, to have the force and effect which they then had under the laws of that State. Furthermore, when an entry had been made of any tract of land in the office usually called John Armstrong's office, and located on a spot covered by a previous entry, such location might be removed to any lands on which no entry had been especially located, or to any vacant lands within the ceded territory. In pursuance of this act, on the 25th of February, 1790, Samuel Johnston and Benjamin Hawkins, being then the Senators of the State of North Carolina in the Congress of the United States, duly executed a deed unto the United States of America, wherein the said act of North Carolina is recited at length; and whereby, in virtue of the authority delegated to them by the said act, the said Senators, in the name and on behalf of the said State, did convey to the United States all the right and title of North Carolina to the sovereignty and territory of the lands described in the aforesaid act, to and for the uses and purposes, and on the conditions, mentioned in the said act. This deed was declared by act of Congress of the 2d of April, 1790, to be accepted by the United States.

The power which, by the aforesaid act and deed of cession, was reserved to North Carolina over the ceded territory, was for several years exercised by her without restraint. But from this exercise many inconveniences were found to arise. Particularly it was discovered that, in procuring the consummation of imperfect titles, many frauds were attempted to be committed, which the Government of North Carolina could not readily prevent or detect, and which, in their consequences, were productive of great embarrassment and injustice to the landholders and residents of Tennessee. To remedy these evils, and, at the same time, secure the fulfilment of the yet unsatisfied obligations of justice and gratitude recognized by North Carolina in the alienation of this territory, a provisional compact was formed between the States of North Carolina and Tennessee, which required for its validity the sanction of the Congress of the United States. This compact, as contained in the act of North Carolina of the year 1803, chapter 3d, entitled "An act to authorize the State of Tennessee to perfect titles to lands reserved to this State by the cession act," and in the act of the Legislature of Tennessee of the year 1804, chapter 14th, ratifying and confirming the said act of North Carolina, provides that, upon the assent of Congress being obtained thereto, the State of Tennessee shall have power and authority to issue grants and perfect titles on all claims of land lying within that State, which, by the act of cession, were reserved to be issued and perfected by North Carolina, in as full and ample manner as the latter State possessed the same, but under certain conditions and restrictions. One of these conditions is, that, in entering and obtaining titles to lands, no preference shall be given to the citizens of Tennessee over citizens of any other State claiming under the State of North Carolina; nor shall any occupancy or possession give preference in entering or obtaining titles, so as to injure or take away the right of any person now claiming by entry, grant, or otherwise, under North Carolina. [The other conditions, with the exception of that which reserves to North Carolina the exclusive right of issuing military warrants, seem designed to provide in detail for the fair, complete, and effectual performance, by Tennessee, of such of the obligations acknowledged by North Carolina in her act of cession, as had not been discharged since the cession under the powers then reserved for that purpose. The only assent given by Congress to any part of the compact between these States is contained in the act of the 18th April, 1806, against which act the remonstrance of the memorialists is directed.]

This act of Congress makes, on the part of the United States, a compact with the State of Tennessee, by which, in consideration of the State of Tennessee relinquishing to the United States all right and title to the lands in that State lying to the south and west of a certain line therein described, and of the said State agreeing and declaring that the said lands shall be and remain at the sole and entire disposition of the United States, the United States cede and convey to the State of Tennessee the lands within its limits lying to the east and north of this line, and authorize the State of Tennessee to issue grants and perfect titles as to these last mentioned lands, according to the conditions of the original cession act, and of the act of North Carolina of 1803, before mentioned, "to which act the assent of Congress is thereby given, so far as is necessary to carry into effect the objects of the compact" between the United States and Tennessee. Besides this assent in part to the act of North Carolina of 1803, is declared to be subject to certain express conditions, not to be found in that act, viz. the appropriation by the State of Tennessee, out of the territory to the north and east of the aforesaid line, of two hundred thousand acres for colleges and academies, and of six hundred and forty acres out of every six miles square in the said territory, where existing claims will permit, for the use of schools. This act of Congress provides that all the entries, warrants, and locations removeable under the terms of the cession of North Caaolina, which were not actually located before the cession to the west and south of the before described line, shall be located, and the titles thereto perfected within the territory to the north and east of that line; but enacts that if this territory shall not contain a sufficient quantity of land fit for cultivation to satisfy these removeable claims according to the true intent of the cession, Congress will hereafter provide by law for perfecting such of them as cannot be there located, out of the territory west and south of that line. The State of Tennessee accepted of the terms proposed by this act of Congress, and became a party to this compact with the United States. Proceeding in the spirit of this compact, she has set apart, out of the territory north and east of the line described in the act of Congress, two hundred thousand acres for colleges and academies, and six hundred and forty acres out of every six miles square thereof for public schools, and has appropriated the residue only of this territory for the satisfaction of claims under North Carolina. By the regulations of her land laws, which conform to this compact, she permits not entries which have been especially located on the lands to the south and west of the Congressional line, either to be surveyed there or removed to the lands which are to the east and north of that line; nor does she allow (and, according to this compact, cannot allow) the removal to the Congressional reservation of the unsatisfied warrants of the officers and soldiers of the continental line of North Carolina, or of the entries in John Armstrong's office, which have been located on spots covered by previous entries. The State of North Carolina contending that the right to perfect titles in the lands to the west and south of the Congressional line, upon claims recognized in the original cession, and therein reserved to be completed by North Carolina, had not been transferred to Tennessee because of the want of assent on the part of Congress unto so much of the compact between the two States, has proceeded to make surveys and issue grants thereon; and the result has been a conflict between the two States every way adverse to the ascertainment and satisfaction of the claims, for the faithful discharge whereof the honor of North Carolina, of Tennessee, and of the United States, is equally plighted.

The committee have deemed it proper to present this compendious statement to the House, that it may be possessed of the facts necessary for the understanding of the unpleasant controversy referred to in the memorial. If they had deemed it necessary for any practical purposes of justice or policy, to examine into the legal character of the pretensions asserted by the parties to this controversy, and to make an application to these facts of the principles of public law, assuredly they would not have shrunk from the inquiry, however arduous, important, or delicate. It will readily be perceived that a faithful comparison of the various provisions of the original cession of 1789, and of the act of North Carolina of 1803, with the terms of the act of Congress of 1806, and the ascertainment how far the objects compared exhibit a coincidence of views and a harmony of design; still more the distinguishing (should any variance be found to exist) between those differences, which may be regarded as formal and unessential, and the repugnancies which ought to be viewed as substantial and important; and yet further, between those repugnancies that are the result of omission, and readily susceptible of remedy, and such as may operate a nullity either in whole or in part of the act of 1803, or even, perhaps, of the original cession, would be an undertaking not of easy accomplishment, and connected with questions embarrassing in themselves, and leading to consequences very momentous. The committee are satisfied that such an undertaking would be as superfluous as unpleasant.

There cannot be a doubt but that entries legally made before the cession of North Carolina upon lands which, by the act of 1806, are placed at the sole and entire disposition of the United States, and whereto the Indian title is extinguished, ought to be perfected into grants. Congress have also declared in their act of 1806

that, if the territory thereby conveyed to Tennessee should not contain a sufficient quantity of land fit for cultivation to satisfy the removeable entries and locations recognized in the cession of North Carolina, they will provide for the perfecting of them out of the territory in that act reserved to Congress. This fact notoriously exists. There is a deficiency of land fit for cultivation on the north and east of the Congressional line, and without the Indian limits, to satisfy these claims, after the appropriations warranted by the act of 1806. The States of North Carolina and Tennessee can have but one true and substantial interest on this occasion. They are deeply, perhaps equally, concerned that the honest claims of both descriptions above referred to belonging to their citizens, respectively, should be satisfied, and that spurious and fraudulent claims, of either kind, should be rejected. The United States alone have the means of completely carrying this object into effect, and they are bound by the principles of justice as well as by their express undertaking, to supply these means, so far as they may be otherwise deficient, out of the Congressional reservation. The committee have, therefore, no hesitation in recommending a substantial compliance with the first alternative in the prayer of the memorialists. Provision ought to be made by law for perfecting titles of the kind referred to by the memorialists on the south and west, as well as on the east and north of the Congressional line; and it is but fair that, in a case involving the interests of the United States, of North Carolina, and of Tennessee, they should all have a voice in the adjudication of the warrants and entries to be perfected. But the committee believe that North Carolina, having this voice in the appointment of the commissioners empowered to pronounce on the legality of these claims, will, in the spirit of accommodation, acquiesce in the consummation of the titles being made by the State of Tennessee. It is obvious that this form of proceeding, if not inconsistent with the substantial rights of any, is most appropriate in itself, and most convenient to all.

In the hope that it will terminate the unpleasant controversy which has subsisted between two respectable States; that it will prevent the confusion and perplexity of titles which must result from the exercise of conflicting claims of territory; and that it will render effectual justice to claims which the United States are bound to see satisfied, the committee beg leave to report herewith a bill entitled "An act supplementary to an act entitled 'An act to authorize the State of Tennessee to issue grants and perfect titles to certain lands therein described, and to settle the claims to the vacant and unappropriated lands within the same.'"

14th Congress. **No. 250.** 2d Session.

INDIAN GRANTS IN LOUISIANA, CONFIRMED.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 29, 1817.

Mr. Robertson made the following report:

The Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of the executors of Alexander Fulton, the executors of Levi Wells, the executors of Hatch Dent, William Miller, William Barrow, Josiah S. Johnston, George Matthews, John and Leonard Compton, Isaac H. Robinet, and Chew and Relf, and others, have had the same under consideration, and report as follows:

The petitioners claim a tract of land on the Bayou Boeuf, in the State of Louisiana, by virtue of a purchase from three tribes of Indians, approved by the Spanish Government in the year one thousand eight hundred and two.

It appears that about forty years ago, the nation of Indians called the Chocteaux, received a concession or allotment of land on the Bayou Boeuf, from the proper officer of the Spanish Government, where they were established, and continued to reside for many years. About twenty-one or two years ago, the Chocteaux, desirous of settling the Pascagoula and Belluxi Indians near them, gave up a portion of their lands to them upon which they were established, by the agent of Indian affairs, which was approved by the Baron de Carondelet.

Miller and Fulton, under whom the petitioners claim, enjoyed for some years previous to the change of Government, an exclusive privilege of trading with the Indians in that quarter, and were in the habit of making them considerable advances in merchandise. In the month of May, one thousand eight hundred and two, the Indians, moved by several causes, but principally with a view to discharge these debts, as well as the debts which they had contracted with other persons, and to obtain additional supplies of goods, obtained the consent of Don Valentine Layssard, the agent of Indian affairs, and the sub-delegate of the intendant, to dispose of their lands. On the 14th day of May, 1802, the Chocteaux Indians made a sale of their land from the marked boundary, near the Bayou Clear, down to the upper boundary of the Pascagoulas. This sale is signed by the chiefs and warriors of the tribe, attested by several witnesses, done by the commandant of the post, and ratified by Don Valentine Layssard. The consideration of this sale is $3,724, to wit, $2,302 due from the Indians to the purchasers, and the sum of $1,422 paid to different persons by their order. This sale was approved by the governor general of Louisiana, in the following form: "New Orleans, 20th June, 1802, let this deed of sale be approved in all its parts. Salcedo." "Pierre Pedesclaux, notary." "Daniel Clark." On the same day, the 14th of May, 1802, the chiefs and warriors of the Pascagoula and Belluxi tribes, made a sale of their land to Miller and Fulton, from the Chocteaux line down to the domain of his Majesty, in consideration of a discharge and acquittance of their debts, and the sum of $1,500 to be paid in merchandise at cost in New Orleans. This sale is made and signed by the chiefs and warriors of the two tribes, in the presence of the witnesses, and authenticated by the Indian agent thus: "I, Don Valentine Layssard, certify that the above named chiefs and warriors have granted this sale to Messrs. Miller and Fulton, of their free will, and in the best requisite form, and the interpreters not knowing how to write, have made their marks in the presence of my assisting witnesses." This sale was transmitted to the governor general for his sanction, which was given in the following words: "I approve the preceding sale being made in due form, and made before the commandant, Don Valentine Layssard, by whom it appears to have been authorized and sanctioned, due faith and credit being due to it in court and out of it, and that it may so appear, I sign it in New Orleans, the 19th July, 1802. Manuel Salcedo." "Andre Lopez Armisto (then secretary to the Government.) Pierre Pedesclaux, notary." The surveyor general issued the following order of survey: "I give special power to Mr. Samuel Levi Wells to proceed as my representative, and in my name, to the surveying of a tract of land sold by the Chocteaux nation to Messrs. Miller and Fulton, in conformity with the deed passed before the commandant, Don Valentine Layssard, dated 14th May, 1802, and ratified by the governor general in date the 20th of June, of the same year, &c." 12th October, 1803. A plat of survey was returned in the year 1804. The signatures to the above acts were satisfactorily proven to the Commissioners. It appears by the evidence, that the accounts of the Indians were liquidated and settled by the Indian agent; that the other sums of money to be paid to other persons, were duly paid, and that the merchandise was delivered them agreeable to the contract. It has been given in the evidence, that lands in the province of Louisiana, during the Spanish Government, had little value; and it was the policy of the Government to give them to every applicant; that the price paid was higher than other lands could have been had for that were better situated; and that the principal reason for making this purchase, was, to secure the amount of the debts due by the Indians. This claim was entered with the Board of Commissioners in the year 1805, with all the sales and the acts of approval, which, together with the evidence, have been reported, and are now before the committee, to which reference may be had. The Commissioners conclude their opinion on this claim in these words: "The ratification of these sales by the governor of the province, anterior to the change of Government, as established by the documents

Nos. 2 and 3, is sufficient, in the opinion of the Commissioners, to give validity to the claim. Their greatest doubt is respecting the quantity of land. They are induced to recommend a confirmation of forty arpens in depth on each side of the bayou, because it will be found to comport with the general usages of the Spanish Government, in cases where occupants resided on one side of a bayou, and cultivated on the opposite side, as seems to have been the case in the claim under consideration. They would also limit the front above, by the marked boundary near the Bayou Clear, and below by the lower line, marked by Mr. Wells, the surveyor, because it has not been satisfactorily established as contended by the complainants, that the Indians had a right to the land, and did sell their claim down to the upper boundary of the Alabama lands. This would reduce the claim to about 23,400 arpens, equal to 19,800 American acres." Your committee have had before them sundry depositions, the object of which was, to prove that the lower boundary was the Bayou Sansfacon, which is twenty or thirty arpens front, higher up than the marked boundary recommended to be confirmed by the Commissioners, and which would reduce the claim about 2,000 arpens. They have weighed all the evidence and circumstances before them, and report a bill.

14th Congress. **No. 251.** 2d Session.

DIVISION OF QUARTER SECTIONS OF LAND.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE FEBRUARY 3, 1817.

General Land Office, *3d Feb.* 1817.

Sir: I beg leave, very respectfully, to offer some observations on the bill before the Senate, "providing for the division of certain quarter sections in future sales of public lands," and to transmit to you a copy of a letter written by Mr. Mansfield, surveyor general, when a similar bill was before Congress in the year 1812.

If quarter sections are divided all the good land will frequently be on one side of the divisional line; the consequence will be, that the good land will be purchased, and the remainder will serve the purchaser as a wood lot for perhaps half a century.

Probably so soon as this law has passed capitalists will send explorers upon the lands, and, on the first of September next, purchase all the half quarters that are good land. By paying the first instalment they will have five years (without any further advance of capital) to *spunge* upon poor emigrants.

If quarter sections are divided, the trouble to the district land officers, to the clerks in this office, the expense of books, first certificates, final certificates, and patents, will be the same upon 80 acres of land as at present attends the sale of 640 acres.

I presume the object of the committee is to accommodate poor persons: I am apprehensive that no accommodation will be produced, but on the contrary they will become the prey of speculators. At present a man who has $80 can have from the public a farm of 160 acres for five years; if he cannot then pay the balance, he has not paid a heavy rent; if he has improved his farm, and it sells for more than is due to the United States, he receives the surplus money; if he has not improved it so much as to make it sell, it reverts to the United States, and he may for $80 take it for five years longer.

I trust, sir, that my anxiety for the poorer class of citizens, and for the productiveness of the public lands to the Treasury, will be a sufficient apology for obtruding those observations upon you and the committee. Whatever weight my observations have, the remarks of the surveyor general have more.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

JOSIAH MEIGS.

Hon. Jer'h Morrow,
Chairman of the Land Committee, Senate U. S.

Cincinnati, *March* 16, 1812.

Sir: I have seen a report of the committee of the Senate of the United States, respecting alterations of the present landed system. My sentiments, as I conceived it my duty, have been communicated long before this to you on the principal topics of that report. The object of this letter is merely to advert to that part of the report which says, "that the exterior lines being surveyed or established, the expense of surveying an interior line to each tract would be *inconsiderable*."

Now, the exterior lines of quarter sections are no where established at public expense. In the new surveys (in Indiana Territory, &c.,) quarter section *corners* are established on all the lines, but the exterior *lines* of quarter sections are not established; whence it will follow that, even here, where the division into half sections can be made with the least trouble, that the lines for the quarter sections must be run before those of half sections be attempted, and both together will amount to *four miles of surveying for each section, or to twice the quantity of surveying which has been already executed, or for a township to one hundred and forty-four miles.* In the old surveys, where two quarter section corners only have been marked, the surveying will amount to six miles per section, &c.

It is manifest that, if it be intended to prepare all the lands of the United States which remain unsold, by subdivisions into half quarter sections, by surveying them at public expense, very great appropriations, more than all hitherto made for surveying, will be necessary; but if it be intended that the district surveyors perform the work at the expense of individuals, a great difficulty will arise respecting *their fees*, a difficulty which already exists in degree as to those of quarter section surveys. If a single half quarter in a section be sold, and it be required by the land officers that the contents and boundaries be established by the district surveyor, before the purchaser is entitled to a final certificate, from *sixteen to twenty-four dollars must be paid to the surveyor*, (otherwise he must be supposed to do this service without compensation,) by a *purchaser of a single half quarter*. It is certain that the surveys ought to be made, whatever the expense and difficulty may be, before the sales are actually completed, as any other system would be productive of the greatest evils to individuals, not so much from the variation of contents, as of the boundaries. While these are indetermined, the advantages of springs, streams, or a favorable and inviting situation, which lie near the boundaries not ascertained, scarcely ever fail to induce the ignorant and presumptuous purchaser to consider them as his own, and he commences his improvements with those impressions. By and by, when the true division is made, a part, or perhaps the whole of his most valuable improvements are taken from him and assigned to another, or declared to belong to the United States. Such has been the case in many instances which have come to my knowledge, and the sufferers, though such merely in consequence of their own acts, complain loudly of injustice, and cannot be convinced that the Government have it not in their power to relieve them. Many applications have been made to me for relief from the evils produced by establishing the *real* and *true* lines of the subdivided tracts. There could be no such evils, if purchasers had not foolishly assumed a position for their lands which their own inclination, or a reliance on their own judgments, had directed. If the lines be not actually run and marked, they might indeed have reason to complain that they must be under the necessity of relying on their own discretion and judgment.

I thought it necessary to advert to the mistake of the report respecting the expense of surveying half quarter sections. This might be considered as incumbent on me from my official situation.

I am, with the highest respect,
Your obedient humble servant,

JARED MANSFIELD.

Hon. Albert Gallatin,
Secretary of the Treasury.

14th Congress. **No. 252.** 2d Session.

INDIAN GRANT IN LOUISIANA, CONFIRMED.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 10, 1817.

Mr. Robertson made the following report:

The Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the claim of Joseph Gillard, have had the same under consideration, and report:

That Joseph Gillard claims a tract of land by virtue of an Indian sale and confirmation by the governor of the province of Louisiana.

It appears that the land had been allotted to the Indians by an act signed Joseph De La Pena, then Commandant of Natchitoches, the 12th September, 1787, which was formally approved by two successive governors, to wit: Governor Miro, without date, and of the governor general, the Baron de Carondelet, in these words, "in virtue of the powers vested in me by his Majesty, I confirm this present concession, New Orleans, 15th June, 1792." On the 9th of April, 1795, a sale of the said land was made to Colin Lacom, and duly approved by the governor, the Baron Carondelet, who had, on the 9th of March previous, written to the Indian agent to engage the Indians to remove to another place, and to give them more considerable annual presents. All these documents, and the evidence taken in the claim, are on file, and may be referred to. The Commissioners who investigated the title, and ascertained the boundaries, have recommended for confirmation nine thousand three hundred American acres.

Your committee having attentively examined the title of Joseph Gillard, are of opinion that it is a legal and valid title, according to the laws and usages of the Spanish Government, and recommend the same for confirmation for the quantity of nine thousand three hundred acres, and report a bill.

14th Congress. **No. 253.** 2d Session.

RECOGNITION OF THE CLAIM OF THE MARQUIS DE MAISON ROUGE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 10, 1817.

Mr. Robertson made the following report:

The Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Chew and Relf, owners and representatives of the owners of the claim of the Marquis de Maison Rouge, on the Ouachitta river, State of Louisiana, have had the same under consideration, and report as follows:

The Marquis de Maison Rouge obtained, in consequence of a contract with the Governor of Louisiana, dated 17th of March, 1795, which was duly approved by the King of Spain, the 14th of July, 1795, a title to a tract of land of which the following is a copy:

"The Baron de Carondelet, knight of the order of St. John, marshal de camp of the royal armies, governor general, vice patron of the provinces of Louisiana and West Florida, inspector, &c. For as much as the Marquis de Maison Rouge is near completing the establishment of the Ouachitta (Washita) which he was authorized to make for thirty families, by the royal order of July, 1795, and desirous to remove, for the future, all doubt respecting other families or colonists who may come to establish themselves:"

We destine and appropriate, exclusively, for the establishment of the aforesaid Marquis de Maison Rouge, by virtue of the powers granted to us by the King, the thirty superficial leagues marked in the plan annexed to this instrument, with the limits and boundaries designated, with our approbation, by the surveyor general, Don Carlos Trudeau, under the terms stipulated and contracted for by the said Marquis de Maison Rouge; and, that it may at all times stand good, we give the present, signed with our hand, sealed with our seal at arms, and countersigned by the underwritten honorary commissary at war, and secretary for his Majesty for this commandancy general. New Orleans, 20th June, 1797.

THE BARON DE CARONDELET.
ANDRE LOPES ARMISTO.

Note. That, in conformity with his contract, the Marquis de Maison Rouge is not to admit or establish any American on the land included in this *grant*.

THE BARON DE CARONDELET.

The committee, having duly examined the above title, are of opinion that it is a legal and formal title according to the laws and usages of the province of Louisiana, and that the same ought to be confirmed, and report a bill.

14th Congress. **No. 254.** 2d Session.

CLAIM OF GEORGIA FOR THE CESSION OF THE YAZOO COUNTRY.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 11, 1817.

Mr. Hall, from the committee to whom was referred the message of the President of the United States of the 6th instant, calling the attention of Congress to the interference of an act passed on the 31st of March, 1814, providing for the indemnification of certain claimants of public lands in the Mississippi Territory, with the rights and interest of the State of Georgia, reported:

That, by the articles of agreement and cession entered into on the 24th day of April, 1802, between the State of Georgia and the United States, the State of Georgia cedes to the United States all the right, title, and claim which the said State has to the jurisdiction and soil of the lands situated within the boundaries of the United States south of the State of Tennessee, with the extent and limits therein mentioned, upon the following express conditions, and subject thereto; that is to say,—That, out of the *first* net proceeds of the sales of the lands thus ceded, which net proceeds shall be estimated by deducting from the gross amount of sales the expense incurred in surveying, and incident to the sale, the United States shall pay, at their Treasury, one million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars to the State of Georgia. A provision in the same instrument authorizes the United States to appropriate five millions of

acres, or the proceeds thereof, to satisfy, quiet, or compensating for any claims other than those before recognized, in such manner as *not to interfere* with the above mentioned *payment* to the State of Georgia. The 4th section of the act of the 31st of March, 1814, provides that the stock, or certificates to be issued under the authority thereof, shall be receivable in payment of the public lands in the Mississippi Territory after the date of such certificate. This section your committee conceive, if carried into full operation, would be a departure from the compact entered into with the State of Georgia, and a violation of her rights and interest secured by the articles of agreement and cession. In order, therefore, that justice may be done, and the faith of the United States remain unimpaired, your committee recommend that provision be made by law for paying to the State of Georgia the amount in money which may be received by the United States in stock for lands sold in the Mississippi Territory, until the balance now due that State shall be discharged, and ask leave to report a bill for that purpose.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

On comparing the 4th section of the act of Congress passed March 31, 1814, providing for the indemnification of certain claimants of public lands in the Mississippi Territory, with the article of agreement and cession between the United States and State of Georgia, bearing date April 30, 1802, it appears that the engagements entered into with the claimants interfere with the rights and interests secured to that State. I recommend to Congress that provision be made, by law, for payments to the State of Georgia, equal to the amount of Mississippi stock which shall be paid into the Treasury, until the stipulated sum of 1,250,000 dollars shall be completed.

JAMES MADISON.

February 6, 1817.

[The following papers, on the same subject, were subsequently laid before the Senate by the Chairman of the Committee on Public Lands:]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
February 13th, 1817.

SIR: In answer to the inquiry contained in your letter of the 11th instant, I have the honor to state—

1st. That there has been paid to the State of Georgia, out of the moneys arising from the sale of the public lands in the Mississippi Territory, the sum of $313,441 33 cents, as per statement A, from the register's office, herewith enclosed.

2d. That the sum remaining in the Treasury of the State of Georgia of the money deposited by the Yazoo purchasers, and amounting, according to the report of the Commissioners of the Uuited States, bearing date November, 1804, to $189,304 85⅓, has not been carried to the credit of the United States. The fifth section providing for the indemnification of certain claimants of public lands in the Mississippi Territory, directs the Commissioners to pay over the money referred to to the State of Georgia in part payment of the one million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, after sufficient releases from the claimants to the United States shall be lodged in the office of Secretary of State. This payment has not been made, and the money remains in the State treasury, equally useless to the State of Georgia and to the United States. It is believed that most of the claimants have complied with the provisions of the law in question, and that this money might now, with great propriety, be transferred to the State.

3d. By the returns made to this Department, and the report of the persons appointed to examine the books of the receivers of public moneys in the Mississippi Territory, it appears that there has been received about one hundred thousand dollars of Mississippi stock.

On the first day of October, 1815, the whole amount of money due for lands in the Mississippi Territory is ascertained to have been six hundred and forty-three thousand four hundred and forty-eight dollars seventy-four cents and one half. As the Mississippi stock was issued principally in the months of July and August of that year a small portion of the amount above stated may be discharged in that stock.

The papers marked B shows the receipts from the public lands in that Territory from the 30th September, 1815, to the 30th November, 1816, to amount to $464,850 28; which, after deducting the amount of Mississippi stock received, may be stated in round numbers at $350,000. As the expenses of surveying and of sale are to be deducted, this sum will be subject to a further reduction, so that the amount now payable to the State cannot be safely estimated at more than $300,000. This sum, added to that which has been already paid, and to the amount now in the treasury of Georgia, form together the sum of $802,746 18 1-3; which, being deducted from $1,250,000, leaves $447,253 81 2-3 yet to be paid to Georgia. Of the sum due on the 30th September, 1815, and receivable into the Treasury in cash, to the exclusion of Mississippi stock, it is not probable that more than $150,000 will be paid during the present year, whilst the amount of Mississippi stock will probably exceed one million of dollars. An appropriation of $300,000 or of $350,000, payable as the stock shall be received, will probably be sufficient to carry into effect the recommendation of the President.

I have the honor to be, your most obedient and very humble servant,

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

JEREMIAH MORROW, Esq.

A.

DR. *The State of Georgia in account with the United States, in relation to the Mississippi lands.* CR.

Jan. 25, 1811. To account of Specie Claims: For this sum, being the amount of 4,000 muskets, with bayonets, cartouch-boxes and belts, delivered by the superintendent of military stores at Philadelphia, to William Robertson, agent for said State, per his receipt of 3d May, 1808, including charges of package, per report No. 23,609, - -	$46,332 70	By act entitled "An act regulating the grants of land, and providing for the disposal of the lands of the United States south of the State of Tennessee;" section 16,* - - - -	$1,250,000
To Treasury Warrants: For the following, in favor of William W. Bibb & Bolling Hall, agents, &c.,			
No. 6,821, dated 12th January, 1814,	80,696 02		
No. 7,160, dated 13th April, 1814, -	15,526 92		
No. 9,253, dated 30th Septe'r., 1815, in favor of P. Early, - - -	170,885 69		

NOTE.—The first issues of Mississippi stock certificates is dated 3d July, 1815.

JOSEPH NOURSE, *Register.*

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, REGISTER'S OFFICE, *February* 12, 1817.

* Warrants for the entry in the Treasury books is yet to be issued.

B.

Summary of moneys and stock received in the Mississippi Territory for sales of public lands from 1st October, 1815, to 13th February, 1817, so far as returns have been received at the Treasury from the receivers of public moneys.

District of Washington.—Parke Walton, Receiver.

Date of return.		*Cash.*	*Stock.*
1815, October 31,	-	34,013 79	
November 30,	-	30,416 08	
December 31,	-	36,125 79	
1816, January 31,	-	27,284 96	
February 29,	-	21,736 98	
March 31,	-	13,832 64	
April 30,	-	6,289 18	150
May 31,	-	6,170 24	175
June 30,	-	10,111 38	2,872
July 31,	-	3,807 51	8,999
August 31,	-	2,601 24	9,541
September 30,	-	4,131 74	5,175
October 31,		9,626 03	12,150
November 30,		8,553 42	12,425
		214,700 98	51,487

District of Fort St. Stephens.—Samuel Smith, Receiver.

Date of return.		*Cash.*	*Stock.*
1815, October 31,	-	420 72	
November 30,	-	8,153 87	
December 31,	-	25,734 10	
1816, January 31,	-	16,595 97	
February 29,	-	12,876 77	
March 31,	-	12,729 27	
April 30,	-	5,804 10	
May 31,		5,151 67	
June 30,		7,183 26	
July 31,		4,566 33	
August 31,	-	7,049 21	
September 30,	-	16,131 05	
October 31,		13,864 05	
November 30,	-	7,789 84	
		144,050 21	

District of Huntsville.—John Brahan, Receiver.

Date of return.		*Cash.*	*Stock.*
1815, December 31,	-	11,512 32	
1816, March 31,	-	18,635 09	
June 30,	-	19,527 53	
September 30,	-	12,965 57	
		62,640 51	

RECAPITULATION.

	Cash.	*Stock.*
Washington, M. T.—Parke Walton, Receiver, -	206,147 56	51,487
Fort St. Stephens.—Samuel Smith, Receiver, -	*144,050 21	
Huntsville, M. T.—John Brahan, Receiver, -	†62,640 51	525
Total, -	412,838 28	52,012

Cash, - - - - -	412,838 28
Mississippi stock, - - -	52,012
	$464,850 28

* By the report of the examiner, it appears that this receiver has upwards of forty thousand dollars of stock, although his returns do not show it.

† This receiver has also received stock to some amount, as has been discovered by the report of the examiner. The whole amount may be set down at one hundred thousand dollars.

14th Congress. No. 255. 2d Session.

RECOGNITION OF A FRENCH GRANT IN ILLINOIS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 18, 1817.

Mr. Sharp made the following report:

The Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the petition of Madam Renaut Maynoud de Pancement, heiress of Philip Renaut, and of her husband Jean Baptiste Francois Maynoud de Pancement, by their agent, Philip Merceir, have had the subject under consideration, and beg leave to report:

That, in the year 1717, the King of France granted to the company of the "west" all the country watered by the Mississippi, under the name of Louisiana; that, in the year 1723, the agent of the company and the officer of the crown granted, in free allodial tenure, to the said Philip Renaut "one league in front at the Pemeteau village, on the river of the Illinois, looking to the east, and bounding on the lake which bears the same name as the village, and on the other side by the bluffs opposite the village, a half a league above by five leagues in depth, the point of the compass following the river of the Illinois down the same upon one side, and ascending by the river Arcoury, which forms the middle through the rest of the depth." The committee are fully satisfied that the grant to Renaut is genuine, and made by competent authority. It is not thought necessary to trace Renaut and his heirs to this period. The company of the west failed in 1730, and, in the following year, the country was re-annexed to the crown of France, without prejudice to grants made in the mean time by the company. Other land was granted in 1723 to Renaut by the same authority, which he disposed of about twenty years thereafter.

In 1763 that part of Louisiana east of the Mississippi, and north of the 33d degree of north latitude, passed under the dominion of Great Britain, and, by the treaty of 1783, was acquired by the United States.

By the act of Congress of the 26th of March, 1804, any person claiming land "by virtue of any legal grant made by the French Government prior to the treaty of Paris of the 10th of February, 1763, is authorized to file with the register of the land office of the district a notice of his claim." By this act full power is given to the register and receiver of public moneys to determine, according to justice and equity, upon all claims that shall be so filed. Under this act the representatives of Renaut exhibited to the register and receiver this claim: a special report was made by them on this claim on the 24th of February, 1810, in which they detailed the facts, but declined giving a decision. Mr. Gallatin, then Secretary of the Treasury, addressed a letter to them, requiring them to make up a decision. In answer they express doubts of their power at that time to act, but they say if we have such power we declare our opinions to be in favor of the claim. Their letter is not to be found, but its existence is positively proven by the honorable Jeremiah Morrow and Samuel McKee, who were formerly members of the Committee on Public Lands.

Upon the whole, the members of the committee are unanimously of opinion that the claim ought to be confirmed, and report a bill for that purpose.

15th Congress. No. 256. 1st Session.

CLAIMS TO LAND IN TENNESSEE, UNDER GRANTS FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE DECEMBER 16, 1817.

To the Honorable the Congress of the United States:

The General Assembly of the State of Tennessee would be unmindful of one of the first duties which they owe not only to the State, but to many individuals whose interest they represent, should they omit to bring to your recollection the subject upon which they cannot but feel great solicitude. In the year 1783, while the State of North Carolina was a sovereign and independent State, when she had an acknowledged right to make what disposition she deemed most proper of any vacant land within her limits, and while Tennessee was a part of that State, she passed "an act for opening the land office for the redemption of specie and other certificates, and discharging the arrears due the army;" and in and by the provisions of that act offered for sale a large quantity of her western lands at the price of ten pounds per hundred acres. Shortly afterwards many of her citizens, as they were well authorized to do, repaired to the office thus opened, made entries of land, and paid the consideration money required of them for the quantities by them respectively purchased.

That State, through the agency of her officers, procured to have surveys made and grants issued to many of these individuals, as by her laws she had promised. Upon some of those entries no surveys have ever yet been made or patents issued.

Had the citizens who made these purchases chose immediately afterwards to have taken possession of their respective tracts, no power could have made any legal objection thereto. The State of North Carolina afterwards, by her act of cession, in the year 1789, and her deed in pursuance thereof, granted to the United States all her lands which lay within the limits of what is now the State of Tennessee, but to this grant she attached several conditions, among which is one saving the right which individuals had acquired to lands under her authority.

In the Constitution of the United States it is expressly provided that private property shall not be taken for public purposes without making just compensation therefor.

Although individuals had made purchases, paid the consideration money, and many of them had procured grants, the highest evidence of title, and others were entitled to grants upon their entries: yet the United States, after those rights had been thus acquired, made treaties with that tribe of Indians called Chickasaws, by virtue of which they have guarantied to them the possession and enjoyment of large quantities of those lands which now lie within the limits of this State, and have, as far as their statutory provisions can make it so, rendered it unlawful for those individuals to occupy or even to visit their lands.

Of those treaties and statutes, this General Assembly believe they have much cause to complain. By virtue of them, as well their citizens as those of North Carolina, have long been prohibited from the use and occupation of land for which they had paid an adequate consideration from thirty to forty years ago, and this without any thing like compensation having been either made or offered, at the same time that this prohibition is in force, of a people who have not either a hut or a habitation upon lands within the limits of this State. The consequences of these regulations are most injurious to the State of Tennessee; she is by them deprived of that strength and influence to which her limits entitle her, and of those resources and improvements which settlements upon these lands would naturally afford.

But if these regulations have been and are injurious to the State, the evils have not stopped here. They have, without doubt, heretofore been in a great degree, and if these restrictions are not speedily removed, must soon be entirely destructive of most if not all those private rights so fairly acquired.

Time must soon (if it has not already done so) so deface or obliterate the marks by which claims can either be identified or the boundaries ascertained, that, although our citizens may have the highest evidence of title with which men can be furnished to the enjoyment of landed property, yet because they have been deprived of the possession of this property, they will be forever unable to ascertain the spot covered by those evidences.

This General Assembly have too much confidence in the justice of your honorable body to believe that you will suffer this state of things much longer to continue. They must therefore respectfully, but earnestly urge that such steps may be taken as will remove those obstructions which the treaties and acts of Congress have thrown in the way of the possession and occupation of these lands purchased by individuals under the laws of the State of North Carolina.

THOMAS WILLIAMSON,
Speaker of the House of Reps.
EDWARD WARD,
Speaker of the Senate.

November 25, 1817.

15th Congress. No. 257. 1st Session.

LAND TITLES IN FLORIDA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE DECEMBER 19, 1817.

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled:

The memorial of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana:

Your memorialists beg leave to address you on a subject of great importance to the interests and happiness of a portion of their constituents—the situation of the land titles in Florida; and to pray from your honorable body the enactment of such laws upon the subject as justice and sound policy may dictate.

With regard to the land titles of that portion of our State, they are of a nature so peculiar to themselves, and they have been created by a state of things in relation to the different governments of that country so extraordinary and unexampled, that no right understanding can be attained with regard to them without taking a retrospect of its history, of the different nations who have owned it, the period of time they remained in possession, and the conduct and policy of each as it regarded the settlement of the country, and the disposal of the public lands.

The following concise, but it is believed correct view, is submitted to Congress.

At an early period France possessed and exercised sovereignty over Florida, as far east from the Mississippi as the river Perdido. While in possession of that country, her first and continued policy was to accomplish its settlement. For this purpose land was granted freely to individuals, and on the most easy conditions. From every information which can be acquired on the subject, it appears that this Government endeavored, by every possible inducement, to establish a population in that part of her American provinces. Encouragement, therefore, of the most liberal kind was given to settlers, agreeably to this policy, during the possession of France, up to 1763.

At this last mentioned epoch, France, by treaty, transfers to Great Britain the sovereignty of the country, and the policy of that government while in possession of it seems to have been little different from that which governed its first owners. Although the form and mode of obtaining titles for land may have been in some measure different, the same feelings and same necessity produced the same results; and grants for different quantities of land were liberally conceded. In effect, without such a policy that country could have been of little or no value to either of the before mentioned powers. Settlement alone could give to the colony security, permanency, or value; and without great inducements from the mother country, men could not be expected to establish themselves in a remote province, whose advantages were as

yet merely speculative, where the proximity of Indian nations rendered their lives and properties insecure, and where the apprehension of a deleterious and unhealthy climate all tended to check and repulse that emigration which might have flowed into it under more favorable auspices.

During the wars of the American revolution, the Government of Spain fitted out an expedition against West Florida, and conquered the whole of the province, together with the establishment of Natchez, Baton Rouge, and Mobile.

Your memorialists feel that it is scarcely necessary for them to state to your honorable body the kind and beneficent policy which the Spanish Government pursued with regard to her public lands in that province. Ample evidence of her generous conduct in that respect has been furnished by the land titles of Louisiana; and Congress have given their assent to that evidence, and their conviction of the extent of the liberality of the former sovereign, by the various acts passed in relation to the land titles of the former Territory Orleans. But your memorialists cannot refrain from observing that, to every motive which induced Spain to grant freely her lands in that part of her possessions, there was superadded, with respect to Florida, the necessity of making it a barrier between them and the surrounding neighbors. On the western side Louisiana was bounded by Spanish provinces, and contained within it but small tribes of Indians, whose submission was ascertained, and their fidelity assured; on the eastern, however, a quite different state of things existed. Hence we find a more than usual degree of liberal policy pursued with regard to her public lands in that section of country, and temptations of every kind held out to settlers. It is true that, in some instances, the lands were sold, but more generally they were granted as pure donations, which exhibit themselves in complete grants, warrants, orders of survey, and settlement rights.

From this short retrospect, it will be seen under every successive Government that has had dominion in West Florida, the same policy, with little variation, has been pursued, the same anxiety to people the province, the same liberality in conceding lands, the same indulgent spirit from the government to those who settled or acquired property under it, has marked them all. French, British, and Spanish, up to the moment when the United States took possession, and it now remains for the National Government to decide whether this policy, so invariably pursued, will receive its sanction or not; whether the inhabitants of that country who rejoiced at the event that placed them under the American Government, and hailed the approach of its public functionaries as their deliverers and friends, shall find, in place of protection of already acquired rights, and security for future ones, a system introduced which shakes both to the foundation, and refuses them the enjoyment of that which *even* a monarch bestowed on them.

But your memorialists beg leave to represent to your honorable body that, in their opinion, the giving effect to the policy of the former Government of Florida with regard to land titles, is no longer a question of expediency with the United States: *it is one of strict justice*, flowing from the principles of good faith, and depending on the solemn stipulation of treaty. If Florida is considered as making a part of Louisiana, and as such transferred to the United States by the treaty with France, (and your memorialists know of no other title by which the American Government claims it,) that treaty secures to the people residing in it, among other things, the full enjoyment of their property. To ascertain what that property is, as it respects lands, recourse must be had not to any rules which may now be arbitrarily established, but to those which formed the principles by which the Spanish Government was regulated. To every tract of soil, therefore, that is now claimed in that country, which, according to the laws, usages, and customs existing and in force there while Spain was in possession, the claimant would have had a good title, your memorialists think an undoubted right now exists.

This construction of the treaty by which the United States hold this country, is perfectly consonant with reason and justice, and has already the sanction of precedent to support it—a precedent established by no less authority than Congress, who, in the various acts passed in relation to the land titles in the former territory of Orleans, have uniformly taken this as the basis of every legislative provision they have passed on the subject, and in conformity to which they have confirmed every claim and title which was good under the former Government, or which would have been considered good by that Government, had it still remained in possession of the colony.

Your memorialists ask for their constituents the enactment of the same wise and beneficent regulations which have already produced such happy effect in the other portion of the State of Louisiana. There is nothing in the character of the inhabitants of that division which does not entitle them to the same favor; the treaty by which the United States hold both is the same, and your memorialists trust that the same even-handed justice will be extended to each.

Your memorialists submit the following statement of the various claims which exist for land in Florida, and which they respectfully conceive Congress should confirm:

1. The patent or complete grant from the Spanish Government; also, British and French patents, when accompanied with a Spanish confirmation, and bearing date anterior to the change of sovereignty in 1813, where no evidence of fraud exists; provided, however, that no such confirmation is required to be made to the prejudice of an actual settlement made previous to the actual survey or location of such title.

2. All incomplete titles bearing date previous to the change of sovereignty in 1813, where actual survey or settlement has been made on the same, to the extent of one league square. No more than one claim of this description is required to be confirmed to any one individual, unless they can show they are the representatives of another; and no confirmation of this description is requested to the prejudice of an actual settlement formed previous to the survey of such incomplete title.

3. Claims held under a settlement right within the limits of a mile square, and inhabited and cultivated anterior to the change of possession in 1813, and a right of preference in favor of such as may have settled since possession, up to the date of the law which Congress may pass regulating land titles in that country; that those settlers who have since settled may be enabled to purchase their improvements without competition from others bidding on their labor.

On these claims your memorialists do not feel it necessary to trouble your honorable body at length, as all of the same description have been confirmed in the old Territory of Orleans. If the mass of incomplete titles form a large portion of the claims, Congress in their wisdom cannot fail to ascribe it to the true cause, the negligence of the settlers. Where men enjoyed all the advantages under an order of survey or requete, or settlement right which they had under a complete grant, it is not extraordinary if they took no pains to clothe the title with forms; and that, too, more especially when living under a government where little or no attention was paid to these things, and where great indulgence in this respect on one hand was repaid by unbounded confidence on the other.

But your memorialists, in presenting the claims of their fellow citizens, and in asking for them nothing more than they conceive strict justice requires, would fail to discharge their duty if they did not express to your honorable body their great anxiety and alarm at a bill introduced into the Senate of the United States, at the last session of Congress, entitled "An act for adjusting the claims to land, and establishing a land office for the district of lands lying east of the Mississippi river and island of Orleans." The first section of that bill provides, among other things, that all British grants, which were valid agreeable to the laws, usages, and customs of that Government, shall be valid, and are recognized as complete titles against the United States, or against any title derived from the United States. Your memorialists beg leave to call the attention of Congress to the provisions of the treaty of 1783, between Great Britain and Spain, wherein the right of Spain is acknowledged to Florida. In that treaty it is provided that Spain shall allow, to such as do not choose to take the oath of allegiance, and become the subjects of Spain, a certain time to dispose of their property, and leave the country. In obedience to this treaty, the Spanish Government issued a proclamation requiring the inhabitants to come forward, and enregister their claims, and, such as choose to reside in the country, to take the oath of allegiance, and receive a Spanish patent for the amount claimed in the original British concession, while those who did not intend to become subjects, were advised, in the proclamation, of the time they were allowed in the treaty to dispose of their lands.

In a subsequent proclamation a prolongation of the time specified in the first was given, in which it was declared that those who did not, within the time then stated, comply with the conditions of the proclamation, should for ever forfeit their claim to such lands, and that the same would be annexed to the royal domain. The British proprietors, by moving off in mass, yielded their assent to it. The land thus re-annexed to the domain, has since been granted out to different individuals, or is now held by settlement right under the Spanish Government, and it would produce the most disastrous consequences to the inhabitants of that portion of country, if a mass of titles which, for such a length of time, have been regarded as obsolete and extinct, should now be recalled into vigor by any law of the United States. The injury which is apprehended from Congress acknowledging this description of claims as good against

the United States, is not confined to the injury it inflicts on all those claiming by donation from the United States and conflicting with the British claims—some of which are settlements made by permission of the Spanish Government, and peaceably possessed for more than twenty years—but, armed with such an acknowledgment, it is apprehended they might successfully contend with an incomplete Spanish grant subsequently acquired, although predicated on the forfeiture of such British grant under the Spanish Government, which, your memorialists are well persuaded, Congress never can intend. But your memorialists conceive, as they have once been rendered null by the former sovereign authority of that country, and as a considerable part of Florida has been settled under that conviction, that it is wholly impolitic and unwise for the Government of the United States (coming into possession of the country under Spain) to revive them; and by thus giving them additional force and authority, to render less secure those who claim the land under Spanish concessions, and who have their property, as it existed under the former Government, secured to them by the solemn stipulation of treaty.

Your memorialists have in vain sought for the cause of those distinctions, so unfriendly to the interests of Florida, which are found to exist between this bill and the laws regulating the land titles in the old territory of Orleans: whilst the period fixed on for the confirmation of complete titles in the old territory of Orleans is made the date of possession, we find the period fixed on in this bill, for the confirmation of complete titles in Florida, is not only anterior to the ratification, but even before the signing of the treaty, by which the United States profess to have acquired the country, and nearly thirteen years anterior to possession.

The distinction between incomplete titles in those two sections of the State, as established by this bill, is yet more wide and prejudicial to the interests of Florida; for, while the incomplete title in the old territory of Orleans is confirmed to the extent of one league, up to the date of possession, the incomplete title of Florida, with the same qualifications, is made to depend on a gratuitous donation confined to 1,280 acres, for nearly thirteen years previous to possession.

Your memorialists are at a loss to conceive why this period of the 1st of October, 1800, is fixed in the bill as the time beyond which an incomplete title cannot be confirmed. If Congress, in legislating on the subject, has established that epoch as one at which the right of Spain ceased to that country, and that, consequently, all her acts afterwards were invalid, although she was supposed to remain in possession, and appear to all mankind as the sovereign,—if such has been the ground of this claim in the bill, your memorialists trust they can convince your honorable body that it is as incorrect in principle, as it would be cruel and unjust in operation.

It is universally known that Spain was permitted to remain in possession of Florida for a long time subsequent to the 1st of October, 1800. Her authority was not disputed by any official act or public declaration of the United States. Laws passed, from time to time, by Congress, considered it as a foreign country. The proclamation of the Spanish Commissioners, on transferring Louisiana to the French Republic, expressly declared that this portion of country remained of right in the possession of Spain, and was not transferred to France. No public declaration of the Government of France, or of the United States, contradicted this for a long time subsequent, and if, as it were to establish the idea of the right of Spain, the Government of the Union paid duties on public goods in American vessels passing the Mobile.

From these facts, and the state of things growing out of them, there was no person that was not justified in believing that Spain was the true owner of West Florida. The real limits of the country acquired by the United States by the treaty of Ildefonso, are not publicly ascertained to this day; it is possible that this portion made a part of Louisiana, and ought to have been transferred with the rest to the United States; but how could the world know this, when the American Government did, to all appearance, acquiesce in the boundaries established by Spain? or how, at least, could the Spanish subjects know that their Government which, under such circumstances, was suffered to remain in possession of the country, had no right to the same? There is a maxim of public law pervading the system of every civilized country on earth, which makes a distinction between the acts of government de *facto* and de *jure*, which recognizes the authority of the first, and refuses it to the latter. Your memorialists ask the application of it here on behalf of their constituents, and, if it is refused them, then they beg leave to say that every act done by Spain in that country, since the treaty of Ildefonso, is null—all her fiscal, all her judicial acts are void; and, by the magic of secret treaty, the inhabitants must have owed allegiance to the new Government before they even received ar intimation that the sovereignty of the country was transferred.

There is scarcely any one prepared to go to this length; yet who can mark the distinction between acts of the one or the other description? between judgments given for the price of these lands in suits by individuals, and the act of the Government conceding them? between taxes regularly paid on property, and the right of the public to grant the object taxed? between the principal which makes the subject, at the peril of his life, owe allegiance to the Government which is in possession of the country where he resides, and yet prohibits him from receiving that favor and protection which is the recompense of the fidelity he is sworn to preserve?

But if any other or third party could urge, as an objection to the claimants of lands in Florida, that the Government existing there from the year 1800 up to 1813, (the time when the American nation first unequivocally asserted their right to it,) had no authority to concede the soil, surely, at least, such an argument cannot come from the United States, by whose act alone this confusion and difficulty has been created. If their right was clear, why did they not assert it? If Spain was an usurper, why did they not evict her, or, at least, publicly assert their claim? And will the National Councils of a great and magnanimous people now say, that, after leaving this country for such a length of time in the possession of another Government, they will take advantage of an error created by themselves, and punish in this way an ignorance which flows from their own act? Your memorialists trust not: the wise and generous policy which Congress has pursued with regard to the land titles of the former territory of Orleans, teach them to expect the same liberality for the other portion of the State, and to confidently hope that the claims for land in Florida, as already mentioned in this memorial, may receive the sanction of the National Government.

In legislating on this subject, it is hoped and expected that the situation of many of those who are now settled in that portion of country will not escape the attention of Congress, nor fail to call forth their liberality in their behalf. For a considerable time antecedent to the change of Government, great irregularity prevailed in the land office of Florida, an irregularity which was in no small degree heightened by its removal to Pensacola. The confusion which was the natural consequence of this state of things was so great, that, in many cases, a very erroneous knowledge existed of the land already conceded, so that, in many instances, it is apprehended settlements have been located, and improvements made on land already granted. If, therefore, it should hereafter appear that any of the actual settlers shall be evicted from the land now held by them, by reason of titles existing for the tract, it is earnestly expected that Congress will issue them a warrant for the same quantity, with liberty to locate the same on any public land within the limits of the State of Louisiana. If the former Government remained in possession of the country, there is no doubt but, on the discovery of the error, that this course would be pursued; and justice requires that the United States should imitate their example. They have taken the place of Spain, and should extend to the actual settlers, at the change of possession, every right which they enjoyed when that change took place.

Your memorialists beg leave to represent to Congress, that a number of those claiming land in Florida have not enregistered their claims with the Commissioner appointed for that purpose: some for want of a knowledge that it was required; others from the circumstance of the office of the Commissioner having been closed before they expected it; and others from absence, or being engaged in the service of the country during the dangers which threatened us previous to the close of the war. In this situation are many complete patents, and other claims of the fairest and most equitable nature. It is therefore hoped and solicited that Congress will appoint a Commissioner, authorized to receive and enregister such claims as have not been yet entered, and receive additional testimony in confirmation of claims already entered.

Thus your memorialists have endeavored to trace the situation of Florida, and to show what the interest of that section of the State requires. The many privations and sufferings that portion of the State has sustained, give them strong claims on the indulgent generosity of the General Government; and, on the justice of the Congress of the United States, your memorialists rely with the most unqualified confidence.

MGRE. GUICHARD,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
N. MERIAM,
President of the Senate.

15th Congress. **No. 258.** 1st Session.

LAND TITLES IN FLORIDA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE DECEMBER 23, 1817.

New Orleans, *January* 25, 1817.

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress convened:

Possessing the necessary and constitutional right of remonstrance, the undersigned, members of the Legislature of Louisiana from the District of Florida, are compelled, by the most imperious motives of public duty, solemly to protest against a certain memorial yesterday addressed by the said Legislature to the National Congress.

The grounds of their protest are as follows:

1st. They cannot discover any obligation, either legal or moral, on the part of the Government of the United States, to pursue the same policy, as to the confirmation of land titles in Florida, that was pursued in the old territory of Orleans, the two sections of country being, *in fact* and *in principle*, widely different.

2d. Nearly the whole mass of titles, and particularly those of the large claims existing in Florida, having originated since the treaty 1803, by no possible construction can the stipulations of that treaty have any effect in countenancing or favoring such claims.

3d. Agreeably to the strict principles of national law, connected with the solemn stipulations of treaty, we cannot conceive that any authority or power existed in the Spanish Government to sell and dispose of any part of Louisiana subsequent to the treaty of *St. Ildefonso*, (October, 1800;) and that, if the Congress of the United States have, in the disposition of claims in the Territory of Orleans, sanctioned any originating since, (October, 1800,) they must have been governed by motives of a liberal and generous nature, and not from convictions of a *positive* legal right.

4th. From the statement of facts on the face of the memorial, it would seem that the Government of the United States, as well by their conduct as solemn declarations, have acknowledged Florida to be unconnected with the purchase of Louisiana, and that they have *consequently* taken possession of it *alone* by the strong arm of power: a statement, if true, (but which the undersigned in perfect good faith do most solemnly deny,) vitally affects the interest of the people of Florida, and the honor and fair fame of the Government.

5th. It seems to be a circumstance well understood that the granting of lands in Florida, after the purchase of the country by the United States, was chiefly to the emoluments of the local functionary granting them, and that a scene of the most *illegal*, *iniquitous*, and *destructive* speculation in the vacant lands of the nation was carried on with little interruption, until the United States, finding that longer forbearance could only be productive of additional fraud and injury, took formal possession of it. This remark we believe to be applicable to most of the titles originating since 1803.

6th. The confirmation of the claims sought for by the memorial would arrest forever the population of West Florida, by securing a *monopoly* of all the valuable lands in it to a few great speculators, and in destruction of the rights of honest and valuable settlers.

7th. Although the United States suffered the local authorities of Spain to continue in possession of the country some years after its purchase, it is known to the world that it originated alone from mild, pacific, and conciliatory views, and not from any doubt or mistrust of their title. The sovereignty of Spain could only have extended to the government of her own subjects and to the regulation of her *municipal* concerns, but surely not the alienating and disposing of the vacant lands of the country that had been long before, by *plenary* authority, by *solemn* treaty, and for a fair equivalent, conveyed and disposed of.

Wherefore, for the foregoing premises and considerations, we, *seven* out of *nine* of the representatives of Florida in the Legislature of Louisiana, appealing to the integrity and good sense of the Government for the correctness of our views, as well as to the Searcher of Hearts for the purity of our motives, *do most solemnly protest* against the aforesaid memorial.

ELIJAH CLARK,
Sen. from the Par. of St. Tammany and St. Helena.
BARTLET COLLINS,
Senator from Feliciana.
WILLIAM NASH,
Representative from Baton Rouge.
WILLIAM SILLIMAN,
Representative from Feliciana.
L. H. MOORE,
Representative from St. Helena.
JAMES TURNER,
Representative from Feliciana.
JESSE R. JONES,
Representative from St. Tammany.

15th Congress. **No. 259.** 1st Session.

APPLICATION TO CHANGE MODE OF SURVEYING ISLANDS OF PUBLIC LANDS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DECEMBER 23, 1817.

Mr. Robertson made the following report:

The Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury on the subject of changing the laws regulating surveys in regard to the Islands of the Tennessee and other rivers, have had the same under consideration, and report:

That the manner of surveying the public lands, as regulated by the several acts on that subject, has heretofore answered all the purposes of individuals as well as of the Government; that it has not been complained of, to the knowledge of the committee, in its application to the islands situated in the numerous rivers of the western country; that, although it will occasionally happen, that certain islands may be cut up and divided into small fractions of sections and quarter sections, yet this inconvenience as frequently and as necessarily happens in the peninsulas and points of land formed by the sinuosities of rivers. The committee, therefore, respectfully report, that it is inexpedient, in this particular, to alter the laws regulating the surveys of the public lands.

Treasury Department,
10*th December*, 1817.

Sir: The enclosed communication from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, recommending special provision for surveying the islands in the Tennessee river, is respectfully submitted to the committee over whose deliberations you preside.

As there may be islands of considerable magnitude in other rivers flowing through the public lands, to which the provisions recommended in relation to those in the Tennessee will be equally applicable, it is respectfully suggested that the consideration of the question may lead to the adoption of general, instead of special provision, if the committee shall be of opinion that any change in the existing laws is necessary.

I have the honor to be,
Your most obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

The Hon. T. B. Robertson,
Chairman of the Committee on Public Lands.

General Land Office, 22d *November*, 1817.

Sir: I have the honor to enclose an extract from a letter, dated 24th ult., from Mr. Coffee, (surveyor general, &c.,) relative to the best mode of surveying the islands in the river Tennessee. I apprehend that the mode he has suggested cannot be adopted without authority from Congress.

I am, most respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,
JOSIAH MEIGS.

Hon. Wm. H. Crawford,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Extract of a letter dated 24th October, 1817, from J. Coffee, surveyor general, &c., to the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

I have not surveyed the islands of Tennessee river. I omitted extending the sectional lines through them, as it was discovered that it cut them in pieces, so as to destroy the value of them to purchasers, if surveyed in that way. They are generally narrow, but several miles in length. If provision could be made to survey them, where small, entire, and where large, divide them by lines crossing the island at right angles, they would sell to much better advantage. It's fair to presume that the islands will be bought by men of wealth, and owners of slaves: the fertility of the soil will induce such to cultivate them; but, owing to the unhealthy situation of the islands, the poor cannot live on them, or cultivate them: I am therefore of opinion, if they are offered in compact bodies, they will sell much higher. I will await your instructions before I touch them.

I am, &c.
JOHN COFFEE.

15th Congress. **No. 260.** 1st Session.

CLAIMS TO LAND IN TENNESSEE, UNDER GRANTS FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE DECEMBER 29, 1817.

To the Congress of the United States:

The General Assembly of the State of Tennessee begs leave to address your honorable body on the subject of the unsatisfied claims for land in this State, derived under the authority of the State of North Carolina.

In presenting to your view the wishes of the Legislature of this State, we will consider at the same time the memorial of the Legislature of North Carolina, presented to your body at the last session, relative to the same subject. [See No. 249.]

We unite with North Carolina in calling to your attention the situation of this country at the time when the respective laws of that State were passed for the sale of the western lands. To discharge the debts created during the revolutionary war, she opened an office for the sale of her lands as far as the banks of the Mississippi; and, as a reward for the services of her officers and soldiers, she issued to each person a warrant for such quantity of land as his grade entitled him to receive. These warrants were directed to be surveyed in a district set apart for that purpose. Officers were appointed to survey those lands, and different periods fixed within which the same should be completed and grants issued, which was enlarged from time to time until the year 1792. At the date of the act of cession in 1789, all the land within the State of Tennessee was subject to satisfy those different entries and warrants, except the country south of French Broad and Holston rivers, which was reserved for the use of the Cherokee Indians, by the 5th section of an act passed in the year 1783.

In the year 1789, North Carolina ceded to the United States all the vacant territory in what is now the State of Tennessee; which cession was subject to certain conditions, one of which is as follows: "And where entries have been made agreeable to law, and titles under them not perfected by grant or otherwise, then in that case the Governor for the time being shall, and he is hereby required, to perfect, from time to time, such titles in such manner as if this act had never been passed." At the time this act was passed by North Carolina, and accepted by the United States, the time limited by the laws of that State, within which all the claimants of land were required to have their surveys finished and to procure grants, expired in the year 1792; and there was no reservation in said act of cession that North Carolina might enlarge the time of making surveys and issuing grants; and it would seem as if North Carolina had no other right to perfect titles on unsatisfied claims, except such as she could exercise within the time limited by her laws, which expired in the year 1792.

The State of North Carolina, after the year 1792, discovered that, from the Indian wars and the unsettled state of the country, that but small progress had been made towards completing and returning the surveys by her officers; and, being unwilling that her citizens should lose their claims, extended the time by different acts for making and returning surveys, until about the year 1800.

In the mean time, the State of Tennessee was admitted into the Union in the year 1796, as an independent State, and her constitution was accepted by the United States. Upon the admittance of this State into the Union, and the acceptance of her constitution, no condition was imposed which would deprive her of the right to the ungranted land within her limits. Tennessee accordingly, in the year 1799, asserted her right to the ungranted land as a consequence of her possessing an independent and sovereign government. The holders of warrants issued by North Carolina she insisted had no right to survey and obtain grants for land, unless those grants had been issued within the time limited by the laws of North Carolina, when the cession from that State was made in 1789; and that the United States had ceased to possess any right to the vacant land, by not reserving her claim when Tennessee was admitted into the Union as an independent State.

In consequence of this claim, and of the laws passed on that subject, the issuance of grants was suspended by North Carolina. The State of Tennessee afterwards became desirous that the warrants issued by North Carolina should be ripened into grants, and proposed to that State that the right to perfect titles on those warrants should be transferred to her; and accordingly, in the year 1803, North Carolina passed "an act authorizing the State of Tennessee to issue grants and perfect titles to all claims of land lying in the State of Tennessee, which remained, and were, by the act of cession of 1789, reserved to be issued and perfected by North Carolina, the assent of the Congress of the United States being obtained thereto." In the year 1804, this act was ratified by the State of Tennessee, and the compact, as between the two States, was closed.

It then remained that the assent of Congress should be obtained, and accordingly, in the year 1806, the Congress of the United States passed an act entitled "An act to authorize the State of Tennessee to issue grants and perfect titles to certain lands therein described, and to settle the claims to the vacant and unappropriated lands within the same."

We represent that the said act of 1806 did not comply in extent with the wishes of this State. We would have preferred that the assent of the United States would have been given by Congress to the full extent of the compact between the two States; but that honorable body, composed in part of the Representatives and Senators from each of those States, declined at that time giving their assent, except so far as is expressed in said act of 1806.

The Indian title having been extinguished about that time to a considerable territory in this State, and there being numerous claimants under North Carolina residing in that State and Tennessee, who were anxious to procure grants; this State, in the year 1806, enacted laws to carry into effect the provisions of the act of 1803, as far as was permitted by the United States. Offices were established for entering lands and for obtaining grants. Commissioners were appointed for adjudicating the warrants. In exercising this power, the Legislature of this State authorized all the vacant land to be entered east of

the Elk river line, except the land reserved for the use of the Cherokee Indians by the act of 1783. Those offices have been kept open until this time, and all, or nearly all, of the vacant land fit for cultivation has been entered and granted. In entering and obtaining titles, the citizens of North Carolina and Tennessee have enjoyed equal advantages. There are yet remaining many warrants unsatisfied, and there is not land east and north of said line out of which to satisfy those claims. All of those warrants, as well as the entries originally located south and west of the line, were, by the laws of North Carolina, subject to be located in that section.

We further represent that the Indian title is now extinguished to a part of the country south and west of the said Elk river line, and many persons are residing on the same without any means of obtaining titles. Many other citizens of North Carolina and this State are possessed of entries and warrants for land in the same section, who are desirous of having the same perfected into grants, but are at present deprived of that privilege.

Your honorable body have been informed, by the memorial of the Legislature of North Carolina, that the right to issue grants in that section of the State is claimed by North Carolina, and has been exercised under a law by that State, passed in 1811. In pursuance of that act, a surveyor proceeded to receive warrants and make surveys, and grants were issued to citizens of this State and Carolina for about 50,000 acres of the best land south and west of that line, previous to the passage of the prohibitory act of this State, passed in the year 1812. It is believed that, on principle, as well as in good policy, it was improper for Carolina to exercise this act of sovereignty at that time, in the manner pursued under her act of 1811. By her act of 1803, she had ceded to Tennessee this right absolutely, upon the assent of Congress being obtained thereto. This State, by her act of 1804, had ratified and accepted of that authority and transfer, and held herself ready to comply so soon as the United States would give her assent. There was no time prescribed by the act of 1803, within which that assent should be given by the United States. Congress, by the act of 1806, had ratified this compact between the two States so far as to assent to the exercise of this power by Tennessee east and north of the Elk river line, without making any arrangement for issuing grants to the west and south. Tennessee appointed commissioners to examine the claims, and separate the genuine from the spurious warrants. We were enabled to do this by the record and checks furnished by North Carolina: the citizens of both States availed themselves of this regulation. Offices were opened, and grants issued for the land, as far as that line.

North Carolina and Tennessee were equally interested, that the same power should be exercised to the south and west of that line, and that the warrants should be examined to prevent spurious claims from being granted, and that the grants should be issued and recorded in this State, near the same place were the lands were situated. We have no apprehension but that, if the two States had made application to Congress, their assent would have been given that this State should perfect the remaining titles south and west, whenever it was made to appear that justice to the holders of claims required it; but without asking this State to unite in a request to that affect, or without requesting this State to permit North Carolina to reassume the power which she had vested in this State by the act of 1803, the act of 1811 was passed, and the first notice given to this State was the appearance of a surveyor to do the duties of his office. There was no process provided by that act to separate the good from the bad warrants; all could be surveyed and granted indiscriminately, which might be done to the great injury of the holders of good warrants. The exercise of that power was considered as calculated to encourage the adventurous, who was willing to hazard obtaining grants from North Carolina, while others, whose claims were equally good, would hesitate to obtain titles under a law where the question of right would be controverted and was very doubtful. Therefore, the law of 1812 was passed: the intention of this State was to prohibit the exercise of this authority until the question should be settled by the States, and to prevent the interest of individuals from being involved in that question. A complaint is also made in the same memorial against the condition of the act of 1806, authorizing Tennessee to appropriate 200,000 acres of land, for the use of colleges and academies, within the limits of the lands reserved by North Carolina to the Cherokee Indians. By examining the laws of North Carolina, it will appear that there never was any law passed by that State, either before or after the cession act, authorizing surveys to be made, or grants to issue, in that tract of country; and if any grants had been issued by her officers, the same would be void. And it is believed by us, that, by virtue of the act of 1803, passed by North Carolina, that this State was prohibited from issuing grants on warrants in the same tract. The following is a part of that act: "That no grant shall be issued by the State of Tennessee for any lands which, by the aforesaid act, (meaning the cession act of 1789,) and the laws of this State then in force, or made in pursuance thereof since the passing of said act, might not have been issued by this State; nor shall any grant be valid but those issued on bona fide claims, and within the provisions and reservations of the before recited act, and such as would have been valid if the same had been issued by this State under the act aforesaid and the laws then in force, and such as have been since made in pursuance of said act of cession." If Tennessee was prohibited from issuing grants on warrants in that tract, why should North Carolina complain of this provision in the act of 1806? It could not be any injury to the citizens of North Carolina, that the liberality of the United States should permit Tennessee to make an appropriation for the support of seminaries for the education of youth in the country where their warrants could not be granted.

The country south and west of the Elk river line was at all times subject to the satisfaction of the warrants issued by North Carolina: her laws authorized them to be surveyed and granted there. Grants have already been issued by that State previous to 1806, for the best lands in that section, according to the entries made or the surveys returned by her officers; but there are yet many other entries on warrants located in the same section, in addition to the removed warrants issued by that State, and the military warrants which have not been granted east and north of that line, which the holders of them are desirous of procuring grants on; and, since there is not land east and north to satisfy those claims, we unite with North Carolina in representing that such warrants ought to be surveyed and granted wherever there is vacant land west and south of said line.

It will remain for your honorable body to decide whether those grants ought to be perfected by North Carolina or by this State. Some provision ought to be made for ascertaining such warrants and evidences of claim as are genuine and ought to be granted, and which are located west and south of the said line. All of the warrants and other evidences of claim which had not been thus located, have been adjudged, recorded, and sanctioned, by a board established by this State for that purpose, in pursuance of the several acts authorizing Tennessee to perfect titles. This was done under the restriction of the records and checks furnished by North Carolina; those are held indiscriminately by citizens of Carolina and this State, and we are not willing to agree that the same should be re-examined: such a course would produce much inconvenience and unnecessary trouble and expense. In adjudicating the claims not examined, we are willing to adopt any course which may be thought conducive to the interest of the bona fide claimants.

It would produce much confusion in the situation of land titles in this State, to repeal any part of the act of 1806, in the manner requested by North Carolina. Citizens of both States have acquired titles under the provisions of this act: they ought not now to be disturbed. We therefore protest against that part of the request of the memorial of North Carolina, but we solicit your honorable body to pass an act in addition or supplemental to the act of 1806, giving your assent that the State of Tennessee shall proceed to perfect titles west of the Elk river line upon all unsatisfied claims which exist against North Carolina, and which are good and valid; and that, in perfecting such titles in that tract, the provisions of the acts of 1803 and 1804 shall be adhered to, and that some correct mode shall be adopted, either by a board of commissioners or otherwise, for ascertaining the validity of such ungranted claims as have not been already adjudged by the respective boards in this State.

Resolved, That a copy of the preceding memorial be forwarded to each of the Senators and Representatives from this State in the Congress of the United States, and that a copy of the same be laid by them before that body.

THOMAS WILLIAMSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

EDWARD WARD,
Speaker of the Senate.

November 18, 1817.

15th Congress. **No. 261.** 1st Session.

CLAIM OF GABRIEL WINTER AND OTHERS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DECEMBER 30, 1817.

Mr. Herrick made the following report:

The Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom were referred the petition of Gabriel Winter and others, unanimously report:

That, on the 27th day of June, 1797, the governor general of the province of Lousiana and East Florida, then in the possession of Spain, conceded to Elisha Winter one thousand arpens square of land, in the district of Arkansas, and to William Winter and Gabriel Winter, sons of Elisha Winter, each five hundred arpens square in the same district, by a deed of concession of that date; that the same was made upon the application of Elisha Winter, who was a citizen of the United States, and who, previous to that time, erected at New Orleans, upon land granted to him by the provincial Government, an extensive rope-walk. The petitioners were required by the terms of the concession, as a condition precedent to the completion of their titles to the lands thus conceded, to make settlements upon their respective tracts within the period of one year from the date of their concession: upon failing to comply with this condition the concession was declared void. The petitioners were put into possession of their respective tracts in a short time after the concession was made, by the commandant of the district of Arkansas, who was charged by the governor general with the execution of the designs of the Spanish Government in this respect. It has been proven to the committee that the condition of settlement has been complied with by Elisha Winter and William Winter, who made an actual settlement on their respective tracts agreeably to the terms of the concession, and erected a dwelling-house and cleared land, at great expense, on the tract granted to William Winter.

They continued to occupy and cultivate the land thus settled from the time of the settlement until the country was taken possession of by the United States. The provisions of the law respecting land titles in that section of the country have been complied with by the petitioners, and their title papers, and other process of their claims, recorded in the proper office.

The encouragement of agriculture, and the population of the district, are the reasons assigned upon the face of the concession for its execution. In addition to these, it is proven that the Messrs. Winters were favorites with the governor general of the province, and that Elisha Winter, the father, had experienced great losses in the destruction of his rope-walk by fire. This, it may be well presumed, was a strong inducement with the governor for making so large a concession.

It is as well proven as any fact of the kind can be, that if the Spanish Government had retained the title to this country, the claims thus conceded would have been perfected by a complete grant.

Your committee, in the investigation of the claims of the petitioner, have particularly examined into the powers of the governor general of Louisiana, while the same was a Spanish province, to grant lands for agricultural purposes, and with a view to the population of the country; and there does not appear to your committee any ground on which to rest a doubt of his power in this respect. The known laws, as well as the invariable usage of the country, establish the right of the governor, in the case of the petitioner, to make the grant. Having satisfied themselves on this subject, your committee proceeded to examine the evidence produced by the petitioner to show how far the precise conditions of the grant have been fulfilled, so as to vest in the grantees a fee simple estate in the tract or tracts of land granted to them. The result of this examination is a clear and satisfactory demonstration of the actual settlement of the tracts granted to Elisha and William Winter, after the most formal possession had been given to them by the commandant of the district, agreeably to the power with which he was invested by the deed of concession from the Baron de Carondelet.

Thus it appears to your committee that every thing was done essential to the validity of the grant, and to vest in the grantees, William and Elisha Winter, a perfect title to the tracts of land now claimed by their legal representatives, by virtue of the concession above referred to. It follows, therefore, as a necessary conclusion, that, according to the third article of the treaty between the United States and France, of the 30th April, 1803, which secures to the inhabitants of Louisiana the "free enjoyment of their liberty, *property*, and the religion which they profess," the heirs of Elisha Winter and the heirs of William Winter cannot be deprived of these lands belonging to their ancestors, without a violation of that treaty which is declared by the constitution to be the supreme law of the land.

With respect to the claim of Gabriel Winter, it appears to your committee that the tract of land granted to him by the above mentioned concession has never been inhabited and cultivated; that the grantee was a minor, and lived with his father, who settled on the land granted to his son William. Although equitable considerations are believed to exist in favor of this claim, on the ground of the minority of the claimant, who was at that time incapable of fulfilling, according to its letter, the condition of settlement required in the grant, your committee deem it their duty to report against it. The principle which has been adopted by your committee extends no farther than to a confirmation of those claims in which the absolute property is vested in the grantees prior to the treaty by which the United States acquired a title to Louisiana. They therefore report a bill confirming to the legal representatives of Elisha Winter, and to the legal representatives of William Winter, the tracts of land granted to the said Elisha Winter and William Winter by the Spanish Government.

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled.

The memorial of the undersigned respectfully showeth:

That his father, Elisha Winter, late of the State of Louisiana, now deceased, in his life time, in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine, removed with his family from Baltimore to the State of Kentucky, and became a trader from that State to New Orleans; that, in or about the year seventeen hundred and ninety, he obtained a grant of land on the commons of New Orleans, on which he erected an extensive rope-walk, which was consumed by the great fire. New Orleans being at that time very sickly, the loss of the rope-walk, the cost of re-building, sickness and death in the family, caused him to sell out, and turn his attention to an agricultural establishment on the district of Arkansas. Accordingly, under these oppressive circumstances, he made application to the governor general of the province of Louisiana, and obtained from him a grant of lands for himself, sons, and associates, of which the following is a translation, viz.

The Baron de Carondelet, knight of the order of St. John, field marshal of the royal armies, governor general and vice patron of the provinces of Louisiana and Florida, inspector of the troops, &c. &c., desiring to encourage the population and agriculture, by every means that the political circumstances of the times will admit, and hearing the proposals made to the Government by Elisha Winter to form an establishment at the post of Arkansas for the agriculture of flax, wheat, and hemp, I do *grant* from henceforth, (that he may put in execution his desires,) to the said Elisha Winter one thousand arpens square of land; to William Winter, five hundred square; to Gabriel Winter, five hundred arpens square; to Samuel Price, Richard Price, William Hubble, John Price, William Russell, Joseph Stillwell, and Walter Carr, fifteen arpens of land, in front, to each of them, with the usual depth of forty back; and this, in consideration of the excellent character I have received of his conduct and good principles, under the express condition that they shall forthwith be established, and their lands surveyed; that the commandant of the post shall dispose himself to give to each of them his title in form, and to see that the establishment shall be formed as nearly adjoining and as compact as possible, not admitting any more American families than the aforenamed, and those the Government may permit: but the commandant may admit good colonists, such as Spaniards, French, Germans, and Dutch, but by no means to admit vagabonds; because, in observance of this clause, the commandant

will take charge: Provided always, that if, in the term of one year, the lands described in this document for the said families, are not established by them, then this concession shall be void. That it shall be complied with in all its parts, the commandant of the district is charged with the strict observance of, as well as giving good and humane treatment, proper to be given under the Spanish Government. I give the present in New Orleans, on the twenty-seventh day of June, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven.

EL BARON CARONDELET.

That, in the month of April or May of the year seventeen hundred and ninety-eight, the land was located by Don Carlos de Villemont, the Spanish commandant of the post of Arkansas: corner stones were carried to the country from the State of Kentucky, expressly for the purpose, and were placed, by the direction of the commandant, to identify the corner boundaries of the said tracts of land; that the family of the said Elisha Winter removed from Kentucky on to the said granted lands, and remained in possession of the same when possession was taken of the country by the Government of the United States, under the treaty with the French Government, of the year 1803: That Joseph Stillwell, one of the grantees, was also at the same time put in possession of the tract granted to him, and still continues to reside on it, his claim being confirmed, as your memorialist believes, by the Board of Commissioners: That the said tracts of land mentioned in the said grant, have been surveyed, and the same have been, according to the provisions of the act of Congress made and provided, claimed before the recorder of land titles of the late district of Louisiana, and the testimony in relation to the same, recorded before the recorder of land titles for the Territory of Missouri, acting as commissioner for adjusting the titles and claims to land for the said Territory, which your petitioner is unable to produce to your honorable body, by reason that the said recorder refused to give a copy of the same. Your memorialist further states that, by the laws of Congress, he is entitled to retain possession of the said land until the same shall be finally decided on by Congress: That the Legislature of the Missouri Territory have caused the said lands to be taxed, and, as your memorialist is informed, and believes true, that the officers of the Government of the United States have directed the said lands to be laid out and surveyed, for the purpose of satisfying the warrants which may be issued to the soldiers who have served during the late war; and that surveyors on behalf of the Government are now engaged in surveying the same, and unless Congress shall immediately take under wise consideration the petition of your memorialist, and finally decide on the claims mentioned and contained in said grant, he will be greatly damaged and injured, Your memorialist, therefore, throws himself upon the justice of Congress, and most respectfully prays that they may be pleased to take his case under consideration, to speedily confirm to your memorialist, and to the heirs of the said Elisha Winter, deceased, and also to the heirs of the said William Winter, also deceased, their respective claims to the lands granted as above mentioned, and to provide for patents to issue for the same in due form of law. As in duty bound, your memorialist will ever pray.

GABRIEL WINTER.

WASHINGTON CITY, *December* 19, 1815.

Extract from the Records of the Board of Commissioners for the Territory of Louisiana.

A certificate of Charles Trudeau, recorder of the city of Orleans, dated 2d March, 1808, accompanied by a plat of survey of one millon of arpens, said to have been found deposited in his archives under the date of the 12th of October, 1798. A plat of survey of one million of arpens, certified by Henry Cassady, 10th November, 1805, stating that said tract was surveyed in 1798, and resurveyed, in part, by said Cassady in 1802.

June 18, 1808, board met on application of a claimant. Present, John B. C. Lucas and Clement B. Penrose.

In the case of Elisha Winter and William Winter, the first claiming one million of arpens of land, the latter two hundred and fifty thousand arpens; Joshua G. Clark, agent for said Elisha and William, on his affidavit filed, motions the board for a *dedimus* to take the deposition of Don Charles de Villemont, now said to be residing in West Florida—motion overruled. July 19, 1811, present, full board. It is the opinion of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. William Winter claiming two hundred and fifty thousand acres of land situate on White river, district of Arkansas, produces to the board the above concession in the claim of Elisha Winter, and a plat of survey dated 28th of February, 1806, certified 28th of April, 1806: testimony taken by Frederick Bates, Commissioner, at Camp Esperence, June 20, 1808.

Joseph Stillwell, sworn, says that he has no interest in this claim. (Sworn in chief) says that, in 1798, witness was on this tract of land in the month of April, had a cabin built, and, in the course of that year, enclosed fifteen or twenty acres of land, and cultivated a part thereof. Claimant continued to inhabit and cultivate the first improvement, and to enlarge the same till the year 1806. Silvanus Philips, sworn, says that claimant arrived at Arkansas early in March, 1798, and very soon afterwards commenced his improvements on the tract of land now claimed; and witness repeats the same facts mentioned in the foregoing testimony of Joseph Stillwell. William Basset, sworn, says that William Winter was in possession of this tract when witness arrived in this country in the year 1799; had a cabin, and perhaps more than one in that year; a considerable plantation enclosed, the number of acres not known, or not recollected by witness; several acres that year in cultivation. Claimant inhabited and cultivated this tract constantly from the year 1799 till 1805 or 1806: testimony taken as aforesaid, at Arkansas village, July 5, 1808. Andrew Fagot, sworn, says that claimant came to Arkansas in 1798, bringing with him a stock of cattle, to wit, a stallion, a mare, and some horned cattle, and sheep. In the same year claimant took possession of the lands claimed, in the month of March, built a dwelling-house, and several out-houses; cleared, enclosed, and cultivated about thirty acres; remained inhabiting and cultivating for five or six of the following years. Francis Vaugine, sworn, says that William Winter arrived at Arkansas in the year 1798 or 1799; in the fall of the same year (as well as witness recollects) took possession of these lands, built a dwelling-house and cabins for his slaves; he also erected a cotton-gin, about forty-five or perhaps fifty acres cleared, enclosed, and cultivated; in the course of a few years after the first establishment, continued to inhabit and cultivate the premises for four or five years. Francis Vaugine, sworn, says that William Winter arrived at Arkansas in the year 1798 or 1799, and left this country in April, 1806. During this intermediate time, premises were constantly inhabited and cultivated: when claimant left this part of the country, a tenant was left by him on these premises, to wit, his brother-in-law.

June 18, 1808, present, Lucas and Penrose, Commissioners.

In the case of Elisha Winter and William Winter, the first claiming one million of arpens of land, the latter two hundred and fifty thousand arpens; Joshua G. Clark, agent for said Elisha and William, on his affidavit filed, motions the board for a *dedimus* to take the deposition of Don Charles de Villemont, now said to be residing in West Florida—motion overruled. July 19, 1811, present, full board. It is the opinion of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Gabriel Winter claiming two hundred and fifty thousand arpens of land situate on fork of Bayou, middle district of Arkansas, produces to the board the foregoing concession, as in the claim of Elisha Winter. A certificate of Charles Trudeau, recorder of the city of Orleans, dated 2d March, 1808, accompanied by a plat of survey of two hundred and fifty thousand arpens, said to have been found deposited in his archives, under the date of the 12th of October, 1798. A plat and certificate of survey of two hundred and fifty thousand arpens, signed Henry Cassady, dated 24th November, 1802, stated to be made in pursuance of an order from Charles Trudeau.

July 19, 1811, present, full board. It is the opinion of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, *January* 8, 1816.

SIR: Agreeably to your request of the 6th instant, I have the honor to transmit a copy of the records of the Board of Commissioners for the Territory of Louisiana, so far as relates to the claims of Elisha Winter, William Winter, and Gabriel Winter.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir,
Your obedient servant,
JOSIAH MEIGS.

Hon. T. B. ROBERTSON,
Chair. of Com. on Public Lands, Ho. Rep.

Extract from the Report of the Recorder of Land Titles for Missouri Territory.

Testimony as to the claim of Elisha Winter for one million arpens of land, and of Gabriel Winter for two hundred and fifty thousand arpens of land. For translation of original papers, see Sp. Rept. p. 263.

Don Carlos de Villemont duly sworn, says that, as commandant of the district of Arkansas, he did, about

the year 1798, in the spring, put Elisha Winter into possession of one million of *acres* of land, and Gabriel Winter into possession of two hundred and fifty thousand arpens of land, by virtue of the concession which has been made the basis of these claims, accompanied by official letters from the Baron. Elisha Winter, the father, designated the tract allotted to him, by planting a large stone which he brought from Kentucky for the purpose. The sons, William and Gabriel Winter, designated their parts by marking each a tree. There was no public surveyor in the district of Arkansas at that time, nor afterwards, during the command of the deponent, down to the year 1802; on which account these tracts were not surveyed, nor platted in the ordinary manner. This witness attended as commandant of the district, when these designations were made, to wit, when the stone was placed or planted, and the trees marked. Witness knows that, in 1794, Elisha Winter had established at Orleans an extensive rope manufactory on land furnished him by the Government. After the official letters above spoken of, deponent received other private letters recommending the family of Messrs. Winters to his attention. Elisha Winter, the father, built a large house on the lands of his son William, who had settled thereon immediately on the delivery of possession. The father, two years thereafter, settled his family on said William's premises; said family, with negroes, remained on William's tract, cultivating the same till witness left that part of the country in 1802. The claimants brought on to this tract from Kentucky, cattle of various kinds, cows, horses, sheep, &c.—about one hundred sheep—of which previously there had been none in the district during the command of this witness. They brought, also, negroes and hired white men, a boat load of corn, wagons, farming implements, household and kitchen furniture, and a variety of other articles necessary for making a large establishment.

When witness speaks of William Winter's claim, he means the tract of two hundred and fifty thousand arpens allowed to said William as his part of the general concession, under the father, Elisha, and two sons, William and Gabriel's claim. In reply to questions of the agent of the claimants, the witness further says, that he was forty-three years an officer under the Spanish Government in America; and that, from the knowledge which he possesses of the conduct and policy of the Spanish provincial Government, the attachment of its principal officers to the family of Messrs. Winters, he does believe that if either Elisha, William, or Gabriel Winter had, before the cession of the country, demanded, at Orleans, a completion of this grant, a title in form would have been accorded to them.

Testimony as to the claim of William Winter, of two hundred and fifty thousand arpens of land on White river, taken in order to perpetuate the same, to be used if the Government should remand the claim for adjudication here, or to be transmitted to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, if circumstances permit. The claim having been decided by the late Board of Commissioners, on testimony, the recorder of land titles, acting as Commissioner, has no regular jurisdiction of it.

Don Carlos de Villemont, duly sworn, says that, as commandant of the late Spanish district of Arkansas, he put William Winter into possession of this tract in June or July, 1797, under concession from Baron de Carondelet: That the said William Winter immediately thereafter built houses, made various improvements thereon, and continued to inhabit and cultivate the same, as witness well knows, for the eight following years, when witness left Arkansas for Pensacola. In addition to the concession by authority, of which witness put claimant into possession, he received letters from the Baron de Carondelet, containing orders to the same effect, and to put the claimant into possession, and private letters recommending him to his consideration. The claimant, before witness left Arkansas, had about thirty-five arpens in cultivation, a number of horned cattle, eight or ten mares, and a stud horse; also, about one hundred sheep, which he brought down the river in a boat: but in one year he lost all his horses and cattle. There were no sheep in the country until they were brought by the claimants, and by William Winter in particular. The deponent further says that, immediately after he put claimant into possession, he reported it to the Baron de Carondelet. There was a stone put up by Elisha Winter, on his part of the tract, which he had brought for the purpose from Kentucky. An oak tree was marked by William Winter as a designation of the two hundred and fifty thousand arpens here claimed. Both these designations were made in the presence of the witness as the commandant of the district of Arkansas. In 1794, Elisha Winter had a rope manufactory at Orleans, but knows not whether the other claimants were partners.

I certify that these depositions were made before the undersigned, recorder of land titles, in the office at St. Louis, in the Territory of Missouri, (where the originals are recorded and preserved,) on the 7th day of October, 1813.

FREDERICK BATES.

Elisha Winter, 1,000,000 arpens,
William Winter, 250,000 arpens, } C'ty of Arkansas.
Gabriel Winter, 250,000 arpens,

Don Andres Lopez de Armesto, commissary of war, honorary secretary for his Catholic Majesty of the commission for the limits of the province of Louisiana.

I certify that, among the papers of the office of the secretary of the Spanish Government committed to my charge, and those relative to the post of Arkansas, there exists the original document of which the following is the tenor:

The Baron de Carondelet, knight of the religious order of St. John, field marshal of the royal armies, governor general and vice patron of the provinces of Louisiana and West Florida, inspector of the troops of the same, &c., being desirous to promote the population and the agriculture, by all the means adapted to the political circumstances of the present times, and adverting to the proposals made to Government by Elisha Winter, to the end of forming a settlement in the post of Arkansas for the cultivation of flax, wheat, and hemp: Therefore, in order to realize said object, I presently concede to said Elisha Winter, one thousand arpens of land square; (mil arpanes de tierra quadrados;) to William Winter, five hundred square; (quinientos quadrados;) to Gabriel Winter, five hundred square; and to Samuel Price, Richard Price, William Huble, John Price, William Russell, Joseph Stillwell, and Walter Karre, fifteen arpens of land in front by forty in depth, to each of them respectively, in consideration of the good information given to me of their excellent deportment and good principles, under the express conditions that, as soon as they shall have settled themselves on their respective surveys, which the commandant of the post will cause to be executed, there shall be delivered to each one his title deed in form; that the settlement is to be made as united and as closely connected as possible, nor any other American families to be admitted than those above named, and such as Government may permit to settle, which permission may be given in the mean time, by the commandant, to the good colonists, Spaniards, French, German, and Irish, who shall make application, but no manner of admission shall be granted to vagabonds; and for any contravention of this clause, the commandant is held responsible: Provided, that if, in the term of one year, the lands appropriated in this document to the families above named, respectively, are not occupied, this concession shall be void; which shall be attended to in all its parts by the commandant of the district, who is charged with the strict execution of the whole, consistent with the beneficence and humanity of the Spanish Government. The present given at New Orleans, the 27th of June, 1797.

[L. S.] THE BARON DE CARONDELET.
ANDRES LOPEZ ARMESTO.

And, to authenticate the above, I give the present, at New Orleans, the 19th April, 1805.

ANDRES LOPEZ ARMESTO.

Don Sebastian Calvo de la Puerta and O'Farrill, Marquis de Casa Calvo, knight of the order of Santiago, brigadier of the royal armies, colonel of the Havana regiment of infantry, commissioned by his Majesty for the demarcation of the limits, and for other affairs relative to the province of Louisiana, &c. I certify that the honorary commissary of war, Don Andres Lopez de Armesto, by whom the foregoing certificate was signed, has been secretary of the Government of these provinces for his Majesty during the time of the Spanish domination, and especially so of the commission of the limits; and that entire faith and credit are due and had unto him in both capacities; and, to certify the same, I gave the present. Signed with my hand, and sealed with the seal of my arms. Countersigned by the same secretary, at New Orleans, the 19th of April, 1805.

THE MARQUIS DE CASA CALVO.
ANDRES LOPEZ ARMESTO.

Elisha Winter's Certificate of Survey. [Plat omitted.]

The above is a true plan or draft of a tract of land granted to Elisha Winter by the Baron de Carondelet, governor general of the province of Louisiana, on the

27th of June, 1797, containing one million of arpens, as appears by the original grant, filed in the land office in the city of Orleans, reference being thereto had, it will more fully appear. This tract of land was surveyed by Don Carlos Villemont, captain commandant, civil and military, of the district of Arkansas, in the year 1798, and resurveyed, in part, by me, in the year 1802. This tract of land was actually inhabited, improved, and cultivated, according to law, and agreeably to the tenor of the said grant. Given under my hand, at Arkansas, the 10th day of November, 1805.

HENRY CASSADY, *Dep. Surv'r.*

William Winter's Certificate of Survey. [Plat omitted.]

I do certify that the above plat represents two hundred and fifty thousand arpens of land, French measure, situate on the east side of the Great prairie of Arkansas, including part of said prairie, and extending eastward to include a part of White river, and resurveyed by me on a Spanish grant, dated the 27th of June, 1797, at the request of William Winter, who claims the same, under an act of Congress passed respecting such claims, on —— day of March, 1805. Given under my hand, this 28th of February, A. D. 1806.

GODFREY JONES, *Dep. Surv'r.*

250,000 arpens, or 213,707 acres 100 poles, received for record. St. Louis, 28th of April, 1806.

ANTOINE SOULARD,
Surv'r Gen'l Ter. Louisiana.

Gabriel Winter's Certificate of Survey. [Plat omitted.]

I do certify that, pursuant to the order of Don Carlos Trudeau, surveyor general of the province of Louisiana, dated 24th July, 1802, I have carefully surveyed the above described tract of land situated on the waters of White river, and extending to the Mississippi, at the mouth of St. Francis; surveyed on a grant of lands granted to Gabriel Winter by the Baron de Carondelet, gentleman of the order of St. John, &c., and governor general of the province of Louisiana, dated the 27th of June, in the year 1797; surveyed the 24th day of November, 1802.

HENRY CASSADY, *Dep. Surv'r.*

The above papers are copied from the report about to be made to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, by the undersigned recorder of land titles from the Territory of Missouri, acting as Commissioner of lands for said Territory.

FREDERICK BATES.

WASHINGTON CITY, *February* 13, 1813.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, STATE OF LOUISIANA. } *City of New Orleans.*

By this public instrument, be it known to all whom the same may concern, that I, John Lynd, esq., public notary in and for the city of New Orleans, by letters patent under the great seal of the territory of Orleans, duly commissioned and sworn, and by law invested with power and authority to attest deeds, wills, agreements, and other instruments in writing, and to administer oaths, do hereby certify that, on the fourth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixteen, James B. Many personally appeared before me, and, being duly sworn according to law, deposeth and saith, in the spring of the year eighteen hundred and four, he took possession of the fort and district of Arkansas, in the province of Louisiania, it being then surrendered to the American Government by the Spanish commandant. On his arrival there, he found the families of Mr. Elisha Winter and William Winter established as agricultural residents in the district. It was then well understood that large grants of land had been made by the Spanish Government to Mr. Elisha Winter and sons, who had removed to the country in consequence thereof, and had been put in possession of their lands by the proper Spanish officer; that a corner stone was pointed out to him, which he saw and understood to be the corner of Mr. Winter's tract, established by Don Carlos de Villemont, formerly the commandant of the post. Land was estimated there at that time at little value, it being a remote and wilderness country. In fact land was held at so little value, that they were scarcely thought worth accepting of, on paying the fees of the commandant for writing the concession or requete.

In faith whereof, I grant the present, under my signature, and the impress of my seal of office, at New Orleans, this fifth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and sixteen.

JOHN LYND, *Not. Rep.*

JAMES B. MANY, *Maj. Art.*

TERRITORY OF MISSOURI, *District of Arkansas, ss.*

Don Carlos de Villemont has personally appeared before the undersigned, one of the judges of the United States for the above Territory and district, and made oath that, during the time he was commandant of the district of Arkansas under the Spanish Government, and after possession being given to Elisha Winter, under the power of Baron de Carondelet, for the establishment and holding the land granted by the above Government, that Joseph Mason, as farmer of Elisha Winter, has been, with the permission of the deponent, suffered to cultivate the same; and the said Joseph Mason has continued to occupy and cultivate the same during all the time that this deponent has resided in the district of Arkansas.

Subscribed and sworn before me, this 15th day of October, 1816.

GEO. BULLET,
Judge of the G. C. C. A.

I certify that the above is a correct translation from the original in the French language.

CARLOS DE VILLEMONT.

County of Washington, ss.

Peter Varon, a teacher of the French language, came before me, December 17, 1817, and made oath in due form of law, that the above is a true translation from the annexed sheet.

JAMES M. VARNUM.

TERRITORY OF MISSOURI, *District of Arkansas, ss.*

Francis Vaugine, Joseph Bogie, Andre Fagot, Jean Lavergne, Pierre Pertuis, Jean Jardelas, and Alexis Jardelas, all of age of maturity, appeared personally before me, the undersigned, one of the judges for the United States for the district and Territory aforesaid, and made oath that they were inhabitants and subjects of the King of Spain, before the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven, until the change of Government; and that they well recollected the time that the commandant, Don Carlos De Villemont, gave possession to the Messrs. Winters the lands that were granted them by the governor general, Le Baron de Carondelet; that it was about the month of January or February, of the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight; that Joseph Mason was farmer on the lands granted to Elisha Winter, in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight; in the spring of said year he resided on, and cultivated the same, until the year one thousand eight hundred and eight; that the lands of which possession has been given as aforesaid, have always been known to be the lands of Elisha Winter, as well under the Government of Spain as under the United States, ever since they have taken possession of the province of Louisiana.

FRANCIS VAUGINE.
JOSEPH BOGIE.
ANDRE FAGOT.
JEAN LAVALE.
PIERRE PERTUIS.
ALEXIS JARDELAS.
JEAN JARDELAS.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 15th day of October, 1816.

GEO. BULLET.

Washington county, ss.

On this 17th day of December, 1817, Peter Varon, (a teacher of the French language,) made oath, in due form of law, that the foregoing is a correct translation of the sheet hereunto attached.

JAMES M. VARNUM.

Don Luis de Onis Gonzalez Lopez y Vara, lord of the towns of Royales, Macadina, and Largartera, knight commander of the royal and distinguished Spanish order of Charles the 3d, and with the decoration of the Lis of Lavandes of the council of his Catholic Majesty of Ferdinand the 7th, his secretary, with the exercise of decrees, and his envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary near the United States—I do hereby certify that the captain general or governor of the provinces of his Catholic Majesty, on the continent of America, are vested with full power to make grants of uncultivated lands in the respective provinces under their command, to individuals who may choose to settle and cultivate them; nor do I know that they are restricted as to limited quantity, but in proportion of the extent of the provinces subject to their command: that the Baron of Carondelet was a person of distinguished merit, and highly appreciated by his sovereign; and, as captain general of the provinces of Louisiana, he was authorized to make such grants in the same manner as all the governors of the possessions of

the King. It is not to be believed, that, in a remote part of his provinces, he had not the right to make a grant of a thousand arpens square, nor that any such grant emanating from him would not have been held sacred by the crown of Spain.

In testimony whereof, I have given the present certificate, signed with my hand, and sealed with my seal, the 6th February, 1816.

LUIS DE ONIS. [SEAL.]

County of Washington, ss.

On this 17th day of December, 1817, Peter Varon, a teacher of the French language, came before me, and made oath, in due form of law, that the foregoing is a true copy from the annexed sheet.

JAMES M. VARNUM.

I certify that I have been a resident of New Orleans about twenty-three years; a great part of the time I have acted as surveyor and engineer for the district, and have become acquainted with the French and Spanish languages, and customs of the Spanish Government. The terms "mil arpanes de tierra quadrados," as expressed in the grant made to Mr. Elisha Winter by the Spanish Government in the year 1797, means, in English, one thousand arpens square of land; and the terms "quinientos quadrados," expressed in the same grant, means five hundred arpens square. It is a fact well known that the word *arpent* was used in the province of Louisiana to express linear measure, as is proved by the small tracts granted to Samuel Price and others in the same concession, which fact being admitted, it follows of course, that the large grant to Mr. Winter is a square figure, with one thousand arpens on each side, and the tracts granted to William and Gabriel Winter are square figures, each having five hundred arpens on each side. Land situated so remote from population and commerce at the date of said grant, was held in very little estimation, scarcely worth paying the fees of office for the field papers.

LAFON, *Engineer.*

29th June, 1816.

April 18, 1816.

SIR: You having called on me for my opinion in explaining the arpent as linear measure, I have no hesitation in saying, from my long residence in Louisiana, acting as a commissioner for adjusting land claims in that country, that the arpent is considered as linear measure by the French, and so understood by the Americans, as well as the league; and that, in all grants of land, it is expressed by so many arpens front, by so many in depth, or so many square, and often by so many front leagues, and leagues in depth. A league is estimated at eighty arpens in length, and, in computing the quantity, they multiply the length by the depth, or one side by the other, and that it is so understood by the Creoles of Louisiana. I have often heard them, in moments of amusement, express themselves, in horse racing, by one person challenging another to run ten, fifteen, or twenty arpens.

I have the honor to be,
Your obedient servant,
WILLIAM GARRARD.

Captain GABRIEL WINTER.

January 11, 1817.

SIR: I enclosed to you the affidavit of Judge Garrard, which I should have before procured had there not been a delicacy in asking a gentleman of distinction, and an officer of Government, to certify on oath. The gentlemen whose certificates are before you are, I believe, nearly all known to Mr. Robertson, a member of your body, and to him I ask leave to refer you for a knowledge of their standing in society. The fact relative to the arpent being linear measure is not only proven by the concession itself, but, in the numerous entries made in the books of the Commissioners which are before you, and the same books, as well as the affidavit of Captain Vidal, and the certificate of Captain J. Walker, will prove to you that the largest concession which was ever made to any individual within the limits of the gates of the Old City of Orleans, was made to the same grantee by the previous governor, Miro, and, on application, confirmed by the court of Spain. Mr. Robertson has also a knowledge of this fact. Permit me, gentlemen, to draw your attention to the date of the grant signed twenty years ago by the captain general of the province, the late viceroy of Mexico. This officer, of the first distinction, after making the grant, recommended the grantees to the particular attention of the commandant of the district where the land lies, in a very remote section of the country, and forthwith the grantees were possessed of their lands; (see testimony of Don Carlos de Villemont and Major Many.) I was at that time under age; but have not the grants to minors been invariably confirmed? This address, gentlemen, might be continued to a great length were I not fearful of being tedious. I appeal to the justice of Congress: I am sure that I have nothing to fear if my case and my right, (secured under a former Government, and guarantied by treaty,) shall be thoroughly examined and fully understood. I am not a *land speculator:* it is my inheritance; and had the claim been only five hundred arpens, as in the case of William Winter, it long since would have been confirmed by the Board of Land Commissioners: the quantity and size of the grant put it beyond their jurisdiction. It must be apparent to every one, that five hundred arpens of land at the date of the grant, and in that wilderness country, could not have been worth fifty dollars; and it is questionable that the whole quantity, even now put into market, if it would bring fifty cents per acre: add to this the great trouble, time, and expense that is incident to the prosecution of a claim like mine. I therefore hope that you will give to it a speedy and thorough consideration, and that you will report, as the former committee, the whole facts to enable me to bring my claim fairly before Congress for their decision.

I am, with much respect,
Gentlemen, your obedient servant,
GAB. WINTER.

Hon. CHAIRMAN
Committee Private Claims.

I certify that I have resided in the State of Louisiana about eight years, during which time I have acted as a Commissioner for adjusting land claims. The word arpent is considered a linear measure by the French people of that country, and so understood by the Americans. The concessions are generally made so many arpens front by so many in depth, or so many square, and often by so many leagues in front and leagues in depth. A league is estimated at about eighty arpens in length, and, in computing the quantity, they multiply the length by the depth, or one side by the other.

WM. GARRARD.

Sworn and subscribed to, this 11th day of January, 1817, before

JAMES M. VARNUM,
Justice of the Peace.

I certify that I am a native of Louisiana, and brought up under the Spanish Government; was acquainted with Mr. Elisha Winter and family as early as the year 1791 or '92, at which time Mr. Winter removed to New Orleans, and established a rope-walk on a lot of ground granted to him by the Spanish Government. The said lot was then of little value, but I believe it now to be worth one hundred thousand dollars. Mr. Winter was certainly a great favorite with the Spanish officers, and possessed as much their confidence as any American that traded to New Orleans. The royal interpreter, John Joseph Duforrest, was my relation, and very much the friend of Mr. Winter; and from the intimate and friendly standing of Mr. Winter with the officers of the Spanish Government, I am fully of opinion that no man would have obtained a more liberal concession of lands. It has been the uniform practice, in the province of Louisiana, to use the word "*arpent*" to express linear measure—ten French perches in length being an arpent. It is equally proper to say, one hundred arpens square of land, or "mil arpanes de tierras quadrados," as to say ten thousand poles square—the quantity is certainly the same. This I well know, being acquainted with the Spanish language, and my father having acted as a surveyor under the Spanish colonial Government.

Given under my hand at Concordia, this 10th day of September, 1816.

JOSEPH WALKER.

In the presence of
JAMES KEMP.

I certify that Captain Joseph Walker, whose signature is above, is a respectable neighbor of mine, and universally considered a man of veracity.

JAMES KEMP.

I certify that I have been an officer in his Catholic Majesty's service, in the province of Louisiana, about thirty years, and particularly acquainted with Captain Joseph Walker from his early youth, and, from my own knowledge of the facts that he relates in the foregoing certificate, I declare them to be true and correct.

JOS. VIDAL.

VIDALIA, 11*th September*, 1816.

I certify that I have been an officer in the service of his Catholic Majesty, in the province of Louisiana, about 25 years, holding different commissions under the said Government. I recollect that, about the year 1791 or '92, Mr. Elisha Winter established a rope-walk in the city of New Orleans, on a lot of ground granted to him by the Spanish Government. Property at that time was of little value; consequently the said lot, although larger than any concession within the limits of the old city, was considered no great acquisition, which now, it is ascertained by many, to be worth one hundred thousand dollars. It was the policy of the Spanish Government at that time to encourage emigration, and its generosity and benevolence to settlers surpassed the usual method established in other possessions of the Spanish Government on such applications. Industrious people, well recommended, and with means to carry into effect their plans for cultivation, or any other improvement, could rely on meeting with the encouragement of the Government, and particular attention paid to them by the said Government. Mr. Elisha Winter having proposed the said rope-walk, it was considered of great utility: a lot adequate to this manufacture was granted to him. Governor Miro, as well as the subsequent governors of the province, the Baron de Carondelet, and Governor Gayoso de Lemos, were particularly the friends of Mr. Winter, and consequently obtained the favors which they were permitted to grant.

It has been the invariable practice to use the word arpent to express linear measure, ten French poles in length being an arpent; hence, it is equally proper to say one thousand arpens square, or, as expressed in Spanish, *mil arpanes de tierra quadrados*, as to say ten thousand poles square—the quantity is certainly the same, as I understand. Mr. Winter, after the change of government in the year 1804, removed with his family from the Arkansas to this parish, where I had previously been commandant. I have omitted to mention, that, while I was acting as officer in the Spanish Government in Louisiana, I have been constantly employed at Natchez and Concordia, and that the circumstances I relate concerning Mr. Winter, in New Orleans, were so notorious, that I was perfectly acquainted with them.

And, at the request of Capt. Gabriel Winter, I sign these presents, at Vidalia, the 15th October, 1816.

JOS. VIDAL.

MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY, } ss.
Adams county,

Personally appeared, before the undersigned, one of the justices of the quorum for said county, Joseph Vidal, who declared, that the matter contained in the foregoing certificate is just and true in all its parts, to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Given under my hand and seal at Natchez, this 19th day of October, 1816.

[SEAL.] LEWIS EVANS, *J. Q.*

I certify, that I have resided in the State of Louisiana about ten years, during which time I have acted as principal deputy surveyor for the eastern district, under the authority of the United States. I have observed from the land papers generally, and from the common mode of expression of the people of the country, that the word *arpent* is used as linear measure. The boundary lines of the claims under the Spanish Government are uniformerly expressed in arpens. For example, ten arpens square, means one hundred French perches on each side, equal to one hundred superficial arpens; and if I was required, in my official capacity, to lay off a tract of land of *mil arpanes de tierras quadrados*, or, as expressed in English, one thousand arpens square, I would lay off a square figure, measuring on each side one thousand arpens, equal to ten thousand French perches, making one million superficial arpens.

WALKER GILBERT,
Principal Deputy Surveyor S. E. Dist.

I certify that I have acted as surveyor under the authority of the United States, in the late province of Louisiana, about seven years; where the word arpent is generally used to express linear measure: eighty-three and one-third arpens make one league. The boundary lines of tracts are usually expressed in arpens; an arpent is invariably, when applied to linear measure, estimated at ten French poles; the pole equal to eighteen French feet, and the proportion of the French foot to the English foot is as sixteen to fifteen. And was I required to lay off a tract of land of one thousand arpens square, I would lay off a square figure, measuring ten thousand French poles on each side, the superficial content would be one million of arpens. This has been the invariable rule of the surveyors in that country.

MAXFIELD LUDLOW.

September 12, 1816.

MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY,
Adams county, *Sept* 12, 1816.

Maxfield Ludlow, personally appearing, acknowledged he signed the foregoing certificate as his free act and deed—before

J. BROOKS, *J. Q.*

I certify that I was acquainted with Mr. Elisha Winter and family, in New Orleans, as early as the year 1791, or '92; about which time the Spanish Government conceded to Mr. Winter a large lot of ground in the city of New Orleans, for the purpose of erecting a rope-walk; the concession I believe was larger than any made to an individual within the limits of the old city. Mr. Winter, after conducting the rope walk for several years, during which time he carried on an extensive trade from the up-country, being a highly favored American citizen, he obtained, as I understood, a large grant of land in the district of Arkansas, to which I believe he removed his family. The word arpent, at that time, in Louisiana, was considered linear measure, as much so as the mile or league.

THOMAS HINDS.

MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY,
Adams county, *July* 30, 1817.

Personally appeared Thomas Hinds, the subscriber to the above certificate, and acknowledged the above to be his signature for the purposes therein contained.

S. BROOKS, *J. P.*

Extract of a letter from Mr. Gallatin to Mr. Briggs, surveyor general, dated 2d of July, 1805.

As all the former grants have been expressed in "arpens," which, though the word "arpent" be like "acre," applicable only to superficial measure, seem in Louisiana to mean also a measure of length. It will be necessary that you should ascertain with precision the content of an arpent in English superficial perches and feet, and also the measure in English perches and feet, which is understood by an *arpent* in *front*. I have supposed it to be the side of a square which contains an arpent.

Answer, date 31*st* 8*th month*, 1805.

"The word "arpent" is strictly applicable to a *superficial measure only*, yet the improper use of it, as a measure of *length*, is almost universal among the Spanish surveyors—when used in this sense, it means the side of a square containing an arpent, equal to 11 7-11 English perches, or 192 English feet; the arpent is to the acre as 605 to 512."

WASHINGTON, *July* 20, 1817.

SIR: In compliance with your request, I give you all the information I am in possession of on the subject of the term *arpent* as a linear measure.

The word *arpent* is strictly applicable to *superficial measure*, yet, the improper use of it as measure of *length*, has been universal among Spanish surveyors. When used in this sense, it means the length of the side of a square containing an arpent. This term *arpent* is as universally made use of by the inhabitants of Louisiana to express distance, as we make use of the term *mile*. Ask a citizen of Louisiana how far it is to any place in the country, or how far it is from one place to another, he will answer you, so many arpens. The Americans who have become residents of Louisiana have adopted the same idea, but make use of the term *acre* in place of *arpent*. Then, *arpent*, as an unit of long measure, is as familiar to the Louisianians as the term *mile* is to us. They say a tract of country contains so many arpens square—we say so many miles square, &c.

I am, very respectfully, sir,
Your obedient servant,
THOMAS FREEMAN,
Surveyor Gen. S. of Tennessee.

GAB'L WINTER, Esq.

P. S. The side of a square containing an arpent is equal in length to 11 7-11 English or American perches, or 192 feet. The arpent is to the acre as 605 to 512.

T. F.

WASHINGTON CITY, *April* 19, 1816.

SIR: I take the liberty of enclosing to you letters from scientific men, explaining the application of the arpent to linear measure, which has given rise to a question growing out of my claim to lands which is now before the

House. I enclose, also, a copy of a protest, which I felt it my duty to make against the surveying of said lands for military purposes, which documents you will please lay before the House, in order that they may accompany the bill relative to the claim above mentioned.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,
GABRIEL WINTER.

The Hon. HENRY CLAY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

WASHINGTON CITY, *April* 15, 1816.

SIR: From the information which you must have derived when acting as surveyor general of the Mississippi Territory, I presume that you can easily answer the following inquiries, which, I hope, will tend to elucidate a case in which I am much interested.

1st. Had you been required to lay off a tract of land, fifteen arpens in front by forty back, how many French perches would you have measured on each side, and how many superficial arpens would the tract contain?

2d. Had you been required to lay off a tract forty arpens square, how many French perches wonld you have measured on each side, and how many superficial arpens would the tract contain?

3d. Had you been required to lay off a tract of five hundred arpens square, how many French perches would you have measured on each side, and what would have been the superficial number of arpens?

4th. Had you been required to lay off one thousand arpens square, how many French perches would you have surveyed on each side, and how many superficial arpens would it have contained?

Your answer to the foregoing questions, will much oblige,

Your obedient servant,
GAB'L WINTER.

SETH PEASE, Esq.

WASHINGTON CITY, *April* 16, 1816.

SIR: It is not in my power at this time to say how I should have laid off the Spanish grants specified in your letter of yesterday, for these reasons: first, I have not a knowledge of the language in which the grants are written; and, second, I never had to act on any similar cases. But taking the cases as rendered by you in English, I should conclude that the word arpent was used to express linear measure as well as superficial measure, particularly in the first case stated, and that the tract should contain fifteen times forty arpens, that is, six hundred arpens, and, without this supposition, can make no sense of it. If established that the arpent meant linear measure as well as superficial, then, in the second case, the tract would contain forty times forty arpens, that is, sixteen hundred superficial arpens. And also, it follows that, if that word has the double signification in the third case stated, the tract ought to contain five hundred times five hundred arpens, that is, twenty-five thousand superficial arpens. Though I cannot speak very positively, I am inclined to believe that the word arpent is used frequently in the Louisiana country to express linear as well as superficial measure.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,
SETH PEASE.

GABRIEL WINTER, Esq.

[Map omitted.] *February* 19, 1816.

GENTLEMEN: I herewith enclose you a map showing the relative position and proportion of the lands granted nnder the general concession. I am pleased with the quantity that you propose to confirm, and, as it will make no difference to the public interest, I hope that you will permit the tracts to remain separate and distinct as they were originally located, viz. confirm the quantity proposed of the large grant in the southeast corner; the quantity for my brother's heirs, in the southwest corner of his tracts; and confirm the proportion allotted to me either at the north end, (which I would prefer,) the south end, or in the middle of the tract located for me. Should this arrangement not be made, I shall be subject to great difficulty, as a variety of separate interests are involved. I disclaim any advantage that might arise in consequence of a part of each tract being confirmed; and, if you please, a clause of exception may be inserted in the law to confirm the titles.

I am, gentlemen, with most sincere respect,
GABRIEL WINTER.

To the Committee on Public Lands.

FORT ADAMS, *April* 30, 1806.

SIR: The ordering of the settlers from the land claimed by Mr. Winter may have been improper, whatever be the merits of the claim; and, therefore, you will be pleased to permit them to return and continue their occupancy until Congress have decided finally in regard to Mr. Winter's pretensions.

With respect and esteem,
I am, sir, your obedient servant,
JAMES WILKINSON.

JOHN B. TREAT, Esq. *Arkansas.*

I certify that the above is a copy of a letter from General Wilkinson to Mr. Treat.
JAMES B. MANY, *Maj. Art.*

WASHINGTON CITY, *April* 17, 1816.

SIR: Having observed in October last, a publication signed by the surveyor general, stating that certain lands, lying between the rivers St. Francis and Arkansas, were about to be surveyed, by order of the Government of the United States, for the purpose of satisfying military land warrants granted to soldiers who served during the late war, and having this day received authentic information, that the survey of the said lands was now going into execution, I do hereby protest against such survey, for the following reasons, viz. That, on the 27th day of June, in the year 1797, the Baron de Carondelet, governor general of the province of Louisiana, then under the sovereignty of Spain, granted to Elisha Winter one thousand hundred arpens square; to Gabriel Winter, his son, five arpens square of land; to William Winter, his son, five hundred arpens square, and to six other persons fifteen arpens in front and forty arpens in depth; the whole quantity amounting to one million five hundred and three thousand six hundred arpens of land, lying in the district of Arkansas; and that the said Elisha Winter and sons were put into regular possession of the lands granted to them as aforesaid, by the commandant of the post of Arkansas, and that they resided thereon when the province of Louisiana was surrendered to the United States; all of which will appear from the grant and other documents now before the House of Representatives of the United States. As these lands are a part of those ordered to be surveyed by the Government for the purposes above mentioned, I do, for myself and the other heirs, some of whom are orphans, protest against the surveying thereof.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GAB. WINTER.

To JOSIAH MEIGS, Esq.
Commissioner of the General Land Office.

(TRANSLATION.)

The Baron Carondelet, knight of the order of St. John, major general of the royal armies, governor and commandant general, vice patron of the provinces of Louisiana and West Florida, inspector of their troops, &c.

Desiring to promote population and agriculture, by all the means which the political circumstances of the times allow, and attending to the propositions made to the Government by Elisha Winter to form an establishment at the post of Arkansas for the cultivation of wheat, flax, and hemp; I grant henceforth, that it may be carried into effect, to the said Elisha Winter, a thousand *arpens* of land* square, (or squared;) to Gabriel Winter five hundred* square, (or squared,) and to Samuel Price, Richard Price, William Huble, John Price, William Russell, Joseph Stillwell, and Walter Carr, fifteen arpens of land of front to each one, with the respective depth of forty, in consideration of the good accounts which have been given to me of their excellent conduct and good principles, nnder the express condition that, as soon as the boundaries of the surveys shall have been established in the manner which shall be designated by the commandant of the post, the corresponding title, in form, shall be provided for each one. That the establishment must be formed united, and as much together as may be possible; no more American families to be admitted in it than those named, and those which the Government shall permit; although the commandant may admit good colonists who may present themselves, Spaniards, Frenchmen, Germans, and Hollanders; but vagrants are by no means to be admitted. Hence, it is made the duty of the commandant of the district, to take notice of the nonobservance of this clause. Provided, always, that if, in the term of one year, the lands designated in this docu-

* As the word "quadrados," in the original, may have been used either as an adjective or participle, it has been rendered accordingly without transposition. The expression is probably technical, and the true meaning of it, in this instance, is therefore to be collected rather by reference to the usage of the country than to grammatical construction.

ment to the families named, are not occupied, this concession is void; which, in all its parts, the commandant of the district will comply with, on whom is enjoined a strict observance of the whole, as also, of the good treatment and humanity belonging to the Spanish Government.

The present given in New Orleans, 27th of June, 1797.

[L. S.] THE BARON DE CARONDELET.
ANDRE LOPEZ ARMESTO.

WASHINGTON, *24th January*, 1817.

DEAR SIR: I return you the paper you sent me, with two translations; the one made by Mr. Stoughton, of the Spanish legation, and the other by myself.

From the note added to mine, you will see that I am in doubt as to the true meaning of the most material part of the grant. The doubt is, in what sense the word "arpanes" is used. If it is used to designate a given quantity of land, then I would say that a thousand arpens were granted in a square; if, on the other hand, it is used to designate linear measure, (viz. that equal to its square,) as it frequently is in Louisiana, then I would say that a tract equal to the square of one thousand arpens, when laid off upon one line, was granted. The difference is immense, and the decision ought not, and will not, I presume, rest upon a mere translation.

With great respect and regard, I remain, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN GRAHAM.

THOS. DOUGHERTY, Esq.

P. S. Among the papers now sent, you will find a copy of the grant to Winters, in the hand-writing of the former secretary of the Spanish Government at New Orleans, Andre Lopez Armesto. It may, therefore, I presume, be depended on as a correct copy. It was left with me by Mr. Winter, who requested that I should send it to you. I also send a copy of the paper you handed to me, as corrected by Mr. Stoughton.

[TRANSLATION.]

The Baron of Carondelet, knight of the religion of St. John, major general of the royal armies, governor general, vice patron of the provinces of Louisiana and West Florida, and inspector of his troops, &c.

Being desirous of promoting the population and agriculture by all the means which the political circumstances of these times offer, and taking into consideration the proposals made to the Government by Elisha Winter to form a settlement to the southeast of Arkansas for the cultivation of wheat, flax, and hemp, I do hereby grant unto the aforesaid Elisha Winter, with a view that the same may be effected, one thousand square arpens of land; to Gabriel Winter, five hundred square arpens; and to Samuel Price, Richard Price, William Huble, John Price, William Russell, Joseph Stillwell, and Walter Carr, fifteen arpens of land in front to each, with its respective depth of forty arpens, in consideration of the favorable accounts which have been communicated to me of their excellent conduct and good principles; under the express consideration that, as soon as they shall have settled themselves with the survey which the commandant of the post shall have directed to be made, there shall be furnished to each the necessary title, in form, and the settlement shall be made close to one another, and as near as possible, not admitting therein more American families than those above named, and such as may be permitted by the Government; but the commandant may admit such Spanish, French, German or Dutch good colonists as may present themselves, but in no instance shall vagrants be admitted, as the commandant shall be answerable for the observance of this clause. It being understood that if, in the space of one year, the lands destined in this document for the families herein mentioned should not be settled, this concession shall be void, which shall be punctually fulfilled in all its parts by the commandant of the district, to whom the strict observance of every thing herein contained is enjoined, as also that good treatment and humanity peculiar to the Spanish Government.

Given at New Orleans, the 27th June, 1797.

[L. S.] EL BARON DE CARONDELET.
ANDRES LOPEZ ARMESTO.

WASHINGTON, *4th February*, 1817.

SIR: Having revised the translation which I had formerly given, of the grant of land by the Baron de Carondelet, in the year 1797, to Elisha Winter and others, and compared it with the original, I find that the word *square*, which I have placed before the word arpens, is, in the original, after it, (arpanes de tierra quadrados,) I therefore correct it so far as to place the said word *square* after the word arpens; but, at the same time, I declare myself unacquainted with the true meaning of the original, in this instance, to decide which of these two positions of the word square should be preferred.

I am, sir, respectfully, your most obedient servant,

FRANCIS STOUGHTON.

THOMAS DOUGHERTY, Esq.

MEMORANDUM.

In the investigation of my claim before the House, some doubts may arise as to the meaning and application of the French word *arpent*, or *arpanes*. The translation made by Mr. Graham is correct, and does not differ from the translation made by the royal interpreter in anno '97; each having reference to linear measure. In the other translation the word square is transposed, and would seem to have reference to each particular arpent, when the boundaries and figure of each of the grants in the same concession are only alluded to, as will appear by a reference to that document. It is an undeniable fact, that the word arpent or arpanes was used as linear measure; and it is denied that square acres were ever granted in any concession—in which case the word superficial would have been used, and then the arpent might be considered either square, round, or triangular, the quantity would not be varied; and were the grants for square arpens, each square arpent might be detached, and as many tracts formed as there were superficial arpens. With respect to the grammatical construction of the sentence, I would ask how *twelve leagues square* should be translated? Answer. Doce leaguas quadrados. And the same with respect to arpanes, when considered as linear measure. I would ask, is the concession consistent in itself? Could the variety of colonists be placed on five hundred or one thousand superficial arpens? Is the arpent made linear in any of the grants in the same concession? (See the six small grants.) In the six small grants the superficial quantity is not given; the boundaries and form alone is given, and why not apply the same consistent rule to the other three grants which were made to the prime movers of the establishment?

Report of the Committee on the Public Lands on the petition of Chew and Relf, owners, and representatives of the owners, of the claim of the Marquis de Maison Rouge, made February 10, 1817. *Accompanied with a "bill confirming the title of the Marquis de Maison Rouge."*

The Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Chew and Relf, owners, and representatives of the owners, of the claim of the Marquis de Maison Rouge, on the Ouachitta river, State of Louisiana, have had the same under consideration, and report as follows:

The Marquis de Maison Rouge obtained, in consequence of a contract with the governor of Louisiana, dated 17th of March, 1795, which was duly approved by the King of Spain, the 14th of July, 1795, a title to a tract of land, of which the following is a copy:

"The Baron de Carondelet, knight of the order of St. John, marshal de camp of the royal armies, governor general, vice patron of the provinces of Louisiana and West Florida, inspector, &c. For as much as the Marquis de Maison Rouge is near completing the establishment of the Ouachitta, (Washita,) which he was authorized to make for thirty families, by the royal order of July, 1795; and, desirous to remove, for the future, all doubt respecting other families or colonists who may come to establish themselves, we destine and appropriate exclusively for the establishment of the aforesaid Marquis de Maison Rouge, by virtue of the powers granted to us by the King, the thirty superficial leagues marked in the plan annexed to this instrument, with the limits and boundaries designated with our approbation by the surveyor general, Don Carlos Trudeau, under the terms stipulated and contracted for by the said Marquis de Maison Rouge; and that it may at all times stand good, we give the present, signed with our hand, sealed with our seal at arms, and countersigned by the underwritten honorary commissary at war, and secretary for his Majesty for this commandancy general.

"THE BARON DE CARONDELET,
"ANDRE LOPEZ ARMESTO.

"NEW ORLEANS, *June 20th*, 1797.

"NOTE.—That, in conformity with his contract, the Marquis de Maison Rouge is not to admit or establish any American on the land included in this *gant*.

"THE BARON DE CARONDELET."

The committee having duly examined the above title, are of opinion that it is a legal and formal title, according to the laws and usages of the province of Louisiana, and that the same ought to be confirmed, and report a bill for that purpose.

15th Congress. **No. 262.** 1st Session.

FRAUDS BY PURCHASERS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DECEMBER 31, 1817.

Mr. Robertson, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the resolution instructing them "to inquire what further provisions are necessary in the existing laws for the more effectual prevention of frauds by purchasers of public lands," reported:

That they have examined the subject with an earnest solicitude to render as perfect as possible the public code in relation to the sale of lands. That they have examined every statute from the institution of the present system of vending the public lands, and have inquired, as far as their situation and attention to other duties permitted, into the practical operation of those laws. At a very early period of legislation on this subject, Congress provided all the usual and ordinary safeguards against fraud and imposition: however, it is believed that in a few instances the ingenuity of speculation did elude the vigilance of the legislature; but Congress, by a succession of salutary provisions, have been gradually improving the system and reducing the means of imposition, and by the act of the 14th January, 1812, annihilated the possibility of fraud. Under the operation of the laws antecedent to the enaction of the last, the prospect of unlawful gain to the pretended purchaser, though possible, was remote and contingent, but now no fraud can be practised. The system is simple, its provisions well known, and its operation (believed to be) eminently beneficial. The same solicitude which would have been felt by the committee to give their assistance to correct any defect in the laws, impels them to cherish the present system in its simplicity, and restrains them from recommending the introduction of any new principle which is not manifestly necessary.

The committee therefore report, that, ignorant of frauds in the purchases of public land, they deem it unnecessary to recommend, in this particular, any alteration of the existing laws.

15th Congress. **No. 263.** 1st Session.

APPLICATION TO PURCHASE FOUR ACRES OF LAND.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 5, 1818.

Mr. Morrow, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Joel Rivers, reported:

That it appears from the statement made by the petitioner that he has, within the last year, commenced an improvement near Fort Claiborne, on the Alabama river, where public convenience required a ferry: that he has expended $500 in making a ferry, and $500 more will be necessary to complete it: that the improvement thus made is on land belonging to the United States. The petitioner, not being able to purchase the tracts on each side of the river which embrace his ferry, and doubting that speculators may become the purchasers, and avail themselves of the advantages of his labor, prays that Congress would authorize him to purchase four acres on each side of the river, to secure his improvement, at a price they may deem reasonable.

The committee can discover no principle which would warrant a favorable report on this case. The improvement made by the petitioner was unauthorized, and his expenditures voluntary; of right he alone should be liable to the consequences of a failure in his enterprise. His possession was taken, and improvements made contrary to law, and cannot be made the ground of a claim to peculiar priviliges or an exclusive grant.

The principle usually assumed by adventurers on the public lands, that their improvements, though unauthorized, give additional value to tracts improved and the adjoining lands, and that, on principles of equity, the Government are bound to give them a pre-emption as a remuneration for the value thus imparted to the public property. Should the principle thus assumed receive the unqualified sanction of Government, then might individuals at any time lay the United States under contribution to an amount unlimited, except by the calculations of private interest, contrary to the public will, as expressed by prohibitory penal laws. The following resolution is respectfully submitted:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioner ought not to be granted.

15th Congress. **No. 264.** 1st Session.

PROPOSITION TO INCREASE THE PRICE OF PUBLIC LANDS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 5, 1818.

Mr. Robertson made the following report:

The Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred a resolution instructing them to inquire into the expediency of increasing the price at which the public lands shall be sold hereafter, have had the same under consideration, and respectfully report:

That the lands of the United States are carefully surveyed and divided into sections of 640 acres, quarter sections, and, in certain cases, eighths of sections; that they are advertised for, and set up at public sale, and disposed of to the highest bidder, at any price above two dollars per acre. If they are not sold, they are returned to the Register's office, and may be entered for, in the office, at two dollars per acre, with a credit, after the payment of one-fourth, of two, three, and four years: the effects of this part of the system has been heretofore deemed beneficial both to the public and to individuals. It is beneficial to individuals, because the price is so moderate, that the poorest citizen may place himself in the most useful and honorable situation in society by becoming a cultivator of his own land, and the fixed value is so high, connected with the abundance of our vacant territory, as to prevent individuals from purchasing, with a hope of advantage, unreasonably extensive and numerous tracts, to be held for purposes of speculation. That this is the case, that lands sold by the United States are not held by speculators, may be fairly inferred by a consideration of the following facts:

From the opening of the land offices in the northwest

territory, as it was then called, to the 30th September, 1810, 3,167,829 acres of land were sold: this amount, compared with the population in 1810, is in the ratio of something less than 12 acres for each individual. The free white inhabitants of Virginia, in 1800, amounted to 518,674; the lands of the State, valued in 1798, amounted to 40,458,644 acres: this, divided among the inhabitants, gives to each individual, upwards of 76 acres of land, but it will not be contended that the lands of Virginia are held by speculators; and with much less truth can it be so said of the lands northwest of the Ohio. Again, to show by inference that the public lands are not disposed of at too low a price, the committee have thought proper to inquire into the estimated value of the lands in several of the States, and they find that, in the year 1798, the lands of New Hampshire, amounting to 3,749,061 acres, were valued at $19,028,108, or $5 07 per acre.

In Pennsylvania, 11,959,865 acres were valued at $72,824,852, or $6 09 per acre.

In Maryland, 5,444,272 acres were valued at $21,634,004, or $3 77 per acre.

In Virginia, 40,458,644 acres were valued at $59,976,860, or $1 48 cents per acre; and, finally, in the 16 States at that time composing the United States, the land amounted to 163,746,686 acres, valued at $479,293,263, or $2 92 per acre. Now, if the lands of the United States, settled and peopled as they were, have been thus valued, it may safely be concluded that the uninhabited wilds of our forests are not disposed of at too low a price.

Indeed, the committee feel somewhat apprehensive that the United States, so far from being enabled to increase, will find themselves compelled to lessen the price of the public lands, or to forego the golden dreams they indulge in, of enormous revenue to arise from their sale. It will be recollected by the House, that heretofore the public has been the monopolist of land; that, notwithstanding this advantage, not more than eight or nine millions of acres have been disposed of for a sum less than 19,000,000 of dollars, and that too during a space of 18 or 20 years.

They will now take into consideration the fact, that five or six millions of acres have been given as bounty to the soldiers of the late war, and now are, or soon will be, in the market, to meet the demand which the United States alone could heretofore supply. The committee will not obtrude upon the House the deductions or reflections which grow out of this state of things; they content themselves with the justification it affords of the resolution which they respectfully submit.

Resolved, That it is inexpedien, tat the present time, to increase the price at which the public lands are required to be sold.

15th Congress. **No. 265.** 1st Session.

APPLICATION FOR AN EXTENSION OF CREDIT.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 5, 1818.

Mr. Robertson made the following report:

The Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Edmund Dana, in behalf of himself and others, have had the same under consideration, and submit to the House the following report:

The petitioners, amounting to some hundreds, after stating a variety of facts which, for the most part, apply to all the citizens of the Atlantic States, conclude with a prayer that they may be authorized to purchase two hundred and seven thousand five hundred acres of land, for which the first payment shall not be exacted prior to the month of February, 1819. They further ask to be permitted to purchase ninety-five thousand three hundred acres, on which the first payment shall not be exacted prior to the 1st December, 1820. The committee, however well disposed towards the petitioners, cannot recommend to the House a compliance with their request: it involves the expediency of altering the whole system regulating the disposal of the public lands so far as it regards the credit now allowed. Should the present applicants succeed in their demand, similar favors would be asked from all parts of the country, and the necessity for an entire change of the laws, as they now stand, would be at once apparent and irresistible. A citizen of industry and economy can encounter no difficulties in obtaining the lands of the public. Every facility has been extended to them; the poor man, if he be not enabled to pay in advance, after the first payment has a credit allowed him of two, three, and four years for the residue of the sum; if he be not enabled to purchase a section, for his convenience, certain quarter sections have been subdivided into eighths of sections, or tracts of eighty acres each. Surely, then, when we take into consideration the smallness of the quantity which may be bought, and the long credit which is given, there can be no cause of complaint, and no sufficient reason assigned either for a general change in the system, or a particular exception to it in favor of the petitioner.

The committee respectfully submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioner ought not to be granted, and that the petitioner, Edmund Dana, have leave to withdraw the petition.

15th Congress. **No. 266.** 1st Session.

APPLICATION TO SELL SCHOOL LANDS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 7, 1818.

Mr. Robertson, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the memorial of sundry inhabitants of Missouri Territory, reported:

That this is an application on the part of the memorialists to be permitted to sell a moiety of the sections of land within certain limits, which have been reserved for the use of public schools, and to vest the money arising from such sale in trustees, for the use of an academy to be hereafter established at Marthasville, in the county of St. Charles.

The committee feel no disposition to divert the lands reserved for the use of public schools in the Missouri Territory, or any where else, from the purposes for which they were originally intended. They are of opinion that many schools are to be preferred to *one academy*, and that it is better that the citizens of the United States should all have it in their power to read and write, than that a favored few should be accommodated with globes, and charts, and maps, and philosophical apparatus, as seems to be contemplated by the memorialists. It is deemed unnecessary to urge other objections growing out of the sparse population of that part of the world: it is obvious that this donation of each sixteenth section in every township can only be considered as of value and utility in connection with the density of the settlements.

The committee submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the memorialists ought not to be granted.

15th Congress. No. 267. 1st Session.

APPLICATION TO SELL SCHOOL LANDS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 12, 1818.

Mr. Morrow, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of the Trustees for the Vincennes University, reported:

That, by an act of Congress passed on the 26th of March, 1804, "for the disposal of the public lands in the Indiana Territory," an entire township of six miles square was reserved in the district of Vincennes "for the use of a seminary of learning;" and that, by an act of the Legislature of the Indiana Territory, passed on the 29th of November, 1806, for establishing a University at Vincennes, the trustees appointed for the seminary were authorized to sell four thousand acres of the said township for the purpose of putting the institution into immediate operation. The proceeds of this sale were applied to the erection of a building suitable for a public school. The trustees were also authorized to rent out or lease the remaining part of the township for the use of the said university. It appears, however, that, from causes incidental to a new country, where the price of land is low, and the quantity for settlement disproportioned to the population, that the trustees have not been able to make any advantageous disposition of the lands by granting leases, nor to derive effective resource from rents for the support of the seminary, and that the unfavorable prospect of their unproductiveness for years to come, when disposed of in that way, has induced the trustees for the present to abandon the measure.

But in order to derive from these lands an active fund for rendering the institution respectable, and immediately advantageous to the country, the trustees have, by their petition, recommended to Congress the propriety of authorizing the sale of the lands, and vesting the proceeds of the sale in the stock of such bank or banks as may be designated for the purpose, and of vesting the dividends arising in the trustees, for the use of the Vincennes University.

The committee cannot doubt that the sale of the lands and investment of the proceeds in the manner proposed, would produce immediate aid, and, for several years to come, a more effective fund for the support of the institution, than what can be derived from the lands when let on rent or by lease; nor would they express an opinion that it would be improper when these lands shall have acquired their real value, from the increase of population and advanced improvement on the adjacent county, to dispose of them in the manner proposed by the trustees.

Indeed, several considerations would appear to recommend the eventual adoption of such a measure. A moneyed capital, as it is the most manageable fund, must have a preference for the endowment of a seminary over that of rents drawn from land, which is too precarious in its nature to be depended on for the purpose.

It is also a consideration of some importance, in a political point of view, whether the reservation of title in Government to such considerable tracts of lands, to be let on rent by the agents of a corporation, and to be settled and cultivated by tenants in some measure dependant on those agents, would, in practice, operate to the advantage of civil liberty. To assure the agricultural class of the community the independent and free exercise of the privileges of citizens, it is necessary they should hold, in absolute right, the soil which they cultivate. But, on a view of the whole case, it would appear to the committee that, to authorize a sale of the lands at present, before they have acquired their proper value, would be to sacrifice to present advantage the future prospects of the institution. It is worthy of inquiry whether the object in view would justify the sacrifice, or indeed whether it be at all attainable at present. The object is to render the institution immediately "respectable and advantageous." Did this depend alone on the appropriation of funds, it might in some measure be realized; but it is conceived that all establishments of the kind, formed for the higher branches of literature, must depend for their advances and maturity on the progress of society, the state of common schools for preparatory education, and the population, wealth, and state of improvement in the country in which they are situated. And it is not probable that in a country so recently settled, the means would be afforded to keep in respectable standing an institution such as is contemplated, even after, by an anticipation of its fund, it had been forced into a premature existence. The following resolution is respectfully submitted:

Resolved, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.

15th Congress. No. 268. 1st Session.

APPLICATION FOR AN EXTENSION OF CREDIT.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 13, 1818.

Mr. Robertson made the following report:

The Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of sundry emigrants from Switzerland, have had the same under consideration, and report:

That the petitioners ask permission of the Government to become the purchasers of twelve townships of land, at the price of two dollars per acre, payable in fourteen years after the grant. The committee are entirely disposed to consider the Swiss emigrants, and all others, when they become citizens, as entitled to all the rights of the native born citizens of the United States; but they can go no further: they cannot view them as authorized to expect peculiar favors and indulgences. The committee, within a few days past, recommended the rejection of a similar application signed by many hundreds of the inhabitants of several of the States of the Union: they cannot, in justice, recommend a different course on the present occasion. They therefore respectfully submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioners ought not to be granted.

15th Congress. No. 269. 1st Session.

CLAIM OF THE HEIRS OF DON J. CLAMORGAN.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 15, 1818.

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled:

The petition of Risdon H. Price and Charles Frimon Delouriere, both inhabitants of the town of St. Louis, and citizens of the United States, respectfully shows:

That, in consideration of great and eminent servives rendered to the crown of Spain by the late Don Jaque Clamorgan, there was granted to him a large tract of land in the then province of Upper Louisiana, now Territory of Missouri; the nature and importance of which services were fully set forth by the said Don Jaque Clamorgan in a petition to his excellency Don Zenon Trudeau, lieutenant governor of the province, drawn up in the French language, and of which the following is an exact translation:

Petition.

"To Don Zenon Trudeau, lieutenant governor of Upper Louisiana: Nothing was more glorious to the petitioner than the encouragement you were pleased to give to his industrious exertions for exploring the Indian nations as far as the Pacific ocean, when he was charged with that mission by the General Government. You did him the honor to authorize a hope of your protection and support. You did more: you solicited from the General Government the auxiliary means claimed by the petitioner, for the active prosecution of an undertaking on which his Majesty seemed to have bestowed a thought. In fact, his Majesty granted to the petitioner the exclusive privilege of trade, for the space of ten years, with the nations of the Upper Missouri, with a view not only to open a new branch in the fur trade, but also to acquire information, and procure a local knowledge of the immense tracts of country which were to be explored—objects which could not be attained without great sacrifices amidst the nations of Indians whose favorable disposition it was necessary to conciliate towards us. Through your recommendation his excellency the Baron de Carondelet laid before his Majesty a statement of the excessive expenses which the petitioner had to sustain in that arduous enterprise in order to facilitate a remote communication, whereby his Majesty was induced to allow the annual payment of ten thousand dollars towards defraying the expenses of the nations and territories of the Upper Missouri; and, at the same time, keeping off the foreign traders of Hudson's bay and Lake Superior, who introduce their commerce into those parts, and estrange the affections of the native tribes.

"His excellency the Baron de Carondelet, as well as yourself, did forthwith communicate, by official letters, the generosity of his Majesty in behalf of the petitioner; but the result proved ineffectual, owing to the difficulties interposed by the intendant, Mr. Morales, who pretended to have at that time, in the royal treasury, no funds appropriated to that use.

"Thus placed between two conflicting authorities, the petitioner remained the victim of his zeal and endeavors to promote the wishes of the General Government, and the instructions of his Majesty.

"Under these unfortunate circumstances, the petitioner has recourse to your goodness, and prays that you will please to grant to him, on the west side of the Mississippi, at the distance of a few leagues above the mouth of the Missouri river, the tract of land which lies, and is bounded on one side by the creek named Charette or Dardenne, and on the other by the little river named *Riviere au Cuivre*, (Copper river,) both of which empty into the Mississippi, which is to be the eastern boundary of the tract applied for; the two streams above named, Charette or Dardenne, and Cuivre, one to the south and the other to the north, are to be the lateral boundaries.

"The petitioner prays, moreover, that you will be pleased to grant him sixty arpens of land in front, on the Mississippi, beginning at the mouth of the little river first above named, Charette or Dardenne, and descending the Mississippi.

"Also sixty arpens in front, on the Mississippi, beginning above the mouth of the second river above named, *Riviere au Cuivre*, and running up the Mississippi.

"The depth of the three several tracts of land aforesaid to be extended and determined by two lines, which are to begin on the margin of the Mississippi, one at the southern, the other at the northern extremity, and to run parallel on each side, progressing towards the west until they have both reached the inland hills, continuing in a straight line still westwardly to the distance of about two hundred arpens from the foot of the said hills; and the two extreme points of said side lines, thus established, are to be joined by another straight line to be run as the fourth side of the three contiguous tracts as aforesaid, so as to include within the compass of the said extended lines all the waters of the said rivers Charette and Cuivre; to the end that the petitioner may, in the end, erect saw-mills and grist-mills thereon, and also keep there a stock of cattle and other animals, out of which he may export salt provisions to the capital. And the petitioner will render thanks to your goodness.

JAQUE CLAMORGAN.

St. Louis, 1*st March*, 1797."

Which petition was duly presented to his excellency Don Zenon Trudeau, who examined the same, and on the third day of March, in the year 1797, made his decree thereupon, which was signed by himself, and is in the following words:

"*Decree of Concession.*

"Don Zenon Trudeau, captain in the Louisiana regiment, lieutenant colonel by brevet, and lieutenant governor of the western part of the Illinois.

"Having seen the foregoing statement of Don Jaque Clamorgan, and adverting to the special recommendation made to me by the governor general, the Baron de Carondelet, to facilitate and protect the discovery and trade of the Upper Missouri, in which, at my solicitation, the said Don Jaque Clamorgan has been actively employed; taking into consideration the laborious exertions which such undertakings have necessitated, the additional expenses which he has incurred in pursuit of those objects, and the importance of encouraging and favoring the discoveries aforesaid, consistent with the fiscal interest of his Majesty, and the prosperity of these settlements, which will be promoted by an increase of population: for these considerations, and that of said Clamorgan having well deserved the Government, and rendered himself worthy of its favor, the surveyor of this jurisdiction, (when the occupation of his office will permit,) will survey for the applicant aforesaid the tract of land which he solicits, in the same mode and manner by him designated in the present memorial; which, together with the certificate, (proces verbal,) of the survey and of the boundaries established, will form the title of concession, which he is in due time to present to the governor general of the province for his approbation and record.

ZENON TRUDEAU.

St. Louis of the Illinois, 3*d of March*, 1797."

Your petitioners show to your honorable body, that the said lieutenant governor, Don Zenon Trudeau, in consequence of the largeness of the grant which he had just made to the said Don Jaque Clamorgan, deemed it his duty to communicate the circumstance and his reasons, in detail, to his military and civil superior at New Orleans, his excellency the governor general, the Baron de Carondelet; to which effect, he addressed to the said governor general an official letter, bearing date the 11th day of March, in the year 1797, that is to say, within eight days after the date of the concession which was the subject of communicaton. To which letter the Baron de Carondelet replied on the 5th day of April following, approving and confirming the grant which the lieutenant governor had made to Clamorgan; and, on the 3d day of July following, the decree of confirmation was communicated to Don Jaque Clamorgan by the lieutenant governor, Don Zenon Trudeau, by an official letter of that date; of which the following is a translation:

"DECREE OF CONFIRMATION.

"*Governor Trudeau to Don J. Clamorgan.*

"Sir: Under date the 5th of April of the present year, governor general, the Baron de Carondelet, writes to me as follows:

"'I have received your letter of office of the 11th of March last, in which you state the motives which have induced you to concede to Don Santiago Clamorgan the

tract of land situated between the two rivers *Charette* and *Au Cuivre*, emptying into the Mississippi, together with sixty arpens to the north, and sixty arpens further to the south of said two rivers, which are to be assumed for the points of departure, and the Mississippi for the front side; two lines to be drawn parallel, extending, in depth as far as two hundred arpens beyond the foot of the first hills, and in the manner which you say the applicant has required. All which meets my approbation, as Clamorgan has merited that favor from Government.'

"The which I transcribe to you for your intelligence and government. God preserve you many years.

"ZENON TRUDEAU.

"ST. LOUIS, *3d July*, 1797."

Your petitioners now show to your honorable body, that the said petition of Don Jaque Clamorgan, and the said decree of concession made by Don Zenon Trudeau, and the said decree of confirmation made by his excellency the Baron de Carondelet, have been duly recorded by the recorder of land titles for Upper Louisiana, on the 27th day of June, in the year 1808, in book D, pages 314 and 315, in conformity with the provisions of an act of Congress of 28th February, 1806, requiring to be filed and recorded the evidence of land claims which had been conceded but not surveyed, during the continuance of the Spanish Government in Upper Louisiana.

Your petitioners further show, that the claim of Don J. Clamorgan was laid before the Commissioners appointed for the adjustment of land titles in Upper Louisiana and the confirmation thereof was solicited by him under the laws of the United States during his life time. But no decision or report was made upon the claim to the knowledge of the said Don James Clamorgan, or of your petitioners.

Under these circumstances, your petitioners have been induced to bring the claim before your honorable body for examination and final adjustment by you.

In doing so, they deem it requisite to satisfy your honorable body of the authenticity of the claim, and of the just ground upon which it is founded; and, for that purpose, they will undertake to establish, by proof, the following points:

1. That the petition above set forth is the genuine petition of Don Jaque Clamorgan.

2. That the decree of concession is the genuine act of the lieutenant governor, Don Z. Trudeau.

3. That the decree of confirmation is the genuine act of the governor general, the Baron de Carondelet.

4. That the grant was made in consideration of valuable services, and of a large debt due from the crown of Spain to Mr. Clamorgan.

PROOF.

1. That the petition is the genuine petition of Don J. Clamorgan, they exhibit—

First. The original petition.

Second. The affidavit of Antoine Soulard, late surveyor general of Upper Louisiana.

Third. The affidavit of Colonel Auguste Choteau, of the town of St. Louis, and late Commissioner in the service of the United States.

Fourth. The affidavit of Captain James Mackay, formerly a deputy surgeon and local commandant under the Spanish Government in Upper Louisiana.

2. That the decree of concession is the genuine act of Lieutenant Governor Trudeau, they present—

First. The original decree.

Second. The affidavits of Mr. Soulard, Colonel Choteau, and Captain Mackay, which prove the decree of concession to be signed by the true signature of the said Lieutenant Governor Trudeau.

3. That the decree of confirmation is the genuine act of the governor general, the Baron de Carondelet, they exhibit—

First. The original official letter of Don Zenon Trudeau, dated 3d July, 1797, addressed to Don J. Clamorgan, in which is transcribed the letter of the Baron de Carondelet of the 5th of April, 1797, approving and confirming the grant to Clamorgan.

Second. The affidavits of Mr. Soulard, Colonel Choteau, and Captain James Mackay, which prove the said letter to be the genuine hand-writing and signature of Lieutenant Governor Trudeau.

Finally, your petitioners appeal to the knowledge of all persons who may be acquainted with the hand-writing of the said Lieutenant Governor Trudeau and Don James Clamorgan, to verify and prove the same fact.

Upon which it is respectfully submitted, that the authenticity of Mr. Clamorgan's petition, of Governor Trudeau's decree of concession, and of the Baron de Carondelet's confirmation, is established by judicial and convincing proofs.

4. That the grant was made to Mr. Clamorgan in consideration of valuable services, and of a large debt due to him from the crown of Spain, your petitioners will present—

First. An original letter in the Spanish language, from his excellency the Baron de Carondelet, dated from New Orleans, 18th September, 1796, addressed to Don J. Clamorgan. This letter will show that a Spanish company was formed under the auspices of the Baron de Carondelet, and approved by the King of Spain, to explore the Missouri to its source, and to make discoveries to the South sea, to conciliate the good will of the Indians, expel the British traders, to build forts and to man them at the expense of the King; and that Don Jaque Clamorgan was placed at the head of this company.

Here follows a translation of the said letter:

Letter from the Baron de Carondelet to Don J. Clamorgan.

"NEW ORLEANS, *13th September*, 1796.

"SIR: I have just now received the agreeable intelligence of the approbation, by the King, of the Spanish company (these are the very words of the *cedule royale* issued in the council of state, held the 27th May last,) as formed in 1794, to make discoveries to the west of the Missouri, together with regulations and instructions according to which you have permitted the same, and granted to it the exclusive privilege of the trade with all the Indian nations of said river Missouri residing beyond the Poncas nation, offering a recompense of three thousand dollars to the first person who shall arrive at the South sea. Secondly, the permission granted to said company of equipping and maintaining, in the forts which it has and may have hereafter, the one hundred armed men which are judged necessary, at the expense of his Majesty; all under your orders, and for the purposes contemplated, which you will attend to with the greatest care, &c.

"I hope, sir, that, after these favors and privileges, the company will resume a new vigor, and use the greatest exertions to answer the intention of his Majesty, and exclude the British from these parts. The house of Todd is likewise approved by his Majesty, who has added to all these favors the reduction of the imposts from fifteen to six per centum throughout the colony.

"We shall see whether L'Eglise will get the three thousand dollars.

"I have the honor to be, with the most perfect consideration, sir, your very humble and very obedient servant,

"EL BARON DE CARONDELET.

"Don J. CLAMORGAN."

Second. Your petitioners present another letter of the Baron de Carondelet to Don J. Clamorgan, dated the 8th November, 1796, acknowledging the justice of his claim for ten thousand dollars, due from the crown of Spain. The original in the Spanish language, of which an English translation here follows:

Second letter from the Baron de Carondelet to Don J. Clamorgan.

"NEW ORLEANS, *8th Nov.*, 1796."

"SIR: There appears to me no objection to your raising, in the country of the Illinois, the one hundred militia men allowed by his Majesty for the forts of the company of Missouri; but I cannot answer for the reimbursement of the ten thousand dollars, which rests on the decision of his Majesty, although I am firmly of opinion that he will ordain it in consequence of my representations in support of your claim.

"This is what I ought to answer to your official letter of this date on the subject.

"God preserve you many years.

"EL BARON DE CARONDELET.

"Don SANTIAGO CLAMORGAN.

Third. Your petitioners present, for the same purpose, a letter of Don John Ventura Morales, intendant of the finances, addressed to Mr. Clamorgan in answer to the demand made by him upon the royal treasury. The said letter, written in the Spanish language, and of which the following is a translation into the English language:

Letter from the Intendant Morales to Clamorgan.

"NEW ORLEANS, *24th May*, 1797.

"SIR: I have received your letter directed to me under date of the 15th ultimo. The claim which you set forth is supported by the best reasons, and would meet with no objections, were it not from the obligation I am under, from the responsibility of my situation, to take all requisite sureties in order to justify, in the most ex-

plicit manner, any extraordinary appropriation of the funds confided to me by his Majesty. I have, therefore, written on the subject to Mr. Delassus, and on the categorical answer he will give me, I will ordain what will appear to me most advisable.

"I have the honor to be, perfectly, sir, your very humble servant,

"JUAN VENTURA MORALES.

"MORRIS CLAMORGAN."

Your petitioners respectfully submit, that the meritorious services set forth by Don J. Clamorgan in his petition, and the debt due to him from the crown of Spain, are fully and explicitly acknowledged in these letters; and they believe it only remains to prove the authenticity of these letters, to give to their contents the weight and character of judicial proof. This they are ready to do by the most satisfactory evidence, and for that purpose they herewith present and show to your honorable body,

1. The original letters.

2. Affidavits of Colonel Choteau, Antoine Soulard, and Captain Mackay, in which they make oath that the said letters are in the hand-writing of the Baron de Carondelet and the Intendant Morales, and that the signatures attached to them are the true and genuine signatures of those officers.

Your petitioners further show that the said three letters have been duly recorded by the recorder of land titles for Upper Louisiana, in book D, pages 314 and 315, as evidences of the claim of said Clamorgan, in virtue of the law of Congress for recording the evidences of land claims in Upper Louisiana.

Your petitioners believe that they might now safely conclude the proofs intended to support the consideration on which the grant to Clamorgan was founded. They will adduce but one piece of evidence further, the affidavit of Captain James Mackay, which may be confirmed by a multitude of others, as the matters stated therein were subjects of general notoriety throughout the province.

Here follows the affidavit:

"I, James Mackay, do hereby certify that I have perused deliberately certain documents in the hands of the trustees of the late Jaque Clamorgan, and compared them with the extracts or copies of the same, from the commissioners of land titles in the hands of Messrs. Risdon H. Price and Frimon Delouriere, concerning a grant of land granted by the late Spanish authorities to a certain Jaques Clamorgan of the town of St. Louis, in Upper Louisiana, comprising a distance of sixty arpens below the river Charette (or Dardenne,) the ancient name of said water course, and sixty arpens above the river Cuivre, the Mississippi being the front of said land; the said instrument bearing date 1st of March, 1797, and the decree thereto affixed, dated 3d of March, same year, the signatures to each of which I am well acquainted with, and declare them to be the genuine signatures of the said Clamorgan and Governor Trudeau. Also, a copy of a letter from the Baron de Carondelet to Governor Trudeau, and transmitted by the said Trudeau, under his signature, to the aforesaid Jacque Clamorgan, dated 3d July, 1797, which signatures are genuine.

"Also, two signatures of the Baron de Carondelet to two communications to the said Clamorgan, dated 18th September and 8th November, 1796, is the hand-writing of the said Baron de Carondelet.

"Also a communication from the intendant, Don Juan Ventura Morales, dated 24th May, 1797, is the true signature and hand-writing of the said Morales.

"Having been myself for many years a Spanish officer, also a member of the Missouri Fur Company at the period alluded to, as well as in the habit of corresponding with the said officers, and personally and intimately acquainted with them and their signatures, do therefore feel myself, in point of knowledge of the facts contained in the said instruments, competent to say the whole of the said signatures are in the hand-writing of those persons whose act they purport to be.

"Mr. Clamorgan was the principal director and representatative of the Missouri Fur Company as recognized in the King's royal schedule, and the services and expenditures, as stated in his petition, were truly and faithfully performed by himself and said association, being myself the principal explorer and director of said company's affairs in the Indian country, and through my hands were distributed, principally, the presents of merchandise necessary to secure the friendship of the Indians, and to estrange them from the influence and traffic of the British, Northwest, and Hudson's Bay Companies; to effect which, very considerable sums were expended by, and out of the funds of, said company.

"According to the stipulations contained in the Baron de Carondelet's letter of the 18th September, 1796, *those militia men were actually raised and distributed in the forts and establishments of said company*, under a full expectation of receiving the promised compensation of *ten thousand dollars* therefor yearly; but the said sum, although demanded, was never paid by his Majesty, or his representatives, to the said company; in consequence of which, the company was unable to support the aforesaid heavy annual expenditure, and was compelled to abandon their privilege before the term of ten years had expired. Mr. Jaques Clamorgan was, on the dissolution of the Missouri Fur Company, fully authorized to solicit and obtain any remuneration which might be granted him by his Majesty, for the aforesaid services and expenditures, and as such, it was always conceived he had obtained the aforesaid grant, which was supposed by the parties themselves, and others, to contain four hundred and forty-seven thousand arpens, or thereabouts, according to the exhibited conjectural plot.

"JAMES MACKAY.

"ST. LOUIS, *7th March*, 1817."

Your petitioners having now stated to your honorable body the facts and the proofs in support of Clamorgan's grant, they would most respectfully remark, that it has been the misfortune of Louisiana to be transferred by secret treaties.

The treaty made at Fontainbleau the 3d of November, 1762, by which the province was transferred from France to Spain, has never been published. The only official document promulgated upon that subject, is the letter of Louis the fifteenth to Monsieur D'Abadie, his director general in Louisiana, instructing him to deliver the province to the commissioners of his Catholic Majesty, the King of Spain. That letter contains a declaration in favor of the rights of the inhabitants. It directs that—

"They be maintained in their possessions; that they be confirmed in their estates according to the grants which have been made by the governor and directors of the colony; and that all the grants be holden and taken as confirmed by his Catholic Majesty, even though not as yet confirmed by himself."

This declaration was supposed to be bottomed upon an article in the secret treaty. It was considered as a part of the treaty, and that it was thus made known for their benefit. The Spanish authorities respected it. No inquiries were instituted to test the validity of the French concessions, and none were lost for want of formalities.

The treaty of St. Ildefonso, made the 1st October, 1800, retroceding the province of Louisiana from Spain to the French republic, (or rather promising to retrocede it,) has not been published. The only official act promulgated by the King of Spain, and evidencing the retrocession of the province, is the proclamation of the 18th of May, 1803, made in the name of his Catholic Majesty, by the governor general, Salcedo, and the Marquis de Casa Calvo, commissioners for delivering the province to the French general of division, Victor, or such other officer as might be appointed by the First Consul of France, to receive it. The fourth article of that proclamation concerns the rights of the inhabitants of Louisiana. It declares—

"That they shall be maintained and protected in the peaceable possession of their property; that all the concessions or grants, of every description, made by the governors of these provinces, shall be confirmed to the inhabitants, although they have not been confirmed by his Majesty."

This declaration may fairly be presumed to be bottomed upon an article of the secret treaty of St. Ildefonso; and, until the treaty shall be published, it will doubtless be received as *prima facie* evidence of its contents in all our courts. It was intended to secure the property of the inhabitants, and was thus published for their benefit. It was done in the spirit, and almost in the words, of the letter of Louis the 15th to Mons. D'Abadie. Both the letter and the proclamation were evidently intended to effect the same object, that of communicating to the inhabitants so much of the secret treaties as was necessary to be known for the security of their property.

The treaty of Paris of the 30th April, 1803, has been published. It contains the last transfer of the province of Louisiana, the sale of it from the French republic to the United States. The third article of that treaty stipulates for the rights of the inhabitants. It proceeds, among other things—

"That they shall be maintained and protected in the free enjoyment of their property."

Your petitioners respectfully insist, that by the and the proclamation in the name of the King of Spain, by Governor Salcedo and the Marquis de Casa Calvo,

the right of property is secured to the inhabitants of Louisiana.

They further insist, that a right of property had vested in Clamorgan to the tract of land conceded to him by the lieutenant governor, and confirmed by the governor general.

The concession was made on the 3d March, 1797, that is to say, it was made three years before Louisiana was ceded to France, and six years before it was ceded to the United States.

It was confirmed to him by the governor general, the Baron de Carondelet, on the 5th day of April, 1797, that is, within little more than a month after the date of the concession.

The power of confirmation was vested in the governor general at that time. It was not until the 17th July, 1799, more than two years after the act of confirmation, that the right to confirm was transferred from the governor general to the tribunal of finance.

Documents in the General Land Office at Washington city will verify the statement made of these important facts.

In making to Clamorgan a grant of land for the important services which he had rendered to his country, the lieutenant governor and the governor general acted upon the established principles of their Government.

"The Spanish Government never gave any salaries to its provincial officers, nor any gratuities in money to those who, amid dangers and at a great expense, explored unknown regions, and made useful discoveries; but, when compensations were solicited, it was usual to bestow tracts of land instead of money." See sketches of Louisiana, page 257, by Major Stoddart, first civil commandant of Upper Louisiana under the authority of the United States.

Your petitioners will briefly answer the objections which might be suggested against the claim of Clamorgan, and which they believe are reducible to three heads, to wit:

1. The want of a survey.
2. The inadequacy of the consideration.
3. The excessiveness of the grant.

Answer to the first objection.

By the terms of the concession, no time was fixed within which the survey should be made; and by no law of Spain was the survey of conceded land required to be made within any given time. It was left to the convenience of the grantee, who postponed it without apprehension of danger, either from inability to defray the enormous expense of making a survey, or through inadvertence.

When the American Government went into operation, more than half the conceded lands in Upper Louisiana remained unsurveyed.

One object to be effected in making a survey was to identify the land granted; but in the case of the grant to Clamorgan, the natural boundaries called for sufficiently identified it.

A second object was to lay it before the governor general as the foundation for receiving a complete title; but, in the case of large grants, the individuals interested always solicited the confirmation before they hazarded the great expense of a survey. And this was the course followed by Clamorgan. He applied directly to the governor general, and obtained a confirmation before a survey was made.

It is admitted that lands, in some instances, reverted to the crown for non-fulfilment of the conditions on which they were granted; but it is believed that there is no instance in which a grant has been forfeited for want of a survey.

The grant to Clamorgan has never been annulled for the non-fulfilment of any conditions, and could not be annulled, except by a formal and judicial decree. The annexation to the domain of forfeited estates was regulated by an ordinance of Louis the 15th, in 1743, and was conducted with the same formality and solemnity which were requisite in making a concession. The cause of forfeiture was judicially examined before a competent tribunal, and the decree entered upon the judicial records for the information of all concerned. This ordinance, issued by Louis the 15th, continued in force after the province was ceded to Spain. See the Sketches of Louisiana by Major Stoddart, page 247. The survey added nothing to the validity of the claim, which depended upon the concession and the confirmation. The Government took no interest in it, except upon the application of an individual who wished a concession near the same place: in such cases, the lieutenant governor would order the survey to be accelerated, that the vacant adjoining lands might be known with precision. But this rarely happened; because the quantity of vacant land was immense, and the number of applicants very few. Under the Spanish Government, and under the laws of the United States, the unsurveyed claims were considered as the property of the claimant, and subjected to the operation of the laws. They descended by inheritance, were transferred by private contract, and, when requisite, seized by judicial authority, and sold for the payment of debts. See printed documents in the Department of State relative to Louisiana, pages 29 and 30, of the appendix. The laws of Congress have required such claims to be recorded, and the claim of Clamorgan has been accordingly recorded, as herein before set forth. The territorial laws have subjected them to taxation, and the claim of Clamorgan has paid its dues to the territorial Governments. In the year 1816 it paid the sum of one thousand one hundred and twenty dollars and fifty cents. See the receipt of Uriah I. Devoce, esq., sheriff and collector of St. Charles county.

Answer to the second objection.

2. That the consideration was inadequate.

Protesting against the right of the American Government to inquire into the consideration upon which was founded the Spanish grants in Louisiana, the petitioners, nevertheless, will freely lay open the foundations of their claim, and submit its merit to the scrutiny of any examination which your honorable body shall be pleased to institute. The consideration was too honorable to the memory of Clamorgan to need concealment.

To explore the sources of the Missouri, and to arrive at the South sea, by crossing the Shining mountains, was a project honorable to those who formed it, and interesting to the human race. It was a scheme of discovery calculated to enlarge the boundaries of human knowledge; to open new sources of national wealth; to carry the light of civilization among unlettered barbarians; and, in time, to revive, upon the western coast of America the fame of the ancient cities which rose successively upon the different channels of eastern commerce, and fell with its loss. It was an enterprise full of peril, of difficulty, and of glory. It was conceived under the enlightened administration of the governor general of Louisiana, the Baron de Carondelet; and was executed under the auspicious patronage of our own immortal Jefferson. The names of Lewis and Clark live in the recollection of this grand event. Their precursor in the path of peril, but not of renown, was Don James Clamorgan. He was the chosen instrument of the Baron de Carondelet. He embarked his fortune to make discoveries, to found a commercial company, to conciliate barbarians, to make head against British influence, and to maintain for his King the advantages he had acquired by the establishment forts and garrisons. He was promised the payment of ten thousand dollars from the royal treasury. It was not paid. The intendant, Morales, was at the head of the treasury, and was independent of the governor general. He deferred the payment of the money under frivolous pretexts, and the private fortune of Clamorgan was ruined in the support of an enterprise which could no longer be maintained. It was to reward these services, and to pay this debt, that the grant was made to Clamorgan. The officers of the Spanish Government, who had seen his zeal, and knew his losses, conceded to him 448,000 arpens of land; a compensation great in name, but small in reality, since it could be sold for nothing, or next to nothing, under the Spanish Government. Who was there to *buy* from Clamorgan, when the Spanish Government *presented* to all who asked?

Answer to the third objection.

3. That the quantity granted was excessive.

Protesting, also, that it does not belong to the American Government to condemn the grants of Spain for excess of quantity, your petitioners, nevertheless, respectfully urge to your honorable body, that the grant to Clamorgan was much smaller than many grants made by the Spanish authorities to other individuals upon considerations inferior, or not existing at all. The concessions to the Winters were for a million and a half of arpens. In fact, there was no limitation upon the powers of the governor general. Small tracts were given gratuitously to those who solicited them; and grants of great extent were bestowed upon those who had rendered important services to the crown.

But the limits do not embrace the quantity specified; and that quantity was still further reduced by a few small concessions not amounting to two thousand arpens, made before the date of Clamorgan's grant, and by a few made afterwards. Some head-rights and pre-emptions have also set up pretensions under the laws of the United States. The amount of all these, and the exact extent of the grant, can be seen on the connected map of the surveys in the Missouri Territory, on file in the General Land Office.

Respectfully weighing the necessity of a decision on Clamorgan's claim, before the opening of the office for the sale of public lands in the Missouri Territory, your petitioners pray your honorable body to take it into your consideration, and to make an equitable and final adjustment of the claim upon its merits.

To which effect they pray your honorable body to confirm, by law, to the legal representatives of the said Don James Clamorgan the quantity of four hundred and forty-eight thousand arpens of land, in pursuance of, and compliance with, his original petition, and the original concession from the late proper Spanish authorities in Louisiana.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

RISDON H. PRICE,
For CHARLES FRIMON DELOURIER.
RISDON H. PRICE.

ST. LOUIS, *November 10th*, 1817.

[TRANSLATION.]

ST. LOUIS, *the 1st March*, 1789.

Nothing was more glorious to the petitioner, than the encouragement you were pleased to give to his industrious exertions for exploring the Indian nations as far as the Pacific ocean. When he was charged with that mission by the General Government, you did him the honor to authorize a hope of your protection and support. You did more—you solicited from the General Government the auxiliary means claimed by the petitioner, for the active prosecution of an undertaking on which even his Majesty seemed to have bestowed a thought. In fact, his Majesty granted to the petitioner the exclusive privilege of trade, for the space of ten years, with the nations of the Upper Missouri, with a view not only to open a new branch in the fur trade, but also to acquire information and procure a local knowledge of the immense tracts of country which were to be explored; which objects could not be obtained without great sacrifices amidst the nations of Indians, in order to conciliate their favorable dispositions towards us.

Through your recommendation, sir, his excellency the Baron de Carondelet laid before his Majesty a statement of the excessive expenses which the petitioner had to sustain in that arduous enterprise, in order to facilitate a remoter communication; whereby his Majesty was induced to allow the annual payment to him of ten thousand dollars per annum, towards defraying the expenses of the discovery of the nations and territories of the Upper Missouri, and, at the same time, keeping off the foreign traders of Hudson's bay and Lake Superior, who introduced their commerce into those parts, and estrange the affections of the native tribes.

His excellency the Baron de Carondelet, as well as yourself, sir, did forthwith communicate, by official letters, the generosity of his Majesty in behalf of the petitioner, but the result proved ineffectual, owing to the difficulties interposed by the intendant, Mr. Morales, who pretended to have, at that time, in the royal treasury no funds appropriated to that use. Thus placed between two conflicting authorities, the petitioner remained the victim of his zeal and endeavors to promote the wishes of the General Government, and the intentions of his Majesty.

Under these unfortunate circumstances, the petitioner has recourse to your goodness, and prays that you will please to grant to him, on the west side of the river Mississippi, at the distance of a few leagues above the mouth of Missouri river, the tract of land which lies and is bounded on one side by the creek, named Charette or Dardenne, and on the other side by the little river, named river Au Cuivre (Copper river,) both of which empty into the Mississippi, which is to be the eastern boundary of the tract applied for; the two streams above named, viz. Charette or Dardenne and Cuivre, one to the south, and the other to the north, are to be the lateral boundaries.

The petitioner prays, moreover, that you be pleased to grant to him six arpens of land in front on the Mississippi, beginning at the mouth of the little river first above mentioned, named Charette, and descending the Mississippi; and sixty other arpens of land in front, likewise on the Mississippi, beginning above the mouth of the second river above named, river *Au Cuivre*, and running up the Mississippi; the depth of the three several tracts aforesaid, to be extended and determined by two lines which are to begin on the margin of the Mississippi, one at the southern, and the other at the northern extremity, and to run parallel on each side, progressing towards the west until they have both reached the inland hills, continuing in a straight line, still westwardly, to the distance of about two hundred arpens from the foot of said hills; and the two extreme points of said side lines, thus established, are to be joined by another straight line, to be run as the fourth side of the three contiguous tracts aforesaid, so as to include within the compass of the said extended lines all the waters of the said rivers Charette or Dardenne, and *Cuivre*, to the end that the petitioner may, in the future, erect saw-mills and grist-mills thereon, and also keep there a stock of cattle and other animals, out of which he may export salt provisions to the capital; and the petitioner will render thanks to your goodness.

J. CLAMORGAN.

To Don ZENON TRUDEAU,
Lieutenant Governor of Upper Louisiana.

Don Zenon Trudeau, captain in the Louisiana regiment, lieutenant colonel by brevet, and lieutenant governor of the western part of the Illinois:

Having seen the foregoing statement of Don Jacques Clamorgan, and adverting to the special recommendations made to me by the governor general, the Baron de Carondelet, to facilitate and protect the discovery and trade of the Upper Missouri, in which, at my solicitation, the said J. Clamorgan has been actively employed. Taking into consideration the laborious exertions which such undertaking have necessitated, the additional expenses which he has incurred in the pursuit of those objects, and the importance of encouraging and favoring the discoveries aforesaid, consistent with the fiscal interests of his Majesty, and the prosperity of these settlements, which will be promoted by an increase of population. From these considerations, and that of said J. Clamorgan having well deserved of Government, and rendered himself worthy of its favors, the surveyor of this jurisdiction (when the occupations of his office will permit) will survey for the applicant aforesaid the tract of land which he solicits, in the same mode and manner by him designated in the present memorial, which, together with the certificate *(proces verbal)* of the survey, and the boundaries established, will form the title of concession which he is, in due time, to present to the governor general of the province for his approbation, and for record.

ZENON TRUDEAU.

ST. LOUIS OF THE ILLINOIS, *3d March*, 1797.

Record book D, page 314, 315, office of land titles.

TERRITORY OF MISSOURI,
County of St. Louis, Township of St Louis. } *ss.*

Before me, the undersigned, F. M. Guyol, one of the justices of the peace within and for the county and township aforesaid, personally appeared Auguste Chouteau and Antoine Soulard, who, being duly sworn according to law, made oath that, to the best of their belief, the signatures of Jacques Clamorgan, which is to be seen at the end or below a petition addressed by the same to Don Zenon Trudeau, bearing date the 1st of March, 1797, for the concession of a certain land or tract of land upon *Rivier au Cuiver*, &c., as well as the signature of the Sr. Trudeau attached to the decree bearing date the 3d day of March, 1797, are the true signatures of the said Clamorgan, and of the Governor Trudeau.

The signature of the said Governor Trudeau, which is attached to an official letter addressed to the said Clamorgan, bearing date the 3d of July, 1797, is the true signature of the said Trudeau.

The signatures attached to the two letters of the Baron de Carondelet, of the 18th of September and the 8th of November, 1796, addressed to the said Clamorgan, is the signature of the said Baron de Carondelet, as well as the signature of Juan Ventura Morales, in a letter addressed to the said Clamorgan, bearing date the 24th of May, 1797, is the true signature of the said Morales. St. Louis, this first day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventeen, and of the independence of the United States of America the forty-second.

AUGUSTE CHATEAU.
ANTOINE SOULARD.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, the undersigned, one of the justices of the peace in and for the county and township aforesaid, date above written.

F. M. GUYOL, [L. S.]
Justice of the Peace.

William Clark, governor of the Territory of Missouri, commander in chief of the militia, and superintendent of Indian affairs, to all to whom it may concern:

Be it known that F. M. Guyol is, and was on the first instant, a justice of the peace within and for the county of St. Louis, in the Territory of Missouri, regularly commissioned. In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the Territory to be hereunto affixed.

Given under my hand at St. Louis, the 12th day of November, A. D. 1817, and of the independence of the United States the forty-second. [L. S.]

By the governor: WM. CLARK.

FREDERICK BATES,
Secretary of Missouri Territory.

15th Congress. **No. 270.** 1st Session.

CLAIM UNDER A PURCHASE FROM GEORGIA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 16, 1818.

Mr. Robertson made the following report:

The Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of George Pearson, respectfully report:

That the petitioner appears to have been entitled to five thousand acres of land, purchased by him from the State of Georgia out of land reserved in the Georgia Company's purchase for the benefit of the citizens of the said State.

That the petitioner was unable to avail himself of the provisions of the several acts of Congress while they were in force, under which he might have had relief, in consequence of having lost or mislaid his certificate. The committee, therefore, respectfully submit a bill for his relief.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

The petition of George Pearson, of the city of Augusta, State of Georgia, respectfully represents:

That he is a claimant of five thousand acres of land in the Mississippi Territory, having paid, as a citizen of the State of Georgia, for the portion of land reserved for citizens' rights in the Georgia Company's purchase of unlocated territory of that part of the State of Georgia now composing the Mississippi Territory, as by reference to Treasury receipt hereto annexed will more fully appear; that your petitioner was entitled to the benefit of the act passed for the indemnification of certain claimants to land in the Mississippi Territory, passed the 31st day of March, in the year 1814; and also to the benefit of the act to amend the aforesaid act, passed on the —— day of ——, in the year ——, and intended to comply with the terms and conditions of the acts aforesaid, but was unable to find the certificate hereto annexed, until after the time within which persons were to make known and convey their claims to the United States had expired; that your petitioner having lately unexpectedly recovered the said certificate, is desirous of receiving the benefit of the acts aforesaid, and, in consideration of the inducements therein provided, to convey all his interest in the said land to the United States. He therefore prays that an act may be passed to enable him to derive the benefits intended for all persons in his situation, but of which he has been accidentally deprived. And your petitioner will ever pray, &c.

GEORGE PEARSON.

Georgia, *Richmond county:*

Personally appeared before me, Benjamin H. Meigs, a justice of the peace for the county and State aforesaid, George Pearson, who, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that the facts stated in the preceding petition are true, and that the certificate mentioned in the said petition was mislaid among his papers, and, although diligently searched for, was not discovered by him until some time during the month of May last.

GEORGE PEARSON.

Sworn and subscribed to this 26th day of August, 1817.
BENJ. H. MEIGS, *J. P.*

The Hon. Mr. Forsyth withdrew the residue of the papers accompanying this petition.
August 4, 1818.

State of Georgia, *Richmond county:*

Personally appeared John Forsyth, a member of Congress of the United States from the State of Georgia, who, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that, after the passing of the act of the 31st of March, 1814, for the indemnification of certain claimants to lands in the Mississippi Territory, George Pearson, of Augusta, in Georgia, applied to this deponent to procure indemnity for a claim to five thousand acres in the Georgia Company's reserve for citizens' rights, being instructed what was required to be done, and within what time the said Pearson proposed to deliver his certificate, and the requisite conveyances and powers of attorney, &c., to this deponent for the purpose of conveying them to Washington, and receiving the amount of indemnity provided by the act aforesaid; and the said Pearson afterwards informed deponent that he could not find his certificate, after a diligent search among his papers. Subsequent to the passage of the act, this deponent informed the said Pearson that he would have further time to recover his lost paper, and that, if the necessary conveyances were had, he might still receive the indemnity he desired to procure. The said Pearson, a few days afterwards, told this deponent he had searched for the certificate without effect, and should continue to search for it, and when found he would either deliver it to this deponent, or send it to him to Washington City. Since his return from Congress at the close of the last session of the 14th Congress, the said Pearson informed deponent he had, at last, accidentally discovered his lost certificate, and solicited him to procure the indemnity offered to claimants by the acts of Congress, but was instructed by the deponent that the time limited by the act within which his conveyance ought to have been made had expired, and the property forfeited to the United States; that he could only procure relief by an application to Congress.

JOHN FORSYTH.

Sworn and subscribed before me, this 26th August, 1817.
BENJ. H. MEIGS, *J. P.*

15th Congress. **No. 271.** 1st Session.

APPLICATION OF PURCHASERS, UNDER GEORGIA GRANTS, FOR INDEMNITY AFTER SURRENDERING THEIR CLAIMS TO THAT STATE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 23, 1818.

Mr. Roberts, from the Committee of Claims, to whom was referred the petitions of Joseph Cumming, administrator of James Murren and Samuel Parker, executor of George Parker, deceased, report:

The petitioners represent the persons in whose right they claim as having been purchasers of lands embraced in the grants which issued in conformity to the act, or pretended act, of the Legislature of Georgia, passed the 7th of January, 1795, otherwise called the Yazoo act. Their purchases amounted together to about 594,000 acres. The purchasers have surrendered their claims to the State of Georgia, and withdrawn the moneys from the State Treasury, which they had paid into it on account of the purchase. The petitioners pray they may have the benefit of the act of Congress, passed the 31st March, 1814, providing indemnity for outstanding claims arising under the aforesaid act of Georgia, upon their paying the moneys redrawn as aforesaid, with interest thereon, into the United States' Treasury. The only documents laid before the committee are the petitions. The petitioners refer to the evidence sent to the General Government, by the State of Georgia, for the ascertainment of their claims. The committee cannot discover the names of the aforesaid purchasers in the documents printed in the first volume of the last edition of the laws, and they have

not felt themselves called upon to search the records of the proper department. The merits of the claims do not appear to rest on documentary evidence. The petitioners admit the persons, to whose estates they act as executor and administrator, released their claims: this with them was matter of option, and it is not alleged any of their property has been withheld. They became purchasers on speculation, and they seem to have withdrawn their money, not more out of respect for the law of the State than from a belief it was their interest to do so. It seems from the petitions the administrator may be an assignee of the purchaser under whom he claims. If so, the assignment of a released claim is at least a novelty.

The petitioners appear to have mistaken the object of the act of Congress providing indemnity. There existed second purchasers who had paid a much higher consideration than the first adventurers, who had purchased without a knowledge of the corruption of the Georgia Legislature, and who had prosecuted their claims for a long series of years at a great expense before Congress. These the committee apprehend were the description of persons whose claims produced the act of indemnity. There were, very possibly, persons benefitted by this act of doubtful merit. But it was not the relief of such, it is believed, formed the main object. The exclusion, by the act aforesaid, of those who had released their grants and withdrawn their money, was not incidental; *it was express*, and was the result of *deliberate investigation*. It would be unwise, the committee believe, to enlarge the operation of that act, as it is reasonable to suppose persons, other than those who were entitled to relief either in equity or policy, have been already benefitted. The committee are of opinion, that more than has been done cannot be claimed even of the benevolence of Congress, and therefore submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioners ought not to be granted.

15th Congress. **No. 272.** 1st Session.

QUANTITY OF LAND IN EACH LAND DISTRICT,

The quantity sold, the quantity remaining unsold, and the emoluments of the officers engaged in surveying and selling the public lands, for four years.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 2, 1818.

Treasury Department, *Jan.* 29, 1818.

Sir: In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 23d instant, I have the honor to submit two statements from the General Land Office: the first showing the quantity of land in each land district in which the public lands have been exposed to sale, the quantity which has been sold, and the quantity remaining for sale; the second showing the emoluments of the receivers and registers of the land offices for four years preceding the first day of October, 1817, and the salaries of all the officers engaged in the surveying and selling of the public lands.

From the first statement it appears that the land districts of Marietta, Zanesville, and Steubenville, have no considerable quantity of land remaining unsold, and that, from their local situation, no addition can be made to them. The emoluments of the receivers and registers in those districts may therefore be considered as having arrived at their maximum. The other districts northwest of the Ohio have large quantities of lands remaining unsold, or are so situated as to render it probable that other public lands will be added to them. The district of Madison county is estimated only according to the surveys which have been made. The district of Alabama, the office of which has been temporarily established at Milledgeville, is very extensive, containing many millions of acres, of which only 691,200 acres have been surveyed. Should these two districts remain with their present extent, the emoluments of the receivers and registers will be very great. Under all the circumstances, it appears to be proper to annex three or more ranges on the east of the Tombigbee river to the district east of Pearl river, the land offices of which are kept at St. Stephens.

From statement No. 2, it appears that the receivers at Cincinnati and at Vincennes have received more than five thousand dollars a year in emoluments and salaries. It is probable that the receipts of those officers will be greater for a number of successive years than they have been during the period embraced by the statement. The propriety of a general provision, limiting their emoluments to a sum which, considering the duties they have to perform, and the circumstances under which they are performed compared with those received by other officers, shall be deemed reasonable and just.

The establishment of banks in every part of the country, in which the money may be deposited as soon as received, has greatly diminished the risk of the receivers, upon which the discrimination between their emoluments and those of the registers was made. Judging from experience, the receivers do not seem to regard the risk of holding public money, as several of them have been in the habit of retaining it against the repeated and positive injunctions of this department. As the risk of the receiver is inconsiderable, and as the labor of the register is believed to be greater than that of the receiver, the propriety of giving them the same salary and emoluments is respectfully suggested.

I have the honor to be, your most obedient and very humble servant,

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

The Hon. Henry Clay,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

No. 1.

Estimate of the quantity of Land in each Land District; of the quantity sold, and the quantity remaining unsold, on the 1st October, 1817.

Districts.	Total acres.	Acres sold.	Remains unsold.	Districts.	Total acres.	Acres sold.	Remains unsold.
Marietta - -	576,000	131,871	444,129	Kaskaskia -	2,188,800	122,336	2,066,464
Zanesville -	1,504,880	751,852	753,028	Shawneetown -	3,018,240	161,628	2,857,612
Steubenville -	1,935,360	1,396,432	538,928	Edwardsville -	1,059,840	104,073	955,767
Canton - -	1,244,160	858,577	385,583	Madison county -	345,600	242,956	102,644
Chillicothe -	2,128,480	935,067	1,193,413	New survey -	2,327,040	- -	2,429,684
Cincinnati -	3,709,440	2,388,015	1,321,425	East of Pearl river	4,769,280	523,472	4,245,808
Jeffersonville -	2,416,200	863,457	1,552,743	West of Pearl river	3,787,840	750,492	3,037,348
Vincennes -	5,532,500	779,414	4,753,086	Milledgeville -	691,200	174,009	517,191

General Land Office, *28th January*, 1818.

JOSIAH MEIGS, *Commissioner.*

No. 2.

Statement of the Salaries, and Estimate of the Emoluments of the Land Officers of the United States.

PRESENT SALARIES.

Five hundred dollars per annum to each register and receiver.
Two thousand dollars per annum to the surveyor general.
Two thousand dollars per annum to the surveyor general south of Tennessee.
One thousand dollars per annum to the surveyor general of Illinois and Missouri.
Fifteen hundred dollars per annum to the surveyor general in the northern part of the Mississippi Territory.
Five hundred dollars per annum to the principal deputy surveyor south of Tennessee, with certain fees on private surveys. The surveyor of Illinois and Missouri has not been allowed fees, the law being imperfect in its designation of them.

Emoluments of Registers and Receivers during the years ending 30th September, 1814, 1815, 1816, *and* 1817.

Offices.		Amount received.	Register's commission at 1 per ct.	Receiver's commission at 1½ per ct.
Marietta -	1814	$12,000	$120	$180 00
	1815	25,600	256	384 00
	1816	35,000	350	525 00
	1817	33,700	337	505 50
Zanesville -	1814	107,300	1,073	1,609 50
	1815	134,500	1,345	2,017 50
	1816	158,200	1,582	2,373 00
	1817	148,200	1,482	2,223 00
Steubenville	1814	160,300	1,603	2,404 50
	1815	149,800	1,498	2,247 00
	1816	163,500	1,635	2,452 50
	1817	145,200	1,452	2,178 00
Canton -	1814	193,500	1,935	2,902 50
	1815	240,900	2,409	3,613 50
	1816	203,400	2,034	3,051 00
	1817	255,000	2,550	3,825 00
Chillicothe -	1814	76,100	761	1,141 50
	1815	85,800	858	1,287 00
	1816	103,900	1,039	1,558 50
	1817	97,000	970	1,455 00
Cincinnati -	1814	352,400	3,524	5,286 00
	1815	386,700	3,867	5,800 50
	1816	314,400	3,144	4,716 00
	1817	384,700	3,847	5,770 50
Jeffersonville	1814	97,500	975	1,462 50
	1815	115,500	1,155	1,732 50
	1816	172,800	1,728	2,592 00
	1817	256,700	2,567	3,850 50
Vincennes -	1814	48,900	489	733 50
	1815	58,000	580	870 00
Vincennes -	1816	$110,800	$1,108	$1,662 00
	1817	310,400	3,104	4,656 00
Shawneetown -	1814	2,600	260	390 00
	1815	38,100	381	571 50
	1816	24,100	241	361 50
	1817	45,944	459	688 50
Kaskaskia -	1814			
	1815	21,700	217	375 50
	1816	7,400	74	111 00
	1817	65,700	657	985 50
Edwardsville -	1814			
	1815			
	1816			
	1817	54,600	546	819 00
Madison county	1814	79,700	797	1,195 50
	1815	61,300	613	919 50
	1816	62,300	623	934 50
	1817	39,000	390	585 00
West of Pearl river	1814	37,100	371	556 50
	1815	29,800	298	447 00
	1816	180,100	1,810	2,715 00
	1817	162,200	1,622	2,433 00
East of Pearl river	1814	6,890	68	102 00
	1815	20,500	205	307 50
	1816	121,600	1,216	1,819 00
	1817	170,200	1,702	2,553 00
Milledgeville -	1814			
	1815			
	1816			
	1817	174,800	1,748	2,622 00

The registers and receivers at five other offices have not any emolument other than salary, not being in operation to sell lands. The emoluments for some years to come may be estimated at the average of the four last years, with an increase where public sales are directed.

JOSIAH MEIGS, *Commissioner.*

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, *8th January*, 1818.

15th CONGRESS. **No. 273.** 1st SESSION.

LAND CLAIMS IN LOUISIANA AND MISSOURI.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 5, 1818.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *February* 5, 1818.

SIR: In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 2d instant, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to lay before the House the reports of the several Boards of Commissioners appointed for the settlement and adjustment of land claims in the State of Louisiana and Territory of Missouri, I have the honor to transmit the said reports, with the enclosed letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

I have the honor to be,
Your most obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

The Hon. HENRY CLAY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, *February* 5, 1818.

SIR: In obedience to the resolution of the House of Representatives, dated 2d instant, I transmit to you, herewith, "the reports of the several Boards of Commissioners appointed for the settlement and adjustment of land claims in the State of Louisiana and Territory of Missouri," viz.

1. A report of the Commissioners in the district of Louisiana, now Territory of Missouri, dated 20th January, 1812. [For this report, see No. 206.] A report of the recorder of land titles at St. Louis, dated 2d February, 1816.

2. A report of the Commissioners in the eastern district of Orleans, now Louisiana, signed Joshua Lewis and J. B. Robertson, no date. [See No. 193.] A report of register and receiver, acting as Commissioners in eastern district of Louisiana, dated 20th November, 1816. [See No. 247.]

3. Reports of register and receiver in western district of Louisiana, dated 16th October, 1812, [see No. 217;] 1st May, 1815, [see No. 235;] and 20th November, 1816.

4. Report of Commissioner Crawford, in Louisiana, east of Pearl river, dated 20th July, 1815. [See No. 234.]

5. Report of Commissioner Cosby, in Louisiana, unbound, no date. [See No. 234.]

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, sir,
Your obedient servant,
The SECRETARY *of the Treasury.* JOSIAH MEIGS.

Report of Opinions of the Recorder of Land Titles for the Territory of Missouri, on claims entered under act of 13th of June, 1812, and proven before 1st January, 1814, as provided by act of 3d March, 1813: comprehending, also, the claims in the late District of Arkansas, which, by act of 2d of August, 1813, were permitted to be entered until the 1st of January, 1814, and proven until 1st July, 1814; together with the extensions of quantity provided by the fourth section of act of 3d March, 1813, and confirmations under act of 12th April, 1814.

CONFIRMATIONS OF VILLAGE CLAIMS, UNDER ACT OF CONGRESS OF THE 13TH OF JUNE, 1812.

Concession, warrant or order of survey, and by whom.	Survey.	Claimant's name.	Quantity claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
From Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	15 February, 1804	M. Lewis, under Alex. Clark	308 arpens	Adj'ng vil. Portage des Sioux	Posses'n prior to 20 Dec. 1803	Confirmed 308 arpens.
Same	Same	M. Lewis, under Bte. McDonald	80 arpens	Out lot of same	Same	Confirmed 80 arpens.
Same	Same	M. Lewis, under Jacq. Godfroy	80 arpens	Out lot of same	Same	Confirmed 80 arpens.
Same	Same	M. Lewis, under Challifoux	80 arpens	Out lot of same	Same	Confirmed 80 arpens.
Same	Same	M. Lewis, under D. Ellsborough	80 arpens	Out lot of same	Same	Confirmed 80 arpens.
Same	Same	John McQuick	80 arpens	Out lot of same	Same	Confirmed 80 arpens.
Same	Same	Charles Eber	80 arpens	Out lot of same	Same	Confirmed 80 arpens.
Same	Same	Estevan Pepin	80 arpens	Out lot of same	Same	Confirmed 80 arpens.
Same	Same	Charles Roy	80 arpens	Out lot of same	Same	Confirmed 80 arpens.
Same	Same	Matthew Soucier, fils	80 arpens	Out lot of same	Same	Confirmed 80 arpens.
Same	Same	Joseph Louis Goe	80 arpens	Out lot of same	Same	Confirmed 80 arpens.
Same	Same	Baptiste Pujol	80 arpens	Out lot of same	Same	Confirmed 80 arpens.
Same	Same	Thomas Whitley	80 arpens	Out lot of same	Same	Confirmed 80 arpens.
Same	Same	Baptiste Lacroix	40 arpens	Out lot of same	Same	Confirmed 40 arpens.
Same	Same	Estevan Pepin	40 arpens	Out lot of same	Same	Confirmed 40 arpens.
Same	Same	Pedro Clermont	80 arpens	Out lot of same	Same	Confirmed 80 arpens.
Same	Same	Antoine Le Page	40 arpens	Out lot of same	Same	Confirmed 40 arpens.
Same	Same	Francis Honoré	80 arpens	Out lot of same	Same	Confirmed 80 arpens.
None	None	George R. Spencer	Unascertain'd; ordinary size	Lot in town of St. Charles	Poss'n & imp't prior to 1803	Grant'd a lot of usual size; to be survey'd.
None	None	G. R. Spencer & W. McConnell	Do tan-yard	Do do	Do do do	Granted a lot of do; do.
None	None	John McConnell	120 by 150 feet	Do do	Do do do	Granted 120 by 150 feet; do.
None	None	William McConnell	4 arpens	Do do	Do do do	Grt'd 4 arp's, sav'g rights of others; do.
None	None	Peter Hoffman's legal repres.	120 by 300 feet, double	Do do	Do do do	Granted 120 by 300 feet; do.
None	None	Peter Teague's representatives	120 by 150 feet	Do do	Do do do	Granted 120 by 150 feet; do.
None	None	Alexander McNair	Unascertained	Do do	Do & inhab'n do	Granted according to possession; do.
None	None	Alexander McNair	Not ascertained	Do do	Do do do	Granted according to possession; do.
None	None	Alexander McNair	Not ascertained	Do do	Do do do	Granted according to possession; do.
None	None	A. Chouteau, under Nic. Coons	1 by 40 arpens	Marais-Croche, do	Poss'n & cult'n for 30 years	Granted forty arpens; do.
None	None	A. Chouteau, under R. Dodier	Ordinary size	Lot in town of do	Possession prior to 1803	Granted according to possession; do.
From Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	None	Noel Antoine Prieur	120 by 300 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 120 by 300 feet; do.
Same	None	F. Duguette, under I. La Croix	Unascertained	Do do	Do do	Confirm'd according to possession; do.
Permit from Chs. Tayon	None	Antoine Reynal	240 by 300 feet	Do do	Do do	Granted 240 by 300 feet; do.
Conces. fr. Trudeau, Lt. Gov.	None	John Coontz, assee. of Jeremiah	20 by 25 toises	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 20 by 25 toises; do.
None	None	John B. Belland, under Robidoux	120 by 150 feet	Do do	Do do	Granted 120 by 150 feet; do.
None	None	Louis Barada, under F. Soucier	130 by 300 feet	Do do	Do do	Granted 130 by 300 feet; do.
None	None	Louis Barada, under F. Soucier	120 by 150 feet	Do do	Do do	Granted 120 by 150 feet; do.
None	None	E. Hempstead, under J. P. Gates	Not ascertained	Do do	Do do	Granted according to possession; do.
None	None	A. Chouteau, under J. Marie	Not ascertained	Do do	Do do	Granted according to possession; do.
None	None	Jas. Mackay, under H. St. Cyr	2½ arpens	Do do	Do do	Granted two and one-third arpens; do.
From Z. Trudeau, Lt. Gov.	None	Joseph Lapierre	61 arpens 5 perches	Out lot of do	Do do	Confirmed 61 arpens 5 perches do.
Same	None	Nicholas Coontz	3 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 3 by 40 arpens; do.
By Frs. Cruzat	None	Jos. Brazeaux, under G. Cerré	1 arpent	Barn lot, town of St. Louis	Poss'n & imp't 26 yrs. ago	Confirmed 1 arpent; do.

CONFIRMATIONS OF VILLAGE CLAIMS—Continued.

Concession, warrant or order of survey, and by whom.	Survey.	Claimant's name.	Quantity claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
None - -	None -	Jos. Brazeaux, under J. Calvé -	60 by 180 feet - -	Barn lot, town of St. Louis -	Poss'n & imprv't, 20 yrs. ago	Granted 60 by 180 feet; to be surv'yed
None - -	None -	T. Rogers, under C. Vachard -	No quantity - -	A lot in town do -	Do 15 yrs. ago -	Granted according to possession; (saving right of others) to be surveyed.
None - -	None -	Silvestre Labadie, under widow R. A. Chouteau	120 by 260 feet - -	Barn lot do -	Do 22 yrs. ago, to this time	Granted do do.
None - -	None -	Rufus Easton, under L. Boury -	120 feet front (wide) -	A town lot do -	Poss'n & imp't from 1779 to this time	Granted do do.
Provincial Land Book, No. 2, p. 62	Record'd but not platted	Rufus Easton, under L. Le Monde	60 arpens - -	Grande prairie, back of St. Louis	Improv't from 1788 to 1792: possess'n to this time	Confirmed 60 arpens; do.
None - -	None -	Easton & Simpson, for benefit of R. Simpson	120 by 150 feet - -	A town lot of St. Louis -	Pos'n & imp't for last 20 yrs.	Granted 120 by 150 feet; do.
None - -	None -	Rufus Easton, under Dechenne -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do for last 16 yrs.	Granted 120 by 150 feet; do.
None - -	None -	Rufus Easton, under F. Barrére -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do fr. 1766 to this time	Granted 120 by 150 feet; do.
None - -	None -	Repres. of Antoine Rivierre -	300 by 300 feet - -	Do do -	Do for last 26 yrs.	Granted 300 by 300 feet; do.
None - -	None -	Repres. of Beneto Vasquez -	16½ perches square -	Barn lot do -	Do from 1798 to 1803	Granted 16½ perches square; do.
None - -	None -	Repres. of Beneto Vasquez -	40 arpens of land -	Big prairie of do -	Ten years poss'n & improv't prior to 1803	Granted 40 arpens; do.
Prov'l Land Book, 2, p. 51 -	Regis'd but not plat'd	Rufus Easton, under L. Barada -	40 arpens of land -	Do do -	Same same -	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto - -	Ditto -	R. Easton, under P. Roy's reps. -	Unascertained - -	A town lot do -	Pos'n & imp't fr. 1796 to 1803	Confirmed acc'ding to possession; do.
None - -	None -	W. Russell, under J. Bombardier	120 ft. front, & back to field	Lot in Carondelet -	Pos'n & imp't prior to 1803 -	Granted acc'ding to possession; do.
Prov'l Land Book, 2, p. 35 -	Regis'd but not plat'd	J. Clamorgan, (Dodier, G., reps.)	2 by 40 arpens - -	Lot in fields of St. Louis -	Do (by G. Dodier) do -	Confir'd to G. Dodier's reps. 80 ars. do.
None - -	None -	W. C. Carr, under S. Hammond -	120 ft. front, bank of the riv.	Town lot of do -	Do from 1778 to this time	Granted 120 feet front; do.
None - -	None -	W. C. Carr, under S. Hammond -	31 ft. front, & to do -	Town lot adjoining the foregoing, St. Louis	Do do	Granted 31 feet front; do.
None - -	None -	W. C. Carr, under Jos. Hebert -	80 by 150 ft. & to do -	Do do -	Do do	Granted 80 by 150 feet; do.
None - -	None -	Benj. Stedman & Wm. C. Carr -	120 by 150 feet - -	Lot in town of do -	Do do	Granted 120 by 150 feet; do.
None - -	None -	Wm. C. Carr, under Peter Roy -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Poss'n, inhab., & cultivation, from 1778 to this time	Granted 120 by 150 feet; do.
By Ch. D. Delassus, Lt. Gov.	10 March, 1803 -	J. Mullanphy, under H. Eglize -	12 arpens 94 perches -	Lot near town of do -	Possession prior to 1803 -	Confirmed 3 arpens 78½ perches to McKnight & Bradey
Same - -	None -	Margaret Lachaisse - -	Vac'y between Le Conte and Clamorgan	Lot in town do -	Do do -	Confirmed, also selected, under act June, 1812; to be surveyed.
By Z. Trudeau, Lt. Gov. -	None -	Sam'l Bridge, under J. B. Ortez -	2 by 40 arpens - -	Lot in Gr. prairie do -	Pos'n & imp't do -	Confirmed 80 arpens; to be surveyed.
Prov'l Land Book, 2, p. 50 -	Regis'd but not plat'd	Joseph Charless, under Laclede -	2 by 40 arpens - -	Do do -	Do for 40 years -	Confirmed 80 arpens; do.
By Ped. Piernas, Lieut. Gov. Prov'l Land Book, 2, p. 4	None -	A. Chouteau, under B. Vasquez -	60 feet front - -	Lot in town do -	Poss'n, imp't, and occasional habitation, for 40 years -	Confirmed 60 feet front by 150 deep, to river bank.
None - -	None -	A. Chouteau, ass. register Loisel	120 feet front - -	Do do -	Poss'n & inhab. prior to 1803	Granted 120 feet front, to river bank; to be surveyed.
By Man'l Perez, Lt. Gov. -	None -	McKnight & Bradey, under widow Charleville	3 by 40 arpens - -	Prairie Des Noyers, fields of, St. Louis	Poss'n & cult'n prior to 1803	Confirmed 120 arpens; to be surveyed.
Prov'l Land Book, 2, p. 73 -	Not platted -	McKnight & Bradey, under Jos. Bouddin	1 by 40 arpens - -	Barriére Des Noyers, fields, St. Louis	Do do -	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 20	Not platted -	Wm. C. Carr, under Langevin -	1 by 40 arpens - -	Field lot of St. Louis -	Do do -	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 19 -	Not platted -	W. C. Carr, under J. B. Bequet -	1 by 40 arpens - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 21 -	Not platted -	Wm. C. Carr, under A. Picard -	1 by 40 arpens - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 23 -	Not platted -	Wm. C. Carr, under Dion -	1 by 40 arpens - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.

Ditto 1, p. 1	Not platted	P. Chouteau, under La Bussiére	300 feet front by 150	A lot in town do	Poss'n & imp't from 1770	Confirmed 300 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 2, p. 19	Not platted	P Chouteau, under J. B. Ortez	2 by 40 arpens	Fields of do	Poss'n & cult'n prior to 1803	Confirmed 80 arpens; do.
Ditto 4, p. 9	Not platted	P. Chouteau, under Cusat	2 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 80 arpens (Cousat apart from Condé.)
None	None	P. Chouteau, under Gamache	60 by 150 feet	A town lot do	Poss'n and inhab'n from first settlement of St. Louis	Granted 60 by 150 feet; to be surveyed.
Prov'l Land Book, 1, p. 25	Not platted	P. Chouteau, under Al. Marie	1½ by 40 arpens	Fields of do	Poss'n & cult'n prior to 1803	Confirmed 60 arpens; do.
Ditto 1, p. 24	Not platted	P. Chouteau, under Al. Marie	2 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 80 arpens; do.
None	None	Alex. McNair, under J. Noisey	Unascertained	A town lot do	Poss'n & inhab'n since 1766	Granted; (to be bounded on N. by P. Lee,) to be surveyed.
By Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	None	Catherine Crepau	100 by 150 feet	Do do	Possession prior to 1803	Confirmed, also selected under act of 1812; to be surveyed.
None	None	Alex. McNair, under J. Chovin	Unascertained	A barn lot do	Do do	Granted according to possession of Chovin; to be surveyed.
None	None	P. Papin, under P. Chouteau	60 by 120 feet	Do do	Do do	Granted according to possession of Chouteau; to be surveyed.
Prov'l Land Book, 2, p. 75	Not platted	Paul Guitard or Guittarre	4 by 40 arpens	Pra. des Noyers do	Poss'n & cult'n do	Confirmed 160 arpens; to be surveyed.
By Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Certified 5 Feb. 1798	R. Easton, under J. B. Dufont	30 arpens of land	Barre. des Noyers do	Possession since 1798	Confirmed 30 arpens; to be resurvey'd.
Prov'l Land Book, 2, p. 69	Not platted	Nicholas, als. Fifi Bangenou	3 by 40 arpens	Do do	Poss'n & cult'n since 1780	Confirmed 120 arpens; to be surveyed.
P. Piernas's permit	None	P. Guitarre, under widow Dodier	Unascertained	Barn lot do	Possession for thirty years	Granted according to possession; do.
Prov'l Land Book, 1, p. 26	None	P. Guitarre, jr. under Des Noyers	120 by 150 feet	A town lot do	Poss'n & inhab'n for 49 yrs.	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
None	None	A. Chouteau, ass. H. St. Cyr	120 by 150 feet	A town lot (southerly, by P. Chouteau) St. Louis	Do prior to 1803	Granted; (benefit L. T. Honoré and B. D. Belcour) to be surveyed.
None	None	A. Chouteau, ass. H. St. Cyr for Jer. Connor	40 by 50 toises	A town lot (W. of Church street) St. Louis	Poss'n & imp't do	Granted 40 by 50 toises; to be survey'd.
None	None	A. Chouteau, ass. F. Braconnier	120 by 150 feet	A town lot (S. by Mde. Morin's, Cross st.) St. Louis	Pos'n & inhab'n do	Granted 120 by 150 feet; do.
Prov'l Land Book, 2, p. 63	Not platted	A. Chouteau, under L. Bissonet's widow	1 by 40 arpens	Big prairie St. Louis	Poss'n & cult'n for 40 years	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 1	Not platted	La Clede's representatives	1 by 40 arpens	Out lot do	Do prior to 1803	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 3	Not platted	Condé's representatives	2 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 80 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 4	Not platted	Laroche's representatives	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 5	Not platted	Amable Dion's representatives	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 6	Not platted	J. B. Deschamps's representa.	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 7	Not platted	Louis Ride's representatives	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 8	Not platted	Pierre Bequet's representatives	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 9	Not platted	J. B. Bequet's representatives	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 11	Not platted	R. Kiercereau's representatives	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 12	Not platted	J. Gamache's representatives	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 13	Not platted	L. Bissonnet's representatives	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 14	Not platted	F. Bissonnet's representatives	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 22	Not platted	A. Riviere's representatives	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 24	Not platted	G. Hebert, dit Lecompte	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 25	Not platted	J. B. Langonmois's representa.	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 26	Not platted	Jean Comparios, dit Gascon's representatives	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 27	Not platted	Aug. Condé's representatives	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p 29	Not platted	Lirette's representatives	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 30	Not platted	Moreau's representatives	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 31	Not platted	Vien's representatives	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 32	Not platted	J. B. Sarpy's representatives	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 33	Not platted	Jos. Taillou's representatives	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 34	Not platted	P. G. Kiercereau's representa.	3 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 120 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 37	Not platted	Debruisseau's representatives	4 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 160 arpens; do.

CONFIRMATIONS OF VILLAGE CLAIMS—Continued.

Concession, warrant or order of survey, and by whom.	Survey.	Claimant's name.	Quantity claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
Prov'l Land Book, 2, p. 39 -	Not platted -	Debruisseau's representatives -	2 by 40 arpens - -	Out lot, St. Louis - -	Poss'n & culvt. prior to 1803	Confirmed 80 arpens; to be surveyed
Ditto 2, p. 40 -	Not platted -	Widow Hebert's representatives	2 by 40 arpens - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 80 arpens; do.
None - -	None -	Susan Jeannette, under J. Terget	120 by 150 feet - -	A town lot do -	Pos'n & inhab'n do -	Granted according to possession; do.
Prov'l Land Book, 2, p. 75 -	Not platted -	E. Hempstead, under Dodier -	1 by 40 arpens - -	Field lot (Barre. des Noyers) St. Louis	Poss'n & cult'n do -	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 71 -	Not platted -	W. Christy, under widow Marly -	1 by 40 arpens - -	Do do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 72 -	Not platted -	W. Christy, under Reynal -	3 by 40 arpens - -	Do do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 72 -	Not platted -	W. Christy, under Bacanné -	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Do do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 60 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 15 -	Not platted -	W. Christy, under J. Taillou -	2 by 40 arpens - -	Do near do -	Do do -	Confirmed 80 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 17 -	Not platted -	W. Christy, under C. Routier -	1 by 40 arpens - -	Out lot near St. Louis -	Do do -	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 18 -	Not platted -	W. Christy, under Langlois -	1 by 40 arpens - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 1, p. 32 -	Not platted -	G. W. Ferguson, under P. Roy, for Sally Adams, daughter of Calvin	Unascertained - -	A town lot do -	Poss'n & imp't do -	Confirmed acc'ding to possession; do.
Ditto 2, p. 69 -	Not platted -	N. Bougenon's representatives -	3 by 40 arpens - -	Out lot, Barre. des Noyers, St. Louis	Poss'n & cult'n do -	Confirmed 120 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 70 -	Not platted -	Belestre's representatives -	2 by 40 arpens - -	Do do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 80 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 70 -	Not platted -	Roy's (Forgeron) representatives	1 by 40 arpens - -	Do do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 71 -	Not platted -	Motard's representatives -	1 by 40 arpens - -	Do do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 74 -	Not platted -	Dorlac's representatives -	2 by 40 arpens - -	Do do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 80 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p 74 -	Not platted -	L. Breda's representatives -	2½ by 40 arpens - -	Do do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 100 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 75 -	Not platted -	A. Leland's representatives -	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Do do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 60 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 76 -	Not platted -	Savarre's representatives -	2 by 40 arpens - -	Do do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 80 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 77 -	Not platted -	Flore's representatives -	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Do do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 60 arpens; do.
Ditto 2, p. 77 -	Not platted -	Chas. Roy's representatives -	2½ by 40 arpens - -	Do do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 100 arpens; do.
Ditto 1, p. 1 -	Not platted -	A. Chouteau, under wid. Bissonet	2½ by 40 arpens - -	Do (B. prairie) do -	Do do -	Confirmed for 2 by 40; confirmed 80 arpens; to be surveyed.
Ditto 1, p. 13 -	Not platted -	Jean de Page's representatives -	120 by 150 feet - -	A town lot, St. Louis -	Pos'n & inhab'n do -	Confirm'd 120 by 150 ft.; to be survey'd.
Ditto 1, p. 12 -	Not platted -	Bouverlet's representatives -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 1 -	Not platted -	Jos. Calvé's representatives -	240 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 240 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 1 -	Not platted -	F. Bissonnet's representatives -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 1 -	Not platted -	F. Bissonnet's representatives -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 2 -	Not platted -	Condé's representatives -	240 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 240 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 2 -	Not platted -	Francis Eloy's representatives -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 2 -	Not platted -	Dehêtre & N. Lecompte's reps. -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 3 -	Not platted -	T. Blondeau's representatives -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 4 -	Not platted -	Jacques Lacroix's representatives	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 5 -	Not platted -	L. Liguest's representatives -	6 by 80 arpens - -	Out lot, B. prairie do -	Poss'n & cult'n do -	Confirmed 480 arpens, by late board.
Ditto 1, p. 5 -	Not platted -	L. Liguest's representatives -	120 by 150 feet - -	A town lot do -	Pos'n & inhab'n do -	Confirm'd 120 by 150 ft.; to be survey'd.
Ditto 1, p. 5 -	Not platted -	L. Liguest, under Labuxiére -	2 by 40 arpens - -	Out lot, B. prairie do -	Poss'n & cult'n do -	Confirmed 160 arpens; do.
Ditto 1, p. 6 -	Not platted -	De Volsey's representatives -	240 by 300 feet - -	A town lot do -	Pos'n & inhab'n do -	Confirmed 240 by 300 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 7 -	Not platted -	Vien, assignee of Butaud -	250 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 250 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 7 -	Not platted -	Alexis Marié's representatives -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 8 -	Not platted -	F. La Chapelle's representatives -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 8 -	Not platted -	Julien Leroy's representatives -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 8 -	Not platted -	Peter Lacroix's representatives -	Unascertained - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed acc'ding to possession; do.

Ditto	1, p. 9	Not platted	Peter Lacroix's representatives	2 by 40 arpens	Out lot, fields, do	Poss'n & cult'n do	Confirmed 80 arpens;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 9	Not platted	J. B. Herrieux's representatives	120 by 150 feet	A town lot do	Pos'n & inhab'n do	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 9	Not platted	L. Chancellier's representatives	120 by 150 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 9	Not platted	Herrieux's representatives	2 by 40 arpens	Out lot, fields do	Poss'n & cult'n do	Confirmed 80 arpens;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 9	Not platted	Chancellier's representatives	2 by 40 arpens	Do (B. prairie) St. Louis	Do do	Confirmed 80 arpens;	do.
Ditto	1, p 10	Not platted	F. Corneau's representatives	1½ by 40 arpens	Do do do	Do do	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 10	Not platted	A. Bacanet's representatives	1½ by 40 arpens	Do do do	Do do	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 10	Not platted	R. Taillou's representatives	120 by 150 feet	A town lot, St. Louis	Pos'n & inhab'n do	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 10	Not platted	J. Labuxiére's representatives	180 by 300 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 180 by 300 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 11	Not platted	L. Debruisseau's representatives	240 by 150 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 240 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 11	Not platted	Vallière's representatives	120 by 150 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 11	Not platted	F. Duciey's representatives	120 by 150 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 11	Not platted	Lambert dit Lafleur's repres.	240 by 300 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 240 by 300 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 12	Not platted	Alaric's representatives	240 by 150 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 240 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 12	Not platted	J. Ortes & J. Combass's reps.	120 by 300 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 120 by 300 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 13	Not platted	René Buet's representatives	120 by 150 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 13	Not platted	Madame Chouteau's repres.	4 by 40 arpens	Out lot, B. prairie do	Poss'n & cult'n do	Confirmed 160 arpens;	do.
Ditto	1, p, 14	Not platted	Toulouse's representatives	120 by 150 feet	A town lot do	Pos'n & inhab'n do	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 14	Not platted	Claude Tinon's representatives	120 by 150 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 15	Not platted	Comparios's representatives	120 by 150 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 15	Not platted	René Buet's representatives	120 by 300 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 120 by 300 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 15	Not platted	Bardalou's representatives	120 by 300 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 120 by 300 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 16	Not platted	J. B. Valeau's representatives	120 by 150 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 16	Not platted	J. B. Provenchére's repres.	120 by 150 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 17	Not platted	Jean Salé dit Lajoie's repres.	120 by 150 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 17	Not platted	F. Delain's representatives	120 by 150 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 17	Not platted	Joseph Calvé's representatives	2 by 40 arpens	Out lot, B. prairie do	Poss'n & cult'n do	Confirmed 80 arpens;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 17	Not platted	Lacléde's representatives	1 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 18	Not platted	De Volsey's representatives	120 by 300 feet	A town lot do	Pos'n & inhab'n do	Confirmed 120 by 300 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 18	Not platted	I. La Roche's representatives	2 by 40 arpens	Out lot, B. prairie do	Poss'n & cult'n do	Confirmed 80 arpens;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 19	Not platted	Jacques Labbé's representatives	2 by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 80 arpens;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 20	Not platted	Bouchard's representatives	120 by 150 feet	A town lot do	Pos'n & inhab'n do	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 21	Not platted	Bizet's representatives	2½ by 40 arpens	Out lot, B. prairie do	Poss'n & cult'n do	Confirmed 100 arpens;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 21	Not platted	L. Trudeau's representatives	120 by 150 feet	A town lot do	Pos'n & inhab'n do	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 22	Not platted	P. Gaignon dit Laurant	1½ by 40 arpens	Out lot, B. prairie do	Poss'n & cult'n do	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 22	Not platted	F. La Chapelle's representatives	1½ by 40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 23	Not platted	A. Hubert's representatives	150 by 150 feet	A town lot do	Pos'n & inhab'n do	Confirmed 150 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 23	Not platted	Chauvin's representatives	120 by 150 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 25	Not platted	Lirette's representatives	2 by 40 arpens	Out lot, B. prairie do	Poss'n & cult'n do	Confirmed 80 arpens;	do.
Ditto	1, p 27	Not platted	St. François's representatives	120 by 150 feet	A town lot do	Pos'n & inhab'n do	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p 27	Not platted	Jacques Denis's representatives	120 by 150 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto	1, p. 28	Not platted	Widow Hebert's repres.	120 by 300 feet	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 120 by 300 feet;	do.
Ditto	2, p. 73	Not platted	Michel Lami, or Mad'e Lamis	5 by 40 arpens	Out lot, Barre. des Noyers, St. Louis	Poss'n & cult'n do	Confirmed 200 arpens;	do.
None	-	None	Michel Lami's representatives	120 by 150 feet	Barn lot, St. Louis	Poss'n & imp't do	Granted 120 by 150 feet;	do.
None	-	None	J. L. Marc, under Jos. Ortes	Unascertained	A town lot do	Possession do	Granted to be surveyed, according to possession.	
Prov'l Land Book, 5, p. 24		Not platted	A. Reynal, or representatives	150 by 300 feet	Barn lot do	Poss'n & imp't do	Confirmed;	do.
None	-	None	André Landreville	120 ft. front, & to bank of riv.	Town lot do	Pos. inh. & cult. do	Granted according to possession; to be surveyed.	
C. D. Delassus, Lieut. Gov.		Not satisfactory	André Landreville	120 by 60 feet	Do do	Poss'n & use as a stone quarry	Granted, if it does not interfere with River street.	
Same	-	None	Jacques Clamorgan	120 by 300 feet	Do do	Pos. inh. & cult. prior to 1803	Confirmed 120 by 300 ft; to be surv'd.	
Z. Trudeau, Lieut Gov.		None	M. P. Le Duc, under Leclair	40 by 50 toises	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 by 50 toises;	do.

CONFIRMATIONS OF VILLAGE CLAIMS—Continued.

Concession, warrant or order of survey, and by whom.	Survey.	Claimant's name.	Quantity claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
Z. Trudeau - - -	Not satisfactory -	Widow of Bapt. Marly - -	120 by 150 feet - -	Town lot, St. Louis -	Poss'n & imp't prior to 1803	Grant'd ac'ding to poss'n; to be surv'd
Prov'l Land Book, 1, p. 28 -	Not platted -	Widow Hebert's represents. -	3 by 40 arpens - -	Out lot, B prairie do -	Poss'n & cult'n do -	Confirmed 120 arpens; do.
Ditto 1, p. 28 -	Not platted -	Widow Hebert's represents. -	2 by 40 arpens - -	Out lot, Prairie La Grange, St. Louis	Do do -	Confirmed 80 arpens; do.
Ditto 1, p. 29 -	Not platted -	A. Sans Souci's representatives -	120 by 150 feet - -	A town lot, St. Louis -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 30 -	Not platted -	Chorette's representatives -	125 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Pos'n & inhab'n do -	Confirmed 125 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 31 -	Not platted -	Baccanet's representatives -	1 by 40 arpens - -	Out lot, B. prairie do -	Poss'n & cult'n do -	Confirmed 40 arpens; do.
Ditto 1, p. 31 -	Not platted -	Bacanet's representatives -	120 by 300 feet - -	A town lot do -	Pos'n & inhab'n do -	Confirmed 120 by 300 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 31 -	Not platted -	Bacanet's representatives -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 32 -	Not platted -	J. B. Viparennes's represents. -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 33 -	Not platted -	Eugene Poure's representatives	120 by 300 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 300 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 33 -	Not platted -	N. Bougenon's representatives -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 33 -	Not platted -	Claude Tinon's representatives -	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot, B. prairie do -	Poss'n & cult'n do -	Confirmed 60 arpens; do.
Ditto 1, p. 34 -	Not platted -	Alexis Marie's representatives -	2 by 40 arpens - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 80 arpens; do.
Ditto 1, p. 34 -	Not platted -	Alexis Marie's representatives -	120 by 150 feet - -	A town lot do -	Pos'n & inhab'n do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 1, p. 35 -	Not platted -	J. B. Bequet's representatives -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 3, p. 7 -	Not platted -	G. Kiercereau's representatives	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 3, p. 7 -	Not platted -	Alexis Loise's representatives -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 3, p. 7 -	Not platted -	Jas. (Diego) Larrire's repres. -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 3, p. 13 -	Not platted -	Joseph Rivet's representatives -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 3, p. 13 -	Not platted -	J. La Sablonera's represents. -	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot, B. prairie do -	Poss'n & cult'n do -	Confirmed 60 arpens do.
Ditto 3, p. 15 -	Not platted -	Antoine Reynar's represents. -	1 by 40 arpens - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 40 arpens do.
Ditto 3, p. 15 -	Not platted -	Franc's Bissonet's represents. -	½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot, fields do -	Do do -	Confirmed 20 arpens do.
Ditto 3, p. 16 -	Not platted -	Nich's Le Compte's represents. -	240 by 150 feet - -	A town lot do -	Pos'n & inhab'n do -	Confirmed, the usual extent towards river; order of survey.
Ditto 3, p. 17 -	Not platted -	Fran's Delaurier's represents. -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirm'd 120 by 150 ft.; to be survey'd.
Ditto 3, p. 23 -	Not platted -	Louis Ride's representatives -	Vacancy between claimant and river	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed, saving common right to river street; to be surveyed.
Ditto 3, p. 26 -	Not platted -	J. M. Cardinal's representatives	6 by 40 arpens - -	Out lot, Fontaine fs., St. Louis	Poss'n & cult'n do -	Confirmed 240 arpens; to be survey'd.
Ditto 4, p. 8 -	Not platted -	Elizvezet Vachard's repres. -	120 by 150 feet - -	A town lot, St. Louis -	Pos'n & inhab'n do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 4, p. 17 -	Not platted -	Francis Fleury's represents. -	60 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 60 by 150 feet, do.
Ditto 4, p. 19 -	Not platted -	Regis Vasseur's representatives -	120 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 120 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 4, p. 20 -	Not platted -	Charles Lavalle's representatives	60 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 60 by 150 feet; do.
Ditto 5, p. 13 -	Not platted -	Peter Baribeau's representatives	164 by 225 feet - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 164 by 255 feet; do.
Delassus, Lieut. Gov. -	- - -	Margaret Lachaisse - -	Unascertained - -	A town lot, vacancy by lines of N. Lecompte; St. Louis	Poss'n prior to 20 Dec. 1803	Confirmed; quantity to be ascertained by survey.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov. -	- - -	Peter Baribeau - -	Do - -	A town lot, St. Louis -	Possession since 1794 -	Confirmed; do do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov. -	- - -	Catherine Crepau - -	100 by 150 feet - -	Do do -	Possession since 1797 -	Confirmed 100 by 150 feet.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov. -	- - -	Francis Cottard - -	40 arpens - -	An out lot of do -	Possession since 1796 -	Confirmed 40 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov. -	Surv'd 25 Jan. 1798	J. B. Defaux's reps. for R. Easton	1 by 30 arpens - -	An out lot of do -	Possession since 1798 -	Confirmed 1 by 30 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov. -	- - -	Esther, mulatress - -	Unascertained - -	A lot in town do -	Possession since 1796 -	Confirmed; quantity to be ascertained by survey.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov. -	Surveyed in 1796 -	Auguste Le Clerc - -	120 by 300 feet - -	A lot in town do -	Possession since 1796 -	Confirmed 120 by 300 feet.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov. -	Surveyed in 1796 -	A. Le Clerc for M. P. Le Duc -	120 by 300 feet - -	A lot in town do -	Possession since 1796 -	Confirmed 120 by 300 feet.
Delassus, Lieut. Gov. -	Surv'd 10 Mar. 1803	Hyacinth Eglize's represents. -	12 arpens 94 perches -	An out lot of do -	Poss'n prior to Dec. 20, 1803	Confirmed 12 arpens 94 perches.
Delassus, Lieut. Gov. -	- - -	James Mackay - -	300 by 240 feet - -	A lot in do -	Do do -	Confirmed 300 by 240 feet.

Delassus, Lieut. Gov.	Not platted	Louis Beaudouin or Bodoin	1 by 40 arpens	Out lot, Bre. des Noyers, St. Louis	- - - -	Confirmed 1 by 40 arpens.
Franc's Dunegant, Com'dt	Survey	Paul Dejarlais	Not ascertained	Lot, village of St. Ferdinand	Poss'n prior to 20 Dec. 1803	Confirmed; quantity to be ascertained by survey.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	J. Mullanphy under H. St. Cyr	6 arpens 18 4-9ths perches	Out lot of do	Same	Confirmed.
Delassus, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	J. Mullanphy und. M. A. Rocques	10 arpens	Out lot of do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Geo. Fallis, under L. Alexander	134 arpens 93 perches	Out lot of do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Geo. Fallis, under A. Legasse	88 arpens 32 perches	Out lot of do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	George Fallis	88 arpens 59 perches	Out lot of do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	G. Fallis, under widow Rigoche	1½ arpens front	Out lot of do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Geo. Fallis, under Denis Tool	1½ arpens front	Out lot of do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Paul Dejarlais, under J. Lacroix	1 arpent front	Out lot of do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	B. Crely, under J. Marechal	69 arpens 3 perches	Out lot of do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Louis Dubreuil, under J. Pressé	1 arpent front	Out lot of do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	M. A. Roques, under Buron & F. Mendell	105 arpens	Out lot of do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	M. A. Rocques, under M. Kubert	70 arpens	Out lot of do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Francis St. Cyr	118.35 acres	Out lot No. 2 of do	Same	Confirmed 118.35 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Jno. Jarrot	76.95 acres	Out lot 6 do	Same	Confirmed 76.95 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Louis Moreau	80.69 acres	Out lot 10 do	Same	Confirmed 80.69 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Joseph Couder	116.86 acres	Out lot 11 do	Same	Confirmed 116 86 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Alexis Cadot	115.92 acres	Out lot 14 do	Same	Confirmed 115 92 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Bonin	138.85 acres	Out lot 15 do	Same	Confirmed 138.85 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Louis Laroche	153.76 acres	Out lot 23 do	Same	Confirmed 153.76 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Joseph Lamer	77.37 acres	Out lot 27 do	Same	Confirmed 77.37 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Baptiste Lachasse	51.84 acres	Out lot 28 do	Same	Confirmed 51.84 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Joseph Calais	72.38 acres	Out lot 30 do	Same	Confirmed 72.38 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Baptiste Delisle	85.51 acres	Out lot 32 do	Same	Confirmed 85.51 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Peter Payant	48 acres	Out lot 38 do	Same	Confirmed 48 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut Gov.	Survey	Francis Bernard	46.72 acres	Out lot 49 do	Same	Confirmed 46.72 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	J. B. Tourville	119 35 acres	Out lot 47 do	Same	Confirmed 119.35 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Isaac Crosby	61.29 acres	Out lot 49 do	Same	Confirmed 61.29 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Etienne La Bonté	121.65 acres	Out lot 50 do	Same	Confirmed 121.65 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Antoine La Doucier	55.45 acres	Out lot 55 do	Same	Confirmed 55.45 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Louis Liret	56 acres	Out lot 56 do	Same	Confirmed 56 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Joseph Lagrave	112.12 acres	Out lot 57 do	Same	Confirmed 112.12 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	John B. Noel	84.31 acres	Out lot 58 do	Same	Confirmed 84.31 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Amable Montreuil	55 76 acres	Out lot 59 do	Same	Confirmed 55.76 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Augustin Bernard	55.69 acres	Out lot 60 do	Same	Confirmed 55.69 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Guillaume H. Lecompte	111.28 acres	Out lot 61 do	Same	Confirmed 111.28 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Antoine Marechal, fils	83.24 acres	Out lot 62 do	Same	Confirmed 83.24 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Nic's Lecompte	83.32 acres	Out lot 63 do	Same	Confirmed 83.32 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Claude Paneton	61.9 acres	Out lot 64 do	Same	Confirmed 61.9 acres.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Dubreuil	217 by 100 feet	In lot, No. 3 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Louis Mare	150 by 300 feet	Lot 4 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Gagni	150 by 300 feet	In lot 5 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Creli	300 by 300 feet	Lot 6 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Baptiste Delisle	300 by 300 feet	Lot 23 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Delauriére	150 by 150 feet	Lot 24 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Louis Marie	150 by 150 feet	Lot 25 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Bacanné	300 by 150 feet	Lot 26 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Gagné	185 by 150 feet	Lot 27 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Mad'e Ladoucier	185 by 150 feet	Lot 28 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Des Tardin	185 by 150 feet	Lot 29 do	Same	Confirmed.

CONFIRMATIONS OF VILLAGE CLAIMS—Continued.

Concession, warrant or order of survey, and by whom.	Survey.	Claimant's name.	Quantity claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Calvé	185 by 150 feet	Lot No. 30, St Ferdinand	Poss'n prior to 20 Dec. 1803	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Paneton	185 by 150 feet	Lot 31 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Coudre	185 by 150 feet	Lot 32 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Francis Marechal	185 by 150 feet	Lot 34 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Baptiste Dishonet	185 by 150 feet	Lot 33 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Bacanne	150 by 150 feet	Lot 35 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Labrosse	150 by 150 feet	Lot 36 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Alexis Picard	300 by 300 feet	Lot 39 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z Trudeau, Lieut Gov.	Survey	L'habitant	150 by 150 feet	Lot 60 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Cadien	185 by 150 feet	Lot 66 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Rivet	370 by 300 feet	Lot 68 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Franc's Delauriere	150 by 150 feet	Lot 105 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Clamorgan	150 by 150 feet	Lot 101 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Clamorgan	150 by 150 feet	Lot 102 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Clamorgan	150 by 150 feet	Lot 103 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Clamorgan	150 by 150 feet	Lot 104 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Antoine Marechal	2 arpens	Lot A do	Same	Confirmed.
Z Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Jacques Tabeau	300 by 180 feet	Lot B do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Dunnegant (Capt.)	250 by 180 feet	Lot C do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Robideau	160 by 180 feet	Lot D do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Calvé	120 by 180 feet	Lot E do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Lachaisse	188 by 180 feet	Lot F do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Lammere	120 by 180 feet	Lot G do	Same	Confirmed.
Z Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Trudell et Menard	240 by 180 feet	Lot H do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Moro	300 by 180 feet	Lot K do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Noel Brunet	300 by 300 feet	Lot No. 107 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Mercier	300 by 300 feet	Lot 106 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Inhabitants of the village	207 by 200 feet	Lot No. 2, church, do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Same	500 by 300 feet	Lot, grave yard, do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut Gov.	Survey, Feb. 1798	C. Sanguinet, under J. B. Tison	30 arpens	Near Carondelet village	Poss'n since Sept'r, 1798	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Thos Witherington, assignee of Solomon	150 by 150 feet	Lot No. 3, in village à Robert, or Marais des Liards	Poss'n prior to 20 Dec. 1803	Confirmed.
Z Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Robert Owens	150 by 150 feet	Lot No. 1 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	David Helderbrand	150 by 150 feet	Lot 11 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut Gov.	Survey	Jacob	150 by 300 feet	Lot 10 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Helderbrand (Isaac)	150 by 150 feet	Lot 18 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	John Laibor	150 by 135 feet	Lot 12 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut Gov.	Survey	St Germain	150 by 150 feet	Lot 21 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Solomon	150 by 150 feet	Lot 20 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Calvé	150 by 150 feet	Lot 28 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	William Belon	150 by 150 feet	Lot 15 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Thomas Jones	150 by 150 feet	Lot 23 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	Philip Fine	150 by 150 feet	Lot 6 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	John Laibor	150 by 150 feet	Lot 8 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	John Laibor	150 by 150 feet	Lot 17 do	Same	Confirmed.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	David Helderbrand	150 by 150 feet	Lot 9 do	Same	Confirmed.

Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov. -	Survey - -	St Germain - - -	150 by 150 feet - -	Lot 22 do -	Same	Confirmed.	
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov. -	Survey - -	Wm. Bellew or Bellou - -	150 by 150 feet - -	Lot 16 do -	Same -	Confirmed.	
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov. -	Survey - -	Thomas Jones - - -	150 by 150 feet - -	Lot 24 do -	Same -	Confirmed.	
Z Trudeau, Lieut. Gov. -	Survey - -	Phil p Fine - - -	150 by 150 feet - -	Lot 7 do -	Same -	Confirmed.	
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov. -	Special location -	Adam Brown, under Motier -	150 by 150 feet - -	A lot in Carondelet village	- - - -	Confirmed according to possession.	
		W. Russell, under J. Bombardier	120 ft. front & back, to fields	Lot in Carondelet village -	Poss'n & imp't prior to 1803	Granted to be surveyed according to possession.	
		Julien Souquet - - -	150 by 150 feet - -	Lot in do -	Do from 1788 to this time	Granted 150 by 150 feet;	do.
Prov'l Land Book, 3, p. 4 -	Not platted -	Peter Martin - - -	150 feet square - -	Lot in do -	Pos'n & inhab'n prior to 1803	Confirmed 150 feet square;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 4 -	Not platted -	Peter Martin - - -	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot, fields, do -	Do from 1788 -	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 21 -	Not platted -	Peter Martin, jr. - -	150 feet square - -	Lot in do -	Do prior to 1803	Confirmed 150 feet square;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 21 -	Not platted -	Peter Martin, jr. - -	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot, fields, do -	Poss'n & cult'n from 1788 -	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 20 -	Not platted -	Peter Martin, sen. - -	150 feet square - -	Lot in do -	Pos'n & inhab'n from 1788 -	Confirmed 150 feet square;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 20 -	Not platted -	Peter Martin, sen. - -	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot, fields, do -	Poss'n & cult'n since 1788 -	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 1 -	Not platted -	Delor & Treget's representatives	6 by 40 arpens - -	Out lot of do -	Do since 40 years	Confirmed 240 arpens;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 1 -	Not platted -	Claude Tinon's representatives -	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot of do -	Same -	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 1 -	Not platted -	Claude Tinon's representatives -	150 by 150 feet - -	Town lot in do -	Pos. inh. & imp. since 40 yrs.	Confirmed 150 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 4 -	Not platted -	J. H. Tabeau's representatives -	150 by 150 feet - -	Town lot in do -	Same -	Confirmed 150 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 4 -	Not platted -	J. H. Tabeau's representatives -	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot of do -	Poss'n & cult'n do -	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 5 -	Not platted -	C. D. de Trejet's representatives	100 feet square - -	Town lot in do -	Pos. inh. & cult. do -	Confirmed 100 feet square;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 5 -	Not platted -	Diego Thabault's representatives	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot of do -	Poss'n & cult'n do -	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 8 -	Not platted -	Louis Le Mai's representatives -	150 by 150 feet - -	Town lot in do -	Pos. inh. & imp. for 18 years	Confirmed 150 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 8 -	Not platted -	Louis Le Mai's representatives -	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot of do -	Poss'n & cult'n since 40 years	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 8 -	Not platted -	Joseph Moque's representatives	150 by 150 feet - -	Town lot in do -	Pos'n & inhab'n do -	Confirmed 150 feet square;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 8 -	Not platted -	Joseph Moque's representatives	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot of do -	Poss'n & cult'n do -	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 9 -	No platted -	Peter la Puente's representatives	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot of do -	Same -	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 9 -	Not platted -	Charles Rodje's representatives -	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot of do -	Same -	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 9 -	Not platted -	Peter Lapointe's representatives	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot of do -	Same -	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto 5, p 15 -	Not platted -	Lambert Lajoie's representatives	150 feet front on the street -	A lot in do -	Pos'n & inhab'n prior to 1803	Confirmed acc'ding to possession	do.
		J. H. Tabeau's representatives -	150 by 150 feet - -	A lot in town do -	Same -	Grant'd 150 ft. sq.; ⎫ Perhaps these two	
Ditto 3, p. 4 -	Not platted -	J. H. Tabeau's representatives -	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot fields, do -	Poss'n & cult'n do -	Confir'd 60 arps.; ⎭ lots conf'd above.	
Ditto 3, p. 6 -	Not platted -	J. Boisvert's representatives -	150 by 150 feet - -	A lot in town do -	Pos'n & inhab'n do -	Confirm'd 150 by 150 feet; to be surv'd.	
Ditto 3, p. 6 -	Not platted -	J. Boisvert's representatives -	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot, fields, do -	Poss'n & cult'n do -	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 6 -	Not platted -	J. B Menard's representatives -	150 by 150 feet - -	A lot in town do -	Pos'n & inhab'n do -	Confirmed 150 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 6 -	Not platted -	J. B. Menard's representatives -	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot, fields, do -	Poss'n & cult'n do -	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 9 -	Not platted -	Alexis Noise's representatives -	150 by 150 feet - -	A lot in town do -	Pos'n & inhab'n do -	Confirmed 150 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 9 -	Not platted -	Alexis Noise's representatives -	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot, fields, do -	Poss'n & cult'n do -	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto 3, p 10 -	Not platted -	Jos. Loisel's representatives -	150 by 150 feet - -	A lot in town do -	Pos'n & inhab'n do -	Confirmed 150 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 10 -	Not platted -	Jos. Loisel's representatives -	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot, fields, do -	Poss'n & cult'n do -	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 11 -	Not platted -	Aug. Amiot's representatives -	150 by 150 feet - -	A lot in town do -	Pos'n & inhab'n do -	Confirmed 150 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 11 -	Not platted -	Aug. Amiot's representatives -	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot, fields, do -	Poss'n & cult'n do -	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 11 -	Not platted -	Baptiste Pettit's representatives	150 by 150 feet - -	A lot in town do -	Pos'n & inhab'n do -	Confirmed 150 by 150 feet;	do.
Ditto 3, p. 11 -	Not platted -	Baptiste Pettit's representatives	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot, fields, do -	Poss'n & cult'n do -	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Ditto 2, p. 66 -	Not platted -	Claude Tinon's representatives -	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot, Pre. à Catalan, Carondelet village	Same -	Confirmed 60 arpens;	do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov. -	Not platted -	Lambert Lajoie, jr. - -	150 by 300 feet - -	A lot in town, Carondelet -	Pos'n & inhab'n do -	Confirm d 150 by 300 feet;	do.
Prov'l Land Book, 5, p. 10 -	Not platted -	A. V. Bous, under Noel Vien -	150 by 150 feet - -	A lot in do -	Poss'n & cult'n do -	Confirmed 150 by 150 feet;	do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov. -	Not platted -	Lambert Lajoie - -	150 by 300 feet - -	A lot in do -	Possession do -	Confirmed 150 by 300 feet;	do.
Prov. Ld. Bk., No. 3, p. 6 -	Not platted -	P. D. de Trezet, under L. Menard	1½ by 40 arpens - -	Out lot in fields do -	- - - -	Confirmed 1½ by 40 arpens.	
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov. -	- - -	B. Martin - - -	1 by 30 arpens - -	Field lot of Ste. Genevieve -	Pos'n prior to 20 Dec. 1803	Confirmed 30 arpens.	
Same -	- - -	Julien Pratte - -	2 by 30 arpens - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 60 arpens.	
Same -	- - -	Joseph Pratte - - -	3 by 30 arpens - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 90 arpens.	
Same -	- - -	Francis Janis - - -	3 by 30 arpens - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 90 arpens.	
Same -	- - -	John Baptiste Plac -	2 by 30 arpens - -	Do do -	Do do -	Confirmed 60 arpens.	

CONFIRMATIONS OF VILLAGE CLAIMS—Continued.

Concession, warrant or order of survey, and by whom.	Survey.	Claimant's name.	Quantity claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Not platted	A. Partenay dit Masson	1 by 30 arpens	Field lot of Ste. Geneiéve	Poss'n prior to 20 Dec. 1803	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		St. Jame Beauvais	10 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 300 arpens.
Same		Louis Bolduc	2 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 60 arpens.
Same		Francis Vallé	6 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 180 arpens.
Same		Jno. B. Janis	2 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 60 arpens.
Same		Vital Beauvais	3 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 90 arpens.
Same		Francis Moreau	3 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 90 arpens.
Same		Francis Simoneau	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		Francis Lacroix	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		Lacombe	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		Jerome Mattis	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		Rangé	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		Jno. Bap. Lacroix	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		Inhabitants of Ste. Genevieve	2 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 60 arpens.
Same		Widow Emmanuel	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		Louis Govreau	2 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 60 arpens.
Same		Deguere, sen.	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		Grinon	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		Henry Govreau	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		Henry Dielle	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		Charles Vallé	2 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 60 arpens.
Same		Louis Bolduc	3 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 90 arpens.
Same		Stephen Bolduc	2 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 60 arpens.
Same		Widow Bellemar	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		Jno. B. Bequette	2 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 60 arpens.
Same		Widow Bernier	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		Paul Deguire	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		Tesserot	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		Grassart	3 by 30 arpens	Do do	Pos. &c. prior to 20 Dec. 1803	Confirmed 90 arpens.
Same		Tonnellier	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		Joseph Lachance	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		John B. Bequette, jun.	2 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 60 arpens.
Same		Etienne Paviot	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		Pierre Belote	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		Widow Lafleur	3 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 90 arpens.
Same		Etienne Parent	2 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 60 arpens.
Same		Chevalier	2 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 60 arpens.
Same		Michel Lachance	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		François Bernier	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same		Richelet Langlier	1 by 30 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 30 arpens.
Same	Survey	Wm. Gironard's representatives	40 arpens	Out lot (Gabouri) do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens.
Frs. Vallé, Commandant	Survey	Aaron Elliot, under Jas. Maxwell	7 arpens	Out lot near do	Do do	Confirmed 7 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Survey	John B. Moreau	240 arpens	Out lot near do	Do do	Confirmed 240 arpens.
Anto. de Oro, Commandant		Representatives of Francis Vallé	2 arpens	Lot in the village do	Do do	Confirmed 2 arps. acc'ding to posses'n.
Francis Vallé, Commandant		Jacques Guiborn	4 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 4 arpens do.

Same	-	Walter Fenwick, assignee of Jos. Perez	-	Do do	Do do	Confirmed according to possession.	
Anto. de Oro, Commandant	-	Bazil Vallé	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 2 arpens	do.
Francis Vallé, Commandant	Not platted	Peter Chs. Peyroux's represent's	2 arpens	Do do	Do since 1792	Confirmed 2 arpens.	
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	-	Joseph Fenwick	2 by 40 arpens	Field lot vil. of New Bourbon	Pos'n prior to 20 Dec. 1803	Confirmed 80 arpens.	
Same	-	Andrew Deguire, sen.	40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Etienne Govreau	40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Joseph Laperche	20 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Louis Bolduc	80 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Louis Lacombe	20 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Nicholas Lachance, pére	40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Gabriel Lachance	40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	John Baptiste Moreau	40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Etienne Parent	40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	John Baptiste Moreau	20 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Marie Rompres, widow Bernier	40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Francis Obuchon	80 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Louis Vallé, widow Le Clerc	120 arpens	Field lot, New Bourbon	Do do	Confirmed 120 arpens.	
Same	-	Stephen Bolduc	40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens.	
Same	-	Henry Dielle	40 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed 40 arpens.	
Baron de Carondelet	-	Henry Peyroux, assignee of Hugh McDonald Chisolm, assignee of John S. Geavin	1 arpent	Lot in town of New Madrid	Do do	Confirmed.	
Miro, Governor General	-	Henry Peyroux, und. Frs. Hamelin	1 arpent	Lot in town, do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Henry Peyroux, Commandant	-	Jacob Myers	Not ascertained	A town lot, do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Jacob Myers, ass'nee Frs. Hudson	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Gabriel Huno, pére	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Joseph Huno, pére	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	John Baptiste Langlois	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Andrew Willson	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Gabriel Hunot, fils	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	John Lafernait	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Manuel Violet	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Francis Langlois	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Joseph Hunot, fils	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	James Smith	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Peter Garreau	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Andrew Godair	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Peter Descordis	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Alexander Picard	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Nicholas St. Jean	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Peter Gonet	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Louis Coignard	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Peter Perron	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Joseph Montanvert	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Charles Castonget	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Antoine Vachard	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Jno B. Chartier	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Joseph Charpentier	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Toussaint Godair	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Matthias Belson	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	John B. Gobeau	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Benjamin Myers	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	
Same	-	Jacob Myers	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.	

CONFIRMATIONS OF VILLAGE CLAIMS—Continued.

Concession, warrant or order of survey, and by whom.	Survey.	Claimant's name.	Quantity claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
Henry Peyroux, Commandant	Not platted	Peter Dumay	2 arpens	A town lot, New Madrid	Poss'n prior to 20 Dec. 1803	Confirmed.
Same		John B. Perron	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Gerrard Dorlac	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Joseph Story	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Thomas Johnson	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Louis Lardoise	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Francis Roche Dupin	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Nicholas Dapron	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Joseph Dumay	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Etienne Dumay	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Michel Bontronc	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Francis Ste. Mary	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		P. St. Mary	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Jno. B. St. Mary	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Jno. B. Olive	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Luke Derore	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Samuel Masters	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Lemuel Masters	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Robert Masters	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Louis Baby	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Ambrose Seraphin	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Joseph La Plante	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		John B. Thibeaud	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		St. Germain	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		John B. Chartier	1 arpent	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Richard Masters	2 arpens	Do do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same		Francis Lesieur	4 arpens	A lot village Little prairie	Pos. &c. prior to 20 Dec. 1803	Confirmed 4 arpens.
Same	Survey	Jno. B. Barceloux	1 arpent	Lot No. 3, do	Do do	Confirmed 1 arpent.
Same	Survey	Jno. B. Barceloux	1 arpent	Lot No. 4, sq. 1, do	Do do	Confirmed 1 arpent.
Same	Survey	Joseph Genereux	1 arpent	Lot No. 5, sq. 2, do	Pos'n prior to 20 Dec. 1803	Confirmed.
Same	Survey	Joseph Genereux	1 arpent	Lot No. 6, sq. 2, do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same	Survey	Louis St. Aubin	1 arpent	Lot No. 11, sq. 3, do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same	Survey	Louis St. Aubin	1 arpent	Lot No. 12, sq. 3, do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same	Survey	John Ruddell	1 arpent	Lot No. 15, sq. 4, do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same	Survey	John Ruddell	1 arpent	Lot No. 16, sq. 4, do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same	Survey	Joseph Riendau	1 arpent	Lot No. 17, sq. 5, do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same	Survey	Joseph Riendau	1 arpent	Lot No. 18, sq. 5, do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same	Survey	Louis St. Aubin	1 arpent	Lot No. 19, sq. 5, do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same	Survey	Louis St. Aubin	1 arpent	Lot No. 20, sq. 5, do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same	Survey	Joseph Genereux	1 arpent	Lot No. 21, sq. 6, do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same	Survey	Joseph Genereux	1 arpent	Lot No. 22, sq. 6, do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same	Survey	Peter Porier	1 arpent	Lo No. 23, sq. 6, do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same	Survey	Peter Porier	1 arpent	Lot No. 24, sq. 6, do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same	Survey	Francis Le Sieur	1 arpent	Lot No. 25, sq. 7, do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same	Survey	Francis Le Sieur	1 arpent	Lot No. 26, sq. 7, do	Do do	Confirmed.
Same	Survey	Francis Le Sieur	1 arpent	Lot No. 27, sq. 7, do	Do do	Confirmed.

Same	-	Survey	-	-	Francis Le Sieur	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 28, sq. 7,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Amable Guion	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 29, sq. 8,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Amable Guion	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 30, sq. 8,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Luc Bellefeuille	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 31, sq. 8,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Luc Bellefeuille	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 32, sq. 8,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Widow Lacourse	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 33, sq. 9,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Widow Lacourse	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 34, sq. 9,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Jean B. Bellefeuille	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 35, sq. 9,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Jean B. Bellefeuille	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 36, sq. 9,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Eloy Dejarlais	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 37, sq. 10,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Eloy Dejarlais	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 38, sq. 10,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Joseph Payne	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 39, sq. 10,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Joseph Payne	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 40, sq. 10,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Simon Subtil	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 41, sq. 11,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Peter Noblesse	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 43, sq. 11,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Peter Noblesse	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 44, sq. 11,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Hibernois -	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 45, sq. 12,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Hibernois -	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 46, sq. 12,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Baptiste Peltier -	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 60, sq. 16,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Eustache Peltier	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 62, sq. 16,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Eustache Peltier	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 63, sq. 16,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Francis Trenchard	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 64, sq. 17,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Francis Trenchard	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 65, sq. 17,	do		Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Charles Guibeault	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No 74, sq. 19,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Charles Guibeault	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 75, sq 19,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Jean Viend -	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 78, sq. 20,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Jean Viend -	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 79, sq. 20,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Raphael Le Sieur	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 80, sq. 21,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Raphael Le Sieur	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No 81, sq. 21,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Joseph Dorion -	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 82, sq. 21,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Joseph Dorion -	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 83, sq. 21,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Hyacinthe Gayon	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 86, sq. 22,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Hyacinthe Gayon	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 87, sq. 23,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Jean Montmenie	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 92, sq. 24,	do	-	Do	do		Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Jean Montmenie	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 93, sq. 24,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Baptiste Chartier	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 96, sq. 25,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Baptiste Chartier	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 97, sq. 25,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	George Roddle	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 98, sq. 25,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	George Roddle	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 99, sq. 25,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Francis Langlois	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 100, sq. 26,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Francis Langlois	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 101, sq. 26,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	John Derlan	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 102, sq. 26,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	John Derlan	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 103, sq. 26,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Jean Montmenie	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 104, sq. 27,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Jean Montmenie	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 105, sq. 27,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Joseph Claude Gonet	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 108, sq. 28,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.
Same	-	Survey	-	-	Joseph Claude Gonet	-	-	1 arpent	-	-	Lot No. 109, sq. 28,	do	-	Do	do	-	Confirmed.

GRANTS OF THE LATE BOARD EXTENDED BY VIRTUE OF THE FOURTH SECTION OF THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF THE 3D MARCH, 1813.

Commissioner's order or warrant of survey.	Survey.	Claimants' names.	Quantity claimed.	Situation.	Opinions of the Recorder.
Commiss'r's certificate No. 354, for 250 arpens	Survey	Warren Cottle, jr.	898 arpens	Dardenne, cty. St. Charles	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 731, for 100 arpens	-	Louis Jeannette's heirs	640 acres	Do do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 735, for 300 arpens	Survey	Jno. A. Smith	935 arpens	Waters of Missouri, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 736, for 350 arpens	Survey	Jacob Hosteller	997 arpens	Mississippi Bluffs, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 737, for 100 arpens	Survey	Henry Zoomalt, jr.	900 arpens	Cuivre, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 738, for 250 arpens	Survey	Andrew Edwards	900 arpens	Perruque, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 739, for 450 arpens	Survey	Jacob Coontz	1000 arpens	Dardenne, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 742, for 450 arpens	Survey	Alexander McLean's representatives	800 arpens	McLean's creek, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 744, for 250 arpens	Survey	Samuel Griffith, under Jas. Swift	900 arpens	Do do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 752, for 1000 arpens	Survey	Peter Blanchet, for use of Jno. McKinney	748 arpens	River Charette, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 748, for 350 arpens	Survey	Jno. B. Luzon	998 arpens	Betw'n Charette & Missouri, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 754, for 100 arpens	Survey	William Farrensworth, or Farnsworth	750 arpens	Waters of Cuivre, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 755, for 100 arpens	Survey	Isaac Cottle	748 arpens	Do do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 757, for 300 arpens	Survey	Jonathan Woods	990 arpens	Cuivre, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 758, for 300 arpens	Survey	William T. Lamme, under Jean M. Cardinal	950 arpens	River Tuque, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 765, for 300 arpens	Survey	Noel Hebert	750 arpens	River Dardenne, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 759, for 300 arpens	-	William T. Lamme, under Jos. Amow	950 arpens	Charette, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 775, for 250 arpens	-	John Busby, under Gabriel Marlow	900 arpens	Waters of Tuque, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 823, for 200 arpens	Survey	James Burns	600 arpens	Sandy creek, do	Granted 600 arpens.
Do. No. 825, for 450 arpens	Survey	Robert Baldridge	800 arpens	Perruque, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 873, for 150 arpens	Survey	Widow St Franceway	850 arpens	Charrette creek, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 874, for 200 arpens	-	Joseph Chartran, jr.	950 arpens	Missouri, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 881, for 100 arpens	Survey	Hugh Swan	740 arpens	Cuivre, do	Granted 740 arpens.
Do. No. 885, for 240 arpens	Survey	Jonathan Cottle	898 arpens	Bob's creek, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 887, for 700 arpens	Survey	Fran is Howell	800 arpens	Dardenne, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No 888, for 300 arpens	Survey	Angus Gillis, under Jacob Summalt	956 arpens	River Peruque, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 889, for 200 arpens	Survey	William Craig	900 arpens	Cuivre, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 891, for 300 arpens	Survey	William Crow	1060 arpens	Dardenne, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 929, for 250 arpens	Survey	Martrom Lewis	650 arpens	River Peruque, do	Granted 650 arpens.
Do. No. 931, for 100 arpens	Survey	Milkiah Baldridge	756 arpens	Waters of Dardenne, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 935, for 250 arpens	Survey	Benjamin Jones's heirs	998 arpens	River Cuivre, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 937, for 250 arpens	Survey	George Perceley's legal representatives	850 arpens	Femme Osage, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 947, for 350 arpens	Survey	Daniel Kichelie	1156 arpens	River Peruque, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 948, for 500 arpens	Survey	Christian Wolf	1156 arpens	Dardenne do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 950, for 150 arpens	Survey	Richard Taylor	800 arpens	Fork of Cuivre, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 969, for 200 arpens	Survey	James Morrison, under Benjamin Rodgers	840 arpens	River au Cuivre, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 970, for 250 & 1307 for 50 } arps.	Survey	James Davis	400 arpens	Femme Osage do	Granted 400 arpens.
Do. No. 979, for 500 arpens	Survey	Michael Reybold	1100 arpens	Dardenne do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 991, for 100 arpens	-	James Beatty	867 arpens	Bet'n Dardenne & F. Osage, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1246, for 400 arpens	Survey	Timothy Kibby, for use of Jno. Zummalt	913 arpens	Femme Ozage, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1329, for 100 arpens	-	Francis Shaver	640 acres	Do do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 730, for 550 arpens	Survey	Samuel Hibler	1206 arpens	Waters Crevecœur, cty. of St. Louis	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 733, for 200 arpens	Survey	Ambrose Bowles, or Boles	1206 arpens	Missouri, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 747, for 400 arpens	Survey	John Stewart	981 arpens	Grand Glaise, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 766, for 200 arpens	Survey	Ninian Hamilton	850 arpens	Merimeck, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 776, for 350 arpens	Survey	William Miller	1070 arpens	Grand Glaise, do	Granted 640 acres.

Do.	No. 783, for 350 arpens	- - -	John Henderson - - - -	1003 arpens -	Little Rock creek,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 859, for 550 arpens	Survey - -	Elizabeth Carlin, widow and rep. of T. Carlin	780 arpens - -	Plattin,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 871, for 250 arpens	Survey - -	Mark Wideman - - - -	954 arpens - -	Negro Fork, Meramec,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 872, for 350 arpens	Survey - -	John Wideman - - - -	1006 arpens - -	Meramec,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 878, for 550 arpens	Survey - -	James Pritchett - - - -	1206 arpens - -	Forty miles west of	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 879, for 350 arpens	Survey - -	Thomas Williams - - - -	704 arpens - -	City of	do -	Granted 704 arpens.
Do.	No. 880, for 450 arpens	Survey - -	Jno. Williamson's representatives - -	1066 arpens - -	Meramec	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 882, for 400 arpens	Survey - -	John Cummins - - - -	1223 arpens - -	Meramec	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 886, for 200 arpens	Survey - -	Robert Bay - - - - -	820 arpens - -	Bon-homme,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 890, for 250 arpens	Survey - -	Samuel Bay - - - - -	950 arpens - -	Meramec	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 892, for 350 arpens	Survey - -	John Wilson - - - - -	622 arpens - -	Little Rock creek,	do -	Granted 622 arpens.
Do.	No. 893, for 450 arpens	Survey - -	Jeduthan Kendal, under Samuel Wilson -	715 arpens - -	Grand Glaize,	do -	Granted 715 arpens.
Do.	No. 894, for 100 arpens	Survey - -	Thomas L. Bevis - - - -	598 arpens - -	Joachim creek,	do -	Granted 598 arpens.
Do.	No. 895, for 300 arpens	Survey - -	William Null, jr. - - - -	450 arpens - -	Do	do -	Granted 450 arpens.
Do.	No. 896, for 550 arpens	Survey - -	John Connor - - - - -	1226 arpens - -	Joachim creek,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 90[illegible], for 350 arpens	Survey - -	Leonard Farrow, under David Collum -	1006 arpens - -	River Dubois,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 907, for 500 arpens	- - -	Gabriel Cobb - - - - -	1232 arpens - -	Sandy creek,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 908, for 100 arpens	- - -	Isaac Helderbrand's heirs - - -	1012 arpens - -	Negro Fork of Meramec,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 910, for 100 arpens	Survey - -	Thomas Applegate - - - -	640 acres - -	Joachim,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 912, for 450 arpens	Survey - -	Joshua Massey - - - -	1106 arpens - -	Marais des Liards,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 921, for 400 arpens	- - -	Sarah Pruitt - - - - -	1150 arpens - -	Negro Fork of Meramec,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 922, for 100 arpens	- - -	James Davis - - - - -	600 arpens - -	Do	do -	Granted 600 arpens.
Do.	No. 924, for 350 arpens	Survey - -	James Gray - - - - -	1050 arpens - -	Joachim	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 932, for 400 arpens	- - -	Michael Null - - - - -	1050 arpens - -	Sandy creek,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 934, for 200 arpens	Survey - -	Guy Seely - - - - -	775 arpens - -	Cold Water,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 936, for 250 arpens	Survey - -	Thomas Henry - - - -	915 arpens - -	Grand Glaize,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 949, for 450 arpens	Survey - -	Peter Rock - - - - -	1056 arpens - -	Missouri,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 957, for 650 arpens	Survey - -	William Bellew - - - -	1089 arpens - -	Wild Horse creek,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 964, for 250 arpens	Survey - -	John Pruitt - - - - -	785 arpens - -	Negro Fork, Meramec,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 974, for 350 arpens	Survey - -	Thomas Gibson - - - -	1156 arpens - -	Missouri,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 975, for 350 arpens	Survey - -	Charles Philips - - - -	950 arpens - -	Do	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 976, for 350 arpens	Survey - -	William Fullerton - - - -	1000 arpens - -	Pointe Labadie,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 977, for 100 arpens	Survey - -	Smith Collum - - - -	600 arpens - -	River Dubois,	do -	Granted 600 arpens.
Do.	No. 1012, for 350 arpens	Survey - -	Jas. B. Hart, under Elisha Herrington, -	800 arpens - -	Cold Water,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1312, for 100 arpens	- - -	Ely Musick - - - - -	750 arpens - -	Fifi's creek,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1313, for 100 arpens	- - -	Ely Musick - - - - -	300 arpens - -	Creve Cœur,	do -	Granted 300 arpens.
Do.	No. 830, for 250 arpens	Survey - -	Archibald Huddleston - - -	949 arpens - -	Waters of Saline, cty. Ste. Geneviéve -		Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 831, for 500 arpens	Survey - -	Archibald Campster's representatives -	550 arpens - -	Mississippi,	do -	Granted 550 arpens.
Do.	No. 834, for 300 arpens	Survey - -	Robert Reed - - - - -	877 arpens - -	Bellevue,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No 835, for 100 arpens	Survey - -	Jacob Mosteller - - - -	750 arpens - -	Hazle Run,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 836, for 250 arpens	Survey - -	Jacob Chambers - - - -	847 arpens - -	Waters of St. François,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 837, for 340 arpens	Survey - -	Ananias McCoy - - - -	988½ arpens - -	Bellevue,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 838, for 600 arpens	Survey - -	Benjamin Crow - - - -	1035¼ arpens - -	Do	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No 839, for 100 arpens	Survey - -	William Ward - - - -	700 arpens - -	Waters river St. François,	do -	Granted 700 arpens.
Do.	No. 840, for 550 arpens	Survey - -	Joseph Manning - - - -	1188 arpens 84 perches -	Mississippi,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 841, for 250 arpens	Survey - -	Clement Knott - - - -	765 arpens - -	Cape St. Côme,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 842, for 450 arpens	Survey - -	William Dunn - - - -	702 arpens 40 perches -	On Saline,	do -	G'td 702 arps. 40 pcs.
Do.	No. 843, for 350 arpens	Survey - -	John Layton, jr. - - - -	1017 arpens - -	On Saline,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 844, for 200 arpens	Survey - -	James Moore, (son of Nicholas) - -	746 arpens 32 perches -	On Saline,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 845, for 300 arpens	Survey - -	Ignatius Layton - - - -	805 arpens 48 perches -	On Saline,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 846, for 200 arpens	Survey - -	Jolin Layton, sen. - - - -	761 arpens 40 perches -	Cape St. Come,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 847, for 100 arpens	Survey - -	Thomas Ring - - - - -	750 arpens - -	River St. François,	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 848, for 300 arpens	Survey - -	Robert A. Logan - - - -	800 arpens - -	Do	do -	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 849, for 520 arpens	Survey - -	David Logan - - - -	800 arpens - -	Do	do -	Granted 640 acres.

EXTENSIONS OF GRANTS BY THE LATE BOARD—Continued.

Commissioners' order or warrant of survey.	Survey.	Claimants' names.	Quantity claimed.	Situation.	Opinions of the Recorder.
Commis'rs' certificate No. 850, for 450 arpens	Survey	Humphrey Gibson, sen.	472 arpens 80 perches	River Plattin, county of St. Genevieve	G'td 472 arps. 80 pcs.
Do. No. 851, for 450 arpens	Survey	Aquilla Hagan	853 arpens 53 perches	South fork of Saline, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 852, for 300 arpens	Survey	Joseph Hagan	1050 arpens	Waters of Bois Brulé creek, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 853, for 320 arpens	Survey	Charles Lee	875 arpens 21 perches	Cape St. Come, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 854, for 450 arpens	Survey	Peter Tucker	1102 arpens 80 perches	South fork of Saline, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 855, for 450 arpens	Survey	Joseph Tucker	953 arpens	Do do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 856, for 200 arpens	Survey	Michael Tucker	811 arpens 31 perches	Saline, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 857, for 300 arpens	Survey	Thomas Harrod	531 arpens	River Plattin, do	Granted 531 arpens.
Do. No. 858, for 100 arpens	Survey	Amos Rowark	500 arpens	Waters of Saline, do	Granted 500 arpens.
Do. No. 863, for 450 arpens	Survey	Tunis Quick	947 arpens 97 perches	Saline, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 864, for 670 arpens	Survey	Samuel Hinch	1296 arpens 17 perches	Cape St. Come, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 865, for 550 arpens	Survey	Robert Hinkson	1149 arpens	River Brazeau, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 866, for 470 arpens	Survey	Theophilus Williams	1117 arpens	Cape St. Come, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 867, for 250 arpens	Survey	James Berry	400 arpens	Do do	Granted 400 arpens.
Do. No. 868, for 300 arpens	Survey	James Moore, (son of Jas.)	857 arpens 26 perches	Do do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 869, for 410 arpens	Survey	William Johnston	680 arpens	River St. François, do	Granted 680 arpens.
Do. No. 870, for 100 arpens		Joseph Gerrard, jr.	748 arpens 68 perches	Grand River, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 898, for 250 arpens	Survey	Thomas Allen	768 arpens	17 miles below St. Genev'e, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 911, for 500 arpens		Elizabeth Carns	640 acres	Bois Brulé, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 956, for 350 arpens	Survey	Simon Duval, under Jos. Tucker, jr.	640 acres	Saline creek, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 961, for 400 arpens	Survey	Alexander Patterson	914 arpens	Mississippi, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 967, for 300 arpens	Survey	Bernard Smith	808 arpens	Cape St. Come, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 980, for 340 arpens	Survey	Rodolph, (als.) Rodey Verrat	870 arpens	Waters of St. François, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1007, for 200 arpens	Survey	Josiah Millard, under Elisha Crosby	300 arpens	Bois Brulé, do	Granted 300 arpens.
Do. No. 1015, for 450 arpens	Survey	Elias Coen, or legal representatives	1100 arpens	Wolf fork of riv. St. Franc's do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1193, for 250 arpens	Survey	James Thompson, jr.	898 arpens	Waters of Saline, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1322, for 450 arpens		Elisha Belsha's heirs and representatives	640 acres	Bois-brulé, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1328, for 100 arpens		Levi Wiggins	640 acres	Mouth Cape Cinq Hommes, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 727, for 300 arpens	Survey	Isaac E. Kelly	800 arpens	Fork of St. François, cty. Cape Girardeau	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 767, for 250 arpens	Survey	Joseph Baker	505 acres	White Water, do	Granted 505 acres.
Do. No. 770, for 300 arpens	Survey	John Bollinger, sen., under William Tinnin	519 arpens 98½ perches	Do do	G'td 519 arps. 98½ pcs.
Do. No. 772, for 250 arpens	Survey	Jacob Probst	924 arpens 15 perches	Do do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 773, for 300 arpens	Survey	Wm. Bollinger, under Daniel Ashabranner	660 arpens 95 perches	Do do	G'td 660 arps. 95 pcs.
Do. No. 777, for 650 arpens	Survey	John Hoss	918 arpens 31 perches	Do do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 779, for 350 arpens	Survey	Peter Stotler	742 arpens 83 perches	Do do	G'td 742 arps. 83 pcs.
Do. No. 780, for 400 arpens	Survey	Henry Bollinger, (son of Jno.)	957 arpens 79 perches	Do do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 781, for 500 arpens	Survey	Peter Grount	1123 arpens	Do do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 782, for 650 arpens	Survey	John Abernethie	113 arpens 84 perches	Randoll's creek, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 784, for 550 arpens		John Bilderback, under Felix Hoover	800 arpens	12 miles from village of do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 785, for 350 arpens		John Bilderback, under Jno. Dye	800 arpens	Tywapity, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 787, for 400 arpens	Survey	Charles Bradley	684 arpens 92 perches	Big Swamp, do	G'td 684 arps. 92 pcs.
Do. No. 788, for 300 arpens	Survey	Enos Randoll, jr.	978 arpens 9 perches	Randoll's creek, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 790, for 250 arpens	Survey	Druzilla Dickson	882 arpens 32 perches	Hubbell's creek, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 791, for 300 arpens	Survey	Michael O'Hogan	928 arpens 9⅓ perches	Young's creek, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 792, for 550 arpens		Ithamar Hubble, under Adeston Rodgers	1140 arpens	White Water creek, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 795, for 300 arpens	Survey	John Summers, jr.	1043 arpens 64 perches	Hubbell's creek, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 796, for 350 arpens		John Byrd, under Jas. Cooper	982 arpens 27 perches	Byrd's creek, do	Granted 640 acres.

Do.	No. 797, for 500 arpens	Survey	Samuel Pew	631 arpens 27 perches	Hubbel's creek,	do	G'td 631 arps. 27 pcs.
Do.	No. 798, for 300 arpens	Survey	Elijah Dougherty, (als. Elisha)	928 arpens 78 perches	Do	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 799, for 400 arpens	Survey	Charles Demoss	1102 arpens 8 perches	Do	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No 800, for 400 arpens	Survey	Benijah Laugherty, (or Laferty)	1217 arpens 63¾ perches	Randoll's creek,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 801, for 500 arpens	Survey	Frederick Slinker	842 arpens 27 perches	White Water,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 802, for 400 arpens	Survey	George Grount	798 arpens 40 perches	White Water,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 804, for 600 arpens	Survey	George Hays	1053 arpens 15 perches	Hubbell's creek,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No 807, for 300 arpens	Survey	David Patterson	487 arpens 32 perches	Byrd's creek,	do	G'td 487 arps. 32 pcs.
Do.	No. 808, for 600 arpens	Survey	George F. Bollinger	814 arpens	White Water,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 809, for 300 arpens	Survey	Henry Bollinger, (son of Philip)	741 arpens 14 perches	Do	do	G'td 741 arps. 14 pcs.
Do.	No 810, for 350 arpens	Survey	John Cothner	444 arpens 53 perches	Do	do	G'td 444 arps. 53 pcs.
Do.	No 811, for 550 arpens	Survey	Leonard Welker	976 arpens 99 perches	Do (Cany creek)	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 813, for 600 arpens	Survey	Tillman Smith	800 arpens	Do	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 814, for 300 arpens	Survey	Philip Young	865 arpens 65 perches	Byrd's creek,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 815 for 600 arpens	Survey	James Hannah	719 arpens 55½ perches	Randoll's creek,	do	G'td 719 arps. 55½ pcs.
Do.	No 816, for 250 arpens	Survey	John McCarty, under Jona. Hubbel, jr.	740 arpens	White Water,	do	Granted 740 arpens.
Do.	No. 817, for 240 arpens	-	Ezekiel Able, under William Murphy	1040 arpens	Do	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No 818, for 400 arpens	Survey	John & Robert Gibony, under D. Ferrell	1102 arpens 24 perches	Hubbell's creek,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 820, for 600 arpens	Survey	Charles Lucas	1310 arpens	Mississippi,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 821, for 250 arpens	Survey	John Tucker	686 arpens	Tywapity,	do	Granted 686 arpens.
Do.	No. 822, for 250 arpens	Survey	John Brooks	709 arpens	Mississippi,	do	Granted 709 arpens.
Do.	No 978, for 250 arpens	Survey	George Cavender	790 arpens	Do	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1014, for 300 arpens	Survey	Daniel Mullins	748 arpens 68 perches	17 miles S. W. of Tywapity,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1019, for 300 arpens	Survey	Robert Lane	800 arpens	On Mississippi,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1021, for 200 arpens	Survey	John Welborn	640 acres	Do	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1125, for 250 arpens	-	Lewis Worth	300 arpens	Tywapity Bottom,	do	Granted 300 arpens.
Do.	No. 1200, for 450 arpens	Survey	Robert Crump	640 acres	Do	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1210, for 250 arpens	Survey	Charles Hogan	700 acres	Fish Lake,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1211, for 300 arpens	Survey	William Hacker	460 acres	Tywapity,	do	Granted 460 acres.
Do.	No. 542, for 100 arpens	Survey	Simon Subtil	750 arpens	Little Prairie, cty. of New Madrid		Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 618, for 300 arpens	Survey	Andrew Robertson, sen.	1150 arpens	Bayou St. John,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 680, for 300 arpens	Survey	Jno. Frazer	310 arpens	Lake Ste. Mary,	do	Granted 310 arpens.
Do.	No. 805, for 300 arpens	Survey	Abraham Byrd, sen, assignee of Peter Dumay	850 arpens	Do	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 806, for 350 arpens	Survey	Robert Patterson, under Patrick May	410 arpens	Byrd's creek, cty. of Cape Girardeau		Granted 410 arpens.
Do.	No. 954, for 200 arpens	Survey	Joseph Westbrook	750 arpens	Bayou St. John, New Madrid cty.		Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 971, for 350 arpens	Survey	John Loyed	800 arpens	Tywapity,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 973, for 250 arpens	Survey	John Shorter	640 acres	Cypress swamp,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1013, for 300 arpens	Survey	Andrew Robertson, jr.	750 arpens	Lake St. Mary,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1026, for 200 arpens	Survey	George Hacker	640 acres	Brushy pond,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1029, for 400 arpens	Survey	James Currin	1070 acres	Mississippi,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1030, for 350 arpens	-	Thomas Clarke	450 arpens	Tywapity,	do	Granted 450 arpens.
Do.	No. 1033, for 250 arpens	Survey	Mary Smith	800 arpens	Do	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1034, for 350 arpens	Survey	Jno. Ordway, assignee of Alex'r Millikin	722 arpens	Mississippi,	do	Granted 722 arpens.
Do.	No. 1035, for 200 arpens	-	Thomas Brown	850 arpens	7½ miles W. of Lit. prairie,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1036, for 300 arpens	-	John Taylor	800 arpens	River St. Francis,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1037, for 450 arpens	Survey	Thomas Wolsey	640 acres	Tywapity,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1038, for 500 arpens	Survey	Edward Matthews, sen.	750 arpens	Do	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1040, for 350 arpens	Survey	James G. O'Carroll	1000 arpens	Mississippi,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1041, for 350 arpens	Survey	James Kirkendall	944 arpens	Do	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1042, for 100 arpens	-	Joseph Edwards	750 arpens	Do	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1052, for 100 arpens	Survey	Francis Forsey	750 arpens	Lake Le Sieur,	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1053, for 100 arpens	Survey	Dennis Lavertue	750 arpens	Do	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1054, for 100 arpens	Survey	Jno. Bap. Depuis	750 arpens	Do	do	Granted 640 acres.
Do.	No. 1055, for 300 arpens	Survey	Henry Godair	950 arpens	Portage river St. Franc's,	do	Granted 640 acres.

EXTENSIONS OF GRANTS BY THE LATE BOARD—Continued.

Commissioners' order or warrant of survey.	Survey.	Claimants' names.	Quantity claimed.	Situation.	Opinions of the Recorder.
Commis'rs' certificate No. 1056, for 450 arpens	Survey	Peter Grimard	1000 arpens	Big lake, New Madrid county	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1058, for 250 arpens	Survey	William Dapron	900 arpens	Portage river St. Francois, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1059, for 500 arpens	Survey	Thomas Welborn	1602 arpens	Mississippi, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1060, for 400 arpens		Jesse Baker	1100 arpens	River Pemiscoe, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1061, for 400 arpens	Survey	Peter Noblesse, assignee of Paul Washburn	900 arpens	Fish lake, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1062, for 100 arpens		Nicholas Savage	300 arpens	A few miles below mouth of Ohio, New Madrid cty.	Granted 300 arpens.
Do. No. 1063, for 100 arpens	Survey	William Brown	750 arpens	Near Little prairie, New Madrid cty.	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1064, for 100 arpens	Survey	Noel Burke	750 arpens	Waters of St. Francois, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1065, for 200 arpens	Survey	Charles Chartres	750 arpens	Big lake, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1066, for 100 arpens	Survey	John Cummings	750 arpens	River Pemiscow, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1067, for 100 arpens	Survey	James Martin	750 arpens	Waters of St. Francois, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1068, for 100 arpens	Survey	Joseph Ferland	750 arpens	Gayoso swamp, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1072, for 100 arpens	Survey	Jno. B. Chandillon	750 arpens	River St. Francois, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1073, for 400 arpens	Survey	Helen Cummings	750 arpens	Do do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1074, for 100 arpens	Survey	Joseph Dumay	750 arpens	Do do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1075, for 470 arpens	Survey	Stephen Boyeau	1000 arpens	Do do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1078, for 220 arpens		Samuel Harrisson	875 arpens	Big lake, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1079, for 100 arpens		Francis Gervais	750 arpens	Bank bayou, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1080, for 100 arpens	Survey	Hezekiah Day	750 arpens	On Mississippi, and on south fork of Pemiscow, cty. of New Madrid	Granted 640 acres. Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1081, for 200 arpens	Survey	George Lail	748.68 arpens	Lake Le Sieur, cty. of New Madrid	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1082, for 250 arpens		Jno. B. Latrimouille	750 arpens	Mississippi, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1083, for 100 arpens		Stephen Nicholas	750 arpens	Waters of Mississippi, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1086, for 550 arpens	Survey	Edward Stoker	1200 arpens	Bayou du Bœufs, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1094, for 100 arpens		Firman Le Sieur	750 arpens	On island in front Lit. pra're, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1097, for 100 arpens	Survey	Baptiste Lafleur	750 arpens	Bayou St. John, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1098, for 100 arpens		Jacob Devore	750 arpens	Bayou St. Jacob & Missis'pi, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1099, for 300 arpens	Survey	Edward Roberson, jr.	750 arpens	Head of Bayou St. John, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1100, for 200 arpens		Benjamin Myers	850 arpens	5 miles N. W. New Madrid, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1104, for 100 arpens		William Robertson	750 arpens	Big prairie, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1108, for 250 arpens	Survey	Robert Quinby	950 arpens	Foot of hills, 35 miles N. of do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1112, for 300 arpens		Hyacinthe Berthiaume	900 arpens	River St. François, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1126, for 200 arpens		John Robertson, jr.	750 arpens	Big prairie, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1177, for 300 arpens		Francis Hudson, sen.	750 arpens	Lake St. Isidro, do	Granted 640 acres.
Do. No. 1314, for 400 arpens		James Reynolds	748 arpens 68 perches	St. Francois river, do	Granted 640 acres.

This first part, containing confirmations of village claims and extensions of the grants of the late Board of Commisssioners, and forming a part of the general report, respectfully submitted.

WASHINGTON CITY, *February* 2, 1816.

FREDERICK BATES.

The honorable JOSIAH MEIGS, *Commissioner of he General Land Office, Washington City.*

REPORT OF THE OPINIONS OF THE RECORDER OF LAND TITLES FOR THE TERRITORY OF MISSOURI, &c.

CONFIRMATIONS OF CONCESSIONS, ORDERS OR WARRANTS OF SURVEY, PRINCIPALLY UNDER ACT OF CONGRESS OF 12TH OF APRIL, 1814.

Concession, warrant, or order of survey.	Survey.	Claimants.	Land claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
D. Delassus, Lieut. Governor	18 February, 1804	Mary P. Le Duc - -	15,000 arpens -	County of St. Charles	- -	Confirmed for the quantity contained in a league square.
Same - -	4 March, 1803	Wm. Weeks, under Fran. Wood	240 do -	Tuque do -	Poss'n, inhab , and cult'n, from 1800 to 1801	Confirmed 240 arpens.
Same - -	23 December, 1803	Noel A. Prieur - -	400 do -	Dardenne do -	Do from 1804 to 1806	Do 400 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	5 September, 1798	James Kerr - - -	1,200 do -	Do do -	Inhab. and cult. fr. 1799 to 1807	Do 1,200 do.
D. Delassus, do -	30 December, 1803	Claibourne Rhodes - -	600 do -	Waters of Mississippi do -	- -	Do 600 do.
Z. Trudeau, do -	5 July, 1798	David Darst, jr. - -	260 do -	Femme Osage do -	- -	Do 260 do.
D. Delassus, do -	7 February, 1804	Isaac Darst - - -	350 do -	Missouri do -	- -	Do 350 do.
Same - -	20 December, 1803	Jeremiah Prosjean, under George Weeland.	300 do -	Cuivre do -	Cultivation in 1805 and 1806	Do 300 do.
Z. Trudeau, do -	26 December, 1799	Daniel Boon - - -	1,000 do -	Femme Osage do -	- -	Confirmed by special act of Congress, 10 February, 1814.
D. Delassus, do -	30 September, 1803	James Lewis - - -	400 do -	Cuivre do -	Poss'n, inh., and cult'n in 1804	Confirmed 400 arpens.
Same - -	23 December, 1803	Jacob Grosjean - -	400 do -	Do do -	Do from 1804 to 1806	Do 400 do.
Same - -	2 December, 1801	Abraham Darst - -	400 do -	Charette do -	- -	Do 400 do.
Same - -	31 December, 1803	Francis Roy - - -	800 do -	Mississippi do -	- -	Do 800 do.
Same - -	31 December, 1803	Louis Roy - - -	800 do -	Do do -	- -	Do 800 do.
Same - -	31 December, 1803	Baptiste Roy - - -	800 do -	Do do -	- -	Do 800 do.
Same - -	31 December, 1803	Joseph Roy - - -	800 do -	Do do -	- -	Do 800 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	1 December, 1799	Toussaint Cerré - -	1,000 do -	Do do -	- -	Do 1,000 do.
Same - -	6 March, 1804	Francis Duquette - -	160 do -	Dardenne do -	- -	Do 160 do.
Same - -	26 July, 1800	Francis Duquette - -	430 do -	Mississippi do -	- -	Do 430 do.
Same - -	5 December, 1799	Francis Duquette, under Isidore La Croix	400 do -	Missouri do -	- -	Do 400 do.
Same - -	1 February, 1800	Arend Rutgers - -	6,000 do -	Marais temps Clair do -	- -	Confirmed 400 arpens; it being the opinion of the late Board that the commandant intended no more.
Same - -	10 November, 1799	William Hay's heirs - -	7,056 do -	Dardenne do -	Poss'n, inh., and cult'n, from 1803 to 1808	Confirmed the quantity contained in a league square, saving the right of John Weldon.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	21 January, 1804	John Ferry - - -	1,000 do -	Tuque do -	Do from 1799 to 1809	Confirmed 1,000 arpens.
Same - -	Special location -	Bazil Giard - - -	800 do -	Missouri do -	- -	Do 800 do.
Same - -	28 October, 1802	Adam Martin - - -	6,808½ do -	Nearly opposite the Prairie du Chien do -	Poss'n, inhab., and cult'n from 1796 to 1808	Confirmed for a league square, if Indian right extinguished.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	5 November, 1801	Ant'e Soulard and Jacq. de St. Vrain	600 do -	Missouri do -	- -	Confirmed 600 arpens.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	13 February, 1804	Gab. Zenon Soulard and James Gaston Soulard	3,250 do -	Missouri and Mississippi do -	Possession from 1799 -	Do 3,250 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	7 February, 1803	Antoine Soulard - -	1,600 do -	62 miles N. of St. Louis do -	- -	Confirmed 1,600 do.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	5 January, 1801	Peter Debigny - -	250 do -	Missouri do -	- -	Do 250 do.
Same - -	24 February, 1804	M. P. Le Duc, under Jos. Le Duc	6,000 do -	Do. about 90 miles above St. Louis do -	- -	Do 6,000 do.
			800 do -	Mississippi, about 70 miles above St. Louis do -	- -	Do 800 do.

CONFIRMATIONS OF CONCESSIONS, &c.—Continued.

Concession, warrant, or order of survey.	Survey.	Claimants.	Land claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	1 December, 1801	Stephen Hancock	400 arpens	Missouri, county of St. Charles		Confirmed 400 arpens
Same	5 February, 1804	Joseph Brazeau	800 do	Mississippi do		Do 800 do.
Same	5 February, 1804	Louis Brazeau	800 do	Do do		Do 800 do.
Same	12 January, 1804	Paul Primo	800 do	Do 62 m. N. of St. Louis do		Do 800 do.
Same	12 January, 1804	Joseph Bissonnette	800 do	Do do do		Do 800 do.
Same	12 January, 1804	Charles Bissonnette	800 do	Do do do		Do 800 do.
Same	12 January, 1804	James Rankins and Peter Primo, under Peter Primo	800 do	Waters of Mississippi do		Do 800 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	On Salt river & Cuivre	Mad. De Lor Sarpy, under Chas. D. Delassus	20,000 do	On Salt river & Cuivre do		Confirmed the quantity of land contained in a league square.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	15 February, 1804	Sylvestre Labbadie	7,056 do	Waters of Cuivre do		Confirmed for a league square.
Same	15 February, 1804	André Landreville	4,000 do	Cuivre do		Confirmed 4,000 arpens.
Same	17 January, 1804	Bernard Pratte, Jos. Beauchemin, under Joseph Beauchemin	1,600 do	Mississippi do	Poss. and inh. from 1800 to 1808	Do 1,600 do.
Same	5 February, 1804	William Ramsey	650 do	Tuque do	Do in 1803	Do 650 do.
Same	12 November, 1803	John M'Kinney	650 do	Missouri do		Do 650 do.
Same	6 November, 1803	Robert M'Kinney	780 do	Do do		Do 780 do.
Same	10 November, 1803	Thomas Worthington	500 do	Charette do		Do 500 do.
Same	12 January, 1804	Antoine Prieur	800 do	Mississippi do		Do 800 do.
Same	5 February, 1804	Pierre Dumond	1,600 do	Do do		Do 1,600 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	29 December, 1799	Francis Howell, under Alexander Andrews	400 do	Dardenne do		Do 400 do.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	5 February, 1801	William Spence	250 do	Tuque do		Do 250 do.
Same	2 February, 1803	Nathan Boone	420 do	Otter River do		Do 420 do.
Same	30 December, 1799	Jno. Scott, under Thos. Johnson	500 do	Dardenne do	Poss., inh., and cult., in 1803	Do 500 do.
Same	8 November, 1803	Alexander M'Kinney	550 do	Missouri do		Do 550 do.
Same	5 November, 1803	John Marshall	720 do	Do do		Do 720 do.
Same	5 November, 1803	Peter Smith	500 do	Waters Femme Osage do		Do 500 do.
Same	4 November, 1803	Francis Wyatt	800 do	Missouri do		Do 800 do.
Same	4 November, 1803	James Montgomery	300 do	Do do		Do 300 do.
Same	25 December, 1803	David Delanny	7,056 do	Mississippi, 61 miles N. of St. Louis do		Confirmed for the quantity contained in a league square.
Same	30 January 1804, (for 1,000 arpens)	Francis Sancier	8,800 do	Waters of Mississippi do		Confirmed for 1,000 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	8 January, 1800	Peter Chouteau, under Ch. Tayon	510 do	Dardenne do		Confirmed 510 arpens.
Same	17 December, 1803	Peter Chouteau, sen.	7,056 do	River Augustin do		Confirmed for the quantity contained in a league square.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	Special location	Peter Chouteau, jr.	An island	In the Missouri river do		Confirmed, to be surveyed.
Same	14 February, 1804	Widow Dubreuil	7,056 do	Waters of Mississippi do		Do for the quan. cont'd in a league sq.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	27 Dec. 1803, and 7 Jan. 1804	Antoine Sangrain	20,000 do	Mississippi do		Do do do.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	15 February, 1804	Repres's of Jean B. A. Durval, or Doval dit Degroseillers	7,056 do	Waters of Mississippi do		Do do do.
Baron de Carondelet, Governor Gen.	21 March, 1801	Daniel Clark	5,000 do	Missouri do		Confirmed 5,000 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	17 March, 1801	Daniel Clark, assignee of Aug'te Chouteau	7,056 do	Do 75 miles W. of St. Louis		Confirmed for quantity contained in a league square.

C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	19 February,	1804	Daniel Clark, assignee of J. B. Champlain	1,600	do	Waters of Mississippi do	-	Confirmed 1,600 arpens.
Same	19 February,	1804	Daniel Clark, assignee of Louis Charboneau	1,600	do	Do 74 miles N. of St Louis. do	-	Do 1,600 do.
Same	19 February,	1804	Daniel Clark, assignee of Fr's Lariviere	1,600	do	Do 72 miles N. of St. Louis. do	-	Do 1,600 do.
Same	5 February,	1804	Daniel Clark, assignee of Vinc't Guitarre	800	do	Do 52 miles N. of St. Louis. do	-	Do 800 do.
Same	19 February,	1804	Josiah M'Lanahan, under Louis Dubreuil	800	do	Cuivre do	-	Do 800 do.
Same	3 December,	1803	George Spencer	600	do	Baie du Roy do	-	Do 600 do.
Same	1 December,	1799	Charles Tayon, under Baptiste Belland	160	do	Dardenne do	-	Do 160 do.
Same	20 January,	1804	Ira Nash	1,600	do	131 miles above mouth of Missouri do	-	Do 1,600 do.
Same	3 November,	1803	John Bell, under Mat'w Wishant	450	do	Missouri do	-	Do 450 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	29 January,	1799	George Buchanan	400	do	Do do	Possession from 1801	Do 400 do.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	February,	1804	John E. Allen, under Dodié	600	do	Do 130 m. above Mo. do	-	Do 600 do.
Same	25 December,	1803	Louis Labeaume and children	4,200	do	54 m. N. W. of St. Louis, Baye de Roy do	-	Do 4,000 do.
Same	5 March,	1800	Wm. Nash, under Jos. Deputy	800	do	Missouri do	-	Do 800 do.
Same	February,	1804	Ira Nash, under Louis Collin	810	do	Bonne Femme do	-	Do 810 do.
Same	19 February,	1804	Ch. D. Delassus, under Louis Dupré	800	do	Mis., 71 m. N. of St. Louis do	-	Do 800 do.
Same	19 February,	1804	Ch. D. Delassus, under Peter Gamelin	800	do	Do do do	-	Do 800 do.
Same	5 February,	1804	Ch. D. Delassus, under John B. Challifont	600	do	Do 63 m. N. of Lt. Louis do	-	Do 600 do.
Same	30 January,	1804	John Ascitz, under Antoine Sangrain	800	do	Missouri and Mississippi do	-	Do 800 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	1 December,	1799	Pelagie Labbadie, under Etien'e Bernard	160	do	Dardenne do	-	Do 160 do.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	5 February,	1804	Antoine Smith	1,200	do	Mississippi do	-	Do 1,200 do.
Same	18 December,	1803	Mackay Wherry	400	do	Cuivre do	-	Do 400 do.
Same	2 January,	1804	Jacques St. Vrain, under Daniel Quick	800	do	130 m. N. of St. Louis do	-	Do 800 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	15 April,	1800	James Mackay, under Antoine Gautier	609	do	Mar. temps Clair do	-	Do 609 do.
Same	14 November,	1803	John Watkins	800	do	Missouri do	-	Do 800 do.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	19 March,	1801	Amos Stoddard, under Hippolite Bolon	400	do	Do 100 miles up do	-	Do 400 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	19 December,	1803	Joseph Brazeau	7,056	do	River Antoine do	-	Confirmed for the quantity contained in a league square.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	1 December,	1799	James Morrison, under Joseph Beauchamp	240	do	Dardenne do	-	Confirmed 240 arpens.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	20 March,	1801	James Bryant	247	do	Tuque do	-	Do 247 do.
Same	2 February,	1804	Daniel M. Boone	400	do	Loutre do	-	Do 400 do.
Same	11 February,	1804	James W. Cockran	800	do	Bob's creek do	-	Do 800 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	4 February,	1804	Antoine Barada	800	do	Missouri do	-	Do 800 do.
Same	29 December,	1803	Arist. Aug. Chouteau	7,056	do	River Ramsey do	-	Confirmed for quantity contained in a league square.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	20 February,	1804	Paul Chouteau	2,000	do	Cuivre do	-	Confirmed 2,000 arpens.
Same	20 February,	1804	Cerré Chouteau	2,000	do	Do do	-	Do 2,000 do.
Same	25 December,	1803	Michael Crow, sen.	350	do	Do do	-	Do 350 do.

CONFIRMATIONS OF CONCESSIONS, &c.—Continued.

Concession, warrant, or order of survey.	Survey.	Claimants.	Land claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	5 December, 1803	Morris James, under Chas. Dejarlais	300 arpens -	Missouri, county of St. Charles	- -	Confirmed 300 arpens
Same - -	23 January, 1804	Louis Delisle, jr. - -	800 do -	Bonne Femme do -	- -	Do 800 do.
Same - -	5 February, 1804	Aug. Chouteau, under Stephen Guitard.	800 do -	Mississippi do -	- -	Do 800 do.
Same - -	20 December, 1803	John Green - - -	400 do -	Cuivre do -	- -	Do 400 do.
Same - -	20 December, 1803	Robert Green - - -	400 do -	Do do -	- -	Do 400 do.
Same - -	24 December, 1803	James Green, jr. - -	800 do -	Do do -	- -	Do 800 do.
Same - -	2 January, 1804	Durret Hubbard - -	800 do -	Waters of Mississippi, 130 miles N. of St. Louis do -	- -	Do 800 do.
Same - -	4 January, 1800	William Jamison - -	800 do -	Mississippi do -	- -	Do 800 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	1 December, 1799	Antoine Janis - - -	160 do -	Dardenne do -	- -	Do 160 do.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	27 December, 1803	Francis Bouthellier, under Francis Le Sieur	2,600 do -	Mississippi, 70 miles N. of St Louis do -	- -	Confirmed 2,600 rpens, part of concession for 3,000.
Same - -	1 January, 1804	Paul La Croix - - -	1,600 do -	Mississippi do -	- -	Confirmed 1,600 arpens.
Same - -	25 November, 1803	Widow Labbadie - -	120 do -	Dardenne do -	- -	Do 120 do.
Same - -	9 February, 1800	Milton Lewis - - -	352 do -	Do do -	- -	Do 352 do.
Same - -	10 January, 1804	Jordan, under Jno. F. Michau -	1,200 do -	Mississippi do -	- -	Do 1,200 do.
Same - -	19 February, 1804	Joseph Marie - - -	1,600 do -	74 miles N. of St. Louis do -	- -	Do 1,600 do.
Same - -	10 December, 1803 (survey for 80 arp's)	William Palmer - -	1,000 do -	Cap au Griz do -	- -	Confirmed 1,000 arpens; if vacant, adjoining old survey.
Same - -	29 December, 1800	Wm. Nash, under Bap. Presse -	800 do -	Missouri do -	- -	Confirmed 800 arpens.
Same - -	16 February, 1804	Peter Provenchére - -	10,000 do -	Grand Calumet do -	- -	Confirmed quantity in a league square.
Same - -	7 November, 1803	Lawrence Sydener - -	750 do -	Missouri do -	- -	Confirmed 750 arpens.
Same - -	22 November, 1799	Peter Sommalt - -	300 do -	Perruque do -	- -	Do 300 do.
Baron de Carondelet, Gov. General	30 January, 1804	Charles Sanguinette - -	4,340 arp's 58 p's	P'te between Missouri and Mississippi do	- -	Do 4,340 arpens 58 perches.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	5 November, 1797	George Spencer - -	800 arpens -	- - do -	- -	Do 800 arpens.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	15 February, 1804	Mary P. Le Duc, under Alb. Tyson	7,056 do -	- - do -	- -	Confirmed for the quantity in a league square.
Same - -	Special location -	Peter Chouteau, under Rien St. Pierre	Quantity unascertained by survey	Missouri, below River à Berge, St. Louis co.	- -	Confirmed not to exceed a league square.
Same - -	20 December, 1803	Charles Fremon Delaurieré -	625 arpens -	Mississippi river, St. Charles co.	Valuable improvement and cultivation in 1803	Confirmed 620 arpens.
Same - -	- -	Thomas Howell - -	350 do -	A dry branch of Dardenne do -	Poss., inhab., and cult. in 1803 and to 1813	Confirmed 350 arpens according to concession.
Same - -	Special location -	Jas. Piper, under Francis Gignarés	800 do -	On Missouri do -	Same improvements in 1803	Confirmed 800 arpens.
Same - -	12 November, 1803	Stephen Jackson - -	420 do -	Tuque do -	Cult. in 1802, poss. ever since	Do 420 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	10 January, 1800	Nathan Boone, ass. Robert Hall	800 do -	Femme Osage do -	Poss. inhab. and cult. from 1800 to 1807, by Boone	Do 800 do.
Same - -	Special location -	Jas. Mackay, ass. Bazile de Troismaisons, dit Picard	400 do -	S. side of Missouri, below ferry of St. Charles, between Jos. Chartran and Janis	Inhab. 20 years ago for several years, inhab. and cult. for last 10 years	Confirmed 400 arp's if found vacant.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	Survey in Feb. 1804	Wm. Nash, under Ch's Bruere	800 do -	Opposite Cedar Island, on Missouri, St. Charles.	- -	Confirmed 800 arpens.

Same - -	17 March, 1800	Jacques Chauvin - -	1,063 do -	Missouri, St. Louis co.	Poss., inhab, and cult., from 1799 to 1808	Do 1,063 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	5 March, 1797	John Mullanphy, or representatives of Joseph Robidoux	1,150½ do -	Fields of St. Ferdinand do -	Poss., inhab., and cult., from 1794 to 1800	Do 1,150½ do.
Same - -	Survey irregular -	Aug. Chouteau, ass. of Francis Moreau.	60 do -	St. Ferdinand river do -	Poss. and cult. for 20 years	Confir'd 60 arp's, (to be re-surveyed.)
Provincial Land Book, No. 1, page 31.	Not platted -	Martigny and Roy's representatives	4 arp's in front on the Miss., and to the hills	Above Prairie Lajoie do -	Inhab. and cult. from 1780 to this time	Confirmed (saving rights of others,) quantity to be ascert'd by survey.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	19 February, 1804	Veu've Rigoche, or rep's, claimed by John Mullanphy	1,600 arpens -	Mississippi do -	- -	Confirmed 1,600 arpens.
Same - -	1 February, 1804	Arthur Burns - - -	800 do -	Do do -	- -	Do 800 do.
Same - -	9 January, 1804	Francis St. Cyr, or rep's, claimed by John Mullanphy	600 do -	Philip do -	- -	Do 600 do.
Same - -	19 April, 1803	Alexander Clark - -	80 do -	Marais de Liards, (an additional grant for water,) St. Louis co.	- -	Do 80 do.
Same - -	18 January, 1804	Louis Courtois, sen. - -	7,056 do -	Meramec do -	- -	Con. the quantity cont'd in a league sq.
Same - -	28 October, 1802	Samuel Hodges, jr. - -	240 do -	Missouri do -	Inhab. in 1802, 1803, & 1804	Confirmed 240 arpens.
Same - -	5 February, 1804	Louis Guitard - - -	1,600 do -	Mississippi do -	- -	Do 1,600 do.
Same - -	19 February, 1804	Charles Lardoise - -	1,600 do -	Waters of Mississippi do -	- -	Do 1,600 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	26 March, 1797	James M'Donald, ass. of Louis Honoré, or representatives	320 do -	Marais de Liards do -	Poss., inhab., and cult., from 1799 to 1808	Do 320 do.
Same - -	26 March, 1797	James M'Donald, ass. of Francis Honoré, or representatives	320 do -	Ibid do -	Do do do	Do 320 do.
Same - -	26 March, 1797	James M'Donald, ass. of Baptiste Honoré, or representatives	320 do -	Ibid. do. -	Do do do	Do 320 do.
Same - -	26 March, 1797	James M'Donald, ass. of Michael Honoré, or representatives	320 do -	Ibid. do -	Do do do	Do 320 do.
Same -	26 March, 1797	James M'Donald, ass. of Noël Honoré, or representatives	320 do -	Ibid. do -	Do do do	Do 320 do.
Same - -	20 March, 1797	Jacob Donnor, under Jno. Sturgus	1,600 do -	On Plattin river do -	Do from 1798 to 1806	Confirmed.
Same - -	19 November, 1802	Morris James - - -	400 do -	On Missouri do -	- -	Confirmed 400 arpens.
Same - -	5 March, 1798	John Ball, under Lewis Cropper	400 do -	Waters of Meramec do -	Cult. in 1803, by John Ball -	Do 400 do.
Same - -	5 April, 1798	Wm. Massey, under Ezek'l Lard	1,000 do -	Mississippi do -	Pos., inh., & cul. fr. 1798 to 1808	Do 1,000 do.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	20 February, 1804	John Chandler - -	600 do -	Missouri do -	- -	Do 600 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	15 March, 1798	Lawrence Long's heirs -	600 do -	Crevecœur do -	- -	Do 600 do.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	9 February, 1804	Ezekiel Rogers - -	600 do -	River Dubois do -	- -	Do 600 do.
Same - -	15 March, 1803	Peter Chouteau, under Joseph Alvarez Nortin	4,850 do -	Mar's Castor do -	Inhab., 1802 & 1803; inhab. & cult. from 1804 to 1808	Do 4,850 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	10 February, 1800	Robert Young, under John Day	240 do -	Missouri do -	- -	Do 240 do.
Same - -	18 March, 1798	John A. Sturgus, sen., under Titus Strickland	300 do -	Plattin do -	Poss., inhab. and cult. in 1803	Do 300 do.
Same - -	18 March, 1800	John Sturgus, jr., under Joab Strickland	400 do -	Ibid. do -	Do do do	Do 400 do.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	8 February, 1804	John S. Farrar - -	350 do -	River Dubois do -	- -	Do 350 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	15 March, 1799	Charles Gratiot, under John Ball	240 do -	Waters of river des Péres do -	- -	Do 240 do.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	28 November, 1802	Charles Gratiot - -	500 do -	Ibid. do -	- -	Do 500 do.
Same - -	28 March, 1803	James Rankin - - -	800 do -	Maline do -	- -	Confirmed 800 arpens, if found without injury to claim of Elias Metz.
Same - -	7 March, 1803	Robert Ramsey - -	350 do -	Pointe Labbadie do -	Inhab. in 1803 -	Confirmed 350 arpens.
Same - -	17 October, 1803	Kincaid Caldwell - -	710 do -	Mississippi do -	- -	Do 710 do.
Same - -	18 October, 1799	Robert Buchanan - -	500 do -	Waters Crevecœur do -	Poss. from 1803 -	Do 500 do.
Same - -	16 April, 1803	Peter Didier - - -	800 do -	On river Gravois do -	- -	Do 800 do.
Same - -	5 March, 1800	William Massey - -	490 do -	Missouri do -	- -	Do 490 do.
Same - -	29 December, 1801	Hyacinthe St. Cyr, jr. - -	400 do -	Maline do	- -	Do 400 do.

CONFIRMATIONS OF CONCESSIONS, &c.—Continued.

Concession, warrant, or order of survey.	Survey.	Claimants.	Land claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
C. D. Delassas, Lt. Governor	3 January, 1802	Leon N. St. Cyr - -	409 arpens -	Maline St. Louis co. -	- -	Confirmed 409 arpens.
Same - -	7 February, 1804	Paul Whitley, under Joshua Tanzey	300 do -	Grand Glaise do -	Poss. from 1803 -	Do 300 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	3 February, 1798	James Richardson, under St. Cyr	919 do -	Lake Crevecœur do -	- -	Do 919 do.
Same - -	15 December, 1800	Therése Barois & Francés Brazeau	1,600 do -	River des Péres do -	- -	Do 1,600 do.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	8 February, 1804	Alexander M'Courtney -	600 do -	Mississippi do -	- -	Do 600 do.
Same - -	9 January, 1802	John Mullanphy, under Francis St. Cyr	600 do -	Bœuf Blanc do -	- -	Do 600 do.
Same - -	17 January, 1804	Daniel Clark, under Augustin Gamache.	1,600 do -	Meramec do -	- -	Do 1,600 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	Special location -	John Boli, under Francis Poliévre	160 do -	Ibid do -	Cult. in 1800 -	Do 160 do.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	1 December, 1802	Jas. Mackay, under Jno. Bishop	350 do -	Missouri do -	- -	Do 350 do.
Same - -	2 November, 1799	Alex. M'Nair & Boyd Denny, under John Lafleur	400 do -	Bonhomme do -	- -	Do 400 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	15 September, 1802	John Sappington, under Peter Didier	800 do -	Gravois do -	- -	Do 800 do.
Same - -	5 February, 1800	David Matthews, under Peter Vaughan	400 do -	Missouri do -	- -	Do 400 do.
Same - -	25 January, 1798	Wm. Heberts Lecompte, under Louis Barada	120 do -	Waters of river des Péres do -	- -	Do 120 do.
Same - -	12 January, 1804	Gregoire Sarpy, under J. B. Lamarche	800 do -	Do of Meramec do -	Poss. from 1799 -	Do 800 do.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	30 September, 1803	Benjamin Johnston - -	450 do -	Sandy creek do -	Inhab., poss. and cult. in 1800	Do 450 do.
Same - -	14 February, 1804	Auguste Chouteau, under Peter Janin	4,000 do -	Mississippi do -	- -	Do 4,000 do.
Same - -	9 February, 1804	John Stephenson - -	306 do -	Missouri do -	- -	Confirmed 306 arp's; this concession was anti-dated, but with neither fraud nor concealment—see testimony.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	2 January, 1804	John Baptiste Lamarche -	240 do -	Fourche á Renard do -	Poss. and inh. in 1799 -	Confirmed 240 arpens.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	21 January, 1804	Robert Barclay - -	800 do -	River au Bœuf do -	- -	Confirmed 800 arpens.
Same - -	10 February, 1804	James Burns, or legal represent's	600 do -	46 miles W. of St. Louis do -	- -	Confirmed 600 arpens.
Same - -	17 January, 1804	Francis Bourassas - -	800 do -	Meramec do -	- -	Do 800 do.
Same - -	25 April, 1802	Francis Cottar - -	800 do -	River des Péres do -	- -	Do 800 do.
Same - -	Special location -	Jacob Donnor's heirs - -	500 do -	Plattin, joining Stuart and Sturgus do -	- -	Do 500 do.
Same - -	16 February, 1804	Michael Fostin - -	800 do -	Meramec do -	- -	Do 800 do.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	21 October, 1802	Gilbert Hodges - -	400 do -	Missouri do -	- -	Do 400 do.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	16 December, 1803	Didier Marchand - -	800 do -	Mississippi do -	- -	Do 800 do.
Same - -	4 January, 1804	M'de Sarpy, under Barnard Pratte	800 do -	Meramec do -	- -	Do 800 do.
Same - -	18 March, 1803, & 2 January, 1804.	Gregoire Sarpy - -	6,000 do -	River des Péres do -	- -	Confirmed not exceeding a league sq.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	8 February, 1800	Hugh Stephenson - -	400 do -	Missouri do -	- -	Confirmed 400 arpens.
Baron de Carondelet, Governor General	Special location -	Charles Sanguinette - -	3,000 do -	Isle au Cabaret, in the Mississippi, doubtful in which territory	- -	Confirmed if within the Missouri territory, and if not exceeding a league sq.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	Special location -	Emelien Yosty -	200 do viz. 8 by 25	Joining other lands of clt., and those of Janis and Chartran, St. Louis county.	- -	Confirmed reserving rights of others.

De Leyba, Prov. Land Book 3, fol. 30	Idem. by inhab. and cult. at the time	John Seindre, als. Sanders -	320 arpens -	On S. waters of Meramec, St. Louis county	Poss., inhab., and cult. in 1779 and 1780.	Confirmed 320 arpens.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	Survey in 1800 -	Jacob Horine - -	800 do -	Richwoods, St. Louis co.	Poss., inhab., and cult. from 1804 to 1812.	Confirmed 800 arpens.
De Leyba, Prov. Land Book, No. 3, p. 18 and 28.	Special location -	David Wise, under Fr's Liberge	6 by 40 arpens -	Little Rock do -	Poss., inhab., and cult. for 9 or 10 years by Liberge 34 years ago, and do. by Lanecford and others for 13 years past.	Confirmed to legal representatives of Francis Liberge, 240 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	- -	Frederic Connor, ass. of David Hilderbrand	a lot in Owen's station	Village á Robert do -	Do do for last 14 years	Confirmed and classed with lots of Village á Robert.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	9 & 10 Jan'y, 1804	Walter Dewitt & Rufus Easton	1,600 arp's in separate surveys of 1,400 & 200	Joachim do -	Some work done in 1803 -	Confirmed 1,600 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	In January, 1800	Edward Hempstead, under Antoine Roy, by sheriff's sale	8 by 45 arpens -	6 miles N. of St. Louis, White Ox prairie, St. Louis co.	Houses built and land cultivated in 1798 or 1799	Confirmed according to possession by survey.
Z. Trudeau, Lt. Governor, for 14 by 15 arpens	Surv. for 204 arp's 48 p's, 20 Jan. 1800	Antoine Soulard - -	56 arpens 9 perches	Near and below town St. Louis, St. Louis co.	- -	Confirmed 56 arp's 9 p's, the residue of the conc'n abandoned by claimant.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor, for about 200 arpens	- -	Jas. Stewart, ass. of Baptiste Roulier, dit Boucher	320 arpens -	Black water, a branch of Little Rock creek, St. Louis co.	Poss, inhab., and cult. in 1803 and to 1813.	Confirmed 320 arpens.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	17 Dec. 1802, for 288 arpens	James Mackay - -	* 30 do -	Near and below St. Louis, St. Louis co.	Cult. in corn from 1810 to 1813.	Confirmed 30 arpens, the surplus abandoned by claimant as falling within the commons.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	15 April 1796	Gabriel Constant - -	35 arpens -	Belle Pointe, near Carondelet, county of St. Louis	Poss. and cult. from 1801 to 1810	Confirmed 35 arpens.
Prov. Land Book 4, p. 1 & 2, F. De Leyba	Not platted, special location	Thomas Jones' legal representatives	6 by 40 arpens -	Little Rock, county of St. Louis	Inh. & cult. in 1780, '1, '2, & '3. Jones made salt here fr. 1779 to 1782	Confirmed 6 by 40 arpens.
Prov. Land Book 4, p. 11, Fr. Crużat	Not platted -	Representatives of Joseph Ortiz	320 arpens -	Little Rock do -	Inh. & cult. in 1802, & to 1813, by different persons	Confirmed 320 arpens.
Man'l Perez - -	Special location -	Peter Presler, ass. Bobert Owen	320 do -	Near Meramec do -	- -	Confirmed, unless on survey it should be found that this land has been granted to another on abandonment of Owen.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	20 October, 1802	Samuel Hodges, jr., or representatives	240 do -	Missouri do -	- -	Confirmed 240 arpens.
Same - -	20 October, 1802	Daniel Hodges, jr., or representatives	240 do -	Missouri do -	- -	Confirmed 240 arpens.
Same - -	8 January, 1797	Gabriel Long, under Robert Baldridge	400 do -	Near Crévecœur do -	- -	Confirmed 400 arpens.
Prov. Land Book 4, fol. 11 -	Special location -	Joseph Hortiz's representatives	320 do -	Little Rock do -	Possession since 1785 -	Confirmed; believed also to have been granted in the name of Smirl.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	Sur. 15th Feb. 1797	Wm. C. Carr, under Philip Fine	200 do -	Near Marais des Liards do -	- -	Confirmed 200 arpens to P. Fine's legal representatives.
Same - -	Do 6th March, 1798	James Mackay - -	4,460 do -	Wild Horse creek do -	Cult. in 1801, '2, and '3, &c.	Confirmed 4,460 arpens.
Morales, Intendant - -	Do cert. Apr. 1802	Antoine Soulard - -	1,042 do -	Mississippi do -	Poss., inh., and cult. since 1799	Confirmed 1,042 arpens.
Charles D. Delassus, Lt. Gov.	15 December, 1800	Francis Vallé's representatives	1,000 do -	River Saline, c'ty of St. Genevieve	- -	Confirmed 1,000 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	24 September, 1799	Francis Vallé, jr. - -	7,056 do -	River Establishment do -	Poss., inh.,&cult. fr.1796 to 1806	Confir. for the qun'ty con'd in a lea. sq.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	30 November, 1803	William Eads - - -	400 do -	Big river do -	Poss., inh., and cult. in 1804	Confirmed 400 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	11 November, 1803	Robert F. Friend - -	800 do -	Waters of St. Francois do -	- -	Confirmed 800 arpens.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	12 November, 1803	William Holmes - -	800 do -	Rachel's Fork do -	Poss.,inh.,& cult.fr. 1804 to 1807	Confirmed 800 arpens.
Same - -	12 January, 1800	Moses Bates - - -	800 do -	Big river do -	Same from 1804 to 1806 -	Confirmed 800 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	25 January, 1800	Peter Boyer - - -	160 do -	Terrebleue do -	- -	Confirmed 160 arpens.
Same - -	September, 1799	Thos. Donohoe, und. Jesse Evans	300 do -	Mississippi do -	- -	Confirmed 300 arpens.

* Mackay intends to abandon no more than may fall within the commons, should they be confirmed.

CONFIRMATIONS OF CONCESSIONS, &c.—Continued.

Concession, warrant, or order of survey.	Survey.	Claimants.	Land claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	10 March, 1800	Sarah Murphy, under William Murphy, sen.	800 arpens -	Waters of St. Francois, county of St. Genevieve	- -	Confirmed 800 arpens.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	Special location by possession	Mary Owsley, und. Jona. Owsley	1,200 do -	Ibid do -	Poss., inh., and cult. from 1800 to 1808	Confirmed 1,200 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	28 March, 1799, for 339 arpens	Joseph Donohoe - -	400 do -	Mississippi do -	- -	Confirmed 400 arpens.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	28 January, 1800	Benjamin Strother - -	600 do -	Cedar creek do -	- -	Confirmed 600 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	25 February, 1798	Pascal Dutchmandy - -	1,251 do -	River aux Vases do -	Poss.,inh.,& cul. fr. 1799 to 1806	Confirmed 1,251 arpens.
Same - -	2 October, 1797	Pascal Dutchmandy, under Nics. Lachance	74 arp's 40 p's -	Gabory do -	- -	Confirmed 74 arpens 40 perches.
Same - -	2 March, 1798	Pascal Dutchmandy - -	1,600 do -	Establishment do -	- -	Confirmed 1,600 arpens.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	3 March, 1800	P. Dutchmandy, under Frs. Poiliévre	1,600 do -	Ibid do -	- -	Confirmed 1,600 arpens.
Same - -	25 January, 1800	Michel Placet - - -	143 do -	Ibid do -	- -	Confirmed 143 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	Survey in 1800 -	Clement Hayden, under John Greenwalt	600 do -	Bois Brulé do -	- -	Confirmed 600 arpens.
Same - -	21 June, 1800	Mark Brooks, und. Jno. O'Connor	300 do -	Ibid do -	- -	Confirmed 300 arpens.
Same - -	14 February, 1798	Henry Clark - - -	400 do -	Ibid do -	- -	Confirmed 400 arpens.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	22 February, 1804	John Capehcart's representatives	800 do -	Murphy's settlement do -	Cultivated in 1802 -	Confirmed 800 arpens.
Same - -	6 February, 1804	Peter Chouteau, und. Frs. Tayon	10,000 do -	Big river do -	- -	Confirmed; the qun'ty con'd in lea. sq.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	10 February, 1798	Israel Dodge - - -	1,000 do -	River aux Vases do -	- -	Confirmed 1,000 arpens.
Same - -	4 May, 1799	Antoine Dial, und. Stev. Pagget	150 do -	Ibid do -	- -	Confirmed 150 arpens.
Same - -	1 March, 1798	Widow Lalumandiére's reps.	240 do -	Ibid do -	Possession from 1798 -	Confirmed 240 arpens.
Same - -	24 February, 1798	Pierre Aubuchon - -	80 do -	Waters of Mississippi do -	- -	Confirmed 80 arpens.
Same - -	15 March, 1803	Frs. Moreau's representatives, under Frs. Poilévre	1,600 do -	Waters of Meramec do -	- -	Confirmed 1,600 arpens.
Same - -	13 May, 1799	Francis Janis - - -	30 do -	River aux Vases do -	Possession from 1799 -	Confirmed 30 arpens.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	18 February, 1804	Benjamin Lachance - -	400 do -	Grand riviére do -	- -	Confirmed 400 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	3 May, 1799	Job Westover - -	340 do -	River aux Vases do -	- -	Confirmed 340 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor Concession for 800 arpens	16 February, 1804	James Finley - - -	1,000 do -	Big river do -	- -	Confirmed 800 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	8 January, 1800	Titus Strickland, under Jos. Lachance and Louis La Croix	150 do -	Waters of Saline do -	- -	Confirmed 150 arpens.
Same - -	15 December, 1797	Vincent Lojoie & Nics Laplante	224 do -	River Establishment do -	Possession from 1800 -	Confirmed 224 arpens.
Same - -	2 November, 1799	Thomas Rardin, und. Jas. Maxwell	1,000 do -	River Ileanbois do -	Poss., inh., and cult. in 1803	Confirmed 1,000 arpens.
Same - -	13 February, 1800	James Thompson - -	400 do -	Waters of Mississippi do -	Possession from 1800 -	Confirmed 400 arpens.
Same - -	26 Sept. 1803, and 26 January, 1804	Jas. Maxwell, und. Arthur O'Neil	800 do -	Gabory do -	- -	Confirmed 800 arpens.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	20 December, 1800	Domitille Dehault - -	4,000 do -	Waters of St. Francois do -	- -	Confirmed 4,000 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	25 November, 1799 and 25 Dec. 1798	Pierre Delassus Deluziere -	810 do -	Riviére St. Cloud. and River Establishment, c'ty St. Genevieve	Poss. of 310 arpens 81¼ per. from 1798	Confirmed 810 arpens.
Same - -	3 May, 1799	Thos. Maddin, und. Thos. Dodge	320 do -	New Bourbon do -	- -	Confirmed 320 arpens.
Same - -	15 March, 1798	Francis Vallé's representatives -	70 do -	Waters of Mississippi do -	- -	Confirmed 70 arpens.
Same - -	17 November, 1799	Francis Moreau's representatives	3,200 do -	Establishment do -	Poss.,inh.,& cul. fr. 1798 to 1806	Confirmed 3,200 arpens.
Same - -	23 April, 1798	Thomas Maddin - -	1,000 do -	New Bourbon do -	Same, from 1797 to 1804 -	Confirmed 1,000 arpens.
Same - -	4 May, 1799	Joseph Bequette - -	150 do -	Aux Vases do -	Possession from 1796 -	Confirmed 150 arpens.

Same - -	18 November, 1799	Jno. Baptiste Vallé, sen. -	1,600	do -	River Establishment	do -	Poss.,inh.,& cul. fr. 1797 to 1808	Confirmed 1,600 arpens.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	19 January, 1800	Thomas Chaffin - -	302	do -	Saline creek	do -	- -	Confirmed 302 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	27 December, 1799	Jacques G. Dubreuil -	404	do -	Establishment	do -	-	Confirmed 404 arpens.
Same - -	27 January, 1798	Delassus Deluziére - -	1,000	do -	Ibid	do -	- -	Confirmed 1,000 arpens.
Same - -	27 February, 1799	Walter Fenwick - -	1,000	do -	Waters of Meramec	do -	- -	Confirmed 1,000 arpens.
Same - -	6 May, 1799	Andrew Lalande - -	120	do -	River aux Vases	do -	- -	Confirmed 120 arpens.
Same - -	9 December, 1797	John B. Moreau - -	240	do -	Near St. Genevieve	do -	- -	Confirmed 240 arpens.
Same - -	4 December, 1798	St. Geme Beauvais, under Amable Partenay	600	do -	River aux Vases	do -	- -	Confirmed 600 arpens.
Same - -	10 December, 1797	Jno. Smith, under Jno. Price -	500	do -	New Bourbon	do -	- -	Confirmed 500 arpens.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	15 December, 1802	John Price - - -	4,000	do -	Grand river	do -	- -	Confirmed 4,000 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	11 January, 1798	Wm. James, under Robert Smith	782	do -	River aux Vases	do -	- -	Confirmed 782 arpens.
C. D. Lelassus, Lt. Governor	2 February, 1800	Henry C. Smith - -	400	do -		do -	- -	Confirmed 400 arpens.
Same - -	28 December, 1799	Jesse Hunt and Abijah Hunt, under Bazil Vallé	300	do -		do -	- -	Confirmed 300 arpens.
Same - -	14 January, 1800	John Bapte. Vallé, jr. -	730	do -	River Establishment	do -	- -	Confirmed 730 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	25 September, 1797	Mary Vallé - - -	1,656	do -	River aux Vases	do -	- -	Confirmed 1,656 arpens.
Same - -	20 March, 1799	John Mary Papin - -	243	do -	Gabory	do -	- -	Confirmed 243 arpens.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	3 February, 1800	Elias Bates - - -	400	do -	Little Mine river, near Old Mines, adjoining the Old Mines, county of St. Genevieve		Cult. in 1803, and to 1807. Mineral not proven to have been found on this tract	Confirmed 400 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	16 February, 1804	James Finley - - -	800	do -	On St. Francis & Saline	do -	Claim'ts ten'nts have cul.3 crops	Confirm. 800 ar's; see preceding page.
Same - -	9 December, 1797	Jno. B. Moro or Moreau -	240	do -	Near village of St. Gen.	do -	Pos.,inh.,& cul. since 1800 to '13	Already confirmed in preceding page.
Same : - - Concession 6 by 40 arpens	15 September, 1799	Antoine Cerré - -	255	do -	On Gabory	do -	Poss and cult. in 1801 to 1813	Confirmed 240 arpens according to concession.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	Spec. loc., front on Mississippi, and by other lands of J. B. Moro	Michel Placet - -	4 by 20	do -	Mississippi, near St.Gen.	do -	Poss. & inh. since 1801 to 1813	Confirmed 4 by 20 arpens.
Cruzat, Lieut. Governor -	- - -	Etienne Parent's heirs - -	4 by 40	do -	Near St. Genevieve	do -	Poss. and cult. many years before the cession of the province to United States	Confirmed 4 by 40 arpens.
A. de Oro, Com'ndt of St. Gen., 23d Sept. 1785	Survey not recorded. Proven by Thomas Maddin to have been made by him	Etienne Parent's heirs - -	2 by 100	do -	Near St. Genevieve	do -	Possession some years before cession, and until 1813	Confirmed 200 arpens.
Concession from same, 24th Sept. 1785	- - -	Etienne Parent's heirs - -	1 by 2	do -	Near St. Genevieve	do -	Poss., inh., & cult. many years before the cession, & to 1813	Confirmed 2 arpens.
		Etienne Parent's heirs, under Pierre Dorlac	1½ arp's from Hills to Mississippi		Near St. Genevieve	do -	Same -	Confirmed 1½ arpens from Hills to Missssippi.
		Etienne Parent's heirs, under Jean Portais	6 perches from Hills to Mississippi		Near St. Genevieve	do -	Same 1	Confirmed 6 perches from Hills to Mississippi.
		Etienne Parent's heirs, under Michel Placet	3 perches from Hills to Mississippi		Near St. Genevieve	do -	Same -	Confirmed 3 perches from Hills to Mississippi.
		Etienne Parent's heirs, under Pierre Marceaux	7 perches 13 ft. from Hills to Mississippi		Near St. Genevieve	do -	Same -	Confirmed 7 perches 13 feet from Hills to Mississippi.
		Etienne Parent's heirs, under Etienne Bolduc	1 arpent from Hills to Mississippi		Near St Genevieve	do -	Same -	Confirmed 1 arpent from Hills to Mississippi.
		Etienne Parent's heirs, under Jerome Mattisse	1 by 30 arpens -		Near St. Genevieve	do -	Same	Confirmed 30 arpens.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	1 Decem., 1803, for 4,000 arp ; 14 Dec. 1805, 2,000 arpens	Thomas Maddin - -	6,000 arpens -		4,000 on waters of Big river; 2,000 on river Aux Vases, county of St. Genevieve		Inh. and cult. 4 or 5 of last years. A mill in operation on Aux Vase tract	Confirmed 4,000 arpens.

CONFIRMATIONS OF CONCESSIONS, &c.—Continued.

Concession, warrant, or order of survey.	Survey.	Claimants.	Land claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
Z. Trudeau, Lt. Governor: Special location	12 February, 1806	Richard Maddin - -	800 arpens -	North branch of Saline, co. of St. Genevieve	Inh. & cult. in 1812 and 1813	Confirmed 800 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lt. Governor: Special location	12 February, 1806	Thomas Maddin, jun. - -	800 do -	North branch of Saline do -	Same -	Confirmed 800 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lt. Governor: Special location	12 February, 1806	James Maddin - -	800 do -	North branch of Saline do -	Same -	Confirmed 800 arpens.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	3 February, 1804	Charles Robert - -	400 do -	Wa. Big riv. Old Mine cr do -	Poss., inh., & cult. in 1798, and to 1804	Reported by late board as mineral.
Same - -	3 February, 1804	Alexander Duclos - -	400 do -	Ibid do -	Same, in 1800, and to 1804	Reported by late board as mineral.
Same - -	3 February, 1804	Louis Boyer - - -	400 do -	Ibid do -	Same testimony; application as to the place uncertain	Reported by late board as mineral.
Same - -	2 Feb. 1800, for 200 arpens; 10 March, 1800, for 146 arp's	Henry C. Smith - -	400 do -	Cinq Hommes or St. Come creek; 200 ar. on Mississippi; 146 on creek, county of St. Genevieve	The tract of 146 arpens improved in 1799 to 1800	Confirmed 200 arpens on the Mississippi, and 146 on St. Come creek
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	14 February, 1800	Henry Clark, son of Francis -	400 do -	Bois Brulé do -	Cult. in 1798; cult. in 1804, and to 1810	Confirmed 400 arpens.
Manl. Perez, Lt. Gov. 24th August, 1791.	Special loca. above and near St. Genev.	Joseph Decelle, or representat's	2 do in front	From Miss. to road leading fr. St. Gen. to Little Rock, c'y St. Ge.	Occasional cult. from 1801 to 1813	Confirmed 2 arpens in front according to concession.
Same - -	Idem -	Joseph Gerrard, or representat's	2 do in front	From Mississippi to road do -	Same -	Same.
Same - -	Idem -	Francois Colman, or represent'es	2 do in front	Ibid do -	Same -	Same.
Same - -	Idem -	Recollet Mercier, or representa's	1½ do in front	Ibid do -	Same -	Confirmed 1½ arpens do.
Same - -	Idem -	Charles Harry, or representatives	1½ do in front	Ibid do -	Same -	Confirmed 1½ arpens do.
Same - -	Idem -	Jacob Boyer, or representatives	1 do in front	Ibid do -	Same -	Confirmed 1 arpent do.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	11 March, 1800, for 750 arpens	James Maxwell's representatives	3,000 do -	Above mouth of St. Laurent, county of St. Genevieve	Sundry improvements in 1803, and previous	Confirmed 1,750 arpens.
Same - -	3 March, 1804	John Smith, ass. Jno. Capehear	800 do -	Murphy's settlement do -	- -	Confirmed on former entry.
Same - -	15 January, 1804	Joseph Blote - - -	500 do -	Waters Big river do -	- -	Confirmed 500 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	Special location -	St. Geme Beauvais - -	1,920 arpens -	River au Vase, St. Genevieve co.	- -	Confirmed, if found vacant.
Same - -	30 March, 1802	Edward F. Bond, under Alexander Andrew	240 do -	River Zenon, Cape Girardeau co.	Poss. and inhab. from 1803	Confirmed 240 arpens.
Same - -	9 March, 1799	Andrew Ramsey, sen., under Solomon Thorn	240 do -	Big Swamp do -	Cultivation in 1801 - -	Confirmed 240 arpens.
Same - -	10 March, 1799	Andrew Ramsey, sen., under Samuel Bradley	300 do -	Ibid do -	Same - - -	Confirmed 300 arpens.
Henry Peyroux, Commandant	Survey - -	Andrew Ramsey, under Charles Bunch	300 do -	Big Swamp do -	Poss., inhab., and cult. from 1802 to 1808	Confirmed 300 arpens.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	3 January, 1805	Christopher Hays - -	1,000 do -	Hubbell's creek do -	Same from 1800 to 1808	Confirmed 1,000 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	29 & 30 Nov., 1799	Amos Bird, sen. - -	1,000 do -	Byrd's creek do -	Same from 1801 to 1808	Confirmed 1,000 arpens.
Same - -	10 May, 1799	George Hays, under Mary Fitz Gibbons	200 do -	Gibbony's creek do -	Possession from 1800 -	Confirmed 200 arpens.
Same - -	1799	Step'n Byrd, under Thomp. Byrd	197 arp's 2½ p's	Randoll's creek do -	Cultivation in 1801 - -	Confirmed 197 arpens 2½ perches.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	8 December, 1801	Bartholomew Causin - -	6,000 arpens -	White Water creek do -	- -	Confirmed not to contain more than a league square.
Z. Trudeau, Lt. Governor: Lost and proven by Commandant Lorimier.	Survey in 1797 -	Morris Williams, Lemon and Jas. Hodge	720 do -	Cape La Cruche do -	Poss. from 1797. Poss., inhab. and cult. in 1797, 1798, & 1800.	Confirmed 720 arpens, not to interfere with surveys under concession.

Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	1 December, 1797	Jno. C. Harbison, under Louis Francis Largeau	1,000 do -	do -	- -	Confirmed 1,000 arpens.
Carondelet, Gov. General -	26 October, 1797	Louis Lorimier - -	8,000 do -	On Mississippi do -	Poss., inhab., and cult. from 1793 to 1808	Confirmed for quantity contained in a league square.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Governor	25 November, 1803	Louis Lorimier, Jun. - -	1,006 arp's 32 p's	Caney creek do -	- -	Confirmed 1,006 arpens 32 perches.
Same - -	25 November, 1803	Auguste Bougainville Lorimier	1,000 arpens -	Ibid do -	- -	Confirmed 1,000 arpens.
Same - -	12 & 13 Jan., 1804	Louis Lorimier, under Hipolite Marot	461 do -	Big Swamp do -	- -	Confirmed 461 arpens.
Same - -	18 April, 1803	Jno. McCarty, under Jacob Kelly	546 arp's 48 p's	Byrd's creek do -	Poss., inhab., and cult. from 1803 to 1808	Confirmed 546 arpens 48 perches.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	29 April, 1798	Andrew Ramsey, under John Ramsey	240 arpens -	Charles' creek do -	Possession from 1799 -	Confirmed 240 arpens.
Z. Trudeau, Lt. Governor: Lost and proven	24 October, 1799	Jonathan Forman - -	760 arp's 80 p's	Hubbell's creek do -	Poss., inhab., and cult. from 1799 to 1808	Confirmed 760 arpens 80 perches.
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Governor	8 January, 1799	Edmund Hogan, under Alex. Millikin	240 arpens -	Mississippi do -	- -	Confirmed 240 arpens.
Lorimier's list A, No. 45 -	- -	John Simpson - - -	300 do -	Waters of Hubbell's c'k do -	Poss. & inh. in 1803. Poss., inh., and cult. in 1804 & 1805.	Granted 300 arpens.
Lorimier's list B, No. 43 -	- -	John Shields - - -	500 do -	do -	Poss., inhab., and cult. in 1799, 1803, and 1804.	Granted 500 arpens.
Henry Peyroux, Commandant	Executed by Jos. Story, prov. surveyor for New Madrid	Thomas Huff - - -	500 do -	Lake Le Bœuf, N. Madrid co.	Poss. and cult. in 1801 -	Confirmed 500 arpens.
Same - -	Same -	Thomas Huff, jun. - -	200 do -	Ibidem do.	Poss. in 1801 - -	Confirmed 200 arpens.
Same - -	Do. June, 1801	Ch's Lucas, under Rezin Bowie	380 do -	Fish lake do.	Poss. and cult. from 1800 to 1808	Confirmed 380 arpens.
Same - -	Do. 6 June, 1801	Ch's Lucas, under David Bowie	200 do -	Big Swamp do.	Poss., inhab., and cult. from 1800 to 1808.	Confirmed 200 arpens.
Moralés, Int'd't Gen. -	Not specially located	Robert M'Coy - -	320 do -	- - - -	- - - -	Not confirmed.
H. Peyroux, Commandant -	Surv. 2 June, 1801	John Clements - -	200 do -	Prairie St. Charles, Tywapity do.	Poss. and cult. in 1800 & 1801	Confirmed 200 arpens.
Same - -	Do. 2 June, 1801	Joseph Smith - - -	200 do -	Ibid ibid do.	Poss. and cult. from 1801 to 1807	Confirmed 200 arpens.
Same - -	Do. 19 June, 1801	Ch's Findlay, ass. of William Patterson	450 do -	Tywapity do.	Poss., in., and cult., 1801, 2, & 3	Confirmed 450 arpens.
Same - -	Do. 23 June, 1801	Cha's Findlay, ass. of Rese Bowie	300 do -	Ibid do.	Poss., in., and cult., same -	Confirmed 300 arpens.
Same - -	10 December, 1797	Peter Lovel, ass. of Jos. Charpentier	240 do -	Lake St. Isidro do.	Same from 1797 to 1808	Confirmed 240 arpens.
Same - -	12 March, 1801	Francis Lesieur - -	240 do -	Mississippi, (Grand Cotes) do.	Same from 1803 to 1808	Confirmed 240 arpens.
Bar. de Carondelet -	Special location -	Barthelemy Tardiveau - -	240 do -	Bay. St Thomas & St. John do.	Poss. prior to 20 Dec. 1803	Confirmed 240 arpens.
H. Peyroux, Commandant -	27 February, 1795	Fr's B. Corvaissor, ass. of Isaac Thompson	198 do -	Bayou St. Thomas do.	Pos., in., & cul. fr. 1794 to 1808	Confirmed 198 arpens.
Same - -	1806	Hardy Sojourner, under Ant. Trudell	200 do -	7¼ m. n. w. from N. Madrid do.	Same from 1802 to 1807	Confirmed 200 arpens.
Carondelet. Intendant, disallowed this claim	1806	Richard J. Waters - -	160 do -	Lake St. Anne & St. Martin do.	Same from 1796 to 1808	Granted by virtue of inhab. & cult.
Ch. D. Delassus, Command't	25 April, 1797	Henry Peyroux, under Hugh McDonald Chisolm	81 do -	Lake St. Mary do.	Same from 1797 to 1806	Confirmed 81 arpens.
H. Peyroux, Commandant -	6 March, 1798	Richard J. Waters, ass. of Benjamin Patterson	400 do -	Lake St. Isidro do.	Same from 1797 to 1800	Confirmed 400 arpens.
Same - -	1806	Frances Godfroy - -	400 do -	Lake St. Isidro & St. Mary do.	Same in 1797, and from 1800 to 1808.	Confirmed 400 arpens.
Carondelet, Intendant -	1 March, 1796	Richard J. Waters, under George Ruddle	200 do -	Lake St. Francois do.	Same prior to 1800 - -	Confirmed 200 arpens.

CONFIRMATIONS OF CONCESSIONS, &c.—Continued.

Concession, warrant, or order of survey.	Survey.	Claimants.	Land claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
H. Peyroux, Commandant -	10 March, 1797	Richard J. Waters, ass. of Dinah M. Rees	400 arpens -	Lake St. Francois, New Madrid co.	Possess., inh., cult. in 1800 -	Confirmed 400 arpens.
Order of survey by A. Grandé, Com., approved by Lt. Gov.	17 September, 1802	Benjamin Fooy, ass. of Jno. Hogan	320 do -	Mississippi, of Arkansas late dist.	Poss. by claimant Fooy -	Confirmed 320 arpens.
Same - -	16 September, 1802	Benjamin Fooy, ass. of Jno. W. Hunt	320 do -	Wappenockee do.	- -	Confirmed 320 arpens.
Same - -	20 September, 1802	Isaac Fooy - - -	320 do -	Mississippi do.	Poss. and cult. 1800 or 1801	Confirmed 320 arpens.
Same - -	13 September, 1802	John Grace - - -	320 do -	Wappenockee do.	- -	Confirmed 320 arpens.
Same - -	13 December, 1802	Antoine Pena - - -	320 do -	Alligator lake do.	- -	Confirmed 320 arpens.
Same - -	13 December, 1802	Augustin Gonzalez - -	320 do -	Ibidem do.	- -	Confirmed 320 arpens.
Same - -	13 December, 1802	Jno. Fr's Almendros - -	320 do -	Ibid do.	- -	Confirmed 320 arpens.
Same - -	13 December, 1802	Joseph Domingues - -	320 do -	Alligator lake do.	- -	Confirmed 320 arpens.
Same - -	13 December, 1802	Jean André Escrivano -	320 do -	Do do.	- -	Confirmed 320 arpens.
Same - -	13 December, 1802	Francis Groson - -	320 do -	Do do.	- -	Confirmed 320 arpens.
Same - -	13 December, 1802	Justo Martin - - -	320 do -	Do do.	- -	Confirmed 320 arpens.
Same - -	13 December, 1802	John Rodriguez - -	320 do -	Do do.	- -	Confirmed 320 arpens.
Same - -	3 September, 1802	Elizabeth Jones - -	320 do -	Do do.	- -	Confirmed 320 arpens.
F. C. y Luengo, Commandant	- -	Joseph Michel, under Albert Bardu	800 do -	Bay of White river do.	Poss., inhab., and cult. from 1800 to 1808	Confirmed 800 arpens.
A. Grandé, ap. by Lt. Gov.	25 September, 1802	Montford Perryman - -	320 do -	Wappenockee do.	- -	Confirmed 320 arpens.
C. de Villemont, Command't	- -	Francis de Vaugine - -	280 do -	- - do.	Poss., inhab., and cult. from 1802 to 1812.	Confirmed 280 arpens.
St. Mirot - - -	- -	Christian Pringle - -	280 do -	2 miles from village do.	Do do	Confirmed 280 arpens.
Same - - -	- -	Christian Pringle, ass. of heirs of Francis Gimblet	300 do -	- - do.	Do do	Confirmed 240 arpens.
Same - - -	- -	John Hudsell, in his own right, and as ass. of George Leard.	280 do -	1 mile from village do.	Same from 1802 to 1806 by Hudsell, and by others for him, till 1812	Confirmed 280 arpens.
De Villemont, Commandant	- -	Leonard Kepler, or legal representatives	850 do -	- - do.	Impt. inhab., and cult. from 1802 to 1812.	Confirmed 240 arpens.
Recom'd from Delino, Com.	- -	John Diana's representatives -	240 do -	- - do.	Same 1802 & to 1806	Confirmed 240 arpens.
F. C. y Luengo, Command't	- -	Joseph Calais - - -	320 do -	Prairie Catoche do.	Same 1803 & to 1806 in.	Confirmed 320 arpens.
J. V. Morales, Intendant -	6 September, 1802	Benjamin Fooy - -	800 do -	Hopefield do.	Same 1800 & to 1813	Confirmed 800 arpens.
Grande & Delassus -	14 September, 1802	Benjamin Fooy - -	640 do -	Wappenockee do.	Impt. and inhab., 1801; stock kept constantly on the place.	Confirmed 640 arpens.
M. Gayoso de Lemos -	- -	Daniel Mooney, under Auldjou	3 by 15 arpens -	Adjoining village do.	Poss., cult. and occasional inh. from 1799 to 1813	Confirmed 45 arpens.
Recom'd from Luengo, Com.	9 April, 1806	Samuel Treat, under Joseph Tessier	800 arpens -	On river Cache do.	Poss., inhab., and cult. from 1801 to 1813	Confirmed 640 arpens.
Concession from E. Mirot, Gov. Gen.	Special location -	George Kepler - -	240 do -	On Lake of the Prairie, bounded above by Cofman, below by Lavergne do.	- -	Confirmed 240 arpens.
Concession from Francis C. y Luengo, Command't	Special location -	John B. Cailhot, jun. - -	240 do -	On bay below village do.	Poss. and cult. in 1803 -	Confirmed 240 arpens.
Concession, same - -	Special location -	John B. Menard - -	400 do -	6 miles N. E. of village do.	- -	Confirmed 400 arpens.

Concession from De Villemont, Commandant	Special location -	Albert Berdu - - -	60 do -	- - do.	- -	Confirmed 60 arpens.
Concession from F. C. y Luengo, Commandant	Special location -	John Diana - - -	320 do -	Turk prairie, 36 m. from do.	- -	Confirmed 320 arpens.
Same - -	Special location -	Pierre Perti, als. Pertuis, heirs of	3 arpens front, by usual depth	3 miles E. of village do.	Improvt. commenced in 1802	Confirmed 120 arpens.
Same - -	Special location -	Charles Bougy - -	600 arpens -	River Grues, which empties into White river do.	- -	Confirmed 600 arpens.
Same - -	Special location -	Jno. B. Dardenne - -	640 do -	On Ark. river, Diacta pr'e do.	- -	Confirmed 640 arpens.
Same - -	Special location -	Peter Lafevre, ass. of J. Moore	320 do -	10 m. bel. mo. of St. Francis do.	- -	Confirmed 320 arpens.
Same - -	Special location -	Angel Lagarcinier - -	640 do -	Lafontaine à la Grand Glaize of White river do.	- -	Confirmed 640 arpens.
Same - -	Special location -	Marie Messagee - -	320 do -	Labutte à Maréchal do.	- -	Confirmed 320 arpens.
Same - -	Special location -	Jean B. Grener - -	240 do -	(6 by 40 arp.) ibid. do.	- -	Confirmed 240 arpens.
Concession from De Villemont, Commandant	Special location -	Jno. B. Degle - -	200 do -	County of do.	Poss., inhab,. and com. cult., 1798 and to 1808, &c.	Confirmed 200 arpens.
Same - -	Special location -	Jacob Dust - - -	160 do -	County of do.	- -	Confirmed 160 arpens, if vacant.

This second part containing confirmations of concessions, orders of warrants of survey, principally under acts of Congress of 12th April, 1814, and forming a part of the general report, respectfully submitted.

WASHINGTON CITY, *February* 2, 1816. FREDERICK BATES.

The Hon. JOSIAH MEIGS, *Commissioner of the General Land Office, Washington City.*

REPORT OF THE OPINIONS OF THE RECORDER OF LAND TITLES FOR THE TERRITORY OF MISSOURI, &c.

GRANTS OF CLAIMS FOUNDED ON SETTLEMENTS, UNDER THE SEVERAL ACTS OF CONGRESS COMMENCING WITH THAT OF 13TH JUNE, 1812, AND ENDING WITH THAT OF 12TH APRIL, 1814.

	Survey.	Claimants.	Land claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
Permit to settle -	11 December, 1805	Christopher Soomalt - -	756 arpens -	Peruque, county of St. Charles -	Possession and cultivation 1801 to 1803 - -	Granted 640 acres.
Permit -	3 January, 1804	Abraham Keilhtey - -	300 arpens -	Cuivre, - do -	Same, 1800, 1801, 1803; possession from 1803 -	Granted 300 arpens.
Permit -	7 December, 1805	Samuel Lewis - -	1050 arpens -	Peruque, - do -	Same, 1801, 1802; inhabited in 1803 - -	Granted 640 acres.
	24 January, 1806	David Conrad - -	850 arpens -	Do - do -	Poss. and inh. fall 1803; do. and cult. 1804 and to 1806	Granted 640 acres.
Permit -	3 December, 1805	Peter Teague - -	756 arpens -	Dardenne, - do -	Poss. and cult. 1802 and 1803, on 20 December -	Granted 640 acres.
Permit -	4 December, 1805	John McConnell - -	956 arpens -	Do - do -	Same in 1803; do. and inh. 1804 and following -	Granted 640 acres.
		Joseph Voisard - -	850 arpens -	Do - do -	Same 1803 and to 1806; 12 arpens cult. in 1807 -	Granted 640 acres.
Permit -	5 December, 1805	George Hoffman - -	856 arpens -	Peruque, - do -	Poss., inhab., and cult. in 1801, 1802, 1804, 5, and 6 -	Granted 640 acres.
	15 February, 1806	Arthur Byrns or Burns - -	800 arpens -	- - - do -	Same, 1800 and to 1804 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	11 February, 1806	Julius Emmons, under Wm. Ewing -	744 arpens -	Waters of Mississippi do -	Same, 1801 and to 1803, prior to and on 20 Decem. -	Granted 640 acres.
Permit -	7 December, 1805	Henry Stephenson - -	1080 arpens -	Peruque, - do -	Same, from March, 1804, to 1806; several previous crops raised by one Burns	Granted 640 acres.
	20 February, 1806	Jeremiah Grojean - -	896 arpens -	- - - do -	Same, from spring 1804 to 1807 - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		John Littlejohn, or reprs. (claimed by James Morrison)	750 arpens -	Femme Osage - do -	Poss., inh., and cult., from spring 1804 - -	Granted 640 acres.
	4 Feb. 1806 (for 426 arp. 64 ps.)	James Vanbibber -	1000 arpens -	Do - do -	Poss., inh., and cult., prior to and on 20 Dec. 1803 -	Gr. 426 aps. 64 ps.
Permit -	5 December, 1806	Nathaniel Simonot - -	410 arpens -	Dardenne - do -	Poss., inh., and cult., 1804 and 1807, formr. cult. -	Granted 640 acres.

GRANTS OF CLAIMS FOUNDED ON SETTLEMENTS—Continued.

	Survey.	Claimants.	Land claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
Permit	- - -	John Weldon - -	500 arpens -	Alleged to be within the lines of A. Rutgers, and selected for grant before the passage of act confirming claim of said A. R. do -	Possession, inh. and cult. in 1802 and to 1810 -	Granted 500 arpens.
Permit	- - -	John Busby, under Gab'l Marlow -	900 arpens -	Charette - do -	Same, in 1801 and to 1805, by claimant, or for use of claimant	Granted 640 acres.
Permit	9 January, 1806	Thomas Howell - -	750 arpens -	Dardenne - do -	Poss. and cult. 1803; do. and inh. 1804 and to 1808 -	Granted 640 acres.
	5 September, 1805	Robert Spencer - -	750 arpens -	Do - do -	Poss., inh., and cult. 1802 and to 1807 - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Peter Burdean - -	750 arpens -	Charette - do -	Same, 1801 to 1808 - - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
Permit	10 December, 1805	Daniel Baldridge - -	850 arpens -	Peruque - do -	Same, 1804 and to 1806 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
Permit	24 February, 1806	James Meek - -	500 arpens -	Charette cr. - do -	Same, in 1804 - - - - -	Granted 500 arpens.
	6 February, 1806	Adam M'Cord - -	850 arpens -	Do - do -	Same, in 1804, 5, and 6 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
Permit	9 February, 1803	Samuel Meek - -	500 arpens -	Do - do -	Poss. and cult. in 1804 - - - -	Granted 500 arpens.
	4 February, 1806	Winslow Turner - -	998 arpens -	Waters of Cuivre - do -	Poss. and cult. 1803; do. and inh. 1804, 5, 6, and 7 -	Granted 640 acres.
Permit	20 February, 1806	James Mitchell - -	644 arpens -	Missouri - do -	Poss. and cult. in 1804 - - - -	Granted 644 arpens.
	15 December, 1805	David Edwards - -	900 arpens -	Waters of Dardenne do -	Poss., inh., and cult. prior to and on 20 Dec. 1803 -	Granted 640 acres.
		Etienne Bernard, assignee of Mary Ann, widow of Jos. Violette	400 arpens -	Dardenne - do -	Poss., inh., and cult. from 1802 to 1812 - -	Gr. 400 arp. to reps. of J. Violette.
Permit, by Z. Trud.	Special location at the head of rapid of river Desmoins.	Thomas F. Reddick, asse. estate of Jos. Robideu, asse. of Louis Hon. Tesson	7056 arpens -	On the Mississippi, 18 miles above river Desmoins do -	Poss., inh., and cult. in 1798 and till 1805; house, orchards, field	Granted 640 acres, if Indian right extinguished.
		Nath'l Simons's representative, Marshal Cottle	300 arpens -	Dardenne - do -	Comd. cult. and occas. inh. by and for the widow of Cottle in 1801 and to 1813	Granted 300 arpens.
		Lewis Krow - - -	900 arpens -	Charles' river - do -	Poss., inh, and cult. 1803 and following - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Andrew Walker - - -	800 arpens -	Dardenne river - do -	Same, 1803 to 1813 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Peter Chouteau, asse. McLanahan and Harry, under Dissonet	800 arpens -	Near Spencer's run do -	Same, (by Dissonet,) in 1798 and to 1805 - -	Granted 640 acres to leg. rep. of Dissonet.
		Robert Spencer - - -	750 arpens -	Waters of Dardenne, (Spencer's run) do -	Same, in 1802 and to 1813 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	29 November, 1805	Nathan Sullens - - -	956 arpens -	Fife's creek, county of St. Louis -	Same, in 1804, 5, 6, &c. - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	8 January, 1805	Claiborne Thomas, under Edw. Butler	756½ arpens -	Grand Glaize - do -	Same, in 1802 and 1803, and for claimant's use till 1809, &c.	Granted 640 acres.
Permit	- in 1806	James Cowan - - -	756 arpens -	Dubois - do -	Same, 1804 - - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Jeduthan Kendal, under Rich'd Glover	250 arpens -	Sandy creek - do -	Same, in 1803 and 1804 - - - -	Granted 250 arpens.
Permit	- - -	Francis Wideman - - -	400 arpens -	Negro fork of Meramec do -	Same, 1802 and to 1808; a crop in 1801 - -	G anted 400 arpens.
	28 January, 1806	William Eastep - - -	840 arpens -	Waters of Meramec do -	Same, 1802; settled with family 1804 - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	15 February, 1806	James James - - -	474 arpens -	Cold water - do -	Same, in 1804, 5, 6, &c. - - - -	Granted 474 arpens.
		Ed. Butler & Philip Roberts, representatives of Ann Skinner	640 arpens -	Grand Glaize - do -	Same, in 1802 and 1803 - - - -	Granted 640 arpens.
Permit	24 February, 1806	John Hensley - - -	727 arpens -	Waters of do. - do -	House logs and hay in 1803; poss., inh., cult. 1804 -	Granted 640 acres.
Permit	21 December, 1805	John Connor, under Isaac Vanmeter -	640 arpens -	Joachim - do -	Poss., inh., and cult., (by Vanmeter,) in 1802 and to 1806, &c.	Granted 640 arpens.
	25 January, 1806	Hugh McCullock - - -	901½ arpens -	Meramec - do -	Poss., inh., and cult. 1804, 5, 6, &c. - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		James Varnum and Rufus Easton -	400 acres -	Joachim - do -	Poss., inh, in 1801, 2, and 3; do. and cult. 1804 -	Granted 400 acres.
	12 February, 1806	John Dowlin's legal reps. under J. Gilmore	748.68 arpens -	Little Rock - do -	Poss., inh., and impr. 1803; poss., inh., cult. 1804, 5 -	Granted 640 acres.

	21 February, 1806	Samuel Pruitt	906 arpens	Meramec do	Poss., inh., and cult. 1803 and to 1806, &c.	Granted 640 acres.
		David Boyle	1220 arpens	Sandy creek do	Same, prior to 20 December, 1803	Granted 640 acres.
Permit		Abraham Hilderbrand	850 arpens	Meramec do	Same, in 1814 and to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
Permit		Widow and children (reps.) of James McCourtney	500 arpens	Crevecœur do	Poss. and cult. in 1803; do. and inh. 1804 and to 1808	Granted 500 arpens.
Permit	27 December, 1805	Richard Applegate	640 acres	Joachim do	Poss. and cult. 1801 and to 1806	Granted 640 acres.
		John Litten	640 acres	Sandy creek do	Poss., inh., and cult. in 1803 and 1804	Granted 640 acres.
	7 January, 1806	Claiborne Thomas, under Charles Gill	756 arpens	Do do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Granted 640 acres.
	22 February, 1806	William Drennen	1099.62 arpens	Grand Glaise do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
		Hardy Ware, in his own right, and not as rep. of David Hilderbrand	960 arpens	Meramec do	Same, (by Ware) in 1804 and 1805; same, (by Hilderbrand) 1801, 2, and 3	Granted 640 acres.
	26 December, 1805	John Philips	750 arpens	Bœuf do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February, 1806	James Stewart	740 arpens	Black water do	Same, same, cultivated in 1802	Granted 740 arpens.
Permit	4 January, 1806	James Foster	870 arpens	Joachim do	Poss. and cult. 1803, 1804; do. and inh. 1805 & to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
	17 February, 1806	John Carpenter's representatives	640 acres	- do	Settl. 1803; poss., inh., & cult. prior & on 20 Dec. 1803	Granted 640 acres.
	25 January, 1806	David Fine	1216.16 arpens	Mattis do	Poss., inh., and cult. 1803 and to 1807, &c.	Granted 640 acres.
		John B. Dubay	640 acres	So. side Missouri river, opposite town St. Charles do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
		John A. Sturgus	700 arpens	Plattin do	Inh. 1803; poss., inh., and cult. 1804 and to 1812	Granted 700 arpens.
		James A. Sturgus's heirs	800 arpens	North side of do. do	Poss., inh. and cult. from 1802 to 1812	Granted 640 acres.
		Jos. Keiffer, for benefit of Chas. Gratiot	800 arpens	North side of Meramec do	Same, during Spanish Gov't and to 1810	Granted 640 acres.
		Isaac Hilderbrand's heirs	800 arpens	Negro fork of do. do	Same, from 1803 and to 1812	Granted 640 acres.
		Abraham Hilderbrand	800 arpens	Big river do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
		William Moss	800 arpens	Sandy creek do	Same, same	Gr. 640 acres, saving rights of others, partic'ly Benj. Johnston.
		Henry Jones	300 arpens	Head waters of Crevecœur do	Same, in 1804 and to 1813	Granted 300 arpens to Henry Jones.
		Mark Wideman, asse. of Jas. Patterson	800 arpens	A fork of Meramec do	Poss. and inh. 1803; do. and cult. 1804	Granted 640 acres.
		John Coons, asse. of David Hilderbrand	800 arpens	Both sides of do. do	S. side, poss., inh., & cult. 1801 till 17 Jan. 1804, cult. cont'd. N. side, cult. 1803, poss., inh., and cult. 1804 to 1811.	Gr. 640 acres, to be survy'd according to future instructions.
		Michael Horine	800 arpens	Wat's of Meramec, Richwoods do	Poss., inh., and cult. from 1803 to 1812	Granted 640 acres.
		Susanna Duncan	800 arpens	8 or 10 miles n. of St. Louis do	Same, in 1803 and 1804	Granted 640 acres.
		William Smirl	640 acres	Black water do	Same, from 1804 to 1812 (inh. by G. Smirl, sen. 1803)	Granted 640 acres.
		Andrew Hamilton	400 arpens	Fisher's creek do	Same, 1804 to 1813	Granted 400 arpens.
		Francis Bittick	800 arpens	Waters of Meramec do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
		Joseph Haune, sen.	800 arpens	N. side Meramec, w. of mo. Keiffer's cr., e. Sugar cr. do	Same, 1803 and 1804	Gr. 640 acrs } Not to int. with lands of Samuel Pruitt.
		Joseph Haune, jun.	800 arpens	Same, do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803, and part of 1804	Gr. 640 acrs } Not to int. with lands of Samuel Pruitt.
		Levi Theel	750 arpens	On Meramec do	Same, in 1800 and to 1813	Granted 640 acres.
		Thomas Waters	800 arpens	Sandy creek do	Same, 1804 and to 1813; (poss. and inh. 1803)	Granted 640 acres.
		Hardy Ware's representatives	800 arpens	On Meramec, mo. of Pomme creek do	Same, in 1803 and to 1813	Granted 640 acres.
		Elisha Baker's representatives	800 arpens	Little Rock creek do	Same, in 1802 and to 1813	Granted 640 acres.
		Ant. E. Reilhe, under John Gregar	800 arpens	On Meramec do	Same, in 1802 and to 1804, in the fall	Granted 640 acres.
		Richard Glover's representatives	800 arpens	Waters of Joachim do	Same, (by Glover,) in 1803, and (by his reps.) to 1813	Granted 640 acres.
		Thomas Fitzwater, asse. of Ed. Young	600 arpens	Waters of Bonhomme and Crevecœur do	Same, from 1804 to 1812, inclusive	Granted 600 arpens, if vacant.
	29 January, 1806	Ezekiel Estis, als. Eastridge	650 arpens	Big river, county of St. Genevieve	Poss., inh., and cult. 1802 and to 1807	Granted 650 arpens.
	9 January, 1806	Robert Estis, als. Eastridge	870 arpens	Terrebleue do	Same, 1801 to 1807	Granted 640 acres.
	7 January, 1806	John Auguste	780 arpens	Do do	Poss., and inh., 1802; do. and cult. in 1803	Granted 640 acres.
	7 January, 1806	Robert Adams	660 arpens	Big river do	Poss., inh., and cult. prior and on 20 Dec. 1803	Granted 660 arpens.

GRANTS OF CLAIMS FOUNDED ON SETTLEMENTS—Continued.

	Survey.	Claimants.	Land claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
Permit	5 December, 1805	John Hawkins, under Alex. Murdock	299.46 arpens	Mississippi, county of St. Genevieve	Poss., inh. and cult. prior on 20 Dec. 1803	Gr. 299 arps. 46 ps.
Permit	11 January, 1806	Isaac Doghead	792 arpens	Big river do	Same, in 1804 and to 1806	Granted 640 acres.
	10 January, 1806	Isaac Jackson and Steven Evans	840 arpens	Waters of Grand river do	Same, same, (and previous cultivation by others)	Granted 640 acres.
Permit	9 January, 1806	Joseph James	640 acres	River Brazeau do	Same, (for claimant,) prior to and on 20 Dec. 1803	Granted 640 acres.
	2 January, 1806	Edward Johnston	954 arpens 11 ps.	Bellevue do	Same, in 1804 and to 1806	Granted 640 acres.
	6 February, 1806	Abraham Parker	1000 arpens	Big river do	Same, in 1802 and to 1806; (built 1801)	Granted 640 acres.
Permit	8 January, 1806	Darius Shaw	640 acres	Near Mine à Breton do	Poss. and cult. 1801, 2, & 3; do. & inh. 1804, 5, 6	Granted 640 acres.
	26 February, 1806	John Baker	400 arpens	Big river do	Same, 1798 and to 1806	Granted 400 arpens.
	22 February, 1806	Uriah Hull	853 arps. 96 ps.	Bellevue do	Poss., inh., and cult. 1804 and to 1806	Granted 640 acres.
Permit	30 January, 1806	Water Crow	441 arps. 15 ps.	Do do	Poss. and cult. 1803; do. and inh. 1804, 5, 6, &c.	Gr. 441 arps. 15 ps.
Permit	29 January, 1806	James McLaughlin	707 arpens	Do do	Poss., inh., and cult., 1804, 5, 6, &c. (impr. 1803)	Granted 707 arpens.
	4 January, 1806	William Reed, sen.	1077 arpens	Do do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Granted 640 acres.
		Thomas Bear	375 arps. 35 ps.	Do do	Same, in 1804, 5, 6, &c.	Gr. 375 arps. 35 ps.
	18 February, 1806	Joseph McMurtry	1024 arpens	Big river do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
	25 January, 1806	Bernard Rogan	161 arps. 30 ps.	Bellevue do	Same, same	Gr. 161 arps. 30 ps.
	6 January, 1806	Sarah Starnater	761½ arpens	Big river do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Granted 640 acres.
	20 January, 1805	William Reed	117 arps. 95 ps.	Mississippi do	Same, same	Gr. 117 arps. 95 ps.
	26 February, 1806	Michael Raber	922 arpens	Joachim do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
	22 January, 1806	Thomas McLaughlin	908 arpens	Bellevue do	Same, 1804, 5, 6, &c. (poss. and impr. 1803)	Granted 640 acres.
	19 February, 1806	William Middleton	638 acres 39ts. 2ps.	Cinq Hommes do	Same, prior to and on 20 Dec. 1803; (impr. 1802)	Gr. 638 a. 39 ts. 2 ps.
	18 February, 1806	Bernard Layton	947 arps. 56 ps.	Do do	Same, 1804, 5, 6, &c. (poss. and impr. in 1803)	Granted 640 acres.
	21 January, 1806	James Manning	182 arpens	Mississippi do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Granted 182 arpens.
Permit	20 January, 1806	Mark Manning	150 arpens	Do do	Same, 1804, 5, 6, &c. (impr. 1803)	Granted 150 arpens.
Permit	October, 1805	Bernard Cecil	894 arpens	Saline creek do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
	31 December, 1803	Samuel Pierceall	1049¾ arpens	Flat river do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Granted 640 acres.
Permit	9 January, 1806	Gideon W. Treat	748 arpens	Prairie Spring creek do	Poss. and cult. 1801, 2, by another; do. 1803 by claimant's tenant; claimant has a tanyard on the tract	Granted 640 acres.
Permit	25 December, 1805	William Dillon, under Christopher Anthony	1100 arpens	Waters of St. François do	Poss., inh. 1803; do. and cult. 1804; cult. 1802; cult. in 1803 by another	Granted 640 acres.
	17 February, 1806	John Cooper	640 acres	Bellevue do	Poss., inh., and cult. in 1804	Granted 640 acres.
Permit	30 November, 1805	James Moore, sen.	951 arpens	Waters of Saline do	Claimant settled and built a house 1803; inh. and cult. in 1804, 5, 6, &c.	Granted 640 acres.
	7 February, 1806	Humphrey Gibson, jun.	853 arpens 15 ps.	River Plattin do	Poss., inh. and cult. prior to and on 20 Dec. 1803; settled in 1802	Granted 640 acres.
Permit	31 December, 1805	Joseph Miles	1200 arpens	Saline creek do	Same, in 1804, 5, 6, &c.; settled 1803, built a house and made honey	Granted 640 acres.
	23 January, 1806	James James (claimed by Dodge & Calloway)	950 arpens	St. Francis do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Granted 640 acres to James James.
Permit	22 January, 1806	John Lewis	947 arpens 55 ps.	Bellevue do	Same, in 1804, 5, 6, &c.; impr. 1803	Granted 640 acres.
	8 February, 1806	John Morgan, jun.	640 acres	Mississippi do	Same, in 1800, 1, 2; cultivated 1803, &c.	Gr. 640 acrs; good by Sp. laws if settlem't act had not passed.
Permit	- - -	Elias A. Elliot, under Joseph Reed	725 arpens	Bellevue do	Same, in 1804, 5, 6, &c.; impr. and inh. 1803	Granted 725 arpens.
	8 February, 1800	Archibald Morgan	640 acres	Mississippi do	Poss. and cult. in 1803	Granted 640 acres.
		Francis Clark, (son of Henry)	230 arpens	Bois Brulé do	Poss., inh. and cult. 1803, 4, 5, 6, &c.	Granted 230 arpens.
	19 February, 1806	Benjamin Cox, jun.	749 arpens 50 ps.	St. Côme do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Granted 640 acres.

	19 February,	1806	Benjamin Cox, sen.	847 arpens 52 ps.	Do	do	Same, in 1804, 5, 6, &c.; claimant settled in 1802, and made garden	Granted 640 acres.
	28 February,	1806	Thomas Russ	1146 arpens 41 ps.	Near Mine à Breton	do	Same, from 1799 to 1806, &c.	Gr. 640 acres, unless Gov't sh'd presume it contains mineral.
Permit	7 January,	1806	John Matthews	1070 arpens	Waters of St. François	do	Same, from 1802 to 1806	Granted 640 acres.
Permit	8 February,	1806	Elisha Baker	1426 arpens 89 ps.	Bellevue	do	Same, from 1803 to 1806, &c.	Granted 640 acres.
Permit	15 February,	1806	William Boydston	508 arpens 52 ps.	Do	do	Same, in 1804, 5, 6, &c. (impr. 1803)	Gr. 508 arps. 52 ps.
Permit	7 February,	1806	Abraham Rickman	91[illegible] arpens 30 ps.	Do	do	Same, 1804, 5, 6, &c. (poss., impr., inh. 1803)	Granted 640 acres.
Permit	25 February,	1806	John Bickman	693 arpens 70 ps.	Do	do	Same, same, (poss., impr. and cult. 1803)	Gr. 693 arps. 70 ps.
	17 February,	1806	John Janes	610 arpens 82 ps.	Do	do	Same, 1804, 5, 6, 7, &c.	Gr. 610 arps. 82 ps.
	15 February,	1806	Abraham Armstrong	640 acres	Cape St. Come	do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
Permit	6 Febuary,	1806	Salmon Ruggles	553¼ arpens	Big river	do	Same, 1803, and same, (poss. impr. in 1802)	Granted 553¼ arpens.
	20 February,	1806	Robert [illegible]oan	640 acres	Do	do	Same, 1804, 5, 6, &c.	Granted 640 acres.
			Mi[illegible]ael Horine's heirs, assignees of Abner Wood	898 arpens	On river Plattin	do	Same, in 1804	Granted 640 acres.
			Michael Placet, assignee of William Girouard, assignee of John Hays	35 arpens	On Mississippi	do	Same, from 1794 to 1808, by claimant and others	Granted 35 arpens.
Permit	20 [illegible] February,	1806	John Sinclair	1280 arpens	St. Francois	do	Same, 1803 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
[illegible]	12 February,	1806	John Jones	849 arpens 12 ps.	Richland creek	do	Same, in 1804, (poss. and inh. 1788)	Granted 640 acres.
[illegible]eLeyba	12 February,	1806	Jesse Benton	747 arpens 84 ps.	Big river	do	Same, 1804 and to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
	8 February,	1806	William Crawford	1190 arpens	St. Francis	do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Granted 640 acres.
	3 January,	1806	William North	840 arpens	Big river	do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
	4 January,	1806	John Starnitur	750 arpens	Do	do	Poss. & inh. 1802 and part of 1803, a tenant left with cattle. Same, & cult. by claimant in 1804, 5, 6, &c	Granted 640 acres.
	9 January,	1803	Jacob Mosteller	750 arpens	Hazel run	do	Poss., inh., and cult. prior to and on 20 Dec. 1803	Granted 640 acres
	14 January,	1806	Francis Baty	548 arpens	River St. Francis	do	Same, same, (settlement in 1802)	Granted 548 arpens.
	22 February,	1806	Baptiste Janis	400 arpens	River establishment	do	Same, (by slaves of claimant) 1802 and 1803 (yearly resid.) claimant built a cabin and cleared in 1800	Granted 400 arpens.
	19 December,	1805	Rowland Boyd	640 acres	Waters of Saline	do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Granted 640 acres.
	17 February,	1806	Josephus Tucker	846 arpens	Waters of Mississippi	do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February,	1806	Solomon Morgan	640 acres	Mississippi	do	Same, same, (settl. in 1802)	Granted 640 acres.
	17 February,	1806	Jonathan Preston	1144 arpens	Cape St. Come	do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
	21 January,	1806	John Manning	1138 arpens 24 ps.	Mississippi	do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
	13 February,	1806	John Corder	473 arpens 95 ps.	Bellevue	do	Same, in 1804, (poss. and inh. 1803)	Gr. 473 arps. 95 ps.
	26 January,	1806	James Hutchins	845 arpens 75 ps.	Mississippi	do	Same, 1804, 5, 6, &c. (poss. and impr. 1803)	Granted 640 acres.
	13 January,	1806	William Hinkson	1037 arpens	Aux Vases	do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Granted 640 acres.
	25 February,	1806	Ely Strickland	775 arpens	Plattin	do	Same, in 1803	Granted 640 acres.
	25 January,	1806	Charles Duncaster	997 arpens 85 ps.	Riv. à Brazeau	do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Granted 640 acres.
	26 February,	1806	Benjamin Harrison	640 acres	Aux Vases	do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
	8 February,	1806	William Ashbrook	673 arpens 41½ ps.	Big river	do	Same, in 1804, 5, 6, &c.	Gr. 673 arps. 41½ ps.
	21 February,	1806	Lemuel Wakeley	959 arpens	Do	do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
	3 February,	1806	Miles Gofforth	1295 arpens 34 ps.	Do	do	Same, in 1804	Granted 640 acres.
	18 February,	1806	Joseph McMartree	1197 arpens	Bellevue	do	Same, 1804, 5, 6, &c. (settl. & imp. 1803)	Granted 640 acres.
	3 January,	1806	John Ottery	766 arpens	Cedar creek	do	Same, same, (poss., impr. and inh. 1803)	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February,	1806	Joseph Bear	593 arpens	Bellevue	do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Granted 593 arpens.
Permit	20 February,	1806	David Cripps	893 arpens	Bois Brulé	do	Same, July, 1804, and in 1805, 6, &c.	Granted 640 acres.
Permit	30 December,	1805	Henry Grass	768 arpens	Saline creek	do	Same, in 1803	Granted 640 acres.
	28 November,	1805	Clement Hayden, without a conveyance from Luke Matterly	1250 arpens	Bois Brule	do	Same, (by Hayden,) 1804, 5, 6, &c. Same, (by Matterly,) prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Granted 640 acres.
	14 February,	1806	Charles Ellis	997 arpens 85 ps.	Cape Cinq Hommes	do	Same, (by claim't) 1804, 5, 6, &c. (Do. 1803 by others)	Granted 640 acres.
	28 November,	1805	Thomas Riney	900 arpens	[illegible]	do	Same, (by claim't) same; (inh. & cult. 1803 by another)	Granted 640 acres.
	24 January,	1806	Francis Bertheaume	918 arpens 30 ps.	Apple creek	do	Same, in 1802, and prior to and on 20 Dec. 1803	Granted 640 acres.

GRANTS OF CLAIMS FOUNDED ON SETTLEMENTS—Continued.

	Survey.	Claimants.	Land claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
Permit - -	14 December, 1805	Louis Dickson, under Wm. Vanburkelow	1148 arpens -	Cape Cinq Hommes c'ty St.Gen've	Possession inhabit. and cult. (by tenant of claim't) in 1803, 4, 5, 6, &c.; settled, inh. and cult. in 1800	Granted 640 acres.
	6 February, 1806	Martin Ruggles - -	640 acres -	Bellevue - do -	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803 - -	Granted 640 acres.
	28 February, 1806	Peter Martin - - -	26 arpens -	Mine à Breton do -	Same, in 1803 and to 1806 (poss. and impr. 1802) -	These tracts probably contain lead; otherwise, they ought to be granted.
	8 February, 1806	Peter Abar - - -	50 acres -	Near Mine à Breton do -	Same, (by claimant,) 1801 and to 1806, &c. (settlement in 1799, by H. Robert)	
		Peter Boyer - - -	639¾ acres 12 ps. -	Old Mine creek - do -	Same, in 1802 and to 1808 - - - -	
		Abraham Brinker, under Fra. Thibault	500 arpens -	Near Mine à Breton do -	Same, same - - - - - -	
		Moses Cavett - - -	640 acres -	Wat. of St. Francois, St. Michael's tp. do -	Same, in 1804, (poss. and inh. 20 Dec. 1803) -	Granted 640 acres.
		Matthew Logan - -	640 acres -	Do - do -	Same, from August, 1803, till 1812 - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Jesse Dowling - -	600 arpens -	Plattin creek do -	Same, in 1802, 3, and 4 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Michael Horine, assee. of Abner Wood	600 arpens -	Waters of do do -	Same, in 1803 and 1804 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		John Reaves - -	640 acres -	Waters of St. Francois do -	Same, from 1803 to 1812 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Joshua Edwards - -	640 acres -	Do (Matthew's cr) do -	Same, all year 1803 - - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Ezekiel Able - -	800 arpens -	Do - do -	Same, (by claimant and others for him) 1803, 4, 5, 6 -	Granted 640 acres.
		Christopher Barnhart - -	800 arpens -	5 or 6 ms. from Saline do -	Same, in 1801, 1802, and 1803 - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Thomas Rardin, jun. - -	800 arpens -	Wood Island creek do -	Same, in 1804, (appearances of former cultivation) -	Granted 640 acres.
		Jacob Dogget's heirs - -	800 arpens -	Waters of Big river do -	Same, in 1803 and 1804 (inh. in 1802) - -	Granted 640 acres.
		John Dunks - -	800 arpens -	Bois Brulé, op. Horse Isl. 3 miles fr. Miss. do -	Same, in 1803 and 1804 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Andrew Dunks - -	800 arpens -	Do do 2 ms from river do -	Same, same - - - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Theophilus Hickman - -	800 arpens -	Do same - do -	Same, in 1804, (inhab. in 1803) - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		William Hickman - -	800 arpens -	Bois Brulé bottom do -	Same, same - - - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Joseph White - -	800 arpens -	Waters of St. Francois do -	Same, in 1802, 3, & perhaps (as witness believes) 1804	Granted 640 acres.
		Ja's Campbell's representatives -	800 arpens -	Cedar creek - do .	Same, in 1802 and to 1813, (after 1803 by others) -	Granted 640 acres.
		Joseph Allaire's representatives	800 arpens -	Bois Brulé - do -	Same, 1802, 3, and part of 1804, (and to 1813 by E. Abel's tenants	Granted 640 acres.
		John Mann's representatives -	800 arpens -	River St. Francois - do -	Inh. and cult. part of 1803, (till after 20 Dec.) since to 1813, by E. Abel's tenants	Granted 640 acres.
		John Strickland - -	600 acres -	Big river - do -	Poss, inh., and cult. in 1803 and to 1813 - -	Granted 600 acres.
		Barthelemy Berthold, under Jno. Price	A lot of land near town of St. Genevieve, bounded north by academy; east by Fleming, Aubuck, and Guibour; south by church yard, Govreau & Lalamandier; and north by inhabitants' lands—county of St. Genevieve		Poss. and cult. in 1802 by John Price - -	Granted to be surveyed, not to interfere with rights of others.
		Rowland Meredith - -	750 arpens -	Head of Bois Brulé bottom do -	Poss., inh., and cult. in 1804, by claimant, and by others under him, till 1813	Granted 640 acres.
		Frederick Woolfort - -	748 arpens 68 ps. -	River St. Laurent do -	Same, 1798—1804, inclusive - - -	Gr. 640 acs. if vacant.
		William Fitzgibbon - -	420 arpens 46 ps. -	Bois Brulé - do -	Same, (by claimant) 1803, 1804, (& to 1813 by others)	Gr. 420 arps. 46 ps.
	12 February, 1806	John Morgan's heirs - -	800 arpens -	Do - do -	Same, 1800 and to 1813 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		James Moore, sen. - -	800 arpens -	Waters of Saline do -	Same, 1804 and to 1813, (impr. in 1803) - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Widow Lockhart - -	450 arpens -	S. side St.Côme's creek do -	Same, 1804 and following, (appear. of former cult.) -	Granted 450 arpens.
		Michael Reagan - -	800 arpens -	On Plattin - do -	Same, 1802, 3, and 4 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
Permit frm L. Lorimier	29 January, 1806	Andrew Reed - -	750 arpens -	St. Francois, co. of Cape Girardeau	Poss., inh., and cult. in 1803, (inh. from 1801) -	Granted 640 acres.
Permit - -	3 January, 1806	John Miller - - -	1324 arpens 21 ps. -	White water - do -	Same, from 1804 to 1808, (impr. 1803) - -	Granted 640 acres.

Permit	9 January, 1806	Isaac Miller	340 arpens	Do do	Same, same	Granted 340 arpens.
Permit, list B, No. 17	21 January, 1806	Frederick Limbough, jun.	529 arpens	Do do	Same, from 1803 to 1808	Granted 529 arpens.
Permit	17 January, 1806	Frederick Limbough, sen.	814 arpens 42 ps.	Do do	Same, from 1804 and to 1808, (impr. 1803)	Granted 640 acres.
Permit, list B, No. 25	27 February, 1806	Martin Cothner	707 arpens 74 ps.	Do do	Same, from 1803 and to 1806, and following	Gr. 707 arpens 74 ps.
Permit, list B, No. 18	27 February, 1806	Handel Barks	584 arpens 91 ps.	Do do	Same, from 1804 and to 1806, &c. (inh. 1803)	Gr. 584 arpens 91 ps.
Permit, list A	27 February, 1806	Henry Bollinger, (son of Dan'l)	701 arpens 89 ps.	Do do	Same, 1804 to 1808, (impr. 1803)	Gr. 701 arpens 89 ps.
Permit, list A, of Delassus, No. 4		Jere. Conway, under Peter Bellew	720 arpens	Do do	Same, same, (poss., inh., and impr. 1803)	Granted 720 arpens.
Permit, do. No. 62	6 December, 1805	Elijah Welsh	350 arpens 95 ps.	Do do	Same, same, idem	Gr. 350 arpens 95 ps.
Permit fr L. Lorimier	15 January, 1806	Christopher Aidinger	465 arpens	Do do	Same, 1804 to 1806, &c. (poss. 1801, cult. 1802, 3)	Granted 465 arpens.
Fermit by Delassus	3 February, 1806	Jona. Hubble, son of Jona., for benefit of Robt. English	865 arpens 66 ps.	Do do	Same, 1804 and 1805	Granted 640 acres.
Permit, list B, No. 23	15 January, 1806	Peter Hartle	600 arpens	Do do	Same, 1804, 5, 6, &c. (impr. in 1803)	Granted 600 arpens.
Permit by Lorimier	6 January, 1806	William Patterson	970 arpens	Do do	Same, 1804 and to 1806, &c. idem	Granted 640 acres.
	11 December, 1805	Abraham Byrd, jun.	225 arpens	Mississippi do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Granted 225 arpens.
Permit by H. Peyroux	11 January, 1806	Abr. Byrd, sen. under Jno. Johnson	445 arpens	Do do	Same, in 1801 and to 1808	Granted 445 arpens.
Permit, same	11 January, 1806	Abraham Byrd, under Jona. Stoker	250 arpens	Do do	Same, 1802 and to 1808	Granted 250 arpens.
Permit, same	11 January, 1806	Abraham Byrd sen.	800 arpens	Do do	Same, 1803 and to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
Permit, same	- - -	Abr. Byrd, sen. under Chs. Findley	325 arpens	Do do	Same, 1801 and to 1808	Granted 325 arpens.
Permit, list A, No. 28	16 January, 1806	Peter Crytz	1170 arpens	White water do	Same, 1804 and to 1808, (impr. 1803)	Granted 640 acres.
Per. list A, No. 9 for 300	31 December, 1805	Austin Young	338 arpens 45 ps.	Byrd's creek do	Same, (by tenant,) same do	Granted 300 arpens.
Permit by Peyroux	(by Story)	James Currin, under Jacob Myers	350 arpens	Mississippi do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Granted 350 arpens.
Per. list B, No. 50, fr 250	20 December, 1805	David Harris	268 arpens 90 ps.	Waters of Ramsey's creek do	Same, in 1804 and to 1808, (inh. imp. 1803)	Granted 250 arpens.
Per. list A, No. 68, fr 300	2 December, 1805	Wm. Garner, under Jas. Murphy	790 arpens	Do. White water do	Same, in 1803 and to 1806	Granted 300 arpens.
		Ezekiel Able, under Reazin Bailey	740 arpens	Do do	Same, in 1803, (cult. to 1808, imp. 1802)	Granted 740 arpens.
Per. list A, No. 41, fr 350	21 December, 1805	Baptiste Godair	204 arpens	Ramsey's creek do	Same, in 1804 and to 1808, (poss. and prep. 1803)	Granted 204 arpens.
		Thomas Foster	240 arpens	Hubbel's creek do	Same, in all the year 1803	Granted 240 arpens.
		Jos. Worthington, undr Henry Hall	284 arpens 31½ ps.	Mill creek do	Same, prior to and on 20 Dec. 1803	Gr. 284 arpens 31½ ps.
Per. list A, for 300 a.	18 December, 1805	Sam'l Dorsey, undr Horace Austin	865 arpens 66 ps.	White water do	Same, in 1804 (poss., inh, impr. 1803)	Granted 300 arpens.
		Jenny Logan	491 arpens 75 ps.	do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Gr. 491 arps. 75 ps.
Per. list A, No. 71, fr 400	28 February, 1806	John Hays	740 arpens	Mississippi do	Poss. and cult. 1802 and to 1808, (a cabin)	Granted 400 arpens.
	28 January, 1806	Joseph Parish	800 arpens	Waters of St. François do	Poss, inh., and cult. prior to and on 20 Dec. 1803	Granted 640 acres.
		James Caldwell	458 arpens	Do do	Same, in 1802, 1803, 1804, &c.	Granted 458 arpens.
List A, No. 104, fr 250 a	Surv. for 701 a. 89 ps.	Daniel Bollinger, son of John	701 arpens 89 ps.	White water do	Same, in 1804 and to 1806, (impr. 1803)	Granted 250 arpens.
List A, No. 15, fr 250 a	Surv. for 231 a. 25 ps.	James Mills' representatives	175 arpens 47 ps.	Waters of Randall's creek do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Granted 250 arpens.
List A, No. 10		J. P. Aidinger, under Jer. Conway	300 arpens	White water do	Same, in 1803, (poss. and impr. 1802)	Granted 300 arpens.
Permit fm L. Lorimier, comd't		James Bradey, under Benja. Rose	240 arpens	Mississippi do	Poss., cult., and inh. in 1798, (same in 1803) found without interfering with surveys under concessions.	Gr. 240 arps. if to be
List B, No. 9		Matth. Hubble, under Tho's Lewis	350 arpens	Crooked creek do	Same, in 1804 and 1808, (impr. 1803)	Granted 350 arpens.
Permit proven		Jacob Graeter's heirs	800 arpens	White water do	Same, 1804 and to 1808, (inh. impr. 1803)	Granted 640 acres.
Do. by Lorimier, Comdt	19 February, 1806	Christopher Harness	747 arpens	St. François do	Same, 1804, (settl. 1801, poss. in 1803)	Granted 747 arpens.
Same	20 January, 1806	Charles Logan	800 arpens	Do do	Same, 1804 and following, (inh., imp. Dec. 1803)	Granted 640 acres.
Same	17 February, 1806	James Morris	351 arpens	Willow Swamp do	Same, prior to and on 20 Dec. 1803, (settl. 1802)	Granted 351 arpens.
Do. by Peyroux, Comdt	24 January, 1804	Steph. Byrd, under Jesse Bowden	428 arpens	Mississippi do	Same, 1804 to 1806, (inh. 1801, and 20 Dec. 1803)	Granted 428 arpens.
Do. by L. Lorimier, do.		Hugh Brannon	250 arpens	do	Same, in 1804, 5, 6, &c.	Granted 250 arpens.
		Francis Murphy's representatives, claimed by James Randoll	640 acres	White water do	Same, in fall of 1803 and till 1806, &c.	Gr. 640 acres, saving rights of others.
		Joseph Waller	800 arpens	Waller's ferry do	Same, in 1804 (poss. and inh. 1803)	Granted 640 acres.
		Peter Bellew	800 arpens	Waters of Hubbel's creek do	Same, in 1802 and 1803	Granted 640 acres.
		Wm. Morrison, undr Jona. Hubble	840 arpens	White water do	Same, (by Jona. Hubbel,) in 1803 and 1804	Granted 640 acres.
		Wm. Morrison, undr Daniel Hubble, jun.	840 arpens	Do do	Same, (by Daniel Hubbel, jun.) same	Granted 640 acres.
		Wm. Campbell's representatives	800 arpens	East side of Castor creek do	Same, 1803 to 1813, (by others after 1805)	Granted 640 acres.
		Joseph Watkin's representatives	800 arpens	Ibid do	Same, 1803 to 1813, (by others after 1804)	Granted 640 acres.
		Edw'd Haythorn's representatives	800 arpens	West side of do. do	Same, same same	Granted 640 acres.

GRANTS OF CLAIMS FOUNDED ON SETTLEMENTS—Continued.

Survey.	Claimants.	Land claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
	Rob't Harper's representatives -	800 arpens -	County of Cape Girardeau, west side of Castor creek.	Pos., inh. and cult. 1803 to 1813 (by others after 1804)	Granted 640 acres.
	Wm. Page's representatives -	800 arpens -	White water - do -	Same, in 1803 and 1804, (after. by tenants of E. Able) -	Granted 640 acres.
	Wm. Hand's representatives -	800 arpens -	Branch of Hubbel's creek do -	Same, in 1802 to 1813, (after 1804 by others) -	Granted 640 acres.
	John Shield's representatives -	800 arpens -	Waters of do do -	Same, in 1803 & part of 1804, (aft. by E. A.'s tenants)	Granted 640 acres.
	Benja. Hargrave's representatives	800 arpens -	Waters of White water do -	Same, in 1803 and to 1813, (aft. 1804 by E. A.'s ten.)	Granted 640 acres.
	Andrew Frank's representatives	800 arpens -	White water - do -	Same, in 1802, 1803, and part of 1804, (since which, till 1813, by E. A.'s tenants)	Granted 640 acres.
	Jacob Sharadin, jun 's represent's	800 arpens -	Waters of do. - do -	Same, in 1803 and 1804 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	Jacob Sharadin, sen.'s represent's	800 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, same - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	John Sharadin's representatives	800 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, same - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	James Smith's representatives -	800 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, same - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	Francis Murphy's representatives	800 arpens -	White water - do -	Same, in 1803 and to 1813, (after 1804 by others) -	Granted 640 acres.
	William Smith's representatives -	800 arpens -	Waters of White water do -	Same, in 1803 and to 1813, (after 1805 by others) -	Granted 640 acres.
	Daniel Brant's representatives -	800 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, in 1802, 3, 4, 5, and 6 - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	Peter Frank's representatives -	800 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, in 1803 and 1804 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	Lemuel Hargrave's represent's -	800 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, same - - - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	Jabez Fisher - - -	800 arpens -	Big bend of Mississippi do -	Same, same, (since till 1813 by E. A.'s tenants) -	Granted 640 acres.
	Steven Cavender - -	800 arpens -	Waters of do - do -	Same, in 1803 and 1804 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	Isaac Williams - - -	800 arpens -	Cape La Cruche creek do -	Same, in 1804 and till 1813, by self and tenants; commenced improvements in 1803	Granted 640 acres.
	Jacob Millikin - - -	800 arpens -	Tywapity - do -	Same, in 1802, 3, 4, and in 1809 - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	Abraham Hughes - -	800 arpens -	5 or 6 miles so. of Apple cr. do -	Same, in 1804 and till 1813 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	22 January, 1796	Hugh McD. Chisolm - -	75 arpens -	L. St. Mary, county of New Madrid	Same, from 1800 to 1808, inclusive - - -	Granted 75 arpens.
	27 February, 1806	Jonathan Hurley - -	1000 arpens -	Waters Bayou St. Thomas do -	Same, in 1803 - - - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	27 February, 1806	James Douglass - -	1050 arpens -	Bayou St. John - do -	Same, same - - - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	27 February, 1806	Amos Cox - - -	1150 arpens -	Cypress Swamp - do -	Same, same - - - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Hugh Burnett - - -	750 arpens -	Bayou St. John - do -	Same, same - - - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Margaret Tash - - -	300 arpens -	Tywapity - do -	Same, same - - - - - -	Granted 300 arpens.
		Martin Tash - - -	200 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, same - - - - - -	Granted 200 arpens.
	2 February, 1798	Samuel Parker - - -	200 arpens -	Lake St. Mary - do -	Same, from 1798 to 1803 - - - -	Granted 200 arpens.
Permit by Peyroux, Cd	10 February, 1806	James Riley - - -	200 arpens -	Big prairie - do -	Same, in 1803 and till 1808 - - - -	Granted 200 arpens.
Permit same -	9 June, 1801	John Tucker, under Wm. Doss -	200 arpens -	Big swamp - do -	Same, in 1801, 2, and 3, (inhab. 1800) - -	Granted 200 arpens.
Permit same -	20 June, 1801	Charles Findley, asse. R'd Green	350 arpens -	Tywapity - do -	Same, 1802, 1803 - - - - -	Granted 350 arpens.
Per. F. Le Sieur, Comd	- - -	James Conway - - -	200 arpens -	Pemiscow - do -	Same, 1803, 1804 - - - - -	Granted 200 arpens.
Permit same -	- - -	Robert Cummins - -	300 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, from 1803 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 300 arpens.
Permit, Peyroux, Comd	- - -	Absalom Hacker - -	200 arpens -	Tywapity - do -	Same, from 1802 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 200 arpens.
Permit same -	11 June, 1801	T. W. Waters & Co. un. J. Kennedy	500 arpens -	Lake le Bœuf - do -	Same, from 1801 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 500 arpens.
	2 February, 1806	Daniel Stringer - -	1020 arpens -	Mississippi - do -	Same, from 1802 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Peter Lewis - - -	240 arpens -	Pemiscow - do -	Same, from 1801 and to 1808 - - -	Granted 240 arpens.
	2 February, 1806	William Cox - - -	1000 arpens -	Bayou St. John - do -	Same, from 1803 and to 1808 - - -	Granted 640 acres.
Per. by H. Peyroux, Cd	2 February, 1806	Edw. Roberson und. Elmsley Jones	300 arpens -	Mississippi - do -	Same, from 1801 and to 1808 - - -	Granted 300 arpens.
	2 February, 1806	Philip Shackler - -	750 arpens -	Lake St. Mary - do -	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803 - -	Granted 640 acres.
Permit, H. Peyroux -	27 February, 1806	Joseph Le Plante - -	270 arpens -	Mississippi - do -	Poss. and cult. in 1802 and 1803 - - -	Granted 270 arpens.
Per. F. Le Sieur, Cmd	26 February, 1806	Joseph Mitchell - -	800 arpens -	Pemiscow - do -	Poss., inh., and cult. from 1803 to 1808, inclusive -	Granted 640 acres.
Permit same -	13 February, 1806	Francis Mitchell - -	400 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, in 1803 - - - - - -	Granted 400 arpens.
		John B. Aimé - -	900 arpens -	Mississippi - do -	Same, 1802 and 1803 - - - - -	Granted 640 acres.

Per. F. Le Sieur, Cmdt	8 March,	1801	Louis St. Aubin	120 arpens	Little prairie	do	Same, 1800 and 1801	Gr. 120 arps. adj. vil.
	27 February,	1806	Francis Maisonville	1000 arpens	Portage river St. François	do	Same, from 1802 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
	18 February,	1806	Peter Latour	1150 arpens	Ibid	do	Same, from 1803 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
	14 February,	1806	Joseph Labussiére	750 arpens	Ibid	do	Same, in 1803	Granted 640 acres.
	17 February,	1806	Ignace Huno	750 arpens	Ibid	do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
	16 February,	1806	Antoine Gamelin	750 arpens	Ibid	do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
	18 February,	1806	Louis Dubois's representatives	900 arpens	Ibid	do	Same, in 1802 and 1803	Granted 640 acres.
Per. H. Peyroux, Cmdt	7 March,	1801	Charles Guilbault	120 arpens	Little prairie	do	Poss. and cult. in 1800, 1, 2, 3, and till 1808	Granted 640 acres.
Permit same	9 December,	1805	Charles Guilbault	130 arpens	Mississippi	do	Poss., inh., and cult. 1800	Granted 120 arpens.
	15 February,	1806	Joseph Lerezo	900 arpens	Portage river St. François	do	Same, from 1801 to 1808	Granted 130 arpens.
	18 February,	1806	Louis Roy	950 arpens	Ibid	do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
	17 February,	1806	Michel Bonneau	750 arpens	Ibid	do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
	14 February,	1806	John Wiley	1150 arpens	Lake St. Mary	do	Same, from 1803 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
			Andrew Burns	1050 arpens	Brushy prairie	do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February,	1806	Reese Shelby	750 arpens	Mississippi	do	Same, same, (except 1805)	Granted 640 acres.
	2 March,	1801	Francis Le Sieur	160 arpens	Little prairie	do	Same, from 1797 to 1803	Granted 640 acres.
			Louis Sojourner	900 arpens	Brushy prairie	do	Same, from 1802 to 1808	Granted 160 arpens.
	4 February,	1806	Thomas Harris	750 arpens	Waters of St. François	do	Same, from 1803 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
Per. F. Le Sieur, Cmdt	9 March,	1801	Charles L'Vignon	200 arpens	Little prairie	do	Same, from 1802 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
Permit frm H. Peyroux	26 October,	1799	Stephen Ross, asse. Jos. Story	300 arpens	Big prairie	do	Same, from 1799 to 1808	Granted 200 arpens.
			Anthony Bonneau	750 arpens	St. Francis	do	Same, from 1802 to 1808	Granted 300 arpens.
	19 February,	1806	Charles Bonneau, jun.	750 arpens	Ibid	do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
Permit, H. Peyroux	- -	-	Peter Dumay	300 arpens	Tywapity	do	Same, in 1803	Granted 640 acres.
Permit same	- -	-	Anthony Gayon	200 arpens	Ibid	do	Poss. and cult. from 1803 to 1808	Granted 300 arpens.
Permit, F. Le Sieur	8 January,	1806	Jos. Mitchell, asse. Louis Tirard	200 arpens	Lake Gayoso	do	Poss., inh., and cult., from 1802 to 1808	Granted 200 arpens.
Permit by Delassus	15 February,	1806	Joseph Le Grand	800 arpens	Portage river St. François	do	Same, from 1798 to 1808	Granted 200 arpens.
			Eustache Delisle	750 arpens	Same	do	Same, from 1803 to 1808	Confirmed 800 arps.
			Etienne St. Mary, jun.	750 arpens	Same	do	Same, from 1802 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
			Ignace Belan	800 arpens	Same	do	Same, from 1801 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
			Joseph Dutaillis	748.68 arpens	Big island, riv. St. François	do	Same, from 1803 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
			Joseph Lapointe	748.68 arpens	Same	do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
			John B. Millet	748.68 arpens	Same	do	Same, from 1802 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
			Joseph Millet	748.68 arpens	Same	do	Same, from 1803 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
			Joseph Badeau	748.68 arpens	Same	do	Same, from 1802 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
			Peter Power	800 arpens	Same	do	Same, from 1801 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
			Stephen L'Huiller	750 arpens	Same	do	Same, from 1802 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
			Andrew Godair	900 arpens	Same	do	Same, from 1803 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
			Charles Gail	750 arpens	Same	do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
			Anthony Janis	1000 arpens	Black riv. fork of White riv.	do	Same, from 1801 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
			Nicolas Janis	750 arpens	Same	do	Same, from 1803 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
			Francis Janis	750 arpens	Same	do	Same, from 1802 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
			John B. Janis	750 arpens	Same	do	Same, from 1803 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
			Joseph Guignolet	750 arpens	Same	do	Same, from 1802 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
	16 February,	1806	Jno. B. Olive, asse. Jno. Benoist	750 arpens	Portage riv. St. François	do	Same, from 1802 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
Permit by F. Le Sieur	- -	-	John Collins	750 arpens	Waters of Pemiscow	do	Same, from 1804 to 1808, (impr. 1803)	Granted 640 acres.
Permit, same, (300 a.)	10 March, / 27 February,	1801 / 1806	Alexander Samson	120 arpens / 180 arpens	Adjoining Little prairie / On river Gayoso	do / do	120 arpens, inh. and cult. from 1801 to 1803 / 180 arpens, poss. and cult. from 1801 to 1808	Granted 640 acres. / Granted 300 arpens, *as located.*
Permit, same	- -	-	Louis Baby	300 arpens	River Gayoso	do	Poss., inh, and cult. from 1804 to 1808	Granted 300 arpens.
Permit, same	- -	-	Joseph Hunot	800 arpens	Portage river St. Francois	do	Same, from 1802 to 1808	Granted 640 arpens.
	10 February,	1806	Martin Coonts	1100 arpens	Bayou St. John	do	Same, from 1803 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
			Hugh Burney	750 arpens	Big lake	do	Same, from 1802 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February,	1806	John Link	900 arpens	Lake St. Mary	do	Same, from 1803 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
	Same		Peter Newkirk	750 arpens	Ibid	do	Same, from 1803 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
			Christopher Windsor	750 arpens	Waters of St. François	do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.

GRANTS OF CLAIMS FOUNDED ON SETTLEMENTS—Continued.

	Survey.	Claimants.	Land claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
Permit, H. Peyroux -	2 February, 1806	David Trotter - -	200 arpens -	Peachy marsh, co. of New Madrid	Poss., inh., and cultiv. from 1802 to 1808 - -	Granted 200 arpens.
	Same -	Job Self - - -	1200 arpens -	Bayou St. John do -	Same, from 1803 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February, 1806	Mary, widow of Isidore Depui	950 arpens -	Peachy Marsh - do -	Same, from 1802 to 1804 -	Granted 640 acres.
	Same -	Francis Millette - -	750 arpens -	Lake St. Mary - do -	Same, from 1802 to 1806 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	2 February, 1806	Moses Vanses - - -	750 arpens -	Waters of Bayou St. John do -	Same, in 1803 - - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
Per. by H. Peyroux, Cdt	5 February, 1800	Peter A. Laforge, asse. Pr. Higgins	240 arpens -	Big prairie - do -	Same, from 1800 to 1806 - - - -	Granted 240 arpens.
	2 February, 1806	Peter Antoine Laforge -	1140 arpens -	Bayou St. Henry - do -	Same, from 1802 to 1807 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	2 February, 1806	Peter Francis Laforge -	750 arpens -	Bayou St. Thomas - do -	Same, from 1803 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	2 February, 1806	John La Vallé - -	1090 arpens -	Lake St. Mary - do -	Same, from 1803 to 1808 (except 1806) - -	Granted 640 acres.
	8 February, 1806	Auguste Delareboudiére -	750 arpens -	Lake St. Henry - do -	Same, in 1803 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February, 1806	Charles Castonget - -	750 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, from 1803 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February, 1806	John B. Thibeault - -	750 arpens -	Marais des Pêches - do -	Same, in 1803 and 1804 - - - -	Granted 200 arpens.
Per. by H. Peyroux, Cdt	- - -	Jos. Mitchell, asse. Jno. Roberson	200 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, from 1802 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	2 February, 1806	Charles Curotte - -	1000 arpens -	Lake St. Mary - do -	Same, from 1802 to 1805 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February, 1806	Stephen Dumay, jun. - -	750 arpens -	Bayou St. John - do -	Same, from 1802 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 220 arpens.
Per. by H. Peyroux, Cdt	7 November, 1796	Jos. Mitchell, undr J. B. Barceloux	220 arpens -	Lake St. Mary - do -	Same, from 1798 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February, 1806	James Dunkin - -	750 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, from 1802 to 1806 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February, 1806	John Roberts, jun. - -	750 arpens -	Bayou St. John - do -	Same, from 1803 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 400 arpens.
Per. by H. Peyroux, Cdt	3 July, 1797	R'd Masters, asse. Benj. Patterson	400 arpens -	Lake St. Mary - do -	Same, from 1800 to 1806 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February, 1806	John Henthorn - - -	750 arpens -	- - - do -	Same, from 1802 to 1807 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February, 1806	John Neal - - -	1350 arpens -	Waters of Mississippi do -	Same, in 1803 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Jonas Friend - - -	750 arpens -	Foot of the Hills - do -	Same, from 1802 to 1808 (except 1805) - -	Granted 640 acres.
	14 February, 1806	William Zanes - - -	1050 arpens -	Bayou St. John - do -	Same, from 1802 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February, 1806	James Scott - - -	750 arpens -	Lake St. Mary - do -	Same, from 1803 to 1805 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
Per. by H. Peyroux, Cdt	- - -	Wm. Zanes, under Peter O'Neal	750 arpens	Ibid - do -	Same, from 1801 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 400 arpens.
Same -	5 December, 1800	Jacob Bogard - - -	400 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, from 1800 to 1806 - - - -	Granted 240 arpens.
Same -	6 October, 1801	Peter Lovell, under J. B. Gobeau	240 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, from 1801 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Thomas Y. Horsley - -	1000 arpens -	Mississippi - do -	Same, from 1802 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Elias Wheat - - -	750 arpens -	Lake St. Mary - do -	Same, from 1803 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Jacob Myers - - -	1000 arpens -	Waters Lake St. François do -	Same, from 1801 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 120 arpens.
Per. by H. Peyroux -	10 April, 1800	Joseph Vandenbenden -	120 arpens -	Bayou St. John - do -	Same, from 1801 to 1805 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February, 1806	Ely Shelby - -	750 arpens -	15 miles n. town N. Madrid do -	Same, from 1803 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February, 1806	John Block - - -	750 arpens -	Near Lake St. Ann - do -	Same, from 1802 to 1807 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Eleazar Patterson - -	850 arpens -	Bayou of Big lake - do -	Same, from 1802 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 200 arpens.
		Richard J. Waters, under Absalom Hicklin	200 arpens -	Pemiscow - do -	Poss. and cult. from 1801 to 1808 - - -	Granted 200 arpens.
	2 February, 1798	John Lamb, asse. Jas. McMillan	200 arpens -	Lake St. Mary - do -	Poss., inh., and cult. from 1800 to 1808 - -	Granted 300 arpens.
Per. by H. Peyroux -	20 November, 1801	Dav. Wentzell, undr Jno. Latham	300 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, from 1802 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February, 1806	Thomas W. Caulk, jun. -	750 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, from 1802 to 1807 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Toussaint Godair, jun. - -	800 arpens -	Portage river St. François do -	Same, from 1801 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Joseph Gravier - -	900 arpens -	River St. François do -	Same, same - - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Peter Lausson - -	750 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, from 1802 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Ignace Chatigny - -	800 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, from 1801 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		John F. Chatigny - -	750 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, from 1801 to 1808 - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Francis Coutelmy - -	750 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, same - - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		Alexis Picard - -	1000 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, same - - - - -	Granted 640 acres.
		John B. Girard - -	750 arpens -	Ibid - do -	Same, same - - - - -	Granted 640 acres.

		John Dominique	750 arpens	Ibid do	Same, from 1802 to same	Granted 640 acres.
		Peter Saffray	640 acres	Ibid do	Same, from 1795 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February, 1806	Joseph Eatue	750 arpens	Portage of the Bayou do	Same, from 1802 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
Per. by H. Peyroux, Cd	10 September, 1800	Jos. Mitchell, under Jacob Myers	200 arpens	Waters of Lake St. Mary do	Same, from 1800 to 1806	Granted 200 arpens.
Same		Jos. Mitchell, under Benja. Myers	200 arpens	Ibid do	Same, same	Granted 200 arpens.
Same	10 March, 1800	Jas. Ashworth, under Jos. Hunot	200 arpens	Big portage do	Same, from 1802 to 1808	Granted 200 arpens.
		Jonas Carl	1073 arpens	Lake St. Anne do	Same, in 1803	Granted 640 acres.
Per. by H. Peyroux	11 June, 1800	Louis Coignard	410 arpens	Bayou St. Thomas do	Same, from 1798 to 1802	Granted 410 arpens.
		Jesse Devoir	750 arpens	Bayou St. John do	Same, from 1801 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
		William Clark	750 arpens	Ibid do	Same, from 1802 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February, 1806	Matthias Belson	900 arpens	Ibid do	Same, in 1803	Granted 640 acres.
		John Butler, jun.	1200 arpens	Ibid do	Same, from 1801 to 1804 (cult till 1808)	Granted 640 acres.
Per. by H. Peyroux	10 February, 1806	Jos. Vandenbenden, asse. Jean Viot	300 arpens	Ibid do	Same, in 1800, 1802, 1804, and till 1808	Granted 300 arpens.
	10 February, 1806	Thomas Thomson	1000 arpens	Mississippi do	Same, from 1801 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
		Alexander Peter, als. Picard	840 arpens	St. François do	Same, from 1802 to 1808	Granted 640 acres
	10 February, 1806	Gabriel Hunot	750 arpens	Lake Ricardo do	Same, from 1802 to 1807	Granted 640 acres.
Per. by H. Peyroux	26 March, 1801	Rich'd I. Waters, asse. G. Willson	100 arpens	Bayou St. John do	Same, from 1800 to 1807	Granted 100 arpens.
	10 February, 1806	R'd I. Waters, under Abr. Keeney	900 arpens	Bayou St. Thomas do	Same, from 1801 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February, 1806	George Johnston	750 arpens	Lake Ricardo do	Same, from 1802 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
		John Patterson	1000 arpens	Little prairie do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
		Benoni Patterson	950 arpens	Ibid do	Same, in 1802 and till 1807	Granted 640 acres.
		Hiram Patterson's heirs	750 arpens	Between Little prairie & New Madrid do	Same, from 1802 to 1807	Granted 640 acres.
		Benjamin Patterson, sen.	1100 arpens	Ibid do	Same, from 1803 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
		Wholman Bankson	750 arpens	Bayou St. John do	Same, from 1802 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February, 1806	Isaac Thomson	750 arpens	Portage of St. François do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
	15 February, 1806	Andrew Woods	750 arpens	do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Granted 640 acres.
Per. by H. Peyroux		Jesse Pendegrass	400 arpens	Near Lake Ricardo do	Same, same	Granted 400 arpens.
	10 February, 1806	Patrick Connor	750 arpens	Bayou St. John do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
	Same	Jesse Demint	900 arpens	Ibid do	Same, in 1802 and 1803	Granted 640 acres.
	Same	Conrad Carpenter's represent's	1100 arpens	Mississippi do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Granted 640 acres.
	Same	Samuel Jones	750 arpens	Bayou St. John do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
Per. by H. Peyroux, Cd	15 June, 1801	Jos. Story, asse. Louis Lardoise	200 arpens	Bayou Bœuf do	Same, prior to and on 1st October, 1800	Confirmed 200 arps
	10 February, 1806	Henry Masters	750 arpens	Lake St. Mary do	Same, prior to and on 20 December, 1803	Granted 640 acres.
	2 February, 1806	Sam'l Dorsey, asse. Sam'l Adams	1400 arpens	Marais des Pêches do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
	7 February, 1806	John Roberson	330 arpens	Lake St. Mary do	Same, same	Granted 330 arpens.
Per. by H. Peyroux	2 December, 1805	Edward Matthews, jun.	200 arpens	Bayou Bœuf do	Same, same	Granted 200 arpens, Erroneously in the report *Joseph M.*
	17 February, 1806	John Daney	750 arpens	Portage of St. François do	Same, from 1803 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
		Samuel Ware	660 arpens	Mississippi, opp. Wolf isl'd do	Occas., inh., and cult. from 1802 to 1812, (by claimant and others for him)	Granted 660 arpens.
		Henry Cockerham	750 arpens	Tywapity do	Cult. by claimant's slave in 1801, by claimant's tenant in 1803, and from 1806 to 1812 by claimant himself	Granted 640 acres.
		James Smith	750 arpens	Ibid do	Poss., inh., and cult. from 1802 to 1812	Granted 640 acres.
	10 February, 1806	George Stringer	850 arpens	do	Same, in 1803, and from 1809 to 1812	Granted 640 acres.
		William H. Glass	800 arpens	Five or six miles below mouth of river St. François, Arkansas	Same, in 1803 and 1804	Granted 640 acres.
	Survey for 373 arpens	James Dill's representatives	800 arpens	Late district of Arkansas	Same, in 1802 and 180–, by claimant, (and afterwards by claimant's tenants till 1812)	Granted 373 arpens.
		Joseph Mason	800 arpens	Big prairie do	Same, from 1802 till 1805 or 6, by claimant	Granted 640 acres.
		Frederick Hecker	800 arpens	Do (west side) do	Same, from 1802 to 1812	Granted 640 acres.
		Madame François Vallieur	160 arpens	Near village Arkansas do	Same, same	Granted 160 arpens.
		Etienne Vasseau	800 arpens	Two miles below do. do	Same, same, (inh. from 1807 to 1812) in his known and ascertained boundaries.	Gr. 640 acrs, if within

GRANTS OF CLAIMS FOUNDED ON SETTLEMENTS—Continued.

Survey.	Claimants.	Land claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
	Jos. Bougy, asse. Bapte. Placide	240 arpens	Below vil. Arkansas, late dis. Ark.	Poss., inh. and cult., occasionally, from 1802 to 1812	Granted 240 arpens.
	Mary Jordelas	800 arpens	A lot in the village Arkansas, and extending so as to include an out-lot adjacent do	Same, from 1802 to 1812 as to include in and out lot as possessed in 1803, not	Gr. to be surveyed so to exceed 550 arpens.
	Moses Burnett	800 arpens	Waters of St. François do	Same, from 1804 to 1812	Granted 640 acres.
	Mary Dernisseau	800 arpens	Near village Arkansas do	Poss. and cult. from 1802 to 1812 not to contain more than claimant act	Granted an out-lot, ually possessed in 1803.
	Anna Greenwalt	350 arpens	Five miles from village do	Poss. and inh. 1797 to 1808, &c.	Granted 350 arpens.
	Christopher Kaufman	800 arpens	Kaufman's bayou do	Poss., inh., and cult. from 1802 to 1806, and from 1809 to 1812 (by tenants from 1806 to 1809)	Granted 640 acres. acres.
	John Languies	800 arpens	Out-lot of village Arkansas do	Poss., inh., and cult. from 1802 to 1812	Gr. an out-lot of 13½
	John B. Cailliot	800 arpens	On bayou 3 or 4 miles below village do	Same, from 1803 to 1812	Granted 640 acres.
	James Davis	760 arpens	Crow creek do	Same, from 1801 to 1812	Granted 640 acres.
	Samuel Brown	800 arpens	Waters of do. do	Same, from 1801 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
	George Duvall	800 arpens	Ibid do	Same, from 1800 to 1812	Granted 640 acres.
	William McKenny	756 arpens	Seven miles bel. Hopefield do	Same, in 1802, 3, 4, (by tenant, 1812)	Granted 640 acres.
	George Roebuck	800 arpens	Waters of St. François do	Same, in 1800, 1, 2, 3, 4, (by tenants to 1812)	Granted 640 acres.
	Joseph Sevier	760 arpens	Do do	Same, from 1800 to 1812	Granted 640 acres.
	Elizabeth Jones	800 arpens	Elk lake do	Poss., cult., and occas. inh. from 1801 to 1812	Granted 640 acres.
	Isaac Fooy	760 arpens	Hopefield do	Poss., inh. (by tenant) & cult. from 1801 to 1809 or 10	Granted 640 acres.
	Caty Gollowhorn	800 arpens	On an island in Mississippi below Fort Pickering do	Poss., inh., and cult. from 1802 to 1812, by claimt. and her children	Granted 640 acres, if [found to be within this jurisdiction.
	Enos Chartinee	760 arpens	River St. François do	Same, from 1800 to 1807 (a tenant in 1808, 9)	Granted 640 acres.
	Edward Proctor	760 arpens	Three miles from do do	Same, from 1800 to 1812 (supp'd by a tenant)	Granted 640 acres.
	John Grace	760 arpens	Mississippi low grounds above Big island do	Same, from 1800 to 1806	Granted 640 acres.
	John Hogan's representatives	800 arpens	Copperas creek, above river St. François do	Same, in 1803 and part of 1804	Granted 640 acres.
	John Taylor	800 arpens	Do do	Same, from 1800 to 1813	Granted 640 acres.
	Sylvanus Philips	760 arpens	Mississippi, below St. Fran. do	Same, from 1802 to 1813	Granted 640 acres.
	William Gregorie	760 arpens	St. François do	Same, from 1803 to 1811	Granted 640 acres.
	Archibald Fallen	760 arpens	Lock creek do	Same, in 1802, 3, and 4	Granted 640 acres.
	Moses Price's representatives	760 arpens	Bay of White river do	Same, in 1803 and 1804 (appearances from cult.)	Granted 640 acres.
	Wm. Russell, asse. Pat. Cassidy	800 arpens	Adjoining Wm. Patterson do	Same, (for claimant) from 1803 to 1813, inclusive	Granted 640 acres.
	Mary Edwards	760 arpens	River St. François do	Same, from 1803 to 1813	Granted 640 acres.
	Sylvan. Philips, asse. Chs. Stinson	640 acres	Near do do	Same, in 1803 and 1804, afterwards by and for him to 1813	Granted 640 acres.
	Elijah McKenney	800 arpens	Mouth of Cache river do	Same, same; afterwards by others for claim't to 1813	Granted 640 acres.
	Absalom Hickland	800 arpens	Pleasant lake do	Same, same; (from 1808 to 1813 by tenants)	Granted 640 acres.
	James Patterson	800 arpens	Ibid do	Same, same, same	Granted 640 acres.
	Thomas Williams	760 arpens	Near Cypress bayou do	Same, same, and following	Granted 640 acres.
	Joseph Deruisseau	800 arpens	Fronting on Arkansas river, near village do	Poss. and cult. from 1792 to 1813	Granted 640 acres.
	Raphael Brinsback	800 arpens	Two or 3 miles e. of village do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
	Francis Vasseau	800 arpens	On river Arkansas do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.

Jacob Gorio	700 arpens	Three or 4 ms. bel. village	do	Poss., inh. and cult. from 1800 to 1813	Granted 700 arpens.
Elisha Stillwell	750 arpens	Five miles from village	do	Same, from 1799 to 1813	Granted 640 acres.
Anthony Wolf	750 arpens	W. side Big prairie, 5 ms. from village	do	Same, by and for claimant, &c. 1796 to 1813	Granted 640 acres.
Michel Lacourse	760 arpens	Five or 6 miles e. of village	do	Same, from 1801 to 1813	Granted 640 acres.
Michel Bonne	750 arpens	Fifty miles above do	do	Same, from 1802 to 1813	Granted 640 acres.
Jos. Bougy and Jno. B. Placide	800 arpens	Three or 4 ms. below do	do	Poss. and cult. from 1792 to 1813	Granted 800 arpens.
Elizabeth Pertuis	800 arpens	Four miles below do	do	Same, from 1797 to 1813; inh. from 1808 to 1813	Granted 640 acres.
Louis Pertuis	800 arpens	Three or 4ms. below do	do	Poss., inh., and cult. from 1798 to 1803, incl.	Granted 640 acres.
Pedro Pertuis, (contradistinguished from P. C. Pertuis)	800 arpens	Late district of	do	Same, from 1798 to 1804	Granted 640 acres.
Fr. de Vaugine, asse. J. Garzia	320 arpens	Do	do	Same, from 1800 to 1813	Granted 320 arpens.
B. H. McFarlane	750 arpens	S. side White river, above mouth of Poke bayou	do	Inh. and cult. in 1804, 5, and 6, and again by tenant from 1810 to 1813	Granted 640 acres.
Ebenezer Fulsome	800 arpens	Two or 3 miles below St. François	do	Poss, inh., and cult. 1803 and following, and by tenants till 1812	Granted 640 acres.
Moses Perry	760 arpens	Between White river and St. François	do	Same, in 1803 and 1804	Granted 640 acres.
Sylvan. Philips, asse. Silas Bailey	640 acres	W. side of St. François, 4 ms fm mo., and to incl. mo. of 2d bayou	do	Same, in 1803 and following, and by others to this time	Granted 640 acres.
William Bailey	760 arpens	So. of river St. François, on Caney creek	do	Same, from 1803 to 1813	Granted 640 acres.
Jno. M'Lean, asse. Jesse Stephens, or rep's of J. Stephens	760 arpens	Waters of St. François, 12 ms above mo. Eel river	do	Same, in 1803, with appearance of former cultivation	Granted 640 acres.
Peter Burrell	1600 arpens, or 40 by 40 arpens	Cache creek	do	Ten or twelve consecutive years inh. and cult. before cession to United States	Gr. 1600 arps.
John B. Deplaice's represent's	2000 arpens	Ibidem	do	Same	Gr. 2000 arps.
Francis Francure	1600 arpens	S. of White river, 12 points below Red river	do	Fourteen consecutive years, inh. and cult. do	Gr. 1600 arps.
John B. Imbau	756 arpens	On Arkansas river	do	Poss., inh., and cult. during Spanish Gov't, and constantly till 1814	Granted 640 acres.
Joseph Bartholomew	760 arpens	Ibid	do	Same, same	Granted 640 acres.
Levi Perry's representatives	800 arpens	Four or 5 ms from village, on Kaufman's bayou	do	Same, and till about 1812	Granted 640 acres.
Abraham Ramer	950 arpens	Mississippi	do	Same, from 1802 to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
Christopher Keplar	268 arpens	W. side of Big prairie	do	Same, from 1801 to 1807	Granted 268 arpens.
Louis Gossiot or Gotiot	626 arpens	Between the bay and Arkansas village	do	Same, same	Granted 626 arpens.
Louis P. Levy	750 arpens	Forty leagues ab. village	do	Same, in 1803	Granted 640 acres.
Pedro Pertuis	800 arpens	A mile above Big island	do	Same, in 1803, 4, 5, 6	Granted 640 acres.
Peter Lafevre, jun.	600 arpens	In county of	do	Same, 1800 and to 1805, also 1807, 8, &c.	Granted 600 arpens.
Pierre Derosier	800 arpens	On Arkansas river, 30 ms above village	do	Same, 1800 and to 1807	Granted 640 acres.
Joseph Gazzia	380 arpens	County of	do	Same, 1798 to 1808	Granted 380 arpens.
Michael Petersel	800 arpens	- - -	do	Same, from 1802 to 1808, incl.	Granted 640 acres.
John Hadley	800 arpens	Waters river St. François	do	Same, in 1804, (cab. and some imp. 1803)	Granted 640 acres.
Joseph Trudeau	800 arpens	Near village	do	Same, in 1792, 1793, and most generally to this time	Granted 640 acres
Francis Imbau	800 arpens	On Arkansas riv. (Lit. Rock)	do	Same, in 1803 and to 1808	Granted 640 acres.
Joseph Dardenne	800 arpens	Near to and s. w. of village	do	Same, 1801 and to 1808	Granted 640 acres.

If found within the acknowledged & ascertained boundaries.

REJECTIONS.

Claims founded on settlement, which, in the opinion of the Recorder, ought not to be granted.

Claimants.	Quantity and situation of land claimed.	Acts of ownership.
Ephraim Musick -	800 arpens, waters Fife creek, county of St. Louis	Cult. since 1801; claimant inhabiting his own adjacent lands
Peter Jump - -	80 arpens, Fife creek - do -	In possession of adjacent land.
Thomas Jones's repr's -	1000 do Big river - do -	Thirty years ago Jones inhabited and cultivated 2 years.
—— Burell - -	2000 do s. side Meramec do -	Poss., inh., and cult. in 1781, and to 1784, inclusive.
Hyacinth Eglize, asse. Louis Boury	240 do Crevecœur - do -	Inh. and cult. three years during Spanish Government, 25 years ago.
Barthm. Contemanche, asse. of Jean Marie Bissonette and wife	800 do Glaise of Dardenne, co. of St. Charles	Inh. and cult. by Contemanche, 1811 and 1812.
Eleonore Tanzey -	640 acres, nr White oak run, St. Louis	Poss., inh., and cult. 1802, and till spring 1803.
Thomas Hooper, under Levy Tanzey	800 arpens, same as above, head waters of Maline, - St. Louis	Same, from 1809 till 1812.
Hyacinth Eglize, undr Alex. Lalande	6½ by 40 arpens, Crevecœur, do -	Poss. and inh. 24 years ago; how long unknown.
Samuel Burwell, J. Thompson, under Michael Raber	640 acres, Raber's fork of Smith's mill creek, - St. Genevieve	Poss., inh., and cult. in 1803 and 1804, by Raber, and afterwards by ass. till 1812; other tracts granted to Raber on Joachim.
Jerusha Edmondson -	250 arpens, same as the foregoing do -	Same, (J. Edmondson being the wife or mistress of Raber)
William Dillon -	640 acres, St. Francis - do -	Poss. and inh. in 1803; (do. and cult. by Wm. Crawford from 1803 to 1812) not granted to Dillon.
Benja. Pettit, jun.'s rep's -	640 acres, do Cape Girardeau	Inhab. a part of 1803.
Bernard Colman - -	800 arpens, Old mines, St. Genevieve	Poss., inh., and cult. from 1801 to 1812 (mineral land.)
Jacques Bon - -	800 do do - do -	Same; cannot be granted, being mineral land.
Charles Boyer - -	800 do do - do -	Same; do do do
John Portais - -	800 do do - do -	Same; do do do
Alexander Colman -	800 do do - do -	Same; from 1803 incl. to 1812; do
Joseph Bequet, asse. Peter Chabot	2 do Mine à Breton do -	Same; by Chabot, in 1801 and 1802; same, by Boyer, from 1802 to 1805; mineral land.
Benja. Lively, asse. James Winston	800 do Old mines, - do -	Same, in 1803 and 1804, by Winston, and afterwards till 1812, by Lively; mineral land.
Noel Tesson, dit Honoré -	300 do waters of Meramec, co. of St. Louis	Poss., inh., and cult. in 1803.
Samuel Campbell -	800 do do. St. Francis, St.Genev'e	Poss., inh. in 1803; do. and cult. in 1804; disproven.
Matthias Brindley -	350 do Neg frk Meramec, St.Louis	
Levi Wiggins - -	800 do Cape Cinq Hommes, St.Genevieve	Poss., inh., and cult. in 1803 and 1804; claimant acknowledged himself tenant of Lewis Dickson.
John Hilderbrand - -	800 do Big river - St. Louis	Same, (self and others) for 10 or 11 years, 33 years ago.
John Hensley's repr's -	600 do Grand Glaize - do -	Some labor done in 1803 and 1804.
William Russell, asse. Philip Roberts	1050 do Waters of do - do -	Poss. and inh. in 1801, 2, and 3. Roberts has land granted.
Joseph White's repr's -	800 do Buck creek - do -	Some improvements in 1800.
Benjamin Johnston -	500 do Sandy creek - do -	Inh. and cult. by slaves of claimant in 1803.
Samuel Byrns - -	400 do Waters of Meramec do -	Some improvement in 1803 and 1804.
Claibourne Thomas, asse. of Philip Roberts, (interferes with 4th claim above.)		
Priscilla Eastep - -	800 arpens, s. e. side Big river, St. Louis	Testimony wants explicitness.
Jacob Collins - -	800 do n. side do - do -	Cl't lived in a camp, planted flax in 1803, cult. in 1802.
John Laughlin - -	800 do on Mississippi, below mouth of Missouri, - - St. Louis	Inhab. part of 1803 and 1804; claim't was a traveller who left his wagon at the ferry-house in Illinois, and built a cabin on this tract.
John Casey - -	800 arpens, do - do -	A traveller with the foregoing.
Henry Laughlin - -	800 do do - do -	Same as the foregoing.
Bazil Desnoyers' repr's -	800 do Meramec - do -	Poss., inh., and cult. 30 years ago, during 6 years.
Louis Desnoyers' repr's -	800 do Little Meramec - do -	Same, 28 years ago, during two or three years.
Paul Deguire - -	800 do betw. e. fork of St. Fra's and Castor creek, - St. Genevieve	Same, from 1803 to 1812; testimony disproven.
Nicholas Lachance -	500 arpens, do - do -	Sugar made from 1803 to 1812; a cabin.
Gabriel Nicol, asse. of 2 Indians, Wapecha Cavé and Pacanicamon	950 do s. side Saline creek, opposite St. Michael, - St. Genevieve	These Indians (original claimants) inhab. and cult. this tract before and since the cession.
Maria Tomar, Indian woman	850 arpens, do - do -	Same.
William Easum - -	800 do waters St. François do -	Poss., inh., and cult. prior to and on 20 Dec. 1803, and by self and others till 1813; testimony disproven.
Peter Dishae - -	800 do on Mississippi, below mo. of Missouri, oppo. Big isl., St. Louis	Testimony equivocal and unworthy of credit.
Joseph Doublewye's rep's -	800 arpens, waters of St. François, Cape Girardeau	Claimant had a man on this tract in 1803 and 1804; inh. and cult. to 1813; testimony discredited.
William Dillon's repr's -	800 do do St. Genevieve	Inhabited in 1804.
Joseph Dennis's repr's -	800 do Big Bend of Mississip. Cape Girardeau	Poss., inh., and cult. in 1803 and to 1813; after 1804 by E. Abel's tenants; disproven.
Rezin Bailey's repr's -	800 do White river - do -	Same, in 1802, 3, and 4; this claim selected from old minutes for grant.
Jeremiah Able - -	800 do St. François, St. Genevieve	Had a man on the tract in 1803 and 4.
Joab Line - -	750 do Wolf creek - do -	Poss., inh., and cult. in part of year 1803, with appearance of former cultivation (interferes with Murphy;) decided by late board.
Nathaniel Bacon, asse. of Hardyware, under one Boly, oc.	800 do s. side of Meramec, St. Louis	Impr. by H. Boly in 1798, and poss., inh., and cult. by different persons as tenants or as purchasers till 1813. Parks tenant in 1803. No transfer, except one from Mary Gill to claimant, dated 1st Aug. 1807.
John Draper - -	600 do on Bob's or Puant's creek, St. Charles	Cabin built and orchard planted in 1803; corn cult. in 1811; school in 1812; apple orchard in 1813.
James Charles Smith -	800 do Big river, waters Meramec, St. Louis	Claimant inhabited this tract in summer of 1803; had a small field of corn; also in 1805.

REJECTIONS—Continued.

Claimants.	Quantity and situation of the land claimed.	Acts of ownership.
John Fowler - -	800 arpens, on Cuivre, - St. Charles	Claim't inhab. and was preparing to cultivate in spring of 1804.
Wm. Davis's repr's. -	750 do on Missouri, - St. Louis	Claim't built a still-house in 1801; beds of tobacco plants in 1803; horse mill; inh. from 1802 until 1805.
Julian Choquette, asse. of Antoine Pinoyez	400 do river Matis - do -	Occasional inhabitation by Pinoyez; and afterwards by Choquette; a sugary.
Abraham Smith - -	600 do near Mammelles, St. Charles	Occasional inhabitation and cultivation by claimant, from 1798 to 1801.
James Mitchell's rep's -	800 do on Missouri - do -	Cut house logs and cultivated corn in 1803.
William Davis's repr's -	640 acres, within county of St. Charles	Sundry improvements in 1801, 2, and 3, by claim't and others; inh. by Davis from 1802 to 1805.
Henry, heir of James Bryan, dec'd	400 arpens, mouth of Crow run do -	Ploughed in 1804, cultivated 1805.
James Morrison, under Wm. McHugh, jun.	640 acres, at Sulphur creek do -	A field of vegetables in 1803.
James Morrison, asse. Wm. McHugh, sen.	800 arpens, on Lost or Bryan's cr. do -	Poss., inh., and cult. in 1802 and part of 1803; moved off to avoid the Indians.
Ephraim Simpson -	750 arpens, Sandy creek, - St. Louis	Some work in 1803.
Wm. Russell, asse. of Geo. Pursley	800 do waters of Pte. Labbadie crk. St. Louis	Pursley raised a house in 1802 (fall); moved on and cultivated in spring of 1803; an inroad of the Indians caused his removal in 1803. McFall inhabited in fall of 1803 and in 1804, and made sugar and had fields enclosed in 1804; inh. and cult. for last 6 yrs. (McFall was by purchase or permit of Pursley.)
Benjamin Rose - -	750 do waters Missi. Cape Girardeau	Inhab. 1798, and occasionally for two or three years.
John Guething - -	584 do 81¾ ps. on Hubbel's creek, Cape Girardeau	Planted fruit trees in 1803. Surveyed December 16, 1805, (list A. No. 37.)
Reuben Smith, asse. James and Nicholas Keith, ass. Nicholas Boilvin	800 do waters Grand river, St. Genevieve	Cult. by Jno. Smith's slaves in 1806 and to 1813; sometimes inh. by Jno. Smith. Order of survey from Trudeau; surveyed February, 1806. Reported by late board as mineral lands.
Thomas P. Bedford's rep's -	800 do about 7 miles from town of St. Genevieve, St. Genevieve	Inhab. and cult. by Jos. Fenwick, before 1800, and afterward by Bedford; several years after Bedford no person inhabited. Bought by Girouard at public sale. Cultivated for a year past.
Adam Johnson - -	800 do waters St. François do -	Some work in 1803; a house raised and turnips planted in 1804; (testimony descredited.)
Michael Raber - -	748 do 68 ps. wats. Big river do -	Impr. in 1803; poss., inh., and cult. in 1804 and till 1813, by those who claimed under him. Surveyed in 1806. (Claim't has a settlem't right on Joachim.)
Angelique Delor -	800 do mo. of riv. Matisse, St. Louis	Twenty years ago husband of claimant inh. and cult. this tract, and 7 or 8 years following.
Joseph Wallace -	750 do (surveys) - St. Charles	Ploughed and planted corn in 1801, (surv. 1806.)
Thompson Crawford -	600 do river St. François, St. Genevieve	Claimant has lived in the settlement in 1803 and till 1813.
James Crawford - -	600 do do - do -	Some work in 1805.
Robert Burns - -	600 do do - do -	Lived in the settlement.
Elizabeth Ursery - -	600 do Bois Brulé - do -	Inh. and cult. by Benijah Morgan, in 1803 and 1804.
Joshua Delaplane - -	600 do waters of Saline cr. do -	Poss., inh., and cult. in 1797 and part of 1798.
Benjamin Delaplane -	600 do do do -	Claimant's sons did some work in 1798.
René Kiercereau's repr's -	60 do abt Prairie Lajoie, St. Louis	A crop raised 40 years ago.
Toussaint Hunot - -	800 do Mo. river, Martigny do -	Inh. from October, 1784, to February, 1785.
John Bourke - -	756 do on the Dardenne, St. Charles	Rails mauled in 1802, and some ploughing; corn cultivated in 1803.
Antoine Vachard, dit Lardoise	640 do adj. H O'Hara, St. Louis	Poss., inh., and cult. during 6 or 7 years, about 20 years ago.
George Girty's repr's -	640 acres, near town of St. Charles -	Same, in 1799 and to 1801, and afterwards by others.
John Jarrot's repr's -	1600 arpens, mo. of Glaize cr., St. Louis	Same, in 1781, and eight following years, and again 2 or 3 years.
Charles Gill's repr's -	400 do waters of Gravois do -	Same, in 1796 and 1797.
Henry Hight, asse. of Cha's Dejarlais	470 acres, on Missouri - do -	Same, in 1801, by Charles Dejarlais.
Martin Tosh or Tush -	750 arpens, county of New Madrid	Same, 20 Dec. 1803; (has another claim.)
Margaret Tosh (widow) -	750 arpens, - do do -	Same, (by claimant's son,) from 1802 to 1810; (has another claim.
Joseph Bougy, asse. of Antoine B. Duckassin	240 do near village, Arkansas	Cult. in 1802 or 1803.
Stephen Vasseur -	800 do said to be out-lot of do -	Claimant cultivated an out-lot in 1802, 3, 4.
John Diana - -	320 do on a bay of White river, 36 miles from village, Arkansas	Occupied by Spanish troops in 1802, 3, and part of 1804.
John Standley's repr's -	800 arpens, waters Arkansas river do -	Poss., inh., and cult. in 1780, 1, and 2.
David Standley's repr's -	800 do do do -	Same.
Benja. Standley's repr's -	800 do Cassetête, ab. Cadran do -	Same, from 1777 to 1780.
James McKim's repr's -	760 do Wappinockee bayou do -	A cabin in 1801 or 1802; had the appearance of former cultivation in 1804.
Joshua Fletcher - -	760 do Mississippi bottom do -	Improved for claimant in 1801; by self in 1802.
Stephen Vasseau - -	800 do river Arkansas do -	Poss. and cult. from 1792 to 1813; decided already in name of Etienne V.
Albert Berdu's repr's -	17 do near village of do -	Poss. and cult. from 1795 to 1802.
Joseph Trudeau's repr's -	640 acres, opposite False river, north side of Arkansas	Poss., inh., and cult. in 1801.
Patrick Mulliki - -	1600 arpens, waters Little Red river, a branch of White river, Lower Sugar Loaf, Arkansas	There is an improvement at this place.
Sylvanus Philips, asse. of James Moore	640 acres, Stomp creek do -	Poss., inh., and cult. in 1803.
Baptiste Socier's repr's -	760 arpens, Pine bluffs, south of White river, Arkansas	Same.

REJECTIONS—Continued.

Claimants.	Quantity and situation of the land claimed.	Acts of ownership.
John B. Graver, als. Graber	750 arpens, waters Black river - Arkansas	Eight consecutive years, inh. and cult. before cession.
Francis Graver, als. Graber	760 do do - do -	Same.
Michel Aqueton - -	2000 do waters White river - do -	Poss., inh., and cult. 5 or 6 years follow., during Spanish possession.
Aqueton, eldest son of Michel	760 do do - do -	No testimony.
Aqueton, second son of Michel	760 do do - do -	No testimony.
Joseph Trudeau - -	640 acres, north side of Arkansas river, oppos. False river, Arkansas	Five or six years (consec.) inh. and cult. under Spanish Government.
John Hynam's repr's -	800 arpens, north side of Arkansas, near Boone, do -	One or 2 yrs. inh. and cult. und. Sp. Gov.
Fr. Conissot's (dec'd) rep's.	800 arpens, on Arkansas river do -	Several years do do
John B. Dardenne's rep's -	1600 do do - - do -	Eight or nine years, poss., inh. and cult. during Spanish Government.
Michel Grenleik - -	1600 do Dardanile - - do -	Four or five years, do. (Cherokees now)
John Moore - -	800 do 2 or 3 miles from - do -	Two years, same.
Lachinas - -	800 do bay - - do -	Poss., inh., and cult. from 1806 to 1814.
John B. Placide - -	480 do Arkansas river - - do -	Poss. and cult. from 1795 to 1808, supposed to be same tract already granted to Bougy & Placide.
John Standler - -	250 arpens, same - - do	
Rufus Easton, asse. Henry Jones	400 do Laferr's fork of do. - do	
Joseph Espenosa - -	800 do county of - - do	
Ann Greenwall - -	800 do 5 miles of village - do -	Abandoned and reclaimed.
Silas Bailey - -	800 do - - - - do	
Levy Perry - -	800 do 4 or 5 miles from village - do	
John McKim - -	800 do Stamp's creek - - do	
Henry Coutier - -	800 do in county of - - do	
Sylvanus Philips - -	2560 acres, below St. François river - do	
Joseph Bougy - -	800 arpens, 3 miles below village - do	
Joseph Tessier's repr's -	700 do Soldier's bluff - - do	
Peter Randall - -	750 do - - - - do	
John B. Deplaice - -	800 do on Cache creek - - do	
Thomas Comstock, jun. -	800 do waters of Arkansas river - do	
Ths. Comstock, sen.'s reps.	800 do - - - - do	
Jacob Ogden's rep's -	800 do - - - - do	
Thomas Winn's rep's -	800 do - - - - do	
Jacob McCartney - -	800 do - - - - do	
Joseph Standley - -	800 do - - - - do	
John Francois Laborde -	800 do Black water - - do	
Jacob Dust's rep's -	800 do south shore White river - do	
James Jones' rep's -	800 do Poke bayou, n. side do. - do	
Francis Henry's rep's -	760 do n. bank of White river - do	
Francis Graver, als Graber -	750 do waters Black river - do	
Archibald Black's rep's -	760 do waters of Eel river - do	
Nath'l Arnold's rep's -	750 do Poplar creek - - do	
Richard Arnold's rep's -	760 do waters of St. François - do	
Isaac Burley's rep's -	760 do Turk prairie - - do	
John Baggs's rep's -	760 do same - - do	
John Crow's rep's -	760 do waters Eel river - - do	
Robert Goodwin's rep's -	800 do Turk prairie - - do	
John Hill's rep's -	760 do river St. Francis - - do	
John Leek's rep's -	760 do Poplar creek - - do	
William Webb's rep's -	760 do waters of St. François - do	
James Marchbank's rep's -	800 do Grand mound, Turk prairie do	
John Span - -	750 do Wappenockee bayou - do	
James O'Carroll - -	756 do north side of Alligator lake do	
Dimme Fields - -	760 do Wappenockee bayou - do	
Francis Couissot - -	760 do river Arkansas - do	
Francis Rivierre - -	750 do White river, - county of Arkansas	
Peter Lameur - -	1600 do waters of do. - - do	
John Fayac, jun. - -	750 do do - - do	
Robert Jones - -	750 do do - - do	
Asher Brown - -	800 do below mo. of St. François do	
J. Lafferty - -	640 acres, near Peoly fields - - do	
William Russell, under the heirs of Benja. Allen	760 arpens, on island in Mississippi, below Hopefield - - - do	
MacFarlane - -	760 arpens, Mississippi - - do	
Absalom Rickland -	800 do Pleasant Lake - - do	
Michel Bonne - -	750 do about 50 miles above village do	
Pierre Derosier - -	600 do 30 miles above village - do	
Wm. Russell, asse. of Patrick Cassidy	800 do Mississippi, - - do	
Wm. Russell, asse. of John Hadley	640 acres, waters of a fork of St. Francois do	
John Lafferty, under James Bennet	640 do south side of White river - do	
Jno. Lafferty, undr S. Cajen	640 do s. w. side of do. - do	
Henry Cassidy, asse. of Louis Cavet	640 do waters of Ouachita - do	
Peter McClain - -	640 do south side Arkansas river do	
Henry Cassidy - -	640 do n. side of do. 20 ms. ab. village do	
John B. Serezan - -	640 do n. side Arkansas river - do	
David Martin and Michael Hackerton	640 do west side of Cache - do	

REJECTIONS—Continued.

Claimants.	Quantity and situation of the land claimed.	Acts of ownership.
John Duplace	640 acres, west side of Cache, county of Arkansas	
John Crow	640 do waters Eel river do	
Archibald Black	640 do same do	
William Webb	640 do waters St. François do	
John Leek	640 do same do	
Thomas Jones	640 do 30 miles above village do	
Patrick Cassidy, asse. of John Blags	640 do waters White river do	
Patrick Cassidy, asse. of Isaac Burley	640 do Turk prairie do	
Patrick Cassidy, asse. of Archib'd Price	640 do Ouachita do	
Patrick Cassidy, asse. of Martin Price	640 do Turk prairie do	
Henry Cassidy, asse. of Wm. Doyle	640 do Copperas creek do	
Henry Cassidy, asse. of Thos. Graves	640 do Buck creek do	
Henry Cassidy, asse. of Nath'l Arnold	640 do Poplar creek do	
Henry Cassidy, asse. of Robt. Goodwind	640 do Turk prairie do	
Henry Cassidy, asse. of Jas. Marchbanks	600 do county of do	
Peter Craig	640 do do do	
Peter Craig, asse. Thomas Macabe	640 do do do	
John Davis	640 do do do	
William Wallace	640 do do do	
Patrick Cassidy	640 do Ouachita do	
Patrick Cassidy	640 do do do	
James Ravenscraft	640 do waters of Arkansas river do	
James Ravenscraft	640 do do do do	
James Ravenscraft	640 do do do do	
James Ravenscraft	640 do do do do	
James Ravenscraft	640 do do do do	
James Ravenscraft	640 do do do do	
Medad Randoll	15 claims of settlement rights of 640 acres each do	Representation not shown.
Gabriel Builderback and Daniel McMillen, under Aaron Graham	800 arpens, waters of Lake St. Mary, county of New Madrid	
Rufus Easton, asse. of Henry Jones	1600 do Red fork of White river do	
Rufus Easton, asse. of Henry Jones	700 do Middle fork St. François do	
Reason Bowie's representatives	800 do Tywapity do	
William Patterson's representatives	800 do do do	
David Bowie's representatives	700 do Big swamp do	
Hardy Sojourner	800 do Big prairie do	
Francis Godfroy	800 do Lake St. Isidro do	
Hugh McDd. Chisolm	800 do Lake St. Mary do	
Phœbe Jones's representatives	750 do Tywapity do	
Stephen Jones's representatives	750 do do do	
Thomas Cox	700 do Lake St. Mary do	
William Smith	700 do Tywapity do	
James Riley	800 do Big prairie do	
Samuel Masters	600 do Charles' prairie do	
Agnew Massey	800 do Tywapity do	
Elmsley Jones's representatives	800 do Mississippi do	
Henry Cockerham	750 do Tywapity do	
William Smith	445 do Mississippi do	Survey by Jos. Story.
Rufus Easton, under David McMultrie	800 do waters Byrd's creek, Cape Girardeau	
Jacob Moyers	800 do do Randoll's creek do	
Jacob Kelly, sen.'s representatives	800 do do St. François do	
Jacob Kelly, jun.'s representatives	750 do do do do	
Robert Reed's representatives	700 do do do do	
James Currin	800 do Tywapity bottom do	
Timothy Harris	800 do do do	
Jonathan Foreman	800 do waters of Hubbel's creek do	
John Miller	800 do do White water creek do	
Frederick Limbough	750 do do do do	
John Hand	750 do Hubbell's creek do	
Andrew Ramsey, jun.	750 do Big swamp do	
Andrew Ramsey, sen.	800 do do do	
Christopher Aidinger	750 do White water creek do	
Robert English	750 do do do	
Peter Hartle	750 do do do	
John Dougherty	750 do Byrd's creek do	
Abraham Byrd, jun.	750 do do	
John Johnson's representatives	800 do waters of Mississippi do	
Jonathan Stoker's representatives	800 do do	
Charles Findley	750 do waters of Mississippi do	
John Byrd	750 do Byrd's creek do	
Peter Krytz	800 do White water do	
David Harris	750 do waters of Ramsey's creek do	
Alexander Parish	750 do White water do	
Levi Wolverton	750 do Mississippi do	
Alexander Andrews, jun.	700 do Byrd's creek do	
Polly Boyd	750 do Caney creek do	
James Murphy	750 do White water do	
V. Murphy's representatives	750 do do do	
Jenny Logan	800 do do do	
William Hand's representatives	700 do Hubbel's creek do	
Benjamin Caldwell	800 do waters of St. Francois do	
James Mills's representatives	700 do Randoll's creek do	
Zachariah Dowty's representatives	750 do waters of Hubbel's creek do	
Jacob Greater's representatives	700 do White water do	
Christopher Harness	800 do waters of St. Francois do	
David Reese	800 do do do	
Charles Logan	600 do do do	
Robert Wilson	800 do Meadow creek do	

REJECTIONS—Continued.

Claimants.	Quantity and situation of the land claimed.	Acts of ownership.
Jonathan Buis's representatives	800 arpens, Meadow creek, Cape Girardeau county	
Mary Smith	800 do Tywapity do do	
James Summer's representatives	800 do White water do do	
Alexander Millikin	800 do Tywapity do do	
Richard Green	800 do do bottom do do	
William Morrison, under Daniel Hubbel	640 acres, White water do do	
Wm. Morrison, under Dan'l Hubbel, jr.	640 do do do do	
Austin Young's representatives	640 do do do do	
Benjamin Tennell	800 arpens, Castor creek do do	
Reveillee's representatives	800 do Ramsey's creek do do	
Joseph Thompson, sen.'s representatives	800 do same do do	
Joseph Thompson, jun.'s representatives	800 do Caney creek do do	
Alexander Parish's representatives	800 do White waters do do	
David Harris's representatives	800 do waters of Byrd's creek do do	
Louis F. Largeau's representatives	1000 do near village do do	Disposed of on former entry.
Casper Shell	640 acres, Crooked creek do do	
William Boner's representatives	60 arpens, waters of Ramsey's creek do	
John Jones	725 acres, waters of Big river and Richwoods, co. of St. Genevieve	
Joseph Fenwick's representatives	800 arpens, do do do do	
John Hague's representatives	500 do waters of Big river do do	
George Doulan	640 acres, same do do	
John Pyatt	1800 arpens, do. fork of Meramec do do	
Hypolite Robar	700 do Little Mine creek do do	
James Hawkins	650 do Mill creek do do	
Robert Adams	800 do Big river do do	
John Sinclair	800 do waters of St. François do do	
William Reed	500 do Bellevue do do	
Thomas McLaughlin	800 do do do do	
Bernard Layton	800 do St. Côme do do	
Mark Manning	500 do Saline do do	
Bernard Cecil	800 do do do do	
John Cooper	700 do Bellevue do do	
Joseph Miles	800 do Saline do do	
John Lewis	800 do Bellevue do do	
John Patterson	700 do waters of St. François do do	
William Fitzgibbons	750 do Bellevue do do	
John Rickman	750 do do do do	
Thomas Baker	750 do do do do	
Abraham Armstrong	600 do St. Côme do do	
Robert Sloan	600 do Big river do do	
John L. Pettit	600 do waters St. François do do	
William Dillon	700 do do do do	
Thomas Alley	600 do waters Big river do do	
James Hutchins	800 do Bellevue do do	
William Asbrook	750 do do do do	
Miles Goforth	800 do do do do	
John Paul	800 do do do do	
John McMartree	800 do do do do	
John Ottery	650 do Cedar creek do do	
Clement Hayden's representatives	800 do Waters St François do do	
Henry Burley	750 do do do do	
Daniel Philips	800 do do do	
Benjamin Pettit, jun.	750 do do do	
Henry Tucker	800 do east fork of Saline do do	
John McNeal's representatives	600 do Bellevue do do	
Reuben Baker	800 do waters of Mississippi do do	
Matthew Mullins	750 do Big river do do	
Joseph Shultz	800 do do do do	
Louis Aubuchon	800 do Old Mine creek do do	
Pierre Boyer	800 do do do do	
Peter Burns	800 do waters of St. François do do	
Joseph Becquet, jun.	800 do do do	
William C. Carr, under Manuel Blanco	400 do Old mines do do	
Camille Delassus' reps. under Thos. King	500 do do do	
Museo Gulgee	800 do Saline creek, near St. Michael's do	
William Girty, under Joseph Boys	200 do Bois Brule do do	
William Girty, under Wm. Fitzgibbons	800 do Bois Brule bottom do do	
John Hueit, under Levi Wiggins	800 do Mississippi do do	
Laurence McChagny's representatives	400 do Big river do do	
John McChagny's representatives	400 do do do do	
James Lockheart	400 do St. Côme do do	
John Wells's representatives	640 acres, Mine creek do do	
John Paul's representatives	640 do Bellevue do do	
Bapte. Placide, dit Michau	2000 do mouth of Gabory do do	
Jean Baptiste Robert	800 arpens, Old mines do do	
Francis Valle's heirs	One-quarter of the salt spring, near St. Gen've do	Old saline in possession of claimant since 40 years.
Baptiste, one of the heirs of Francis Valle	One-quarter of same do do	Same.
Julos Wickers	600 arpens, waters river St. François do	
Peter Chevalier's representatives	800 do river St. François, mo. of Saline cr. do	
Tonnellier's representatives	800 do same do do	
Jerome Mattiss	800 do same do do	
Jean Nicholas Macklot, under Francis Fournier	600 do Little Plattin, near Herculaneum	
Wm. Russell and Wm. Johnson, claiming under said Johnson	800 do waters of Joachim, county of St. Louis	
John Godfrey	640 acres, Meramec do do	
Louis Beaudouin or Bodoin	800 arpens, waters of Fifi creek do do	

REJECTIONS—Continued.

Claimants.	Quantity and situation of the land claimed.	Acts of ownership.
James Anderson, under Roger Cogle -	650 apens waters of Sandy creek, St. Louis county	
James Rogers's representatives - -	800 do Big river - - do	
George Horn - - - -	800 do Mississippi and Meramec - do	
Rufus Easton, under George Green -	800 do Meramec - - do	
Rufus Easton and Asher Bagley -	800 do do - - do	
Thomas Marrs and Rufus Easton -	800 do waters of Meramec - do	
Moses Lantzford - - -	800 do Little Rock creek - do	
James Rogers - - -	750 do waters of Big river - do	
James Craig - - -	800 do waters of Meramec - do	
Moses Craft - - -	800 do waters of Lemoin's river - do	
Margaret Hilderbrand and her children -	800 do Big river or Renaud - do	
James Jones - - -	800 do Little Rock - - do	
Charles Pruitt's heirs - - -	800 do Big river - - do	
John Colman - - -	800 do waters of Meramec - do	
James Head's representatives - -	2300 do Negro fork of do - - do	
Levi Tanzey - - -	640 acres, - - - - do	
John L. Mark - - -	800 arpens, waters of Missouri - do	
Richard Glover's representatives -	800 do Sandy creek - - do	
Isaac Herrington - - -	800 do waters of Cold water - do	
James James - - -	600 do same - do	
Benjamin L. James - - -	800 do same - do	
John Gilindre's representatives - -	750 do Little Rock - do	
Matthew Ramey's representatives -	800 do head waters river Des Péres do	
John Atkins - - - -	800 do Joachim creek - do	
Pierre Lajoy, dit Lishway - -	800 do Meramec - - do	
M. Byrd's representatives - -	800 do do - - do	
Zheger's representatives - -	800 do do - - do	
Robert Dewitt - - - -	600 do waters of Joachim - do	
James Dewitt - - - -	700 do Joachim creek - - do	
Thomas Taylor - - - -	800 do s. e. side of Big river - do	
Charles Gill - - - -	800 do waters of Sandy creek - do	
Abraham Johnston - - -	750 do waters of Meramec - do	
Martenier's representatives - -	6 or 700 acres, on Missouri, 3 ms. ab. Boeuf cr. do	Natural boundaries.
William McGlohlin - - -	750 arpens, waters Meramec - - do	
Perry - - - -	400 do on Wild Horse creek - do	
Thomas Rodgers - - -	750 do six or eight miles north of do	
Samuel Solomon - - -	700 do adjoining town of - do	
Francis Wideman - - -	800 do Big river - - do	
Henry Zomwalt - - -	800 do waters of Sandy - - do	
Ante. Barada, asse. of Baptiste Hunot -	150 by 300 feet, a lot in Carondelet - do	
Joseph Loisel's representatives - -	1 arpent 9 perches by 40 arpens, out-lot do do	Decided on old entry.
Louis Menard - - -	A barn lot in Carondelet village - do	
Joseph Menard, claiming as heir and representative of Joseph Loisel	150 feet square, a lot in village do - do	Decided in name of Jo. Loisel.
William Christy, asse. of Philip Riviere -	100 arpens, Grande prairie, nr town of St. Louis do	
Jacques Clamorgan, under Joseph Garnot	300 feet by 300 feet, Crevecœur - do	
Jacques Clamorgan, under Joseph Garnot	4 arpens by 40 do - do	
Francois Denoyer, under Walker -	300 arpens, mouth of Meramec - do	
Francis Denoyer - - -	800 do waters of do - do	
Richard Everitt's representatives, under James Craig - - -	800 do Negro fork of do - do	
Jeduthun Kendall, asse. of Elisha Baker -	640 acres, Little Rock - do	
John McDonald	640 do Bourbenne river - do	
John McDonald, under Nathan Ramey -	640 do head waters river Des Péres do	
James Rodgers's heirs - - -	800 arpens, waters of Meramec - do	
Ante. E. Reilhe, under La Violette Boury, &c.	120 by 150 feet, lot of Baird, blacksmith do	
Same, asse. (at shff's sale) of Ja's Baird -	120 by 300 feet, lot formerly Coons' - do	
Same, same of Giles Cook -	A lot in village St. Ferdinand - do	
George Shultz - - - -	150 by 300 feet, lot in Carondelet - do	
George Shultz, under Gamache - -	300 by 300 feet, same - do	
Peter Shultz - - - -	150 by 150 feet, same - do	
Peter Shultz - - - -	2 by 40 arpens, Field's Carondelet - do	
John C. Sullivan, asse. by sheriff's sale of Rudolph Heverstick	800 arpens, Joachim - - do	
Noel Tesson, dit Honoré, under Jacob Sweany	600 do south side of Meramec - do	
Peter Tornat, dit Lajoy's representatives -	600 do on Meramec - - do	
Jacob Wickerham's representatives -	800 do fork of Bellew's creek - do	
Joseph Le Duc's heirs - - -	240 by 300 feet, a lot in Carondelet - do	
William Russell, asse. John Bell - -	760 arpens, waters of Bonhomme - do	
Samuel Seals - - - -	750 do between Charette and Loutre creek, county of St. Charles	
James Todd's representatives - -	800 do waters of Salt river - do	
James Jones's representatives - -	800 do waters of Dardenne - do	
David Monrow - - - -	750 do waters of Charette - do	
Joseph Barnabus - - -	640 acres, Cuivre - - - do	
Augte. Chouteau, under Nicholas Coontz	1 by 40 arpens, Marais croche - do	
John Burns - - - -	600 arpens, waters of Perruque - do	
David Conrad - - - -	700 do same - - do	
Francis Smith - - - -	600 do waters of Tuque - - do	
Stephen Jackson - - -	750 do same - - do	
Henry Stephenson - - -	800 do Charette creek - - do	
Samuel Meek - - - -	800 do same - - do	
Keishler's representatives - -	800 do Perruque - - do	
Benjamin Gardner - - -	700 do Missouri - - do	
Lewis Jones - - - -	600 do waters of Mississippi - do	
Henry McLaughlin, sen - -	800 do same - - do	
Antoine Lamarche - -	650 do waters of Dardenne - do	

REJECTIONS—Continued.

Claimants.	Quantity and situation of the land claimed.	Acts of ownership.
John Scott - - - -	800 arpens, waters of Dardenne, St. Charles county	
John Weldon - - - -	800 do same - - do	
Francis Cailhol - - - -	2000 acres, nearly opposite Prairie du Chien do	
Daniel Littlejohn and John Littlejohn -	1400 arpens, waters of Missouri - do	
Peter Blanchet - - - -	1000 do Marais tems Clair - do	
Pierre Blanchet - - - -	800 do Lower prairie - - do	
Joseph Pichett's representatives -	20 do nr town St. Charles, in the commons do	
Abraham Smith - - -	400 do near town St. Charles - do	
John McKinney, asse. of John B. Zozon -	600 do Charrette - - do	
John McKinney, asse. of Peter Blanchet -	748 do - - - - do	
James Bryan - - - -	500 do Duck creek - - do	
Edward Bradley - - - -	500 do Charrette - - do	
William Spence's representatives -	250 do Duck creek - - do	
Paul Cardinal's representatives - -	800 do Charrette - - do	
Peter Chouteau, asse. of Francois Roy -	800 do Mississippi - - do	
Peter Chouteau, asse. of Louis Roy -	800 do do - - do	
Peter Chouteau, asse. of Baptiste Roy -	800 do do - - do	
Isaac E. Kelly, - residue of claim	800 do of which 300 arpens are already granted by Commissioners, county of St. Louis	
Mark Wideman - same -	800 do St. Louis - 250 already granted	
James Varnum - same -	640 acres, do - 100 arpens granted	
Ely Musick - same -	750 arpens, do - 100 arpens granted	
Edy Musick - same -	750 arpens, do - 100 arpens granted	
Michael Null - same -	800 arpens, - - 400 arpens granted	
Gabriel Cobb - same -	800 arpens, - - 500 arpens granted	
David Bylles - same -	800 arpens, - - 500 arpens granted	
John Liton - same -	748 arpens 68 perches, - 100 arpens granted	
Isaac Hilderbrand - same -	800 arpens, - - 100 arpens granted	
Sarah Pruitt - same -	800 arpens, - - 400 arpens granted	
James Davis - same -	750 arpens, - - 100 arpens granted	
John Pruitt - same -	785 arpens, - - 250 arpens granted	
Smith Collum - same -	600 arpens, - - 100 arpens granted	
William Miller - same -	800 arpens, - - 350 arpens granted	
Charles Philips - same -	800 arpens, - - 350 arpens granted	
John Philips - same -	750 arpens, - - 100 arpens granted	
William M. Fullerton - same -	800 arpens, - - 350 arpens granted	
James Pritchett - same -	800 arpens, - - 550 arpens granted	
Jno. Busby, under Gabr'l Marlow same -	800 arpens, - - 250 arpens granted	
Joseph Chartrain, jun. same -	800 arpens, - - 200 arpens granted	
Widow St. Franceway - same -	800 arpens, - - 150 arpens granted	
Peter Burdeau - same -	750 arpens, - - 400 arpens granted	
Wm. Russell, asse. Geo. Pursley same -	800 arpens, - - 400 arpens granted	
Samuel Griffith, asse. Jas. Swift same -	800 arpens, - - 250 arpens granted	
Milkijah Baldridge - same -	800 arpens, - - 100 arpens granted	
Archibald Kemster - same -	800 arpens, - - 500 arpens granted	
John Bilderback, under Felix Hoover -	800 arpens, - - 550 arpens granted	
Same, under John Dye - same -	800 arpens, - - 350 arpens granted	
William Brown - same -	750 arpens, - - 100 arpens granted	

Claims founded on concessions, orders, or warrants of survey, which, in the opinion of the Recorder of Land Titles, ought not to be confirmed.

Concession, warrant, or order of survey.	Claimants.	Land claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.
		arpens.		
Alleges a concession from C. D. Delassus, Lieut. Gov.	John Chitwood - -	400	River Boeuf, co. of St. Louis -	Ja's Mackay, witness, says he saw, held, and read the concession (now lost.)
Alleges same, lost -	Peter Journey - -	*400	Unlocated	
Baron de Carondelet -	Jean Elie Tholozan, asse. Jqs. Vincent	10,000	Black water, co. of New Madrid	Clearings made and cabins built in 1795 and 1796.
Zenon Trudeau, Lieut. Gov.	Charles Sanguinet, asse. of Frs. Lacombe	*400		
Receipt of J. L. Donaldson, late recorder, for concess'n to or. clt. for 1800 arps. by Lt. Gov. Z. Trudeau.	James Mackay, asse. of James McDaniel	†1,800	On river des Péres, co. of St. Louis	The existence of the concession proven by Ant. Soulard, late surveyor.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Gv.	John Price and William Perry, assignees of Jacob Neal	200	River Mine à Breton, co. of St. Genevieve	Date of concession proven.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Gv.	Same, assignees of Sam'l Neal -	200	Ibidem do -	Same
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Gv.	Jas. Mackay, asse. John Long, asse. William Hartley	‡650	On Missouri, co. of St. Louis -	Inh. and cult. 11 years ago, and for sev'l follow'g yrs.
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Gv.	William Russell, under Ludwell Bacon	‖1,000	Two or three miles below mo. Boeuf creek, co. of St. Louis	
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Gv.	Auguste Gamache - -	300	S. side of Meramec, do	
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gv.	Ananias McCoy, under Solomon George	800	Bellevue, co. of St. Genevieve	

* Neither survey nor location. † Location not sufficiently special. ‡ Interferes with E. Yosty. ‖ Figurative plat.

REJECTIONS—Continued.

Concession, warrant, or order of survey.	Claimants.	Land claimed.	Situation.	Acts of ownership.
Ml. Perez, Lieut. Gov.	Peter Lapensee's heirs, under Robert Owen	320	Meramec, co. of St. Louis	
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gv.	Sophia Bolaye, alias Boli -	150	Gravois creek, do	
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gv.	Rufus Easton, under Michael Masterson	400	Waters of Mattis creek, do	
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Gv.	Hartley Lanham, under Solomon Bellew	350	Gravois, do	
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gv.	James Mackay, under Ant'y Gautier	4,000	Bonne Femme, co. St. Charles	
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gv.	Louis Roberge's represent's -	400	Saline creek, co. St. Genevieve	
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Gv.	Francois M. Benoît, under Louis Ouvray	*800	On vacant lands	
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Gv.	Same, under John Godinau -	*800	On vacant lands	
Gayoso De Lemos -	Gabriel Cerré's heirs -	1,000	On vacant lands	
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gv.	P. Delor de Treget - -	400	Gravois, near Carondelet, St.	Louis
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Gv.	James Journey - -	*400	Vacant lands, co. of St. Charles	
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Gv.	Julien Ratte - -	150	Heads of Saline creek, co. of St.	Genevieve
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Gv.	Charles Robin and Louis Caron	1,500	Waters of do do	
De Oro - -	Bart. St. Gemme and Francis Lasource, under Louis Lasource	200	Near St. Genevieve do	
Z. Trudeau, Lieut. Gv.	Peter Tornat, dit Lajoy's reps. under Joachim Roy	400	On Meramec, co. of St. Louis	
C. D. Delassus, Lt. Gv.	John Young - -	400	County of St. Charles	

* Not located.

WASHINGTON CITY, *February* 2, 1816.

This third part, containing grants of claims founded on settlement, rejections of claims of the same class, as well as rejections of claims founded on concessions, orders, or warrants of survey, and forming a part of the general report, respectfully submitted.

FREDERICK BATES.

The honorable JOSIAH MEIGS,
Commissioner of the General Land Office, Washington City.

Report of the opinions of the Recorder of Land Titles for the Territory of Missouri, on 312 *claims of William Russell, contained in one general notice, in the following words, to wit:*

TO FREDERICK BATES, Esq., Recorder of Land Titles in and for the Territory of Missouri:

SIR: Please to take notice that, under right derived from the Spanish and French Governments, and the provisions of the several acts of Congress, the undersigned, William Russell, of the town of St. Louis, claims title to the following tracts and parcels of lands, the particulars of which will severally, fully, and at large appear, by and from the evidence and testimony which will be adduced in support of the same severally. My chain of titles and conveyances from the several original claimants, I claim the privilege of filing, without being bound to record them at all at the time I adduce the other evidence and testimony in support of the claims severally; and, in case it should be decided that such privilege would be illegal, in that case I claim the said lands to be confirmed or granted to *the legal representatives* of the several persons who appear from the evidence and testimony to be entitled thereto—which claims are described as follows, to wit:

No. 1. A tract of 800 arpens of land in the county of New Madrid, on the Mississippi river, opposite the Chickasaw Bluffs, &c. &c.

The claimant then proceeds with his descriptions, in progressive numbers, to No. 312, and then concludes his notice in the following words, to wit:

"The particular locality of each of the foregoing tracts of lands, as well as their relevant connexion with other lands claimed, and the names of the several persons who have inhabited, cultivated, or been in possession or occupancy of each or either of the said tracts, will appear from the evidence which will be adduced in support of the said claims severally. The names of the persons for whose use the inhabitation, cultivation, possession, and occupancy were done, will also appear from the parole evidence which will be adduced in support of the said claims, to whom, or their legal representatives, the lands are claimed to be granted or confirmed. In case it should be decided that the undersigned claimant cannot legally, at the time of adducing the parole evidence, file his chain of titles, deeds, and original title papers for his benefit—in that case, the claims to be confirmed or granted to the persons or legal representatives of the persons who appear from the parole evidence to be lawfully entitled thereto, the undersigned claimant having lawful right to make out his chain of title in a court of law, in all cases where he fails to effect it otherwise. St. Louis, November 30, 1812.

WM. RUSSELL."

Under the foregoing notice, acts of ownership were proven only on the following Specifications or Numbers, to wit:

No.	Quantity and situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
10	On Eel river, 900 arpens 6 or 8 miles south of river St. Francis	Possession, inhabit'n, and cultivat'n in 1803 and 1804, by Jno. Carns	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of John Carns.
9	800 arpens about 13 miles south of the mouth of river St. Francis	Possession, inhabit'n, and cultivat'n in 1803 and to 1812, &c., by Philip Ramer	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of Philip Ramer.
293	800 arpens Big prairie, in the county of New Madrid	Possession, inhabit'n, and cultivat'n in 1802 and 1803, by Asher Brown.	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of Asher Brown.
304	800 arpens, Lake St. Mary, in the county of New Madrid	Possession, inhabit'n, and cultivat'n in 1803 and 1804, by William Doyle	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of William Doyle.
37	800 arpens, waters of St. Francis, between the mouth of White river and old Cherokee village	Possession, inhabit'n, and cultivat'n in 1802, '3, and '4, by Richard Fields	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of Richard Fields.

SPECIFICATIONS OR NUMBERS PROVEN—Continued.

No.	Quantity and situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinion of the Recorder.
38	800 arpens on the waters of the river St. Francis	Possession, inhabit., and cultivat. in 1802, 3', and 4, by Peter Degagney	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of Peter Degagney.
311	700 arpens on the waters of the river St. Francis, county of New Madrid	Possession, inhabit'n, and cultivat'n in 1802, '3, and '4, by Thomas Graves	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of Thomas Graves.
312	800 arpens in the county of New Madrid	Possession, inhabit'n, and cultivat'n in 1802, '3, and '4, by John Fields.	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of John Fields.
305	800 arpens between Copperas creek and on lake south side of Doyle's, county of New Madrid	Possession and inhabit'n in 1803, same; and cultivat'n in 1804, by John W. Hunt	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of John W. Hunt.
53	800 arpens, Mississippi bottom, adjoining Ramer, county of N. Madrid	Possession, inhabit'n, and cultivat'n in 1803 and '4, by Jno. Seaburn	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of John Seaburn.
105	800 arpens, waters of Mississippi, between St. Laurent and Apple creek, county of St. Genevieve	Inhabit'n and cultivat'n by tenants of Jno. Smith, sen., in 1803; by himself in 1804, and until 1810; afterwards by tenants till 1812, &c.	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of John Smith, sen.
54	750 arpens, waters of river St. Francis, county of Cape Girardeau	Inhabit'n and cultivat'n in spring of 1804, and till fall of 1813, &c., by Francis Clark	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of Francis Clark.
168	700 arpens, waters of Point Labadie creek, county of St. Louis	Possession, inhabitation, and occasional cultivation from 1799 to 1812, by John Day	Granted 700 arpens to the legal representatives of John Day.
160	800 arpens on waters south of side of Missouri, county of St. Louis	Possession, by Alexander Graham, from 1799 till some years after 1803; since by others	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of Alexander Graham, saving rights of others.
63	800 arpens on waters of Hubble's creek, county of Cape Girardeau	Possession, inhabit'n, and cultivat'n from 1803 to 1812, by Thomas Foster	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of Thomas Foster
284	750 arpens in the county of Cape Girardeau	Possession, inhabit'n, and cultivat'n from 1803 to 1812, by Robert Gibany	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of Robert Gibany.
55	800 arpens in Tywapity bottom, county of Cape Girardeau.	Possession, inhabit'n, and cultvat'n from 1802 to 1812, by Stephen Quimby and others	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of Stephen Quimby.
50	800 arpens in Tywapity bottom, county of New Madrid	Possession, inhabit'n, and cultivat'n from 1802 to 1806, by John Kennedy and others	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of John Kennedy.
289	750 arpens in Tywapity bottom, county of New Madrid	Possession, inhabit'n, and cultivat'n from 1803, inclusive, to spring, 1805, by Alexander McFarlane	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of Alexander McFarlane.
294	800 arpens in Tywapity bottom, county of New Madrid	Possession, inhabit'n, and cultivat'n from 1802 to 1812, by Phebe Dunn and others	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of Phebe Dunn, saving the rights of others.
101	600 arpens at Bois Brule, county of St. Genevieve	Improvement in 1803; possession, inhabit'n, and cultivat'n from 1804 to 1812, by Hezekiah P. Harris	Granted 600 arpens to the legal representatives of Hezekiah P. Harris, saving the rights of others.
266	750 arpens between Saline and Cinq Hommes creek, county of St. Genevieve	Possession, inhabit'n, and cultivat'n from summer of 1804 to 1812, by James Gorm and others. Gorm only remained a part of summer, fall, and winter of 1804.	Not granted. *Summer* written on erasure.
97	800 arpens on waters of Saline creek, county of St. Genevieve	Logs cut, rails mauled, garden enclosed, and a camp, December 24, 1803, by John Daniel	Not granted.
15	800 arpens on the south waters of Arkansas river	Possession, inhabit'n, and cultivat'n from 1769 to 1784, by John B. Imbau	Not granted.
310	750 arpens on Arkansas river, county of Arkansas	Possession for 3 years at one time, and 2 years at another time; trading by Jos. Duchassin	Not granted.
22	800 arpens on Arkansas river, near first large rocks above the village	Possession, inhabit'n, and cultivat'n for last 15 years, by Louis Berthelemy	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of Louis Berthelemy.
19	800 arpens on waters of Arkansas, adjoining to, and including part of a prairie	Possession during 15 consecutive years, under Spanish Government, by John Dortillier	Not granted.
16	800 arpens on waters of Arkansas, county of Arkansas	Possession during two years, under Spanish Government, by Malbrun	Not granted.
254	800 arpens in the county of St. Genevieve	Inhabit'n 15th December, 1803; corn standing; Walter Smoot	Not granted.
240	800 arpens on waters of the Missouri, county of St. Louis	Possession, inh., and cult. in 1803 and to 1812, by Gilbert Hodges and others	Granted 640 acres to the legal representatives of Gilbert Hodges, saving rights of others, and if vacant.

Specifications or Numbers in the General Notice of William Russell, as to which acts of ownership have not been proven.

No.	Quantity and situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
1	800 arpens on Mississippi, opposite Chickasaw bluffs; New Madrid - - -	None -	Not granted.
2	700 arpens in Mississipi bottom, near B. Fooz's, county of New Madrid - -	None -	Not granted.
3	800 arpens in Mississippi bottom, nearly opposite Fort Pickering New Madrid -	None -	Not granted.
4	800 arpens in Mississippi bottom, nearly opposite Chickasaw bluffs, New Madrid -	None -	Not granted.
5	800 arpens in Mississippi bottom, county of New Madrid - - - -	None -	Not granted.
6	700 arpens, high lands, south of river St. Francis, county of New Madrid - -	None -	Not granted.
7	800 arpens, Mississippi bottom, below mouth of St. Francis, county of New Madrid -	None -	Not granted.
8	800 arpens ten or twelve miles south of river St. Francis - - - -	None -	Not granted.

SPECIFICATIONS OR NUMBERS NOT PROVEN—Continued.

No.	Quantity and situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
11	2,000 arpens on a branch of Wachita river, called Little Missouri, late dist. of Arkansas	None	Not granted.
12	800 arpens on do do do	None	Not granted.
13	700 arpens on the waters of Wachita river, late district of Arkansas	None	Not granted.
14	800 arpens on Lefevre's fork of Arkansas river, late district of Arkansas	None	Not granted.
17	700 arpens on a bayou in the late district of Arkansas	None	Not granted.
18	800 arpens on the river Arkansas, in the late district of Arkansas	None	Not granted.
20	600 arpens below the village of Arkansas, on the river	None	Not granted.
21	800 arpens on Arkansas river, above a creek called Cadron	None	Not granted.
23	800 arpens between Arkansas and White river	None	Not granted.
24	800 arpens on waters of a branch of Little river, called Augrue	None	Not granted.
25	800 arpens on waters of a branch of White river, called Cache	None	Not granted.
26	800 arpens on waters of White river, below mouth of Big creek	None	Not granted.
27	800 arpens on waters of White river, late district of Arkansas	None	Not granted.
28	800 arpens on a branch of White river, called Little Red river	None	Not granted.
29	800 arpens on waters of White river, between mouth of Augrue and Little Red river	None	Not granted.
30	800 arpens on waters of Black river, or branch of White river	None	Not granted.
31	700 arpens on waters of White river, above mouth of Black river	None	Not granted.
32	500 arpens on waters of Black river	None	Not granted.
33	800 arpens on the waters of White river	None	Not granted.
34	800 arpens between White river and river St. Francis	None	Not granted.
35	800 arpens on waters of West river, a branch of river St. Francis	None	Not granted.
36	700 arpens south of river St. Francis, below mouth of West river	None	Not granted.
39	700 arpens below the village of Little prairie, county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
40	600 arpens on a bayou in the county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
41	800 arpens on waters of Mississippi, between Little prairie and New Madrid	None	Not granted.
42	30 arpens square, above Belle Point, on waters of White river	None	Not granted.
43	40 arpens square on the waters of Black river, county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
44	800 arpens on waters of river St. Francis, county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
45	700 arpens in Mississippi bottom, in the county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
46	800 arpens in Mississippi bottom, between Little prairie and New Madrid	None	Not granted.
47	700 arpens near Big prairie, county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
48	800 arpens north of the village of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
49	800 arpens, Mississippi bottom, between Little prairie and New Madrid	None	Not granted.
51	700 arpens in Tywapity bottom, south of the mouth of Ohio	None	Not granted.
52	800 arpens nearly opposite mouth of Ohio, in Tywapity bottom	None	Not granted.
56	800 arpens, Tywapity bottom, twelve or fifteen miles west of mouth of Ohio	None	Not granted.
57	800 arpens, Tywapity bottom, eight or ten ms. south of Rocky bluffs, late Widow Waters's	None	Not granted.
58	800 arpens near a place on Mississippi, called the "Grand Tower"	None	Not granted.
59	800 arpens between "Grand Tower" and village of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
60	700 arpens adjoining Big swamp, in the county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
61	600 arpens on waters of Cape La Cruche, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
62	800 arpens on waters of Cape La Cruche, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
64	700 arpens on waters of Randoll's creek, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
65	500 arpens on Gabany's creek, county of Girardeau	None	Not granted.
66	700 arpens on Byrd's creek, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
77	800 arpens on waters of Byrd's creek, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
78	600 arpens on waters of Table creek, county of Girardeau	None	Not granted.
79	500 arpens on waters of Crow creek, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
80	800 arpens on waters of Byrd's creek, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
81	800 arpens on waters of Caney creek, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
82	600 arpens on waters of Mill creek, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
83	500 arpens on waters of Crooked creek, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
84	800 arpens on waters of Castor creek, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
85	700 arpens on waters of Apple creek, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
86	800 arpens on Mississippi, between Apple creek and Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
87	800 arpens on waters of a small river called White Water, county of Girardeau	None	Not granted.
88	500 arpens on do do do	None	Not granted.
89	700 arpens on do do do	None	Not granted.
90	600 arpens on do do do	None	Not granted.
91	800 arpens on do do do	None	Not granted.
92	800 arpens on waters of the river St. Francis, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
93	800 arpens on the river St. Francis, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
94	750 arpens on waters of river St. Francis, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
95	800 arpens on waters of Apple creek, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
96	600 arpens on waters of Mill creek, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
98	600 arpens on waters of Saline creek, St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
99	700 arpens on Cape Cinq Hommes creek, (waters,) county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
100	800 arpens on south side of Plattin, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
102	700 arpens on waters of Flat creek, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
103	800 arpens on waters of Mississippi, between Au Vase and St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
104	800 arpens on waters of Cape La Cruche creek, St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
106	700 arpens on waters of Prairie Spring creek	None	Not granted.
107	800 arpens on waters of Mississippi, between St. Laurent and New Bourbon	None	Not granted.
108	700 a pens on waters of the St. Francis, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
109	800 arpens on do do	None	Not granted.
110	600 arpens on do do	None	Not granted.
111	800 arpens on do do	None	Not granted.
112	800 arpens on waters of Flat river, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
113	700 arpens on do do	None	Not granted.
114	800 arpens on waters of Terrebleu, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
115	700 arpens in Bellevue, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
116	800 arpens in Bellevue, do	None	Not granted.
117	800 arpens in Bellevue, do	None	Not granted.
118	700 arpens on waters of Old Mine creek, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
119	800 arpens on do do	None	Not granted.
120	800 arpens on Smith's Mill creek, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
121	600 arpens on Raber's branch, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
122	800 arpens on waters of Mineral fork of Big river, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.

SPECIFICATIONS OR NUMBERS NOT PROVEN—Continued.

No.	Quantity and situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
123	700 arpens on waters of Mineral fork of Big river, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
124	800 arpens on waters of Big river, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
125	600 arpens on waters of Big river, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
126	800 arpens on waters of Big river, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
127	700 arpens on waters of Big river, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
128	800 arpens on waters of Big river, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
129	1,600 arpens on waters of White river, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
130	800 arpens on waters of Black river, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
131	800 arpens on Courtois' fork of the Meramec, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
132	800 arpens, Richwoods, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
133	800 arpens on Richland creek, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
134	700 arpens on waters of Big river, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
135	800 arpens on waters of Big river, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
136	600 arpens on waters of Big river, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
137	800 arpens on waters of Big river, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
138	1,000 arpens on waters of Burbois fork of Meramec, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
139	800 arpens on waters of Little Meramec, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
140	750 arpens on Meramec, above the mouth of Burbois, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
141	800 arpens on waters of Joachim creek, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
142	600 arpens on waters of Joachim creek, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
143	800 arpens on waters of Little Rock creek, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
144	800 arpens on waters of Autire creek, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
145	700 arpens on waters of Meramec, between mouth of Big river & Fish Pot, c'ty St. Louis	None	Not granted.
146	600 arpens on south waters of Meramec, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
147	800 arpens on northeast side of Meramec, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
148	500 arpens on north of Meramec, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
149	1,600 arpens (40 sq.) below commons of Carondelet, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
150	About 300 arpens bounded east by Mississippi, south by Carondelet village, north by Sugar Loaf, and west by St. Louis road	None	Not granted.
151	300 arpens on Mississippi, about three miles south of town of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
152	About 30 arpens on Mississippi, two or two and a half miles south of town of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
153	600 arpens on waters of river Des Péres, north of Carondelet commons	None	Not granted.
154	800 arpens on waters of river Des Péres, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
155	700 arpens on waters of river Des Péres, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
156	500 arpens on Gengrass creek, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
157	800 arpens on waters of Cold Water creek, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
158	700 arpens on Cold Water creek, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
159	800 arpens on waters of Cold Water creek, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
161	600 arpens on waters of the Missouri, south side, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
162	750 arpens south side of Missouri, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
163	500 arpens on waters of Feefee's creek, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
164	800 arpens on waters of Crevecoeur, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
165	750 arpens on waters of Grand Glaize, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
166	800 arpens on waters of Bonhomme creek, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
167	600 arpens on waters of Wild Horse creek, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
169	800 arpens about three miles west of Boeuf creek, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
170	600 arpens on waters of Burzeron, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
171	800 arpens on waters of the Gasconade, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
172	800 arpens on waters of the Gasconade, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
173	700 arpens on waters of river La Mine, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
174	800 arpens on south waters of Missouri, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
175	800 arpens on north waters of Missouri, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
176	700 arpens on Bonne Femme, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
177	1,200 arpens on waters of Grand Moniture, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
178	800 arpens between Bonne Femme and Grand Moniture, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
179	600 arpens on the waters of Loutre creek, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
180	800 arpens on Loutre island, near north shore of Missouri, mouth of Loutre creek, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
181	1,000 arpens between Loutre and Grand Maniture creeks, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
182	800 arpens between Loutre and Charette creeks, county of St Charles	None	Not granted.
183	600 arpens on waters of Charette creek, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
184	700 arpens on waters of Tuque creek, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
185	800 arpens on waters of Femme Osage, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
186	800 arpens between Femme Osage and Charette, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
187	700 arpens between village of St. Charles and Femme Osage, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
188	800 arpens between villages of St. Charles and Portage des Sioux, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
189	700 arpens on point between Missouri and Mississippi, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
190	800 arpens on waters of the Missouri, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
191	800 arpens on waters of Dardenne, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
192	700 arpens on waters of Dardenne, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
193	800 arpens on waters of Peruque, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
194	500 arpens on waters of Peruque, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
195	700 arpens on waters of Peruque, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
196	800 arpens on waters of Mississippi, between Peruque and Missouri, co'ty of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
197	600 arpens on Mississippi, near mouth of Peruque, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
198	800 arpens between Dardenne and Cuivre, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
199	800 arpens between Dardenne and Cuivre, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
200	700 arpens between Dardenne and Cuivre, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
201	800 arpens at foot of hills five miles south of Cuivre, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
202	800 arpens on the waters of Cuivre, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
203	750 arpens on the waters of Cuivre, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
204	500 arpens on the waters of Cuivre, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
205	700 arpens on the waters of Cuivre, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
206	800 arpens between Cuivre and Sandy creek, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
207	700 arpens between Sandy creek and Cap au Grey, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
208	800 arpens on waters of Mississippi, between Sandy and Ramsey's creek, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.

SPECIFICATIONS OR NUMBERS NOT PROVEN—Continued.

No.	Quantity and situation.	Acts of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
209	800 arpens on waters of Mississippi, 12 or 15 miles south of Buffalo creek, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
210	700 arpens between Buffalo and Ramsey's creek, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
211	800 arpens on Buffalo creek, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
212	700 arpens on Buffalo creek, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
213	1,200 arpens on waters of Salt river, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
214	800 arpens on waters of Salt river, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
215	600 arpens on waters of Salt river, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
216	700 arpens on waters of Salt river, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
217	1,600 arpens between Salt river and Buffalo creek, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
218	800 arpens between Salt river and Buffalo creek, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
219	800 arpens between Salt river and Fort Mason, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
220	700 arpens between Fort Mason and Logotories, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
221	1,200 arpens on waters of Mississippi, between Fort Mason and Jefferson, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
222	800 arpens on waters of Mississippi, near the two rivers, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
223	800 arpens between Jefferson and Mississippi rapids, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
224	700 arpens between Jefferson and Fort Madison, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
225	1,200 arpens between Fort Madison and Spanish Mines, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
226	800 arpens between Fort Madison and Spanish Mines, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
227	800 arpens on waters of Sandy creek, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
228	750 arpens on waters of Cuivre, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
229	800 arpens on waters of Cuivre, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
230	800 arpens on waters of Dardenne, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
231	800 arpens in the county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
232	800 arpens on the waters of Lot creek, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
233	700 arpens on the waters of Peruque, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
234	750 arpens on the waters of Missouri, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
235	800 arpens on the waters of Charles' run, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
236	800 arpens on the waters of the Mississippi, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
237	700 arpens on the waters of the Missouri, county of St. Charles	None	Not granted.
238	600 arpens on Sugar creek, branch Meramec, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
239	800 arpens on the waters of Missouri, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
241	600 arpens on the north waters of Meramec, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
242	800 arpens on the south waters of Meramec, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
243	700 arpens on the waters of Grand Glaize, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
244	750 arpens on the waters of Cold Water creek, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
245	650 arpens on the waters of Crevecoeur, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
246	750 arpens on the waters of the Meramec, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
247	750 arpens on the waters of the Mississippi, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
248	800 arpens on the waters of Joachim, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
249	700 arpens on the waters Pattin creek, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
250	800 arpens on the waters of Big river, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
251	750 arpens on the waters of Indian creek, county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
252	750 arpens in the county of St. Louis	None	Not granted.
253	600 arpens on Isle du Bois, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
255	800 arpens on waters of Mississippi, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
256	700 arpens on waters of Flat river, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
257	750 arpens on waters of Big river, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
258	800 arpens on waters of Big river, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
259	600 arpens on waters of Old Mine creek, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
260	750 arpens on waters of Old Mine creek, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
261	650 arpens in the settlement of Bellevue, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
262	800 arpens in the settlement of Bellevue, county of St Genevieve	None	Not granted.
263	800 arpens on waters of St. Francis, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
264	750 arpens on the waters of the St Francis	None	Not granted.
265	800 arpens between St. Come's and Apple creek, county of St. Genevieve	None	Not granted.
267	800 arpens on waters of Table creek, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
268	700 arpens on the river Mississippi, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
269	750 arpens on Byrd's creek, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
270	700 arpens on Byrd's creek, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
271	800 arpens in Tywapity bottom, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
272	650 arpens on the waters of White Water, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
273	800 arpens on White Water, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
274	800 arpens on waters of White Water, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
275	800 arpens on waters of White Water, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
276	750 arpens on waters of Ramsey's creek, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
277	800 arpens on the river Mississippi, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
278	600 arpens on Crooked creek, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
279	800 arpens near Big Swamp, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
280	650 arpens on Big Swamp, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
281	750 arpens on Willow Swamp, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
282	700 arpens on waters of river St. Francis, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
283	800 arpens on river St. Francis	None	Not granted.
285	800 arpens on Mississippi river, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
286	700 arpens in Tywapity bottom, county of Cape Girardeau	None	Not granted.
287	800 arpens on Mississippi, county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
288	700 arpens on Mississippi, county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
290	650 arpens on Pamescon, county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
291	800 arpens on which Reville resided, county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
292	750 arpens on Big swamp, county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
295	700 arpens on Lake Gayoso, county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
296	800 arpens at the portage of river St. Francis, county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
297	700 arpens at the portage of river St. Francis, county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
298	800 arpens on the waters of river St. Francis, county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
299	750 arpens on the waters of river St. Francis, county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
300	800 arpens on Lake St. Francis, county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
301	600 arpens on Bayou St. John, county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.

SPECIFICATIONS OR NUMBERS NOT PROVEN—Continued.

No.	Quantity and situation.	Act of ownership.	Opinions of the Recorder.
302	750 arpens on Bayou St. John, county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
303	650 arpens on Lake St. Mary, county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
306	650 arpens in the county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
307	750 arpens in the county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
308	700 arpens in the county of New Madrid	None	Not granted.
309	800 arpens on waters of White river, late district of Arkansas	None	Not granted.

NOTE.—The claims Nos. 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, and 76, abandoned by the claimant.

OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF LAND TITLES,
Missouri Territory, St. Louis, November 1, 1815.

On the delivery of the notice of the foregoing claims, I thought it irregular, and perhaps illegal; but, as that was not the time for the exercise of judicial discretion, it was admitted to record. Proofs were afterwards introduced showing by whom some few of the tracts had been inhabited and cultivated. I have thought it my duty to exhibit these claims in detail, prefaced by an exact copy of the notice, that the whole subject may be fairly before you.

FREDERICK BATES.

The Hon. JOSIAH MEIGS, *Commissioner of General Land Office.*

15th CONGRESS. **No. 274.** 1st SESSION.

CLAIM OF THE COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED BY GEORGIA TO EXAMINE CERTAIN LANDS ON THE TENNESSEE RIVER.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 9, 1818.

The committee to whom were referred the petitions of Andrew Jackson, in behalf of himself, in right of his wife, and as agent for the heirs and representatives of of Colonel John Donelson, deceased, of Thomas Carr, and of George W. Sevier, for himself, and the other heirs of John Sevier, deceased, reported:

That it appears that the Legislature of Georgia, on the 20th of February, in the year 1784, passed a resolution to appoint commissioners to examine the quantity, quality, and circumstances of the lands lying in what was called the Bend of Tennessee. That, on the following day, the same Legislature proceeded to appoint seven commissioners for the object contemplated by the previous resolutions, to wit: Lachlin McIntosh, junr., William Downes, Stephen Heard, John Morell, John Donelson, Joseph Martin, and John Sevier, esquires. It appears to the committee that John Morell failed or refused to act, and that Thomas Napier was appointed by the Executive of said State to fill the vacancy; and that on the 1st of March, 1786, Thomas Carr was elected to fill the vacancy occasioned by the failure to act or resignation of said Thomas Napier. It does not appear that Lachlin McIntosh, jr., ever acted himself, or that any person was appointed in his place. It appears that, on the 22d of December, 1785, a majority of the commissioners made a report of their proceedings to the Legislature, by which, among other things, it appeared that they had made divers appointments, and sold considerable lands, and had granted indulgence for the payments, having taken bonds to a large amount, &c. It further appears, that said commissioners found it necessary, in the execution of the duties assigned them, to expend large sums of money, as well to quiet the Indians resident in that neighborhood, as to bear their own necessary expenses while thus employed in a savage wilderness, far removed from all civilized society. The Legislature of Georgia, upon this return being so made, by a resolution of that body, dated the 14th day of August, 1786, declared that each of the commissioners appointed on the Tennessee business, who have actually attended their duty, shall be entitled to five thousand acres of land in the district, (by which is understood the district of Tennessee,) as a gratuity and full compensation for their trouble therein, and shall and may have a warrant of survey for the same to them respectively, &c. It is alleged by Carr and Heard, two of said commissioners, that warrants of survey were issued for them, and the land actually located, but there is no sufficient evidence of that fact to authorize this committee to make such a report. For all this committee can discover, the business rested in the foregoing state until the year 1795, at which time the celebrated act of the Legislature of Georgia, commonly called the Yazoo act, was passed. That in and by the 15th section of that act, there was expressly reserved out of the sale made to the Tennessee company, fifty thousand acres, to be gratuitously divided, share and share alike, between the commissioners appointed to examine the quantity, quality, and circumstances of the Great Bend of Tennessee, to be held by them as tenants in common, and not as joint tenants, &c. It appears to the committee that Georgia, in the cession of her western lands to the United States, reserved five millions of acres (for the satisfaction of claims against her) from the United States, and it does appear that the claims of those commissioners constitute as fair a class of cases as could have existed, being wholly unconnected with all those so justly charged as being fraudulent. Upon a review of all the facts connected with the claims of six of these commissioners, to wit: Thomas Carr, the representatives of John Donelson, the representatives of John Sevier, the representatives of William Downes, the representatives of Joseph Martin and Stephen Heard, it is shown that they proceeded to act, and did perform many and dangerous services, and expended much money; that Col. Donelson was actually killed while thus employed, and hence that they should be paid, seems not only reasonable but just. While the committee feel convinced that these persons ought to be paid, they at the same time find much difficulty in proposing the means by which that object should be accomplished. If, as has been alleged by some of the commissioners, the lands originally given to them by the State of Georgia, had been actually located and fixed to some particular place, it would seem that the good faith this Government has always heretofore observed, would bind it to give them patents for it; but that does not appear to be the case: and as the Government has ordered those very lands for sale on the first Monday of the present month, it will not be advisable to give them lands in kind. Seeking, however, the best means of doing justice to all parties concerned, this committee would beg leave to suggest that, in their opinions, it would be well to direct that scrip be issued to the parties for the amount of what is due to them as commissioners at the rate of two dollars per acre, that being the minimum price in cash for public lands; and this scrip, so to be issued, be made receivable for any lands to be sold in the Alabama Territory. The committee therefore report a bill for the benefit of Thomas Carr and others.

The remonstrance of Andrew Jackson, in behalf of himself, in right of his wife, and as agent for the heirs and representatives of Col. John Donelson, deceased, to the honorable the House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, humbly showeth:

That the Legislature of the State of Georgia, on the 20th day of February, 1784, by resolve, laid out a county to include all the lands lying north of the Tennessee river, and included within the territorial limits of said State. That, on the 21st day of February, 1784, the said Legislature, for the State of Georgia, proceeded to appoint commissioners for the purpose of examining the quality and quantity of the lands on the Tennessee river, pursuant to the resolve of the 20th instant aforesaid, when the following named persons were appointed, viz., Lachlin McIntosh, jr., William Downes, Stephen Heard, John Morell, John Donelson, Joseph Martin, and John Sevier, esquires. That, on the 22d day of February, 1785, the Legislature of Georgia did appoint eight justices of the peace for the said district of Tennessee. That, on the 22d day of December, 1785, a majority of the aforesaid commissioners reported their proceedings to the Legislature of Georgia, showing that they had performed, in part, the duty assigned them: all which will fully appear, reference being had to the journals of the Legislature of Georgia. A copy of all that can be found is hereto annexed, marked A, and to which your remonstrant begs leave to refer you. Your remonstrant further begs leave to show to your honorable body, that the said John Donelson did enter on the duties (as commissioner) assigned him in the month of March, 1785, and, at the hazard of his life, at great expense and fatigue, penetrated a pathless wilderness, to the mouth of Elk river, on the north bank of the Tennessee river, when, not meeting with any of the other commissioners, he left five men with a note for them, and returned to Nashville: these men returning and reporting that the commissioners had not arrived, he proceeded to Holston to meet them. On arriving he meet a majority of them, and proceeded to the bounds defined, made a board, and opened a land office, when the said John Donelson was appointed surveyor, and as such appointed and agreed with Isaac Taylor, now deceased, to proceed and ascertain the northern boundary of Georgia where it crossed the Tennessee below, and extend it east to the crossing of the Tennessee above. These necessary arrangements being made, the board of commissioners adjourned to meet at the mouth of Elk river on the 1st day of April, 1786. Your remonstrant states, that Isaac Taylor, under the engagement with Col. Donelson as surveyor and commissioner, did proceed and ascertain the boundary agreeable to his engagement. Your remonstrant begs leave further to state, that Col. John Donelson, on his return to Nashville on the duty assigned him as commissioner and surveyor aforesaid, was killed by the Indians, and lost all his valuable papers, amongst which were attested copies of all the acts and resolutions of the Legislature of the State of Georgia, a copy of their report to the said Legislature, and the journals of their proceedings. These being lost as aforesaid, your remonstrant has been compelled to resort to oral testimony to show that Col. Donelson, in his lifetime, did faithfully perform the duty assigned him, and lost his life in the performance thereof, and does therefore refer you to the affidavits of John Peyton, sen., David Henry, and James M. Lewis, marked B, C, and D, hereto annexed and referred to; from all which it will appear he was justly entitled to his part of the compensation awarded the commissioners by the Legislature of the State of Georgia, as contained in their act passed the 7th day of February, 1795, to the fifteenth section thereof, and hereto annexed, marked E, I beg beg leave to refer you. Your remonstrant further states, that he has been informed and believes, that there were but five of the seven commissioners who acted under their appointment.

Those who formed the first board were Stephen Heard, John Donelson, William Downes, and John Sevier; Gen. Joseph Martin being absent, performing some duty assigned him by the Government: therefore your remonstrant claims for the heirs and representatives of Col. John Donelson, deceased, one-fifth part of fifty thousand acres of land, to be laid out on the north side of the Tennessee river, in what is called the Big Bend thereof. Your remonstrant begs leave to state, that, from a memorandum taken by the said John Donelson in his lifetime, and found amongst his papers, he intended his grant to be laid on the north side of the Tennessee river, beginning opposite the head of an island at the commencement of the Big Shoals, running north three miles, thence east up the river for complement.

Your remonstrant cannot believe that your honorable body will hesitate, the premises considered, (taking into view that the commissioners appointed to investigate and settle the Yazoo claims under the act of cession, and the act of the Legislature of Georgia of the 7th of February, 1795, have investigated the claim of your remonstrant, and declared it just, and that it ought to be satisfied,) to grant to the heirs and representatives of the said John Donelson, deceased, the ten thousand acres of land, and locate it above, or at some other point in the said Big Bend of Tennessee, and to carry into effect, with good faith, that contract which the State of Georgia was willing, and had made with the commissioners, and that justice to the deceased required to be carried into effect, and which, by the act of cession from the State of Georgia, the Congress of the United States are pledged, and in good faith bound, to fulfil. Your remonstrant, lastly, begs leave to state that the compensation at the time given, was a mere pittance compared with the services to be performed, in which was encountered danger, expense, labor, risk, and lastly the death of that commissioner for whose heirs and representatives your remonstrant claims his. The growing value of the land may relieve some of the heirs from want, who, had it not have been for the untimely death of the father, would have been in affluence. The premises duly considered, your remonstrant hopes that your honorable body will direct, by law, a grant to be issued for ten thousand acres on the north side of the Tennessee river, in the Big Bend thereof, to the heirs and representatives of the aforesaid John Donelson, deceased, and that, too, before the sales of the land in this section of country are made, otherwise will put it out of the power of your honorable body to do that justice for which your remonstrant prays.

ANDREW JACKSON,
For himself, and as agent for the heirs and representatives of John Donelson, deceased.

A.

LEGISLATURE OF GEORGIA,
Friday, February 20th, 1784.

The House proceeded to take up the report of the committee to whom was referred the petition of Mr. Blount, and other citizens of North Carolina; which, after some amendments, was agreed to, and is as follows:

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Mr. Blount, in behalf of himself and other citizens of North Carolina, respecting the expediency of laying out a new county, to include all that tract of land lying on the Tennessee river, which shall be included by a line drawn from the south bank of the said river where the northwest boundary of this State crosses, and running west till it crosses the said river Tennessee again, to the south bank thereof, then up the said south bank of said river to the place of beginning:—after having received all the information they could obtain on that subject, are of opinion it will be necessary, in order to prevent future contests, to take measures, as it may be done with propriety, to settle the said tract of country, and do recommend, for that purpose, that seven commissioners be appointed, and vested with the powers necessary to ascertain the quantity, quality, and circumstances of the aforesaid lands, and report the same, with their proceedings, to the Legislature for their consideration, and to make them such compensation as may be deemed adequate and satisfactory: Provided, notwithstanding, that the said board shall have power, and they are hereby authorized, if they, or a majority of them, may think it necessary, in such manner as to them seems most expedient, to proceed to grant warrants of survey, which shall, when executed, be transmitted, with the plats, to the surveyor general's office, in order that the same may pass to a grant as the law directs: Provided, that no one person shall be eligible to hold or obtain a grant for more than one thousand acres of land, and that he or they so obtaining a warrant, shall, at the same time, give bond and security to pay into the Treasury of this State at and after the rate of one-eighth of a dollar per acre, which sum shall be paid before he, she, or they, shall obtain a grant.

SATURDAY, 21*st February*, 1784.

The House proceeded to the appointment of commissioners for examining the quality and quantity of the lands on the Tennessee river, agreeably to a resolve of the 20th instant, when the following persons were appointed, viz. Lachlin McIntosh, jr., William Downes, Stephen Heard, John Morell, John Donelson, Joseph Martin, and John Sevier, esquires.

CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Legislature of Georgia, December 1, 1815.

I do hereby certify, that the aforegoing resolution of the Legislature of Georgia, and the appointment of commissioners for examining the quality and quantity of the lands in the Big Bend of the Tennessee river, are truly copied from the Journal of said House of Representatives.

Given under my hand the date before mentioned.

AUGUSTIN S. CLAYTON,
Clerk of the Ho. of Rep's.

Further extract from the Journal of the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Georgia, to wit:

"TUESDAY, *February* 22, 1785.

"A letter from Col. Stephen Heard, dated 22d day of February instant, being laid before the House,

"*Resolved*, That the several persons therein named, to wit, William Blunt, John Donelson, William Downes, John Sevier, Joseph Martin, Charles Robertson, Valentine Sevier, jr., and Stephen Heard, esquires, be appointed justices of the peace for the said district of Tennessee; and that his honor the Governor do qualify the said Stephen Heard before himself in council, and thereafter grant a commission, directed to him, to enable him to qualify the other justices above mentioned, when he shall repair to the said district of Tennessee."

TUESDAY, *August* 1, 1786.—(Extract.)

"That on the 22d of December, 1785, a majority of the commissioners *reported their proceedings to the House, by which, among other things, it appears that they had made divers appointments, and had granted an indulgence of three years to the purchasers, and have taken bonds to a large amount," &c. &c.

I, Augustin S. Clayton, clerk of the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Georgia, do hereby certify that the aforegoing extracts from the journal of said House are truly copied therefrom. Given under my hand, this 2d of December, 1815.

AUGUSTIN S. CLAYTON.

B.

I, John Peyton, sen., being now in my sixty-third year of age, deposeth and saith, that sometime in the month of March, in the year 1785, as well as this deponent recollects, he went, in company with Col. John Donelson, David Henry, and others, to the mouth of Elk river, then called the Big Bend of Tennessee river, for the purpose of meeting some other commissioners: I understood one or more from the State of Georgia, whose business was to ascertain the north boundary line of the State of Georgia, and to explore the Big Bend of Tennessee, and to fix and truly ascertain some land claims they held in said bend; but when we arrived at the mouth of Elk river the other commissioners had not come. We waited there some time, expecting the other commissioners, but they not coming, and the mouth of Elk river being a very great resort of Indians at that time, the Colonel did not think it safe to stay there with so small a company, as he had concluded it would be safer to leave a few men there and return to Nashville; as a few men might secrete themselves without horses, when his company could not. He wrote a few lines to the other commissioners, and left with me and four other men, who waited there near a week, and the other commissioners not coming, we returned to Nashville, and informed Col. John Donelson that the other commissioners did not meet. This deponent understood and believes that Col. John Donelson went from Nashville to the Holston country for the purpose of meeting the other commissioners, and this deponent understood and believes Colonel John Donelson, as he was returning home, in the year 1786, was killed by the Indians; and this deponent never saw Colonel John Donelson more from the time he went to Holston to meet the other commissioners. And further this deponent saith not.

JOHN PEYTON, Sen.

STATE OF TENNESSEE, *Davidson county.*

This day appeared before me, Wilkins Tannehill, a justice of the peace for said county, John Peyton, sen., and made oath that the facts as set forth in the foregoing deposition are just and true, to the best of his knowledge and belief. Given under my hand and seal, this 17th day of October, 1817.

W. TANNEHILL, Jr.
Justice of the Peace.

C.

I, David Henry, being now sixty-four years of age, deposeth and saith, that, in the spring of the year 1785, I was applied to by Col. John Donelson to go with him into the Big Bend of Tennessee to the mouth of Elk river. This deponent agreed to go with him, and started sometime in the month of March from Nashville with Colonel John Donelson, and made our way through the wilderness into the Big Bend of Tennessee to the mouth of Elk river; and this deponent understood from Col. John Donelson that he was to meet the commissioners from Georgia at the mouth of Elk river. When this deponent, and Col. Donelson, and those that was with him, got to the mouth of Elk river, they found no one there; and after waiting sometime there, and no one coming, thought it was not safe to stay longer; and this deponent, and Colonel John Donelson, and those that was with him, started from the mouth of Elk river, and made their way back to Nashville: and this deponent understood and believes that Colonel John Donelson went from Nashville to the Holston country for the purpose of meeting the other commissioners; and this deponent understood and believes, as Colonel John Donelson was returning home, in the year 1786, he was killed by the Indians, and this deponent never seen him since. And further this deponent saith not.

DAVID HENRY.

STATE OF TENNESSEE,
Robertson county, September 18, 1817.

This day personally appeared David Henry before me, James Appleton, an acting justice for said county, and made oath of the above deposition as being a positive truth. Sworn to before me, and subscribed, the above mentioned date.

DAVID HENRY.
JAMES APPLETON,
Justice of the Peace for the county of Robertson.

STATE OF TENNESSEE, *Robertson county.*

I, James Tunstall, clerk of the county court aforesaid, do hereby certify that James Appleton, esquire, before whom the annexed affidavit was taken, is an acting justice of the peace for said county, duly commissioned and qualified as such, and that full faith and credit is due to all his official acts as such.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed the seal of my office, this 18th day of September, 1817.

[L. S.] JAMES TUNSTALL,
Clerk of Robertson county court.

STATE OF TENNESSEE, *Robertson county.*

I, John Hutchison, presiding magistrate pro tem. of the county court aforesaid, do certify that James Tunstall, whose signature is to the foregoing certificate, is acting clerk of the county court aforesaid, and that full faith and credit is, and of right ought to be, due to his official acts as such. Given under my hand and seal, this 18th day of September, 1817.

[L. S.] JOHN HUTCHISON,
Presiding magistrate pro. tem. of Robertson county court.

D.

STATE OF TENNESSEE.

Personally appeared J. M. Lewis, of Maury county, before me, William Dooly, one of the acting justices of said county, and made oath, in due form of law, that he fell in with the commissioners appointed by the State of Georgia, or a part of them, in Jonesborough, in the year 1785, on their way down the Tennessee river, to open the land office for what was called the Big Bend of Tennessee river. Some days afterwards he met with Col. John Donelson, (who was one of the said commissioners and surveyors of said lands,) at Colonel Hutching's, in Hawkins county; and that this deponent went with said Donelson, and a part of the other commissioners, down as low as Chickimoga town, where they held talks with the Indians, and opened the land office for said lands in the Big Bend of Tennessee river, when he (the deponent) got a deputation from said Donelson as surveyor for said lands; and that the commissioners then (between the 20th and 25th of December, 1785,) adjourned to meet at the mouth of Elk river on the 1st day of April, 1786. That, on the said appointed day, this deponent, with two other men, viz., Turner Williams and Argalous Geter, went over the mouth of Elk river on Tennessee river, and staid there a number of days, and the commissioners not meeting, he returned sometime in said month to Nashville, and shortly afterwards heard that Col. John

* The report here alluded to has been searched for, but cannot be found.

Donelson had been killed by the Indians, and, upon the deponent going to Kentucky, in company with others, to know the certainty of his death, found it a fact.

Question. Do you know whether Major Isaac Taylor was employed by Col. John Donelson, or the commissioners, to find the line between the States of Georgia and North Carolina, at the lower crossing of Tennessee river, and extend said line east to where it strikes the Tennessee again?

Answer. I went with Taylor the whole of the route from Jonesborough until we reached Nashville, on the 6th day of January, 1786. That a few days afterwards he went to take the latitude, and believes he took the same, and run the line to Latitude Hill, on Elk river, as said Taylor told this deponent, they two being engaged together in business. This deponent is also under the impression that the said Isaac Taylor run the aforementioned line under the orders of Col. John Donelson. Further this deponent saith not.

Sworn to, and subscribed to, this 29th day of September, A. D. 1817.

J. M. LEWIS.
WILLIAM DOOLY,
Justice of the Peace.

STATE OF TENNESSEE, *Maury county.*

I, Joseph B. Porter, clerk of the court of pleas and quarter sessions for said county, do certify that William Dooly, esq., whose signature appears above, is now, and was at the time of signing the same, an acting justice of the peace in and for said county, and full faith and credit is, and of right ought to be, given to his official acts as such.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name, and affixed the seal of my office, at office, this 29th of September, 1817.

[L. S.] JOSEPH B. PORTER.

E.

The following is a copy of the 15th section of an act of the Legislature of the State of Georgia, passed the 7th of January, 1795, entitled "An act supplementary to an act, entitled 'An act for appropriating a part of the unlocated territory of this State for the payment of the late State troops, and for other purposes therein mentioned, declaring the right of this State to the unappropriated territory thereof, for the protection and support of the frontiers of this State, and for other purposes.'"

"Sec. 15. *And be it further enacted*, That the said Tennessee Company shall reserve a further quantity of fifty thousand acres, to be gratuitously divided, share and share alike, between the commissioners appointed by this State for the purpose of examining the quantity, quality, and circumstances of the Great Bend of Tennessee river, which shall be held by them as tenants in common, and not as joint tenants, and be represented in like manner as the lands reserved by the other companies for the use of the citizens, as a compensation to the said commissioners for their services rendered the State in that capacity."

F.

GEORGIA.

To the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners for the District of Tennessee:

You are hereby authorized and required to admeasure and lay, or cause to be admeasured and laid out, unto Stephen Heard five thousand acres of land in the district of Tennessee, agreeably to a resolution of the Legislature, as gratuity and compensation for his services done as commissioner, taking special care that the same has not heretofore been laid out to any other person or persons; and you are hereby also directed and required to record a plat of the same in your office, and transmit copies thereof, together with this warrant, to the secretary general's office. Given under my hand, as entry taken for the district of Tennessee, this 22d of September, 1786.

WILLIAM DOWNES, *E. T.*

The five thousand above alluded to is surveyed on the Tennessee river, opposite the Chickasaw shoals, on the Tennessee river.

Also, ten thousand acres on the Tennessee river, apart of the fifty thousand acres reserved to the commissioners as a full compensation for their services authorized by the law of 1795.

The above, not repealed in the rescinding law of the State of Georgia, is the opinion of the above Stephen Heard, but is repealed in the opinion of A. H. The commissioners were Stephen Heard, John Donelson, William Downes, and Gen. John Sevier. The resolutions and acts of the State of Georgia are recorded in the State, in the Federal Government of the United States, and in Knoxville, under the superintendence of Gen. Sevier, with all proceedings under them.

G.

Know all men by these presents, that we, the undersigned, heirs and representatives of John Donelson, deceased, do nominate and appoint Gen. Andrew Jackson our true and lawful attorney in our names and our behalf, to apply for, ask, demand, and receive for us from the State of Georgia, and from the General Government of the United States, all the lands that was due to the said John Donelson, deceased, by virtue of an act or resolution of the General Assembly of the said State of Georgia; and upon the receipts thereof, acquittance, and other discharges for us, and in our names, or otherwise, to make, sign, and give, hereby ratifying and confirming all and whatever he shall do in the premises. In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals, this 5th day of October, 1815.

ALEXANDER DONELSON. [L. S.]
JOHN DONELSON. [L. S.]
WILLIAM DONELSON. [L. S.]
SEVERN DONELSON. [L. S.]
ROBERT HAYS. [L. S.]
MARY CAFFERY. [L. S.]

There are nine representatives of John Donelson, deceased, that is, the above named set, the heirs of Samuel Donelson, deceased, Severn Donelson, youngest son of the deceased, and myself, in right of Mrs. J.

ANDREW JACKSON.

Received of General Joseph Martin, by the hand of William Blount, a warrant for one hundred pounds, which I am to place to his credit at the time received, to bear interest from that time, as interest is cast to this time on the contract or obligation this day signed by him, for the sum of one hundred and ninety-eight pounds and eight and a half, as one of the original contracts.

J. G. & THOMAS BLOUNT.

FAYETTEVILLE, *December* 10, 1789.

FAYETTEVILLE, *December* 21*st*, 1789.

Received of Joseph Martin, by the hand of Thomas King, my own note for seventy dollars and three-fourths of a dollar, each dollar equal to twelve shillings paper money: my note bore date February 8th, 1786. For this sum I engage to account with John G. and Thomas Blount for the said Martin, in part pay to them for the said Martin's part of the Tennessee goods.

WM. BLOUNT.

The Commonwealth of Virginia to Landon Carter and John Sevier, esqrs., gentlemen, greeting:

Know ye, that we, trusting to your faithful and provident circumspection in examining William Blount, esq., as a witness as well on behalf of Joseph Martin, defendant, as Mordecai Hord, esq., plaintiff, command you, or any two or more of you, that at such days and places as you shall appoint, you assemble yourselves and the witness aforesaid before you, or any two or more of you, you call and cause to come, and diligently examine him on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God; and his examination into the county court of Henry, distinctly and plainly, without delay, you shall send and certify, enclosed, returning also to us this writ. Witness, John Cox, clerk of our said county court, at the courthouse, the 9th day of August, 1791, and in the 16th year of the commonwealth.

JOHN COX, *Clerk.*

Territory of the United States of America south of the river Ohio, Washington county.

The deposition of William Blount, governor of the said Territory, appeared before us the subscribers, the said William Blount, and being duly sworn to declare the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, touching and concerning a suit depending in the court of the county of Henry, in the commonwealth of Virginia, in which the executors of Mordecai Hord are plaintiffs, and Joseph Martin is defendant, as far as he knew. He, the deponent, declared and said, (neither plaintiff or defendant, or attorneys for either appearing to examine or cross-examine,) that what he hath heard of the suit was from a letter written to him by the defendant, Joseph Martin, giving him, the deponent, to understand that the suit was respecting a share of some Tennessee lands by him, the defendant, sold to said Mordecai Hord in his lifetime, and that it was suggested on the part of the executors, that he, the defendant, never had obtain-

ed any right to such lands, but made pretence that he had to take in the unwary purchaser. The deponent further deposeth and saith, that all he knows respecting the claim of Joseph Martin, the defendant, to any Tennessee lands, is in substance as follows:

That, in the year 1783 or 1784, he, the deponent, submitted proposals to the Legislature of the State of Georgia, on the part of the said Joseph Martin and others, he believes seven others, to purchase and settle that tract of land called the Bend of Tennessee: that the Legislature of the State of Georgia thereupon appointed certain commissioners to explore and issue warrants of survey for the said lands to the parties proposing to purchase the same, of whom Joseph Martin was one; the particulars of which will more fully appear by having recourse to the doings of the Legislature of the said State of Georgia, the deponent not being at present in the possesion of a copy. The deponent further deposeth and saith, that he has been informed, and verily believes, that the said commissioners did proceed to explore the said tract of country, and to grant warrants of survey for the whole or part: that surveys were made accordingly, and every necessary step taken for obtaining the grants from the State of Georgia, and that the governor of Georgia declined to sign the same, for reasons unknown to the deponent. The deponent further deposeth and saith that the said Joseph Martin and associates have been at great trouble and expense in endeavoring to obtain a grant from the State of Georgia for the said Bend of Tennessee, which they had every just reason to expect from the acts and doings of the Legislature of the State of Georgia, upon the proposals before mentioned, being submitted by the deponent as aforesaid on the part of the defendant and others. And further saith not.

WM. BLOUNT.

Sworn to before us, at Jonesborough, the 17th day of August, 1791.

L. CARTER, *J. P.*
JOHN SEVIER, *J. P.*

STATE OF TENNESSEE, *Maury county.*

Personally appeared James M. Lewis, before me, William Dooly, one of the acting justices of said county, and maketh oath, in due form of law, as follows, to wit: that, in the year 1785, about the months of September or October, he, the said deponent, was on his way from the State of North Carolina to Nashville; and at Jonesborough, in the State of Tennessee, he met with the Georgia commissioners, say John Sevier, John Donelson, William Downes, and Stephen Heard, and was informed by some one of the commissioners, or more, that Col. Joseph Martin had been there, who was also one of the commissioners, but was then gone to Georgia on some business with the Indians, respecting of holding a treaty with them; and that the other commissioners before mentioned, John Sevier, John Donelson, and William Downes, proceeded down to the Bend of the Tennessee, near Chickimoga, where they opened an office for said lands, agreeable to law passed by the Legislature of the State of Georgia; and that said office was opened in the month of December, 1785, between the 20th and 25th of said month, and issued warrants, and that William Downes was entry-taker, and I believe that John Donelson was surveyor; and the commissioners held a talk with the Cherokee Indians, and the said Indians appeared to be dissatisfied and cross, and, on account of this dissatisfaction, Col. John Sevier delivered them a quantity of goods and salt. And the deponent further deposeth, that, after giving them the goods and salt, that the Indians appeared to be more friendly, and that the said commissioners then broke up, and appointed to meet at the mouth of Elk river on the 1st day of April, 1786, and I believe went to Georgia. And the deponent further says, that he believes the reason Stephen Heard did not go down to the Bend of Tennessee with the rest, was that he was taken sick, and was in low state of health. And further this deponent states, that in the month of March, on the 25th day, 1786, that he, the deponent, in company with two other men, went to the mouth of Elk river, say Turner, and Williams, and Argulus Geter, and stayed there until the 4th of April, and finding the commissioners did not meet according to appointment, that he, the deponent, and the others did then return to Nashville; and further, he hath always understood that they, the commissioners, never did attend agreeable to their appointment. And the deponent further states, that the reason the commissioners broke up was, that there was three or four hundred men, and that they intended to make a settlement in said bend, and a number of farming tools was taken along to raise corn, &c., but was doubtful that we should not be permitted to do the same in safety, as the Indians were still cross and apparently ill-natured, but expected by spring we should be sufficiently strong in number to make a settlement. And in the month of January or February, 1786, that Major Isaac Taylor, with the said quadrant that the commissioners had, that he went on to the north bank of Tennessee, on the northern boundary of the State of Georgia, and that he there took the latitude and run due east until he struck Richland creek of Elk river, in order to ascertain the extent of said bend; but this deponent does not know certainly that the said Isaac Taylor was employed by said commissioners. And the deponent being asked was Joseph Martin considered to be one of the commissioners, says he believes he was, as it was frequently understood, and said he would sanction the business done by the other commissioners. And the deponent further states, that Zachariah Cox went on with some others to ascertain where the northern boundary line of Georgia would strike the Mississippi, and believes that he was employed by the commissioners to do the same, or some one of them. And the deponent further saith not.

Sworn to, and subscribed before me, this 15th day of April, 1817.

J. M. LEWIS.
W. DOOLY,
Justice of the Peace.

STATE OF TENNESSEE, *Maury county.*

I, Joseph B. Porter, clerk of the court of pleas and quarter sessions for said county, do certify that William Dooly, esq., whose signature appears within, is now, and was at the time of signing the same, an acting justice of the peace in and for said county, and all due faith and credit is, and of right ought to be given to his official acts as such.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name, and affixed the seal of my office, at office, this 15th day of April, 1817.

[L. S.] JOSEPH B. PORTER.

STATE OF TENNESSEE, *Maury county.*

I, James T. Sanford, presiding magistrate of the court of pleas and quarter sessions for said county, do certify that Joseph B. Porter, whose name appears in attestation of the above certificate, is the clerk of said court of pleas and quarter sessions for said county; that all faith and credit is due to his official acts as such, and that his said certificate is in due form of law. Given under my hand and seal, at Maury aforesaid, this 11th April, 1817.

JAS. T. SANFORD, [L. S.]
Presiding mag. Maury co.

Interrogatories propounded to Zachariah Cox, on the part of the heirs of John Donelson and John Sevier, commissioners appointed under the resolution of the Legislature of Georgia, of February 21st, 1784.

1. Who were the commissioners appointed under the resolution of the Legislature of Georgia, of February 21st, 1784, and did any, and which of them act in the said commission?

2. What duties did the said commissioners perform, and to what extent did they discharge the duties imposed upon them by the said commission?

3. Did the said commissioners, or did they not, open a land office in that part of the said State, or issue any land warrants in pursuance of the said resolution of February, 1784, or any subsequent resolution?

4. Where were the land warrants issued by them recorded, and did the said commissioners take bonds from the persons in whose favor the said land warrants were issued?

5. Did or did not the said acting commissioners undergo great hardships, incur great expense, and expose themselves to great danger in the discharge of the duty imposed upon them, and was any remuneration ever made to them for their services and disbursements by the said State, except by a promised grant of lands?

6. Were not other persons proposed as commissioners besides those afterwards appointed under the said resolution?

7. Were the 50,000 acres of land reserved in favor of the commissioners in the fifteenth section of the act of Georgia, of 7th January, 1795, ever located by metes and bounds? If yea, where were the same located?

1. To the first interrogatory, I answer: To the best of my present recollection the commissioners appointed in virtue of the resolution of the State of Georgia, of 21st of February, 1784, were John Donelson, John Sevier, William Downes, Stephen Heard, John Bowin, Lachlin McIntosh, and John Morell, as will more clearly appear by reference to the said resolution.

2. To your 2d, 3d, 4th, and 5th interrogatories, I answer: To the best of my present recollection a majority of the said commissioners, viz., John Donelson, John Sevier, William Downes, and Stephen Heard, in autumn, A. D. 1785, attended west of the Appalachian mountains and formed a board, and from thence, after making the necessary preparations, proceeded down the Holston and Tennessee rivers, in company with a considerable number of men, myself amongst the latter, whom they had, upon the faith of the State of Georgia, employed to accompany and guard them down the river, and assist them in their operations, to what I was informed was the Bend of Tennessee, and which they named the county of *Houstoun*, lying within the then chartered limits of the State of Georgia, where they proceeded to issue land warrants to be located within the said Bend of Tennessee, or county of *Houstoun*, and at the same time taking bonds for the payment of one-eighth of a dollar per acre for the said lands, from the persons in whose favor such land warrants were issued. I myself received a land warrant and gave my bond, together with my particular friends, Thomas Gilbert and William Neas. After the said commissioners had transacted their business they returned, and I was informed made a report of their proceedings to the State of Georgia, which appeared to be so far sanctioned by the Legislature, that it appears they passed a resolution allowing to said commissioners a compensation of 5,000 acres of land each for their services, and to Mr. John Cole 3,000 acres of land as a compensation for his services, who was employed by said commissioners to take the latitude of the northern boundary line of the State of Georgia, and to accompany the commissioners on their route. I can only judge from experience their expense, fatigue, and risk, in attending them, which was very considerable, for which I do not know that they ever did or have received any compensation further than the promise of lands as previously stated.

3. To your 6th interrogatory, I reply that I was informed one of the commissioners, who never acted, viz., John Morell, resigned, in whose place Col. Thomas Carr was appointed, as will appear by the subsequent resolutions of the said Legislature, and also took an active part with the aforesaid commissioners, and who was also appointed chairman of their board, for the purpose of keeping a record of their proceedings, and a record of certain land warrants by them issued, and such locations as were made under their authority. In virtue of the said warrants, Col. John Donelson, who was one of the acting commissioners, I was informed was afterwards killed by the Indians in the execution of his duty.

4th. To your 7th interrogatory, I answer: At the particular request of William Downes, Stephen Heard, John Sevier, Stokely Donelson, (son of John Donelson,) and Lachlin McIntosh, to the best of my present recollection, I assigned them the land which they claimed under the said act, by making special location, approved by them, in the Tennessee purchase. The precise spots I do not at present recollect for want of my papers.

ZACHARIAH COX.

STATE OF VIRGINIA, *Prince William county.*

Be it remembered, that on this twentieth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen, before us, the subscribers, justices of the peace for the county and State aforesaid, personally appeared Zachariah Cox, the deponent above named, who being by us duly sworn according to law, did depose and say, that the replies to the preceding interrogatories by him made, are just and true, to the best of his belief and recollection.

DAVID BOYLE.
JOHN BRONAUGH.

STATE OF VIRGINIA, *Prince William county.*

I hereby certify that John Bronaugh and David Boyle, whose names are above subscribed, were duly commissioned magistrates on the day and year, and for the county and State aforesaid.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed my seal of office, the day and year first above written. [L. S.]

VIRGINIA, *Prince William county, to wit:*

I, Philip D. Dawe, clerk of the court of the county aforesaid, do hereby certify that David Boyle and John Bronaugh, gentlemen, whose names are within subscribed, are justices of the peace in and for the county aforesaid, duly commissioned and qualified, and that, to all their acts as such, due faith and credit is and ought to be given as well in courts of justice as thereout.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed the seal of the said county, this 20th day of January, 1818.

[L. S.] PHILIP D. DAWE.

WASHINGTON, *July 3d*, 1817.

Colonel WILLIAM MARTIN:

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 28th May came to hand yesterday, and I am sorry I have it not in my power to give you the information you want. I had letters from your father and Colonel Donelson on that subject, with a copy of my brother William's petition on behalf of the company, and the resolution of the Assembly of Georgia, and I think a copy of the report of the commissioners, all of which were sent to Col. Stokely Donelson about the year 1796, when he said there was a prospect of selling the claim of the Bend of Tennessee Company to advantage: since then I have heard nothing on the subject.

The firm of John and Thomas Blount furnished goods in 1784 to a large amount, to extinguish the Indian title, which were delivered to Col. Joseph Martin, and I understood appropriated to that use. And a letter I have from my brother William, dated December, 1785, then at Hopewell, says, "I have not heard from the Georgia commissioners since their arrival at the Bend of Tennessee. I should suppose their report might be found amongst the Georgia records, or perhaps amongst the papers of the then governor, or surely the sons of Col. John Donelson must know what was done."

The accounts and claim of John G. & Thomas Blount against the company, of which I was one, were put into the hands of my brother William to settle with your father and others concerned, and I believe a settlement did take place with your father, and probably amongst the papers of one of them that may be found.

I am, with respect, your most obedient,

J. G. BLOUNT.

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

The petition of Thomas Carr respectfully showeth:

That your petitioner, previous to any sale or disposition of the lands lying in the Bend of the Tennessee, (in the now Mississippi Territory,) by the State of Georgia, to wit, in the year 1786, was duly appointed, in pursuance of a legislative resolution, one of a board of commissioners for examining the quantity and quality of said lands, as will appear by a certificate of said appointment hereto annexed. That your petitioner, together with others of his associates, performed the duties assigned them at the imminent peril of their lives, one of them, indeed, having been killed by the Indians before the termination of the service; and, for the purpose of compensating them therefor, the Legislature of the said State, as will appear by the documents annexed, appropriated to each of them 5,000 acres of land in the Bend of the said river, then called the district of Tennessee. That, independent of the said 5,000 acres, your petitioner held surveys in the said bend, made for various persons, to the amount of 15,000 acres more, which were the property of your petitioner, plats whereof, as well as the book of records of plats in the said district, were delivered by your petitioner to Richard Henry Wilde, esq. in the month of November last, to be brought on to Washington for the purpose of substantiating your petitioner's claims and the claims of others, and the same, while in the care of said R. H. Wilde, were lost by accident.

Your petitioner further showeth unto your honorable body, that the State of Georgia, by various acts, resolutions, and other proceedings, have recognized the justice and validity of your petitioner and his associate's claims, and of the titles acquired in the said district, as will appear by the various vouchers referred to or accompanying the statement hereto annexed. That, in the sale of said lands to certain companies, in 1795, by the State of Georgia, commonly called the Yazoo sale, 50,000 acres were expressly reserved in the Tennessee Company's purchase, to be divided between your petitioner and his fellow commissioners, share and share alike, for their services. And that the claims of your petitioner and his associates not being derived under the said act, nor having any connexion with the said sale, are not within the provisions of the "act for the indemnification of certain claimants of public lands in the Mississippi Territory," although said claims, as your petitioner humbly conceives, are much less fair and meritorious than his own; to which last, indeed, having been for services actually performed, or for surveys fairly acquired and actually made in pursuance of existing laws, and when the title of Georgia was perfect, your petitioner is not con-

scious any valid objection can be urged: he therefore humbly prays of your honorable body such relief as the nature of his case may require, and as to you shall seem meet.

THOMAS CARR,
By his agent, R. H. WILDE.

(COPY.)

In the Beaver island surveys.

No. 1.	Walter Childs	1,000 acres.
2.	Francis Bacon	1,000
3.	Walter C. Carr	1,000
4.	William Bacon	1,000

In the High rocks surveys.

No. 3.	Charles Carr	1,000 acres.
4.	Thomas Carr, jr.	1,000
5.	Thomas Ellis	1,000
6.	Thomas C. Childs	1,000

In Little river surveys.

No. 1.	Peter Wruther	1,000 acres.
2.	William Stilth, jr.	1,000
3.	Godfrey Zimmerman	1,000
4.	Wm. & H. Bacon	1,000
	Thomas Carr Sevier	1,000 acres, on island in the Tennessee.

In Elk river surveys, at the mouth of Elk.

No. 1.	Robert Middleton	1,000 acres.
2.	Rice Collins	1,000

I do hereby certify, on honor, that the original surveys, to the purport and effect above, as nearly as I can recollect, together with a record book of plats belonging, as I understood, to the business of the commissioners mentioned in the foregoing petition, were delivered to me by said Thomas Carr at the city of Augusta, in the month of November last, and were lost in my trunk, which was stolen in the said month between Augusta and Washington city.

Given under my hand at said city, this 18th January, A. D. 1816. RICHARD HENRY WILDE.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, GEORGIA,
"*In Council, Augusta, 1st March*, 1786.

"Pursuant to a resolution of the Legislature, passed the 20th of February, 1784, the board proceeded to elect a commissioner on the Tennessee, in the room of Thomas Napier, esq., he being appointed in the room of John Morell, esq., by the executive, bearing date the 26th day of April, 1785, when Thomas Carr, esq., was duly elected."

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, GEORGIA,
Milledgeville, 14th December, 1815.

I, Anthony Porter, one of the secretaries of this department, do hereby certify and make known, that the above extract from the minutes of the executive council of this State is truly copied from the record book in this office.

Given under my hand, and the seal of the executive department, the date above mentioned.

ANTHONY PORTER, *Secretary.*

GEORGIA.

To the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners for the District of Tennessee:

You are hereby authorized and required to admeasure and lay out, or cause to be admeasured and laid out, unto Thomas Carr, esq., five thousand acres of land in the district of Tennessee, agreeable to a resolve of the Legislature, as a gratuity and compensation for his services done as a commissioner, taking especial care that the same has not heretofore been laid out to any other person or persons; and you are hereby also directed and required to record a plat of the same in your office, and transmit a copy thereof, together with this warrant, to the surveyor general's office of this State.

Given under my hand as entry-taker of the board of commissioners, this 22d day of September, 1786.

A true copy taken from the original.

WM. DOWNES, *E. T.*

ALEXANDRIA, *Columbia county, Jan.* 4, 1816.

Hon. RICHARD H. WILDE:

DEAR SIR: This will be accompanied by a packet euclosing the several resolutions of the former General Assembly of this State, respecting the laying out the lands in that tract of country called the Bend of Tennessee.

You will observe that these proceedings took place under the constitution of 1777, when the Legislature of the State of Georgia was composed of one branch only, called the House of Assembly, and sometimes House of Representatives.

The first resolution upon the subject bears date the 20th February, 1784, and which is the foundation of all the subsequent proceedings thereon. The second resolve, which took place the 21st February, 1784, was for the appointment of the commissioners, in which resolution you will find the name of John Morell, whose vacancy I afterwards filled, as you will see by the certificate of my appointment.

The third resolution bears date the 22d February, 1785, for the appointment of justices of the peace for said district.

The next proceedings in order of time, is in February, 1786, when a report in part was made by the Commissioners; but it is a misfortune that none of these old papers can be found. It is supposed that, in removing the records from Augusta, first to Louisville and then to Milledgeville, that they were left behind, and lost or destroyed.

Next comes Mr. Porter's report, &c. which bears date in August, 1786, and which is followed by the introduction of a bill by Judge Walton, and its final rejection; but what follows after, in the fourth and fifth resolves, is very material. They confirm the proceedings of the commissioners, and say, in express terms, that each of them shall have five thousand acres of land as a compensation for their services, &c.

All these proceedings were prior to the adoption of the Federal Constitution, when the State had sovereign power. So far extends the resolves.

The only acts of the General Assembly of Georgia which recognizes these proceedings, are, first, an act for suppressing the violence of Indians, passed 31st October, 1787; see section 10, in the proviso: and, as the act mentions the people of Franklin, it may not be thought amiss for me to inform you that, at the time of the passage of the said act, all that part of North Carolina which is now the State of Tennessee, was called the State of Franklin, and John Sevier the governor thereof. The proviso under consideration sets apart and provides for all the surveys which had been made by the authority of the commissioners, of which surveys you had the book containing the plats recorded by me as chairman of the board of commissioners, according to their order.

The next act, which recognizes the commissioners only, is the one under which the Yazoo Company claims, passed the 7th January, 1795. In section 15 of the said act, are serve is made in the Tennessee Company's part, of fifty thousand acres of land, to be divided among the commissioners, share and share like. This ends all the legislative proceedings that has taken place upon the subject, which I hope will be sufficient to prove the justice of my claim to compensation as a commissioner, and also for the lands which I had surveyed in the Bend of Tennessee, the plats of which I likewise forwarded with you. The other commissioners are all dead, and I fear that I shall not long survive them, as I am getting old.

Colonel John Donelson, one of the commissioners and surveyors, was killed by the Indians, as I was informed, when he was on his way to join me in the Bend of Tennessee, in 1786, in prosecuting the duties of our office. Col. William Downes removed about sixteen or seventeen years past to the Mississippi, and took with him the commissioners' books, wherein their proceedings were recorded, and he is dead several years. General Martin is dead, as I have understood; the honorable John Sevier died lately in the Creek nation, and Colonel Stephen Heard died in October last. Who their representatives are I know not, but hope that they, or some friend for them, will come forward and join me in our claims.

I shall leave it with yourself and my other friends in Congress from this State, to make use of my name in such manner and way as you think proper, so as to bring the matter before the commissioners, or before the honorable Congress by petition, or in any other way that may seem right. This letter will answer for a statement, to which my friends can have reference. I have no news worth writing. Cotton continues at about 23 to 24 cents.

If you have heard any thing of your lost trunk and papers, please inform me when you write. May the heavens bless you. Adieu, my friend.

THOMAS CARR.

P. S. I forwarded you a letter covering my appointments, &c. about ten days ago, which I hope you have received.

STATE OF GEORGIA.

By his Excellency, David B. Mitchell, governor, and commander in chief of the army and navy of this State, and the militia thereof.

To all to whom these presents shall come:

Know ye, that Augustin S. Clayton, esq., who certifies the annexed extracts from the Journal of the House of

Representatives, is clerk of that branch of the General Assembly of this State.

Therefore, all due faith, credit, and authority, are and ought to be had and given to his certificate as such.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the great seal of this State to be put and affixed.

Done at the State-house in Milledgeville, this fourteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord [L. S.] eighteen hundred and fifteen, and of the independence of the United States of America the fortieth.

By the Governor:
A. HAMMOND,
Secretary of the State.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, STATE OF GEORGIA,
Twentieth February, 1784.

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Mr. Blount, in behalf of himself and other citizens of North Carolina, respecting the expediency of laying out a new county, to include all that tract of land lying on the Tennessee river which shall be included by a line drawn from the south bank of said river, where the northwest boundary of this State crosses, and running west till it crosses the said river Tennessee again to the south bank thereof, then up the said south bank of said river to the place of beginning, after having received all the information they could obtain on that subject, are of opinion it will be necessary, in order to prevent future contests, to take measures, as soon as it may be done with propriety, to settle the said tract of country, and do recommend for that purpose, that seven commissioners be appointed, and vested with the powers necessary to ascertain the quantity, quality, and circumstances of the aforesaid lands, and report the same, with their proceedings, to the Legislature, for their consideration, and to make them such compensation as may be deemed adequate and satisfactory: provided, notwithstanding, that the said board shall have power, and they are hereby authorized, if they, or a majority of them, may think it necessary in such manner as to them seems most expedient, to proceed to grant warrants of survey, which shall, when executed, be transmitted, with the plats, to the surveyor general's office, in order that the same may pass to a grant as the law directs: provided, that no one person shall be eligible to hold or obtain a grant for more than one thousand acres of land, and that he or they so obtaining a warrant shall, at the same time, give bond and security to pay into the treasury of this State at and after the rate of one-eighth of a dollar per acre, which sum shall be paid before he, she, or they, shall obtain a grant; that —— —— be, and they are hereby appointed justices for said district; that the said board shall be authorized to nominate militia officers, who shall be commissioned by his excellency the governor.

Twenty-first of February.

The house proceeded to the appointment of commissioners for examining the quantity and quality of the lands on the Tennessee river, agreeable to a resolve of the twentieth instant, when the following persons were appointed, viz. Lachlin McIntosh, jun., Wm. Downes, Stephen Heard, John Morell, John Donelson, Joseph Martin, and John Sevier, esquires.

Twenty-second February, 1785.

A letter from Colonel Stephen Heard, dated the 22d February, inst. being laid before the house, *Resolved*, That the several persons therein named, to wit: William Blount, John Donelson, William Downes, John Sevier, Joseph Martin, Charles Robertson, Valentine Sevier, jr. and Stephen Heard, esquires, be appointed justices of the peace for the said district of the Tennessee, and that his honor the governor do qualify the said Stephen Heard before himself in council, and thereafter grant a commission directed to him, to enable him to qualify the other justices above mentioned, when he shall repair to the said district of Tennessee.

Monday, sixth February, 1786.

The committee appointed to bring in a bill for laying out a county on the Tennessee, within this State, brought in the same, which was read the first time.

Tenth February, 1786.

A return of the commissioners of the district of Tennessee was read. *Ordered*, That the same be referred to the committee, and that Mr. Few, Mr. Fort, and Mr. C. Crawford, be that committee.

Fourteenth February, 1786.

The committee to whom was referred the proceedings of the Tennessee commissioners, reported.

First of August, 1786.

The committee, to whom was referred the motion of Mr. Porter, declaring it to be expedient, in order to prevent disputes in future, to settle the country in the Bend of the Tennessee, and for which purposes commissioners were appointed to ascertain the quantity, quality, and circumstances of the land, with powers to grant warrants of surveys not exceeding one thousand acres to an individual, on purchase at one-eighth of a dollar per acre. At the same time a committee was appointed to bring in a bill for enacting the same into a law, but your committee do not find that they ever made a report. It appears, however, that the House, on the next day, proceeded to the appointment of commissioners expressly for the purposes above mentioned: that, on the 22d December, 1785, a majority of the commissioners reported their proceedings to the House, by which, among other things, it appeared they had made divers appointments, and had granted an indulgence of three years to the purchasers, and have taken bonds to a large amount; that, on the 7th of February, 1784, the petition of William Blount, Richard Caswell, Griffith Rutherford, with sundry other citizens from North Carolina, was presented to the House, setting forth, among other things, that they had made a purchase of lands on the Tennessee, said to be within the limits of this State, and praying that the State will lay out the same into a county, and grant out the same by lawful authority; that the committee aforesaid reported in the same month, which was adopted by the House, and a bill was brought in, but your committee cannot find that it ever progressed to any effect; that your committee recommend that the House review these proceedings, and consider whether it be now proper to lay the said district out into a county. Your committee suggests to the House that, as the northern boundary must be the dividing line between this State and South Carolina, it cannot be ascertained until the dispute subsisting is determined, but which can be obviated by avoiding the slip of land which lies between the sources of the Keowee and Tugulo, the proximity of which plainly appears by the chart herewith exhibited. By the communications which have been made to your committee, it appears that numbers of persons from the neighboring States are about to make settlements on the land, and, from the idea of the right of occupying vacant territory, which, if founded, calls for the immediate interposition of Government. Upon the whole, therefore, your committee advise that leave be given to bring in a bill for the object of the motion.

Ordered, That leave be given, and that the same committee do prepare and bring in the same.

Seventh of August, 1786.

Mr. Watton, from the committee appointed on the motion of Mr. Porter, presented, according to order, a bill to be entitled "An act for laying out a district in the Bend of Tennessee," which was read the first time.

Eighth of August, 1786.

A bill to be entitled "An act for laying out a district in the Bend of Tennessee," was read the second time.

Saturday, twelfth of August, 1786.

On the third reading of the bill, a motion was made that the bill to be entitled "An act for laying out a district in the Bend of Tennessee," be rejected, and, on the question for the rejection, it passed in the affirmative—yeas 26, nays 23.

Resolved, That the title of any person or persons whatsover, to any lands in the district of Tennessee, so far as the same is sanctioned or authorized by former resolutions of Assembly, shall not in any respect be weakened or injured by the rejection of this day of the bill for laying out a district; nor shall the power or duty of the commissioners who have acted on that business, be at all revoked or impaired, but every thing in respect to the said Tennessee district shall stand precisely upon the same footing as if the said bill, so rejected as aforesaid, had not been brought in: *And it is further resolved*, That John Linsey, esq. stand appointed surveyor for the said district of Tennessee.

Fourteenth of August, 1786.

Resolved, That each of the commissioners appointed on the Tennessee business, who have actually attended their duty, shall be entitled to five thousand acres of land in the district, as a gratuity and full compensation for their trouble therein, and shall, and may have a warrant of survey for the same to them respectively; that John Call shall also be entitled to three thousand acres as a compensation for his trouble, and may have a warrant of survey for the same. *And it is further resolved*,

That the district surveyor shall not proceed to make, or suffer to be made, any surveys in the Bend of Tennessee until the further order of the Legislature.

I, Augustin S. Clayton, clerk of the House of Representatives, and keeper of the public records of that branch of the General Assembly, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing (contained upon four full pages and part of the fifth) are true extracts from the journals deposited in my office; and I further certify that there is no seal of my office.

Given under my hand, this 13th of December, 1815.

AUGUSTIN S. CLAYTON,
Clk. Ho. Rep. State of Georgia.

ALEXANDRIA, *(Geo.) Dec.* 19, 1815.

R. H. WILDE, Esq.

DEAR SIR: Your favor of the 2d inst. I received by yesterday's mail, in which I am informed of the loss of your trunk and its contents. I regret it as much for the injury that others may feel in the loss of the books and papers which I forwarded by you as for myself, and am truly sorry for your individual loss. Perhaps if some reward was offered for the papers, they might be returned, or so brought to light as that they could be recovered, as they cannot be of use to any but the owners.

With respect to my claims on the Tennessee river, which amounts to twenty thousand acres, fifteen surveys of one thousand acres each, and my commissioner's claim of five thousand, my surveys, which I delivered to you, are in the names following, viz.

In the River island surveys.

No. 1.	Walter Childs	1,000 acres.
2.	Francis Bacon	1,000
3.	Walter C. Carr	1,000
4.	William Bacon	1,000

In the High rocks surveys.

No. 3.	Charles Carr	1,000 acres.
4.	Thomas Carr, jr.	1,000
5.	Thomas Ellis	1,000
6.	Thomas C. Childs	1,000

In Little river surveys.

No. 1.	Peter Wruther	1,000
2.	William Stilth, jr.	1,000
3.	Godfrey Zimmerman	1,000
4.	William H. Bacon	1,000

Thomas Carr (myself) 1,000 acres, an island in Tennessee.

In Elk river surveys, and at the mouth of Elk.

No. 1.	Robert Middleton	1,000 acres.
2.	Rice Collins	1,000

The several distinctions above are laid down in order to show the lying of the land surveyed in the year 1786, by Zachariah Cox, who was at that time a deputy surveyor under Colonel John Donelson, appointed by the board of commissioners for that purpose.

With respect to your recommendation of General John Sevier, I think highly of it; but should his representatives (for I know not who they are) not think proper to come forward, perhaps I should, by delaying, be deprived of my right, unless I should go forward, or some one other of the commissioners' representatives (for they are all dead except myself) should bring the matter before Congress.

I have lately understood that the gallant General Jackson is now at the city of Washington; if so, he will no doubt feel an interest in Colonel John Donelson's claims, as I understand his lady is a daughter of the Colonel. If he would come forward in behalf of Colonel Donelson's claims, and his fellow commissioners, I should be much more hopeful upon the business, as I think his influence would add great strength thereto; and I will, in a few days from this, forward to you a full and complete copy of all the several resolutions, duly certified, and the acts of the Legislature of this State, which has any bearing thereon, with remarks.

Enclosed I have sent you a copy, in due form, of my appointment as commissioner, and will, for the present, not go more in detail, but must trouble you upon another matter of business, viz. Sometime in March or April last, Joel Crawford, esq., addressed a letter to me from Milledgeville, as he saith, covering an execution in my name vs. Horatio Marbury, which had formerly issued from the inferior court of Richmond county, accompanied with an order made by Judge Harris for the *fi. fa.* to be amended by the court in Richmond.

This letter has never come to hand, nor can any one of the postmasters in this quarter give any account thereof. I apprehend it has been missent to Columbia, in South Carolina, (as I have had some heretofore take that course,) and, from the length of time, that it may have been returned to the General Post Office: will you be so good as to make the necessary search, and inform me? The execution is levied upon valuable property, and the property claimed, and a first trial had before the *wisdom* of the *judge* was *discovered*, and if I cannot get the *fi. fa.*, I fear that I shall sustain a considerable loss.

Our Legislature broke up on Saturday last: they have occupied much of their time in trying to disgrace the judges, finally passed some sort of a vote of censure upon them, which amounts to nothing. They have established a State bank, which seems to be the most important of their acts, and repealed the alleviating law, &c.

News of Augusta: cotton 21 to 22 cents.

David Pace, in Ballard's boat, with 500 bales of cotton, was consumed by fire some eight or ten nights past, and some heavy suits brought against David & Thomas Pace and Ballard for the amount, which is estimated at $50,000: this will shake their loose change if recoveries go against them, of which, it seems, there is but little doubt.

I herewith enclose you a copy of my commissioner's warrant, which I have taken from a copy thereof which I retained in my office, if it should be necessary to be made use of, and the other papers I shall forward as soon as Capt. Carr arrives from Milledgeville, where he waited to get them regularly certified. I expect him every day.

I am, dear Wilde, yours, &c.,

THOMAS CARR.

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled.

The memorial of the undersigned, George W. Sevier, for and in behalf of himself and the other heirs and representatives of the late John Sevier, deceased, respectfully showeth:

That the said John Sevier, together with Lachlin McIntosh, jr., William Downes, Stephen Heard, John Donelson, Joseph Martin, and John Morell, were appointed, under a resolution of the State of Georgia, passed on the 21st February, 1784, commissioners to examine the quantity, quality, and circumstances of the Great Bend of the Tennessee river. That, on the resignation, and in lieu of the said John Morell, Thomas Kerr was subsequently appointed on the said commission. That the said commissioners, with the exception, as your memorialists have been informed, of Lachlin McIntosh and Joseph Martin, assumed the discharge of the duties imposed upon them by the said resolution; and in the years 1784 and 1785, under circumstances of great danger and hardship, proceeded to the Great Bend of the Tennessee river, where they ascertained the northern boundary line of the State of Georgia, opened, in pursuance of the said resolution, a land office, and issued sundry warrants. That, while engaged on this perilous commission, John Donelson lost his life from the hostility of the Indians. That, in the month of April, 1786, the surviving commissioners made a report of their proceedings to the Legislature of Georgia; and the said Legislature, by their resolution of April 14th, 1786, expressed their approbation of the conduct of the said commissioners, by directing to be laid off for each commissioner who had actually attended to his duty, 5,000 acres, and for a certain John Call 3,000 acres of land. That the said Legislature also commissioned the said J. Sevier and others to act as justices of the peace in that part of the State which they had explored. That neither the said J. Sevier, nor any of the said commissioners, were ever paid or received from the said State of Georgia any pecuniary compensation for their toils and services aforesaid, or any reimbursement for the losses they had sustained, or the expenses they had incurred. That, in consequence of the hostility of the Indians, and the unsettled state of the Georgia frontier, the grant above named was never patented by the said State; but the claim of the said commissioners to indemnification, and their right to the said grant, was again recognized by the Legislature of said State on the 7th of January, 1795, when the act, commonly called the Yazoo act, was passed. That, by the said act, a tract of 50,000 acres was directed to be reserved for the satisfaction of the commissioners aforesaid; and your memorialist confidently asserts, that whatever may be the doubts and prejudices existing upon the validity of the said act, neither the said Jno. Sevier, nor any of the said acting commissioners, were chargeable with having exercised undue means to obtain the said reservation in their favor, but, on the contrary, the said grant ought to be considered as the voluntary and unbiased expression of the sense of the said Legislature on

the importance of the said commissioners' services. That, independently of the toils and perils they had endured, they sustained a heavy pecuniary loss, from the necessity they were under of supplying themselves with arms, ammunition, and provisions, and of employing a large party of men as a guard during the aforesaid excursion. That, under such circumstances, your memorialist conceives that the said commissioners, or their representatives, are justly entitled to a confirmation of the said grant, and that their claim is fairly embraced and protected by the articles of cession executed between the United States and the State of Georgia.

Your memorialist further represents, that the said reservation of 50,000 acres was duly made and located under the said act, and that a deed was executed to the said John Sevier by Zachariah Cox for his proportion thereof, which deed has been duly recorded in the office of the Secretary of State at Washington. Your memorialist therefore prays that the tract of land so conveyed to the said John Sevier may be confirmed to his heirs by the act of your honorable body, and that such further or other relief on the premises may be granted to your memorialist, and the other heirs of the said John Sevier, as to your honorable body may seem meet, and the justice of their case may require; and, as in duty bound, he will ever pray, &c.

G. W. SEVIER,
For himself, and the other heirs and representatives of John Sevier.

WASHINGTON COUNTY, *District of Columbia*, ss.

On this 10th day of December, in the year 1817, before me the subscriber, a justice of the peace of the said county and District, personally appeared George W. Sevier, the memorialist above named, and made oath that the facts and statements in the above memorial contained, are founded on the information he received from his father, John Sevier, in his life-time, and from others, and that he believes the said facts and statements to be true.

R. C. WEIGHTMAN.

15th CONGRESS. **No. 275.** 1st SESSION.

APPLICATION FOR AN EXTENSION OF CREDIT.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 17, 1818.

Mr. ROBERTSON, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Bernard Steiner, reported:

The petitioner states that, at the last session of Congress, he presented a petition, praying to be authorized to purchase public land on terms therein specified; that he was induced to hope it would have been favorably received, but, for want of time, it had not been acted upon. Under the hope of ultimate success, he had left the United States for Switzerland, whence he had lately returned, bringing with him upwards of fifty emigrants—all of them farmers. The petitioner now renews his application, and asks permission to purchase a township of land in the State of Indiana, for which he is willing to pay one-eighth at the time of selecting the township, one-eighth in two years thereafter, and the balance at the expiration of ten years. The committee have viewed the present petition with stronger wishes to comply with its object than others of a similar nature which they have been called on to consider; but they feel themselves compelled to recommend its rejection. The laws of a country should operate alike on all; exceptions to this general principle should not be permitted on slight grounds. The present petition asks for certain advantages in favor of Swiss emigrants; but it will not be considered that foreigners have a better claim on the indulgence of the Government than citizens of the country. Again, they are said to be poor, and unable to purchase land at the usual price, and on the usual terms in regard to credit. This may be said with as much truth of our own poor: indeed we have had before us numerous petitions of this description already. They have been rejected; and so, in the opinion of the committee, ought to be the present. They therefore recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioner ought not to be granted.

15th CONGRESS. **No. 276.** 1st SESSION.

SITES FOR TOWNS IN MISSISSIPPI AND ALABAMA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE FEBRUARY 24, 1818.

To the Senate of the United States:

In compliance with a resolution of the Senate of the 19th January, 1818, requesting information of the measures which have been taken in pursuance of so much of the act to authorize the appointment of a surveyor for the lands in the northern part of the Mississippi Territory, passed the 3d of March, 1817, as relates to the reservation of certain sections for the purpose of laying out and establishing towns thereon; I now transmit a report from the Secretary of the Treasury, which, with the letters and charts referred to in it, contains all the information which is desired.

JAMES MONROE.

WASHINGTON, *February* 23, 1818.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
19*th February*, 1818.

In obedience to a resolution of the Senate, requesting the President of the United States to inform the Senate what measures have been taken, in pursuance of so much of the act, entitled "An act to authorize the appointment of a surveyor for the lands in the northern part of the Mississippi Territory, and the sale of certain lands therein described," passed the third day of March, one thousand eight hundred and seventeen, as relates to the reservation of certain sections for the purpose of laying out and establishing towns thereon; the Secretary of the Treasury respectfully reports, to the President of the United States, the enclosed letters and charts explanatory of the measures which have been adopted within the contemplation of the resolution.

All which are respectfully submitted.

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
6*th June*, 1817.

SIR: To enable the President of the United States to make a proper selection of the sections authorized to be reserved, for the purpose of laying out and establishing towns under the act for appointing a surveyor of the lands in the northern parts of the Mississippi Territory, I have the honor to request that you will instruct the surveyor of the said district to furnish all the information necessary for that object.

In performing this duty, his attention will necessarily be directed to the Falls of the Sepsy or Black Warrior, to the Cotton-gin port on the Tombigbee, and to the junction of those two rivers, should it be comprised within his land district. Two points upon the Tennessee river will probably be found to unite in their favor, con-

siderations sufficiently strong to become the objects of selection under the act in question. One of these will probably be found at or near the foot of the Muscle Shoals, or some point at the head of boat navigation or Bear creek, as the one or the other may be nearest to the navigable waters of the Tombigbee river, which is understood to be the Cotton-gin port. The other above the Muscle shoals, at the nearest point from the falls of the Sepsy. These two towns will probably be great thoroughfares between East and West Tennessee, and the towns which will, no doubt, be built at the falls of those navigable rivers.

As soon as the information necessary to a selection shall be received, the reservations will be decided upon, and instructions given for laying out the town upon such plan as shall be approved by the President.

Although the act of the 3d of March last does not apply to the Alabama district, it is deemed proper to make reservations there also, for the purpose of laying off and establishing towns when authority shall be given for that purpose: you are therefore requested to cause the information necessary for the making of such selections to be obtained as soon as practicable by the surveyor of that district, and transmitted, without delay, to this department.

The falls of the Coosa, Tallapoosa, and Cahawba rivers, and the junction of the latter river with the Alabama, are the points to which his attention will necessarily be directed. It is extremely desirable that this information should be obtained in time to make such reservations at the sale, to be held at Milledgeville, on the first Monday in August, as the public interest shall require.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

JOSIAH MEIGS, Esq.,
Commissioner of the General Land Office.

HUNTSVILLE, Ms. T. *2d August*, 1814.

SIR: Agreeably to former advice, I now transmit you plats of such sections as I think best calculated for laying out towns on the Tennessee river. Below the shoals no doubt will be erected a town that will grow into much importance; but to determine on the most suitable spot is somewhat difficult, as several sites present themselves, either of which will do tolerably well, but none possess all the advantages that could be wished for. The first is the south bank of Tennessee river, opposite the mouth of Cypress, the place where the military road that is now opening will cross that river. The situation is high and somewhat broken, the bank of the river is an abrupt precipice of limestone rock, about 180 feet high: through this bluff is a hollow leading into the river, where runs a small spring only sufficient for the use of a small family. Along this hollow the road has been made with some labor to the water's edge, where the landing is good for a ferry, but rather limited for the purposes of a town, particularly for carriages hauling cargoes to and from boats. From the top of the bluff the land descends as it leaves the river, and is waving with several hollows and sinks, has every appearance of as much health as any other place on the river. The cold water spring, equal to any fountain in the world, lies three miles south of this place, and is sufficiently large for a set of mills on a large scale. Water from this spring, if it could be thrown 100 feet high, would flow to the spot; but of this I am not a judge if it would be practicable. See the plat.*

At and below the mouth of Cold Water creek is a good situation; the bank of the river is a bluff of limestone rock about 140 feet high, running back from the river tolerably level, but descends both up and down the river. At the lower end of the bluff is a level bottom about 20 poles wide, extending down the river near a mile, a fine boat landing the whole way—the bank level and dry. Above the bluff, the ground descends into a point between the river and creek, and forms a good boat landing on the river or at any point up the creek for half a mile, as the water in the mouth of the creek is always sufficiently deep for boats that distance, forming a most beautiful bank and back ground for wagons and such carriages as would be used in transporting cargoes to and from boats. This point of land is the spot that General Robertson destroyed a Creek village in the year 1787. The ascent from either landing to the top of the hill is easy. About half a mile back from the river is a fine bold spring of pure limestone water that discharges itself into the Cold Water creek. The water from the Cold Water spring could be carried to this place by throwing it 20 or 30 feet high by pursuing the creek bottom. This situation is opposite the centre of an island that is about five miles long, which would oppose a ferry being there. See the plat.

Neither of those sites are precisely at the head of navigation. About three miles above the mouth of Cypress, on the south side of Tennessee river, is a remarkably fine large spring, affording plenty of water for the purposes of a town. This spring rises about 80 poles from the river, and runs nearly due north, with a fine current, into the river. On each side of the branch the ground is very broken, with high hills and deep hollows; the banks of the river above and below are high and very uneven, forming several elegant sites for single buildings, but none suitable for a town. At the head and to the east of the spring the ground is high and lies well for a town, sufficiently level, and extending back to a great distance; opposite this situation is an island of the Muscle shoals, of about six miles in length, the lower end of which is at Montgomery's ferry, one mile below this spring, which is the nearest place a ferry can be had, the road to which will be excellent, as there is a broad gravelly hollow leading directly from the site to the ferry. See the plat.

Above the Muscle shoals it will be difficult to determine the place that is to grow into the most importance, as much will depend upon the local situation of the subdivisions of the country by the Legislature, as each county on the river will, no doubt, lay out a town to suit the convenience of the inhabitants, and which may very possibly be different from the ones I may select at present; but, having my attention directed to a site most contiguous to the head navigation of the Black Warrior river, I will give you two points the best, in my opinion, to that object.

Milton's bluff is situate on the south side of Tennessee river, and what is generally called the head of the Muscle shoals, (yet I do not consider it as such; as I marched a brigade of mounted men to the lower county, in October, 1814, I ordered a boat-load of corn to descend the river from Madison county, and meet me at Milton's bluff, the boat grounded, and I had to send men and drag her to shore, and unload six miles above the bluff.) The situation is a beautiful one; the bluff is 75 feet high, it is broken with a hollow through the bluff, in which, and near the margin of the river, is an excellent spring of water: there are several other small springs in the vicinity, and which would be in the bounds of a large town; the ground back from the bluff rises gradually for about 50 poles, after which it is broken with several hollows. The river here is 260 poles wide, and during the summer season, when the waters are low, it is forded, both above and below the bluff with safety on a small horse. The country back for about three miles is poor, after which it becomes better, and when five or six miles back is very good land. The inhabitants of this beautiful spot are at this time very sickly.

The Creek village, so called from a body of Creek Indians being there settled, in a town, at the commencement of the late war. This place is about 15 miles above Milton's bluff, is a beautiful situation, the bank of the river is perfectly straight and level on its top, is about 50 feet high: except a small part below, it can be descended to the margin of the river with ease at any place. About midway, the bank, is an excellent spring of pure limestone water; it breaks out near the edge of the river, and when the waters are low runs very bold. From the top of the bank, the ground is level back for about 50 poles, when it descends very gently. The whole country back and around this place lies well, and is interspersed with good land: a ferry is now kept at this place.

The falls of the Black Warrior lie, it is believed, a little west of south from Milton's bluff. From the plats you will observe that the Creek village is about nine miles south of Milton's bluff, which will throw the two places at nearly equal distance from the falls. Several men have spent some time in examining the country between the Tennessee river and the falls of the Black Warrior for the most suitable ground to open a road between those waters. The best opinions I can get on that subject are in favor of the Creek village; from which place a road would take the dividing ridge between the heads of Bear creek and Black warrior; whereas from Milton's bluff it would cross the head branches of Bear creek to go a straight course, but no doubt it is practicable to get a road from either place. From Huntsville to the falls of the Black Warrior, the best and most convenient route will be, to cross at the Creek village: it will also be the most direct route from New Orleans to Lexington, Kentucky.

I do not know if the President will feel authorized to lay out towns on fractional sections, but for his information I transmit plats of the several sites, with their numbers, as they are surveyed, in general, with the other lands of the country.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedent servant,
JOHN COFFEE.

JOSIAH MEIGS, Esq.
Commissioner of the General Land Office.

[* Plats omitted in this volume.]

15th Congress. No. 277. 1st Session.

LAND CLAIMS IN ILLINOIS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 24, 1818.

Mr. Robertson made the following report:

The Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of sundry inhabitants of the Illinois Territory, praying for the confirmation of certain lands heretofore confirmed by the Governors of the Northwestern and Indiana Territories, report:

That, by the resolutions of Congress of 1788, and act of 1791, claims to land at Vincennes, and in the Illinois country, founded on ancient grants made by the French or British Governments, were recognized, and donations were made to heads of families in 1783, of four hundred acres, to those who had improved lands, not more than four hundred acres, and to those who did militia duty in August, 1790, one hundred acres.

The governor of the Northwestern Territory was empowered to allot and confirm to the inhabitants the lands they might be entitled to under the provisions of said resolutions and act of Congress. The governor of the Northwestern Territory proceeded to perform that duty, and continued, from time to time, to make grants and confirmations, until the power was transferred to the governor of the Indiana Territory, who also made grants and confirmations, until the power was transferred to Boards of Commissioners established about the year 1804. On the 20th of February, 1812, Congress organized a Board of Commissioners to revise the grants and confirmations of the governors. This board, in January, 1813, transmitted to the Secretary of the Treasury four lists of claims that had not been supported by sufficient evidence laid before them. Upon the claims thus reported, no proceedings have been had in Congress.

As no control was reserved by Congress over the acts of the governors, (no report ever being required to be made of their proceedings,) the petitioners insist that it was not competent to Congress to revise their decisions either directly or indirectly. The committee are not disposed either to deny or acquiesce in this position, because other grounds appear to the committee conclusive in favor of the petitioners.

By reference to the resolutions of 1788, and the law of 1791, it appears that the right to "donations to heads of families," accrued twenty-nine years before the passage of the law of 1812; the same remark applies to the *improvement* rights, and the claims derived from militia services accrued twenty-two years before the sitting of the Board of Commissioners under the act of 1812. The petitioners complain, and with great appearance of truth, that, as their claims depended entirely on parol testimony, it was unreasonable to call on them at so distant a period, after the death or removal of their witnesses, to prove again their claims. The petitioners also complain, with equal appearance of truth, that, admitting the power of Congress to revise the acts of the governors, their confirmations ought to have been taken as evidence of right, until the presumption, in favor of the acts of a public officer, was destroyed by clear testimony. It seems, indeed, that the Board of Commissioners, under the law of 1812, did not allow to the acts of the governors any respect at all, but when the witnesses, called by that board, had no knowledge of the claim, it was condemned. The committee cannot hesitate to admit that many changes of property took place between the confirmations made by the governors, and their reversal, in 1813, by the board of revision; and that these revisions have operated prejudicially to innocent purchasers. The committee have not been convinced that any such hardship exists in that class of cases that depended on ancient grants: they depended on written testimony, and it does not appear that such documents have been lost.

The committee therefore recommend the rejection of so much of the petition as relates to the class of cases dependant upon grants of the governors, founded on "ancient grants;" and report a bill for the confirmation of the three other classes of cases dependant on parol testimony.

Charles Ladeaux, militia claim of 100 *acres.*

Witnesses.—Jacque Ducharme and Francois Voilette.

Proof.—That Charles Ladeaux was duly enrolled in Captain Mailett's company at Peoria, on or before the first of August, 1790, and continued to serve as a good militia man, in the village of Peoria aforesaid.

The above claim (although not entered in time) we recommend to the consideration of the Government as entitled to the same attention with those forwarded with our letter of November last.

MICH'L JONES, *Register.*
S. BOND, *Receiver.*

Register's Office,
Kaskaskia, 5th January, 1816.

15th Congress. No. 278. 1st Session.

LAND CLAIMS IN MICHIGAN.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 25, 1818.

Mr. Robertson, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of the inhabitants of the village of Prairie du Chien, reported:

That, in the year 1755, the Government of France established a military post near the mouth of the Ouisconsin; that many French families settled themselves in the neighborhood, and established the village of Prarie du Chien; that, by the treaty of Versailles, in the year 1763, the village and the fort, following the condition of the Canadas and the Illinois country, passed to the Crown of England; that, in the year 1783, the events of the American revolution again changed their condition, and, on the 1st of June, 1796, the village and the fort were formally surrendered by the British to the United States. That many of the petitioners continued their residence, and enjoyed uninterrupted tranquillity till the capture of the fort by the enemy during the last war. The inhabitants, protected in their possession, appear to have neglected, under the successive Governments of France, England, and the United States, to secure to themselves the fields which they cultivated, by formal titles.

The petitioners now pray that a commissioner may be appointed to examine their claims, and confirm or report them to Congress for future consideration; and to this effect the committee respectfully submit a bill.

15th Congress. No. 279. 1st Session.

APPLICATION FOR A PRE-EMPTION RIGHT IN LOUISIANA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MARCH 3, 1818.

Mr. Robertson, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the memorial of Charles Smith, reported:

That the memorialist is a man of independent fortune, the fruit of his economy and personal industry; that, viewing the difficulties which the inhabitants of his neighborhood encounter in going to either of the churches of Opelousas or Attakapas, and regretting the want of a school where the youth of that part of the parish might be educated, he is disposed, at his own expense, to erect both a church and a school-house, of the value of 10,000 dollars, if the United States will give him a preference in the purchase of between five and six hundred acres of prairie land conveniently situated, at the price of two dollars per acre. He further offers, on his request being complied with, to make over, for the use of these establishments, the wood and timber of eighty acres of land of his own property, adjoining the prairie land in question, now belonging to the public.

The committee duly appreciate the motives which have induced the petitioner to present his application to Congress: but applications for pre-emption rights, though frequent and supported by strong circumstances, are very generally refused. The policy of adhering to general principles on subjects of this nature, is obvious. The object of the petitioner, highly honorable to himself, is to promote the interests of education, and to add to the convenience of a particular religious sect. If the favor he asks was granted, Congress would be inundated with applications from all the religious societies of the United States; to prevent which inconvenience, the committee respectfully submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioner ought not to be granted.

15th Congress. No. 280. 1st Session.

VIRGINIA MILITARY BOUNTY LANDS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MARCH 16, 1818.

Mr. Thomas M. Nelson made the following report:

The select committee, to whom were referred resolutions relative to the claims of the officers and soldiers of Virginia, for bounty land for revolutionary services, have had the same under consideration, and, as respects the claims for services rendered by those on State establishment, report, in part:

That it appears to your committee that sundry laws, to promote and encourage the raising of troops to carry on the war of the revolution, were passed by the commonwealth of Virginia; by which certain bounties in land were promised to such persons as should, by their military services, bring themselves within the provisions of such laws. That, in pursuance of their public engagements, many warrants for land were issued by Virginia, which yet remain unsatisfied. That, to discharge these promises, Virginia had set apart her vacant and unappropriated lands lying upon the waters of Cumberland river, on the confines of North Carolina. That Virginia possessed other large tracts of unappropriated land within her chartered limits, from which she intended, in the event of a failure of the fund first appropriated, to satisfy her engagements: which event did occur, in consequence of the treaty of 1786 made by the United States with the Chickasaw tribe of Indians, granting them the lands reserved by Virginia for her troops. The injury thus practised has been repaired to the Virginia troops on continental establishment, but remains a monument of injustice towards those troops who were on State establishment. That the old Congress, to promote the general interests of the Union, recommended to the several States, holding tracts of unsettled lands, to form one common fund of them.

The commonwealth of Virginia, with a zeal for the general welfare that has invariably characterized that State, promptly obeyed the request; and, on the 2d January, 1781, the Legislature adopted resolutions to carry into effect this measure of general good. Knowing that her troops, both on continental and State establishment, had claims upon her for bounties promised for military services, she annexed, to the proposals for this cession, stipulations for these bounties to be satisfied by the United States, not doubting that they would be fulfilled. That, among the terms proposed, the following were contained:

Tuesday, 2d *January*, 1781.

The General Assembly of Virginia being well satisfied that the happiness, strength, and safety of the United States depend, under Providence, upon the ratification of the articles for a federal union between the United States heretofore proposed by Congress for the consideration of the said States; and, preferring the good of their country to every other object of smaller importance,

Do resolve, That this commonwealth will yield to the Congress of the United States, for the benefit of the said United States, all right, title, and claim that the said commonwealth hath to the lands northwest of the river Ohio, upon the following conditions, to wit: [here follow several conditions, the fifth of which relates to the bounties to her troops on continental and State establishments, in the following words:] That, in case the quantity of good lands on the southeast side of the Ohio, upon the waters of Cumberland river, and between the Green river and Tennessee river, which have been reserved by law for the Virginia troops upon continental establishment and their own State establishment, should (from the North Carolina line bearing in further upon the Cumberland lands than was expected) prove insufficient for their legal bounties, the deficiency shall be made up to the said troops, in good lands, to be laid off between the river Scioto and Miamis, on the northwest side of the river Ohio, in such proportions as have been engaged to them by the laws of Virginia.

In this resolution found among the journals of the General Assembly of Virginia, provision is proposed to be made for the troops of that State, both upon continental and a State establishment, to satisfy their promised bounty in land. These proposals, for the cession of her public lands on the part of Virginia, were transmitted to Congress; some of which were accepted unconditionally, others with alterations and modifications, and others were totally rejected. This proposal, denominated the 5th in the series of propositions, was accepted by Congress as reasonable. Your committee find that, in transcribing this proposition, as appears on the journals of the old Congress, an omission occurs of the "troops upon State establishment." Your committee observe also, upon the journals of the same Congress, that, where the terms of this cession did not meet their approbation, the objections were stated at length, and supported by reasons: Now, as no objection to this proposition for securing the land bounties to the troops on State establishment appears on the journals, your committee deem the omission to be accidental. To remedy the injustice thus practised upon a meritorious class of persons, who were actively instrumental in securing the liberty and independence of the United States, no great magnanimity is required of the national rulers; nor is much expense requisite: for, upon the best information to be obtained of several members of the present Congress who reside in the vicinity of this tract of land, now in the possession of the Chickasaw tribe of Indians, and which had been set apart by Virginia for the particular purpose of satisfying her troops, both on State and continental establishment, and, subsequently, ceded by the General Government to the present Indian holders, the land may be obtained on reasonable terms, either by purchase or exchange of territory; few or none of the Indians now residing upon it, because of the entire destruction of the game.

Your committee, upon examination of the deed of cession by Virginia to the United States, find this clause: "That all the lands within the said territory, so ceded to

the United States, and not reserved for, or appropriated to, any of the before mentioned purposes, *or disposed of in bounties to the soldiers of the American army*, shall be considered, &c." The same clause is to be found in the original propositions made by Virginia; and it appears to your committee that no distinction was intended to be made between the continental and State lines, unless it be urged that the State troops were not considered to be a part of the American army; but your committee are warranted in asserting, that, on many important occasions, and particularly during the southern war, under the command of the late General Greene, they formed a most valuable and efficient part of that gallant army.

Your committee submit to your consideration whether, as this condition is evidently one of those proposed by Virginia, never rejected by the United States, and probably considered to be included in the deed of cession by Virginia, it would not comport with the equity and justice due from this nation to her revolutionary soldiers, to supply any defect in the cession which withholds from them the promised reward for their sacrifices and privations? It is worthy of remark, that the laws of Virginia promising these bounties in lands to her troops, were adopted long before the cession made to the United States of her vacant lands; and, in a court of honor and conscience, it would hardly be questioned whether some latent equity to this bounty was not created in behalf of those meritorious and gallant troops, and whether it would not follow this transfer to the United States. Your committee further submit to your consideration, whether, as the incapacity of Virginia to fulfil her engagements to her State troops has resulted from this transfer to the United States, it would comport with the magnanimity of the Federal Government to permit a member of the confederacy, through its participation, to be guilty of so flagrant a breach of faith, and to suffer these deserving heroes of the revolution longer to pine in penury and want? Your committee are sensible that the national feelings of America demand, that justice should be dispensed to the patriotic actors in the war of our independence—a war in which common interest and common danger produced common exertions and common sacrifices amongst the States, and which ended in securing to us the blessings of a free Government, in which we equally participate. That the General Government has set the precedent of performing particular State engagements, by assuming in their funding system the particular debts of the individual States, contracted in the common struggle for our independence. That community of benefit should produce community of participation in the burdens and sacrifices, justifies an opinion that the United States are bound to fulfil these engagements. Nor can your committee deem it of importance to the justice of this claim, that none of the other States are similarly situated. Virginia stands alone upon this ground. If she, believing that she was qualified to perform these promises, (which she certainly was before the Union,) had made engagements for services which resulted in the general benefit of the United States, it would but little comport with their magnanimity to reap all the fruits of the struggle, and then send away empty the war-worn laborer who toiled in her fields.

Your committee, fully persuaded of the justice due to the troops of Virginia upon State establishment, and believing that State to have been deprived of the means to comply with her engagements, by her deed of cession of her public vacant lands to the United States, beg leave to report a bill.

15th Congress. **No. 281.** 1st Session.

LANDS ALLOTTED TO ENCOURAGE THE CULTIVATION OF THE VINE AND OLIVE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE MARCH 16, 1818.

To the Senate of the United States:

In compliance with a resolution of the Senate of the United States of the 31st of December last, requesting the President to cause to be laid before them a statement of the proceedings which may have been had under the act of Congress passed on the 3d March, 1817, entitled "An act to set apart and dispose of certain public lands for the encouragement and cultivation of the vine and olive," I now transmit a report from the Secretary of the Treasury, containing all the information possessed by the Executive relating to the proceedings under the said act.

JAMES MONROE.

Washington, *March* 16, 1818.

Treasury Department, 19*th Feb.*, 1818.

In obedience to a resolution of the Senate of the 31st of December last, requesting the President of the United States to cause to be laid before the Senate a statement of the proceedings which may have been had under the act of Congress passed the 3d day of March, 1817, entitled "An act to set apart and dispose of certain public lands for the encouragement of the cultivation of the vine and olive," the Secretary of the Treasury has the honor to report to the President, that the French emigrants have deposited in this department a list containing three hundred and fifty names, and embracing an allotment of the lands contemplated by the said act, by which no individual is to receive more than four hundred and eighty acres, nor less than one hundred and twenty. This allotment has been approved by the President of the United States.

The instructions which have been given to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, and by that officer to the surveyor of the public lands south of the State of Tennessee, which accompany this report, explains the measures which have been adopted for the purpose of locating the four townships intended to be set apart by the act of Congress referred to in the resolution. No further information has been received concerning the location of the townships.

All which is respectfully submitted.

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

The President *of the United States.*

General Land Office, 10*th Nov.*, 1817.

Sir: Enclosed you have a copy of a letter, dated this day, from the Secretary of the Treasury to this office, which you will consider your instructions for laying off the lands granted to the French emigrants, by the act of 3d March, 1817, and you will obey those instructions promptly. I am, &c.,

J. MEIGS.

Thomas Freeman, Esq.,
Surveyor Gen'l, &c., St. Stephens.

Treasury Department, 10*th Nov.*, 1817.

Sir: The late French emigrants having, by Gen. Chas. L. Allemand and Mr. Chas. Villar, presented to this department an authenticated copy of their proceedings under the act of Congress to set apart and dispose of certain public lands for the encouragement of the cultivation of the vine and olive, from which it appears that the said Chas. L. Allemand and the said Chas. Villar have been duly appointed president and vice president of the board entrusted with the management of the interest created by the act in question: and the president of the said board having, at the same time, deposited in this department a list of the names of the French emigrants associated under the said act, with an allotment of the land contemplated to be granted, which has been approved and sanctioned, you will therefore, without delay, instruct the surveyor of the district in which the land intended to be set apart shall be located, to cause the same to be surveyed in the same manner that the other public lands are surveyed, and that the sections and quarter sections be numbered, in all respects, in the manner invariably practised in the other public lands in the Alabama Territory. The townships must be contiguous, and they must form a component part of the general plan of the survey of the said Territory, so as not to form fractions of townships. To this end it is necessary that the standard lines, established in those parts of the Territory already surveyed, be extended as soon as the selection is made by the agents of the association, so as to embrace the townships selected. The selection and the form, whether square or oblong, of the four townships, shall be, at the discretion of the agents of the association, subject nevertheless to the principle of contiguity, and to the general connection with, and conformity to, the subdivision of the whole Territory into townships, so as to avoid the creation of fractions of townships.

As soon as the returns of the surveys are received at your office, you will submit them to this department, in order that the definitive arrangements required by this act may be decided without unnecessary delay.

It is understood that the selection under the act in question has been made below the mouth of the Black Warrior or the Sepsey.

I am, &c.

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

JOSIAH MEIGS, Esq.,
Commissioner General Land Office.

A letter being received from the surveyor, (dated 9th December, 1817,) stating that six fractional townships had been selected, and requesting information how the four townships, or 144 sections, should be laid off in them, he was directed to carry into effect, in every respect, the instructions already given.

ST. STEPHENS, *October* 9, 1817.

SIR: I take the liberty of enclosing you, herewith, a rough sketch of the position occupied by the French emigrants, under an act of Congress granting them four townships, &c. The principal agents of these people express anxiety to have the limits of their lands or grant designated by the surveyors. The act in their favor says, "any four contiguous townships, each six miles square," to be designated by the Secretary of the Treasury, under the directions of the President of the United States.

The position they have chosen being on the bank of the Tombigbee river, and the opposite side being Indian Territory, the townships adjoining and covering the position selected will be all fractional. The agents of the emigrants have no doubt made known to the Secretary of the Treasury the location they have made, and wishes respecting it. Under these circumstances, I have to request the favor of you, sir, to let me know whether the location, made by the agents of the emigrants, will be confirmed by the President or not; and if it does, in what manner the legal quantity of land shall be laid off for them? I make this inquiry, in consequence of a pressing application made to me by the principal agent of the emigrants to have the limits of their lands designated for them. I take the liberty of requesting your attention to another subject on which I wish to have your advice.

The act of Congress designating the Alabama district, says it shall be bounded on the north by a due west line to be drawn from Fort Williams, on the Coosa river.

The survey of this district is now approaching its northern limit, and it is not to be expected that, in the progress of the survey, a township line will fall exactly on, and correspond with, the north boundary of the district as proposed. The running of the north boundary of the district due west from Fort Williams to the Tombigbee river, (nearly 100 miles,) will be attended with expense, and will make fractional townships and sections on each side of it. The information I ask is, shall the boundary line between these districts be run due west from Fort Williams, on the Coosa, or will the nearest township line to that line be adopted as the boundary between these districts?

I have the honor to be, sir,
Your most obedient servant,
THOMAS FREEMAN.

JOSIAH MEIGS, Esq.,
Commissioner General Land Office.

ST. STEPHENS, ALABAMA DISTRICT,
October 9, 1817.

The annexed sketch is a representation of the position the agents of the French emigrants have selected and taken possession of, under the act of Congress granting them four townships of land in the Alabama disirict on certain conditions.

The river, as here represented, is not from actual survey at this time; it is taken from a survey of the river by Captain Gaines, and is supposed to be tolerably correct.

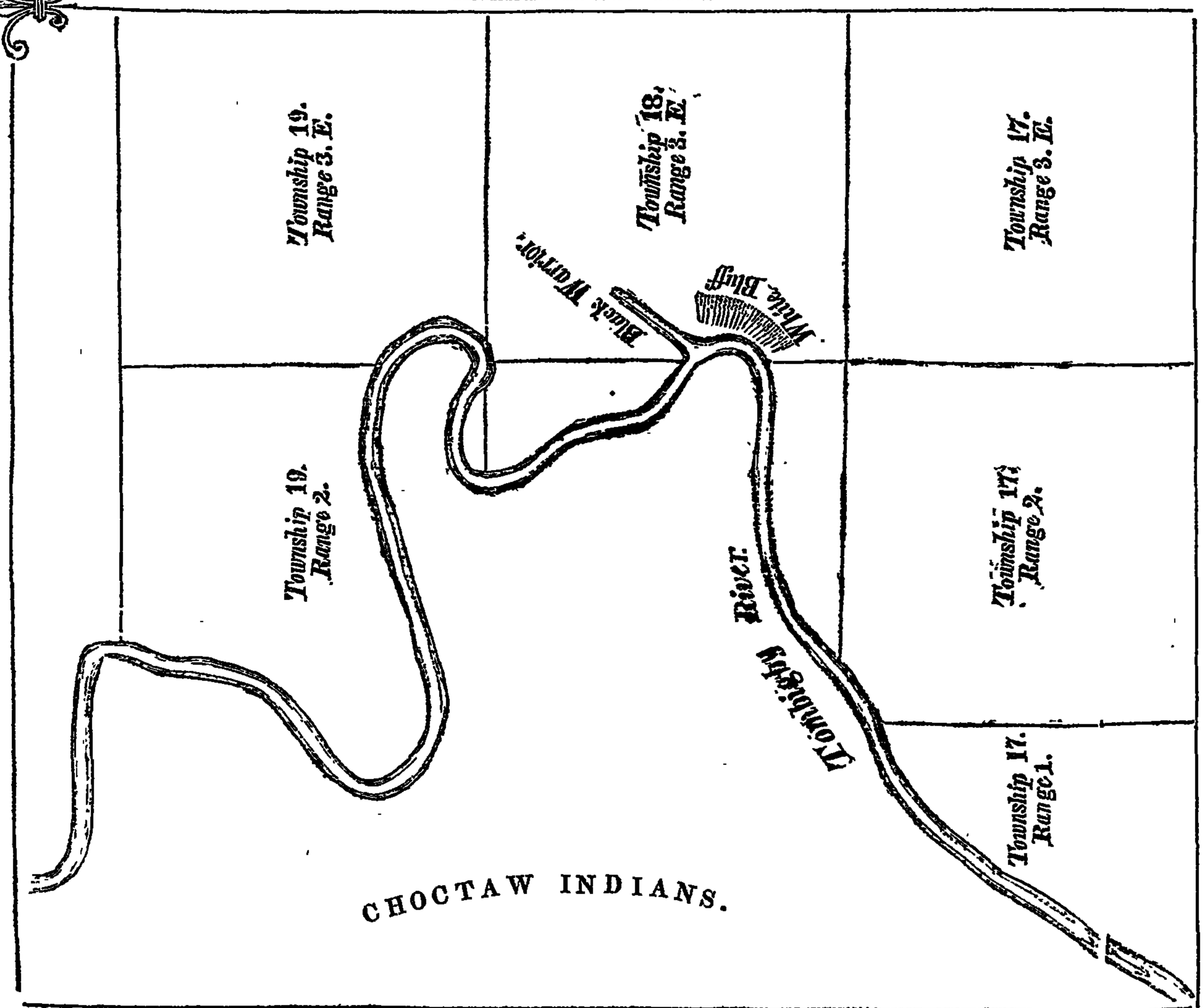
The survey of Alabama district, when extended to the river, will fall on it as here represented, if the survey of the river be tolerably correct.

Query. How shall the four townships, or 144 sections, be laid off and designated for the emigrants at this position?

THOMAS FREEMAN,
Surveyor General.

JOSIAH MEIGS, Esq.,
Commissioner General Land Office.

ALABAMA DISTRICT.



Scale 3 miles to an inch.

15th Congress. No. 282. 2d Session.

CLAIM UNDER A BRITISH GRANT.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DECEMBER 4, 1818.

Mr. Robertson made the following report:

The Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the petition of Philip C. S. Barbour, have had the same, together with the accompanying documents, under consideration, and beg leave to make thereon the following report:

It is stated by the petitioner in his petition, that his father, Philip Barbour, who was a native of Virginia, served as a captain in the provincial service of Great Britain, during her war in America, which terminated in 1763; that his father went to the *then colony* of West Florida now State of Mississippi, in 1768, and located there 2,000 acres of land by virtue of warrants obtained from the governor of West Florida, for his services during the aforesaid war; had the same regularly surveyed, and in 1770 obtained from the proper authority grants therefor, 1,500 acres of which were located at the confluence of the Big Black or Little Yazoo river and the Mississippi, on the east side of the latter, and south side of the former; on which tract he immediately settled, and on which he lived until the commencement of the American revolutionary war; when, for espousing the cause of liberty, he became obnoxious to the British Government; by the order of which he was incarcerated for many months, and all his personal estate sacrificed on account of his attachment to his country; that in 1789, when by the treaty of peace Spain had acquired the sovereignty of West Florida, to the 31st degree of north latitude, and claimed the territory north of that line, including his 1,500 acre tract, he took the precaution to obtain from the Spanish Government a Confirmatory grant for the said 1,500 acres, for the purpose, and under the hope of securing thereby a complete indefeasible title thereto; that, in 1794, his father died the undisputed proprietor of the said 1,500 acres of land, leaving the petitioner, then an infant only seven years old, his only legal heir and representative; shortly after which event, Col. James Barbour, of Kentucky, who has long since died, was appointed the guardian of the petitioner; that his said guardian, after it was ascertained that the country, including the said 1,500 acre tract of land, was within the jurisdictional boundary of the United States, and commissioners were appointed to adjust and report on certain claims to land in the Mississippi Territory, employed a lawyer of that country, named Bullock, to lay before the commissioners the claim of the petitioner to the said 1,500 acres of land, and other tracts, and attend to the proper management thereof; that the said lawyer attended to the claims and filed them with the Commissioners within the time required by law, but was unable to exhibit any other evidence of his father's title than the surveys and warrants; the patent or patents having been removed with the Florida records to England, or lost, so that it could not be procured; and by reason of the death of the said lawyer during the pendency of the claims before the commissioners, and of his said guardian shortly thereafter, no other evidence of his father's perfected titles was laid before the Commissioners, who, for want of such evidence as the law required, rejected the aforesaid claims; and that lately the most valuable part of the 1,500 acre tract has been sold by the United States. Upon the case thus stated, and for the reasons thus exhibited, the petitioner asks the interposition of Congress.

To sustain the prayer for relief as to the three 250 acre tracts mentioned in the petition, there is no satisfactory evidence upon which it would be proper for Congress, (in the opinion of the committee,) to act. It is therefore recommended that, as to them, the petitioner have leave to withdraw his papers.

But in regard to the right of the petitioner to the relief sought for, in relation to his 1,500 acre tract, the committee think the evidence amply sufficient. Every material statement made by the petitioner in his petition is substantiated by the documentary evidence filed therewith, to the entire satisfaction of the committee. It is proven by the affidavit of the late Governor Wood, of Virginia, that he was at the house of the petitioner's father, on the 1,500 acre tract, on the Mississippi, in 1773; that the place exhibited the appearance of several years' improvement and cultivation; that the said Barbour had been living several years in that country, and informed him he had been living on the farm on which he then lived for some years, and had obtained from the British Government a large grant including it; and that, from the acknowledged veracity of said Barbour, he has no doubt of the truth of all those statements. This affidavit is corroborated by the verbal declarations of the Hon. James Barbour of the Senate—who also confirms the statements of the petitioner in his petition, about the period of his father's death, and *his* minority. That the father of the petitioner had a grant from the British Government of West Florida, for 1,500 acres of land at the mouth of the Little Yazoo, on the river Mississippi, for services as an officer during the provincial war of 1763, is abundantly confirmed by the letters of Bullock, the aforesaid lawyer, and of Judge Bey, of South Carolina; in addition to which the latter states that it was generally believed that the grant for said land had been taken to England on the transfer of Florida to Spain, and was deposited with the Florida archives, in the Plantation Office at London. If additional evidence were wanting to prove the grant of the 1,500 acres, it is furnished most conclusively by the certified copy of the official act of the Governor and Council of West Florida, in 1770, which grants to Philip Barbour the 1,500 acres of land mentioned in the petition, and by the certified abstract of the British grants in West Florida, taken from the records of Florida, and filed in the office of the Department of State, both of which are certified by the Commissioner of the General Land Office, and accompany this report.

That the claim to the 1,500 acre tract was in due time filed with the Commissioners, and was rejected by them for want of the grant or the transcript from the colonial records of West Florida, appears sufficiently clear from the letter of the receiver of public moneys in Mississippi, Park Walton, and the letters of the register of the land office in said State, Mr. Clarke, both of which are also herewith filed; and that all of the said 1,500 acres that is of much value, has been lately sold by the United States, is established by the certificate of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, with an accompanying plat; and by the letters of Mr. Burnet and Mr. Patterson, which all accompany this report.

This mass of evidence is not all of the most formal and legal character, and parts of it would not be admissible in a court of justice; but the committee think that it is sufficiently persuasive. It all emanates from sources highly credible, is characterized by the strongest indication of verity, and is perhaps as strong as the nature of the case is susceptible of; the only object of human testimony being the conviction of the mind, and the testimony in this case, on every material point, holding claim to the fullest credence: although some of it is ex parte, and not sealed with all the solemnities of an oath, the committee cannot for a moment hesitate to conclude that the facts stated in the petition are sufficiently established. Nor can they, from any view which they have been able to take of the subject, perceive any injustice or unreasonableness in the appeal which the petitioner has made for relief. It is believed that it is one which addresses itself not more to the magnanimity than to the justice of Congress. It is true that, although the petitioner's father had acquired from the proper authority a complete vested and unconditional right to the 1,500 acres of land, for a consideration that all will acknowledge was most meritorious, the service of his country, and although it was consecrated by being made his home, he has lost the benefit of that proprietorship by the regular operation of laws which have been uniform and equal in their dispensations, and which cannot be justly charged with unnecessary severity; and it is also true, that he has by his own misfortune alone, been superseded in the enjoyment of this estate, by the intermediation of an American citizen, with the consent and under the authority of the United States, and without any fault or delinquency imputable to either. But it is equally true that this deprivation has resulted from a combination of accidents peculiar and very extraordinary, over which he could have no control. And as there is no room for a sus icion of negligence, or voluntary delinquency in the petitioner, the committee think that it would be inconsistent with the justice, liberality, and beneficence which, have always marked the policy of the United States, that *they* should profit by *his* misfortune, when (as the committee believe) it would be unjust that he should suffer, and not inconsistent with sound policy that he should be relieved.

When, by the treaty of 1783, Great Britain ceded to

the United States the territory which now composes the State of Mississippi, it was claimed by several States as comprehended within their charters; but principally by Georgia. In 1798 and 1800 Congress passed laws for the adjustment and extinguishment of the Georgia claim, and the establishment of a Territorial Government in Mississippi; whereby, among other things, it was declared that the claims of individuals derived from the British or Spanish Government rightfully should be valid; and by the compact made by the United States with Georgia in 1802, it was stipulated that all persons, who, on the 27th of October, 1795, were actual settlers within the territory ceded, should be confirmed in their grants executed prior to that day by the former British or Spanish Government of West Florida. In 1803 Congress passed a law which, among other things, required that all persons claiming land under any British grant in the Mississippi Territory, or by virtue of the provisions of that act, should, before the last day of March, 1804, deliver to the register of the land office a writen notice describing the nature and extent of their claims, together with the plats thereof, and the grants or other evidences of title, which should be recorded; and that on failure so to do, the claims should be void so far as derived from that act, or the compact with Georgia; and that no grant which should not be so recorded, should be ever received as evidence in any court of the United States against a grant from the United States. By the same act commissioners were appointed to settle the claims to land under that act and under the compact with Georgia, and directed to ascertain and report all the grants for land which were not confirmed by the said compact. The time of filing the grant to be recorded was afterward extended to the first day of December, 1805; and by an act of 1812, all claims under British or Spanish grants which had been duly recorded, and were contained in the reports of the Commissioners, were confirmed.

It is believed that the foregoing are the only provisions of law that can, in the most remote degree, operate on the petitioner's case. And from these it will appear sufficiently clear, that the Commissioners had no right to *reject* the claim of the petitioner, unless he could be considered an actual settler on the — October, 1795, so as to be embraced by the compact with Georgia. If he be considered in the latter condition, in which the Commissioners certainly viewed him, the decision of the Commissioners against him, as well as the law under which they decided, is of questionable policy; for, by the compact, he was confirmed in his right, and although the *power* of the United States afterwards to prescribe the manner of manifesting this confirmed title, and of requiring that it should be recorded or forfeited, is not denied, yet it does not comport with the character of the United States to require of the claimant of such confirmed title that which is impossible, and, for not performing the impossibility, to subject him to a forfeiture of his right without any indemnity. The claimant was an infant; his patent in London; his guardian one thousand miles off; his legal representative whom he had the precaution to employ, and who had no doubt of succeeding, died before he had furnished all the evidence. In the mean time, the limitation fixed by Congress for the registration of the patent expired; and thus, by a sucession of accidents, it became impossible that the patent should be registered; and for this, and only this, the claim was rejected. The committee cannot believe that the United States would be willing, after confirming a good title to a citizen, to take it from him, because he had not done that which it became impossible for him to do, and then refuse to restore him or give him some remuneration for his loss.

If the petitioner was not embraced by the compact, then the Commissioners had no power to adjudicate on his claim, and, consequently, their act is void. But still the petitioner is not free from difficulty; by the act of 1804 it was declared that if his claim should not be registered against the first of December, 1805, the United States should have a right to sell the land, and that his patent should not be evidence against the grant of the United States. The United States have sold the most valuable part of the land; and although they have not yet given a patent, it is believed that the claim of the petitioner would not be sustained in a court of justice against the incipient right of the purchaser from the United States. But taking the case on this ground, the committee are of opinion that the petitioner is clearly entitled to some relief; for, waiving every other consideration, it would seem that, as the United States acquired the right to sell the land, from the failure of the claimant to do that which he never consented to do, which they required the same kind of claimant to do in no other territory, and which it was impossible that *he* could do, they would certainly be bound by every principle of natural justice to restore it, on being satisfied of the nature of the claim and reason of its forfeiture. If they have put it out of their power by sale to restore the specific tract of land, the claim to indemnity would be as strong, and it would be as proper to give it; otherwise they take from an infant, without his consent, his inheritance, merely because he has been an infant, and refuse to give him that for it which, had it not been for his infancy, he never would have been reduced to the necessity of asking. When it is well known, too, that the principal, if not the only object of the Government in requiring the registration of titles, was to prevent fraud, and that the case of the petitioner is stamped with indubitable evidences of its integrity, the claim to relief is greatly fortified; but still more by the fact that the petitioner was probably prevented from recording his patent in time, by the rejection of his claim by the Commissioners, which they had no right to do, unless he had been an inhabitant in 1795, which the committee think was clearly not the case.

In regard to the nature and extent of relief, the committee have been somewhat perplexed. As the United States have sold a part of the land, if they had the power to reclaim it, good policy would forbid it; for, if the United States would once establish the precedent of selling land and afterwards taking it away and giving it to others, the number and amount of their future sales would be not a little diminished. The committee have no doubt that the United States had the right to sell, and as little that, having sold, they should not, if they could, reclaim without the assent of the purchaser. It would follow therefore, that the petitioner should receive either a commutation in money, or other land. And as it is doubtful whether the whole 1,500 acres have been sold, but pretty certain that if there is any unsold, it is intrinsically worth little or nothing, the committee would suppose it just and proper that, on receiving a release from the petitioner of his claim, the United States should commute the whole 1,500 acres.

It only remains to determine the criterion and kind of commutation. As to the criterion, punctillious exactitude cannot be expected; but the committee are inclined to think it should be the value of the 1,500 acres when the United States sold it or part of it. Whether it should be given in money, or land of the same value or quantity, is not very easily ascertained, nor very material; but taking every consideration into view, the committee have determined that it would be more convenient to the United States, and as much the interest of the petitioner, that he should be paid in scrip receivable in payment for public lands. Wherefore, for the foregoing purposes, they beg leave to report a bill.

15th Congress. **No. 283.** 2d Session.

PLAN FOR ADJUSTING LAND CLAIMS EAST AND WEST OF PEARL RIVER.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE DECEMBER 8, 1818.

Treasury Department,
December 7, 1818.

Sir: In obedience to a resolution of the Senate of the 18th of April, 1818, referring the reports of the Commissioners for the districts east and west of Pearl river, in West Florida, relative to land claims, together with the memorials, petitions, and other papers addressed to the Senate upon the same subject, to the Secretary of the Treasury, and directing him to report a plan to the Senate at their next session, for the adjustment of the claims to land in the said districts, the enclosed draft of a bill for that purpose is respectfully submitted.

I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

The Hon. John Gaillard,
President of the Senate pro. tem.

A Bill for adjusting the claims to land, and establishing Land Offices, in the districts east of the island of New Orleans.

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all the claims to land founded on complete grants from the Spanish Government, reported to the Secretary of the Treasury by the Commissioners from the districts east and west of Pearl river, appointed under the authority of an act, entitled "An act for ascertaining the titles and claims to land in that part of Louisiana which lies east of the river Mississippi and island of New Orleans," which are contained in the several reports of the Commissioners, and which are, in the opinion of the Commissioners, valid, agreeably to the laws, usages, and customs of the said Government, be, and the same are hereby recognized, as valid and complete titles against any claim on the part of the United States, or right derived from the United States: *Provided*, That the foregoing enactment shall not comprehend any British grant which has not been sold and conveyed according to the provisions of the treaty of peace between Great Britain and Spain, of the third of September, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, by which that part of Louisiana lying east of the island of Orleans was ceded to Spain under the denomination of West Florida, or which have not been settled and cultivated by the person having the legal title therein, at the date of said treaty.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That all claims reported as aforesaid, and contained in the several reports of the said Commissioners, founded on any order of survey, requete, permission to settle, or other written evidence of claim derived from the Spanish authorities, which ought, in the opinion of the Commissioners, to be confirmed, and which, by the said reports, appear to be derived from the Spanish Government before the twentieth day of December, one thousand eight hundred and three, and the land claimed, to have been cultivated and inhabited on or before that day, shall be confirmed in the same manner as if the title had been completed; and that, for all the other claims to land comprised in the reports aforesaid, the claimant to such lands shall be entitled to a grant therefor as a donation: *Provided*, That such grant, as a donation, shall not be made to any one person for more than six hundred and forty acres, which confirmation of the said incomplete titles and grants of donations hereby provided to be made, shall amount only to a relinquishment forever, on the part of the United States, to any claim whatever to the tract of land so confirmed or granted: *And provided, also*, That no claim shall be confirmed to any person to whom any tract of land shall be confirmed under the preceding provisions.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That every person, or his or her legal representative, whose claim is comprised in the lists, or register of claims reported by the said Commissioners, and the persons embraced in the list of actual settlers, or their legal representatives, not having any written evidence of claim reported as aforesaid, shall, where it appears by the said reports, or by the said lists, that the land claimed or settled on had been actually inhabited or cultivated by such person or persons in whose right he claims, on or before the fifteenth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and thirteen, be entitled to a grant for the land so claimed or settled on as a donation: *Provided*, That not more than one tract shall be thus granted to any one person, and the same shall not contain more than six hundred and forty acres, and that no lands shall be thus granted which are claimed or recognized by the preceding sections of this act.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That every person comprised in the said list of actual settlers not having any written evidence of claim to land in said districts, and who, on the twelfth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, shall have inhabited or cultivated a tract of land in either of the said districts, not claimed by virtue of either of the preceding sections of this act, shall be entitled to a preference on becoming a purchaser from the United States, of such tract of land, on the same terms and conditions, and at the same price, for which the other public lands are sold at private sale: *Provided*, That the first instalment of the purchase money shall be paid to the receiver of public moneys of the district within which the land lies, within two years after the opening of the land office for such district.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That, for the purpose of adjusting the titles and claims to lands in the districts aforesaid, and for the disposal of the lands which may remain the property of the United States therein, a land office shall be established in each of the said districts, to be kept for the western district at St. Helena court-house, and for the eastern district at the town of Mobile; and a register and receiver of public moneys shall be appointed for each of the said land offices, who shall give security in the same manner, and in the same sums, and whose compensation, duties, and authority, shall, in every respect, be the same in relation to the lands which shall hereafter be disposed of, at their respective offices, as are by law provided in relation to the other registers and receivers of public moneys for the several land offices of the United States.

Sec. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That every person or persons claiming lands in either of the said districts, whose claims have not heretofore been filed with the commissioner of the land office of the district wherein the lands lie, shall be allowed until the first day of next, to deliver notices in writing, and the evidences of their claims, in the said districts respectively, to the register of the land office at Mobile, and at St. Helena court-house; and the notices and evidences so delivered, within the time limited by this act, shall be recorded in the same manner, and on the payment of the same fees, as if the same had been delivered before the Commissioners closed their said registers.

Sec. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That every person or persons who had filed his or their notice of claims to land, within either of the said districts, with the Commissioner of the Land Office, according to the former laws, but have not exhibited sufficient testimony in support of the same, and whose claim has not been recommended for confirmation, shall be allowed until the first day of next to deliver written evidence, or other testimony in support of his or their claim, the notice of which had been filed as aforesaid, to the register of the land office at St. Helena for lands lying in the district west of Pearl river, and to the register of the land office at Mobile, for the lands lying in the district east of Pearl river; and the evidence of claims, the notice whereof had been filed as aforesaid, for lands lying in the said districts, delivered within the time limited by this section, to the said registers, shall be recorded by them respectively, in the same manner as was directed by former acts, on receiving the same fees allowed by said acts for recording evidence of claims to lands in the same districts.

Sec. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That the register and receiver of public moneys of the said respective land offices at Mobile and at St. Helena court-house, shall have the same powers, and perform the same duties in every respect, in relation to the claims that may be filed in virtue of the sixth section of this act; and in relation to the claims, the notices of which had been filed under former acts, as well as to the additional evidence which shall be adduced in support thereof, agreeably to the seventh section of this act, as the Commissioners for the districts east and west of Pearl river would have had, or should have performed, if such notices had been filed, and such evidence adduced before the said Commissioners closed their registers.

Sec. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the register of each of the said land offices respectively, to make to the Commissioner of the General Land Office a report of all the claims filed with the register aforesaid, with the substance of the evidence in support thereof; and of the claims formerly filed, in support of which additional evidence shall have been received, with the substance of such evidence; and also their opinion, and such remarks respecting the claims, as they may think proper to make; which report, together with a list of the claims, which, in the opinion of the register and receiver, ought to be confirmed, and also a list of actual settlers prior to the passage of this act, noting the time of their respective settlements, shall be laid by the Commissioner of the General Land Office before Congress at their next session, for their determination thereon.

Sec. 10. *And be it further enacted*, That the said registers and receivers shall, respectively, have power to appoint a clerk, who shall be a person capable of translating the French and Spanish languages, and who shall perform the duty of translator when required by said registers and receivers; and each of the said registers and receivers shall be allowed, as a compensation for their services in relation to the said claims, at the rate of fifteen hundred dollars a year; and each of the clerks at the rate of one thousand dollars a year: *Provided*, That not more than months' compensation be thus allowed to the register, receiver, and clerk, for the district east of Pearl river; nor more than months' compensation be allowed to the register, receiver, and clerk, of the district west of Pearl river.

Sec. 11. *And be it further enacted*, That the surveyor for the lands south of the State of Tennessee, shall, with the

consent and approbation of the President of the United States, appoint a principal deputy surveyor for the lands within the said districts, who shall receive an annual salary of five hundred dollars, and whose duty it shall be to survey, or cause to be surveyed, by his other deputies, the lands, the claims to which are confirmed, and that are directed to be granted as donations, where the same have not been already surveyed, and the lands which may be claimed by right of pre-emption, whenever directed by the register and receiver, and to execute such other surveys as may be necessary for the ascertainment of the lands, the title or claim to which is embraced in the report of the Commissioners aforesaid. And the said principal deputy surveyor shall make out particular plats of the surveys directed by this act, which he shall return to the register of the proper district, and, also, a general and connected plat, which he shall return to the surveyor of the lands south of the State of Tennessee; and the expense of surveying shall be paid by the United States: *Provided*, The same shall not exceed in the whole four dollars a mile for every mile which shall be actually surveyed and marked.

Sec. 12. *And be it further enacted*, That the books of the former Commissioners, in which the claims, and evidence of claims, are recorded, shall be lodged with the registers of the land office for the respective districts; and the register and receiver of public moneys in each respective district shall have power to examine the claims recognized, confirmed, or provided to be granted, by the provisions of this act, as also claims to the right of pre-emption; and they shall make out to each claimant entitled, in their opinion, thereto, a certificate according to the nature of the case, under such instructions as they may receive from the Commissioner of the General Land Office; and on presentation at the General Land Office of such certificate for a confirmed claim, or for a donation according to the provisions of this act, and where it shall appear to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of the General Land Office that the certificate has been fairly obtained, according to the true intent and meaning of this act, then, and in that case, a patent shall be granted in like manner as for other lands of the United States.

Sec. 13. *And be it further enacted*, That the President shall have power to appoint the register and receiver of public moneys for the said districts in the recess of the Senate, who shall be nominated to them at their next meeting; and the said registers and receivers shall be allowed dollars in addition to their salary and compensation as fixed by law, which additional sums shall be in full for all their services in relation to the claims to lands in said districts.

Sec. 14. *And be it further enacted*, That the application for, and acceptance of a patent from the United States, founded upon any incomplete grant or title to lands, viz. concession, warrant, order of survey, requete, or permission to settle, which have been or shall be confirmed under the provisions of this act, shall be deemed, held, and adjudged, to be a relinquishment of title by such applicant to any tract or tracts of land, the titles to which have not been, or shall not be, confirmed according to the provisions of this act.

15th Congress. **No. 284.** 2d Session.

PLAN FOR ADJUSTING LAND CLAIMS IN LOUISIANA AND MISSOURI.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DECEMBER 8, 1818

Treasury Department,
December 7, 1818.

Sir: In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 16th of April, 1818, referring to the Secretary of the Treasury the memorials and petitions relative to land claims which have been addressed to that House from the State of Louisiana and Territory of Missouri, and instructing him to report a plan for their final adjustment and settlement, the enclosed draft of a bill for that purpose is respectfully submitted.

In presenting a plan of final adjustment, in which no other description of claims are comprehended than those which are founded upon patents and concessions issued by the several Governments which have, at different times, exercised sovereign jurisdiction over the late province of Louisiana as held by France, the undersigned, Secretary of the Treasury, has proceeded upon the conviction that ample provision has already been made for the adjustment of all claims to lands contemplated by the resolution, founded upon evidence inferior to patents and concessions. He has arrived at this conviction by a careful examination of the several acts of Congress for ascertaining and adjusting land titles in Louisiana, which have been passed since the 20th day of December, 1803—the period at which possession was taken of that province by the United States. This long series of acts, commencing with the 26th day of March, 1804, and terminating with the 29th day of April, 1816, presents an uninterrupted and uniform course of relaxation in favor of land claimants of every description. This relaxation has generally been effected by comprehending descriptions of cases not recognized by previous acts; by extending the time within which notices of claims and production of evidence were required, and by giving authority, not only to decide upon such claims, but to revise and confirm such as had been previously rejected. When it is considered that, in all these respects, relaxations have been frequent, and that the evidence upon which the claims have, in the first instance, and in each successive revision, been decided, has, in most cases, been that alone which has been produced by the party in interest, it is extremely improbable that injustice has been done by the rejection of claims which ought to have been confirmed.

It is conceived to be extremely improbable that there should be, at this time, any considerable number of claims entitled to the liberality of the Government, which have not yet been submitted to either of the different tribunals that have, from time to time, been constituted for that purpose. The omission to submit claims to these tribunals for a long series of years, during which frequent opportunities were given to file them, accompanied, invariably, with legislative declarations, that a failure to produce them would bar all claims so far as they depended upon any act of Congress, ought, in justice and equity, to subject them to the penalty denounced in those declarations. If additional reasons should be considered necessary in support of the foregoing conclusions, they may be found in the consideration that, according to the inevitable course of events, claims which have been long discredited by rejection on the ground of fraud, or of not being provided for by law, invariably pass from the original claimants into the hands of those who have more confidence in their address and influence in conducting them to a successful result.

Considering, then, that the titles to lands in the State of Louisiana, west of the eastern boundary of the island of New Orleans, and in the Missouri Territory, so far as they are derived from, or dependant upon, any act of Congress, are correctly and finally settled, nothing more is necessary than to prescribe a rule by which the validity of titles, not dependant upon the acts of Congress, may be promptly and legally determined. The draft of the bill which accompanies this report is intended to effect that object. If it is defective in principle or details, the wisdom of the House, to which it is submitted, will promptly supply such deficiency.

All which is respectfully submitted.

WM. H. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of the Treasury.

The Hon. Henry Clay,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it shall be lawful for any person or persons deriving titles to any lands, tenements, or hereditaments, within the state of Louisiana, under any patent or concession, legally issued by the authority of the French, British, or Spanish Governments, whilst Louisiana, or any part thereof, was in possession of those Governments, respectively, to present a petition to the judge

of the district court of the State of Louisiana, setting forth fully, plainly, and substantially, the nature of his, her, or their title to the lands, tenements, or hereditaments therein described, and particularly stating the date of such patent or concession, its boundaries, the quantity of land contained therein, and by whom issued, and also whether the same has been submitted to the examination of either of the tribunals which have been constituted by law for the adjustment of land titles in the State of Louisiana, and praying that the validity of such title may be inquired into and decided by the said court. And the said court is hereby authorized and required to hold and exercise jurisdiction of every petition in conformity with the provisions of this act, and to hear and determine the same according to the evidence which shall be adduced by the petitioner, and on the part of the United States, and in conformity with the principles of justice and the laws and usages of the Government by which the patent or concession was issued.

And be it further enacted, That, in every petition which shall be presented under the provisions of this act, the petitioner shall therein make his election between a trial by jury and decree by the court, according to the principles and practice of the civil law. In either case, the decision shall be final and conclusive, whether it be in favor of or against the petitioner, in all cases where the land described in the petition shall not exceed
acres. In all cases exceeding that quantity, an appeal may be taken by the petitioner, or the United States, to the Supreme Court of the United States, according to the laws regulating appeals from inferior tribunals to that court, whose decision thereon shall be final and conclusive.

And be it further enacted, That the evidence which has been received by the different tribunals which have been constituted and empowered by law, to receive such evidence, and to report to the Secretary of the Treasury, or to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, upon all claims presented to them respectively, shall be received and admitted as legal testimony, on the trial of any petition in said court, for lands, tenements, or hereditaments, the claims of which have been presented to either of the said tribunals. And, in all cases where the petitioner shall offer no other testimony in support of the title described in the said petition, the court shall proceed to the decision thereof upon such testimony: *Provided*, That, in all cases where the quantity of land described in the petition shall exceed
acres, or where the grant or concession from which the title is derived has been ante-dated, or otherwise fraudulently issued, it shall be lawful for the attorney of the United States for the district of Louisiana to offer such evidence as it shall be in his power to produce, which shall be admissible according to the rules of evidence and the principles of law.

And be it further enacted, That, in all cases where evidence shall be offered by a petitioner, which has not been received by either of the tribunals constituted by law for that purpose, it shall be the duty of the Attorney of the United States for the district of Louisiana to cross-examine the witnesses, whether examined in court, or by commission under the authority thereof. And it shall be the duty of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, and also of any officer of the United States who may have possession of the records and evidence of the different tribunals which have been constituted by law for the adjustment of land titles in Louisiana, as held by France, upon the application of any person or persons whose claim to lands has been rejected by such tribunals, or either of them, or by the attorney of the United States for the district of Louisiana, to furnish copies of such evidence, certified under his official signature, with the seal of office thereto annexed, if there be a seal of office.

And be it further enacted, That every claim to lands, tenements, or hereditaments, within the purviews of this act, which shall not be brought, by petition, before the said court within
after the passing of this act, or which, after being brought before the court, shall not be prosecuted to a final decision within shall be for ever barred in law and equity; and no other action at common law, or proceeding in equity, shall ever thereafter be sustained in any court whatsoever.

And be it further enacted, That the provisions of this act shall extend to the Missouri Territory, and to that part of Louisiana as held by France, which is situate to the eastward of the State of Louisiana, and the same proceedings shall be had, under the same limitations and restrictions as are therein prescribed: *Provided*, That the district court of the State of Mississippi shall hold and exercise jurisdiction in all cases where the lands claimed are within its jurisdiction. And that the district court which may be established in the State which shall hereafter be constituted in the present Territory of Missouri, shall hold and exercise jurisdiction in all cases where the lands claimed shall be within its jurisdiction. And that the district court which may be established in the State which hereafter shall be constituted in the present Territory of Alabama, shall hold and exercise jurisdiction in all cases where lands claimed shall be within its jurisdiction. That no claim shall be barred in the said Territories which shall be presented, by petition, to the courts hereby authorized to hold jurisdiction of the same, within after the organization of said courts, respectively, and which, after being presented, shall be prosecuted to a final decision within

And be it further enacted, That the claim embraced in the report of the register and receiver of the land office for the eastern district of the State of Louisiana, acting as commissioners for ascertaining and adjusting the titles and claims to lands therein, made to the Commissioner of the General Land Office on the 20th day of November, 1816, which are recommended for confirmation under the description of first, second, and third species of class number one; and first, second, and third species of class number two, be, and the same are hereby, confirmed.

And be it further enacted, That the President of the United States is hereby authorized to cause every tract or parcel of land, the claim to which has been rejected by either of the tribunals heretofore constituted by law for the adjustment of land titles in the State of Louisiana and in the Missouri Territory, and which have not been subsequently confirmed by law, to be sold at public auction, in the same manner, and upon the same terms and conditions of payment, as the other public lands in the United States: *Provided*, That nothing contained in this section shall extend to that part of the State of Louisiana which is situated to the eastward of the island of New Orleans, nor to any tract or parcel of land provided for in this act until a decision of the proper court shall be had thereon, or until the claim thereto shall be barred in pursuance of its provisions.

15th Congress. **No. 285.** 2d Session.

LAND CLAIM IN ILLINOIS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DECEMBER 14, 1818.

Mr. Robertson, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the petition of John Rice Jones, reported:

That the petitioner states that he holds a legal title to two tracts of land on the Kaskaskia river, in the now State of Illinois, containing 3,485 acres, which Dartuquete, Mayor of New Orleans, and commandant for the King of France for the province of Illinois, *granted*, in 1734, to Messrs. Boisjolly and Barrois, under whom, through several intermediate purchases, he holds full title to the whole 3,485 acres. That in William Henry Harrison, then Governor of the Indiana Territory, which included the Illinois, by virtue of authority vested in him by Congress, confirmed the claim of the petitioner to the said 3,485 acres of land; which confirmation, after passing through the ordeal of the first Board of Commissioners who were appointed to revise the confirmations of the Governor, was by that board ratified. That the board sitting under the act of Congress of 1812, entered his said claim as confirmed: that he was with them during the whole period of their session, until within a very few days of its close, and was not apprised of their intention to revoke their decision of confirma-

tion; but that about the close of their investigations, and after he had left them, they entered his claim as surreptitious, and for that alleged cause rejected it.

He alleges that his claim was genuine, and that he could have made it manifest to the Commissioners if they had notified him that it required any explanations; and that, in consequence of their rejection of it, part of it has lately been sold by the United States, and the whole subject to sale. He prays a trial at law to try the genuineness of his title, or such other relief as may be thought proper.

From the reasoning of the petitioner, the report of the Commissioners in his case, to which the committee have had access, and the evidence of the honorable Ninian Edwards, who detailed the facts before the committee, it appears very clear that the petitioner's claim ought not to have been rejected, and that every position taken by the Commissioners in support of their opinion is indefensible.

It is fairly inferrable from the report that the Commissioners would not have hesitated to confirm the petitioner's claim, if they had been satisfied it was not a forgery; and it was only because they believed it a forgery that they rejected it. They have given in detail the reasons that induced their belief that it was a forgery, every one of which is explained satisfactorily by the argument of the petitioner in his petition, which is abundantly confirmed by Mr. Edwards, the late governor of Illinois. He detailed facts to the committee which not only destroyed entirely the reasoning of the Commissioners, and showed conclusively that their arguments were fallacious, and the facts on which they predicated them misconceived, but satisfied every member of the committee that there was no ground for a suspicion of forgery.

From the manner in which Governor Edwards formed his opinions, (an examination of the records, and a comparison of them with others of a similar kind,) and the facts and reasons he has given in support of them, there is no room to doubt their correctness.

If the Commissioners had the right to adjudicate on the claim of the petitioner after having been confirmed by the governor and first Board of Commissioners, (which is not necessary to be decided in this case,) yet it appears very clear that they erred in rejecting it. The Commissioners having admitted that the claim had been confirmed by Governor Harrison, and that if it were not a forgery it was entitled to confirmation; and it appearing clearly from the report, the documents, and facts in the case, and the evidence of Governor Edwards, that it is not a forgery, it follows necessarily that it should have been confirmed, and that the petitioner ought not to be injured by its rejection, not having had an opportunity to support its integrity before the Commissioners. The committee are therefore unanimously of opinion that as much of the claim as has not been sold by the United States, ought to be confirmed to the petitioner, by the release of the claim of the United States to it. And, in regard to that which has been sold, as they think that it would be improper to rescind the sale, they are of opinion that the petitioner should receive its value at the time it was sold. To this extent they think he should have relief, and for that purpose beg leave to report a bill.

15th Congress. **No. 286.** 2d Session.

CLAIM TO LAND IN MISSISSIPPI.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DECEMBER 14, 1818.

Mr. Robertson made the following report:

The Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom were referred the petition of the heirs of Alexander Montgomery, and a resolution instructing them to inquire into the expediency of authorizing additional evidence in support of the claim of said heirs to land in the Mississippi, derived from the Spanish Government through John Montgomery, report:

That it appears, from the deposition of Prosper King, that, before the year 1795, one Solomon Whitley obtained an order of survey from the Spanish Government for four hundred arpens of land in the late Territory, now State of Mississippi; that he sold it to Alexander Montgomery, the ancestor of the petitioners; and that both the said Whitley and Montgomery resided in the said Territory in the year 1795 and afterwards.

It appears, also, from the said deposition, that John Montgomery obtained, before the year 1795, of the Spanish Government, a warrant for three hundred arpens of land in the said Territory, and afterwards sold it to the aforesaid Alexander Montgomery; and that, in 1795 and afterwards, the said John Montgomery was a resident of the said Territory.

An inspection of the report of the Commissioners for adjusting land titles in the said Territory furnishes evidence that the aforesaid claims were duly laid before them for confirmation, but rejected, and only because it was not proven that the aforesaid Whitley and John Montgomery resided in the Territory and actually cultivated the aforesaid tracts of land on the 27th of October, 1795.

By the law of Congress of 1800, under which the Commissioners acted, actual residence and cultivation on the 27th of October, 1795, were required to be proven by the claimants to land in the said Territory under incomplete Spanish titles. The commissioners were therefore compelled to reject all claims which were not supported by proof of both requisites. And the committee have learned from the honorable Mr. Williams of the Senate, and Mr. Poindexter of the House of Representatives, from the State of Mississippi, (the former of whom was one of the aforesaid Commissioners,) that the Commissioners were not in the habit of recording or receiving any evidence in support of a claim under the 1st section of the act of 1800, unless both residence and cultivation on the 27th October, 1795, were proven.

In 1812 a law was passed authorizing the confirmation of all claims that had been rejected by the said Board of Commissioners, in which it should appear, from the report of the Commissioners, that the claimants were *residents* in the said Territory on the 27th of October, 1795, although there was no proof of cultivation on that day.

But as there is no record by the Commissioners in either of the cases now before the committee of any proof of residence in either case, as required by law, those claims were not embraced by the act of 1812. It appears, therefore, from the whole case, that the claims of the heirs of A. Montgomery were valid under the law of 1800, and came within the spirit of the act of 1812; and that they have not been confirmed, because there was no record by the commissioners of proof of residence, which it is probable was either not permitted to be given, or not recorded if furnished, because all that the law required could not be proven.

If the claimants had proven residence without *cultivation*, and that proof had been recorded by the commissioners, their claims now before this committee for confirmation would have been confirmed by the act of 1812. That the residence could have been proven, and yet can be proven, appears from the deposition of Prosper King, whose good character is supported by Messrs. Williams and Poindexter, who also stated that the residence of Alexander and John Montgomery and Solomon Whitley in the aforesaid Territory in 1795 was quite notorious. Hence it would follow that the reason why the residence is not a part of the Commissioners' report, is not that there was no such residence, but that the Commissioners would not record it, because cultivation, which is dispensed with by the act of 1812, was not also proven.

From this aspect of the cases before the committee, they could not hesitate to report in favor of the claimants were this the first case of the kind that has been presented to Congress, but precedents of relief by Congress in similar cases are not wanting.

As, therefore, the case of the petitioners set forth in their petition, and that which is laid before the committee by resolution, are of a description which the committee think ought to be confirmed, and as others of the same kind have been confirmed, they beg leave to recommend their confirmation, and for that purpose report a bill.

15th Congress. No. 287. 2d Session.

LANDS ALLOTTED TO ENCOURAGE THE CULTIVATION OF THE VINE AND OLIVE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DECEMBER 14, 1818.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
14th December, 1818.

SIR: In obedince to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 10th instant, instructing the Secretary of the Treasury "to lay before the House a statement of the progress that has been made under an act of Congress, of the 3d of March, 1817, entitled 'an act to set apart and dispose of certain public lands for the encouragement of the cultivation of the vine and olive;' and whether four townships, of six miles square each, have been laid off and reserved for the purpose aforesaid; and whether any agent, or agents, acting for the French emigrants, have contracted for the said lands, and on what terms; and whether such agent, or agents, are now residing on said land, together with the number of French emigrants that have made settlements on said reservation, and the progress that has been made in the culture of the vine and olive," I have the honor to state that certain persons, acting in the name and behalf of the French emigrants, have presented themselves to this department, and produced certified copies of the proceedings by which they were constituted agents.

These agents were authorized by this department to explore the Alabama Territory, and make a selection of the lands which were to be reserved, in conformity with the act of Congress before cited.

In pursuance of this authority, a selection was made, which has been approved, and the lands reserved are believed to be represented in the several maps which accompany this report. Attached to these maps is a list of the names of French emigrants who have associated for the purpose of accepting the grant of land contemplated by the said act of Congress, and who were represented by those agents.

It appears, from the papers presented by them, that this map or chart of the reservation has been certified by the chief clerk of the surveyor of the public lands, under whose direction the reservation has been made; but no return has been made by that officer of the surveys to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, to which they ought, upon principles of law and of propriety, to have been furnished before they were placed in the hands of others.

Until the official returns are received, no contract can be entered into between the Treasury Department and the agents of the association, if such agents should present themselves duly qualified for that purpose. By referring to the list, it will appear that an allotment upon paper was made among the associates, which is intended to be represented also upon the separate maps. This allotment was sanctioned by this department, under an impression that the parties, by themselves or agents, were better qualified to make the distribution than the Secretary of the Treasury. Recently, however, information has been received that many of the persons inscribed upon the list have transferred their shares, and followed the banners of the French generals who have made or attempted to make, an establishment on the river Trinity, or engaged in pursuits which exclude the idea, that any other object was contemplated by their joining in the association than sheer speculation.

It is contemplated, with the approbation of the President, to erase all such from the list of emigrants, who shall not, within a limited period, settle upon and cultivate a certain proportion of the tract of land which may have been, or hereafter shall be, assigned to them, according to the terms and conditions of the contract which shall be tendered to the agents of the association.

It is understood that attempts have been made by a portion of the small number of emigrants who are now upon the reservation, to introduce the cultivation of the vine, and no doubt is entertained of the success of the enterprise. The number who have made settlements is exhibited in the annexed list, marked B.

I have the honor to be,
Your most obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

Hon. HENRY CLAY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Explanation for the general map of the four townships granted to the French Emigrants.

The four townships are designated as follows:

Township	18th	range, 3 east.
Do	18th	range, 4 east.
Do	19th	range, 4 east.
Do	20th	range, 4 east.

The ranges east begin, from the basis meridian that leaves St. Stephens to the west, and the river Mobile to the east. The townships are numbered from the 31st degree of north latitude, which is the line of separation between the United States and the Floridas. A township is a regular square of six miles on each side; consequently, the township 18th begins at the distance of 102 miles north from the 31st degree of north latitude. A township is divided into 36 sections of one mile square, or 640 acres each.

The sections have two numbers, viz. the Roman from I. to XXXVI., in each township, which indicate the numbers of the sections as placed by Government; and the Arabian from 1 to 140, which indicate the numbers of the sections as adopted by the grantees at the drawing of the lots. They have been placed according to the course pursued by the Government, leaving four section unnumbered, as explained below.

SEPARATE MAPS.

The large figures, 1, 2, 3, &c. indicate the number of sections of the drawing of lots, and correspond with those on the general map.

The small figures, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, &c., indicate the individual allotments, according to the draft. This subdivision of each section has been formed by following the same course pursued by Government, which divides the sections into quarters. The first is always placed at the northeast angle, the second at the northwest angle, the third at the southwest angle, and the fourth at the southeast angle.

The lots A, B, C, &c. have not been distributed, and remain vacant.

On the first township the four sections not numbered are reserved for the site of the town; and the lots of 12, 6, and 3 acres, which lots are to be distributed among the grantees in the following order:

Each grantee having 480 acres, will be entitled to 12 acres, besides a city lot 100 feet front, 200 feet deep.

Each grantee having 320 acres, will be entitled to six acres, besides a city lot 100 feet front, 100 feet deep.

Each grantee having 240 acres, will be entitled to six acres, besides a city lot 100 feet front, 100 feet deep.

Each grantee having 160 acres, will be entitled to three acres, besides a city lot 50 feet front, 100 feet deep.

Each grantee having 120 acres, will be entitled to three acres, besides a city lot 50 feet front, 100 feet deep; according to the general list, viz.

LIST OF THE SHARES OF THE TOMBECKBEE COMPANY.

Numbers of the sections.	Numerical Nos. of the sharehold'rs	Names of the shareholders.	No. of acres of each shareholder
1	1	Meeslier, Bizile	480
	2	Lauret, Louis	160
2	3	Conte, Honore	120
	4	Roudet, Corneille Cadet	120
	5	Vial, Antoine	120
	6	Bujey, Antoine	120
	7	Godemar, Jean Baptiste	120
	A	Reserve	40
3	8	Jeannet, Louis Rene	320
	9	Ve. Julie, Pastol	320
4	10	Allard, Henry	120
	11	Combes, Germain	120
	12	Combes, Vincent	120
	13	Sibenthal, Freres	240
	B	Reserve	40
5	14	Perdrauville, Rene	240
	15	Alma, Anselme	120
	16	Salmon, Francois	120
	17	Lintroy	120
	C	Reserve	40
6	18	Schultz, Col. Jean	320
	19	Combe, Col. Michael	320
7	20	Martin, Francis	480
	21	Pelagot, Antoine Zacharie	160
8	22	George, Edouard	480
	23	Viole	160
9	24	Lacombe, Pierre	480
	25	Latapie, Antoine	160
10	26	Richard, Etienne	480
	27	Papillot, Etienne	160
11	28	Frenaye, Jeune Pierre	480
	29	Rivet, George	160
12	30	Boutiere, Jean Claude Benoit	240
	31	Ve. Louise, David	120
	32	Delaporte, Louis	120
	33	Meynie, Jean Ulysse	120
	D	Reserve	40
13	34	Metais, Et. J. B.	240
	35	Mansuis, Luillier	120
	36	Jouny, Louis Michael	120
	37	Vernhes, Jean Vincent	120
	E	Reserve	40
14	38	Marchand, Louis Pre. Jh.	480
	39	Martin, Amedee	160
15	40	Butaud, Isaac	240
	41	Keller, Jonas	240
	42	Menou, Dieudonne	120
	F	Reserve	40
16	43	Jordan, Col. Ambrose	320
	44	Vorster, Col. Emile	320
17	45	Cadet Bergache	240
	46	Gallard, Pierre	240
	47	Lafeuvre, Claude Joseph	120
	G	Reserve	40
18	48	Paguenaud, Edouard	240
	49	Transon, Jean	240
	50	Gauny, Nicholas	120
	H	Reserve	40
19	51	Astolphi, Laurent	480
	52	Knappe, Philippe	160
20	53	Grouchy, Col. Alphonse	320
	54	Grouchy, Cap. Victor	160
	55	Pillero	160
21	56	Drouet, Pierre	480
	57	Bailly, Michel	120
	I	Reserve	40
22	58	Lemaignen, Pierre Paul	480
	59	Lerouyer, Francois	160
23	60	Garesche, Pierre	480
	61	Formento, Felix	160
24	62	Faures, Laurent	240
	63	Burckle, Emanuel	120
	64	Coquillon, Freres	240
	J	Reserve	40
25	65	Jackson, Samuel	240
	66	Montelius, Guillaume	240
	67	Boutiere, Francois Gaspard	120
	K	Reserve	40
26	68	Robin, Thomas	240
	69	Nartigue, J. Justin	240
27	70	Gerard, Hiacinthe	160
	71	Follin, Auguste Firmin	480
	72	Follin, Freres	160
28	73	Chapron, J. M.	480
	74	Weill, James	160
29	75	Dupuoy, Nicholas Alex.	480
	76	Manoury, P. Max.	160
30	77	Garesche, V. M.	480
	78	Tournel, Jacques	160
31	79	Martin Picquet, L. J. F.	480
	80	Martin Picquet, Joseph	160
32	81	Robard, Joseph	480
	82	Martin Picquet, Pere	120
	L	Reserve	40
33	83	Auze, Freres	240
	84	Braud, Jacques	240
	85	Barrau	160
34	86	Lecampion, Francois	240
	87	Brechemin, Louis	240
	88	Humbert, Jacques Etienne	160
35	89	Jamet	480
	90	Rigau, Narcisse Pericles	160
36	91	Promis, Guillaume	480
	92	Desmares	160
37	93	Durand, Jean Baptiste	480
	94	Robaglia, Joseph	160
38	95	Garnier, Fils	240
	96	Peniere, Fils Emile	240
	97	Ve. Audibert	120
	M	Reserve	40
39	98	Nidelet, E. F.	480
	99	Cousin, David	120
	N	Reserve	40
40	100	Galabert, Col. Louis	320
	101	Petitval, J. B.	320
41	102	Anduze, Mathieu Bernard	480
	103	Frederic, Louis Auguste	160
42	104	Gubert, J. H.	480
	105	Moynier, Joseph Ariste Theo	160
43	106	Douarche, Col.	320
	107	Grouchet, Louis	320
44	108	Villar, Charles	480
	109	Pagniere, J. Alexandre	160
45	110	Dirat, Louis M.	480
	111	Mondin	160
46	112	Pagaud, Pierre	480
	113	Fallot, Eugine Hiacinthe	160
47	114	Frenaye, Marc. Antoine	480
	115	Lauret, Clement	120
	O	Reserve	40
48	116	Gl. Vandame	480
	117	Angeli, Hiacinthe	120
	P	Reserve	40
49	118	Poculo, Benoit	320
	119	Baltar	160
	120	Moquart	160
50	121	Besson, Louis An.	480
	122	Lemeunier, J. Joseph	160
51	123	Mesnier, Freres	480
	124	Henry, Germain	160
52	125	Cal. Rigau	480
	126	Mariano, Pompee	160
53	127	Texier, Lapomeraye	320
	128	Harraneder, Charles	160
	129	Metaye, Jean Pierre	120
	Q	Reserve	40
54	130	Martin, J. du Columbier	480
	131	Campardon, Bte.	160
55	132	Ravesies, F.	480
	133	Bordas, Elie	160
56	134	Debrosse, Charles	480
	135	Merle, Etienne	160
57	136	Ladurelle, M. F. Aug.	480
	137	Canobio, Francois	160
58	138	Davis, L. A.	240
	139	B. Charles Firmin	240
	140	Montalegri, Hiacinthe	160
59	141	Duval, Jacques S.	480
	142	Bacle, Alexis, fils, aine	160
60	143	Lakanal	480
	144	Desportes, Leonte	120
	R	Reserve	40
61	145	Tulane, Freres	240
	146	Kimbal	120
	147	Billington	120
	148	Boiteau, Francois	120
	S	Reserve	40
62	149	Leboutellier, Michel	480
	150	Plantevigne	160
63	151	Moncravie, Jacques	240
	152	Brown, F. S.	240
	153	Monot, Charles	160
64	154	Cluis, J. Jerome	480
	155	Ruffier, Ferdinand	160

LIST—Continued.

Numbers of the sections.	Numerical Nos. of the shareholders.	Names of the Shareholders.	No. of acres of each shareholder.
65	156	Garnier, Pere - - -	480
	157	Simon - - - -	160
66	158	Wells & Leclerc - - -	240
	159	Macre, Jean M. - - -	120
	160	Dumas, Antoine - - -	120
	161	Dalmazeau, J. - - -	120
	T	Reserve - - -	40
67	162	Fontanges, P. F. - - -	480
	163	Godon, Victorine (N.) - -	120
	U	Reserve - - -	40
68	164	Belair, Louis - - -	480
	165	Sagnier, Henri Antoine - -	160
69	166	Lallemand, Gen. Charles - -	480
	167	Valcourt, Aime - - -	160
70	168	Clausel, Gen. Bertrand - -	480
	169	Blaquerolle - - -	160
71	170	Sary, Jean M. Alex. - -	160
	171	Gatty, Antoine - - -	160
	172	Ilari, Benoit - - -	160
	173	Millon, Solidor - - -	160
72	174	Carre, Jean Thomas - -	480
	175	Genin, Charles Franc - -	160
73	176	Charrassin, Col. - - -	320
	177	Vasquez, Jean - - -	320
74	178	Roland, Jean Francois - -	320
	179	Pichon, Claude Charles - -	320
75	180	Charreton, Joseph Lewis - -	480
	181	Grillet Francois - - -	160
76	182	Texier, Jean - - -	240
	183	Martinet, Pierre Louis - -	240
	184	Vitalbe, Jean Baptiste - -	160
77	185	Jogan, Antonin - - -	240
	186	Cavaroc Charles - - -	120
	187	Roster, John - - -	120
	188	Chapon - - -	120
	V	Reserve - - -	40
78	189	Dubarry, John - - -	480
	190	Salaignac, Louis - - -	120
	W	Reserve - - -	40
79	191	Descourt, Leonard Alex. - -	240
	192	Onfroy, Jean Baptiste - -	120
	193	Pochard, Angustin Francois -	120
	194	Fux, Louis - - -	160
80	195	Stewart, George - - -	480
	196	Gilbert - - -	160
81	197	Sevelinge, Joseph - -	480
	198	Mane - - - -	160
82	199	Richard, George - - -	160
	200	Nardel, Francois - - -	160
	201	Chauvot Charles - - -	160
	202	Plaidaut, Francois - -	160
83	203	Bono, Charles - - -	240
	204	Tascha - - -	120
	205	Blandin, Jean - - -	120
	206	Azan - - - -	120
	X	Reserve - - - -	40
84	207	Victoire, Delaunay Josephe -	480
	208	Castan, Etienne - - -	160
85	209	Lefrancois, Freres - -	480
	210	Groning - - -	160
86	211	Pothier, Simon - - -	240
	212	Shubart, Henry - - -	240
	213	Neel, Jean Baptiste - -	160
87	214	Beylle, Joseph - - -	480
	215	Malozewsky, Const. Paul - -	160
88	216	Teterel, Francois - -	480
	217	Pagniere - - - -	160
89	218	Dubosq - - - -	120
	219	George, Fils aine Edouard -	120
	220	Lesueur - - - -	120
	221	Dor - - - -	120
	222	Maillet, Henry Pre. Ae. As. -	160
90	223	Stollenwerek, Freres - -	480
	224	Vallot, Joseph - - -	160
91	225	Mathieu, Dr. Joseph - -	480
	226	Allain, Joseph - - -	120
	Y	Reserve - - - -	40
92	227	Jeandrau, Jean - - -	240
	228	Caillebaux, Guillaume - -	240
	229	Nelson - - - -	120
	Z	Reserve - - - -	40
93	230	Taillade, Col. - - -	320
	231	Olivieri, Joseph - - -	160
	232	Luciana, Pascal - - -	160
94	233	Mal. Grouchy - - -	480
	234	Deschamps, Francois Me. -	160
95	235	Baumier, Cesar - - -	160
	236	Barbe, Antoine - - -	160
	237	Stribaud, Charles - - -	160
	238	Decorme, Charles - -	160
96	239	Chaudron, Edouard - -	480
	240	Gilbal, Antoine - - -	160
97	241	Martin, Prosper - - -	480
	242	Desplan, Samuel - -	160
98	243	Melizet, Francois - - -	480
	244	Corso, Francois - - -	160
99	245	Hamel, Victor - - -	480
	246	Havard - - -	160
100	247	Peniere, Pere J. A. - -	480
	248	Fanchon, Hre. - - -	160
101	249	Lecoq du Marcelay - -	480
	250	Godat - - - -	120
	AA	Reserve - - - -	40
102	251	Defourni, Col. Fabias - -	320
	252	Gouillot - - - -	320
103	253	Bardaraque, Thomas - -	480
	254	Conte, Marius - - -	160
104	255	Desfonch, Charles - -	160
	256	Pascal, Paul - - -	160
	257	Fouasche, Pierre - - -	160
	258	Bernard, Henry - - -	160
105	259	Rapin, Joseph - - -	480
	260	Contardi, Louis - - -	160
106	261	St. Guiron, Jeune - - -	480
	262	Demony, Dominique Victor -	160
107	263	Ravesies, Ee. - - -	240
	264	Fournier, Honore - -	240
	265	Farcy - - - -	160
108	266	Champenois, P. J. - -	240
	267	Savary, Joseph - - -	240
	268	Belmere, pere and fils - -	160
109	269	Gal. Lallemand, Hy. -	480
	270	Prompt - - - -	160
110	271	Bayol, Honore - - -	480
	272	Durive, Francois - - -	160
111	273	Conde, Charles - - -	240
	274	Pierce, Freres - - -	240
	275	Laurent, Maurice - - -	160
112	276	Chaudron, Simon - - -	480
	277	Boilandry, Eugenie - -	120
	BB	Reserve - - - -	40
113	278	Arnaud, Camille - - -	240
	279	Deprest, Rene, Freres and Zach. -	240
	280	Batre, Charles - - -	120
	CC	Reserve - - - -	40
114	281	Belange, Mal. Denis - -	320
	282	Chasseriau, Benoit - -	320
115	283	Real, Pierre Francois - -	480
	284	Panazi, Louis - - -	160
116	285	Eujac, Freres, Mathieu and Alfd.	240
	286	Germond and Reviere - -	240
	287	Guibert, Hy. - - -	120
	DD	Reserve - - - -	40
117	288	Ducoing, Pre. - - -	480
	289	Stephens, Samuel J. - -	160
118	290	Fourestier, Elie - - -	480
	291	Gregoire, Etienne - -	160
119	292	Manfredi, Math. Ferdinand -	160
	293	Dupont - - - -	96
	EE	Reserve - - - -	384
120	294	Gal. Lefebre Desnouettes -	480
	295	Desroures - - -	160
121	296	Jeannet, George - - -	480
	297	Jeannet, Je. - - -	160
122	298	Dumenil - - - -	240
	299	Ducommun, Joseph - -	120
	300	Parat, F. Romaine - -	120
	301	Burgues, Jn. Bernard - -	120
	FF	Reserve - - - -	40
123	302	Ve. Demerest - - -	240
	303	Bourlon, E. - - -	240
	304	Lapeyre, Jn. Bte. - -	160
124	305	Thouron, pere and fils - -	480
	306	Lavau, Sully - - -	120
	GG	Reserve - - - -	40
125	307	Englebert - - -	480
	308	Landevin, Francois - -	120
	HH	Reserve - - - -	40
126	309	Legrix, Belisle - - -	240
	310	Legras - - - -	240
	311	Bulliard, Etienne - - -	160

LIST—Continued.

Numbers of the sections.	Numerical Nos. of the shareholders.	Names of the Shareholders.	No. of acres of each shareholder.
127	312	Pollin, George	480
	313	Fauquier	160
128	314	Emery and Duterte	480
	315	Vogelsang, Daniel	120
	II	Reserve	40
129	316	Gaines, George	480
	317	Murrat, Jean Bte.	160
130	318	Mestayer, Michael	480
	319	Rieger, Gabriel V.	160
131	320	Parmantier, Nicolas Simon	480
	321	Bauzan, Pierre	160
132	322	Vorrhees, S.	480
	323	Fisher	160
133	324	Dufourg, Jean Jacques	240
	325	Dufourg, D. V.	120
	326	Dufourg, F.	120
	327	Lacroix, Rene Francois	160
134	328	St. Guiron, aine Pre. Pascal	240
	329	Farrouilh, A.	120
	330	St. Felix, Jean R.	120
	331	Decave, Marc Lewis	120
	JJ	Reserve	40
135	332	Barbaroux, Joseph	240
	333	Cirode, William	120
	334	Shoeun, Sebastian	120
	335	Gouiran, Joseph Michel	120
	KK	Reserve	40
136	336	Lajonie	480
	337	Truck	160
137	338	Colona, Dornano B.	320
	339	Peraldi, Toussaint	160
	340	Scasso, Vincent	160
138	341	Laroderie, Alphonse	240
	342	Savournin, Joseph	240
	343	Balbuena, Joseph	160
139	344	Canonge, Pierre Auguste	480
	345	Lucien	160
140	346	Tablee, William	480
	347	Torta, Jean	160

B.—*List of the Persons who are actually Established at Eagleville, on the Tombeckbee.*

Bazile Meslier	492	Mocar	163	Veunede Launay	492	Lefebre Desnouette	492
Pennieres	492	Charles Decrosse	492	Lefrancois Freres	192	Michel Metayer	492
J. Cd. Ben. De Coutiere	246	Leontine Desportes	123	Jean Jeandrau	246	Nics. Simon Parmentier	492
Jean Francon	246	Billington	123	St. Guiron's Jeune	492	Saml. Vorrees	492
Victor Grouchy	163	Francs. Boitau	123	Francois Durive	163	Lajonie	492
Isaac Butaud	246	Michel Lebouteiller	492	Jonathan Pieree	246	Lucien	163
David Cousin	163	Simon	163	Maurice Laurent	163		9,817
Benoit Poculo	326	Jean Texier	246	Charles Batre	123	Viol	163
Boltar	163	George Steward	492	Riviere	123		9,980

In this list are not included about ten persons established there, who are not on the list or erased from it, and those who have arrived there since five months that I am absent from the colony.

The following are the names of the persons established in the colony whose names are not on the list or erased from it, which are, to my knowledge: Prudomme, Fougnet, Guyault, Haez, Mignon, Clement, Joseph.

List furnished by Gen. C. Lefebre Desnouette.

15th Congress. **No. 288.** 2d Session.

APPLICATION TO CHANGE AN ENTRY.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DECEMBER 17, 1818.

Mr. Poinddxter, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of William Stranahan, of the State of Ohio, reported:

That, according to the statement of the petitioner, he entered with the register of the land office at Zanesville, in Ohio, the southwest quarter of section six, in township two, range two, and paid the first instalment on said quarter section; but that he intended to have entered the southwest quarter of section one in said township, and therefore prays Congress to allow him to change his said entry. Your committee are of opinion that as the mistake of the petitioner was not produced by any act of the officers of the Government of the United States, nor by the destruction of the marked lines, by the act of God, which ought to operate injuriously to one, but was solely to be ascribed to the petitioner's own negligence, he is not entitled to the relief which he asks. The circumstance of his having entered land less valuable than that which he intended to have entered is his own misfortune, but it constitutes no reasonable ground on which to authorize him to change his location. Your committee therefore recommend that the prayer of the petitioner be rejected.

15th Congress. **No. 289.** 2d Session.

CLAIM TO LAND IN MISSISSIPPI.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DECEMBER 28, 1818.

Mr. Robertson, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the petition of Stephen Henderson and Elliot Hackley, reported:

That the petitioners represent that, in 1809, they purchased, for the consideration of $50,000, of a Mr. Young, two thousand one hundred and sixty-four acres of land in the State of Mississippi, which they say said Young had purchased of three gentlemen named Pannell, to whom, in 1795 and 1797, the said land had been granted by the Spanish Government in three several tracts, one to each: that they have made extensive and very valuable improvements on the said land: that the claim was regularly filed with the commissioners appointed to adjust land claims, and by them rejected for want of proof of cultivation and residence in 1795, as required by law: that a part of the land has since been sold by the United States, and the balance they fear will be sold. They therefore pray Congress to either confirm their claim or give them a pre-emptive right thereto.

The committee deem it only necessary to remark that there is no evidence to support the most material allegations in the petition, and that if there were, the case made out by the petition will not authorize the relief sought.

It is not proven that the petitioners purchased from Young, or that Young purchased of the three Messrs. Pannells; and the committee think that the non-production of evidence to support facts so important in the deduction of title, is strong evidence of the non-existence of the facts themselves. There is no attempt to prove the sale by Young to the petitioners; and the only evidence tending to prove Young's purchase is the affidavit of Young himself, which if it was competent and entitled to full credence, does not prove enough. He states that he purchased of *one* of the Pannells, consequently he only could have purchased his individual interest, and could have no right to sell more.

But as already remarked, if the evidence to prove the derivation of title were sufficient, the petition does not exhibit a case that would justify the relief prayed for.

The petitioners acknowledge that they purchased in 1809, after the rejection of the claim by the commissioners. The committee therefore infer that, if they purchased at all, the contract was a hazardous one, and can present no claims to indulgence. But the petition states that the claim was rejected because there was no proof of residence in 1795. If this were the only cause of rejection, it would seem proper that the petitioners should at least state that there was such residence, and that it can now be proven, and give some reason for its non-production before the commissioners before their claim to relief can be even plausible. Their not having done this indicates strongly that it cannot be done. At all events the committee cannot undertake to recommend relief until such a case shall have been presented.

Add to this that Mr. Williams, one of the commissioners who rejected the said claim, states in his certificate, not that the claim was rejected for want of "*proof of evidence in* 1795," but "*for want of evidence.*" Viewing the case therefore in every attitude in which it is presented, the committee are of opinion that it furnishes no ground for the interposition of Congress. They therefore recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioners ought not to be granted.

15th Congress. **No. 290.** 2d Session.

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED TO ADJUST LAND CLAIMS IN THE TERRITORY OF ORLEANS AND DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DECEMBER 28, 1818.

Treasury Department, *December* 24, 1818.

Sir: In obedience to the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 17th instant, requiring the Secretary of the Treasury to "communicate to this House a copy of the instructions given by the Secretary of the Treasury, under the eighth section of the act of Congress of the 21st of April, 1806, entitled 'An act supplementary to an act, entitled an act for ascertaining and adjusting the titles and claims to land within the Territory of Orleans, and district of Louisiana,' to the several Boards of Commissioners appointed under the act of the 2d of March, 1805, for ascertaining and adjusting the titles and claims to land within the aforesaid Territories;" I have the honor to transmit the instructions described in the said resolution.

I remain with respect,
Your most obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

Hon. Henry Clay,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Treasury Department, *May*, 5, 1806.

John W. Gurley, Esq., Register, *New Orleans.*
John Thompson, Esq. Register, *Opelousas.*

Sir: I have the honor to enclose a copy of an act supplementary to an act, entitled "An act for ascertaining and adjusting the titles and claims to land within the territory of Orleans and the District of Louisiana."

The two first sections are intended to give a more liberal effect to the provisions of the former law on the two points on which it was thought safe to legislate at this time; and the provisions of the fifth section will show that Government wishes to obtain more particular information in relation to the claims of double concessions to grants made to minors generally, and to grants made between the 1st April, 1800 and the 20th December, 1803, before an ultimate decision is made: but the apprehensions of the inhabitants will, in the mean while, be quieted, by perceiving that it is not intended to make any disposition of lands thus claimed until the necessary information shall have been obtained.

The obstacles which seem to have prevented a more general entry of the claims, not only suggested the propriety of the extending the time, but have also induced Congress to facilitate the means of making the entries, by authorizing the registers to appoint deputies in the manner provided by the fourth section of the act. To this part of the law I request your immediate attention, by the appointment of a sufficient number of deputies, on whose integrity, discretion, and attachment to the American Government you may rely; observing, at the same time, that men already living in the county, and enjoying the confidence of their neighbors, will be best calculated to promote the object of the law, by removing the erroneous impressions which may heretofore have prevented a compliance with its provisions.

The clause of that section which relates to the compensation of the deputy registers, is not very clearly expressed. As it was, however, intended to give in addition to the usual fees as established by the former law, either an additional fee of one dollar for each claim, to be paid by the parties, or a gross sum of five hundred dollars, to be paid by the United States, I think it proper to make the option of the payment of five hundred dollars in full; and, accordingly, to direct that the con-

templated fee of one dollar should not be demanded. You will be pleased to instruct the deputies accordingly, and to state the number appointed, and the sum of money which it will be necessary to place in your hands for the purpose of paying them.

But it is expected that you will appoint no more than will be strictly necessary, and, particularly, that you will not appoint any for the county in which you reside. You may, on the 1st of January next, draw in favor of the collector of New Orleans, on the Secretary of the Treasury, for the five hundred dollars additional compensation granted for your services as register. But for all the other compensations provided by the 6th and 7th sections of the act, that for the agent excepted, a certificate by the board, of the days of attendance, mileage, or time of service, as the case may be, will be necessary.

You will perceive by the 12th section of the act, that General La Fayette is allowed to make locations for tracts of five hundred acres. The forms alluded to in the eighth section will be prepared and sent in due time.

I have, &c.

In a letter to Thompson, the following paragraph was added:

Mr. Vacher's conduct has induced the President to remove him, and I do not believe that his place will be filled. Mr. Parmelye, late clerk of the Mobile board, is appointed third Commissioner, and has sailed from New York for New Orleans. I have also thought proper to discontiue Mr. McGruder, on account of his intemperance, and I do not know whether it will be thought necessary to appoint a successor. I will thank you to seal and deliver the enclosed letters to both those gentleman.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *May* 6, 1806.

JOHN THOMPSON, Esq., *Reg. Land Office, Opelousas.*

SIR: Your letter of the 3d of March, was received this morning. The Commissioners are already authorized, by law, to demand and obtain copies of all the papers which may exist in any of the public offices, and, on application to James Brown, esq., agent of the United States for land claims at New Orleans, you may obtain such copies as you want.

In the case of conflicting, incomplete titles, it does not appear to me that the date of filing the claims with the register ought to have any effect: the date of the incomplete title ought certainly to govern. But it will be still better to have the lands surveyed, in conformity with what must have been the intention of the Government who made the grant; and that may be fairly presumed to have been, that the division lines running back from the bayous, should be perpendicular to the course of the bayous in that place.

In order to accommodate you, I have directed the collector of New Orleans to purchase your bills drawn on the Secretary of the Treasury for a sum not exceeding three thousand dollars. You will draw for such portions of this sum, from time to time, as you may find necessary, and pay out of the same your own compensation as it becomes due; the contingencies of the board, which you have mentioned, but not exceeding the quarterly amount which you stated; the cost of stationary, and the salaries of the clerk and the translator. For every payment which you may make, you will take duplicate receipts, and state quarterly, on the last days of June, October, December, and March, in each year, a general account, which you will transmit to this department, together with the vouchers, consisting of one set of the receipts in support thereof. Your bills, though drawn on the Treasury, will be immediately purchased by the collector at New Orleans. They will, therefore, serve your purpose, whether you send to New Orleans for the money, or sell the bills at Opelousas, as well as bills drawn on him, and this mode will better comport with Treasury regulations.

If a further credit beyond the three thousand dollars, shall be wanted, you will please to state it in time to come.

I have, &c.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *May* 7, 1806.

WM. C. CARR, Esq. *Agent U. S. &c. &c., St. Louis*

SIR: I enclose a copy of the act, supplementary to an act entitled "An act for ascertaining and adjusting the titles and claims to land within the territory of Orleans and the district of Louisiana."

The first, second, seventh, and eighth sections, are the only ones which relate to land claims in the Territory of Louisiana.

The eighth section having made it the duty of the Commissioners to conform to the instructions which may be transmitted to them by the Secretary of the Treasury, with the approbation of the President of the United States, you will please to state from time to time, whether any principle be adopted by them which, from its nature and consequences, seems to call for any such instructions. In the mean while I enclose a copy of my letter of this day to the board.

I embrace this opportunity to call your attention to the lead mines, and to request that you will, in conformity with the sixth section of the act of March 2, 1805, hasten to lay the subject before the Commissioners, in order that they may make, as soon as possible, the special report contemplated by the said section.

I have, &c.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *May* 7, 1806.

JOHN B. C. LUCAS, CLEMENT B. PENROSE, JAMES L. DONALDSON, } *Esquires, Commisioners, &c., St. Louis.*

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to enclose a copy of the act supplementary to an act, entitled "An act for ascertaining and adjusting the titles and claims to land within the territory of Orleans, and the district of Louisiana."

The first, second, seventh, and eighth sections, are the only ones which relate to land claims in the Territory of Louisiana.

The first section defines the cases in which permission to settle shall be presumed, although the evidence of such permission cannot be produced.

The second section is intended to confirm, in certain instances, the claims arising from orders of survey, or other informal concessions granted to minors.

The seventh section was inserted in consequence of your communication, and of the New Madrid representation.

The forms alluded to in the 8th section, will be prepared and transmitted in due time.

I embrace this opportunity, under the authority vested by the same section, to confirm the instructions contained in my letter of the 26th March, 1806, (except so far as they become necessarily modified by the effect of the first section of the enclosed act,) and particularly to repeat that you must adhere to the letter of the law, and not confirm any claims not strictly embraced by its provisions.

Although the time for receiving claims has not been extended in Louisiana, it must be understood that all the claims which had been presented in time, but were not accepted for want of an accompanying survey, must be considered as having been duly presented, and be acted upon accordingly. I have, &c.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Sept.* 8, 1806.

J. B. C. LUCAS, C. B. PENROES, J. L. DONALDSON, } *Esquires, Commissioners for Land Claims, St. Louis.*

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to enclose instructions prepared in conformity with the eighth section of the act entitled an act supplementary to an act, entitled "An act for ascertaining and adjusting the titles and claims to land within the territory of Orleans, and the district of Louisiana," which have been approved by the President of the United States, and to which you will, therefore, be pleased to conform in your several proceedings and decisions.

The forms of reports and transcripts will be transmitted in the course of next month. If, in your opinion, the business of the board cannot be completed before the close of this year, you will be pleased to state in time to me, in order that Congress may make such additional provision as they will think necessary.

I am, &c.

Instructions for the Commissioners appointed to ascertain the titles and claims to lands in the Territory of Louisiana, prepared by the Secretary of the Treasury, in conformity with the eighth section of the act entitled an act supplementary to an act, entitled "An act for ascertaining and adjusting the titles and claims to land within the territory of Orleans, and the district of Louisiana, and approved by the President of the United States.

1. All claims derived from any grant, concession, order of survey, or other species of title, whether complete or incomplete, bearing date subsequent to the first day of October, 1800, must be rejected, unless they be embraced by the second section of the act of 2d March 1805.

2. No titles shall be considered as complete but legal French or Spanish grants, made and completed before the first day of Octoberr, 1800, regularly signed and issued prior to that date, by the governor general or intendant of the province of Louisiana, residing at New Orleans, and duly recorded at the proper office in New Orleans.

3. No claims other than those derived from complete titles, shall be admitted, unless the lands claimed were actually inhabited and cultivated on the 1st day of October, 1800; and by or for the use of the persons claiming the same, if such persons claimed by virtue of the 1st section of the act of 2d March, 1805; and, on the 20th day of December, 1803, and by the persons claiming the same, if such persons claimed by virtue of the second section of the said act.

4. All claims founded on the first section of the said act, must be derived from a written order, whether known by the name of concession, or any other denomination, issued by an officer duly authorized by the Spanish laws for the time being, to issue the same, and directing a tract of land to be surveyed for the party.

5. In every case where the tract thus claimed, shall contain a greater quantity of land than was generally allowed to actual settlers and their family, agreeably to the laws, usages, and customs of the Spanish Government, the claim shall be rejected, unless a duly authenticated copy of the ordinance, authorizing the officers to grant such greater quantity of land, shall have been produced and deposited with the Commissioners.

6. All claims presented under the first section of the act above mentioned, must be rejected, unless the concession, order, or warrant of survey, shall have been duly registered in the books, records, or minutes kept by the Spanish officer or officers for that purpose.

7. If the officer issuing such concessions, orders, or warrants of survey, shall have kept any books, records, or minutes, for the registering or noting of the concessions, orders, or warrants of survey, issued by him; any concession, order, or warrant of survey not registered or noted in its proper order, according to its date, in such books, records, or minutes, shall be considered "prima facie," as surreptitious or antidated, and the burden of the proof of its date and validity shall fall on the claimant.

8. If no books, records, nor minutes have been kept, in which the concessions, orders, or warrants of survey have been entered at the time when the same were issued, and in their proper order according to their dates, the burden of the proof of the date and validity of any such concession, order, or warrant of survey, shall fall on the claimant, whenever the agent of the United States shall object to the same on the ground of its being antidated or otherwise fraudulent.

9. Whenever it shall appear in evidence that the actual survey of any such concession, order, or warrant was made subsequent to the 1st day of October, 1800, and the date assigned to such actual survey, either on the plat or return thereof, or on the books or records of the officer acting as surveyor general, under the Spanish Government, shall be prior to the said 1st day of October, 1800, the concession, order, or warrant shall be rejected as fraudulent; and the abovementioned officer, acting as surveyor general, and also every other former Spanish officer, as well as every other witness, shall be obliged to answer every question put to him by the agent of the United States respecting any claim, the validity of which is disputed by the said agent.

10. No tract of land shall, in any instance, be granted under the second section of the act of the 2d March, 1805, to a person claiming land under the first section of the act, or under a complete French or Spanish grant.

11. The Commissioners will consider the opinion of the Attorney General of the United States, of the 12th of March, 1806, transmitted by the Secretary of the Treasury, in his letter of 26th March last, as part of these instructions; and they will revise and correct, in conformity with the said instructions and opinion, every former decision of theirs which may be inconsistent with, or contradictory to either.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Nov.* 14, 1806.

JOHN B. C. LUCAS,
CLEMENT B. PENROSE, } *Commissioners, &c. St. Louis.*
JAMES L. DONALDSON

GENTLEMEN: In conformity with the provisions of the 8th section of the act of 21st April last, the following rules are prescribed in relation to the forms of the transcript of your decisions in favor of claimants for land in the Territory of Louisiana, which you are directed by law to transmit to the Secretary of the Treasury.

1. The decisions to be arranged according to the districts into which that part of the former province of Louisiana, now forming the Territory of Louisiana, was divided at the time when the United States obtained possession of the same; so that the decisions in relation to claims for land in one district, shall not be blended with those for land situated in another district; but there shall be, in fact, a distinct transcript of decisions for each district.

2. The transcript of decisions for each district to be arranged under three general heads, viz. 1st. Complete titles derived from French or Spanish grants. 2d. Claims derived from warrants or orders of survey, and embraced by the first section of the act of 2d March, 1805. 3d. Claims derived from actual settlement, and embraced by the second section of the above mentioned act. Each of the two first classes to be sub-divided into and arranged under two distinct heads, viz. 1st. Claims derived from the French Government, and, 2ndly, claims derived from the Spanish Government; and the last class to be also arranged under two heads, viz. 1st. Cases in which evidence of permission to settle has been produced. 2ndly. Cases embraced by the first section of the act of 21st April, 1806; which will make, in the whole, six distinct classes.

3. To the transcript of decisions for each district, a recapitulation or register must be prefixed, arranged also under the six above mentioned classes, and in conformity to the forms of A, B, C, D, E, F, herein enclosed. Each class may, by the Commissioners, be sub-divided into such sub-ordinate classes as they may think convenient, and the decisions for each class or sub-division, to be in the said recapitulation or register arranged alphabetically by the names of the persons in whose favor the decisions shall have been made. In the last column of the said recapitulation or register, entitled general remarks, the following particulars must be noted, in addition to such other references as the Commissioners may think proper to insert, viz. 1st. Whether the claim was opposed by the agent of the United States, which may be expressed by the single word "*opposed.*" 2ndly. Whether the decision was not unanimous, which may be expressed merely by inserting the sirnames of the Commissioners in favor of the decision, (and it will thence follow that whenever in that last column the word *opposed* does not appear, the claim was not opposed by the agent, and whenever the name of neither Commissioner is inserted, the decisions were unanimous.) 3dly. Reference to the ordinance authorizing the officers to grant the quantity of land allowed, whenever it shall exceed the quanity generally allowed, agreeably to the laws, usages, and customs of the Spanish Government; in which case a copy of such ordinance must accompany the transcript of decisions. 4thly. Whether the claim be confirmed under the second section of the act of 21st April last, which may be expressed by the words *ten years possession.*

4. No other rule can be given for the form in which the decisions themselves should be expressed, than to say generally that they must, as concisely as practicable, include the particulars necessary to enable Congress to understand the principles on which they are founded, and the leading facts to which the principles apply in each decision. The enclosed forms of recapitulation or register, and the immediately preceding rule, show the circumstances which are believed, with the imperfect knowledge this department has of the subject, to be most important. To these must be added the conditions on which grants, orders, or warrants of survey, and every species of concession were made or granted, and whether the same have been fulfilled. But the Commissioners will materially assist Congress in forming a correct determination, by prefixing to the transcript a general report, stating the various secondary classes into which the above mentioned general classes may be divided, and the general principles which have governed the board in their decisions respecting each sub-division. This will be more particularly important as it relates to claims which were opposed by the agent, or on which the Commissioners were not unanimous.

5. It will be observed that, in the forms C and D, there is a column for inserting the situation of the land as described in the order or warrant of survey; for, although it is understood that there are some concessions which do not describe the land, these are not considered as embraced by the first section of the act of 2d March, 1805. Should any such, however, from any particular and unforseen circumstance, be confirmed by the Commissioners, they must be distinctly reported and arranged as subordinate classes of the classes C, D, both in the transcript of decisions, and in the register or recapitulation.

6. As far as circumstances will permit, the same arrangement in the division of classes, and the same forms o

recapitulation or register, must be followed in the report of claims rejected as in the transcript of decisions in favor of claims, observing briefly to note in the column of general remarks the cause why rejected.

Of the special report relative to the lead mines, no form con be prescribed; but, in stating the claims to the same, whether confirmed or rejected, a reference should be affixed to the place where that claim is to be found, either in the transcript of favorable decisions, or in the report of claims rejected. I am, &c.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Nov.* 17, 1806.

WM. C. CARR, Esq., *Agent U. S., St. Louis.*

SIR: Herewith you will receive copies of a letter written on the 14th instant, to the land Commissioners at St. Louis, and of the forms accompanying the same. You will perceive that they are intended to compel, as far as practicable, a compliance with the provisions of the laws, and with the instructions heretofore transmitted.

I rely on the continuance of your faithful endeavors in promoting that object, and bringing to view every attempt of an improper nature. I beg leave also to call your particular attention to the strong presumptions of fraud arising from the appearance of the records of surveys lately delivered to Mr. Bent. I am, &c.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Feb.* 13, 1807.

The COMMISSIONERS
on Land Claims for Louisiana, St. Louis.

GENTLEMEN: I have duly received your letter signed by Messrs. Lucas and Penrose, in which you advise me that the instructions sent by this department would occasion a revision of a great part of the decisions of the board, and suggested the propriety of suspending your operations for the present, as a bill is now before Congress, which will probably make considerable alterations in the provisions heretofore enacted. I approve your suggestion, and request that you will suspend your decisions, though you may proceed to receive evidence until you shall receive a copy of the intended alterations, and such further instructions as those may render necessary.

This letter will be delivered to Mr. Bates, now one of your board, he having been appointed recorder in lieu of Mr. Donaldson. I have, &c.

You may draw on me on account of your compensation as Commissioners, viz. Mr. Lucas for six hundred dollars, and Mr. Penrose for two hundred dollars, which will leave a balance of four hundred dollars to be paid hereafter to each. Of the time when you may draw for that balance, you may hereafter be advised.

15th CONGRESS. **No. 291.** 2d SESSION.

GRANT TO A FRENCH EMIGRANT IN OHIO.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DECEMBER 30, 1818.

Mr. ROBERTSON, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the petition of John B. Regnier, reported:

That, about the year 1790, a company of French emigrants settled at and near a place in the now State of Ohio, on the bank of the river Ohio, which they called Galliopolis. They had purchased of a company who styled themselves the "*Scioto Company*" a large tract of land on the Ohio, including the said little village, which they built under the expectation of enjoying without molestation all the benefits and advantages which could be derived from the proprietorship of the land thus purchased. It is believed that the sale was made to most of the settlers in France, and that they migrated to America to enjoy, on the land purchased, a peaceful home. But they had not been living long at their new village before they ascertained that the "Scioto Company" was self-created, and had no right to the land it had sold to them. In this condition, in a strange country, destitute of a home, and without the means of purchasing one, having expended their all in the purchase and improvement of the tract on the Ohio, they appealed to the generosity and magninimity of Congress. Congress, in consideration of their peculiar condition, without hesitation, granted them, in 1795, 24,000 acres of land on the Ohio, and directed the surveyor to subdivide it into smaller tracts, that the individuals composing the company who resided at Galliopolis in 1795, might, by lottery, draw to each one tract. This was done as far as practicable before 1798, when it was ascertained that eight of the original settlers were not at Galliopolis in 1795, and did not return there soon enough to derive any benefit from the law of 1795: for their relief a law was passed in 1798 giving to each 150 acres of land. It seems, from the statements of the petitioner, (all of which are confirmed by the certificates of respectable men,) that he was one of the original purchasers: that he settled at Galliopolis in 1790 under the purchase, but was absent in 1795 and in 1798, so that he was not benefitted by either of the laws of those dates. He states that he is the only one of the French emigrants concerned in the aforesaid purchase who has not received from the United States the evidence of their generosity given by the two acts of 1795 and 1798; and that he is yet living in the State of Ohio, and is poor. Under these circumstances, and for these reasons, he asks to be placed in the situation of the other emigrants.

The committee are of opinion that the petitioner should now receive some relief, but they think it would be supererogation to superadd to the foregoing statement of facts other reasons and arguments to sustain their report. They have consulted Mr. Barber, the member of Ohio from the district including Marietta, where the petitioner lives, in regard to the quantity of vacant land in the Marietta district which would be worth as much as the quantity which the other emigrants received from the Government, who thinks that 160 acres would not be too much. The committee therefore think that the petitioner should receive 160 acres of land in the said district; and for that purpose they report a bill.

15th CONGRESS. **No. 292.** 2d SESSION.

FURTHER RELIEF TO PURCHASERS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 6, 1819.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
January 4, 1819.

SIR: In obedience to a resolution of the 24th ultimo, directing the Secretary of the Treasury "to lay before the Senate information relative to the effect of an act to suspend, for a limited time, the sale or forfeiture of lands of the 18th of April last, upon the receipts into the Treasury, and the probable effect by continuing in force the act aforesaid for one year, with a condition that, if the purchasers complete their payments on or before the expiration of the period aforesaid, interest shall only be required on the instalments due from the time that they became due until paid," I have the honor to submit the enclosed statement of the receipts at the different land offices in the States of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, during the three first quarters of the years 1817 and 1818, by which it appears that the receipts in the latter period have exceeded those of the former about three hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

It is presumed that the relinquishment of interest proposed by the resolution would increase the amount of payments on account of public lands during the continuance of the act in question. It may be proper, however to observe, that the benefit would be confined to the pur-

chasers, who are best able to submit to a rigid exaction of the conditions upon which the purchase was made. The real needy and necessitous purchaser would derive the least benefit from such an act of liberality. It is possible also, that those who have heretofore paid the accumulated interest which is now proposed to be relinquished, may complain that the same measure of liberality has not been meeted to them that is now extended to others.

If, however, it is considered importaat to increase the payments on account of the public lands during the present year, to the greatest possible amount, the proposed measure is better calculated to effect that object than any other which can be devised, except that of leaving the existing laws to their ordinary operation.

Considering the derangement of the currency in the section of the Union where these payments are to be made, justice and sound policy require that relief in some form should be granted.

I remain, with sentiments of respect,
Your most obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

The Hon. DANIEL D. TOMPKINS,
Vice President of the United States,
and President of the Senate.

A comparative statemeut of the moneys received for public lands by the receivers of public money in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, during the three first quarters of 1817 *and* 1818.

Districts.	Rec'd in 3 qrs. of 1817.	Rec'd in 3 qrs. of 1818.
Steubenville - -	$94,889 01	$80,759 99
Marietta - -	23,560 62	23,529 28
Wooster - -	197,345 43	110,880 98
Cincinnati - -	285,109 44	297,828 87
Chilicothe - -	63,285 74	69,444 05
Zanesville - -	94,752 97	116,056 90
Jeffersonville - -	175,447 56	221,170 14
Vincennes - -	161,637 98	270,076 23
Shawneetown - -	32,837 95	112,759 89
Kaskaskia - -	41,218 46	68,975 10
Edwardsville - -	41,426 39	78,788 12
	1,101,511 55	1,450,269 55

15th CONGRESS. **No. 293.** 2d SESSION.

APPLICATION TO CHANGE THE LOCATION OF A REVOLUTIONARY BOUNTY LAND WARRANT.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 8, 1819.

Mr. MORROW, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of John Buchanan and Hugh Milling, reported:

That it appears that the petitioners, being officers in the continental army during the revolutionary war, have had the bounty lands to which they were entitled in consequence of their service, located within the tract set apart by the United States for satisfying the bounty lands to the officers and soldiers of that army, and that patents were granted to the petitioners for their respective proportion thereof on the 22d day of May, 1806. They represent the land thus granted as not being valuable to them, on account of its remote situation from their residence, they being inhabitants within the State of South Carolina, and pray that they may be authorized to reconvey the same to the United States in exchange for a like quantity of public lands in the Alabama Territory. The committee, on a review of the laws regulating the grants of bounty lands, observe that locations have been always made under general regulations. That the claimants have had the right of selecting the tracts to which they were entitled from extensive territory of vacant lands; and that, in no instance heretofore, has a claimant been permitted to change his location, however improvidently he may have exercised his right of selection, or ineligible the tract of his choice may be in point of soil or situation. That a relief in the present instance would most probably encourage numerous applications for similar relief in cases not to be distinguished from the present application. A precedent being once established, a course of impartial justice would substitute particular provisions and individual grants in place of the general and regular system now in force and heretofore pursued. The committee recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.

15th CONGRESS. **No. 294.** 2d SESSION.

CLAIM TO LAND IN ILLINOIS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 13, 1819.

Mr. ROBERTSON, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the petition of Nicholas Jarret, reported:

That Michael Jones and Shadrac Bond transmitted, on the 29th of March, 1815, a list of unconfirmed and unlocated claims to land in the then Territory, now State, of Illinois, among which was the claim of the petitioner. By the 4th section of an act of 1816, all the claims contained in the said district were confirmed, and the claimants given until the 1st day of October, 1816, to register them. It appears that the list was not precisely identified by the said act, but called the list transmitted on the *29th day of March*, 1815, instead of the 29th day of *November*, 1815; whether it was owing to this incorrect description of the class of cases intended to be confirmed, or to other circumstances, that the petitioner's claim was not registered within the required time, is not ascertained; but he has lost the benefit of the aforesaid act of 1816, by failing to register his claim within the period given for that purpose, and now asks Congress to extend the time, or give him the privilege of locating the claim on vacant lands in Illinois.

The material facts of the petition being sufficiently supported, the committee think that the petitioner should have the privilege asked for, and for that purpose report a bill.

15th Congress. **No. 295.** 2d Session.

CLAIM TO SIX ISLANDS AT THE MOUTH OF DETROIT RIVER.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 15, 1819.

Mr. Morrow, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Alexander Macomb, reported:

That the petitioner claims, as his property, six small islands, situated in the mouth of Detroit river, in virtue of a grant or deed of gift made at Detroit in the year 1781, by the chiefs and principal leaders of the Potawatomie nation of Indians, with the approbation and consent of the British commandant at that post. The said deed of gift was made to Alexander and William Macomb—the latter of whom became the sole proprietor, by agreement with the former, and appears to have exercised the right of ownership, by leasing one of the islands; and after his decease the same island was leased out as a part of his property, by his executors, for successive periods up to the year 1806. The chain of title from the original grantees to the petitioner appears to be regular, by attested documents accompanying the petition.

It also appears that, under the laws for adjusting the titles and claims to land in the Michigan Territory, a notice of claim to one only of these islands, viz. Stoney island, was filed with the register of the land office. If a grant from an Indian tribe to an individual could be considered valid to convey a title, the claim to five of these islands has, from the neglect to give notice of the claim, become barred under the express provisions of the statute. It is, however, believed the United States have, in no instance, recognized an Indian grant, whether made under the British or American Government, as valid to give title, such grants being prohibited by the laws and regulations of both. The claim of the petitioner must rest on the evidence of possession, occupancy, and improvement, which the law requires for a confirmation of claim, and none such has been adduced by him except as to Stoney island, which appears to have been occupied and improved as a stone quarry and for burning lime, from the year 1787 to the year 1806 or 1807. The claim to this island was rejected by the Board of Commissioners, but no reason assigned as the ground of their opinion. If the continued occupancy of this island for many successive years, for the purpose of working a stone quarry thereon, and for the purpose of manufacturing of lime, may be considered an occupancy and improvement in view of the law, the petitioner ought to be confirmed in his claim to that island. Therefore, the committee respectfully submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioner, so far as it relates to Stoney island, ought to be granted.

15th Congress. **No. 296.** 2d Session.

CLAIM TO LAND IN MISSOURI.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 18, 1819.

Mr. Robertson, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the petition of James Mackay, reported:

That the petitioner claims a tract of four hundred arpens of land in the Territory of Missouri, by virtue or pretence of an alleged Spanish concession, dated the 31st of May, 1797, and issued and signed, as the petitioner alleges, by Zenon Trudeau, the Spanish lieutenant governor of Upper Louisiana. The petitioner filed the papers relating to his claim of record in the office of the recorder of land titles, on the 23d of July, 1806.

On the 31st day of July, 1807, the petitioner submitted his claim to the Board of Commissioners for settling land claims in Louisiana, who, having examined the same, and the evidence in support thereof, rejected the same, alleging the following reasons: 1st. Because the name of the applicant was written on an erasure in the requete, or concession. 2dly. Because his place of residence was also written on an erasure. 3dly. Because the quantity, situation, and quality of the land demanded were also written on erasure. 4thly. That, in consequence of these erasures, the said claim was fraudulent, and of no validity.

The petitioner states that the above changes, as spread on the records or minutes of the Commissioners, are totally false, and prays that the requete and decree of concession may be examined, and that his said concession of four hundred arpens may be confirmed to him.

The committee have examined the said concession, or instrument of writing, and are unable to discover all the erasures mentioned by the Commissioners; nor can it pronounce, with certainty, that it contains any erasure so material as to furnish sufficient evidence of fraud, although there is such an appearance of erasure in one or two places, as would excite suspicion; and therefore, in the opinion of the committee, justify a further inquiry, if the Board of Commissioners had not already pronounced its judgment. But the Commissioners having heard and decided on the character of this claim, and there being no additional evidence before the committee, they cannot believe themselves qualified to reverse that decision; nor is the petitioner entitled to a re-hearing, upon any principle which would not equally apply to all the numerous claims heretofore rejected by the Commissioners as fraudulent. If the petitioner shall be able, hereafter, to file the supplemental evidence that he alleges he will be able to file, the committee have no doubt Congress will interpose. But the committee cannot do it in the absence of such evidence. The committee therefore submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioner ought not to be granted.

15th Congress. **No. 297.** 2d Session.

CLAIM TO LAND IN MISSOURI.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 18, 1819.

Mr. Robertson made the following report:

The Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the report of the recorder of land titles of the Territory of Missouri, made in obedience to the act of Congress of the 20th of April, 1818, for the relief of James Mackay, of the said Territory, have had the same, together with all the documents thereto appertaining, under consideration, and beg leave to submit the following report:

The memorial of James Mackay, presented to Congress during the last session, states that, by a decree of concession of the 1st of February, 1798, the lieutenant governor of Upper Louisiana (which is now the Territory of Missouri) granted to one James McDaniel 1,800 arpens of land in the said Territory; that, on the 3d of January, 1802, the said McDaniel conveyed his interest to the said 1,800 arpens of land to him the said Mackay; that it was surveyed in 1802, and a certificate of the survey

was recorded, regularly, on the 15th of March, 1803; that, as soon as commissioners were appointed to adjust land claims in the said Territory, the said Mackay entered with the recorder of land titles therein, notice of his claim to the said land, and at the same time delivered to him the decree of concession thorefor; that, about two years afterwards, he applied to the Board of Commissioners for the documents in relation to his title, which he had thus deposited, and which had, or ought to have been, before that time recorded, but that they refused to give them to him; that, some time after their refusal, having heard that an original paper had been stolen out of the recorder's office, and had been offered for sale at Kaskaskia, he renewed his application for his original papers, when he ascertained that his plat and certificate *only* had been recorded—and, demanding why his concession was not also recorded, was informed that it could not be found; that, after the act of 1807 was passed, which authorized the Commissioners to confirm all claims not exceeding a league square, conformably to the laws and usages of Spain, which comprised his case, he applied to to the Board of Commissioners for its confirmation; and supposing that the recorder's receipt for his concession would be by them received as sufficient evidence of its existence, he exhibited it to them in support of his claim; but that, to his surprise, he found that the Commissioners would not receive it as evidence, whereby he lost the benefit of the aforesaid act of 1807 and of the act of 1814; that, in the spring of the year 1817, he received an anonymous letter enclosing his original concession—which letter accompanies this report, and which states that the concession had been purloined; and that, on the reception of the letter, he exhibited the concession to the recorder, who informed him that his powers under the act of 1814 having expired, he could not confirm his claim.

This petition was referred to the Committee on Private Land Claims during the last session, and the foregoing facts having been satisfactorily supported, a bill was by that committee reported, and became a law on the 20th April last, authorizing the said Mackay to file in the recorder's office the aforesaid concession, and requiring the recorder to take whatever evidence might be offered on the subject of the claim, and report the substance of it, with his opinion thereon to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, to be by him laid before Congress during the present session, for their decision.

The report of the recorder, made in obedience to the above act, and referred to the committee, states the foregoing facts as disclosed in the petition, and subjoins the evidence submitted to the recorder in support of them. This evidence is the same on which the committee decided at the last session, with the addition of the testimony of witnesses of good character, not examined before, in support of the genuineness of the concession.

In addition to the evidence in support of the claim, the recorder has thought proper to state, and refer to in his report, a writing (Document D) which appears to have been intended to convey a suspicion that the concession was fraudulent or antedated. With respect to this suggestion, derived from this source, the committee are bound to discard it as having no force or intrinsic weight, for the following reasons: 1st. Taking it in its strongest attitude, it is but the vaguest kind of hearsay evidence, and is therefore inadmissible. 2d. If it were competent and credible evidence abstractedly, it does not apply with any precision or certainty to this case, because it refers to other facts, dates, and persons, without any definite application. And, 3d. It is inferable, from the circumstance, that the recorder had it in his power to take the evidence alluded to in the document marked D, and did not, or would not, avail himself of many opportunities furnished for that purpose; that the facts could not be proven, or, if proven, that they would not affect the case, either because they would not apply to it, or because the witness was not credible, or his testimony could be destroyed by countervailing evidence. The opinions of the committee in regard to this suggestion of fraud are fortified by the singular fact that, even the testimony of Hammond, the author of the document referred to, was not taken, or attempted to be taken. The committee, for those reasons, and others which they might give if necessary, think they are warranted in discarding the suggestion of antedate or fraud; and that it should not impair or diminish the effect of the evidence in support of the genuineness of the claim, which they think is amply sufficient, without countervailing evidence, which is not furnished, and the possibility of the existence of which it is not their privilege, much less their duty, to presume.

Having stated the evidence, the recorder subjoins his opinion upon it; which is, that Mackay's claim ought not to be confirmed; for the following reasons: 1st. Because there is no Spanish registry of the order of survey, and, that it is in cases where no distrust has been entertained, that Government has forborne to demand this authentic evidence. And, 2d. Because the plat of survey is in the name of Mackay, and not Macdaniel, the original grantee.

In answer to the first objection, it would be sufficient to say, that if it be conceded that the recorder is right in his abstract position, he has failed to show that it can apply to this case; nor does it appear that it can, there being no evidence or fact in the case except in support of the genuineness of the claim: the *distrust* spoken of, and which the recorder acknowledges, is a prerequisite to the requisition of registration, does not, cannot, consistently with the established rules of evidence and common data of opinion, exist; consequently, in this case the registry is not necessary, according to the recorder's own opinion. It is due to the recorder to say, that, it is quite probable that his personal knowledge of facts, not before the committee, authorized *his* distrust; but he should not have forgotten that the *case*, furnishing no evidence of fraud, Congress would not be at liberty to entertain the same suspicions. This committee cannot, and therefore must say, that the first argument of the recorder, as applied to the case before them, is a *felo de se*. But it should be added, that, if the recorder's doctrine were applicable to the case under consideration, the committee are not able to admit that it is orthodox. They have not been able to find any law or usage, either Spanish, French, or American, which requires registration as essential to the *validity* of a concession or certificate of survey. Nor can they concur with the recorder in his opinion, that the mere registry is the only authentic, or even the most authentic, evidence. The concurrent and positive evidence of respectable witnesses in support of all the facts necessary to constitute a good and valid claim is not only sufficiently authentic, but as authentic, and the committee think much more so, than the mere registration of the Spanish provincial Government but a short time anterior to the sale of the province to the United States.

The committee think the second position taken by the recorder, in opposition to Mackay's claim, equally indefensible. The facts of the case, and the law applicable to them, will support the committee in this opinion. The opinion of the recorder in regard to *legal possession* is, they think, entirely erroneous. Nothing can be found, it is believed, in the Spanish or American laws or usages that will justify the conclusion, that actual survey was necessary to give a legal possession to the grantee of the land conceded, or to enable him to sell it to another, in whose name, of course, the survey would be made. And certainly actual survey could not be necessary to give legal possession when the concession was special, or when the grantee was in the occupancy of the land. That Macdaniel was in the possession of the land when he sold it to Mackay is abundantly proven by the conveyance and the certificate of survey: (vide document B and C.)

It is undeniable, that a naked possession would have given to Macdaniel a settlement right under the laws of the United States, and must, therefore, be deemed legal possession. *A fortiori* occupancy must be deemed a legal possession when sanctioned by a special decree of concession. It may further be observed, that, under the Spanish laws, mere floating concessions were subjects of sale and transfer. It would therefore seem absurd to say, that actual possession, or a descriptive specification in the concession, should preclude the original grantee from selling that which he would, by Spanish law and usage, have a right to sell *without them*.

The committee think that the alleged necessity for actual survey, to authorize sale, is inconsistent with principle, and analogy, and law, and ought not to be required.

In the various acts of Congress passed for the adjustment of land titles in Missouri, there is nothing that will warrant the recorder's construction.

By the act of 1806, the plat of survey called for by the act of 1805 is dispensed with, in relation to lands *not surveyed by the proper officer prior to the 20th December*, 1803, *under the Spanish Government*. The act of 1807, which directs the Commissioners to conform to the Spanish laws and customs in their decisions, says nothing about a survey by the original grantee; and it is believed that no such survey under this act was necessary: *no plat of survey is required*.

By the act of 1814, it is required that the *claimant*, (not the original grantee) should have his concession or claim surveyed prior to the 10th of March, 1804. The law, therefore, seems to require no actual survey in the name of, or by the original grantee. If it be made by the vendee, or the legal representatives of the grantee, before the 10th day of March, 1804, it is good, unless there is evidence of fraud or collusion.

But, were it admitted that a survey by the original grantee was necessary to give him a valid claim, it would not be very irrational to infer that in this case it exists. It will be seen, by reference to the conveyance to Mackay, (marked C,) that the power of attorney contained in it authorized Mackay to do every act in relation to, and completion of, the claim, which Macdaniel could have done, or ought to have done. If, therefore, it was necessary that the survey should be made by, and in the name of, Macdaniel, before the sale by him to Mackay could be operative and effectual, would it not follow that Macdaniel was represented by Mackay, *quoad* the survey? and that, virtually, the survey was made by him under the legal maxim, "*Qui facit per alium, facit per se.*" And thus, according to the reasoning of the recorder, the legal estate would be vested in Macdaniel; and the conveyance by him to Mackay would give to the latter an equity, which any court of chancery would enforce, by compelling the legal title.

The recorder observes, that Macdaniel never made a legal entry of his claim. To this, it is only necessary to reply that, under the acts of Congress requiring the claimant to make an entry of his claim within a certain time, Macdaniel had no right to make it; because he had no claim, having sold to Mackay, who was therefore the only claimant. Mackay alone had the right to make this entry.

As to the special circumstances alluded to by the recorder, it is proper to remark, that so far as they can operate on the case, they are in favor of Mackay. By referring to the petition and concession (Document A,) it will be seen that the decree grants, as was usual, an absolute allodial property in the land. It imposes no condition, nor does the petition offer any.

To strengthen his argument, the recorder refers to the case of Rutgers, under Dana, and many others, probably to the amount of 50,000 arpens, as analogous to the present case, and says that they were rejected on the grounds taken by the recorder against this case. If this argument were an apposite one, and the analogy spoken of existed, it would be necessary for the recorder to show that his decisions referred to were just and legal; and the committee think this would be difficult. But it does not appear that the alleged analogy does exist. The recorder shows no analogy—we have only his opinion that it exists; and, on the other side, have the positive statements of the petitioner that it does not exist. The committee cannot, therefore, reason on the predication of this analogy until there is other and stronger evidence of its existence. And if the analogy were made clearly to appear, and it should thereby be rendered probable that many other cases of the same kind, even to the amount of 50,000 arpens, should afterwards be brought before Congress for confirmation, it could not be proper to reject this case for such reasons. For, if this claim ought to be confirmed, all others of the same kind should be; and the *number* cannot alter the justice of the claims. But, by confirming this claim, Congress will establish no general rule which can operate as a precedent. This case is entirely insular, and stands, as will every other, upon its own peculiar merits. Besides, the objection comes too late; because, by passing the law of last session, already referred to, Congress certainly overruled the objections taken by the recorder: for the evidence before him was before them; and it would be unjust to suppose that they would have passed the law if they had thought that those objections were tenable. To suppose so, would be directly charging Congress with doing a nugatory act, knowingly, and which would unnecessarily subject the claimant, the officers of Government, and Congress, to much trouble, inconvenience, and expense. We can therefore, only infer, that Congress intended to confirm the claim at the present session, unless the recorder should be able to exhibit additional evidence proving its fraudulency. Upon *these* grounds, therefore, the case is already decided; and there is no good reason to revoke that decision.

And besides, it does not appear to be the province of this committee, when called on, to decide a solitary case before them to reject the claim, although good in itself, merely because it is alleged that if this case should be confirmed there are many others which should be; and that, therefore, it should either be rejected or postponed until a general law can pass embracing the whole. It will be soon enough to examine those other cases when they shall come before us. And if many should, it will be then soon enough to determine whether it will be proper to pass a general law to embrace them.

If any other doctrine than this should be recognized, it is believed that no individual case would ever be confirmed, and it would follow, that Congress have erred in almost every case in which they have legislated; because it is not difficult to allege, and much less to presume, that there are other cases of the same description.

The argument of the recorder rendered it the duty of the committee (in their opinion,) to exhibit the foregoing view of the case. They might have gone more into detail, but thought it unnecessary.

Upon the whole case, therefore, believing that the petitioner is entitled to relief, they beg leave, for that purpose, to report a bill.

15th Congress. **No. 298.** 2d Session.

CLAIM TO LAND IN MISSISSIPPI.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 18, 1819.

Mr. Robertson, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the petition of Josias H. McComas and wife, reported:

That it is stated by the petitioners in their petition, that in the year 1791 the father of the wife, petitioner, Henry Willis, living in South Carolina, went to the then district of Natchez, now State of Mississippi, and obtained from the Spanish governor at New Orleans a concession for 800 arpens of land on Bayou Sara, about fifteen miles from its mouth, dated 23d May, 1791, which was surveyed about the 21st day of December, 1791.

It is further stated in the said petition, that in 1791 the said Willis became entitled, by purchase, to a concession for 500 arpens of land in the said district, adjoining the said 800 arpens, granted to one James Sanders in 1787. That, at the close of the year 1791, the said Willis returned to South Carolina for the purpose of removing his family to the lands in the Natchez district, and of living on and cultivating them agreeably to the requisitions of the Spanish Government; but that in 1793, being nearly prepared for his contemplated removal to Bayou Sara, he died; leaving the wife, petitioner, and an infant son, and his widow, his only heirs; and that the son shortly afterwards died, and the widow married a Mr. Chotard, who being appointed guardian of the surviving child, Jonveyed her interest in the aforesaid tracts of land to cames Williams, in order that he might (as is alleged) attend to and secure the title. And it is lastly stated that the said Williams presented the said claims to the Commissioners for confirmation, who rejected them for want of evidence; since which the land has been sold by the United States. The petitioners ask Congress for leave to locate, without payment, the same quantity of land on any vacant land in the State of Mississippi.

The claim of the petitioners having been urged before the committee, with extraordinary solicitude and earnestness, they felt prompted, by a decent respect for the feelings and wishes of those concerned and their advocates, to give the case all the consideration of which they were capable: but, after the most mature deliberation, they feel constrained, by the law and facts appertaining to the case, to decide against the petitioners.

The case now under consideration is purely equitable: addressing itself to the liberality of Congress, and not to its justice. It does not come within the provisions of any law enacted for the adjustment of land titles in Mississippi, or any of the principles adopted by Congress in other cases. Nor is it believed that, if the country had never been ceded to the United States, the claim would have been recognized by the Spanish Government.

If the committee are disposed to adhere to, and enforce the laws of the United States in this case, there can be no doubt that they would be compelled to reject the application of the petitioners for relief. The most favorable law which can be made to apply to the

case is the act of 1803, which requires that the claimant should reside in the country on the 27th day of October, 1795; and, on that day, cultivate the land claimed. In this case, it is not pretended that Henry Willis lived in the country in 1795. This was impossible, because of his death before that time. Nor is it asserted that his heirs were, in 1795, residents in the country. It is admitted that they were not, and that the land was never occupied or cultivated by them, or for their use. By the act of 1812, all cases are confirmed which had been presented regularly before the Commissioners, and rejected for want of cultivation *only*, if it should appear from their report that there was residence in 1795. This law cannot aid this case; because, so far from its appearing that the claim was rejected for want of cultivation, and that there was evidence of the required residence, it is conceded that there was neither residence nor cultivation. It would therefore be a prostration of the requisitions of those laws to grant relief in this case. Nor does it appear to the committee, from any thing before them, that it would be proper to release the operation of the law on this particular case, and enforce it in others. It is contended that, because the occupancy and residence which are made indispensable prerequisites to the confirmation, the class of Spanish claims to which this belongs was rendered impossible by the act of God, they should be therefore dispensed with. It will not be very difficult to show that this position is indefensible, and the reasoning adduced in support of it fallacious.

The Spanish concession, or warrant of survey, was made without *any* pecuniary consideration: the only inducement which prompted it was the encouragement of the population of the country. Hence, it was required in the concession that Willis should, among other things, settle on the land conceded within three years after the date of the concession: if he *should*, then a grant should issue; but, if he should not, the concession was to be absolutely void, and the land conceded revert, *ipso facto*, to the crown of Spain.

As the title vested was only inceptive, and its completion made to depend on certain contingencies, the performance of those was certainly a condition precedent to the consummation of the title; and, consequently, the impossibility of their performance cannot help or strengthen the case, more especially as the settlement, which was one of the conditions, was the only consideration for the concession. The Spanish Government was certainly not bound by the contract with Willis, or by the dictates of moral justice or propriety, to grant to his heirs the land which it had promised to give to him if he would settle on it. If it were not bound to grant the legal title, it is presuming too much to suppose that the Spanish Government would have done it, had application been made for that purpose before the cession of the country. And if it would have done it, the act would have been a gratuity, which the United States have no adequate inducement to make. If the claim of the petitioners had been valid when the country was ceded by the Spanish Government, and had been subjected to forfeiture by the laws of the United States for failure to record it, or because the claimants did not reside in the country in 1795, there might be some propriety, as the heir was a minor, in granting the relief asked for. But the ancestor, Willis, had not obtained a title before his death; he had not given any consideration for the concession; he had not settled in the country, and his heir did not settle there before the 27th of October, 1795. The land was therefore vacant when the United States purchased the country, and consequently vested in the United States, unincumbered by any claim which Spain was bound to recognize, or which comes within the scope or spirit of any law passed by Congress for the adjustment of land claims.

The United States have sold the land claimed by the petitioners, having the right to do so. And, if the prayer of the petitioners be granted, the grant will be gratuitous; when there is no particular reason for such generosity in this case, which may not be urged with equal force by many others, whose chance and right of success would be much strengthened by the argument of analogy and of consistency which would be derived from the precedent thus established.

If the committee abstract the case from the operation of law, and consider it in its insular character, on its own intrinsic qualities, they can find no ground for the just and proper interposition of Congress. If relief be given, the United States will lose the value of the land given, and either do injustice to others or give relief to them also, which might not be very convenient; and the claimants will receive a handsome estate without having given for it one cent, except the price paid to Sanders. If the petition be rejected, the petitioners will have lost nothing. The committee are unable to perceive any thing in the character or complexion of the case of the petitioners which should entitle them to any peculiar favor. They acknowledge that, if they were permitted to indulge their individual feelings, their decision might be somewhat different, but, feeling bound to follow the sound dictates of sober judgment, they are compelled, unanimously, (without giving detailed reasons for their opinion,) to recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioners ought *not* to be granted.

15th Congress. **No. 299.** 2d Session.

PROPOSITION TO GRANT 100,000 ACRES OF LAND TO EACH STATE FOR THE ENDOWMENT OF A UNIVERSITY.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 18, 1819.

Mr. Poindexter, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred a resolution instructing said committee to inquire into the expediency of appropriating one hundred thousand acres of land to each State, for the endowment of a university in each State, reported:

That they are fully impressed with the propriety and importance of giving every encouragement and facility to the promotion of learning and the diffusion of knowledge over the United States, which can be done without a violation of the principles of the constitution, and the system of policy heretofore adopted for the advancement of the general welfare. The proposition under consideration is, whether it be or be not expedient to authorize a grant of one hundred thousand acres of land to each State in the Union, making in the whole two millions three hundred thousand acres, to be vested in bodies corporate, created by the several States having the care and management of their respective universities. Your committee have no specific knowledge of the necessity which exists for this appropriation, in reference to any particular State whose resources may not be adequate to the support of literary institutions, as no petitions or memorials have been referred to them on the subject. In the absence of these, it is fair to presume that the internal wealth and industry of the population composing the several States have been found sufficient to answer all the purposes of public education and instruction, so far as they have deemed it prudent and necessary to apply the means they possess to those objects. But if the aid of the General Government should at any time be required to enable a particular State, or every member of the Union, to carry into effect and operation a liberal and enlarged system of education, suited to the views, capacities, and circumstances, of all classes of society; and if it should be thought wise and constitutional to extend to them the national bounty, the donation of extensive tracts of land in the unappropriated territories of the United States, appears to your committee to be the most exceptionable form in which the requisite assistance could be granted. To invest twenty-three corporations, acting under State authority, with a fee simple estate in two millions three hundred thousand acres of land, to be located in the western States and Territories, would put it in their power to impede the settlement of that section of the Union by withholding these lands from market; to interfere with the general regulations now in force for the disposal of the public lands; to divide settlements which would otherwise be contiguous; and consequently

to lessen the value of lands offered for sale by the United States in the neighborhood of these large grants, which may remain unoccupied for any length of time, at the discretion of the Legislature of the State to which the donation is made. Your committee are of opinion that, besides these strong objections to the donations proposed in the resolution submitted to their consideration, it does not comport with sound policy, or the nature of our republican institutions, to grant monopolies of large and extensive tracts of the public domain, either to individuals or bodies corporate. The lands of the United States ought, as far as practicable, to be distributed in small quantities among the great body of the people for agricultural purposes; and this principle ought in no instance to be violated, where the grantee is exempted from the payment of a valuable consideration to the Government. Your committee are sensible that it may be found necessary and useful, for the promotion of learning in this growing republic, either to endow a national university, or to extend its benevolence in a reasonable and proper proportion to individual States; but, in either case, they are of opinion that the requisite aid should be given in money, and not in the mode pointed out in the resolution referred to them. They therefore recommend the following resolution to the House:

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to grant to each State one hundred thousand acres of land for the endowment of an university in each State.

15th Congress. **No. 300.** 2d Session.

CLAIMS TO LAND IN TENNESSEE UNDER GRANTS FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 18, 1819.

State of North Carolina,
In General Assembly, 1818.

The Select Joint Committee, to whom was referred so much of the Governor's message as relates to the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States on the claim of this State to perfect titles to certain lands within the State of Tennessee, respectfully report:

That the committee have considered the subject referred to them with the attention which its delicacy and importance demand. The claim of North Carolina to consummate titles to lands lying within the limits of Tennessee—inchoate titles, which had commenced before the cession of the territory afterwards erected into the State of Tennessee—was asserted, not in the spirit of hostility to a sister State, nor of defiance to the authority of the Union: it was a claim founded on a right expressly reserved when North Carolina made to the United States a generous cession of the soil and sovereignty of her vast western territory; a right which she had agreed to surrender upon terms which it was confidently believed had never been ratified. Under the conviction that this right was yet unimpaired, North Carolina owed it to her sovereignty, and to the interests of those whose claims she was bound to vindicate, to put the question in the way of judicial decision before the highest tribunal in the land. This has been done, and the Supreme Court of the United States has decided that the State of North Carolina has parted with the power to issue grants in such cases, and could not resume it.

Your committee feel a high reverence for the virtues and talents which illustrate and adorn the judgment seat of this court. They readily yield to its decrees constitutional respect, and in a doubtful case would yield even the submission of their judgments. But they owe it to truth to declare, that, on an examination of the reasons which have been assigned for this decision, they are unable to acquiesce in the correctness of the judgment pronounced by the majority of the court. Your committee, however they may admire the astuteness, cannot admit the force of that subtle argumentation which would fain prove that an agreement between two States, dependant on the ratification of Congress, is made final and obligatory by the passing of an act of Congress, which expressly sanctions but a part of the compact.

Your committee believe that the State has done all that she ought to do in assertion of her right. It remains for those on whom is now thrown the obligation of consummating these titles, to comply with the exactions of honor and the claims of equity. The Supreme Court has declared that it "has no doubt of the obligations on the United States to make provision for issuing grants on these cases, and that, in the mean time, the courts of the United States are not without resources in their equity jurisdiction to afford relief to those entitled to ask such grants." The committee will not doubt but that while this State submits to a decision adverse to her claims, and which she believes to be erroneous, the United States will recognize the obligations which their judges will pronounce to be incumbent on them, and will speedily provide that claims acknowledged to have an equitable existence shall be clothed with all the forms of legal title.

The committee recommend that they be discharged from the further consideration of this subject, and that the governor be requested to transmit copies of this report to our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Submitted, WM. GASTON, *Chairman.*

In Senate, Dec. 23, 1818: Read, and resolved that this House do concur therewith.

B. YANCEY, *S. S.*

By order: Robert Williams, *C. S.*

In House of Commons, Dec. 23, 1818: The foregoing report being read, *Resolved*, That this House do concur therewith.

JAMES IREDELL, *S. H. C.*

By order: P. Henderson, *C. H. C.*

15th Congress. **No. 301.** 2d Session.

CLAIM TO LAND IN MISSISSIPPI.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 29, 1819.

Mr. Robertson made the following report:

The Private Land Committee, to whom was referred the petition of William Scott, Gabriel Scott, Thomas Scott, and Elizabeth Bowles, children and heirs of William Scott, late of Wilkinson county, Mississippi Territory, deceased; report:

That the petitioners state that their father, William Scott, obtained an order of survey on the 21st of May, 1787, from Don Stephen Miro, governor of the province of Louisiana, for four hundred arpens of land on the Homochitto river, in the district of Natchez. That, in pursuance of said order of survey, there was surveyed for him, by William Vousden, surveyor of the Natchez district, on the 23d of November, 1787, 200 acres of land, situate on the east side of the south fork of the Homochitto (as appears by plat of survey.) That the said William Scott resided on said tract of land from the year 1787 until in the year 1783, when he was killed by the Cherokee Indians. That the petitioners were left in possession of the same, and still continue in possession. That on the 29th of March, 1804, the claim of the peti-

tioners was filed with the register of the land office west of Pearl river, agreeably to law, by a certain James Bowles, (the petitioners then being minors,) and not knowing any further proof was necessary, they rested satisfied their title was secure; but their claim was rejected by the Board of Land Commissioners for the want of proof of the residence of their father, William Scott, and of themselves, which they then could have proved and established, had they known it was incumbent on them to have done so, and which they now prove by the testimony of Patrick Foley and Gerard Brandon, (see their deposition.) That in consequence of the rejection of their claim by the Board of Commissioners, their land was surveyed and returned as public land, the property of the United States, and was sold by the register of the land office west of Pearl river on the 9th of September, 1817, to a certain Lyman Harding. Your committee, being satisfied that the foregoing facts are clearly established, and taking into view the death of the ancestor of the petitioners and their minority, by which unavoidable occurrences they have been placed in the situation they now are in, are of opinion they are entitled to relief, and report a bill for that purpose.

15th Congress. **No. 302.** 2d Session.

CLAIM TO LAND IN ILLINOIS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 3, 1819.

Mr. Robertson, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the petition of James Hughes, reported:

That the petitioner sets forth that he purchased two hundred acres of land in about three miles of Kaskaskia, in the Illinois Territory, of a certain John Reynolds, who purchased the same of John Fowler. That the said Fowler was entitled to the same, in consequence of his having improved and cultivated the said lands prior to the year 1791. That William H. Harrison, whilst governor of the Indiana Territory, under the authority of an act of Congress of the 3d day of March, 1791, confirmed Reynolds' title to the said two hundred acres, by reason of which confirmation the petitioner was induced to believe the title good, and purchased. That Governor Harrison, on the 22d of November, 1803, issued a patent for said lands to the petitioner, and that, since that time, he has made further and more valuable improvements thereon. That the commissioners appointed in pursuance of an act of Congress of the 20th of February, 1812, to inquire into the validity of titles confirmed by the governors of the Northwest and Indiana Territories, and report thereon, have, without proof or the form of a trial, reported his claim as rejected, and that the land has been surveyed and sold by the United States, and he has been under the necessity of purchasing it a second time, and prays relief. It appears to the committee that, by the act of the 3d of March, 1791, the governors of the Northwest and Indiana Territories were fully authorized and empowered to confirm lands in those Territories, that had been actually improved and cultivated, to the persons who had made such improvements, their heirs or assigns. The petitioner, on the 4th of September, 1804, filed with Michael Jones, the register of land titles at Kaskaskia, the patent above mentioned for said lands, as appears by his receipt, and likewise gave notice in writing of the nature and extent of his claim. It is proved, to the satisfaction of the committee, that the petitioner, and those under whom he claims, have been in the possession and enjoyment of the said lands ever since the year 1791. From a certificate of Michael Jones, the register, and one of the commissioners, it appears that the claim was rejected because it was not supported. The committee cannot conceive how it would be possible to support a claim with much stronger evidence than attends this—upwards of twenty years actual possession, and a patent issued by competent authority, and regularly filed with the proper officer. It does not appear to the committee that there is any foundation for a belief that the patent was obtained by fraud or collusion, or that it has ever been supposed or alleged to have been so obtained: they therefore report a bill for relief.

15th Congress. **No. 303.** 2d Session.

PROPOSITION TO SELL THE PUBLIC LANDS FOR CASH, TO REDUCE THE PRICE, AND TO SELL IN EIGHTY ACRE TRACTS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE FEBRUARY 9, 1819.

Mr. Morrow, from the Committee on the Public Lands, being instructed "to inquire into the expediency of so altering the laws respecting the sale of the public lands, that, from and after the —— day of —— next, credit shall not be given on such sales," reported:

That, from a view to the extensive territory placed at the disposal of the Government, the increasing demand for new lands for cultivation, arising from the progressive augmentation of the population in the United States, and the influence which the proposed alteration in the system for the sale of the public lands must produce on the interests of a large portion of the community, gives, in the opinion of the committee, more than ordinary importance to the inquiry which they are instructed to make.

From the connexion that the terms of credit have with the other provisions and conditions provided for the sale of the public lands, a corresponding alteration in the price and size of the tracts offered for sale will be necessary, when the credit is discontinued on future sales. That provision, alone, would virtually operate an enhancement of the price, and lessen the facility to men of limited capital of acquiring new lands for settlement and cultivation.

In this view, the committee have considered the expediency of providing for the discontinuance of credit, a reduction of the price, and the subdivision of tracts in future sales. The provisions for the sale of public lands now in force, with some subsequent alterations, were adopted by the act of the 10th day of May, 1800. By its general regulations, a credit is allowed on three-fourths of the purchase money for the lands sold. The moneys credited may be retained by incurring the charge of simple interest, for five years from the time of purchase. It would appear that, at the first sales under this law, the long term of credit allowed had induced excessive purchases. The term of credit on these sales expired in the year 1805, and in 1806 it became necessary for Congress to interpose for relief of the purchasers, to prevent extensive forfeitures for failure in payment; and since that period nine several acts have been passed for the relief of the purchasers of public lands—and these acts for mitigating the operation of the general provision of the law have been in force for more than one half of the whole time since the system was first organized. The inducements of a long credit, which encourage purchases beyond the means for making payment; the general disposition in men to anticipate the most favorable results

from the products of their labor; and the frequent unfavorable fluctuations in commerce, which cannot be foreseen by the most discerning, are the principal causes of the failures in payment by purchasers of public lands. It must appear from the Treasury statement, at the present session, of the amount of outstanding balances on account of the sales of public lands, with the embarrassments arising from the deranged state of the currency, that any degree of punctuality in the payment of the debts now due is highly improbable. If the laws were left to operate in the rigid exactions of the penalties and forfeitures, the most serious injuries (in the present circumstances of the country) must follow to a large class of the community; and the effect of relief, by an extension of the time for payment, while the sales continue to progress, may produce an accumulation of the debt, and increase the difficulty in making the final payments.

The experience for several years of the effects of this system, the frequent recurrence of circumstances which render necessary the interposition of the Legislature to mitigate the general operation of law, and the extensive forfeitures which have been incurred, notwithstanding the aid of frequent remedial laws for the relief of the purchasers, seems to forbid any calculation on a successful operation of the same system in future sales. It cannot be correct policy to persist in the continuance of a system so much affected by circumstances as that under consideration, which requires the frequent aid of mitigating expedients to preserve its existence, and to prevent its oppressive effects on a considerable portion of the community. It is not believed that any of the acts for the relief of the purchasers of public lands were unnecessary indulgences. The unfavorable state of things during the restrictions on our commerce and the late war, rendered such measures necessary; and the present state of the currency presents claims for indulgence still more imperative. Judging from the experience of the past, without any assurance of a more favorable state of things in future, it may be concluded that the system of credit is not well adapted to the circumstances of the country, and will be injurious so long as commerce is liable to fluctuation. The allowance of credit on the sales of the public lands could not have been adopted for the benefit of capitalists; to them it is unnecessary, and for them it ought not to have been provided; and yet, it is believed, that it has operated most to the disadvantage of men destitute of capital. An individual who takes the whole term of credit allowed by law on the three last instalments of purchase money, is charged on the moneys credited more than ten per centum per annum above the purchaser who makes prompt payment; and, in many instances, if he possess no other resources than those arising from the land itself, he incurs a forfeiture of the money paid, and the land, with its improvements. If the allowance of credit on future sales was abolished, every subsequent purchaser would, without any liability to error, be able to calculate his means for payment; and if his purchase should not be so extensive, he would at once become an independent landholder, secure and quiet in his possession. In future those fertile sources of discontent and disquietude, which arise from disappointment, and from the exercise of measures necessary to enforce the payments, as, also, the frequent distress occasioned by the forfeiture of lands on which the settlements have been made, would be avoided. And (as will be proposed) were the public lands offered for sale in tracts of eighty acres, at one dollar and fifty cents per acre, then any individual, on the payment of $120, might acquire a freehold estate without encumbering himself with any debt whatever. It is believed that an advantage to the general interest of the districts in which the public lands are sold, would result from discontinuing the credit on the sales. The purchaser is in possession of the lands purchased for four or five years before the completion of his payment; the product of his labor for that time is applied in discharge of his debt, and passes into the public Treasury. In as far as the instalments are collected in the district, it operates on the principle of rents collected and withdrawn from circulation, or of a partial tax on that part of the community. The drain of money from circulation, thus occasioned, has been sensibly felt, and the balance in exchange against the western country may, on this principle, be accounted for. In case of cash payments, the resources for payment would be drawn from other parts of the country, in as far as emigrants are the purchasers. In a more general point of view the proposed measure appears important. The accumulation of debt in particular districts where the mass of citizens are the debtors, is a consequence attending the credit system. The principles of general policy require that charges on the people for the necessary supply of revenue, should be diffused over the whole society. By adopting cash payments this evil would be avoided, and the interest of subsequent purchasers would then be identified with that of the Government.

If credit shall not be allowed on the sale of the public lands, it is proposed that a corresponding reduction in the price shall be made. The public lands have ever been considered as a source of revenue to the Government, and the early regulations for their sale appear to have had that object principally in view. Several of the States ceded vacant territory to the United States for the purpose of creating a fund for the discharge of the public debt. With this object in view, and to cover the considerable expenses of extinguishing the Indian title, and otherwise incidental to bringing the lands into market, the price was first fixed by general regulations at one dollar per acre, and subsequently increased to two. It would be difficult, without reference to any general principle of public policy, to fix any determined price, which, under all circumstances, should be proper for the sale of the public lands. The demand for new land to bring into cultivation will, in some measure, be proportioned to the increase of population in the agricultural class of the community; but the amount of sale will always depend (at any given price) on the capital destined to be so invested. The capital ordinarily employed for this object is the surplus product of agricultural labor. If the profit in agricultural pursuits so to be employed will not purchase the supply of new lands necessary to the proper extension and prosecution of that important branch of national industry, it may then be fairly presumed that the price is excessive, and operates injuriously to the public interest. It is not alleged that the price at present fixed has produced that effect; but it is believed that it is much higher than has been required by any of the individual States, or in any other country for vacant lands; and that the price required, connected with the credit allowed, has been found sufficiently high, by the industrious class, who are disposed to purchase for the purpose of occupancy and improvement. Experience has exploded the opinion that injurious speculations might be discouraged and monopolies prevented by simply fixing a high price on the sale of the public lands; and if, in any measure, these salutary effects have been produced by that means, it has been at the expense of the corresponding disadvantage, that, by the same means, the industrious class, with small capital, have been prevented from becoming purchasers with a view to settlement and cultivation.

The only expedient which has been successfully resorted to, for preventing the public lands from becoming engrossed by capitalists, and perhaps the only one that will, in any measure, be effectual to that end, is, the subdivision of the sections, and offering them for sale in small tracts suited to the means of purchaser or actual settlement; and while ever a sufficient quantity of land is kept in market to satisfy the necessary demand arising from the increase of population in the country, and sold in small tracts, to suit those who are disposed to purchase for the purpose of occupying them, little may be apprehended from the evils of speculation and monopoly, whether the price be as now fixed, or shall be reduced. The sales of lands are regulated by no other principles than that of any other traffic in any species of merchandise. While ever the market is fully supplied with any commodity, and a certainty that the supply can be kept up, and it is retailed in quantity and quality to suit the purchaser for use or consumption, monopolies will not be made, whether the price be high or low. A high price will discourage the consumption, and a low price promote it; but while the price is steady, speculations will be unprofitable.

It has been alleged that discontinuing the credit, and reducing the price, would operate to the disadvantage of the poor—that they must be supplied on credit; and if it shall be not allowed by the Government, they must purchase at an advanced price from speculators. The idea of providing equal facility to the poor and to the rich by any regulation, is incompatible with that of disposing of the land for a valuable consideration. While the Government require a price, he who possesses the means of payment will have an advantage in making purchases over him who does not possess such means.

It is not apprehended that speculations will be extensive, or be long continued, where it must be carried on by purchase for cash, and sale on credit; and when the sales must be confined to those who cannot advance $120, and become purchasers from the United States.

From the foregoing considerations, it is respectfully proposed that credit on future sales shall not be allowed; that the price of the public lands be fixed at one dollar and fifty cents; and that the lands be offered for sale in tracts of eighty acres; and for that purpose they ask leave to report a bill.

15th Congress. No. 304. 2d Session.

CLAIMS TO LAND IN MISSISSIPPI UNDER BRITISH GRANTS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE FEBRUARY 19, 1819.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

The Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Mississippi, respectfully represent to your honorable body, that the situation of the titles of real property in the section of this State, formerly a part of West Florida, is embarrassing, and threatens to involve the settlers therein into vexatious law suits, and will, unless your honorable body interferes, take from them the fruits of their industry.

Fully sensible of the situation in which many of the citizens of that section of the State are placed, the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Mississippi beg leave to represent to your honorable body that many of them settled long since on vacant land. At the period when they settled, it was in the wilderness; some were invited by the policy of Spain, which gave away her land to actual settlers: they penetrated the forest; they subdued the soil; they encountered all the privations which are incident to new settlements, surrounded by savages and desert.

Had the country not passed from Spain to the United States, they no doubt should have been quieted in their possessions. But that political vicissitude, while it has enhanced the value of the country, has given to its prosperity, and added to its importance, has, by changing the system of policy, put all their possessory right in a state of jeopardy.

The evil apprehended, and unless arrested by your honorable body, will involve many of the industrious citizens in ruin, arises from a description of claims generally denominated British grants. It is well known that, in the war of 1763, so called, England conquered the Floridas. At the peace, by treaty stipulations, the Floridas were ceded to England. From this period, England made grants, not only of lands in the Floridas, but of what we contend was within the limits of Louisiana. These grants covered almost the whole of the country, and were made no doubt generally to the officers and retainers of the colonial Government. Very few settlements were made upon them; indeed, at this period, the country, with the exception of two or three towns on the sea coast, was a wilderness.

In 1779, war existing between Spain and England, the country was reconquered by the former; the forts and garrisons were possessed by the Spanish force, and the conquest became absolute. The colonial Government, army, and navy, and most of the grantees, went off; and these grants, in all probability, would never have been heard of, had it not been that your memorialists, by settling the country, by rendering it valuable, by extending to it the benefit of a social organization, had made it an object worthy of the avarice of unprincipled and greedy speculators.

Spain, then, having again possessed the country, by the right of entire and absolute conquest, it may be asked what title accrued to her in consequence of it? We know very well there is a distinction between the strict right of nations in this respect, and the modifications of that right usually made by conventions, which have for their object to ameliorate the rigors of war. The strict right which Spain acquired by the act of reconquest, was, to consider all the inhabitants prisoners of war, they being alien enemies, and an unlimited control over all the property.

This we contend, upon the strictness of the principles of national law, was her situation. Every British inhabitant of Florida was an alien enemy. He could not, of course, hold property under the crown of Spain. Such is the principle of the municipal laws of the civilized world, and as such may be considered one of the axioms which, by being adopted by all nations as a rule of internal policy, is, from this circumstance of universality, equally sound as a principle of international law.

But this principle is deducible from a higher source, from the strict principles of public law. All the writers on public law, how much soever they may unite in recommending clemency and moderation in the exercise of power over a vanquished foe, combine in sentiment that a conquest, in its strict sense, passes public and private property, when such conquest is durable, entire, and environed with proper defences. We refer your honorable body to the learned Grotius on the Law of War and of Peace, book 3, chap. 6, of the right to appropriate the things taken from an enemy.

This strict right being vested in Spain in an unqualified sense, it became her duty to modify it according to the usages and comity of modern civilized nations. She did so. She made none prisoners of war but such as had arms in their hands. She stipulated that personal effects should be respected; and, as it regards real property, the fifth article of the treaty of 1783, between Spain and England, provides "that his Britannic Majesty likewise cedes and guaranties in full right to his Catholic Majesty, East Florida as well as West Florida. His Catholic Majesty agrees that the British inhabitants, or others who may have been subjects of the King of Great Britain in the said countries, may retire in full security and liberty where they shall think proper, and may *sell* their estates, and remove their effects as well as their persons, without being restrained in their emigration under any pretence whatsover, except on account of debt or criminal prosecutions. The term limited for this emigration, being fixed to the space of eighteen months, to be computed from the day of the exchange of the ratifications of the present treaty; but if, from the value of the possessions of the English proprietors, they should not be able to dispose of them within the said term, then his Catholic Majesty shall grant them a prolongation proportionate to that end." Such longer period was given by subsequent proclamation, so as to make, in the whole term, the period, as we are informed, of three years.

Now, from these premises, let us respectfully ask, What shadow of validity can be attached to these dormant grants? A conquest vested the property in Spain. By the provisions of the treaty, within a limited time, the grantees had power to sell; that period expired, and the right, acquired by conquest, attached in an unqualified sense.

In some instances British subjects remained upon the land, were allowed to take the oath of allegiance to Spain, and their lands were confirmed to them by the Spanish Government. These titles we conceive to be valid, not, however, on the ground that the British grant availed, but because the Spanish confirmation was a new grant of itself.

There is another principle which we beg leave to submit to your consideration:

The claimants were British subjects. They went off with the army. Spain entered into possession, and, in many instances, regranted lands which had previously been granted by the British Government. In order to decide the question, it is necessary to go to the commencement of the respective titles; for, if there, the British grants without a Spanish confirmation, are invalid. The deduction is obvious, that all subsequent title derived only from that source, are equally invalid. Let us, then, suppose that the year after the treaty of 1793, a British grantee, not a subject to Spain, had commenced his action before the tribunals of Florida against a grantee of Spain, for the same lands, what would the result have been? The demandant would have met, in the very threshold of his cause, the objection that he was an alien, and, of course, whether enemy or friend, could not hold real property where he owed no allegiance, and, of course, could prosecute no real action.

The United States stands in the place of Spain, and a title deducible through an alien to the Spanish Government, cannot be considered as ever passing the soil.

We should not have gone so much into detail as it respects the British grants, had we not understood that a bill was reported at the last session of Congress, which passed the House of Representatives, but failed in the Senate of the United States in consequence of an attempt to make an exception as it respects British grants, and to give them a legislative confirmation at the expense of the settlers. But it is for the National Government to decide, whether they will drive from the soil those who

have subdued it with their labor, and defended it with their arms, in favor of old British grantees who have never been even in the country.

Such is the situation, and such the wishes of your memorialists, and we solicit from your honorable body all the assistance they can afford to us. They will perceive that the contest is unequal. On the one hand there is a corps of speculators, who, by their enormous wealth, are enabled to vex and harass the honest and industrious cultivator of the soil. On the other hand, the humble yeoman, cultivating his few acres of ground, living on the spot which he wishes to own as the summit of all his hopes; aspiring to no other distinction than to discharge faithfully his duties to society, and aspiring to no other reward than the approbation of his conscience and his God.

It is to the National Government that the occupants of this district of country look with solicitude for protection in the quiet enjoyment of their lands—a protection small, indeed, for the Government of the United States to grant, but of incalculable importance to the industrious settlers.

Your memorialists therefore pray, that the honorable Congress of the United States will take into their serious consideration the condition of the settlers in the country above described, and quiet the grants derived from Great Britain, which interfere with titles derived from the Spanish Government, on such terms and conditions as may be deemed just and equitable by your honorable body: and your memorialists will ever pray, &c.

E. TURNER,
Speaker of the Ho. of Representatives.
D. SEWART,
Lt. Gov. and President of the Senate.

REPRESENTATIVE CHAMBER, *January* 23, 1819.
P. A. CANDORN, *Clerk.*

16th CONGRESS. **No. 305.** 1st SESSION.

CLAIM OF THE COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED BY GEORGIA TO EXAMINE CERTAIN LANDS ON THE TENNESSEE RIVER.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DECEMBER 14, 1819.

Mr. COBB, from the committee to whom was referred the petitions of Thomas Carr and John A. Heard, of the State of Georgia, Andrew Jackson, in behalf of himself and others, of the State of Tennessee, and a memorial of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia, reported:

That, it appears from the documents accompanying the petitions, that, on the 20th February, 1784, the General Assembly of the State of Georgia, for the purpose of settling the country called the Bend of the Tennessee, (at that time within the chartered limits of that State,) by a resolution, determined that seven commissioners should be appointed, who should be vested with the powers necessary to ascertain the quantity, quality, and circumstances of the lands in that tract of country; who should report their proceedings to the Legislature for their consideration, and which commissioners should have made to them "*such compensation as should be deemed adequate and satisfactory.*" That, by the same resolution, the said commissioners, or a majority of them, were empowered "*to grant warrants of survey,*" *which should, when executed, be transmitted with the plats to the surveyor general's office, in order that the same might be passed into grants, as the law directs;* limiting each survey and grant to one thousand acres, and requiring bond and security to be given for the purchase money, by those in whose names such surveys should be made.

That, on the day following, the General Assembly of Georgia proceeded to the appointment of commissioners pursuant to said resolution, and actually did appoint Lachlin McIntosh, William Downes, Stephen Heard, John Morell, John Donelson, Joseph Martin, and John Sevier, esquires.

It further appears from the documents, that John Morell refused to act, or resigned, and Thomas Napier was appointed by the Executive of Georgia in his stead; who also not accepting or resigning, Thomas Carr was appointed to fill his vacancy on the first of March, 1786. It does not appear that Lachlin McIntosh, another of the commissioners, ever acted.

It also appears that, pursuant to the provisions of the constitution of Georgia, then in force, the General Assembly, on the 22d February, 1785, acting upon information contained in a letter of that date from Stephen Heard, one of the said commissioners, did appoint the following persons as justices of the peace "*for the said district of Tennessee,*" viz. William Blount, John Donelson, William Downes, John Sevier, Joseph Martin, Charles Robertson, Valentine Sevier, jr., and Stephen Heard, esquires.

It further appears that, on the 10th February, 1785, the commissioners for the district of Tennessee, exhibited an account of their proceedings to the General Assembly, which was referred to a committee, and, on the 14th day of the same month, a report was made by them, which cannot now be found.

That, on the first day of August following, pursuant to the recommendation of a committee appointed for that purpose, leave was given by the General Assembly for the introduction of a bill, to be entitled an "act for the laying out a district in the bend of the Tennessee;" which was introduced, and read for the first time, on the 7th of that month, and finally rejected on its third reading, on the 12th of the same month. But, on the day of its rejection, the General Assembly adopted a resolution declaring, "that the title of any person or persons whatsoever, to any lands in the district of Tennessee, so far as the same is sanctioned or authorized by former resolutions of Assembly, shall not, in any respect, be weakened or injured by the rejection, of this day, of the bill for laying out a district, nor shall the powers or duty of the commissioners who have acted on that business, be at all revoked or impaired; but every thing in respect to the said Tennessee district, shall stand precisely upon the same footing as if the said bill, so rejected, as aforesaid, had not been brought in; and it is further resolved, that John Linsey, esq. stand appointed surveyor for said district of Tennessee."

Two days afterwards, (14th August, 1786,) the General Assembly adopted the following resolution: "That each of the commissioners appointed on the Tennessee business, *who have actually attended to their duty, shall be entitled to five thousand acres of land in the district, as a gratuity and full compensation for their trouble therein*, and shall and may have a warrant and survey for them respectively; that John Call shall also be entitled to three thousand acres as a compensation for his trouble, and may have a warrant of survey for the same. And it is further resolved, that the district surveyor shall not proceed to make, or suffer to be made, any surveys in the bend of the Tennessee until the further order of the Legislature."

Thus far the proceedings of the General Assembly of Georgia were of a date anterior to the adoption of the Federal Constitution, and while that State had sovereign power to act upon the subject. It appears that, under the powers given to the Commissioners under the several resolutions of the General Assembly, they did proceed to issue, or cause to be issued and located, various warrants of survey for land, in the names of a variety of persons, from whom bonds were taken for the purchase money. The names of some of those persons are known to your committee, but of the claims of a large majority of them they know nothing. It does not appear that these "warrants of survey, when executed, with the plats," were ever "transmitted to the surveyor general's office" of the State of Georgia, "in order that the same might pass into grants, as the law directs," or that any grants were ever issued upon any of them pursuant to the resolution of the 20th February, 1784, or that the purchase money was ever paid, or the bonds taken to secure its payment, ever placed in the Treasury of Georgia. Your committee, therefore, are of opinion that these war-

rants and surveys were all set aside, on account of some informality, or other cause; and for any claim founded upon them they can recommend no relief.

In relation to the claim of the petitioners on account of the "five thousand acres," stipulated by the General Assembly of Georgia to be given to "*each of the commissioners who had actually attended to their duty*, as a gratuity and full compensation for their trouble," the committee are of opinion that they are entitled to relief. They were appointed to the arduous and dangerous duty of exploring the country, and examining the quantity, quality, and circumstances of the lands therein, by the sovereign authority of the State. This they performed at the risk of their lives; and, indeed, it appears that one of them (John Donelson) was killed by the Indians while in the actual discharge of his duty. It was not until their return, and after they had made a report of their proceedings, that the compensation was promised them: that it was binding upon the State of Georgia, both in justice and equity, there can be no doubt. Whether this obligation has been transferred to the United States remains to be seen.

Your committee think proper to observe that, by the act of the General Assembly of Georgia, called the Yazoo act, this claim of the commissioners was expressly recognized, and the amount increased to *fifty thousand acres*, (as will appear by the fifteenth section of that act, an extract from which accompanies the petitions,) and a reserve for that quantity was made in the grant to the Tennessee Company in their favor. The claim does not appear to be otherwise connected with that nefarious transaction: on the contrary, the services were performed, and the justice of the claim admitted, eight or nine years before that speculation was originated. Believing in the propriety of the repeal of that act, your committee cannot recommend relief for the fifty thousand acres therein reserved for them—more especially as the claim is founded on an entire different, and infinitely more just consideration, unattended, so far as your committee can discover, with any fraudulent circumstances.

By the articles of agreement and cession between the United States and the State of Georgia, made on the 24th of April, 1802, the very territory or tract of country, ("the district of Tennessee,") in which was to be situate the five thousand acres promised to *each of* the commissioners, was ceded to the United States. This "gratuity or compensation" had never been passed into a grant, so far as your committee can discover, by the State of Georgia, and are not among those grants expressly recognized by the said articles. The question then is, can this claim fall within the provisions of the third condition of the first of those articles? The proviso is as follows: "that the United States, for the period, and until the end of one year after the assent of Georgia to the boundary established by this agreement, shall have been declared, may, in such manner as not to interfere with the above mentioned payment to the State of Georgia, nor with the grants herein before recognized, dispose of or appropriate a portion of said lands, not exceeding five millions of acres, or the proceeds of said five millions of acres, or of any part thereof, for the purpose of *satisfying, quieting*, or *compensating for any claims*, other those herein before recognized, *which may be made to the said lands, or to any part thereof*. It being fully understood that, if an act of Congress making such disposition or appropriation shall not be passed into a law within the above mentioned period of one year, the United States shall not be at liberty thereafter to cede any part of the said lands on account of claims which may be laid to the same, other than those recognized by the preceding condition, nor to compensate for the same: and in case of any such cession or compensation, the present cession of Georgia to the right of soil over the lands thus ceded, or compensated for, shall be considered as null and void; and the lands thus ceded, or compensated for, shall revert to the State of Georgia."

Within the year after the execution of these articles of agreement and cession, an act of Congress was passed, (3d of March, 1803,) declaring that "so much of the residue of the said five millions of acres, or of the net proceeds thereof as may be necessary for that purpose, shall be, and is hereby, appropriated for the purpose of satisfying, quieting, or compensating for *such other claims* to the lands of the United States south of the State of Tennessee, not recognized in the above mentioned articles of agreement, and which are derived from *any act*, or *pretended act* of the State of Georgia, *which Congress may hereafter think fit to provide for, &c.* To this section there is a proviso, that no other claims shall be embraced by the appropriation, but those the evidence of which shall have been exhibited to the Secretary of State, and recorded on or before the first January, 1804.

Your committee are of opinion that the claims of the petitioners are, and in justice ought to be, embraced within the provisions of the above quoted parts of the articles of cession, and the act of Congress consequent thereon. Although these provisions may have been intended for a particular class of claimants, yet the case of the petitioners clearly falls within them. Their claims are derived from a *bona fide or unsuspected act or resolution* of the Legislature of Georgia, made in their favor, for services rendered under the authority of the State; and for which, at the time of their appointment, an "*adequate and satisfactory compensation*" was promised. The five thousand acres allowed to each as a gratuity, or compensation for their services, was to be located in the district of Tennessee. The whole or a part of the lands so promised, were actually *those* measured and surveyed for the commissioners, as appears from the documents. This district of country was, by the articles of cession before referred to, ceded to the United States, and it was agreed in one of the conditions of these articles, that the United States might appropriate a portion of the lands ceded, not exceeding five millions of acres, "for the purpose of satisfying, quieting, or compensating for *any other claims*" than those therein before recognized, (among which the claims of the petitioners are not embraced,) which might be made to the said lands, or any part thereof. And that, pursuant to the proviso contained in this condition, the Congress of the United States, by an act passed within the time limited, did appropriate the five millions of acres for the purpose of satisfying, quieting, or compensating for such *other claims* as might be derived from "*any act*, or *pretended act* of the State of Georgia," and which Congress might think fit thereafter to provide for.

It is true, that the evidence of all, or some part of these claims, (consisting in the resolutions of the General Assembly of Georgia,) were not exhibited and recorded in the office of the Secretary of State, pursuant to the proviso of the eighth section of the act of Congress before recited, (of 3d of March, 1804,) and within the time therein prescribed. For such of them as claimed under the resolutions of the General Assembly of Georgia, and not under the Yazoo act, it was scarcely necessary, as they could exhibit little else than a transcript of the resolutions, and perhaps a warrant and survey founded thereon in some of the cases. Your committee are of opinion that this omission does not, and ought not to affect the justice of *these* claims, more especially when it is considered that the strictness of the proviso was waived, and the time extended, in favor of claims of an *infinitely more doubtful* character, as will be seen by an act of Congress of the 23d of January, 1815. (4 vol. L. U. S. p. 776.)

That the claims are viewed as just, and coming within the provisions of the articles of cession by the State of Georgia, is amply testified by the memorial of the Legislature of that State, referred to your committee, requesting that the claims of the petitioners may be satisfied and paid by the United States, (see No. 31 of the reports of last session of Congress.)

It also appears from the evidence exhibited before the committee, that the commissioners who acted expended large sums of their own private funds in bearing their expenses while thus employed, and in quieting the Indians resident in that neighborhood.

It also appears, that six only of the commissioners ever "actually attended to their duty," viz. John Donelson, Thomas Carr, Stephen Heard, John Sevier, William Downes, and Joseph Martin; all of whom are now dead except Thomas Carr.

Your committee also discover that the petitions have been presented and referred to select committees at each of the two last sessions of Congress, and favorable reports made. They see no reason to change the relief suggested by those reports, (to which they beg leave to refer,) recommending that scrip be issued to the parties interested for the amount that is due to them respectively, at the rate of two dollars per acre, that being the minimum price, in cash, of public lands, and that this scrip, so to be issued, shall be receivable for any lands to be sold in the State of Alabama; for which purposes, the committee report a bill.

16th Congress. No. 306. 1st Session.

CLAIM TO LAND IN MISSOURI.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 14, 1820.

Mr. Campbell made the following report:

The Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the petition of James Mackay, with sundry documents, have had the same under consideration, and report:

The petitioner states that by a concession dated the first day of February, 1798, Zenon Trudeau, governor of Upper Louisiana, granted 1800 arpens of land to James McDaniel and his heirs; that, in the year 1802, McDaniel transferred the concession to the petitioner, who had the same surveyed and located by the proper officer, whose certificate bears date the 15th of March, 1803; that as soon as a Board of Commissioners had been appointed for Louisiana, he filed a notice of his claim with the recorder, to whom he delivered the concession, and took a receipt; that two years afterwards, he applied to the board for his documents, which he supposed had been recorded, but was denied them without a reason being assigned; that, being informed certain papers had been stolen from the office by a person who had been in the recorder's employment, he renewed his application, found all his documents recorded, except the concession, which was missing; that, as soon as advised of the passage of the act of the 3d of March, 1807, confirming grants within a league square, he applied to the board for confirmation, and produced as evidence the receipt given him by the recorder, which was deemed inadmissible; that this decision not only deprived him of the benefit of the said act, but also of one passed the 12th of April, 1814; that sometime in the spring of 1817, he received an anonymous letter, without date, enclosing the lost concession, which he presented to the recorder, who informed him, his powers having ceased, he could not grant him confirmation; that, on the 20th of April, 1818, an act was passed authorizing him to file his concession with the recorder of land titles, who was required to take testimony and report the same, with his opinion, to the next Congress. Wherefore he prays relief.

An act did pass on the 20th of April, 1818, requiring the recorder to perform certain duties in relation to the petitioner's claim, which has resulted in the collection of testimony, with his opinion.

It is proven a concession or warrant of survey was granted to James McDaniel, on the first of February, 1798, by Lieutenant Governor Trudeau.

Bernard Pratte swears the petition and concession are in the hand-writing of Antoine Soulard, and the signature in Governor Trudeau's.

Antoine Soulard swears the petition was written by himself, and that he saw Zenon Trudeau sign his name to the order of survey or concession; also, that more than a year before that time, (15th of June, 1818,) while James Mackay and he were walking the street, Mackay said he would inquire for letters which he expected from his son; that on coming out, he opened, in the presence of the witness, a letter containing the concession to McDaniel, which was said to have been mislaid or stolen in the year 1806.

The conveyance of the right of James McDaniel in the concession to the petitioner, on the 3d of January, 1802, is proven by a copy of the original deed, filed in the office of the Post of St. Andrew, translated, and sworn to.

The survey and location of the 1800 arpens on the river Des Péres, for the petitioner, are proven by a copy of the surveyor's plat and certificate, dated the 15th of March, 1803, translated under oath.

The existence of the receipt from the recorder to the petitioner, for the concession and other papers, is sufficiently established.

The recorder's opinion is unfavorable to the claim of the petitioner. To support his conclusion, he assumes two grounds: 1st, The want of registry of the order of survey. This evidence of authenticity he admits has only been required in cases where distrust has been entertained. To produce "distrust," he has furnished no evidence. On the other hand, of the genuineness of the concession there is not room to doubt, without entirely disregarding the statements of Pratte and Soulard, who stand unimpeached; and, 2d, The plat of survey is in the name of Mackay, and not McDaniel, who he supposes never had a legal possession, and of course could not convey.

Upon an inspection of the conveyance from McDaniel to Mackay, dated the 2d of January, 1802, it is pretty evident McDaniel had possession. This instrument describes the 1800 arpens by boundaries, though it may be true a location was not perfected until after the transfer. Besides, your committee are satisfied the laws and usages of the Spanish Government did not interdict the sale of unlocated concessions. Indeed, by the act of Congress approved the 12th of April, 1814, the term "claimant" is recognized, which, if properly defined, would embrace every person claiming, whether in his own or another's right.

Your committee think the petitioner entitled to relief, and for that purpose report a bill.

16th Congress. No. 307. 1st Session.

QUANTITY OF LAND SOLD AT THE LAND OFFICES SINCE THEIR INSTITUTION, THE RECEIPTS THEREFROM, AND THE BALANCES DUE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 24, 1820.

Treasury Department, 21 *Jan.* 1820.

Sir: In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 10th inst., instructing the Secretary of the Treasury "to lay before the House an annual statement of the number of acres of land sold at the several land offices, from their institution to the 30th of September, 1819; of the moneys accruing, and the moneys received, from such sales; of the sums due the Government and unpaid; and of the sales of forfeitures for nonpayment, keeping separate that part of the statement which relates to the States of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, formerly the Northwestern Territory,"—I have the honor to submit the enclosed statements from the office of the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

The rule applied by the Commissioner to determine the sums which will become due in the course of the succeeding years, is not satisfactory. If the sales of each year were of the same amount, the rule would be correct, after the expiration of five years from their commencement, provided the time within which the payments were to be made should not be extended by act of Congress.

For a number of successive years indulgence has been uniformly granted, and an examination of the annual sales will show that the amount has constantly varied. The rule, therefore, applied to the sum now outstanding, will not give a satisfactory result. It is probable, however, that, as the public sale of lands during the present year will be considerable in the States of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, the receipts in those States will, during the year, nearly equal the sum which the application of that rule would produce. In the States of Mississippi, Alabama, and in the districts west of the Mississippi river, the receipts will fall greatly below that amount, as the principal sales have been made since the commencement of the year 1817; and the returns of the receivers show that the payments are principally confined to the annual purchases. Notwithstanding these circumstances, the receipts, during the year, from those offices, will probably be considerable, as a considerable quantity of land will be brought into market in Alabama, and the districts west of the Mississippi river.

I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant,

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

The Hon. the Speaker
of the House of Representatives.

No. 1.

Statement of lands sold at the several land offices northwest of the river Ohio, from their institution to the 30th September, 1819; of moneys received from such sales; of the sums due and unpaid to Government; and of the lands reverted, and the amount of moneys forfeited in consequence thereof.

When sold.	Lands sold.		Lands reverted.	Receipts by Receivers.		Balances unpaid by purchasers.
	Quantity.	Amount.		For purchase money.	On account of forfeitures.	
	Acres. 100*ths.*		*Acres,* 100*ths.*			
1800 and 1801	398,646 45	$834,887 11	Omitted.	$248,461 09	$2,147 91	$586,426 02*
1802	340,009 77	680,019 54	Do	220,867 34½	207 24	459,152 19½*
A 1803	181,068 43	398,161 28	Do	245,999 58	222	1,092,390 17½†
1804	373,611 54¼	772,851 95	Do	431,029 62¼	966 21	1,434,212 50¼†
1805	619,266 13¼	1,235,953 22¼	Do	575,859 88	1,102 48½	2,094,305 85†
1806	473,211 63½	1,001,358 02	Do	850,106 28½	1,588 78½	2,245,557 58½†
1807	284,180 29	588,610 28½	Do	680,861 44½	7,343 27	2,153,306 42¾†
1808	195,579 21¾	423,444 54	Do	545,077 95	3,129 07½	2,041,673 01¾†
1809	143,409 24½	355,783 04	Do	484,752 19¼	6,168 38	1,912,703 86½†
1810	158,843 57¼	344,256 16	Do	610,317 98¼	25,372 74	1,646,642 04¼†
1811	207,017 14½	449,502 69½	Do	599,773 06	49,541 74	1,496,371 67¾†
1812	391,664 65	849,632 09½	94,075 63	746,897 43	47,431 26¼	1,599,106 33¾†
B 1813	239,980 55	560 540 58	123,571 44	643,055 75¼	63,262 08	1,483,861 10¼†
1814	823,264 47	1,702,016 01	33,648 67	1,050,887 55	13,949 69¼	2,134,989 56†
1815	1,092,979 62	2,285,680 86	42,435 19	1,256,733 87	7,484 49	3,163,936 55†
1816	1,131,956 35	2,464,792 93	54,008 10	1,294,081 38¼	12,930 37	4,334,648 09¼†
1817	1,414,952 49	3,090,868 29	79,287 25	1,797,719 36¼	27,733 16	5,627,797 02†
To 1st Jan'y, 1818	460,889 46½	922,907 87	22,491 33	538,105 01¾	4,588 42	6,017,158 29¼†
To 30th Sept. 1818	1,245,106 59½	2,571,336 61	46,221 02	1,471,631 43¼	5,808 78	7,290,489 55†
1819	2,064,177 90¼	4,939,658 84½	153,309 43½	2,387,187 31½	25,334 40	9,868,295 48†
	12,239,815 52¼	26,482,261 93¼	649,058 06½	16,679,405 54½	306,282 49	

No. 2.

WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

1819	1,133,424 62	3,036,246 34½	74,532 59½	833,541 03¾	17,166 34	2,219,871 64¾‡

A and B. These sums do not agree with the annual statements of those years, owing to certain corrections at the foot of said statements.

Of the above unpaid balance of $9,868,295 48, it may be estimated that one-fourth will be due in 1820.
one-fourth in 1821.
one-fourth in 1822.
one-fourth in 1823.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, *January* 17, 1820.
JOSIAH MEIGS.

* Unpaid this year. † Including balances of former years. ‡ This is included in No. 1.

No. 3.

Statement of lands sold at the several land offices in Mississippi and Alabama, from their institution to the 30th September, 1819; of moneys received from such sales; of the sums due and unpaid to Government; and of the lands reverted, and the amount of moneys forfeited in consequence thereof.

When sold.	Lands sold.		Lands reverted.	Receipts by Receivers.		Balance unpaid by purchasers.
	Quantity.	Amount.		For purchase money.	On account of forfeitures.	
	Acres. 100*ths.*		*Acres* 100*ths*			
1807	74,831 50½	$149,663 01	-	$37,749 51	-	$111,913 50
1808	17,892 90	35,785 80	-	8,946 45	-	138,752 85
1809	87,635 74	194,871 99	-	60,141 98½	$112 99	273,482 85½
1810	77,035 83	158.125 97	-	41,413 48½	371 67	390,195 33½
1811	81,913 16	164,821 89	-	80,475 99½	305 35	474,541 23¼
1812	144,872 75½	299 904 36	5,529 86	121,377 41¼	541 36	653,068 18¾
18 3	30,260 88	60,658 86	1,607 78	83,452 41	144 36	630,274 63¾
1814	41,272 06	82,544 94	2,475 53	123,810 83¾	758 08	589,008 74
1815	27 254 02	54,508 05	2,615 72	111,784	536 93	531,732 79
1816	490.873 71	1,102,480 95	95,143 01½	364,116 00¾	44,007 37	1,270,097 73¼
To 30th Sept. 1817	617,090 40	1,677,903 44	23,613 28	546,494 12½	6,747 79	2,401,507 04¾
To 31st Dec. 1817	127,329 54	253,638 11	17,814 88	135,773 69	7,038 89¼	2,526,410 36
1818	695,848 54	3,715,752 94	53,787 18¾	1,087,799 15½	16,624 50	5,170,988 66¼
1819	2,278,045 64	9,705,889 16¾	137,179 12	2,773,722 57	29,206 90	12,132,362 16
	4,792,156 68	17,656,549 47¾	339,766 37¼	5,577,057 63¼	106,396 19¼	27,304,330

Of the above unpaid balance of $12,132,362 16, it may be estimated that one fourth will be due in 1820.
one-fourth in 1821.
one-fourth in 1822.
one-fourth in 1823.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, *January* 17, 1820. JOSIAH MEIGS.

16th Congress. **No. 308.** 1st Session.

LAND CLAIMS IN ILLINOIS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 27, 1820.

Mr. Anderson, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of sundry inhabitants of the State of Illinois, praying for the confirmation of certain lands heretofore confirmed by the Governors of the Northwestern and Indiana Territories, reported:

That, by the resolutions of Congress, of 1788, and act of 1791, claims to land at Vincennes, and in the Illinois country, founded on ancient grants made by the French or British Governments, were recognized, and donations were made to heads of families in 1783, of four hundred acres: to those who had improved lands, not more than four hundred acres; and to those who did militia duty in August, 1790, one hundred acres. The governor of the Northwestern Territory was empowered to allot, and confirm to the inhabitants, the lands they might be entitled to, under the provisions of said resolutions and act of Congress. The governor of the Northwestern Territory proceeded to perform that duty, and continued from time to time, to make grants and confirmations, until the power was transferred to the governor of the Indiana Territory, who also made grants and confirmations, until the power was transferred to boards of commissioners established about the year 1804. On the 20th of February, 1812, Congress organized a board of commissioners to revise the grants and confirmations of the governors. This board, in January, 1813, transmitted to the Secretary of the Treasury four lists of claims that had not been supported by sufficient evidence laid before them. Upon the claims thus reported no proceedings have been had in Congress.

As no control was reserved by Congress over the acts of the governors, (no report even being required to be made of their proceedings,) the petitioners insist that it was not competent to Congress to reverse their decisions, either directly or indirectly. The committee are not disposed either to deny or acquiesce in this position, because other grounds appear to the committee conclusive in the favor of the petitioners.

By recurrence to the resolutions of 1788, and the law of 1791, it appears that the right to "donations to heads of families," accrued twenty-nine years before the passage of the law of 1812; the same remark applies to the *improvement* rights, and the claims derived from militia services accrued twenty-two years before the sitting of the Board of Commissioners under the act of 1812. The petitioners complain, and with great appearance of truth, that, as their claims depended entirely on parol testimony, it was unreasonable to call on them at so distant a period after the death or removal of their witnesses, to prove again their claims. The petitioners also complain, with equal appearance of truth, that, admitting the power of Congress to revise the acts of the governors, their confirmations ought to have been taken as evidence of right, until the presumption in favor of the acts of a public officer was destroyed by clear testimony. It seems, indeed, that the Board of Commissioners, under the law of 1812, did not allow to the acts of the governors any respect at all; but, where the witnesses called by that board had no knowledge of the claim, it was condemned. The committee cannot hesitate to admit that many changes of property took place between the confirmations made by the governors, and their reversal in 1813, by the board of revision, and that these revisions have operated prejudicially to innocent purchasers. The committee have not been convinced that any such hardship exists in that class of cases that depended on ancient grants. They depended on written testimony, and it does not appear that such documents have been lost.

The committee therefore recommend the rejection of so much of the petition as relates to the class of cases dependant upon grants of the governors founded on "ancient grants," and report a bill for the confirmation of the three other classes of cases dependant on parol testimony.

16th Congress. **No. 309.** 1st Session.

CLAIM OF THE COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED BY GEORGIA TO EXAMINE CERTAIN LANDS ON THE TENNESSEE RIVER.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 7, 1820.

Mr. Campbell made the following report:

The Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom were referred the petitions and acompanying documents of Thomas Carr and others, have had the same under consideration, and report:

Your committee have examined the case with attention, and think it not necessary to present anew the allegations and proofs of the petitioners. This has been done with much accuracy, in the report made by the Select Committee on the 14th of December. [See No. 305.]

As your committee are convinced the claim of the petitioners is just, the only question which remains for decision is, whether the United States are under obligations to grant relief. To furnish an answer, it is necessary to advert to the language of the articles of agreement and cession. In this instrument there are sundry conditions, for the performance of which Congress is solemnly pledged; they are absolute and indispensable. However, in the proviso to the third condition, Congress is, without doubt, permitted the exercise of discretion. The auxiliary verb "may" is always to be understood as importing this idea. It cannot be well doubted, that by the words "any claims," were meant those derived under the act of the Legislature of Georgia of the 7th of January, 1795. To satisfy these, Congress was at liberty to appropriate not exceeding five millions of acres of land, or the proceeds thereof. This ability to appropriate was limited to one year. If exercised thereafter, a forfeiture to the State of Georgia was to ensue; and if not exercised at all, the five millions of acres were not to be known as distinct from the common fund applicable to the purposes of the United States. It is well known in what light the Yazoo claims were viewed at the time the cession was made. This may account for the shortness of the period within which Congress might provide for them, and for the absence of a positive obligation to do so. Can it be imagined, Georgia, if it had been intended the cession should embrace the petitioners' case, would not have insisted on the use of a different phraseology? Is it not probable the sanction of these claims would have been as positively required as that of any other persons? Scarcely would their validity have been left precarious and contingent by the limitation of a year.

The articles of cession may well be called a contract. In construing it, it is proper to ascertain, if possible, the intention of the parties. In the application of this rule, your committee cannot discover that the United States are under any obligations to relieve the petitioners.

The select committee think the act of Congress approved the 3d of March, 1803, and within the year, includes the case of the petitioners. The words, it is true, are broad, and may be interpreted by some to extend to all claims emanating from Georgia under any act. Your committee object to this latitude of construction, in as much as cases, of which Congress could have had no knowledge, might be embraced. The words, "such other claims," "any act, or pretended act," at once direct the attention of the reader to the Yazoo speculators. This sentiment is strongly supported by the system of legislation which became necessary after the appropriation of the five million of acres or the proceeds thereof.

Your committee recommend that the bill reported by the select committee, on the 14th of December last, for the relief of the petitioners, be rejected.

16th Congress. **No. 310.** 1st Session.

CLAIM TO LAND IN MISSISSIPPI.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 11, 1820.

Mr. Campbell, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the petition of Josias H. McComas and wife, reported:

The petitioners state, that sometime previously to the year 1791, Henry Willis settled in the district of Natchez, now State of Mississippi, married, and became entitled to all the privileges of a citizen of the Spanish Government. That he obtained from the Spanish Government a warrant of survey for eight hundred arpens of land situated on the waters of Bayou Sarah, in said district, which land was actually surveyed for him, as appears by a warrant and plat of survey bearing date on the 21st of December, 1791, which accompanies the petition. It is also stated that Willis obtained by purchase from James McIntosh, who purchased of James Sanders, another tract of land of five hundred arpens, adjoining the former, which was actually surveyed for said Sanders, as appears by a warrant of survey and plat bearing date the 22d of December, 1791. About the year 1791 or 1792, Willis obtained leave from the Spanish Government to visit South Carolina and Georgia on necessary business, intending to return, inhabit, and cultivate his lands, but died before his business in Carolina was closed. He left, at his death, the petitioner Anna, and a son named Lewis, since deceased, his only heirs, then infants, and his widow, since intermarried with John Chotard. In addition to the repeated declarations of Willis, they state, as an evidence of his intention to return, that he appointed an agent to transact his business during his absence, and left a large personal estate to be preserved until his return. They allege that the Spanish authorities always regarded said lands as the property of Willis and his heirs, until the time of surrendering the country to the United States.

The commissioners appointed under the act of Congress of 1803, to adjudicate on claims to lands in the district of lands west of Pearl river, rejected this claim for want of *habitation* and *cultivation*, on the 27th of October, 1795. It was not confirmed under the act of 1812, because the claimants were not *actual* settlers "*resident*" in said district in October, 1795. The intention of Willis to return to the district and "inhabit" and "cultivate" his lands; the act of God in preventing his return; the infancy and consequent incapacity of the petitioner Anna to comply with the terms of the act of Congress, are assigned as reasons why the requisitions of the act were not literally complied with, and for the interposition of Congress in their behalf. The material facts set forth in the petition are supported by the evidence. The petitioners pray a confirmation of their title, alleging that, although their claim does not come literally within the expressions of the act of 1812, yet it comes within the spirit.

Congress, in presenting obstacles to the confirmation of claims to land derived from British or Spanish warrants and orders of survey, we presume merely intended to guard against fraud and speculation. Lands were generally granted by those Governments with a view to the settlement of the country; hence the American Government required a *residence* to evidence an intention to settle and improve the lands granted, and not speculate. Wherever that intention is clearly manifested, without an actual residence, and the case is otherwise divested of suspicious circumstances, your committee are of opinion that such case comes within the spirit, if not within the letter of the law, and embraces the intention of the Government. In legislating, general rules must be adopted. These general rules operate injuriously, and sometimes unjustly, towards individuals, without legislative interference. In this case, it may also be remarked, that, if a man's home is his residence, Willis had an actual residence in the district until his death in the year 1794. The residence of the father was necessarily the residence of his family after his death, until they evidenced a change of residence by some act of their own. So far from showing an intention to change their residence, the family moved, so soon after the death of Willis as they could, (though too late to meet the provisions of the law,) to the district where the land was situated, and where they have ever since resided. There Willis had left an agent to transact his business; there he had left a large personal estate; there was the inheritance of his legal representatives. These circumstances present, in the opinion of your committee, a case virtually, although perhaps not expressly within the provisions of the law. We feel the more disposed to favor this claim, as it is in favor of the orphan and the widow, towards whom almost all governments extend a guardian and parental care. Your committee therefore think the petitioners entitled to relief, not however by a confirmation of their title to the land claimed, which has since been disposed of by the United States, but by a commutation of lands within the district, and report a bill for that purpose.

16th Congress. **No. 311.** 1st Session.

CLAIM OF THE STOCKBRIDGE INDIANS TO LANDS IN INDIANA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 24, 1820.

Mr. Storrs, from the committee to whom was referred the petition of Muhheakunuk or Stockbridge nation of Indians, reported:

That it appears that, antecedent to the revolutionary war, the Miami nation of Indians granted to the Delaware, Mohican, (Muheakunuk,) and Munsee tribes, a tract of land situated on the waters of the White river, and now comprised within the State of Indiana. That the Delawares and a part of the Mohican nation shortly thereafter removed to and settled upon these lands, where they yet remain. This grant was originally authenticated according to the customs of the Indian nations, by the delivery of a belt and several strings of wampum. On the 21st day of December, 1808, it was formally reduced to writing at the city of Washington by Mr. Jefferson, then President of the United States, attested by Henry Dearborn, Secretary of War, and the seal of the War Department was affixed to the instrument. This authentication of the title to these lands has ever since remained in the possession of the chiefs of the Delaware and Mohican nations. The Mohicans principally reside in the State of New York, but, for many years previous to the execution of this deed, a part of the nation resided with the Delawares on these lands.

By the treaty made at St. Mary's, in the State of Ohio, on the 3d day of October, 1818, the *Delaware* nation ceded to the United States "all *their claim*" to land in "the State of Indiana," reserving the use and occupation of their improvements for the term of three years. Since the ratification of this treaty, the title of the Mohican nation to an undivided and equal portion of the lands ceded by the Delawares has been denied, and they have been required by the agents of the Government to remove from the tract at the expiration of three years from the date of the treaty, and that their title will not be recognized.

Since the grant of these lands by the Miamies, the Mohican nation has never ceded or alienated any portion of them; and the committee are of opinion, after a careful examination of the documents, that their title is not affected by the cession made by the Delawares to the United States, or by any treaties made with tribes to which the Mohicans were not parties, and that they still remain

the lawful proprietors of an equal and undivided share of the tract granted by the Miamies to them, in common with the Delawares and Munsees.

The foundation of the denial of their title is contained in the communication (herewith submitted) to the Secretary of the Department of War from John Johnston, the agent of the United States for Indian affairs at Piqua. The allegation contained in this communication, that the Mohicans "may be considered a component part" of the Delaware nation, does not appear to the committee to be a fair deduction from the history of these nations. The terms of relationship used by the Indian nations in their intercourse, are merely appellations of the friendship existing among different tribes: they denote no consanguinity with each other, and their origin may frequently be traced to casual circumstances, or events in the history of the Indian nations inhabiting this continent. A clear and satisfactory explanation of their customs in this respect is contained in Heckewelder's History of the Indians, and Loskiel's History of the Missions to the Indian tribes in North America. In confirmation of these historical accounts, the committee submit, with this report, a statement furnished by one of the chiefs of the Mohican nation, relative to the origin of the appellation of relationship existing between the Delaware and Mohican tribes.

It is stated by the agent for Indian affairs, that the Mohicans claim these lands under the 2d article of the treaty made at Fort Wayne on the 30th day of September, 1809, between the United States and the Delaware, Miami, Potawattamie, and Eel river tribes. The deed from the Miamies to the Mohicans, bearing date at a period long antecedent to this treaty, which deed was but the formal recognition of a title much more ancient, the inference drawn by the agent that the title of the Mohicans is derived from a subsequent treaty with other tribes to which the Mohicans were not parties, is not only singular, but clearly unwarranted as well by the fact, as by every rule of just interpretation.

It appears from this communication of the Indian agent, that, "previous to the Miami chiefs signing the treaty, they required and received from the commissioners of the United States a paper, purporting to hold them indemnified" from the claim of the Mohicans. To determine with certainty the nature of this instrument, and the reasons of its execution and delivery, the committee have examined the journal of the commissioners, and nothing appears therein relative to the subject.

The committee are of opinion that it is evident from this communication of the Indian agent, that the Mohicans were entitled to a share of these lands. They were formally notified to attend the treaty; the Indian agent endeavored to obtain for them a reservation; the Miamies, before the execution of the treaty, required an indemnity against their claims; a part of the nation resided on the lands, and their claim was a subject of consideration during the making of the treaty.

Independently of the evidence of this claim furnished by the documents, many circumstances concur to render it proper that it should be recognized on the part of the United States. As far as the complaints of the Mohican nation, in relation to this treaty, are set forth in their petition, there is much reason to believe that they are just. Their communications to the Delawares, transmitted to the care of the Indian agent, were, by him, suppressed from the knowledge of the Delawares, and his suggestions of the "proper steps" to be taken for the procurement of Indian lands, by the employment of persons whose negotiations may not prove to be "unsuccessful by reason of ignorance of the Indian character," tend much to impair the sincerity of those professions of "candor" and devotion to the "best interests" of the Indians, which are displayed in this communication to the War Department.

The committee have not been able to determine, with satisfactory precision, the extent or boundaries of the grant from the Miamies to the Delawares, Mohicans, and Munsees. It is alleged, on the part of the chiefs of the Mohican nation, that the grant included a tract of one hundred miles square; but no documents exist which render certain its extent. It being evident, however, that their title to some portion of the lands ceded by the Delawares, is well founded, the committee report a bill for the confirmation of their claim, and providing for its amicable and equitable adjustment.

To our great Father, the President, and to his great Council, the Congress of the United States:

We, your red brethren, chiefs and principal men of the Muhheakunuk or Stockbridge nation, desire you to listen to us. We are all descended from one father, and, with our white brethren, acknowledge and worship one God, who has graciously placed us under the care of wise and just men. We have been taught that you were always ready to listen to the complaints of your red brethren, and we confidently come unto you, believing that when you shall have heard our petition, you will not suffer us to be wronged of our lands, or driven away from our country.

Brethren: We, from a great and strong nation, have become few and weak. When your fathers first came to this great island, they found our fathers in possession of a great country, abounding in all things necessary for their comfort and sustenance. Your fathers were then few and small. We, of the Muhheakunuk nation, then received them as friends and brothers. As your fathers increased along the sea shore, ours were obliged to fall back; and, to afford them more land, our fathers removed from the island of Manhattan, (which you have since covered with a great city,) toward the head waters of the great river which there mixes with the sea.

But, in a little time your fathers came among them again, and built another city and fort, when they again left their town near Albany, and removed with their wives and children eastward toward the river Connecticut, where they again re-united our nation at Stockbridge.

But, in a little time again, others of your fathers coming from the east had come near unto them; and, on the west, had encircled them in, when our fathers, finding that their lands were covered with their white brethren, and that they would soon be left with but little ground for hunting or for corn, removed far west, beyond the borders of your fathers' land, and our nation was again seated down in peace.

Though thus compelled to wander from place to place, we were your friends. When your parent disowned you as her children, and sent over to this great island many strong warriors to burn your towns, destroy your families, and bring you into captivity; we, of the Muhheakunuk's, defended your fathers on the west against the warriors which your parent had sent against you on that side; and we also sent our warriors to join your great chief Washington, to aid him in driving back into the sea the unnatural monsters who had come up from thence to devour you, and ravage the land which we a long time before granted to your fathers to live upon.

Since our removal to New Stockbridge where we now live, we have abandoned our hunting, and cultivate the earth.

We have found that, by the counsel of good men in that respect, we have profited much, and our nation was increasing in numbers and peace. Your brethren have, at various times, sent among us good and pious men, who have instructed us by good counsels, and redeemed us from our false gods, and put into our hearts to know the truth, and our nation have long ago cast away their dumb idols which could not speak, and we now worship the only true God and Saviour Jesus Christ. Our children are taught to read and write, to cultivate the earth, and to worship, love, obey, and serve the Lord. But, with all these blessings, we have found that, since we have again became surrounded with our white brethren, bad men persuade our young men to evil.

Our lands here have again became small, and many years ago a part of our nation went to other lands, which we own, to prepare a place for us.

Brethren: We wish you now to listen to what we have to say. A great many years ago the Miami or Maumee nation, and several other tribes, granted to our fathers, the Muhheakunuks, to the Delawares and Munsees, a large tract of country on the White river, far west of the river Ohio. This grant was confirmed by a belt of wampum, which our white brethren know is among us a pledge of faith. In many councils has this grant been confirmed and acknowledged; and, in the year of our Lord 1808, it was put into writing, on parchment, at the city of Washington, according to the customs of our white brethren, and was sealed with the seal of your nation, and subscribed and witnessed by our father, Thomas Jefferson, and Henry Dearborn, one of your chief counsellors.

This deed we now show to you. A part of our nation, as we have told you, removed to these lands and possessed them, with the Delawares and Munsees, and made large improvements on them, at great expense to our nation, to prepare them for us. We were about preparing last year to remove to them with our families and instructors; but we heard, with great grief and disappointment, that, during the last year, your nation, by its chiefs and counsellors, have made a treaty with the Delawares alone for these lands, at which our chiefs were not present, nor our nation consulted; and our brethren who

are on these lands are directed to leave them in a short time; our right to them is denied; our hopes are thus blasted, and we suffer under the wrong which grieves us greatly.

In the last year our nation looked with pain on the situation of our brethren in the west. We saw them lying in darkness and Paganism, and believed that our God called upon us to send among them a colony of our nation, in which was built up a church of our Lord and Saviour, that we might be the means of civilizing and christianizing them, and doing to them great good. In this we were aided by the counsel and assistance of the good and pious among us, and those who had sent to us the light and blessing of the gospel of our Lord.

We hoped to aid greatly in spreading over this whole island, even to the great western waters, the fruits of religion and civilization, that all our red brethren might partake of them and be made happy, our God adored, and his kingdom advanced; but all these prospects are clouded and hidden from our eyes. The lands we justly own as a nation are taken from us; we shall thus be deprived of our inheritance without our consent. We pray that you will not suffer this wrong to be done to us. We have always looked up to you for advice and counsel and protection, and we believe that you will not refuse to listen to our cries. The lands which our fathers have left to us is small, and, if we are driven now from it, our nation must remain where we now are, and we fear that, in a little time, it may be wasted away and destroyed. You are a great nation, and have many lands; that which we have will add little to them.

We were told, last winter, that we must look to the Delawares about this matter; but we know that the Delawares have no right to sell our lands. Besides, the Delawares have nothing that we want to give us for them. We had rather look to your nation, which is wise and just, than to our brethren the Delawares, who are but little instructed in religion, and who are preparing to move away west of the great river Mississippi.

Brethren: This is what we have to say, and now we pray that you will consider our just rights, and set off to our nation such a location of these lands as we are justly entitled to, that we may not suffer under this wrong, and that we may thus be aided in our designs, and our nation again be set down in peace, and our hearts be quieted.

And we, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

N. Stockbridge, or Muhheakunuk,
November 16*th*, 1819.

SACHEM.
Hendrick Aupaumut.

CHIEFS.
Jacob Kunkopot.
Solomon Q. Hendrick.
Jacob Chuckthunons.

CHIEF WARRIORS.
Abner W. Hendrick.
Moses Yuckum, his x mark.
Abram Maumauntuthekun, his x mark.
Andrew Waumukhey, his x mark.
William Thomson, his x mark.
Jacob Littleman, his x mark.
Solomon U. Hendrick.
Jacob David, his x mark.
Benjamin Nicholas.
Bartholomew Colvin.
Isaac Skirkit.
Timothy Quinney.
John W. Quinney.
Thomas Tautaukeen.
Francis Aarono.

WITNESS,
John Sergeant, Missionary.

Signed, in behalf of our tribe, and those of our friends, who are at or about White river.

Jonas Littleman.	Joseph Pewauqkuewheek.
Nicholas Jourdan.	Abram Konnookhaute.
David Abrams.	Cornelius Doxstator.
Jehoiakim Youcum.	David Neesonnuhhuk.
Jonas Thompson.	John Baldwin.
John Littleman.	Abram Kauwaukheck.
Cornelius Aaron.	Daniel Aupehiheukum.
Jehoiakim Abram.	John P. Konkpot.
Sampson Pauskemp.	Aaron Nohsowwaunmut.
Thomas Hickman.	Absalom Quinney.
James Joshua.	Isaac Littleman.
Henry Sukhukowrooh.	Sampson Owwohthommauq.

It is a tradition handed down from our ancestors, that, many thousand moons ago, when the red men were the sole possessors of this flourishing and happy land, before white men came over the great water in their bounding ships, the Delawares dwelt along the banks of the river of that name, quietly and peaceably enjoying the fruits of their labor. They had had no wars for a long time; the nation increased and multiplied; they grew strong; they prospered.

But at length their prosperity was to be interrupted. The Cherokees, Nanticokes, and some other nation, (whose name has not descended to us,) envying their condition, came from the south, with a great army, to fight against them. The woods resounded with their footsteps, and the mountains echoed with their war-whoops. They vanquished the Delawares in several battles, and, at last, forced them to retreat to an island in the river, (some where above Philadelphia,) on which they had before placed all their old men, women, and children. Some time before this they had sent runners to the Mohicans, living along the sea shore in Connecticut, to implore their help. These two nations were friends, but not allies. The chief of the Mohicans was then Etowwaghaum; he assembled his warriors, and immediately set out on his march to assist his friends in the west. They arrived at a most critical period: the Delawares were contending with the whole combined force of the Cherokees, Nanticokes, and the other nation, whose name is now unknown; there was no possibility of retreat from the island; they stood defending themselves, their aged parents, their wives, and helpless children. What remained of the whole tribe was now assembled on this island. They were threatened with extermination. Long had they striven with no hope of escape, surrounded with ten times their number: the field of battle was become a heap of carnage: the fainting warriors of the Delawares could scarce raise a weapon in defence of all that was dear to them: driven backwards and forwards, they retreated and rallied, and again retreated, until indiscriminate death seemed inevitable, when the shouts of the Mohicans, advancing in great force to their assistance, struck their eyes. Then it was that the fortune of the day was turned. The Cherokees and their allies were defeated with great slaughter, and put to flight.

Threatened in their turn with invasion, the Cherokees, Nanticokes, and the other tribe in alliance with them, sued for peace of the Mohicans aud Delawares, who were now the victorious party. It was granted them, on condition that they would return peaceably home, and never again make war on the Delawares or their allies. This was agreed to: the Cherokees and their allies returned home, and remained faithful to the conditions of the treaty.

The Mohicans continued with the Delawares for some time, and when they were preparing to return to their own country, the chief of the Delawares assembled a council of his old men, and inviting the chiefs and principal warriors of the Mohicans to be present; when they were come, he spoke to them to this effect:

"Chiefs and warriors, our friendly allies: We are greatly indebted to you for the services you have done us. We can never repay you. We cannot speak to you as we would, our hearts are too full; but the Great Spirit can reward you brothers, and he will do so.

"Brothers, we would invite you to come and settle among us, and bring your fathers with you, and your women and children; but we know, brothers, you would not leave the bones of your forefathers, and go into a strange land. But this we can do; we will make you our relation. Now, brothers, what relation shall we be to you?"

Then Etowwaghaum, chief of the Mohicans, stood up, and said, "Brothers, we give you thanks for your kind offer, and accept it. Now we, from the east, generally defend our grandfather if he is assaulted or abused by any one."

It was thereupon agreed, by both parties, that the Delawares should be the grandfather, and the Mohicans the grandson, and that they should both be as the members of one family. The Mohicans returned to their homes, and ever remained faithful to their relations, the Delawares.

These are the facts on which we found our claim, and, as justice warrants it, so may it be done.

In the treaty of Grouseland, near Vincennes, of August, 1805, *the first article has the following:*

"And whereas the Miami tribe, from whom the Delawares derived their claim, contend that, in their cession of said tract to the Delawares, (i. e. the lands watered by White river, Indiana,) it was never their intention to convey to them the right of the soil, but to suffer them to occupy it as long as they thought proper: the said Delawares have, for the sake of peace and good neighborhood,

determined to relinquish their claim to the said tract, and do, by these presents, release the United States from the guarantee made in the before mentioned article of the treaty of August, 1804."

The 4th article of the same treaty recognizes the Miamies, Eel Rivers, and Weas, (all Miamies) as being the rightful owners of all the country on the Wabash and its waters, above the Vincennes tract. White river, in which the Delawares resided, is a main branch of the Wabash.

Treaty of Fort Wayne, September, 1809, the Miamies, for the first time, solemnly recognized the claim of the Delawares as follows:

Art. 2. The Miamies explicitly acknowledge the equal right of the Delawares with themselves to the country watered by the White river; but it is also to be clearly understood, that neither party shall have the right of disposing of the same, without the consent of the other; and the improvements which shall be made on the said land by the Delawares or their friends, the Mohicans, shall be theirs forever.

It is under the last clause of the preceding article that the Mohicans claim. There is no other treaty stipulation in their favor.

It is believed the Delawares have resided on White river, Indiana, 40 or 50 years. The Mohicans may be fairly considered a component part of this tribe, for, in speaking of the Delawares, they call them their grandfathers, which implies relationship and dependance, as looking up to them for counsel and direction: they were unquestionably originally the same people. The Mohicans have not been known, as a people, on White river, more than 18 or 20 years. It is not believed that more than six families of them have been there at any one time, until since the sale of the country, when about sixty souls moved there last spring. They went in defiance of the orders of the agent for Indian affairs. The Delawares had, repeatedly, invited all them to move and settle beside them on White river; for reasons unknown, they did not accept of their offer. The last was made from Fort Meigs at the treaty of September, 1817. The Indian agent wrote it at the instance of the chiefs.

The country on White river owned in part, and occupied exclusively, by the Delawares, was eagerly desired by the people and Government of Indiana. Two different attempts had been made to purchase it after the late war, both of which were unsuccessful by reasons of ignorance of the Indian character, by the persons employed in the negotiation. Governor Jennings afterwards wrote to the Indian agent on the subject. The reply was, that the country could be procured, if the proper steps were taken. The course was suggested through Governor Jennings to the Government here. A negotiation was ordered. Wishing always to act with candor, I immediately notified the Mohicans in New York, by letter, of the time and place of holding the treaty, and invited them to attend. They transmitted written communications to the Delawares, containing reflections on the white people, and warmly urging them not to sell any more land. Those communications I could not be the organ of to the Indians, because they were directly in the face of my duty. A letter was immediately transmitted to the Mohicans at New Stockbridge, advising them that I could not deliver their communications to the Delawares, (which the persons who wrote them ought to have known,) and informing them that in any other case I should be glad to serve them. They did not think it necessary or proper to attend the treaty which was signed at St. Mary's, October 3, 1818, although they had ample time; but wrote to me to have a large reservation, I think twenty miles square, made for them. The chiefs of the Delawares would agree to grant them no reservation, saying that they wished the Mohicans to accompany them over the Mississippi. Application was made to the Miamies also to designate a reservation for them. My request to Richardville, the head chief, was to allow them a reservation on the Wabash river, below Massasinaway. The reply was, that if the Delawares would not provide for their friends the Mohicans, it could not be expected the Miamies would. It is very doubtful if the Mohicans had been on the spot at St. Mary's, whether the Delawares would have consented to give them an acre, so desirous are they of taking all their friends along with them.

Previous to the Miami chiefs signing the treaty, they required and received from the Commissioners of the United States a paper, purporting to hold them indemnified from any claim which the Mohicans might thereafter make in virtue of the second article of the treaty of Fort Wayne, of September, 1809. No such document was asked by the Delawares.

No person, employed in the negotiation, ever thought it necessary, at any stage of the business, to have the assent of the Mohicans to the sale of the White river country. They were not considered by the Indian chiefs who were parties to the treaty, nor by the officers of the United States, as having a right in the soil. If there should be any doubt on this head, Governor Harrison, who negotiated the treaty, would clear them up. There is no man in the western country better acquainted with the geographical limits of the various tribes of Indians northwest of the Ohio.

When we treat with Indians, it is always with those who are in possession of the country wanted. A great number of the Delawares are settled beyond the Mississippi. Yet, we do not consider it necessary to send to them, and get their consent. The same case with the Pottawatamies, who are scattered over a great extent of country. In treating with this tribe at St. Mary's, we purchased from those only who lived on the lands and in the country adjacent. This rule has always governed, and holds good in the case of the Mohicans. Viewing them as a component part of the Delaware nation, we purchased from those who exercised the chief authority, and who resided in the country.

The communications made to the Mohicans by the Delawares and their agent, does not, it is conceived, alter the case. The parties could not be bound by such communications, at any rate, after the treaty was signed. The Mohicans have no just reason for complaint. They were properly notified by the United States' agent to attend the treaty. This they declined doing, no doubt from a conviction that the Delawares would secure no land for them. I think there was not a single family of the Mohicans residing on White river, in October, 1818, nor for some years before. Their improvements must have been of little value: the land in cultivation was all *prairie*.

Mr. Storrs having stated, in the hearing of the Secretary of War, that the Mohicans considered themselves materially injured by my conduct, it becomes necessary to justify. I never had any political connexion with these Indians. They reside in the northern part of New York, at least 600 miles from my agency. Many of their leading men at different times have visited the Delawares, a few families have occasionally resided on White river. This led to a correspondence between Mr. Sergeant, the elder, and myself, respecting them. I was also the medium of communication from the Delaware chief to the Mohicans. The Government at no period placed supplies of any kind at my disposal for their use. I therefore could not withhold the public favors from them. I acted fairly in notifying them to attend the treaty. In failure thereof, every fair and honorable means was used to get a reservation for them. I am conscious of never having done an act to their prejudice. There could possibly exist no motive for it. I am desirous of moving all the Indians within my agency over the Mississippi, because I think their best interests will be promoted by so doing. They cannot be preserved in what is called reservations. The intemperate use of ardent spirits is destroying them rapidly.

Respectfully submitted by
JOHN JOHNSTON, *In. Agent.*

Georgetown, Col. *Jan.* 5, 1820.

Hon. J. C. Calhoun, *Sec. of War.*

Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States, to whom it may concern:

Whereas it appears, by the declaration of Captain Hendrick, a chief and agent for the Delaware Indians, and is confirmed by the acknowledgment made to me personally by the Little Turtle, a chief of the Miamies, that the said Miamies have granted to the Delawares, Mohicans, and Munsees, and their descendants forever, a certain portion of their lands on the White river, for the sole use and occupation of the said Delawares, Mohicans, and Munsees, and their descendants forever; but under the express reservation and condition, that neither they, the said Delawares, Mohicans, and Munsees, nor their descendants, shall ever alienate the lands to any other persons or purposes whatsoever, without the consent of the said Miamies. And the said chiefs before named, having desired me to bear witness to their declarations and acknowledgments aforesaid: Now, therefore, know ye, that I, the said Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States, do testify, that the declarations and acknowledgments before mentioned, by the said chiefs of the Delawares and Miamies before named, were made in my presence, and on my interrogation, in the exact tenor before stated.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, at the city of Washington, on the 21st day of December, 1808. TH: JEFFERSON.

H. Dearborn, *Secretary of War.*

16th Congress. **No. 312.** 1st Session.

APPLICATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF LAND ON TERMS DIFFERENT FROM THOSE ESTABLISHED BY LAW.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MARCH 3, 1820.

Mr. Anderson made the following report:

The Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Charles Henry Du Pasquier and others, praying, on behalf of themselves and other Swiss emigrants, that Congress would authorize them to purchase a tract of the public land lying on the west side of the Mississippi, and between the 30th and 37th degree of north latitude, sufficient for the settlement of three or four thousand families, on terms more favorable than the general law would permit them, have had the same under consideration, and report:

That the question presented to the consideration of the House involves the expediency of selling the public lands to foreigners on terms more indulgent than those which regulate the sales to native citizens. This committee is very sensible that the mildness of our Government, its wise and wholesome laws, have produced an emigration to its shores which has gone far to increase the collective talents and industry of the nation. Some of our most distinguished citizens, as well as industrious and ingenious mechanics, are among those who have made this country their own by adoption. But it is thought that, while we highly appreciate these benefits, we should not change the operation of the general laws of the country to produce the effect. So long as the freedom of our institutions is preserved, and wholesome laws are permitted to have their ordinary effect, the inducements which heretofore have had their influence will still be sufficiently strong to produce the desired emigration. It cannot be conceded that special provisions, excepting foreigners, however meritorious, from the operation of general laws, and giving to them advantages which are denied to the citizens, can be founded in good policy. It is a peculiarity eminently honorable to our country, that the native of Europe possesses, in the acquisition of the soil here, the same advantages which an American citizen does; to give him more, would produce a distinction not only invidious, but most unjust. When the law is now equally open to both, it would, indeed, be a perverted use of charity to give to the stranger a facility which we deny to the citizen.

It is probable that during the present session of Congress, the mode of selling the public lands will be so far altered as to demand a cash payment of each purchaser. Every reason which could influence Congress to make that change, would forbid this committee from proposing to sell a large quantity on a credit still more distant than the present laws contemplate. If the public interests should be thought to require a system still more rigorous than the one which now prevails, and this too against the petitions of a great number of your citizens, and the memorials of the Legislatures of several of the southern and western States, it would, indeed, be an assumption of high responsibility on the part of this committee, to recommend, in obedience to the prayer of the present petitioners, that indulgence to them which the expected bill will deny to your own citizens.

The establishment of a community of foreigners within our country, secluded by their habits, manners, and language, from an intimate association with the great body of our citizens, cannot be an event so desirable as to justify a departure from the general law. An unrestrained intercourse with the body of the American yeomanry, affords to the emigrant the best, and probably the only means of acquiring an accurate knowledge of our laws and institutions; a knowledge which is not only necessary to give to him the full enjoyment of his situation, but is necessary to render him a valuable citizen to the commonwealth. It is believed that if a large settlement was formed, exclusively of foreign families, to most of whom our language would, of course, be unknown, that many years would elapse before that general intercourse would take place beyond the boundaries of their own community, which would be essential to give them full possession of American principles and character; and it is by no means certain that time would, in such cases, ever have the effect of entirely destroying their foreign character. While, then, this committee rejoices in every opportunity of communicating the blessings of their country to their European brethren, they believe that it can be safely done only when they enjoy them by indiscriminate association.

The petitioners have, many of them, been heretofore engaged in manufactures; and they rely for much of the support which they expect to receive, upon the stock manufacturing skill and industry which they promise to introduce. They have exhibited before the committee some beautiful and very satisfactory specimens of their ingenuity and skill, particularly in silk and cotton goods. Your committee felt the full force of this appeal, and very frankly state that, if any petition of a similar character can be acceptable to the House, this deserves to be so. Without referring to the known character of the Swiss peasantry, a settlement in the State of Indiana, of emigrants from Switzerland, gives strong evidence that a colony established under the auspices of the present petitioners would be characterized by industry and unoffending submission to the laws. They reisist the application, however, on the grounds they have stated. The terms of sale held out by the present laws are of the most indulgent kind; and, if the public interests should ever justify a still farther relaxation, it is confidently believed that it should be in favor of American citizens.

In answer to that part of the petition which declares that one of the principal objects is "the domestic manufacture of cotton, wool, flax, and silk," this committee will only say, that it may well be considered how far it would comport with sound policy to give a premium for the introduction of manufactures at the moment when, by the almost unanimous declaration of our manufacturers, it is said that they cannot live without farther protection.

Your committee, therefore, recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioners ought not to be granted.

16th Congress. **No. 313.** 1st Session.

AMOUNT OF THE TWO PER CENT. FUND IN OHIO, INDIANA, AND ILLINOIS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE MARCH 9, 1820.

Treasury Department, *8th March*, 1820.

Sir: In obedience to a resolution of the Senate of the 1st instant, I have the honor to submit the enclosed statement of the amount of the two per cent. fund arising from the sale of public lands in the States of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, to the 30th of September, 1819.

I remain, with respect, your most obedient servant,

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

Hon. John Gaillard, *President pro tem. of the Senate.*

Estimate exhibiting the amount of the two per cent. fund arising from the sale of public lands lying in the States of Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois.

In what State.	During what period.	Amount of two per cent. fund.
Ohio, - - -	From 1st July, 1802, to 30th September, 1819, -	$182,712 55
Indiana, - -	From 30th November, 1816, to 30th September, 1819,	24,089 43
Illinois, - - -	From 1st January, 1819, to 30th September, 1819, -	2,579 47

NOTE.—This is an estimate of the funds that *have arisen* from the receipt of money for lands sold—not of the funds that *will arise* when the lands sold have been paid for.

JOSIAH MEIGS.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, *8th March*, 1820.

16th CONGRESS. **No. 314.** 1st SESSION.

PRE-EMPTION RIGHT IN INDIANA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE MARCH 13, 1820.

Mr. TAYLOR, from the Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of William Connor, reported:

That the petitioner has resided for many years at a place called the Delaware Towns, in the State of Indiana, which is situated in a tract of country lately belonging to the Delaware tribe of Indians, and which was by them ceded to the United States by the treaty made at St. Mary's, in October, 1818. The petitioner, having made considerable improvements on the land on which he resides, wishes to remain on it for the purpose of raising his family, who are half breeds, prays that the right of pre-emption for a fraction or section of six hundred and forty acres may be granted to him, to include his improvements.

It appears from a certificate of Jona. Jennings, governor of Indiana, who was one of the Commissioners appointed to treat with the Indians at St. Mary's for the purchase of their lands, that the petitioner had contemplated asking of the Delaware tribe of Indians a reservation, similar to others granted by the treaties of St. Mary's, in 1818, to half breeds; the petitioner having married a Delaware woman by whom he has several children; but that he was dissuaded from his purpose by the Commissioners, lest the applications for such reservations should become so numerous as to prejudice the negotiation, then pending, for the tract of country which was afterwards purchased. In consequence of this suggestion of the Commissioners, the petitioner declined applying to the Delaware tribe for a reservation which the governor states he was as much entitled to, in behalf of his family, as many for whom provision was made by the treaty.

The committee are of opinion that the pre-emption prayed for ought to be granted, and report a bill.

16th CONGRESS. **No. 315.** 1st SESSION.

CLAIM OF GABRIEL WINTER AND OTHERS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE MARCH 14, 1820.

Mr. HUNTER, from the Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Gabriel Winter, made the following report:

That, upon a cautious investigation of the claim set forth in this petition, it appears to be one of peculiar interest, whether considered in regard to the amount of property, or the importance and extent of the principles it involves. The petitioner claims, as heir of his father Elisha Winter, and alleges that, on the 27th day of June, 1797, his father obtained from the Baron de Carondelet, the governor general of the province of Louisiana, a grant of lands in the district of Arkansas, for himself and associates: for himself, one thousand arpens square; to William and Gabriel Winter, his sons, five hundred arpens square, each; to Samuel Price, Richard Price, William Hubble, John Price, William Russell, Joseph Stillwell, and Walter Carr, fifteen arpens of land in front to each of them, with the usual depth of forty back.

It is alleged by the petitioner that this grant or concession of land was rightfully made by the Baron de Carondelet, as governor general of the province of Louisiana, in conformity to his general powers and instructions, and the acknowledged law and usage of the country, with a view to the encouragement of the agriculture, and augmentation of the population of a distant and unsettled district. It is stated that the great and useful services rendered by the petitioner's father to the Spanish Government, especially by the establishment of an extensive rope-walk at New Orleans, and sympathy for his misfortune when this rope-walk was destroyed by fire, and a wish to alleviate the severity of his loss, were the honest and adequate personal inducements of this large grant and concession.

The grant is upon condition that the grantees should make a settlement upon their respective tracts within one year from the date of the grant, and, upon failure thereof, the grant was declared void. It is averred by the petitioner that these conditions of settlement have been complied with by Elisha Winter and William Winter; that they were legally, and, according to the accustomed forms, put into possession of these lands by the commandant of the district of Arkansas; and that, on the tract granted to William Winter, they erected a dwelling-house, and made considerable and extensive improvements. It is likewise averred that these last named grantees continued to occupy and cultivate the lands thus settled until the country was taken possession of by the United States. Since that event, the parties interested have recorded their title papers and documents in the proper office, and have constantly asserted and continued their claim, which, however, was not allowed and confirmed by the Board of Commissioners. On what ground the rejection was founded does not appear. It might have been that the claim, amounting, according to the petitioner's construction of the grant, to one million five hundred thousand arpens, was too large. Under the statute for their cognizance, or that restricting the grant to one thousand five hundred square arpens, a quantity not excluded from their cognizance, they determined

either that the grant was not genuine in itself, or not valid according to the Spanish regulations for the allotment of lands, or void for want of the King's assent, or that they deemed it forfeited for breach of its conditions, and to have been subsequently surrendered and cancelled.

The committee have been furnished with a copy of a petition presented to the House of Representatives, and now there pending, signed by William Russell, agent for the representatives of Michel Boone, Louis P. Levy, and Joseph Mason, solemnly protesting against any unconditional confirmation of the tract of land said to be granted to Elisha Winter. They object to the sufficiency of his title, and represent that, under the authority of the United States and their laws, six hundred and forty acres of land included in Winter's grant, according to his pretensions and construction thereof, has been granted and confirmed to the said Michel Boone; another six hundred and forty acres to the said Louis P. Levy; and other six hundred and forty acres to the said Joseph Mason. From an examination of a communication from Gabriel Winter, addressed in the nature of a protest to the present Commissioner of the General Land Office, the committee have reason to apprehend that a considerable portion of these lands, lying between the rivers St. Francis and Arkansas, have been surveyed by the Government of the United States for the purpose of satisfying military land warrants granted to soldiers who served during the late war. These proceedings greatly embarrass the settlement of this claim, suggest considerations of public policy not to be disregarded, and present formidable obstacles to a result at once just, equitable, and convenient.

But the question of the most singular interest arising in this case is, as to the quantity of the land intended to be granted. And this depends on the just and proper interpretation of the Spanish phrase of the original concession, "*mil arpanes de tierra quadrados;*" in literal English, "a thousand arpens of land square." The claimants contend that the word "arpent" was always used in the province of Louisiana as expressive of linear measure; and that the first tract granted means a square figure with one thousand arpens on each side, making one million *superficial* acres. If the word arpanes (arpens) is used to designate a given quantity of land, then a thousand arpens were granted in a square; if it is used to designate linear measure, viz. that equal to its square, then a tract equal to the square of one thousand arpens, when laid off upon one line, was granted. The difference is immense. Though the word arpent is strictly applicable to superficial measure, yet the testimony furnished the committee tends strongly to prove that the use of it as a measure of length has been almost invariable and universal among the Spanish and our own surveyors. The testimony on this matter is derived from the most respectable sources; from foreign surveyors, from surveyors general of the United States, and other public officers, and will be found collected in the second volume of the documents of the House of Representatives, first session fifteenth Congress, No. 36, from page 13 to 27. Indeed the documents and testimony presented on behalf of the petitioner, whether in relation to the authenticity of his grant, his compliance by actual settlement with its conditions, or in support of his interpretation of the words expressive of the quantity of land, have been collected with uncommon diligence and care, and assume a persuasive appearance of candor and good faith; and if not satisfactory because in some instances informal, and in all ex parte, are entitled to the most candid consideration, and authorize a strong presumption in favor of the petitioner's claim.

A committee of the House of Representatives reported unanimously in favor of the petitioner on the 30th December, 1817, and presented a bill confirming certain lands in the county of Arkansas, in the Missouri Territory, to the heirs of Elisha Winter, and to the heirs of William Winter. The present committee do not conceive themselves warranted in recommending a course so directly conclusive against the rights and interests of the United States. From the statement now made, it must be perceived that such an act would be inconsistent with engagements already made by the United States, and that they would be inevitably subjected to an urgent and equitable claim for indemnity from their own despoiled grantees. They would, by legislative enactment, virtually annul their own grants and contracts, and be betrayed into the exercise of an odious power, expressly prohibited by the constitution to the States, and by all the principles of sound morality and just policy prohibited to themselves.

The committee are of opinion that this claim presents a matter peculiarly and exclusively fit for judicial cognizance. It cannot impair the dignity, nor disturb the regularity of the Government, to permit a citizen to state, in a mode analagous to that of a petition of right, his claims and proofs of title and property to a competent court. And the committee are of opinion that not only in this, but in many of the numerous land cases, accumulated and diversified beyond their competency of such an investigation as justice to the Government requires, the best course would be to refer them to judicial decision. This course would be less expensive and vexatious to the claimant, and the best safeguard of the land property of the United States. It cannot be denied that, by the present mode of considering these cases, Congress is liable to be misled. It would be wonderful if they were not sometimes surprised, sometimes importuned, by the zeal, ability, and perseverance of claimants and agents, into erroneous decisions, when they can listen only to ex parte testimony and argument, when the cases cannot be tried in an adversary way, and they are excluded from all the benefits of cross-examination and counter-proof.

In land cases of small amount, it has been habitual and perhaps excusable, for the committees to lend a favorable ear to claimants. At the worst, it was the donation of a few acres of an unbounded region, an handful from a heap. But experience teaches that these decisions in minor cases are soon cited as precedents, and are made to include principles dangerously vague and indefinite, and are clamorously invoked in aid of subsequent cases of suspicious aspect and enormous magnitude.

None of these general remarks are intended to be pressed against the particular case now under consideration. The petitioner is not a land speculator. Whatever may be his property in the land claimed, he inherited it from his ancestor, and claims it under the guarantee of a treaty. Confident of the legality of his claim, he assents by his agent to such a judicial decision as is recommended by the committee; and for the purpose of obviating obstructions, and disembarrassing the question on the part of the United States, he assents to the confirmation of all claims of any person at this time deriving title from the United States.

The committee are of opinion that the course recommended will enable the Government to avail itself of every mode of legal objection and defence. The United States will be supported in their own impartial and enlightened courts by their own law officers; and if the decision should be against them, they would be bound by all the obligations of justice and moral duty to submit to, and respect it. The committee therefore report the accompanying bill—

"To authorize the legal representatives of Elisha Winter and William Winter to institute a bill in equity, in the nature of a petition of right, against the United States."

16th Congress. **No. 316.** 1st Session.

LAND CLAIMS IN LOUISIANA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE MARCH 20, 1820.

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

Respectfully represent the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, that Commissioners were appointed by the Government of the United States, under the treaty between those States and the French Republic, dated on the 30th of April, 1803, to adjust the land titles of the late Territory of Orleans, with a view of extinguishing thereon the claim of the said States. That it has been represented to the General Assembly that the said Commissioners have made their final reports on that subject, leaving unconfirmed a considerable mass of private titles,

which, agreeably to the customs and usages of the ancient land system of Louisiana, and the equity inherent in these concessions, were fairly entitled to confirmation by the Government of the United States.

That such a course of proceeding tends equally to delay the extinguishment of the national title on these claims, and to endanger the final adjustment thereof on fair principles, involving, in various points of view, consequences imminently injurious to the great landed interests of this State. Among these it is manifest that it arrests the hand of improvement, and weakens the energies of enterprise and industry, which flourish in their natural vigor on a soil where the title thereof is indisputable: that it opposes the obstacles of a foreign title and doubtful tenure to the transference of private landed estates, except at price disproportioned to the intrinsic value thereof: that it affixes a questionable character to the titles of the soil, which leaves waste and unproductive a large portion of the lands of this State: that it opens the avenues of fraud and speculation by which the fountains of real estates become corrupted, converting the soil, which, to the mass of the people, should be the source of every substantial blessing, into a medium of unprincipled traffic, reducing its appropriate value, and withering the active powers of the community: that it delays the sale of the public lands, a circumstance which has tended to turn off the current of emigration, and thereby to check the growth of these attributes of general power and prosperity which the State of Louisiana, from its distinguished natural advantages, has a right to secure to itself among the members of the confederation, under equal laws and a just policy: that, by referring the investigation and decision of the unconfirmed claims to a tribunal beyond the limits of the State, the claimants, in a great number of cases, will be precluded the common facility of furnishing such additional evidence or other aids as time and circumstances may have enabled them to adduce in support of their claims, especially since a large mass of title papers have been recently discovered among the archives of the former Government relating to concessions of land in different parts of this State: that, by referring the titles yet to be adjusted to the dernier decision of a tribunal accustomed to the discussion of rights by the precise and rigid rules of a different system of jurisprudence—a tribunal incompetent equally from the nature of its organization, its ordinary functions, and the novelty, obscurity, and variety of details connected with the general subject upon which it is to act—it furnishes to the claimants just cause for apprehending a course of adjudication inconsistent with the mild and liberal principles under which the original concession and present tenure of private rights have been consecrated; and, finally, that it exposes the titles to the destructive influence of time and accident, which are sweeping away the existing evidences of their validity.

The General Assembly, deeply impressed with the foregoing considerations, respectfully solicit of Congress the institution of a Board of Commissioners, to be vested with such ample powers as may bring the titles in question to a fair, satisfactory, and speedy adjudication, and have thought proper, in this appeal, to present to Congress some leading principles relative to the subject.

They pray that confirmation be admitted to the claims of all persons, or their legal heirs, claiming lands in Louisiana by virtue of any incomplete French or Spanish grant, concession, warrant, or order of survey, which was made, granted, or issued prior to the 20th day of December, in the year one thousand eight hundred and three, for lands lying in any part of the State of Louisiana, where the claimant, or the person under whom the claimant claims, was resident in the late province of Louisiana at the time the grant, concession, warrant, or order of survey, was made, granted, or issued, provided that the right of no person claiming lands by virtue of a confirmation heretofore made, or act of Congress heretofore passed, shall be affected.

That all persons claiming lands in the said State by virtue of any grant, concession, warrant, or order of survey, or by virtue of habitation, occupation, cultivation, or improvement, or claiming any town or village lot, out lot, or common field lot, and who have not filed with or given notice of their claim to any of the former Boards of Commissioners within the times heretofore prescribed by law, may be allowed sufficient time to file and give notice of their claims, and to produce evidence in support thereof. That, in all cases where the claimants may have heretofore filed or given notice of their claims within the times heretofore respectively prescribed by law with the former Boards of Commissioners, and have not produced proof in support thereof, or where the proof was incomplete or insufficient, and the claim has been disallowed, that all such persons be allowed sufficient time to produce testimony in support of such claims, whether the said testimony shall relate to grants, concessions, warrants, or orders of survey, or to settlement, habitation, cultivation, occupation, or permission to settle, or in any other manner whatever. That all persons claiming lands in said State by virtue of any act of Congress heretofore made, and whose claims have been disallowed by the former Board of Commissioners in said State, who were authorized to examine and decide on the same, may withdraw from the records and files of said Board of Commissioners, and file anew with the Boards of Commissioners whose institution is hereby solicited, all the title papers, testimony and evidences of their claims, as in other cases not heretofore given notice of or filed.

The General Assembly further represent that, under the Spanish Government of this country, the proprietors of land fronting on the Mississippi and the waters flowing from it, were bound to make and keep up the levees in front: this was made a condition in all grants of such lands; and to this day the said proprietors are bound, at their own expense, to keep up the same, for which the lands are liable to be exposed to sale in case of failure. In consideration of this servitude, the front proprietor had the privilege, under the custom, of taking possession of as much land in rear of and adjoining his front ground as he thought proper to ask. Several concessions of such lands have at times been made to the same person in tracts of forty arpens in depth; and so strong was the conviction of the Government that the back grants were necessary to the support of the front concession, burdened as the proprietor was with the foregoing service, that they were considered as his property, and could not be granted to another without his consent.

That such were the laws and usages of the Government, is shown by its records containing decrees on the subject, which, in every instance, on the application of the front proprietor, declared null and void all grants made to a third person without the consent of the first grantee.

None of the laws, usages, or customs, of the Spanish Government have been better established than the foregoing; and it has heretofore appeared to be the intention of Congress to confirm to all claimants the lands which they held under the Government, agreeably to the laws, usages, and customs, although no formal grant has been made.

But from some misconstruction of the laws of Congress, no second concessions have been confirmed, unless it had been inhabited and cultivated prior to the 20th December, 1803, although most of the lands, being low swamp, are not susceptible of cultivation, but are only useful for timber.

From the aforesaid considerations, Congress will no doubt find it expedient to declare that the backs of the forty acres tracts on the Mississippi, and waters flowing therefrom, shall be confirmed to the front proprietor, and to order such an extension of the lines as will, in each case, give a depth of eighty acres, agreeably to the ancient usages, avoiding to approach nearer to any river or water course on which lands have been granted than will include one-half the extent or distance between such water courses.

The General Assembly, fully impressed with the conviction that it could never have been the intention of the contracting parties in the act of cession to place the rights of the inhabitants of Louisiana on a more feeble and uncertain basis than the one which bottomed those rights prior to that act, think that they perceive in the foregoing principles for deciding the land titles of this State, and which they have respectfully recommended to the recognition of the National Legislature, the true standards of adjudication for securing a just conformity to the spirit and design of the treaty ceding this country to the United States, to the liberal practical operation of the ancient land system, to the rightful claims and solid interests of this highly important section of the Union, and to the distinguished character of justice and fidelity which the American Government has hitherto maintained equally towards the citizen and its contracts with foreign nations.

The standard recommended to the National Legislature for deciding on the land titles of this country, will not, the General Assembly are persuaded, appear too loose and informal when the spirit and practice of the ancient land system are accurately known. To those accustomed to more rigid and precise rules in the judicial discussion of municipal rights under a different system, they may probably appear too hazardous from their liberal tenor, but conventional obligations are susceptible of a less rigid construction; they are estimated more by moral standards than by specific legal interpretation; they adapt themselves equally to the spirit of the contract and the nature of the subject upon which they act, avoid-

ing, on either side, any factitious advantage, derived simply from mere legal informality.

The land system of this country was unquestionably of the most liberal and beneficial character; it was generally bottomed on the design common to the colonial policy of all European nations in relation to America, of increasing the population, the power, and defensive means of the province. In pursuance of this plan, the different administrations held out allurements to invite the emigrant, and to fix his residence in the country. The land system was the principle medium of giving to it successful operation. Monopolies of the soil were seldom permitted. The means of speculating in the lands, to the injury of the poorer classes, under good administrations, were really less practicable than under the present land system of the United States. Grants suitable to the condition of the applicant were extended to the most humble individual in the community. Those grants were made on simple application, and were guaranteed under the simplest forms. A right was often secured by mere occupancy, under the acquiescence of the provincial functionaries. Indeed, possession, without interfering with the claims of others, was a title under this generous policy which secured the claimant from intrusion or the inquisition of a legal tribunal. The lands were never held by the Government as a resource of public revenue, and, of course, were liberally distributed to the honest settler, who was never compelled to resort to the ordinary modes of speculation and fraud to obtain a species of property which he could acquire by more simple means. The only equivalent for a concession of any necessary portion of the royal domain, was, in general, some evidence of an honest and sincere intention of occupying and improving it. In fine, the system yielded every encouragement to the population of the province, by furnishing modes of conceding the domain to settlers, which were best calculated to carry its first designation into complete effect.

The General Assembly are sensibly impressed with the conviction that those considerations go to show, in a very forcible manner, how few claims would have been really entitled to rejection had they been fairly tested by the liberal spirit of the ancient system. Adjudications formed by such a general standard, modified in their application to the precise equity of the case, the General Assembly are induced to believe would have given a very different result to the proceedings on this subject.

Resolved, That copies of the foregoing memorial be forthwith transmitted by the Governor to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, and that the former be instructed, and the latter requested, to lay the same before their respective Houses of the National Legislature, and that they use their best exertions to promote the views of the General Assembly set forth in this appeal.

D. C. KER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
T. POYDRAS,
President of the Senate.

A true copy from the original deposited in the office of the Secretary of State. New Orleans, February 23, 1820.

J. VILLERS,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

16th Congress. **No. 317.** 1st Session.

CAHOKIA COMMON APPROPRIATED FOR THE SITE OF ILLINOIS CITY.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE MARCH 30, 1820.

Mr. Thomas, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the memorial of the inhabitants of the village of Cahokia, reported:

That the citizens of Cahokia, to whom, by an act of Congress passed on the 20th February, 1812, certain tracts of land were confirmed as a common, being desirous to establish a town upon a site more eligible than that of their former village, which had become unhealthy, appointed and authorized Messrs. Jesse B. Thomas, John Hay, John Hays, Nicholas Jarret, and Francis Turcotte, citizens of the said village, to lay out a town upon one of the tracts of land confirmed as a common to the citizens of Cahokia. That the said agents, in pursuance of the powers vested in them, proceeded to lay out the said town, which they called Illinois City. That they divided the lots so laid out, among the said citizens of Cahokia, according to their respective interests therein, and to the universal satisfaction of the whole of them. That many of those lots have been sold; and that, in consequence of doubts having been entertained, contrary to the anticipations of the citizens of Cahokia, as to the validity of those proceedings and sales, much litigation is likely to take place, unless Congress should pass a law confirming those proceedings. Therefore, the committee beg leave to report a bill.

16th Congress. **No. 318.** 1st Session.

CLAIMS TO LAND IN VINCENNES.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE APRIL 12, 1820.

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

The memorial and petition of the inhabitants of Vincennes and its vicinity, in the State of Indiana, descendants of French parents, and first settlers of the country on the Wabash and adjacent waters, respectfully showeth:

That their ancestors, natives of France, and subjects of his Most Christian Majesty, as well as many of the present settlers, came, at a very early period of the last century, under the authority and protection of the Government of that nation, to establish themselves in trade and commerce with the natives possessing and inhabiting the country on the Wabash and adjacent waters. That, on their arrival, they made one of their principal establishments at a place afterwards called Post St. Vincents, possession of which, with a large district of country considered necessary for promoting the object of their establishment, was granted them by the nation, proprietors of the country, in their arduous, hazardous, and dangerous enterprise, and fully confirmed to them by the then usual mode of transfer of the nations and people possessing the country; and was ever after so considered and believed, both by the grantors and grantees, as fully vested in the said settlers, as any grant ever made by any nation or tribe of Indians whatever to any government, society, or people, either before or since known to your memorialists. And further, that, from the time of their establishment, for the greater part of the last century, they held quiet and undisturbed possession of said lands and establishment: nor was their right ever questioned by any power or authority whatever through all this lapse of time or vicissitudes, which, by the convulsions of the belligerent powers and fate of war, which had occasioned a transfer of your memorialists and their country from one power to another: on the contrary, some years after the country was ceded, at the treaty of Paris, in 1763, by the French to the British Government, a company of British subjects, under the authority and co-operation of the Earl of Dunmore, then governor of Virginia, in the year 1775, were about making, and did

conclude a contract by their agent, Lewis Viviat, for a large section of country for their account and use; the chiefs and nations among whom your memorialists were settled and held the district before alluded to, expressly reserved to your memorialists the aforesaid grant therein described, lying between two parallel lines running through Point Coupee and the mouth of White river, on the Wabash, for the use of the French inhabitants of Post St. Vincents. At which treaty or meeting a number of your memorialists were present, and can testify the desire of the chiefs and natives to preserve a country and residence for the French inhabitants that had settled among them.

When the predecessors of your memorialists arrived on the banks of the Wabash, their first object was to fix a station or factory for the accommodation of their trading and commercial pursuits, as well as a place of residence. This was effected by consent of the natives at the spot whereon Vincennes now stands, immediately adjoining the Piankeshaw village. Subsequently, a parcel of ground surrounding the towns, the upper and lower prairies, was apportioned for the use of individuals, around which one common fence was erected for a general enclosure; but, for the more convenient accommodation of many of the inhabitants, it was, by agreement, divided, and, under the direction of Col. St. Ange and other commandants, portions of one, two, and seldom more than three arpens in front and forty deep, were allotted to those that applied: not that the commandants or their sovereigns ever pretended to any right to the soil, but merely to regulate and confirm to such as desired establishments of this kind, the whole right of soil being in the settlers, admitted, protected, and cherished by the natives and chiefs, the original owners, and aided and supported by their sovereign, the Most Christian King. Numerous instances of lots in the village, and tracts in the vicinity, being thus allotted, some more and some less definitively designated, which are held by this and no other tenure to this day. Thus far, it is with pleasure they contemplate their arrival and residence on these waters, and satisfaction derived from their honest commercial pursuits, and happy social intercourse with the natives and each other. It may not be improper here to observe, although we are assured the fact is well known to several of your honorable body, that among the early settlers were to be found characters of the first rank in the nation from which they derived their existence, as well as some opulent, not a few affluent, and by far the greater part in comfortable circumstances; enabled not only to support themselves in the comfortable enjoyment of the blessings which a fine climate and abundant means placed within their reach, but also to provide employment and plentiful means of subsistence for numerous engagés or boatmen and others under their care. Thus situated, contented and happy, never troubling, by their conduct or importunities, the Governments under which they, by the vicissitudes of human events, which have transferred them from one Government to another; never requiring any aids or assistance, but always ready and willing to furnish them whenever the just rights of the nation, or security of the frontiers, and protection of the people, required them. Confiding in the security they had always experienced under the crowns of France and Great Britain, though but subjects and colonists, their pleasure was increased, their joy was heightened, their happiness was complete, when they heard of, and was furnished with an opportunity of participating in the glorious struggle for, and enjoyments of, the rights and privileges of freemen and an independent Government. When their brethren of the Illinois apprised them of the contemplated attempt on the British station at this place by General Clark, the garrison were kept in profound ignorance of the measure; when the army arrived, several of your memorialists discovered them at an impassible bayou, they joyfully, promptly furnished them the means of crossing. When the same army approached the town, then surrounded by water, occasioned by the usual overflows, and most of them nearly up to their necks in water, they were discovered by a number of your memorialists, their situation was concealed from the garrison, your memorialists united with the invading army, besieged and captured the whole of the British force, and obtained full possession of all this section of the country. Further, when the American settlers in this neighborhood were making efforts to establish themselves, they were compelled to secure themselves in a fort on the prairie; the natives were determined on extirpating them, but your memorialists resisted the measure, and protected them from the fury of the natives, (the two villages being separated only by a stockade and gate to pass into each other's towns.) The Indians, jealous of the connexion between the French and American settlers, fell upon the property of your memorialists, and deprived them of all their horses, killed upwards of sixty head of cattle, beside other considerable damage, for this protection and friendly preservation. It is within the recollection of many that when the call of the country was made to make an attack on the Weaw towns, your memorialists were among the foremost in that expedition: when they were required to march to Tippecanoe, there was no hesitation, they cheerfully complied. In these and other exposures, they hazard nothing in saying, that there are few families among them who have not to deplore the loss of more or less of their connexions. But it were a waste of time to detail to your honorable bodies either the services or sufferings; the cheerfulness with which they furnished the former, or the patience with which they sustained the latter. So far for our active services. It is well known they never troubled the courts of justice with either civil or criminal business, and it is as well known they never called upon the public for the support of any among them: they furnished no paupers to burden society, nor mendicants to trouble the public tranquillity.

Information of the services, sufferings, and privations of your memorialists, coming to the knowledge of the Government of Virginia, his excellency Patrick Henry, then governor of that State, authorized and directed his agent, Col. Todd, to acknowledge them, and to assure your memorialists that they should be compensated by grants of 400 acres each, of which, however, they have never heard more on the subject since. Some time after this, your memorialists were informed that Samuel Baird, the surveyor for the Government, was about surveying and laying out lots of 400 acres within the limits of the before described tract, which was resisted by all reasonable means in their power, and he requested to go to the lands of the Government, for, at this time, they were ignorant of the proceedings of your honorable body on the subject, but by some management unknown to your memorialists, the measure was effected, and they were afterwards informed that it was in pursuance of an act of Congress of March, 1791, conditioned that these lots were to be distributed as donations to the people of Vincennes upon their relinquishing their claim to a certain tract of country already described, which your memorialists respectfully represent they were wholly ignorant of, for it was scarcely to be believed they would relinquish their claim to so large a district for so small a pittance: the lots, at the time, having neither intrinsic nor productive value, and a very remote prospect of their ever possessing any whatever. This act, it will appear, took place soon after the adoption of the Federal Constitution. Your memorialists, inhabitants of a recently captured country; ignorant of your language, unacquainted with your laws, or the nature of your Government; having no representative entitled to a vote in your honorable body; distant from the Seat of Government, having no one to represent their cause, or to inform them of your proceedings; without a friend, and without an advocate, and without crime, or charge, or even suspicion—all their services and sufferings were in a moment forgotten or disregarded, and your faithful friends and fellow citizens at once deprived of the last means of supporting themselves and their numerous offspring and dependants, and left to deplore their situation in a wilderness; not having retained even the friendship of the savages to console them, having lost this by their fidelity and attachment to a cause and country they so ardently and faithfully aided to support. Their trade and commerce nearly annihilated, scarcely a vestage of it left, they now have little to look for but a wretched old age for themselves, and a miserable existence for their posterity, in a country they once proudly conceived to be their own, under a Government they so ardently aided to establish, and which they trusted would have protected them from these impending evils. But they dare yet to hope; they yet still confide in the wisdom, the justice, the humanity, and sympathy of the Congress of the United States.

After long patiently waiting, and reflecting on their various services, sufferings, and privations, they were not a little encouraged by the conviction that if a fair, correct view of all these circumstances were respectfully laid before your honorable body at this present auspicious period, when all the jarring conflicts of the powers of Europe were tranquillized; when our happy country is enjoying every blessing which a free and enlightened people can desire, and the Government anxiously solicitous for securing the tranquillity, and promoting the happiness of its citizens—that their voice would be heard, their situation considered, and that ample relief would be afforded them; that they might be permitted to participate with their numerous fellow citizens whom

they, with pleasure, are daily witnessing flowing, by thousands, to the enjoyment of the blessings and benefits which this fertile and promising section of the Union is offering, and which your memorialists have so long and faithfully been exerting themselves to preserve and prepare for them. Under these impressions, a number of the ancient French inhabitants, many of whom have resided in this country for a considerable portion of the last century, assembled and duly deliberated on their situation and prospects, agreed to call a meeting of the citizens, descendants of French parents, in this vicinity; which was had, and a general expression of their views obtained—greatly encouraged by the repeated expressions of sympathy and regard of the natives, chiefs, and others, of the Miami tribe, their former friends and neighbors, who have long been anxious for a renewal of their former habits of friendship and kind offices, and again enjoying that friendly intercourse which had so long uninterruptedly subsisted between them, as well as to enable them more effectually to co-operate with the proposals of the Government often made them, through their agents, of discontinuing their wandering habits of life, and of adopting those of industry and civilization. In evidence of which, they have made a voluntary offer, as will more fully appear by a speech and other documents herewith communicated, of a district or parcel of land lying within the limits of their possessions, for the accommodation and use of your memorialists and their descendants, should it meet the approbation of the Government to enable them more satisfactorily to effect this long desired object, as well as to compensate your memorialists for the injury done them by the sale of the land above stated, which had been granted them, but which was disposed of and conveyed to the Government of the United States.

As a further confirmation of the above mentioned desire and disposition, at a subsequent meeting or conference held with the Government agent, Thomas Posey, esq., and the chiefs of the Miami tribe, these sentiments were fully and freely communicated; an account of which we are assured have been forwarded on to the proper department for their information. Your memorialists have now only respectfully to add, that, in full reliance on the wisdom and justice of your honorable body, they will take the subject under their serious consideration, and that provision may be made authorizing the constituted authorities, at the next treaty to be holden with the Miami and neighboring tribes for the purchase of land and other purposes, to appropriate and secure, for the use of your memorialists and their descendants, such portion of land as the natives may be willing gratuitously to convey or otherwise, and which your honorable body may judge proper to compensate them for their various losses, privations, services, fidelity, and sufferings; and your memorialists and petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

H. LASSELLE.
JOSEPH LAVIOLETTE, his x mark.
PIERRE BONAUX, his x mark.
LOUIS DIMON, his x mark.
PIERRE LALOULOP, his x mark.
AMBROISE MALLET.
AMBROISE CORNOYE, his x mark.
NICHOLAS BIAJON, his x mark.
JOHN B. BARWAY, his mark.

Signed by direction of a resolution of a general meeting of the French inhabitants of this place and vicinity, held in the Lower prairie, October 11th, 1817.

VINCENNES, *Nov.* 27, 1817.

16th CONGRESS. **No. 319.** 1st SESSION.

APPLICATION FOR THE RETURN OF CERTAIN PAPERS FILED WITH THE COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED TO ADJUST THE YAZOO CLAIMS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE APRIL 13, 1820.

To the Senate of the United States:

The Secretary of State, to whom, by a resolution of the Senate of the 3d instant, the petition of Susannah Stewart was referred, to consider and report thereon, has the honor of submitting to the Senate the following report:

That it appears the certificates claimed by the petitioner were, on the 30th of December, 1814, deposited in the Department of State, annexed to a release, assignment, and power to the United States, given conformably to the first section of the "Act providing for the indemnification of certain claimants of public lands in the Mississippi Territory," passed on the 31st March, 1814.

That, by the second section of the same act of 31st March, 1814, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Attorney General of the United States, were constituted and appointed a Board Commissioners, with power to adjudge and determine upon the sufficiency of the releases, assignments, and powers thus deposited; and, upon their decision, the President of the United States was, by the third section of the same act, authorized and required to cause to be issued from the Treasury, certificates of stock payable from the proceeds of the sales of the public lands in the Mississippi Territory.

That, by virtue of an act passed on the 23d of January, 1815, supplementary to the above, another board of three Commissioners was substituted, with all the powers of the original board, and with power to appoint a secretary to receive, file, and preserve the papers, documents, and claims presented to, and received by the board, and to enter and record all their orders, proceedings, judgments, and determinations. That, by the sixth section of an act passed on the 3d of March, 1815, "further supplementary to the act of 31st March, 1814," it was prescribed that the releases, assignments, and powers thus received, should be recorded by the secretary of the said Commissioners, and the said records returned, with all other papers and documents in relation to said claims, when the business of the said Commissioners should be closed, to the office of the Secretary of State.

That the papers now claimed by the petitioner are among those which have been returned to this office, conformably to this provision of the law. But as neither that act, nor any subsequent act or resolution of Congress has authorized the Secretary of State to dispose of any of the papers, the attorney of the petitioner was informed, upon his application to obtain them, that the authority of Congress was alone competent to warrant the restoration of them to the petitioner.

The petitioner alleges that the certificates referred to in her petition are her property, and that she has never parted with her right; upon which it is to be observed, that she did, conformably to the act of 31st March, 1814, release and assign to the United States all her right, title, interest, and demand, in the trust and benefit of the lands for which the certificates were issued; and the certificates themselves are believed to have been thereby made the property of the United States, and that the petitioner could thenceforth have no claim to them either in law or equity.

But, by the decisions of the Board of Commissioners, the proportion of indemnity allowed by them for the claim of Susannah Stewart, and in support of which these certificates were the vouchers, was assigned to the directors of the New England Mississippi Land Company, and they were required to transmit all the certificates of that description, as soon as practicable, to the secretary of the board; it being expedient that they should be cancelled, on their holders receiving the indemnity allotted to them. The only object, therefore, for which the directors of that company can exact the production of the certificates by the petitioner, is that they may be enabled to transmit them to the secretary of the board, by whom they must, according to the directions of the act of 3d March, 1815, be again deposited at the Department of State.

As the certificates are already in the department, and can be taken from it only for the purpose of being ultimately brought back to it, the inflexibility with which the directors are represented to require that the petitioner should produce them, is, perhaps, unnecessary for their security. But as, while they adhere to it, the petitioner is debarred from receiving the proportion of indemnity to which she is entitled, which they, as her trustees, have received, and which she represents them ready to assign to her on her producing the certificates, it is respectfully submitted that an act of Congress, authorizing the delivery of the certificates to her, and prescribing that they shall be returned by the directors of the company, conformably to the decisions of the Commissioners, would be subservient to the purposes of justice.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, 10*th April*, 1820.

16th Congress. No. 320. 1st Session.

LANDS ALLOTTED TO THE CULTIVATION OF THE VINE AND OLIVE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE APRIL 21, 1820.

Treasury Department, *April* 18, 1820.

Sir: In obedience to a resolution of the Senate of the 17th instant, referring to this department the memorial of John M. Chapron, and others, in behalf of the French emigrants engaged in the cultivation of the vine and olive, praying that the act of the 3d March, 1817, authorizing the grant of four townships of the public lands in the then Territory of Alabama, to the said emigrants, upon the conditions therein expressed, may be modified so that each emigrant, upon complying with the conditions of the contract made in pursuance of that act, and upon the payment of the purchase money in proportion to his separate interest, may be entitled to receive a patent for the land separately allotted to him in that contract, I have the honor to report that such a modification of the said act does not appear to be expedient. The principal object of the grant is not that a small number of tracts of land should be cultivated in vines and olives, but that the whole tract should be settled by persons understanding the culture of those plants. Such a settlement would furnish the means of rapidly extending the cultivation at least of the vine, so as to supply the United States with the wine necessary for their consumption. The reservation is directed to be made in favor of an association, and not to individuals. The condition that the whole of the purchase money shall be paid previous to the issuing of any patent, is in strict conformity to the general object of the act. If the prayer of the petitioners should be granted, the tracts of but little value would be suffered to revert to the Government, whilst all those of great value would become individual property. The terms of the grant are conceived to be sufficiently liberal to induce its acceptance without further relaxation.

The intimation of the petitioners, that there is an apparent ambiguity in the condition of which they complain, does not seem to be well founded. A bare inspection of the act must have convinced them that the whole of the purchase money is to be paid before a patent can issue. The petitioners have, therefore, engaged in this enterprise with a full knowledge of the terms and conditions, so far as they are expressed in the act, upon which their eventual interest was to depend.

The same cannot be said of the terms and conditions of the contract. Many of them had advanced money, and incurred responsibilities before the contract was made.

It has been represented to this department that about one-fourth of the tracts are not cultivable, and that the condition that each allotment or tract shall be settled and cultivated will be extremely onerous. From an examination of the act, it may be inferred that settlements were not necessarily required but upon each half section, as the number of associates were to be equal to the number of half sections in four townships.

If the contract should be modified so that the whole number of settlements should be equal to the number of half sections, the intention of the act would be carried into effect. This modification, however, can only be made by law, as the Secretary of the Treasury, after having made the contract, has no power to change its conditions.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,
Sir, your obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

The honorable the President *of the Senate.*

16th Congress. No. 321. 1st Session.

LAND CLAIMS WEST OF PEARL RIVER.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MAY 12, 1820.

General Land Office, *May* 11, 1820.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit, herewith, a copy of the report of the Land Commissioners at St. Helena, and a copy of their list of actual settlers, dated 24th December, 1819, and 17th March, 1820.

I am, most respectfully, sir,
Your obedient servant,
JOSIAH MEIGS.

The honorable Speaker
of the House of Representatives.

Land Office,
St. Helena C. H., Dec. 24, 1819.

Sir: Enclosed we have the honor to transmit you a list of the settlers who have entered their claims since the 23d August, 1819, the time when the register's office was opened. By reference to the list, it will appear that many claims have been entered, originating from settlements made in 1818 or 19.

We have received entries of settlements made since the 20th April, 1814, because, in the first place, we thought it probable that pre-emptional rights would be extended to the time of the passage of the law (3d March, 1819,) and we know no reason why such extension of the time should not be granted; and, in the second place, we did not feel ourselves authorized to reject any applications which were made for the entries of claims. From our acquaintance with this, our district, we do believe that rights of preference extended to the third of March, 1819, under the provisions of the law of that time, would be essentially serviceable to its population, and would completely meet the views of Congress, which governed them at the passage of that law.

As to persons who settled anterior to the 15th of April, 1813, or prior to the time to which pre-emptional claims extended, we do not conceive it necessary to make any remarks. As to claims posterior to that date, we have respectfully expressed our opinions.

We have the honor to be, sir,
With consideration of esteem,
Most respectfully yours,
CHARLES S. COSBY, *Reg.*
FULWAR SKIPWITH, *Rec.*

Josiah Meigs,
Commissioner General Land Office.

N. B.—Accompanying you have a list of the certificates issued for complete and incomplete titles for settlement claims.

CHARLES S. COSBY, *Register.*

A list containing the number of actual settlers in that part of Louisiana which lies east of the river Mississippi and island of New Orleans, and west of Pearl river.

Names of persons.	No. of claims.	Date of month.	Settlement year.	No. of claims by purchase.	No. of claims in Feliciana.	No. of claims in East Baton Rouge.	No. of claims in St. Helena.	No. of claims in St. Tammany.	General remarks.
James McDaniel - -	1	-	1808	-	-	-	-	1	
Asa L. Cook - -	1	1st Jan.	1819	-	1				
William Chapman -	1	-	1812	-	1				
Joseph Blanchard -	1	27th Nov.	1808	-	-	-	1		
Juan L. Piloe - -	1	12th Jan.	1808	-	-	-	1		
Jonathan Canington -	1	-	1798	1	1				
Abner Womack - -	1	-	1812	1	-	-	1	-	Never inhabited or cultivated.
Rice Mills - -	1	-	1811	-	-	-	1	-	Do do do
Asa L. Cook - -	1	-	1813	-	1				
George M. Gill - -	1	October	1818	-	-	1			
John Eary - -	1	-	1807	1	-	-	1		
Joel Pearson - -	1	-	1812	-	-	-	-	1	
Martin Watkins - -	1	-	1813	-	-	-	1	-	Cultivated during 1813.
Isaac House - -	1	-	1813	-	-	-	-	1	
William White - -	1	November	1810	1					
John Chapman, sen. -	1	-	1810	-	-	-	-	1	
John Chapman, jun. -	1	-	1810	-	-	-	-	1	
Ezra Estis - -	1	-	1812	1	-	-	-	1	Cultivated from 1812 to '14.
John Taylor - -	1	-	1814	-	1	-	-	-	Improved only.
Abiel Roberts - -	1	-	1813	-	-	-	-	1	
Jesse Swiney - -	1	-	1811	-	1				
Isaac Newsom - -	1	-	1804	1	-	1			
James Hughes - -	1	-	1814&13	1	-	-	-	1	Improved only.
James Ashford - -	1	-	1805	1	-	1			
William Cooper - -	1	-	1812	-	-	-	-	1	Inhabited & cultivated 3 years.
R——— Tenchez -	1	-	1807	-	-	-	-	1	
Jacob Ott - - -	1	-	1812	-	-	-	-	1	
James Hughes - -	1	-	1812	-	-	-	-	1	
Shadrack Rogers - -	1	-	1812	-	1				
John Phillips - -	1	-	1807	-	-	-	1		
John Glascock - -	1	-	1791	-	-	-	1		
Hugh Montgomery -	1	-	1814	-	-	-	1		
William D. Smith -	1	-	1812	1	-	-	-	1	
William Redden - -	1	-	1815	-	-	-	1	-	Cultivated only.
James Lee - -	1	-	1799	-	-	-	-	1	Driven off by Indians.
Henry Cohear - -	1	October	1814	-	-	-	-	1	
John Brewer - -	1	October	1812	1	-	-	1		
Kichard Albreaton -	1	-	1817	-	-	-	1		
David Kemp - -	1	-	1800	1	-	-	1		
John Youngblood -	1	-	1816	1	-	-	1		
Jonathan Taylor - -	1	-	1812	-	-	-	-	1	
Mary McMuller - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
David Short - -	1	-	1819	-	-	-	1		
Jeremiah Day - -	1	-	1803	-	1	-	-	-	Occupied as a camp 5 months.
Absalom Williams -	1	-	1801	-	-	-	1		
King & Klempeter -	1	-	1796	-	-	1	-	-	Lived on from 1796 to 1810.
John Joiner - -	1	-	1803	-	-	-	-	1	
William Furlow - -	1	15th Apr.	1804	-	1				
James Muply - -	1	-	1812	-	-	-	-	1	
Parsons Cewber - -	1	-	1804	-	1				
John ——— - -	1	-	1817	-	-	-	1		
Burrel M. Clendon -	1	-	1810	-	1				
Henry Cassels - -	1	15th Sep.	1813	1	-	-	1		
Heirs Thomas McKnight -	1	October	1816	-	-	-	1		
Peter Dismuke - -	1	-	1811	-	-	-	1		
Ebenezer Fra - -	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
William Fulsom - -	1	-	1819	-	1				
James Burrell - -	1	-	1810	-	-	-	-	1	
James H. Harvey -	1	-	1810	-	-	-	1	-	Partially cultivated.
Nicholas Highland -	1	-	1812	-	-	-	-	1	
Robert Nelson - -	1	September	1813	-	1				
Lewis Tolberd - -	1	-	-	1	1				
Francis O'Riley - -	1	-	1811	1	-	1			
Billington Taylor -	1	-	1809	-	1				
George Richardson -	1	-	1815	-	1				
John Seaz - -	1	-	1812	-	-	1			
Rachael Russ - -	1	-	1807	-	-	1			
Elias Russ and A. Russ -	1	-	1807	-	-	1			
William Mehaffy - -	1	-	1815	1	-	-	-	1	
Jesse Parker - -	1	-	1810	-	-	-	-	1	
Ransom M. Collin -	1	-	1809	-	1				
Heirs Thomas Kemp -	1	-	1804	1	-	-	1		
Henry Dunn - -	1	-	1812	1	1				
William P. Bou - -	1	-	1810	-	-	-	-	1	
Robert Edwards - -	1	-	1812	1	-	-	-	1	
Asa J. White - -	-	-	1817	-	-	1			
Richard Ogden - -	-	-	1812	-	1				
Pleasant Glass - -	-	-	1796	1	-	1			
Hector Buchan - -	-	-	1812	1	-	-	-	1	
Susannah Jones - -	-	-	1812	-	-	-	-	1	
Philemon Thomas -	-	-	1813	-	-	1			
Jesse Kesspy - -	-	-	1810	1	-	-	1		
Cader Raby - -	-	September	1817	-	1				
William B. Littleton -	-	-	1819	1	-	1			

LIST—Continued.

Names of persons.	No. of claims.	Date of month.	Settlement year.	No. of claims by purchase.	No. of claims in Feliciana.	No. of claims in East Baton Rouge.	No. of claims in St. Helena.	No. of claims in St. Tammany.	General remarks.
John Skerlock	-	-	1816	-	-	1			
John Morejoy	-	-	1815	-	-	1			
John Howry	-	-	1810	-	-	-	1		
Ransom Stroud	-	-	1812	-	-	-	1		
James Sides	-	-	1810	-	-	1			
Michael White	-	-	1817	-	-	1			
Ephraim Davidson	-	-	1813	-	1				
Jesse Williamson	-	August	1813	-	1				
Joseph Simms	-	-	1812	-	1				
—— Pharis	-	-	1804	-	1				
George Redden	-	-	1812	-	1				
David Robertson	-	-	1808	-	-	-	-	1	
Hugh ——	-	-	1812	-	-	-	-	1	
Reading Brown	-	-	1812	-	1				
—— Williamson	-	-	1812	-	1				
John Breed	-	-	1808	-	-	-	1	-	Cultivated only.
Uriah Prewit	-	-	1800	1	-	-	1		
Elisha Roberts	-	-	1812	-	-	-	-	1	
Hector Buchanan	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	
Robert Rancival	-	August	1802	-	-	-	1		
James Rogers	-	-	1812	-	-	1			
Jesse Parker	-	-	1809	-	-	1			
Hiram Bradford	-	-	1807	1	1				
Sarah Irwin	-	-	1812	1	-	-	1	-	Cultivated occasionally.
William F. Morris	-	July	1814	-	-	-	-	1	
George E. Chance	-	-	1816	-	-	1			
John McFarland	-	-	1813	-	1				
Henry Eddy	-	-	1812	-	-	-	-	1	
William Allen	-	-	1812	-	-	1			
Bayless Corder	-	March	1814	1	-	-	1		
John Walker	-	December	1817	-	-	-	1		
William Phares	-	-	-	1	1				
Charles Dogen	-	-	1812	-	1				
Samuel Ott	-	-	1812	1	-	-	-	1	
Webb & Davidson	-	-	1813	-	-	-	-	1	
William Silliman	-	-	1811	1	1				
Newsom Rainwater	-	March	1813	-	-	-	-	1	
Henry Vick	-	-	1811	-	1				
John Paxton	-	-	1809	1	1				
Barksdale Slater	-	-	1812	1	-	-	-	1	
James P. Lee	-	-	1813	-	-	-	-	1	
James Netherlin	-	-	1810	-	1				
Blancet Sanders	-	-	1811	-	-	-	-	1	
Absalom Dixon	-	-	1811	-	-	1			
Francis Strother	-	-	1804	-	-	-	1		
James Stewart	-	-	1812	-	-	-	1		
Stephen Williams	-	-	1816	1	-	-	1		
Levi Doughty	-	-	1805	1	1				
Henry Day	-	-	1810	-	-	-	1	-	Never inhabited or cultivated.
Nathaniel M. Baker	-	-	1808	1	-	1			
Greenbury Watkins	-	-	1813	-	-	-	-	1	
John M. Clendon	-	-	1813	1	-	-	-	1	
Joseph Durbin	-	-	1807	1	-	-	-	1	
R. W.	-	-	1818	-	1				
David M. Cullock	-	-	1809	-	-	1	-	-	Inhabited a few months.
Thomas Carpenter	-	-	1812	-	1				
Isaac Irwin	-	-	1809	1	-	-	-	1	
William Blocker	-	-	1816	-	1				
Drury Bell	-	March	1817	-	1				
John Higpen	-	-	1812	-	-	-	-	1	
Joseph Chisolm	-	-	1808	1	-	1			
William Long	-	December	1812	1	-	1			
Heirs Dr. Smith	-	-	1806	1	-	-	1		
Heirs William Hickman	-	-	1815	-	-	1			
William Smith	-	-	1817	-	-	-	1		
Henry Christmas	-	December	1818	-	-	1			
Henry de Grandpré	-	-	1806	-	-	1 lot	-		
Simeon C. Bankston	-	-	1812	1	-	-	-	1	
John Kinchin	-	-	1818	-	1				
William Finfall	-	-	1816	-	-	-	-	1	
Alex. Lee	-	-	1816	1	-	-	-	1	
David Taylor	-	-	1812	-	-	-	-	1	
Robert Fluker	-	-	1804	1	-	-	1		
Richard H. Kirkland	-	-	1805	1	-	-	1		
Robert Simmons	-	-	1812	-	-	-	-	1	
John Montgomery	-	-	1805	-	-	-	1		
—— McGill	-	-	1818	-	-	1			
Thomas A. Willis	-	1	1811	-	-	-	-	1	
—— Rogers	-	1	1808	1	1				
Stephen Winter	-	1	1808	-	-	1			
Benjamin Abbot	-	1	1812	1	1				
James Bryan	-	1	1816	-	-	-	-	1	Cultivated only.
James ——	-	1	1812	-	1				
William Hickman	-	-	1814	-	-	-	1		
David M. Culler	-	1	1811	1	-	-	-	1	

LIST—Continued.

Names of persons.	No. of claims.	Date of month.	Settlement year.	No. of claims by purchase.	No. of claims in Feliciana.	No. of claims in East Baton Rouge.	No. of claims in St. Helena.	No. of claims in St. Tammany.	General remarks.
Joseph L. Mulky	1	-	1810	-	1	-	-	-	Only cultivated in 1818.
Zedekiah Ledbetter	1	-	1812	1	1				
John Powers	1	-	1813	1	1	-	-	-	Cultivated ever since 1814.
William Cabin	1	-	1812	-	1				
Samuel Fulton	1	-	1812	1	-	1			
Philip de Grandpré	-	-	1806	-	-	1 lot			
Bridget Lorano	1	-	1812	-	1				
Isaac Chambers	1	-	1812	-	-	1			
Richard Burch	1	-	1814	1	-	-	-	1	
John Townsend	1	-	1815	-	-	-	-	1	
Robert Hickber	1	-	1810	1	-	-	-	1	
Jacob Tably	1	-	1810	1	-	-	-	1	
B Singleton	1	-	1815	-	-	-	-	1	
John Crawford	1	20th	1815	-	-	-	-	1	
George Crawford	1	25th July	1813	-	-	-	-	1	
Hannah Browning	1	15th July	1818	-	-	-	-	1	
Charles D. Youngblood	1	-	1817	-	-	-	1		
John Baily	1	-	1818	-	-	-	1		
Uriah Smith	1	-	1812	-	-	-	-	1	
Johnson Marchbanks	1	-	1811	-	-	-	-	1	
James Hornsby	1	-	1812	-	-	-	-	1	Cultivated only.
Charles Bradly	1	15th Sept.	1815	-	-	-	1		
John A. Maples	1	-	1816	-	-	-	-	1	
John Criswell	1	-	1819	-	-	-	-	1	
John Childs	1	-	1819	-	-	-	-	1	
Thomas Howel	1	-	1818	-	1				
Elijah Clark	1	-	1813	1	-	-	-	1	
Jackson Lane	1	-	1813	1	-	1			
Sherard Wright	1	-	1818	-	-	-	-	1	
John R. Salisbury	1	-	1803	1	-	-	1		
Joseph Nobles	1	-	1817	-	-	-	-	1	
John S———	1	-	1816	-	-	-	-	1	
Benjamin Hornsby	1	-	1819	-	-	-	-	1	
James ———	1	-	1816	-	-	1			
A. Ingram	1	-	1818	-	-	1			
John Perry	1	-	1818	-	-	1			
Charles Powers	1	-	1814	-	-	-	1		
John W. Blunt	1	-	1814	-	-	1			
Thomas Joiner	1	-	1813	-	-	-	-	1	
John Packer	1	-	1813	-	-	1			
Thomas Waugh	1	-	1812	-	-	1			
John Christmas	1	-	1812	-	-	1			
Martin Woolet	1	-	1804	1	-	1			
George Redding	1	-	1810	-	1				
Juan Siberio	1	-	1804	-	-	-	1		
C. Cooper	1	-	1812	-	-	-	-	1	
Hugh Chain	1	-	1812	-	-	1			
Elizabeth James	1	-	1814	-	-	1			
William James	1	-	1813	1	-	1			
W. and F. Thomas	1	-	1812	-	-	1			
Philemon Thomas	1	-	1812	-	-	1			
E. Ross	1	-	1812	-	-	1			
E. T. Hall	1	-	1810	-	-	1			
Robert Davis	1	-	1803	-	1				
Nathaniel Hortorn	1	-	1813	-	-	1			
Antonio Hernades	1	-	1804	-	-	-	1		
Francis Clarider	1	-	1808	1	-	-	-	1	
Joseph Clayton	1	-	1809	-	-	-	-	1	
Thomas Mayers	1	-	1808	1	-	-	-	1	
William Peacock	1	-	1816	1	-	-	-	1	
Reuben Burnett	1	-	1813	1	-	-	1		
William Brown	1	-	1810	1	-	-	-	1	
Andrew Blunt	1	-	1808	-	-	-	1		
John Ford	1	-	1812	-	-	-	-	1	
W. F. Nicholson	1	-	1810	-	1				
James Nicholson	1	-	1810	-	1				
Instant Hall	1	-	1810	-	1				
William Howard	1	-	1812	1	-	1			
Jacob Carpenter	1	-	1811	-	-	1			
Thomas Galloway	1	-	1809	1	-	1			
Silas McBee	1	-	1808	1	-	1			
Thomas Young	1	-	1804	1	-	1			
Joseph Scott	1	-	1816	-	-	1			
Cason Scott	1	-	1816	-	1				
Thomas Scott	1	-	1818	-	1				
W. D. Scott	1	-	1819	-	1				
Zachariah Scott	1	-	1819	-	1				
James Scott	1	-	1819	-	1				
Joseph Howell	1	-	1819	-	1				
Samuel T. Scott	1	-	1819	-	1				
Thomas May	1	-	1808	1	-	-	-	1	
F. Claron	1	-	1808	1	-	-	-	1	
Robert Pyburn	1	-	1812	-	-	1			
Thomas Hunt	1	-	1805	-	-	-	1		
Peter Atkinson	1	-	1814	-	1				

LIST—Continued.

Names of persons.	No. of claims.	Date of month.	Settlement year.	No. of claims by purchase.	No. of claims in Feliciana.	No. of claims in East Baton Rouge.	No. of claims in St. Helena.	No. of claims in St. Tammany.	General remarks.
William Joiner - -	1	-	1799	1	-	-	-	1	
Eli Bolling - -	1	-	1812	1	-	-	1		
Nathaniel Holby - -	1	-	1811	-	-	-	1		
Amos Donnelly - -	1	-	1812	1	-	-	-	1	
Howell Banxton - -	1	-	1811	1					
Walter Cornuth - -	1	-	1812	1	-	-	1		
Joseph Dean - -	1	-	1788	-	-	-	1		
Charles Stewart - -	1	-	1802	-	-	-	1		
Joseph Lambert - -	1	-	1808	-	-	-	1		
Paul Guitrair - -	1	-	1808	-	-	-	1		
Antonio Didell - -	1	-	1808	-	-	-	1		
Alexander Vrina - -	1	-	1808	-	-	-	1		
Louis Loubill - -	1	-	1808	-	-	-	1		
Joseph Herd - -	1	-	1802	1	-	-	1		
Matthew Brignau - -	1	-	1809	-	-	-	1		
Jacob Vauser - -	1	-	1802	-	-	-	1		
Gregory Brown - -	1	-	1809	-	-	-	1		
Thomas Carpenter -	1	-	1805	-	1				
Jephtha Douglass -	1	-	1811	-	1				
Richard T. Kell - -	1	-	1806	-	-	-	1	-	Inhabited one year.
Leonard Forbes - -	1	-	1811	-	1				
Michael Chambly - -	1	-	1818	-	-	1			
Jacob Chambers - -	1	-	1812	-	-	1			
William Haws - -	1	-	1810	1	-	1			
John McMullen - -	1	-	1803						
John Montgomery -	1	-	1810	1	-	-	1		
John Ferguson - -	1	-	1813	1	-	-	1		
Jesse Hooper - -	1	-	1810	1	-	-	1		
Henry Leach - -	1	-	1811	-	-	-	1		
Henry Day - -	1	-	1814	1	-	-	1		
David Lizenby - -	1	-	1816	1					
John Sterling - -	1	-	1811	1	1				
John Adams - -	1	-	1808	-	-	-	-	1	
Ephraim Elsey - -	1	-	1812	1	-	-	-	1	
Ezra Courtney - -	1	-	1815	-	1				
T. B. Taylor - -	1	-	1813	1	-	-	-	1	
William Cane - -	1	-	1812	-	-	1			
Jon. Canington for Murphy	1	-	1808	-	-	1			
Robert Fluker - -	1	-	1816	-	-	-	1		
John D. Singleton -	1	-	1808	-	-	-	-	1	
Zachariah Tobler -	1	-	1813	-	-	1			
David Taylor - -	1	-	1811	1	-	-	-	1	
William Ellis - -	1	-	1811	1	-	-	-	1	Partially improved only.
James Brown - -	1	-	1817	-	1				
Jesse Baggot - -	1	-	1816	-	-	-	-	1	
William Chaney - -	1	-	1816	-	-	-	-	1	
John Lee - -	1	-	1813	-	1				
Thomas Brown - -	1	-	1812	-	1				
Eli Crocket - -	1	-	1811	-	-	-	-	1	
Hezekiah Hanill - -	1	-	1808	1	1				
Eli Chance - -	1	-	1808	-	1				
Herbert Morgan - -	1	-	1810	1	1	-	1		
Henry Day - -	1	-	1817						
Asa Day - -	1	-	1816	-	-	-	-	1	
Elisha B. Moss - -	1	-	1817	-	1				
John Joiner - -	1	-	1816	-	-	-	-	1	
Joshua Ammond - -	1	-	1810	-	-	1			
John W. Ward - -	1	-	1811	-	-	-	-	1	
Daniel Cryer - -	1	-	1819	-	-	-	-	1	
Jemima Smith - -	1	-	1807	-	-	-	-	1	
Sherard Adams - -	1	-	1810	-	-	-	-	1	
Robert Fluker - -	1	-	1812	-	-	-	-	1	Cultivated one year, viz. 1812.
Thomas Galloway -	1	-	1811	-	-	1			
F. Milon - -	1	-	1809	-	-	1			
G. Night - -	1	-	1811	-	-	1			
Robert Sibly - -	1	-	1815	-	-	-	1		
Jonathan Butler - -	1	-	1812	-	1	-	-	-	Inhabited & cultivated 3 years.
Willis L. Ballard - -	1	January	1819	-	1				
Jeremiah Smith - -	1	-	1811	1	1				
John Keller - -	1	March	1819	-	-	-	-	1	
Charles Everard - -	1	-	1813	-	-	1			
James Brashars - -	1	-	1812	-	-	-	1		
William Dally - -	1	December	1819	-	-	1			
William Allen - -	1	-	1816	1	-	1			
Solomon Hogen - -	1	-	1810	-	1	-	1	-	Cultivated only during 1810.
Heirs George Kolfields -	1	-	1798	-	-	-	1		
Elijah Bush - -	1	-	1811						
Needham Blount - -	1	-	1813	-	-	1			
William Brown - -	1	-	1810	-	-	1			
William P. Rose - -	1	-	1798	1	-	1	-	-	Inha'd 1 year; driven off by Indians.
Hugh Flunakan - -	1	-	1800	-	-	-	1		
Peter Banxton - -	1	-	1811	1	-	-	-	1	
Reddock Sibley - -	1	-	1811	-	-	-	1		
John Fornece - -	1	-	1812	-	1				
Stephen Stinson - -	1	-	1808	-	-	-	1		

LIST—Continued.

Names of persons.	No. of claims.	Date of month.	Settlement year.	No of claims by purchase.	No. of claims in Feliciana.	No. of claims in East Baton Rouge.	No. of claims in St. Helena.	No. of claims in St. Tammany.	General remarks.
Joseph George - -	1	-	1817	-	-	-	1		
Mary Gorman - -	1	-	1810	-	-	-	1		
Thomas Hunter - -	1	-	1802	-	-	-	1		
Thomas C. Hunt - -	1	-	1810	-	1				
Abraham Craker - -	1	-	1810	-	1				
Wm. W. Johnston -	1	-	1804	1	1				
Augustus Herbert -	1	-	1813	-	1				
David Buchan - -	1	-	1813	-	-	-	-	1	
Robert Pybourn - -	1	-	1812	-	1				
Micajah Henry - -	1	-	1812	-	1				
Bradford Kemp - -	1	-	1813	-	1				
Benj. Bryan - -	1	-	1813	-	1				
Joh'n Dearmond - -	1	-	1812	-	1				
Joel Ott - -	1	-	1804	-	-	-	-	1	
William Wright - -	1	-	1816	-	1				
William Corner - -	1	-	1803	-	-	1			
Mrs. Vaughan - -	1	-	1812	-	-	1			
Jos. Fanner - -	1	-	1806	-	-	-	1		
Michael Finn - -	1	-	1818	-	-	-	1		
Robert Dyer - -	1	-	1811	-	1				
Joseph Smith - -	1	-	1812	-	1				
Matthew Jones - -	1	-	1812	-	1				
Peter James - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	1		
Joseph Puliam - -	1								

LAND OFFICE, ST. HELENA,
17th March, 1820.

SIR: We have the honor, herewith, to forward you an abstract or analysis of such titles, complete and incomplete, as have been exhibited to us since the opening of our offices. In making this analysis, we have adopted the form used by the former Commissioner, (J. O. Cosby.) We believe it embraces all the essentials requisite to enable Congress, in their investigations, to discover at one view the character and description of each individual claim. In relation to imperfect titles, dated posteriorly to the 20th of December, 1803, and reported by us for confirmation, we have been governed entirely by an affirmative answer to this inquiry, Would the claimant, under the law of the 3d of March, 1819, be entitled to a section of land in virtue of his settlement? We do not recognize any right in the Government of Spain to dispose of the lands of a Territory of which she held tortuous and illegal possession, but we do consider that the fair and bona fide inhabitation and cultivation of a tract of land under her auspices ought, in justice and equity, to entitle the party claiming to a recognition of his title by the Government of the United States.

Register A, No. 2, embraces Spanish titles consummated by the legitimate authorities anterior to 1803, and a few British patents confirmed by the Government of Spain. In relation to those claims we conceive it unnecessary to make any remarks. They are certainly entitled to an unqualified confirmation.

Register B, No. 2, embraces orders of survey. Plats and certificates, &c., such as emanated from the Spanish Government prior to 1803, we consider as of right entitled to perfection by the Government of the United States; and, as to those which are dated subsequently to that time, we have already stated our reasons why we think them entitled to the liberality of our Government. In every case where we have reported favorably in consequence of the inhabitation and cultivation, we have required and received, in establishment of those material facts, satisfactory testimony.

Register E comprehends such claims as were reported for rejection by the former Commissioner, and have been renewed by the parties interested. By reference to that report (the present register designates the No.) it will be discovered that, generally, no inhabitation or cultivation was mentioned. It was a prevalent opinion with such as claimed under complete titles, that their patents required no collateral support; and, hence it is, that they were wholly indifferent as to proofs of occupancy. They have now discovered their mistake, and again exhibited their claims accompanied by those proofs. Our opinion in relation to titles dated subsequently to the 20th December, 1803, we presume is applicable here. We beg leave, respectfully, to state that, in our estimation, the claims contained in register E ought to be confirmed under the provisions and limitations of the law of the 3d of March, 1819.

We have the honor to be, sir, with considerations of high esteem, most respectfully, yours, &c.

CHARLES S. COSBY, *Register.*
FULWAR SKIPWITH, *Receiver.*

HON. JOSIAH MEIGS,
Comm'r Gen. Land Office.

A—No. 2.

Register of claims to land in the district west of Pearl river in Louisiana, founded on complete grants derived from either the French, British, or Spanish Governments, which, in the opinion of the undersigned Register and Receiver, are valid, agreeably to the laws, usages, and customs of such Governments.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed	By whom surveyed.	Cultivation and inhabitation.	
										From	To
1	J. D. Ferris	Paul Labataux	B. patent	19 Novem., 1779	200 ar's	S. Tammany	Pet. Chester	7 Novem., 1777	Elias Dernford	1777	1820
2	Eva. Skipwith	Francis Pousset	-	20 Novem., 1776	1,200	E. Baton Rouge	Same	20 Novem., 1776	James Elliott		
3	Sarah B. Evans	Carlota Trudeau	S. patent	20 April, 1791	1,000	Feliciana	E. Miro	4 January, 1791	C. Trudeau		
4	Sam'l Clark	Z. Smith	Do	11 February, 1799	500	Do	G. de Lemos	6 Novem., 1798	V. S. Pintado	1807	1820
5	William Webb	J. Le Blanc	Do	20 Novem., 1789	480	E. Baton Rouge	E. Miro	15 October, 1789	C. Trudeau		
6	Robert Sprigg	Widow O'Brion	Do	18 July, 1785	600	Do	Do	18 October, 1785	Do		
7	Same	Charles Campbell	Do	30 May, 1787	320	Do	Do	13 Decem., 1785	Do		
8	Evelina Skipwith	Frs. Pousset	Do	22 Novem., 1785	13 ar. 10 *40 ar's	Do	Do	17 October, 1785	Do		
9	James Lowdon	Jas. Lowdon	Do	13 October, 1797	740	Feliciana	G. de Lemos	3 October, 1799	Do		
10	Same	P. L. Alston	Do	10 July, 1787	600	Do	E. Miro	21 March, 1787	W. Dunbar		
11	Heirs of P. Tygart	Thomas Wahan	Do	13 October, 1797	700	Do	G. de Lemos	3 October, 1799	C. Trudeau		
12	Thomas and S. Smith	V. Balsinger	Do	30 May, 1787	400	E. Baton Rouge	E. Miro	24 April, 1787	Do		
13	Heirs of C. Favre	J. C. Favre	B. patent	10 April, 1771	1,200	St. Tammany	E. Dernford	10 April, 1775	E. Dernford		
14	Samuel Adams	W. Knowland	S. patent	15 March, 1804	291 3-5	Feliciana	J. Morales	10 Decem., 1803	V. Pintado	1803	1820
15	Sam'l McCaleb	Wm. Bolling	Do	3 August, 1797	600	Do	Carondelet	4 August, 1797	C. Trudeau		
16	John Voison	Wm. Auftings	Do	26 April, 1804	400	St. Tammany	Morales	14 May, 1799	Do		
17	Heirs of J. Baam	John Baam	S. patent	7 Septem., 1808	1,000	St. Tammany	Morales	21 May, 1804	C. Trudeau	1798	1820

* Illegible in the original report.

LAND OFFICE, ST. HELENA, *17th March*, 1820.

CHARLES S. COSBY, *Register.*
FULWAR SKIPWITH, *Receiver.*

B—No. 2.

Register of claims to land in the district west of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on orders of survey, (requetes,) permission to settle, oro ther written evidence of claims derived from either the French, British, or Spanish authorities, which, in the opinion of the Register and Receiver, ought to be confirmed.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Inhabitation and cultivation.	
										From	To
1	J. D. Ferris	Paul Labataux	Order of survey	22 August, 1795	140 arp	St. Tammany	Carondelet	20 Decem., 1792	W. Dunbar	1795	1820
2	James Scott	A. McCullogh	P. and certificate	20 Decem., 1792	400	E. Baton Rouge	-	20 Decem, 1792	W. Dunbar		
3	Same	John Frazer	Do	.	240	Do	-	29 August, 1792	Same		
4	Fulton et al.	J. J. Fouzers	Order of survey	20 Septem., 1790	480	Do	E. Miro	20 Decem., 1792	Same		
5	Heirs of N. Carter	N. Carter	Do	8 May, 1797	500	Feliciana	Carondelet				
6	Heirs of Juan Peralta	Juan Peralta	Do	27 Decem., 1798	500	E. Baton Rouge	De Lemos				
7	Silas Cook	J. Freeland	P. and certificate	-	320	Feliciana	-	21 October, 1803	V. S. Pintado	1802	1820

8	Joseph Laurent	M. Fromentin	Order of survey	23 July, 1787	1,600	St. Tammany	E. Miro						
9	Same	J. B. Campbell	Do	25 February, 1785	120	Do	Do						
10	Same	C. de la Chaise	Do	26 August, 1785	800	Do	Do						
11	James Adams	Richard Ellis	Do	16 January, 1790	400	E. Baton Rouge	Do	10 October, 1790	C. Trudeau				
12	D. Jung	Dominick Jung	Do	8 Novem., 1786	389 4-5	St. Tammany	Do	18 Decem, 1786	Do				
13	Cath. Lintot	Cath. Lintot	Do	22 Septem, 1797	1,240	Feliciana	De Lemos	22 Septem., 1797	Do				
14	Isaac Brownin	John Brownin	P. and certificate	- -	490	Do	-	31 Decem., 1806	V. Pintado		1800	1811
15	William Cryer	W. Cryer	Order of survey	18 ——ber, 1806	800	St. Helena	Grandpré	- -	-		1800	1820
16	J. D. Atkins	Adam Say	P. sale	26 July, 1802	480	Feliciana	-	- -	-		1802	1820
17	John Maulden	John Say	Order of survey	24 May, 1806	416	Do	Do	4 Decem, 1806	J. C. Kneeland		1806	1820
18	Nicholas Courtois	Pedro Le Blanc	P. and certificate	. -	3ar. 88ps. 108 feet	E. Baton Rouge	-	10 Decem., 1805	Do		1805	1820
19	Juan Rodrique	G. Grandpré	Do	- -	3ar. 19ps. 69 pies.	-	-	19 July, 1805	Do		1805	1820
20	Stephen Grandpré	Stephen Grandpré	Do	- -	Do do	-	-	30 Septem., 1806	Do		1806	1820
21	Garig and Webb	Parish and Webb	P. sale	2 May, 1812	754½	E. Baton Rouge	-	- -	-		1809	1820
22	John Laniers	B. Laniers	Order of survey	10 October, 1806	500	St. Helena	Grandpré	- -	-		1806	1820
23	George Brown	George Brown	Petition	5 October, 1789	400	E. Baton Rouge	-	- -	-		1799	1820
24	Heirs of M. McComb	M. McCondle	Order of survey	16 October, 1806	640	E. Baton Rouge	Grandpré	- -	-		1807	1817
25	Aug. Dufau	Simon Daigre	P. sale	- -	240	E. Baton Rouge	-	- -	-		1799	1820
26	Manuel Lopez	St. Maxent	P. and certificate	20 April, 1806	3ar. 19ps. 69 feet	E. Baton Rouge	-	21 April, 1806	R. Dupier		1806	1820
27	Margaret Kelly	Margaret Kelly	Certif. of vacancy	4 October, 1804	300	Feliciana	Grandpré	- -	-		1806	1820
28	George Rowe	William Barker	Order of survey	26 August, 1806	600	Feliciana	Grandpré	3 Decem., 1805	C. Bolling		1805	1820

LAND OFFICE, ST. HELENA, *17th March*, 1820.

CHARLES S. COSBY, *Register.*
FULWAR SKIPWITH, *Receiver.*

REGISTER E.

Register of renewed claims to land in the district west of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on complete and incomplete titles derived either from the British or Spanish Governments, which, in the opinion of the undersigned Register and Receiver, ought to be confirmed by the Government of the United States.

Number.	Reference to commissioner's report.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Inhabitation and cultivation. From	Inhabitation and cultivation. To
1	Reg. C, No. 21	Francis Herault	Francis Herault	Spanish patent	3 October, 1806	2,000 arp's	E. Baton Rouge	Morales	8 June, 1806	R. Dupin	1807	1813
2	" 8	Wm. Vardeman	Wm. Vardeman	Do do	22 May, 1810	1,200	St. Tammany	Do	10 October, 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1808	1820
3	" 2	William Corner	William Corner	Do do	12 Decem, 1803	400	E. Baton Rouge	Do	18 June, 1803	V. Pintado	1798	1820
4	" 46	Alex. Bookter	Alex. Bookter	Do do	7 February, 1804	1,000	St. Helena	Do	12 Novem., 1803	Do	1799	1820
5	" 52	William Kerkland	J. Waltman	Do do	3 July, 1804	500	Feliciana	Do	9 July, 1804	Do	1799	1816
6	" 33	Anto. Grass	Anto. Grass	Do do	20 January, 1804	3,000	E. Baton Rouge	Do	24 Novem., 1804	Do	1811	1820
7	" 44	E. de Casas	J. Rufenaco	Do do	1 April, 1807	14arp. 18p. 15 ps.	Do do	Do	21 July, 1807	R. Dupin	1807	1818
8	Reg. D, 56	Hora Carney	A. Richardson	Plats & certificate	- -	201¾	Feliciana	- - -	2 February, 1807	V. S. Pintado	1809	1820

LAND OFFICE, ST. HELENA, *17th March*, 1820.

Ex.

CHARLES S. COSBY, *Register.*
FULWAR SKIPWITH, *Receiver.*

16th Congress. **No. 322.** 2d Session.

LAND CLAIMS EAST OF PEARL RIVER AND IN THE TOWN OF MOBILE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE NOVEMBER 17, 1820.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
16th November, 1820.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith copies of the reports of the Land Commissioners at Jackson court-house, and a copy of a letter, (dated 17th August, 1820,) which accompanied them: the reports are numbered 1 to 9, inclusive.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

JOSIAH MEIGS.

The Hon. the PRESIDENT *of the Senate.*

LAND OFFICE AT JACKSON COURT-HOUSE,
August 17th, 1820.

SIR: In conformity with a requisition of the 9th section of the act of Congress, entitled "An act for adjusting the claims to land and establishing land offices in the districts east of the island of New Orleans," I have the honor to report lists or registers of all the claims to land which have been filed in this office, with the substance of the evidence in support thereof, and such remarks upon the claims as appeared to me to be proper.

In consequence of the suggestion in your letter of the 15th November last, evidence of claims to lots in the town of Mobile has been received, which you will find in register No. 7.

Register No. 9, and the accompanying papers, contain a full report of the evidence and the opinion of the register and receiver in relation to the conflicting claims of Joseph McCandless and Regis Bermody.

I have the honor, &c.,

W. BARTON, *Register.*

Hon. J. MEIGS,
Comm'r Gen. Land Office, Washington City.

No. 1.

A list of actual settlers in the district east of Pearl river, in Louisiana, prior to the 3d March, 1819, who have no claims derived from either the French, British, or Spanish Governments.

No.	Present claimants.	Original claimants.	Date of pres't settlement.	Date of original settlement.	Where situated.
1	Valentine Delmas	Valentine Delmas	June, 1819	June, 1811	Pascagoula bay
2	Rene Krebs	Rene Krebs	- 1819	June, 1801	Pascagoula bay
3	Rene Krebs	Pierre Krebs	June, 1819	About 1789	Pascagoula bay
4	Antoine Krebs	Antoine Krebs	- 1819	- 1810	Pascagoula bay
5	Hilaire Krebs	Hilaire Krebs	June, 1819	June, 1794	Pascagoula bay
6	Isabelle Glaude	Isabelle Glaude	June, 1819	June, 1794	Pascagoula bay
7	Helen Moro	Helen Moro	June, 1819	June, 1794	Pascagoula bay
8	Jacob Holland	Jacob Holland	July, 1819	Culti. only, 1812	Pascagoula river
9	Thomas Bilbo	Thomas Bilbo	July, 1819	Culti. only, 1812	East side Pascagoula river
10	John Dease	John Dease	July, 1819	- 1809	West side Pascagoula river
11	Charles Holland, jun.	Charles Holland, jun.	July, 1819	- 1812	West side Pascagoula river
12	Maher Lyle	Maher Lyle	July, 1819	January, 1812	Fork of Chickesawhay & Leaf riv.
13	Daniel McCaskill	Bryant Ferrill	July, 1819	Autumn, 1812	Skinner's creek
14	George B. Dameron	Mde. Neait Pacquet	- -	- . 1779	Above White's point, Pasca. riv.*
15	William Patterson	William Patterson	Aug. 1819	- 1812	East side of Mobile bay
16	John Brewer, jun.	John Brewer, jun.	July, 1819	March, 1813	Pascagoula river
17	Edmund Smith	Edmund Smith	July, 1819	- 1808	East side of Pascagoula river
18	Mose Strahan	Presley German	Aug. 1819	- 1812	East of Pearl river
19	Reps. Joseph Cooper	Joseph Cooper	Sept. 1819	- 1810	Pearl river
20	John Culpepper, sen.	John Culpepper, jun.	Oct. 1819	Spring, 1812	South side of Taylor's creek
21	Stephen Terrell	Stephen Terrell	Oct. 30 1819	1st June, 1811	Old river, near Pearl
22	S. & J. Ford & W. Hunt	John Culpepper, sen.	Nov. 1819	- 1810	Pearl river
23	John Joseph Jourdan	John Jh. Jourdan	Nov. 1819	- 1807	Catahoola river
24	Eleazer W. Ripley	Pierre Morin	- -	- -	Jourdan river†
25	Pierre Corca	Pierre Corca	Nov. 1819	- 1803	Grand Bois fort
26	Elisha Carver	Elisha Carver	Nov. 1819	March, 1813	South side Bay of St. Louis
27	Melite Le Sassier	Melite Le Sassier	Nov. 1819	- 1803	Bay of St. Louis
28	Noel Jourdan	Noel Jourdan	Nov. 1819	Prior to Ap. 1813	Jourdan river
29	John Bte. Favre	John Bte. Favre	Nov. 1819	April, 1812	Hickory Camp creek
30	Charles Nicaisse	Charles Nicaisse	Nov. 1819	Pr to 15 Ap. 1813	South side Bolochito creek
31	Joseph Favre	Joseph Favre	June, 1819	2 yrs. pr Ap. 1813	Catahoola river
32	John Quevre	John Quevre	Nov. 1819	- 1812	Bina Choua creek
33	Antoine Chabert	Antoine Chabert	Nov. 1819	- 1810	West bank Jourdan river

* For about six years.

† Inhabited and cultivated for 15 years prior to the taking possession of the country by the United States, and from 1814 to November, 1819.

LIST—Continued.

No.	Present claimant.	Original claimant.	Date of present settlement.	Date of original settlement.	Where situated.
34	James McArthur	James McArthur	Nov. 1819	- 1811	Bolochito creek
35	Admr. of Thomas Drury	Thomas Drury	Mar. 1820	- 1812	South side Mobile bay
36	Augustin La Coste	Elizabeth Hartley	Mar. 1820	- 1812	Bay John
37	Joseph Grelot	Joseph Grelot	Jan. 1820	- 1810	Park Rodion
38	Heirs of Henry Francois	Henry Francois	for many y'rs	previous to 1808	Isle Mon Louis
39	John Bte. Lamy	John B. Lamy	Feb. 1820	- 1792	West side Dauphin island
40	John Cook	Francis Andrew	Feb. 1820	- 1804 or '5	Grand Bay John
41	Samuel Suarez	Samuel Suarez	April, 1820	Prior to Ap. 1813	Bay of Perdido
42	William Kee	William Kee	April, 1820	- 1812	South side of "Bay" La Lantz
43	Peter Suarez	Peter Suarez	April, 1820	- 1812	West side of Perdido bay
44	Reps. of Duret	Louis Duret	April, 1820	March, 1790	Lot below Mobile
45	Louis Alexis	Edwin Lewis	Dec. 1820	- 1811	Pascagoula river
46	Martha F. Dolives	Martha F. Dolives	Mar. 1820	- 1812	Three Mile creek
47	Burwell Rouse	Burwell Rouse	Mar. 1820	- 1809	East side of Pascagoula river
48	John Bte. Rosage	John B. Rosage	- -	- 1791	Six miles north of Bayou Batrie*
49	George Davis -	George Davis	- 1820	Cul.onl. June, 1811	Fork of Cedar creek
50	Hilaire Dubroca	Hilaire Dubroca	- 1812	- 1811	St. Philip's Bluff
51	Henry Conway	Henry Conway	Feb. 1820	- 1811	Near Blakeley
52	Maximilien Dubroca	Maximilien Dubroca	- 1820	- 1808	Twenty-one miles above Mobile
53	Isaac Graves	Celeste Favre	June, 1820	- 1812	Pearl river
54	Francis Cunningham	Francis Cunningham	Nov. 1819	March, 1813	East side Pascagoula river
55	Elisha Lott	Elisha Lott	- 1820	- 1812	Bolochito creek
56	Joseph Suarez	Joseph Suarez	April, 1820	- 1812	W. Perdido river
57	Ste. Nicaisse, natl. guardian of Joseph'e Lebat	Joseph Lebat	June, 1820	- 1811	Bay of St. Louis
58	Chevalier Dedeaux	Chevalier Dedeaux	June, 1820	- 1810	North side Wolf river
59	Joachim Pierre Dane	Joachim P. Dane	June, 1820	- 1812	East part Bay of St. Louis
60	John Bte. Nicaisse	John Bte. Nicaisse	June, 1820	- 1812	Jourdan river
61	Charles Ladner	Charles Ladner	June, 1820	- 1811	East of Wolf river
62	John Ladner	John Ladner	June, 1820	- 1812	Bay of St. Louis
63	John Philip Saucier	John P. Saucier	June, 1820	May, 1812	West side Wolf river
64	Felix Turin	Felix Turin	June, 1820	- 1812	Bay of St. Louis
65	Francis Collins	Thomas Johnson	- 1813	- 1812	East side Bon Secour river
66	Samuel Ketchen	Samuel Ketchen	June, 1820	- 1811	East of Tensa river
67	John B. Vaughan	John B. Vaughan	- 1814	- 1812	Pascagoula river
68	Michael McKinsey	Michael McKinsey	-	Early part of 1813	Fish river†
69	Reps. of Henry Baudain	Henry Baudain	- 1820	- 1802	Fish river
70	Reps. of James Garnett	James Garnett	June, 1820	June, 1811	Pascagoula river
71	Simeon Davis	Simeon Davis	Oct. 1819	March, 1812	Pascagoula river
72	Allen Goodin	Allen Goodin	June, 1820	- 1811	East Pascagoula river
73	Reps. of August'e Krebs	Augustine Krebs	June, 1820	- 1811	East side of Pascagoula river
74	Francois Krebs	Joseph Krebs	-	- 1805	East side of Pascagoula river‡
75	Reps. of John Graham	John Graham	- 1819	- 1809	East side of Pascagoula river
76	Moses Strahan	Bartlett Brown	Nov. 1819	Autumn, 1813	Buck's branch E. Pearl river
77	William Baxter	William Baxter	Dec. 1819	January, 1819	Juniper branch
78	David Kennesey	David Kennesey	Dec. 2, 1819	October, 1818	West or south side Whiskey cr'k
79	Hiram Smith	Hiram Smith	Oct. 1819	- 1817	East side of Pearl river
80	De Lazzeris	Joseph de Lazzeris	Nov. 22, 1819	August 15, 1817	Bayou La Gallere
81	William J. Stuart	William J. Stuart	Nov. 23, 1819	March, 1815	Bayou Cherreuil
82	Pierre Morin	Pierre Morin	Nov. 22, 1819	Autumn, 1813	Jourdan river
83	William Morrison	William Morrison	Nov. 25, 1819	March, 1817	Bolochito creek
84	John S. Brush	John S. Brush	Nov. 25, 1819	- 1817	W. side up. branch Bolochito cr'k
85	Richard Mayo	Richard Mayo	Nov. 1819	January, 1819	East of Pearl river
86	James Tillman	James Tillman	July, 1819	Pr to Mar. 3, 1819	Red Creek swamp
87	Mathew Richardson	Mathew Richardson	Aug. 7, 1819	January, 1814	Cedar swamp
88	Charles Lyon	Charles Lyon	Sept. 1819	Autumn, 1818	Head of Cedar creek
89	Noel Turner	Noel Turner	July, 1819	February, 1819	West branch of Cedar creek
90	John Mounger	Charles Hall	July, 1819	April, 1814	Indian creek
91	John Jacob Beng	John Jacob Beng	July, 1819	- 1818	Bayou ———
92	Charles Turner	Charles Turner	Sept. 1819	February, 1819	West prong Cedar creek
93	Joseph H. Gibson	Joseph H. Gibson	Sept. 1819	January, 1819	West side Escatauba river
94	Francis Williams	Francis Williams	Sept. 1819	- 1817	West side Big creek
95	David Odom	David Odom	Sept. 1819	February, 1819	West of Dog river
96	Menan Monk	Menan Monk	Mar. 1819	February, 1817	Red Creek bluff
97	John Farley	John Farley	Oct. 1819	January, 1819	West side Black creek
98	Henry Fletcher	Henry Fletcher	July, 1819	- 1818	Fork of Indian creek
99	Charles Bruner	Charles Bruner	July, 1819	February. 1819	Red creek
100	John Bruner	John Bruner	July, 1819	February, 1819	Fork of Brushy and Red creek
101	Richard Gittons	Richard Gittons	July, 1819	February, 1819	Fork of Brushy and Red creek
102	Griffin Bruner	Griffin Bruner	July, 1819	January, 1819	Black creek
103	Thomas Carter	Thomas Carter	July, 1819	August, 1818	Pascagoula river
104	William Snyder	William Snyder	July, 1819	January, 1819	Black creek
105	Joseph Rodgers, jun.	Joseph Rodgers, jun.	July, 1819	February, 1817	Black Creek swamp
106	Presley Mathews	Presley Mathews	July, 1819	February, 1819	Red creek
107	James Langham	James Langham	Aug. 1819	July, 1817	Cold creek
108	Joseph Burns	Joseph Burns	Sept. 1819	- 1810	West side Pascagoula river
109	Mary Baxter	Mary Baxter	Oct. 1819	January, 1815	Main road fm Mobile to Ley river
110	Benjamin Williams	Benjamin Williams	Oct. 1819	January, 1819	Two miles from Williams' ferry
111	Lewis Williams	Charles Matheny	Oct. 1819	October, 1814	Dog River ferry
112	Enoch Turner	Enoch Turner	July, 1819	February, 1819	Gresham's creek
113	Joshua Murray	Joshua Murray	July, 1819	October, 1817	East branch of Cedar creek
114	Wyche Whatley	Wyche Whatley	Oct. 1819	December, 1818	Bogue Homo

* How long continued is not proven.
‡ To 1814, and subsequently to June, 1820.
† Till after the Americans took possession of the country.

LIST—Continued.

No.	Present claimant.	Original claimant.	Date of present settlement.	Date of original settlement.	Where situated.
115	James Gold and Henry Patterson	James Gold & H. Patterson	Aug. 1819	August, 1818	East side Mobile bay
116	Smith Johnson	Smith Johnson	July, 1819	January, 1817	Black creek
117	Lewis Goff	Lewis Goff	Sept. 1819	Autumn, 1817	West side of Cedar creek
118	Edmund Goff	Edmund Goff	Sept. 1819	Spring, 1818	Upper fork of Cedar creek
119	Thomas McDowell	Thomas McDowell	Aug. 1819	- 1818	Pascagoula river
120	Samuel Snell	Aaron Burleson	Jan. 1820	September, 1818	South side of Smith's creek
121	Samuel H. Garrow	Samuel H Garrow	Jan. 1820	Autumn, 1813	West side of Mobile bay
122	James Goff	James Goff	Dec. 1819	- 1815	Between Cedar and Black creeks
123	Aaron Burleson	Aaron Burleson	Jan. 1820	November, 1818	On the road to Clement's mill
124	Charles Conway	Charles Conway	Jan. 1820	January, 1819	On a creek emptying into Bay Minette
125	Hezekiah Rester	Hezekiah Rester	May, 1820	December, 1818	East side of Red creek
126	James Denmark	James Denmark	May, 1820	January, 1819	East side of Red creek
127	John W. Tanner	John W. Tanner	May, 1820	January, 1814	East side of Pascagoula river
128	Stephen Denmark	Stephen Denmark	May, 1820	January, 1819	East side of Red creek
129	Rodney Cooper	Rodney Cooper	May, 1820	February, 1818	East side of Pascagoula river
130	Regis Bernody	Regis Bernody	Jan. 1820	Autumn, 1818	Twenty-one miles s. w. of Mobile
131	General Clausel	General Clausel	Jan. 1820	November, 1817	West side Mobile bay
132	William Richardson	Thomas Lanthrop	June, 1820	Autumn, 1814	Five miles from Mobile
133	Jacob Harrell	Jacob Harrell	June, 1820	- 1818	Head of Crooked Billet creek
134	Jacob Page	Jacob Page	June, 1820	Autumn, 1813	Four and a half miles from Mobile
135	John Mason	John Mason	June, 1820	Spring, 1814	Chickesawhay road
136	John Havard	John Havard	June, 1820	- 1817	South side of Big creek
137	George Frazer	George Frazer	June, 1820	- 1816	Bolochito creek
138	Rasberry Byrd	Rasberry Byrd	June, 1820	October, 1818	Head of Sweet Water creek
139	Donald McCleod	James Warden	June, 1820	February, 1818	Goose pond
140	John Spiers	John Spiers	June, 1820	Spring, 1818	Mill creek
141	Alexander Thiebout	Alexander Thiebout	June, 1820	Latter part 1818	H. Bolochito creek
142	Bartholomew Childress	Bartholomew Childress	June, 1820	- 1817	East side Pascagoula river
143	Reps. of James White	James White	June, 1820	- 1800	White's point, Pascagoula river
144	Clements & Kellogg	Clements & Kellogg	Feb. 1820	March, 1814	Dog River mills
145	Dougald McCall	Dougald McCall	Nov. 1819	- 1813	Pearl river
146	Phebe Pollard	Phebe Pollard	Feb. 1820	December, 1817	One mile from Mobile
147	Joseph P. Kennedy	Daniel Hartley	April, 1820	Early part 1815	Bogue Homo
148	Henry V. Chamberlain	Carman Frazee	Feb. 1820	December, 1817	Near Mobile
149	John Jeandreau, Henry Stickney, John W. C. Fleeming	John Jeandreau, Henry Stickney, & J. W. C. Fleeming	April, 1820	February, 1819	West Mobile bay
150	Edwin Lewis	William Murphy	Jan. 1820	November, 1818	Six miles west of Mobile
151	Henry Williams	Henry Williams	Dec. 1819	December, 1815	Red springs
152	Jacob Beng	Jacob Beng	Dec. 1808	- 1804	Gravelline, Bayou of
153	Joseph P. Kennedy	Cornelius Rain	Autumn 1819	Autumn, 1814	South side Bogue Homo

Remarks by the Register.—None but persons who have both inhabited and cultivated have been considered by the register and receiver as actual settlers; although many others, who have only either inhabited or cultivated, claimed to be registered as such. It is believed that some of the settlers are upon lands claimed by other persons under written evidence of title, but it is impossible to particularize them, as so few maps or plats accompany the claims.

W. BARTON, *Register.*

JACKSON COURT-HOUSE, *July the 11th*, 1820.

W. BARTON, *Register.*
WM. BARNETT, *Receiver.*

Attest: JNO. ELLIOTT, *Clerk.*

No. 2.

Register of claims to land in the district east of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on orders of survey, (requetes,) permissions to settle, or other written evidence of claim derived from either the French, British, or Spanish authorities, which, in the opinion of the undersigned, ought to be confirmed.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.			Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Cultivation and inhabitation.	
					Front.	Deep.	Area in arpens.					From	To
1	Joshua Kennedy -	Francis Fisher -	Spa. Governm't	3d July, 1798	20	40	800	East side Tensa river	M'l Gayoso de Lemos	No survey -	- - -	1798	1814
2	Joshua Kennedy -	Chs. Ellies & Lepance	Spa. Governm't	1st April, 1798	21	40	840	Bayou Populus -	Lanzos - Dur	ing French & British	Governments, and fr	om 1809	1820
3	Thomas Byrne -	Cornelius Dunn -	Spa. Governm't	17th Sept., 1796	Un	known	-	Potatoe bayou -	Peter Oliver -	No survey -	- - -	1793	1804
4	Sam'l Acre, for self and heirs of Narcissus Brontin -	Narcissus Brontin -	Spa. Governm't	18th June, 1798	20	40	800	Bayou Faoucha -	M. Gayoso de Lemos	No survey -	- - -	1797	1801
					20	40	800	East Tombecbee riv.	Baron de Carondelet	No survey -	- - -	1793	Jan. 1820
5	John Johnston, sr.	John Johnston, sr. -	Spa. Governm't	10th June, 1795									
6	Augustin Lacoste -	Joseph Mow -	Spa. Governm't	21st Sept., 1781	Un	known	-	Dauphin island -	Galvez - -	No survey -	- - -	1781	for 20 years.
7	Joshua Kennedy	Euposina Bosage, as heiress of C. McCurtin - - -	Spa. Governm't Confirmed	16th Aug., 1787 21st Aug., 1810	-	-	3,200	Tensa river - -	Stephen Miro -	3d August, 1810 -	V. S. Pintado -	1810	1820 by present claim't.

JACKSON COURT-HOUSE, *July* 11, 1820. Attest: JNO. ELLIOTT, *Clerk*.

W. BARTON, *Register*.
WM. BARNETT, *Receiver*.

Remarks by the Register.—Some of the preceding claims have emanated from commandants whose authority to grant permission to settle did not extend beyond eight hundred arpens, to which quantity it is conceived such should be limited. The instructions of Gayoso and Morales seem to recognize a right in the settler after three years inhabitation and cultivation, commenced within one year from the date of the permission or order of settlement, and continued for three consecutive years. In all such cases it is supposed the claim ought to be confirmed, although the land has not been regularly inhabited and cultivated afterwards, if it has not been subsequently granted by the Spanish Government.

W. BARTON, *Register*.

No. 3.

Register of claims to land in the district east of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on orders of survey, (requetes,) permissions to settle, or other written evidence of claim, derived from either the French, British, or Spanish authorities, which, in the opinion of the undersigned, ought not to be confirmed.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.			Where situated.	By whom issued	Surveyed.	Inhabitation and cultivation.
					Front.	Deep.	Area in arpens.				
1	Charles Lelande -	Charles Lelande -	Spa. ord. survey -	29 May, 1800	4	40	160	Near Mobile -	Cayetano Perez -	No survey -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
2	Ebenezer Rees -	Ebenezer Rees -	Spa. concession -	26 January, 1795	-	-	1,000	Bayou Sarah -	Gayoso -	No survey -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
3	Repres. F. Fontanillas -	F. Fontanillas -	Spa. ord. survey -	10 June, 1795	20	40	800	Tombecbee river -	Baron Carondelet -	No survey -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
4	Nicholas Weeks -	N. Weeks -	Spa. permit -	29 May, 1811	5	40	200	River "de Sur" -	Morales -	No survey -	No evidence of inhabitation or cultivation, nor that the conditions of the grant were complied with.
5	John Eubanks, sen. -	John Eubanks, sen. -	Spa. permit -	4 February, 1802	-	-	800	River Estaupaché -	J. de Osorno -	No survey -	Cultivation in 1808, by original claimant.

No. 3—Continued.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed. Front.	Deep.	Area in arpens.	W re situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed	Inhabitation and cultivation.
6	Thomas Shields -	Constancio Tardiff -	Spa. ord. survey -	24 April, 1790	20	40	800	Bay of St. Louis -	Stephen Miro -	No susvey -	From 1800 to 1815.
7	Amos Burnett -	John Bap. Morin -	Spa. permit -	18 October, 1807	12	40	480	Chouconpoulon -	Philip Saucier -	No survey -	Granted by Philip Saucier, syndic, who had no authority to grant lands.
8	John Jos. Jourdan -	John J. Jourdan -	Spa. permit -	24 April, 1798	25	40	1,000	Bay of St. Louis -	Gayoso de Lemos -	No survey -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
9	Anthony L. Carroll -	Anthony L. Carroll -	Spa. permit -	24 July, 1802	-	-	3,000	Pearl river -	Grandpré -	No survey -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
10	Samuel A. Tanner -	Samuel A. Tanner -	Spa. permit -	21 March, 1799	-	-	1,600	Pearl river -	Gayoso -	No survey -	Inhabitation and cultivation in 1802.
11	Francisco Suarez -	Francisco Suarez -	Spa. ord. survey -	26 Sept. 1799	40	40	1,600	W. Perdido river -	B. Garcia Calderon	No survey -	Inhabitation and cultivation from Jan'y 1811, to January 1820.
12	Lewis Judson and Peter H. Hobart -	John McDonald -	Spa. ord. settlement	10 July, 1798	-	-	1,600	Bayou Sarah -	Ml. Gayoso -	No survey -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
13	Washington Wilkins .	Wash. Wilkins -	Spa. permit -	31 January, 1809	-	-	800	E. Tensa river -	Salazar -	No survey -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.
14	Woodson Wren -	Littlepage Robertson	Spa. permit .	9 June, 1782	Unkn	own.	-	Bay of Biloxy -	Grimarest -	No survey -	No evidence.
15	Repres. of G. Byrne -	Gerald Byrne -	Spa. permit -	15 January, 1803	2 l. fro	nt, 5 in	depth.	River Vosblack -	J. de Osorno -	No survey -	Cultivated, but not inhabited.
16	Silas Dinsmore -	Francis Krebs -	Spa. permit -	13 December, 1783	Unkn	own.	-	Round Island -	Grimarest -	No survey -	Not inhabited nor cultivated.

JACKSON COURT-HOUSE, *July* 11, 1820. Attest, JNO. ELLIOTT, *Clerk*.

WM. BARTON, *Register*.
WM. BARNETT, *Receiver*.

Remarks by the Register.—Most of the preceding claims have been forfeited under the Spanish law, for want of inhabitation and cultivation; nor do they appear to be entitled to confirmation under any law of the United States. A few are granted by persons whose authority to grant is doubted, or at most upon so extensive a scale. In some cases the inhabitation and cultivation have not been commenced within the time required by the Spanish regulations; and, in others, have not been continued the requisite period by the original claimant or grantee, who had no power to alienate before he had complied with the conditions specified in the grant.

WM. BARTON, *Register*.

No. 4.

Register of claims to land in the district east of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on private conveyances, (which have passed through the office of the commandant,) or other evidence, and founded, as the claimant supposes, on grants lost by time or accident.

No.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	Inhabitation and cultivation.	Remarks by the register.
1	Rep's of Chev. and Louis de Lusser	Chev. & Louis de Lusser	Unknown - -	Junction of Mobile and Tensa rivers	From 1781 to 1789.	Though the original grants upon which the preceding claims are founded have been lost, yet it is conceived that the claims to such lands as have been inhabited and cultivated under the Spanish Government, or which were inhabited and cultivated under the British Government, by the person having the legal title therein at the date of the treaty of 3d September, 1783, between Great Britain and Spain, or which were sold and conveyed according to the provisions of the treaty, should be confirmed for a quantity equal to that allowed to actual settlers. W. BARTON, *Regr.*
2	Rep's of Louis Duret -	John Bte. de Lusser -	Unknown - -	Opposite Tensa and Mobile rivers -	From 1791; how long continued unknown.	
3	Rep's of Louis Duret -	Louis Duret -	Unknown - -	Junction of Mobile and Tensa rivers	Under the British and Spanish Governments, and until the year 1791.	
4	Rep's of John Baham -	John Baham -	Unknown - -	East side of Tensa river - -	Cultivated whilst the British had possession of the country.	
5	Charles Lelande -	Charles Onon -	Unknown - -	Junction Deer river with Mobile bay	Under the British and Spanish Governments.	
6	Catalina Plock -	Andre Plock -	Unknown - -	South side Fish river - -	During the British Government.	
7	Mary Stewart -	Charles Stewart -	2 arps. front 40 dp. area 80	East side Mobile bay - -	Under the British Government, until 1781.	
8	Mary Anne Dupont -	Claude Dupont -	Unknown - -	East side Tensa river - -	Under the British Government, and for two years afterwards.	
9	Michael Le Fleau -	Dr. Grant -	Unknown - -	East side Mobile bay - -	No evidence of inhabitation or cultivation.	

JACKSON COURT-HOUSE, *July the* 11*th*, 1820.

Attest: JNO. ELLIOTT, *Clerk*.

W. BARTON, *Register*.
WM. BARNETT, *Receiver*.

No. 5.—*Register of claims to land in the district east of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on orders of survey, (requetes,) permissions to settle, or other written evidence of claim derived from either the French, British, or Spanish authorities, which, in the opinion of the former Commissioner, William Crawford, esq. ought not to be confirmed, but which have been revived, and additional evidence adduced in their support, and which, in the opinion of the undersigned, also ought not to be confirmed.*

Number.	Former Commiss.'s report.		By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Additional evidence.	Remarks by the register.
	No. of report.	No. of claim.				
1	6	96	William E. Kennedy	William E. Kennedy	Inhabited and cultivated from 1806 to 1814.	These claims were all reported against by the former Commissioner, the most of them as having been forfeited under the Spanish law, for want of inhabitation and cultivation. They have been revived under the 7th section of the act of the 3d March, 1819, and additional testimony has been offered in their support. But the testimony in most cases does not amount to satisfactory proof of inhabitation and cultivation according to the Spanish regulations; and in those cases where the proof of inhabitation and cultivation is satisfactory, there are other reasons apparent which invalidate the claims, as in the following, viz. Nos. 96, 99, 89, 93, 101, in report No. 6, which claims are founded on sales, the terms of which do not appear to have been complied with by the purchasers. Claim No. 104, rep. 3, was reported for confirmation by the late Commissioner, but not confirmed, (in the opinion of the Register and Receiver,) by the act of the 3d March, 1819. It should not therefore have been revived, and was acted on only through inadvertence. W. BARTON, *Register*.
2	6	99	William E. Kennedy	Lewis Christin	Inhabited and cultivated from beginning 1807 to 1814.	
3	6	92	Joshua Kennedy	George Tucker	Inh. and cult. from 1798, for 4 or 5 years, under claim of said Tucker, but not by said Tucker personally.	
4	6	82	Cyrus Sibley	Cyrus Sibley	Inh. and cult. from spring 1810, till January, 1811.	
5	6	3	Eloise J. Inerarrity	Peter Trouillett	Peter Trouillet's slaves worked on said tract about 30 years ago.	
6	10	15	Benja. & D'l Ward	Unknown	Occupied by Val. de Boncour from 1780 to 1785.	
7	6	89	Joshua Kennedy	Joshua Kennedy	Inh. and cult. by a person employed by claimant from 1807 to 1813.	
8	6	109	Joshua Kennedy	Cornelius McCurtin	Inhabited and cultivated from 1798 for 4 or 5 years.	
9	6	93	Joshua Kennedy	Wm. McBoy	Inhabited and cultivated from 1807 to 1820, under claimt. and by a Spaniard employed by J. Kennedy.	
10	6	101	Francis G. Arroyo and W. E. Kennedy	Francis G. Arroyo	Inhabited and cultivated by a person for original claimant from 1812 to 1815.	
11	6	65	Augustine Lacoste	Augustine Lacoste	Inhabited and cultivated from 1808 to 1820.	
12	6	49	Benja. Lancier & wife	Gerald Byrne	Inhabited and cultivated from 1807 to 1808.	
13	6	50	Benja. Lancier & wife	Thomas Byrne	Inh. in 1807 and 8, and cult. from 1807 to 1811.	
14	6	20	Rep's of Wm. Tervin	William Tervin	No evidence of inhabitation and cultivation.	
15	6	56	Rep's of Ja's White	James White	Inhabited and cultivated in 1806.	
16	6	7	Alexis Truillet	Alexis Truillet	Cultivated from 1810 to 1811.	
17	3	104	William E. Kennedy	Francis Suarez	Inhabited and cultivated for several years prior to 1809, and to March, 1820.	
18	6	106	Joseph McCandless	Dennis Bruin	Inhabited and cultivated from 1812 to 1813, by John Haley.	A tract of land hath been previously confirmed to the original claimant, but whether as tenant of McCandless or not, doth not appear.

JACKSON COURT-HOUSE, *July the 11th*, 1820. Attest: JNO. ELLIOTT, *Clerk*. W. BARTON, *Register*. WM. BARNETT, *Receiver*.

No. 6.—*Register of claims to land in the district east of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on orders of survey, (requetes,) permissions to settle, or other written evidence of claim, derived from either the French, British, or Spanish authorities, which, in the opinion of the former Commissioner, William Crawford, esq., ought not to be confirmed, but which have been revived, and additional evidence adduced in their support, and which, in the opinion of the undersigned, ought to be confirmed.*

1	6	68	Administrator of Joseph Collins	Joseph Collins	Inhabited and cultivated from 1800 to 1805 or 6.	Most of the preceding claims were reported against by the former Commissioner, for want of inhabitation and cultivation. The additional testimony which has been adduced in their support amounts to full and satisfactory proof of their having been inhabited and cultivated according to the Spanish regulations; nor does sufficient reason appear why they should be rejected on other grounds. W. BARTON, *Register*.
2	6	16	Samuel Kitchen	Richard Wortman	Inhabited and cultivated from beginning of 1807 to 1811.	
3	6	28	Nathan Smith	William Smith	Inhabited and cultivated from 1809 to October, 1819.	
4	5	1	Harry Toulmin and Ed. P. Gaines	Felicite Chastang	Inhabited and cultivated from 1790 to 1809.	
5	6	14	Louis Dolive	Louis Dolive	Inhabited and cultivated from 1803 to 1806.	
6	6	88	Joshua Kennedy	Richard Tervin	Inhabited and cultivated upwards of 30 years ago.	

JACKSON COURT-HOUSE, *July the 11th*, 1820. Attest: JNO. ELLIOTT, *Clerk*. W. BARTON, *Register*. WM. BARNETT, *Receiver*.

No. 7.

Register of evidence collected in relation to lots in the town of Mobile.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed in feet.			Where situated.	By whom issued.	Cultivation and inhabitation.
					Front.	Deep.	Area in feet.			
1	James Badger	William Plumley	Actual settler	-	Unknown		-	N. Dauphin street	-	From 1813 to August, 1819.
2	Carman Frazee	William Plumley	Actual settler	-	72	40	2,880	N. Dauphin street	-	Inh. and cul. of original claimant prior to 15th April, 1813.
3	Repr. of Wm. Pollard	William Pollard	Actual settler	-	120	600	72,000	N. Dauphin street	-	Taken possession of by Pollard in 1813; no evidence of inhabitation and cultivation.
4	Telder Nicolas	Telder Nicolas	Actual settler	-	28	120	3,060	Royal street	-	Occupied and cultivated prior to 1813, and to 1814.
5	Samuel Acre	Samuel Acre	Actual settler	-	220	220	48,400	St. Joachim street	-	A house built in 1817, and occupied since said period.
6	Samuel Acre	Samuel Acre	Actual settler	-	170	220	37,400	St. Michael street	-	A house built in 1817, and occupied since said period.
7	Henry Gunnison	Henry Gunnison	Actual settler	-	-	-	-	E. end of Dauphin st.	-	A wharf and store erected in June, 1816, and occ'd since.
8	Henry Stickney	Henry Stickney	Actual settler	-	-	-	-	N. Dauphin street	-	A store built in 1818, and occupied since by claimant.
9	Daniel Duval	Daniel Duval	Actual settler	-	-	-	-	W. side Royal street	-	A small house built in Jan. 1819, and occupied as such since.
10	Richardson & Blake	Richardson & Blake	Actual settler	-	27	126	3,402	N. Dauphin street	-	A store built in 1818, occupied by claimant since.
11	David Rowland	David Rowland	Actual settler	-	46	140	6,440	N. Dauphin street	-	Occupied and improved in 1815, and inhabited ever since.
12	Thomas G. Newboldt	Thos. G. Newboldt	Actual settler	-	-	-	-	N. Dauphin street	-	A store built in 1818, and occupied ever since.
13	Levin Nicolas	Levin Nicolas	Spanish permit	12 Sept. 1810	60	120	7,200	Dauphin street	Cayetano Perez	Fenced in and built upon in 1810.
14	Silvain Nicolas	Silvain Nicolas	Spanish permit	19 May, 1811	6	120	7,200	Dauphin street	Cayetano Perez	Fenced in 1811, and built upon before 1813, and inhabited ever since.
15	Devisees of S. Motters	Silvain Motters	Spanish permit	21 April, 1803	Unknown		-	Gov't street	Cayetano Perez	Enclosed in 1811, but neither inhabited nor cultivated.
16	William E. Kennedy	Alexander Baudain	Spanish permit	10 July, 1798	5	perches	-	N. E. town of Mobile	Gayoso	Ditched in 1801, a house built in 1808.
17	Rep. of Benito Caro	Benito Caro	Spanish ord. survey	22 Aug. 1805	60	120	7,200	E. Royal street	Maxent	Enclosed and a house built in 1800, occupied as a warehouse ever since.
18	John Forbes & Co.	John Forbes & Co.	Spanish con'rs	8 July, 1802	Unknown		-	On river E. of Royal st.	Gayoso	Used as a levee dock during the Spanish Government.
19	Samuel Acre	Margueritte Goguette	Spanish ord. survey	22 May, 1800	60	20	7,200	Conception street	C. Perez	A house built in June, 1814, and inhabited ever since.
20	Nanette Durette	Augustin Rochon	Grant lost by time or accident.	-	6	120	7,200	St. Manuel street	Spanish Gov't	Inhab. and cultivated during the British and Spanish times, and purchased by N. Durette, at the marshal's sale, at the suit of the United States *vs.* Augustus Rochon, as appears by the marshal's sale, dated 7th Nov. 1818.
21	John Forbes & Co.	John Forbes & Co.	Spanish grant	10 Sept. 1810	1½	acres	-	Margin of Mobile river	Spanish Gov't	Ditched in 1810, and ditched, fenced and raised.
22	Rep. of Is'l Campbell	Isabel Campbell	Spanish ord. survey	10 Aug. 1810	3	arpens	-	Back of Mobile	Cayetano Perez	Fenced, and a house built in 1811.
23	William E. Kennedy	William E. Kennedy	Spanish ord. survey	27 Sept. 1806	Unknown		-	Town of Mobile	J. Y. Morales	Occupied and cultivated from 1807 to 1814.
24	Michael Leflo	——— Grant	Grant lost by time or accident.	-	Unknown		-	Town of Mobile	-	Inhabited by grant during the British Government.
25	Armand Duplantier	Armand Duplantier	Spanish ord. survey	21 July, 1806	24	150	3,600	W. Royal street	Spanish Gov't	No evidence of inhabitation or cultivation.
26	James Innerarrity	Rep. of J. Joyce	Grant lost by time or accident.	-	127¼	& 197	front	Corner Dauphin and Royal streets	-	Occupied and inhabited for thirty years past.
27	Heirs of Robt. Farmer	——— Grondel	French patent	19 April, 1757	84	-	-	Government street	French Gov't	A house built in which R. Farman lived for twenty years, and until the Spaniards took possession of the country.

REMARKS.

No. 13, revived claim; see Crawford's report, No. 7, claim No. 18. No. 14, revived claim; see same report, No. 25. No. 17, revived claim; see same report, claim No. 23. No. 16, revived claim; see report No. 6, claim No. 100. No. 18, revived claim; see report No. 7, claim No. 26. No. 19, revived claim; see report No. 7, claim No. 47. No. 22, revived claim; see report No. 6, claim No. 45. No. 23, revived claim; see report No. 7, claim No. 46. Claim No. 27, revived claim; see report No. 11, claim No. 70.

JACKSON COURT-HOUSE, *July the 11th*, 1820.

Attest: JNO. ELLIOTT, *Clerk.*

W. BARTON, *Register.*
WM. BARNETT, *Receiver.*

Remarks by the Register on the preceding claims.

The evidence in relation to the above mentioned claims to lots in the town of Mobile, has been collected in compliance with a suggestion of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, by whom the Register and Receiver were instructed that town lots, where the titles were incomplete, were not within their jurisdiction, but that it was desirable the evidence in such claims should be collected in order to enable Congress finally to dispose of them.

Many of these claims were reported against by the former Commissioner, and have been revived in virtue of the seventh section of the act of the 3d March, 1819, and additional testimony offered in their support. Grants of town lots, it is believed, were made in a manner, and upon conditions, essentially different from those of country tracts or farms. In grants of the latter, *cultivation* as well as inhabitation was required, as much for the comfort of the settler, who derived his subsistence therefrom, as by the policy of the state, which demanded the strengthening of the province by a population of actual settlers—residents upon the soil which they *cultivated*. The same reason does not apply to town lots, which are never granted in sufficient quantity to admit of cultivation to any useful extent. Town lots, it is believed, were granted only on condition (if any condition were annexed) of being built upon and inhabited within a limited time, and for a continued period. By the 34th article of the instructions of Morales, it is declared that all lots or public places which should be found to be vacant, either in New Orleans or in the bourgs or villages, or those which might thereafter be established, should be *sold for cash*. Most of the above claims have originated since the date of the instructions, (17th July, 1799,) are founded on *gratuitous concessions*, not on *actual sales for cash*, as required, and are therefore void. A rigid adherence, however, either to the letter or spirit of the instructions, seems not to have been observed even by the intendant himself, who, as will appear by a reference to the claim of William E. Kennedy, No. 23, subsequently made that concession in violation of his own rule, and without assigning even a plausible reason therefor. If it were consistent with the nature of his duty, the Register would endeavor to show the impolicy of holding the claimants of lots in Mobile to strict proof of compliance with the Spanish regulations for the allotment of lands. He will only remark, that it has come within his personal observation that a very large proportion of the granted lots has been built upon, and is inhabited by the grantees and those claiming under them, who are generally the ancient native inhabitants: and the circumstance of the uninterrupted possession they were permitted to hold of them under the Spanish Government, would seem to entitle them to the favor of Congress in quieting them in their claims. The Register will only further add in relation to this branch of the subject, that the lots granted by the French and Spanish authorities, whilst those Governments respectively held possession of the country, do not conform in their limits or bounds with the original British map or plan of the town, certified by the Spanish surveyor general Trudeau, and now in the possession of the principal deputy surveyor, Mr. Dinsmore; which fact appeared from the survey recently made by him of the public ground on which Fort Charlotte stands. Should it be determined to adhere rigidly to this or any other plan, great confusion must inevitably ensue in attempting to reconcile the conflicting boundaries, and serious injury result to many, whose principal property consists in their lots and habitations. In relation to actual settlers, it will be sufficient to remark, that they comprise the principal mercantile population of the place; that their improvements are generally the most expensive; and that they cover the most valuable vacant ground in the town, with the exception of that around Fort Charlotte. The unsettled and uncertain tenure by which the granted lots are held has deterred most of the considerate settlers from purchasing, and determined them to build on public ground, and depend on the liberality of Congress to grant them a right of pre-emption at a reasonable price.

W. BARTON, *Register.*

No. 8.

Register of claims to land in the district east of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on complete grants and orders of survey, which, from their nature, require a special report.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.				Where situated.	By whom issued.	Surveyed.		Cultivation and inhabitation.	
					Front.	Deep.	Area in arpens.	Area in acres.			When.	By whom.	From	To
1	Representatives of Wm. Donaldson	Wm. Donaldson	Spanish grant -	20 June, 1804	-	-	20,000	-	Pascagoula river -	Juan Ventura Morales	22 May, 1804	C. Trudeau -	No evidence of and cultivation.	inhabitation
2	Do. of Louis Boisdore	Louis Boisdore	Do. ord. survey -	26 April, 1783	Unkown		-	-	From Bay St. Louis to Pearl river	Stephen Miro -	- No	survey -	1798	1810.
3	Wm. E. Kennedy	Thomas Price	Do. do -	18 November, 1798	20	30	6,000	-	Adjoining Mobile -	Gayoso - -	- No	survey -	Cul and inh. 1798, and for several years thereafter, and from 1808 to 1814, by the present clamant.	

No. 1.—A grant from the Spanish Government, issued the 20th June, 1804, by John V. Morales. This grant is void under the 14th section of the act of 26th March, 1804, which enacts that all grants for lands within the territories ceded by the French Republic to the United States, by the treaty of the 30th April, 1803, the title whereof was, at the date of the treaty of St. Ildefonso, in the crown, Government, or nation of Spain, and every act and proceeding subsequent thereto, of whatsoever nature, towards the obtaining any grant, title, or claim to such lands, and under whatsoever authority transacted or pretended, "should be, and the same were, thereby declared to be, and to have been, from the beginning, null, void, and of no effect in law or equity." Nor can it derive any relief from the equity of the provisoes contained in the said section, which require, first, that the grantee should be an *actual settler* upon the land so granted; secondly, that such grant should not secure to the grantee *more than one mile square* of land, together with such other and further quantity as theretofore had been allowed for the wife and family of such actual settler, agreeably to the laws, usages, and customs, of the Spanish Government. It is further to be remarked, in relation to the merits of this claim, first, that, from the date of the application for the purchase, the Spanish authorities in Louisiana must have been apprized of the cession of the province by France to the United States, and could not, in good faith, make grants of lands, and especially such excessive sales, after such knowledge; Secondly, the title in form was not issued until the 20th June, 1804, more than fourteen months after the cession of the province, and six months after its actual delivery to the United States.

No. 2.—This claim is founded on an order of survey issued by Governor Miro in favor of Louis Boisdoré, confirmed to his widow, Margueritte Daussin, by the Intendant Morales, 4th April, 1808. Although a map or conjecture plan of the limits of the above claim, made by the Surveyor General Pintado the 30th May, 1810, accompanies the title papers, yet it does not appear to be the result of an actual survey, nor to have been made with geometrical precision, but merely intended for the direction of such persons as might be employed to make the survey: no survey appears to have been made. This claim extends from the bay of St. Louis to the mouth of Pearl river, and is supposed to cover several hundred thousand acres.

No. 3.—This claim was recommended for confirmation by the former Commissioner, William Crawford, esq., as will appear by reference to his report No. 6, claim No. 103, which report he was afterwards induced to alter, as appears by his letter dated the 23d November, 1816, annexed to the record of the claim, in consequence of his belief "that it was fraudulent, and ought to be rejected." Although we have received no instructions from the General Land Office concerning the claim, yet the intimation conveyed by the annexation of Mr. Crawford's letter was too strong to be disregarded, and we assumed the responsibility of refusing to grant a certificate of confirmation, and to consider the claim in the light of a rejected one, which might be revived, and additional evidence adduced in its support. The claim hath been revived, and additional evidence adduced, which amounts to full proof of its inhabitation and cultivation according to the Spanish regulations; and the claimant disavows that his grant does, or ever was intended to, include Fort Charlotte, or any of the public buildings. In order to obtain a full view of the merits of the claim, and more especially to ascertain whether it would actually encroach on the fort, and the other public grounds and lots in Mobile, we have deemed it advisable to direct the principal deputy surveyor, Silas Dinsmore, esq., to make an accurate survey and plat of the said land; upon the return of which, we will make a supplemental and full report of the claim, accompanied by our opinion of its justice and validity.

LAND OFFICE, JACKSON COURT-HOUSE, *July* 11, 1820.

Attest: JNO. ELLIOTT, *Clerk*.

W. BARTON, *Register*.
WM. BARNETT, *Receiver*.

No. 9.

Report on the conflicting claims of Joseph McCandless and Regis Bernody, both of whom claim the same tract of land, and in relation to whose claims the former Commissioner reported favorably.

Former Commis's report.		By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.				Where situated.	By whom issued.	Surveyed.		Cultivation and inhabitation.	
No. of report.	No. of claim					Front.	Deep.	Area in arpens.	Area in acres.			When.	By whom.	From	To
3	48	Jos. McCandless	Charles Proffit -	Spa. pert. or cert. from commandant	28 Novemb. 1811	-	Unknown	-	-	Mobile bay -	Cayetano Perez	No	survey -	October, 1812	May, 1813
10	11	Regis Bernody -	Joseph S. Munora	Grant lost by time or accident	3 March, 1792	-	-	600	-	Mobile river -	Carondelet -	No	survey -	1809	1813

"Report 3, claim 48."—The claim of Joseph McCandless is founded on the certificate of Cayetano Perez, commandant of Mobile, dated the 28th November, 1811; a copy whereof is hereto annexed, which states "that the intendant general sent to him, for information, a memorial presented by Charles Proffit, soliciting a tract of land at Mobile point, and the tract of land above mentioned, which he had solicited at the time I. de Osorno was commandant of Mobile; which memorial, with the information required, said Perez returned to Pensacola to the intendant. This inchoate claim of Charles Proffit, (if it deserve the appellation,) on the 1st day of April, 1812, was transferred by said Proffit to James Bready, who, on the 14th of the same month, transferred the same to the claimant. It is alleged by the claimant that the title papers under which he claims were destroyed by fire, which consumed the records of Pensacola in 1811; but it does not appear that any subsequent proceedings had taken place in relation to the memorial of the said Proffit in the office of the intendancy, after its reference to the commandant of Mobile for information, and the transmission of such information to the office of the intendancy. According to the Spanish regulations, the information required by the intendancy in relation to applications for land, is the incipient proceeding which serves as the basis for such subsequent proceedings as may be determined upon by the intendancy; and this information is directed in most cases to the ascertaining whether "the lands solicited be vacant," and whether the grant of them would not operate to the detriment and prejudice of third persons." Commandant Perez certifies that he returned to Pensacola the information required, in obedience to the order of the intendant; but he does not state whether the information forwarded was favorable or adverse to the application of Proffit. Admitting, however, that the usual proceedings had taken place in relation to this claim, it is in proof, from the testimony of James Innerarrity hereto annexed, marked (A, No. 3,) "that Proffit never did, either by himself or agent, at any time before or subsequent to his application, much less within three years, (the time required by the instructions of Gayoso and Morales,) establish himself upon, or cultivate, the said land; and, consequently, having *entirely* failed to comply with this essential requisite in *all gratuitous concessions*, this concession, according to the accustomed stipulations and limitations, became void, and the alienation of it by Proffit, the grantee, must have been in direct opposition to both its letter and spirit.

Report 10, claim 11.—The claim of Regis Bernody is founded on a conveyance made to him by Joseph Gaspar Munora at Pensacola, which passed through the office of the commandant, as all authentic conveyances must have done in the Spanish posts of the intendancy, and recognizes the original grant or concession of the same made by the Baron de Carondelet in favor of said Munora, on the 3d March, 1792, which grant was produced by Munora on the day of the execution of the conveyance to Bernody. The proof of the inhabitation and cultivation by Bernody (until forcibly expelled by McCandless) is complete, and the inference is strong that Munora, the grantee, did comply with the essential conditions of the grant, in as much as the instructions of Morales expressly charge the "notaries and commandants not to pass any conveyances of lands, where the conditions of the grant were not previously proven to have been complied with; and, independently of this consideration, the declaration of Munora, in the conveyance to Bernody, that it was "the same land that Antonio Espejo worked with his permission," made, too, at a time when it could not be imagined that any rival claim would arise, furnishes a violent presumption that the land was inhabited or cultivated by or for Munora agreeably to the Spanish regulations. A full report of all the evidence presented by the conflicting claimants is herewith presented.

Upon the best view we have been able to take of the relative merits of these claims, we are *decidedly* of opinion that the claim of Joseph McCandless ought to be rejected, and that of Regis Bernody confirmed.

W. BARTON, *Register*.

APPENDIX.—*Report of evidence in relation to the conflicting claims of Joseph McCandless and Regis Bernody.*

DISTRICT EAST OF PEARL RIVER,
28th February, 1820.

To the register of the land office and receiver of public moneys for the district east of Pearl river, acting as commissioners, &c. You will be pleased to take notice that I protest against a certificate issuing to Joseph McCandless for the place whereon the said McCandless resides, called the Brickyard, situate on the west side of Mobile bay, about one mile below the city of Mobile; the said place having been confirmed to me under the report of the late commissioner, William Crawford, esq. by the act of Congress passed the 3d of March, 1819, for adjusting the land claims of this district.

his
REGIS (R. B.) BERNODY.
mark.

Testimony in support of the claim of Regis Bernody.

TRANSLATION.

A. No. 1.—Be it known that I, José Gaspar Munord, inhabitant of the city of Havana, and at this time of this place, acknowledge that I sell, bona fide and effectually to Regis Bernody, free mulatto, of the town of Mobile, fifteen arpens of land front on the eastern side of the river and on the river and marshy lands, with forty deep to the west; bounded on the south by lands belonging to Mr. Francis Fontanillas, on the north by those said to belong to Mr. Favre, formerly interpreter for his Majesty, of the Choctaw nation; it being the same tract of land that the late Antonio Espejo cultivated with my permission, and which was granted to me by his excellency the Baron de Carondelet, formerly governor general of these provinces, as may be seen by the title therefor which I deliver to the purchaser, bearing date the 3d of March, 1792. And the said land I sell to the aforesaid Regis Bernody free from incumbrance and mortgage, neither of which there is in this Government, for and in consideration of the sum of one thousand one hundred and thirty dollars, to me cash in hand paid, the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge: wherefore, I give up and relinquish all right, title, and claim which to the said land I had or held, and the whole thereof I yield, renounce, and transfer to the purchaser, his heirs and assigns, in order that, as legitimate owner thereof, he may possess, exchange, sell, or alienate it at pleasure, by virtue of this writing, which in his favor I give, whereby he may be seen to have acquired legal possession, without the necessity of any other proof, wherefrom I exempt him, and oblige myself to guaranty in every lawful form the legality of this sale to the extent of all my property, present and to come, with submission to the power and justice of his Majesty, whereby I may be compelled to the fulfilment thereof; whereupon I relinquish the laws in my favor with the general in form that forbids it. And I, Dn. Peter Palao. Captain of the Louisiana regiment of infantry, attorney for the aforesaid Regis Bernody, accept, in his name, for him, his heirs and successors, the present deed of conveyance, and by virtue of it and of my instructions, I also accept the purchase of the fifteen arpens of land front by forty deep, for the price and on the conditions herein before stipulated, with which, in his name, I acknowledge myself to be satisfied. In testimony whereof, these presents are executed in Pensacola, this 24th day of March, 1813. I, Dn. Mauricio de Zunega, colonel of the army, political and military governor pro tem. of this place and of the province of West Florida, certify that the parties have agreed as above.

Witnesses, Antonio Molina, Ignatio Cruzat, and Anastasio Montesdevid. Witnesses of assistance for want of a notary public, Domingo Sausa and José Ignacio Rebollar, who have signed with me, José Gaspar Munora, Peter Palao. Before me, Mauricio De Zunega, Domingo Sausa, José Ignacio Rebollar.

I certify this to be conformable to the original, which exists in the archives of this Government; and, at the request of the party interested, I give the present on the pages of common paper, the sealed not being in use.

MAURICIO DE ZUNEGA.

DOMINGO SAUSA.
JOSE IGN. REBOLLAR.

I certify the above to be a correct copy of the original. In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of my office.

ZENON ORSA, *Notary Public.*

MOBILE, 18*th June*, 1813.

No. 2.—Peter Lorendine being sworn, saith that the land claimed by Regis Bernody, and lying on the east side of Mobile river, has been occupied by said Bernody about four years for the purpose of making bricks.

Though the papers call for the land on the east side of Mobile river, claimant and witness say the land lies on the west side of said river.

NEW EVIDENCE.

Land Office East of Pearl River.

No. 3.—Before the undersigned, register and receiver of said office, personally appeared James Innerarrity, of this town, who, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith that, as far back as 1802, in the month of October or November he knew the lands claimed by Regis Bernody and by Joseph McCandless, and that there was then a small brickery worked thereon, but by whom he did not inquire; that he afterwards knew Antonio Espejo to have worked it, and subsequently, in 1809 or 1810, he knew Regis Bernody to be in possession of the land, who was supplanted by McCandless, under a conveyance from Charles Proffit; that he, the deponent, knew Proffit, and was for some time intimate with him, but never heard from him that he had any claim to this land; that he learned it, however, by public report that he had obtained some species of permit from Commandant Osorno, who was commandant here till towards the close of 1805 or beginning of 1806; that said permit must have been irregular in its nature or surreptitiously obtained, on account of the land being in previous occupancy, and that, allowing it to have been regular, it must have become forfeited by the non-occupancy of Proffit, who never, to this deponent's perfect knowledge, ever struck a hoe into the ground, or made any improvement thereon, by himself, or by others on his account; that the certificate given by Lasada, recorded in the Commissioner's books, is irrelevant and irregular, in as much as even allowing them to have been burnt, some notice of them would have remained in the office through which they had to pass previously, viz. the intendancy; and, moreover, the originals ought to have remained in Mobile, the regular course being to keep them in the archives and to furnish copies to the parties interested for their purposes; that the claim of Proffit's, such as it is, was offered for a trifling consideration to this deponent by James Bready, previous to its conveyance to McCandless, but was rejected under an impression of its irregularity.

JAS. INNERARRITY.

Sworn to before me, 28th February, 1820.

W. BARTON, *Register.*

No. 4.—John Shavana, Thomas Blair, and Dominic Sall, being duly sworn, depose and say that, to their own certain knowledge, Regis Bernody did inhabit and cultivate a certain tract of land lying about one mile more or less from Mobile, in a southerly direction from the same, in the year 1809 or '10, and made brick on the same, and that they had no knowledge of Joseph McCandless having any claim or possession of the said tract of land until after the Americans took possession of this country.

JEAN CHEVANA.
THOS. BLAIR.
D'QUE SALLE.

MOBILE, 1*st February*, 1820.

Sworn before me,

WM. BARNETT.

Teldar Nicholas being sworn, deposeth as above.

T. NICHOLAS.
WM. BARNETT.

No. 5.—Sebastian Caro being duly sworn, deposeth that about eight years ago, say in 1812, deponent heard a conversation between an officer of the commandancy of this jurisdiction, whose name he does not recollect, and his father, Don Benito Caro, in which the said officer declared that a large crop-eared horse which the commandant Cayetano Perez at that time rode, was given to the said Perez by Joseph McCandless, as a consideration for his granting to the said McCandless the tract of land whereon the said McCandless now resides, and which he uses as a brickyard, and which is claimed by Regis Bernody; further deponent saith not.

SEBASTIAN CARO.

Sworn to and subscribed before me.

WM. BARTON, *Register.*

No. 6.—I certify that shortly after Mobile was taken possession of by the United States, that I was an officer of the United States' service, and employed in and about Mobile; that I applied to Regis Bernody, living in Mobile, to purchase from him some brick for Fort Charlotte, which were made, with the exception of burning, and which were on a place now occupied by Mr. McCandless, and that the said Regis told me that he could not

supply me in consequence of the said McCandless beating and driving off all his hands which were sent to work at the said brickery.

A. L. SANDS.

MOBILE, 23*d March*, 1818.

I certify that I was present at the wharf when Captain A. L. Sands put his name with a pencil to the above certificate, he being about to leave Mobile.

HENRY V. CHAMBERLAIN.

Testimony in support of the claim of Joseph McCandless.

TRANSLATION.

B. No. 1.—I, Don John Miguel de Lasada, minister of the royal revenues of the Indies, honorary contador and treasurer of the royal coffers of the principal ministry of West Florida, commissary of war, and officer of the royal revenues, certify that Mr. Charles Proffit preferred a memorial some years past (en los anos ultimos,) soliciting a tract of land in the district of Baton Rouge, which, having been submitted to the inspection of the officer of the revenue, was returned in order that the ordinary steps might be taken thereon to a conclusion, and not having read the said memorial throughout, I cannot affirm positively that he solicited the eighteen thousand arpens expressed in the memorial now presented by him soliciting that quantity, although I can certify that he preferred that petition wherein he alleges that he sold the lands he possessed in the said district to defray the expenses he incurred during the time he was employed in making a map of the coast of Florida for the use of Don Vincente Folche, commandant thereof, which, in the month of September, 1811, was submitted to my inspection, with another petition of the said Proffit wherein he solicited a small tract of vacant land lying in the district of Mobile; but there happened unfortunately a fire early in the morning of the 24th of October following, whereby the books and public records of this Government were burnt, without the possibility of saving a single paper in consequence of the rapidity of the flames, and in which was also burnt the petition of Proffit, the titles therein solicited not having been issued previously to that event. In testimony whereof, and in order that it may answer the purposes of said Proffit, I give this certificate at his request, in virtue of a marginal decree passed on the 1st instant by the intendant and superintendant general, subdelegate of the royal revenues of this province in the practical ministry of Pensacola, this 7th of August, 1812.

JOHN LASADA.

No. 2.—I, Don Cayetano Perez, captain of the Louisiana regiment of infantry, civil and military commandant of the town of Mobile, and of the jurisdiction thereof, certify that the intendant general of this province sent to me for information a memorial preferred by Mr. Charles Proffit soliciting a tract of land on Mobile point, and another betwixt the lands of Mr. Favre and Messrs. John Forbes & Co., which he had solicited at the time when Don Jonquin De Osorno was commandant of Mobile; which memorial, with the information required, I returned to Pensacola to the intendant.

In testimony whereof, and at the request of the said Charles Proffit, I give the present at Mobile, this 28th day of November, 1811.

CAYETANO PEREZ.

No. 3.—Bill of sale from Proffit to James Bready, dated at Mobile, 1st April, 1812.

No. 4.—Bill of sale from Bready to Joseph McCandless, dated Mobile, 14th April, 1812.

No. 5.—Inhabited and cultivated since October, 1812.

NEW EVIDENCE.

No. 6.—Personally appeared before me the undersigned, register of the land office, James Innerarrity, esq., who, being sworn, deposes and says that he has been regularly an inhabitant of Mobile since the year 1807; that he has occasionally visited the said place since 1798, and has known the inhabitants thereof since the year 1802, but has never known or heard of any such a person as José Gaspar Munora as an inhabitant or proprietor within the jurisdiction of Mobile, under whom it appears Regis Bernody claims a tract of land, claimed also by Joseph McCandless; and that he does not know that either Regis Bernody or Antonio Espejo ever cultivated the said land in an agricultural point of view, but that they both at different periods made bricks thereon, and that Joseph McCandless has inhabited and cultivated the same since the year 1812.

JAS. INNERARRITY.

Sworn to before me, the 4th March, 1820.

WM. BARTON, *Register.*

No. 7.—Sebastian Caro was also produced as a witness, who, being duly sworn, deposes that he was born in Pensacola, he was raised for the most part in Mobile; that he has always been acquainted with the inhabitants of Pensacola and Mobile; that he has never known any person or heard of any one by the name of José Gaspar Munora, or that any one of that name claimed land within the jurisdiction of Mobile.

SEBASTIAN CARO.

Sworn to and subscribed before, 4th March, 1820.

WM. BARTON, *Register.*

No. 8.—Lewis Indion was also produced, who, being sworn, deposes and says that the land whereon Joseph McCandless now resides has been inhabited and cultivated by him since about one or two years before the change of Government, and that the said land is now inhabited and cultivated by him.

L. INDION.

Sworn to, and subscribed before, 4th March, 1820,

WM. BARTON, *Register.*

16th CONGRESS. **No. 323.** 2d SESSION.

QUANTITY OF LAND PURCHASED FROM THE INDIANS,

The quantity surveyed and sold, the quantity remaining unsold, the amount expended for purchasing, surveying, and selling the public lands, and the amount of sales since the declaration of independence.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE NOVEMBER 17, 1820.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
November 16, 1820.

SIR: In obedience to a resolution of the Senate of the United States of the 3d of April, 1820, directing that the Secretary of the Treasury "cause to be prepared and laid before the Senate at the commencement of the next session of Congress, a statement of moneys annually appropriated and paid, since the declaration of independence, for purchasing from the Indians, surveying, and selling the public lands, showing, as near as may be, the quantities of land which have been purchased, the number of acres which have been surveyed, the number sold, and the number which remain unsold; the amount of sales, the amount of forfeitures, the sums paid by purchasers, and the sums due from purchasers, and from receivers in each land district:" I have the honor to submit the enclosed letter of the Register of the Treasury, with the documents to which it refers, marked from A to F inclusive, which contain the several statements required by the resolution.

I remain, with respect,
Your most obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

HON. JOHN GAILLARD,
President of the Senate pro tempore.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Register's Office, Nov.* 8, 1820.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit certain statements which have been formed by the Commissioner of the General Land Office under your instructions; also, by the Second Auditor and the Register of the Treasury, for the purpose of complying with a resolution of the Senate of the United States, passed the 3d April, 1820.

The Second Auditor of the Treasury, in his statement marked A, shows the sums which have been paid, and remain to be paid, under treaties made with the Indian tribes, to indemnify them for their cessions of lands to the United States and otherwise, amounting to - - - - -		$2,542,916
Statement B exhibits the annual appropriations made by law on account of the surveys of public lands, from the 4th March, 1789, to the 31st December, 1819, amounting to	$1,802,140 22	
From which are deducted so much thereof, carried to surplus fund - - -	125,651 14	
		1,676,489
The payments for the surveys of land from the declaration of independence to the 4th March, 1789, were		24,227
		$4,243,632
Statement C shows the amount of lands sold before the opening of the land offices, and comprises a period from the declaration of independence to that time, amounting in acres to 1,536,552, in money or public sales - - - - - - - - - -		$ 944,244
Statements D and E show the total amount of lands sold at the several land offices from their institution to 30th September, 1819 - - - -	18,601,930, sold for	44,054,452
Total sales - - - - - Acres	20,138,482	$45,098,696

The said statements also exhibit—

The total amount of lands surveyed in the several land office districts at - Acres	72,805,092
Whereof sold - - - - - - - - - -	18,601,930
To be sold - - - - - - -	54,203,162
And that there have been surveyed for military bounties - - - Acres	12,315,360
Of the sales made to the 30th of September, 1819, there had been paid by purchasers - -	$22,229,180
And remain to be paid - - - - - - - - - - - -	22,000,657

The Commissioner of the General Land Office, in his statement marked F, estimates the whole amount purchased from the Indians, under the various treaties and cessions, at one hundred and ninety-one millions nine hundred seventy-eight thousand five hundred and thirty-six acres. This statement exhibits the date of the treaties, and the places where held; the tribes with whom made; the estimated number of acres ceded by each tribe, with remarks in relation to the cessions.

I have the honor to be, sir, with great respect,
Your most obedient and most humble servant,
JOSEPH NOURSE.

Hon. WM. H. CRAWFORD, *Secretary of the Treasury.*

A.

Statement of all annuities payable by the United States to Indians or Indian tribes, or under treaties with Indians; distinguishing the several annuities; the periods during which they are respectively payable, and exhibiting the capitals, or present value of such annuities; computing annual interest at six per centum.

Names of Indians or Indian tribes.	Am't of annuities.	Terms of annuities.	Termination of limited annuities.	Periods during which annuities are payable.	Total amount of limited capitals.	Total amount of permanent capitals.	Total amount of annuities.	Total amount of capitals.
Piankeshaw's	500	Permanent	-	On or before the 3d August annually	-	$8,333 33⅓	$500	$8,333 33⅓
Do -	300	Permanent	-	30 Dec. annually -	-	5,000	300	5,000
	800							
Kaskaskias -	500	Permanent	-	3 Aug. annually -	-	8,333 33⅓	500	8,333 33⅓
Six Nations -	4,500	Permanent	-	11 Nov. annually -	-	75,000	4,500	75,000
Little Billy (a chief)	50	During life	-	Do -	$833 33⅓	-	50	833 33⅓
	4,550							
Cherokees -	6,000	Permanent	-	2 Oct. annually -	-	100,000	6,000	100,000
Do -	3,000	Permanent	-	25 do -	-	50,000	3,000	50,000
Do -	6,000	10 years -	14 Sep. 1826	14 Sep. annually -	100,000	-	6,000	100,000
	15,000							
Chickasaws -	3,000	Permanent	-	15 July annually -	-	50,000	3,000	50,000
Do	12,000	10 years -	20 Sep. 1826	20 Sep. annually -	200,000	-	12,000	200,000
Wm. Colbert (a chief)	100	For life -	-	Do -	1,666 66⅔	-	100	1,666 66⅔
Chickasaws -	20,000	15 years -	19 Oct. 1828	19 Oct. annually -	333,333 33⅓	-	20,000	333,333 33⅓
	35,100							
Creeks -	1,500	Permanent	-	On or before the 1 August annually	-	25,000	1,500	25,000
Do -	11,000	10 years -	14 Nov. 1823	14 Nov. annually -	183,333 33⅓	-	11,000	183,333 33⅓
Do -	3,000	Permanent	-	16 June annually -	-	50,000	3,000	50,000
Do -	10,000	10 years -	22 Jan. 1829	22 Jan. annually -	166,666 66⅔	-	10,000	166,666 66⅔
	25,500							

STATEMENT—Continued.

Names of Indians or Indian tribes.	Am't of annuities.	Terms of annuities.	Termination of limited annuities.	Periods during which annuities are payable.	Total amount of limited capitals.	Total amount of permanent capitals.	Total amount of annuities.	Total amount of capitals.
Sacs -	600	Permanent	-	3 Nov. annually -	-	$10,000	$600	$10,000
Foxes -	400	Permanent	-	Do -	-	6,666 66⅔	400	6,666 66⅔
Great Osage -	1,000	Permanent	-	10 Nov. annually -	-	16,666 66⅔	1,000	16,666 66⅔
Little Osage -	500	Permanent	-	Do -	-	8,333 33⅓	500	8,333 33⅓
Choctaws -	3,000	Permanent	-	16 Nov. annually -	-	50,000	3,000	50,000
Do -	400	Permanent	-	Do -	-	6,666 66⅔	400	6,666 66⅔
Do -	2,000	Permanent	-	Do -	-	33,333 33⅓	2,000	33,333 33⅓
Do -	6,000	20 years -	24 Oct. 1826	24 Oct. annually -	100,000	-	6,000	100,000
Do (2 medal chiefs, $150 each)	300	During life	-	16 Nov. annually -	5,000	-	300	5,000
	11,700							
Senecas -	1,000	Permanent	-	29 Sep. annually -	-	16,666 66⅔	1,000	16,666 66⅔
Young King (a chief)	200	During life	-	26 April qr. yearly -	3,333 33⅓	-	200	3,333 33⅓
	1,200							
Quapaws -	1,000	Permanent	-	24 Aug. annually -	-	16,666 66⅔	1,000	16,666 66⅔
Delawares -	1,000	Permanent	-	On or before the 1 August annually	-	16,666 66⅔	1,000	16,666 66⅔
Do -	500	Permanent	-	30 Sep. annually -	-	8,333 33⅓	500	8,333 33⅓
Do -	4,000	Permanent	-	3 Oct. annually -	-	66,666 66⅔	4,000	66,666 66⅔
	5,500							
Shawanees -	1,000	Permanent	-	3 Aug. annually -	-	16,666 66⅔	1,000	16,666 66⅔
Do -	2,000	Permanent	-	29 Sep. annually -	-	33,333 33⅓	2,000	33,333 33⅓
	3,000							
Ottaways -	1,000	Permanent	-	3 Aug. annually -	-	16,666 66⅔	1,000	16,666 66⅔
Do -	800	Permanent	-	17 Nov. annually -	-	13,333 33⅓	800	13,333 33⅓
Do -	1,000	15 years -	29 Sep. 1832	29 Sep. annually -	16,666 66⅔	-	1,000	16,666 66⅔
Do -	1,500	Permanent	-	17 Sep. annually -	-	25,000	1,500	25,000
	4,300							
Chippeways -	1,000	Permanent	-	3 Aug. annually -	-	16,666 66⅔	1,000	16,666 66⅔
Do -	800	Permanent	-	17 Nov. annually -	-	13,333 33⅓	800	13,333 33⅓
Do -	1,000	15 years -	29 Sep. 1832	29 Sep. annually -	16,666 66⅔	-	1,000	16,666 66⅔
Do -	1,000	Permanent	-	24 Sep. annually -	-	16,666 66⅔	1,000	16,666 66⅔
	3,800							
Eel River -	500	Permanent	-	3 Aug. annually -	-	8,333 33⅓	500	8,333 33⅓
Do -	250	Permanent	-	21 Aug. annually -	-	4,166 66⅔	250	4,166 66⅔
Do -	250	Permanent	-	30 Sep. annually -	-	4,166 66⅔	250	4,166 66⅔
Do -	100	Permanent	-	Do -	-	1,666 66⅔	100	1,666 66⅔
	1,100							
Pottawat'mies	1,000	Permanent	-	On or before 3 August annually	-	16,666 66⅔	1,000	16,666 66⅔
Do (those that reside on the River Huron, &c.)	400	Permanent	-	17 Nov. annually -	-	6,666 66⅔	400	6,666 66⅔
Do (exclusive of the foregoing)	500	Permanent	-	30 Sep. annually -	-	8,333 33⅓	500	8,333 33⅓
Do -	1,300	15 years -	29 Sep. 1832	29 Sep. annually -	21,666 66⅔	-	1,300	21,666 66⅔
Do -	2,500	Permanent	-	2 Oct. annually -	-	41,666 66⅔	2,500	41,666 66⅔
	5,700							
Miamies -	1,000	Permanent	-	3 Aug. annually -	-	16,666 66⅔	1,000	16,666 66⅔
Do -	600	Permanent	-	21 Aug. annually -	-	10,000	600	10,000
Do -	500	Permanent	-	30 Sep. annually -	-	8,333 33⅓	500	8,333 33⅓
Do -	200	Permanent	-	Do -	-	3,333 33⅓	200	3,333 33⅓
Do -	15,000	Permanent	-	6 Oct. annually -	-	250,000	15,000	250,000
	17,300							
Weas -	500	Permanent	-	3 Aug. annually -	-	8,333 33⅓	500	8,333 33⅓
Do -	250	Permanent	-	21 Aug. annually -	-	4,166 66⅔	250	4,166 66⅔
Do -	100	Permanent	-	30 Sep. annually -	-	1,666 66⅔	100	1,666 66⅔
Do -	300	Permanent	-	6 Oct. annually -	-	5,000	300	5,000
Do -	1,850	Permanent	-	2 Oct. annually -	-	30,833 33⅓	1,850	30,833 33⅓
	3,000							

STATEMENT—Continued.

Names of Indians or Indian tribes.	Am't of annuities.	Terms of annuities.	Termination of limited annuities.	Periods during which annuities are payable.	Total amount of limited capitals.	Total amount of permanent capitals.	Total amount of annuities.	Total amount of capitals.
Kickapoos -	2,000	10 years -	30 Aug. 1829	30 Aug. annually -	$33,333 33⅓	-	$2,000	$33,333 33⅓
Ottaways and Chippewas residing on the Illinois & Melwakee rivers, &c., including also the Pottawatamies	1,000	12 years -	24 Aug. 1826	24 Aug. annually -	16,666 66⅔	-	1,000	16,666 66⅔
Shawanees & Senecas of Lewistown	1,000	Permanent	-	17 Sep. annually -	-	16,666 66⅔	1,000	16,666 66⅔
Peoria, Kaskaskias, Catokiah, Mitchigania, & Tamorois, tribes of the Illinois nation	300	12 years -	25 Sep. 1830	25 Sep. annually -	5,000	-	300	5,000
Wyandots -	1,000	Permanent	-	3 Aug. annually -	-	16,666 66⅔	1,000	16,666 66⅔
Wyandots, Munsee, Delawares, & those of the Shawnee and Seneca nations who reside with the Wyandots	825	Permanent	-	4 July annually -	-	13,750	825	13,750
Wyandots -	400	Permanent	-	17 Nov. annually -	-	6,666 66⅔	400	6,666 66⅔
Do -	4,500	Permanent	-	29 Sep. annually -	-	75,000	4,500	75,000
	6,725				1,204,166 66⅔	1,338,750	152,575	2,542,916 66⅔

NOTE.—In addition to the 6,725 dollars allowed the Wyandots, &c., aforesaid, there is secured to them by treaty of 4th July, 1805, an annuity of 175 dollars, for the payment whereof the capital of 2,916 66-100 has been secured to the President of the United States, in trust, by the Connecticut Land Company, and by the company incorporated by the name of "the proprietors of half a million acres of land lying south of Lake Erie, called Sufferers' Land."

RECAPITULATION.

	Annuities.	Capitals.
Limited annuities which expire in 1823, - - - - - -	$11,000	$183,333 33⅓
Do do do 1826, - - - - - -	25,000	416,666 66⅔
Do do do 1828, - - - - - -	20,000	333,333 33⅓
Do do do 1829, - - - - - -	12,000	200,000
Do do do 1830, - - - - - -	300	5,000
Do do do 1832, - - - - - -	3,300	55,000
Life annuities, - - - - - - - - -	650	10,833 33⅓
Limited annuities and capitals,	72,250	1,204,166 66⅔
Permanent annuities and capitals, - - - - - - -	80,325	1,338,750
	$152,575	2,542,916 66⅔

NOTE.—In addition to the above there is a permanent annuity of 150 bushels of salt to the Delawares, Shawnees, Pottawatamies, Miamies, Kickapoos, Eel Rivers, Weas, Piankashaws, and Kaskaskias Indians, per treaty 7th June, 1803, and 160 bushels to the Miamies per treaty of 6th October, 1818; the usual cost of which has been $2 50-100 per bushel at Fort Wayne. The Kickapoos, per treaty of 30th August, 1819, relinquished to the United States their proportion of the salt annuity under the treaty of 7th June, 1803, but this department is not yet advised of the exact amount thereof by the Indian agent, who will attend to the proper deduction upon the distributions subsequent to the treaty of 30th August, 1819.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Second Auditor's Office, October*, 1820.

WM. LEE.

B.

Statement of appropriations and expenditures on account of the surveys of public lands from the 4th March, 1789, to the 31st December, 1819; furnished in pursuance of a resolution of the Senate of the United States of the 3d April, 1820.

Appropriations.	Amount appropriated.	Amount carried to surplus fund.	Balance of appropriation.	Expenditures.	Amount expended.
1797	$ 27,000	- -	$27,000	- 1797 -	- $5,964 26
1798	10,000	- -	10,000	- 1798 -	- 6,034 40
1799	11,519	$5,731 41	5,787 59	- 1799 -	- 12,769 93
1800	4,000	- -	4,000	- 1800 -	- 11,910 94
1801	28,200	- -	28,200	- 1801 -	- 17,723 27
1802	42,496 90	- -	42,496 90	- 1802 -	- 18,386 36

STATEMENT—Continued.

Appropriations.	Amount appropriated.	Amount carried to surplus fund.	Balance of appropriation.	Expenditures.	Amount expended.
1803	29,743	500	29,243	1803	18,691 74
1804	55,900	13,450 50	42,449 50	1804	27,438 95
1805	96,400	725 20	95,674 80	1805	69,187 62
1806	146,400	2,942 17	143,457 83	1806	108,895 02
1807	79,580	3,494 18	76,085 82	1807	98,115 59
1808	60,874	2,345 04	58,528 96	1808	73,229 39
1809	34,640	29,711 28	4,928 72	1809	52,963 01
1810	36,400	704 66	35,695 34	1810	54,356 99
1811	146,900	363 30	146,536 70	1811	85,931 49
1812	58,020	401 10	57,618 90	1812	46,431 71
1813	70,560	13,793 91	56,766 09	1813	38,370 61
1814	67,000	25,038 69	41,961 31	1814	33,776 94
1815	39,700	26,174 70	13,525 30	1815	47,083 98
1816	175,700	150	175,550	1816	113,099 47
1817	228,266 32	125	228,141 32	1817	232,408 43
1818	177,541	- -	177,541	1818	175,034 51
1819	175,300	- -	175,300	1819	237,418 49
					1,585,223 10
				Balance unexpended on the 31st December, 1819	91,265 98
	$1,802,140 22	$125,651 14	$ 1,676,489 08		$1,676,489 08

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Register's Office, 8th Nov.*, 1820. JOSEPH NOURSE.

C.

Schedule in relation to the sales of public lands before the Land Offices were opened.

Years.	To whom sold.	Acres.	Lands reverted. Acres.	Lands reverted. Amount.	Total from sales	
1787	Sundry persons at vendue in the city New York - - -	72,974	35,457	$29,782 65	$117,108 22	
"	Ohio Company - - - -	964,285	-	-	500,000	
1788	John Cleves Symmes - - -	248,540	-	-	70,455 38	
1789	Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - -	202,187	-	-	151,640 25	
1796	Sales at Pittsburg and Philadelphia -	48,566	-	-	105,040 26	
		1,536,552			944,244 11	Specie or public debt.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Register's Office, 8th November*, 1820. JOSEPH NOURSE.

D.

Statement of the amount of sales of public lands, (from the opening of the Land Offices to the 30th September, 1819,) the amount of forfeitures, the sums paid by purchasers, and the sums due from purchasers and from receivers on that day, pursuant to a resolution of the Senate dated 30th April, 1820.

Offices.	Amount of sales.	Amount of forfeitures.	Sums paid by purchasers.	Balances due 30th September, 1819. From purchasers.	Balances due 30th September, 1819. From receivers.
Marietta - -	$354,770 88	$ 4,096 96¼	$235,825 80	$118,845 99¼	17,776 85
Chillicothe - -	2,196,140 09	45,275 85½	1,905,028 52	274,275 58	35,041 77
Steubenville - -	3,097,996 79	45,568 66	2,735,254 69¾	299,036 13	5,173 17
Cincinnati - -	5,769,685 06½	130,756 20¼	4,537,783 55¼	1,211,761 91	50,253 11
Zanesville - -	1,793,695 79	17,133 06½	1,334,866 70¼	459,142 24	
Vincennes - -	2,861,221 20½	21,356 07½	1,355,135 56¼	1,469,500 69	1,076 23¾
Jeffersonville - -	2,456,178 09	11,941 75	1,410,090 51¼	1,214,962 22	4,529 56
Canton or Worster -	2,001,370 91	4,343 88½	1,384,287 22½	618,595 23¼	34,794 38½
Shawneetown - -	1,153,897 67	4,631 17	371,118 82¼	781,601 46¼	4,196 93¾
Kaskaskia - -	814,054 80	1,630 96	286,282 46	529,788 33½	46,876 49½
Edwardsville - -	795,531 85	2,021 58	241,127 44	556,145 08	51,380 11
Detroit - -	67,113 86	359 95	21,780 68	114,768 96	5,389 14
Franklin - -	1,894,905 69	12,273 56	527,107 48	1,380,071 77	39,818 77
St. Louis - -	1,141,340 65½	4,892 78	306,433 55¾	839,799 87¾	27,757 06¼
West of Pearl river -	2,343,987 58	51,141 89	1,047,431 43	1,298,091 40	41,092 59½
East of Pearl river -	2,266,076 04¾	7,500 43¾	832,768 82½	1,439,200 17¾	183,466 74½
Huntsville - -	8,431,691 32¼	26,646 26½	2,519,665 18	5,936,360 62¾	79,422 91¾
Cahawba - -	4,614,794 54¼	21,107 60	1,177,192 19	3,458,709 95½	50,336 27¾
	$ 44,054,452 83¾	$412,678 64¾	22,229,180 63¾	$ 22,000,657 64	$ 678,382 13¼

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, *October*, 1820. JOSIAH MEIGS.

E.

Estimate of the number of acres of public lands which have been surveyed, the number sold, and the number which remained unsold on the 30th September, 1819, pursuant to a resolution of the Senate dated 30th of April, 1820.

Districts.	Number of acres surveyed.	Number of acres sold.	Districts.	Number of acres surveyed.	Number of acres sold.
Marietta - -	576,000	156,035	Detroit - -	2,073,600	58,450
Chillicothe - -	2,128,480	1,020,630	St. Louis - -	6,777,760	470,990
Steubenville - -	1,935,360	1,446,618	Franklin - -	3,801,600	662,434
Cincinnati - -	3,709,440	2,733,688	West of Pearl river -	3,787,840	1,124,286
Zanesville - -	1,504,880	886,295	East of Pearl river -	5,253,120	951,131
Wooster - -	1,244,160	889,514	Huntsville - -	5,460,480	1,427,407
Delaware - -	852,480	None	Cahawba - -	3,893,760	1,268,319
Piqua - -	691,200	None	Tuscaloosa - -	3,525,120	None
Vincennes - -	5,532,500	1,386,771	Conecah - -	69,120	None
Jeffersonville - -	2,862,920	1,218,757	Opelousas - -	1,428,480	None
Terre Haute - -	761,600	None	New Orleans -	538,240	None
Brookville - -	769,000	None	Cape Girardeau -	1,405,440	None
Shawneetown -	3,018,240	562,296	Arkansas - -	1,359,360	None
Kaskaskia - -	2,188,800	407,027	Davidsonville, Lawrence county	None for sale	None
Edwardsville - -	2,625,960	394,730	In Ohio prior to the year 1797	1,536,552	1,536,552
Palestine - -	391,680	None			
Vandalia - -	1,105,920	None			
			Surveyed	72,805,092	18,601,930
			Sold	18,601,930	
			Unsold	54,203,162*	

*But subject to various private claims and reservations for schools, &c.

Estimate of lands surveyed for military bounties.

	Surveyed.	Remaining unlocated.	
In Ohio for bounties to soldiers of the revolution -	1,380,000	87,500	
Illinois " " late war -	5,760,000	2,411,520	The lots being too large, or too small, or otherwise unfit for bounties.
Missouri " " late war -	837,760	348,440	
Arkansas " " late war -	4,337,600	the whole.	

NOTE—The estimate of lands surveyed includes all surveys received to this day.
The estimate of lands sold includes all sold up to the 30th September, 1819.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
15th October, 1820.

JOSIAH MEIGS.

F.

Estimate of the quantity of land that has been purchased from the Indians.

Date of the treaties.	With what tribe made.	Estimate of the amount in acres	Page in the Land Laws.	Remarks.
Fort Stanwix, 22d October 1784	Six Nations -	-	55	Triangle sold in Pennsylvania; 202,187 acres added at foot hereof.
Greenville, 3d Aug., 1795	Wyandots, Delawares, Shawnees, &c.	11,808,499	56	The quantity after deducting part of Connecticut reserve and Virginia military lands.
Fort Industry, 4th July, 1805	Wyandots, Ottaways, Chippewas, &c.	1,030,400	59	
Detroit, 17th Nov'r, 1807	Ditto Ditto	7,862,400	60	
Brownstown, 25th November, 1808	Ditto Ditto	-	62	Cession for a road included in a subsequent cession.
Fort Wayne, 7th June, 1803	Delawares, Shawnees, Pottawatamies, Eel River, Weas, &c.	2,038,400	63	
Vincennes, 7th Aug., 1803	Eel River, Wyandots, &c.	-	64	Right given to the United States of locating land on the roads leading from Vincennes to Kaskaskia and Clarksville, (included in subsequent cessions.)
Vincennes, 13th Aug., 1803	Kaskaskias - -	8,911,850	64	
Vincennes, 18th Aug., 1804	Delawares, - -	1,921,280	66 & 67	
27th Aug., 1804	Piankeshaws -			
Grouseland, 21st August, 1805	Delaware, Pottawatamies, Miamies, Eel River, and Weas -	1,572,480	67	
Vincennes, 30th Dec., 1805	Piankeshaws -	2,076,160	68	Reserving the right of locating a tract of two miles square, or 1,280 acres, the fee of which is to remain with them forever.

ESTIMATE—Continued.

Date of the treaties.	With what tribe made.	Estimate of the amount in acres	Page in the Land Laws.	Remarks.
Fort Wayne, 30th September, 1809	Delaware, Pottawatamies, Miamies, &c.	3,257,600	69	The part ceded by the 9th article confirmed by the Kickapoos 9th Dec., 1809.
Vincennes, 9th Dec., 1809	Kickapoos - -	138,240	71	
Fort Harrison, 4th June, 1816	Weas & Kickapoos	-	71	Confirm former cessions.
St. Mary's, 2d Oct., 1818	Ditto Ditto			
St. Louis, 3d June, 1816	Winnebagoes -	-	72	Confirm to the United States all and every cession of land heretofore made by their nation to the British, French, or Spanish, Governments, within the limits of the United States or their territories.
St. Louis, 24th Aug., 1816	Ottaways, Chippewas, and Pottawatamies	1,274,880	72	They relinquish all claim to cession by Sac and Foxes 3d November, 1804.
By 2d article they cede 3 leagues square at the mouth of Ouisconsin -	- - -	144,000		
St. Louis, 3d Nov., 1804	Sac and Fox -	9,803,520	73	
St. Louis, 1st June, 1816	Sioux - -	-	74	Confirm all cession of lands made by their tribes to the British, French, and Spanish Governments, within the limits of the United States or their Territories.
Tellico, 25th October, 1805	Cherokees -	-	74	Cede all lands north of Duck river, &c. This cession is wholly in the State of Tennessee.
Tellico, 27th October, 1805	Ditto -	-	75	Cession for a road from Tellico to Tombigbee.
Washington, 7th January, 1806	Ditto -	1,209,600	76	The residue of the cession is within the State of Tennessee.
Chickasaw Old Fields, 11th September, 1807.	Ditto -	-	77	Elucidation of the treaty entered into at Washington, 7th January, 1806.
Washington, 22d March, 1816	Ditto -	-	78	Line established between Cherokees and Creeks, privilege for roads.
Turkeytown, 4th October, 1816	Ditto -	1,395,200	79	
Hopewell, 10th June, 1786	Chickasaws -	-	79	Boundary lines within which they are allowed to live and hunt on.
Chickasaw Bluffs, 24th October, 1801	Ditto -	-	80	Permission to open a road.
Chickasaw county, 23d July, 1805	Ditto -	345,600	80	The residue of the cession in the State of Tennessee.
Chickasaw council-house, 20th September, 1816	Ditto -	-	81	They cede all their right or title to lands north of Tennessee river, and relinquish all claim to territory on the south side of said river, and east of a line commencing at Caney creek, &c.
Hopewell, 3d Jan'y, 1786	Choctaws -	-	83	Boundary of lands for the Choctaws to live and hunt on.
Fort Adams, 17th December, 1801	Ditto -	2,641,920	83	
Fort Confederation, 17th October, 1802	Ditto -	853,760	84	
Mount Dexter, 16th Nov., 1805	Ditto -	4,142,720	85	
Choctaw Trading House, 24th October, 1816	Ditto -	-	86	They cede all their land on the east side of Tombigbee from the Chickasaw boundary to the northern line of the cession from the Choctaws at Mount Dexter; (This land is included in the cession from the Creeks by treaty at Fort Jackson.)
Fort Jackson, 9th August, 1814	Creeks - -	14,284,800	87	The residue of the cession lies within the State of Georgia.
Fort Clark, 10th November, 1808	Great & Little Osage	50,269,440	88	
Foot of the rapids, 29th September, 1817	Wyandots -	4,377,600	1	
By article 2d - -	Pottawatamies, Ottaways, and Chippewas	430,080	2	Here follows a great many stipulations and grants to particular tribes.
St. Mary's, 17th September, 1818.	Wyandots, Senecas, Shawnees, and Ottaways	-	17	Reservations and grants.
St. Mary's, 2d Oct., 1818	Pottawatamies -	1,109,760	21	
St. Mary's, 3d Oct., 1818	Delawares -	-	-	They cede all claim to lands in Indiana. The United States provide a country for them on the west side of the Mississippi.
St. Mary's, 6th Oct., 1818	Miamies - -	5,867,520	26	
St. Mary's, 20th September, 1818.	Wyandots -	-	31	Cede two tracts of land in Michigan formerly reserved to them, a conditional reserve in lieu thereof.
St. Mary's, 2d Oct., 1818	Weas - -	-	33	They cede to the United States all the lands claimed and owned by them within the limits of the States of Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois, (subject to certain reservations.)
Edwardsville, 25th Sept., 1818	Peorias, &c. -	6,865,280	35	
St. Louis, 24th Aug., 1818	Quapaws -	30,690,560	39	The part north of Arkansas was ceded by the Osages by treaty at Fort Clark 10th November, 1808; they also cede all their claim to lands east of the Mississippi.

ESTIMATE—Continued.

Date of treaties.	With what tribe made.	Estimate of the am't in acres.	Page in the land laws.	Remarks.
St. Louis, 25th Sep., 1818	Great & Little Osages	7,392,000	51	
Treaty ground, east of Old Town, 19th Oct., 1818	Chickasaws -	-	54	This cession is partly in the State of Tennessee and partly in Kentucky.
Washington, 27th February, 1819	Cherokees -	566,400	89	The residue of this cession is in the State of Tennessee and Georgia.
St. Louis, 30th Mar., 1817	Menomonies -	-	129	They confirm to the United States all and every cession made by their tribe to the British, French, or Spanish Governments, within the limits of the United States.
Cherokee agency, 8th July, 1817	Cherokees -	-	135	Cession of lands in the State of Georgia for lands on the Arkansas river.
Creek agency, 22d January, 1818	Creeks - -	-	142	Cession of two tracts of land in the State of Georgia.
Saginaw, 24th September, 1819	Chippewas -	4,321,280	119	Subject to several reservations.
Fort Harrison, 30th Aug't, 1819	Kickapoos of Vermillion	3,173,120	124	They also cede all their lands on the Wabash river, or any of its waters.
		191,776,349 202,187	- -	Triangle sold in Pennsylvania omitted, see first item hereof.
	Acres,	191,978,536		

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
15th *October*, 1820.

JOSIAH MEIGS.

16th CONGRESS. **No. 324.** 2d SESSION.

CLAIM TO LAND IN ILLINOIS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES NOVEMBER 22, 1820.

Mr. COOKE, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Nicholas Jarrott, of the State of Illinois, reported:

That, as the legal representative of one Francois Arcort, the petitioner states he is possessed of a certificate of confirmation for four hundred acres of land in said State. That the confirmation is in virtue of an improvement made in the year 1780 on a valuable tract of land near Fort Peoria, on the Illinois river. That he supposed himself entitled to the land upon which the improvement was made, and that he accordingly made application to the surveyor general to have his land surveyed, and his claim located accordingly; but that when he applied, he was informed that the time had expired within which such locations were required to be made: that his claim has therefore never been located, and prays for relief.

The committee, upon an examination of the documents accompanying the petition, find that a certificate of confirmation did issue to the petitioner, as is set out in his petition, and that, by the certificate of William Rector, surveyor general, bearing date the 20th of September, 1820, it appears that no location thereof had at that time been made.

The committee also find that all such locations were required to be made within a specified tract of country, reserved for the purpose of satisfying such claims, which tract did not embrace the improvement of the petitioner.

The committee, deeming it inconsistent with the spirit of the Government to take advantage either of the ignorance or unintentional laches of any of its citizens, are of opinion that the petitioner is entitled to relief, and report a bill accordingly.

16th CONGRESS. **No. 325.** 2d SESSION.

CLAIM OF THE MARQUIS DE MAISON ROUGE, ON THE WASHITA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE DECEMBER 22, 1820.

Mr. LOWRIE, from the Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Daniel W. Coxe, one of the owners of the claim of the Marquis De Maison Rouge, on the Washita river, in the State of Louisiana, made the following report:

On the 17th of March, 1795, the Governor of Louisiana entered into a contract with the Marquis De Maison Rouge, of which the following is a copy:

We, Francis Lewis Hector, Baron de Carondelet, knight of Malta, brigadier-general of the royal armies of his Catholic Majesty, military and civil governor of the provinces of Louisiana and West Florida, Don Francis Rendon, intendant of the army, and deputy superintendent of the royal domains in the said provinces; Don Joseph de Orue, knight of the royal and distinguished order of Charles the Third, principal accountant for the royal chests of this army, exercising the functions of fiscal of the royal domains, declare, that we agree and contract with the Senor Marquis de Maison Rouge, an emigrant

French knight, who has arrived in this capital from the United States, to propose to us to bring into these provinces thirty families, who are also emigrants, and who are to descend the Ohio, for the purpose of forming an establishment with them on the lands bordering upon the Washita, designed principally for the culture of wheat, and the erection of mills for manufacturing flour, under the following conditions:

1st. We offer, in the name of his Catholic Majesty, whom God preserve, to pay out of the Royal Treasury, two hundred dollars to every family composed of two white persons fit for agriculture, or for the arts useful and necessary to this establishment, as house or ship carpenters, blacksmiths and locksmiths; and four hundred to those having four laborers; and, in the same way, one hundred to those having no more than one useful laborer or artificer, as before described, with his family.

2d. At the same time, we promise, under the auspices of our sovereign monarch, to assist them forward from New Madrid to Washita, with a skilful guide, and the provisions necessary for them, till their arrival at their place of destination.

3d. The expenses of transportation of their baggage and implements of labor, which shall come by sea to this capital, shall be paid on account of the royal domains, and they shall be taken on the same account from this place to the Washita, provided, that the weight shall not exceed three thousand pounds for each family.

4th. There shall be granted to every family containing two white persons fit for agriculture, ten arpens of land, extending back forty arpens, and increasing, in the same proportion to those which shall contain a greater number of white cultivators.

5th. Lastly, it shall be permitted to the families to bring, or to cause to come with them, European servants, who shall bind themselves to their service for six or more years, under the express condition, that if they have families, they shall have a right, after their term of service is expired, to receive grants of land, proportioned, in the same manner, to their numbers. Thus we promise, as we have here stated; and that it may come to the knowledge of those families which propose to transport themselves hither, we sign the present contract with the aforesaid Senor Marquis de Maison Rouge, to whom, that it may be made plain, a certified copy shall be furnished. New Orleans, the 17th of March, 1795.

THE BARON DE CARONDELET.
FRANCIS RENDON.
JOSEPH DE ORUE.
THE MARQUIS DE MAISON ROUGE.

On the 14th of July, in the same year, this contract was laid before the King of Spain, by whom, as appears by the following, it was duly approved.

Having laid before the King what you have made known in your letter of the 25th of April last, No. 44, relative to the contract entered into with the Marquis of Maison Rouge, for the establishment on the Washita of the thirty families of farmers destined to cultivate wheat for the supply of these provinces, his Majesty, considering the advantages which it promises, compared with the preceding, has been pleased to approve it in all its parts. By his royal direction I communicate it to you for your information. God preserve you many years. Madrid, 14th July, 1795.

GARDOQUI.

To the INTENDANT *of Louisiana.*

NEW ORLEANS, *Nov.* 13, 1795.

To be transmitted to the principal office of accounts (contaduria,) of the army and royal domains, for their information, and two certified copies to be provided for the secretary's office.

RENDON.

On the 14th of June, 1797, Carlos Trudeau, surveyor general, certifies to have measured thirty superficial leagues in favor of the Marquis de Maison Rouge, by order of the governor general, the Baron de Carondelet. It will be seen by the certificate of the surveyor general, attached to this report, (No. 1,) that the land in question was surveyed in four separate tracts, and designated by natural and artificial marks, with great care and precision.

On the 20th of June, 1797, a few days after this return of survey, the following patent, or "titulo," as it is called in the original Spanish, was granted to the Marquis de Maison Rouge.

The Baron de Carondelet, knight of the order of St. John, marshal de camp of the royal armies, governor general, vice patron of the provinces of Louisiana and West Florida, inspector of troops, &c.

For as much as the Marquis de Maison Rouge is near completing the establishment of the Washita, which he was authorized to make for thirty families by the royal order of July 14th, 1795, and desirous to remove, for the future, all doubt respecting other families or new colonists who may come to establish themselves, we destine and appropriate, conclusively, for the establishment of the aforesaid Marquis de Maison Rouge, by virtue of the powers granted to us by the King, the thirty superficial leagues marked in the plan annexed to the head of this instrument, with the limits and boundaries designated, with our approbation, by the surveyor general, Don Charles Leveau Trudeau, under the terms and conditions stipulated and contracted for by the said Marquis de Maison Rouge; and that it may at all times stand good, we give the present, signed with our hand, sealed with our seal at arms, and countersigned by the underwritten honorary commissary of war and secretary of his Majesty for this commandancy general. New Orleans, the twentieth of June, 1797.

THE BARON DE CARONDELET.
ANDRES LOPEZ ARMISTO.

NOTE.—That, in conformity with his contract, the Marquis de Maison Rouge is not to admit or establish any American in the lands included in his grant.

THE BARON DE CARONDELET.

On the 5th of August, 1803, Don Gilbert Leonard, and Don Manuel Gonzalez Armirez, Spanish officers in the province of Louisiana, gave a certificate, (No. 2,) stating that the Marquis de Maison Rouge complied punctually with the terms he proposed in said contract.

On the 14th December, 1812, the Commissioners acting under the directions of the act of Congress of the 3d of March, 1807, by their report, (No. 3,) placed this claim among a class of cases which, in their opinion, ought to be confirmed; and, by the act of Congress of the 29th April, 1816, all these cases, not exceeding a league square, were confirmed accordingly. The present claim, on account of its magnitude, being excluded by the act of 29th April, 1816, application, that it might be confirmed, was made to the next succeeding Congress by the owners of the grant. A committee of the House of Representatives reported in favor of the petition, and, on the 10th of February, 1817, presented a bill confirming the title of the Marquis de Maison Rouge. The bill was not then acted upon, and, until the present session, the attention of Congress has not been called to the subject.

From a careful examination of the foregoing documents, the committee have come to the conclusion that the title is legal and formal, according to the laws and usages of the province of Louisiana, and that the same ought to be confirmed; and, for that purpose, report a bill.

No. 1.

[TRANSLATION.]

Carlos Trudeau, surveyor general, &c., certifies to have measured, in favor of Marquis of Maison Rouge, the several tracts of land represented in those parts of the plat shaded with vermillion, which may contain thirty superficial leagues, to wit, the tract No. 1, on the right bank of Washita river, to be taken five arpens below the mouth of the Bayou de la Cheniere au Toudre, and thence descending to the Bayou Calumet, with a corresponding depth to complete one hundred and forty thousand superficial arpens; the tract marked No. 2, on the left bank of the same river, commencing two leagues below Fort Miro, and at the point called Laine, and extending one league below the Prairie de Lee, with a corresponding depth to complete seventy thousand superficial arpens; the tract marked No. 3, to be taken in front of the Bayou Loutre, and thence on a line south 75 degrees east to the Bayou de Liar, which line, to the Bayou de Liar, the Bayou Bartelemy, and the river Washita, are to include the tract No. 3; tract No. 4, on the right bank of Washita river, to be taken in front of the entry of Bayou Bartelemy, thence descending the river to Bayou la Loutre, with such depth as that the tracts Nos. 3 and 4 shall include the quantity of eight thousand three hundred and forty-four superficial arpens, which, added to the two first tracts, makes a total superfice of two hundred and eight thousand three hundred and fourty-four superficial arpens, equal to the above said thirty leagues, at the rate of two thousand five hundred toises for the side of a league, the land mea-

sure in this province. Being well understood that the land which may be included in the above, either by title in form or first decrees of concession, are not to be counted in computing the preceding thirty leagues; on the contrary, the Marquis de Maison Rouge promises to be of no detriment to the settlers occupying previously any part of the land, but will maintain and support them in their rights, in consideration that, if the said thirty leagues shall suffer any diminution on account of previous occupants, the Marquis de Maison Rouge has the right, and there will be no objection to his supplying the deficiency in any other part where the land is vacant. And, that it may so appear, I give this, by order of the governor general, Baron de Carondelet; all which I certify.

CARLOS TRUDEAU, &c.

NEW ORLEANS, *June* 14, 1797.

The foregoing is the substance of the proces verbal (certificate) of the surveyor general, subjoined to the plat (of which that on the other side is a copy) filed in the claim of Louis Bouligny, holding under Maison Rouge.

LAND OFFICE, OPELOUSAS, 15*th August*, 1812.

L. CHACHIRE,
Translator to the Board of Commissioners.

Attest:
L. POSEY, *Clerk of the Board.*

I certify that the above, and the preceding page, is a true copy from the report of the Land Commissioners of the western district of Orleans, dated the 14th December, 1812; and that the plat attached hereto is a copy of the plat attached to the said report. The original papers, copied in pages 67, 68, and 69, of the book entitled Land Laws, are not in this office.

JOSIAH MEIGS.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, 12*th December*, 1820.

No. 2.

Don Gilbert Leonard, treasurer of the army, exercising the functions of royal accountant, and Don Manuel Gonzalez Armirez, exercising those of treasurer par interim, of the royal chests of this province of Louisiana:

We certify that the two foregoing copies are conformable to the originals which remain in the archives of the ministry of the royal domains under our charge, and that the contractor, the Marquis de Maison Rouge, complied punctually with the terms which he proposed in the said contract; and, that this may be made manifest, conformably to the order above inserted of this intendancy general, we give the present in New Orleans, the 5th of August, 1803.

GILBERT LEONARD.
MANUEL ARMIREZ.

No. 3.—*Claims to Land in the County of Washita.*

Reported number.	Registr's number.	By whom claimed.	Original prop'r or claim't.	Quantity claim'd	Nature and date of title or claim.	Class.
16	11	Louis Bouligny.	Marquis de Maison Rouge.	Thirty square leagues.	Spanish grant, 20th June, 1797.	B.

No. 16. The undersigned Commissioners have compared the documents, title filed in this claim, with the translation of them in pages 67, 68 and 69, of the appendix to the book entitled "Land Laws, &c.," and find the said translation to be correct so far as it goes. The certificate, or proces verbal, which the surveyor general has annexed to his plat, not appearing in said book, a translation of that document, together with a copy of the plat, is transmitted for the further elucidation of the claim. No oral or other testimony has been adduced before the board to establish the occupancy of any part of these lands, or that there has been a compliance upon the part of the grantee with the conditions stipulated in the contract, except the certificate, under date of the 5th August, 1803, signed by Gilbert Leonard and Manuel Armirez, to the translation of which, in page 69 of the appendix of said book, the Commissioners beg leave to refer.

The undersigned have observed a remark in the 25th page of the introductory part of the book, entitled "Land Laws," that no patent has issued on the claim under consideration. With great deference for that authority, the undersigned commissioners cannot but be of opinion that the instrument, under date of the 20th of June, 1797, is a patent, (or what was usually, in Louisiana, denominated a title in form) transferring to the Marquis de Maison Rouge the title, in as full and ample a manner as lands were usually granted by the Spanish Government, subject, however, to the conditions stipulated in his contract with the Government. The plat of survey above referred to will be found subjoined to this report.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy from the report of the Land Commissioners of the western district of Orleans, dated the 14th December, 1812, and that the above claim, with others marked B, are "the second class, comprising claims which, though not embraced by the provisions of the said acts, ought, nevertheless, in the opinion of the Commissioners, to be confirmed in conformity with the laws, usages, and customs of the Spanish Government." Witness my hand, this 6th of December, 1820.

JOSIAH MEIGS,
Commissioner of the General Land Office.

16th CONGRESS. **No. 326.** 2d SESSION.

LAND CLAIMS WEST OF PEARL RIVER.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 3, 1821.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
January 1, 1821.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit, herewith, a copy of the report of the Land Commissioners at St. Helena, dated 18th November, 1820, with lists of claims marked A, B, and C, and a list of settlers; also, a copy of a letter from the Commissioners, dated 18th November, 1820.

I have the honor to be,
Most respectfully, sir,
Your obedient servant,
JOSIAH MEIGS.

The Hon. the PRESIDENT *of the Senate.*

LAND OFFICE, ST. HELENA,
November 18, 1820.

SIR: We have the honor to transmit you a final list of settlement claims, with our corresponding opinions thereupon, marked a C, No. 1. On the subject of claims founded on titles complete or incomplete, and reported by us favorably, we have conceived it unnecessary to subjoin any comments. A majority of them were granted by the Government of Spain prior to 1803. Such as bear date ubsequently to that time have the collateral aids of actual occupancy and cultivation. They will be found under registers A and B, Nos. 2 and 3.

Register C, No. 4, comprehends British patents. No proof has been exhibited by the claimants that there ever was, on their part, a compliance with the requisitions of the law of the 3d of March, 1819. They are respectfully submitted to the consideration of Congress.

A few anomalous claims remain yet in our office, on which we have not yet reported. They were entered within the time limited by law, but unaccompanied by the original title papers; the claimants not having them in their possession when they made their entries, they solicited a short time to enable them, if possible, to procure those titles. We deemed it prudent to grant them this indulgence. They will be reported in time to meet the examination of the present session of Congress. All of which is respectfully submitted.

We have the honor to be, sir, with considerations of high esteem, most respectfully, your obedient servants,

CHARLES S. COSBY.
FULWAR SKIPWITH.

The Hon. JOSIAH MEIGS,
Comm. Gen. Land Office.

A

Register of claims to land in the district west of Pearl river, in Louisiana, said to be derived from British or Spanish authorities, which, in the opinion of the undersigned Register and Receiver, are valid, agreeably to the laws, usages, and customs of said Governments.

No.	Present claimants.	Original claimants.	Nature of claims.	Date of claims.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	Surveyed.		Inhabitation and cultivation.		General remarks.
								When.	By whom.	From	To	
1	R. D. Richardson	David Ross	Spanish patent	22 August, 1796	800	E. B. Rouge	Carondelet	17 Mch. 1796	C. Trudeau			
2	Heirs Margaret Watts	Margaret Watts	Do	19 Jan'ary, 1796	1,000	Do	Do	15 Oct. 1799	V.S.Pintado			
3	Francis Herault, et al.	M. Gayoso de Lemos	Do	15 Sept. 1798	1,000	Do	Do	10 Feb. 1797	C. Trudeau			
4	Joseph Vidal	Peter Goudeau	Do	19 Sept. 1801	600	Feliciana	Morales	31 Aug. 1801	Do			
5	Same	Francis Miranda	Do	10 Feb'ry, 1804	800	Do	Do	27 Oct. 1803	V.S.Pintado	1800	1819	
6	Same	Fernandez de Velasco	Do	16 Sept. 1803	800	Do	Do	25 Oct. 1801	Do			
7	John Kemperlin	John Gana	Do	24 Jan'ary, 1792	243	Do	Carondelet	23 Jan. 1792	C. Trudeau			
8	William Barrow	Thomas Hearne	Do	12 Jan'ary, 1804	385	Do	Morales	15 Dec. 1803	Do	1800	1820	Originally granted in 1789.
9	Same	Thomas M. Green	Do	23 Novem. 1796	240	Do	Carondelet	19 Nov. 1796	Do			
10	John Rhea	William Smith	Do	5 Feb'ry, 1799	480	Do	G. de Lemos	7 Feb. 1799	Do			
11	John Bulher et al.	Benj. Jas. Smith	Do	8 Novem. 1785	2,508½	E. B. Rouge	E. Miro	20 Oct. 1785	Do			
12	John Bulher et al.	David Ross	Do	3 Octob'r, 1786	720	Do	Do	28 Oct. 1785	Do			
13	Heirs John Witlow	John Witlow	Do	3 April, 1793	400	Feliciana	Carondelet	30 Aug. 1793	Do			
14	Heirs Wm. Coleman	John Barclay	Do	20 June, 1793	600	Do	Do	3 Ap'l, 1793	Do			
15	John F. Carmichael	John Barclay	Do	12 June, 1798	255	Do	Do	12 May, 1798	Do			
16	Gilbert Piper	William Leonard	Do	8 July, 1791	400	Do	Do	7 June, 1799	Do	-	-	Certified a true copy by C. Valdez.
17	Heirs Wm. Lintot	William Lintot	Do	4 Feb'ry, 1797	800	Do	Do	3 Feb. 1797	Do			
18	George Kimball	James Stewart	Do	24 Oct. 1797	240	Do	G. de Lemos	24 Mch. 1797	Do			
19	John Baker	Arthur Cobb	Do	9 April, 1790	500	Do	E. Miro	10 Nov. 1798	Do			
20	Same	John Lintot	Do	2 Oct. 1797	800	Do	G. de Lemos	26 Sep. 1797	Do			
21	Alice Mulholan	Alice Mulholan	Do	7 Feb'ry, 1798	500	Do	Do	15 Feb. 1798	Do			
22	Washington White	John Coleman	Do	18 April, 1789	150	Do	E. Miro	15 Ap'l, 1789	Do			
23	Same	Same	Do	18 April, 1789	150	Do	Do	15 Ap'l, 1789	Do			
24	John Ratliffe	Lewis Alston	Do	18 April, 1789	400	Do	Do	13 Dec. 1789	Do			
25	James Perrie	M. S. L. Trudeau	Do	23 Novem. 1796	400	Do	Carondelet	-	-	-	-	Certified copy from the register of the eastern district 10th May, 1818.
26	Heirs of Wm. Dunbar	Charles Todd	Do	20 August, 1794	600	Do	Do	17 Mch. 1794	Do			
27	Same	John Fridge	Do	12 Decem. 1786	240	Do	E. Miro	19 Dec. 1786	Do			
28	James Flower	Herbert Rowel	Do	13 Oct. 1797	800	Do	G. de Lemos	10 Oct. 1797	Do			
29	Same	Archibald Robinson	Do	5 Decem. 1795	400	Do	Carondelet	26 Sept. 1795	Do			
30	Heirs of Samuel Flower	Samuel Flower	Do	5 August, 1797	800	Do	Do	4 Aug. 1797	Do	1796	1820	
31	Heirs of Wm. Weeks	William P. Collins	Do	5 Decem. 1795	640	Do	Do	7 Oct. 1795	Do			
32	Luther Smith	Luther Smith	Do	20 Novem. 1803	250	Do	Morales	15 Nov. 1799	Do			
33	Same	T. & W. Collins	Do	4 Jan'ary, 1804	1,200	Do	Do	10 June, 1799	Do	1800	1820	
34	T. & B. Smith	William Stevens	Do	25 May, 1791	560	Do	E. Miro	24 May, 1791	Do			
35	Same	Same	Do	25 Oct. 1796	400	Do	Carondelet	22 Oct. 1796	Do			
36	John T. Scott	Abraham Lobdell	Do	19 Novem. 1803	500	B. Rouge	Morales	-	-	-	-	
37	Same	Francis Ponssett	Do	2 March, 1793	500	Do	Carondelet			1800	1820	
38	Widow Miranda	Juan Perez	Do	24 Feb'ry, 1810	3a80p18f	Do	Morales	27 Sept. 1809	F. Dupin	1806	1820	
39	William Wikoff	William Wikoff	Do	15 May, 1789	1,000	Do	E. Miro	25 Ap'l, 1789	C. Trudeau			
40	Heirs of Samuel Flower	John Dorth	Do	10 Decem. 1795	500	Feliciana	Carondelet	7 Dec. 1795	Do			
41	Samuel Davis	John Alston	Do	15 Sept. 1793	400	Do	Do	10 Sept. 1793	Do	1800	1820	
42	Rebecca Smith	William Alston	Do	18 April, 1789	400	Do	Miro	15 Ap'l, 1789	Do			

43	Same	Lewis Alston	Do	21 April, 1789	400	Do	Miro	15 Ap'l, 1789	Do				
44	Thomas A. Dortch	John Knowland	Do	15 March, 1804	480	Do	Morales	10 Dec. 1803	V. Pintado	1790	1820	Certified true copy by the register for the east'n dist., 19 Dec., 1817.	
45	Louis Favort et al.	T. P. O. Blanchard	Do	6 Decem. 1788	1,200	B. Rouge	Miro	- -	- -	1790	1820		
46	John Middlemast	Widow Mon Santo	Do	20 August, 1794	600	Feliciana	Carondelet	16 May, 1794	C. Trudeau				
47	Heirs of Landon Davis	Henry Nicholson	British patent	24 July, 1772	200	St. Helena	P. Chester	8 July, 1772	E. Durnford	-	-	Inhabited and cultivated in 1782-'3.	
48	Same	Landon Davis	Do	12 July, 1772	300	Do	Do	5 July, 1772	Do	-	-	Do	do
49	Same	Same	Do	31 Decem. 1775	100	Do	Do	1 July, 1776	Do	-	-	Do	do

CHARLES S. COSBY.
FULWAR SKIPWITH.

The honorable JOSIAH MEIGS, *Commissioner of the General Land Office.*

B.

Register of claims to land in the district west of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on orders of survey, requetes, permissions to settle, or other evidences of claims, which, in the opinion of the undersigned Register and Receiver, ought to be confirmed.

Number.	Present claimant.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim.	Date of claims.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Inhabitation and cultivation. From	Inhabitation and cultivation. To	General remarks.
1	Heirs of El. Beauregard	Elias Beauregard	Order of survey	6 May, 1795	1,000	E. B. Rouge	Carondelet	24 April, 1806	J. C. Kneeland			
2	H's of Pierre Rousseau	Pierre Rousseau	Plat & certificate	-	800	Feliciana	-	25 Feb. 1799	C. Trudeau			
3	Jose de Alamo	Jose de Alamo	Do	-	250	St. Helena	-	9 May, 1806	V. Pintado	1799	1820	
4	C. Luppé	Michael Walsh	Order of survey	19 Feb. 1794	400	E. B. Rouge	Carondelet	8 Feb. 1796	C. Trudeau			
5	V. & D. Bouligny	U. Bouligny	Do	25 Jan. 1797	2,000	Do	Do	15 Dec. 1808	V. Pintado	-	-	Certified true copy by V. S. Pintado, 15 Dec. 1808.
6	Heirs of F. Bouligny	F. Bouligny	Do	6 May, 1783	2,400	Do	E. Miro	15 Dec. 1808	Do			Do. do.
7	Wm. Dewees	G. Rapalje	Plat & certificate	-	200	Do	-	17 Sept. 1785	C. Trudeau	1800	1820	
8	Elizabeth Roach	John Russ	Do	-	200	Do	-	12 Jan. 1799	V. Pintado	1806	1820	
9	Pedro Cussot	Pedro Cussot	Order of survey	27 Oct. 1789	400	St. Helena	E. Miro	26 Jan. 1803	C. Trudeau			
10	A. Brigne	Juan Dias	Plat & certificate	8 March, 1809	250	Do	-	8 March, 1809	V. Pintado	1791	1820	
11	John A. Hiltz	James M. Bradford	Sale	19 Aug. 1819	400	Feliciana	-	-	- -	1800	1820	
12	John Kemperling	Abraham Hutz	Order of survey	20 April, 1806	300	Do	Grand-pré	-	- -	1809	1815	
13	Heirs of H. Richardson	Philip Brashears	Sale	4 May, 1801	490	Do	-	-	- -	1807	1820	
14	Heirs of Garnheart	Michael Garnheart	Order of survey	23 Sept. 1797	400	Do	De Lemos	8 Feb. 1800	V. S. Pintado			
15	Ant'o Hanez	Ant'o Hanez	Plat & certificate	-	300	Baton Rouge	-	21 Oct. 1799	C. Trudeau	1800	1820	
16	Edward Sullivan	Edward Sullivan	Order of survey	18 Sept. 1798	339 8 ps. 5 ft.	Do	De Lemos	30 Dec. 1803	P. Marvin	1800	1820	
17	John Rhea	John Buck	Sale	-	240	Feliciana	-	-	- -	1800	1820	
18	A. Baudin	C. Trudeau	Order of survey	31 Dec. 1788	1,000	Do	Miro	-	- -	-	-	Certified by the register of the E. district, March 24, 1820.
19	Same	Same	Do	31 Dec. 1788	1,000	Do	Do	-	- -	-	-	Do. do.
20	Heirs P. Leibert	P. Leibert	Permission	19 Oct. 1802	4	Do	Saludo	-	- -	1800	1820	
21	John Murdock	John Barnhill	Plat & certificate	-	930	Do	-	20 Dec. 1806	J. C. Kneeland	1797	1820	
22	B. Brewer	John Poiret	Do	-	28	B. Rouge	-	12 Oct. 1804	V. Pintado	1800	1820	
23	P. de la Ronde	C. de Reggio	Order of survey	24 Nov. 1786	1,600	St. Tammany	E. Miro	28 Nov. 1802	C. Trudeau			
24	Same	P. de la Ronde	Plat & certificate	-	800	Do	-	13 July, 1798	Do			

REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

Number.	Present claimant.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim.	Date of claims.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Inhabitation and cultivation.		General remarks.
										From	To	
25	Nicholas Kemperlin	N. Kemperlin -	Plat & certificate	-	401	Feliciana -	-	2 June, 1809	J. C. Kneeland	1807	1820	
26	Michael Williams -	M. Williams -	Do - -	-	400	Do -	-	26 June, 1800	C. Trudeau -	1807	1820	
27	Gilbert Piper -	Do - -	- -	-	Lot 160 feet	Do -	-	17 April, 1810	J. C. Kneeland	1803	1820	
28	John Austin -	John Austin -	Do - -	-	564	Do -	-	-	- -	1807	1820	
29	Antonio Travesos -	E. Randolph -	Sale - -	8 Oct. 1816	240	Do -	-	-	- -	1808	1820	
30	Same - -	Same - -	Do - -	8 Oct. 1816	250	Do -	-	-	- -	1808	1820	
31	Same - -	Same - -	Do - -	8 Oct. 1816	800	Do -	-	-	- -	1808	1820	
32	James Young -	Charles Reardon -	Order of survey	17 Mar. 1795	400	Do -	Carondelet					
33	John Row -	John Row -	Plat & certificate	-	400	Do -	-	15 May, 1806	J. C. Kneeland -	1807	1820	
34	Amos Burnett -	John Burnett -	Do - -	-	1,000	-	-	13 April, 1807	J. Roach -	1807	1820	
35	Hugh Mulholon -	Hugh Mulholon -	Order of survey	18 May, 1796	400	Feliciana -	Carondelet	-	- -	1796	1820	Certified true copy by the register east. dist., Jan. 9, 1818.
36	Sympson & Harbour	John Buhler -	Sale - -	2 April 1796	360	Do -	-	-	- -	-	-	Do do
37	James Perrie -	John Barclay -	Order of survey	14 Oct. 1806	1,000	Do -	Grandpré -	-	- -	1805	1820	
38	Heirs of A. Sterling	Alexander Sterling	Do - -	17 Dec. 1801	Surplus land	Do -	Morales -	-	- -	1801	1820	
39	H. H. Gurley -	Simon Diagre -	Permission -	1787	1,280	E. B. Rouge -	Carondelet	-	- -	1787	1820	
40	James Flower -	Mary Carpenter -	Plat & certificate	-	600	Feliciana -	-	8 May, 1798	C. Trudeau			
41	Levi O. Sholer -	Robert Percy -	Public sale -	20 April, 1817	240	Do -	-	-	- -	1802	1820	
42	Elizabeth Nash -	Cyrus Nash -	Order of survey	11 Nov. 1806	240	St. Helena -	Grandpré -	-	- -	1810	1820	
43	B. Marigny -	P. Marigny -	Do - -	17 Feb. 1797	1,200	Baton Rouge	Carondelet					
44	John Davenport et al.	M. Serry Palao -	Do - -	9 May, 1783	800	Do -	Miro					
45	Mary Lane -	John Ratliffe -	Permission -	13 Nov. 1799	500	Feliciana -	Lemos -	-	- -	1812	1820	
46	Henry Flower -	James Kavenagh -	Order of survey	26 June, 1806	3,420	Do -	Grandpré -	26 July, 1806	J. C. Kneeland -	1807	1820	
47	Hamilton Pollock -	John Cushing -	Plat & certificate	-	400	Do -	-	21 June, 1800	C. Trudeau			
48	Heirs Hugh Conelly	Hugh Conelly -	Order of survey	30 July, 1806	300	Do -	Grandpré -	-	- -	1806	1820	
49	Heirs Samuel Morris	Samuel Morris -	Do - -	7 Feb. 1797	600	Do -	Carondelet	28 July, 1797	Wm Dunbar			
50	David Thomas -	Gab. Blackburn -	Plat & certificate	-	817	Do -	-	21 Aug. 1805	V. S. Pintado -	1806	1820	
51	Ann Kerr -	Ann Kerr -	Order of survey	5 Nov. 1798	400	Do -	G. de Lemos	16 Nov. 1799	C. Trudeau			
52	C. Bingaman -	John Row -	Plat & certificate	-	240	Do -	-	14 Oct. 1790	Wm. Dunbar -	1800	1820	
53	John Bills -	C. Neilson -	Order of survey	30 June, 1806	660	Do -	Grandpré -	12 July, 1806	J. C. Kneeland -	1798	1820	
54	Heirs of C. Bolling -	James Duly -	Plat & certificate	-	320	E. B. Rouge -	-	24 Jan. 1794	C. Bolling			
55	Wm. R. Willis -	Joseph Alamo -	Do - -	-	400	St. Helena -	-	5 May, 1809	V. S. Pintado -	1790	1820	
56	John Delassize -	John Delassize -	Order of survey	April, 1799	500	Feliciana -	De Lemos -	8 May; 1804	Do			
57	Samuel Cuwell -	Thomas Harbour -	Do - -	17 Dec. 1798	396	Do -	Do -	16 Nov. 1799	C. Trudeau			
58	John O'Riely et. al.	John O'Riely -	- -	-	600	Do -	Do -	7 Dec. 1798	Do			
59	John Bacon -	John Bacon -	Recommendation	17 Nov. 1802	150	Do -	Grandpré	-	- -	1802	1820	
60	Isaac Tabor -	Isaac Tabor -	Plat & certificate	-	550	Do -	-	11 Dec. 1804	V. S. Pintado -	1802	1820	
61	Same - -	Same - -	Order of survey	19 Aug. 1806	-	Do -	Do -	-	- -	1812	1820	
62	Kendrick -	Kendrick -	Do - -	20 Sept. 1806	344	St. Helena -	Do -	13 Jan. 1807	J. C. Kneeland	1802	1820	
63	Joyce - -	George Shrier -	Do - -	1 Feb. 1799	250	E. B. Rouge -	De Lemos -	15 Oct. 1799	V. S. Pintado			
64	Peter Garitay -	Antonio Monget -	Plat & certificate	-	Lot 4 acres	Do -	-	23 Jan. 1809	Do -	1805	1820	
65	Same - -	Thomas Pereyra -	Do - -	-	Do	Do -	-	23 Jan. 1809	Do -	1805	1820	
66	Lydia Tessier -	Joseph Dias -	Do - -	-	Lot -	Do -	-	23 Jan. 1809	Do -	1808	1820	
67	Same - -	Jacob Drake -	Do - -	-	Do -	Do -	-	23 Jan. 1809	Do -	1808	1820	

68	John Maillard -	- -	Public sale -	16 June, 1817	100 arpens	Do -	-	- -	- -	1798	1820
69	Joseph del Pino -	Joseph del Pino -	Plat & certificate	-	Lot -	Do -	-	23 Jan. 1809	V. S. Pintado -	1805	1820
70	Diego Quintana -	Diego Quintana -	Do - -	-	Do -	Do -	-	23 Jan. 1809	Do -	1807	1820
71	F. B. Dumontier -	F. B. Dumontier -	Order of survey	15 Sept. 1798	600	Feliciana -	De Lemos				
72	H. H. Gurley, et al. -	Dorothea Fouzer -	Do - -	5 Feb. 1789	400	E. B. Rouge -	E. Miro -	23 Dec. 1792	Wm. Dunbar		
73	S. T. &. R. de Grand-pré	S. T. & R. de Grand-pré	Do - -	13 Oct. 1802	1,500	Do -	Morales -	11 Sept. 1803	C. Trudeau		

LAND OFFICE, ST. HELENA, *November* 18, 1820.

CHARLES S. COSBY.
FULWAR SKIPWITH.

The Hon. JOSIAH MEIGS, *Commissioner General Land Office.*

C.

Register of claims to land in the district west of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on British patents, on which lands no settlements had been proved.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Inhabitation and cultivation. From	To
1	E. W. Durnford -	E Durnford - -	Fiat - -	1 August, 1772	50 arp's	B. R. & St. Helena -	Peter Chester				
2	Rebecca Durnford -	R. Durnford - -	British patent -	28 July, 1772	1,000 -	- -	Do				
3	E. Durnford - -	E. Durnford - -	Do -	30 July, 1772	500 -	- -	Do				
4	Do - -	Do - -	Do -	4 February, 1772	500 -	Do do -	Do				
5	Do - -	Do - -	Do -	24 July, 1772	100 -	- -	Do				
6	Do - -	Do - -	Do -	24 July, 1772	10,000 -	- -	Do				
7	Do - -	Do - -	Do -	30 July, 1772	150 -	- -	Do				
8	Do - -	Do - -	Do -	30 July, 1772	1,000 -	Do do -	Do				
9	Do - -	Do - -	Do -	8 July, 1772	613 -	Do do -	Do				
10	Do - -	Do - -	Do -	24 July, 1772	500 -	Do do -	Do				
11	Do - -	Do - -	Do -	31 July, 1772	300 -	Do do -	Do				
12	Daniel Boardman -	P. Livingston - -	Do -	24 July, 1772	150 -	Do do -	Do				
13	Do - -	Do - -	Do -	14 May, 1772	1,000 -	Do do -	Do				
14	Do - -	Duncan Campbell -	Do -	9 July, 1772	200 -	- -	Do				
15	Do - -	Fr. Downman -	Do -	24 July, 1772	500 -	- -	Do				
16	Do - -	Thos. Usher - -	Do -	9 July, 1772	700 -	- -	Do				
17	Do - -	Rob't Farmer - -	Do -	5 April, 1777	600 -	- -	Do				
18	Do - -	P. Livingston - -	Do -	14 May, 1778	3,000 -	- -	Do				
19	Do - -	Do - -	Do -	14 May, 1778	2,993 -	- -	Do				
20	Do - -	Do - -	Do -	14 May, 1778	2,078 -	- -	Do				
21	Do - -	Do - -	Do -	14 May, 1778	2,000 -	- -	Do				
22	Do - -	Do - -	Do -	14 May, 1778	2,000 -	- -	Do				
23	Do - -	Jonathan Pinney -	Do -	26 October, 1776	470 -	Feliciana -	- -	25 October, 1776	Durnford		
24	Do - -	Do -	Do -	26 October, 1776	450 -	Do -	- -	25 October, 1776	Do		
25	Do - -	Do -	Do -	26 October, 1776	80 -	Do -	Do -	25 October, 1776	Do		
26	Do - -	P. Livingston - -	Do -	14 May, 1778	1,000 -	Do -	Do				

REGISTER OF CLAIMS—Continued.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Inhabitation and cultivation.	
										From	To
27	Daniel Boardman	P. Livingston	British patent	22 July, 1776	922	Feliciana	Peter Chester	19 July, 1776	Dunford		
28	Do	G. Eberhard	Do	14 May, 1778	100	-	-	19 Novem., 1777	Do		
29	Do	Do	Do	14 May, 1778	300	-	Do	5 Decem., 1777	Do		
30	Do	Do	Do	14 May, 1778	400	-	Do	11 Decem., 1777	Do		
31	Do	Do	Do	14 May, 1778	192	-	Do	4 April, 1774	Do		
32	Do	Garret Abeel	Do	17 October, 1775	2,000	-	Do	14 October, 1775	Do		
33	Do	John Marr	Do	4 Novem., 1778	300	-	Do	28 October, 1778	E. Durnford		
34	Do	John A. Martin	Do	24 July, 1772	1,000	Do	Do	29 May, 1772	Do		
35	Do	Do	Do	1 February, 1775	500	Baton Rouge	Do	9 January, 1775	Wilton		
36	Do	Alex. Maccullagh	Lease and release	27 August, 1772	500	Feliciana					
37	Do	Rob't Jowley	British patent	9 July, 1772	600	St. Helena	Do	4 May, 1772	Durnford		
38	Do	Benj'n Dean	Do	1 August, 1772	500	Baton Rouge	Do	1 August, 1772	Do		
39	Do	Do	Do	1 August, 1772	500	St. Helena	Do	1 August, 1772	Do		
40	Do	Edward Carroll	Do	4 August, 1772	600	Feliciana	Do	3 August, 1772	Do		
41	Do	Collin Graham	Lease and release	29 August, 1772	500	Do					
42	Do	Richard Carrique	Do	28 August, 1772	300	Do					
43	Do	P. Livingston	B. patent	9 July, 1772	234	Baton Rouge	Do	15 May, 1772	Durnford		
44	Do	Do	B. patents	10 April, 1777	7,400	Feliciana	Do				
45	Do	Alex'r Legerwood	Lease and release	1 August, 1772	300	Do					
46	Do	John Shortland	Do	31 July, 1772	300	Do					
47	Do	John Crozer	Partition	7 Septem., 1776	500						
48	Do	Rob't Barker	Lease and release	23 March, 1772	300						
49	Do	Do	Do	3 February, 1773	550	Feliciana					
50	Do	Wm. Patterson	Do	23 March, 1773	300	Baton Rouge					
51	Do	Walter Young	Do	23 March, 1773	300						
52	Do	Wm. Barnaby	Do	25 Septem, 1772	300						
53	Do	Do	Do	25 Septem., 1772	500						
54	Do	C. Paul	Do	19 February, 1773	300						
55	Do	Franc's Miller	Do	4 June, 1776	1,000						
56	Thomas Morgan	James Deimer	B. patent	6 May, 1776	1,000	Feliciana	-	24 April, 1776	Do		
57	Alex. Maccullagh	Alex'r Maccullagh	Do	5 May, 1776	500	Do					

LAND OFFICE, ST. HELENA, 18*th November*, 1820.

CHARLES S. COSBY.
FULWAR SKIPWITH.

The Hon. JOSIAH MEIGS, *Commissioner General Land Office.*

Abstract containing a list of the names of settlers on land in that part of Louisiana which lies east of the Mississippi river and west of Pearl river, who have no claims thereto derived from either the French, British, or Spanish Governments.

Parties' names.	Parishes.	Claimants by settlement and purchase.		Time of settlement.	General remarks.
		No. by settlement.	No. by purchase.		
Jacob Bankston	B. Rouge	1	-	- 1806	
William Brumfield	St. Tammany	2	-	- 1813	Cultivated ever since.
John de Arman	Feliciana	3	-	- 1803	
Duffy D. Ray	St. Helena	4	-	- 1804	
Charles Smith	St. Tammany	5	1	- 1807	
Same	Do	6	-	March, 1817	
Tabetha Hogans	Do	7	-	- 1817	
William Lambert	Feliciana	8	-	- 1811	
Alexander Scott	Do	9	-	- 1815	Cultivated since.
William Fleming	St. Helena	10	-	January, 1819	
Richard Carter	Do	11	-	October, 1811	
Aaron Lilly	Feliciana	12	-	October, 1818	
Joseph Dunbar	Do	13	-	- 1819	
Thomas Jackson	Do	14	-	- 1812	
Lubin Stokes	Do	15	-	- 1816	
David Campbell	Do	-	2	- 1812	
Alexander Morrison	Do	-	3	- 1812	
Heirs of Donald McQueen	Do	16	-	- 1804	
Sherard Lee	-	17	-	- 1812	
Janet Howard	Feliciana	18	-	- 1808	
James C. Black	Do	19	-	- 1804	
Alexander McClenen	Do	-	4		
John Power	E. B. Rouge	20	-	- 1812	Cultivated since.
Westley Chambers	Do	21	-	- 1816	Do
Wm. Sharplin	St. Tammany	22	-	- 1811	
John R. Salisbury	St. Helena	23	-	March, 1816	Cultivated since.
Heirs John Browders	Feliciana	-	5	- 1812	
James Owens	Do	24	-	- 1812	
Jesse Bell	Do	25	-	- 1813	
Brazil Bing	Do	-	6	- 1810	
Justin Andrews	Do	26	-	- 1809	
Benjamin Courtney	Do	27	-	- 1817	
Joseph M. Miller	St. Tammany	-	7	- 1813	
John Wm. Heath	St. Helena	28	-	- 1805	
E. Dalton	Do	-	8	- 1810	
B. V. Lisle	Do	29	-	- 1813	Cultivated ever since
Thomas Balley	Feliciana	30	-	- 1811	
William Dennis	Do	31	-	- -	Partially improved.
Zedoch Hawsy	Do	32	-	- 1816	
Charles Ingram	Do	-	9	- 1812	
Peter Rulk	Do	33	-	- 1814	
Henry Tucker	Do	34	-	October, 1813	
William Tucker	Do	35	-	January, 1813	
John Gale	Do	36	-	- 1812	
Beverly Dunn	Do	37	-	January, 1809	
Burrell Hall	Do	38	-	- 1814	
Elisha Harrell	St. Tammany	-	9 & 10	- 1812	
D. Singleton	St. Helena	39	-	- 1818	
John Detart	Feliciana	40	-	October, 1812	
Thomas Waneright	St. Helena	41	-	February, 1820	
John Saunders	St. Tammany	42			
Henry Hughs	Do	43	-	March, 1819	
Same	Do	44	-	- 1817	
V. T. Dalton	E. B. Rouge	45	-	- 1808	
Henry Badon	St. Tammany	46	-	- 1809	
John Roberts	Do	47	-	- 1811	
John Davis	Do	48	-	- 1819	
John Roberts	Do	-	11	- 1819	
Isaac Foster	Feliciana	-	12	- 1806	
William Young	Do	49	-	- 1813	
John Leggo	Feliciana	50	-	- 1812	
Abner Glover	St. Helena	51	-	- 1812	
R. Carter	St. Tammany	-	13	- 1812	
R. Higginbotham	Do	-	14	- 1812	
Samuel Harbour	E. B. Rouge	-	15	- 1805	
John Wilson	Feliciana	52	-	- 1807	
N. Marsh	Do	53	-	- 1810	
Landon Sevier	E. B. Rouge	54	-	- 1818	
George Jackson	Do	55	-	- 1814	
Same	Do	-	16	- 1813	
David Jackson	Do	56	-	- 1812	
Jacob Russell	St. Tammany	57	-	- 1818	
Wm. M. Dermott	Do	58	-	- 1815	
John Thingpen	Do	59	-	- 1816	
Hugh Montgomery	Do	60	-	- 1817	
Benjamin Hart	Do	61	-	- 1819	
Charles Ingram	Feliciana	-	17		
Benjamin Hutchinson	St. Helena	62	-	- 1812	
A. Quillin	Do	-	18	- 1806	
John Barklay	St. Tammany	-	19	- 1800	
Wm. Robertson	Do	63	-	- 1816	
J. Robertson et al.	Do	64	-	- 1817	
James Pate	Do	65	-	- 1819	

ABSTRACT—Continued.

Parties' names.	Parishes.	Claimants by settlement and purchase.		Time of settlement.	General remarks.
		No. by settlement.	No. by purchase.		
Thomas Barnes	St. Tammany	66	-	1818	
B. Garthne	Do	67	-	1818	
James Powers	E. B. Rouge	68	-	1812	
Cline, Peter, and Thomas	Do	69	-	1800	
M. Bronson	Feliciana	70	-	1817	
John Rhodes	Do	-	20	1820	
B. Collins	Do	71	-	1799	
John Mayfield	St. Tammany	72	-	1818	
John Irwin	Do	73	-	1809	
James Murphy	Do	74	-	1811	
John Dicks	Do	75	-	1809	
George Gordon	St. Helena	76	-	1807	
Dalton and Browder	Feliciana	77	-	1809	
Same	Do	-	21	1807	
A. Jones	St. Helena	-	22	1809	
John Speller	Do	78	-	1811	
M. Wells	Feliciana	79	-	1817	
A. Hats	Do	-	23	1812	
E. Cotrea	St. Tammany	80	-	1812	
P. Taylor	Do	81	-	1816	
B. Garthmer	Do	82	-	1819	
Heirs P. Kemp	St. Helena	83	-	1808	
D. Kemp	-	84 & 85	-	1812	
Heirs of T. Richardson	St. Tammany	86	-	1801	
A. Toney	Do	-	24	1812	
John Wood	Do	87	-	1817	
T. Wells	Do	-	25	1818	
T. Mitchell	Do	88	-	1810	
G. Mitchell	Do	89 & 90	-	1812	
S. Blackwell	Do	91	-	1812	
W. Johnson	Feliciana	92	-	1810	
W. Cooper	St. Tammany	-	26	1817	
M. Spiller	St. Helena	93	-	1812	
W. McKenney	Feliciana	94	-	1815	
S. Thompson	St. Helena	95	-	1819	
S. Sattoon	Do	-	27	1815	
R. Kirkland	Do	96	-	16 November, 1816	
George Ellis	St. Tammany	97	-	1810	
Isaac Roberts	Do	98	-	1817	
James Miller	Do	-	28	1812	
E. Clark	Do	-	29	1818	
J. Miller	Do	-	30	1818	
W. C. Warner	Do	99	-	1819	
G. Smith	Do	-	31	1812	
R. Parker	Do	-	32	1813	
Samuel Barber	Do	100	-	1819	
William Barber	Do	101	-	1820	
William Donaho	Do	-	33	1816	
W. Higginborough	Feliciana	102	-	1815	
John Austin	Do	103	-	1820	
E. Trise	Do	104	-	1819	
George Keller	Do	105	-	1811	
D. Wright	St. Tammany	-	34	1812	
D. Wright	Do	-	35	1812	
T. Canin	Do	106	-	1803	
Andrew Hughes	Feliciana	107	-	1803	
Same	Do	108	-	1803	
Heirs Samuel Jones	Do	109	-	1804	
John Branton	Do	-	36	1805	
B. McWaters	Do	-	37	1819	
A. Webb	Do	-	38	1817	
W. Leach	St. Helena	110	-	1812	
William Folker	Feliciana	111	-	1817	
William Newman	Do	112	-	1812	
Samuel Watkins	Do	-	39	1813	
William Brown	St. Tammany	113	-	1820	
John Johnston	St. Helena	-	40	1810	
E. Norwood	Feliciana	114	-	1817	
A. Hernandez	St. Helena	115	-	1810	
R. Hart	Do	116	-	1816	
John Sims	Do	117	-	1810	
Stephen Garret	Do	118	-	1819	
Nathaniel Maples	St. Tammany	-	41	1815	
Margaret Carpenter	Do	119	-	1816	
John Tanner	Do	120	-	1810	
John Sluhra	Do	121	-	1820	
A. Wright	Do	122	-	1817	
Ebenezer Ford	Do	123	-	1817	
Same	Do	-	42	1810	
W. Morris	Do	124	-	1818	
E. Cooley	Do	125	-	1817	
John Harvey	Do	126	-	1818	
A. Bookter	St. Helena	-	43	1814	
Same	Do	-	44	1807	
Same	Do	-	45	1803	

ABSTRACT—Continued.

Parties' names.	Parishes.	Claimants by settlement and purchase.		Time of settlement.	General remarks.
		No. by settlement.	No. by purchase.		
A. Bookter - - -	St. Helena -	-	46	- 1808	
Same - - -	Do -	-	47	- 1808	
Same - - -	Do -	-	48	- 1808	
Same - - -	Do -	-	49	- 1808	
Same - - -	Do -	-	50	- 1810	
Robert Makay - -	St. Tammany -	127	-	- 1819	
Thomas Robertson - -	Do -	128	-	- 1817	
John C. White - -	Feliciana -	129	-	- 1812	
H. Jones - - -	St. Tammany -	-	51	- 1814	
William Sullivan - -	St. Helena -	130	-	- 1812	
Lucretia Burnett - -	St. Tammany -	131	-	- 1818	
Rice Wells - - -	Do -	132	-	- 1817	
T. Pitts - - -	Feliciana -	133	-	- 1812	

LAND OFFICE AT ST. HELENA, 18*th Nov.* 1820.

CHARLES S. COSBY.
FULWAR SKIPWITH.

The honorable JOSIAH MEIGS, *Comm. Gen. Land Office.*

LAND OFFICE, ST. HELENA,
November 18, 1820.

SIR: We have the honor, herewith, to enclose you a final list of all the settlement claims entered in this land office since our last report of a similar nature. In that report we respectfully submitted our opinions relatively to the extension of pre-emptional claims down to the 3d of March, 1819. We again beg leave to repeat our conviction that such a provision would essentially aid the population and prosperity of this section of Louisiana. A major part of the claimants, who have settled subsequently to 1814, are poor, and consequently would be unable to maintain a competition with a rich bidder. Although the lands on which they have made their improvements are generally poor, still those very improvements on which they have expended their time and labor, will, in many cases, be sufficient to excite the cupidity of their wealthy neighbors. They cannot require the recognition of their claims of right; but we hope that where they are only opposed by the United States' title, that title will be relinquished for the present established prices. Such a provision we believe will give general satisfaction, and interfere but very partially with the revenue of the Government. Such are our opinions on this subject, in which we are joined by a large majority of the inhabitants of our district. In relation to settlements made anteriorly to the 15th April, 1813, we conceive it unnecessary to make any remarks. Under the present law they are, when fairly made, entitled to donations. Whether the entries which they have made contain a fair representation of their several claims, is a fact which can only be ascertained by a future investigation. We have found it necessary to note all applications for entries, and to report them accordingly. We trust that no difficulty can grow out of this course, in as much as the person who applies for a certificate under any future law which may be passed, will, of course, be required to show by sufficient testimony that he is entitled to it. To designate absolutely at this time every claim which was settled before the 15th of April, 1813, would be paving the way for the commission of many errors. When the temptation is great, it is frequently dangerous to trust a man's own evidence, or even the evidence of his witnesses. Poverty and the seductions of interest are powerful instigators to the commission of perjury. We have experienced the truth of this proposition, in exercising the power which the law gives us of issuing certificates to settlers. This class of claimants exhibited their claims to the former Commissioner, (acting under the law, 25th April, 1812,) under the obligation of an oath. In issuing certificates on such entries, we also required the best testimony that could be procured. Notwithstanding all the care we could possibly exercise, we have been frequently subject to the grossest impositions. For this reason we have thought it prudent to report the late entries provisionally. Any law confirming positively designated entries, would most probably require frequent revision and alterations. To most of the settlers reported by our predecessor, (James O. Cosby,) certificates have issued. They have been numbered and registered agreeably to the requisitions of the law, and the forms which we had the honor to receive from you at the time that we commenced our duties. For the first five or six months after the opening of our office, the daily multitude of applications which were made, required our undivided and unremitting attention. We frequently had twenty and thirty persons waiting at the same time. Under this continued press of business, it was impossible to make the monthly returns required by the law. So soon as it was practicable, a list of the certificates issued was made out, and accompanied our first report of settlement claims. Of the fate of that report, as well as of the last containing the abstract or analysis of claims entered with us, said to be derived from the French, British, or Spanish authorities, and also of such claims as had been renewed, we were entirely ignorant until we ascertained from the National Intelligencer that these reports had been forwarded by you to the Speaker of the House of Representatives. We presume that this circumstance is to be attributed to the many failures of the mail. After the expiration of the time mentioned, every day presented some remonstrance or protest against particular certificates which had been granted. Aware that the Government of the United States wished to make an equal and impartial distribution of the lands which had been thus liberally and voluntarily given away, we thought it proper to notify the persons against whom such complaints were lodged to come forward ,and establish their pretensions by sufficient testimony, or consider their certificates as null and void. In doing this, we considered ourselves pursuing strictly the spirit of the law in attempting to render that justice which it contemplated. Hence this necessity of frequently revising our acts rendered it impossible to make monthly returns without committing innumerable blunders, which would have required continual communications to you requesting their correction. Unwilling to assume power on the one hand, and anxious on the other to accomplish as far as possible the ends of our appointment, we deemed it prudent to issue certificates even on doubtful grounds, but to direct the surveyors not to survey any settlement claims, even if the applicants had certificates, without previously obtaining from our office a catalogue of such certificates as we considered, after giving time for scrutiny, unquestionably valid. This course we believed would give time to all parties interested to enter their opposition, and also leave in our hands a controlling check upon the designing and dishonest. Were the surveyors, in every instance, to take our certificates immediately after they issued as full proof of title, many errors would be committed, and the foundation laid for much future trouble and perplexity. The monthly returns, requiring a strict correspondence with the register, can only be made accurately when time and examination has tested the correctness of each individual certificate. We trust, sir, this course will meet your approbation. It was adopted under the belief that it would add many facilities to the final and satisfactory adjustment of land claims in this important section of

the Union. The law of the 3d of March, 1819, establishes our offices permanently and unconditionally at St. Helena court-house. This provision was doubtless predicated on the belief that that place would meet the general convenience of the district. Such was then the fact, but it no longer exists. By a reference to the report of the former Commissioner, (James O. Cosby,) it will be seen that a very large proportion of the claims emanating from titles either British or Spanish, complete or incomplete, are situated in the parishes of Feliciana and East Baton Rouge. The most of the settlement claims lie in St. Helena and St. Tammany. For the last, certificates have generally issued; for the former but a few. In relation to entries made under the late law, nothing can be done until the decision of Congress shall be known. From the Mississippi river, the western boundary of the first named parishes (Feliciana and East Baton Rouge) to St. Helena court-house, is a distance of from fifty to eighty miles. Believing that an office in the town of East Baton Rouge would be a general accommodation to all persons who are now interested in it, and complying with the general expression of their wishes, we have thought it advisable provisionally to establish the office there. Four-fifths of the claimants now concerned live within thirty miles of Baton Rouge. We trust, sir, the reasons assigned are sufficient to justify the step we have taken. There are others, of a local nature, which have given us much perplexity. As many of the claimants speak the French language only, and most of the original written evidences of claim are in the Spanish, a translator, in whose capacity and fidelity the utmost confidence may be placed, is indispensably necessary. The gentleman whom we employed, (Francis Herault,) possesses those qualifications in an eminent degree. He is liberally educated, has resided long in this country, and is extensively acquainted with the laws, usages, and customs of the Spanish Government. Possessing such recommendations, and standing high in the estimation of the district generally, he rendered us, in the discharge of our duties, essential and valuable services. He has left us, and to procure such another would certainly be extremely difficult, if not impossible. He resigned, because he could not be reconciled to what he conceived were the many impositions practised on him by the person with whom he boarded. The village (St. Helena court-house) is situated in a very poor country, and the accommodations afforded by it very indifferent. The owner of the only public house where it is practicable to live, is a man whose habits are very irreconcilable with the enjoyment of quiet or comfort. In his sphere he may be a very useful man, but he is not qualified to entertain boarders who are unwilling to participate in the noise and devilry of a boisterous landlord, continually surrounded by a company of drunkards and blackguards. Educated in the course of life which he pursues, he is not sensible perhaps that his conduct is objectionable, and therefore may be excused: but this is no diminution of the relative evil. Our local objections to a permanent residence at St. Helena court-house may possibly seem trivial, but we really have experienced them to be of the most unpleasant and harassing nature. A wish to escape the imputation of rashness induces us to be thus minutely particular. In Baton Rouge we can obtain again the services of Mr. Herault as a clerk. Without a clerk, agreeably to the forms and instructions which we had the honor to receive from you, no certificate can issue, his attestation being necessary. The population of our district (Feliciana and Baton Rouge excepted) is dispersed over a considerable extent of country. From ten to twenty miles frequently intervene between the settlements in the same parish. A large proportion of the settlers whose claims have been reported by us are poor, and find it both difficult and expensive to travel any distance even on imperative business. We would therefore, with deference, suggest that the law which Congress may pass for the adjustment of the last entries, as well as for the final conclusion of such as have been acted on, should authorize the register and receiver to hold their respective offices in each parish successively. Such a provision would certainly accelerate the termination of the business, and would be a general accommodation to the people concerned, as each parish would require a continuance in it proportioned to the business to be done: that continuance would have to be regulated by the register and receiver. The exercise of this discretionary power would, of course, be restrained and governed by the time which the law may allow for the entire completion of the business. When the sales of land take place, a permanent office in St. Helena would be ineligible, because dangerous: neither the village nor parish afford any safe depository for the moneys which may be received. As Commissioners, as well as citizens of this district, we feel it our duty to impart any information which may even collaterally assist in effecting (what is so desirable) the conclusive and satisfactory arrangement of its land claims. For this reason we respectfully submit the following remarks relatively to the situation, soil, and character of the different parishes constituting our district. Feliciana is bounded on the west by the Mississippi river, on the south by a line running due east and west, commencing on the Mississippi, and intersecting the Amite river, its eastern boundary, at right angles. This line separates it from the parish of East Baton Rouge, its southern boundary. For its northern boundary it has the line of demarcation dividing it from the State of Mississippi. The lands in this parish are generally fertile, affording, in every respect, the most flattering encouragement to agricultural and commercial pursuits. The western boundary (the Mississippi) supplies a speedy and safe transportation for its produce to New Orleans. The principal staple commodity is cotton. The soil is also excellently adapted to the production of corn, esculent roots, and generally to vegetables of every description. This parish, with the exception of a few sterile spots, is thickly settled. The inhabitants are generally farmers, and many of them wealthy. They are almost entirely Americans. In their respective pursuits, they are persevering and industrious, hospitable, and generally well affected towards the General Government. The first settlers were mostly adventurers for fortune's favors, poor and illiterate; of course, the accumulation of wealth alone arrested their attention, and gave energy to their efforts. Having proved successful in acquiring a competency, they now evince a laudable anxiety to give their children an education, the serious wants of which they have so often and painfully experienced. The present rising generation having their views enlarged by education, connected with each other by a variety of ties and relations, amalgamating their interest and policy, will, in a few years, form an excellent state of society.

East Baton Rouge is stuated on the Mississippi river, (western boundary;) bounded by the parish of Feliciana on the north, east by the river Amite, and on the south by the river Iberville, which opens a communication with Lakes Maurepas and Pontchartrain. Between the soil of this parish and that of Feliciana there is but a partial difference. Their productions are nearly the same, except, perhaps, the sugar cane, which is supposed to succeed better in the former than the latter. The lands, though extremely rich, require the aid of ditches before they can be rendered completely susceptible of cultivation. When this object is accomplished, their fertility is almost inexhaustible. The population of this parish bears no proportion to the many inducements which it offers to the industrious and enterprising. This fact, we presume, is materially attributable to the large grants of land which were made by the Spanish Government from (as we suppose) sinister views, during the years 1804, '5, '6, and '7. Few persons were willing to adventure their time and labor on a plantation from which they knew not at what moment, they might be evicted. Their entire want of confidence also in the honor and integrity of the Spanish Government induced them to remove as far as possible from its capital, (East Baton Rouge.) Hence this parish, with the exception of the margin of the Mississippi river, is but thinly settled. The population is of a mixed character, Americans, French, and Spaniards: the Americans have a majority. The French and Spaniards reside principally in the town of Baton Rouge and its immediate vicinage. They are inoffensive people, principally engaged in agricultural pursuits, and disposed to contribute their share to the support of a Government which protects them. Though they may not boast of all the refinements of cultivated society, they are equally removed from that *barbarism* of which they have been accused. Their posterity will, no doubt, coalesce with the Americans; and, in a few years, the line of division which now gives them a specific distinction will be forgotten. Hospitality to strangers, and kindness towards each other, are their prominent characteristics. The American inhabitants are generally poor, and such as claim their lands by virtue of settlements: they are a hardy, honest, adventurous race of men, warmly devoted to their farms, submitting with cheerfulness and alacrity to all the requisitions of the law, and ready at all times to prove themselves *Americans*. The state of society has been indifferent, but is now improving: societies composed of emigrants and foreigners, from different quarters of the world, require a considerable length of time to produce a complete coalition. The materials are too incongruous to harmonize at once. The town of Baton Rouge is a flourishing vil-

lage, and the seat of justice for the parish. A large proportion of its occupants are engaged in the mercantile business. It is usually considered the most healthy site on the Mississippi river. St. Helena lies between the rivers Amite and Tangepaho, (western and eastern boundaries,) having for its northern boundary the line of demarcation, and its southern Lake Maurepas. Travelling from the Mississippi eastwardly, upon entering this parish the country assumes a new and widely different appearance. In the parishes already described, the face of the country is occasionally broken, and the growth principally cypress, magnolia, different species of oak, ash, walnut, hickory, holly, sassefras, and poplar. In the latter parish the lands are uniformly level, and the soil, generally speaking, of very inferior quality. The only lands which are now cultivated lie on the margin of the different water courses bounding and running through the parish. The growth is almost entirely pine. The time may possibly arrive when those lands will sell. At present they are mostly unclaimed, and, we presume, will continue so for many years: nothing but a monopoly of the rich Territories of the United States can render them saleable. Stock, tar, and pitch, are the only commodities which can be expected from pine woods. There are, probably, on the lake some eligible places, commanding an extensive range, and affording an easy communication with Orleans, which will be purchased. We speak of the lands generally. This parish is almost entirely inhabited by Americans: they are poor, but constitute a very valuable class of citizens.

St. Tammany is bounded on the east by Pearl river, on the west by Tangipato, north by the line of demarcation, and south by the Lakes Maurepas and Pontchartrain. The remarks made relatively to St. Helena, both as to the soil and inhabitants, are equally applicable to this parish. The only cultivable lands are situated on the different streams by which it is watered: the only principal streams are its eastern and western boundaries, and the rivers Bogue Chitto and Tchefonti. The latter is navigable fifteen or twenty miles from its confluence with Lake Pontchartrain. The other, it is presumable, might be rendered so for small craft, if proper exertions were made for that purpose. The lands lying on the margin of Lake Pontchartrain, embracing Tchefonti as far as it is navigable, are generally covered by English and Spanish grants, which have received the confirmation of the United States. The settlement claims are to be found wherever there are tillable lands. The section of the country which we have thus attempted to describe is probably as healthy as any part of Louisiana, or of the western country. The climate is equable and the atmosphere generally clear. Its humidity (occasioned, probably, by extensive swamps on the Mississippi,) is not sufficiently great to generate disease, except immediately on that river. After passing the Amite river, the boundary between the river and interior parishes, the inhabitants are scarcely acquainted with disease, except occasional intermittents of the mildest character. We trust that these remarks will not be deemed inapplicable, when it is recollected that they may tend, in some degree, to elucidate the history of a part of Louisiana which we do conceive to be of great importance, not only to the State of which it is an integral part, but also to the General Government. It is here only that we can rationally expect, for many years, to find a pure and united American population. Agricultural pursuits are certainly better calculated to form a bold and virtuous yeomanry than the speculations of the merchant or the avocations of the learned. Agriculture here must necessarily be, for a long time, the almost exclusive object of interest and energy. It is of essential concern to Louisiana that there should be, in some part of her interior, a force sufficient to protect her from a domestic foe whose numbers and force are daily accumulating. The General Government is also interested: on Louisiana as an outward sentinel of the Union in times of invasion and danger from a foreign or domestic foe, much has depended, and may depend again. To be prepared for such an event, is certainly the dictate of wisdom and sound policy. Towards the accomplishment of those important objects a compact and numerous population in Florida will, we believe, materially contribute. It will aid the arm of its own Government, and give to her a genuine American character devoted to the constitution, and well prepared to defend it. Influenced by these considerations we have made this digression, and will conclude it by respectfully, but earnestly, recommending the Government to pursue such a course as will speedily terminate all uncertainty about land titles, and encourage emigration to this country so long harassed by doubt and inquietude. The daily acquisition of territory making by the United States renders such a course an object of peculiar interest to the people of our district: emigration to our country has already been checked by its reputation for uncertainty in its land titles. The only antidote to this evil is the extinction of that uncertainty. Great uneasiness has been excited among the settlers in consequence of the confliction of their claims. It was a prevalent custom with them, when about to occupy unappropriated lands, to agree with the adjoining settlers upon what they called conditional lines. By these lines they were governed in the improvements which they made: where the lands are tolerably fertile, the settlements are so thickly made that it will be impossible for each claimant to obtain the number of acres conceded him by the Government, without comprehending in his survey his neighbor's farm. There are frequently as many as three settlers (all having certificates) on the same section. In some instances the oldest settler identified the place where a subsequent one might fix himself. In others the settlement was made violently. In laying off the lands into sections, it frequently happens that the sectional line runs through a man's farm, and some times through his house. This difficulty confines itself exclusively to such settlers as have received donations. The surveys of pre-emptional claims will, of course, be governed by such as have been confirmed. We will conclude by expressing our belief that the late liberal and judicious act of Congress, altering and regulating the prices of public lands, will prove equally beneficial to the revenue of the United States and to the interest of the purchasers.

We have the honor to be, sir, with considerations of esteem, respectfully, your obedient servants,

CHARLES S. COSBY.
FULWAR SKIPWITH.

The Hon. JOSIAH MEIGS,
Commissioner of the General Land Office.

16th CONGRESS. **No. 327.** 2d SESSION.

CLAIMS TO LOTS IN THE VILLAGE OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 10, 1821.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
10th January, 1821.

SIR: In conformity with the provisions of the act of the fifteenth of May, 1820, for the relief of the inhabitants of the village of Peoria, in the State of Illinois, I have the honor to submit the report of the register of the district of Edwardsville upon the claims exhibited under the said act, with the substance of the evidence in support thereof.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully, sir,
Your obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

The Hon. the PRESIDENT
of the Senate.

LAND OFFICE AT EDWARDSVILLE,
November 10, 1820.

SIR: In compliance with an act of Congress entitled "An act for the relief of the inhabitants of the village of Peoria, in the State of Illinois," I have the honor to transmit to you a report of seventy claims to lots in Peoria, and the substance of the evidence in support thereof, which have been received, and now remain on file in my office; to which I must add my regrets at the insurmountable difficulties I have met with in complying with a provision of this law which requires me to make out a list of such claims as, in my opinion, ought to be confirmed. The law not having defined the nature of the claims intended to be confirmed, nor prescribed any rule of adju-

dication, nor referred to any laws or usages by which I was to be governed in forming an opinion, I have been at a loss to determine upon what principles to decide, and have therefore been compelled to omit making out a list of such claims as, in my opinion, ought to be confirmed. I have, however, added to the report a tabular statement showing at one view the character of all and each of the claims, from which, after having decided what date or length of possession shall give a title to the occupant, it will be easy to select the particular claims which should be confirmed.

Believing that the chief object of Congress in passing the law was to obtain information as to the nature of the claims to lots in Peoria, I have endeavored to collect all the information which could be obtained, and to transcribe it in detail in the report of evidence herewith transmitted. And to guard as far as possible against inaccuracies or frauds, and to obtain as full and correct information as practicable, I desired that the testimony should be taken in my presence, except where advanced age or infirmity, or the remoteness of the witnesses, rendered their attendance at my office inconvenient. With a few exceptions, all the depositions have been thus taken; and the evidence, though sometimes contradictory, and no doubt often inaccurate as to dates, will, in general, be found as consistent as could reasonably have been expected, considering the length of time which has elapsed, and the illiterate character of most of the deponents.

The old village of Peoria was situated on the northwest shore of Lake Peoria, about one mile and a half above the lower extremity or outlet of the lake. This village had been inhabited by the French previous to the recollection of any of the present generation. About the year 1778 or 1779, the first house was built in what was then called La Ville de Maillet, afterwards the New Village of Peoria, and of late the place has been known by the name of Fort Clark, situated about one mile and a half below the old village, immediately at the lower point or outlet of Lake Peoria. The situation being preferred in consequence of the water being better, and its being thought more healthy, the inhabitants gradually deserted the old village, and, by the year 1796 or 1797, had entirely abandoned it, and removed to the new village.

The inhabitants of Peoria consisted generally of Indian traders, hunters, and voyagers, and had formed a link of connection between the French residing on the waters of the great lakes and the Mississippi river. From that happy facility of adapting themselves to their situation and associates, for which the French are so remarkable, the inhabitants of Peoria lived generally in harmony with their savage neighbors. It would seem, however, that, about the year 1781, they were induced to abandon the village from the apprehension of Indian hostility; but soon after the peace of 1783, they again returned, and continued to reside there until the autumn of the year 1812, when they were forcibly removed from it, and the place destroyed, by a Captain Craig of the Illinois militia, on the ground, as it was said, that him and his company of militia were fired on in the night while at anchor in their boats before the village, by Indians, with whom the inhabitants were suspected by Craig to be too intimate and friendly.

The inhabitants of Peoria it would appear, from all I can learn, settled there without any grant or permission from the authority of any Government; that the only title they had to their land was derived from possession, and that the only value attached to it grew out of the improvements placed upon it; that each person took to himself such portion of unoccupied land as he wished to occupy and cultivate, and made it his by incorporating his labor with it; but as soon as he abandoned it his title was understood to cease with his possessions and improvements, and it reverted to its natural state, and was liable again to be improved and possessed by any one who should think proper. This, together with the itinerant character of the inhabitants, will account for the number of persons who will frequently be found, from the testimony contained in the report, to have occupied the same lot, many of whom, it will be seen, present conflicting claims.

As is usual in French villages, the possessions in Peoria consisted generally of village lots, on which they erected their buildings and made their gardens, and of out-lots or fields in which they cultivated grain, &c. The village lots contained in general about one half of an arpent of land; the out-lots or fields were of various sizes, depending upon the industry or means of the owner to cultivate more or less land. As neither the old or new village of Peoria were ever formally laid out, nor had defined limits assigned them, it is impossible to have of them an accurate map. I have, however, sketched off one founded on the testimony received in support of the claims, and from the information obtained from the most intelligent of the former inhabitants of the place; and though I am aware of its inaccuracy, yet I am induced to forward it along with the report, as it will tend to show the claims, and elucidate the testimony in support of them. I have not been able to ascertain with precision on what particular quarter sections of the military survey these claims are situated. It is believed, however, that the greater part of the land covered both by the old and new villages are in fractional quarter sections, and that the out-lots or fields are included in quarter sections which have been granted as bounty lands to the soldiers of the late war.

I am very respectfully,
EDWARD COLES,
Register of the Land Office at Edwardsville.

To WILLIAM H. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of the Treasury of the U. S.

REPORT.

In obedience to an act of Congress, entitled "An act for the relief of the inhabitants of the village of Peoria, in the State of Illinois," approved May 15, 1820, the register of the land office at Edwardsville has the honor of laying before the Secretary of the Treasury the following report of claims, and the substance of the evidence in support thereof, which have been received, and now remain on file in his office.

No. 1.—Etienne Bernard claims a lot in the village of Peoria, containing about one arpent of land, situate about 40 or 50 yards south of the lot of Joseph Graveline, and bounded eastwardly by a road or street, separating it from the lower part of Lake Peoria; southwardly by a road separating it from a lot occupied by John Baptiste Maillet, and westwardly and northwardly by commons or prairie.

Proof. Tousant Soulard and Joseph Graveline testify, on oath, that Etienne Bernard improved and cultivated a lot of one or two arpens of land in Peoria, which they describe as above, about the year 1778, and continued to cultivate the same for about ten years, when he was driven off the premises by the depredations of the Indians.

Remark. The evidence in this case was not taken in the presence of the register; the deponents being (it was said) too old and infirm to attend at his office. Judging from its situation, the above lot must have been afterwards built upon and occupied by Francis Wilette, and now claimed by Louis Pilette. See claim No. 11.

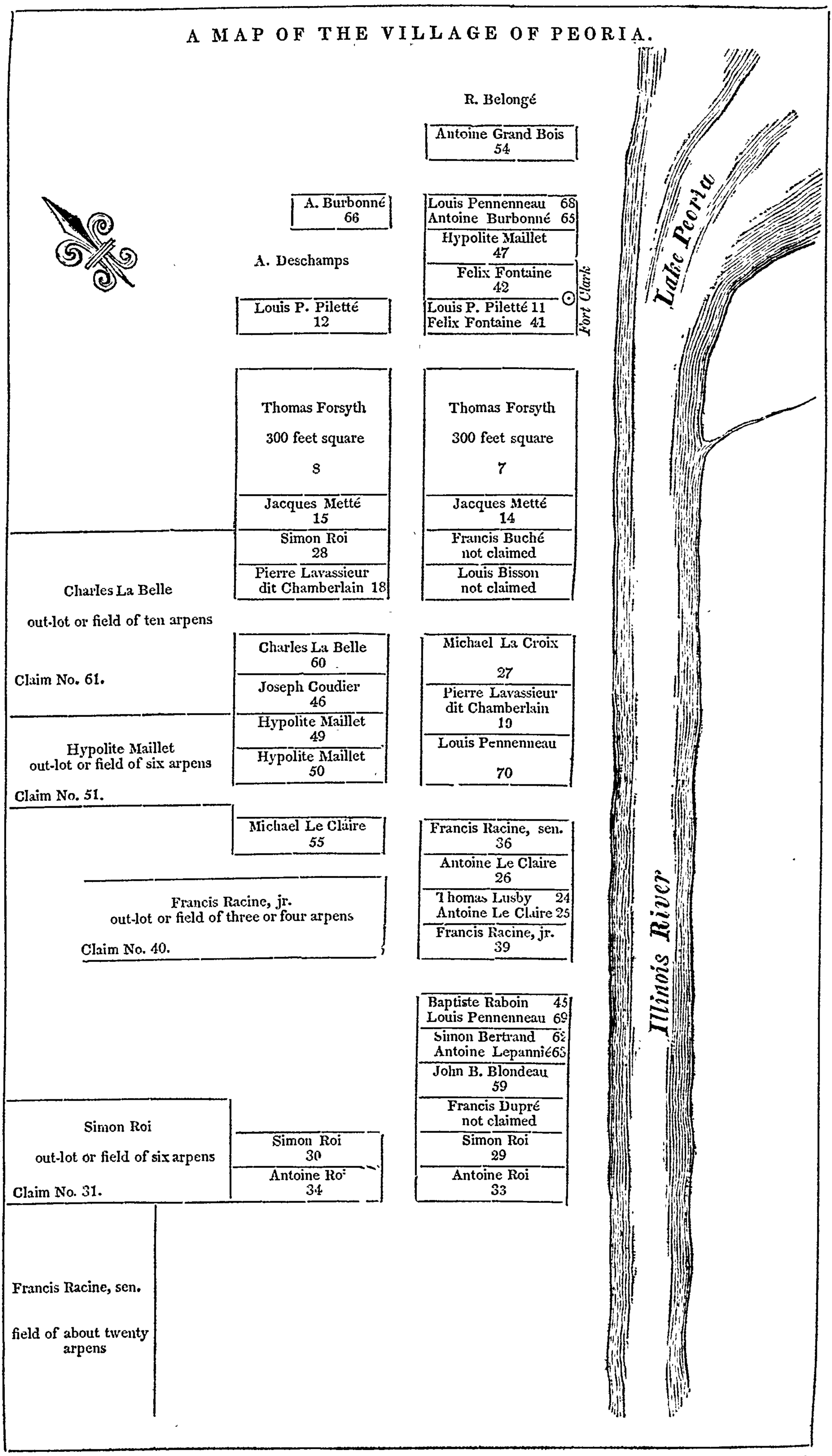
No. 2.—Augustine Roque claims a lot in Peoria, containing about one arpent of land, and bounded northwardly by a lot occupied by John Baptiste Maillet, eastwardly by a road separating it from the Illinois river, and southwardly and westwardly by the prairie.

Proof. Etienne Bernard testifies, on oath, that Augustine Roque, deceased, did, the year before the conquest of the country by Colonel Clark, build a house on and improve the above described lot in Peoria, which lot contained about one arpent of land; and that the said Roque continued to reside thereon for ten or twelve years, when he was driven from it by the depredations of the Indians. And the said Bernard further testifies that the above named Augustine Roque, who claims this lot, is the son of the late Augustine Roque of Peoria. And Tousant Soulard testifies, on oath, that one Augustine Roque did settle and cultivate (but at what time is not stated) a lot described as above in Peoria, and continued to reside on the same for at least ten years, when he was forced to remove by the depredations of the savages.

Remark. The above described lot must have been afterwards improved and cultivated; and it is probable it covered a part of the land embraced by the lots which are now claimed by Forsyth & Mette. See claims No. 7, and No. 14.

No. 3.—Gabriel Latreille, as guardian of Charlotte Troge, who has lost her reason, and who was wife to Pierre Troge, deceased, and daughter of the late Antoine Saint Francis, claims a lot containing about two arpens of lands situated about two miles above Fort Clark, and near the old fort of Peoria, and bounded eastwardly by Lake Peoria, northwardly by a lot of Francis Novelle (or Loval,) southwardly by Pascal Chevallier, and westwardly by prairie.

Proof. Baptiste Graza and Charlotte Lonigo testify, on oath, that Antoine St. Francis, deceased, did settle and cultivate a lot containing near two arpens of land, situated and bounded as above described, and, to the best of their recollection, resided on the same above twelve years, when he was driven from the premises by the depredations of the Indians, which they state was, to the best of their recollection, about forty years since.


A MAP OF THE VILLAGE OF PEORIA.
R. Belongé
Antoine Grand Bois 54
A. Burbonné 66
Louis Pennenneau 68
Antoine Burbonné 65
Hypolite Maillet 47
A. Deschamps
Felix Fontaine 42
Louis P. Piletté 12
Louis P. Piletté 11
Felix Fontaine 41
Fort Clark
Thomas Forsyth 300 feet square 8
Thomas Forsyth 300 feet square 7
Jacques Metté 15
Jacques Metté 14
Simon Roi 28
Francis Buché not claimed
Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain 18
Louis Bisson not claimed
Charles La Belle out-lot or field of ten arpens
Claim No. 61.
Charles La Belle 60
Michael La Croix 27
Joseph Coudier 46
Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain 19
Hypolite Maillet 49
Hypolite Maillet out-lot or field of six arpens
Hypolite Maillet 50
Louis Pennenneau 70
Claim No. 51.
Michael Le Claire 55
Francis Racine, sen. 36
Antoine Le Claire 26
Francis Racine, jr. out-lot or field of three or four arpens
Thomas Lusby 24
Antoine Le Claire 25
Claim No. 40.
Francis Racine, jr. 39
Baptiste Raboin 45
Louis Pennenneau 69
Simon Bertrand 62
Antoine Lepannié 63
John B. Blondeau 59
Francis Dupré not claimed
Simon Roi out-lot or field of six arpens
Simon Roi 30
Simon Roi 29
Antoine Roi 34
Antoine Roi 33
Claim No. 31.
Francis Racine, sen. field of about twenty arpens
Lake Peoria
Illinois River

Remark. The evidence in this case was not taken in the presence of the register, the deponents being very old and infirm. This lot, like the two preceding ones, must have been covered land, which has since been improved and occupied by others; but who now claims it, it is impossible to say with precision.

No. 4.—The heirs of Gabriel Cerré, by their agent Pascal L. Cerré, claim, under Louis Chatellerean, in the old village of Peoria, a double lot of one hundred and sixty feet in front, by three hundred feet in depth (French measure,) bounded on the north by a street separating it from a lot occupied by Pierre La Vassieur dit Chamberlain; on the east by a street separating it from a lot of John Baptiste Emelin; on the south by a street separating it from the lots of Parent and Sibinger; and west by the cultivated lands of the old village of Peoria.

Proof. Hyacinthe St. Cyr testifies, on oath, that Louis Chatellerean, in the year 1778, built a house on, and cultivated the above described lot in the old village of Peoria, and continued to occupy the same until the year 1781, when he and all the inhabitants of Peoria were induced to leave the place from fear of Indian hostility; but that he, Chatellerean, returned to Peoria soon after the peace of 1783, and continued to reside on the said lot until his death, (the year of his death he, St. Cyr, could not recollect,) after which the said lot was occupied by one Chorette and his wife, Marie Josephe Tieriereau; and he, St. Cyr, well recollects that the said lot was afterwards sold at auction by Chatellerean's administrators, and bought by Gabriel Cerré, and that the said lot contained about one arpent of land. Marie Josephe Tieriereau testifies, on oath, that in the year 1795 she removed to Peoria, and settled on a lot, the property of Louis Chatellerean, in the upper town, which she described as above.

Remark. This lot is also claimed by Louis Chatellerean, as the son of the late Louis Chatellerean of Peoria. See claim No. 6.

No. 5.—The heirs of Gabriel Cerré, by their agent Pascal L. Cerré, claim an out-lot or field situated immediately in the rear, and adjoining to, the last described lot.

Proof. Hyacinthe St. Cyr testifies, on oath, that previous to the military expedition commanded by Captain Montgomery, which Colonel Clark sent up to Peoria in the year 1780, he well recollects seeing Louis Chatellerean cultivate an out-lot or field in the rear of, and adjoining to the lot on which he lived in Peoria, and to the best of his (St. Cyr) recollection, the said lot or field contained between thirty and forty arpens of land, which the said Chatellerean continued to cultivate until his death, after which it was occupied for a time by one Chorette and his wife Marie Josephe Tieriereau, and then sold by Chatellerean's administrators, and bought by Gabriel Cerré; he, St. Cyr, could not recollect at what time Chatellerean died, or how long Chorette and his wife lived on the said lot. Marie Josephe Tieriereau testifies, on oath, that she well recollects that, about the year 1795, Louis Chatellerean had in his possession and cultivated a certain lot or portion of land in a common field, which she describes as lying to the west, in the rear of his town lot: the size of the lot or portion of land is not stated by her.

Remark. The quantity of land contained in this out lot or field is not stated by the claimants.

No. 6.—Louis Chatellerean claims a lot in the old village of Peoria, containing about two arpens of land, and bounded northwardly by a street, eastwardly by a street, southwardly by a lot of Wilette, and westwardly by a field.

Proof. Pascal L. Cerré testifies, on oath, that he well knows that Louis Chatellerean resided on a lot in the old village of Peoria, from the year 1790 to the year 1795, when the said Chatellerean died on the said lot, which was bounded on the north by a street which separated it from the lot of Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain, on the east by a street, and on the west by a common field.

Remarks. This lot is also claimed by the heirs of Gabriel Cerré. See claim No. 4.

No. 7.—Thomas Forsyth claims a lot of three hundred feet in front by three hundred feet in depth, French measure, in the village of Peoria, and bounded easwardly by a street, separating it from the Illinois river, northwardly by a cross street, westwardly by a back street, and southwardly by a lot claimed by Jacques Metté.

Proof. Hypolite Maillet testifies, on oath, that he is now about forty-two or forty-three years of age, and he always understood he had been born in a stockaded fort which stood on the above described lot in the new village of Peoria, and that his father, John Baptiste Maillet, had lived on the said lot for a long time. And Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain in like manner testifies that, when he went first to live in Peoria, in the year 1790, he found John Baptiste Maillet occupying and cutivating the above described lot. And further, both Maillet and Chamberlain testify that the said John Baptiste Maillet continued to live on and cultivate the said lot until he was killed, in the year 1801; after which they understood the said lot was sold to one John M. Coursoll, by whom it was sold to the above named Thomas Forsyth, who continued to occupy and cultivate the said lot until the year 1812, when the inhabitants were expelled from Peoria by a Captain Craig of the Illinois militia.

Remark. A part of this lot must have been embraced by the lot claimed by Augustine Roque. See claim No. 2.

No. 8.—Thomas Forsyth claims a lot in Peoria of three hundred feet square, French measure, and bounded to the east by a street separating it from the last described lot; to the north by a cross street, to the west by unoccupied land, and to the south by a lot claimed by Jacques Metté.

Proof. Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain testifies, on oath, that he went to live in Peoria in the year 1790, when he found John Baptiste Maillet cultivating the above described lot; and Hypolite Maillet testifies, on oath, that he is now about forty-two or forty-three years of age, and that he recollects that his father John Baptiste Maillet cultivated the above described lot for a long time; and both Chamberlain and Maillet testify that the said John Baptiste Maillet continued to cultivate the said lot until he was killed, in the year 1801; after which they understood it was sold to one John M. Coursoll, who, they also understood, sold it to Thomas Forsyth, who continued to cultivate the same as a garden until the inhabitants were expelled from Peoria by Captain Craig, in the year 1812.

No. 9.—Thomas Forsyth claims an out-lot or field, containing about twenty arpens of land, situated about two miles southwardly from the village of Peoria, at the river Gatinan, now called Kickapoo creek.

Proof. Jacques Metté and Felix Fountain testify, on oath, that Thomas Forsyth, in the year 1806, made the above described lot or field, which, to the best of their recollection, contained about fifteen or sixteen arpens of land; and Metté well recollects that Forsyth cultivated the said field at least two years.

No. 10.—Thomas Forsyth claims an out-lot or field, containing about twenty arpens of land, situated in the Little prairie, about two miles from Peoria.

Proof. Jacques Metté and Felix Fountain testify, on oath, that Thomas Forsyth commenced the improvement of the above described lot or field in the year 1807 or 1808, and that he cultivated it for one year; and that the said lot or field contained, to the best of their belief, not more than about seven arpens of land.

No. 11.—Louis Pilette, in right of his wife, Angelica, the daughter of the late Francis Wilette of the village of Peoria, claims a lot in Peoria, containing about one half of an arpent of land, and bounded northwardly by a street, easwardly by a lot of Antoine Deschamps, southwardly by a street separating it from the Illinois river, and westwardly by a street.

Proof. Drezy Blondeau testifies, on oath, that Francis Wilette built a house on, and improved the above described lot in Peoria, in the year 1788 or 1789, and lived thereon until his death, in the year 1806 or 1808. Simon Roi testifies, on oath, that he went to live in Peoria about the year 1793, at which time he found Francis Wilette living on the above described lot in Peoria, where he continued to reside until his death; and both Blondeau and Roi testify that the said lot contained about one half of an arpent of land, and that Francis Wilette died, leaving but one child, who, to their certain knowledge, is now the wife of the above named Louis Pilette.

Remark. It is believed there is an unintentional mistake in the boundaries of the above described lot. For, to correspond with the descriptions given of the other lots in Peoria, it should have been northwardly by Antoine Deschamps' lot, eastwardly by a street separating it from the Illinois river, and to the south and west by streets.

This lot is also claimed by Felix Fountain, who contends that Francis Wilette sold it, as will be seen by reference to his claim No. 41.

No. 12.—Louis Pilette, in right of his wife Angelica, the daughter of the late Francis Wilette, claims a lot containing one half of an arpent of land in the village of Peoria, immediately in the rear of the last described lot, and separated from it by a street, and adjoining to the east (north,) a lot of Antoine Deschamps, and bounded to the south and west by streets.

Proof. Drezy Blondeau testifies, on oath, that Francis Wilette built stables and other out-houses on the above described lot in the year 1788 or 1789, and continued to use the same until his death, in the year 1806

or 1808. Simon Roi in like manner testifies, that, when he went to live in Peoria, about the year 1793, he found Francis Wilette in possession of the above described lot, which he continued to occupy till his death. And they both testify that it contained about one half of an arpent of land, and that Francis Wilette and his wife, on their decease, left but one child, who is now the wife of the above named Louis Pilette.

No. 13.—Louis Pilette, in right of his wife Angelica, the daughter of the late Francis Wilette, claims an out-lot or field, containing fifteen or twenty arpens of land, situated about three-fourths of a mile northeastwardly (northwestwardly) from the village of Peoria.

Proof. Drezy Blondeau testifies, on oath, that Francis Wilette commenced improving and cultivating an out-lot or field of from fifteen to twenty arpens of land, situated as above described, about the year 1786, which he continued to cultivate until his death, in the year 1806 or 1808. And Simon Roi testifies, on oath, that, when he went to live in Peoria, in the year 1793, he found Francis Wilette in possession of, and cultivating, the above described out-lot or field, which he supposed to contain about fifteen or twenty arpens; that he (Roi) had often assisted Wilette to harvest his grain, and that he well knows that Wilette continued to cultivate it until his death. And they both testify that the wife of the above named Louis Pilette was the only child left by the said Wilette and his wife at their death.

No. 14.—Jacques Metté claims a lot in Peoria of eighty feet front by three hnndred feet in depth (French measure,) and bounded on the east by a street separating it from the Illinois river, on the north by a lot claimed by Thomas Forsyth, on the west by a back street, and on the south by a lot of Francis Buché.

Proof. Hypolite Maillet testifies, on oath, that he is now about forty-two or forty-three years of age, and that, from his earliest recollection, the above described lot was possessed and cultivated by his father, John Baptiste Maillet, who continued to cultivate it until his death, in the year 1800 or 1801. And Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain also testifies, on oath, that, when he went to live in Peoria, in the year 1790, he found John Baptiste Maillet in possession of, and cultivating, the above described lot. And they both testify that they always understood that the above named Metté had purchased the said lot, (but when is not stated,) which they well recollect he continued to occupy until the spring of the year 1812; and that the said lot was, they thought, about eighty feet in front by about three hundred feet in depth.

Remark. The land embraced by this lot must, in part, have been covered by the lot of Augustine Roque. See claim No. 2.

No. 15.—Jacques Metté claims a lot in Peoria of eighty feet in front by three hundred feet in depth, (French measure,) situated immediately in the rear of the last described lot, and separated from it by a street, and bounded north by a lot of Thomas Forsyth, and to the west and south by unoccupied lands.

Proof. Hypolite Maillet testifies, on oath, that he is now forty-two or forty-three years of age, and that, from his earliest recollection, his father, John Baptiste Maillet, had cultivated the above described lot. And Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain testifies, in like manner, that he went to live in Peoria in the year 1790, at which time he found John Baptiste Maillet in possession of, and cultivating, the above described lot. And both testify that the said Maillet continued to cultivate the said lot until his death, in the year 1800 or 1801; and that they had always understood that the above named Metté purchased it, and they well recollect he cultivated it until the spring of the year 1812; and that it was about eighty feet in front by about three hundred in depth.

No. 16.—Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain claims a lot or square of about two arpens of land in the old village of Peoria, bounded northwardly by a hill, to the south and east by streets, and to the west by an out-lot, also claimed by him.

Proof. Joseph Lapattré and Hypolite Maillet testify, on oath, that Augustine Fiailteau, in the year 1789, "established himself on four lots of eighty by three hundred feet each," which lots they describe as being bounded on the north by an hill, south by a cross street, east by a street, and west by an out-lot, then possessed by the said Fiailteau, and that the said Fiailteau sold the said lots to the above named Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain in the year 1794.

Remark. The testimony in this case was not taken in the presence of the register. This lot is also claimed by August. Fiailteau. See claim No. 21.

No. 17.—Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain claims an out-lot or field containing about twelve arpens of land near, if not adjoining to, the old village of Peoria, and adjoining to the south and west the field of Louis Chatellerean.

Proof. Joseph Lapattré and Hypolite Maillet testify, on oath, that Augustine Fiailteau "established" the above described lot or field, which contained about twelve arpens of land, in the year 1789, and that he sold it in the year 1794 to the above named Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain.

Remark. The testimony in this case was not taken in the presence of the register.

No. 18.—Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain claims a lot in Peoria, bounded northwardly and westwardly by unoccupied lands, eastwardly by a street separating it from the lot of Louis Bisson, and southwardly by a cross street.

Proof. Hypolite Maillet and Michael La Claire testify, on oath, that Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain fenced in, and built an house on, the above described lot about the year 1798, but they do not know that he ever occupied the house or cultivated the said lot. They describe the lot to have been about the usual size, that is, about one half of an arpent of land.

No. 19.—Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain claims a lot in Peoria of eighty feet in front by three hundred feet in depth, (French measure,) and bounded northwardly by a lot of Michael La Croix, eastwardly by a street separating it from the Illinois river, southwardly by a lot of Augustine La Roche, and westwardly by a street.

Proof. Hypolite Maillet and Michael La Claire testify, on oath, that Francis Jourdan made an improvement on the above described lot, in Peoria, about the year 1800 or 1801, where he resided about one year, when he (Jourdan,) sold the said lot to Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain, who resided on it until he was forced from it by Captain Craig, who destroyed the village of Peoria in the fall of the year 1812; that the said lot was about eighty feet in front by about three hundred in depth.

No. 20.—Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain claims an out-lot or field containing about seven arpens of land, situated near half a mile to the southwest of Peoria, and adjoining on the north the field of Antoine Lapancé.

Proof. Hypolite Maillet and Antoine Lapancé testify, on oath, that Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain did, in the year 1810, enclose and cultivate the above described lot or field, and that he continued to cultivate it until he and all the inhabitants were forced to leave Peoria, by Captain Craig, in the year 1812.

No. 21.—Gabriel Lattraille, as administrator of August. Fiailteau, claims a lot in the old village of Peoria, containing about one half of an arpent of land, and bounded eastwardly by a lot of one Lapierre, southwardly by a street separating it from a lot claimed by Louis Chatellerean, and to the north and west by unoccupied land.

Proof. Etienne Bernard testifies, on oath, that he saw August. Fiailteau living on, and cultivating, the above described lot in the old village of Peoria, about the year 1791; on which he, Fiailteau, had a blacksmith's shop, and that he continued to reside on the said lot for about five or six years, when he abandoned it; and that the said lot contained about one half of an arpent of land. Tousant Souliere testifies, on oath, that August. Fiailteau, deceased, lived on, and cultivated, the above described lot, (but when is not stated;) and that he continued to reside on it for at least ten years, when he was driven off by savage depredations.

Remark. The testimony of Tousant Souliere was not taken in presence of the register.

This lot is also claimed by Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain, who contends that he purchased it in the year 1794 of Fiailteau. See claim No. 16.

No. 22.—Thomas Lusby claims a lot in the old village of Peoria, containing about four arpens of land, and bounded on the east by a street, or road, at the distance of about one hundred and twenty yards from Lake Peoria, on the south by a street separating it from the lot of Joseph Leframbroise, west by unoccupied lands, and on the north by the lot of one Parent.

Proof. Joseph Lapattré and Louis Coinoi testify, on oath, that Thomas Lusby purchased, about the year 1795, a lot which they describe as containing four arpens of land, and situated in the upper town of Peoria, from one Saint John, who, they state, had resided on the said lot for near fifteen years. Simon Roi testifies, on oath, that, when he went to live in Peoria, in the year 1794, he found one Saint John living on a lot, which he describes as it is above described by Lusby, and that he had been informed that Saint John sold the said lot to Thomas Lusby. Michael La Croix testifies, in like manner, that, in the year 1797, Thomas Lusby purchased the said lot from one Saint John who had previously lived thereon; and that the said Lusby lived on the said lot for one or

two years, when he abandoned it; and both Roi and La Croix testify that the lot contained about four arpens of land.

No. 23.—Thomas Lusby claims a lot in the old village of Peoria, containing about one half of an arpent of land, and bounded on the east by Lake Peoria, south by a lot of one Bouché, west by a street separating it from the lot of Louis Chatellerean, and north by the lot of one Lapierre.

Proof. Joseph Lapattré and Louis Coinoi testify, on oath, that Thomas Lusby purchased of one Laroach a lot on which he, Laroach, resided seven years, and which they merely describe as being in the upper town of Peoria, and containing about one half of an arpent of land. They do not state when Lusby purchased, or how long he retained possession of the lot.

Remark. The above testimony was not taken in the presence of the register.

No. 24.—Thomas Lusby claims a lot in the new village of Peoria, containing about one half of an arpent of land, and bounded eastwardly by a street separating it from the Illinois river, southwardly by a lot once occupied by Chorette, afterwards by Louis Defond, westwardly by a back street, and northwardly by a lot of one Champlaine.

Proof. Simon Roi testifies, on oath, that, when he went to live in Peoria, in the year 1791, he found one Urquette living on the above described lot; that he, (Roi,) does not know whether Urquette sold it or not, but that he well recollects seeing one Castion afterwards living on it, who sold it to Thomas Lusby about the year 1798 or 1799, and that when he (Roi) removed from Peoria, in the year 1802 or 1803, he left the said Lusby living on the said lot. Louis Coinoi and Joseph Lapattré testify, on oath, that they knew of Thomas Lusby's purchasing a lot of about one half of an arpent in the lower town, about the year 1794, from one Castion, and that the said Castion purchased the said lot the year before of one Urquette, who had lived on the said lot, they thought, for near twenty years.

Remark. This lot is also claimed by Antoine La Claire, who contends that Thomas Lusby sold it. See claim No. 25. Coinoi and Lapattré's testimony not taken in the presence of the register.

No. 25.—Antoine Laclaire claims a lot in Peoria of eighty feet in front by three hundred feet in depth, (French measure,) and bounded eastwardly by a street separating it from the Illinois river, southwardly by a lot of John Baptiste Defond, westwardly by unoccupied lands, and northwardly by a lot which he (La Claire,) purchased of J. B. Champlaine.

Proof. Francis Racine testifies, on oath, that one La Blond made an improvement on the above described lot in the year 1798 or 1799, and that the said lot was afterwards in possession of several persons, among whom he well recollects Joseph Castion and Thomas Lusby; that Lusby sold the said lot in the year 1805 to him, (Racine,) who sold it to Joseph Dejeney, who sold it to the above named Antoine La Claire in the year 1809, who occupied said lot till the year 1812, when Peoria was destroyed by Captain Craig. Jacques Metté testifies, on oath, that Thomas Lusby was in possession of the above described lot in the year 1801, when he, Metté, went to live in Peoria, and that Lusby continued to reside thereon for about two years, after which he, Metté, saw the said lot in possession of one Joseph Dejeney, who, he understood, sold it to the above named Antoine La Claire in the year 1809, who continued to occupy the same until the year 1812. Both Racine and Metté testify that the lot was about eighty feet in front by about three hundred feet in depth.

Remark. This lot is also claimed by the above named Thomas Lusby. See claim No. 24.

No. 26.—Antoine La Claire claims a lot in Peoria of eighty feet in front by three hundred feet in depth, (French measure,) and bounded eastwardly by Main street, separating it from the Illinois river, northwardly by a lot of Francis Racine, westwardly by unoccupied land, and southwardly by a lot on which he (La Claire) lived.

Proof. Francis Racine and Jacques Metté testify, on oath, that John Baptiste Champlaine made an improvement on the above described lot in the year 1801 or 1802, and that he (Champlaine) sold the said lot, in the year 1810, to the above named Antoine La Claire, who cultivated it as a garden until the year 1812. Both Racine and Metté testify that said lot was about eighty feet in front by about three hundred feet in depth.

No. 27.—Michael La Croix claims a lot in Peoria of eighty feet in front by three hundred feet in depth, (French measure,) and bounded eastwardly by a street separating it from the Illinois river, southwardly by a lot occupied by Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain, westwardly by a back street, and northwardly by a cross street.

Proof. Antoine Deschamps testifies, on oath, that Louis La Bossieur had the above described lot in possession, and was living on it in the year 1794, and that La Bossieur sold it to Michael Coursoll. And Jacques Metté testifies, in like manner, that, when he went to live in Peoria in the year 1801 or 1802, he found Michael Coursoll living on the above described lot; that Michael Coursoll sold the said lot to John M. Coursoll, who he (Metté) understood sold it, about the year 1808 or 1809, to the above named Michael La Croix. Antoine Saint Dennis, as well as the above named Metté, testify, on oath, that Michael La Croix, very soon after he purchased the above described lot, built a large two story dwelling-house, a large store-house, and other out-buildings, and cultivated a garden on the said lot, and continued to occupy the same until the year 1812, when the village of Peoria was destroyed by Captain Craig.

No. 28.—Simon Roi claims a lot in Peoria, containing about one-half of an arpent of land, and bounded on the east by a lot of John Coursoll, on the west by a lot of Louis Bisson, on the south and north by streets.

Proof. Drezy Blondeau and John Baptiste Blondeau testify, on oath, that Simon Roi went to Peoria sometime during the year 1793; soon after which, he made an improvement, and built a house on the above described lot, in which he lived near two years, when he abandoned it.

Remark. The above boundaries are presumed not correct. To correspond with the points of the compass, as stated in the other descriptions in Peoria, it should have been stated, northwardly by the lot of John Coursoll, and southwardly by the lot of Louis Bisson.

No. 29.—Simon Roi, in right of his wife, who was the wife of Charles Le Doux, of Peoria, claims a lot in Peoria, containing about one half of an arpent of land, and bounded on the south by a lot of Antoine Roi, on the north by the lot of Francis Dupré, and on the east and west by streets.

Proof. Drezy Blondeau and John Baptiste Blondeau testify, on oath, that Charles Le Doux made an improvement on the above described lot in the year 1793, and continued to reside on and cultivate the same until his death; that the above named Simon Roi married the widow of the said Charles Le Doux about the year 1799; and that they, the said Simon Roi and wife, continued to reside on and cultivate the said lot until about the year 1808 or 1809, when they removed from Peoria.

No. 30.—Simon Roi, in right of his wife, the late widow of Charles Le Doux, deceased, claims a lot in Peoria, containing about one-half of an arpent of land, and situated immediately in the rear of the last described lot, and separated from it by a street.

Proof. Drezy Blondeau and John Baptiste Blondeau testify, on oath, that Charles Le Doux commenced an improvement on the above described lot during the year 1793, by building a stable and other out-houses on it, and that he continued to occupy the said lot until his death; that the above named Simon Roi married his widow about the year 1799; and that they (Roi and wife) continued to use the same until they left Peoria, which was about the year 1808 or 1809.

No. 31.—Simon Roi, in right of his wife, the late widow of Charles Le Doux, deceased, claims an out-lot immediately in the rear of, and adjoining to, the last described lot, containing about six arpens of land.

Proof. Drezy Blondeau and John Baptiste Blondeau testify, on oath, that Charles Le Doux made an improvement on the above described out-lot or field in the year 1793, and that he continued to cultivate it until his death; that the widow of the said Charles Le Doux married the above named Simon Roi about the year 1799, and that they (Roi and wife) continued to cultivate the same until about the year 1808 or 1809, when they left Peoria.

No. 32.—Simon Roi claims one-third of an out-lot or field, containing about thirty arpens of land improved and cultivated by himself, his brother Antoine Roi, and Francis Racine, situated on the east bank of the river Gatinan, near one league southwestwardly from the village of Peoria.

Proof. Antoine Cicare and Antoine Roi testify, on oath, that, in the year 1802, Simon Roi, with his brother Antoine Roi, and Francis Racine, improved and cultivated an out-lot or field at the river Gatinan, containing about thirty arpens of land, which they continued to cultivate for many years.

No. 33.—Antoine Roi claims a lot in Peoria, containing about one-half of an arpent of land, and bounded northwardly by a lot of Charles Le Doux, eastwardly by a street separating it from the Illinois river, southwardly by unoccupied land, and westwardly by a street.

Proof. Michael Le Claire and Simon Roi testify, on oath, that Antoine Roi, in the year 1793 or 1794, built an house on, and cultivated as a garden, the above described lot, which contained about one-half of an arpent of land, and on which he continued to reside and cultivate for five or six years, when he abandoned it, and removed from Peoria.

No. 34.—Antoine Roi claims a lot in Peoria, containing about one-half of an arpent of land, and situated immediately in the rear of the last described lot, and from which it was separated by a street, and to the north it adjoined the lot of Charles Le Doux, and to the south and west it was bounded by commons or prairie.

Proof. Michael Le Claire and Simon Roi testify, on oath, that Antoine Roi, in the year 1793 or 1794, made an improvement by building stables and other out-houses on the above described lot, which lot and buildings he continued to use for five or six years, when he abandoned them, and removed from Peoria; that the said lot contained about one half of an arpent of land.

No. 35.—Antoine Roi claims one-third of an out-lot or field, containing about thirty arpens of land, improved and cultivated by himself, his brother Simon Roi, and Francis Racine, situated on the east bank of the river Gatinan, near one league southwestwardly from the village of Peoria.

Proof. Antoine Cicare and Simon Roi testify, on oath, that, in the year 1802, Antoine Roi had in possession, and cultivated, an out-lot or field at the river Gatinan, in partnership with Simon Roi and Francis Racine, which field they cultivated many years; that the said field contained about thirty arpens of land.

No. 36.—Francis Racine, senior, claims a lot in Peoria, containing about one-half of an arpent of land, bounded northwardly by a cross street, eastwardly by a street separating it from the Illinois river, southwardly by a lot occupied by one Champlaine, and westwardly by a back street.

Proof. Simon Roi testifies, on oath, that, when he went to live in Peoria in the year 1794, the above described lot constituted a part of a field then possessed and cultivated by John Baptiste Maillet; that he (Roi) understood Maillet afterwards gave it to Francis Racine, senior, who, in the year 1796, built an house on it, and continued to reside on the said lot until the village was destroyed by Captain Craig in the year 1812. Antoine Burbonné testifies, on oath, that, when he went to live in Peoria in the year 1803, he found Francis Racine, senior, living on the above described lot, where he continued to reside until the year 1812. Francis Racine, junior, testifies, on oath, that he is now twenty-six years of age, and that, from his earliest recollection, his father, Francis Racine, senior, lived upon the above described lot, and that he continued to live on it until the year 1812. All three of them state that the said lot contained about one-half of an arpent of land.

No. 37.—Francis Racine, senior, claims an out-lot or field containing about twenty arpens of land, situated nearly adjoining the village of Peoria, and between the fields of Simon Roi and Antoine Burbonne.

Proof. Antoine Burbonne and Francis Racine, junior, testify that Francis Racine, senior, improved the above described out-lot or field about the year 1807, and continued to cultivate it until the year 1812; and that it contained about twenty arpens.

No. 38.—Francis Racine, senior, claims an out-lot or field, containing about eighteen arpens of land, and situated about two miles below the village of Peoria, and bounded to the north by the out-lot of Simon Roi, to the south and west by the river Gatinan, and to the east by the prairie.

Proof. Simon Roi testifies, on oath, that, in the year 1802 or 1803, he, (Simon Roi,) his brother Antoine Roi, and Francis Racine, senior, enclosed and cultivated a field on the bank of the Gatinan river, about two or three miles below the village of Peoria; that the said field contained about thirty arpens of land, and that it was divided equally between the above named three persons; that they continued to cultivate the said field, each one his own separate portion of about ten arpens, for two or three years, when he (Roi) removed from Peoria. Hypolite Maillet and Antoine Roi testify, on oath, that, about the year 1803, Francis Racine, senior, made a field on the bank of the river Gatinan, about two miles from Fort Clark, (Peoria,) which, they think, contained about eighteen arpens.

Remark. The above testimony of Hypolite Maillet and Antoine Roi was not taken in the presence of the register; and it is quite certain, from the evidence received in claims No. 32 and No. 35, that this claim does not exceed about ten arpens of land.

No. 39.—Francis Racine, junior, in right of his wife, the late widow of John Baptiste Defond, deceased, claims a lot in Peoria, containing about one-half of an arpent of land, and bounded northwardly by a lot occupied formerly by Thomas Lusby, afterwards by Antoine Le Claire, eastwardly by a street separating it from the Illinois river, and to the south and west by streets.

Proof. Antoine Burbonne and Francis Racine, senior, testify, on oath, that, about the year 1800, one Chorette made an improvement on the above described lot, which contained about one-half of an arpent, and that, soon afterwards, he (Chorette) sold the said lot to John Baptiste Defond, who resided on it until the village was destroyed by Captain Craig in the year 1812; that, since then, the said Defond has died, and his widow has married the above named Francis Racine, junior.

No. 40.—Francis Racine, junior, in right of his wife, the late widow of John Baptiste Defond, deceased, claims a lot in Peoria, containing about three or four arpens of land, and bounded eastwardly by a street separating it from the lot last described, southwardly by a cross street, and to the north and west by unoccupied lands.

Proof. Antoine Burbonne and Francis Racine, senior, testify, on oath, that John Baptiste Defond made an improvement on the above described lot about the year 1805 or 1806, and continued to cultivate it as a garden and field till the year 1812, and that the said lot contained three or four arpens of land.

No. 41.—Felix Fontaine claims a lot in Peoria of eighty feet in front, by three hundred feet in depth, (French measure,) and bounded eastwardly by a street separating it from Lake Peoria, northwardly by a lot formerly occupied by Antoine Deschamps, but now claimed by him, (Fontaine,) and to the south and west by streets.

Proof. Antoine Deschamps testifies, on oath, that he saw the above described lot in possession of, and cultivated by John Baptiste Maillet, in the year 1792, and that Maillet gave it to Francis Wilette, who remained in possession of it until his death in the year 1804. Hypolite Maillet and Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain testify, in like manner, that Francis Wilette made an improvement, and built an house, on the above described lot about the year 1797 or 1798, where he continued to reside until his death in the year 1804 or 1805; and all three of the deponents testify that his widow continued to occupy the said house and lot until her death, which happened about two years after the death of her husband; and the said Deschamps further testifies, that, after the death of Wilette and his wife, he (Deschamps) purchased from Wilette's administrators the said lot, and occupied it until the year 1811, when he sold it to Felix Fontaine; and the said Maillet and Chamberlain further testify, that the said Fontaine continued to occupy the said lot until the village of Peoria was destroyed, and the inhabitants driven off by Captain Craig in the year 1812; and that the lot was about eighty feet in front by about three hundred in depth.

Remark. This lot is also claimed by Louis Pilette in right of his wife, who was the daughter of the above named Francis Wilette, as will be seen by reference to claim No. 11.

No. 42.—Felix Fontaine, in right of his wife Josette Carsereau dit Fontaine, claims a lot in Peoria of eighty feet in front by three hundred feet in depth, (French measure,) and bounded eastwardly by a street separating it from Lake Peoria, northwardly by a lot claimed by the heirs of La Bonshier, westwardly by a street, and southwardly by a lot on which he (Fontaine) lived.

Proof. Hypolite Maillet and Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain testify, on oath, that Francis Wilette enclosed and cultivated the above described lot in Peoria about the year 1797 or 1798, and that the said lot was about eighty feet in front by about three hundred feet in depth; that they had understood that the said Wilette, about two years after he made the improvements, gave the said lot to one Josette Carsereau, who afterwards married the above named Felix Fontaine; and that, soon after the lot was given, it was built upon, and that they (Fontaine and his wife) continued either to live upon the said lot, or to cultivate it until they were driven from Peoria by Captain Craig, in the year 1812.

No. 43.—Felix Fontaine claims an out-lot or field containing about nine arpens of land, situated about one half of a mile to the southwest of the village of Peoria, and bounded on the south by the out-lot of Antoine Lapancé, and to the north by the out-lot of Francis Racine.

Proof. Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain and Hypolite Maillet testify, on oath, that Antoine Deschamps enclosed and cultivated the above described field in the year 1807; that he cultivated it for three years, when he sold it to the above named Felix Fontaine, who continued to cultivate it until the autumn of the year 1812; and that the said lot or field contained about nine arpens of land.

No. 44.—Felix Fontaine claims an out-lot containing about two and a half arpens of land, situated about one-fourth of a mile to the west of the village of Peoria.

Proof. Jacques Metté and Antoine Le Claire testify, on oath, that Felix Fontaine made an improvement in the spring of the year 1810 on the above described out-lot, and continued to cultivate it until the village of Peoria was destroyed by Capt. Craig in the autumn of the year 1812.

No. 45.—Baptiste Raboin claims a lot in Peoria, containing about one half of an arpent of land, and bounded eastwardly by a street separating it from the Illinois river, southwardly by a lot claimed by Antoine Lapancé, westwardly by a street, and northwardly by a cross street.

Proof. Simon Roi testifies, on oath, that, when he went to live in Peoria in the year 1794, he found the above described lot occupied by Louis Cicaré, who sold it to one Jourdan, who sold it to Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain, who sold it to him, (Roi,) who sold it to Baptiste Raboin, who he (Roi) left in possession of it when he left Peoria, which was about the year 1803 or 1804. Jacques Metté testifies, on oath, that he saw Baptiste Raboin living on the above described lot in the year 1807 or 1808, and that he well recollects he continued to live on it until about the year 1809 or 1810, when he abandoned it, and that it remained unoccupied for about one year, when one Louis Binet went to live on it, which he continued to do until the village of Peoria was destroyed by Captain Craig, in the year 1812.

Remark. This lot is also claimed by Louis Pencenneau as assignee of the above named Louis Binet. See claim 69.

No. 46.—Joseph Condier, for himself and the other heirs of the late Joseph Condier, claims a lot in Peoria of eighty feet in front by three hundred feet in depth, and bounded northwardly by a lot claimed by Charles La Belle, eastwardly by a street separating it from a lot claimed by Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain, southwardly by a lot claimed by Hypolite Maillet, and westwardly by an out-lot claimed by Charles La Belle.

Proof. Simon Roi, Pierre Lavassieur, and Hypolite Maillet, testify, on oath, that Joseph Condier, deceased, improved and built an house on the above described lot in the year 1796, and that the said lot was about eighty feet in front by about three hundred feet in depth; and the said Roi further testifies that Joseph Condier resided on the said lot one or two years, when he abandoned it, and removed from Peoria.

No. 47.—Hypolite Maillet, in right of his wife Josette Demonchelle, the late widow of Louis Le Bonshier, deceased, claims a lot in Peoria, containing about one half of an arpent of land, and bounded northwardly by a lot occupied by Louis Binet, eastwardly by a street separating it from the Illinois river, southwardly by a lot occupied by Francis Wilette, and westwardly by a street.

Proof. Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain and Michael Le Claire testify, on oath, that the late Louis Le Bonshier improved and built an house on the above described lot in Peoria, in the year 1796 or 1797, and that the said lot contained about one half of an arpent of land, on which he (Le Bonshier) resided until his death, which happened in the year 1802 or 1803; after which his widow lived about one year on the said lot, when she abandoned it; and that the said widow of Louis Le Bonshier has since married, and is now the wife of the above named Hypolite Maillet.

No. 48.—Hypolite Maillet, in right of his wife Josette Demonchelle, the late widow of Louis Bonshier, deceased, contains an out-lot or field containing about four arpens of land, situated about one half of a mile to the west of the village of Peoria.

Proof. Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain and Michael Le Claire testify, on oath, that Louis Le Bonshier improved and cultivated about the year 1796 or 1797 the above described lot as a garden, and which they think contained about four arpens of land; and that he continued to cultivate it until his death in the year 1802 or 1803, and that his widow cultivated it for one year after the death of her husband, when she abandoned it; and that she has since married, and is now the wife of the above named Hypolite Maillet.

No. 49.—Hypolite Maillet claims a lot in Peoria, containing about one-half of an arpent of land, and bounded northwardly by a lot of Charles La Belle, eastwardly by a street, southwardly by a lot claimed by him, (Maillet,) and westwardly by an out-lot claimed also by him.

Proof. Jacques Metté and Antoine Lapancé testify, on oath, that Hypolite Maillet commenced an improvement on the above described lot in the year 1809, and that he continued to reside on the said lot until the year 1812, when the village was destroyed by Captain Craig, and that the lot contained about one half of an arpent of land.

No. 50.—Hypolite Maillet claims a lot in Peoria, containing about one-half of an arpent of land, and bounded northwardly by the last described lot, eastwardly and southwardly by streets, and westwardly by an out-lot claimed by him [Maillet.]

Proof. Jacques Metté and Antoine Lapancé testify, on oath, that Hypolite Maillet commenced an improvement on the above described lot in the year 1809, and continued to occupy and cultivate the said lot, which contained about one-half of an arpent of land as a garden until the year 1812, when he was driven from Peoria by Captain Craig.

No. 51.—Hypolite Maillet claims an out-lot immediately in the rear of, and adjoining to the two last described lots in the village of Peoria, containing about six arpens of land, and bounded northwardly by an out-lot of Charles La Belle, and southwardly by an out-lot of John Baptiste Defond.

Proof. Jacques Metté and Antoine Lapancé testify, on oath, that Hypolite Maillet improved the above described lot, which contained about six arpens of land, in the year 1809, and continued to cultivate it as a field, until he was forced by Captain Craig to abandon it, and the village of Peoria, in the year 1812.

No. 52.—Hypolite Maillet claims an out-lot or field, containing about fifteen arpens of land, situated about one mile and an half to the north of the village of Peoria, and bounded on the north by the out-lot of one Wilette westwardly by the bluff, and to the south and east by the prairie.

Proof. Francis Racine, sen., Francis Jourdan, and Antoine Burbonné, testify, on oath, that the above described field was "established" in the year 1797 by John Baptiste Maillet, the father of Hypolite Maillet, and that it contained, to the best of their recollection, about fifteen arpens of land.

Remark. The evidence in favor of this and the following claim was not taken in the presence of the register.

No. 53.—Hypolite Maillet claims an out-lot or field containing about fifteen arpens of land, situated about two miles below the village of Peoria, on the eastern bank of the river Gatinan, and adjoining to the south the field of Francis Montplaiser.

Proof. Francis Racine, sen., Francis Jourdan, and Antoine Burbonné, testify, on oath, that Hypolite Maillet had the above described out-lot or field in his possession in the year 1806, and that he continued to cultivate it until the year 1812, when he and all the inhabitants were forced by Captain Craig to leave Peoria, and that the said field or out-lot, to the best of their recollection, contained about fifteen arpens of land.

No. 54.—The heirs of the late Antoine Grand Bois, by their agent Antoine Lapancé, claim a lot in Peoria of eighty feet in front by three hundred in depth, (French measure,) and bounded northwardly by a lot of Raphael Belongé, eastwardly by a street separating it from Lake Peoria, southwardly by a cross street, and westwardly by unoccupied land.

Proof. Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain and Hypolite Maillet testify, on oath, that the late Antoine Grand Bois improved the above described lot, and built an house on it, about the year 1801, and resided on it until his death in the year 1806 or 1807, after which his widow resided on the said lot for one or two years, when she abandoned it, after which she died, leaving several children; that the said lot was about eighty feet in front by about three hundred in depth.

No. 55.—Michael Le Claire claims a lot in Peoria, containing about one half of an arpent of land, and bounded eastwardly by a back steeet, southwardly by the lot of one Gunoille, westwardly by unoccupied land, and northwardly by a cross street.

Proof. Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain and Hypolite Maillet testify, on oath, that one Whitby built an house on the above described lot in the year 1801, that the lot contained about one half of an arpent of land; that he (Whitby) sold the said lot to one Racine, who sold it to the above named Le Claire in the spring of the year 1803; and that he, the said Le Claire, occupied the said lot until the year 1806, when he abandoned it, and left Peoria.

No. 56.—Francis Buché claims an out-lot or field containing about ten arpens of land, situated at the foot of the bluff, about half a mile west of the village of Peoria.

Proof. Jacques Metté and Felix Fontaine testify on oath that Francis Buché made an improvement on the above described out-lot or field, in the year 1809, and that he continued to cultivate it until the fall of the year 1812, when he and the other inhabitants were driven from Peoria by Captain Craig, of the Illinois militia, and that the said lot or field contained about ten arpens of land.

No. 57.—Josephte Boucher claims a lot in the old village of Peoria, containing about one-half of an arpent of land, and bounded northwardly by a lot of Francis Belhumer, eastwardly by Lake Peoria, southwardly by a lot of Joseph Laframboise, and westwardly by a street.

Proof. Joseph Lapattré and Pierre Lavassieur testify, on oath, that Francis Boucher, deceased, had in his possession, in the year 1795, the above described lot, on which there was a house, which they afterwards well recollect seeing in a state of decay and ruin.

Remark. The evidence in this case was not taken in the presence of the register.

No. 58.—Josephte Boucher claims an out-lot containing about six or seven arpens of land, situated near the old village of Peoria.

Proof. Joseph Lapattré and Pierre Lavassieur testify, on oath, that Francis Boucher, deceased, had in his possession, in the year 1795, an out-lot or field at the hill near the old village of Peoria, containing about six or seven arpens.

Remark. This testimony was not taken in the presence of the register.

No. 59.—John Baptiste Blondeau claims a lot in Peoria containing about one-half of an arpent of land, and bounded northwardly by a street, eastwardly by a lot of John Demonchelle, southwardly by a lot of Francis Dupré.

Proof. Drezy Blondeau and Simon Roi testify, on oath, that John Baptiste Blondeau made an improvement on the above described lot in the year 1799, and resided on the same for more than five years, and that the said lot contained about one-half of an arpent.

Remark. The boundaries of the above lot do not correspond with those generally given of the other lots in Peoria. It should have been, eastwardly by a street separating it from the Illinois river, northwardly by a lot of John Demonchelle, southwardly by a lot of Francis Dupré, and westwardly by a street.

No. 60.—The heirs of Charles La Belle, by their agent Antoine Le Claire, claim a lot in Peoria, containing about one-half of an arpent of land, and bounded northwardly by a cross street, separating it from a lot of Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain, eastwardly by a street, southwardly by a lot of Joseph Condier, and westwardly by an out-lot claimed by them.

Proof. Jacques Mette and Antoine Burbonné testify, on oath, that Charles La Belle, deceased, built a house on the above described lot in the year 1809 or 1810, and continued to reside on it until the village of Peoria was destroyed by Captain Craig in the year 1812, and that the said lot contained about one-half of an arpent.

No. 61.—The heirs of Charles La Belle, by their agent Antoine Le Claire, claim an out-lot or field containing about ten arpens of land, situated immediately in the rear of, and adjoining, to the last described lot, and adjoining on the south an out-lot of Hypolite Maillet.

Proof. Jacques Mette and Antoine Burbonné testify, on oath, that Charles La Belle enclosed and cultivated the above described lot or field in the year 1809 or 1810, and that he continued to cultivate it until he was forced by Captain Craig to leave it in the fall of the year 1812, and that the said lot or field contained about ten arpens of land.

No. 62.—Simon Bertrand, in right of his wife Mary, the late widow of John Demonchelle, deceased, claims a lot in Peoria, containing about one-half of an arpent of land, and bounded northwardly by a lot formerly occupied by Jourdan, afterwards by Raboin, eastwardly by a street separating it from the Illinois river, southwardly by a lot of John B. Blondeau, and westwardly by a street.

Proof. Simon Roi testifies, on oath, that, in the year 1799 or 1800, Francis Dupré built a house on the above described lot, and lived in the same for two or three years; that said Dupré sold the said lot to John Demonchelle, who also lived on it for two or three years, when he abandoned it, and left Peoria. Jacques Metté also testifies that, in the year 1803 or 1804, he saw one John Demonchelle living on the above described lot, who continued to live on it for one or two years, when he abandoned it, and the house and improvements went to ruin; that the said lot was again improved and built upon in the year 1810 by Antoine Lapancé. Both Roi and Metté state that the lot contained about one-half of an arpent.

Remark. This lot is also claimed by the above named Antoine Lapancé. See claim No. 63.

No. 63.—Antoine Lapancé claims a lot in Peoria, of eighty feet in front by about three hundred feet in depth, (French measure,) and bounded northwardly by a lot occupied by Louis Binet, eastwardly by a street separating it from the Illinois river, southwardly by unoccupied land, and westwardly by a street.

Proof. Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain and Hypolite Maillet testify, on oath, that Antoine Lapancé built a house on, and cultivated as a garden, the above described lot; in the year 1810, and continued to reside on and cultivate the same until the fall of the year 1812, and that the said lot was about eighty feet in front by about three hundred feet in depth.

Remark. This lot is also claimed by Simon Bertrand. See claim No. 62.

No. 64.—Antoine Lapancé claims an out-lot or field containing about nine arpens of land, situated about one-fourth of a mile from Peoria, and bounded on the north by an out-lot or field of Felix Fontaine, and on the south by the field of Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain.

Proof. Pierre La Vassieur dit Chamberlain and Hypolite Maillet testify, on oath, that Antoine Lapancé enclosed and cultivated the above described lot or field in the spring of the year 1811, and cultivated it until the autumn of the year 1812, and that the said field contained about nine arpens.

No. 65.—Antoine Burbonné claims a lot in Peoria, bounded eastwardly by a street separating it from Lake Peoria, southwardly by a lot of Louis Le Bonshier, westwardly by a street, and northwardly by a cross street.

Proof. Jacques Metté and Francis Racine, senior, testify, on oath, that Louis Binet made an improvement on the above described lot in the year 1801 or 1802; that he (Binet) sold said lot to one Parquette, who sold it to the above named Antoine Burbonné, who lived on the said lot until he was driven therefrom, and the village of Peoria destroyed, by Captain Craig, in the year 1812, and that the said lot contained about one-half of an arpent of land.

Remark. This lot is also claimed by Louis Pencenneau, as assignee of the above named Louis Binet. See claim No. 68.

No. 66.—Antoine Burbonné claims a lot in Peoria, bounded northwardly by a street, southwardly by a lot occupied by Louis La Bonshier, eastwardly by a street separating it from the last described lot, and westwardly by a street.

Proof. Antoine Le Claire and Jacques Mette testify, on oath, that they well recollect to have seen, in the year 1809 or 1810, Antoine Burbonné have in his possession, and occupy as an out-lot for stables, the above described lot, which contained about one-fourth of an arpent of land, and which lot he continued to occupy until the year 1812, when Captain Craig compelled him to leave Peoria.

No. 67.—Antoine Burbonné claims an out-lot or field containing four or five arpens of land, situated near Peoria, and adjoining on the north the field of Francis Racine.

Proof. Francis Racine, senior, and Francis Racine, junior, testify, on oath, that Antoine Burbonné enclosed and cultivated the above described out-lot or field one year prior to his being driven away from it, and the destruction of Peoria, by a Captain Craig, of the Illinois militia, in the year 1812; and that the lot contained about four or five arpens of land.

No. 68.—Louis Pencenneau claims a lot in Peoria containing about one-half of an arpent of land, and bounded eastwardly by a street separating it from Lake Peoria, southwardly by a lot claimed by Louis La Bonshier, and northwardly and westwardly by streets.

Proof. Simon Roi testifies, on oath, that Louis Binet improved the above described lot, and built a house on it in the year 1796 or 1797, and that he continued to reside on the said lot when he (Roi) removed from Peoria in the year 1802 or 1803. Jacques Metté, in like manner, testifies that when he went to live in Peoria in the year 1801 or 1802, he found Louis Binet living on and cultivating the above described lot; and that he (Binet) continued to do so until about the year 1806 or 1807, when he (Metté) understood Binet sold the said lot to one Parquette, who afterwards sold it, as he (Mette) understood, to Antoine Burbonne, who resided on it until the year 1812. Both Roi and Metté state that the lot contained about one half of an arpent.

Remark. This lot is also claimed by Antoine Burbonné. See claim No. 65.

No. 69.—Louis Pencenneau claims a lot in Peoria containing about one-half of an arpent of land, and bounded northwardly by a cross street, separating it from a lot of Louis Defond, southwardly by a lot claimed by Antoine Lapancé, eastwardly by a street separating it from the Illinois river, and westwardly by a street.

Proof. Jacques Metté testifies, on oath, that, in the year 1801 or 1802, when he went to live in Peoria, he found one Jourdan living on the above described lot; that afterwards, he Metté) saw residing on the said lot one Raboin, who, to the best of his recollection, abandoned it about the year 1807 or 1808, after which, the

house, being old and decayed, was pulled down, and all the improvements of the lot went to ruin; in which vacant or unoccupied state the lot remained until the autumn of the year 1810, when Antoine St. Dennis and Jacques Metté testify that the said lot was again improved and built upon by Louis Binet, who continued to reside on the said lot until the autumn of the year 1812, when Captain Craig forced the inhabitants to leave Peoria. Both Metté and St. Dennis describe the lot as containing about one-half of an arpent of land.

Remark. This lot is also claimed by the above named Raboin. See claim No. 45.

No. 70.—Louis Pencenneau claims a lot in Peoria, bounded northwardly by a lot of Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain, eastwardly by a street separating it from the Illinois river, southwardly by a cross street, and westwardly by a back street.

Proof. Jacques Metté testifies, on oath, that when he went to live in Peoria, in the year 1801 or 1802, he found Augustine Laroche residing on and cultivating the above described lot, where he continued to reside until some time in the year 1812. Antoine St. Dennis in like manner testifies, that, when he went to live in Peoria in the year 1810, he found Augustine Laroche living on the above described lot, where he continued to live until some time towards the close of the year 1811, and that the house was destroyed by Captain Craig in the year following. Louis Pencenneau, jr., testifies that he had always understood that Augustine Laroche gave the above described lot to his father, the above named Louis Pencenneau. And Antoine St. Dennis and Louis Pencenneau, jr., testify, that, soon after the peace in 1815, the above named Louis Pencenneau built a house on the above described lot, and that he continued to occupy the same until the autumn of the year 1817; and all three describe the lot as containing about one-half of an arpent of land.

All which is respectfully submitted.

EDWARD COLES,
Register of the Land Office at Edwardsville.

November 10, 1820.

To WILLIAM H. CRAWFORD, Esq.
Secretary of the Treasury of the United States.

Synopsis of the claims to lots in Peoria.

Name of the claimants.	No. of claim.	Size of the claim.	The period of its improvement.	The time when abandoned.	Remarks.
Etienne Bernard - -	1	1 arpent -	1778 -	1778 -	Since occupied, and now claimed by Pilette.
Augustine Roque - -	2	1 arpent -	1778 -	1778 or 1790	Since occupied, and now claimed by Forsyth and Metté.
Charlotte Troge - -	3	2 arpens -	Resided 12 years	Ending 40 years since	Since occupied.
Heirs of Gabriel Cerré -	4	160 by 300 feet	1778 -	1795 or 1796	Claimed also by Louis Chatellerean.
Same - - -	5	30 or 40 arpens	1778 -	1795 or 1796	The size not stated by claimant, but proved to be 30 or 40.
Louis Chatellerean - -	6	2 arpens -	1778 -	1795 -	Claimed also by the heirs of G. Cerré.
Thomas Forsyth - -	7	300 feet square	1778 -	1812	
Same - - -	8	300 feet square	1778 -	1812	
Same - - -	9	20 arpens -	1806 -	1808 -	Proved to contain 15 or 16 arpens.
Thomas Forsyth - -	10	20 arpens -	1807 or 1808	1808 or 1809	Proved to contain about 7 arpens.
Louis Pilette - - -	11	½ arpent -	1788 or 1789	1806 or 1808	Claimed also by Felix Fontaine.
Same - - -	12	½ arpent -	1788 or 1789	1806 or 1808	
Same - - -	13	15 or 20 arpens	1786 -	1806 or 1808	
Jacques Metté - - -	14	80 by 300 feet -	1790 -	1812	
Same - - -	15	80 by 300 feet -	1790 -	1812	
Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain - - - -	16	2 arpens -	1789 -	Bought 1794	Claimed also by Auguste Fiailteau.
Same - - -	17	12 arpens -	1789 -	Not stated.	
Same - - -	18	½ arpent -	1798		
Same - - -	19	80 by 300 feet -	1800 or 1801	1812	
Same - - -	20	7 arpens -	1810 -	1812	
August. Fiailteau - -	21	½ arpent -	1791 -	1796 or 1797	Claimed also by Pierre Lavassieur dit Chamberlain.
Thomas Lusby - -	22	4 arpens -	1794 -	1798 or 1799	
Thomas Lusby - -	23	½ arpent -	Not stated.		
Thomas Lusby - -	24	½ arpent -	1794 -	1802 or 1803	Claimed also by Antoine Le Claire.
Antoine Le Claire - -	25	80 by 300 feet -	1798 or 1799	1812 -	Claimed also by Thomas Lusby.
Same - - -	26	80 by 300 feet -	1801 or 1802	1812	
Michael La Croix - -	27	80 by 300 feet -	1794 -	1812	
Simon Roi - - -	28	½ arpent -	1794 -	1796	
Same - - -	29	½ arpent -	1793 -	1808 or 1809	
Same - - -	30	½ arpent -	1793 -	1808 or 1809	
Same - - -	31	6 arpens -	1793 -	1808 or 1809	
Same - - -	32	10 arpens -	1802 -	Several years	
Antoine Roi - - -	33	½ arpent -	1793 or 1794	1798 or 1799	
Same - - -	34	½ arpent -	1793 or 1794	1798 or 1799	
Same - - -	35	10 arpens -	1802 -	Several years.	
Francis Racine, sen. - -	36	½ arpent -	1794 -	1812	
Same - - -	37	20 arpens -	1807 -	1812	
Same - - -	38	18 arpens -	1802 -	1804 or 1805	Not believed to contain more than 10 arpens.
Francis Racine, jun. - -	39	½ arpent -	1800 -	1812	
Same - - -	40	3 or 4 arpens -	1805 or 1806	1812	
Felix Fontaine - - -	41	80 by 300 feet -	1792 -	1812 -	Claimed also by Louis Pilette.
Same - - -	42	80 by 300 feet -	1797 or 1798	1812	
Same - - -	43	9 arpens -	1807 -	1812	
Same - - -	44	2½ arpens -	1810 -	1812	
Baptiste Raboin - -	45	½ arpent -	1794 -	1809 or 1810	Claimed also by Louis Pencenneau.
Joseph Condier - -	46	80 by 300 feet -	1796 -	1797 or 1798	
Hypolite Maillet - -	47	½ arpent -	1796 or 1797	1803 or 1804	
Same - - -	48	4 arpens -	1796 or 1797	1803 or 1804	
Same - - -	49	½ arpent -	1809 -	1812	
Same - - -	50	½ arpent -	1809 -	1812	
Same - - -	51	6 arpens -	1809 -	1812	
Same - - -	52	15 arpens -	1797 -	Not stated.	
Same - - -	53	15 arpens -	1806 -	1812	
Heirs of Antoine Grand Bois -	54	80 by 300 feet -	1801 -	1806 or 1807	

SYNOPSIS—Continued.

Name of the claimants.	No. of claim.	Size of the claim.	The period of its improvement.	The time when abandoned.	Remarks.
Michael Le Claire - -	55	½ arpent -	1801 -	1806	
Francis Buché - - -	56	10 arpens -	1809 -	1812	
Josephte Boucher - -	57	½ arpent -	1795 -	Not stated.	
Same - - -	58	6 or 7 arpens -	1795 -	Not stated.	
John Baptiste Blondeau -	59	½ arpent -	1799 -	1805	
Heirs of Charles La Belle -	60	½ arpent -	1809 or 1810	1812	
Same - - -	61	10 arpens -	1809 or 1810	1812	
Simon Bertrand - -	62	½ arpent -	1799 or 1800	1805 or 1806	Claimed also by Antoine Lapancé.
Antoine Lapancé - -	63	80 by 300 feet -	1810 -	1812 -	Claimed also by Simon Bertrand.
Same - - -	64	9 arpens -	1811 -	1812	
Antoine Burbonné - -	65	½ arpent -	1801 or 1802	1812 -	Claimed also by Louis Pencenneau.
Same - - -	66	¼ arpent -	1809 or 1810	1812	
Same - - -	67	4 or 5 arpens -	1811 -	1812	
Louis Pencenneau - -	68	½ arpent -	1796 or 1797	1812 -	Claimed also by Antoine Burbonné.
Same - - -	69	½ arpent -	1810 -	1812 -	Claimed also by Baptiste Raboin.
Same - - -	70	½ arpent -	1801 or 1802	1817	

16th Congress. **No. 328.** 2d Session.

CANADIAN VOLUNTEER BOUNTY LAND WARRANTS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 11, 1821.

Mr. Anderson, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom the petition of William Pope was referred, stating that, in the year 1818, he became, by purchase for a valuable consideration, the owner and assignee of a Canadian land warrant: that, when he purchased it, he did not know that there was any law or rule creating any difficulty to his procuring a patent in his own name: that, from a recent construction of the law under which the warrant was issued at the General Land Office, forbidding the location of those warrants except in the name of the original warrantees, he will entirely lose the benefit of his warrant, in as much as it is wholly impracticable now to find the warrantee, unless Congress will grant relief: he therefore prays that a law may pass authorizing the proper officers to issue a patent to him—Reported:

That, on the 5th day of March, 1816, a law was passed for granting to certain Canadian volunteers therein described, bounties in land. By the provisions of this law the Secretary of War was directed to issue warrants, and the volunteers were authorized to make locations within the designated district, "subject to such rules and regulations as to priority of choice and the manner of location, as the President of the United States should prescribe." That, on the 3d of March, 1817, an amendatory law was passed, which, besides containing other restrictions, enacted that the warrants then unlocated "should be located on such lands as have been offered for sale, and no other," and also limited the time for issuing warrants to one year from that date. That, under these laws, 267 warrants only have ever been issued.

There is no prohibition contained in either of the laws against the assignment of the warrants to be issued under them, such as had been previously introduced into the laws giving bounties in land to the soldiers of the United States' army; nor did the language in which the warrant was expressed give to the holder or purchaser any intimation that the sale and assignment would violate either law or policy. The committee is perfectly satisfied that not only the holders of the warrants, but the community generally, supposed that the warrantees had a perfect right to sell and transfer them unqualifiedly, and that the purchaser would enjoy the full benefit of the purchase by procuring a patent in his own name. This opinion prevailed not only with those persons but at the General Land Office. It was the rule at the office to regard the assignments, and to issue patents to the assignees, until the 26th day of December, 1819, on which day the practice was discontinued under the opinion of the Attorney General, declaring that it was "the safer opinion that the warrants cannot pass by assignment or transfer." Of the 267 warrants issued, 174 have been patented; of this number 70 have been patented in the names of assignees. There are, of course, now remaining 93 on which patents have not been issued: it is impossible to state what proportion of these have been assigned.

The committee is of opinion that, unless some provisions shall be made by law, many persons against whom there can be no imputation of fraud, will be injured, as in most of the cases there exists no possibility of finding the individual to whom the warrant was issued. Nor does it seem that even negligence can be imputed to them, as neither the language of the law nor the face of the warrant gave to them any indication that the purchase was improper. But if he sought further information, the practice of the land office would seem not only to approve and countenance the purchase, but to have given an official construction of the law on which he might safely rely. A sudden departure from that construction would injure those who had been deluded by the previous practice.

The omission in two successive laws on this subject, of any clause prohibiting the assignment of these warrants, seems clearly to indicate that the legislature did not intend to transfer to the case of these volunteers the policy of the previous laws. It is perhaps not material for the committee to inquire into the reasons of that change of policy, but it is probable that the facts that these warrants were to be issued to *officers* as well as to soldiers; that they were all *volunteers*, and that the land was a mere donation on the part of Congress, created a belief that it was unnecessary to annex any fetters to the donation. It may be mentioned, too, as an evidence of the general opinion on this subject, that the practice of withholding the warrant and issuing a notification to the soldiers never prevailed under these laws: the original warrant was, in every case, delivered to the owner.

Upon a consideration of the circumstances, the committee is of opinion that the petitioner is fairly entitled to relief; but as it is a fact with which they are acquainted, that other cases depend on the same ground, they have thought proper to report a bill embracing all of them.

16th Congress. No. 329. 2d Session.

APPLICATION OF A LAND PURCHASER TO CORRECT AN ERROR IN HIS PURCHASE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 17, 1821.

Mr. Anderson, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Benjamin Freeland, reported:

The petitioner states that, with his family, in the year 1818, he emigrated from the State of Maryland to the State of Indiana, with a view of settlement for life, and with the hope of obtaining a small tract of land for each of his children, some of whom are married. That, with this view, he attended the late sales of public lands at Terre Haute, having made several selections, which he describes. That he attended during the first week of the sales, waiting an opportunity to purchase the quarter sections he wished: that he was a few minutes absent at the time a new township was offered for sale, and being informed by a friend that the lands he wished were then "crying," he instantly bid for them and purchased them, when in fact there was a mistake of a whole range, the lands which he wanted being in range two, and not in range one which he purchased. That, as soon as he discovered his mistake, he applied to the register and receiver for redress, but, having paid for the lands, they declared it out of their power to afford relief. That his object was not speculation but cultivation, and that if the lands he purchased were fit for that purpose, he would not trouble Congress with his misfortunes, but that they are utterly unfit for farming purposes. He prays for permission to locate lands within the same district to the amount of those purchased through mistake.

It appears by a letter of the register of the district to one of the members of the committee, that if it had been within the power of the register and receiver to have rescinded the purchases, it would have been done, but the money having been paid, and the receipts given, they concluded they had no such power. It is believed that, in the crowd and bustle of a public auction, the most vigilant and intelligent may sometimes mistake, particularly where the description of an article not exhibited is materially and altogether changed by the mistake of a single word. The committee cannot believe that the Government will be disposed to take any advantage of a mistake which a liberal merchant, in favor of his customer, would instantly correct: they therefore report a bill for his relief.

16th Congress. No. 330. 2d Session.

POWER OF J. B. MORALES AND THE BARON DE CARONDELET TO GRANT LANDS IN LOUISIANA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 20, 1821.

To the Senate of the United States:

In compliance with a resolution of the Senate of the 14th instant, "requesting the President of the United States to communicate to the Senate any information he may have as to the power or authority which belonged to Don John Bonaventure Morales, and to the Baron Caronlet, to grant and dispose of the lands of Spain in Louisiana previously to the year 1803," I transmit a report from the Secretary of the Treasury, submitting a letter of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, with the document to which it refers.

JAMES MONROE.

Washington, *January* 18, 1821.

Treasury Department,
16th January, 1821.

The Secretary of the Treasury, to whom was referred the resolution of the Senate of the 4th instant, requesting the President of the United States "to communicate to the Senate any information he may have as to the power or authority which belonged to Don John Bonaventure Morales, and to the Baron Carondelet, to grant and dispose of the lands of Spain in Louisiana previously to the year 1803," has the honor to submit the letter of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, which is hereto annexed, and the document to which it refers.

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

James Monroe,
President of the U. S.

General Land Office,
16th January, 1821.

Sir: A resolve of the Senate of the United States of January 4, 1821, "that the President of the United States be requested to communicate to the Senate any information he may have as to the power or authority which belonged to Don John Bonaventure Morales, and to the Baron de Carondelet, to grant and dispose of the lands of Spain in Louisiana previously to the year 1803," having been referred to me by the Secretary of the Treasury, with directions to "furnish such information as the records and documents of this office afford," I have the honor to report, that, previously to the year 1790, the governor general of Louisiana had power to divide and grant the lands of his sovereign: that, by an ordinance given at San Lorenzo, October 22, 1798, the power of dividing and granting lands was vested in the intendancy of the Spanish provinces: that the intendant, Don John Bonaventura Morales, acting by the authority of the ordinance of October 22, 1798, above mentioned, published at New Orleans on the 17th of July, 1799, rules and regulations relative to the disposal of the public lands of Spain, consisting of thirty-eight articles, amply describing and declaring all that his Government required to be done for the disposal of those lands. Of those rules and regulations, a copy in the original Spanish, with a translation into the French and English languages, is now in this office. An English translation is herewith transmitted. Those rules and regulations were published at St. Louis on the 6th of January, 1800.

From this document, together with the articles Nos. 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22, in the appendix to the volume of Land Laws, all the information can be obtained which the records and documents in this office can furnish.

I have the honor to be,
Most respectfully, sir,
Your obedient servant,
JOSIAH MEIGS.

The Secretary
of the Treasury.

Don John Bonaventura Morales, intendant pro tem., and sub-delegate of the general superintendancy of these provinces, judge of the admiralty of the crown lands, &c., &c., &c.

The King, whom may God save, having vouchsafed to declare and order by an ordinance given at San Lorenzo the 22d October of last year, 1798, that the intendancy of these provinces, to the exclusion of all other authority, should be put into possession of the privilege of dividing and granting all kinds of lands belonging to his crown, which right, by his order of the 24th of August, 1770, was in the hands of the civil and military Government, and wishing to fulfil this important trust not only according to the 81st article of the ordinance of the intendants of New Spain, the regulations of the year 1751, quoted in said article, and the laws concerning them, but, also, according to local circumstances, and to what may, without injury to the King's interests, contribute to the encour-

agement and promote the greatest welfare of his subjects already settled, or who may settle in those parts of his possessions. After having, with the strictest attention, examined the regulations made by his excellency the Count of O'Reily, the 18th of February, 1770, those which have been made by the present Governor, Don Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, the 1st of January, 1798, and the information given to me on that subject by Don Manuel Serrano, assessor to the intendancy, and by other persons learned in those matters, in order that all those who wish to get lands may know in what manner they are to solicit them, and the conditions on which they may be granted or sold to them; that those who, being already possessors, and not having the necessary titles, may know what steps they are to take in order to come to an arrangement; that the commandants, as subdelegates of the intendancy, may be informed of what they are to observe; that the surveyor general of this capital, and the other surveyors under him, may be informed of the formalities with which they are to proceed to the surveying of the lands granted, sold, or let; that the clerk of the treasury may know what fees he is entitled to, and what duties he will have to fulfil; and that none may be ignorant of any of the requisites most effectually calculated to promote so important an object as the security of landed property: under the reservation of augmenting, altering, or annuling, as time and circumstances may render necessary to accomplish the benevolent purposes of his Majesty, I have resolved that the regulations explained in the following articles shall be observed.

ARTICLE 1.

To each new family which may have all the necessary requisites to be admitted into the number of cultivators of these provinces, and who shall have leave from Government to settle on the place they may have chosen, it shall be granted for once, if it is on the banks of the Mississippi, four, six, or eight arpens in front of the river, on the usual depth of forty. And if in some other place, the quantity they may be deemed able to cultivate, and which may be thought necessary for them, for the pasture of their cattle, in proportion to the number of heads in said family. It is to be understood that the grant is never to exceed eight hundred superficial arpens.

ARTICLE 2.

If in order to get these grants they go to the chief town to solicit, to the petition shall be subjoined the permission granted by the surveyor to settle on the place they may have thought convenient; and if it be in the posts, the commandants, at the same time that they give information that the lands petitioned for are vacant and belong to the crown, will also add that the petitioner has leave from Government to settle, mentioning the date of the letter or advice they may have received.

ARTICLE 3.

Those who may have obtained their grants on the banks of the river will be bound, in the first year of their taking possession, to erect sufficient dams to prevent the overflowing of the waters, and to dig the necessary ditches for the running off of the water which may drain off during the time of high water. They are bound, besides, to cut open and keep the King's highway in good order, and which shall be at least thirty feet wide, and, also, bridges fifteen feet wide over the canals or ditches that may cross it. The same rules shall be observed, according to the custom of the respective districts, by every owner of granted lands in whatever place they may have obtained them.

ARTICLE 4.

The new settlers who may have obtained lands shall likewise be bound to clear and improve, in the precise term of three years, the whole front of their grant, on the depth of two acres, at least, under the penalty (this condition not being fulfilled) that the lands shall revert to the crown. The commandants and syndics shall see that this, as well as what is directed in the preceding article, be strictly complied with, and will give to the intendancy timely information of what they may remark, and will be answerable to his Majesty for not doing so.

ARTICLE 5.

If lands belonging to minors should remain without being cleared, either entirely or as much as is ordered, and the dams, road, ditches, or bridges, should not be made, the commandant or syndic of the district will see whose neglect it is, and if it be the tutor's, he will urge him to obey the orders, and, in the event of his failing so to do, will give notice of it. But if the neglect arises from the minor's not being able to support such expenses, the commandant or syndic will make a summary report of it, which he will send to the intendancy, that they may order such land to be sold for the benefit of the minors, to whom alone such a privilege is granted, provided that, in the course of six months, a purchaser may be found; otherwise, it shall be granted gratis to whoever may petition for the same, or sold for the benefit of the treasury.

ARTICLE 6.

During the aforesaid three years, no owner of granted lands shall be allowed to sell or barter the same; and even after that term it shall not be allowable to do so if he has failed to fulfil the conditions explained in the foregoing articles. And in order to avoid all abuse and impositions, all sales of granted lands shall be deemed void which shall not have been made without having previously obtained from the intendancy a written permission, which shall only be granted after having most scrupulously examined whether the conditions have or have not been fulfilled.

ARTICLE 7.

In order to avoid for the future all confusion and law suits, of which we have daily examples, it has been considered useful that the prothonataries of this town, and the commandants of the posts, should not sign any deed of sale of granted lands unless the settler should give to the purchaser the formal deed, which may have been given to him, taking care besides to mention in the deed the fixed number of acres, the boundaries, and other circumstances proceeding from the act of survey, which shall be subjoined to it.

ARTICLE 8.

In case the small depth of the points of land on the banks of the river should prevent from granting to those who might settle upon them the usual quantity of forty arpens, they will be allowed, as a compensation, a more extended front, or, if nobody should wish either to purchase or solicit the grant of them, they shall be proportionably divided between the neighboring settlers, that they may keep in order the dams, roads, bridges, &c., as is above prescribed.

ARTICLE 9.

Although the King gives up the property of the lands which may be sold, distributed, or granted in his name, the purchasers or owners of granted lands are to know that his Majesty reserves to himself the right of taking from the forests known by the name of Cyprières all the timber which may be requisite for his service, and especially that which his navy may stand in need of; and that in the same manner, and with the same liberty to the undertakers, as they have enjoyed to this day; but they will not think themselves in anywise authorized to cut down more timber than may be necessary, nor to make use, by splitting, of that which they may have cut down and found unfit for masts.

ARTICLE 10.

In the posts of the Opelousas and Attakapas, the greatest quantity of lands to be granted shall be one square league; and where the depth shall only be forty arpens, half a league more in front shall be granted. It is established as a general rule, that, in order to get in the above posts half a league in front, the petitioner must prove that he owns one hundred head of cattle, some horses, some sheep and two slaves; and so on, in proportion, for a larger quantity, without, however, exceeding the quantity above mentioned.

ARTICLE 11.

They will, as much as possible, and as far as the nature of the lands will allow, avoid leaving intervals between the concessions, for it is advantageous that all the concessions should adjoin each other, either that the settlers may mutually assist one another, or for the easier administration of justice and better observance of the regulations of police, indispensable in all places, and more so in new settlements.

ARTICLE 12.

If, notwithstanding what has been above prescribed, swampy grounds or any other cause should render it necessary to leave some lands vacant, the commandants and syndics will take care that the settlers of that district alone take the fire-wood necessary for their consumption, and only as much as they may want; for, should they take more, or should any individual from another post come and cut down timber and firewood without leave from the intendancy, he shall, besides the indemnity which he will be bound to pay to the treasury for the damage he may have done, be fined, the first time, twenty-five dollars, the second double, and the third time be put in prison, according to the degree of offence. The aforesaid fines shall be divided between the treasury, the judge, and the informer.

ARTICLE 13.

The new settler, to whom lands may have been granted in a settlement, will not be allowed to get any in another, unless he has previously made it appear that he has owned the former during three years, and fulfilled the above prescribed conditions.

ARTICLE 14.

The alluvions brought on by the current of the river are often the cause that a part of the concessions becomes useless, so that we have examples of proprietors having given up to the crown the most expensive part of their lands for bridges, ditches, &c., and reserve for themselves the only good part; and if such an abuse was not stopped the greatest evil might result for the neighbors: it is hereby declared that the treasury will not admit of the giving up of any part of the land, unless it does include all the space comprehended in the concession or act in virtue of which he has obtained the property of the land he is desirous of giving up.

ARTICLE 15.

All concessions shall be granted in the name of the King by the general intendant of this province, who will order the surveyor general, or the sub-surveyor named by him, to make the survey and fix the boundaries of said land not only upon the front, but also upon the depth. This operation shall be performed in presence of the commandant or syndic of the district, and of two neighboring settlers, and these four will sign the proceedings which shall be drawn up by the surveyor.

ARTICLE 16.

The aforesaid proceedings, with a certified copy of the same, shall be sent by the surveyor to the intendancy, that from the original a suitable deed may be made out in conjunction with the King's attorney. To this deed shall be joined the certified copy given by the surveyor. The original shall be deposited in the office of the clerk of the finances; and a fit book shall annually be made, with an alphabetical list, in order to facilitate its use when the case may require, and for the greater security. And that at all times, and notwithstanding happening events, the wanted information may be obtained, the surveyor shall likewise keep another numbered book, in which he will enter the verbal proces of the surveys which he may make. And he will note the folio of the book in which he has entered the plan of the survey, both on the original, which shall be deposited in the office of finances, and on the copy joined to the deed.

ARTICLE 17.

There shall also be another numbered book in the office of finances, in which shall be entered the titles of gratuitous grants, in which, besides the usual forms, shall be mentioned the folio of the book on which they are transcribed. It is, moreover, necessary that notice of it should be taken in the office of accounts of the armies and finances, and that under the penalty of being null. The office of accounts will also have another book similar to that of the office just mentioned, and, at the time of entering the notice, shall mention the folio of the book in which it is registered.

ARTICLE 18.

Experience has proven that a great number of those who have petitioned for lands have thought themselves true possessors of them from the time they obtained the first decree, by which the surveyor was ordered to survey them, and to put them into their possession; others, after the survey made, have neglected to apply for the deed; and as such abuses, by still keeping on, would increase the confusion and disorder necessarily resulting from them, it is declared that those who have obtained the aforesaid decrees, although the survey has been made in virtue of them, and that they have been put into possession, shall not look upon himself as proprietor of said lands until a real deed, vested with all the formalities before mentioned, shall have been delivered to them.

ARTICLE 19.

All those who own lands in virtue of formal deeds given by the governors of this province since the period it has become part of the Spanish dominions, and the owners of them at the time it belonged to the French, far from being disturbed, shall, on the contrary, be protected and maintained in their possessions.

ARTICLE 20.

Those who, without the deed or possession mentioned in the foregoing article, should occupy lands, shall be turned out of them as belonging to the crown; but if they had owned them better than ten years, those who may be looked upon as proprietors shall be admitted to an arrangement; that is to say, they shall not be deprived of those lands, provided, after an information and summary proceeding, and with the intervention of the King's attorney to the office of finances, they bind themselves to pay a just and moderate retribution, according to the extensiveness of the lands, of their situation, and other circumstances. And the stipulated price once paid to the King's treasury, a deed, founded upon the proceedings, shall be delivered to them.

ARTICLE 21.

Those who fail in the case expressed in the 18th article, if they have not cleared any part, nor made any sort of improvement upon the lands of which they thought themselves proprietors in virtue of the first decree of Government, not being among the number of those received in the class of new settlers, shall be deprived of them, or shall be admitted to an arrangement in the form expressed by the foregoing article. If, on the contrary, they belong to said class, they are to observe what is ordered in the following article.

ARTICLE 22.

In the precise and peremptory term of six months from the day on which the present regulations shall have been published in each post, all those who own lands without titles from the governors, and those who, having obtained a grant for a certain number of acres, should have made themselves masters of a greater quantity, shall make it known, either that a title may be given to them, if possible, to admit them to an arrangement, or to declare said lands to belong to the crown, if they have not owned them more than ten years. It is to be understood that if, after said term, it becomes known through some other means, they shall neither get the deed nor be admitted to an accommodation.

ARTICLE 23.

The informer, as to lands occupied after the expiration of the term mentioned in the foregoing article, shall have as a reward one-fourth of the price for which they may be sold or granted by way of accommodation; or, if they should suit himself, he shall have the refusal of the purchase of them, by way of accommodation, at the estimated price, and a deduction shall be made of one-fourth of the price, which belongs to him as informer.

ARTICLE 24.

As it is impossible, considering the local circumstances of these provinces, that all the vacant lands of the crown should be sold at auction, as it is ordered by the 15th law, title 12, book 4th of the laws of the kingdom, they shall be sold as they are called for, with the intervention of the King's attorney, at the office of finances, at the price at which shall be taxed those applied for. It is to be understood, that if the purchasers have no money to pay down, they will be allowed to purchase those lands at an extinguishable rent, during which they will pay five per cent. per annum.

ARTICLE 25.

Besides the moderate price at which the lands shall be taxed, the purchaser will be bound to pay down the right of media annata, or half a year, and of remittance to Spain; which, according to the custom of Havana, (which has become a law,) is reduced to 2½ per cent. of the estimated price, and 18 per cent. of the sum, to which amounts the said 2½ per cent.; they will also have to pay down the surveyors' and notaries' fees.

ARTICLE 26.

The sale of the lands shall be made on the same conditions, and under the same charges of highways, bridges, and ditches, as expressed in the foregoing articles; but the purchasers will not run the risk of being deprived of them: if, in the course of three years, they have not fulfilled the said conditions, the commandants or syndics will compel them to comply with the order in a reasonable time; and if they do not obey, the said work shall be done at their expenses.

ARTICLE 27.

In said sales, they will always endeavor to comply with what is directed in the 11th article, considering the advantages and utility arising from the settlements being close to one another, whenever it can conveniently be done.

ARTICLE 28.

The titles of property of lands which shall be sold or given by way of accommodation, shall be made out by the intendant general, and legalized by the clerk of the finances; who, after it is ascertained that the stipulated price, and media annata, or rent of the stipulated price, have been paid into the treasury, shall set it down in writing, according to the summary act which shall be drawn up of it, with the intervention of the King's attorney.

ARTICLE 29.

The said summary act shall be deposited in the office of finances, and the deed shall be transcribed in another book kept for the entering of sales and of grants of lands, in the same manner as is ordered in the 17th article for the gratuitous grants. The chief office of accounts shall also keep a distinct book, to take notes of the deeds which shall be delivered for the sales and grants of land by accommodation.

ARTICLE 30.

The surveyors' fees, in all cases arising under the present regulations, shall be proportioned to his work, and to what they have been used to pay him until now. Those

of the clerks of the finances, whenever there is not an extraordinary work, and when the new settlers are not poor, (for in that case he shall not take any thing from them,) shall be five dollars, including the registry and other formalities. And those of the appraisers and interpreters, if they are sometimes employed in translating some pieces, receiving declarations, or other acts, shall be regulated by the tariff of the province.

ARTICLE 31.

The Indians owning land throughout the whole of this Government, shall not be disturbed, but, on the contrary, shall be maintained and supported: and the commandants, syndics, and surveyors, shall pay the strictest attention to it, in order to make their reports in consequence thereof.

ARTICLE 32.

There shall not be proceeded to the sale or granting of any land until previous and formal information has been received that such lands are vacant: and, to avoid prejudicial errors, they are to know that, besides the hand and seal of the commandant or syndic of the district, that information shall also be vested with that of the surveyor and two settlers, neighbors of the land petitioned for. It is to be understood that if, notwithstanding this necessary precaution, another person should claim the land, and that there should be sufficient reasons to give it back to him, the commandant or syndic who should have signed the information, together with the surveyor and settlers, shall indemnify the sufferer for the loss sustained.

ARTICLE 33.

The settlers shall endeavor to have, as much as possible, all their petitions for land written in Spanish, in which language shall equally be written all the advices and informations which the commandants may have to give; and, in the posts in which this may not be practicable, they will follow the ancient custom.

ARTICLE 34.

All the lands belonging to the crown which shall be found vacant, either in the towns or villages already settled or which may be settled, shall be sold for cash, agreeably to the formalities prescribed in the 24th article, and others relating to the sale of lands.

ARTICLE 35.

The owners of lands which have been distributed, both on the front of this town and on the extremities northeast and southwest, will present within the space of three months, to the intendancy, the titles they have obtained for them, that if any material circumstances should be wanting, their property may be secured to them in a legal manner.

ARTICLE 36.

The same thing shall be done before the subdelegates of Mobile and Pensacola for those who have obtained concessions of lands in their respective settlements, that this intendancy, by being informed of it, may give the necessary orders for what they think most proper to indemnify the King's treasury without injuring the proprietors.

ARTICLE 37.

In the office of accounts of this province, and other offices depending from the jurisdiction of this intendancy, a separate account shall be kept of the amount of the sales of lands, in order to give yearly information to his Majesty of what this branch of the King's revenues may bring in, as it is ordered by the 13th article of the King's ordinance of the 15th of October, 1754.

ARTICLE 38.

The commandants or syndics shall be, in their respective districts, entrusted with the collection of the taxes put upon the lands. They shall receive the necessary advices, and they shall annually send to the treasury the sums which they may have collected, that the usual receipts may be forwarded to them. And that the present regulations may come to the knowledge of every person, and that the thirty-eight articles of which they are composed may have their full effect until it please his Majesty to dispose otherwise, it shall be translated into French by the King's interpreter, Mr. Peter Derbigny, printed in both tongues, sent into all the places and posts of the jurisdiction of this intendancy, that their commandants or subdelegates of the same may make it known to the inhabitants in the usual form. There shall also be sent copies of the same to the governor and most illustrious cabilde, that they may lend their assistance to the execution of what has been above resolved, according to the laws and ordinances given on that subject, and in the full confidence that this is the best that can be done without any injury to the King's interest, and for the prosperity of his Majesty's subjects in this colony.

JUAN VENTURA MORALES.

NEW ORLEANS, *July 17th*, 1799.

These regulations were published at St. Louis, 6th February, 1800; for proof of which, see minutes No. 3, p. 405. They are, besides, rather declaratory of principles which already existed in the Colonial Code, than the creation of new ones. FREDERICK BATES,
Recorder Land Titles.

See also Morales' prohibition, p. 67 of the appendix to Digest of Laws.

Instructions of Governor Miro to Commandant Lozaber, as to distribution of lands.

As it is necessary that families should settle on their arrival, you will place them, without farther instructions, in the following order. To each family having no negroes will be allowed six acres in front on the bayou or lake by forty in depth, forming two hundred and forty acres. To such as have two, three, or four negroes, or have in family four or six children grown up, or able-bodied men, will be conceded as many as ten acres in front by the aforesaid depth. To such as will bring with them ten or twenty negroes, will be conceded fifteen; and to such as bring more than twenty, will be conceded twenty in front. By so many acres in front by the customary depth of 40, I mean that they be of commodious access, as is the case on the banks of the Mississippi; for it is proper that each family shall have access to the water of the lakes on which they are settled; but if the depth be short, it will be proper to allow a larger front, and a smaller one if it is greater. You will, however, be regulated by the situation of the lands, taking care to allot the number of square acres composing the portion above mentioned, according to the strength of each family. The portions of land to be conceded ought to be more or less great, as above mentioned, not only on account of the slaves each family brings with them, but also according to the property they may possess, and with which they may purchase slaves, wherefore they are entitled to more lands than those who bring nothing.

MIRO.

NEW ORLEANS, *July 20th*, 1789.

16th CONGRESS. **No. 331.** 2d SESSION.

LOCATION OF THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT OF ILLINOIS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 24, 1821.

Mr. COOKE, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the memorial of the Legislature of the State of Illinois, respecting the title to the land upon which their Seat of Government is located, reported:

The memorialists state that Congress granted to the State of Illinois four sections of land, to be selected by Commissioners appointed under the provision of the 13th section of the schedule of the constitution thereof, for the purpose of locating thereupon the Seat of Government of said State for twenty years. That, in making such selection, the Commissioners (with three other adjoining sections) made choice of section number 16, in township number 6 north, range number 1 east, of the third principal meridian. That, by virtue of the authority vested in them by law, the commissioners proceeded to lay out a town, and, at great expense, have erected a State-house upon the said section number 16. The Legislature, fearing the title of the State to the said section may be considered doubtful, in consequence of the grant previously made by the United States of the sixteenth section in each township to the State, for the use of such township for the encouragement of learning,

pray Congress to pass a law declaring the validity of its title, and to direct the issuing of a patent therefor; and also to authorize the State to make a selection of another section in said township in lieu of the sixteenth, for the use of the inhabitants thereof.

The committee, upon examining the subject, find that, prior to the passage of the act entitled "An act to enable the people of the Illinois Territory to form a constitution and State Government, and for the admission of such State into the Union on an equal footing with the original States," passed the 18th April, 1818, the section number sixteen in every township was *reserved* for the maintainance of public schools within the township. This *reservation* for that purpose has at no time, however, previous to the organization of a State Government, been held absolutely to *vest* the title thereto in the township; on the contrary, Congress has repeatedly disposed of such section, both by granting it *absolutely* to individuals who, by virtue of ancient settlement thereupon, have received donations covering their improvements, and *qualifiedly* to those to whom the right of pre-emption was granted, who had settled upon that section in any township. Congress seems to have acted upon the principle that a simple *reservation* of land for a specific purpose does not amount to an *application* of such reservation to that purpose, but remains subject to the authority of the reserving power, until some positive enactment declares its application and appropriation to that object.

The sixteenth section, therefore, in Illinois was not *applied* to the use of, nor vested in, the township, until it became so by the compact entered into between that State and the United States—a compact which forms a part of her constitution. By virtue of that compact, the right of each township is guaranteed to the section number sixteen, or, when it "has been *sold* or otherwise disposed of, to other lands equivalent thereto," *with the exception, however, in the opinion of the committee, of this particular case.*

By the thirteenth section of the schedule of the constitution it is provided, "That the Seat of Government for the State shall be at Kaskaskia until the General Assembly shall otherwise provide. The General Assembly, at their first session holden under the authority of this constitution, shall petition the Congress of the United States to grant to this State a quantity of land, to consist of not more than four nor less than one section, or to give to this State the right of pre-emption in the purchase of the said quantity of land; the said land to be situate on the Kaskaskia river, and as near as may be east of the third principal meridian on said river. Should the prayer of such petition be granted, the General Assembly, at the next session thereafter, shall provide for the appointment of five commissioners to make the selection of said land so granted; and shall further provide for laying out a town upon the land so selected; which town, so laid out, shall be the Seat of Government for this State for the term of twenty years."

This provision forms a part of that whole of which the compact above alluded to is also a part; and, in as much as its terms are general, and therefore leaving the Commisioners, when authorized, as they afterwards were by Congress, to make a selection of *any* four adjoining sections, without restriction to those of particular numbers, the possibility that the sixteenth section might be, as it has really turned out to be, one of the most eligible for the purpose contemplated, it is conceived by the committee, constitutes an exception to the otherwise general effect of the compact—a compact which, without such exception, could not be revoked without the mutual consent of the State in its constitutional character, and of the United States.

Adopting this as the correct view of the subject, the committee conceive the State was authorized to select the sixteenth section for the purpose to which it is applied; and, as the grant of these four sections is a grant in *addition* to the grants previously made to the State, they are also of opinion that it is right to authorize the State to make a selection of another section within the same township, for the use of the inhabitants thereof, in lieu of the section aforesaid, which, under such previous grant, would have been applied to that use. They report a bill accordingly.

16th Congress. **No. 332.** 2d Session.

APPLICATION OF INDIANA TO TAX THE PUBLIC LANDS AFTER SALE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 26, 1821.

Mr. Thomas, from the Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the memorial of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, praying permission to tax all lands sold by the United States on or subsequent to the first day of July, 1820; and, also, all lands sold since the first day of December, 1816, on which the payments to the United States have been completed, reported:

That the memorialists allege, as the reasons of their application, "that the United States now require cash payments for lands sold subsequently to the first of July last;" that the revenue of the State from lands is small, and that the people of Indiana are desirous that the exemption from taxation should be abolished.

The committee beg leave to remark, that the provision in the act of Congress providing for the admission of Indiana into the Union, that lands sold subsequently to the first day of December, 1816, should be exempt from taxation for five years from the day of sale," was not (as the memorialists suppose) imposed on the State by Congress as a restriction, but was, in fact, a compact entered into between Congress, on behalf of the people of the United States, and the Convention in behalf of the people of Indiana, by which Congress granted to the State a full and adequate equivalent for the exemption. The United States, by that law, offered to the Convention "for their free acceptance or rejection," section No. 16 in every township, *for the use of schools;* all the salt springs in the State, with the lands necessary for the working them, *for the use of the State;* three per cent. of the net proceeds of the sales of public lands for the purpose of making roads and canals *within the State;* one entire township "*for the use of a seminary of learning;*" and four sections of land for the seat of Government: and the only consideration desired for these important grants, was the exemption from taxation which the memorialists wish to have abolished. The grants were accepted by the Convention, and it is impossible to suppose that the grants made by Congress were not considered, at the time, as much more valuable than the right of immediate taxation on lands to be disposed of afterwards. The State and people of Indiana are now in the full enjoyment of those grants which the General Assembly do not propose to surrender; and there is, therefore, no reciprocity in the prayer of the memorial.

It may be further observed, that the exemption from taxation for a limited time, in favor of purchasers of public lands, has been stipulated for by Congress in the admission of all the States in which the United States held lands. It was the policy of Congress to encourage purchasers to vest their funds in public lands, and the exemption from taxation is an important inducement to do so.

The uniform perseverance of Congress in procuring the exemption, affords strong grounds to believe that it has a beneficial influence, and that it ought not to be surrendered in any case without the most cogent reasons.

The committee are of opinion that so much of the prayer of the memorial as applies to lands already sold, could not be granted without a breach of that good faith which ought always to be observed and kept inviolate between the Government and the people. The purchases have been made with a promise of exemption from taxation, and that promise ought not to be broken. But the committee look in vain for any circumstance which ought to induce Congress to make the desired change even for the future. The fact that purchasers now pay cash for their lands, should rather entitle them to increased favor and protection; and it is the interest of the United States, instead of withdrawing any existing inducements, to increase and extend every encouragement in their power to those who will buy for cash. The situation of the revenue of Indiana could be no reason for interfering, unless Congress had withdrawn from that State some source of revenue which existed at the time the exemption was created.

From a full consideration of the memorial, and the reasons on which it is founded, your committee deem it inexpedient to grant the permission prayed for, and therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the memorialists ought not to be granted.

16th Congress. No. 333. 2d Session.

MILITARY BOUNTY LANDS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 1, 1821.

Mr. Monell made the following report:

The Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the resolution of the 19th day of December, 1820, instructing the committee to inquire whether any, and if any, what regulations can be adopted, consistent with the interest of the Government, whereby the soldiers of the late war who have not received their bounty lands, can be better provided for than under existing laws, respectfully report:

By statements furnished from the General Land Office, it appears that, prior to the 30th of November, 1820, 24,420 warrants had issued for single bounties, and 979 for double bounties; that patents had issued thereupon for 19,114 of the former, and for 664 of the latter, leaving unsatisfied warrants on that day for single bounties 5,306, and for double bounties 315, which, when added together and estimated as single bounties, left 6,026 warrants unsatisfied on that day. These warrants, at 160 acres each, being the amount of a single bounty, are equal to 967,500 acres.

In addition to these outstanding and unsatisfied warrants, it appears by a letter from the adjutant and inspector general, that there remains about 14,500 non-commissioned officers, musicians, and privates, who will be entitled to warrants upon application therefor. Taking into view the number of double bounties that may be embraced by this large number of claimants, it is believed they may be safely estimated as equal to 15,000 single bounties, which are equal to 2,400,000 acres; add this to the quantity necessary to meet the unsatisfied warrants as stated above, and the aggregate will be 3,367,560 acres. The whole number of soldiers, from these statements, it will be seen, to whom patents are yet to be issued, considering them as entitled to single bounties only, is 21,026.

To examine whether any thing can be done consistent with the interest of the Government, by which this poor but meritorious class of our citizens may be benefitted, was the object of the reference to the committee; and after the experience which the committee, in common with the community at large, have had of the little good which the soldiers to whom patents have been issued, have derived from these lands; from a knowledge of the fact, that the necessities of many, upon leaviug the service, and the want of society in consequence of the location of those lands in the wilderness, induced many others to sell their lands for less than one-fourth of the amount that would have been received for them by the Government at the minimum price of the public lands, are led to the conclusion that some change can be made upon this subject mutually beneficial to the Government and the individuals. Aside from the consideration which the committee deem important, that the location of large military tracts of land in any State greatly retards its settlement, and gives rise to endless litigation, growing out of fraudulent and defective conveyances, as well as out of sales made by such State in the enforcement of its revenue laws; and aside also from all arguments drawn from the demoralizing influence which the possession of such quantities of land by an uninformed and necessitous class of the community has upon them when means are competent to the successful practice of fraud and deception, the committee are of opinion that the regularity of the receipts into the Treasury from the sale of the public lands not only recommends, but greatly demands the curtailment of that competition which must result from throwing into market such large quantities of land, which, by the unavoidable circumstances of the case, is so greatly depreciated in value.

As relates to the soldiers themselves, the committee are of opinion that great advantage can be conferred by allowing them to relinquish their warrants and in their stead to receive Treasury certificates, to be receivable only in payment for public lands, giving to each one an amount equal to the minimum price of *one-half* the quantity of the public land to which they are now entitled: by this means many may obtain, within the reach of neighbors, and the consequent advantages of society, a home for themselves and families, and enjoy the reward of their toil and their patriotism, instead, as under existing regulations, being left a prey to the wealthy, and often designing and artful speculator. By this means, also, the Government will save one-half the quantity of land which it is now bound to distribute amongst the soldiers, which, at the *minimum price*, will be equal to $2,104,705.

The committee are aware that it may appear, at first view of the subject, that they propose to deal out unequal justice between those who have and those who have not received their bounty land. To this objection, it might be sufficient to say that experience has developed the lameness of the present law, and that it is proper to amend it. It is believed, too, that the curtailment of this description of land will open a competition amongst the holders of the patents already granted, and therefore enhance the value of their lands, but the committee think the objection entirely done away when opposed by the answer, that, to those who have received their patents, the Government has performed all that it stipulated to do.

Considering, therefore, as the committee do, that the interest of the Government, the interest of the claimants, and the interest of those who have already obtained their patents, will be promoted by the passage of the bill they have agreed upon, report it accordingly for the consideration of the House.

16th Congress. No. 334. 2d Session.

NEW MADRID CLAIMANTS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS FEBRUARY 8, 1821.

Office Attorney General U. States,
May 11*th*, 1820.

Sir: I have examined the letter of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, with its enclosures, referred to me on yesterday; and after an attentive consideration of the act of Congress of the 17th February, 1815, "for the relief of the inhabitants of the late county of New Madrid, in the Missouri Territory, who suffered by earthquakes," I am of the opinion—

1. That the patent must, under the provisions of this act, issue to the person who was the owner at the date of the act, or, in case of his death, to his heirs or devisees. The act attaches no assignable quality to the charity which it bestows; and the act being the only warrant of authority to the Commissioner to issue a patent, at all, he must pursue that authority strictly. Even if these charities (for they are nothing else) were assignable, there is no sufficient evidence of assignment in the particular case submitted to me. The certificate of the clerk of a court "that there appears of record in his office a regular chain of title" from A to Z, is an extra-official act, and entirely nugatory. He is a mere recording officer, and may certify copies from his records. But the law has not made him a judge of what is a valid deed, or a valid assignment, or what the legal operation of their terms to pass title. It was not the intention of Congress to make these charities a subject of speculation. The law was passed to help the poor who had been rendered indigent by a visitation of God, not to enrich the speculator. It was not their intention to encumber the Commissioner of

the Land Office with the laborious duty of tracing the genuineness of a long chain of assignments, with all their usual concomitants of fraud and oppression, if not of forgery and perjury. The act looked to the immediate relief of the sufferers; and hence, by the terms of the act, the relief is strictly confined to them; so that I see nothing either in the language or object of the law to authorize the issuing of a patent to any other than the owner at the date of the act, or, if he be dead, to his heirs or devisees.

2. I am of opinion that it was not the intention of Congress, in authorizing the sufferers "to locate the like quantity of land on any of the public lands of the said territory, the sale of which is authorized by law," to change or affect in any manner that admirable system of location by squares which had been so studiously adopted in relation to all their Territories. This is manifest from the consideration that they have made the avowed object of the act yield to this arrangement. The avowed object of the act was to give to the sufferer the *same quantity* of land which he had lost by the earthquakes; yet it is provided that if he had lost less than 160 acres of land, (the smallest subdivision of a section,) he was still to have a patent for 160 acres; if he had lost more than 640 acres, (the exact quantity of a section,) he was still to have but 640 acres: so that in the first instance he is to receive more than he has lost, and, in the last, less; for no other conceivable reason than the desire of Congress to preserve the uniformity and symmetry of the system which had been previously adopted for the location and settlement of all those Territories. On your last question, I am therefore of the opinion that the locations under this act must conform with the general plan of surveying the public lands.

I have the honor, &c.,

WM. WIRT.

Hon. W. H. Crawford, *Treas. Dept.*

Office Attorney General U. States,

June 19, 1820.

Sir: Major Berry's letter of the 17th instant, which you have done me the honor to submit for my opinion, proposes that patents may issue, under the act of Congress of the 17th February, 1815, "for the relief of the inhabitants of the late county of New Madrid, in the Missouri Territory, who suffered by earthquakes," in four classes of cases, which I shall consider in the order presented by him.

1. "That patents may issue upon locations made upon certificates for more than 160 acres and less than 640, where the locator takes one or more quarter sections, and so much of an adjoining one as will make the quantity."

In the communication which I had the honor to make to you on the 11th of the last month, I expressed the opinion that it was not the intention of Congress, in this act of charity to the New Madrid sufferers, to permit them, by their locations, to break in upon the plan of sections and their subdivisions which had been adopted for the sale of these Territories; and I inferred this from the circumstances that, where a sufferer had lost less than a quarter section, he was still permitted to locate that quantity; and where he had lost more than a whole section, he was reduced, in his right of location, to one entire section; both which regulations are departures from the general and avowed object of the law, (which was to give them the exact quantity they had lost,) and for the adoption of which the manifest reason was to preserve the entire system as far as it could be preserved. I am still of this opinion. These two cases, however, of the sufferer who has lost *less than a quarter section*, or *more than a whole section*, (the only two cases in which Congress has given an explicit direction,) will not furnish an answer to the case proposed by Major Berry; which is that of a sufferer who has lost *more than a quarter section* and *less than a whole one;* and yet a quantity not coinciding with any subdivision of the section. In this case, the only guide given us by the act is, that the party shall have the like quantity of land with that which he has lost; and if to give him this like quantity it becomes necessary to subdivide a quarter section, I do not perceive that it can be avoided consistently with the avowed object of the law. In making this subdivision, however, the policy of the law should be so far respected as not to change the rectangular and quadrilateral form of the residue of the quarter section; which can be effected only by making the subdividing line parallel and coextensive with the line of the contiguous quarter section, which forms a part of his location. Suppose, for example, the party be entitled to 200 acres: he will take one quarter section, 160 acres; and, from either of the adjoining quarter sections of the same section, he will take 40 acres, to be cut off from it by a line parallel and coextensive with the line of the quarter section which he has previously chosen. By this means he will get the exact quantity to which he is entitled, which meets the express object of the law; and he will get it in the form which interferes the least with the admirable system of our territorial surveys, which so far respects the manifest wish of Congress apparent on the face of the act. No other method occurs which so well attains both these purposes. I proceed to consider Major Berry's second proposition.

2. "That a location may be made to take so much of a fractional section or sections as will make the quantity, where the sections are made so by the river or private claims."

The act authorizes the sufferers "to locate the like quantity of land on *any* of the public lands of the said territory, *the sale of which is authorized by law:*" the sale of fractional sections being authorized by law, they are consequently open to the location of the sufferers: this, *as a general position*, appears to me unavoidable under the language of this law. If a quarter section and a fractional section, together, will make the quantity to which the party is entitled, I do not perceive that it can be refused to him: or, if a fractional section alone will make the quantity, I do not perceive that it can be refused: or if part of a fractional section will give him the quantity, I should think him entitled to it, as the law now stands: but if there be any local advantage attached to such fractional section, (e. g. if one side of it be washed by a river,) he ought not to be permitted so to divide it as to monopolize the whole of this advantage to himself, but to apportion it equally between the part which he takes and that which he leaves. So, if the quantity to which he is entitled under the law would require several fractional sections to make the complement, bounded by a river, or any other local advantage, the party should not be permitted to string his location along the shore, so as to pass from one range of sections into another, and thereby to engross the shore to himself; for this would be to abuse the charity of the law to the public detriment. It is dangerous to give a general answer to a general and abstract question like this: for that which is true in the general, often becomes erroneous and unjust in its application to particular cases. It is better to put the specific case, and, if necessary, to accompany it by a diagram.

3. "That locations made in a square *previous to the sectional lines being run*, &c., &c., &c., shall be patented."

This is wholly inadmissible. The authority given is to make these locations on any of the public lands of the Territory, *the sale of which is authorized by law:* but the sale is not authorized by law until the sectional lines are run; and, consequently, all locations previously made by these sufferers are unauthorized. The circumstance of their being located in a square is perfectly immaterial to the policy of the law; for, although in a square, they may not, and most probably will not, quadrate with the sectional lines of the general survey; since squares may lie to any and to every point of the compass, no two contiguous squares quadrating together: whereas the sectional scheme calls for parallel lines throughout the whole Territory.

4, and lastly. "That where a location shall be made upon a certificate issued in lieu of a town lot, certifying that the claimant may locate any quantity not exceeding 160 acres, and the claimant shall, at his option, locate a piece of land bounded by other claims, so that the whole quantity cannot be had, a patent shall issue for the location."

As a general proposition, this, I think, is to be answered affirmatively, though a diagram in the particular case might change my opinion. The law does not say that the party who has lost less than 160 acres *shall* locate *that precise quantity*, but that he is authorized to locate and obtain *any quantity of land not exceeding* 160 *acres*. He may consequently, if he chooses, take less than 160 acres—if he can find a less quantity together coming within the description of *public lands, the sale of which is authorized by law.*

The law is imperfect, and requires amendment. The opinions which I have expressed appear to me to correspond with the intention of Congress, so far as that intention is discoverable on the face of this act. Yet the case is far from being one of absolute certainty.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Most respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

WM. WIRT.

The Hon. Wm. H. Crawford,

Treasury Department.

OFFICE ATTORNEY GENERAL U. STATES,
June 22, 1820.

SIR: I perceive nothing in the statement of facts made to-day by Major Berry, to change the opinion which I had the honor of expressing to you on the 19th instant. The fundamental defect still remains, that the New Madrid locations were made on lands the sale of which was not then authorized by law. Those locations were, therefore, made without authority, and are void; and patents consequently cannot issue on them.

The contemporaneous survey of these void locations, with the general survey, and the permitting them to produce the effect of causing fractions in the general survey, was unauthorized by law. On the law as it stands, I should pronounce the sales of these fractions illegal and void; because the public law, of which every one is bound to take notice, authorized no such fractions from such a cause. The sales ought to be set aside, and the sections still subdivided according to law. This may produce a good deal of inconvenience to individuals, but we have no power to alter the law; and, so far as I can discern, nothing less than the power of Congress can sanction the radical error which has been committed, and the consequences which have followed it.

I have the honor, &c.,
WM. WIRT.

Hon. W. H. CRAWFORD, *Treas. Dept.*

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
8th February, 1821.

SIR: I had the honor to receive your letter of 1st instant, enclosing a resolution of the Senate, dated 22d January, relative to New Madrid claimants, and requesting me to draft a bill on the subject. Instead of drafting a bill, I beg leave to submit the following facts and observations, and hope they may afford some light to the committee in framing a bill to obviate the difficulties which encumber the subject.

The act of 3d March, 1811, authorizes (vol. 4, p. 360,) the survey of lands in Louisiana, the establishment of a land office, and the sale of lands there, when surveyed. In pursuance of this act a proclamation issued on the 30th of April, 1818, for the sale of lands at St. Louis.

The act of 12th April, 1814, (vol. 4, p. 682,) gives the right of pre-emption to settlers in Missouri, on the same terms as given by the act of 5th February, 1813, to settlers in Illinois, viz. one quarter section each, bounded by sectional lines.

The act of 17th February, 1815, (vol. 4, p. 803,) gives to the inhabitants of New Madrid a right to locate on any public lands in Missouri, a quantity not less than 160 acres and not more than 640 acres; the recorder is directed to issue a certificate to each person entitled to a tract, and the surveyor is directed to survey the tract, and return a plat of each location to the recorder.

This office conceived that this act gave the Madrid claimants a right to locate at their option, without being limited by sectional lines. If they were to be limited by sectional lines, the direction that the surveyor should survey their locations was totally unnecessary: if they were to wait till the general surveys were made, the relief would not be suitable to persons whose farms had been destroyed by earthquakes. Under this construction the Madrid claimants made their locations. When the general surveys were completed, the connexion of them with the Madrid claims produced a number of irregular fractions of sections, and those fractions have many of them been sold.

The Attorney General has decided that the above construction is erroneous: that the act did not authorize a departure from, or encroachment upon, the established system of surveying: that the Madrid claimants were to be limited by sectional lines, and that the sales of the irregular fractions are void.

The act of 29th April, 1816, extends the right of pre-emption in Missouri to adjoining fractional sections.

The act of 17th February, 1818, establishes three more land offices in Missouri, to be opened when the lands are surveyed: the lands to be sold when the offices are opened.

The act of 3d March, 1819, extends the right of pre-emption to the district of Howard county.

The act of 17th March, 1820, directs the officers in Lawrence district to receive claims to pre-emption rights.

Under those various laws pre-emption claims have been entered: some of the claimants have paid the purchase money.

The first act in favor of pre-emptioners gives the right to a quarter section; the act in favor of Madrid claimants, (next in chronological order,) gives a right to locate; they locate adjoining those quarter sections. The next act extends the right of pre-emption to adjoining fractional sections; and, under this act, the pre-emptioners claim the land located by Madrid claimants. Again, Madrid claimants have located in the district of Howard county; some in conformity with sectional lines, others not. Under the act extending the right of pre-emption to Howard county, the pre emptioners claim the lands previously located by Madrid claimants. It is believed that none of the irregular sections which have been sold are claimed either by New Madrid claimants or by pre-emptioners. If those sales are void, I presume a law to give them validity will be necessary.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,
JOSIAH MEIGS.

Hon. JESSE B. THOMAS,
Chair'n Com. Pub. Lands, Senate.

16th CONGRESS. **No. 335.** 2d SESSION.

PROPOSITION TO GRANT LAND TO THE OLD STATES FOR THE PURPOSES OF EDUCATION.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE FEBRUARY 9, 1821.

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on Public Lands, being instructed to inquire into the justice and expediency of granting land for the purposes of education within the limits of the old States, corresponding with the appropriations which have been made for the same object within the limits of the new States, reported:

That, under laws of the United States, lands have been granted for the purposes of education in the States of Ohio, Louisiana, Indiana, Mississippi, Illinois, and Alabama, in the proportion of one thirty-sixth part of all the public lands within the State, with the addition of two townships, or forty-six thousand and eighty acres in each State, and to Louisiana an additional township, or twenty-three thousand and forty-acres. The quantity which is already vested in each of the above States by the operation of this system, and which will vest in them when the Indian title shall have been extinguished, and the whole of the lands are surveyed, will be exhibited with sufficient accuracy for all practical purposes by the annexed estimate of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, and is a part of this report. The committee also remark that, by an act of the eighteenth of April, 1806, a donation of two hundred thousand acres of land was made to the State of Tennessee for the use of two colleges and academies in each county in the State, to be established by the Legislature thereof; and six hundred and forty acres in each six miles square, where it was practicable, for the use of schools; and that a township, or twenty-three thousand and forty acres, was, on the 3d of March, eighteen hundred and nineteen, granted by the United States to the Connecticut Asylum for the Education of Deaf and Dumb Persons.

The lands thus granted to the States for the above purposes are not subject to taxation by the State Government, and can only be settled in the manner pointed out by the States in which they lie. If therefore, correspondent quantities for the purposes of education are to be granted to all the old States (under which term the committee believe all States will be included which have not received donations of land for that purpose,) it would seem that the States and Territories which now contain public land would have an excessive proportion of their superfices taken up with such donations, leaving but a small part of the land in each subject to taxation, or to settlement, except at the will of other sovereign States.

In receiving donations of land for the purposes of promoting education in the States in which they have been granted, in the opinion of the committee, a consideration has been rendered therefor, on the part of those States, by the increased value which the population and improvement of the State gave to the unsold public lands, and by the compact not to tax the lands of the United States at any time before they were sold, nor until the lapse of five years thereafter.

The lands, therefore, granted to some of the new States for the purposes of education, though distinguished in common parlance by the name of *donations*, were in fact sales bottomed upon valuable considerations, in which the new States surrendered their *right* of sovereignty over the remaining public lands, and gave up the whole amount which might have been received in taxes before such lands were sold and for five years thereafter.

The committee are therefore of opinion that it is inexpedient to grant lands to the extent contemplated in the resolution; but that it is just and *expedient* to grant a per centum, to a reasonable extent, on the amount of sales of public lands for the purpose of *promoting education* in such of the States as have not received the aid of the General Government, distributing the amount among the several States according to the population of each: and that justice would require an equivalent from the United States to the States and Territories which contain public lands, if it should be deemed advisable to make the donation to the old States recommended in this report; and they are of opinion that, in that event, it will be enentirly just to subject to taxation, by such State or Territory, all lands sold by the United States therein, from and after the day on which they may be sold.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, *Feb.* 2, 1821,

SIR: Agreeably to your letter of 30th ultimo, I transmit, herewith, an estimate of the quantity of lands in Ohio, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, Illinois, and Alabama, showing the quantity surveyed in each, the quantity unsurveyed, and the amount of one-thirty-sixth part of the surveyed and unsurveyed lands.

I am, very respectfully, sir,
Your obedient servant,
JOSIAH MEIGS.

Hon. JESSE B. THOMAS,
Chairman Committee Public Lands, Senate.

Estimate of the quantity of public lands in the following States; showing the quantity surveyed and unsurveyed; also the amount of one-thirty-sixth part of each.

States.	Total public lands in the State.	Quantity surveyed.	One-thirty-sixth part.	Quantity unsurveyed.	One-thirty-sixth part.
Ohio - -	13,824,000	12,642,000	351,166	1,182,000	32,833
Indiana - -	21,565,440	9 926,020	275,722	11,639,420	323,317
Illinois - -	34,560,000	9,330,600	259,183	25,229,400	700,816
Louisiana - -	26,496,000	1,966,720	54,631	24,529,280	681,369
Mississippi -	26,000,000	9,040,960	251,137	16,959,040	471,084
Alabama - -	26,448,000	12,948,480	359,680	13,499,520	374,986

N. B. The estimate of the quantity in each State is obtained by calculations from printed maps, and cannot be relied on for accuracy.

JOSIAH MEIGS.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, *February* 2, 1821.

16th CONGRESS. **No. 336.** 2d SESSION.

LAND CLAIMS AT MOBILE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE FEBRUARY 23, 1821.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, *Feb.* 22, 1821.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit, herewith, the reports of the land officers at Jackson court-house on claims for land. The reports are numbered 10 and 11.

I am, most respectfully, sir,
Your obedient servant,
JOSIAH MEIGS.

The honorable the PRESIDENT *of the Senate.*

LAND OFFICE JACKSON COURT-HOUSE,
January 21, 1821.

SIR: We have the honor, herewith, to transmit our final report on the claim of William E. Kennedy, under Thomas Price, for six hundred arpens of land adjoining the town of Mobile; also, a report of evidence collected in relation to certain lots in and adjoining to Mobile, which was inadvertently omitted in our general report.

From a strict examination of the settlement claim of Samuel Haines, No. 136, in report No. 12 of the late commissioner, the certificate of which was suspended on a suggestion of fraud, we are convinced it is a *bona fide* claim, and have accordingly issued the certificate to the claimant.

We have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir,
Your obedient servants,
W. BARTON.
WM. BARNETT.

Hon. JOSIAH MEIGS,
Commiss. Gen. Land Office, Washington City.

REPORT No. 10.

Supplemental report on the claim of William E. Kennedy, under Thomas Price, for six hundred arpens of land adjoining the town of Mobile, vide claim No. 3, in report No. 8 of the Register and Receiver.

In our report on the above mentioned claim, we remarked that, in order to obtain a full view of its merits, and more especially to ascertain whether it would encroach on Fort Charlotte and other public grounds in Mobile, we should direct the principal deputy surveyor to make an accurate survey and plat of the same, according to the Spanish title under which it is claimed. This survey has been executed, and a plat thereof returned to this office on the 5th instant, by which it appears that a great many lots which have been sold by the claimant, William E. Kennedy, and which have been improved, and are occupied by the purchasers, are not included in the survey, and that a considerable number of lots granted by the Spanish authorities previously to the real or pretended grant to Price, some of which are founded on complete grants of all within the lines of the survey.

From a strict examination of the archives of the commandancy of Mobile, no record appears of the order of survey to Price, under which Kennedy claims. But this fact is not conclusive that such a grant was not made, in as much as it is currently reported and credited, that many of the papers of that office which were left here at the capitulation of Mobile, are not now in the office. It certainly appears very extraordinary that a subject, having no stronger claims on the justice or munificence of his Government than Price, who was only Indian interpreter, should have received the enormous grant of six hundred arpens of land surrounding the

town of Mobile, and embracing all the ungranted lots in the town. We cannot, for a moment, suppose that the then governor of Louisiana, Manual Gayoso de Lemos, an officer who appears to have been extremely cautious in granting lands, could have intended to *give away* all the ungranted lots in the town of Mobile, and the whole of its suburbs. If the grant to Price be a genuine one, it is reasonable to presume that the governor was deceived, by the information of the commandant, as to the locality of the land intended to be granted. From a deliberate view of all the facts and circumstances connected with this claim, we have strong reasons to suspect its validity. We cannot, therefore, recommend it to be confirmed by Congress.

W. BARTON, *Register.*
WM. BARNETT, *Receiver.*

December 29, 1820.

REPORT No. 11.

Register of evidence collected in relation to lots in the town of Mobile.

Number.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority, &c.	Date of claim.	Quantity claimed in ft.		Where situated.	By whom issued.	Remarks.
					Front.	Deep.			
1	Dusnan de la Croix	Frs. Collell	Spanish order survey	20 Sept. 1806	un-	known	Town of Mobile.	J. V. Morales	No evidence of inhabitation and cultivation.
2	The same	The same	The same	20 Oct. 1806	25 to 30	200	Same	J. V. Morales	No evidence of inhabitation and cultivation.
3	The same	The same	The same	20 Oct. 1806	25 to 30	200	Same	J. V. Morales	No evidence of inhabitation and cultivation.
4	The same	The same	Spanish order survey, and grant confirmed.	20 Sept. 1806 } 4 Sept. 1805 }	23 sup	erficial arpens	Adjoining the town of Mobile	Decree of intendant confir'd by Jose de Soto	A purchase from the Spanish Government.

REMARKS ON THE PRECEDING CLAIMS.

No. 1 is founded on application of Francisco Collell, then commandant of the post of Mobile, for a grant of certain low marsh ground lying in front of, and between three granted lots and the Mobile river, in consideration that he would drain and improve the same in such manner as to promote the healthfulness of the town, and was granted upon that express condition, as also upon that of his paying the regular assessed value thereof. Neither of these essential conditions appear to have been complied with by the applicant or those claiming under him. But the land has been since built upon, and is now occupied by a number of persons who have no title whatever to it.

Nos. 2 and 3 are also founded on an application to purchase, and were granted on condition of the applicant's paying the regular assessment. It does not appear that the condition has been fulfilled.

No. 4 is likewise founded on application to purchase; and the confirmatory grant or title in form issued by Don Jose de Soto, late governor of Pensacola, recites and acknowledges the receipt of the full amount of the assessed value of the land which had been previously paid. The instructions of Morales do not require cultivation and inhabitation in cases of purchase from the crown. The only condition annexed to such grant is the making the regular *barancas* (roads.)

W. BARTON, *Register.*
WM. BARNETT, *Receiver.*

LAND OFFICE, JACKSON COURT-HOUSE, MISSISSIPPI, 21st *January*, 1821.

16th CONGRESS. **No. 337.** 2d SESSION.

APPLICATION OF INDIANA TO TAX THE PUBLIC LANDS AFTER SALE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MARCH 1, 1821.

Mr. HENDRICKS, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the memorial of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, praying permission to tax all lands sold by the United States on and subsequent to the 1st day of July, 1820, and also all lands sold since the 1st day of December, 1816, on which the payments to the United States have been completed, reported:

The memorialists state that the population of that part of the State in which the Indian title has been extinguished is rapidly increasing, and that in that part is situated the site recently selected for the permanent seat of Government of the State. That the reason no longer exists which influenced Congress in restricting the Legislature from taxing lands sold by the United States subsequent to the 1st day of December, 1816, for the period of five years from and after the date of such sale, such reason having been the credit system under which the lands were sold, and by which the fee remained, or might remain, in the United States five years after the date of the purchase. That the revenue of the State from lands is small in proportion to the number of landholders; and that some counties, large and populous, formed subsequent to December, 1816, pay very little into the State treasury, owing to the exemption, by compact with the General Government, of their lands from taxation.

They pray for permission to tax all lands sold by the United States on and subsequent to the 1st day of July, 1820, and all lands whereon the payments to the United States have been completed.

The committee are of opinion that the reasonableness or otherwise of the memorial depends on the existence or non-existence of the consideration which, on the part of the General Government, induced the contract. The consideration which induced the contract on the part of the General Government could not have been the inducement to the purchase of public lands, for it has been the complaint of the General Government, for years past, that the people of the Territories and the new States have been in the habit of purchasing more lands than they could pay for. The consideration most certainly was, that the fee of the soil should not be held accountable for the taxes imposed by State authority while that fee remained in the United States. The right of taxing lands implies the right, in case of failure of the holder to pay such taxes, of selling the lands, and vesting in the purchaser a perfect title. It is immaterial whether this right be exercised by a State or the General Government. But, for the compact, the new States would have had the right to tax, if not in the hands of the General Government, most certainly in the hands of individuals, all lands within their limits. The lands being accountable for the taxes imposed, they could have been sold by State authority, and the title thus vested in the purchaser would have been good against the General Government, though that Government had received but one instalment of the purchase money. The original purchaser, divested of the possibility of title by authority of the State, would pay nothing further, would suffer a forfeiture; the General Government would, in such cases, lose all title, while it would have, in many instances, received but a small moiety of the original price of the lands.

These seem to the committee to be the reasons which

induced the General Government to the compact with the new States, not to tax lands in the hands of purchasers for five years from and after the date of sale. Do these reasons, and this consideration on the part of the General Government, exist under the new land system requiring prompt payment? In the opinion of the committee they do not. But in as much as the compact still exists, and will continue to exist, until by the consent of parties it is annulled, the committee are of opinion that it would be improper to give the cancelling of the compact a retrospective operation.

On this subject, no States, save that of Indiana, have expressed their wishes or opinions to this Government; but seven new States being in the same situation, and having equal reasons and rights with that of Indiana, they report a general bill.

17th Congress. **No. 338.** 1st Session.

APPLICATION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE FOR A GRANT OF LAND FOR THE PURPOSE OF EDUCATION.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE DECEMBER 19, 1821.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The committee to whom was referred so much of his Excellency's message as relates to a communication from the Legislature of the State of Maryland, ask leave to report:

That the communication submitted to them embraces a report and certain resolutions thereupon adopted by the Legislature of the State of Maryland; the object of which is to call the attention of Congress and the Legislatures of the several States to the public lands, as a fund from which appropriations for the purposes of education may with justice be claimed by all the original States, and some of the new ones.

Your committee have, with much attention, examined the grounds on which this claim is supposed to rest; and from this examination are satisfied that the principles contended for are just and equitable, and therefore do concur in the opinion expressed in the aforesaid documents. It is not, however, deemed necessary on this occasion to enter into an elaborate exposition of the principles on which this claim is founded, as this would lead merely to a recapitulation of the circumstances relied upon, and the arguments deduced by the committee who matured the report and resolutions now under consideration. It may be proper, notwithstanding, to present for consideration a few of the points brought to view in the report of that committee.

It is alleged that, before the war of the revolution, these States were regal and not proprietary provinces, and that the right of disposing of them was claimed and exercised by the crown in some form or other; that by the treaty of peace in 1783, Great Britain relinquished "to the United States all claim to the government, property, and territorial rights of the same, and every part thereof;" that between 1783 and 1802, the United States acquired an indisputable title to all the public lands east of the Mississippi, by cessions from all those States which had exclusively claimed the unsettled lands within their respective limits, except a small part of the territory which now constitutes the States of Mississippi and Alabama, which was acquired under the treaty ceding Louisiana; that all the territory west of the Mississippi river, together with the southern extremity of the States of Mississippi and Alabama, was purchased of France for fifteen millions of dollars, and that all the sums of money required to pay France to extinguish the Indian title to the public lands, and the like, was paid out of the Treasury of the United States, the common fund of the whole Union. For as much, therefore, as the property and jurisdiction of the soil were acquired by the common means of all, it is contended that the public lands, whether acquired by purchase, by force, or by acts or deeds of cession from individual States, are the common property of the Union, and ought to enure to the common use and benefit of all the States in just proportions, and not to the use and benefit of any particular State or States to the exclusion of the others, and that any partial appropriation of them for State purposes "is a violation of the spirit of our national compact, as well as the principles of justice and sound policy."

On the inquiry whether the acts of Congress in relation to the appropriation of the public lands have been strictly national, it is ascertained that, by the existing laws, relating to the survey and sale of them, one thirty-sixth part thereof has been reserved and appropriated in perpetuity for the support of common schools; besides which, large appropriations have been made in the new States generally for the erection and maintenance of seminaries of learning of a higher grade than common schools, equal, it is calculated, to one-fifth part of the appropriations for the common schools.

It is said, on good authority, that all the States and Territories in whose favor appropriations have thus been and are to be made, according to the existing laws in support of literary institutions, contain 437,297,125 acres, and that the total amount of these literary appropriations in the new States and Territories, will be 14,576,569⅔ acres, which, at two dollars per acre, a sum less than the average price of all the public lands which have heretofore been sold, the amount in money will be $29,153,139⅓.

The State of New Hampshire contains 6,074,240 acres; of course, her proportionate share of the public lands for literary purposes, on the principles above stated, would be 202,473 acres.

It is admitted that, so far as the public lands have been sold, and the money paid into the National Treasury, or appropriated for purposes of defence, all the States have derived a justly proportionate benefit from them. Nor is a spirit of envy attempted to be cherished towards the new States on account of the bountiful appropriations made to them for literary purposes; but it cannot be denied that such appropriations in favor of any State or States, to the exclusion of the rest, where the appropriations would have been beneficial and might have been extended to all alike, would be a departure from sound policy as well as from impartial justice. These appropriations are of such a nature that they might have been, and still may be extended to all the States. Those States, therefore, for whose benefit such appropriations have not yet been made, will not be true to themselves if they do not make known to Congress, who alone possess the power to make them, their request for such appropriations, not as a matter of favor, but of right.

Whereupon, your committee beg leave to recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court convened, That each of the United States has an equal right to participate in the benefit of the public lands as the common property of the Union, and that the States in whose favor Congress have not made appropriations of land for the purposes of education are entitled to such appropriations as will be in a just proportion with those heretofore made in favor of the other States.

Resolved, That his Excellency the Governor be requested to transmit copies of the foregoing report and resolution to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, with a request that they will use their endeavors to procure the passage of an act to appropriate to the use of the State of New Hampshire, for the purposes of education, such quantity of the public lands as shall be equitable and just.

Resolved, That his excellency the Governor be also requested to transmit copies of the said report and resolutions to the governors of the several States of the Union, with a request that they will communicate the same to the Legislatures thereof respectively, and solicit their co-operation to carry into effect the just principles therein set forth.

All which is respectfully submitted by

NEHEMIAH EASTMAN, *for the Committee.*

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

In Senate, June 18, 1821.

The foregoing report and resolutions were read and adopted. Sent down for concurrence.

JONATHAN HARVEY, *President.*

In the House of Representatives, June 21, 1821.

Read and concurred.

ICHABOD BARTLETT, *Speaker.*

June 22, 1821—Approved, SAMUEL BELL.

A true copy—Attest,

SAML. SPARHAWK, *Secretary.*

17th Congress. **No. 339.** 1st Session.

APPLICATION OF RHODE ISLAND FOR A GRANT OF LAND FOR THE PURPOSE OF EDUCATION.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE DECEMBER 24, 1821.

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations,
In General Assembly, October Session, A. D. 1821.

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, That the resolutions of the State of Maryland upon the subject of an appropriation of the lands of the United States to the purposes of education, receive the full and cordial approbation of this Assembly.

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Assembly, the apportionment of the lands of the United States for the purposes aforesaid, among such of the States of this Union as have not heretofore received the benefits of an appropriation, should be made with a reference to the exertions and sacrifices of the individual States in the revolutionary war.

Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives in the Congress of the United States be requested to use their best exertions to obtain, at the approaching session of Congress, a law of the United States for these beneficial purposes.

A true copy. Witness,
HENRY BOWEN, *Secretary.*

17th Congress. **No. 340.** 1st Session.

APPLICATION OF CONNECTICUT FOR A GRANT OF LAND FOR THE PURPOSE OF EDUCATION.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE DECEMBER 31, 1821.

The committee to whom was referred so much of the Governor's message as relates to the report to the Senate of Maryland, and resolutions thereto annexed, report:

Your committee concur in the sentiment expressed in the report submitted to their consideration, that education and a general diffusion of knowledge in Governments constituted like those of the United States, are of great importance; and that, "in proportion as the structure of a Government gives force to public opinion, it is essential that public opinion should be enlightened."

It is with great satisfaction that your committee notice the general and increased efforts making in different portions of the Union for extending knowledge and the means of education to every part of the community; and that while our universities and colleges experience the kind and liberal consideration of the public and of beneficent indviduals, the common schools, which afford all needed instruction to every one, alike to the poor and the rich, have become objects of great interest, and receive the peculiar regard of Government. The philanthropist and benevolent statesman can now indulge the expectation that the time is not far distant when, by the aid of the General Government, every individual in the United States may receive all the moral and intellectual improvement of which he may be susceptible.

During the struggle of the revolution, and at the final establishment of the independence of the country, the question was much agitated, to whom the vacant lands should belong, whether to the United States or the individual States within whose nominal limits they were situated? The States contended that, being within their boundaries, the vacant lands belonged to the States within whose nominal limits they might be located. The United States claimed, that as these lands, before the revolution, were vested in the crown, and were acquired by the united exertions of *all* the States, they ought, and did of right, belong to the United States. This question at one time endangered the peace and independence of the country: it was finally settled in a spirit of mutual concession and forbearance, and resulted in the cession of the principal part of the vacant lands to the United States, while the States in whose limits the lands lay were secured in considerable portions of territory, much of which has been appropriated to the support of public schools in the several States. By the laws of the United States one thirty-sixth part of the public lands in the new States and Territories has been appropriated for the support of public schools; and it is believed that a further appropriation has been made for colleges and seminaries of a higher grade, equal to one-fifth of the appropriation for common schools. A number of the States, in which the State of Maryland may be included, from their location and chartered limits, have not been benefitted by the public lands, excepting so far as their avails may have come into the public treasury, and their schools and colleges have languished from the want of that aid derived from the public lands, from which many of the States have profitted. In this State our institutions of learning need the fostering hand of Government.

The State of Maryland early resisted the claim of the several States; and, on account of their refusal to cede the vacant lands to the United States, refused for a time to accede to the confederation; yet, from a high sense of her duty to the Union, and the danger to which the cause of independence would be subjected from further continuing her opposition, she yielded to the necessities of the country. This State became a very efficient member of the Union, and from her local situation and her exertion in the public cause, was made to suffer great privations and repeated ravages of the enemy, which she sustained with a spirit and fortitude proportionate to her trials. The individual States must be considered as branches of the great family of the Union, and have an equal interest with the United States, that provision should be made for instruction in every part of the country. This is a subject of common concern.

An appropriation of a small portion of the national domain would be sufficient for this important object, but as the public lands are, for this and other purposes, by the constitution of the United States, wholly at the disposition of Congress, the committee respectfully submit the annexed resolution.

Per order: ELIAS PERKINS.

House of Representatives: accepted and approved.
Attest: NATHAN JOHNSON, *Clerk.*

In Senate, May session, 1821. Accepted and approved. Attest:
WM. W. BOARDMAN, *Clerk.*

A true copy of the original report on file. Examined by THOMAS DAY, *Secretary.*

At a General Assembly of the State of Connecticut, holden at Hartford, in said State, on the first Wednesday of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-one.

Resolved, That his excellency the Governor be requested to transmit copies of the foregoing report to the Senators and Representatives of this State in the Congress of the United States, and to the Governor of the State of Maryland.

A true copy of record. Examined by
THOMAS DAY, *Secretary.*

17th Congress. **No. 341.** 1st Session.

SETTLERS ON FRACTIONAL QUARTER SECTIONS IN ILLINOIS ENTITLED TO THE RIGHT OF PRE-EMPTION.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 3, 1822.

Mr. Rankin, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of James M'Farland, Hampton Pankey, and William Frizzell, reported:

The petitioners settled in the State of Illinois previous to the passage of the act granting the right of pre-emption to the settlers on the public land in that State; but it appears by their petition that they were settled on fractional quarter sections, and not on quarter sections of the regular extent. They made application at the proper time to purchase their lands as pre-emption settlers, but were told by the register of the land office at Shawneetown, that they could enter *quarter sections* only, and not *fractional quarter sections*. Under this interpretation of the law, they were compelled to purchase their land at the public sale, when, in consequence of the improvements made upon it, it was run up to four dollars and six cents per acre.

Without inquiring into the correctness of the construction of the act as adopted by the register, it will only be necessary to advert to the act of 1816 made in aid thereof, to show that they came clearly within its provisions, and ought to have been allowed to enter their lands at the minimum price. It is in these words: "Any person, and the legal representatives of any person, entitled to a preference in becoming the purchaser from the United States of a tract of land, at private sale, in the State of Louisiana, and in the Territories of Missouri and Illinois, according to the provisions of the act entitled 'An act giving the right of pre-emption in the purchase of lands to certain settlers in the Illinois Territory,' passed February the fifth, one thousand eight hundred and thirteen, and the fifth section of the 'Act for the final adjustment of land titles in the State of Louisiana and Territory of Missouri,' passed April 12, 1814, *who is settled on a fraction of a section*, or fractional quarter section, containing less than one hundred and sixty acres, shall have the privilege of purchasing one or more adjoining fractional quarter sections, or the adjoining quarter section, including their improvements, or the fraction improved by them, at their option; and the provisions of the said recited acts are hereby made applicable to them so far as they are consistent with the provisions of this act."

The petitioners prove their settlement on the land described in their petition, viz. Fractional sections Nos. 26 and 27, in township No. 12, south of range No. 8, east of the 3d principal meridian, prior to the 5th of February, 1813; their application to purchase as pre-emption settlers, and the refusal of the proper officer to receive their application. They also show that they were required to bid their improvements off at $4 06 per acre; and, under this statement, they pray that what they have paid of the first instalment shall be applied to their credit, and that they be discharged from the payment of all except two dollars per acre, the then minimum price of the public lands; and, believing them entitled to such remission, the committee report a bill accordingly for the relief of James M'Farland, who was the agent of the other two petitioners in making the purchase at the public sale.

17th Congress. **No. 342.** 1st Session.

APPLICATION OF NEW JERSEY FOR A GRANT OF LAND FOR THE PURPOSE OF EDUCATION.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 7, 1822.

State of New Jersey.

The committee to whom were referred a certain report and resolutions of the Legislature of Maryland, and a certain other report and resolutions of the Legislature of New Hampshire, recommending an equitable appropriation of a portion of the public lands of the United States to the purposes of education in those States which have yet received no such appropriation, respectfully report:

That they have given to the documents referred to them such consideration as the importance of the subject demanded, and their time permitted; that the facts adduced, and the arguments advanced, in those documents, in favor of grants of land for the purposes of education to those states which have not received such grants, appear to your committee correct and conclusive; that, without recapitulating those facts, or repeating those arguments at length, your committee will briefly state that the United States have acquired by conquest, cession, or purchase, an immense body of land, probably at this time more than four hundred millions of acres, which, as it was acquired by common valor, wisdom, and contribution, is consequently the common property of all the States; that this property is at the disposal of the General Government, which has made large grants thereof for the purposes of education to several of the States, while others, and this State among the number, equally friendly to the diffusion of knowledge among all classes of their citizens, and equally entitled to, and in need of, assistance in carrying their benevolent views into full effect, have received no part thereof; that according to calculations made in the report to the Maryland Legislature, which appear to be founded on the best data which could be obtained, the State of New Jersey would be entitled, in a distribution to be made upon principles heretofore adopted, to one hundred and seventy-three thousand four hundred and ninety-four acres, which, at the lowest price at which Congress has heretofore sold its lands at private sale, would amount to three hundred and forty-six thousand nine hundred and eighty-eight dollars; that, although it cannot be reasonably expected that all this land could be immediately sold so as to realize at once the whole sum at which it is here estimated, yet it is probable that such sales might be made from time to time, and such payments had thereon, as would furnish a permanent and productive resource in aid of the fund already constituted in this State for the establishment of free schools; that, under these impressions, the committee deem it their duty to recommend to this House a cordial co-operation with our sister States of Maryland and New Hampshire in the object which their communi-

cations to this State have in view; and therefore respectfully submit to the House the following resolutions:

Resolved unanimously by the Council and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey, "That each of the United States has an equal right to participate in the benefit of the public lands, the common property of the Union.

"*Resolved*, That the States in whose favor Congress have not made appropriations of land for the purposes of education, are entitled to such appropriations as will correspond, in a just proportion, with those heretofore made in favor of the other States.

"*Resolved*, That his excellency the Governor be requested to transmit copies of the foregoing report and resolutions to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, with a request that they will lay the same before their respective Houses, and use their endeavors to procure the passage of an act to carry into effect the just principles therein set forth.

"*Resolved*, That his excellency the Governor be requested to transmit copies of this report and resolutions to the governors of the several States, with a request that they will communicate the same to the Legislatures thereof respectively, and solicit their co-operation.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, *November* 12, 1821.

The foregoing report and resolutions having been three times read in the Council,

Resolved unanimously, That the same do pass.

By order of the Council.

JESSE UPSEN, *Vice President.*

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, *November* 9, 1821.

The foregoing report and resolutions having been read in the House,

Resolved unanimously, That the same do pass.

By order of the House.

DAVID THOMPSON, Jr., *Speaker.*

A true copy:

DAN. COLEMAN,
Secretary of State.

17th CONGRESS. **No. 343.** 1st SESSION.

APPLICATION OF KENTUCKY FOR A GRANT OF LAND FOR THE PURPOSE OF EDUCATION.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 14, 1822.

Resolutions in relation to a portion of the public lands of the United States as a means of creating a fund for promoting education, and to the right of the several States of the Union to a part of the same for that purpose.

The committee to whom were referred the communications from the Legislatures of the States of Maryland and New Hampshire, ask leave to report:

That the communications submitted to them embrace reports, and resolutions thereupon adopted, by the Legislatures of those States, and the objects of which are to direct the attention of Congress and the Legislatures of the several States of the Union to the national lands as a source from which appropriations for the purposes of education may with justice be claimed by those States for which no such appropriations have yet been made.

Your committee, highly sensible of the importance of the fact that the most effectual means of achieving or perpetuating the liberties of any country, is to enlighten the minds of its citizens by a system of education adapted to the means of the most extensive class of its population, and alive to any just means within their power for the advancement of this great object not only within their own State, but alike to all the members of the great political family of which they are a part, and for whose common interests they are thus united, have, with much interest, examined the facts stated, and the arguments used in said reports, and do not hesitate to concur in the opinions therein expressed, that the national lands are strictly a national fund, and, in just proportions, the property of all the States of the Union; and that, from the extent and nature of the fund, appropriations may, with great propriety, be extended to all the States of the Union.

It is deemed unnecessary, in a report of this kind, to enter at large into all the arguments that might be used to establish the opinion above expressed. A few of the facts which have presented themselves in the investigation of this subject are submitted.

It is ascertained that all the States and Territories whose waters fall into the Mississippi, have been amply provided for by the laws of Congress relating to the survey and sale of the public lands, except the State of Kentucky.

Why those appropriations should have stopped short of Kentucky, your committee are not able to see, especially when they take into consideration its situation in relation to the other States of the Union, the contest it has maintained in establishing itself, protecting, at the same time, the western borders of the old States, and extending the more northern and western settlements. Kentucky long stood alone in a forest of almost boundless extent, separated from her parent settlements by extensive ranges of mountains and forests, fit receptacles for her savage enemies, and by which she was cut off from the succor, and almost from the knowledge, of her friends; yet maintaining her stand, and, at the same time, forming a barrier by which the more eastern States were protected from the common enemy, she has not only established herself, but has also gone forward to the establishment and support of those States and Territories which now form the great national domain which is the subject of this report.

Nothwithstanding many arguments might be used which would go to prove that Kentucky has claims to appropriations of those lands without extending the system to all the other States, yet your committee believe that such arguments are not necessary, and that a few facts here submitted will prove that those appropriations may be made general without materially affecting the national revenue.

Relying upon the apparent correctness of the able document before the committee, received from the State of Maryland, it appears that the total amount of literary appropriations made to the new States and Territories will amount to 14,576,569 acres; that the additional amount required to extend the same system to those States for which no such appropriations have yet been made, would be 9,370,760 acres; that the State of Kentucky, as her part of such appropriation, would be entitled to 1,066,665 acres, and estimating the whole quantity of unsold lands yet owned by the United States at 400,000,000 acres, that the additional amount required to extend the same scale of appropriation to all the States which have not received any, would not amount to 2½ per cent. upon the landed fund as above.

Relying, therefore, upon the foregoing considerations as sufficient for their purpose, and believing that the magnanimity of their sister States in the west will produce an unanimity in the Congress of the United States upon this subject, your committee are prepared to close this report, and beg leave to recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Reprentatives of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, That each of the United States has an equal right, in its just proportion, to participate in the benefit of the public lands, the common property of the Union.

Resolved, That the Executive of this State be requested, as soon as practicable, to transmit copies of the foregoing report and resolution to the governors of the several States, and to our Senators and Representatives in Congress, with a request that they will lay the same before their respective Houses, and use their endeavors to procure the passage of a law to appropropriate to the use of the State of Kentucky, for the purposes of education, such a part of the public lands of the United States as may be equitable and just.

GEO. C. THOMPSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
WM. T. BARRY,
Speaker of the Senate.

Approved *December* 10, 1821—By the Governor,
JOHN ADAIR.

J. CABELL BRECKINRIDGE, *Secretary.*

17th Congress. **No. 344.** 1st Session.

INDEMNITY MADE TO AN INDIVIDUAL FOR SELLING HIS LANDS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 22, 1822.

Mr. Campbell made the following report:

The Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the petition of the heirs of Colonel John Girault, with sundry documents, have had the same under consideration, and report:

The petitioners state that their late father, John Girault, was, at the time of his death, entitled to two tracts of land, situated within the limits of the State of Mississippi, in virtue of two Spanish warrants; the first for one thousand arpens, granted to John St. Germain on the 16th day of December, 1785, lying on the Mississippi river, opposite the Three Islands; the other for six hundred arpens, granted to Henry Bachelot on the 22d of March, 1785, lying below the Walnut Hills: that these claims were submitted to the Board of Commissioners appointed under the first act of Congress to decide on titles to lands lying west of Pearl river and south of Tennessee, and were rejected for want of evidence of settlement; that these lands were surveyed and sold as public property; that, after they were sold, the said John Girault was confirmed in his title to them by the register and receiver of the land office west of Pearl river; that they are of the first quality of land and in a high state of cultivation: wherefore, the petitioners ask an equivalent in lands in any part of the States of Mississippi or Alabama.

Louis Winston, register of the land office west of Pearl river, certifies, in the year 1820, that the lands described by the petitioners had been sold. The sale of one of these tracts, it appears, was made on the 15th of Nov. 1815.

Nicholas Gray and Parke Walton, register and receiver of the land office west of Pearl river, and acting as commissioners for the adjustment of land titles, on the 13th of September, 1815, gave to John Girault a certificate, in which it is stated that he claims a tract of 600 arpens, situate in Warren county, one mile and three quarters below the Walnut Hills, by virtue of a Spanish order of survey granted to Henry Bachelot on the 22d of March, 1785, and that the said John Girault is entitled to a patent therefor.

These officers, at the same time and for the same purpose, gave another certificate to the said John Girault, relating to another tract of six hundred and forty acres, which he claimed by virtue of a Spanish order of survey, granted to John St. Germain for one thousand arpens, on the 16th December, 1785, lying near the mouth of the Yazoo river.

The committee will remark that, by the act of the 30th of June, 1812, and under which the certificate of confirmation to John Girault was granted, not more than 640 acres could be confirmed on any one claim.

Under an act passed the 31st of March, 1808, the Board of Commissioners appointed to adjust land titles west of Pearl river, decided on the claims of Girault, and reported, as they were required to do, their decisions to the Secretary of the Treasury. This they did, and the act, passed the 30th of June, 1812, confirmed those in their titles to lands in whose favor decisions had been given. This act also required the register and receiver to give to the successful claimants certificates of confirmation, on the production of which, at the General Land Office, the owners became entitled to patents.

It appears that, after Girault had been confirmed in his title, but before he obtained the proper certificate from the register and receiver, his lands, or at least one of the tracts, were sold. This sale was manifestly improper, and is, as the committee think, attributable to great neglect of duty on the part of the officers of Government.

The committee are of opinion the petitioners might recover their lands, so improperly sold, by resorting to the proper judicial tribunals of the country; but, as they appear unwilling to encounter the trouble and expense of a law suit, and are disposed to take lands elsewhere, it is thought advisable that they be enabled so to do.

From the best information the committee can obtain, they suppose two sections will be about an equivalent, since the location thereof is intended to be limited to lands which have been offered at public sale.

A bill is herewith reported.

17th Congress. **No. 345.** 1st Session.

LAND CLAIMS WEST OF PEARL RIVER.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 28, 1822.

A list of settlement claims in that part of Louisiana which lies east of the river Mississippi and Island of New Orleans, and west of Pearl river.

Names.	Where situate.	Original.	Purchase.	Date of inh. & cult.	Names.	Where situate.	Original.	Purchase.	Date of inh. & cult.
Hood et al.	B. Rouge		1	1809	Thomas Valentine	Feliciana		1	1811
Same	Do		1	1811	Thomas Tabor	St. Tammany	1		1811
Same	Do		1	1810	James C. Williams	Feliciana	1		1803
James McNeilly	Feliciana		1	1805	N. Tuppler	St. Tammany	1		1810
E. Coneilly	St. Tammany	1		1809	Archibald McRae	Feliciana		1	1814
Isaac Whites	Feliciana	1		1818	George Killion	St. Helena		1	1804
Heirs Wm. Kirkland	Do		1	1811	H. Adams	St. Tammany	1		1811
John Bills	Do	1		1818	Benjamin Key	St. Helena		1	1800
Lewis Pyburn, sen.	B. Rouge	1		1812	William Sarplin	St. Tammany	1		1812
Stephen Applewhite	St. Tammany	1		1811	Joseph Bates	St. Helena	1		1818
John Rowly	Feliciana		1	1812	John de Harman	Feliciana		1	1806
Robert Scott	Do	1		1806	H. Bankston	Do		1	1809
John Worthy	Do	1		1806	John Benton	Do		1	1812
Joseph E. Johnson	Do	1		1800	John Sims	Do	1		1813
Ann Scott	B. Rouge	1		1799	Benjamin Cassels	St. Helena		1	1812
Alexander Baam	Feliciana	1		1811	Richard Barret	Feliciana	1		1806
Peter Leglise	Do	1		1811	P. Richardson	Do	1		1812
—— Ashwood	B. Rouge	1		1799	John Benton	Do	1		1811
B. Carman	St. Tammany	1		1813	John Shellar	St. Tammany	1		1815
William Luckman	Do	1		1812	Philip Waskum	Do	1		1810
C. Ratliff	Feliciana		1	1806	Thomas Lofton	Feliciana	1		1805
Jacob Row	Do		1	1812	C. Nelson	Do		1	1810
William Allen	B. Rouge		1	1811	Robert Ratliff	St. Helena	1		1812
Nancy Robertson	Feliciana		1	1812	Constance Ternoire	B. Rouge	1		1812
B. Kraps	St. Tammany	1		1809	Leopold Crownvalley	St. Tammany	1		1810

LIST OF SETTLEMENT CLAIMS—Continued.

Names.	Where situate.	Original.	Purchase.	Date of inh. & cult.
William Sullivan - -	Feliciana	1		1807
George Row - - -	Do		1	1810
Henry McNeilly - -	Do	1		1808
Richard Harrel - - -	St. Tammany	1		1817
David Campbell - -	Feliciana	1		
Elizabeth Bills - - -	B. Rouge		1	1816
Joseph Hickman - -	St. Helena	1		1816
John Peterson - - -	Feliciana	1		1816
John Campbell - - -	St. Tammany	1		1799
L. Chance - - -	Feliciana	1		1810
Sarah Roach - (partially)	B. Rouge	1		1805
John Shaffet - - -	Do	1		1814
Isaac Taylor - - -	Feliciana		1	1811
Benjamin Abott - -	St. Helena	1		1807
Benjamin Thomas (partially)	B. Rouge	1		1811
A. Kraker - - -	St. Tammany	1		1811
Henry Beard - - -	Feliciana	1		1811
Thomas Chritendon - -	Do	1		1811
John Forbes - - -	B. Rouge	1		1811
John Sterling - - -	Feliciana	1		1811
Robert Womack - -	St. Helena		1	1811
B. Kemp - - -	Do		1	1815
John Lusk - - -	Feliciana	1		1811
George Rudd - - -	Do	1		1811
John Gale - - -	Do	1		1809
J. Williams - - -	St. Tammany	1		1809
J. Magee - - -	Do	1		1809
Widow Tooley - - -	St. Helena	1		1802
Francis Claireau - -	B. Rouge		1	1808
Amos Thames - - -	Do	1		1809
Joseph White - - -	St. Helena		1	1811
Moses Lambert - - -	Feliciana	1		1816
Robert D. Yair - - -	St. Helena	1		1806
John Williamson - -	Do	1		1804
Leonard Bradford - -	Feliciana	1		1806
William Chapman - -	Do		1	1810
Daniel Allen - - -	St. Helena	1		1804
Levi Curtis - - -	Do	1		1805
James McGill - - -	Do	1		1806
William Allen - - -	Do	1		1810
Isaac Foster - - -	Feliciana		1	1810
Thomas East - - -	Do	1		1811
Jordan Vick - - -	Do	1		1812
Samuel Richardson - -	Do		1	1804
James Pyburn - - -	B. Rouge	1		1819
Robert Ratliff - - -	St. Helena	1		1812
Rebecca Smith - - -	Feliciana	1		1805
James Crawford - -	St. Tammany	1		1819
Henry Soden - - -	Do	1		1820
John Wright - - -	Do		1	1812
Same - - -	Do		1	1812
Same - - -	Do		1	1812
Same - - -	Do		1	1812
Same - - -	Do		1	1812
Valentine V. Walterman -	Do		1	1811
Michael Jones - - -	Do	1		1811
Jeremiah Jones - -	Do	1		1811
Jones Short - - -	Do		1	1811
Madam Dupont - - -	Do	1		1800
James Perew - - -	Do	1		1813
James Rody - - -	St. Helena	1		1810
Allen Kenner - -	St. Tammany	1		1814
William Kenner -	Do	1		1814
Samuel Robb - - -	Feliciana	1		1805
N. Tickle - - -	Do		1	1805
John Wamock - - -	St. Helena		1	1805
J. Tibb - - -	Feliciana		1	1805
Joseph Fletcher - -	Do		1	1805
Daniel Sweazy - - -	Do	1		1804
Elias Blunt - - -	St. Helena	1		1803
Heirs of Samuel Kirkland -	Feliciana		1	1810
William Kennedy - -	Do	1		1812
L. Davis - - -	Do	1		1814
Moses Childs - - -	Do	1		1815
Jean Louis Jaucour - -	St. Helena	1		1804
E. Smith - - -	Do		1	1812
C. Bingaman - - -	Feliciana		1	1805
Leban Kent - - -	Do		1	1813
Abraham Jones - - -	St. Helena		1	1810
Thomas Hunter - -	Do		1	1809
Patsy Bennet - - -	Do		1	1811
William Burham - -	Do		1	1811
M. Spiller - - -	Do	1		1811
James Sullards - - -	Feliciana	1		1806
George Demoss - -	Do	1		1806
James Foster - - -	St. Tammany		2	1810 / 1811

Names.	Where situate.	Original.	Purchase.	Date of inh. & cult.
H. Bradford - - -	St. Tammany	1		1820
J. H. Brokham - -	Do	1		1820
Z. Smith - - -	Do	1		1817
Robert Piper - - -	Feliciana	1		1800
William Phares - -	Do		1	1810
Delafayette Kezz - -	Do	1		1804
F. Barrow - - -	Do	1		1808
John Haster - - -	Do			
George Sheriff - - -	Do			
William Bickam - -	St. Tammany	1		1810
R. S. Rawlins - - -	Feliciana		1	1806
Samuel Rabb - - -	Do	1		1805
Isaac Brown - - -	Do	1		1810
Wibble Nash - - -	B. Rouge	1		1810
David Wilson - - -	Feliciana	1		1810
Samuel Neily - - -	St. Tammany	1		1810
Reuben Jones - - -	Do	1		1810
Nancy, free w. of c. - -	Do	1		1810
Caleb Biggs - - -	Feliciana	1		1797
James Ard - - -	St. Tammany	1		1817
Andrew Thurar - -	Do	1		1812
William Smith - - -	Do	1		1812
James Bryan - - -	Do		1	1810
Michael Jones - - -	Do	1		1810
William Lawrence - -	Do		1	1813
Reuben Jackson - -	Feliciana	1		1812
Moody Hottoman - -	Do	1		1812
E. Boatner - - -	Do	1		
William Hutson - -	Do	1		1812
John J. Ricks - - -	St. Tammany		1	1806
William Hudson - -	Feliciana		1	1812
William Ritchy - -	St. Tammany	1		1812
James Young - - -	Feliciana	1		1806
George Smith - - -	Do	1		1810
C. Burney - - -	Do		1	1811
James Morse - - -	St. Helena	1		1813
—— Bryant - - -	B. Rouge		1	1812
B. S. Jones - - -	St. Tammany	1		1812
Jacob Hearelong -	Do	1		1812
Abel Kent - - -	Feliciana		1	1808
Abraham Jones - -	St. Helena		1	
W. Sturdivent - -	Do	1		1809
Jonathan Kerkendall -	B. Rouge	1		1804
E. McGehee - - -	St. Tammany	1		1812
Hugh Flanahin (partially cultiv'd)	St. Helena	1		
G. Kerr - - -	Feliciana	1		1810
E. Boatner - - -	Do	1		1809
William Collins - -	St. Helena		1	1810
William Cryer - - -	Do	1		1804
James Gwinn - - -	St. Tammany	1		1810
J. Kidd - - -	Feliciana	1		1819
H. Whiting - - -	Do		1	1819
E. Celser - - -	Do		1	1819
John Shafer - - -	St. Helena		1	1809
Samuel Bell - -	Do		1	1819
Mrs Ratliff - - -	Feliciana		1	1799
Heirs W. Kirkland - -	Do		1	1810
Francis Jemmison - -	Do	1		1818
James Scott, jun. - -	Do		1	1811
P. Waltman - -	Do	1		1806
Simon Burrey - - -	St. Helena	1		1811
Samuel Smart - - -	B. Rouge	1		1811
John Lee - - -	Do	1		1819
John Bennoit - - -	Do	1		1819
John Kent - - -	Feliciana		1	1811
Samuel Richardson - -	St. Helena	1		1810
Reuben Rice - - -	Feliciana	1		1813
John Campbell - - -	St. Tammany		1	1799
Elizabeth Strickland - -	St. Helena	1		1803
A. Freeland - - -	Do	1		1810
Michael Warnell - -	Do	1		1810
Elisha Haral - - -	St Tammany	1		1811
Robert Young - - -	Feliciana	1		1809
Robert Pool - - -	Do	1		1808
M. Henry - - -	Do	1		1812
John Rembert - - -	Do	1		1811
Peter James - - -	St. Tammany			
John Bembe - - -	Feliciana	1		
Michael Finn - - -	Do	1		1815
P. Waltman - - -	Do	1		1806
James Hugh - - -	St. Tammany			
James Miller - - -	Do		3	1811
John Siebert - - -	Do		1	1816
John Spillers - - -	St. Helena	1		1811
William Brown - - -	Feliciana		1	1811
F. Watkins - - -	Do	1		1813
—— Murdock - - -	St. Tammany	1		1813

LIST OF SETTLEMENT CLAIMS—Continued.

Names.	Where situate.	Original.	Purchase.	Date of inh. & cult.
James Murphy - - -	St. Tammany	1		1812
Benjamin Bradford - -	Do	1		1817
Rachel Dally - - -	B. Rouge	1		1816
L. Barns - - -	Feliciana	1		1811
George Reding - - -	Do	1		1809
Eli Ferguson - - -	B. Rouge	1		1819
John Ferguson - - -	Do		1	1817
S. W. Johnson - - -	Feliciana		1	1806
William Thompson - -	Do	1		1812
John Haden - - -	St. Helena		1	1811
David Hill - - -	Do	1		1812
E. Height - - -				
William Rose - (one year)	St. Tammany		1	1798
F. Cousin - - -	Do	1		1810
John Patterson - - -	Feliciana	1		1809
James Rawls - - -	St. Tammany	1		1812
John Shrim - - -	Feliciana	1		1799
Henry Pigot - - -	Do	1		1810
Michael Chambers - -	B. Rouge	1		1818
John Bell - - -	St. Helena	1		1810
William Simpson - -	Do		1	1810
Aroan Furguson - -	B. Rouge		1	1815
J. Furguson - - -	Do		1	1815
John Bell - - -	St. Helena			
David Strange - - -	B. Rouge	1		1818
Frederick Kemball - -	Feliciana	1		1810
W. Peacock - - -	St. Tammany	1		1816
John Desmukes - -	St. Helena	1		1804
J. de O'Neal - (partially)	Do	1		1805
J. Sanderson - - -	Feliciana			
Heirs of Joseph Bonner -	St. Tammany	1		1799
William Sibbley - -	St. Helena		1	1817
Henry Beard - - -	Feliciana	1		1812
Samuel Fernell - - -	Do		1	1803
B. W. Bruer - - -	St. Tammany	1		1817
E. James - - -	Feliciana		1	1813
B. Chaney - - -	Do	1		1800
J. Fletcher - - -	Do		1	1809
F. Strother - - -	St. Helena		1	1807
A. Morrow - - -	Do	1		1810
Winfrey et al. - - -	B. Rouge	1		1810
Isaac Pool - - -	Feliciana	1		
Terence O'Reilly - -	B. Rouge		1	1811
Charles Dowling - -	St. Helena	1		1809
Wiley Jones - - -	Do		1	
Catherine Shaw - -	B. Rouge	1		1810
Joseph Smith - - -	Feliciana	1		1807
Richard Tickle - -	St. Helena	1		1805
Thomas McClung - -	Do	1		1810
William Brown - - -	Feliciana		1	1810
Joseph Johnson - -	St. Helena		1	1809
James Fenner - - -	Do	1		1810
William Thomas - -	B. Rouge	1		1812
Francis Thomas - -	Do	1		1812
Philemon Thomas - -	Do		1	1799
E. Ford - - -	St. Tammany		1	1812
Mrs. Vaughan - - -	B. Rouge	1		1812
Samuel Smart - - -	Do	1		1800
Joshua Miller - - -	Feliciana	1		1811
John Hines - - -	St. Tammany	1		1817
Samuel Ginnodo - -	Do	1		1816
Abraham Spearse - -	Feliciana	1		1811
John Johns - - -	Do	1		1808
Hemboy Hendry - -	St. Tammany	1		1818
G. Franklin (cultivated 2 years)	Do	1		1811
A. Anderson (cultivated 1 year)	St. Helena		1	
John Horton - - -	Feliciana		1	1800
Mary Reed - - -	Do	1		1808
E. Celser - - -	Do		1	
William Allen - - -	St. Helena		1	
J. Phelps - - -	Feliciana		1	1811
Rachel Williams - -	St. Helena	1		1811
Robert Greenwell - -	Feliciana	1		1811
John Phares - - -	-	1		1816
Richard Ege - - -	St. Helena	1		1805
Hugh Blunt - - -	St. Helena	1		1806
James Heath - - -	Feliciana	1		1800
John Anderson - - -	Do		1	1800
John Kent - - -	Do		1	1808
E. Norwood - - -	Do		1	1809
E. S. Morgan - - -	Do		1	1809
David Short - - -	St. Tammany		1	
George Ellis - - -	Do		1	
John Allen - - -	St. Helena		1	
Thomas White - - -	Do	1		1819

Names.	Where situate.	Original.	Purchase	Date of inh. & cult.
David Gaines - - -	St. Helena		1	1813
John Ratliff - - -	Feliciana	1		1810
Charles Bushnell - -	St. Tammany		1	1812
James Brannon - - -				
James Crane - - -	B. Rouge	1		1819
James Crane, sen. - -	Do	1		1803
William Farner - (partially)	Feliciana	1		1812
James Fanner - (partially)	Do	1		1812
George Tickle - - -	Do	1		1819
Isaac Bills - - -	B. Rouge	1		1818
Samuel Morris - - -	Feliciana	1		1799
Stephen Chénault - -	Do		1	1802
William Kendrick - -	St. Helena	1		1807
Fulwar Skipwith - -	B. Rouge		1	1805
Thomas Young - - -	Do		1	1805
Denis Dykes - - -	St. Helena			
K. Lee - - -	St. Tammany		1	1813
E. Smith - - -	St. Helena		1	1811
Henry Clark - - -	Feliciana	1		1809
R. Denham - - -	St. Helena	1		1809
W. Denham - - -	Do	1		1809
W. Franklin - - -	St. Tammany	1		1810
F. and M. Daigle - -	B. Rouge	1		1800
A. Breed - (one year)	St. Helena	1		1810
H. Villars - - -	Do	1		1800
Heirs of Peter Sides - -	B. Rouge	1		1810
Henry Kane - - -	Do	1		1819
Peter Sides - - -	Do		1	1811
Peter Sides - - -	Do	1		1811
Antoine Bessy - - -	Do		1	1811
Joseph Thomas - - -	St. Helena	1		1810
R. Denham - - -	Do	1		1809
N. McQueen - - -	Feliciana		1	1811
George Killion, jun. - -	Do	1		1819
E. Hornsbey - - -	St. Tammany		1	1812
N. Powers - - -	Feliciana	1		1809
W. Cason - - -	Do	1		1806
B. Howard - (one year)	St. Tammany		1	1799
W. Weeks - - -	Feliciana	1		1798
Thomas Pollock - -	Do	1		1793
William Roach - - -	B. Rouge	1		1807
John Sterling - - -	Feliciana		1	1807
Robert Pyburn - -	B. Rouge	1		1812
John Andres - - -	St. Tammany		1	1813
T. Barnard - - -	Do	1		1812
B. S. Jones - - -	Do	1		1812
Rachel Williams - -	Do	1		1811
Benjamin Smith - -	Do	1		1811
Thomas Carpenter (partially)	Feliciana	1		1812
William Cunningham - -	Do	1		1806
Thomas C. Hunt - -	St. Tammany	1		1810
William Newman - -	Feliciana	1		1806
O. Kirkland - - -	St. Tammany	1		1814
E. Merrell - - -	Do		1	1810
Samuel Leonard - -	St. Helena		1	1806
Stephen Williams - -	Do	1		1806
Luther Smith - - -	Feliciana		1	1805
Augustin Mallet - -	St. Helena	1		1812
Maria T. Mallet - -	Do	1		1812
Jonathan Taylor - -	St. Tammany	1		1812
Jeremiah Pitts (partially)	Feliciana	1		1812
John Poiret - - -	B. Rouge		1	1807
Isaac Tabor - - -	Feliciana	1		1811
H. Gainy - - -	St. Helena	1		1811
James Morgan - - -	Do	1		1817
H. Connell - - -	Feliciana		1	1802
William Wright - -	Do	1		1816
Gabriel Johnson - -	St. Helena			
John Breeland - -	Do	1		1817
E. Breeland - - -	Do	1		1817
R. Bowman - - -	St. Tammany		1	
David Rigbay - - -	B. Rouge	1		1812
Nancy Rian - - -	St. Tammany	1		1813
Elijah Ferguson - -	Feliciana	1		1816
Joseph Head - - -	St. Helena		1	1802
John Lively - - -	B. Rouge		1	1814
Absalom Dixon - - -	Do	1		1811
Adam Hesley - - -	Do	1		1814
John Siebert - - -	St. Helena	1		1813
Joseph Alamo - - -	Do	1		1808
Christopher Gale - -	B. Rouge	1		1812
Jacob Row - - -	Feliciana	1		1812
John B. Leoret - - -	Do			
Philip Bundick - - -	Do	1		1805

ST. HELENA LAND OFFICE, *24th July*, 1821. CHARLES S. COSBY, *Register*. FULWAR SKIPWITH, *Receiver*.

Register of claims to land in the district west of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on complete, incomplete, and anomalous titles, derived either from the British or Spanish Governments; which, in the opinion of the undersigned Register and Receiver, ought to be confirmed by the Government of the United States.

No.	By whom claimed.	Original claimant.	Nature of claim, and from what authority derived.	Date of claim.	No. of arpens.	Where situated.	By whom issued.	When surveyed.	By whom surveyed.	Inhabited and cultivated. From	Inhabited and cultivated. To	General remarks.
1	H. H. Gurley	Brout	Extract	-	-	-	-	-	-	1800	1820	Anomalous.
2	John Scott	John Scott	Order of survey	6 Nov. 1806	600	Feliciana	Grandpré	-	-	1806	1820	
3	Robert Fluker	V. S. Pintado	Plat & certificate	-	1,000	Feliciana	-	4th July, 1803	C. Trudeau			
4	P. Thomas	-	Patent	-	240	Baton Rouge	-	-	-	-	-	Patent, dated in 1799, lost. Anomalous.
5	Tho's Glascock	James Glascock	Extract	16 Jan. 1789	400	Feliciana						
6	J. White	J. White	Permission	1799	-	St. Tammany	-	-	-	-	-	Anomalous.
7	George McGee	Wm. Stewart	-	1802	-	Feliciana	-	-	-	-	-	Anomalous.
8	James Foster	-	-	-	-	Feliciana	-	-	-	1800	1820	Anomalous.
9	A. Dougherty	-	-	1799	-	Feliciana	-	-	-	1800	1820	Anomalous.
10	Henry Heath	-	-	-	-	Feliciana	-	-	-	1806	1820	Anomalous.
11	John Gale	John Gale	Order of survey	19 Aug. 1806	600	Feliciana	-	-	-	1806	1820	Anomalous.
12	Felix Bernard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Anomalous.
13	Peter Cussot	Peter Cussot	Extract	27 Oct. 1789	240	Feliciana						
14	A. Atkins	A. Atkins	-	1799	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Anomalous.
15	George Shrim	-	-	-	-	Feliciana	-	-	-	1804	1820	
16	John McArthur	John McArthur	Order of survey	3 Dec. 1805	865	Baton Rouge	-	1st Nov. 1806	Kneeland	1803	1820	
17	Jacques Carriére	Jacques Carriére	Patent	1799	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Lost. Anomalous.
18	Antonio	-	-	1799	4 claims	-	-	-	-	-	-	Papers lost.
19	John Sterling	-	-	1805	-	Feliciana	-	-	-	1804	1820	
20	John Taylor	John Taylor	Order of survey	14 June, 1808	-	Feliciana	Grandpré	-	-	1800	1820	
21	James Hilling	James Hilling	Plat & certificate	-	400	Baton Rouge	-	28th April, 1799	V. Pintado			
22	Isaac Tabor	Isaac Tabor	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1800	-	Anomalous.
23	E. T. Hall	S. McBay	-	-	240	Baton Rouge	-	-	-	1809	1816	Anomalous.
24	J. Poret	J. Poret	Patent, cert. No. 5	26 Mar. 1824	2 lots	Baton Rouge	-	-	-	1800	1821	Anomalous.
25	Dr. White	Dr. White	Permission	-	-	St. Tammany	-	1799	-	-	-	Cultivated one year, and driven off by the Indians.

CHARLES S. COSBY, *Register.* FULWAR SKIPWITH, *Receiver.*

Register of renewed claims to land in the district west of Pearl river, in Louisiana, founded on complete and incomplete titles, derived either from the British or Spanish Governments; which, in the opinion of the undersigned Register and Receiver, ought to be confirmed by the Government of the United States.

1	Samuel Fulton	Samuel Fulton	Plat & certificate	-	1,024	Baton Rouge	-	17th May, 1805	Pintado	1809	1814	Reference to commissioner's report. D 71.
2	David Le Jeune	David Le Jeune	Spanish patent	8 Oct. 1806	480	Feliciana	Morales	27th Jan. 1806	S. Pintado	1799	1819	Do do do C 10.
3	William Corner	William Corner	Spanish patent	12 Dec. 1803	400	Baton Rouge	Morales	18th Nov. 1803	Pintado	1803	1821	Do do do C 2.
4	John Rhea	Antonio Son	Spanish patent	3 July, 1804	784½	Feliciana	Morales	16th June, 1804	Pintado	1800	1819	Do do do C 13.
5	Antonio Gras	Antonio Gras	Spanish patent	20 Jan. 1804	3,000	Baton Rouge	Morales	10th Dec. 1803	Trudeau	1806	1814	Do do do C 33.
6	H. Carney	A. Richardson	Plat & certificate	-	201¾	Feliciana	-	10th Feb. 1807	Kneeland	1809	1820	Do do do D 57.
7	William Allen	William Allen	Plat & certificate	-	320	St. Helena	-	19th May, 1810	J. C. Kneeland	1809	1820	Do do do D 54.
8	A. Freeland	A. Freeland	Order of survey	11 Sept. 1803	-	St. Helena	De Grandpré	-	-	1804	1819	Do do do D 104.
9	A. P. Matrosse	Joseph Bahan	Private sale	-	400	St. Tammany	-	-	-	1800	1819	Do do do D 101.
10	Eliza Bookter	David Jones	Spanish patent	12 April, 1804	400	St. Helena	Morales	9th April, 1804	Trudeau	1804	1819	Do do do C 47.
11	Alexa'r Bookter	Alexa'r Bookter	Spanish patent	12 April, 1804	1,000	St. Helena	Morales	9th April, 1804	Trudeau	1804	1819	Do do do C 46.
12	Fickland & Horton	S. Criswell	Order of survey	30 Aug. 1806	-	Feliciana	Grandpré	28th Jan. 1807	J. C. Kneeland	1805	1819	Do do do D 130.

LAND OFFICE, ST. HELENA, *24th July*, 1821.

CHARLES S. COSBY, *Register.*
FULWAR SKIPWITH, *Receiver.*

17th Congress. No. 346. 1st Session.

APPLICATION OF DELAWARE FOR A GRANT OF LAND FOR THE PURPOSE OF EDUCATION.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 28, 1822.

The committee to whom was referred that part of the Governor's message which relates to the appropriations of the public lands, respectfully report:

That the matter referred to them embraces a report and sundry resolutions adopted by the Legislature of Maryland relative to appropriations of public land for the purposes of education. These resolutions declare, "That each of the United States has an equal right to participate in the benefit of the public lands—the common property of the Union;" and "that the States in whose favor Congress have not made appropriations of land for purposes of education, are entitled to such appropriations as will correspond, in just proportion, with those heretofore made in favor of the other States." The principle asserted in these resolutions appears to your committee to be founded in justice, and to be consonant to the best views of national policy.

Your committee find themselves relieved from the necessity of searching for arguments in support of the claims of those States that have not as yet received their portion of the public lands. The ground they conceive to be preoccupied by the report adopted by the Legislature of Maryland. This report is before the Senate, and it contains, in the view of your committee, a lucid and able exposition of the justice and policy of granting to each State, in proportion to its territory, its share of the public lands for the purposes of education. After the masterly manner in which this subject has been managed by the Maryland report, your committee have not the presumption to suppose that they can throw upon it any additional light. They would therefore venture merely to condense into as small a compass as possible the different views in which this subject has been exhibited.

That the public lands are now the common property of the Union, is a truth that cannot be denied. This alone appears to your committee sufficient to overthrow the right of any particular section of our country to an exclusive benefit of those lands. The plea, then, of common property, at present, is of itself sufficient to justify each State in calling for its share of that property, without any regard to the manner in which that property was acquired. But the States that now call for their proportional benefit of the public lands, need not shrink from an inquiry into the mode of the acquisition of those lands. This inquiry, it appears to your committee, would not weaken, but strengthen and confirm their claims.

The public lands appear to have been acquired in three ways: by conquest, by purchase, and by cession. The happy termination of the revolutionary war gave to the United States a fair title, by conquest, to those lands of which, under the provincial Government, the crown of Great Britain had always exercised the right of disposing. But some difficulties seem to have existed, as to the title of the United States to those lands, soon after the close of the revolutionary war. Several of the States made claims to large portions of those lands which were embraced by their nominal boundaries. The claims of these States do not appear to your committee ever to have rested upon a good foundation. They do not however conceive it necessary now to inquire into the justice of these claims, as the States which made them have long since abandoned them, and surrendered all right and title to the same by cession to the United States. Whatever therefore may be thought concerning our title to the public lands by conquest, there can no doubt exist as to our title by cession.

"By the treaty of peace in seventeen hundred and eighty-three, Great Britain relinquished to the United States all claims to the government, property, and territorial rights of the same, and every part thereof."

And within a few years after the peace, the respective States, actuated by a generous spirit of conciliation and patriotism, yielded up to the United States what they conceived to be their claims to their unsettled land. Thus did the United States acquire a fair and undisputed title to all the public lands east of the Mississippi, except those held by the Indians, and the southern parts of the States of Mississippi and Alabama; a title to these was acquired by purchase, and the money paid out of the common fund. By the same title do we hold the territory west of the Mississippi; this being purchased from France in the year eighteen hundred and three, and also paid for out of the common fund.

Your committee, then, can take no view of this subject without being forced to the conclusion that, as these lands are a common property, each State should derive from them its proportional benefit; and that any appropriations of them for the exclusive benefit of any particular State, is "a violation of the spirit of our national compact, as well as the principles of justice and sound policy."

Were it necessary to search for any additional reason why Congress should grant to each State its proportional share of the public lands, your committee think that it might be found in the conditions inserted in the cessions of several of the States. With some of the States, this disposal of the public lands was a special condition of cession. The act of cession of Virginia expressly states, that all lands granted to the United States by such cession "shall be considered as a common fund for the use and benefit of such of the United States as have become, or shall become, members of the confederation or federal alliance of the said States, Virginia inclusive, according to their several respective proportions in the general charge and expenditure; and shall be faithfully and *bona fide* disposed of for that purpose, and for no other use or purpose whatsoever." The same spirit breathes through all the acts of cession.

It appears to your committee that Congress, in their disposal of the public lands, have *not* always acted upon the principle that these lands are a common property, and, of course, should always be disposed of for the common benefit. No complaint can be made against any appropriations of these lands for national purposes; but any appropriations for State purposes is evidently a departure from justice, and from that line of policy which the welfare of the States and the harmony of the Union most clearly prescribe.

The public lands are surveyed and sold according to the directions of Congress; and by the present laws relating to the survey and sale of these lands, it appears that one thirty-sixth part of all the public lands is reserved, and given in perpetuity for the benefit of common schools, in the States or Territories within which such lands are situated; and, in addition to this, the appropriations for seminaries of learning of a higher order amount to about one-fifth of those for common schools. These are evidently appropriations for State, and not for national purposes. They are appropriations of a common fund of the country for the exclusive benefit of a particular section; and, of course, fully justify "those States that have not received any such appropriations in asking of Congress their proportional share, not as a matter of favor, but of justice."

Your committee are aware of the objections that have been made to the claims of those States that have as yet received no appropriations of the public lands. They have given to these objections due consideration; and the result is, in the view of your committee, that they are founded in fallacy, and are without weight. It has been objected "that the lands granted to some of the new States for the purposes of education, though distinguished in common parlance by the name of donations, were, in fact, sales bottomed upon valuable considerations; in which the new States surrendered their right of sovereignty over the remaining public lands, and gave up the whole amount which might have been received in taxes before such lands were sold, and for five years thereafter." It has been justly observed in answer to this, that, "as Congress possesses an absolute dominion over the whole territory before the creation of the new States, and makes these States, it is not to be understood how any right of sovereignty is relinquished by them." It is impossible to relinquish what never was possessed. The new States never had the right of taxing the public lands: they relinquished nothing, and of course gave no consideration for these lands. One of the conditions on which the new States were admitted into the Union was, that they should not tax the public lands; they accepted of this condition, and were of course bound to observe it. Nor does it appear to your committee how the exemption from taxation of these public lands was productive of any

advantage to the old States, that was not equally enjoyed by the new; but it does most obviously appear that the grant of the public lands to the new States for the purposes of education, does give to these States an advantage which the States that have received no such appropriations do not participate with them. This advantage, too, your committee think, is daily increasing; in a few years it would be immense. The new States will be relieved from all the burdensome expenses of education, while the other States will be laboring under these expenses, if their just claims are not now granted. Your committee cannot see by what principle of justice or rule of policy Congress can justify itself in giving to the new States so great an advantage over the others.

It has also been observed, by way of objection to the claims of the old States, that the appropriations of part of the public lands to the purposes of education for the benefit of the States in which they are situated, has increased the value of the residue by inducing emigrants to settle upon them. Your committee confess themselves unable to see the force of this objection. If the remainder of the public lands have increased in value, the benefit is obviously not confined to the old States. The new States enjoy it equally with the others. Even allowing the old States to derive advantages from this source, they are not enjoyed by them exclusively. But the benefits accruing from the appropriations of public lands for the purposes of education in the new States are exclusively enjoyed by these States. Your committee, however, are inclined to think that the old States derive no advantage from the increased price of the residue of the public lands. It does appear to them, that the price of the remaining public lands is raised at the expense of the old States, for the emigrations from these States to the new occasion a loss to the old States by depreciating the value of their lands, which, in the opinion of your committee, more than counterbalances the advantages which the old States receive from the increased value of the residue of those public lands.

The amount of the claims of those States that have received no appropriations of the public lands, has also been urged as an objection against them. But your committee can see nothing frightful in this amount. It has been shown by the Maryland committee, that, instead of being large, it is comparatively small. By their report, it appears that the sixteen States that have received no grants would require but 9,370,760 acres, little more than two acres out of a hundred of all the public lands unsold, and less than what has been already granted to the States and Territories in the west.

Your committee are not disposed to throw any censure upon Congress for those appropriations of public lands, for the purposes of education, to the States and Territories of the west. They believe that it was a measure dictated by a liberal and enlightened policy. It is, in their opinion, the duty of every government to guard against the evils of ignorance, and to disseminate as widely as possible the blessings of education. This is a duty more especially incumbent upon a republican government. Ignorance is a soil whence discords and factions luxuriantly spring. None but an enlightened people can long enjoy the blessings of freedom. That cannot be appreciated which is not properly understood. Morality and religion are essential to the continuance of a republican government, but to these ignorance is a deadly enemy. Nothing that is sacred can flourish under its noxious breath: like a tornado, it sweeps in its desolating march every thing that is fair and lovely.

To the appropriations, then, that have already been made for the purposes of education, your committee feel themselves bound to give their full approbation. But they think that it is contrary to the welfare of the Union, and the spirit of our national compact, that these appropriations should be partial. Their benefits should be extended to every portion of the community. Justice tells us that a common property should be expended for a common benefit, and policy tells us that it is essential to the stability of the Union that harmony should be preserved among the States. Now, it does appear to your committee, that this harmony will be disturbed, and jealousies will be excited, if favors are granted to one section of the country which are denied to another. Beside, it does seem to your committee that if the claims now made are not granted, that the independence of these States will be endangered, and the beauty of our political fabric may be destroyed by the preponderating influence which the new States will possess through the means of superior knowledge and of more improved mental cultivation.

If appropriations of the public lands should be made to those States that have not as yet received any, in proportion to their respective territories, it appears from a calculation made in the Maryland report that the share of Delaware is forty-five thousand two hundred and twenty-five acres. This perhaps might be valued at about ninety thousand dollars. The importance of such a sum in aid of our school fund, your committee deem it unnecessary to urge.

Nor do they think that the smallness of our share should render us backward in urging our claim. The smallness of our territory should render us more zealous in the pursuit of knowledge. We should endeavor to acquire power of mind, in order to supply the deficiency of physical strength. Knowledge is power. Without knowledge, we must sink into insignificance; but with it, we need never fear but what we shall always be heard and respected in the councils of the nation.

Your committee therefore beg leave to recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Delaware in General Assembly met, That each of the United States has an equal right to participate in the benefits resulting from the public lands, the common property of the Union.

Resolved, That the States in whose favor Congress have not made appropriations of land for the purposes of education, are entitled to such appropriations as will correspond in a just proportion with those heretofore made in favor of the other States.

Resolved, That the Governor be requested to transmit copies of the foregoing resolutions to each of our Senators and our Representative in Congress, with a request that they will use their endeavors to procure the passage of an act to carry into effect the just principles therein set forth.

In Senate, 16th Jan. 1822. Read and adopted:

CALEB RODNEY,
Speaker of the Senate.

PRESLEY ALLEN, *Clerk Senate.*

In the House of Representatives, Jan. 18, 1822. Concurred in:

ALRICH RYLAND,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

J. M. CLAYTON, *Clerk.*

17th CONGRESS. **No. 347.** 1st SESSION.

APPLICATION OF MAINE FOR A GRANT OF LAND FOR THE PURPOSE OF EDUCATION.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 29, 1822.

STATE OF MAINE.—IN SENATE, JANUARY 15, 1822.

The committee, to whom was referred so much of the Governor's message as relates to certain resolutions of the State of Maryland, and of several other States of the Union, calling the attention of Congress to an equitable appropriation of a portion of the public lands for purposes of education in those States which have not received such appropriations, ask leave to report:

That this being a subject particularly interesting to the original States of the Union, none of which have received any such appropriations, has already been so generally and fully discussed, that it is impossible for your committee to throw any new light on the subject.

Your committee will, however, suggest that such large grants of lands for the diffusion of knowledge in the new States, is highly honorable to the Congress of the United States; but in as much as all the public lands were acquired by the united valor, wisdom, and contribution of all the States, it is surely equitable that each State should receive its just proportion of advantage from this common property. In the new States, a quantity of land has been

granted to each, respectively, in proportion to the extent of its territory, for the establishment of common schools and colleges. It is conceded, and even contended, by Maryland, and other States, which have acted on this subject, that similar appropriations should be made to the several other States which have not received their share in the same proportion. Should this principle, which appears so reasonable, be adopted, the State of Maine will be entitled to about eight hundred thousand acres, which, at the lowest rate Congress has sold the public lands, will yield a fund of about one million of dollars. The claims of Maine on this subject may be urged with as much force as any other State: she sacrificed her full share of blood and treasure in the war of the revolution; and, in the late war, besides supplying the army of the United States with more than her proportion of soldiers from her hardy yeomanry, she expended about three hundred thousand dollars in the common defence, which sum has hitherto been refused to be refunded. This State, wishing a general diffusion of knowledge among all classes of her citizens, and being justly entitled to the means of carrying her benevolent views into effect, your committee recommend a cordial co-operation with our sister States in effecting the object of their communications; and therefore submit the following resolves to be passed by the Legislature.

NATHANIEL GREEN, *Chairman.*

Resolves relating to the Maryland resolutions.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, That each of the United States has an equal right to participate in the benefit of the public lands, the common property of the Union.

Resolved, That those States, in whose favor Congress have not made appropriations of land for purposes of education, are entitled to such appropriations as will correspond in a just proportion with those heretofore made in other States.

Resolved, That the Governor be requested to transmit copies of the foregoing report and resolutions to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, with a request that they will use their endeavors to procure the passage of an act to appropriate to the State of Maine, for the purposes of education, such a quantity of public lands as shall be equal to that heretofore granted to other States.

In the House of Representatives, January 19, 1822: Read and passed:

BENJAMIN AMES, *Speaker.*

In Senate, January 21, 1822: Read and passed:

DANIEL ROSE, *President.*

January 21, 1822: Approved:

ALBION K. PARRIS.

A true copy:

Attest, ASHER WARE, *Secretary of State.*

17th Congress. **No. 348.** 1st Session.

EXAMINATION OF THE SEVERAL LAND OFFICES.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 30, 1822.

Treasury Department, *January* 28, 1822.

Sir: In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 4th instant, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to report to the House "the manner in which the several land offices of the United States were examined prior to the 1st of January, 1818, the names and places of residence of the persons by whom such examinations were made, the respective compensation allowed to each individual so employed, and the whole expense thereof to the United States; and, also, that he report the manner in which the same duty has been performed since the said 1st January, 1818, together with the names, professions, stations, and place of residence, of the persons who have been appointed to make such examinations, what offices each was appointed to examine, the reports made by each, the accounts presented for their respective services, the amount of money allowed to, or drawn or retained by, each of them; whether any of them have, during the said period, been allowed, or received, any other compensation from the Government; if so, how much, and for what service rendered or duty performed, and whether some plan may not be devised whereby the same duty may be performed with equal advantage and less expense to the Government;" I have the honor to submit the enclosed statements, marked A and B, which show the amount that has been paid for examining the land offices during the two periods of time described in the resolution, and exhibit the names, stations, and professions, of the persons by whom such examinations were made, as far as they are known to this department.

I have also the honor to transmit copies of the reports of the state of those offices, which have been made from the 1st of January, 1818, to the 31st of December, 1821, as far as they have been received.

Previously to the year 1816, the land offices had been examined by persons residing in the vicinity of their location. As the examiners were generally the friends and neighbors of the officers whose books and accounts were to be examined, and most commonly unacquainted with the forms in which they were required to be kept, the reports made by them furnished but little of the information which it was the object of the department to obtain. They were, therefore, annually made rather as matter of form, in compliance with the injunctions of the law, than from a conviction that the information obtained was of any intrinsic value to the public service. It may be proper also to observe, that during the whole interval of time from the establishment of those offices to the year 1816, the annual receipts from the public lands were inconsiderable compared with what they have been since that time. The inducement to incur expense, in order to obtain the best information of which the nature of the case admitted, was not so strong as it has been since the great augmentation which has occurred in those receipts.

Under the influence of these considerations, in the year 1816, the late Mr. Dallas, who was then Secretary of the Treasury, directed that the principal land offices in the state of Ohio and Territories west of it, should be examined by one of the clerks of the General Land Office. The same person was permitted to examine them in 1817 upon the assurance of the Commissioner that his absence from his clerical duties would not be detrimental to the public service. For this service he received, in both years, at the rate of three dollars a day during the time he was thus employed, in addition to his salary as clerk, which was not affected by his absence from the office.

Since that time the offices have been examined by persons unconnected with the department, who have been compensated for their services at the rate of six dollars a day whilst engaged in the examination, and six dollars a day for every twenty miles travel performed in the execution of this service. It has been the practice to furnish them with a letter of credit to the receivers, who advance to them, upon their bills, such sums as may be necessary to defray their expenses. The great press of business which the law granting relief to the purchasers of public lands has brought upon the land officers, has prevented them from making their returns, which will, when made, show the amount that has been received by the gentlemen who have examined the land offices during the year 1821. Until these returns are received, their accounts cannot be adjusted, but the compensation which will be allowed will not exceed the rates above mentioned. Owing to the delay which occurred in transmitting instructions from the General Land Office, the gentleman who has been employed to examine the southern offices has not yet forwarded his reports.

The gentleman who examined the land offices in the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri, in the year 1821, whilst engaged in that duty, effected a very important service to the Treasury, by obtaining collateral security for a very large amount of the public money on deposite in the bank of Vincennes at the time that that bank stopped payment. The expectation that he would be able to effect this service formed a strong inducement to accept his offer to examine the land offices. For performing this service, he has made no charge, and will receive no compensation. No additional compensation has been received in any case whatever.

From the experience which has been acquired on this subject, no doubt is entertained that the mode of examination, which has been pursued since the year 1815, is decidedly preferable to that which had been previously pursued. When a different person is employed to examine each office, the judgment which is formed of the manner and style in which the books are kept will depend upon the intelligence, the prejudices, or partialities, of the different examiners; but, when the same person examines a number of offices, the same intelligence is exercised in each case, exempt, too, from partiality or prejudice, when the examiner is not a neighbor or connexion of the officer. The impression produced upon the officers themselves by the mode which has been practised since 1815, prove, incontestibly, its superiority over the other. An examination now is not a matter of form. The time the examiner is to arrive is unknown. When he does arrive, the examination immediately commences, and is continued without relaxation until it is completed. When the examination is made by the neighbors of the officers, the time of examination depends upon the convenience of the latter, as there is nothing to induce the examiners to proceed to the examination at one time in preference to another.

It is also an object of some importance that the examiner should communicate confidentially many things that he would not be willing to incorporate in his report, and which it would even be improper to incorporate. The value of such communications will depend entirely upon the knowledge which the head of the department has of the character of the person who makes them.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect, sir,
Your obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

The Hon. the SPEAKER
of the House of Representatives.

A.

A statement showing the names of the persons employed in examining the several land offices of the United States, and counting the money in the hands of the Receivers, with the place of residence, and amount of compensation paid to each, respectively, from the opening of the land offices to the 31st December, 1817.

Offices.	Names.	Place of residence.	Rate of compensation.	Years. 1805.	1806.	1807.	1808.	1809.	1810.	1811.	1812.	1813.	1814.	1815.	1816.	1817.	Amount paid to each individual.
Marietta -	Philip Greene	Marietta -	$4 per diem	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24 00
	Joseph Buell -	Do -	Do	-	-	8	8	8	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
	Joseph Wilcox	Do -	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	12	8	12	-	-	42
Zanesville -	Wm. Wells -	Zanesville -	Do	-	12	10	12	12	16	12	16	-	-	-	-	-	90
	John Hamm -	Do -	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	16	-	-	-	32
	J. B. Mungon	Do -	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	-	-	16
Steubenville -	Jas. Pritchard	Steubenville -	Do	24	20	24	-	24	24	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	164
	Alex. M'Lean	Uniontown, Penn.	Do	-	-	-	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32
	Thos. M'Cune	Steubenville -	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	12	12	-	-	36
Canton -	Z. A. Beatty	Cambridge, Ohio	Do	-	-	-	-	-	36	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	72
	J. Clumbacker	Canton -	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	24	24	24	36	-	136
Chillicothe -	Wm. Creighton	Chillicothe -	Do	63	64	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	175
	Wm. Sterret -	Do -	Do	-	-	-	-	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
	Nat. Massie -	Do -	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
	Joseph Kerr -	Do -	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	16
	Edward Tiffin	Do -	Do	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
	Isaac Davis -	Do -	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	12	12	-	-	36
Cincinnati -	Daniel Symmes	Cincinnati -	Do	60	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	92
	E. A. Brown -	Do -	Do	-	-	32	24	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	72
	James Silver -	Do -	Do	-	-	-	-	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
	John M'Lean -	Do -	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	82	16	-	-	-	-	-	98
	Oliver Spencer	Do -	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	8	8	-	-	24
Jeffersonville -	R. Ferguson -	Louisville -	Do	-	-	-	-	12	8	-	8	8	-	8	8	-	52
Vincennes -	Benj. Parke -	Vincennes -	Do	-	-	-	12	-	12	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	32
	J. D. Hay -	Do -	Do	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	16
	John Johnson	Do -	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	16	16	-	44
Shawneetown -	J. M. Street -	Shawneetown -	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	16	-	28
Kaskaskia -	B. Stephenson	Kaskaskia -	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	12
W. of Pearl River	John Girault -	Near Natchez -	Do	-	-	-	-	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32
	T. Freeman -	Washington, Miss.	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
	H. Daingerfield	Do -	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	4	-	-	-	-	12
E. of Pearl River	Ed. P. Gaines	Fort Stoddart -	Do	-	-	-	20	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
	G. S. Gaines -	St. Stephens -	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	20	-	-	28
Huntsville -	John Childress	Nashville, Tenn.	Do	-	-	-	-	-	24	20	52	52	-	-	-	-	148
	David Moore -	Huntsville -	Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	8	-	32
Marietta, Zanesville, Steubenville, Chillicothe, Cincinnati, &c.	N. B. Van Zandt	Washington City	$3 per diem	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	291	471	762
			Dollars	159	140	98	132	148	164	214	186	160	80	176	375	471	2,503 00

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Register's Office,* 17*th January,* 1822.

JOSEPH NOURSE, *Register.*

B.

A statement showing the names of the persons employed in examining the several land offices of the United States, and counting the money in the hands of the receivers, with the professions, places of residence, and amount of compensation paid to each, respectively, from the 1st January, 1818, to the 31st December, 1821.

Years.	Names.	Professions.	Places of residence.	Offices examined.	Allowance for travelling.	Allowance for examin'g.	Total.
1818	John Dickens	Late a clerk in the office of Com. of Prisoners, but not at the time of employment to examine the land offices	Washington city	Marietta, Steubenville, Wooster, Zanesville, Chillicothe, Cincinnati, Jeffersonville, Vincennes, Shawneetown, Kaskaskia, and Edwardsville	$459	$583 33	$1,042 33
1819	John Dickens	Do do do -	Do -	Marietta, Steubenville, Wooster, Delaware, Zanesville, Chillicothe, Cincinnati, Jeffersonville, Vincennes, Shawneetown, Kaskaskia, Edwardville, St. Louis, Franklin, Huntsville, Washington, M., St. Stephens, and Cahawba	1,155 90	581 50	1,737 40
1820	John Dickens	Do do do -	Do -	Huntsville, Cahawba, St. Stephens, and Washington, M.	810	396	1,206
	R. B. Lee -	- - -	Do -	The several land offices in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri	822	294	1,116
1821	J. B. Thomas	Senator of United States	Illinois -	The several land offices in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri, eighteen in number, viz. Steubenville, Wooster, Zanesville, Marietta, Chillicothe, Delaware, Piqua, Cincinnati, Brookville, Jefferson, Vincennes, Terre Haute, Shawneetown, Kaskaskia, Edwardsville, Vandalia, St. Louis, and Franklin	Acc'ts not	settled.	
	A. Anderson	Late a clerk in the office of Comp. of the Treasury, but not at the time of his employment to examine the offices	Dandridge, Te.	Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, viz. Huntsville, Tuscaloosa, Cahawba, St. Stephens, Natchez, & Orleans	Ditto		

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Register's Office, 17th January*, 1822.

JOSEPH NOURSE, *Register.*

17th CONGRESS. **No. 349.** 1st SESSION.

APPLICATION OF VERMONT FOR A GRANT OF LAND FOR THE PURPOSE OF EDUCATION.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 31, 1822.

STATE OF VERMONT, OCTOBER SESSION, 1821.

Report of a committee, and resolutions of the Legislature of the State of Vermont, on the appropriation of public lands for the purposes of education.

The committee to whom was referred his Excellency's message, accompanied with a report and sundry resolutions of the Legislature of the State of Maryland relative to the appropriations of public land for the purposes of education, and a report and sundry resolutions of the Legislature of the State of New Hampshire on the same subject, beg leave to report:

That they have attentively considered the said reports, and the resolutions respectively predicated thereon, and find them to contain the following principles, which, in the opinion of your committee, cannot be denied or resisted.

That the public lands of the United States, whether acquired by force, or by acts or deeds of cession from particular States, or by purchase from foreign Governments, are the common property of the Union; and ought to be applied to the common use and benefit of all the States in just proportions, and not to the use and benefit of any particular State, or States, to the exclusion of others; and that any such partial appropriation of them, for State purposes, is a violation of our national compact, as well as of the principles of just and sound policy.

And that, as large appropriations of the public lands have been made by the United States (and, in the opinion of your committee, with perfect propriety,) to certain particular States for the purposes of education, the rights of other States will be violated unless a like appropriation be made to them of the public lands, for the same purposes, in just proportion.

In these principles your committee fully agree with the Legislatures of the States of Maryland and New Hampshire, and believe the arguments detailed in the reports made to the Legislatures of those States, respectively, and particularly that from the State of Maryland, to be altogether unanswerable.

The reports and resolutions referred to your committee, which have been published for the use of the General Assembly, so clearly and irresistibly elucidate and establish the principles maintained, that an attempt, on the present occasion, at further or more ample discussion, would be superfluous.

They may be allowed, however, to suggest that the claims of the State of Vermont on the subject may be urged with as much justice as those of any other State.

The burdens and sacrifices of the revolutionary war, which secured the sources of our national wealth as well as our independence, were shared, in full proportion, by the people of this State. At the same time, as this State was not then a member of the confederation, no indemnity was obtained from the United States, though, on its accession to the Union, it became subject, equally with the other States, to the burden of the public debt.

Your committee recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont, That each of the United States has an equal right to participate in the benefit of the public lands, as the common property of the Union; and that the States, in whose favor Congress have not made appropriations of land for the purposes of education, are entitled to such appropriations as will be in a just proportion with those heretofore made in favor of the other States.

Resolved, That his excellency the Governor be requested to transmit copies of the foregoing report and resolutions to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, with a request that they will use their endeavors to procure the passage of an act to appropriate to the use of the State of Vermont, for the purposes of education, such quantity of the public lands as shall be equitable and just.

Resolved, That his excellency the Governor be also requested to transmit copies of the said report and resolves to the governors of the several States of the Union, with a request that they will communicate the same to their respective Legislatures, and solicit their co-operation to carry into effect the just principles therein set forth.

All which is respectfully submitted, by

HENRY OLIN, *for Committee.*

In General Assembly, November 8, 1821. Report accepted, and resolutions adopted.

Attest: W. D. SMITH, *Clerk.*

In Council, 9th November, 1821. Read, and resolved to concur.

A true copy: R. TEMPLE,
Sec. of Gov. and Council.

17th Congress. **No. 350.** 1st Session.

CLAIM OF THE COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED BY GEORGIA TO EXAMINE CERTAIN LANDS OF THE TENNESSEE RIVER.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE FEBRUARY 1, 1822.

Mr. Eaton, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Nicholas Ware and Wm. A. Carr, executors of Thomas Carr, deceased, made the following report:

In February, 1784, the State of Georgia, with a view to ascertain the precise quality and situation of that portion of her western territory lying in the Big Bend of Tennessee river, appointed seven commissioners, with authority to proceed there, open an office, and perfect titles, under certain limitations and restrictions embraced in the resolution. Nothing is said of the compensation to be extended to the commissioners for their services. On the 25th of December, 1785, a report was made by them, and, in August following, the Legislature resolved that "each of those commissioners, who had *actually attended their duty*, should be entitled to five thousand acres of land in the district as a gratuity and full compensation for their trouble;" and that they should have a warrant of survey. These facts are established by records produced from the State of Georgia, properly and legally certified.

But five of the commissioners entered on a discharge of the duties assigned them, viz. John Donelson, Stephen Heard, William Downes, Joseph Martin, together with Thomas Carr, who had been appointed in lieu of Thomas Napier, resigned. The enterprise was arduous and full of danger; and one of the commissioners, Donelson, lost his life while in the discharge of this duty.

Subsequent to August, 1786, the acts and proceedings of Georgia furnish no information of the reason why the lands reserved and appropriated for those commissioners were not located and titles to them perfected: a deposition, however, of Zachariah Cox states that "he assigned the land claimed under the act by making special location in the Tennessee purchase;" though what authority he had from Georgia to make such location, does not appear from any proofs or documents furnished, other than the act of 1795, commonly termed the Yazoo act. In this it is provided that, within the limits of what had been sold to the Tennessee Company, of which Mr. Cox was the head, there should be "reserved 50,000 acres, to be equally divided amonst the commissioners appointed by the State for the purpose of examining the quantity, quality, and circumstances of the Great Bend of the Tennessee river."

No doubt is entertained by the committee of the correctness of this claim. The commissioners never acted under any special contract with Georgia as to the remuneration to be made them for their services. They proceeded, as they had been required under the act of 1784, upon a hazardous enterprsie, in a wilderness country, and amongst savages in no wise friendly disposed, to the execution of the trust confided to them, with no security for compensation other than a confidence in the liberality of the State. Whether, then, the amount of of their claim should be determined by the act of 1786, which gave to each of them five thousand acres, or by the act of 1795, section 15, which enlarged it to 50,000 acres, was an inquiry with the committee. There being no special contract, it rested with the gratuity and liberality of Georgia. That State, possessing the sovereignty and soil, had a right to fix the amount as she pleased; and, having fixed it, the title became vested, and could not, as your committee conceived, be affected or impaired by any subsequent transfer to the United States. Georgia herself admits the correctness of the claim; that it has never been satisfied; and by a memorial from the Legislature of that State in the year 1818, desires that it may be satisfied: taking into view, however, that the act of 1795 was repealed by Georgia, and that her memorial is silent as to the quantity the committee have preferred, considering the claim under the operation of the act of 1786, which limited the amount to be given to each commissioner to five thousand acres.

By the articles of compact and cession from Georgia to the United States, it is covenanted that confirmation shall be given to all perfect British and Spanish grants, and to all surveys and settlements made in that district of country over which those commissioners had been appointed to preside. Authority is also given, if exercised by the United States within a year, to set apart not exceeding five millions of acres, as a fund out of which to satisfy any other claims that might exist against that State. The United States, in pursuance of that compact, and within the time limited, created a fund to that amount, from which were to be satisfied such claims as might be preferred, founded "upon any act, or pretended act, of Georgia." From this act of Congress, in connexion with the articles of compact and cession, it seems obvious that this claim rests against the United States and not against the State of Georgia.

The committee, under a view of all the circumstances, have reported a bill for the relief of the claimants, extending to each of the commissioners 5,000 acres.

17th Congress. No. 351. 1st Session.

APPLICATION FOR INDEMNITY FOR LOSSES SUSTAINED BY ERRORS OF SURVEYORS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 19, 1822.

Mr. Rankin, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of the inhabitants of the eastern section of range No. 15 and township No. 2, of Canton district, in the State of Ohio; and of Robert Williams and Abraham Kroft, on the same subject, reported:

The petitioners allege they have sustained considerable loss, in consequence of certain errors committed by the surveyors of the United States in surveying the public lands, and pray Congress to give them relief. It was not to be presumed that the surveys of the public lands, made by numerous hands, should be in all respects accurate; nor that inconsiderable errors, whether against or in favor of the Government, should be rectified. A claim for deficiency, on the part of individuals, is no better founded than the claim of the Government for compensation for an excess of quantity above the estimated quantity in any tract of land. These claims, if admitted and enforced, would, especially when examined by men of different degrees of skill and science, and by instruments more or less perfect, disturb the settled state of things which now exists in relation to almost every tract of land purchased of the United States. This must, by a large portion of the community, be viewed as a much greater evil than any partial losses sustained under the present settled state of things. Besides, it was in the power of individuals to have completely satisfied themselves, on the subject of the quantity of lands in their respective tracts, in time to have avoided any loss or injury. Nor can we believe that the Government is bound, or ever intended to warrant the quantity of land supposed to be contained in any legal division or subdivision of public land offered for sale, for the estimated quantity agreeably to the public surveys. The act of the 11th of February, on the contrary, declares that "each section, or subdivision of a section," &c. "shall be held and considered as containing the exact quantity expressed in the return by the surveyor general," &c. It is believed that this act is general in its operation.

Your committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioners ought not to be granted.

17th Congress. No. 352. 1st Session.

EXAMINATION OF THE LAND OFFICES IN 1821, AND THE EXPENSE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 19, 1822.

Treasury Department, 18*th February*, 1822.

Sir: In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to inform the House "the several sums of public money which have been drawn for, or received by, the person who examined the land offices in the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri, in the year 1821, by virtue of letters of credit to receivers of public money, or otherwise, and what sum now remains in the hands of that person to be accounted for, specifying the times when, and persons from whom, such several sums, or any part thereof, may have been received; and, also, that he state who was appointed to examine the land offices in Michigan Territory for the year 1821; whether that duty was performed, and, if not, why it was omitted;" I have the honor to state that, from the indiposition of the gentleman who had engaged to examine the land offices in Michigan Territory in 1821, those offices were not examined in that year. The papers marked A, B, C, D, and E, herewith submitted, contain all the other information required by the resolution.

The expense of examining the land offices is a legitimate charge upon the annual appropriation of six thousand dollars "for the discharge of such claims against the United States, not otherwise provided for, as shall have been admitted in due course of settlement at the Treasury." The law requires that the service shall be performed, but there never has been a specific appropriation for that object. When the accounts and vouchers are rendered, they are examined and certified as other public accounts, and are admitted in due course of settlement at the Treasury.

In my report of the 28th ultimo, (see No. 349,) I had the honor to state that the receivers who had advanced money to the gentlemen who examined the land offices in 1821, upon the letter of credit with which they were respectively furnished, had not made their monthly returns, in which the sums so advanced were charged, and that, for that reason, their accounts had not been settled.

Those accounts have yet been but partially received. Statement E, however, contains the several sums which have been admitted to have been received. When the vouchers shall be forwarded by the receivers, the account will be subjected to the same examination as other public accounts.

I remain, with respect, your most obedient servant,

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

The Hon. Philip P. Barbour,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

A.

Treasury Department, 6*th April*, 1821.

Sir: You will receive from the Commissioner of the General Land Office statements of the situation of the land offices, which you are requested to examine, at the date of the last examination, or that of the last settlement, which has been made of their accounts.

A letter of credit is herewith enclosed, which you will use according to your convenience, not exceeding in the whole the amount which you will be entitled to receive for the service which you will render.

The compensation which has been allowed for this service, for the last two years, has been six dollars a day whilst engaged in the examination of the books, &c. of the offices, and six dollars for every twenty miles travel from office to office, whilst engaged in that service.

If suit should not have been brought against the Bank of Vincennes for the sum due the United States before you arrive at that place, I will thank you to ascertain, as far as practicable, what can be done to secure the debt ultimately; and I authorize you to enter into any arrangement for that purpose which you may judge to be for the interest of the nation, which shall not stipulate for the payment of a less sum than what is actually due.

Should suit have been brought before you arrive, you are nevertheless authorized to enter into any arrangement with the bank, under the limitations herein defined, and to direct such stay or suspension of legal proceedings as may be necessary to give effect to such arrangement. I have the honor to be, &c.

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

Hon. Jesse B. Thomas,
Edwardsville, Illinois.

P. S. The following are the offices which you are requested to examine, viz. Those in Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and that at Detroit.

W. H. C.

B.

Treasury Department, 6*th April*, 1821.

Sir: The Hon. Jesse B. Thomas has proposed to examine the land offices in Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and at Detroit. I will therefore thank you to transmit to him the state of the different offices according to the last examination, or date of the last settlement, whichever shall be most recent, together with such instructions as you may judge it expedient to give. I am, &c.

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

The Commissioner of the General Land Office.

C.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, 10*th April*, 1821.

SIR: In your journey to and from the land offices which you are requested to examine, you are authorized to draw fr m the respective receivers of public moneys such sums as may be necessary for your expenses; and the receivers will charge the same in their quarterly accounts, transmitting your receipts as vouchers.

I am, very respectfully, sir,
Your obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

Hon. JESSE B. THOMAS,
Edwardsville, Illinois.

D.

WASHINGTON CITY, *Feb.* 11, 1822.

SIR: The statement hereto annexed shows the amount of money which I received in virtue of your letter of credit to the receivers of public moneys whose offices I examined, the names of the receivers from whom I received the same, and, also, the places where, and the times when, the several sums were drawn. Having given duplicate receipts to the receivers for those sums, I deemed it unnecessary to make any memorandum of the particular days on which they were advanced. Therefore, I cannot vouch for the accuracy of that part of the statement, it being made from recollection only. I commenced the examination of the land offices about the twenty-fifth of April, 1821, and finished on the twenty-fourth of November in the same year. Within that period I was several weeks engaged in securing the debt due from the Vincennes Bank to the United States. Not intending to charge the Government any thing more than a full indemnity for my ordinary and incidental expenses whilst engaged in this service, and believing that the sum received as stated is not more than sufficient for that object, I should do injustice to myself were I not to retain it. I cannot, however, exhibit an accurate account of those expenses, nor do I consider it important. But, in as much as I examined eighteen land offices, dispersed through an immense region of country, and was a considerable time seriously indisposed, it will be readily conceived that the expenses and losses incident to such an undertaking could not fall short of the sum stated.

I am, very respectfully, sir,
Your obedient servant,
JESSE B. THOMAS.

The Hon. WM. H. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of the Treasury.

E.

A statement showing the number of land offices examined by Jesse B. Thomas, and the amount of money received by him in virtue of a letter of credit from the Secretary of the Treasury to receivers of public moneys, the names of the receivers from whom the same was received, and also the places where, and the times when, the several sums were drawn.

Oct. 1821.	I. C. S. Harrison,	Receiver,	Vincennes,	$200
	A. Whitlock,	do	Terre Haute,	
Oct. 1821.	Charles M. Taylor,	do	Jeffersonville,	30
	Lazarus Noble,	do	Brookville,	
July, 1821.	Thomas A. Smith,	do	Franklin,	175
	Horton Howard,	do	Delaware,	
June, 1821.	Wm. L. D. Ewing,	do	Vandalia,	120
	John P. Mayberry,	do	Marietta,	
Nov. 1821.	Alexander Bourne,	do	Chillicothe,	30
	Isaac Van Horne,	do	Zanesville,	
July, 1821.	Benj'n Stephenson,	do	Edwardsville,	200
	Samuel Quimby,	do	Wooster,	
Oct. 1821.	James Findlay,	do	Cincinnati,	30
Aug. 1821.	John Caldwell,	do	Shawneetown,	50
	William M'Lain,	do	Piqua,	
Nov. 1821.	Samuel Stokeley,	do	Steubenville,	100
May, 1821.	Edward Humphreys,	do	Kaskaskia,	25
June, 1821.	George F. Strother,	do	St. Louis,	50
				$1,010

17th CONGRESS. **No. 353.** 1st SESSION.

APPLICATION OF THE "COFFEE LAND ASSOCIATION" FOR A GRANT OF 24,000 ACRES IN FLORIDA, AT THE MINIMUM PRICE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 20, 1822.

Mr. RANKIN, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Peter S. Chazotte and others, in behalf of the American Coffee Land Association, reported:

The petitioners state that they are the agents of a large association of American citizens, amounting to one hundred families, who are desirous of making an establishment in East Florida for the purpose of cultivating coffee, cocoa, and such tropical fruits and productions as may be found adapted to the climate and soil of the country. They allege that, encouraged by the report of a committee of this House made at the last session of Congress, by letters and private communications from many intelligent and respectable individuals in different parts of the United States, and the known liberality of the Government, they explored, at considerable expense, Florida generally, but particularly that portion thereof best suited to their purposes. They at length selected, on account of its situation and capacity to receive and afford plantations to the several members of the association, Cape Florida or Key Largo, by them named Monroe's Presque Isle. This peninsula is connected to the main land by a narrow isthmus or neck of land, is situated between latitude 21° 56′ and 25° 12′, and contains about 24,000 acres of land, 23,000 of which is supposed to be cultivable. Key Largo is represented as presenting what is generally called an iron bound shore, surrounded on all sides by limestone rocks, and by shoals, in consequence of which they selected, on the south side of a small river, in latitude 25° 48′, a site for a town, where a convenient harbor was found for shipping which might be employed in the exportation of the productions of the soil. They request to be permitted to purchase, at the minimum price, or at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, Key Largo, and four sections of land at the place selected for a town, for which they propose paying cash on the delivery of the patents. They state that their object is settlement *solely*, and not speculation, the sincerity of which statement is evinced by a declaration of their willingness to subject the members of the association, *severally*, to the forfeiture of their respective grants, and of the money that may have been paid, if, in two years and one day after the land shall have been surveyed, and the patents issued, the land for which any such patent may have issued be not cultivated, and such tropical fruits and productions reared thereon as may be found adapted to the soil and climate. Two other propositions were submitted, which the committee thought unnecessary to be incorporated with their report.

While your committee highly appreciate the industry and enterprise of the individuals who explored this new acquisition of territory, the nature and value of which had been previously entirely unknown; and with feelings of the highest respect for the delicacy, intelligence, and ability, with which the cause of the association has been represented before them by examples drawn from the history and experience of other nations; by expanded and liberal views of national patriotism, wealth and aggrandizement, and independence from foreign nations for the rich tropical productions; by the prospect of protection and security which such a settlement would afford our revenue and our shipping compelled to pass that coast; the opening a settlement calculated to invite to the speedy population of the country, and the expulsion of a horde of wreckers and pirates from the coast, the former of whom are licensed by foreign powers; they are compelled, however reluctantly, on general principles, to report unfavorably to the prayer of the petitioners.

The domain is the common property of the Union, which the representatives of the people are bound, by their duty to the whole community, to dispose of to the best advantage for the common benefit. Ignorant as we must be of the value of the land proposed to be purchased, we cannot, with any accuracy, determine whether the price offered be adequate or inadequate. No better sys-

tem, it is presumed, can be adopted than that which has been long practised in this Government, of offering the public land in small quantities, after suitable notice, at public auction. In this way the land is certain to bring its value in the market, while the *quantity* offered gives to the man in moderate circumstances a fair competition with the capitalist. It shields the representative of the people from the charge of granting exclusive privileges to some, or from being compelled to make distribution of the public land at less than its value. To preserve consistency, and avoid such imputations, the present has been adopted after an experience of the deleterious effects of a contrary system. Every departure from it has given additional proof of its excellence, and the folly of such departure in the indulgence of generosity or sympathy.

By the treaty which ceded Florida to the United States, Congress has a discretionary power of discharging such sum as may be awarded by the commissioners appointed under that treaty, not exceeding $5,000,000, at the Treasury of the United States, or of creating a stock for that purpose, bearing an annual interest of six per cent., payable from the proceeds of the sales of public lands in the ceded territory. Should this stock be created, which is probable in the present state of the Treasury, justice to the claimants requires that the lands should be disposed of in the ordinary way, and for the best price that can be obtained for them in market. A contrary course might delay the claimants in the receipt of the several amounts due them, produce delay in the payment, or eventually render the fund wholly inadequate. From a deliberate view of the whole subject, your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition and accompanying documents.

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled.

The memorial of the subscribers, citizens of the United States, respectfully represents:

That Peter Stephen Chazotte presented to Congress at their last session a plan for forming a national nursery for the culture of vines, olives, almonds, &c., in the southern States, and coffee, cocoa, and cochineal, in East Florida, which was referred to a committee of the House of Representatives, who reported favorably to the general objects contemplated, but the late arrival of the treaty of cession, and the pressure of other business, having delayed this report until the second day of March, no time remained to act upon it, and nothing was left to the committee but to recommend it to the favorable attention of the succeeding Congress, whom your memorialists have now the honor of addressing. In confirmation of these remarks, and for the information of Congress, your memorialists beg to refer to the accompanying documents marked Nos. 1, 2, and 3.

Your memorialists respectfully beg leave to represent, that the said Peter S. Chazotte, sensible that a national nursery in Florida could, of itself, be of but little advantage to the country, without the establishment of a colony for the cultivation of the various productions contemplated, upon a more enlarged scale, and with a view to permanency, by public notice, invited his fellow citizens to join with him in carrying the views and objects set forth in his memorial to Congress into effect.

Your memorialists, accordingly, encouraged by the favorable disposition manifested by Congress, and desirous of promoting a plan which they believe fraught with important consequences to the future commercial interests of their country, associated themselves with the said Peter S. Chazotte, raised the necessary funds, procured and fitted out a suitable vessel, in which Mr. Chazotte, accompanied by five gentlemen of the association, and a proper number of laborers, embarked, and were occupied, during an absence of nearly five months, in exploring several hundred miles of the coast and interior of East Florida, and obtaining the information necessary to enable them to judge of the practicability of the desired objects.

The result of their investigation was the selection of Key Largo (which they named Monroe's Presque Isle) as a situation suitable for the location of the intended settlement, it containing about the quantity of land originally proposed to be taken up; and it being, so far as they could ascertain, free from any prior claims, and so bounded as to make its limits easily described and defined.

This Presque Isle lies on the southeast of the peninsula of East Florida, between the latitudes of 24° 56′ and 25° 12′ north, bounded on the northeast by Angel-Fish creek, on the southwest by a narrow channel that separates it from Long Isle, on the northwest by Grant's lake, the continent, and Keys and Sandwich gulf, and on the southeast, by the Gulf stream within the reef, (as by the accompanying draft No. 5;) containing, by computation, twenty-three thousand acres, a proportion of which is broken, rocky, and barren, and as there was not a proper site on the island for a town from which their produce could be transported otherwise than in boats, there being no harbor, and the nearest place which could be found for that purpose was within the bay of Cape Florida, between the latitudes of 25° 46′ and 25° 48′ north, on the south bank of the river Miami or Crawford river, where they surveyed four United States' sections, and divided them into lots; (according to the accompanying plan, No. 6.) this place, though remote from the settlement, offering the nearest safe harbor from whence the produce of the island could be exported in vessels of a proper burden.

Should the application of your memorialists meet with the approbation of your honorable bodies, their design is to proceed immediately to the formation of a settlement at Key Largo, and on the main lands at the town plot, and to commence the cultivation of coffee, cocoa, cochineal, vines, olives, almonds, or such other productions as they may find the soil and climate congenial to, and in which, should their success equal their hopes and expectations, they will, in a few years, be able to furnish new articles for the commerce, add largely to the resources of the country and the fiscal means of the Government, as by proving the capability of the soil and climate of Florida to bring to perfection those valuable and hitherto foreign productions, and opening new fields for the enterprise of our citizens, they give an enhanced value to the immense domain of the public in the newly acquired Territory, and which it will be slow in obtaining until an experiment such as your memorialists contemplate making shall prove successful.

Your memorialists forbear to enlarge upon the probable favorable influence of a large and respectable settlement on that part of the coast of Florida, in repressing the contraband traffic which existed under the late Government, and which will continue to be conducted in violation of our laws, and to the injury of the public revenue; nor will they remark on the advantages to a large and valuable coasting trade which, in passing, as it necessarily must, in the immediate neighborhood of the proposed colony, is liable to frequent casualties, and is then dependant for assistance and relief upon the subjects of a foreign Government who derive large annual tributes from the misfortunes of our shipwrecked mariners. These are considerations that cannot escape the observation of your honorable bodies, with whom your memorialists are persuaded they will have full weight.

Your memorialists, encouraged by the approbation of your honorable predecessors, and sanctioned in their efforts by the Executive authority of their Government, having expended considerable sums of money in procuring information and ascertaining facts which they believe valuable and important to their fellow-citizens, rely, with respectful confidence, upon the justice of their representatives for such remuneration as their exertions may seem to merit, and do respectfully solicit a grant of Key Largo, or Monroe's Presque Isle, together with the four United States' sections surveyed within the bay at Cape Florida, for a town, from whence to transport their produce, subject to such restrictions and regulations relative to its speedy settlement and cultivation as your honorable bodies may think proper to impose.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will pray, &c.

JOHN GILDER,
BERNARD M'CREDY,
WILLIAM DAVIS,
AMOS ROBERTS,
} Committee of Superintendence of the East Florida Coffee Land Association.

PHILADELPHIA, *January* 14, 1822.

Hon. C. RANKIN, *Chairman of the Committee, &c.*

SIR: Allow us respectfully to thank you personally, and, through you, the honorable members of the Committee on Public Lands, for the favor conferred on us by calling an extra meeting for the purpose of forwarding the object for which we, the delegates of the East Florida Coffee Land Association, have repaired to the seat of Government; and, likewise, for the kind and patient attention paid to us whilst in your committee.

Whether the principle on which our prayer to Congress is grounded, is of such a character as to be incompatible with our republican form of Government, or, on the contrary, is analogous to our national institutions, we have not confidence enough to determine; nor does our modest sphere in life fit us to lay down principles the duty of which rests on the wisdom of the representatives of the people. However, if the examples of the ancient republics of Greece and Rome; if the usages and policy of mo-

dern nations, and many precedents in our American republican empire, can justify us to view this principle as being already established, and found in almost all our national and state institutions, we beg leave respectfully to offer to your consideration a rough sketch of our ideas on this very important subject.

When the republics of Greece and Rome conquered any new territory, they sent colonies of respectable citizens amongst the conquered people, with a view to secure their conquests by introducing their language, laws, habits, and customs. They, besides, gave to these colonists cities, mansions, houses, and lands; whilst a portion of the conquered people was transplanted and intermixed amongst the citizens of the conquering power. This very wise and enlightened policy forced even a barbarian to become a modest and useful member of the commonwealth.

The modern nations of Europe have pursued different contrary policies. England bestowed large grants of lands on courtiers and distinguished individuals, in their possessions in the new world; and, had not the intolerant spirit of the priestcraft driven away from Europe millions of its respectable inhabitants, the flourishing country we now inhabit would still be a desert. Spain and Portugal granted millions of acres to favorites and courtiers, and very few acres to the only useful members of the newly discovered countries. France, thinking a difference of climate ought to form a line of demarkation, pursued two opposite policies. In Canada the feodal system was established; large grants of lands, under the title of seigniories, were made to privileged characters. This policy soon proved ruinous to the crown; for, notwithstanding the many items of millions spent by that Government, the country remained almost a wild desert, which at last fell into the hands of the British.

In her West India possessions France pursued a wiser policy; she acknowledged no privileged character; she refused grants for seigniories; a prince was but a citizen: free grants were therefore given to every applicant. Those for sugar, coffee, indigo, &c. were from 300 to 600 acres; for grazing farms 900 acres were granted; no title of nobility was acknowledged, or, rather, that title was conferred, after a residence of fifteen years, on every planter; thus, by multiplying the number, there was no title in fact; they all stood upon an equality. Besides, every grant was forfeited, if, at the end of one year and one day, a settlement for the culture specified in the grant had not actually been made; and the first comer, after that period had elapsed, was by law allowed to take possession of the same, on his accomplishing the terms and conditions of said grant. Thus speculations on lands were effectually put at rest. *The Government gave freely, and the more it gave the richer it grew.* A few years' trial were sufficient to prove the success of this liberal policy. The fiscal revenue of France was tripled; it gave occupation to her numerous mariners, enlivened commerce, agriculture, and manufactures. She became, in a short time, the first colonial uation of Europe—a rank she owed solely to her wise policy in the encouragement of the agricultural pursuit of tropical staples and fruits.

In our republic, we have no case forming a real paral lel with the monarchical precedents above cited, because, neither the President nor any other officer can lawfully bestow any portion of land—this power is vested in Congress alone. Nevertheless, analogous cases are the basis of all our public institutions: the passing through a turnpike road gate, is a sure indication of an exclusive right granted to a company to retard the progress of the impatient traveller, and to lessen the weight of his purse. The banking system is a granted right and an exclusive privilege to substitute paper for silver and gold—a power vested in hundreds of companies which are no less hostile to a well regulated financial system than the silent and nightly false coiner. Bridges, canals, rivers, navigation, &c. all have obtained exclusive privileges; the very numerous cases of incorporations, under a thousand different names and appellations, granted for different purposes, fully prove this principle.

Whether it would be a just policy thus to sell land previous to a general disposition of the same, according to existing regulations, is a subject which the honorable members of your committee can best determine. However, it is a question already settled, in private as well as public economy, that it is wisdom in an individual to improve a portion of the land he possesses, to enhance the value of that which he wishes to sell. It is wisdom which frequently prompts him, gratuitously, to convey tracts to industrious settlers, the gift of which is more than compensated by the increasing value of the surrounding lots. This is a standing rule which is equally applicable to governments, states, and individuals. Besides, numerous precedents are to be found in the acts of Congress to justify such national grants.

The character which stamps our request to purchase land of the United States, is by far of a greater national importance than can, at first, be surmised; but which you, sir, and the honorable members of the committee will duly appreciate. It is an association of patriotic and enterprising citizens, who respectfully beg leave of Congress to be permitted to part from their friends; to forget the endearing spots of their infantile sports; to forsake their accustomed enjoyments and intercourse with their numerous relatives and fellow-citizens; to give up pleasure and the sweets of life, and to transplant themselves on the wild deserts of South East Florida. Will it be asked, what is the motive of so great sacrifices? their answer is *patriotism*, and a just regard for themselves, and the well being of their families. The statesman impairs his health and shortens the period of his natural life by his assiduity to public business; the warrior disdains the blazes of war, and fronts death in the defence of the rights and honor of his country: we, humble agriculturists, fear not to meet with the surly countenance of a tropical climate. Our chief object is to multiply the resources of our country, by introducing the culture of coffee, cocoa, cochineal, olives, capers, almonds, vines, &c. which, we believe, may successfully be cultivated there; a trial of which we are willing to make at our expense, and which requires the labors of several years ere it repays the husbandman for his troubles and sacrifices. An experiment big with so many important consequences to the present state and future destinies of these United States cannot, we presume, be disregarded by the wise men who have been selected by the people to devise schemes and form wise laws to ensure the happiness and prosperity of this republican empire.

That the Executive, in the exercise of their power to repress, and effectually to destroy, the illicit trade carried on under the late Government in that section of East Florida, in driving from those coasts the foreign wreckers and marauders that infest them, and in securing to the fiscal revenue an item of at least $150,000 per annum, would derive aid, means, and power, to enforce the execution of the laws from a colony of respectable American citizens, is a natural consequence; and this consideration alone, separated from many others of a more national import, would justify Congress to accede to our prayer.

We beg of you, sir, to excuse us for our long digressions, and the waste of your time in the perusal of our ideas on subjects better understood by yourself and the honorable members of the Committee on Public Lands; and respectfully submit, for your and their consideration, the terms we have been empowered to offer for the purchase of the land specified in our memorial to Congress, and which we shall present to you in the following manner:

First. We offer the minimum price fixed by law, of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, one-half cash, the other half payable at six years, without interest, for 23,000 acres of land on Key Largo, and the four United States' sections selected for a town within the Bay of Cape Florida.

Second. We again offer thirty thousand dollars cash for the whole island of Key Largo, and the town plot within Cape Florida.

Third. Or forty thousand dollars for the whole island and town plat, payable in three instalments, at 6, 8, and 10 years, without any interest.

Remarks. The first proposal presupposes a choice of land on Key Largo or Monroe Presque Isle, and likewise that the survey of the same shall be at the expense of Government.

The second and third proposals presuppose that the Presque Isle Monroe, or Key Largo, will be wholly included, with its good and barren lands, and that the expense of surveying the same, and its division and subdivion into lots of 100 acres, shall be at the charge of the association; thereby saving much money to the Treasury.

Having explained our ideas on the foregoing three terms, we shall proceed on to secondary objects; thus:

Fourth. The association shall be liable for the first cash payment as per term first, and the patent titles shall be made severally, in each individual name, according to his subscription, after a survey shall have been effected, and fate shall have allotted him his share or shares by ballot; when the association will be dissolved, and the landholders shall be severally liable for the second cash payment, and not as joint tenants, or tenants in common.

Fifth. The association shall be liable for the thirty thousand dollars, payable on the delivery of the patents or deeds, as per term second; and the said deeds shall be made out as expressed in article fourth.

Sixth. The association, or landholders, shall be seve-

rally and individually liable for the payment of the instalments as per term third, and their patents shall be made out as expressed in article fourth.

These are respectfully submitted for your consideration.

We have the honor to remain, your obedient servants,

PR. STEPHEN CHAZOTTE.
JOHN GILDER.

WASHINGTON, *7th February*, 1822.

The Hon. CHRISTOPHER RANKIN, *Chairman, &c.:*

SIR: In the conversation you honored me with the day before yesterday, and the verbal understanding that took place on certain terms and conditions which you requested me to deliver in writing, and in addition to those already submitted to the committee, we have the honor to present for your consideration the following substitute for the first term offered in our communication.

Term 1st. For twenty-four thousand acres of land on Key Largo, or Monroe Presque Isle, and for the four United States' sections for a town within Cape Florida, according to the drafts now before the committee, we are empowered to offer one dollar and twenty-five cents cash, per acre, payable on the delivery of the several patents or deeds.

The second term offered in our last communication to remain the same, as well as the subsequent explanatory paragraphs.

And with a view to remove every existing prejudice, lest this grant might, like the Tombeckbee and other grants, become an object of speculation, we are willing to subscribe to the following conditions:

That two years and one day after the land shall have been surveyed, and the patents delivered to the several landholders who shall not have actually planted, and in a state of cultivation, coffee, cocoa, sugar, and other tropical fruits, together with olive, almond, vine, &c. according to the particular culture of any one of the above enumerated staples, for which their land shall have been found best suited, shall, individually and severally, forfeit their land to the United States, and also the purchase money already paid into the Treasury of the United States.

The committee will perceive that the Tombeckbee grant has no similitude with that for which we have petitioned Congress.

In the Tombeckbee case, a great number of foreigners and exiles from Europe excited the feelings of Congress in their favor; 96,000 acres of land were granted to them as an asylum, at two dolls. per acre, payable at fourteen years' credit, without interest, (a term nearly equal to a free grant,) and on certain conditions, which a few of them have fulfilled. This fulfilment they did not contemplate, nor could it be expected; because the largest number of those on whom this favor was extended, were without any pecuniary means, and therefore incapable of forming any establishment on the land granted to them. They sold the same to get bread. Hence the speculations that followed. Besides, men who had all their life lived in camps could not so soon exchange "the sword for the ploughshare." In a word, they were soldiers and not agriculturists.

The case which we represent is the very reverse of the Tombeckbee. Actuated by a laudable spirit, and with a view to increase the resources of their country by immediately introducing the culture of the above enumerated staples, nearly one hundred respectable families, not of foreigners, but of citizens of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, &c. formed themselves into an association under the direction of Peter S. Chazotte, an experienced agriculturist, for the culture of vines, olives, coffee, cocoa, and other tropical productions; and wishing to commence, as soon as possible, the great national work which they have in contemplation, and for which they have already expended upwards of two thousand five hundred dollars, they sent an expedition, headed by said P. S. Chazotte, to explore the southernmost section of East Florida, and ascertain whether those tropical staples were likely to succeed, ere they made an application to Congress for a grant.

Now, sir, what is the object of our application? The purchase, by special enactment, of a few thousand acres of land for national purposes. What terms do we offer? Cash, at the minimum price fixed by law. Are we bound to no performance? The cash payment is a very binding one, and the culture of the staples already enumerated is not less obligatory. Have we refused to accept a defined period of time for the due accomplishment of our promises? We are willing to forfeit, individually and severally, our grants, (if obtained of the honorable Congress,) lose our expense, establishments, and purchase money, should we fail individually to accomplish, (as far as the nature of the soil and climate will correspond with our labors) the special purposes of said grant, and this, two years and one day after the land shall have been surveyed, and the patent titles delivered. In fact, sir, no request of this kind has ever before been made to Congress, nor are you to be apprehensive lest it should form a precedent, for we crave the honor, rather than the profit, of such a national enterprise.

Should we obtain the object contemplated in our application, and success attend our experiments, what an increase of resources, national prosperity, and wealth, new staples of exchange for commerce, and aliments for manufactures, may not, by anticipation, be expected from it, besides the consequent altitude which shall thereby be secured to this great republic in her relations with the rest of the world!

With these observations we close our present communication to the honorable Committee on Public Lands, and have the honor to subscribe ourselves their obedient servants,

PETER S. CHAZOTTE.
JOHN GILDER.

WASHINGTON, 14*th Feb.*, 1822.

No. 1.

Facts and observations on the culture of vines, olives, capers, almonds, &c., in the southern States, and of coffee, cocoa, and cochineal, in East Florida, By PETER STEPHEN CHAZOTTE, *who has for upwards of ten years been engaged in the culture of vines, &c., in southern France, and for seven years a grower of coffee, cocoa, &c., in the West Indies.*

To the President, Senate, and House of Representatives, of the United States,

Are respectfully offered, for their consideration, the following facts and observations on the policy of immediately introducing the highly interesting cultures of vines, olives, capers, and almonds, in the now territory of the United States, and on the plantations of coffee, cochineal, cocoa, or chocolate nut, in East Florida.

It has a hundred times been stated, that agriculture is the basis of the national wealth of empires. May I not be allowed to add, that it is the true source of individual happiness; that it secures independence and cherishes every virtue; the enjoyments of which are constant, without being contaminated by those vices which are frequently the attendants of manufactures.

That agriculture is alone capable of raising a nation to the highest degree of happiness and independence, the history of mankind will prove: from the earliest ages, man has been taught to call the earth "his mother and beneficent nurse."

For the further development of my ideas on this interesting subject, I shall take a cursory view of the climates of southern Europe and Asia Minor, and look if I cannot find in our country climates perfectly congenial to the growth of whatever plants are successfully cultivated in southern Europe. In doing this, however, it is not my intention to include wheat, barley, oats, nor any grains and vegetables which our country is known to grow to as great a perfection as in any other part of the world. I shall limit my inquiries to those rich staples which our soil will luxuriantly grow, and which we have until now neglected to cultivate.

Having resolved not to be deterred from prosecuting this plan of improvements by any of those idle ideas which either prejudice, ignorance, or foreign policy, has been endeavoring to imbue our minds with, we shall clearly perceive all the advantages which our insular coast, our extensive inward country, the variety of our climates, and our rich soil, give us over the nations of Europe. It is true that we cannot at present drain the marshes of Virginia, nor turn the dismal swamps of North Carolina into Roman consular retreats and pleasure gardens. We need not occupy ourselves with works which require a more condensed population than ours is. That shall be done when the land, distributed amongst millins of inhabitants, shall, by its increased value, promise a fair interest for the capital employed in its improvement; then, and not before, shall rich fields and stately mansions astonish the mariner sailing along our extensive coast. Leaving to future generations to effect what is not our interest now to do, we are at liberty to select our ground, to cultivate the plains, or plant on the hills; we may choose the climate, the river, the particular soil; diversify our cultures; in fine, we may raise all the European fruits, and the most valuable tropical staples. From the cliffs of the Patuxent to the bluff which crowns the plains that form the banks of Mobile bay, the vines may be cultivated, and the hills and valleys of Virginia may, ere long, resound with the echoed songs of the vintagers.

Wishing to proceed with regularity and order, I shall trace out comparative parallel climates both in Europe and the United States; and then, taking a separate view of each, I shall prove that, to all our already known productions may be added all those which we have not yet undertaken to cultivate. In forming this scale, I shall pay less regard to parallel latitudes than to the parallels of the now existing climates. Parallel latitudes could not bring a fair comparison of climates. As, for example, latitude fifty-one, in France, would give, in America, the northernmost section of Newfoundland, north of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and running westwardly on the southern edge of Hudson's bay; and it is well known that, under the 51st degree of north latitude, in France, the climate is temperate, and the four seasons regularly marked; whilst, under the same latitude in America, the climate is intensely cold, and only two seasons which are known to be striving to conquer each other. The cause of this may be a fit subject for a treatise.

Having thus far explained my motive for abandoning parallel latitudes in order to form parallel climates, I shall establish them thus:

First climate in Europe.—Taking France from the 51st to the 45th degree of north latitude, forming two parallel lines running eastwardly, and including the northern sections of France from Bordeaux, Switzerland, Lombardy, Bavaria, Austria, Transylvania, &c.

First climate in the United States.—The parallel climate is found between the latitudes 41st and 35th, two lines running westwardly from the Atlantic, and including the southernmost sections of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana; the whole of the States of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky, and Tennessee.

Second climate in Europe.—From latitudes 45th to 40th, including the southernmost sections of France south of Bordeaux, one half of Spain, as far south as Oporto in Portugal; the isles of Corsica and Sardinia; Italy as far south as the bay of Tarrento; and including Dalmatia, Servia, Albania, Macedonia, Romania, and the northernmost part of Asia Minor bordering on the Black sea.

Second climate in America.—Its parallel is found from latitudes 35 to 32½, including the whole of South Carolina, and the northern halves of Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana.

Third climate in Europe and Asia Minor.—From latitudes 40 to 35, including Portugal south of Oporto; the southern section of Spain, Oran, Algiers, and Tunis, on the northern coast of Africa; the southernmost part of Italy; the island of Sicily, Greece, Morea; all the isles in the Archipelago, and those of Candia, Rhodes, Cyprus, &c. &c.; Asia Minor, Syria, Mesopotamia, and Armenia.

Third climate in the United States.—Its parallel is found between latitudes 32½ to 29, including the southernmost parts of Georgia as far south as St. Augustine, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Pensacola, and the northernmost part of East Florida.

Fourth climate in North America—For which there is no parallel climate in Europe or Asia Minor.

From latitude 29th to 25th, bordering almost on the tropic, and including the remainder of East Florida, containing about 33 millions acres of land.

Let us now review those climates separately with respect to their productions.

First climate in Europe.—There is not a single fruit, nor any grains or vegetables which this climate produces, even grapes, that are not likewise produced in *the first climate in the United States;* for vines are successfully cultivated at *Vevay*, in Indiana, which lies under the highest latitude of this climate. If, then, vines grow and bear plentifully good and perfectly ripe grapes at *Vevay*, what success would attend their cultivation on the upper land of Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee, where the climate is milder, the seasons more regular, the soil rich, and where tobacco grows in abundance, and even cotton succeeds—a staple which cannot be raised in Europe in this parallel climate! An undeniable proof, that this climate in the United States is as favorable to the growth of grapes as that of France. We need but plant, and our labors will be recompensed with abundant riches.

Second climate in Europe.—This climate, besides what grows in the first, produces olives, capers, almonds, oranges, limes, pomegranates, and figs.

Second climate in the United States.—This already produces oranges, limes, pomegranates, figs, &c., and if olives, capers, and almonds, are not seen there, it is because none have yet been planted. It is a well known fact that indigo used to be cultivated there, and has of late years been neglected, because of the cotton being found more productive; besides tobacco and rice, which are great staples for exportation? Now, would it not exhibit a want of judgment to believe that neither olives, capers, almonds, nor vines, can succeed in so favorable a climate? Facts demonstrate that, notwithstanding Bonaparte's command to raise cotton in the southern provinces of France, every attempt was met with a discouraging failure; the summer was found to be too short, and all his endeavors to dispense with our cotton proved useless. Surely, then, that man must be prejudiced or blind who, after such strong evidences, will still doubt of our success.

Third climate in Europe and Asia Minor.—This third climate produces only what is stated in the second, with the addition of some cotton fit only to manufacture coarse goods.

Third climate in the United States.—In this climate is raised the finest cotton in the world; and besides those staples that already grow, and may grow in the second, we raise sugar, which is a production of the torrid zone. In vain did Bonaparte's empire extend to the southernmost part of Europe; unable to find in it an inch of ground where the sugar canes could grow, he was reduced to extract a scanty supply of bad sugar from beets. It is then manifest, that our 1st, 2d, and 3d stated climates are, separately and collectively, superior to those of Europe; and if they do not produce wines, olives, capers, and almonds, they are not to be charged with being unfavorable to their growth: we alone are to be blamed for it.

Fourth climate south of the United States.—This fourth climate has no parallel in Europe; it lies between latitudes 29th and 25th; and being four degrees farther to the south than any other section of the United States, it promises fair, from the nature of the soil and climate, to produce coffee, cochineal, and cocoa: as for sugar, it may every where be raised abundantly.

Coffee, cocoa, and sugar, are staples of the tropics, and we are satisfied that, as the latter is raised in Louisiana, the climate of East Florida must be much more favorable. Doubts may arise on the success attending the culture of the two first named staples in the minds of such as are altogether unacquainted with it; but let those who are conversant with the subject decide, and I am confident of being strengthened in my opinion by an affirmative.

I shall here take a retrospective view of the progress of the plantations of coffee in the West India islands, and prove that, where it was not expected to grow, experiments attended with success have removed all doubts.

In the year 1796, not a single coffee plant was cultivated in the island of Cuba. In the year 1769, that plant began to be introduced in the island of Jamaica; for, in the year 1798, there was but a very scanty quantity raised in that island. That plant was chiefly cultivated in the colonies belonging to France; and, were it not for the French revolution, it is probable that that rich staple would at this day be, as it formerly was, the principal cause of the ascendancy of France over England in supplying the whole of Europe with that colonial produce. Unfortunately, I do not say for France, but for the planters of that once happy and favored island, St. Domingo, they were doomed to utter destruction by the evil genius of a single man. That man was Calonne, prime minister to Louis the 16th. By that policy which, in European cabinets, is called "*un coup de politique*," Calonne expected to arrest the revolution in its first brilliant progress, by diverting the minds of the French people, and directing it towards the safety of St. Domingo, where the interests of France seemed until then to have been concentrated. He resolved, and ordered a dreadful revolt to be instigated there, and a man of color, at that time in Paris, whose name was Ogé, was sent, and furnished with every facility the Government could afford, to stir up a revolt amongst the mulattoes. Cape Francois was burnt, streams of human blood flowed, civil war was kindled all over the island. The French people were too busily engaged about redressing their grievances to be deterred from pursuing the object in view by *un coup de politique.* The inhabitants of that devoted colony were commisserated but not relieved; and so deep and long endured were the sores of that oppressed people, that until their cure was effected, they could not busy themselves about healing the sufferings of their far remote countrymen. Artifice, cunning, and deceit, on the one hand; enthusiasm on the other; misguided and stifled the best judgment of the nation: all was liberty, equality, philanthropy; and, with a view to oppose the revolted mulattoes, the blacks were declared free.

In the phrenzy of a mistaken philanthropy, the assembly of the nation were forming codes of laws for the government of what they blindly called regenerated colo-

nies, and sending there commissioners. When Monsieur, then out of France, brother to Louis XVI., and at present Louis XVIII,. wishing to save those sections that had not yet felt the regenerating laws of France, desired the British ministry to take possession of the French colonies, the planters of the western and southern parts of St. Domingo, imitating those of Martinique and Guadaloupe, received the British. A part of that rich colony was thereby saved for a time; and both Toussaint and Rigaud, two colored chieftains fighting for power on the supposed side of France, were on the eve of being conquered, when the island was suddenly evacuated by the English.

The policy of this unexpected evacuation is easily accounted for. The English General, Boyer, on his entering Port au Prince, had written to the ministry that more colonial produce had been found stored in that single city than the whole of the British islands could produce in two years; and had urged the policy of securing the whole colony as a rich mine of wealth which the nation would enjoy, at least, for as long as the war with France should continue.

But the success of the French armies in Europe alarmed the British ministry;* they well knew that a general peace must at some time or other take place, and on such an event St. Domingo must of course be restored to France. They could not reconcile with their hostile feelings the idea of being instrumental to the preservation of a colony which, on its being restored, would at once replace her rival on that superior eminence in the colonial trade which she once enjoyed, and which it was their policy forever to destry. Therefore, they resolved to evacuate that island as the surest means of effecting their purposes; General Maitland was sent thither; he made separate secret treaties with the two chieftains; some sham battles were fought; and the British troops apparently beaten and repulsed in every encounter, without losing a drop of blood, surrendered the colony to the party-colored legions of Toussaint and Rigaud. But they took considerable care to carry off with them a number of planters, with their slaves, to cultivate coffee in their colonies, and principally in Jamaica, where they had as yet been very unsuccessful.

This plantation was by this means cultivated there on a large scale; several planters were carried to Trinidad and other small British islands; and England now receives from Jamaica alone upwards of fifty millions of pounds of coffee per year. Such planters as did not like to live under the British sceptre and colonial regulations went over to Cuba, and some to Porto Rico.

Thus is coffee now cultivated in all the West Indies. Yet the whole of those islands together, and the present state of Hayti united with them, hardly yield one-half of the quantity which St. Domingo alone formerly produced. This explains the cause of the present high price of that staple. The quantity now raised is 50 per cent. less than in the year 1784; and the number of consumers have increased in the ratio of five to one.

We have seen that coffee is at this day successfully cultivated where it was thought it could not grow: it now remains to be seen if East Florida is not likewise favorble to its growth.

This plant needs not too hot a climate; dry land produces the best quality; as, for example, the Mocha coffee in Arabia Felix, where rain is scarce and the soil sandy, is esteemed very superior. The small size of the grain, and its rounded form, indicate that the land on which it grows is exhausted, and that the plant bears only a scanty quantity. In a virgin and rich land this plant bears large crops; the grain is bigger, and flatted on one side; so that two grains united have an oval form, which lies in the centre, as the stone of a cherry, a fruit which it perfectly resembles in size, shape, and color.

On the iron-bound coasts of Hispaniola, Jamaica, Cuba, &c., this plant, as in Arabia Felix, bears, even in virgin land, but middling crops; on the high land, and an eastern, western, and northern expositions, it bears plentifully, because the atmosphere is there colder, the dew in the night constant, and sometimes a light white frost occurs.

In East Florida the land is neither too dry nor too wet, nor is the climate too hot or too cold. This narrow neck of land being washed by the sea on the south, east, and west, possesses all the advantages which an island enjoys; the sea breezes modifying the scorching vertical rays of the sun, and wafting away the approaching northern frost.

Two opposite opinions have been expressed and frequently repeated with respect to that country. Some assert it to be a dry sandy land, and others, a flat, muddy, unformed rising ground. These assertions are altogether unfounded, as may be demonstrated by merely recurring to its topography. We see a neck of land 400 miles long, and about 130 miles broad, from the opposite beaches of which the land rises gently and gradually towards the centre; where are lakes connected with each other from south to north, to a distance of about 150 miles, without receiving any supply of water from any large foreign river; and about 40 small rivers whose sources are at from 30 to 40 miles distant from both shores, and whose waters are emptying themselves into the opposite seas. Now it is impossible for those great sinews of nature to exist in a flat muddy ground, which could at most produce reeds, and not the stately trees which luxuriantly grow and cover its surface. On the other hand, if it be called a dry sandy desert, the very existence of those lakes and numerous rivers belies those assertions, for rivers and lakes are never found to spring and exist in an entirely sandy country; and such is the narrowness of this long neck of land, that it must have a deep mould and prolific bosom to produce, as it is known to do, stately forests of the most luxuriant mixture, which are constantly in bloom even in January and February; and the most beautiful flowers, whose florid appearance made the discoverers of it award to that country the significant and appropriate name of Florida.

In all places where the climate is not visited by black frost, the land, either dry or wet, will produce coffee. Cayenne, lying under the 4th degree of latitude north of the equator, where the heat is intense, no mountains but at 500 miles off, a flat, level, and drowned country, and where, as in European Holland, the surrounding seas are striving to overwhelm the rising earth—even in this swampy country, drained by ditches as reservoirs for the water, the coffee plant grows luxuriantly even to the size of a plum tree.†

At Rio de Janeiro, the present seat of the King of Portugal's American empire, lying under the 23d degree of latitude south of the equator, and as far as the province of Parana or Assumption, which reaches the 30th degree of south latitude, the coffee is found to grow. Why, then, should we not cultivate it between the 25th and 27th degrees of north latitude? that is to say, in East Florida. Will it be said that under the 27th degree of latitude to the southward of the equator it is hotter than under its opposite degree north of it? This will be contradicted by those navigators and persons who have visited that country. Canton, in China, lies under the 22½ degree of north latitude, and is the southernmost section of that large empire. The States north of East Florida already produce as fine cotton as is raised in that empire. Why should we not also attempt to cultivate the tea plant? I do not understand this culture. Information on this interesting subject is expected from those American citizens who, on a visit to China, shall not suffer their minds to be wrapt in a piece of nankin, or sunk into a catty of tea, but, soaring above their daily mercantile occupations, will seek for rest and diversion in the acquisition of information, and the collection of plants, for the benefit of their native country. I shall close this digression by adducing some new evidences. In a proclamation of George the 3d, issued from the court of St. James on the 7th day of October, 1763, and by the authority of a treaty of peace concluded at Paris on the 10th day of February in the same year, his Britannic Majesty, in the second section of his proclamation, expressed himself thus:

"Secondly. The Government of East Florida, bounded to the westward by the Gulf of Mexico and the Appalachicola river; to the northward by a line drawn from that part of the said river where the Chattahoochie and Flint rivers meet, to the source of St. Mary's river, and, by the course of said river, to the Atlantic ocean; and to the eastward and souhward by the Atlantic ocean and the Gulf of Florida, including all islands within six leagues of the sea coast."

This government being given to Colonel Grant, it was then expected that "rice, indigo, silk, wine, oil, and

* Bonaparte had then conquered the whole of Italy, and was about sailing for Egypt: Moreau had silenced the northern powers; and Holland had, by the precipitate flight of the Duke of York, become a sister republic of France. At this time continental Europe had sued for peace.

† In the West Indies this plant would grow to the height of ten feet. Experience has shown the advantage of limiting its height at four feet, by which means the branches, from the earth up, expand, and the plant acquires a stronger body, which, in consequence of its low height, is sheltered from the ravages of a hurricane, or the too heavy load of its fruits.

other valuable commodities, would be produced in great abundance." The English, at that time, knew little or nothing about coffee;* hence they did not mention it in their enumeration. Some time after, an English gentleman of fortune went to establish himself in East Florida. His labors were crowned with success both in the culture of coffee and sugar canes; and his establishments were already considerable, when the American revolution, in its effects, made Florida pass into the hands of Spain. The British Government finding Mr. Smith, or some such name, (for, although this is an historical fact, yet, not having the book in which it is stated before me, my memory has not perhaps retained the true name,) had so far succeeded, would not allow him to remain there. They carried him off with his slaves, and destroyed every thing he had planted; for which loss and damages the British Government awarded to him a considerable sum. Besides these, travellers, who have visited that country, assert to have seen coffee plants in several places, not cultivated for profit and revenue, but as a curiosity, the intrinsic value of which seems to be unknown to those who have planted them.

Mr. Carver† says, "so mild is the winter that the most delicate vegetables and plants of the Carribee islands experience there not the least injury from that season; the orange tree, the plaintains, the goyava, the pine apple, &c. grow luxuriously." "Fogs are unknown there, and no country can therefore be more salubrious." Mr. Wm. Stork, in his description of East Florida, gives the following account of it: "The production of the northern and southern latitudes grow and blossom by the side of each other, and there is scarcely another climate in the world that can vie with this in displaying such an agreeable and luxuriant mixture of trees, plants, shrubs, and flowers. The red and white pine and the evergreen oak marry their boughs with the chesnut and mahogany trees: the walnut with the cherry; the maple with the campeach, and the braziletto with the sassafras tree, which, together, cover here a variegated and rich soil." "The wax myrtle tree grows everywhere here." "Oranges are larger, more aromatic and succulent, than in Portugal. Plums naturally grow finer and of a quality superior to those gathered in the orchards in Spain. The wild vines serpentine on the ground, or climb up to the tops of trees. Indigo and cochineal‡ were advantageously cultivated there, and in the year 1777, produced a revenue of 200,000 dollars."§ In fine, I shall add, that this country will produce all the tropical fruits and staples by the side of those belonging to a northern climate.

Having, I presume, adduced sufficient evidence in support of the position I have taken, and demonstrated that coffee, cocoa, and sugar canes, will grow everywhere in East Florida, as well as vines, olives, capers, almonds, &c., and that vines may likewise be successfully cultivated as far north as the Patuxent, in Maryland, I shall now take a separate view of each of these rich productions, and, from accurate knowledge, give a statement of the proceeds of a man's yearly labor. In this statement, I shall allow but one-half of the work which experience shows a man easily does;‖ and their moderate calculations being at no time liable to deceive our expectations, we may, with more certainty, form a proper estimate of the advantages or disadvantages of those cultures, and whether we are not to be benefitted, both as individuals and as a nation, by immediately undertaking the grand work, or leave all the riches accruing from it to those who already enjoy them.

It cannot be expected that I shall enter into the particulars and minutiæ of the culture and preparations of those commodities. My intention, at present, is not to teach, but to enlighten the mind on a subject foreign to the present agricultural pursuits of our citizens. A work, describing every particular would, at this stage, excite curiosity, without promising any real advantages. Such a work I shall cheerfully undertake when I see that spirit of enterprise which characterizes the American people roused and elevated to that degree of national pride and grandeur as shall warrant its publication.

First statement, on Coffee.—One acre of land planted by ranges, and the plants at 5 feet distant from each other, gives 1,764 plants. A man can take care of two acres, which gives 3,528 plants. Each plant may, by an average, yield 2 lbs. or more; but I reduce it to one pound: therefore, a man will give, yearly, 3,528 lbs. of coffee, which, at 25 cts., produces 882 dollars.

It is to be observed, that no crop is to be expected on the first and second year; on the third year the plant yields a good crop, on the fourth an abundant one, which it will continue to yield every year until the ground is exhausted and the plant dies. For the two first years of the planting, all kinds of vegetables and corn may be planted between the ranges—they will yield two crops in one year; cotton is not to be planted between the ranges.

Second statement, on Cocoa.—Four acres of land planted in rows, and the trees at ten feet distant from each other, give 1,764 trees. A man is capable of taking care of them and of gathering the nuts. At seven years of age, each tree will yield two lbs., and the quantity will increase with its age: therefore, a man will gather 3,528 lbs. of cocoa, which, at 15 cents per lb., will produce $529 20.

This cultivation, differing from all others, requires some illustrations. It was formerly thought that its culture required much labor and a virgin soil; but experience has shown that it grows on land half exhausted by the coffee plant, and in less than twelve years' time acquires such power as to destroy the coffee underneath. Hence, it is now planted between the ranges of coffee, when this last is about seven years of age; so that when the land would otherwise become a mere waste, requiring a hundred years for forests to rise on it again ere it could recover its first fruitfulness, the same land being again covered by a new forest of productive trees, the fruits of which growing and maturing all the year round, each day brings in its crop. I could not select a more proper place to state, that it seems that Providence, in its wise dispensations, intended the cocoa tree should be the means of quickly renewing the soil exhausted by other productions. It is a fact known to myself alone, at this moment, because he who made the successful experiment, Mr. Berlie, and those who were eye wituesses to it, were, by the bloody effects of St. Domingo's regenerating system, doomed to an untimely grave, and I am the only survivor. The fact is this: Mr. Berlie, a planter on the high land of Donna Maria, had planted, after the coffee had exhausted his land, the whole of his estates with cocoa trees. This answered well; but as coffee became more productive, he thought of making an experiment—which was to cut down twenty acres of cocoa trees, setting them on fire in the same manner as is done in clearing new land, and planting them again with coffee; it was found that coffee grew more beautifully than it had done before. The cocoa trees, when cut down, were twenty-five years old.

The extraordinary effects of the cocoa tree in regenerating the ground upon which it grows may easily be accounted for. This tree seldom attains higher than fifteen feet; it is branchy, its leaves very large, and the body, or stock, of a middling size; the leaves continually falling off the tree, whilst new ones grow, cover the earth with a thick bed of leaves, which allow not even a blade of grass to grow with them. Hence, the ground requires no culture, and the trees but a light pruning, when any ravages have been caused by some storm. This constant

* At this period coffee had not been yet cultivated in the island of Jamaica, as is proved by a representation made about the year 1770 to the court of St. James by the planters and merchants residing in that island, and comprehended in seven chief grievances, the seventh of which I subjoin here.

"That cocoa, or chocolate nut, which was heretofore one of the principal commodities of this island, is now lost by the heavy duties that are laid upon it; and probably our sugar, rum, ginger, &c. must have the same fate if not timely remedied And, as we have just now begun to plant coffee, we hope for a bounty to encourage that plantation on our sending it to England; at least that there might be no duties laid upon it."

† Universal Traveller, page 604.

‡ I do not understand the raising of it, which is immensely productive, but I know that the neighborhood of Pensacola is the place where it will produce much.

§ In the year 1804, I was cast upon the southernmost point of East Florida, and although it was in the month of February, I beheld that country covered with green trees and flowers, the image of an everlasting spring.

‖ Coffee—2 acres to each man. There is no tilling or hoeing; the only labor is to prevent grass from growing between the plants, and the picking up of the fruits, which is the most laborious; otherwise, a man could easily take care of five acres of land.

Cocoa—4 acres to each man. There is no culture whatever; the labor is in cutting off the nuts and drying the fruits.

Vine—5 acres to each man. Which are to be ploughed three times a year. In cutting off the fruits, or vintage time, additional hands are necessary.

Olives, capers, almonds, need no culture; hands are necessary only to get the crops in, and extract the oils.

thick bed of leaves returns to the earth five times more nutriment than the diminutive size of the tree requires from it, and in less than thirty years it brings the soil back to its original fertile state.

Third statement, on Vines.—Having given the proceeds of a man's yearly labor in the plantation of coffee and cocoa, I shall now quit Florida, and enter the territory of the United States.

An acre of land planted with vines, allowing forty-one ranges at five feet distant, and to each range 104 vines at two feet apart, gives 4,264 vines to an acre. Five acres for a man's labor, give 21,320 vines; and, allowing the grapes of ten vines to yield one gallon of wine, it will produce 2,132 gallons, which, being rated at the low price of thirty cents per gallon, will produce $639 60 for a man's yearly labor.

This plantation is the most beautiful and luxuriant in nature: for nothing can equal the fascinating sight of a well cultivated vineyard. And as olives, capers, and almond trees require no particular culture, they may be planted in ranges, at thirty feet distant, in the vineyard, where the mildness of the climate allows the plantation. In Georgia and Alabama these four productions may be raised on the same soil. In a more northern climate the vines must be cultivated separately. So much may be said on this very interesting subject, that it would require more time than I have resolved to bestow on it at present. I shall only add, that it offers an inexhaustible source of private and national wealth, because these plantations may be made to last for ages.

Fourth statement, on vines, olives, capers, and almonds, planted on the same ground.—Five acres in vines produce, as before stated, for a man's yearly labor, - - - - - - - $639 30

175 olive trees, at thirty feet distant, will yield, after seven years of age, about one gallon of oil each, which, valued at the low price of $1 50 per gallon, is - -	262 50
45 almond trees, 25 capers do. } produce, valued at $1 50,	105 00
70 Yearly proceeds of a man's labor	$1,006 80

Review of the above.—I shall now suppose that, in the course of thirty years, we may employ 50,000 persons in the culture of vines singly: they will cultivate two hundred and fifty thousand acres of land, which will yield an annual revenue of - - - $31,965,000

Fifty thousand persons in the culture of vines, olives, almonds, and capers, on 250,000 acres of land, will yield an annual revenue of - - - -	50,340,000
Total -	$82,305,000

Cocoa.—Fifty thousand persons engaged in the culture of cocoa, will cultivate 200,000 acres of land, which will yield an annual revenue of $26,420,000.

Coffee.—One hundred thousand persons engaged in the culture of coffee, will cultivate two hundred thousand acres of land, which will yield an annual revenue of $88,200,000.

Recapitulation of the preceding estimates.

100,000 persons cultivating 500,000 acres in vines, olives, &c. produce -	$82,305,000
50,000 persons cultivating 200,000 acres of cocoa - - -	26,420,000
100,000 persons cultivating 200,000 acres of coffee - - -	88,200,000
250,000 persons cultivating 900,000 acres produce - - -	$196,925,000

The home consumption of this country may be estimated to be annually about, viz.

Wines, olives, &c.	$17,305,000
Cocoa, &c.	6,420,000
Coffee,	13,200,000
Home cons'n	$36,925,000

Leaving an immense surplus for exportation to foreign countries, of

Wines, olives, &c.	$65,000,000
Cocoa,	20,000,000
Coffee,	75,000,000
Exportation	$160,000,000

It will then become a matter of policy for the Federal Government to change the existing fiscal laws and regulations with respect to those staples of exports. The citizens paying no longer any duties in those articles which now form the principal revenue of the national Government, duties on their exportations must of course be recurred to. The estimate of which might perhaps give the following

Fiscal Duties—Which I value at an average of fifteen per cwt. It neither becomes me, nor does it enter into my plan, to trace scales of proportions on matters which must be left to the wisdom of Congress; and in forming that average I merely have in view to ascertain the probable results of my recapitulation and statement of surpluses; and I find the annual receipts in the several cus tom-houses would amount to $24,000,000.

There is no reason whatever that can prevent us from employing, in those several cultures, at least five hundred thousand persons on eighteen hundred thousand acres of land, which would yield an annual income of $393,850,000.

And supposing that, on account of our immense produce, we lowered the prices in all the markets in the world even one-third of the low prices at which I have valued them, yet the labors of five hundred thousand working men would give annually the sum of $262,566,667.

Considerations of such vast importance are not to be overlooked. We have but to begin the work, and before thirty years are elapsed more than five hundred thousand European emigrants will be seen crossing the Atlantic ocean to unite their labors and industry with ours; and, every thing concurring to increase our wealth, power, and commerce, and the Almighty making even the tyrants of Europe subservient to our grandeur, we shall then be the most powerful, as we now are the freest and happiest nation on the globe.

I need not, I think, add any thing to what I have already said on the importance of the acquisition of East Florida. The simple statements I have given, and it being the only land adjoining the territory of the United States where coffee and cocoa will grow, is sufficiently interesting to excite a laudable desire of seeing it pass into our possession: however, we must be contented with waiting patiently for the final decision of Congress.

To form an accurate estimate of the value set upon those rich productions, we need but peruse the modern history of the nations of Europe. The whole of Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Prussia, Russia, Poland, and Turkey, may be set in a flame by wars, as in the time of Charles the 12th of Sweden, and yet navigators will no where meet with war on the seas; but the moment that France or Spain gets into disagreements with any of the nations of continental Europe, not only is that section of the world kindled with flame and deluged in blood, but the seas around the globe witness scenes of horror and carnage. And why? Because the present object of warfare is no longer what it formerly was. The acquisition of one or more provinces in Europe cannot move England; but she sets the world on fire to sell her manufactured goods, monopolize commerce, and obtain possession of the French, Spanish, and Dutch colonies. These she values more than kingdoms, although she feigns to fight only for the balance of power. Immediately after the peace of 1801, the French Government sent armies to recover St. Domingo—the rebels must have submitted—the British ministry calculated the future consequences of such a submission, and Malta, a rocky isle, not worth a shilling in agriculture, suddenly became a pretence for the bloody and long war that ensued. France lost St. Domingo and the Isle of France, and Holland the Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, &c.* Thus Europe has fought thousands of battles, and slaughtered six millions of victims on the altar of avarice and commercial monopoly!

Spain, who, for many centuries, has been pursuing the most absurd policy, by discouraging agriculture to foster the working of her silver and gold mines; who has left uncultivated the most fertile land on the face of the earth, and made of her formerly active citizens the most indolent people in the world, is now endeavoring to re-

* The British Government, notwithstanding the immense profits accruing to the nation from the rich commodities and staples produced by its colonies, look upon them as if they were mere marts for the sales of its manufactured goods, or stations for its numerous ships of war. The virtuous pursuit of agriculture, (out of the limits of England,) is cramped in all its efforts for the purpose of giving employment to the corrupted rabble of its manufacturing cities; to enrich shipbuilders and ship owners; to protect privileged companies of monopolists; to oppress the industrious artisans; to drain the purse of the affluent, and multiply the number of paupers. Hence, the interests of the colonies have seldom been attended to. Their colonial system is so bad that it seems to have been framed by an avaricious company of ship owners, whose chief object was to force the growers of sugar and coffee to load their ships, and pay them a heavy freight. A grower of coffee is oppressed by the existing colonial system, and the crown again oppresses the consumer; for no man in England can roast his coffee as he pleases; he must buy it from a monopolist.

pair the ruins caused by so blind a policy. Puerto Rico and Cuba are now thought capable of producing ten thousand times more riches than all the mines of Peru. The greatest efforts are at this moment making by that regenerated Government to place those two islands in a high state of cultivation; emigrants are encouraged free of expense; thirty-three acres of land are given to each individual; they are fed during the six months immediately following their arrival, and furnished with every necessary tool and instrument of agriculture; they are, besides, free from all kinds of taxes for the space of ten years; and, to such as wish to purchase land, the Government sell 330 acres for $450, on credit of five years without paying any interest; after which an interest of six per cent. is required until perfect liquidation of the whole debt. This enlightened and liberal policy would, in less than ten years, triple the actual revenue of those islands, were it possible to establish a mutual confidence between the Spaniards and strangers;* a confidence which has so many times proved deceptive on the side of the Spaniards, and ruinous for the industrious strangers among them.

A Government, founded as ours is on the most liberal principles of political economy, whose very existence is a seal that secures the happiness and liberty of the least of its members; whose policy is to increase the wealth of the nation, and whose chief magistrate is, as it were, placed on a high tower to direct the uncertain steps of the enterprising patriots, and the inexperienced labors of the citizens, must, more than any other Government, feel interested in promoting the culture of whatever staples are found capable of increasing the prosperity and commerce of the country. I fondly cherish the hope that Government will eagerly encourage the culture of the productions I have already enumerated. Congress need, I presume, in those things for which they have not had any opportunity of acquiring practical knowledge, but to be made acquainted with the importance of those plantations, by those whose long experience enables them to communicate these useful facts. As one of the very few in the United States qualified to discharge this important duty, and being acted upon by those mighty considerations which work so powerfully on the heart of a true citizen, I respectfully submit, for the consideration of the President, the Senate, and House of Representatives of the United States, the outlines of a project for effectually encouraging the plantations of vines, olives, capers, almonds, coffee, cocoa, &c. &c.

The first preliminary steps to be taken in order to carry the proposed plan into execution, must be the securing of East Florida, the southern part of which may be planted in coffee and cocoa, and is, in fact, worth twenty times more than the swampy land claimed by the United States west of New Orleans.

This being obtained, several considerations of a primary nature offer themselves to the mind; for, although every citizen is free to choose his culture, yet it is not in the power of every one wishing to cultivate those rich plants to procure them at the moment they are wanted. Hence, when citizens are left without a helping hand, discouragement ensues, and what may be effected in three years by the fostering hand of Government, may require a century when left to the discretion and impotence of inexperienced individuals. They must be guided; they must be taught; they must have a place where they will apply for plants, and also acquire that information which no book can give; they must be dissuaded from cultivating the aboriginal grapes, which, though they might prove of an excellent quality, are not worth the trouble of a trial; because, however productive they might be found in the end, yet, it would require more than forty years culture before they could attain that delicacy of softness and perfection which ages of culture and care alone can give. The Government, by means of its numerous consuls, may procure the first qualities of plants and seeds. From France and Italy, the best qualities of vines, olives, figs, capers, and almonds. From Madeira and Portugal, their spirituous and astringent vines. From Samos, Chio, Candia, and Cypress, their sweet, delicate, and restorative cordial vines. There is a great analogy between men and plants. Man must be subdued by the slow progress of knowledge to the rule of civilization ere he attains that superiority of intellect and spiritual ideas which bespeaks him to be a being inferior to God alone; plants obtain their perfection only in proportion as man improves his mental powers, and labors to raise them to the height of his intellectual faculties. Five ages have passed away, and yet the man who inhabited the soil which we at this day tread on, is still a fugitive in the deserts; all our efforts to overtake him, and make him a civilized man, have proved fruitless; he prefers death to civilization; he flies off, avoids our meeting, and, before long, it will be said, "here were once innumerable nations of warriors that have evanished away"—a disappearance that will confound the sagacity of future philosophers, because they will know man only in his civilized state, and shall no where find that being in the simple state of nature.

I beg to be excused for these fugitive ideas; they have forced themselves on my pen. I resume my subject. From Cuba, in less than twenty-four hours, we may receive as many coffee seeds as we want. From the western part of St. Domingo, say Donna Maria, or from the Spanish Main, in the province of Venezuela, say Caraccas and Maracaibo, we may obtain the nuts that will afford the necessary seeds.

These preliminary remarks bring me to the conclusion, which I shall improve, by humbly offering to Congress a plan for effectually encouraging the plantation of the forementioned valuable staples.

1st. That it is requisite for Congress to allot one thousand acres of land, to be selected by a proper judge, for the purpose of establishing a grand national nursery of those rich plants.

2d. That it is of the utmost national urgency, that, under the superintendence of the President of the United States, this establishment should be instantly commenced, and that the President should select such person or persons as shall have given undoubted proofs of their qualifications to conduct and superintend the establishment.

3d. That, to the end of immediately enabling this establishment to furnish the citizens with the necessary plants, fifty thousand dollars ought to be appropriated for the perfect and quick execution of the object in view.

4th. That the President of the United States be authorized to appoint a proper person to go as agent to Europe, to select those plants and species of vines that are known to be most productive both for quality and quantity; or otherwise, to empower the consuls in those several countries to procure and forward the plants and seeds requested, and to make a necessary distinction of species in the several plants in order that none but the very best should be introduced into America.

5th. That as coffee will, three years after it is planted, cocoa five years, vines four years, olives, capers, and almonds, seven years, produce sufficient seeds and vines to supply every demand; these should, on the first reception of the several plants and seeds, be cultivated in the establishment on a large scale, with a view, first, to multiply the plants and seeds, and to increase the nursery, which may also be commenced immediately. 2d. To form a school for the culture and management of those plants, where every citizen should have the privilege of repairing to acquire those informations and practical knowledge that no book extant can give.

6th. That, with a view to discountenance idle demands, and thereby prevent the wanton waste of these plants, a thing which would frequently happen if they were given gratis, the chief director, acting as superintendent of the establishment, should be authorized to sell them to individuals at the following rate:

Coffee plants, 2 cents a piece; cocoa plants, 3 cents a piece; vine plants, 3 cents a piece; vines, 1 cent a piece; olive plants, 100 cents a piece; capers and almonds, 75 cents a piece: which would yield a revenue which, in six years, would repay the Government the fifty thousand expended in the establishment, and leave a benefit of upwards of one hundred thousand dollars.

On the seventh year the demands for coffee and cocoa plants will begin to decrease, because they will be procured from every individual who shall have already planted them. For ten years more the vine plants and vines will be in great demand, when they will decrease; and the olive, caper, and almond plants will, for twenty-five years longer, continue in great demand, when the establishment, as a nursery, will cease to be productive in this high degree.

Thus, having afforded the means of planting the best species of vines in the world, we may, ere ten years have elapsed, produce wines equal in quality to any in the world—a quality which will vary according to the climate and soil where they may happen to be cultivated. It is a general, and yet very wrong impression, to think

* This new colony of Fernandina de Xagua is not likely to succeed, although upwards of two thousand emigrants have already repaired there. I know the person who acts there as a chief for the Spanish Government, and know, also, that his exactions will ultimately ruin that establishment.

that vines will grow only on such and such soil. Vines grow even on the worst land, and steepest hills and mountains, in cold and hot climates. Hence proceeds the great difference in qualities. On clay and very poor land, such that no other productions can grow, is made those common wines which, being unfit for exportation, are distilled into brandy; for it requires seven casks, or 420 gallons of wine, to get a pipe of brandy of 90 gallons.

What I have stated in the preceding sheets will exhibit, in a strong point of view, the importance of establishing a national nursery in order to promote, foster, and effectually afford the means of successfully cultivating, on a large scale, these highly rich productions, which, in less than twenty-five years, will double the actual revenue of the country, create new and inexhaustible resources, invigorate commerce, and render it at all times flourishing, by the exportation to foreign countries of our vast surpluses.

Considerations of such magnitude as these will, I have no doubt, operate powerfully on the minds of our legislators, whose honorable mission is to mature plans, form schemes, and ensure, by wise laws, the happiness, prosperity, and glory of our country. And if it be not considered a departure from that reverence which a private citizen owes to the chief magistrate and representatives of a whole people, to dare impart to them ideas on subjects till now foreign to the sphere of their legislative labors, I hope that I shall not be thought too presuming to approach them with diffidence and respect, and entreat them to grant a moment's attention to the contents of these sheets. Should they prove worthy of those to whom they are respectfully submitted, I shall esteem myself honored for having thus far been instrumental to the increase of the wealth of the nation, and contributed a share in her welfare and prosperity.

PETER STEPHEN CHAZOTTE.

No. 2.

WASHINGTON, *January* 18, 1821.

SIR: I have read, with much interest, your pamphlet on the policy of introducing the culture of coffee, cocoa, vines, olives, capers, almonds, &c., in East Florida, and in the United States. It has been presented, with your letter of the 15th instant, to the House of Representatives, and referred to the Committee on Agriculture. Thomas Forrest, of Germantown, one of your Representatives, is chairman of the committee. Mr. Clagett, of New Hampshire, Meech, of Vermont, Richmond, of New York, Ringgold, of Maryland, Garnett, of Virginia, and Earle, of South Carolina, are members of the committee.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
JOHN W. TAYLOR.

Mr. PR. STEPHEN CHAZOTTE.

The Committee on Agriculture, to whom were referred the letter of Peter Stephen Chazotte, and the accompanying pamphlet, containing certain tracts and observations on the culture of the vine, olives, capers, almonds, &c. &c., in the southern States and in East Florida, report:

That they have given the subject, as far as circumstances will admit, a fair and deliberate consideration; the result of which is that, as the culture of the various plants therein specified are in their nature such as to require different southern climates and treatments, and as the greatest portion of these are contemplated for the latitude and climate of East Florida, the cession of which to the United States has been but recently announced, and its possession not yet acquired; and as the session of this House is so near its close, and so much important public business to be done, as entirely to preclude the expectation of being able to digest and mature a plan sufficiently adapted to the magnitude of the object contemplated in the laudable and praiseworthy designs of the enterprising and patriotic Peter Stephen Chazotte: therefore, the committee recommend to him to apply to those States whose soil and climate are adapted to the products which it is his object to introduce, to appropriate and set apart a few acres of ground in each State, respectively, for the purpose of establishing a nursery for growing young plants, to carry into execution the views of the said Peter Stephen Chazotte for accomplishing the great national means of increasing the staples of the southern country.

Therefore, resolved, That the petition of the said Peter Stephen Chazotte, with the documents, be laid over to the next Congress.

No. 3.

United States to all to whom these presents shall come, greeting:

The bearer hereof, Peter Stephen Chazotte, being about to visit and explore the southern parts of East Florida with a view to meritorious and laudable purposes, these are therefore to request all whom it may concern to permit the said Peter S. Chazotte to pass freely and without molestation; and particularly all persons in authority under the United States to afford him such convenient aid as it may be in their power to render, without expense to the Government, towards facilitating the object of his journey.

In faith whereof, I have caused the seal of the Department of State for the United States to be hereunto affixed. Done at the city of Washington, this twenty-sixth day of April, in the year of our Lord 1821, and of the independence of these States the forty-fifth.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS,
Secretary of State.

Peter Stephen Chazotte, esquire, having this day, July 19, 1821, at the city of St. Augustine, presented the within passport from the Secretary of State, I do, by authority vested in me by General Andrew Jackson, Governor of the Floridas, require all officers, civil and military, within the province of East Florida to observe the spirit and meaning of the letter as expressed by the honorable John Quincy Adams, Secretary of State of the United States.

JOHN R. BELL,
Capt. Commandant, and Prov. Sec. of East Florida.

EAST FLORIDA COFFEE LAND ASSOCIATION.

Preliminary Articles.

Know all men by these presents that we, the subscribers, having, under the management and direction of Peter Stephen Chazotte, been called upon by public notice to form an association with him for the purpose of purchasing from the United States, under special grants by Congress, the quantity of twenty-four thousand acres of land in East Florida, below the 27th degree of latitude, suited for the cultivation of coffee, cocoa, sugar, indigo, vines, olives, &c., do, by these presents, agree and covenant, each for himself, in proportion to his respective subscription, to the following preliminary articles of association.

ART. I. The present association shall be known and distinguished by the name and appellation of the *East Florida Coffee Land Association.*

ART. II. The affairs of the association shall, for the present, be under the direction of a committee of superintendence consisting of five members, to be chosen by the subscribers. There shall be a treasurer, chosen in like manner, whose duty it shall be to receive the money subscribed, to have charge of all the funds of the association, and to keep regular accounts of his receipts and expenditures, which shall always be open to the inspection of any member. He shall issue to each subscriber a receipt in the following form:

Received, Philadelphia, ——— of A. B. ——— dollars upon ——— shares in the East Florida Coffee Land Association, and which payment entitles ——— or ——— legal representative to all the privileges and benefits of ——— shares in said association, agreeably to the preliminary articles of the same. C. B., *Treasurer.*

The expenses of the association shall be defrayed out of the funds thereof, and shall be paid by orders drawn on the treasurer, and signed by the committee of superintendence, or a majority of the same.

ART. III. With a view to explore the country, select the ground, &c., Mr. P. S. Chazotte, accompanied by six laboring men and five volunteers, including a surveyor and doctor, shall immediately set out for East Florida in a vessel to be chartered for that purpose, and, after having explored the country, shall fix upon the best tract of land, not previously occupied, at a convenient distance from the sea or a navigable river; combining fertility of soil and salubrity of climate, and of an extent sufficient to embrace the plans and objects of the association.

ART. IV. And with a view further to accomplish the designs of the society, Mr. P. S. Chazotte shall order or accompany the vessel which is to be chartered to any port in the island of Cuba, there to obtain, by gift or purchase, the plants and seeds necessary to form a tropical produce nursery, and shall then immediately return to the spot selected by him, and there form a settlement, and use every exertion to ascertain, by actual experiment

whether the climate and soil are adapted to the successful cultivation of the articles named.

ART. V. If the said P. S. Chazotte shall succeed in forming such an establishment, and shall meet with a body of land of proper quantity and situation, the surveyor shall proceed to survey and ascertain their boundaries and contents, in order that they may be as accurately defined as possible in the application to be made to Congress for the grant or purchase of the same.

ART. VI. Each subscriber to be interested in the grants or purchase of Congress in proportion to his original subscription to these articles—a payment of ten dollars constituting one share: it being understood that the subscriptions shall be limited to 200 shares of 100 acres each, the remaining four thousand acres being reserved for the use of the company and the donations hereafter provided for; and no subscriber to be made liable by his present subscription for more than the ten dollars per share now paid.

ART. VII. If grants of purchases are finally made by, or from Congress, for the use of the association, it is agreed to convey to the said Peter Stephen Chazotte, as his entire compensation for his services, attention, and labor, in commencing and completing the objects of the association, a quantity of land equal to a United States' section of 640 acres, together with a like interest or proportion in the reserved land; and to each of the volunteers who shall accompany the expedition, and remain attached to it until it is accomplished, 100 acres; and to each of the laborers who may remain and take charge of the nursery until grants are obtained from Congress, 25 acres of land.

ART. VIII. P. S. Chazotte, having alone addressed Congress, and brought the association to its present state, having made many sacrifices and spent much time in the pursuit of it, we agree and covenant to pay to him or to his wife, out of the funds of this association, at the rate of fifty dollars per month during his absence on the expedition, provided the said allowance does not extend beyond the first day of November, 1821.

ART. IX. On the return of the expedition to Philadelphia, which is to be supposed may be in October or the beginning of November next, the members of the association shall be called together, and such other rules and regulations for its government shall be formed as may then appear necessary.

Signed, &c.

The committee of superintendence elected, are

Messrs. JOHN GILDER.
HENRY MANLY.
WILLIAM DAVIS.
THOMAS T. STILES.
THOMAS MATLACK.

The treasurer, Mr. JACOB MAYLAND.

PHILADELPHIA, *June* 7, 1821.

Subscribers' Names.

Peter S. Chazotte,	Peter Hiles,
John Gilder,	William Laird,
Benjamin B. Howell,	Bridget Leonard,
Richard W. Howell,	Sarah Booth,
Henry Manly,	John M. Soulleer,
Samuel Davis,	John Yard,
Henry P. Truefit,	L. Koecker,
Eli Newman,	J. S. Villegrain,
Morris Adams,	Jacob Korndaffer,
J. A. Donath,	John L. Clark,
Jacob Mayland,	G. Combs,
Isaac H. Booth,	E. J. Gieu,
William Davis,	Thomas Bishop,
Robert Campbell,	Pierre Henry,
J. H. Laycock,	J. Preston Smith,
Ann M. Laycock,	Thomas Leech Boileau,
William Harris,	J. Matthew Terriere,
Elizabeth Laycock,	Amable Brasier,
Samuel Harris,	Henry Barton,
William H. Duffield,	J. Le Dauphin,
Ferris Price,	Mordecai S. Haines,
Jesse Smith,	Jehu Burrough,
Francis Penot,	Peter Lacombe,
John Morand,	Charles A. Droz,
Alexis Thardy,	Rose Witmore,
Victor Crepu,	Amos Roberts,
Augustin Tabal,	Henry Ducomen,
Lewis D. Belair,	A. Bonnaffon,
Joseph Gamard,	Sebastion Henrion,
P. V. Gardere,	Samuel Mayland,
Martin Eckindorff,	Joseph Bouchet,
Joseph Barron,	John Carter,
John Pernier,	Thomas Vickrey,
John Merrit,	P. M. Lafourcade,
Peter Knappe,	John Blackston,
Bernard M'Credy,	John Stewart,
George Besbing,	Samuel Mosler,
John Vernou,	Stephen Boisbrun,
P. S. Vernou,	Joseph Cake,
P. L. Martinet,	Alexander Cook,
Shepherd and Davis,	Thomas Boring,
Charles Vernou,	George Harrison,
Stephen Desplat,	Mary L. William Vellegrain,
Nicholas Charles Bocree,	Margaret E. Shaw.

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, } ss.
City of Philadelphia.

Be it remembered, that, on the twenty-fourth day of January, A. D. 1822, personally appeared before me, the subscriber, mayor of the city aforesaid, Jacob Mayland, who, being duly affirmed according to law, did declare and say that he is treasurer of East Florida Coffee Land Association, and that the foregoing list contains a true account of the subscribers to the said association.

JACOB MAYLAND.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the city to be affixed, the day and year aforesaid. ROBERT WHARTON, *Mayor.*

17th CONGRESS. **No. 354.** 1st SESSION.

GRANTS TO THE UNITED BRETHREN IN TRUST FOR CERTAIN CHRISTIAN INDIANS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE MARCH 5, 1822.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *4th March*, 1822.

SIR: In obedience to a resolution of the Senate of the 22d ultimo, I have the honor to enclose a copy of a patent which issued under an act of Congress passed on the 1st day of June, 1796, "conveying to the Society of United Brethren for propagating the Gospel among the heathen, three tracts of land of four thousand acres each, to include the towns of Gnadenhutten, Schoenbrun, and Salem, on the Muskingum, in the State of Ohio, in trust for the sole use of the Christian Indians formerly settled there."

I remain, with respect, your most obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

Honorable JOHN GAILLARD,
President of the Senate pro tempore.

JOHN ADAMS, President of the United States of America, to all to whom these presents shall come, greeting:

To the United Brethren for propagating the gospel among the Heathen.

Know ye, that in pursuance of an act of the Congress of the United States, passed on the 1st day of June, 1796, entitled "An act regulating the grants of land appropriated for military services, and for the Society of United Brethren for propagating the Gospel among the Heathen," there is granted to the said society a tract or parcel of land lying on both sides of the Muskingum, containing four thousand acres, (within which tract is included the old and new towns of Schoenbrun,) and which is bounded and described as follows, to wit: beginning at the

Delivered to Godfry Haga.

northwest corner, at a post by A, where a sugartree, ten inches diameter, bears north

fifty-two degrees west, nineteen links distant, and a white oak, thirty inches diameter, bears north seventy-two degrees thirty minutes east, thirty-four links distant; thence, running south two miles seventy chains and eighty-three links to a post at D, where a hickory, eighteen inches diameter, bears north eleven degrees east, thirty-six links distant, and one other hickory, twenty inches diameter, bears south fifty-nine degrees east, twenty-nine links distant; thence east two miles and twenty chains to a post at C, where a white oak, eighteen inches diameter, bears north fifty-eight degrees west thirty-four links, and one other white oak, twenty inches diameter, bears north eighty-nine degrees east thirty-two links distant; thence north two miles seventy chains and eighty-three links to a post at B, where a poplar, ten inches diameter, bears north eighty-four degrees twenty minutes east, forty-five links distant, and a beach, seven inches diameter, bears north nine degrees west, thirteen links; thence two miles and twenty chains to the place of beginning. One other tract or parcel of land, lying on both sides of the Muskingum, containing four thousand acres, (within which tract is included the town of Gnadenhutten,) and which is bounded and described as follows, to wit: beginning at the northeast corner at a post by B, on the bank of the Muskingum, where a sugartree, eight inches diameter, bears south twenty-one degrees west, and is fifteen links distant, and one other sugartree, four inches diameter, bears south forty-seven degrees west, thirteen links distant; thence, running south two miles two chains and eleven links to a post at C, where a white oak, ten inches diameter, bears north seventeen degrees east, twenty links, and a chesnut, ten inches diameter, bears south fifty-six degrees east, twenty-two links; thence west three miles nine chains and nineteen links to a post at D, where a black oak, sixteen inches diameter, bears south thirteen degrees west, twenty-five links, one other black oak, fourteen inches diameter, bears north fifteen degrees west, twenty links; thence north two miles and and ten chains to a post at A, where a white oak, thirty-six inches diameter, bears north thirty-six degrees west, thirty-five links, another white oak, sixteen inches diameter, bears south forty degrees east, eleven links; thence east one mile sixty-seven chains and fifty-five links to a sugar tree, twelve inches diameter, in the line standing on the northwest bank of the Muskingum; thence east across the river to a post at E, on the southern bank, where a hickory, sixteen inches diameter, bears north five degrees west, and an elm, six inches diameter, bears south twenty-eight degrees east, thirty-six links; thence easterly, by the river, to the place of beginning. And one other tract or parcel of land lying on both sides the Muskingum, containing four thousand acres, (within which tract is included the town of Salem,) and which is bounded and described as follows, to wit: beginning at the northwest corner post at A, where a white oak, sixteen inches diameter, bears north twenty degrees east, ten links distant, and one other white oak, six inches diameter, bears south three degrees west, twenty-four links distant; thence running south three miles to a post at D, where an hoop-ash, six inches diameter, bears north eighty-four degrees east, twenty-four links, and one other hoop-ash, five inches diameter, bears thirty-four degrees east, fifteen links; thence east two miles thirteen chains and thirty links to a post at C, where a white oak, sixteen inches diameter, bears south twenty degrees west, twenty-eight links, and one other white oak, fourteen inches diameter, bears north thirty-six degrees east, thirteen links; thence north three miles to a post at B, where a black oak, eight inches diameter, bears north twenty-seven degree thirty minutes west, one chain eleven links, one other black oak, nine inches diameter, bears south seventy-three degrees west, seventy-six links; thence west two miles thirteen chains and thirty links to the place of beginning.

To have and to hold the said three described tracts or parcels of land, with the appurtenances to the said Society of United Brethren for propagating the Gospel among the Heathen, and their successors forever, in trust for the sole use of the Christian Indians who were formerly settled there, or the remains of that society, including Killbuck and his descendants, and the nephew and descendants of the late Captain White Eyes, Delaware chiefs.

In testimony whereof, the said John Adams, President of the United States of America, hath caused the seal of the United States to be hereto affixed, and signed the same with his hand, at Philadelphia, the twenty-fourth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight, and in the twenty-second of the independence of the said States.

(L. S.)

JOHN ADAMS.

By the President:

TIMOTHY PICKERING,
Secretary of State.

17th CONGRESS. **No. 355.** 1st SESSION.

NUMBER OF LAND OFFICES, AND THE ANNUAL EXPENSE OF EACH.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MARCH 15, 1822.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *March* 13, 1822.

SIR: In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 25th of January last, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to report to the House "the number of land offices established by law in the different States and Territories, designating the number and location in each State and Territory; the annual expense to the nation of supporting said land offices; the amount of money received at each during the years 1820 and 1821; and the distance of the respective offices from each other; and whether, in his opinion, the public good requires the increase or diminution of said land offices, or any alteration in the location of the same; and, if any increase is required, in what State or Territory the same ought to be located;" I have the honor to report, that statement marked A, herewith submitted, shows the number of land offices established in the different States and Territories, and the number and location in each State and Territory. It also shows the quantity of land in each district; the quantity surveyed; the amount received; the quantity sold prior to the 1st of October, 1821; and an estimate of the quantity remaining unsold on that day.

Statement marked B shows the relative distance between the several land offices established in the several States and Territories.

Statement C shows the amount of money received at the different land offices in the years 1820 and 1821, and the expense to the nation of supporting them during the same years, as far as returns have been received. The expense incurred by the Government in supporting land offices, consists, first, of an annual salary of $500 to each receiver and register; and, second, of a commission to each of those officers of one per cent. on the amount of money received at the land offices. There are at present thirty-four land districts; the annual amount of salaries paid by the Government is, therefore, $34,000. The establishment of additional land offices will increase the annual expense by the amount of the salaries which will be created by such increase, but will not increase the amount paid as commissions, unless the increase of districts should augment the sales of the public lands.

A considerable quantity of the land lately acquired from the Choctaw Indians in the State of Mississippi, has been surveyed, and will be ready for sale in the course of the present year. The extent of this tract of land, and its geographical position in relation to the land districts already established in that State, does not admit of its being attached to either of the existing districts without great inconvenience to the persons who may be disposed to purchase. It is therefore believed that the public interest will be promoted by the establishment of another district in that State.

The districts of Edwardsville, Palestine, and Vandalia, in the State of Illinois, have no other limits on the north than the northern boundary of the State, and the Indian boundary. A considerable quantity of the public lands north of the places where the land offices of those districts are located, has been surveyed, and the whole of that tract of land extending from the eastern boundary of the Military Reservation to Lake Michigan, comprehending twenty miles of the lake shore on both sides of

Fort Chicago, is now ready for sale. It is therefore respectfully submitted, that the public iuterest will be promoted by the establishment of an additional land district in the northeastern part of that State.

In the district of Jackson county, in the State of Alabama, there has been no sale of public lands, and it is probable that there is but a small quantity of land which is not covered by private claims that will be sold for many years. Unless it shall be deemed expedient to attach to this district a part of that west of Pearl river, and a portion of the lands recently acquired from the Choctaws, it is believed that the public interest will not be injuriously affected by its abolition.

In the district of St. Helena, in Louisiana, also, there has been no sales, and it is probable that the amount of sales at any period, not very distant, will scarcely justify the continuance of the offices of receiver and register at an expense of a thousand dollars a year. It is also presumed that the annexation of the district to that of New Orleans will not produce any serious inconvenience to those who may desire to purchase lands when they are offered for sale, as the intercourse of the inhabitants of the district with the city of New Orleans must be frequent and easy.

In the State of Ohio some of the districts are small, and the quantity of land for sale still smaller; but the offices in those districts are located in towns to which the inhabitants habitually resort for the purposes of trade. To consolidate any two or more of them would produce inconvenience, subject the purchasers of public lands to a greater expense and loss of time than that to which they have been hitherto accustomed, and probably excite dissatisfaction.

The offices in some of the districts lately established in Ohio and Indiana are established at places without the limits of those districts. This is, in many cases, expedient at the opening of the land offices; but after a considerable portion of the lands in those districts have been offered for sale, and settlements have been formed, the offices ought to be located within the districts for which they have been severally established. A general provision, directing the offices to be located at some place near the centre of each district, as soon as the State of the district would admit of it, is believed to be expedient.

I have the honor to be, &c.

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

The Hon. PHILIP P. BARBOUR,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

A.

Estimate of the quantity of land in each land district of the United States; the quantity surveyed; the amount of reservations and private claims; the amount of sales from the first operations of the land offices to the 1st October, 1821; and the quantity of land remaining unsold at te same period.

OFFICES.			Total quantity in each district.	Amount surveyed.	Amount of reservations, private claims, &c.	Amount after deducting private claims, &c.	Amount of lands sold to 1st Oct., 1821.	Estimated amount remaining to be sold on 1st Oct'r, 1821, exclusive of lands relinquished.
			Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	
Marietta, - - - -	Ohio	1	576,000	Whole	16,000	560,000	*179,511	473,289
Ohio Company's purchase, -	do		1,344,160	do	-	†92,800		
Zanesville, - - -	do	2	2,367,360	do	697,760	1,669,600	913,915	755,685
Steubenville, - - -	do	3	1,935,360	do	53,760	1,881,600	‡1,571,691	309,909
Chillicothe, - - -	do	4	3,109,760	do	945,172	2,154,588	1,032,102	1,122,486
Cincinnati, - - -	do	5	3,709,440	do	103,640	3,605,800	2,755,059	850,741
Wooster, - - - -	do	6	1,244,160	do	34,560	1,209,600	908,579	301,021
Piqua, - - - -	do	7	2,983,800	do	243,533	2,740,267	6,125	2,734,142
Delaware, - - - -	do	8	2,321,280	1,971,840	279,371	2,041,909	75,724	1,966,185
Vincennes, . - -	Indiana	1	5,450,400	Whole	151,400	5,299,000	1,436,497	3,852,503
Jeffersonville, - - -	do	2	2,856,960	do	79,360	2,777,600	1,287,732	1,489,868
Brookville, - - -	do	3	3,768,960	1,751,040	104,693	3,664,267	256,754	3,407,513
Terre Haute, - - -	do	4	3,600,000	1,290,240	100,000	3,500,000	30,977	3,469,023
Shawneetown, - - -	Illinois	1	3,018,240	Whole	83,840	2,994,400	592,464	2,401,936
Kaskakia, - - - -	do	2	2,188,800	do	152,960	2,035,840	419,898	1,615,942
Edwardsville, - - -	do	3	-	3,271,680	136,960	3,134,720	437,993	§2,696,727
Palestine, - - - -	do	4	-	2,963,760	82,326	2,881,434	714	§2,880,720
Vandalia, - - - -	do	5	-	2,626,560	72,960	2,553,600	7,923	§2,545,677
Detroit, - - - -	Michigan	1	10,399,360	2,396,160	378,250	10,021,110	71,975	9,949,135
St. Louis, - - -	Missouri	1	8,893,440	4,331,520	316,160	8,577,280	546,254	8,031,026
Howard county, - - -	do	2	15,298,560	5,091,840	983,400	14,314,160	759,946	13,554,214
Cape Girardeau, - - -	do	3	15,022,080	4,124,160	463,360	14,558,720	28,534	14,530,186
Lawrence county, - -	Arkansas	1	17,395,200	2,488,320	1,506,880	15,888,320	None	
Arkansas, - - - -	do	2	13,547,520	2,741,760	1,026,560	12,520,960	2,411	12,518,549
Northern District of Louisiana - -		1	9,484,640	567,000	1,507,469	7,977,171	None	
Southwestern District of Louisiana -		2	10,613,120	1,405,440	754,888	9,858,232	do	
New Orleans, Southeastern District of Louisiana		3						
St. Helena, - - -	do	4	3,136,000					
West of Pearl River, - -	Mississippi	1	3,502,080	Whole	604,160	2,897,920	1,182,673	1,715,247
Jackson court-house, - -	do	2	2,097,600	No surv's				
East of Pearl River, - -	Alabama	1	6,904,320	5,253,120	254,386	6,649,934	944,000	5,705,934
Huntsville, - - -	do	2	8,037,120	5,276,160	223,253	7,849,867	1,510,918	6,338,949
Cahawba, - - - -	do	3	8,812,800	4,308,480	244,800	8,568,000	1,576,865	6,991,135
Tuscaloosa, - - -	do	4	6,451,200	1,221,120	179,200	6,272,000	64,294	6,207,706
Conecuh, - - - -	do	5	2,880,000	92,160	80,000	2,800,000	None	

* Inclusive of sales at New York and Pittsburgh prior to the organization of the land office.

† This is the amount of sections 8, 11, and 26, in each township reserved for the future disposition of Congress, and included in the amount unsold at Marietta.

‡ Inclusive of sales at New York and Pittsburgh prior to the organization of the land office.

§ The northern limits of these districts are not defined. The amount surveyed in each, to the latest returns, has been taken, from which is deducted the amount of lands sold.

A—Continued.

Estimate of the quantities remaining unsold, after taking into view the lands relinquished to the United States under the act of 2d March, 1821, as far as reports have been received from the Registers.

OFFICES.		Lands relinquished.	To which add the am't of lands remaining unsold on 1st October, 1821, as exhibited above.	Exhibiting the total estimated am't remaining to be sold in those districts on 1st October, 1821.
		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Ohio,	Marietta - - - -	11,199,23¾	473,289	484,488,23¾
	Zanesville - - -	33,565	755,685	789,250
	Steubenville - - -	29,400,84	309,909	339,309,84
	Chillicothe - - -	46,179	1,122,486	1,168,665
	Cincinnati - - -	102,156,14	850,741	952,897,14
	Wooster - - -	46,873,01½	301,021	347,894,01½
Michigan Territory,	Detroit - - - -	20,341,72	9,949,135	9,969,476,72
Illinois,	Kaskaskia - - -	124,467,99	1,615,942	1,740,409,99
	Shawneetown - - -	119,123,60	2,401,936	2,521,059,60
	Edwardsville - - -	132,046,85	2,696,727	2,828,773,85
Indiana,	Jeffersonville - - -	112,514,36½	1,489,868	1,602,382,36½

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *General Land Office, 9th March*, 1822.

JOSIAH MEIGS.

B.

Distances between land offices, agreeable to Mellish's map of the United States, viz.

From Zanesville to Chillicothe	66 miles.	From Shawneetown to Vincennes	65 miles.
do Marietta	48	Vincennes to Vandalia	74
do Steubenville	67	Vandalia to Edwardsville	38
do Wooster	56	Edwardsville to St. Louis	26
do Delaware	65	St. Louis to Kaskaskia	50
Chillicothe to Marietta	82	St. Louis to Franklin	144
Marietta to Steubenville	72	Kaskaskia to Cape Girardeau	54
Steubenville to Wooster	67	Cape Girardeau to Napoleon	164
Wooster to Delaware	70	Napoleon to Little Rock	95
Delaware to Detroit	148	Little Rock to Arkansas	80
Delaware to Piqua	53	Arkansas to Monroe	105
Piqua to Chillicothe	85	Monroe to Washington	86
Chillicothe to Cincinnati	80	Washington to Opelousas	83
Cincinnati to Piqua	70	Washington to St. Helena	62
Cincinnati to Brookville	27	St. Helena to Opelousas	78
Cincinnati to Jeffersonville	73	St. Helena to New Orleans	50
Jeffersonville to Vincennes	100	New Orleans to St. Stephens	157
Vincennes to Palestine	23	St. Stephens to Cahawba	60
Palestine to Terre Haute	32	Cahawba to Tuscaloosa	73
Terre Haute to Vandalia	85	Tuscaloosa to Huntsville	100
Vandalia to Shawneetown	95		

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, *9th March*, 1822.

JOSIAH MEIGS.

C.

Statement, in obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 25th January, 1822, exhibiting the different land offices of the United States; the amount of moneys received at each during the year 1820, and the three first quarters of 1821, and the expenses incurred at those offices during the said periods.

OFFICES.		1820.				1821.			
		Receipts.	Registers and Receivers' salary at $500 per ann. and 1 p. ct. commission on the rec'pts.	Incidental expenses of the Registers and Receivers' offices.	Total expense of the office.	Receipts.	Registers and Receivers' salary at $500 per ann. and 1 p. ct. commission on the receipts.	Incidental expenses of the Registers and Receivers' offices.	Total expense of the office.
Detroit,	Mich. Ter.	8,499 75	1,170 82	429 00	1,599 82	11,116 37	973 43	2,377 18	3,350 61
Marietta	Ohio -	13,459 00	1,270 52	79 93	1,350 45	5,080 27	852 10	5 83	857 93
Zanesville	do -	78,989 30	2,587 67	4 73	2,592 40	29,515 37	1,343 25	26 12	1,369 37
Steubenville	do -	46,653 37	1,937 72	248 57	2,186 29	20,860 61	1,169 28	497 87	1,667 15
Chillicothe	do -	39,310 36	1,790 13	140 45	1,930 58	17,907 92	1,109 93	158 92	1,268 85

C—Continued.

OFFICES.		1820. Receipts.	1820. Registers and Receivers' salary at $500 per ann. and 1 p. ct. commission on the rec'pts.	1820. Incidental expenses of the Registers and Receivers' offices.	1820. Total expense of the office.	1821. Receipts.	1821. Registers and Receivers' salary at $500 per ann. and 1 p. ct. commission on the rec'pts.	1821. Incidental expenses of the Registers and Receivers' offices.	1821. Total expense of the office.
Cincinnati	Ohio -	105,126 13	3,113 03	560 20	3,673 23	37,099 55	1,495 68	726 44	2,222 12
Wooster	do -	61,423 36	2,234 60	97 43	2,332 03	30,480 09	1,362 64	608 75	1,971 39
Piqua	do -	4,599 79	1,092 43	645 89	1,738 32	3,057 34	811 44	143 99	955 43
Delaware	do -	39,825 19	1,300 48	698 70	1,999 18	61,549 37	1,987 13	701 97	2,689 10
Jeffersonville	Indiana -	153,465 91	4,084 64	622 80	4,707 44	29,497 51	1,342 88	302 86	1,645 74
Vincennes	do -	146,575 93	3,946 15	721 47	4,667 62	53,497 03	1,825 28	183 81	2,009 09
Brookville	do -	129,817 54	2,859 32	251 75	3,111 07	231,871 50	5,410 60	773 14	6,183 74
Terre Haute	do -	24,715 32	996 77	647 51	1,644 28	15,048 24	1,052 46	378 90	1,431 36
Kaskaskia	Illinois -	36,358 92	1,730 79	150 50	1,881 29	5,020 31	850 90	130 45	*981 35
Shawneetown	do -	40,149 86	1,806 99	467 00	2,273 99	13,420 38	1.019 74	135 60	1,155 34
Edwardsville	do -	30,769 29	1,618 45	318 99	1,937 44	43,368 31	1,621 69	712 16	2,333 85
Palestine	do -	-	-	-	-	892 51	517 92	30 25	548 17
Vandalia	do -	-	604 14	-	604 14	10,256 20	956 14	322 97	1,279 11
St. Louis	Missouri -	56,573 63	2,137 11	1,562 21	3,699 32	39,610 30	1,546 16	1,136 68	2,682 84
Franklin	do -	81,078 66	2,629 66	1,485 13	4,114 79	56,439 89	1,884 42	654 82	2,539 24
Cape Girardeau, Jackson	do -	-	733 33	-	733 33	35,912 57	1,496 91	360 55	1,857 46
Lawrence count. Poke Bayou	Arkansas Ter. -	-	732 00	-	732 00	-	750 68	-	750 68
Arkansas, L. Rock	do -	-	733 33	-	733 33	3,513 60	820 61	334 25	1,154 86
Northern district of Ouachita	Louisiana	-	1,000 00	-	1,000 00	-	750 00	-	750 00
South. district of Opelousas	do -	-	1,000 00	-	1,000 00	-	750 00	-	750 00
South E. district N. Orleans	do -	-	1,000 00	-	1,000 00	48,200 00	1,314 33	261 80	1,576 13
St Helena C. H.	do -	-	1,000 00	-	1,000 00	-	750 00	-	750 00
Jackson Ct. H.	Miss. -	13,405 55	1,269 44	328 91	1,598 35	-	750 00	-	750 00
West of Pearl river, Wash'n	do -	90,876 76	2,826 60	2,575 37	5,401 97	69,505 38	2,147 05	3,284 16	5,431 21
Huntsville	Alabam.	134,249 60	3,698 40	4,230 97	7,929 37	35,686 11	1,467 28	1,064 46	2,531 74
Cahawba	do -	337,634 74	7,786 40	6,176 10	13,962 50	47,321 81	1,701 15	1,910 54	†3,611 69
St. Stephens	do -	67,166 51	2,350 03	892 39	3,242 42	28,585 81	1,324 55	765 41	2,089 96
Tuscaloosa	do -	-	-	-	-	111,995 73	2,981 13	1,158 25	4,139 38
Conecuh Ct. H.	do -	-	-	-	-	-	730 04	-	730 04
Total,	Dollars	1,740,724 47	63,040 95	23,336 00	82,573 13	1,096,310 08	46,866 80	19,148 13	66,014 93

* The accounts for May and August, 1821, not having been received, (owing to the operations of the relief law,) those months are not included here: the receipts and expenditures cannot therefore be ascertained.

† The expenses incurred in April, July, and August, 1821, are not included: the accounts for these months have not been received.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, 18*th February*, 1822.

JOSIAH MEIGS, *Commissioner.*

17th CONGRESS. **No. 356.** 1st SESSION.

PATENTS AND WARRANTS ISSUED TO THE OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS OF THE VIRGINIA LINE WHO SERVED IN THE WAR OF THE REVOLUTION.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE MARCH 15, 1822.

To the Senate of the United States:

In compliance with a resolution of the Senate of the 29th of January, I herewith transmit reports from the Treasury and War Department, containing all the information in the possession of the Executive, embraced by that resolution.

JAMES MONROE.

WASHINGTON, *March* 15, 1822.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *March* 14, 1822.

SIR: In obedience to a resolution of the Senate of the 29th of January last, which has been referred to this department, I have the honor to submit the annexed report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, showing the number of acres of land for which warrants have issued, and the number of acres for which patents have issued, between the Little Miami and Sciota rivers, on Virginia military land warrants, which is all the information required by the resolution that can be furnished by the Treasury Department.

I remain, with respect, your most obedient servant,

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

JAMES MONROE,
President of the United States.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, *March* 14, 1822.

SIR: The following statement relative to the resolution of the 29th of January, referred to this office, comprises so much of the information therein required as I am enabled to furnish.

Number of acres for which patents have issued on Virginia military land warrants, located between Little Miami and Sciota rivers, up to the present date, 2,552,201. Number of acres for which *warrants* have issued up to the 1st of February of the present year, 3,869,064.

The records of this office furnish no information relative to Virginia military bounty lands located "upon the waters of Cumberland river, and between the Green river and Tennessee river," as required by the resolution; nor to the "quantity of land allowed to *each* officer and soldier by any resolution or law of Virginia." In order to satisfy this part of the resolution, application, it is presumed, must be made to the land office at Richmond.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
JOSIAH MEIGS.

Hon. WILLIAM H. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of the Treasury.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, *Feb.* 28, 1822.

SIR: The Secretary of War, to whom was referred the resolution of the Senate of the 29th ultimo, requesting the President to "cause to be laid before the Senate, if within his possession, the number of officers and soldiers who served in the revolutionary war from the State of Virginia, on continental establishment; the quantity of land allowed to each officer and soldier by any resolution or law of Virginia, and the aggregate amount of the quantity so granted; also, the quantity of land for which warrants have issued, and which have been located, and patents issued to said officers and soldiers, or their assignees, upon the waters of Cumberland river, and between the Green river and the Tennessee river, in the State of Kentucky; the deficiency of good land in the said tract, reported by the agents of the said officers and soldiers to the Executive of Virginia, to satisfy their warrants; and also the quantity of land for which warrants have issued, and which have been located, and patents issued to said officers and soldiers, or their assignees, between the Scioto and Little Miami rivers, in the State of Ohio;" has the honor to transmit, herewith, a statement marked A, which contains all the information in relation to the resolution contained in this office.

With respect, I have the honor to be,
Your obedient servant,
J. C. CALHOUN.

The PRESIDENT *of the United States.*

A.—WAR DEPARTMENT.

A summary statement of the number and grade of officers, noncommissioned officers, and privates of the Virginia line on continental establishment, who served during the war of the revolution.

N. B.—The original returns of the revolutionary army, together with all its other appropriate records, which were deposited in the War Office of the United States, at Washington city, D. C., were annihilated in the conflagration of that edifice which happened in the year 1800. Prior to that unfortunate event, the Secretary of War had transmitted to the Executive of Virginia an authentic copy of the muster roll of the Virginia line, which is still deposited in the archives of that State at Richmond. A correct copy of that record has since been obtained for the use of the United States' War Department, from which the following statment is extracted:

Major general	1
Brigadier generals	5
Colonels	14
Lieutenant colonels *commandant*	

N. B.—It is presumed that *the grade thus designated* implies the command of a separate corps, because it appears that the gratuity in land was equal to that of a colonel.

Lieutenant colonels	16
Majors	24
Captains	131
Lieutenants	141
Ensigns	17
Cornets	7
Surgeons	11
Surgeons' mates	4
Non-commissioned officers and privates	743

N. B.—It appears by a register now in the War Department, obtained from the Department of the Treasury since the destruction of the War Office in 1800, that the following supernumerary officers of the Virginia line were deemed entitled to military bounty land from the United States, although their names are not borne on the muster roll above mentioned, viz.

Captains, deranged	2
Lieutenants, deranged	1
Captains, killed in battle	2
Lieutenants, killed in battle	1
Total,	1,124

NAT. CUTTING.

SECTION OF BOUNTY LANDS, *Feb.* 26, 1822.

17th CONGRESS. **No. 357.** 1st SESSION.

LANDS ALLOTTED TO THE CULTIVATION OF THE VINE AND OLIVE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE MARCH 18, 1822.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
March 18, 1822.

SIR: In obedience to a resolution of the Senate of the 13th instant, referring to this department a petition of Lefebre Desnouettes and others, French emigrants in Alabama, I have the honor to report, that, in pursuance of the provisions of the act of the 3d March, 1817, for encouraging the cultivation of the vine and olive, four townships were selected in the State of Alabama, near the junction of the Tombigby and Black Warrior rivers, under the directions of the President of the United States. That the lands contained within those townships were, by contract bearing date the 8th day of January, 1819, assigned to certain French emigrants, pursuant to the provisions of the said act, upon certain terms and conditions; the first of which requires that, before the expiration of three years from the date of the contract, a settlement should be made upon each tract or lot of land within the said four townships.

By the report of the agent of the association under date of the 12th of December last, it appears that eighty-one families have made actual settlements on the lands allotted to the petitioners; that they have under cultivation 2,500 acres, and that they have already growing 10,000 vines, according to the report of the agent: the right of a considerable number of the associates has been already forfeited by the failure to make settlements by the 8th day of January, in compliance with the first condition of the contract. By the proviso of the 3d section of the act, it is declared "that no patent shall be granted for any of the lands aforesaid, nor shall any title be obtained therefor, either at law or in equity, until complete payment shall have been made for the whole four townships, *and until they comply with the conditions of the contract so to be made as aforesaid*, nor shall a patent be granted for a greater quantity than six hundred and forty acres to any one person." It is therefore apparent that, by the default already committed by a part of the emigrants, those who have complied not only with the condition of settlement, but of the condition of planting the vines will, according to the provisions of the act just referred to, be unable to acquire any title to the lands which they shall improve, without the intervention of legislative aid.

The question is, therefore, with great propriety, submitted at this time to the consideration of the National Legislature, whether the object contemplated by the act of the 3d of March, 1817, shall be now abandoned to the great injury, if not entire ruin, of that part of the French emigrants who have made great exertions not only to

avail themselves of the benevolent intentions of the Government, but to make the only return for such an act of munificence which could be received by the donors.

A copy of the report of the agent, and an extract showing the conditions of the contract with the petitioners, are herewith transmitted.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect, sir,
Your obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

The Hon. the PRESIDENT *of the Senate.*

AIGELVILLE, *Dec.* 12, 1821.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit to your excellency a respectful petition to Congress from the actual French planters in the State of Alabama, to obtain, by your kind intervention, the repeal of so much of the law passed in their favor the 3d of March, 1819, as belongs to the solidarity.

Though under the American Government that clause may be considered as untenable either at law or equity, however, considering the period at which the consequences of such a proviso ought to take place, it is natural for us to wish for a more positive situation, as well to continue the cultivation of the conceded land as to be certain not to leave to our children the sad prospect of being turned out on account of the neglect or bad will of some individuals.

In spite of our enemies, we have done more work than it could be reasonably expected, considering the many losses that we have sustained to repair to the spot, and, after the beginning of our settlements, the want of communications in a rough and hardly explored country, the greatest part of which has been overflowed nine months of this year, and the sickness which has visited us, and deprives yet many families of their hands. Nevertheless, we may assure your excellency that between 81 actual planters for themselves or their commetans, (23 being dead,) forming 327 persons, we may present to the Government 1,100 acres in full cultivation with their own hands, and 1,500 acres of land cultivated by lease. By anticipation we have 10,000 plants of vine in full growth; and that number had been treble had it not been for the loss of so much by accidents at sea, or out season.

As every planter now present in this State has made all possible exertions to answer fully to the expectations of the Government, it would be very easy for me to prove substantially to your excellency that, from the time we left our home till this day, we have, by an average, spent more than $160,000. What better badge of our intention to fulfil the conditions of the contract? And what better pledge to the Government that we have made the State of Alabama our last abode, inasmuch as many of us have no other way left to them to maintain themselves and their families than to stick with constancy to the hard work they have undertaken? But, sir, the mere idea of solidarity slackens our energy, and we do not presume to be blameable for respectfully begging to answer, each of us, for our own facts. Moreover, the repeal of that solidarity in relieving our anxiety, would be a sufficient proof for the squatters who are daily trespassing on our land, that the Government do not consider us as mere intruders as they believe.

Two petitions have been presented to Congress for the same purpose. Your excellency will be pleased to remember my opinion on that subject. I thought then as now, that such petition ought to be submitted to the wisdom and discretion of your excellency. If your excellency thinks proper not to oppose our wishes, the honorable Messrs. Walker and King, senators of this State, have a copy unsigned of our petition, and the original is, and will remain at the disposal of your excellency.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,
Your most obedient servant,
CH. VILLERS,
Agent of the Colony.

The Hon. WM. H. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Extract from the contract entered into with the French Emigrant Association on the 8th day of January, 1819.

1st. That, before the expiration of three years from the date of this contract, there shall be made upon each tract in the aforesaid four townships allotted to the respective associates, a settlement by themselves individually, or by others on their account.

2d. That, before the expiration of fourteen years from the sale hereof, there shall be cleared and cultivated within the said four townships at least ten acres of land for each quarter section taken aggregately.

3d. That, before the expiration of seven years from the date hereof, there shall be cultivated within the said four townships at least one acre to each quarter section taken aggregately in vines.

4th. That, before the expiration of seven years from the date hereof, there shall be planted within the said four townships not less than five hundred olive trees, unless it shall be previously established to the satisfaction of the President that the olive cannot be successfully cultivated thereon.

5th. That a report shall be made annually to the Secretary of the Treasury, by the agent of the said association, or his successor, showing the number of settlements made within the said four townships in each year; the progress made in cultivating the vine and olive, and the degree of success with which the same is attended; and describing the number and kinds of such plants as have been cultivated; and, also, that the said agent, or his successor, shall, from time to time, furnish the Secretary of the Treasury such other information touching the condition and state of the association as he may require.

6th. That the list of the associates deposited in the Treasury as aforesaid, be recognized, and the persons thereon inscribed be confirmed in the allotments of lands annexed to their names respectively, with the following, viz. Martin Piquet Joseph, Wells and Leclerc, O. M. Garesche, Jacques Brand and John Kester, Jean Thomas Carre, Laurent Faure, Englebert, Samuel Jackson, Joseph Robard, Pierre Freres, Jean Baptiste Neel, William Tablee, Billington, George Gaines, S. Vorhees, Gillaume Montelius, Kembal, shall be erased therefrom, and Jacques Moncrarie, R. A. Terrier, Madame George, Charles Bingiere, Joseph Ducommun, Pierre Garesche, J. Bonno, Pierre Drouet, Emely and Conde, be inserted thereon, and be entitled in the order in which they stand herein, to the allotment of the persons thus erased; and the allotments thus annexed to the names of the others of the persons thus erased, shall be assigned to other late emigrants, under such regulations as are herein after prescribed.

7th. That such emigrants as are inscribed on the said list, who had, previously to knowing of the allotments assigned to them respectively, settled and improved lands within the said four townships, either in those sections set apart for the small allotments, or in others, and before the first day of August last past, shall be entitled to hold the same to the extent, and in lieu of the quantity allotted to them respectively in the large or small allotments, as the case may be, unless the party to whom such land was actually allotted shall, within six months from the date hereof, tender to such settler the value of the improvements which he may have made thereon, to be ascertained by two respectable persons under oath; and, on failure to make such tender, the party to whom such land was allotted shall be entitled to the land allotted to such emigrant as aforesaid, to the extent of the allotment so occupied and improved, or, if the same be insufficient, he shall be further indemnified by the assignment of so much land as will make up the quantity out of any lands not otherwise appropriated.

8th. That the land exempted from appropriation by the foregoing provisions may be appropriated to other emigrants from France not already provided for, and whose names shall be presented to the Secretary of the Treasury for his approbation, by the agent of the association or his successor: but actual settlement shall, in all cases, be an indispensable condition.

17th Congress. No. 358. 1st Session.

EXAMINATION OF THE LAND OFFICES.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MARCH 29, 1822.

Mr. Cook made the following report:

The select committee, to whom was referred the several communications of the Secretary of the Treasury, of the 28th January and 18th of February, 1822, in obedience to two several resolutions of the House of Representatives of the 4th January and — February, 1822, respecting the manner in which the several land offices have been examined, by whom examined, and the moneys paid for such examination, &c., having examined the subject submitted to them, with great deliberation, make the following report:

That, by the laws of the United States, it is made "the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to cause, at least once every year, the books of the officers of the land offices to be examined, and the balance of public moneys in the hands of the several receivers of public moneys of the said offices to be ascertained. That, previous to the year 1816, this examination had been made by persons residing in the vicinity of the respective offices; but, in progress of time, the augmentation in the receipts from these offices rendered more information necessary, and gave an importance to the examination which it had not previously possessed. These circumstances proved the inadequacy of the old system, and, in 1816, induced the late Mr. Dallas, then Secretary of the Treasury, to direct the examination to be made by one of the clerks of the General Land Office, who was also permitted to make a similar examination in 1817; and received for his services, in each year, at the rate of $3 per day in addition to his salary as clerk. That, since the year 1817, the examination has been made by persons disconnected with the department, and who have received for their services at the rate of $6 per day, and $6 for every 20 miles travel.

That, in the year 1821, Jesse B. Thomas, esq., a Senator of the United States from Illinois, was permitted by the Secretary of the Treasury to examine the offices in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri, for which, as appears by the documents before the committee, he received a sum amounting to the allowance which has been established since the year 1817. That the principal inducement to permit the said Jesse B. Thomas to make the examination, as stated by the Secretary of the Treasury, appears to have been an expectation that he would be enabled to secure to the United States a large amount of public money in the Bank of Vincennes at the time that bank stopped payment, which service he performed, and for which he has not received or demanded any compensation.

Although the committee consider the duty of suggesting or recommending any alteration in the mode of examining the land offices to be properly within the province of the Committee on Public Lands, to whom this part of the subject naturally refers itself, they are nevertheless free to declare it as their opinion, that the public interest does not require any change in the mode which has been pursued since 1817.

The committee presume, however, that this was the least important object of the reference of the subject to them; and that the design principally was, that they should consider and report upon the effect of permitting Jesse B. Thomas, esq., a Senator of the United States, to examine the said offices in 1821, in which it has been supposed that both the constitution of the United States, and the act of Congress "concerning contracts," passed the 21st of April, 1808, have been violated.

Although the committee freely admit the power and jurisdiction of the House of Representatives to guard the purity of our institutions from violations which it is the peculiar province of Congress or of the people to punish or remedy, they cannot recognize either its justice or dignity in conducting ex parte investigations into breaches of highly penal statutes, and the commission of misdemeanors amenable by the laws to a different tribunal. Such precedents might lead, in worse times, to consequences of a ruinous and most troublesome character. They might be used to authorize Congress to become the expositors of their own laws, or improperly to throw the weight of their opinion into the deliberations of the legitimate tribunals. They would be very apt to be seized upon to produce public excitement, and be perverted to the purposes of ambitious men and individual resentments.

At the same time, the committee would not be understood as ascribing the present investigation to such motives, and, as well on this account, as from a just sense of the policy of our institutions, and the character of the individuals concerned, they submit to the House the general views which they are constrained to entertain.

The committee are clearly of opinion that the examination of the land offices by Jesse B. Thomas, esq. was not a violation of the constitution of the United States.

That instrument forbids the appointment of members of Congress, during the time for which they were elected, to any civil office, created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased, during that time; and, also, prevents any person holding an office under the Government from being a member of Congress during his continuance in office.

The object was to take from Congress the means or inducement of creating place or emolument for themselves, and thereby guard the rights and interests of the people from the encroachment of Executive power. The committee are the advocates of this policy, and would be the last to weaken its influence in the Government. But the case of Mr. Thomas is clearly not within the words or the spirit of the first, and if it could be considered as embraced in the latter clause, his appointment would, nevertheless, be constitutional; since only the holding incompatible offices at the same time is prohibited, with which idea the daily practice of the Government from its organization is in strict conformity. In fact, the Congress of the United States has hitherto been the theatre on which the ablest men of our country have become distinguished for their virtue and intelligence, and recommended themselves to the highest honors and places in the Government. The same theatre has matured their experience, and conducted our greatest statesmen to the executive and judicial departments at home, and to foreign courts abroad, with equal advantage to the ornament and real interests of the nation.

If, therefore, there could be such an incompatibility as is imagined, it would then resolve itself into the question, whether Mr. Thomas, by accepting the appointment, had vacated his seat in the Senate, and with that body your committee would, in that case, be disposed to leave it.

But your committee are of opinion that the duty of examining the land offices is not such an office as was contemplated by the constitution of the United States, which opinion seems to have received the sanction, and regulated the practice of the Government since the adoption of the constitution, by those who bore a principal share in composing it; and must therefore be supposed to have understood its real import.

The committee refer to the appointment of Mr. Tracy, a Senator of the United States, by President Adams, in the year 1800, to inspect the posts on the northern and northwestern frontier. For this service Mr. Tracy received a liberal compensation, and extra mileage, which is stated on the records of the Senate of that day. Under the administration of Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Dawson, a member of the House of Representatives from Virginia, was appointed as the bearer of a treaty to France, and was paid for performing the duty; and, during the administration of the same President, Mr. Smith, a Senator from Tennessee, was appointed a commissioner to treat with the Indians, and actually executed two treaties under this appointment. They also refer to the instance, at a still more recent period, during the administration of President Madison, of the appointment of Mr. Worthington, a Senator, and Mr. Morrow, a Representative, from Ohio, to negotiate with the Indians. In each of these cases, the individuals referred to executed the trusts confieded to them, and still retained their seats in Congress; and, in the Senate, passed upon their own acts. The committee content themselves with these instances, without enumerating others, as affording a clear exposition of this clause in the constitution.

The act of Congress, which it is supposed has been violated by permitting Mr. Thomas to examine the land offices, was passed the 21st April, 1808, and is entitled "An act concerning contracts."

The first section provides that, from and after the passage of this act, no member of Congress shall, directly or indirectly, himself, or by any other person whatsoever in trust for him, or for his use or benefit, or on his ac-

count, undertake, execute, hold, or enjoy, in the whole or in part, any contract or agreement hereafter to be made or entered into with any officer of the United States, in their behalf, or with any person authorized to make contracts on the part of the United States, and further imposes a penalty on any member of Congress so offending.

The act further provides "that if any officer of the United States, on behalf of the United States, shall, directly or indirectly, make or enter into any contract, bargain, or agreement, in writing or otherwise, other than those therein excepted, on conviction thereof, shall be guilty of a high misdemeanor, and fined in the sum of three thousand dollars."

The 5th section provides that, "after the passing of this act, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary of War, Secretary of the Navy, and Postmaster General, annually to lay before Congress a statement of all the contracts which have been made in their respective departments during the year preceding such report," &c.

Without meaning to pronounce any opinion, whether a court of justice would so interpret the law as to be applicable to the case of the examination of the land office by Mr. Thomas, the committee are aware that the words are extremely broad, and, if such could be supposed to be their true intent and meaning, would be capable of embracing every imaginable case in which a member of Congress could be called to perform any duty, or render any service in behalf of the United States, and which, by any possibility, could be termed "a contract, bargain, or agreement."

They could especially be extended to the appointment to negotiate treaties, whether the member should afterwards resign or not; to the appointment of printers to publish the laws of the United States; and to the employment of counsel in causes in which the United States have an interest, than none of which, it is apprehended, is the duty of examining the land offices more plainly within the scope of the words. But, by the cotemporary practice which occasioned the law, and which followed its enactment, among those who were liable to its provisions, and always disposed to comply with its terms; who either aided in making, or lived, and were familiar in the times and circumstances in which it was made, and were conversant with the men, and their objects, by whom it was passed, it has received a different construction, and has never been considered as prohibiting any of the employments above enumerated.

From the organization of the Government down to the passing of the law in 1808, it had been usual to give such appointments to members of Congress, and, though in the case of Mr. Tracy, his demand for mileage was not deemed reasonable, neither the legality or policy of the usage had ever been questioned. But in the years 1807 and 1808, John Smith, a Senator from Ohio, had entered largely into contracts with the War Department for supplying the northwestern army; and Matthew Lyon, a Representative from Kentucky, had numerous contracts with the Postmaster General for carrying the mail. These contracts had produced considerable excitement in Congress, where their influence had been manifested; and especially the former, under the supposition that John Smith had become connected with the schemes of Aaron Burr, and used his contract to subserve them. After a fruitless attempt to expel him from his seat in the Senate, the law in question was passed. From the date of this law, all contracts of the nature of the two last ceased to be given to members of Congress; while all other trusts and agencies, as before referred to, continued to be given, and the returns from the different departments made accordingly, without serious complaint.

The appointment of Mr. Worthington and Mr. Morrow, both active in their respective places in passing the law of 1808, as commissioners to negotiate with the Indians, was made very soon after the law was passed, and by President Madison, who was Secretary of State at the time of its enactment, and could no more be supposed to be ignorant of its general objects, than disinclined to obey its injunctions in their true spirit and meaning.

It is believed by the committee that the late William Pinkney was employed as counsel in behalf of the United States while he was a member of the House of Representatives from Maryland, and argued some causes in the Supreme Court, and received a liberal compensation for his services. It appears, too, that, in 1818, upon the occasion of certain complaints made at the office of the Secretary of the Treasury against a receiver of public moneys at Vincennes, the present Chief Magistrate of the United States directed the Senators from Indiana to investigate the subject, and, though the investigation did not proceed, one of the Senators who lived at a distance and attended for the purpose, was afterwards allowed his travelling expenses. On another occasion, in the year 1819, the honorable Benjamin Ruggles was directed to aid the superintendent of the Cumberland road in taking proper security from the persons entering into the contracts, and received from the superintendent $72 for his services.

In the Department of State there exist few occasions for giving a construction to this law "concerning public contracts;" though, in this department, the employment of a member of Congress, being the editor of a newspaper, to print the laws of the United States has not been considered by John Quincy Adams, esq., or by his predecessors, as prohibited by the act of Congress, or as coming at all within its purview:" accordingly, your committee find that James Wilson, esq., a senator from the State of New Jersey, and the editor of the Trenton True American, was employed to print the laws during the time he was a senator, from 1815 to 1821, and from the year 1804.

In the Navy Department the committee have heard of no particular cases, or of any particular practice, other than that arising from the annual returns under the fifth section, which are exclusively confined to contracts for *work and supplies*.

The committee believe it to have been usual in the War Department, also, to employ members of Congress as counsel in behalf of the United States, and they refer particularly to the instances of Mr. Baldwin, of the House of Representatives, and of Mr. Rodney, of Delaware, of the Senate, employed and paid as counsel under the direction of the present Secretary of War.

The committee refer also to the case of a member of the House of Representatives in the present Congress, who is employed, under the authority of the War Department, as a superintendent of a fortification of the United States, for which he receives an annual compensation.

Upon these instances the committee forbear any comment; proceeding to remark, however, that, in this practical construction, there has been an uniformity which could scarcely have resulted from any thing else than a universal impression of the real meaning of the law. By the fifth section it has been perceived that the Secretary of the Treasury, Secretaries of War and of the Navy, and the Postmaster General, are directed to make annual statements to Congress, of such contracts made in their respective departments as are comprehended in the law. But in none of these returns which have been annually made, are included any of the cases enumerated, *whether the service had been performed by a member of Congress, or any other person;* and, under the idea that these were not of the description of contracts to which the law had reference, the returns embrace only contracts for labor, for furnishing supplies, and for carrying the mail; and it is also worthy of observation that, though this fifth section designs to compel a return of all contracts within the law, it does not require any such return from the Department of State, in which, though it is true no such contracts as gave rise to the law are ever made, it has, nevertheless, an extensive patronage, a part of which is that of authorizing the publication of the laws, which may be dispensed to members of Congress, and, as we have seen, falling clearly within the general scope of the words of the law of 1808. Neither has it been usual, or deemed necessary, to make a record in either of the departments of any such instances, whether the service was performed by a member of Congress, or others, pursuant to the law requiring all contracts made by the respective departments, in behalf of the United States, to be recorded.

The committee do not wish to be understood as referring to these instances, and to this course of practice, to justify or excuse an error in one department by detecting similar abuses in others; nor as affording an interpretation which, if erroneous, should have the force of judicial decision; but merely as the means by which the objects and meaning of the law may be ascertained, as illustrative of the sense in which its provisions have been received and understood by the most distinguished statesmen, and the ablest constitutional lawyers of the country, and by the common consent of all whose duty it was to obey them.

They refer to them as demonstrating a cotemporaneous practical construction which has prevailed, without concert, in all of the departments, and to which an officer, entering the office long after the construction had become adopted, might naturally conform his conduct.

On the whole, the committee have seen nothing in the case submitted to them which can lead to the presumption that either of the individuals concerned had any intention either to violate the provisions of the law, or to abuse or disregard the spirit and policy of our institutions.

They are of opinion that the employment of Mr. Thomas to examine the land offices originated in a desire honestly to discharge an important public duty; that the peculiar importance of the trust at the time, and the character and elevation of the individual employed, were calculated rather to invite than forbid the selection. Nor have the committee any reason to believe that the duty has not been faithfully performed, and in a manner conducive to the public good.

Under these circumstances, and with such impressions, the committee do not deem it necessary to single out this case for particular animadverson, or to pronounce upon the comprehensiveness or precise import of the act of 1808. They content themselves with referring to the construction which it has uniformly received in practice, and to the conviction that the public good and not any sinister or improper purpose was intended; and they therefore recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *March* 26, 1822.

SIR: Your letter of the 22d instant was received only on the 25th. In reply to your request that the committee may be informed of the construction given by this department to the act of the 21st of April, 1808, entitled "An act to regulate public contracts, as well under my predecessors in office as by myself, in relation to the authority of the department or the President to employ as counsel, in behalf of the United States, any member of Congress, or to perform any other service, duty, or agency, in behalf of the United States," I have the honor to state, that I have no means of ascertaining the construction which has been put upon the act in question by my predecessors in office, but by their practice under the fifth section of the act. That section requires that the Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary of War, Secretary of the Navy, and Postmaster General, shall annually lay before Congress a statement of all the contracts which have been made in their respective departments during the year preceding such report. From the date of that act to the present time, the land offices have been annually examined, and a compensation paid for the services rendered; but no Secretary of the Treasury has ever reported that service as a contract within the letter or intention of the act, or considered the persons who examined them as contractors. If the performance of such service constituted a contract within the contemplation of the act, it was the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury from the year 1808, to have annually reported every such service to Congress as a contract. If it was not a contract within the contemplation of the act, it was a service which might be lawfully rendered by a member of Congress. The construction given to the act by the Treasury Department at the commencement of its operation, that such incidental services were not contracts, has, it is understood, been corroborated by the other departments of the Government. In all those departments, incidental services have been, and still are, rendered and compensated, but have never been, nor are they now, reported to Congress as contracts within the contemplation of the act.

It is respectfully conceived that the examination of the land offices cannot be considered as constituting a contract within the letter or intention of the act, unless the proposition that every possible service rendered to the Government by any person whatever, except by public officers in the discharge of their official duties, for which compensation is received, can be correctly affirmed to be such contract. That it was not the intention of the act of 1808 to make this general affirmation, can, it is believed, admit of no reasonable doubt. If such, however, was its intention, all the officers of the Government upon whom it was intended to operate have mistaken that intention, and failed in the correct discharge of their duty; for it is believed that none of them have, in pursuance of the fifth section of the act, reported such incidental services as contracts made by them during the year preceding the reports annually made to Congress.

I have no knowledge of the employment of any member of Congress since the year 1808, as counsel in behalf of the United States, or to perform any other service, duty, or agency, by my predecessors in office, nor has any member of Congress been employed as counsel by this department since it has been under my direction.

In the year 1818 complaints were received at this office against the official conduct of Nathaniel Ewing, receiver at Vincennes. The charges were of such a nature as to require investigation, and the Senators of the State of Indiana were, by the direction of the President, requested to make that investigation. Owing to some objections on the part of the receiver, the investigation did not then take place; but as General Noble, one of the Senators, resided at a considerable distance from the land office, travelling expenses were incurred by him, which were paid.

In 1819, when proposals were invited at Brownsville for constructing the Cumberland road from Uniontown to Washington, in Pennsylvania, the proposals were much lower than those which had been received upon the other portions of the road. Mr. Shriver, the superintendent of the road, expressed apprehensions that some of the bidders would not be able to give such security as would ensure the prompt and faithful execution of their engagements, and stated that his acquaintance in that part of the State was not such as to enable him to judge correctly of the sufficiency of the security that might be tendered. He therefore proposed that two gentlemen, whom he named, should be requested to aid him in this particular service. One of the gentlemen declined the request, when it was suggested that the Hon. Benjamin Ruggles was acquainted in that part of the State, and that there was no doubt he would attend if requested. His attendance was accordingly requested, and for his services and expenses he received, from the superintendent, the sum of seventy-two dollars.

Upon both these occasions, as well as upon the acceptance of the offer of the Hon. Jesse B. Thomas to examine the land offices in 1821, the provisions of the act of 1808 were not adverted to, nor did the idea occur that there was the slightest incompatibility between such service and the provisions of that act.

The practice of the department has been to record all contracts which were supposed to be within the letter or intention of the act, and to lay them annually before the Congress; but, as such incidental services as have been described in this letter have never been considered contracts, they have not assumed that form, and consequently have not been recorded.

I am, respectfully, sir,
Your obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

Hon. DANIEL P. COOK,
Chairman of the Committee, &c. H. R.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
March 29, 1822.

SIR: Since the date of my letter of the 26th instant, it has been ascertained that the late James A. Bayard, whilst a Senator of the United States, was employed, under the direction of the Comptroller of the Treasury, in the year 1812, to prosecute a cause in which the United States were interested, for which he received $500 from the collector of Wilmington, which sum was allowed to the collector in the settlement of his accounts.

In my letter of the 26th instant, it was stated that the travelling expenses incurred by General Noble in going to Vincennes had been paid, but the amount paid was not then ascertained. It has since been found to have been eighty dollars.

I remain, with respect, your most obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

Hon. DANIEL P. COOK,
Chairman, &c.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, *March* 28, 1822.

SIR: I have received your letter of the 23d instant, requesting, on behalf of the committee, to be informed what has been the construction put upon the act of Congress, entitled "An act regulating public contracts," approved April 21, 1808, by the War Department, &c. A general examination of the records of this office does not furnish any means of determining what construction has been put on the act, in relation to the authority of the President of the United States, or this department, to employ, as counsel in behalf of the United States, any member of Congress, or to employ a member of Congress to perform any other duty or agency in behalf of the United States. The correspondence of this department with the several attorney generals since the passage of the act, has been examined, in order to ascertain whether any opinion has been given on the construction of the act, and it has not been found that any has been. Since I have presided in the department, no occasion has occurred which has rendered it necessary to give a construction to the act. I can find no instance on record, since the passage of the act, in which members of Congress have been employed by the President or the department to perform any service, duty, or agency, except in the case of Elias Earle, the documents connected with which are to be found in the 3d volume State Papers, 1st session 15th Congress, No. 43, to which I would respectfully refer the committee. The amount

paid Mr. Earle will be found in the letter of the Third Auditor, herewith transmitted. It will be seen by reference to the letter of the Third Auditor, that, in some instances, money has been put into the hands of members of Congress to facilitate the settlement of the claims of their constituents against the Government. It is believed that such cases do not come within the scope of your inquiry, the service of the members in such cases being rather in the character of agents for their constituents, than that of agents for the Government; but, if the committee should desire it, an examination will be made, and a statement of the cases furnished to them. In relation to the case of Colonel Johnson, referred to by the Third Auditor, I enclose a copy of a letter from General Armstrong to him, of the 26th February, 1813. He was commissioned, it is believed, by the Governor of the State. The same gentleman, Mr. Morrow, of Ohio, and General Harrison, were appointed commissioners by the President, on the 24th May, 1814, while the two former were members of Congress, to treat with the northwestern Indians: but the commission was withdrawn by the President. I enclose an extract from the commission, with a copy of the letter withdrawing it.

There may be other similar cases, but these are all that can now be ascertained.

The records of the department, in the instances in which members have been employed, have been kept in the same manner as in others. The only instance which is embraced by the annual statement required to be laid before Congress, of the contracts made with this department, in which a member of Congress was concerned, is that of Elias Earle for the manufacture of arms, which was contained in the statement transmitted to Congress in January, 1816. It is believed to be the only instance of a contract made with a member of Congress, which, according to the provision of the act, ought to be contained in the statement which it directs to be laid annually before Congress.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

J. C. CALHOUN.

Hon. DANIEL P. COOK,
House of Representatives U. S.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Third Auditor's Office, March 28, 1822.

SIR: I have the honor to state, in reply to your inquiry, that it appears, from the books of the late accountant of the War Department, that Elias Earle, esq., of South Corolina, received a warrant, issued by the Secretary of War, dated 3d February, 1815, for $40,000, on account of the Indian Department; and that, on the settlement of his account in November, 1816, the sum of seven hundred and fifty dollars was allowed him by the acting Secretary of War for his commissions, expenses, &c. in the disbursement of $27,121 55, the balance found due having been then refunded. In the case of Colonel R. M. Johnson, he has been paid for his services as commanding a regiment of Kentucky volunteers from the 20th May to the 19th November, 1813, amounting to $767 80. In several instances moneys have been placed in the hands of members of Congress to pay, principally, to the militia discharged from service without receiving their pay: for these sums they have been charged, and held accountable to produce the proper receipts. The Secretary of War will be pleased to decide whether such cases constitute any of those embraced within his inquiry.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

PETER HAGNER, *Auditor.*

Hon. J. C. CALHOUN, *Secretary of War.*

Extract of a letter from the Secretary of War to Colonel R. M. Johnson, dated May 24, 1814.

"SIR: You have been appointed a commissioner to treat with the northwestern Indians. In this mission you will be associated with Major General Harrison and the Hon. Jeremiah Morrow."

WAR DEPARTMENT, *May* 31, 1814.

SIR: The President's nomination of Mr. Morrow and yourself (communicated by my letter of the 24th instant) as commissioners for assisting in the Indian treaty about to be held, was made without adverting to the fact that the acceptance, on your parts, would vacate your seats in Congress. Not supposing that this would be desirable either on public or private grounds, he has recalled these nominations, and appointed in your stead Governors Shelby and Cass. I have, &c. &c.

J. ARMSTRONG.

Col. R. M. JOHNSON.
[Same to Judge MORROW.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, *Feb.* 26, 1813.

SIR: You are hereby authorized to organize and hold in readiness a regiment of mounted volunteers, the organization, as to the number of officers and men, to be conformable to the military establishment of the United States; the horses to be dispensed with, if thought expedient, upon the arrival of the regiment at its place of destination. The governor of the State of Kentucky will be requested to commission the officers when selected, to serve four months after being called into actual service, and six months if required by the United States; the pay of officers and men to commence from the actual service and march of the corps under the direction of this department. After marching orders, the contractors and commissaries' agents in the different districts through which it passes, will supply the regiment with forage for the horses, and provision for the men, if required to do so. The keepers of military stores will also furnish said corps with ammunition on regular returns of the effective force of the regiment. If any difficulty arises as to rank, the commanding general will settle the same after the corps shall have reached its place of destination. I have, &c.

J. ARMSTRONG.

Hon. R. M. JOHNSON.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, *March* 27, 1822.

SIR: In reply to your letter of the 22d instant, I have the honor to state that the records of the department have been carefully examined, and they afford no instance in which a member of Congress has been employed as agent, attorney, or counsellor, on behalf of the Navy Department, during the period for which he was a member, since the passage of the act regulating public contracts, approved 21st April, 1808; and in all contracts made by, or on behalf of, this department, a clause is introduced, stipulating that no member of Congress shall have any interest, or be, in any wise, concerned, either directly or indirectly, in any of the issues, profits, or receipts of such contracts.

With great respect, &c.

SMITH THOMPSON.

Hon. DANIEL P. COOK,
Chairman Select Com. Ho. Reps.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, March 25, 1822.

SIR: In answer to your letter of the 23d instant, I have the honor of informing you that no occasion has arisen since I have been in this department, for giving a construction to the act of Congress regulating public contracts, of 21st of April, 1808, in relation to any authority of this department, or of the President of the United States, to employ as counsel in behalf of the United States any member of Congress; or to employ a member of Congress to perform any other service, duty, or agency, in behalf of the United States. Nor has any member of Congress been at any time since the year 1808, so far as is known at this department, employed by this department as counsel in behalf of the United States, or to perform, upon compensation, any other service, duty, or agency, excepting as follows: The True American, a newspaper printed at Trenton, in the State of New Jersey, has been, from the year 1804 until this time, appointed, from session to session, as one of the papers for printing the laws of the United States within that State. The editor of that paper was, from 1815 to 1821, a member of the Senate of the United States. The compensation for thus printing the laws, is prescribed by law, and has been since the year 1808, as follows:

For the 1st	session	of the 10th	Congress,	-	$77 50
2d	do.		do.	-	61 50
1st	do.	of the 11th	do.	-	11 00
2d	do.		do.	-	90 00
3d	do.		do.	-	71 50
1st	do.	of the 12th	do.	-	159 00
2d	do.		do.	-	60 00
1st	do.	of the 13th	do.	-	115 50
2d	do.		do.	-	93 00
3d	do.		do.	-	141 50
1st	do.	of the 14th	do.	-	144 50
2d	do.		do.	-	84 50
1st	do.	of the 15th	do.	-	133 50
2d	do.		do.	-	206 00
1st	do.	of the 16th	do.	-	124 00
2d	do.		do.	-	69 00

The employment of printing the laws in newspapers is, by a letter of appointment from this department, and, in the case of Mr. Wilson, was not considered either

by my predecessor or by me, as prohibited by the act of Congress regulating public contracts, or as coming at all within its purview.

There are, indeed, no contracts usually made by, or under the authority of, the Secretary of State, contemplated in the act of 21st of April, 1808, nor is that officer included in the provisions of the 5th section of the act which require the annual statement to Congress of the contracts made by the heads of the other departments.

I am, with great respect, sir,

Your very humble and obedient servant,

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

DANIEL P. COOK, Esq.
Chairman of a Committee Ho. Rep. U. S.

[The following explanatory letter, &c. were communicated to the House of Representatives by Mr. Cook on the 5th of April, 1822.]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, *April* 3, 1822.

SIR: I have received your letter of the 2d instant, enclosing a copy of the report of the select committee upon the subject of examining the land offices in Ohio, &c., [see No. 359,] and, in reply to your inquiries, I have to state that the committee is under a mistake in stating that Mr. Rodney and Mr. Baldwin, the former a member of the Senate, and the latter of the House of Representatives, were "employed and paid as counsel under the direction of the present Secretary of War."

The precise period at which the former was employed cannot be ascertained; but it was previous to July, 1820. He was paid for his services the 8th of November, 1820, before he became a member of Congress. Mr. Baldwin was employed by Major Woolley, of the Ordnance, in the spring of 1817, before I came into the War Department, and previous to taking his seat in Congress, in the case of Daniel Deker, a soldier in the United States' service, who had been indicted for murder, for which service Mr. Baldwin has not been yet paid. He was also employed before I came into the department, and it is believed about the same time, by General Tannehill and Major Woolley, (who had been appointed commissioners in 1815, to sell certain lots of land belonging to the Government at Pittsburgh) in an indictment of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania against John Young, the auctioneer, for selling the lots without paying the auction fees. For this service he was paid, in 1820, $100. It cannot be ascertained, from the records of this office, that any part of the service was rendered subsequent to the time of his taking his seat in Congress.

In relation to the employment of Mr. Morrow and Governor Worthington in 1812, I herewith enclose a copy of the letter of instruction to them, and a letter from the Third Auditor, which will give all the information in relation to it which can be obtained from this department.

In "the case of a member of the House of Representatives in the present Congress, who is employed under the authority of the War Department as a superintendant of a fortification of the United States, for which he receives an annual compensation," and which I understand from your letter refers to Mr. Hill, from Maine, I find, on examination, that he was employed by Gen. Ripley, in 1816, to take charge of the fort and other public property at Phippsburg, in Maine, and that he has received a compensation averaging $116 50-100ths per annum.

The enclosed communications from the Second and Third Auditors of the Treasury Department contain all of the facts in relation to it within the knowledge of this department. It is proper to observe, that it does not appear that the account was ever submitted to the War Department for its approval, as the Auditors considered the authority of the commanding officer sufficient for its allowance, and that I had no knowledge that Mr. Hill was so employed.

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. C. CALHOUN.

Hon. D. P. COOK,
House of Representatives.

To his excellency Return J. Meigs, the honorable Thomas Worthington, and the honorable Jeremiah Morrow.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *July* 1, 1812.

The President having been pleased to appoint you commissioners to meet the chiefs and headmen of the several Indian tribes from the western frontier, at Piqua town, in the State of Ohio, on the first of August next, I have the honor to communicate his pleasure, that you, or any two of you, explain to them the views of the President in ordering the council. He has heard of their determination to preserve peace with the United States, and he is desirous of saving them from the destruction which would inevitably ensue in case of their hostility. The conduct of some of them would justify him in lifting his hand against them; but he is informed that the tribes disapprove of what has been done, and he will not punish the innocent with the guilty. You will hear all their complaints, and learn from them the course they desire to pursue in the war with Great Britain. You will inform them that the President stands in no need of their assistance. For their own sakes, he desires them to remain quiet, and to pursue their usual occupations.

In case they shall give satisfactory assurances that they will preserve peace with good faith, they may be assured that the President will take them by the hand; that he will protect them; that they shall have their annuities according to treaty; that their lands shall be held sacred, and shall not be taken or purchased from them without their consent; and that, being at peace with the United States, they will be reconciled to, and will preserve the chain of friendship with all their governors and agents. It must be distinctly explained, that the chiefs will be held accountable for the good conduct of their several tribes; and if a single murder shall be committed on the frontier, the murderer shall be forthwith delivered up, or the tribe to which he shall belong shall be driven beyond the Mississippi; their lands shall be forfeited, and their annuities shall cease forever. Upon a perfect understanding of, and agreement to these several points, the goods sent to Piqua as presents may be delivered, in whole or in part, according to the discretion of the commissioners.

Twelve or fifteen chiefs may be invited to visit the President, and receive from his own mouth a confirmation of your engagements, and have them formed into a regular treaty. If, on the contrary, they are not disposed to friendship, or there is good reason to doubt the sincerity of their professions, the council will be immediately broken up with a warning of consequences. With these instructions, the commissioners will exercise their own judgment and discretion in such manner as may be best calculated to promote the public interests. Should a proposal be made, as a proof of their friendly disposition, to give their consent to cut a road from Ohio to Indiana, the proposal may be accepted.

I have, &c.

W. EUSTIS.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Third Auditor's Office, April 4, 1822.

SIR: Agreeably to your request, I have the honor to state that it has been found, on examination of the books of the late accountant of the War Department, that warrants issued on the 28th November, 1812, in favor of the honorable J. Morrow and Thomas Worthington, as follows:

Hon. J. Morrow, being the amount of his account admitted by the Secretary of War for services and expenses as a commissioner for holding a council with the Indian tribes at Piqua, Ohio, from 11th August to 16th September, 1812, - - -	$224 00
Hon. Thomas Worthington, being the amount of his account for like services and expenses from 10th August to 11th September, 1812,	231 00

These warrants having been charged to the Indian Department, and no personal account opened with either of the gentlemen, the payments were overlooked on the former examination.

Pursuant to your request, I also subjoin a statement of the payments made by the several quartermasters at Boston to Mark L. Hill, so far as the accounts have been rendered to this office, for his services in taking care of the public works at Georgetown, under an appointment of General Ripley, dated 22d March, 1816, stating the authority in each case on which the accounts were allowed to the credit of the quartermasters. They were admitted, without submitting them to the Secretary of War, as an allowance for a previous period of service of this gentleman had been made in the office of the accountant, and accounts at the same rate of compensation of other persons employed to take charge of public works, had been, and continue to be, allowed. These payments to Mr. Hill would have been mentioned in my letter to you of the 28th ultimo, had they occurred to me as relating to a member of Congress.

1817, May 31. Paid on the order of General Miller, from 1st January to 31st May, 1817,	$49 16
1818, December 7. Paid on a certified copy of the original appointment, from 1st June, 1817, to 1st October, 1818, - - - -	157 31

1819, May 14. Paid in like manner, from 1st October, 1818, to 1st April, 1819, - $59 12
1820, June 10. Paid on the order of General Porter, and a copy of the original appointment, from 1st April, 1819, to 31st March, 1820, 114 75
1821, April 20. Paid in like manner, from 1st April, 1820, to 31st March, 1821, - 114 75

With great respect,
Your most obedient servant,
PETER HAGNER, *Auditor.*

Hon. J. C. CALHOUN,
Secretary of War.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Second Auditor's Office, April 3, 1822.

SIR: In compliance with your request, a minute investigation has been made in this office in relation to compensation said to have been allowed by the authority of the War Department to certain members of Congress, for various services performed by them, and I now beg leave to lay the result before you.

It appears that the Hon. H. Baldwin was paid, in May, 1820, the sum of one hundred dollars for his services in the supreme court of Pennsylvania in the case of the Commonwealth *vs.* John Young, in an indictment against the defendant for selling, in 1815, under the authority of the United States, certain lots of ground belonging to them in Pittsburgh, without paying the auction duty imposed by the laws of Pennsylvania. It is believed that General Tannehill and Major Woolley, named United States' commissioners for the sale of these lots, engaged Mr. Balwin, in 1817, in this suit, but there is no evidence on record of the fact.

The honorable M. L. Hill was paid by Capt. Milo Mason, assistant quartermaster general, in December, 1816, the sum of $96 31 cents for his services for nine months and twenty-two days in taking care of the fort, ordnance, and other public property, at Phippsburg, on Kennebeck river. The enclosed letter from Gen. Ripley to Mr. Hill, under date of the 8th February, 1816, fixing his compensation for the above services, was considered sufficient authority by the Auditor for the allowance of this payment by the assistant deputy quartermaster general, without submitting the case to the acting Secretary of War for his sanction.

I have the honor to be,
Most respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
WILLIAM LEE.

The Hon. J. C. CALHOUN,
Secretary of War.

CASTLE ISLAND, *February* 8, 1816.

MY DEAR SIR: I regret that it was not in my power to see you. I consider it proper to allow the amount of a private's pay, and one ration per day, to any citizen who takes care of the public property at a military post which has no garrison. This will be allowed you for taking care of that at Georgetown.

Respectfully,
Your friend and servant,
Hon. M. L. HILL. E. W. RIPLEY.

17th CONGRESS. **No. 359.** 1st SESSION.

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES OF CERTAIN LAND OFFICES.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APRIL 1, 1822.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *March* 30, 1822.

SIR: In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to communicate to the House "the items of the incidental expenses incurred in the land offices in St. Louis, Franklin, Huntsville, and Cahawba, for the year eighteen hundred and twenty, and the three first quarters of the year eighteen hundred and twenty-one," I have the honor to communicate the statement required. It appears that the items comprehended in the statement have not been finally examined and passed to the credit of the officers by whom the expenditures have been made.

I remain with respect, your most obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

The honorable P. P. BARBOUR, *Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

Statement of the "items of incidental expenses incurred in the land offices in St. Louis, Franklin, Huntsville, and Cahawba, for the year 1820, *and the three first quarters of* 1821," *agreeably to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the* 20*th March,* 1822.

Dates.	Nature of the expenses.	Amount.	Amount.
	ST. LOUIS.		
1820. February	Paid Edward Charless, for printing - - - - - -	$6 00	
	I. N. Henry, for printing - - - - - -	40 00	
	William Pomsford, for books - - - - - -	317 75	
			$363 75
March	John Lindell and Co., for stationery - - - - -	-	11 35
April	Joseph Charless, for printing - - - - - -	217 00	
	James Arnold, for stationery - - - - - -	3 50	
			220 50
May	H. L. Hoffman, for stationery - - - - - -	17 00	
	Joseph Charless, for printing - - - - - -	15 50	
			32 50
June	I. N. Henry, for printing - - - - - -	149 00	
	Joseph Charless, for printing - - - - - -	2 00	
	I. N. Henry, for printing - - - - - -	114 00	
	T. E. Strange, for printing - - - - - -	133 00	
	Thomas Essex, for stationery - - - - - -	6 00	
			404 00
August	Thomas Essex, for stationery - - - - - -	-	14 62
September	George Thomas, for a desk and table for the use of the receiver's office -	33 00	
	William B. Alexander, in part, for posting the books of the late receiver -	143 59	
			176 59
October, Novem., Decem.	The expenses for these three months cannot be ascertained for want of the quarterly accounts, which have not been rendered. They have been estimated at - - - - - - - -	-	338 90
1821. January	Paid William B. Alexander, for services rendered in posting the books of the late receiver - - - - - - - -	-	456 41

STATEMENT—Continued.

Dates.	Nature of the expenses.	Amount.	Amount.
February	Paid for freight on books - - - - - - -	$12 00	
	John Lindell and Co. for stationery - - - - -	11 25	
	Tracy and Wakrendorf, for stationery - - - - -	12 00	
	Isaac N. Henry and Co., for printing - - - - -	111 50	
			$146 75
March	The following aggregate amount of incidental expenses during March, April, May, and June, 1821, is predicated on an estimate (the only document in the office from which such an approximation could be made) of the transactions in the office at St. Louis, transmitted by the examiner of the land office, which statement does not exhibit the items of expenses for those months. They cannot be specified until the accounts and vouchers for that period are received -	-	262 40
July	Paid Joseph Charless, for printing - - - - - -	-	104 87
September	Stephen Remington and Co., for printing - - - -	72 00	
	Isaac N. Henry and Co., for printing - - - - -	94 25	
			166 25
	Total of the estimated incidental expenses at St. Louis - - -	-	$2,698 89
	FRANKLIN.		
1820. March	Paid for books for the register's office - - - - -	-	250 00
May	N. Hutchinson's account for rooms rent, for settling pre-emption claims in the month of January, 1820 - - - - - -	20 00	
	Samuel Davidson's accounts as clerk to the register while adjusting pre-emption claims - - - - - - -	25 00	
	sundry accounts for freight, drayage, &c. on stationery - -	9 00	
			64 00
September	Richard B. Lee, as examiner of the books of the land offices, per letter of the Secretary of the Treasury, dated 20th May, 1820 - -	300 00	
	John Bird, for four boxes to contain specie - - - -	4 00	
	Benjamin Holliday, for printing - - - - -	5 25	
	William Lanman and Co., for stationery - - - -	2 00	
			311 25
December	receiver's compensation for superintending public sales in November, 1820	90 00	
	register's do. do. do. -	74 12	
	Giles M. Same and Co , for stationery - - - - -	3 00	
	Charles Pentland, clerk at the public sales - - - -	54 00	
	Benjamin Holliday, for do. - - - -	30 63	
	Benjamin B. Rey, auctioneer do. - - - -	54 00	
	Taylor Berry, for stationery - - - - - -	5 00	
			310 75
1821. March	Expenses of the register paid by the receiver, the items of which are not specified in the monthly accounts - - - - - -	389 82	
	Paid for superintending public sales in January and March, 1821 - -	120 00	
	James M'Munn, clerk to public sales in January and March - -	72 00	
	Benjamin B. Rey, auctioneer at public sale in March - - -	36 00	
	Giles M. Same and Co., for stationery - - - - -	7 50	
	Benjamin B. Rey, auctioneer in January - - - -	36 00	
	George P. Ross, for fifteen boxes to contain specie - - -	10 48	
	A. Smith, for room, fuel, &c. furnished the receiver and register, to hold public sales in January and March, 1821 - - -	30 00	
			701 80
June	register's account for stationery - - - - -	8 75	
	James M'Munn, for stationery - - - - - -	10 25	
	George P. Ross, for two boxes to contain specie - - -	3 75	
			22 75
September	Incidental expenses of the office of receiver and register, ending 30th September, 1821, not specified in the monthly accounts, and the quarterly accounts for that period not yet received - - - - - -	141 41	
	Paid Jesse B. Thomas, as per letter of the Secretary of the Treasury -	175 00	
			316 41
	Total - - - - - - - - - -	-	$1,966 96
	In summing up from the receiver's accounts the incidental expenses for the statement of the 18th February, 1822, the sum of $172 99, properly belonging to the "repayments to individuals," and blended by the receiver with the incidental expenses, was included under that head, which explains the difference between the aggregate amount in this and in the former statement.		
	HUNTSVILLE.		
1820. January	Paid Burwell H. Peeples, for printing - - - - -	242 25	
	George W. Lee, for services as crier at the sales of public lands -	120 00	
	Martin Miller, for stationery - - - - - -	3 75	
	Duncan Robertson, for stationery furnished the register's office - -	191 00	
	Duncan Robertson, for blank books - - - - -	204 50	
			761 50
February	John Boardman, for advertising - - - - -	-	99 75
March	John Martin, for stationery - - - - - -	10 00	
	White and Read, for stationery - - - - -	32 00	
			42 00
May	Messrs. Tunstall and Norvell, printers - - - - -	-	17 06
May	White and Read, for stationery - - - - -	3 51	
(Expenses incurred by John Brahan, late receiver.)	John Boardman, for printing - - - - - -	21 00	
			24 51
	Benjamin Clements, for his services as crier at the public sales -	70 00	
June	John Dickens, esq. (as examiner of the books of the land office) -	150 00	

STATEMENT—Continued.

Date.	Nature of the expenses.	Amount.	Amount.
June	Paid Martin and Pleasants, for stationery	$7 62	
	John Martin, for his services as clerk at the sale of public lands	35 00	
	George W. Lee, for his services as clerk at the sale of public lands	35 00	
	receiver, for superintendence at the sale of public lands	75 00	
	register	75 00	
			$447 62
August	Messrs. Tunstall and Norvell, printers, for publishing proclamations	-	22 50
September	White and Read, for stationery	9 75	
	Benjamin S. Pope, for the same object	14 87	
	Martin and Pleasants, do.	13 00	
			37 12
October	John Boardman, for printing	36 00	
	Do. do.	21 00	
	I. Williams, for making one *ombrometer* for the register's office	4 00	
			61 00
December	Cæsar Kennedy, clerk hire for five days	15 00	
	Jesse Bussy, do.	15 00	
	register, for superintending public sales	75 00	
	receiver, for do.	75 00	
	John Pleasants, for clerk hire	36 00	
	Glass and Hudnall, for specie boxes	18 00	
	John Martin, clerk hire	120 00	
	Tunstall and Norvell, for printing	102 38	
	Bradford and Low, for stationery	10 50	
	John Martin, for sundries, as per voucher	7 00	
	John Boardman, for printing	6 25	
	George W. Lee, for crying public sales	15 00	
	Benjamin Clements, crier of public lands	310 00	
	A. D. Veilet, for office tape	50	
	L. Morgan and Sons, for stationery	3 37	
			809 00
1821. March	Tunstall and Norvell, for printing	28 87	
	John Justice, for carriage of boxes	8 12	
	Duncan Robertson, for books, boxes, wagonage, &c.	216 00	
	John Glass, for seven boxes to hold specie	7 00	
	Pitcher, Wizer, and Co., for freight, &c.	6 25	
	John Boardman, for publishing the President's proclamation at different times, &c.	275 10	
	Heiskell and Brown, editors of the Knoxville Register, for publishing the President's proclamation	141 25	
			682 56
June	Armstrong, Hurst, & Co., for freight of boxes	5 10	
	John Hart and Co., for stationery	2 00	
	T. and J. Kirkman, for printing	78 75	
	Do. do.	30 00	
	Do. do.	78 75	
			194 60
August	Benjamin Clements, (object not mentioned, and voucher not yet in the office)	120 00	
	Luke and Howard, do. do.	36 00	
	James Mackay, do. do.	36 00	
	Henry Lloyd, do. do.	37	
			192 37
September	receiver for his superintendence at the public sale	60 00	
	register do. do.	60 00	
			120 00
			$3,511 62

On scrutinizing the items composing the amount of incidental expenses, as given in the statement of the 18th February, 1822, it is found that certain sums paid to John Coffee for surveying, were included by the receiver in his account of incidental expenses. Those payments being covered by a distinct appropriation, ought to be deducted. It constitutes a difference of $1,783 81.

CAHAWBA.

1820. January	Paid Robert Carr, for his services as clerk at the public sales for twenty-five days	100 00	
	William C. Pope, for do.	100 00	
	Edward R. Bird, do.	100 00	
	Thomas J. Burney, do.	100 00	
	Alexander Pope, as superintendant at the public sales	150 00	
	John Taylor, as do.	150 00	
	Travers and M'Jemsey, for stationery	2 50	
	Do. do.	2 00	
	Roberts and Battle, for blank books, &c.	4 50	
	Benjamin Clements, as crier at the public sale	180 00	
	Do. for stationery	6 00	
	Wm. B. Allen, for printing	22 50	
	Do. do.	17 50	
	Do. for stationery	36 50	
	George M. Rives and Co., for stationery	8 00	
	Tucker and Turner, for printing	3 00	
			982 50
February	Amount of incidental expenses during this month, stated by the receiver, without specifying the object. The vouchers from which it might be ascertained are not received	-	17 00
March	Amount of incidental charges this month, (items not specified in the account current, and the vouchers not yet received for that period)	59 50	
	Paid Register's account for clerk hire during the quarter ending 31st March, 1820	500 00	
	for office rent	50 00	
	for receiver's office rent for six months	100 00	
			709 50

STATEMENT—Continued.

Dates.	Nature of the expenses.	Amount.	Amount.
May	Paid Roberts and Battle, for quills	$2 00	
	George W. Rives, for snuffers and inkpowder	2 75	
			$4 75
June	register's clerk hire for this quarter	500 00	
	Do. office rent	50 00	
	Brooks and Parsons, for stationery	1 50	
			551 50
July	John Dickens, examiner of the books of the office, for travelling expenses	200 00	
	Incidental expenses this month, (items not stated, and vouchers not in the office)	15 25	
			215 25
August	Incidental expenses incurred this month, (the items not specified, &c.)	-	47 87
September	Paid Thomas M. Davenport, for advertising	6 00	
	A. Parsons, for printing	33 50	
	register's clerk hire	500 00	
	Do. office rent	50 00	
	receiver's office rent for six months, at $50 per quarter	100 00	
	receiver's clerk hire for three quarters, at $500	1,500 00	
			2,189 50
October	Armstrong, Heart and Co., for freight on books	5 10	
			5 10
November	John T. Sullivan, for stationery	313 75	
	Clements, as crier at the sale	120 00	
	Thomas J. Burney's bill, as clerk to the superintendent at the public sale	56 00	
	James B. Crawford do.	56 00	
	William C. Pope do.	56 00	
	for receiver's services as superintendent	70 00	
	for register's do.	70 37	
	Renaldi and Peters, for candles	4 37	
	Thomas H. Wiley and Co., for stationery	3 00	
	John Flanegan, for freight on boxes	3 37	
			752 49
December	John T. Sullivan, for books	62 00	
	George M. Rives and Co., for quills	1 12	
	amount allowed for clerk hire this quarter	500 00	
			563 12
1821. January	the register's expenses for clerk hire, office rent, &c. (items not specified in the account	1,076 82	
	Anthony Ephatos's bill for freight	7 00	
			1,083 82
March	Thomas H. Wiley, for stationery	2 50	
	Armstrong and Hurst, for freight on books, &c.	5 10	
	Francis B. Stockton, for the same object	4 50	
	amount allowed for clerk hire during this quarter	500 00	
	for office rent for six months, at $50 per quarter	100 00	
			612 10
April	(No accounts have been rendered for this month, and there are in the office no documents from which the expenses can be estimated.)		
May	Paid Luther Blake, for covering packets, &c.	12 00	
	Allen and Brickell, for printing	50 00	
			62 00
July	(No accounts rendered—same case as in April.)		
August	Do. do.		
September	Paid Allen and Brickell, for printing	136 00	
	Do. for office rent	16 62	
			152 62
			$7,949 12
	To which, adding this amount, being repayments to individuals, and blended by the receiver in his contingent account for 1820	-	137 52
	Total amount represented in the statement of the 18th February, 1822	-	$8,086 64

The preceding statement of items of expenses incurred at St. Louis, Franklin, Huntsville, and Cahawba, during the year 1820, and the three first quarters of 1821, is predicated on documents which have not yet been investigated by the General Land Office, and have not received its sanction as proper evidence of payments. These disbursements are, therefore, liable to the reductions authorized by law, and by the regulations of the Treasury for the settlement of accounts. It may be, moreover, proper to observe, that the expenses of printing, which swell considerably the amounts paid at the different offices, are mostly for the publication of the President's proclamations of sales.

JOSIAH MEIGS.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, *March* 30, 1822.

17th CONGRESS. **No. 360.** 1st SESSION.

REJECTED CLAIMS UNDER THE ACT OF COMPROMISE WITH THE YAZOO CLAIMANTS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APRIL 6, 1822.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, 5th April, 1822.

The Secretary of State, in compliance with the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 14th ult., instructing him "to report what evidences of claims recorded in the office of the Department of State, in pursuance of the act of Congress passed 31st March, 1814, providing for the indemnification of certain claimants of public lands in Mississippi Territory, remains in that office after having been rejected by the commissioners appointed under that act; whether the Secretary of State has refused to deliver up such evidences of claims to the

claimants, together with the reasons of such refusal; also, specifying the names of such claimants as have applied to withdraw their evidences of claims," has the honor of reporting, that, by an act of Congress passed on the 23d of January, 1815, supplementary to the act of 31st March, 1814, to which the resolution refers, another Board of Commissioners was substituted with all the powers of the original board, and with power to appoint a secretary to receive, file, and *preserve* the papers, documents, and claims, presented to and received by the board, and to enter and record all their orders, proceedings, judgments and determinations.

That, by the sixth section of an act passed on the 3d of March, 1815, further supplementary to the act of 31st March, 1814, it was prescribed that the releases, assignments, and powers, thus received, should be recorded by the secretary of the said commissioners, and the said records returned, with all other papers and documents in relation to said claims, when the business of the said commissioners should be closed, to the office of the Secretary of State.

That the said records and documents have accordingly been returned, conformably to this provision of the law, to the office of this department; but, as neither that act nor any subsequent act or resolution of Congress has authorized the Secretary of State to dispose of any of the papers, whenever application has been made for any of them by persons to whom they had originally belonged, they have been informed that no authority to deliver them existed at this department.

A list is herewith enclosed of the names of the persons who released to the United States claims which were rejected by the commissioners. No record has been kept at the department of the names of persons who have applied for the delivery of papers, nor are they particularly recollected. The cases of application have been not more than two or three.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

List of the names of persons who released to the United States claims which were rejected by the commissioners appointed conformably to the act of Congress of 23d January, 1815, "supplementary to the act providing for the indemnification of certain claimants of public lands in the Mississippi Territory."

James Stevenson,
David Williamson,
Thomas and Alex'r Greer, executors of Sam'l Greer,
John Shaw,
James White,
Samuel H. Peyton,
Benjamin Sims,
James H. Blake,
Samuel Harris,
Daily Baird,
William L. Cox,
Wm. & Thos. Church,
William Smith,
Peter Williams,
William Marbury,
Philip Slaughter, and Eliza his wife,
Adam Peck,
Thomas Lowndes,
James Forgey,
Jacob Hyland, guardian of Patrick Sharkey's heirs,
David Meredith,
John Rhea,
Thomas Gillespie,
Joel Conyers,
John Adair,
William Dewoody,
Robert Preston,
Benjamin Wheeler,
Thomas Humes,
Holloyd & Hoppin, surviving partners of Benja'n Hoppin & Co.
Asa Langworthy,
Sam'l and Sarah McLean,
Nicholas Le Fevre,
James Reggs,
Jonathan Smith, executor of Jos. Strawbridge,
Lyle, Witherspoon & Miller, assignees of Nicklin & Griffith,
Charles Robertson,
Henry Pratt & others,
Jacob Brown,
Benjamin Estill and Martin Beatty,
Samuel Eliot, jr.,
Joshua B. Bond,
John Holland,
President and Directors of the Bank of Pennsylv'a.
Robert Smith,
Samuel Newman,
Joseph Nourse,
William McCougtery,
William Davidson,
John Lockard,
Peter Glasscock,
John C. Vowell,
Littlebury Tucker,
John Sevier,
James Sevier,
Seth Wetmore,
Joseph Anderson,
John B. Armistead,
Allen Bryan,
John Donaldson,
John Michall,
Robert Young,
Duke Hamilton,
Margaret Jack & others, representatives of Samuel Jack,
Isaac S. Swearingen,
John Collins,
William Armstrong,
Augustus P. Fore, and Dolly Fore his wife,
Joseph Hamilton,
Samuel McKee,
John Peck,
Sasanna Lemoine & others, representatives of John Lemoine,
James Lyle and Edward Shoemaker, assignees of Thomas Ketland,
Amos Clayton,
Richard H. Wilde, administrator of Parker,
John Richards, jr.
Wade Hampton,
John Miller, assignee and trustee of Jas. Greenleaf,
William Cranch, trustee of James Greenleaf,
Susanna Stewart.

17th Congress. **No. 361.** 1st Session.

LAND CLAIM IN MISSISSIPPI.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APRIL 10, 1822.

Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, made the following report:

The Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom were referred the petition and accompanying documents of Stephen Henderson, have had the same under consideration, and report:

The petitioner states, that the Spanish Government granted to Joseph, Alexander, and David Pannill, three contiguous tracts of land, amounting, in the aggregate, to 2,164 acres, lying within the present limits of the State of Mississippi, which the said grantees some time afterwards sold to a certain Samuel C. Young, who, in like manner, sold the same, in the year 1809, to Elliot Hackley, who is now dead, and the petitioner; that the evidences of title to the said land were filed with the commissioners appointed to adjust land titles, and were rejected because there was no proof of such residence as the law under which they acted required to justify a confirmation; that his late partner and himself were ignorant of this defect of title at the time of their purchase; that, after it came to their knowledge, Major Freeman, surveyor general, at their instance, promised that their lands should be exempt from public sale until application for relief could be made to Congress; that, influenced by the assurances of Major Freeman, they did not attend the public sales, at which 643 acres were sold at two dollars an acre; that this occurrence was owing to their lands lying on opposite sides of the township line, a fact not noticed by the officers conducting the sales; that, on the balance, amounting to 1,501 acres, very valuable improvements were made; that, since February, 1816, a continued application to Congress for relief has been made to no purpose, and that, on the 3d of July, 1821, this balance was sold to sundry purchasers for one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre: Wherefore, he prays the passage of an act to annul the sale of the said land, and to give him the right to pre-emption thereto at one dollar and twenty-five cents an acre, or such other relief as justice may require.

It appears from a certified extract of the records of the Board of Commissioners appointed to adjust land titles west of Pearl river, that a patent was granted on the 20th of June, 1795, by the Spanish Government, to Joseph Pannil for one thousand arpens; one on the 7th December following to Alexander Pannil for five hundred arpens; and one on the same day to David Pannil for five hundred arpens; and that the plats of survey, in all these cases, bear date in 1795.

Joseph Pannil, and his wife Agnes, in consideration of the sum of $30,000, on the 4th day of January, 1803, conveyed to Samuel C. Young four tracts of land, amounting to 2,700 acres. This appears from an inspection of the deed itself.

On the 5th of July, 1809, Samuel C. Young conveyed to the petitioner 1,300 arpens, of which 800 arpens are a part of the tract patented to Joseph Pannil, and 500 arpens the same patented to Alexander Pannil; and also 640 acres, which in the deed is called pre-emption land;

in all amounting to about 1,900 acres. To support these facts, the deed is exhibited, and from which it appears the consideration was about $15,000.

On the 2d of October, 1809, Samuel C. Young, in consideration of $3,000, conveyed to the petitioner the 500 arpens which had been originally granted to David Pannil.

By a deed, bearing date the 9th of January, 1820, David Pannil sanctions the sale of the 500 arpens as made by his father and mother, and also releases to the petitioner.

Major Freeman, surveyor general, states that, at the request of the petitioner, and the late Elliot Hackley, he exempted from sale sections Nos. 52, 53, and 54, in township No. 2 of range No. 3 west, under an impression that, at some future day, a well-founded claim might be made to them, and be decided without unnecesary trouble; also, that section No. 6 in township No. 1 of range No. 3 west, having been returned as public land, was, as such, exposed to sale, and purchased by William Tigner, though claimed by the petitioner and Hackley. Major Freeman's certificate is dated the 2d of January, 1816.

Robert Williams, esq., who was a member of the board appointed to adjust land titles west of Pearl river, certifies that, from an inspection of the original title papers in this case, he believes they were honestly executed; and that he had never heard it intimated that they were spurious. His statement is not under oath, and is dated the 5th of January, 1816.

Samuel P. Moore swears, that he was acquainted with Joseph Pannil, and that he visited him and his family in the year 1796 or 1797, when they resided on a plantation commonly called Fontainbleau, lying in Wilkinson county, in the State of Mississippi; and that, from the appearance of the cultivation and improvements, he was of opinion it had been inhabited a considerable time. His affidavit is dated the 12th November, 1821.

Charles Tessier, of Baton Rouge, on the fifth day of February, 1822, swears that he has examined the patent for 1,000 arpens of land granted by the Baron de Carondelet to Joseph Pannil, on the 20th day of June, 1795; that it is a true and genuine document, in his own hand; and that, at that time and long before, he acted as first clerk in the secretary of State's office in the city of New Orleans.

Thomas Freeman, the late surveyor general, on the 3d of July, 1821, writes thus to the petitioner: "I received your letter of the 27th ult., on the subject of the approaching sales of public lands in this district. Your letter arrived here the day before the sale commenced. I submitted it to the register and receiver, who are commissioners of the sales: explained to them what had been done at a former sale with respect to your tract in Wilkinson county. They did not conceive themselves authorized to take notice of the claim, and of course they offered for sale, as public lands, the tract you claim in Wilkinson. It sold very low, $1 25 cts. per acre, and probably was bought for you."

The evidence of the sale of the lands claimed by the petitioner, on the 3d of July, 1821, is satisfactory.

George Poindexter, esq., is now a sub-purchaser of 765 acres, and on the 12th September, 1821, gave notice to the tenant of the petitioner that he would, at the end of three months, enter on and take possession of the same.

In the "articles of agreement and cession" between the United States and the State of Georgia, is this condition: "That all persons who, on the 27th day of October, 1795, were actual settlers within the Territory thus ceded, shall be confirmed in all the grants legally and fully executed prior to that day, by the former British Government of West Florida, or by the Government of Spain."

Under an act of the 3d of March, 1803, every person whose rights were intended to be protected by the above recited clause of the "articles of agreement and cession," was confirmed in his claim.

The Board of Commissioners appointed to decide on titles to lands lying west of Pearl river rejected the application of Samuel C. Young, because it was not proved that Joseph Pannil was a resident within the limits of the Mississippi Territory on the 27th of October, 1795.

Some time after, Samuel C. Young preferred his petition to Congress, asking to be confirmed in his title to the 2,800 arpens of land which he had purchased of Joseph Pannil, stating that he expected to be dispossessed by Government, as said Pannil was not a resident of that country on the 27th of October, 1795. In the absence of proof of this fact, an unfavorable report was made on the 17th of March, 1810.

The affidavit of Mr. Moore is not sufficient to warrant the conclusion that the act of the 3d of March, 1803, would embrace this case.

Inasmuch as the committee believe it has not been the policy of Congress to grant relief to those who claimed lands lying within the cession of Georgia, when there has been a failure to prove residence on the 27th of October, 1795, the adoption of the following resolution is recommended.

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioner ought not to be granted.

17th Congress. **No. 362.** 1st Session.

INDIAN GRANT TO CAPTAIN JONATHAN CARVER.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APRIL 24, 1822.

To the House of Representatives:

In compliance with the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 29th January last, requesting the President of the United States to cause to be communicated to that House certain information relative to the claim made by Jonathan Carver to certain lands within the United States, near the Falls of St. Anthony, I now transmit a report from the Secretary of the Treasury, which, with the accompanying documents, contain all the information on this subject in the possession of the Executive.

JAMES MONROE.

Washington, *April* 23, 1822.

Treasury Department, 22*d April*, 1822.

Sir: In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 29th of January last, which has been referred to this department, I have the honor to transmit the enclosed report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, with the copy of a letter from Col. H. Leavenworth to the said Commissioner, which contain all the information in the possession of this department relative to the claim of Jonathan Carver to certain lands within the United States, near the Falls of St. Anthony.

I remain, with respect, your most obedient servant,

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

The President *of the United States.*

General Land Office, *February* 8, 1822.

Sir: In obedience to the resolve of the House of Representatives of the United States, of January 29, 1822, "that the President of the United States be requested to cause to be communicated to this House such information as may be obtained from any report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office heretofore made on the subject, or from other documents in any of the public offices relative to the claim made by Jonathan Carver to certain lands within the United States near the Falls of St. Anthony," which is this day referred to me, I have the honor to state that, in the winter of 1766, 1767, Jonathan Carver resided at or near the Falls of St. Anthony, on the river Mississippi, being the only white person there, and asserted that the Naudowessie Indians gave him about 100 miles square of land on the east side of the Mississippi, between the Falls of St. Anthony and Lake Pepin.

By the proclamation of the King of Great Britain, dated October 7, 1763, the purchase of lands from the Indians is prohibited in the following terms, viz. "we do strictly enjoin and require that no private person do presume to make any purchase from the said Indians, of any lands reserved to the said Indians within those parts of our colonies where we have thought proper to allow settlements, but that if, at any time, any of the said Indians should be inclined to dispose of the said lands, the same shall be purchased only for us, in our name, a

some public meeting or assembly of the said Indians to to be held for that purpose by the governor or commander-in-chief of our colony, respectively, within which they shall lie."

Captain Jonathan Carver had been an officer in the British service in the war which terminated by the treaty concluded at Paris, February 10, 1763; his pretended purchase was therefore in direct violation of the rules and regulations of his own Government, and in any court under that Government would have been judged null and void.

The same correct policy which dictated the proclamation of October 7, 1763, has been invariably adhered to by the United States, and was ably supported by their ministers during the negotiation at Ghent in 1814, particularly in the note of September 26, addressed to the British commissioners.

I beg leave to transmit, as a part of this report, a copy of a letter from Col. Henry Leavenworth, of the army of the United States, containing information on this subject which, it is presumed, will be deemed valuable.

Frequent applications have been made to this office by gentlemen from various parts of the United States, requesting an opinion on the validity of Carver's claim; to all of which, the answer has been that the claim is unfounded, and of no validity.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I am, &c. &c.

JOSIAH MEIGS.

Hon. Secretary of the Treasury.

Washington, *July* 28, 1821.

Sir: Agreeably to your request, I have the honor to inform you what I have understood from the Indians of the Sioux nation, as well as some facts within my own knowledge, as to what is commonly termed "Carver's grant."

The grant purports to be made by chiefs of the *Sioux* of the *Plain*, and one of the chiefs uses the sign of a serpent, and the other a turtle, purporting that their names are derived from those animals.

The land lies on the *east* side of the Mississippi. The Indians do not recognize or acknowledge the grant to be valid, and they (among others) assign the following reasons:

1st. The Sioux of the *plain* never owned a foot of land on the *east* side of the Mississippi. The Sioux nation is divided into two grand divisions, viz. the Sioux of the *lake*, or perhaps, more literally, Sioux of the *river*, and Sioux of the plain. The former subsists by hunting and fishing, and usually move from place to place by water, in canoes, during the summer season, and travel on the ice in the winter when not on their hunting excursions.

The latter subsist entirely by hunting, and have no canoes, nor do they know but little about the use of them. They reside in the large prairies *west* of the Mississippi, and follow the buffalo, upon which they entirely subsist; these are called *Sioux of the plain, and never owned land* on the *east side* of the *Mississippi*.

2d. The Indians say they have no knowledge of any such chiefs as those who have signed the grant to Carver, either amongst the Sioux of the river or among the Sioux of the plain. They say that if Captain Carver ever did obtain a deed or grant, it was signed by some foolish young men who were not chiefs, and who were not authorized to make the grant. Among the Sioux of the river there are no such names.

3d. They say that the Indians "never received any thing for the land," and they have no intention to part with it without a consideration.

From my knowledge of the Indians, I am induced to think that they would not make so considerable a grant, and have it go into full effect, without receiving a substantial consideration.

4th. They have, and ever have had, the possession of the land, and intend to keep it. I know that they are very particular in making every person who wishes to cut timber on that tract, *obtain their permission* to do so, and to obtain payment for it. In the month of May last, some Frenchmen brought a large raft of red cedar timber out of the Chippewa river, which timber was cut on the tract before mentioned. The Indians at one of the villages on the Mississippi, where the principal chief resided, compelled the Frenchmen to land the raft, and would not permit them to pass until they had *received pay for the timber;* and the Frenchmen were compelled to leave their raft with the Indians until they went to Prairie du Chien, and obtained the necessary articles, and made the payment required.

I am, sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

H. LEAVENWORTH.

To Josiah Meigs, Esq.,
Commissioner, &c. &c. &c.

17th Congress. **No. 363.** 1st Session.

OFFICIAL CONDUCT OF JOHN BRAHAN, LATE RECEIVER OF PUBLIC MONEY AT THE HUNTSVILLE LAND OFFICE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MAY 4, 1822.

Treasury Department, 2*d May*, 1822.

Sir: In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 18th ultimo, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to lay before the House "a statement showing the amount of public moneys for which John Brahan, late receiver of public money at the land office at Huntsville, was indebted to the Government at the time he was dismissed from office; the amount of public money in the hands of said receiver at the end of each quarter of every year, from the 1st of January, 1817, until the time of his dismission; all information obtained or received by the said Secretary as to the use the said receiver made of said money; copies of all letters and instructions from the department to the said receiver within the said period; all correspondence in the possession of the department, and other information obtained by the Secretary thereof in relation to any improper conduct, violation of official trust, or omission of duty on the part of the said receiver; together with a statement of the time at which the Secretary was first notified, or had reason to suspect such improper conduct, violation of official trust, or omission of duty; the measures adopted to recover said money, if any; the time when they were commenced; what agent was employed for that purpose; what he accomplished; the compensation allowed him for the same; if any mortgage or deed of trust on land had been given; what land; the price at which it was originally sold by the Government; whether, in the opinion of the said Secretary, the valuation of the land has depreciated, and, if so, whether, making all due allowance for such depreciation, the said debt is well secured to the Government; who are the said receiver's securities; in what sum bound, and what proceedings have been instituted against them;" I have the honor to submit the statements and correspondence required by the said resolution.

Before the year 1818 the amount of sales in the district of Madison county was inconsiderable: in the early part of that year, and of the year following, the sales were extensive, and the prices given for the land, when offered at public sale, were highly extravagant. Previous to that time nothing had occurred to excite suspicion; but, in the month of November of the same year, the want of punctuality in rendering the monthly accounts required of the receivers of public lands, excited some suspicion, and produced the letter of the 26th of November. The failure of that letter to produce the transmission of the accounts then in arrear, induced me to write the letter of the 24th of March, 1819. In the month of June the accounts were rendered, and disclosed the fact that the receiver had, during the preceding nine months, retained nearly $80,000 in his hands according to his own statement.

No charge of malversation in office was ever made to this department during the whole of this period against the official conduct of the receiver, nor was any suspicion entertained that he had misapplied the public money before the autumn of 1818; and the failure to render his accounts with punctuality was then the only ground of suspicion.

I have not the means of knowing whether the land transferred in trust for securing the debt has depreciated in value, or whether the debt is well secured, but the information which has been received has led to the belief that it is.

From the letter of the First Comptroller of the Treasury, it appears that there is no evidence that bond and security was ever given by the said receiver, and that, consequently, no suit or action at law has been instituted against such securities.

I remain, with respect, your most obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

P. P. BARBOUR,
Speaker of the Ho. of Rep's.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Comptroller's Office, 3d May, 1822.

SIR: I received your note of the 1st instant, in which you request to be informed who are the sureties of John Brahan, late receiver at Huntsville, and whether any suit has been brought against them.

In reply, I have the honor to state that, on carefully examining the files of this office, no bond of John Brahan's can be found; and, from a communication received from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, of yesterday's date, (a copy of which is enclosed,) it does not appear that Mr. Brahan ever gave a bond as receiver.

No suit was instituted against him in consequence of his having executed a deed of trust, conveying all his property to the United States, and having assigned to them a number of notes of hand amounting to $46,002 12 cents.

With considerations of high respect,
I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,
JOS. ANDERSON, *Compt'er.*

Hon. WM. H. CRAWFORD.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
May 2d, 1822.

SIR: I answer your note of this day, that John Brahan's commission was sent to him from the Treasury Department April 10, 1809, with the form of a bond for $10,000, which he was requested to execute with one or more sureties: on the 12th of May. 1809, he acknowledged the receipt of the commission, and promised to send the bond. No bond can be found in this office.

Very respectfully, &c.
JOSIAH MEIGS.

The COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Register's Office, May 1st, 1822.

I hereby certify that Obadiah Jones received a warrant dated the 8th of April, 1820, for one hundred and twenty-six dollars and fifty cents, being the amount allowed to him for his services and expenses for fourteen days riding, &c., in securing a debt due to the United States from John Brahan, receiver of public moneys in Alabama, including the drawing, recording, and copying a deed of trust.

JOSEPH NOURSE, *Register.*

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
November 26th, 1818.

SIR: No return has been received from you since that dated on the 30th of June. The pressure of business arising from the late sales in your district, and to which you some time since attributed the delay in preparing and rendering your returns, it is presumed exists no longer; you will therefore transmit them forthwith.

The construction which I shall give to the act fixing the compensation of receivers and registers of the different land offices, will enable them to pay clerk hire to a reasonable amount, in proportion to the service rendered, where the commission of one per cent. shall exceed the maximum of the compensation fixed by law.

It is however intended to keep the expenditure of clerk hire under the control of the Treasury, in order to prevent extravagance. I am, &c.
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

JOHN BRAHAN, Esq.
Receiver of Public Moneys at Huntsville, Alab. T.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
January 8th, 1819.

SIR: In the return of the Planters and Merchants' Bank of Huntsville, I perceive a credit given to the Treasurer of the United States for a "special deposite" of $16,000, made by you on the 10th ultimo; you will be pleased to state what this deposite consisted of. If it consists of moneys which you are authorized to receive, I wish to know why it has been made special; if not, I wish to be informed of the circumstances that have induced you to receive moneys that the bank will not credit as cash. I am, &c.
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

JOHN BRAHAN, Esq.
Receiver P. M. Huntsville, Alab. T.

RECEIVER'S OFFICE AT HUNTSVILLE, A. T.
February 8th, 1819.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th ultimo, in which you request me to explain the reason why a deposite of $16,000 to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States, made by me in the Planters and Merchants' Bank of Huntsville, was a special one. It appears by a resolution of the board of directors of the Planters and Merchants' Bank of Huntsville, that was made perhaps the early part of December, that the notes of that bank and the Bank of the United States were the only notes that would be received on general deposite, and the notes of all other banks would be received on special deposite. The deposite as above named was made of notes such as I was authorized to receive of different respectable banks who paid specie for their notes, to wit: the notes on the banks of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, the State Bank of Tennessee, and the Nashville Bank, &c., &c., and, as soon as I found that this resolution would be adhered to in the deposites made of the moneys belonging to the United States, I informed you of it in my letter of the 18th of December last. This letter of mine, I presume, you had not received on the 8th of January, the date of yours. Please to inform me what I must do in the business—whether to continue to make my deposites in this way or not. The special deposite stands nearly as other deposites, and I presume can make but little difference. However, it was a measure I did not approve of, which I informed the president and directors of, and I took the earliest opportunity of informing you of it. I am, with respect, your obedient servant,
JOHN BRAHAN,
Receiver of Public Moneys.

Hon. WM. H. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of the Treasury.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
24th March, 1819.

SIR: Your letter of the 15th ultimo, enclosing the return for the month of September last, has been received.

It appears from that return that the receipts in Mississippi stock during that month amounted to $377,663 73½, which has been transmitted to the General Land Office contemporaneously with the return.

Having, on the 8th day of December last, instructed the Commissioner of the General Land Office to inform the receivers and registers that a reasonable allowance would be made for clerk hire where the salary and commissions should exceed three thousand dollars, I have felt some surprise at the delay which has occured in the transmission of your accounts. You are now six months in arrear, and, judging of the future by the past, there is no just reason to expect your accounts will be rendered more punctually during the ensuing than they have been the past year. This state of things, there can be no hesitation in saying, will not be tolerated. If the monthly accounts cannot be forwarded regularly, in the course of each succeeding month, by you, there will be no difficulty in having it done by some other person.

It is extremely desirable that the conduct of the officers of the Government, especially those who have charge of the public money, should not only be correct, but that there should be no possible cause of suspecting them to be incorrect. If there should exist any peculiarity in the situation of an officer, which is calculated to excite suspicion, it is more imperiously his interest and duty to exert more than ordinary diligence in the discharge of his official duties. The office of receiver of public moneys in a land district, is one which presents strong and continued temptations to the misapplication of the public money which is received. If the officer should be, at the same time, a director of a bank established at the seat of the office, the facility with which public money, applied to individual and speculative purposes, may be temporarily replaced in case of emergency, the temptation to abuses of this nature is greatly enhanced; but, if the payments to the receiver may be made in a medium which can be purchased greatly below the rate at which it is receivable, the temptation to the substitution of that depreciated medium for the money which may have been received, will be still more enhanced. I perceive in your return for September, that more than $53,000 in money remained in your hands at the end of that month. Upon referring to the receipts which you have forward-

ed, it appears that $44,036 were deposited by you in the month of October, and that large sums have been deposited since that time. These circumstances are mentioned with a view to impress you with a due sense of the delicacy of your situation, and to show the necessity of the most extreme circumspection in the discharge of your official duties. It is hardly possible for any situation to be more so than yours, and nothing short of the most rigid, and, permit me to add, the most prompt execution of them, will be sufficient to guard you against suspicion. It is indispensable that the stock received each month should be transmitted in the course of the succeeding month: let the whole which is now in hand be immediately sent to the land office, and suffer no accumulation of it hereafter in your hands.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

JOHN BRAHAN, Esq.
Receiver of P. M. Huntsville, Alab.

RECEIVER'S OFFICE, HUNTSVILLE, A. T.,
June 28, 1819.

SIR: I have the mortification to inform you that there is a considerable deficiency in my cash account, the cause I can only account for in part. The business being large, and the time to sell and receive being only two weeks at each sale, I was always fearful that, in the hurried state of things, I should sustain considerable loss. I am now convinced of the fact, and beg leave to inform you that I am now closely employed in getting the books of the office up, and, as soon as that can be done, and I can procure and deposite the balance due to Government, it will then be my wish to retire from an office of so much risk and responsibility as the one I hold. This circumstance has given me more concern than any occurrence of my life, and the deficiency shall be made up as quick as possible at any sacrifice. I think by the last of September I can make all square; at all events, will do all in my power by that time. I have been in public service upwards of twenty years, and this is the first time in my life that my accounts have ever exhibited any loss of public money. I must therefore beg a little indulgence to enable me to arrange the business, as it is my determination that the Government shall not lose any thing by me, even if it takes all I have to make good the loss. Property of all sorts is very low at this time, and I am well aware that I must make a great sacrifice to raise the money, but I shall not hesitate to do it.

I have the honor to be, &c.
JOHN BRAHAN, *R. P. M.*

The Hon. WM. H. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of the Treasury.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
12*th August*, 1819.

SIR: Your letter of the 28th of June last, but post-marked the 8th ultimo, has been received.

The information which it contains has created no surprise. The withholding of your account, and the retention of nearly $80,000 in your hands, from month to month, could leave no room to doubt of the misapplication of the public money to that amount.

It is now important to secure, with as little delay as possible to the Government, the re-payment of the sum which has been applied to your private use. For this purpose I have requested a gentleman of your acquaintance to call upon you to receive such security as shall be in your power to give. Considering the manner in which this demand has been created, it is expected you will seize with avidity the earliest opportunity of repairing the injury which the Government has suffered by your acts. I am, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

JOHN BRAHAN, Esq.
Receiver of P. M. Huntsville, Alab.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
12*th August*, 1819.

SIR: The failure of the receiver of public moneys at Huntsville to render his accounts with punctuality, and the state of such as were rendered, excited well-founded suspicions that he had applied a large amount of the public moneys to his private use. Recently his accounts have been rendered as late as the month of April last, and show a balance retained in his hands of nearly $80,000.

A few days past a letter was received from Mr. Brahan, bearing date the 28th of June last, but post-marked the 8th ultimo, in which he acknowledges a considerable deficiency in his cash account, and ascribes it in part to the extensive sales which had been made, and the short time allowed for the public sales. He has not stated the amount of the deficiency, but, from the amount which he has retained in his hands for the last six months, as appears by his accounts when rendered, I am persuaded it is not much short of $80,000.

It is perfectly idle in Mr. Brahan to attempt to conceal the cause of the deficiency: it is perfectly known here, and still better understood by him. It is all important to the Government that this sum should be immediately secured if he has property sufficient to do it. I have therefore to request that you will, immediately after the receipt of this letter, proceed to Huntsville, and require of Mr. Brahan to secure to the United States the amount of the deficit. If deeds of trust, which authorize the trustee to sell the property without any judicial procedure, are recognized by the laws of the Territory, they will be preferable to mortgages, which require time and involve expense. It is presumed that Mr. Brahan will not hesitate to execute any instrument or deed which you shall deem necessary to secure the debt to the United States. Enclosed I send you a certified copy of his last return, which will enable you to ascertain the balance due by him: to this balance you will add the amount of moneys received since, which can be ascertained by reference to the books of the register; from that sum deduct the sums which he has since paid—the difference will be the sum due according to his own statement. You will however avoid any expression in the writings which you may have executed, that will preclude the Government from making such further demands upon him as shall be found to be due upon the settlement of his accounts.

A reasonable compensation will be made for the services which you may render, which shall be remitted in a draft upon the Huntsville Bank as soon as your account shall be received.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

OBADIAH JONES, Esq.
Limestone county, Alabama.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, 18*th July*, 1820.

SIR: I have just received a letter from Mr. Brahan, your predecessor in office, in which, after giving a detailed statement of his means to discharge the debt due by him to the United States, he asks for some indulgence as it regards the payment of a portion of the first instalment.

If, therefore, the trustees, of which you are one, shall be of opinion that Mr. Brahan is making every proper exertion to meet his engagements with the public, they are at liberty to comply with his request.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

OBADIAH JONES, Esq.
Receiver of Public Moneys, Huntsville.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, 12*th April*, 1821.

SIR: In answer to your several communications relative to the debt of Mr. Brahan, I beg leave to observe that this department is not fitted for the management of mercantile transactions, and it is with extreme reluctance that it engages in any transaction of this nature.

If the purchases of cotton, proposed by Mr. Brahan, were made in the early part of the season, there is some grounds to apprehend loss upon the investments.

I have no objection to your lending your name to him so as to place the proceeds of the cotton he may ship to New York under your control as one of the trustees for the United States. So far there will be no compromitment of the Treasury. If he has been permitted by you to invest in cotton any part of the proceeds of the bonds, notes, and debts, which were assigned to you in trust, it will be highly expedient that you should preserve over the investment such a control as will secure the payment of the proceeds to the Treasurer of the United States. From the conduct of Mr. Brahan in this affair, and especially from the confidence which his intimate acquaintances repose in him, I have no doubt of the fairness of any transaction in which he may have engaged upon this subject. I rely, with the most unlimited confidence, in your attention and judgment, and shall be satisfied with any thing which you shall do with the concurrence of a majority of the trustees, keeping in view always that nothing is to be received which is not convertible into specie at the will of the United States. This reservation is not to be understood to restrain the exercise of your discretion in relation to investments in cotton, at the risk of Mr. Brahan, which is to be shipped to New York subject to your order.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

OBADIAH JONES, Esq.
Receiver of P. M. Huntsville, Alab.

Account of lands purchased by John Brahan, (late) receiver of public moneys at Huntsville, from the 1st day of January, 1817, to the 10th of April, 1819.

		Tract purchased.				Quantity.	Rate per acre.	Am't of purchase money.	Am't paid.	
1817. Nov. 24	John Brahan	SW. ¼ -	23	4	1 E.	159 40	$2 00	$318 80	$79 70	
1818. Feb. 2		Frac. Section	19	4	1 W.	611 61	27 00	16,513 47	4,128 37	
		Frac. Sections	20 & 29	4	1 W.	613 91	20 00	12,278 20	3,069 35	
		NE. ¼ -	31	4	1	160 52	26 00	4,173 52	1,043 38	
		SW. ¼ -	31	4	1	160 52	27 00	4,334 04	1,083 51	
		SE. ¼ -	31	4	1	160 52	29 00	4,655 08	1,163 77	
		NW. ¼ -	31	4	1	160 52	27 50	4,414 30	1,103 57½	
		SE. ¼ -	32	4	1	162 39	19 00	3,085 41	771 35	
		NW. ¼ -	32	4	1	162 39	27 75	4,506 32	1,126 58	
		SW. ¼ -	22	5	1	158 20	6 50	1,028 30	257 07½	
		NW. ¼ -	22	5	1	158 20	12 00	1,898 40	474 60	
		Frac. Sections	26 27 & 34	5	1	336 41	7 00	2,354 87	588 72	
		SE. ¼ -	35	4	2	161 24	6 70	1,080 31	245 89	
		SW. ¼ -	35	4	2	161 24	8 10	1,306 04	326 51	
		NE. ¼ -	36	4	2	159 75	22 00	3,514 50	878 62½	
		SE. ¼ -	36	4	2	159 75	7 00	1,118 25	279 56¼	
4		NW. ¼ -	18	5	2	157 70	20 00	3,154 00	788 50	
		Frac. Section	28	5	2	595 31	10 00	5,953 10	1,488 27½	
		SE. ¼ -	29	5	2	149 75	11 25	1,684 69	421 17	
		SW. ¼ -	29	5	2	149 75	5 50	823 63	205 91	
		Frac. Sections	3 2 & 5	5-6	2-2	552 80	7 50	4,146 00	1,036 50	
5		E. ½ of NE. ¼	2	5	2	79 88	17 25	1,377 93	344 28	
		W. ½ of NE. ¼	2	5	2	79 88	12 50	998 50	249 62½	
5		E. ½ of NW. ¼	30	5	2 W.	78 54	2 00	157 08	39 27	
6		SW. ¼ -	4	4	3	159 02	21 00	3,339 42	834 85½	
		SE. ¼ -	8	4	3	158 89	6 00	953 34	238 33½	
		NE. ¼ -	9	4	3	159 77	28 10	4,489 54	1,122 38½	
		SE. ¼ -	9	4	3	159 77	29 20	4,665 28	1,166 32	
		SW. ¼ -	9	4	3	159 77	30 62	4,892 15	1,223 04	
		NW. ¼ -	9	4	3	159 77	27 15	4,357 75	1,084 44	
		SW. ¼ -	10	4	3	160 30	16 70	2,677 01	669 25	
7		SW. ¼ -	22	4	3	160 50	20 50	3,290 25	822 56	
		SW. ¼ -	8	5	3	162 11	5 75	934 14	233 03½	
		NW. ¼ -	8	5	3	162 11	15 00	8,431 65	1,215 82	Assigned to Thomas Bibb, on receipt for the 2d instalment.
		NE. ¼ -	13	5	3	180 00	12 00	2,160 00	540 00	
9		SE. ¼ -	6	3	4	161 25	2 13	343 46	85 86½	
		NE. ¼ -	7	3	4	159 75	2 30	367 42	91 85½	
		NE. ¼ -	9	3	4	161 22	11 00	1,173 42	443 35½	
		SE. ¼ -	9	3	4	161 22	16 05	2,587 58	646 89½	
		SW. ¼ -	9	3	4	161 22	11 00	1,773 42	443 35½	
		NW. ¼ -	9	3	4	161 22	11 50	3,466 23	866 56	
		NW. ¼ -	15	3	4	159 75	2 10	335 47	83 87	
		NE. ¼ -	34	3	4	158 64	13 05	2,070 25	517 56	
10		NE. ¼ -	20	4	4	158 50	5 00	792 50	198 12½	
11		SW. ¼ -	34	3	4	158 64	6 00	951 84	237 96	
		NW. ¼ -	10	4	5	160 02	9 05	1,448 18	362 04½	
March 5		SE. ¼ -	18	2	9	164 06	2 00	328 12	82 03	
		SW. ¼ -	28	2	9	160 78	3 00	482 34	120 58½	
		NW. ¼ -	28	2	9	160 78	2 10	337 64	84 41	
		SW. ¼ -	35	2	9	150 44	13 10	1,970 76	492 69	
		Frac. Section	2	3	9	450 00	5 25	2,362 50	590 62½	
6		NW. ¼ -	22	1	10	159 42	2 00	318 84	79 71	
		NE. ¼ -	6	2	10	160 00	2 00	320 00	80 00	
		SE. ¼ -	22	2	10	160 40	3 00	481 20	120 30	
		SW. ¼ -	22	2	10	160 40	2 00	320 80	80 20	
		NW. ¼ -	22	2	10	160 40	2 00	320 80	80 20	
		SW. ¼ -	23	2	10	159 78	2 00	319 56	79 89	
		NW. ¼ -	23	2	10	159 78	6 00	958 68	239 67	
		Frac. Section	35	2	10	376 93	4 14	1,560 49	390 12	
9		SW. ¼ -	3	3	11	160 80	3 00	482 64	120 66	
		NW. ¼ -	3	3	11	160 88	4 05	651 56	162 89	
9		NE. ¼ -	4	3	11	161 00	4 50	724 50	181 12½	
		SE. ¼ -	4	3	11	161 00	2 17	349 37	87 34	
		SW. ¼ -	4	3	11	161 00	5 00	805 00	201 25	
		NW. ¼ -	4	3	11	161 00	7 00	1,127 00	281 75	
		NE. ¼ -	5	3	11	160 90	6 01	967 00	241 75	
		SE. ¼ -	5	3	11	160 90	22 50	3,620 25	905 06	
		E. ½ of SW. ¼	5	3	11	80 45	16 01	1,288 00	322 00	
		W. ½ of SW. ¼	5	3	11	80 45	2 40	193 08	48 27	
		NW. ¼ -	5	3	11	160 90	3 50	563 15	140 79	
		NE. ¼ -	6	3	11	160 90	7 50	1,206 75	301 69	
		SE. ¼ -	6	3	11	160 90	2 00	321 80	80 45	
		SW. ¼ -	6	3	11	160 90	2 15	345 94	86 48½	
		NW. ¼ -	6	3	11	160 90	10 01	1,610 61	402 65	
		SE. ¼ -	9	3	11	160 86	2 00	321 72	80 43	
		SW. ¼ -	9	3	11	160 86	4 12½	663 54	165 88½	
		NW. ¼ -	9	3	11	960 86	3 01	484 19	121 05	
		SE. ¼ -	19	3	11	162 15	10 35	1,678 25	419 56	
10		SE. ¼ -	35	2	12	156 93	2 00	313 86	78 46½	
11		Section -	8	3	12	553 30	4 60	2,545 18	636 29½	
		SW. ¼ -	9	3	12	159 71	10 76	1,718 48	429 62	
		NW. ¼ -	9	3	12	159 71	7 02	1,121 16	280 29	
12		SE. ¼ -	13	2	13	154 34	3 95	609 64	152 41	
		NE. ¼ -	24	2	13	153 52	5 00	767 60	191 90	

ACCOUNT OF LANDS PURCHASED—Continued.

		Tract purchased.				Quantity.	Rate per acre.	Am't of purchase money.	Am't paid.
	John Brahan	SE. ¼ -	24	2	13 W	153 52	$5 10	$782 95	$195 74
		SW. ¼ -	24	2	13	153 52	2 75	422 18	105 54½
Mar. 30		SW. ¼ -	34	2	9	150 01	2 00	300 02	75 00½
		SW. ¼ -	12	2	9	160 95	2 00	321 90	80 47½
		NW. ¼ -	24	2	10	160 00	2 00	320 00	80 00
		NW. ¼ -	27	2	10	160 14	2 00	320 28	80 07
		NE. ¼ -	14	2	9	159 05	2 00	318 10	79 52½
		NE. ¼ -	27	2	10	160 14	2 00	320 28	80 07
		SW. ¼ -	1	2	9	160 48	2 00	320 96	80 24
		Frac. Sections	3 & 4	3	9	258 28	2 00	516 56	129 14
		NW. ¼ -	13	2	9	160 30	2 00	320 60	80 15
July 6		NW. ¼ -	35	5	1	159 94	2 00	319 88	79 97
		Frac. Section	4	6	1	522 35	2 00	1,044 70	261 17½
		Do -	5	6	1	446 58	3 80	1,697 00	424 25
		SW. ¼ -	18	7	1	160 05	3 50	560 18	140 04½
7		NW. ¼ -	36	5	2	160 08	2 70	432 22	108 05½
		NE. ¼ -	1	6	2	158 68	2 00	317 56	79 34
8		SW. ¼ -	24	6	2	160 22	2 10	336 46	84 11½
9		NW. ¼ -	10	6	3	159 22	3 10	493 58	123 39½
		NE. ¼ -	9	6	3	158 48	2 20	348 66	87 16½
11		NE. ¼ -	20	5	4	159 76	8 00	1,278 08	319 52
		SE. ¼ -	20	5	4	159 76	8 75	1,397 90	349 47½
		SW. ¼ -	20	5	4	159 76	10 75	1,717 42	429 35½
		E. ½ of NW. ¼	20	5	4	79 88	10 25	818 77	204 69
		W. ½ of NW. ¼	20	5	4	79 88	13 60	1,086 36	271 59
		NE. ¼ -	30	5	4	160 44	2 00	320 88	80 22
		SE. ¼ -	31	5	4	159 96	2 50	399 90	99 97½
		NW. ¼ -	31	5	4	159 96	5 20	831 80	207 95
		SE. ¼ -	33	5	4	160 34	6 20	994 10	248 52½
		SW. ¼ -	33	5	4	160 34	6 00	962 04	240 51
		NE. ¼ -	4	6	4	160 48	10 13	1,625 66	406 41½
		SE. ¼ -	4	6	4	160 48	6 00	962 88	240 72
		NW. ¼ -	4	6	4	160 48	3 30	529 58	132 39½
18		SE. ¼ -	17	7	5	159 51	2 90	462 58	115 64½
Aug. 20		W. ½ of NE. ¼	33	3	1 E	80 43	2 00	160 86	40 21½
		NW. ¼ -	34	3	1	161 18	2 00	322 36	80 59
Sept. 7		NW. ¼ -	6	4	6 W	159 78	4 65	742 98	185 74½
8		NE. ¼ -	34	4	6	160 12	2 00	320 24	80 06
		NW. ¼ -	35	4	6	159 78	2 00	319 56	79 89
		SE. ¼ -	1	5	6	160 00	5 00	800 00	200 00
		NE. ¼ -	2	5	6	160 00	2 20	352 00	88 00
		E. ½ of SE. ¼	2	5	6	80 00	2 25	180 00	45 00
		W. ½ of NW. ¼	5	5	6	80 00	3 10	248 00	62 00
		NE. ¼ -	11	5	6	160 00	5 00	800 00	200 00
		NE. ¼ -	13	5	6	160 00	10 05	1,608 00	402 00
		SE. ¼ -	13	5	6	160 00	4 05	648 00	162 00
		SW. ¼ -	13	5	6	160 00	4 15	664 00	166 09
		NW. ¼ -	13	5	6	160 00	6 40	1,024 00	256 00
		SE. ¼ -	14	5	6	160 00	7 00	1,120 00	280 00
		SW. ¼ -	14	5	6	160 00	6 95	1,112 00	278 00
		SE. ¼ -	15	5	6	160 00	4 60	736 00	184 00
		NW. ¼ -	24	5	6	160 00	2 25	360 00	90 00
		NE. ¼ -	36	5	6	159 22	2 00	318 44	79 61
		NW. ¼ -	36	5	6	159 22	2 00	318 44	79 61
		NE. ¼ -	1	6	6	160 59	2 00	321 18	80 29½
9		NW. ¼ -	18	7	6	158 54	5 60	887 82	221 59½
		NE. ¼ -	21	7	6	159 84	8 10	1,494 70	323 67½
		SE. ¼ -	21	7	6	159 84	10 30	1,646 35	411 59
10		NE. ¼ -	5	4	7	160 00	16 50	2,640 00	660 00
		E. ½ of SE. ¼	5	4	7	80 00	23 50	1,880 00	470 00
		W. ½ of SE. ¼	5	4	7	80 00	16 10	1,288 00	322 00
		SW. ¼ -	25	4	7	160 00	5 05	808 00	202 00
		SE. ¼ -	36	4	7	158 70	16 50	2,618 55	654 34
		NE. ¼ -	1	5	7	159 62	15 25	2,434 20	608 55
		SE. ¼ -	1	5	7	159 62	11 60	1,851 59	462 90
		SW. ¼ -	1	5	7	159 62	10 00	1,596 20	399 05
		NW. ¼ -	1	5	7	159 62	30 20	4,820 52	1,205 13
11		NE. ¼ -	12	5	7	159 90	5 75	919 43	229 86
		NW. ¼ -	12	5	7	159 90	4 00	639 60	159 90
		SE. ¼ -	26	6	7	160 50	4 25	682 13	170 53
		SW. ¼ -	26	6	7	160 50	4 10	658 05	164 51
12		NE. ¼ -	26	7	7	160 10	3 70	592 37	148 49
		NW. ¼ -	26	7	7	160 10	2 75	440 27	110 07
		SE. ¼ -	19	3	8	160 58	11 00	1,766 38	441 59½
		SW. ¼ -	19	3	8	160 58	18 25	2,930 58	732 64½
		SE. ¼ -	30	3	8	160 35	8 50	1,362 97	340 74
		SW. ¼ -	30	3	8	160 35	5 25	841 84	210 46
		NW. ¼ -	30	3	8	160 35	20 50	3,287 18	821 79½
15		NW. ¼ -	12	5	8	159 50	8 20	1,307 90	326 97½
16		NE. ¼ -	24	3	9	159 96	6 00	959 76	239 94
		SE. ¼ -	24	3	9	159 96	12 00	1,919 52	479 88
		SW. ¼ -	24	3	9	159 96	5 30	847 78	211 94½
		SW. ¼ -	26	3	9	160 06	5 00	800 30	200 07½
		NW. ¼ -	26	3	9	160 06	5 10	816 30	204 07½
		SE. ¼ -	27	3	9	160 12	4 20	672 50	168 12½
		NW. ¼ -	35	3	9	159 94	3 60	575 78	143 94½
		SW. ¼ -	26	4	9	160 38	18 01	2,888 44	722 11
		SE. ¼ -	27	4	9	160 26	10 01	1,604 20	401 05

ACCOUNT OF LANDS PURCHASED—Continued.

		Tract purchased.				Quantity.	Rate per acre.	Am't of purchase money.	Am't paid.	
Sep. 16	John Brahan	SE. ¼ -	33	4	9 W	162 57	$5 90	$959 16	$239 79	
		SW. ¼ -	34	4	9	161 08	2 35	378 54	94 63½	
		E. ½ of NE. ¼	2	5	9	79 84	4 90	391 22	97 80½	
		W. ½ of NE. ¼	2	5	9	79 84	2 00	159 68	39 92	
17		SE. ¼ -	1	6	9	160 44	2 00	320 88	80 22	
		NE. ¼ -	12	6	9	159 42	3 00	478 26	119 56½	
22		SW. ¼ -	3	6	4	160 22	2 00	320 44	80 11	
28		SE. ¼ -	29	4	6	161 19	2 00	322 38	80 59½	
		SE. ¼ -	6	4	6	159 78	2 00	319 56	79 89	
		NW. ¼ -	27	4	6	160 23	2 00	320 46	80 11½	
		NE. ¼ -	35	5	6	159 22	2 00	318 44	79 61	
		SW. ¼ -	15	5	6	160 00	2 00	320 00	80 00	
		NW. ¼ -	7	5	6	160 50	2 00	321 00	80 25	
		NW. ¼ -	12	6	9	159 42	2 00	318 84	79 71	
		SW. ¼ -	6	5	6	160 25	2 00	320 50	80 12½	
		E. ½ of NW. ¼	2	5	6	80 00	2 00	160 00	40 00	
		NW. ¼ -	26	6	7	160 50	2 00	321 00	80 25	
		SE. ¼ -	13	5	7	160 02	2 00	320 04	80 01	
		NE. ¼ -	26	6	7	160 50	2 00	321 00	80 25	
		SW. ¼ -	23	7	7	159 06	2 00	318 12	79 53	
		SE. ¼ -	12	5	8	159 50	2 00	319 00	79 75	
		NW. ¼ -	25	6	8	160 34	2 00	320 68	80 17	
		NW. ¼ -	7	6	8	159 30	2 00	318 60	79 65	
		NW. ¼ -	28	3	9	160 32	2 00	320 64	80 16	
		SE. ¼ -	36	4	9	160 41	2 00	320 82	80 20½	
		NW. ¼ -	34	3	9	159 84	2 00	319 68	79 92	
		NE. ¼ -	15	3	9	160 04	2 00	320 08	80 02	
		NE. ¼ -	33	3	9	159 92	2 00	319 84	79 96	
		SW. ¼ -	1	6	9	160 44	2 00	320 88	80 22	
		NE. ¼ -	29	3	8	159 60	2 00	319 20	79 80	
		SE. ¼ -	29	3	8	159 60	2 00	319 20	79 80	
Oct. 3		SW. ¼ -	27	3	9	160 12	2 00	320 24	80 06	
12		Town Lot -	-	No.	11	50	-	235 00	58 75	
		Do -	-	"	21	50	-	405 00	101 25	
13		Do -	-	"	29	50	-	305 00	76 25	
		Do -	-	"	30	50	-	310 00	77 50	
		Do -	-	"	31	50	-	335 00	83 75	
		Do -	-	"	358	50	-	84 00	21 00	
		Do -	-	"	369	50	-	62 00	15 50	
Nov. 2		SE. ¼ -	25	3	10 W	158 81	11 09	1,904 14	476 03½	
		SW. ¼ -	26	3	10	160 26	8 02	1,285 28	321 32	
		NE. ¼ -	34	3	10	159 41	8 00	1,275 28	318 82	
3		NW. ¼ -	21	4	10	159 40	12 50	1,992 50	498 12½	
		SE. ¼ -	30	4	10	156 47	12 05	1,885 46	471 36½	
		SW. ¼ -	30	4	10	156 47	18 01	2,818 02	704 50½	
4		SE. ¼ -	6	5	10	158 86	3 01	478 16	119 54	
		NW. ¼ -	7	5	10	156 78	2 90	454 66	113 66¾	
5		SW. ¼ -	27	3	11	160 40	14 00	2,245 60	561 40	
		SE. ¼ -	1	5	11	159 92	14 01	2,240 48	560 12	
		SW. ¼ -	1	5	11	159 92	5 01	801 20	200 30	
		SW. ¼ -	8	5	11	160 57	3 20	513 82	128 45½	
		NE. ¼ -	12	5	11	160 64	2 61	419 27	104 82	
		SW. ¼ -	12	5	11	160 64	2 00	321 28	80 32	
		NW. ¼ -	12	5	11	160 64	3 95	634 52	158 63	
		NW. ¼ -	17	5	11	159 29	2 60	414 15	103 54	
		SW. ¼ -	24	5	11	160 22	2 00	320 44	80 11	
6		SE. ¼ -	4	6	11	160 59	3 10	497 82	124 45½	
		SE. ¼ -	8	6	11	160 05	2 00	320 10	80 02½	
		SW. ¼ -	19	6	11	158 52	8 10	1,284 01	321 00	
		NW. ¼ -	19	6	11	158 52	5 80	919 41	229 85	
		E. ½ of NE. ¼	20	6	11	79 30	13 99	1,109 40	277 35	
		W. ½ of NE. ¼	20	6	11	79 30	21 02	1,666 88	416 72	
		NW. ¼ -	20	6	11	158 61	13 05	2,069 86	517 46½	
		SW. ¼ -	29		11	159 05	16 10	2,560 70	640 17½	
		NW. ¼ -	29		11	159 05	21 05	3,348 00	837 00	
7		SE. ¼ -	9		11	160 46	5 75	922 64	46 00	Forfeited.
9		Frac. Section	11		12	574 48	3 20	1,838 34	459 58½	
		SW. ¼ -	12		12	159 51	4 01	639 63	159 91	
		NW. ¼ -	17	4	12	160 89	2 00	321 78	80 44½	
		SE. ¼ -	25	4	12	159 58	4 60	734 06	36 00	Forfeited.
10		SE. ¼ -	26	5	5	160 42	15 05	2,414 32	603 58	
11		SE. ¼ -	3	7	12	160 13	3 80	608 49	152 12	
		SW. ¼ -	3	7	12	160 13	3 20	512 41	128 10	
16		NE. ¼ -	4	6	11	160 59	2 00	321 18	80 29½	
		NE. ¼ -	9	7	10	160 74	2 00	321 48	16 00	Forfeited.
		NW. ¼ -	29	5	10	160 86	2 00	321 72	16 00	Forfeited.
		NE. ¼ -	19	5	10	156 62	2 00	313 24	16 00	Forfeited.
		SE. ¼ -	19	5	10	156 62	2 00	313 24	16 00	Forfeited.
		SW. ¼ -	23	6	10	159 75	2 00	319 50	79 87	
		NE. ¼ -	36	4	12	160 20	2 00	320 40	16 00	Forfeited.
		SW. ¼ -	3	6	11	159 83	2 00	319 66	79 91½	
		NW. ¼ -	25	6	12	160 60	2 00	321 20	16 00	Forfeited.
		SW. ¼ -	25	6	12	160 60	2 00	321 20	16 00	Forfeited.
		NW. ¼ -	36	6	12	160 35	2 00	320 70	16 00	Forfeited.
		NE. ¼ -	8	6	10	159 93	2 00	319 86	79 96½	
		SW. ¼ -	3	6	10	161 06	2 00	322 12	80 53	
		SW. ¼ -	10	7	10	160 28	2 00	320 56	16 00	Forfeited.
		NE. ¼ -	7	6	10	156 60	2 00	313 20	78 30	

ACCOUNT OF LANDS PURCHASED—Continued.

		Tract purchased.				Quantity.	Rate per acre.	Am't of purchase money.	Am't paid.	
Nov. 16	John Brahan	SW. ¼ -	15	7	10 W	160 17	$2 00	$320 34	$16 00	Forfeited.
		NW. ¼ -	18	6	10	155 10	2 00	310 20	77 65	
		W. ½ of SW. ¼	5	5	11	80 22	2 00	160 44	40 11	
17		E. ½ of SE. ¼	2	2	11	79 61	2 00	159 22	39 80½	
		SE. ¼ -	4	6	10	160 63	2 00	321 26	80 31½	
21		SE. ¼ -	3	6	11	159 83	2 00	319 66	16 00	Forfeited.
23		NE. ¼ -	36	5	5	160 42	5 55	890 33	45 00	Forfeited.
Dec. 9		SE. ¼ -	5	6	10	159 78	2 00	319 56	79 89	
11		NW. ¼ -	36	4	12	160 20	2 00	320 40	16 00	Forfeited.
1819.										
Feb. 12		SW. ¼ -	14	5	9	159 17	2 00	318 34	79 58½	
April 10		NE. ¼ -	1	5	2	159 94	2 00	319 88	79 97	
						44,647 96		318,579 71	78,901 43¾	

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *General Land Office, April* 23, 1832.

JOSIAH MEIGS, *Commissioner.*

Statement of balances due from John Brahan, late receiver of public moneys at Huntsville, to the United States, at the end of each quarter of every year, from the 1st *of January,* 1817, *to the time of his dismission from office, agreeably to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the* 18th *of April,* 1822.

1817.		1818.		1819.		1820.	
1st quarter -	$7,708 09	1st quarter -	$772 96	1st quarter -	$108,179 40	1st quarter -	$88,114 20
2d do -	5,923 74	2d do -	3,513 84	2d do -	88,356 51	Final balance due on 22d May, 1820	80,772 45
3d do -	7,520 67	3d do -	23,606 31	3d do -	83,551 90		
4th do -	14,448 72	4th do -	70,894 94	4th do -	86,484 70		

Date of the receipt of the several accounts.

1st quarter, 1817, received 29th May, 1817.
2d do date cannot be ascertained.
3d do received 12th February, 1818.
4th do do 12th February, 1818.
1st do 1818, do 22d November, 1819.
2d do do 30th January, 1820.
3d do do 6th June, 1820.
4th quarter, 1818, received 15th January, 1821.
1st do 1819, do 15th January, 1821.
2d do do 15th January, 1821.
3d do do 15th January, 1821.
4th do do 15th January, 1821.
1st do 1820, do 15th January, 1821.
Final account do 15th January, 1821.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *General Land Office,* 23*d April,* 1822.

JOSIAH MEIGS.

Copy of a conveyance of certain property to the United States by John Brahan.

This indenture, made this thirteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and nineteen, between John Brahan and Mary Brahan, his wife, of the first part, and Obadiah Jones, Clement C. Clay, John W. Walker, Le Roy Pope, and John Read, of the second, (the said parties of the first and second part being all citizens of the county of Madison, and State of Alabama,) and William H. Crawford, Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, and his successors in office, of the third part, witnesseth: That the said John Brahan and Mary his wife, in order to secure the payment of the debts hereinafter described, and in consideration of the sum of one dollar to them in hand paid by the said Obadiah Jones, Clement C. Clay, John W. Walker, Le Roy Pope, and John Read, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have granted, bargained, sold, aliened, enfeoffed, and confirmed, and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell, alien, enfeoff, and confirm, to the said Obadiah Jones, Clement C. Clay, John W. Walker, Le Roy Pope, and John Read, the following described tracts and parcels of land and lots lying and being in the county aforesaid, to wit: the northeast quarter of section number thirty-six, in township three, range one west of the basis meridian; the southeast quarter of section number twenty-five, in township three, and range one west; the northeast and northwest quarters of section number thirty-one, township three, and range one east of the basis meridian; the southeast and northwest quarters of section number thirty-two, in township three, range one east; the northwest quarter of section number two, in township four, and range one west of the basis meridian; and one hundred and forty acres, being part of the northeast quarter of section number two, township four, and range one west; together with the following described lots of ground, lying and being within the town of Huntsville, in said county, viz. the lot known in the plan of said town as number sixty; the lot known in the plan of said town as number fifty-three; and the house and lot adjoining the public square, bounded by Stephen Neale's lot on the western side, and Herbert Kyle and Dougherty's on the eastern; together with all buildings and appurtenances to said lands and lots in any way belonging: to have and to hold the aforesaid lands and lots, with the buildings, &c. to the said Obadiah Jones, Clement C. Clay, John W. Walker, Le Roy Pope, and John Read, to the only proper use of them, their heirs and assigns, forever. In trust, nevertheless, and upon the following conditions: whereas, the said John Brahan is indebted to the Treasury of the United States as receiver of public moneys, in the sum of eighty-one thousand nine hundred and sixty-three dollars and twenty cents, to secure which debt, in part, the following described notes have been assigned to the said Obadiah Jones, Clement C. Clay, John W. Walker, Le Roy Pope, and John Read, viz. one on James Clemens and Charles McClellan, due the twenty-second March, eighteen hundred and twenty-one, for four thousand dollars, given to said John Brahan; one on said James Clemens and Charles McClellan for four thousand dollars, given to said John Brahan, due on the twenty-second March, eighteen hundred and twenty-one; one on Robert Fearn and Co. for four thousand dollars, given to said John Brahan, due on the nineteenth of January, eighteen hundred and twenty-one; one other on Robert Fearn and Co., for four thousand dollars, given to said John Brahan, due on the nineteenth of January, eighteen hundred and twenty-one; one on Frederick W. James and Archibald B. Dandridge for two thousand two hundred and twenty-one dollars twenty-five cents, given to said John Brahan, due first of March, eighteen hundred and twen-

ty-one; one on Frederick W. Jones and Archibald B. Dandridge for four thousand dollars, given to said Brahan, due the first of March, eighteen hundred and twenty; one on Samuel Clack and others, given to said John Brahan, due fifteenth of January, eighteen hundred and twenty, for three thousand four hundred and fifty dollars; one on John Boardman, given to said John Brahan, for eleven hundred dollars, due twenty-fifth of December, eighteen hundred and twenty; one on John Boardman for eleven hundred dollars, given to said John Brahan, due twenty-fifth of December, eighteen hundred and twenty-one; one on John C. Ayres and others for five hundred and fifty dollars eighty-nine cents, given to said John Brahan, due first of January, eighteen hundred and twenty-one; one on Robert L. Walton for one thousand dollars, given to said John Brahan, due first January, eighteen hundred and twenty; three on John McKinley and Thomas Bibb, given to said John Brahan, for fifteen hundred dollars each, due on the first of June, eighteen hundred and twenty; another first of June, eighteen hundred and twenty-one; and another first of June, eighteen hundred and twenty-two; two on Brice M. Garner and Charles Boyles, for two thousand dollars each, given to said John Brahan, one due first of June, eighteen hundred and twenty-one; the other first of June, eighteen hundred and twenty-two; two on White and Read, for fourteen hundred and forty dollars each, given to said John Brahan, one due fifteenth of April, eighteen hundred and twenty-one; the other on the fifteenth of April, eighteen hundred and twenty-two; two on John P. McConnel and Robert H. McErwin, for eleven hundred dollars each, given to said John Brahan, one due third of September, eighteen hundred and nineteen; and the other third of December, eighteen hundred and nineteen; and a bond on Solomon Marshall for two thousand dollars, given to said John Brahan, due twelfth of May, eighteen hundred and twenty-one. Now, should the said John Brahan pay into the Treasury of the United States, or should there be a sufficient sum collected on the before described notes by the said trustees, together with such payment as may be made by said John Brahan, on or before the twenty-third day of July next, as to amount to the sum of forty thousand nine hundred and eighty-one dollars and sixty cents, and should said John Brahan pay into the Treasury of the United States, or should there be collected by the said trustees on said notes, together with the payments to be made by said John Brahan on or before the twenty-third day of April, eighteen hundred and twenty-one, the further sum of forty thousand nine hundred and eighty-one dollars and sixty cents, then all estate hereby conveyed to said Obadiah Jones, Clement C. Clay, John W. Walker, Le Roy Pope, and John Read, shall altogether cease, determine, and be void, and said trustees shall immediately re-convey to said John Brahan by their indenture under seal, the whole of said above described lots and lands, and shall re-assign to said John Brahan such of said notes as may not have been collected; but if, on the said twenty-third day of July next, the said sum of forty thousand nine hundred and eighty-one dollars and sixty cents shall not be fully paid and discharged, the said trustees shall, so soon thereafter as the said William H. Crawford, Secretary as aforesaid, or his successors in office, shall require, proceed to sell for ready money, to the highest bidder, so much of the before described lands and lots as will satisfy and discharge the said sum of forty thousand nine hundred and eighty-one dollars and sixty cents, together with the costs of such partial execution of this trust; and out of the proceeds of such sale said trustees shall first pay and satisfy the said last mentioned sum of money, together with the costs, and the remainder, if any there be, shall be paid over to said trustees in part discharge of the said further sum of forty thousand nine hundred and eighty-one dollars and sixty cents intended to be secured by this trust. And should the said further sum of forty thousand nine hundred and eighty-one dollars and sixty cents not be paid and fully discharged on the twenty-third day of April, eighteen hundred and twenty-one, neither by collections on said notes or otherwise, the said trustees shall, so soon thereafter as they may be required by said William H. Crawford, or his successors, proceed to sell said lands and lots, or such part thereof as may not have been previously sold, as will be sufficient to raise said last mentioned sum of money, and, out of the proceeds thereof, first pay so much as may be due to the Treasury of the United States as aforesaid, and the costs of executing this trust, and the remainder, if any, shall pay over to said John Brahan, or his order, on demand; but it is understood between the whole of said parties that, previous to any sale to be made as aforesaid, the said sale shall be advertised in some newspaper published in Huntsville three weeks before the time of such sale, and all such sales shall be made in the town of Huntsville, or on the premises. And should the whole of said lands and lots not be sold for the purposes aforesaid, then said trustees agree and bind themselves to re-convey the remainder of said lands and lots which may remain unsold: and it is moreover understood that, in case of the death, removal, or absence from the State, of either of said trustees, that the survivors, or those remaining or being in the State, shall have and exercise all and every power, or powers, herein delegated to the trustees aforesaid; and that nothing herein contained shall be deemed or construed to release, or in any manner acquit, the said John Brahan from any claim for any other sum or sums of money which may appear to be due from him to the Government of the United States in his said capacity, on a final settlement of his accounts.

In testimony whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals at Huntsville, on the day and year first above written.

JOHN BRAHAN. [L. S.]
MARY BRAHAN. [L. S.]
OBADIAH JONES. [L. S.]
C. C. CLAY. [L. S.]
J. W. WALKER. [L. S.]
LE ROY POPE. [L. S.]
JOHN READ. [L. S.]

Signed, sealed, and delivered in the presence of—

STATE OF ALABAMA, *Madison county, sct:*

This day, personally appeared before me at said county, the above John Brahan, Obadiah Jones, Clement C. Clay, John W. Walker, Le Roy Pope, and John Read, exhibited this deed, and acknowledged the same to have been by them respectively sealed and delivered at the day of its date. And on said day, at said county, I exhibited and explained this deed to said Mary Brahan, separate and apart from her said husband, and on such her separate examination, she acknowledged that she signed, sealed, and delivered this as her deed, freely, without any fear, threats, or compulsion of her said husband.

Given under the hand and seal of me, David Moore, one of the justices of the county court and of the quorum of said county, at said county, the thirtieth day of October, eighteen hundred and nineteen.

DAVID MOORE, *J. Q.* [L. S.]

The foregoing is a true copy of the record as in my office remaining.

Given under my hand, this sixth of November, eighteen hundred and nineteen.

H. MINOR, *Clerk C. C.*

17th CONGRESS. **No. 364.** 1st SESSION.

LEAD MINES IN MISSOURI.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE MAY 7, 1822.

To the Senate of the United States:

In compliance with the resolution of the Senate of the 25th of April, requesting certain information respecting the lead mine lands of the United States, I herewith transmit a report from the Secretary of War.

JAMES MONROE.

WASHINGTON, *May 7th*, 1822.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *May 3d*, 1822.

SIR: In reply to the call of the Senate of the 25th of last month, relative to the lead mines of Missouri, and referred to this department, I have the honor to transmit, herewith, sundry papers (marked A, B, and C,) received from the office of ordnance, which embrace all the information which this department is, at this time,

enabled to give upon a subject which was referred to it on the 29th November last from the Department of the Treasury.

The papers received from that department were transferred to that of the ordnance, with instructions to report thereon; it being intended, when the business of the department will admit, to investigate the subject; and, after maturing the necessary arrangements, to invite, by public advertisement, under the leading features of the report, settlers and workmen upon the mine lands of the United States; under a conviction that, with suitable aid and strict attention, they may be made a productive source of revenue.

In the interim, the parties applying for leases have been furnished with a sufficient outline for their direction in locating the grounds, and effecting a completion of their leases, subject to the final decision of the Executive.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your most obedient servant,
J. C. CALHOUN.

To the PRESIDENT OF THE U. STATES.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT, *May 3d*, 1822.

SIR: In obedience to your directions, I have the honor to submit, herewith, copies of all the documents on record in this office which have relation to the lead mine lands of the United States, and furnishing all the information called for by the Senate on the 25th of April, which this department is at this time enabled to give upon the subject.

The papers referred to are as follows:

Those marked A, containing the letters addressed from this office to the persons applying for leases of a portion of the above lands; with instructions to sundry officers, issued by the Department of War and this office, for aiding in locating and surveying the lands embraced in said leases.

That marked B, being a copy of the report made by this office to the Department of War, furnishing all the information received respecting those mine lands; with the proposal of a plan for rendering them more productive to the public revenue.

The paper marked C, containing a copy of a conditional lease proposed by this department in the cases of Carneal and Johnson, and others, to be finally acted upon hereafter.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully,
Your most obedient servant,
G. BOMFORD,
Lieut. Colonel on ordnance duty.

Hon. J. C. CALHOUN,
Department of War.

A.

Copies of letters from the Ordnance Department in relation to the lead mine lands of the United States.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT, *January 4th*, 1822.

SIR: I have it in direction from the honorable the Secretary of War, to state to you that he has had under consideration the proposition of Messrs. Carneal and Johnson for leasing from the United States such a quantity of land in the State of Illinois as the Government may be disposed to grant, for the purpose, on their part, of discovering and working therein the lead ore which it may be supposed to contain, on such conditions as may be mutually agreed upon.

That the Secretary is disposed to encourage the proposal, so far as to allow the said Carneal and Johnson, and they are hereby authorized, for that purpose, to proceed in the selection of such a tract of land, to the amount of one hundred and sixty acres, in the said State of Illinois, as they may judge will promote their views.

That, upon such selection, they shall make a report of the same to the Department of War, designating the precise situation, boundaries, nature of the soil, and other particulars necessary to an accurate knowledge thereof.

That, upon receiving such report and approval thereof, the proposition will be taken into immediate consideration.

I am also directed to inform you, that, in the want of accurate information in regard to the present situation of the mine lands of the United States generally, and in order, also, to take further time to examine into that subject, and the laws and regulations which have been passed in relation thereto, the Government does not deem it expedient to do any thing further in the premises, than the permission now given to Messrs. Carneal and Johnson.

In order, however, to enable them to form a judgment of the terms and conditions upon which leases will in future be granted, a form of one is herewith furnished, and according to which, a lease will be granted to Messrs. Carneal and Johnson in the event of their proposal being finally accepted, of which there can be little or no doubt from the understanding which has already taken place on the subject.

It may be proper to add, that the terms of three years introduced into the form of lease now furnished, is grounded upon the law of 3d March, 1807, which limits the duration of leases to be granted by the President of the United States to that period; but in order to balance any disadvantage which might be expected to result therefrom to the lessees, the privilege and preference to be allowed them for a renewal of their grants, will be inserted in their future leases, and which cannot fail to serve also as an encouragement for the faithful performance of their engagements.

Very respectfully, I am, sir, &c.,
GEORGE BOMFORD,
Lieut. Colonel on ordnance duty.

The Hon. R. M. JOHNSON,
Senate United States.

Note.—A similar letter was addressed to Mr. Johnson on the part of Messrs. Suggett and Payne.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT, *February 1st*, 1822.

SIR: In the letter which I addressed to you on the 4th of last month by order of the Secretary of War, and which communicated the outlines of a lease you might expect to be given to Messrs. Carneal and Johnson, and to Messrs. Suggett and Payne, as soon as the ground was selected, I stated they would be at liberty to locate any point within the State of Illinois. It is since concluded not to limit the leases to that boundary, but to extend their privilege of selection to any point between the River Mississippi and Lake Michigan, according to the reservations aud treaties of the United States, whether the same be within the State of Illinois or the Territory of Michigan; and when the selection shall be made, the parties are authorized to proceed to work the lead mines which may be discovered, in conformity with the former stipulations.

Very respectfully, &c.,
GEORGE BOMFORD,
Lieut. Colonel on ordnance duty.

Hon. R. M. JOHNSON,
Senate United States.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT, *13th Feb'ry*, 1822.

SIR: I have it in direction from the honorable the Secretary of War, to state to you that measures are in contemplation requiring the co-operation of this department, and that you have been appointed, in order to render such assistance as in the service (herein more fully detailed) shall be deemed expedient and necessary.

The Government, through the Department of War, in the beginning of last month, granted conditional leases of lands in the State of Illinois, (supposed to contain lead ore,) to Messrs. Carneal and Johnson, and Messrs. Suggett and Payne, amounting to one hundred and sixty acres to each of the two parties. A copy of those conditional leases is herewith furnished to you as explaining the views of Government in regard to such grants in general. It has since, however, been determined not to confine the locations alluded to to the State of Illinois, but to extend the privilege to the lands ceded in 1816 by the Chippeways, Ottawas, and Pottawatamies, as is more fully described in the extracts from the treaty enclosed to you herewith, and by which you will be governed on that head. You will, immediately upon the receipt of this order, prepare yourself to meet the lessees already named, on or about the first of March, at the "Great Crossings" of Kentucky, and proceed with them in exploring the country where the locations are likely to be made; and when the sites shall be determined on by the lessees, and decisive measures taken to work the same, that you make, or cause to be made, accurate surveys thereof, designating not only the precise situation of the grounds, but of so much of the lands and country immediately adjoining, and more or less distant, as shall convey to Government accurate knowledge of the whole; furnishing likewise such plats or maps as may serve for record in the Department of War.

You will cause due care to be taken to avoid the interfering, by the present parties, with any locations or works on lead mine lands which may appear already established under proper authority; but as the old leases from the United States (within the knowledge of the Department of War,) have expired, few or none, it is believed, can arise. A report, however, must be rendered of every discovery that shall be made by you, or the parties with whom you shall be acting, of all lead mines, and of leases,

if any thereof, in order that Government may be enabled to grant proper conveyances in future, and avoid interfering with old rights or claims which may have been sanctioned by the United States.

You will also take every step which shall be in your power, to satisfy any inquiries or remonstrances that may be made by any of the Indian tribes, and regular settlers, as to the authority under which the present lessees and yourself shall be acting, and of the views of Government generally, giving, jointly with the Indiau agent, every support to the lessees which shall enable them to proceed without interruption or injury in their contemplated locations and works.

In addition to this aid, it is contemplated to give the support and countenance that may be derivable from the appearance of a small portion of the regular troops, which may be found conveniently stationed for that purpose; in which case (their being employed at all,) you will act according to the orders which may have been given by the Department of War to the commanding officer, and to the nature of the service, in which you will be thus mutually engaged; carefully avoiding all hostile aggression upon, or collision with, the Indian tribes, or the regular settlers and miners.

It will be expected and required that you render to this office a monthly report of your proceedings, and oftener, if circumstances should admit thereof.

An extensive field for observation will be presented to you in the course of your intended operations, of which it will be expected that you will take every practicable opportunity for obtaining information upon all points relative to lead mine and mineral lands of the United States, that may prove useful to the Government in the prosecution of their future views and measures, and which, if performed with judgment and accuracy on your part, may tend to your own personal advantage by thus recommending yourself to the favorable notice of your Government.

Respectfully, &c.,
GEORGE BOMFORD,
Lieut. Colonel on ordnance duty.

Lieut. CLARK BURDINE, *of the Artillery, on ordnance duty at Washington.*

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, *Feb'ry 13th*, 1822.

SIR: Conditional leases were granted, on the 4th January ult., to Messrs. Carneal and Johnson, a nd to Messrs. Suggett and Payne, (all of Kentucky,) for one hundred and sixty acres of land to each of the two parties, to be located in the State of Illinois, (and to be more precisely described hereafter,) for the purpose, on their part, of working any lead mines which may be discovered by them within said tract. It has since been agreed that the said location shall not be confined to the State of Illinois, but that the privilege shall be extended to any part of the lands ceded by the Ottaway, Chippewa, and Pottawatamie tribes or nations of Indians, to the United States, at St. Louis, on the 24th August, 1816, conformable to the treaty herewith enclosed. And you are hereby required to hold yourself in readiness, and to proceed with the before mentioned lessees, whenever they shall apply to you for that purpose, to the lands where they shall expect to open and work the lead mines contained therein, and within the bounds or extent of their lease, in order that you may explain to the Indians the views of the Government in granting said leases; in order to secure to the persons holding the same the uninterrupted prosecution of their location, and subsequent works and operations therein.

You will use as much despatch in the performance of this service as its nature may admit, and transmit to this department an early report of your proceedings, together with such other information in regard to the particular object in view, and of the situation of other lead mines discovered and worked in the countries named in the present grant or lease, as may prove useful to the Government in their future views and operations in that quarter.

Respectfully, &c.,
JOHN C. CALHOUN.

THOMAS FORSYTH, Esq.,
Indian agent, St. Louis, Missouri.

Note.—Similar letters were addressed to Alexander Wolcott, jr., and Nicholas Boilvin, Indian agents on the Mississippi.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT, *April 15th*, 1822.

SIR: The applications addressed to you by Messrs. Duff Green and others, of Missouri, for leases of lead mine lands from the United States, and communicated by you to the honorable Secretary of War, have been laid by him before this department, in whose charge the issuing of such leases, under the sanction of the Department of War and the President of the United States, has recently been placed.

I have therefore the honor to state to you for your information, that, until the business of the lead mine lands can be revived under new and better regulations, and more full and direct information attained in regard thereto, (and for which measures are now taking,) the Government has concluded to grant leases of small extent, say one hundred and sixty acres of land to each applicant or company, on certain privileges and conditions, the principle of which are: To continue for three years, the two first to be free from rent, and on the third a rent of one-tenth of the mineral raised to be paid to Government; the lessees to have the privilege of wood to erect their works, use of water, &c., usual in such cases, to be paid at a certain valuation for the improvements they shall have made at the close of the lease, if not removed by them, on the land located and worked; the selection of the laud and the commencement of the works (of mining) to be within nine months from the date of the lease, under penalty of forfeiture thereof, and no sub-leases allowable.

Should you think proper to desire leases for the applicants now named, this office will be prepared, under the direction of the Secretary of War, to take such measures as may be deemed requisite.

Very respectfully, &c.,
GEORGE BOMFORD,
Lieut. Colonel on ordnance duty.

Hon. N. EDWARDS, *Senate United States.*

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT, *April 20th*, 1822.

SIR: Your letter to this department of the 18th instant, requesting that leases of lead mine lands may be issued to Messrs. Green & Estis, of Missouri, is received.

I have it in direction to state to you that, previous to making an absolute lease of the lands, it will be expedient, in the present want of accurate information as to the precise situation of the mines and adjacent country where they wish to make their location, that they fix upon the sites, which shall not interfere with any previous grants or leases legally given and established; that they cause a regular survey to be made of the quantity of land, (one hundred and sixty acres each,) and a plat or map of the same be transmitted to this office, duly certified by an United States' surveyor; upon the receipt of which they will be laid without delay before the Secretary of War for examination. The documents received from the General Land Office leave this department in doubt as to the topographical and geographical lines and limits of the mine lands within the lands belonging to the United States; and, until an agent or agents shall have been appointed to ascertain those points, and others connected therewith, this department can do no more than grant this general authority for location, to be thereafter acted upon when the same shall have been regularly reported for confirmation.

Very respectfully, &c.,
GEORGE BOMFORD,
Lieut. Colonel on ordnance duty.

Hon. N. EDWARDS, *Senate United States.*

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT, *May 3d*, 1822.

I certify the foregoing to be true copies from the original records of this office.

GEORGE BOMFORD,
Lieut. Colonel on ordnance duty.

B.

Report from the Ordnance Department to the honorable Secretary of War respecting the lead mines of the United States.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT, *30th March*, 1822.

SIR: Conformably to your directions, I have had under examination the papers received from the General Land Office which have a relation to lead mine lands of the United States, and respectfully beg leave to offer the following report thereon.

Those papers or documents were found to consist of communications (letters and reports,) of unconnected series, from the public agents of the United States to the Treasury Department; copies of petitions for grants, and of leases made thereon, and decisions of the commissioners of the United States on old claims; together with other miscellaneous papers; from which a regular account cannot be given of those lands and mines, or of all the proceedings, public and private, which have formerly taken place respecting them.

The latest dates of any of the papers are of the year

1817, but the greater part are of a much earlier period. No books of records of leases made, or proceedings of commissioners and agents, or of moneys or mineral received or expended, have accompanied the papers received.

From those documents, however, it would appear that lead ore is computed to commence at Mine à la Motte, in the county of Genevieve, Missouri, extending in a northern direction as far as Mine à Dubuque, below Prairie du Chien, on the west side of the Mississippi, and probably across the river at that place, averaging in breadth about twenty-five miles from east to west; that most of the mines worked were in Washington county, St. Louis district, about thirty-five miles south of the river Missouri, their extent about fifty miles in circumference. Those particularly noted, are: Mine à Burton, near the centre of them, (the whole number is stated at 33 to 45,) Mine à la Motte, the most extensive in the range, and in Madison county; Shibboleth mines, discovered in 1811, and very productive, (a Mr. Smith was a claimant for a part, and also a Mr. Lebeaume;) Mine Renault, Bryan's mines, and Mine à Martin.

In addition: Mines à Dubuque, very extensive and rich, within the territory detached from the State of Missouri, on the west side of the Mississippi, below Prairie du Chien, the title to which appears to have remained unsettled, being claimed by heirs or assignees of Dubuque, and by A. Chouteau, and great injury is supposed to have resulted to the United States from those and other claims not having been satisfactorily adjusted by the former commissioners.

Mines of lesser magnitude were worked in various sections of the late Missouri Territory, and other districts on the Mississippi, of the actual value or proceeds of which there appears no precise or authentic account from the papers received. There are, also, in the State of Illinois numerous mine lands, and chiefly in the district ceded by the Sac and Fox Indians, some of them contiguous to the Rock river, and others nearly bordering upon the Mississippi; others within the United States' reservation in the southeast part of that State. Recent verbal information, from respectable authority, also states the existence of lead mines in that part between the southern boundary of Lake Michigan and the River Mississippi, ceded in 1816 by the Ottaway, Chippewa, and Pottawatamie tribes or nations of Indians, to the United States. In addition, all the accounts agree in representing that new discoveries of lead mines were continually making, and many, it was supposed, were kept secret until purchases of the lands could be made of the United States.

The towns of Burton and Potosi were the principal settlements in the Missouri mine tracts. Herculaneum, on the Mississippi, thirty-five miles from the Mine à Burton, and Genevieve, lower down the river, were the principal places of depôt of lead for transportation.

The leases which appear to have been formerly granted, have expired; and it is stated by respectable persons, that there are at present no mines known to be worked in any of the mining districts under any regular leases or authority; but that many in the last year were worked in the State of Missouri without such authority, and chiefly by new settlers and emigrants.

Of the value of the mines, it may be noticed that Mine à Burton was computed to yield about 500,000 pounds of mineral per annum; and that the Shibboleth mines might have been made to produce to the United States about $10,000 per annum. Mr. Schoolcraft, in more recent accounts, states the receipts of lead from the mines as probably rising beyond 3,000,000 of pounds per annum, (from the mines of Missouri;) and his verbal information, given at this office since, rates the receipts of 1821 at a much greater amount.

The lessees of mining lands, it was stated by one of the informants of the Treasury Department, had not been properly supported by Government; having been constantly involved in lawsuits and disputes with claimants under old Spanish grants, and by intruders, which proved often ruinous to their undertakings.

From the various evidence adduced, there can be no doubt but that all the mines might be made more and greatly productive under new and better regulations. There does not appear, among the papers now produced, any account of what has been the actual receipt, by the United States, of the mineral raised from the numerous discoveries of lands producing it; and indeed it would, on the contrary, appear that no rents have been received from them. The value of those lands and mines cannot, therefore, be estimated but from general information as already given in this report. Many of those which have been worked are supposed to be inexhaustible; and suitable encouragement in future would, there can be no doubt, lead to additional and equally valuable discoveries. Among other means which might be devised for rendering the mine lands more productive to the United States, I would respectfully suggest the following:

An agent or commissioner to be appointed and established in a central position for the principal mining districts, empowered to grant new leases, to hear all complaints, and fully authorized to give prompt redress, and to act as a general guardian of the whole public domains; that he should be accompanied by a competent commissioned officer, in order to make surveys of the mining lands which should be found to belong to the United States, and of new discoveries; and to make frequent and regular reports of such surveys and every other information obtained, as to the quantity of mineral produced. The agent to be charged with keeping an office of record of all leases and surveys.

Large leases, or monopolies of large tracts of mining lands, to be prohibited, by granting them in small parcels of 160 to 200 acres: it having been discovered that they have formerly been issued in tracts of several thousand acres, and that no beneficial effects had resulted from such an extension.

The duration of the leases to be, agreeably to the law of 1807, for three years: the two first to be free from rent, and the lessee to have the privilege and preference (on his having duly complied with its stipulations,) of renewal at the expiration of his lease, which provision would serve as an encouragement to work the mines without waste, and leases should become void if not worked within nine months from the date thereof.

The lessee to be debarred from underletting or transferring any part of the lands leased to him, under the penalty of forfeiture of such lease.

The improvements made by the lessee (buildings, works, &c.,) to be repaid by Government, or the succeeding lessee, at a fair valuation; but the United States not to pay, in any case, more than one-half the produce of the rent which shall have been actually received.

The rate of annual rent to be one-tenth of net proceeds, to be paid in mineral, clean and prepared for smelting, or an equivalent in lead, quarterly or semi-annually, at some convenient place of depot, to the agent empowered by Government.

The United States to have the privilege of inspecting, through its agent, from time to time, the progress making by the lessees in their works, receiving an account of their produce; and to enforce, if necessary, a compliance with their engagements.

That security be required for the faithful performance of all leases.

That as soon as the leading or general information now collecting and arranging by this office shall be consolidated, lessees be invited by public advertisement throughout the United States, upon the preceding conditions, in order that full information may be afforded, and a fair competition excited, for rendering the mine lands of the United States productive, in the highest practicable degree, to the public revenue.

I beg leave to add, that this report would have been prepared sooner but from the expectation of collecting, from other sources than the documents alluded to, some additional information: and that the officer recently sent from this department with your sanction to the mine land districts in Illinois, will probably furnish, within a few months, such further intelligence as may serve as a surer guide to future operations.

Respectfully submitted.

GEORGE BOMFORD,
Lieut. Colonel on ordnance duty.

To the Hon. JOHN C. CALHOUN,
Department of War.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT, *3d May*, 1822.

I certify the foregoing to be a true copy from the original report rendered to the Department of War.

GEORGE BOMFORD,
Lieut. Colonel on ordnance duty.

C.

Form of a lease of mine lands, proposed by the Ordnance Department, in the case of Carneal and Johnson.

THIS INDENTURE, made and entered into this —— day of ———, 1822, between ———, agent for the Government of the United States, of the one part, and Thomas D. Carneal and Benjamin Johnson, of the State of Kentucky, of the other part, witnesseth: That the said agent, as aforesaid, for and in consideration of the rents, covenants, and agreements herein after mentioned, doth, by these presents, grant, demise, lease, and to farm let unto the said Carneal and Johnson, their heirs and repre-

sentatives, one hundred and sixty acres of land, the property of the United States, lying and being in the State of Illinois, and in the vicinity of Rock river, to be more particularly located as herein after mentioned. To have and to hold the said land and premises, with its appurtenances, unto the said Carneal and Johnson, their heirs and legal representatives, for the full term of three years, from and after the time the said land shall be designated, and the mining and manufacturing of the lead therein commenced by said Carneal and Johnson, their heirs, &c., upon the considerations following, to wit: That the said Carneal and Johnson shall, during the continuance of the aforesaid term of three years, be at liberty to dig for, and take from any part of the said land, as much lead ore as they may think fit; also, to erect thereon such buildings and works for the manufacture of lead, and for the accommodation of those who shall be engaged in the establishment, as, in their opinion, the success of the undertaking may require. Said improvements to be valued at the termination of this lease, and to be paid for by the United States, or by the subsequent lessee, if rented to any other than the said Carneal and Johnson: Provided, that the United States shall not pay more for said improvements than one-half of the amount of the lead which shall have been previously received by Government on said lease. Secondly: that, inasmuch as the precise ground cannot be selected at this moment, it is hereby covenanted and agreed between the parties aforesaid, that the said Carneal and Johnson shall make a selection of the precise ground they mean to occupy, and commence the working of the lead mines upon said land, within the period of nine months from this date; and, upon failure to make such selection and to commence such work within the time herein prescribed, this lease shall be null and void. Third: that said Carneal and Johnson shall have the benefit of said mines for the term of two years, free from the payment of any rent whatever; and said Carneal and Johnson engage and bind themselves and heirs to pay to said agent aforesaid, or to his order, or to the order of the Government, one-tenth part of all the mineral which shall be collected from said mine or mines of lead during the third year of this lease, quarterly, or otherwise, as said agent or the Government may require; the mineral to be clean and prepared for smelting, to be delivered at the works upon the land to said agent, or any agent of the Government. Fourth: that the said Carneal and Johnson shall be at liberty to clear, enclose, and cultivate any part of said land from whence the wood shall have been taken for said lead works; but they shall cut no timber but what shall be necessary for buildings, fencing, and the operation of the said manufactory; and, generally, shall commit no waste. Fifth: that said Carneal and Johnson engage to render to said agent, or the Government, a quarterly account of all the minerals raised at the digging or diggings in which they may engage. Sixth: the United States shall, at all times, have the privilege of inspecting the operations and books and papers relative to working said mines, or any of them, by the said Carneal and Johnson, on the lands aforesaid, to ascertain the quantity of lead manufactured by them, or to demand a compliance with all the conditions stipulated herein.

It is, also, hereby conditioned between the parties, that this lease shall not, in any manner, interfere with any previous lease, if such lease should be in operation; otherwise, that said Carneal and Johnson have the right to make the location of the said one hundred and sixty acres of land, and, when so located, the same shall be meted and bounded by the agent of the Government of the United States, whenever he shall be sent for that purpose, and his report of the metes and bounds shall be the boundary of said Carneal and Johnson. It is further expressly stipulated and agreed upon between the contracting parties hereto, that the said Carneal and Johnson shall not, in any manner, make sub-leases of the premises, under the penalty of a forfeiture of the lease; and it is also expressly agreed and stipulated, that the said Carneal and Johnson shall have the privilege, or right, to renew the lease at the termination of the three years, as aforesaid, and the said agent agrees to give the preference to said Carneal and Johnson, for said renewal, over all other persons; provided the stipulations and conditions of this lease be complied with by said Carneal and Johnson.

Signed, sealed, &c. &c.

17th Congress. **No. 365.** 2d Session.

COPPER MINES ON THE SOUTHERN SHORE OF LAKE SUPERIOR.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE DECEMBER 9, 1822.

To the Senate of the United States:

In compliance with a resolution of the Senate of the 8th May last, requesting "information relative to the copper mines on the southern shore of Lake Superior, their number, value, and position, the names of the Indian tribes who claim them, the practicability of extinguishing their titles, and the probable advantage which may result to the Republic from the acquisition and working these mines," I herewith transmit a report from the Secretary of War, which comprises the information desired in the resolution referred to.

JAMES MONROE.

Washington, *7th December*, 1822.

Department of War, *3d December*, 1822.

The Secretary of War, to whom was referred the resolution of the Senate of the 8th May last, requesting the President of the United States "to communicate to the Senate, at the commencement of the next session of Congress, any information which may be in the possession of the Government, derived from special agents, or otherwise, showing the number, value, and position of the copper mines on the south shore of Lake Superior, the names of the Indian tribes who claim them, the practicability of extinguishing their title, and the probable advantage which may result to the Republic from the acquisition and working these mines," has the honor to transmit a report of Henry R. Schoolcraft, Indian agent at the Sault of St. Marie, on the copper mines in the region of Lake Superior, which contains all the information in relation to the subject in this department.

All which is respectfully submitted.

J. C. CALHOUN.

To the President *of the U. States.*

Sault St. Marie, *October* 1, 1822.

Sir: In reply to the inquiries contained in a resolution of the Senate of the United States respecting the existence of copper mines in the region of Lake Superior, enclosed to me in a note from the War Department, dated 8th May, 1822, I have the honor to submit to you the following facts and remarks:

1st. In relation to "*the number, value, and position of the copper mines on the south shore of Lake Superior.*" The remote position of the country alluded to, the infrequency of communication, and the little reliance to be placed on information derived through the medium of the aborigines, or of traders, who are wholly engrossed with other objects, presents an embarrassment at the threshold of this inquiry, which must be felt by every person who turns his attention to the subject. The information sought for demands a minute acquaintance with the natural features and mineral structure of the country, which can only be acquired by personal examination; and it is a species of research requiring more leisure, better opportunities, and a freer participation in personal fatigue, than usually falls to the share of tourists and travellers. Not only are those difficulties to be encountered which are inseparable from the collection of insolated facts in a new and unsettled country, but those, also, which are peculiar to the subject, connected as it is, at every stage of the inquiry, with the prejudices and superstitions of the Indian tribes. [B]. It can therefore excite little surprise that, after having been the theme of speculation for more than a century, and obtained the notice of several works of merit in Europe,* both the position and value of these mineral beds have continued to the present times to be but partially known. To ascertain more clearly their value and importance to the Republic were

* Vide Jameson's Mineralogy, Parkes' Chemical Catechism, Phillip's Elementary Introduction to Mineralogy.

objects more particularly confided to me as a member of the expedition sent by the Indian department, in the year 1820, to traverse and explore those regions. My report of the 6th of November of that year, a copy of which, marked A, is herewith transmitted, gives the result of that inquiry. After a lapse of two years little can be added. Reflection and subsequent inquiry convinces me that the facts advanced in that report will be corroborated by future observation. No circumstance has transpired which is calculated to prove that my suggestions with regard to the fertility and future importance of those mines are fallacious: on the contrary, all information tends to strengthen and confirm those suggestions. Specimens of pure and malleable copper continue to be brought in to me by the aborigines from that region, but it is not deemed necessary to particularize in this place the additional localities. It will be sufficient to observe that the number of these new discoveries justifies the expectations that have been created respecting the metalliferous character of the region of the Ontonagon, and the south shore of Lake Superior. [C.]

I shall here add the result of an accurate analysis made upon a specimen of this copper at the mint of Utrecht, in the Netherlands, at the request of Mr. Eustis, minister plenipotentiary from the United States, who carried samples of the American copper to that country. The report of the inspector of the mint, which communicates the result of this analysis, has the following remarks upon the natural properties of this species of copper, and the mode of its production: "From every appearance the piece of copper seems to have been taken from a mass that has undergone fusion. The melting was, however, not an operation of art, but a natural effect caused by a volcanic eruption. The stream of lava probably carried along in its course the aforesaid body of copper that had formed into one collection, as fast as it was heated enough to run, from all parts of the mine. The united mass was probably borne in this manner to the place where it now rests in the soil. The crystallized form, observable every where on the original surface of the metal that has been left untouched or undisturbed, leads me to presume that the fusion it has sustained was by a process of nature; since this crystallized surface can only be supposed to have been produced by a slow and gradual cooling, whereby the copper assumed regular figures as its heat passed into other substances, and the metal itself lay exposed to the air.

"As to the properties of the copper itself, it may be observed that its color is a clear red; that it is peculiarly qualified for rolling and forging; and that its excellence is indicated by its resemblance to the copper usually employed by the English for plating. The dealers in copper call this sort *Peruvian copper* to distinguish it from that of *Sweden*, which is much less malleable. The specimen under consideration is incomparably better than Swedish copper, as well on account of its brilliant color as for the fineness of its pores and its extreme ductility. Notwithstanding, before it is used in manufactures, or for the coining of money, it ought to be melted anew for the purpose of purifying it from such earthy particles as it may contain. The examination of the North American copper, in the sample received from his excellency the minister, by the operation of the cupel and test by fire, has proved that it does not contain the smallest particle of silver, gold, or any other metal." It is a coincidence worthy of remark, that the suggestions offered by the assayer respecting the volcanic origin of these masses of copper, are justified by the leading features of the Porcupine mountains, and by the melted granites found upon the heights called *Grande Sables* and Ishpotonga.

2d. The second and third inquiries of the resolution relate to "*the names of the Indian tribes who claim the mines, and the practicability of extinguishing their title.*" By the treaty concluded at this post on the 16th of June, 1820, the Ogibwai* Indians cede to the United States four miles square of territory, bounded by the river St. Marys, and including the portage around the falls.† This is the most northerly point to which the Indian title has been extinguished in the United States. The different bands of Ogibwais possess all the country northwest of this post, extending through Lake Superior to the sources of the Mississippi, where they are bounded by the Assennaboins, the Crees, and the Chippewyans of the Hudson Bay colony. Their lands extend down the Mississippi to the Sioux boundary, an unsettled line between the junction of the river De Corbeau and the Falls of St. Anthony. South of Lake Superior they claim to the possessions of the Winnebagoes on the Ouisconsin and Fox rivers, and to those of the Pottawatamies and Ottoways on Lake Michigan. The Wild Rice, or Monomonee Indians, are an integral part of the Ogibwai nation, deriving their name from the great reliance they place on the zizania aquatica as an article of food. They live in small dispersed bands between the Ogibwais of the lake, and the Winnebagoes of Fox river. Those residing among the Ogibwais speak the same language, but with many peculiarities and corruptions on the waters of Green bay. They claim the respective tracts upon which they are located. These are, principally, the valley of Monomonee river, and the rice lands contiguous to the Fol. Avoine, Clam lake, and Lac de Flambeau, which lie on the table lands between Lake Superior and the Mississippi.

The right of soil to all that part of the peninsula of Michigan not purchased by the United States is divided between the Ogibwais and the Ottoways. The former claim all the shores and islands of Lake Huron situated north of the Saganaw purchase, except those in the vicinity of Michilimackinac and the St. Martin, or Gypsum islands, which were ceded by treaty on the 6th of July, 1820.‡ Their territories continue north, through the river St. Marys, embracing the country on both banks, and the islands in the river, saving Drummond's island, which is garrisoned by the British, and the Four Mile concession at the Sault or Falls, now occupied by a detachment of the United States' army. It is not deemed necessary to point out the limits of their territories with more precision, or to pursue them into the Canadas, where they are also very extensive. It will sufficiently appear, from this outline, that the discoveries of copper on the south shore of Lake Superior are upon their lands. That some of these discoveries have been made upon, or will be traced to, the possessions of the North Monomonees, is also probable.

With respect to the practicability of extinguishing the Indian title, no difficulty is to be apprehended. Living in small villages, or tribes of the same mark, scattered over an immense territory, and often reduced to great poverty by the failure of game and fish, it is presumed there would be a disposition among their chiefs and headmen to dispose of portions of it. Those districts which most abound in minerals, presenting a rough and rocky surface, are the least valuable to them as hunting grounds; and the goods and annuities which they would receive in exchange must be vastly more important to them than any game which these mineral lands now afford.

3d. "*The probable advantage which may result to the republic from the acquisition and working of these mines.*" How far metallic mines, situated upon the public domain, may be considered as a source of national wealth, and what system of management is best calculated to produce the greatest advantages to the public revenue, are inquiries which are not conceived to be presented for consideration in this place; nor should I presume to offer any speculations upon topics which have been so often discussed, and so fully settled. In applying axioms, however, to a species of productive industry, the results of which are so very various under various situations, great caution is undoubtedly necessary; and it must appear manifest, on the slightest reflection, how much the comparative value of metallic mines, equally fertile and productive, ever depends upon situation and local advantages. Dismissing, therefore, all questions of abstract policy, I shall here adduce a few facts in relation to the fertility of these mineral beds, and their position with respect to a market—points upon which their value to a nation must ultimately turn.

That copper is abundantly found on the south shore of Lake Superior has been shown. It is unnecessary here to add to, or repeat the instances of its occurrence, or to urge, from an inspection of the surface, the fertility of subterranean beds. All the facts which I possess in relation to this subject are before you, and you will assign to them such importance as they merit. It is a subject upon which I have bestowed some reflection and much inquiry, superadded to limited opportunities of personal observation, and the result has led me to form a favorable estimate of their value and importance. It is not only certain that a prodigious number of masses of metallic copper are found along the borders of the lake, but every appearance authorizes a conclusion that they are only the indications of near and continuous

* For the different names applied to this tribe of Indians, see appendix H.

† Vide acts passed at the second session of the 16th Congress of the United States, page 88.

‡ Vide acts passed at the second session of the 16th Congress, p. 91.

veins. Some of these masses are of unexampled size, and all present metallic copper in a state of great purity and fineness. Of its ductile and excellent qualities for the purposes of coinage and sheathing, the analysis of Utrecht leaves no doubt. It is true that a mistaken idea has prevailed among travellers and geographers respecting the weight of the great mass of copper on the Ontonagon river; but it is, nevertheless, of extraordinary dimensions, and I have endeavored to show, from their works, how these errors have originated, and that the metal is disseminated throughout a much greater extent of country, and in masses of every possible form and size. Until my facts and data can, therefore, be proved to be fallacious, I must be permitted to consider these mines not only fertile in native copper and its congenerous species, but unparalleled in extent, and to recommend them as such to the notice of the Government.

But whatever degree of incertitude may exist respecting the riches of these mines, their situation with respect to a market can admit of no dispute. As little can there be concerning the advantages which this situation presents for the purposes of mining and commerce. Let us compare it with that of other mines, and appeal to acknowledged facts for the decision. The value of a coal mine, a stone quarry, or a gypsum bed, often arises as much from its situation as its fertility. But the proposition may be reversed with respect to a metallic mine, the value of which to the proprietor arises more from its fertility, and less from its situation. Gold, silver, copper, tin, lead, &c., when separated from the matrix of the mine, are so valuable that they can bear to be transported a long journey over land, and the most distant voyage by water. Their worth in coined money, produce, or manufactures, is not fixed in the particular circles of country where they are dug up, but depends upon the seaboard market, and embraces all countries. The silver of Mexico and Peru circulates throughout Europe, and is carried to China. It is no objection to those mines that they are situated in the Cordilleras, or upon the high table lands of the American continent, and must be carried a thousand miles upon the backs of mules to the sea side. The very discovery of those mines has rendered many poor silver mines of Europe of no value, although possibly situated in the environs of the best silver markets in the world. It is the fertility, and not the situation of such mines, that constitutes their chief value: and it is so with many of the coarser metals.

The tin of the island of Banka, and the peninsula of Siam in Asia, and the copper of Japan, find their way to Europe, and are articles of commerce in the United States. The cobalt of Saxony is sent to Pekin, and the platina of Choco, to all parts of the world. In all these instances the fertility of the mines compensates for every disadvantage of situation. But this principle is not alone confined to mines of tin, copper, &c.; it even holds true of the heavy and bulky articles of iron, lead, and salt. The lead of Missouri finds a market at New York, Philadelphia, and Boston, and will be carried to Europe. It is no objection that it must be conveyed in wagons forty miles from the interior, and sent a voyage of 3,000 miles in steamboats and merchant ships. The great fertility of the mines counterbalances the disadvantages of its remote position from the market, and it is the price of the metal in the market which always regulates its price at the mines. The malleable iron of Sweden is consumed on the summits of the Alleghany, although its strata are replete with iron ore, which is worked at numerous forges along the rivers which proceed from each side of it. It is believed that the salt springs of Onondaga, from their copiousness alone, would supply a vast portion of the interior and seaboard of the United States with salt, even if the facilities of water carriage had not been presented by the Erie canal. The value of such mines and minerals ever depends as much upon the abundance as upon the favorable position of them. It is far otherwise with quarries of stone, gypsum, marl, fossil, coal, &c., whose contiguity to a good market establishes their value. No abundance of these articles would justify a land carriage of one hundred miles. They constitute a species of mining, the profits and value of which increases in the ratio of the surrounding population, and as the country advances in improvements. But this advantage is far less sensibly felt, and cannot be considered essential to the successful working of mines of silver, copper, &c. Neither the remote position, therefore, of the Lake Superior copper mines, nor the want of a surrounding population, present objections of that force which would at first seem to exist; and, it is confidently believed, that if their fertility is such as facts indicate, they may be opened and wrought with eminent advantage to the republic. But let us examine their situation with respect to a market, and compare it with that of other mines of the same metal, and of some of the coarser metals, which bear a considerable land, and the most distant water carriage. To favor the inquiry, let it be granted for the moment, that proximity of situation to a market, or free water carriage, are indispensable to the success and value of the most fertile mines.

Assuming the confluence of the Ontonagon river with Lake Superior, (which is apparently the centre of the mine district,) as the place where the metal is first to be embarked for market, it must be carried down the lake 300 miles to the *Sault* or rapids of St. Marys. Here, if it is in barges, it may descend the rapids in perfect safety, as is the invariable practice of the traders on arriving with their annual returns of furs and skins from the north. If in vessels, it must be transferred either into boats or carts, and carried half a mile to the foot of the rapids, where it will again be embarked in vessels, and transported through the Lakes Huron, St. Clair, and Erie, and their connecting straits, to Buffalo, a distance of 650 miles. The progress made in the construction of the great canal which is to connect the lakes and Atlantic, is such as to leave no doubt upon any reasonable mind of the full completion of that work with the close of the year 1824. Through this channel the transportation is to be continued in boats or barges, by a voyage of 353 miles, to the Hudson at Albany; thence a sloop navigation of 144 miles, which, for speed and freedom from risk, is perhaps unequalled in all America, takes it into the harbor of New York, making the entire distance from the mouth of the Ontonagon 1,447 miles. From New York it is distributed to our naval depots, and to the markets of Europe. It is exchanged for the lead of Missouri, the iron of Sweden, or the silver of Mexico; and the same ready communication transports the return cargo to Buffalo, from whence the commerce is extended, by means of the lakes, throughout western New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michgan, and the interminable regions of the north. Thus it is seen that when the Erie canal is completed, a free and direct water communication from the mines to one of the best markets in America, will exist, in which the rapids of St. Marys are the only interruption, and this is only an interruption to large vessels. Not only so, but the Ontonagon river may be ascended many miles with vessels of light burden, and thus the copper of Lake Superior, wafted from the heart of the interior, and from the base of the Porcupine mountains, into the harbors of New York, Philadelphia, &c. Of this whole distance, 1,047 miles is now navigated by the largest class of river craft and lake schooners; the balance of the distance is the length of the Erie canal. See appendix D.

Let it be recollected that there are no mines of copper situated upon the margin of the sea, and that every quintal of sheet copper, bolts, nails, &c., which we receive from Great Britain, Russia, Sweden, or Japan, is transported a greater or less distance on turnpikes or canals, before it reaches the place of shipment. The richest copper mines of the Russian empire are seated on the summits of the Uralian mountains; those of Fahlun in Sweden, and Cornwall in England, are scarcely more favored as to position; and, owing to a want of coal, all the ores raised at the latter are transported into Wales to be smelted.* But we need not resort to Europe for instances. All the lead raised at the fertile mines in Missouri is transported an average distance of forty miles in carts and wagons before it reaches the banks of the Mississippi. Steamboats take it to New Orleans, a distance, by the shortest computation, of 1,000 miles. But it must still pass through the Gulf of Mexico, and encounter the perils of the Capes of Florida, and a voyage of 2,000 miles along the coast of the United States, before it reaches its principal marts. The average cost of transporting a hundred weight of lead from *Mine au Breton* and Potosi to the banks of the Mississippi, during the year 1818, was seventy-five cents. The distance is thirty-six miles. The price of conveying the same quantity from the store-houses at Herculaneum and St. Genevieve to New Orleans, by steamboats, was seventy cents. The distance exceeds 1,000 miles. Hence it costs more to transport a given quantity thirty-six miles by land than to convey it 1,000 miles by water. These rates have probably varied since, but the proportionate expense of land carriage, compared

* Silliman.

to that of water, will remain the same. A quintal of copper may therefore be transported from the mines of Superior to Buffalo or Lockport, in New York, for the same sum required to convey an equal quantity of lead from Potosi to St. Genevieve. If we consider the city of New York as the market of both, no hesitancy or doubt can be experienced as to the decided and palpable advantages possessed by the northern mines. It is only necessary to adduce these facts: the conclusions are inevitable. In every point of view, the distance of these mines from the market presents no solid objection to their being explored with profit to the nation.

Pig copper, which is the least valuable form in which this metal is carried to market, is now quoted in the Atlantic cities at 19 cents per pound; sheathing, at 27; brazier's, at 32. I have no data at hand to show the amount of these articles consumed in the United States, and for which we are annually transmitting immense sums to enrich foreign States. But those who best appreciate the advantages of commerce will readily supply the estimate. It would be an interesting inquiry to ascertain how much of the sums yearly paid for sheathing copper, bolts, nails, engravers' plates, &c., is contributed to the wealth of the respective foreign States who possess mines of this metal. We can look back to a period in the history of Great Britain, when that power did not contribute one pound of copper to the commerce of Europe. During a period of nine years, closing with the memorable year [in American history] of 1775, the produce of the copper mines of Cornwall was 2,650 tons of fine copper. [See appendix E.] Since that time, the yearly returns of those mines exhibit a constant increase; and the copper mines of Great Britain are now the most valuable in the world. The amount produced by the mines of Cornwall and Devon, after deducting the charges of smelting, for the single year of 1810, was 969,376 pounds sterling. [See appendix F.] The clear profits of the Dolgoath mine, one of the richest in Cornwall, for a period of five months during the year eighteen hundred and five, was £18,000, which is at the rate of £43,200, or $192,000 per annum.* Next to Great Britain, the most considerable mines of Europe are those of Russia, Austria, Sweden, and Westphalia, as it was in 1808. Of less importance are those of Denmark, France, Saxony, Prussia, and Spain. The proportion in which the British mines exceed those of the most favored European nation is as 200,000 × 67,000. See appendix G.

There is another consideration connected with this subject which is worthy of remark. Should it be inquired what would be the effects of the purchase of these mines upon the condition of the Indian tribes, the reply is obvious. It would have the most beneficial tendency. They would not only profit by an exchange of their waste lands for goods, implements of husbandry, the stipulated services of blacksmiths, teachers, &c., but the intercourse would have a happy tendency to allay those bitter feelings which, through the instigation of the British authorities in the Canadas, they have manifested, and still continue to feel, in degree, towards the United States. The measures which the President has recently directed to be pursued to assuage these feelings of hostility, and to induce them to cherish proper sentiments of friendship and respect, are already in a train of execution that bids fair for success. Continued exertions, and the necessary and proper means, are all that seems necessary to confirm and complete the effect; and whatever measures have a tendency to increase the intercourse of American citizens with these "remote tribes," and to give them a true conception of the power and justice, and the pacific and benevolent policy of our Government, must favor and hasten such a result.

I have the honor to be, sir, with the highest respect, your most obedient servant,

HENRY R. SCHOOLCRAFT,
U. S. Indian Agent at the Sault Ste. Marie.

Hon. JOHN C. CALHOUN,
Secretary of War, Washington.

A.

VERNON, ONEIDA COUNTY, N. Y.,
November 6th, 1820.

SIR: I have now the honor to submit to you such observations as have occurred to me, during the recent expedition under Gov. Cass, in relation to the copper mines of Lake Superior; reserving, as the subject of a future communication, the facts I have collected on the mineralogy of the country explored generally.

The first striking change in the mineral aspect of the country north of Lake Huron is presented near the head of the island of St. Joseph, in the river St. Mary, where the calcareous strata of secondary rocks are succeeded by a formation of red sandstone, which extends northward to the head of that river at Point Iroquois, producing the falls called the *Sault de Ste. Marie*, fifteen miles below, and thence stretching northwest, along the whole southern shore of Lake Superior, to the Fond du Lac, and into the regions beyond. This extensive stratum is perforated at various points by upheaved masses of granite and hornblende, which appear in precipitous banks on the margin of the lake between *la Riviere de Mort* and Presque Isle, and constitute the Porcupine mountains, ten leagues to the west of the *Onton-nä-gon* river. It is overlaid in other places by a stratum of dark sandstone, resembling grauwacke of uncommon thickness, which appears in various promontories along the shore, and at the distance of ninety miles from Point Iroquois, constitutes a lofty perpendicular wall upon the water's edge, called the Pictured rocks, which is one of the most commanding objects in nature.

So obvious a change in the geological character of the rock strata in passing from Lake Huron to Lake Superior, prepares us to expect a corresponding one in the imbedded minerals and other natural associations; an expectation which is realized during the first eighty leagues, in the discovery of red hematite, prehnite, opal, jasper, sardonyx, cornelian, agate, and zeolite.

The first appearances of copper are perceived on the head of the portage of *Kee-wy-wee-non*, two hundred and seventy miles beyond the *Sault de Ste. Marie*, where the pebbles along the shore of the lake contain native copper disseminated in particles varying in size from a grain of sand to a mass of two pounds weight. Many of the detached blocks of stone at that place are also colored green by the carbonate of copper, and the rock strata likewise exhibit traces of the same ore. These indications continue to the river Ontonagon, which has long been noted for the large masses of native copper found upon its banks, and about the contiguous country. This river (called Donagon on Mellish's maps) is one of the largest of thirty tributaries which flow into the lake between Point Iroquois and the Fond du Lac. It originates in a district of mountainous country intermediate between the Mississippi river and the Lakes Huron and Superior, and, after flowing in a northerly direction one hundred and twenty miles, enters the lake fifty-one miles west of the portage of Kee-wy-wee-non. Its mouth is in north latitude 46° 52′ 2″, according to the observations of Capt. Douglass. It is connected by portages with the Monomonee river of Green bay, and with the Chippeway river of the Mississippi—routes of communication occasionally travelled by the Indians in canoes. At its mouth there is a village of Chippeways, of twenty-five men, who subsist chiefly on the fish (sturgeon) taken in the river; and whose location, independently of that circumstance, does not appear to unite the ordinary advantages of Indian villages in that region. A strip of alluvial land, of a sandy character, extends from the lake up the river three or four leagues, where it is succeeded by high broken hills of a rocky and steril character, and covered chiefly by a growth of pine, hemlock, and spruce. Among these hills, which may be considered as lateral spurs of the Porcupine mountains, the copper mines, so called, are situated at the distance of thirty-two miles from the lake, and in the centre of a region characterized by its wild, rugged, and forbidding aspect. The large mass of native copper lies on the west bank of the river at the water's edge, and near the foot of an alluvial hill, the face of which appears, at some former period, to have slipped into the river, carrying with it the mass of copper, together with detached blocks of granite, hornblende, and other fragments of rock peculiar to the soil at that place. The copper, which is in a pure and malleable state, lies in connexion with a species of serpentine rock, the face of which it almost completely overlays, and separate grains and masses of it are also disseminated throughout the most solid parts of the rock. Unlike most oxydable metals which have suffered a long exposure to the atmosphere, the surface of this mass of copper presents a high metallic brilliancy; which may result from an alloy of the precious metals, or is most probably attributable to the action of the river, by which it is periodically inundated at those seasons when the waters are highly surcharged with sand and other alluvial matter. This may be presumed to abrade its surface and preserve its lustre. The shape of this mass of copper and serpentine is very irregular; its greatest length is three feet eight inches, its greatest breadth three feet four inches, and it may altogether contain eleven cubic feet. In size it considerably exceeds the great mass of native iron found some years ago upon the banks of Red

* Silliman's Travels, vol. ii. 177.

river, in Louisiana, and now deposited among the collections of the New York Historical Society,* but, on account of the admixture of rocky matter, is inferior in weight. Henry, who visited it in 1766, estimates the mass at five tons.† Other authorities have assigned to it a greater weight, but all who have seen this celebrated product appear to have been misled by its imposing exterior. Careful examination and admeasurement convinces me that the weight of *metallic copper* on the rock does not exceed twenty-two hundred pounds. The quantity may, however, have been much diminished since its first discovery, and the marks of chisels and axes upon it, with the broken tools scattered around, prove that portions have been cut off and carried away. The author just quoted observes, "that such was its pure and malleable state, that, with an axe, he was able to cut off a portion weighing a hundred pounds. Notwithstanding this reduction, it may still be considered one of the largest and most remarkable bodies of native copper found upon the globe, and is, so far as my reading extends, exceeded only by a specimen found in a valley in Brazil, weighing 2,666 Portuguese pounds.‡ Viewed only as a subject for scientific speculation, it presents the most interesting considerations, and must be regarded by the geologist as affording illustrative proofs of an important character. Its connexion with a species of rock which is foreign to the section of country where it lies, indicates a removal from its original bed, while the intimate connexion of the metal and matrix, and the complete envelopement of individual masses of copper by the rock, point to a common and contemporaneous origin, whether that be referable to the agency of caloric or water. This conclusion admits of an obvious and important application to the extensive strata of serpentine and other magnesian rocks found in various parts of the globe: such is the Copper Rock of Lake Superior, which has long been known to the fur traders and *voyegeurs* of the north, and is only here considered as an isolated mass indicating the existence of mines in that vicinity. The Ontonagon river, at the place of its deposite, is broad, rapid, and shallow, and filled with fragments of projecting rocks, which render the navigation extremely difficult and dangerous. The river flows over a coarse grained sandstone, similar in its characters to that which support the Palisado rocks upon the Hudson. Its waters partake of the chocolate brown color of the Arkansas, and, like that stream, appear to owe this property to the banks of ferrugineous red clay through which it passes. There is an island nearly in the centre of the river that serves to throw the current against the west bank of the river where the mass of copper reposes, and which, as it is the only wooded island noticed in the river, may serve to indicate the locality of this mineral treasure to the future inquirer.

Several other masses of virgin copper have been found upon this river at various periods since it has been known and frequented by Europeans, and taken into different parts of the United States and of Europe. A recent analysis of one of these specimens at the University of Leyden, proves it to be native copper in a state of uncommon purity, and uncombined with any appreciable portion either of gold or silver.

A mass of copper discovered by the aborigines at Point Che-goi-me-gon, eighty miles west of the Ontonagon, weighed twenty-eight pounds, and was carried to the island of Michilimackinac some years ago by M. Cadotte, and disposed of. It was from this mass that the War Department was formerly supplied with a specimen, and the analysis above alluded to is also understood to have been made from a portion of this mass. About eleven years ago, [1809] a piece of copper weighing twelve pounds was picked up by the Indians on an island in Winnebago lake, about one hundred miles in a direct line east of the copper rock upon the Ontonagon. A trader by the name of Campbell caused it to be taken to Michilimackinac, from which it was distributed in various specimens. Other discoveries of this metal, in masses varying from one to ten pounds, are stated to have been made upon the shores of Lake Superior,—the Fox—the Chippeway, and the St. Croix rivers, and upon the Mississippi near Prairie du Chien, but the statements do not rest on sufficient authority to justify any particular enumeration.

The existence of copper upon the shores of Lake Superior appears to have been known to the earliest travellers and traders. As early as 1689, the Baron La Hontan, in concluding a description of that lake, adds "that, upon it, we also find copper mines, the metal of which is so fine and plentiful that there is not a seventh part loss from the ore."§ In 1721, P. de Charlevoix passed through the lakes on his way to the Gulf of Mexico; and this acute observer did not allow the mineralogy of the country to escape his notice. "Large pieces of copper" [he observes in speaking of Lake Superior] "are found in some places on its banks, and around some of the islands, which are still the objects of a superstitious worship among the Indians. They look upon them with veneration, as if they were the presents of those gods who dwell under the waters; they collect their smallest fragments, which they carefully preserve, without, however, making any use of them. They say that formerly a huge rock of this metal was to be seen elevated a considerable height above the surface of the water, and, as it has now disappeared, they pretend that the gods have carried it elsewhere; but there is great reason to believe that, in process of time, the waves of the lake have covered it entirely with sand and slime; and it is certain that, in several places, pretty large quantities of this metal have been discovered without being obliged to dig very deep. During the course of my first voyage to this country, I was acquainted with one of our order [Jesuits] who had been formerly a goldsmith, and who, while he was at the mission of the *Sault de Ste. Marie*, used to search for this metal, and made candlesticks, crosses, and censers of it; for this copper is often to be met with almost entirely pure."‖

In 1766, Capt. Carver procured several masses of metallic copper upon the shores of Lake Superior, and about the sources of the Chippeway and St. Croix rivers, and published an account of these discoveries in his book of travels, which has served to give notoriety to the existence of that metal in the region alluded to, without, however, furnishing any very precise information as to its locality or abundance. He did not, from his own account, traverse the southern shore of the lake, but states that virgin copper is found in great plenty on the Ontonagon, or Copper Mine river, and about other parts of Lake Superior, and adds, "that he observed many of the small islands, particularly those on the *eastern shores*, were covered with copper ore, which appeared like beds of copperas, [sulphate of iron,] of which many tons lay in a small space."¶

Five years after Carver's visit, [A. D. 1771,] a considerable body of copper was dug out of the alluvial earth upon the banks of the Ontonagon river, by two adventurers of the name of Henry and Bostwick, and, together with a lump of silver ore of eight pounds weight, conveyed to Montreal, and from thence shipped to England, where the latter was deposited in the British Museum after an analysis of a portion of it, by which it was determined to contain 60 per cent. of siver.** These individuals were connected with a company which had been formed in England for the purpose of working the copper mines on Lake Superior, among whom were the Duke of Gloucester, Sir William Johnston, and several other gentlemen of rank. They built a vessel at *Pointe aux Pins*, six miles above the *Sault de Ste. Marie*, to facilitate their operations upon the lake; and a considerable sum of money was expended, first, in exploring the northern shore of the lake and the island of *Maripeaux*, and, afterwards, in the mining operations which were authorized upon the banks of the Ontonagon. These transactions will be best illustrated by a quotation from the narrative account which Henry has himself published. After returning from the Canadian shore of the lake, and passing Point Iroquois where the silver ore was found, he observes: "hence we coasted westward, but found nothing till we reached the Ontonagon where, besides the detached masses of copper formerly mentioned, we saw much of the same metal *imbedded in stone*. Pro-

* See Bruce's Mineralogical Journal, p. 124, 218.

† See Henry's Travels and Adventures, p. 205.

‡ See Phillips' Mineralogy.

§ La Hontan's Voyages to Canada, p. 214.

‖ Charlevoix's Journal of a Voyage to North America, vol. 2. p. 45.

¶ Carver's Travels, p. 67. Full reliance is not intended to be placed upon the descriptions of this work. Its authenticity has often been called in question, and persons have not been wanting who have pronounced the whole a fabrication. Great allowance is undoubtedly to be made for the time and mode of the publication, for errors of judgment, for overstrained narration, and for other circumstances. But the work, nevertheless, bears internal marks of the author's having travelled the route he designates. Not only so, there are living witnesses among the superannuated traders and *voyageurs* of the north, who recollect his visit to the country.

** Henry's Travels, p. 30.

posing to ourselves to make a trial on the hill till we were better able to go to work upon the solid rock, we built a house, and sent to the *Sault de Ste. Marie* for provisions. At the spot pitched upon for the commencement of our preparation, a green colored water, which tinges iron of a copper color, issued from the hill, and this the miners called a *leader*. In digging, they found frequent masses of copper, some of which were of three pounds weight. Having arranged every thing for the accommodation of the miners during the winter, we returned to the Sault.

"Early in the spring of 1772, we sent a boat-load of provisions, but it came back on the 20th day of June, bringing with it, to our surprise, the whole establishment of miners. They reported that, in the course of the winter, they had penetrated *forty* feet into the face of the hill, but, on the arrival of the thaw, the clay on which, on account of its stiffness, they had relied, and neglected to secure by proper supporters, had fallen in; that from the detached masses of metal, which to the last had daily presented themselves, they supposed there might be ultimately reached a body of the same, but could form no conjecture of its distance, except that it was probably so far off as not to be pursued without sinking an air shaft; and, lastly, that the work would require the hands of more men than could be fed in the actual state of the country. Here our operations in this quarter ended. The metal was probably within our reach, but if we had found it, the expense of carrying it to Montreal must have exceeded its marketable value. It was never for the exportation of copper that our company was formed, but always with a view to the silver which it was hoped the ores, whether of copper or lead, might, in sufficient quantity, contain."

In the year 1789, Mr. Alexander McKenzie (afterwards knighted for his enterprise) passed through Lake Superior on his first voyage of discovery into the northwest, and, in his description of that lake, says, "on the same side [the south] at the river 'Tonagon, is found a quantity of virgin copper. The Americans, soon after they got possession of that country, sent an agent thither, and I should not be surprised to hear of their employing people to work the mine. Indeed it might be well worthy the attention of the British subjects to work the mines on the north coast, though they are not supposed to be so rich as those on the south."*

The attention of the United States' Government appears first to have been turned toward the subject during the administration of President Adams, when the sudden augmentation of the navy rendered the employment of domestic copper, in the equipment of ships, an object of consideration; and a mission was authorized to proceed to Lake Superior. Of the success of this mission, as it has not been communicated to the public, nothing can with certainty be stated; but from the inquiries which have been instituted during the recent expedition, it is rendered probable that the actual state of our Indian relations at that period, forbid the advance of the commissioner into the region where the most valuable beds of copper exist.

Such are the lights which those who have preceded me in this inquiry have thrown upon the subject, all of which have operated in producing public belief in the existence of extensive copper mines upon Lake Superior, while travellers appear to agree that the *southern* shore is most metalliferous, and that the Ontonagon river may be considered as the seat of the principal mines. Mr. Gallatin, in his report on the state of domestic manufactures in 1810, countenances the prevalent opinion, while it has been reiterated in our literary journals and the numerous ephemeral publications of the times, until the public expectation has been considerably raised in regard to them.

Under these circumstances, the recent expedition under Governor Cass entered the mouth of the Ontonagon river on the 27th of June, having coasted along the southern shore of the lake from the head of the river St. Marys; and, after spending four days upon the banks of that stream in the examination of its mineralogy, proceeded, on the first of July, towards the Fond du Lac. While there, the principal part of our force was encamped at the mouth of the river, and the governor, accompanied only by such persons as were necessary in the exploration, proceeded, in two light canoes, to the large mass of copper which has already been described. We found the river broad, deep, and gentle, for a distance, and serpentine in its course,—then becoming narrower, with an increased velocity of current, and, before reaching the copper rock, full of rapids, and difficult of ascent. At the distance of three or four leagues from the lake, it is skirted on either side by a chain of hills whose extreme elevation above the bed of the Ontonagon may be estimated at from three to four hundred feet. These hills appear to be composed of a nucleus of granite, rising through a formation of ferrugineous sandstone, and covered by a very heavy deposite of alluvial soil, full of water-worn fragments of rocks and pebbles, and imbedding occasional masses of native copper. Such is the character of the country in the immediate vicinity of the copper rock; and the latter is manifestly one of those extraneous bodies which has been exposed by the powerful action of the river against an alluvial bank.

During our continuance upon this stream, we procured another mass of metallic copper, weighing nine pounds [Troy] nearly, which will be forwarded to the War Department. This specimen is partially enveloped by a crust of green carbonate of copper, which is, in some places, *fibrous*, and, on one side, mixed with a portion of adhering sand, and some angular fragments of quartz, upon which it appears to have fallen in a liquid state. There is also a crystallized substance enveloped by the oxyde, and a portion of adhering solid black matter, the nature of which it is difficult to determine by occular inspection. Several smaller pieces, generally weighing less than a pound, were also obtained during our excursion up the Ontonagan, and in the region east of it; but all, excepting those cut from the large mass, are somewhat oxydated, or deeply encrusted upon the surface. The geological structure of the country in detail, and the mineral appearances of the shore at the copper rock, and at other points along the river, are also of a highly interesting character, but do not appear to me to demand a more particular consideration in this report.

The discovery of masses of native copper is generally considered indicative of the existence of mines in the neighborhood. The practised miner looks upon them as signs which point to larger bodies of the same metal in the contiguous earth or rocks, and is often determined, by discoveries of this nature, in the choice of the spot for commencing his labors. The predictions drawn from such evidences, are also more sanguine in proportion to the extent of the discovery. It is not, however, an unerring indication, and appears liable to exceptions. A detached mass of copper is sometimes found remote from any body of this metal or its ores; and the latter, on the contrary, sometimes occur in the earth, or imbedded in rock strata, where there has been no external discovery of *metallic* copper to indicate it. So far as the opinions of mineralogical writers can be collected on this point, they teach that large veins or beds of native copper are seldom found,† but that it is frequently disseminated in granite, gneiss, and other rocks, and associated with the spars and ores of copper, and other mines.‡ Thus it is usually associated, in the interior of the earth, with red copper ore, copper pyrites, malachite, copper glance, brown ironstone, &c., and, when found upon the surface, is rather to be considered as a token of the existence of these ores within the circle of country where it occurs, than as the precursor to contiguous veins of metallic copper.

"Native copper [observes Professor Cleaveland] is found chiefly in primitive rocks through which it is sometimes disseminated, or more frequently it enters into the composition of metallic veins which traverse these rocks. It is thus connected with granite, gneiss, micaceous and argillaceous slates, granular limestone, chlorite, serpentine, porphyry, &c.§ Mr. Allen found it in connexion with zeolite in the Faroe islands,¶ and I have observed it associated with quartz, prehnite, and greenstone, at the portage of Kee-wy-wee-non on Lake Superior. The sulphuret of copper was formerly explored in transition sandstone at Simsbury, in Connecticut, and at Schuyler's mines in New Jersey. Such are among the prominent facts connected with the occurrence of copper and its associations in the mineral kingdom. From a deliberate consideration of them, in application to the facts which I have been able to collect in regard to the copper of Lake Superior, the following conclusions appear to me to be established:

1st. That the alluvial soil upon the banks of the Ontonagon, extending to its source, and embracing the contiguous region which gives origin to the Fox and Monomonee rivers, of Green Bay, and to the Ouisconsin, Chippeway, and St. Croix rivers, of the Mississippi, contains very

* McKenzie's Voyages and Travels, p. 29.
† Phillips' Mineralogy, p. 38.
‡ Jameson's System of Mineralogy, vol. 3. p. 98.
§ Cleaveland's Elementary Treatise on Mineralogy, p. 450.
¶ Bruce's Mineralogical Journal, p. 261.

frequent, and some extraordinary masses of native or metallic copper; but that no body of it, which is sufficiently extensive to become the object of profitable mining operations, is *now* known to exist at any particular place. This conclusion is supported by the facts already adduced, and, so far as theoretical aids can be relied upon, by an application of such theories to the processes of mining. A greater extent of country might have been embraced along the shores of Lake Superior, but the same remark appears to be applicable to it.

2d. That a mineralogical survey of the Ontonagon, including the district of country above alluded to, would result in the discovery of very valuable mines of copper glance, malachite, and other profitable ores of copper, in the working of which the ordinary advantages of mining would be greatly enhanced by disseminated masses and veins of native metal. This conclusion is rendered probable by the geological features of the country, and the concurrent statements of travellers; by the green colored waters which issue in several places from the earth; by the numerous bodies of native copper found; by the cupreous appearances which are presented in the crevices of rocks and loose stones, and by other analogous considerations.

These deductions embrace all I have to submit on the mineral geography of the country so far as regards the copper mines. Other considerations arise from the facilities which that section of country may present for mining operations; its adaptation to the purposes of agriculture; the state and dispositions of the Indian tribes, and other topics which a design to commence metallurgical operations at the present period would suggest. But I am not aware that any such views are entertained by Government, and have not considered it incumbent upon myself, in this communication, to enter into details on these subjects. It may be proper, however, to remark, that the remote situation of the country containing the most valuable mines, does not, at the present period, favor the pursuit of mining.* It would require the employment not only of the artificers and laborers necessary to conduct the working of the mines, but also of a military force to protect their operations; first, while engaged in exploring the country, and afterwards in their regular labors. For, whatever may be their professions of friendship, the Indian tribes of the north possess strong natural jealousies of the American Government, and a dislike, founded upon long habits of intercourse with the agents of the British Government in the Canadas. The motives and effects of this intercourse have been too often and too severely felt either to be mistaken or forgotten; and in situations so remote, the bands who have so long experienced the conveniences of an intercourse which has annually secured to them a gratuitous supply of clothing and arms will not be expected to repress their feelings of hostility under the circumstances contemplated, and indeed can only be restrained from an indulgence of the most malignant passions by the fear of a prompt military chastisement.

In looking upon the southern shore of Lake Superior, the period appears distant when the advantages flowing from a military post upon that frontier will be produced by the ordinary progress of our settlements, for it presents few enticements to the agriculturist. A considerable proportion of the shore is rocky, and its alluvions are in general of too light and sandy a texture for profitable husbandry. With an elevation of six hundred and forty-six feet above the Atlantic ocean,† and drawing its waters from territories all situated north of the forty-fourth degree of north latitude, Lake Superior cannot be represented as enjoying a climate very favorable to the productions of the vegetable kingdom. Its forest trees are chiefly those of the fir kind, mixed with white birch, *(betula papyracea,)* the bark of which is so much employed for canoes by the northern Indians, and with some varieties of poplar, oak, and maple. The meteorological observations which I have made, indicate, however, a warm summer, the average heat of the month of June being 69°, but the climate is subject to a long and severe winter, and to storms and sudden transitions of temperature during the summer months. We saw no Indian corn among the savages upon this lake: whether the climate is unfavorable to its growth, or the wild rice *(zizania aquatica)* furnishes an adequate substitute, is not certain. A country wanting the advantages of a fertile soil may still become a very rich mining district, like the county of Cornwall in England, the Hartz mountains in Germany, and the mining counties of Missouri, in the valley of the Mississippi; but this deficiency must be compensated by the advantages of geographical position, contiguous or redundant population, and the facilities of a ready commercial intercourse. To these the mineral district of Lake Superior can advance but a feeble claim, while it lies upwards of three hundred miles beyond the verge of our settlements on the northwestern frontier, and in the occupation of savage tribes whose hostility has been so recently manifested.‡

Concerning the variety, importance, and extent of its mineral productions, little doubt can remain. Every fact which has been observed tends to strengthen the belief that there are extensive copper mines upon its shores; while the information which has been obtained during the recent mission, renders it certain that not only copper, but iron, lead, plumbago, manganese, and sulphur, are productions of that region, together with several of the precious, silicious, and crystallized minerals.§ It is rendered probable, also, that silver ore is imbedded in the transition rocks of the region, and whenever it shall become an object with the American Government, or individuals, to institute mineralogical surveys of the country, no doubt can be entertained but such researches will eventuate in mineral discoveries of a highly interesting character, and such as cannot fail both to augment our sources of profitable industry and to promote our commercial independence. In the event of such operations, the facilities of a ready transportation of the crude ore to the Sault de Ste. Marie, either in vessels or barges, will point out that place as uniting, with a commanding geographical position, superior advantages for the reduction of the ores, and for the subsequent conversion of the metal into sheet copper, ordnance, or other articles required for national purposes. At this place a fall of twenty-two feet in the river, in the distance of

* Other views, it will be observed, have been taken of this subject; and it is believed that the "remote situation" of the mines do not, under present circumstances, present any sufficient objection to their being opened and worked. But it has not been thought proper to alter any expressions of this report, notwithstanding that subsequent observation or reflection may have proved them incorrect. The obstacles which Bostwick and Henry had to encounter no longer exist, and the whole aspect of the country has experienced a complete revolution.

† This level is predicated upon the following estimates, viz.

Elevation of Lake Erie above the tide waters of the Hudson, according to the report of the New York Canal Commissioners - - -	565 feet
Estimated fall of Detroit river (20 miles, at 6 inches per mile) - - - - - -	10
Estimated fall of St. Clair river (30 miles, at 4 inches per mile) - - - - - -	10
Rapids of St. Clair river at the outlet of Lake Huron	9
Estimated fall of the river St. Marys (60 miles, at 3 inches per mile) - - - - -	15
Neebish rapids - - - - -	9
Little rapid - - - - - -	6
Sault Ste. Marie (according to Col. Gratiot) -	22.10
Level of Lake Superior	646.10

‡ The establishment of a military post, and agency for Indian affairs, at the Sault Ste. Marie, which commands the pass into Lake Superior, since the date of this report, places our Indian relations on that frontier upon an entirely different footing, and is calculated, in a great measure, to obviate these objections. Subsequent information likewise justifies the belief that the climate of Lake Superior is more favorable to agriculture than was supposed. Traders, who are best acquainted with the interior, observe that, in proceeding a few miles south of the shore of the lake, its steril character is exchanged for rich lands, finely diversified with hill and dale, and covered with tall forests of oak, maple, beech, and hickory, and irrigated by numerous streams. [H. R. S. Oct. 1822.]

§ The cornelian is first found on approaching the Pictured Rocks on Lake Superior, and afterwards becomes abundant along the shore, extending to the Fond du Lac. Sandy lake, on the head of the Mississippi, is a good locality of this mineral, and it is found around the shores of the numerous small lakes and ponds in that region. In descending the Mississippi, it is constantly met with in the alluvial soil. It is found at the foot of the Falls of St. Anthony sparingly, around the shores of Lake Pepin very abundant, and may be traced below Prairie du Chien, and (as I have mentioned in my view of the lead mines) even as low as St. Louis and St. Genevieve. According to the classification of Werner, which is founded on "alternate bands of red and white," many of these specimens may be considered as varieties of sardonyx. They are often associated with common chalcedony, with cacholong, and with some varieties of agate and jasper. In a few instances the common opal, in small fragments, is found.

half a mile, creates a sufficient power to drive hydraulic works to any extent; while the surrounding country, being such as to admit of an agricultural settlement, may be relied upon for the staple articles of subsistence. It must be important to know that this advantage is not of an equivocal character. The experience of a century proves that the contiguous lands are perfectly well adapted to the growth of oats, peas, beans, potatoes, rye, and, in certain situations, of corn and wheat. In the latitude of Montreal, in Lower Canada, (nearly,) it may be expected to produce the same articles which are the objects of profitable cultivation there.

I accompany this report with several views of northern scenery, and with a geological chart of a vertical section of the left banks of the Mississippi at St. Peter's, embracing a singular formation of native copper, in which the superposition of the layers of rock, and the several sub-deposites of the alluvial stratum, exhibit a remarkable order. The curvatures in the lines of the alluvial stratum represent a natural mound or hillock recumbent upon the brink of the river, which has partially fallen in, thus exposing its internal structure. This formation first excited the notice of the garrison, who quarried limestone for the purposes of building at the spot. The masses of copper found are all small, none exceeding a pound in weight.

I have the honor to be, sir, with high respect and regard, your most obedient servant,

HENRY R. SCHOOLCRAFT.

To the Hon. JOHN C. CALHOUN,
Secretary of War.

B.

Among the numerous superstitions which the Indian tribes entertain, that respecting mines is not the least remarkable. They are firmly impressed with a belief that any information communicated to the whites, disclosing the position of mines or metallic treasures situated upon their grounds, is displeasing to their manitos, and even to the Great Spirit himself, from whom they profess to derive every good and valuable gift; and that this offence never fails to be visited upon them in the loss of property, in the want of success in their customary pursuits or pastimes, in untimely death, or some other singular disaster or untoward event. This opinion, although certainly not a strange one to be cherished by a barbarous people, is, nevertheless, believed to have had its origin in the transactions of an era which is not only very well defined, but must ever remain conspicuous in the history of the discovery and settlement of America. It is very well known that the precious metals were the principal objects which led the Spanish invaders to penetrate into the interior of Mexico and Peru, and ultimately to devastate and conquer the country, to plunder and destroy its temples, and to tax and enslave its ill-fated inhabitants. It is equally certain that, to escape these scenes of cruelty and oppression, many tribes and fragments of tribes, when further resistance became hopeless, fled towards the north, preferring the enjoyment of liberty and tranquillity upon the chilly borders of the northern lakes, to the pains of servitude in the mild and delightful valleys of Mexico, and the golden plains of the Incas. In this way many tribes who originally migrated from the north along the Pacific ocean to the Gulf of California, and thence over all New Spain, were returned towards the north over the plains of Texas and the valley of the Mississippi; those tribes nearest the scenes of the greatest atrocities always pressing upon the remoter and less civilized, who, in turn, pressed upon the nations less enlightened than themselves, and finally drove them into the unfrequented forests of the north. Among these terrified tribes, the traditions of the Ogibwais affirm that their ancestors came, and that they originally dwelt in a country destitute of snows. Many tribes who now speak idioms of their language were left upon the way, and have since taken distinctive names. Among these, are the Pottawatamies and Ottoways, &c. The latter formerly were, as they still remain, the agriculturlists. The Miamis, whose language bears some affinity, preceded them in their flight. The Shawnees and the Winnebagoes, each speaking a separate and original tongue, came later, and preserve more distinct traditions of their migration. All these tribes carried with them the strong prejudices and fixed hatreds excited by the cruelty, rapacity, and cupidity of their European conquerors; and, above all, of that insatiable thirst for gold and silver which led them to sack their towns, burn their temples, and torture their people. Cruelty and injustice of so glaring a character, must have made upon their minds too deep an impression ever to be forgotten, or completely erased from their traditions. To that memorable epoch we must therefore look for the origin of that cautious and distrustful disposition which these tribes have since manifested with regard to the mines and minerals situated upon their lands; and the circumstance seems to offer an abundant excuse, if not a justification, for those prevarications and evasions which present a continual series of embarrassment to every person who seeks through their aid to develope the mineral resources, or describe the natural productions, of their territories. Hence, too, the cause why they are prone to imagine that all mineral or metallic substances obtained or sought upon their lands are susceptible of being converted or *transmuted* into the precious metals.

C.

The following *additional* localities of native copper, derived from sources entitled to respect, and accompanied, in some instances, by specimens of the metal, may here be given:

1st. Grand Menou, or Isle Royal, Lake Superior. Captain ———, of the schooner ———, in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company, on Lake Superior, describes this island as affording frequent masses of copper. While becalmed off its shores in the spring of 1822, and, afterwards, in coasting along the island for a distance of one hundred miles, his men frequently went ashore, and never failed to bring back with them lumps of metallic copper, which they found promiscuously scattered among the fragments of rock. These were more abundant in approaching its southwestern extremity, where they unite in representing it to exist in a solid vein. Specimens of limpid quartz, chalcedony, and striped agate, were also brought to me from this island. [J. S. J. J.] 2d. On the extremity of the great peninsula, called by the natives *Meenaiewong*, or Keeweena point, which forms so prominent a feature in the physiognomy of Lake Superior. It occurs in the detached form. [J. H. J. J.] 3d. At Point *aux Beignes*, which is the east cape of the entrance into *L'Ance Quewiwenon*. A mass from this place was raised from the sandstone rock, which predominates there. [J. Y. B.] 4th. At *Caug Wudjieu*, or the Porcupine mountains, L. S.; in masses enveloped with a green crust along the banks of the Carp, or *Neemaibee* river, which originates in these mountains. [W. M. G. Y. J. J.] 5th. On the banks of *Lac Courterroile*. This lake lies near the source of the river Broule, or *Cawesacotai*, which enters Lake Superior near *La Pointe*. It occurs in the alluvial soil, which is a kind of loamy earth, with pebbles intermixed, but of a rich quality, and timbered with beech and maple. It is found mostly in small flat masses more or less oxydated. [B. G. J. G. Y.] 6th. In a vein on the shore of Lake Superior, between *La Riviere de Mort* and St. Johns, a little to the west of Presque Isle. [J. J.] 7th. On the northeast branch of the Ontonagon river. [J. H.] 8th. In the precipitous bluffs called *Le Portail*, and the Pictured rocks. A green matter oozes from the seams in these rocks, and forms a kind of stalactites, which is apparently a carbonate of copper. [G. Y.] These localities embrace a range of more than two hundred miles along the south shore of Lake Superior, which proves how intimately this metal and its ores are identified with the rocks and the soil of that region.

D.

In all our calculations respecting the position and advantages of these mines, too much stress cannot be laid upon the facilities of the lake navigation. It is believed that a ton of merchandize, or a barrel bulk, can be transported through the lakes at the same rates that are paid in the coasting trade of the United States. Nor is the risk greater. The best data which I can command, induce me to conclude that a quintal of copper can be conveyed from the place of shipment on Lake Superior, to the city of New York, for *one dollar*. The present price of transportation for a barrel bulk from Buffalo to 'Mackina, may be stated, on the average of freights, at 8*s*., New York. The mean weight of a barrel bulk, taking flour as the standard, may be safely put down at 200 lbs. gross, being 50 cents per cwt. But it must be recollected that there is no return freight; and, consequently, that this sum covers the expenses not only of the outward and return voyage, but still leaves a profit to the owner. Messrs. Gray and Griswold, sutlers of the 2d regiment, paid 9*s*. 6*d*., New York, per barrel bulk, from Buffalo to the Sault. This gives a result of 59 cents per cwt. But if a return cargo could be obtained, one half of this sum would afford an equal profit on the voyage; and, it is believed, that the article of bar copper could at all times be conveyed from the Sault to Buffalo for 20 cents per cwt. Being a very convenient species of ballast, it would oftentimes be taken in lieu of stone, and consequently cost no greater sum than the price of carrying it on board. But the facilities and

cheapness of the lake navigation cannot, perhaps, be better illustrated than by stating the price of provisions at the post of St. Marys, every article of which is carried from 300 to 700 miles through the lakes. The following statement of the assistant commissary has been politely furnished at my request:

"SAULT STE. MARIE, *October* , 1822.

"DEAR SIR: Agreeably to your request, I send you a statement of the actual cost of subsistence stores furnished at this post for the use of troops, at present making the military establishment, ordered by the Government to this place.

"The prices of the several articles below enumerated are at a small advance in the stores of the settlers outside of the cantonment.

"The expenses of subsisting, or rather of maintaining a garrison at this place, will be as small, if not less, per annum, than at any other frontier post in our country. The provisions for the soldier cost as little, I believe, as at any other post, and next year we shall be able to raise all the forage for the use of our beef cattle, and the horses and oxen of the quartermaster's department.

I am, dear sir, yours, &c.,
W. BICKER, *A. C. S. U. S. A.*"

"*Statement of the cost of United States' subsistence stores at the Sault de Ste. Marie*, 1822.

	Cents.
"Pork, per pound,	4 ¼
Flour, per pound,	1 9-10
Whiskey, per gallon,	29
Fresh beef, per pound,	6 ½
Vinegar, per gallon,	22
Salt, per bushel,	90
Soap, per pound,	10
Candles, per pound,	20 ½
Beans, per quart,	4 7-10

"The total cost of a soldier's ration is 9 cents and 1 mill per diem.

"WALTER BICKER,
A. C. S. U. S. Army.

"H. R. SCHOOLCRAFT, Esq.,
U. S. I. Agent."

E.

Statement of the returns of copper ores smelted at the mines of Cornwall, (Eng.) from 1726 *to* 1775.—[*Rees' Cyclopedia.*]

Periods.	Tons of ore.	Average price per ton.	Amount.	Annual quantity of fine copper.
1726 to 1735	64,800	£7 15 10	£473,500	700 tons
1736 to 1745	75,520	7 8 6	560,106	830 "
1746 to 1755	98,790	7 8 0	731,457	1,080 "
1756 to 1765	169,699	7 6 6	1,243,045	1,800 "
1766 to 1775	264,273	6 14 6	1,778,337	2,650 "

[*Vide art. Mines.*]

F.

Statement of the produce of the mines of Cornwall and Devon, (Eng.) for a period of four years, ending with 1811.

		Tons of ore.	Fine copper.	Average standard per ton.	Annual amount, after deducting charges of smelting.
		Tons. cwt. qrs. lbs.	Tons. cwt. qrs. lbs.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1808	Cornwall	73,434 2 1 0	7,118 5 1 17	107 0 0	781,348 16 0
	Devon	3,725 0 0 0	369 10 0 0		
1809	Cornwall	72,038 12 2 0	6,972 17 0 17	122 0 0	875,784 2 0
	Devon	3,210 0 0 0	365 1 0 3		
1810	Cornwall and Devon	80,238 14 3 0	7,006 13 2 5	141 0 0	969,376 19 0
1811	Cornwall and Devon	73,579 0 1 0	6,272 0 2 2	125 0 0	769,379 4 0

[*Rees' Cyclopedia.*]

G.

Table of the annual quantity of copper raised from the earth in different countries, in quintals—the quintal valued at 100 *lbs.*

1. England,	200,000
2. Russia,	67,000
3. Austria, including Bohemia, Gallicia, Hungary, Transylvania, Stiria, Carinthia, Carniola, Salzburg, and Moravia,	60,000
4. Sweden,	22,000
5. Westphalia, in 1808,	17,229
6. States of Denmark,	8,500
7. Bavaria, including the Tyrol,	3,000
8. France,	2,500
9. Saxony, in 1808,	1,320
10. Prussia, as left by the treaty of Tilsit,	337
11. Spanish European mines,	309
Total,	382,186

[*Jameson's Mineralogy.*]

H.

I shall here give the synonoma for this tribe of Indians, which appears to have been first recognized by the United States as an independent tribe by Wayne's treaty of 1795,* under the name of Chipewa [*Chip-e-wa.*] This name has been retained in all subsequent treaties with them, not, however, without some discrepance in the orthography. These variations are chiefly marked by the introduction of the letter *p* at the beginning of the second syllable, or the vowel *y* annexed to the third, producing Chip-*pe*-wa, Chip-*pe*-wa*y*, and Chip-e-wa*y*. The French missionaries and traders, whose policy it was to discard the names of the aboriginal tribes from their conversations, bestowed upon this tribe, at a very early period, the *nom de guerre* of *Saulteurs*, or *Sauteurs*, from the *Sault* or Falls of St. Marys, which was the ancient seat of this tribe—a name which is still retained by the Canadians, and by many of the American traders. Among the early French writers they are also sometimes denominated *Outchipouas*. There is as little uniformity among travellers and geographers. Pinker-

* This fact is not stated in full confidence. I cannot refer to any authorities to prove that they were formally recognized by the United States before this very recent period. By the French and British Governments they were known soon after the first settlements at Quebec and Albany (A. D. 1608, 1614,) and subsequently treated with. A band of warriors from Chegoimegon on Lake Superior, under the command of *Wawb Ojeag*, or the White Fisher, was present at the taking of Fort Niagara by Sir W. Johnston in 17—.

ton, Darby, Morse, Carver, Mackenzie, and Herriot, either employ the word according to the orthography of Wayne's treaty, or with the modifications above noticed. The name of Chippewyans, employed by Mackenzie, relates to a tribe residing north and west of the sources of the Mississippi, who, although speaking a language having great affinity, are nevertheless, at the present day, considered a distinct people. Henry, who was well versed in the Chippewa language, also conforms to the popular usage, but observes that the true name, as pronounced by themselves, is *O'Gibbeway*. I shall only remark that this is the nearest approach to the true name which appears in print, and is probably quite accurate, in relation to the band residing at Chegoimegon, at the epoch to which he alludes. The word, as now employed by the Indians at this place, is O-gib-way, or O-gib-wai, the letter *g* in this word being pronounced soft, as in the English words *gin*, *geography*, &c. The vowels *i* or *y* in the final syllable, are, perhaps, equally proper and melodious, and may be indiscriminately used, but I prefer the letter *i*, as approaching nearer the aboriginal sound, which terminates abruptly, partaking somewhat of the aspirate sound of *h*. Having taken pains to ascertain and fix the pronunciation of this word, I have not hesitated to introduce it into my correspondence and official accounts; but I am aware of my great temerity in so doing. Popular prejudices, and several of the authorities above cited, stand opposed to the proposed innovation. The continued use of the word "Chippewa" is also sanctioned by a name entitled to conclusive respect. "I write the word in this way," (observes the Executive of Michigan,) "because I am apprehensive the orthography is inveterately fixed, and not because I suppose it is correct." Still, there are reasons for changing it. Justice to this unfortunate race requires it. Since the popular apathy to their condition is such, that every remembrance of their actual customs, manners, and traditions, will probably perish with them, and their *name*, ere long, be all that is left, it is at least incumbent upon us to transmit *that* to posterity in its true sound—as the fathers and sachems pronounced it. If, then, there is an acknowledged error in this respect, shall we hesitate to correct it?

17th Congress. **No. 366.** 2d Session.

PRE-EMPTION RIGHT IN MISSISSIPPI.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DECEMBER 17, 1822.

Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, made the following report:

The Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom were referred the petition and accompanying documents of John Jenkins, have had them under consideration, and report:

The petitioner states that, at an early period, he settled on the right bank of the Mississippi river, within the present limits of the State of Louisiana; that, in the year 1813, after he had made considerable improvements, the river rose so high as entirely to overflow his possessions, and render it necessary for him and his family to seek safety on higher ground; which they did by crossing into the Territory, now State of Mississippi; that, in less than a year after, Congress, by an act passed the 14th day of April, 1814, gave to every person who inhabited and cultivated a tract of land in that section of the country, and who had not removed, a right of pre-emption; that his removal, to avoid the dangers of an inundation, denied him the privileges of said act: wherefore he prays relief.

The material facts of the petition are proved, as the committee conceive, by the affidavit of John Blanchard. This witness testifies that the petitioner and his family lived near the Mississippi river in 1812, on a large farm, at a place now known by the name of Mitchell's settlement; that, during the high water in the year 1813, in descending the river, he saw the petitioner removing his family, stock, &c., to the Walnut Hills.

Your committee, believing there will be no impropriety in extending to the petitioner the right of pre-emption, report a bill for that purpose.

17th Congress. **No. 367.** 2d Session.

APPLICATION OF A PURCHASER OF LAND IN OHIO TO RELINQUISH A PART THEREOF.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE DECEMBER 31, 1822.

Mr. Van Dyke, from the Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Joshua Russell, of Tyler county, Virginia, reported:

That the petitioner, in the month of December, 1817, being desirous to purchase a small parcel of land in Monroe county, in the State of Ohio, being part of section 29, township 1, range 4 west, in the district of lands offered for sale at Marietta, applied to the register of the land office at Marietta to enter the quarter section, including the part he sought after, when the said register informed him that he might enter the half section, including the part he wanted, but could not enter or purchase less: and, accordingly, the petitioner entered the east half of said section, and paid the first instalment, amounting to $155 98, and the register issued to him the usual certificate of purchase in the common official form; that the petitioner, relying upon the said contract with the public agent of the Government, entered upon the land, made improvements and cleared for tillage upwards of twenty acres, and was afterwards informed by the register that the entry was irregular, and the title could not be completed, inasmuch as, according to the construction given to the law in that behalf, the said section being what is termed fractional, the whole of it should have been entered. After receiving this intelligence, the petitioner applied to Congress for relief, and his petition was, by order of the House of Representatives, on 9th December, 1819, referred to the Committee on Private Lands; which committee, having called on the Commissioner of the General Land Office for information touching the said application, received from him a written communication, dated April 6, 1820, stating that he was "not aware of any difficulty in the petitioner's obtaining a patent for the tract when he pays the balance of the purchase money," adding "I shall write to the register there on the subject:" whereupon, the petitioner obtained leave to withdraw his petition, and the same was withdrawn in the expectation that no further difficulty would arise to prevent the perfecting of his title; but, to his surprise, he has since learned that the Commissioner of the General Land Office afterwards addressed to the chairman of the said committee a letter dated 27th April, 1820, stating that, by information from the said register, it appeared "that the sale was *conditional* and erroneous, because the whole section, being a fractional one, had been offered at public sale, and the rule was to sell at private sale all tracts in the same manner as they are offered at public sale, &c. The petitioner states that, prior to the 30th September, 1821, he applied to the said register, wishing to retain the southeast fractional quarter section, and to relinquish the rest of his said purchase, but

his application was rejected, and he therefore now prays that a law may be passed to authorize a grant to him for the southeast fractional quarter of said section, upon his paying the balance that would have been due had his application been admitted agreeably to the provision of the act of Congress passed 2d March, 1821, entitled "An act for the relief of the purchasers of public lands prior to the first day of July, eighteen hundred and twenty."

The committee are of opinion that Joshua Russell, the petitioner, having made a fair contract of purchase with the register of the land office, a public agent of the Government, evidenced by an official certificate in writing, which states specially the terms and conditions of the sale, and confiding in the act of that public agent, having paid part of the purchase money, made improvements, and expended his time, labor, and money, in clearing the land, ought not to be deprived of the said land by reason of any error committed by the receiver, or on the ground that his act was contrary to a rule established in the office in relation to the sale of particular sections. Equally dangerous would be the doctrine that the register, after issuing his official certificate, could defeat the purchaser's title by suggesting conditions different from what is expressed in such certificate. The committee, impressed with a conviction that the petitioner is justly entitled to the benefit of his said purchase, report a bill for his relief.

17th Congress. **No. 368.** 2d Session.

LAND CLAIMS IN THE EASTERN DISTRICT, AND IN THE DISTRICT NORTH OF RED RIVER, IN THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 13, 1823.

Treasury Department,
January 1, 1823.

Sir: In compliance with the sixth section of the act of the 11th of May, 1820, entitled "An act supplementary to the several acts for the adjustment of land claims in the State of Louisiana," I have the honor to transmit the reports made in pursuance of the said act by the registers of the eastern district, and of the district north of Red river, in the said State. No report has been received from the district of the Opelousas.

In the first of these reports, the claims filed under the second section of the act are numbered from 1 to 89, inclusive; and, with the exception of numbers 26, 30, 38, 39, 41, 42, 44, 45, 55, 58, 63, 64, 68, 70, 80, and 87, are, in the words of the second section, founded upon Spanish grants, concessions, or orders of survey; and ought therefore to be confirmed.

No. 26 is claimed under a survey made by the surveyor general in 1781, and certified by him to have been made by an order of Governor Galvez.

Nos. 39, 41, 42, 44, 58, 68, and 80, are supported by evidence of the same nature, and ought therefore to be confirmed.

No. 30 is claimed by purchase and title derived by mesne conveyances from the estate of James Hubert Bellair, and was inventoried on the 10th of August, 1767, by authority of the French Government, and sold by the ame authority. It therefore, in my opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 38 is claimed by purchase under a deed of sale executed in 1794. The surveyor, Portier, certifies that the plat accompanying the claim is conformable to the plat made by the surveyor general of the province of Louisiana, on the 22d of June, 1781. It is further proved, by the deposition of two witnesses, that a tract of twenty-one arpens front, of which this claim is a part, was granted by Governor Unzaga to the Widow Grondel. The register does not certify the credibility of the witnesses, or of Portier, the surveyor. The claim is therefore doubtful, as it is not proven that possession even under the deed, has been taken by the claimant, or by those under whom he derives his title. I am of opinion that the claim ought not to be confirmed.

No. 45 is claimed by purchase; and the claimants prove that the land was granted by the French Government, and that the witnesses had seen the grant. The law provides for Spanish and not French titles; but, if this was the only objection, the claim ought to be confirmed. The register has not certified the credibility of the witnesses; no mesne conveyances are produced, or possession or cultivation proven. As the grant is asserted to have been made by the French Government, it is highly probable more than one descent has been cast. The name of the grantee is not even stated, nor any deduction of title exhibited. I am therefore of opinion that this claim ought not to be confirmed.

No. 55 is claimed by purchase, at auction, by the register of wills; and the land was surveyed by the surveyor general of the province. As this sale was made by the authority of an officer of the Government, in the discharge of his official duty, I am of opinion that this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 63 is claimed by purchase, and a deed of sale is produced, dated in the year 1781, made by authority of the Spanish Government. The evidence in this case is not full; but it is probably the act of the register that it is so. Taking the fact asserted, that the sale was made by the authority of the Government as established, I am of opinion that the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 64 is claimed in part by purchase and part by grant. The register states that the part not granted, or for which no grant is produced, has been possessed and cultivated during the Spanish Government. I am therefore of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 70 is claimed by purchase. No grant, concession, or order of survey, is produced; but a deed, bearing date the 26th of April, 1786, states that the land had been granted on the 20th of February, 1725. Other collateral written evidence is also produced, and cultivation for forty years is proven. The claim is, therefore, recommended for confirmation.

No. 87 is claimed by purchase; and it is proven, by two respectable witnesses, that the land was surveyed and granted by the Spanish Government. It is also proven that the land has been peaceably cultivated for thirty years past by the claimant, and those under whom he claims. It is therefore recommended for confirmation.

The claims in which, under the 4th section of the act, additional evidence has been offered, are numbered by the register from 90 to 103, inclusive; and, with the exception of numbers 96, 97, 101, 102, and 103, are founded upon Spanish grants, concessions, or orders of survey; and ought, agreeably to the provisions of the act, to be confirmed. Numbers 96, 97, 101, and 103, are claims unsupported by any record evidence; nor is there evidence of any kind that they are founded upon grants, concessions, or orders of survey. They are therefore clearly not within the provisions of the act.

No. 102 is claimed under a Spanish grant alleged to have been lost. It is proven by the Spanish surveyor, Pintado, and by a deputy surveyor of the United States not named in the report, that the land was granted by Governor Carondelet, and that Pintado surveyed it in conformity to the grant, and that the grant was seen by him in the possession of Bertrand Gravin. The credibility of the witnesses is not stated by the register, unless it was intended by him to be inferred from the offices which they held. Admitting the facts stated to be established, the claim ought to be confirmed.

All these claims are for small tracts, such as the Spanish Government was in the habit of granting. The idea of speculation or fraud ought not therefore to be entertained as to most of them. This observation applies to claims Nos. 96, 97, 101, and 103; in some of which levees have been made and kept in repair, which is an important condition in all grants fronting on the river Mississippi, and other streams subject to periodical inundations.

The report of the register of the district north of Red river does not distinguish between claims filed under the second section of the act, and those in which additional evidence was produced under the fourth sectio . All the claims presented in the said report, in class the

first, except Nos. 40, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, and 51, are founded upon Spanish grants, concessions, or orders of survey, and ought therefore to be confirmed.

No. 40 is claimed under an order of survey from Governor Galvez, presumed to have been altered so as to transfer it to the land claimed. The evidence in support of that presumption is herewith submitted.

Nos. 44, 45, 46, 47, and 48, are claims for parts of the large claim of Baron de Bastrop, which exceeds a league square, and which has not been confirmed to the Baron. It is therefore presumed, that persons claiming under him cannot, under the provisions of the act of the 11th of May, 1820, be placed in a better situation than the Baron.

No. 51 is for six toises on each side of the Bayou Barthelemy, from its mouth to its source. The evidence offered by the claimant, and that which rebuts it, is submitted to the two Houses of Congress.

Of the claims reported by the register in the second class, there is none proven, by record evidence, to be founded upon Spanish grants, concessions, or orders of survey.

No. 38 is supported by authentic acts of alienation passed before the commandant in 1787, 1793, and 1796, in the last of which, the preceding deeds are recited. It is alleged that Jean Weigand had a concession of this land, and that it was deposited in the commandant's office. The tract has been settled nearly forty years.

No. 39 is supported by evidence very similar to the foregoing, and equally as strong. It is therefore my opinion, that both these claims ought to be confirmed.

No. 52 is claimed under a plat of survey, sheriff's title, and possession and settlement in 1799.

No. 60 is also claimed under a plat of survey in October, 1802, and six legal transfers passed before the commandant between the years 1796 and 1801.

No. 61 is claimed under a plat of survey dated 26th March, 1802. Possession and cultivation are proven for 28 years. One descent has been cast, and the applicant is the heir of the first occupant. It is believed, therefore, that these three claims ought to be confirmed.

No. 54 is claimed under a plat of survey dated 21st February, 1801, and that kind of possession dependant upon cutting and using wood. No collateral evidence in writing is produced.

No. 55 is claimed by purchase, but no record evidence of grant, concession, or order of survey, is produced. The mesne conveyances make no reference to any such title: evidence of possession and cultivation twenty-eight years since is produced; but it is presumed that neither possession nor cultivation has been continued.

No. 56 is claimed upon evidence similar to the claim immediately preceding.

Nos. 57 and 58 are claimed by occupancy and cultivation. No record evidence of any kind is produced.

No. 59 is claimed as a grave yard. It was enclosed in 1793 by the order of the commandant. No record or written evidence is produced. The four last cases are clearly not within the provisions of the act.

The third class of claims, commencing in the said report, with No. 62, and terminating with No. 100, are not founded upon Spanish grants, concessions, or orders of survey, and no record evidence is produced to show that any such title ever existed. They are, in fact, settlement claims, and might have been confirmed as donations, had they been presented in due time, under the several acts which have been passed.

It may be proper to observe, that in the report of the register of the district north of Red river, the claims are not arranged and numbered in numerical order, but appear to have been numbered in the order in which they were presented by the applicants.

I remain, with respect,
Your most obedient servant,
WM. H. CRAWFORD.

The Hon. DANIEL D. TOMPKINS,
Vice President of the United States,
and President of the Senate.

Reports of the register of the land office for the eastern district of Louisiana, on land claims filed pursuant to the provisions of an act of Congress, entitled "An act supplementary to the several acts for the adjustment of land claims in the State of Louisiana," passed the 11th of May, 1820.

CLASS FIRST:

Including claims to land entered pursuant to the second section of the act of Congress passed the 11th day of May, 1820, and entitled "An act supplementary to the several acts for the adjustment of land claims in the State of Louisiana,"

No. 1. John Pierre Burat claims a tract of land in virtue of a Spanish order of survey, situate in the parish of Plaquemine, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having twenty arpens front and forty arpens in depth, and bounded above and below by vacant lands.

An order of survey for this tract of land was regularly issued by the proper Spanish officer, in the year 1798, which was duly executed by the surveyor general of the province, Charles Leveau Trudeau, in the same year; and there is sufficient evidence of possession and continued occupancy by the claimant. I am therefore of opinion his said claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 2. Ambroise Brou claims a tract of land on which he resides, situate in the county of German Coast, parish of St. Charles, on the right bank of the Mississippi river, having four arpens twenty-nine toises two feet three inches and six lines in front, by a depth of eighty arpens; bounded on the upper side by lands of Francois Troscler, and on the lower side by the lands of Jacques Brou.

This land is claimed in virtue of a concession of the Spanish Government to the father of the claimant (under whom he holds) of nine arpens twenty-six toises in front, by forty arpens in depth. Secondly, in virtue of a purchase of same front and twenty arpens in depth, made by the said father of the claimant, of the Spanish Government: and, thirdly, in virtue of another concession of twenty arpens in additional depth to the said front; the land of the claimant being half the whole, to wit, four arpens twenty-nine toises two feet three inches and six lines.

The documents exhibited by the claimant clearly prove that the concessions stated by him to have been made by the Spanish Government were duly made by that Government, and he further shows a continued possession and occupancy. I am therefore of opinion his claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 3. Ambroise Brou claims, by purchase, a tract of land situate on the right bank of the Mississippi river, in the county of German Coast, parish of St. Charles, having two arpens one foot eight inches and six lines in front, by forty arpens in depth, and bounded on the upper side by Jacques Brou, and on the lower by lands of Isidore, (a free person of color) as appears by the plat of survey executed by the surveyor general of the Spanish Government. Said land is one half of a concession made by the Spanish Government, in the year 1784, to the person under whom the claimant holds: he also proves continued and uninterrupted possession and cultivation. I am therefore of opinion his claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 4. Widow Francois Delery, in right of her husband Francois Delery, deceased, claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the right bank of the river Mississippi, and bounded in front by the heirs of Delery, west by the lands of Peter Lartique, east by James Porte, and south by vacant lands, as more fully appears by the plat of survey executed by the surveyor of the Spanish Government, and exhibited to be recorded. Said land measures in front twelve arpens and nine toises, and in depth forty arpens; and is claimed in virtue of an order of survey granted by the Spanish Government, and of continued habitation and cultivation by the claimant. It appears that, in the year 1795, the Baron Carondelet issued an order of survey for this land in favor of Francois Delery, the husband of the claimant, and that it was duly executed in the year following by the surveyor general of the province, and the party put in possession, as was usual, by the surveyor. There is no positive proof that the land in question has been continually inhabited and cultivated from the period of the concession, but I have no doubt of the fact from circumstances, and therefore think the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 5. Samuel Davenport claims a tract of land situate on the upper side of the Bayou Moreau, in the county of Point Coupé, about twelve leagues above Point Coupé, measuring twenty arpens in front on the Mississippi river, with a depth of forty arpens, and bounded on the lower side by lands of F. De Bois. This land is claimed in virtue of a Spanish grant in favor of Thomas Durcey, from whom the claimant purchased it, dated the 19th of November, 1792.

The claimant has produced the original grant for this land as stated in his notice, and has also proved his purchase from the grantee. I am therefore of opinion that his claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 6. Joseph Castille claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, having eight arpens in front on the Mississippi river, and measuring forty arpens in depth. This land is claimed in virtue of a complete Spanish grant dated the 11th July, 1774.

The grant alluded to by the claimant is on the records of my office, and, therefore, I am of opinion his claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 7. Bernard Genois claims, in virtue of a grant made to the person under whom he claims by the Baron de Carondelet, dated the 29th November, 1793, a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, adjoining Fort St. John, having two arpens in front, with forty arpens in depth, as appears more fully by the figurative plan annexed.

The claimant produced the original grant, as stated in his notice, made to Felicite Destrehan, a free woman of color, by the Baron de Carondelet, and, also, written evidence of his title under her by purchase. I am therefore of opinion that his claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 8. The heirs of Patrick Conway claim a tract of land in virtue of a concession from the Spanish Government, dated in the year 1786, and situated in the county of Point Coupé, having ten arpens in front on the Mississipi, with a depth of forty arpens; bounded on one side by vacant lands, and on the other by lands of William Conway, as more fully appears by the plat of survey executed by Charles Laveau Trudeau in the year 1786.

The claimants produce a concession by General Miro to Patrick Conway, under whom they claim, dated 1st day of December, 1786, together with a survey of said land duly executed by the surveyor general, dated same year. It ought therefore, in my opinion, to be confirmed.

No. 9. The heirs of William Conway claim a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupé, having ten arpens in front on the Mississippi, with a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by the claim of Patrick Conway, and on the other side by the claim of Maurice Conway, as more fully appears from the plat of survey executed by the surveyor general of the Spanish Government, founded on an order of survey granted by Governor Miro to William Conway, under whom they claim, dated in the year 1786.

The same facts having been proved in this case as in the preceding, I am consequently of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 10. The heirs of Maurice Conway claim, in virtue of a Spanish grant or concession to Maurice Conway under whom they claim, dated in the year 1789, a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupé, having twenty arpens in front, with a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by the mouth of the Fausse river, and on the other by the claim of William Conway.

The grant of the Spanish Government, alluded to by the claimants, is on record in my office. I am therefore of opinion that this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 11. The widow and heirs of Louis Darby claim, in virtue of an order of survey granted by Baron de Carondelet to Louis Darby (under whom he claims) dated in 1792, a tract of land situate in a prairie fronting to the sea, in the district of Barrataria, having forty arpens front by forty arpens in depth; bounded on one side by the claim of Jacob Bachemen, and on the other by Bayou Bastien, running an east southeast course, adjoining a bayou emptying into the Mississippi.

The claimants produced the order of survey as mentioned in their notice: they also prove the loss of the survey made by the surveyor general of the Spanish province, in the fire that happened in New Orleans, which was made in pursuance of said order; and they also prove possession and cultivation from the time of the aforesaid order. I am therefore of opinion his (their) claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 12. Augustin Massicot claims, by inheritance, a second depth of land situate behind the first depth already confirmed to him, and being on the right bank of the Mississippi, in the county of German Coast, parish of St. Charles: said front depth is bounded above by the lands of Stephen Reine, and below by lands of the heirs of Francis St. Armant. The land claimed has a front of twenty-two arpens and twenty-seven toises, opening with a depth of forty arpens.

The claimant produces an order of survey granted by Governor Galvez, in the year 1777, to James Massicot, under whom the claimant holds; he also proves possession and cultivation for more than forty years; and therefore, in my opinion, the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 13. Ambroise Garidel claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, parish of Assumption, on the Bayou Lafourche, having three arpens thirteen toises and three feet front, by a depth of forty arpens, as described in the plat of survey annexed.

The claimant holds by purchase under the title of Jean Olivier Hebert, to whom it was granted by the Spanish Government in the year 1791. This land was actually surveyed by the surveyor general of the province of Louisiana in the year 1791, and makes part of another survey already confirmed to the claimant. I am therefore of opinion that it ought to be confirmed.

No. 14. Drausin Labranche and brothers claim a tract of land, by purchase at auction, situate in the county of Orleans, about thirteen miles above the city of New Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing four hundred and thirty-six superficial arpens; bounded in front by lands of Louis Dufittre, and above and below by vacant lands, as more fully appears by the survey of Charles Laveau Trudeau hereto annexed, made in favor of Charles Therry, in 1802, under whom they claim.

The claimants produce the actual survey made by the surveyor general of the province of Louisiana, as stated in their notice of claim, made, as the surveyor states, in virtue of an order to that effect; and therefore I am of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 15. Michael Aime claims, in right of inheritance, a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, county of German Coast, having sixteen arpens in front by forty in depth, and being adjacent to and back of another tract of land fronting on the Mississippi, on which the claimant now resides.

The claimant produces an order of survey granted by Governor Miro, in 1785, to Francis Aime, the grandfather of the claimant, and under whom he claims for said land. The claim, therefore, ought to be confirmed.

No. 16. Pierre Dolthonde claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having four arpens five toises two feet and eight inches in front, by a depth of one hundred arpens, bounded on the upper side by lands of Madame Hinson, and on the lower side by the same, as will more fully appear by the plat executed by Mr. Portier, hereto annexed.

The claimant produces, first, a concession from the Spanish Government, dated in 1776, for eleven arpens in front by forty arpens in depth; and, secondly, a concession dated in 1777, for the same front, and sixty additional arpens in the rear, granted to Antoine Thomassin, under whom he claims by purchase; the land claimed being part of the land originally granted to said A. Thomassin, I am of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 17. Madame Widow Ranson and son claim two tracts of land, one having five arpens five toises two feet eight inches, by a depth of one hundred arpens, and the other having a front of one arpent and a depth of one hundred arpens, both being part of the original grant mentioned in the preceding claim, as also appears from a plat of the survey: said land is situated on the right bank of the Mississippi, parish of St. Charles. The first mentioned tract is bounded on the upper side by lands of Henry Laureaux, and on the lower side by lands of Pierre Dolthonde; the second tract is bounded by the said Pierre Dolthonde on the upper side, and on the lower side by lands of the claimants.

These tracts are claimed by purchase derived from title of Antoine Thomassin, mentioned in the preceding claim of P. Dolthonde, and therefore, in my opinion, ought to be confirmed.

No. 18. Thaddeus Mayhew claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having ten arpens twenty-two toises and three feet front, with a depth of forty arpens, bounded above by lands of Lefebre, and below by lands of Barthelemy Duverger.

The claimant holds by purchase derived from Nicholas Chauvier Delery, to whom said land was granted by the Spanish Government, as appears from the survey of the surveyor general, Laveau Trudeau, dated the 4th of March, 1803. I am of opinion his claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 19. Justus Delabarre Le Beau claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having three arpens and a few feet front and back, and adjoining Jean Maria Doudounne's plantation, and running back to the Lac des Allemands, bounded on one side by lands of Madame Habine, and on the other by lands of the claimant.

The claimant holds, by purchase under the title of Roi Villeré, to whom it was conceded by the French Government in the year 1765, which the claimant exhibits. Although this claim is not founded on a Spanish grant, concession, or order of survey, yet, according to the spirit of the act of 11th of May, 1820, which I conceive meant to recognize *French* as well as Spanish grants, I am of opinion his claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 20. Garrigues Flaujac claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupé, on the Bayou Gros Tete, having forty arpens front on each side of the said bayou, with a depth of forty arpens.

The claimant holds by purchase from Louis Bertin D'Antilly, to whom it was granted by Governor Miro on the 23d day of August, 1791, as appears from the or-

der of survey. I am therefore of opinion that the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 21. Silvain Roussell claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, on the right bank of the river Mississippi, having five arpens and a half front by a depth of sixty arpens; bounded on the upper side by lands of Madame Paul Obert, and on the lower side by lands of Francis Dufresne.

This land is claimed by purchase, founded in an order of survey executed by the surveyor general of the province of Louisiana in the year 1781. I am of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 22. Pierre Terrio, senior, claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Jacques, on the left bank of the Mississippi, having two arpens front by forty arpens in depth, making a superficies of seventy-nine arpens sixty-five-hundredths, according to the survey of the principal deputy surveyor of the United States. Said land is bounded above by lands of Joseph Gaudre, and below by lands of the claimant.

This land is claimed in right of purchase, under a concession made by Governor Unzaga, in the year 1775, to Baptiste Cornier, under whom the claimant derives his title. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 23. Pierre Terrio, junior, claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Jacques, on the left bank of the Mississippi, having three arpens 22⅓ feet front, by forty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper side by lands of Michel Le Boeuf, and below by lands of Lewis Nichol.

This land is claimed in right of purchase, and is part of the same grant mentioned in the preceding claim. I am therefore of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 24. Bernardo De Deva claims a tract of land situate as follows: in the parish of Lafourche Interior, behind a depth of forty arpens, granted by the King of Spain to Carlos Gauhean Lucia Bruse and others, fronting the property or lands of one Jaccente Bernard, and lying on a bayou distant about six leagues from the Mississippi, on the right side thereof, being, in the whole, a league square.

The claimant produces a request (petition) to the Baron de Carondelet, in which he states that he, being appointed by the said Baron curate for the said parish of Lafourche, and that, having gone there, he found neither church nor house to live in, and the inhabitants so poor as to be unable to support him—under these circumstances he asks for a league square of land; which, under date of the 14th of March, 1793, Carondelet granted to him, and ordered the surveyor to put him in possession. I am therefore of opinion his claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 25. William Deval claims a tract of land in the parish of West Baton Rouge, opposite Brown's islands, and below the lowest bayou in the bend of the Mississippi, and on which he now resides.

The claimaint holds in right of purchase, and produces an order of survey granted by the Baron Carondelet in the year 1794, and the certificate of location by V. Pintado, the Spanish surveyor: he also proves possession and cultivation. I am therefore of opinion his claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 26. John Louis Wagespack claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Jacques, right bank of the Mississippi, having eight arpens and eight toises and three feet in front, by forty arpens in depth, bounded above by Jacques Troxner, and below by Nicholas Troxner.

The claimant purchased this land under a survey made by the surveyor general of the province of Louisiana in the year 1781, who certified that he made it by an order of Governor Galvez. Therefore, in my opinion, the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 27. The trustees of St. Charles' church claim a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, on the left bank of the Mississippi, having ten arpens in front and eighty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of John C. Arnaud, and below by lands of John Noel Destrehan.

It appears the first depth of forty arpens was granted by the Spanish Government in the year 1770, and the second depth of forty additional arpens in depth, was granted by said Government on the 22d day of December, 1897. I am of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 28. Achille and Laurent Segur claim a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having thirteen arpens front with a depth of forty arpens, originally granted by the Spanish Government to Anselme Blanchard. And at the end of forty arpens, the claimant claims six arpens front, by forty additional arpens, granted by Governor Gayoso on the 10th of December, 1798.

This claim makes part of a large tract, granted as aforesaid, and has descended to the claimants by purchase and succession. I am of opinion it ought to be confirmed.

No. 29. The Widow Guerbois claims a tract of land, situate in the county of Orleans, district of Barrataria, on the Bayou Ouachas; having ten arpens front by eighty arpens, more or less, in depth, bounded above by lands of —— Durnford, and below by lands of Marigny Dauterive, and in the rear by lands of P. Foucher.

This land is claimed by purchase under a French concession made, as is proved, in the year 1740. I am of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 30. Pierre Foucher claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, about two leagues above the city of New Orleans, left bank of the Mississippi; having seventeen and a half arpens, more or less, front, by a depth of eighty arpens, bounded above by lands of Barthelemy McCarty, and below by lands lately belonging to Etienne Boré, now the property of Gayairey, and her nephew, Le Breton.

This land is claimed in right of purchase, by mesne conveyances, from the estate of James Hebert Bellair, and was inventoried on the 10th day of August, 1767, by authority of the French Government, and sold by the same authority. I am therefore of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 31. Pierre Foucher claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the west side of the Bayou des Familles, district of Barrataria, having twenty-nine arpens and thirteen and a half toises front, more or less, with a depth of forty arpens.

This land is held in right of purchase under a concession made by the Spanish Government on the 11th day of May, 1797, to Charles John Baptiste Fleuri, for the quantity of forty arpens front on both sides of the said bayou, of which this claim is a part. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 32. Pierre Foucher claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, district of Barrataria, on the Bayou des Familles, having seven arpens front on each side of the bayou, and forty arpens in depth on each side, bounded on one side by lands of Dominique Bouligny and Pierre St. Poe, and on the other side by lands of Madame Guerbois and Marigny Dauterive.

This land is claimed by purchase under a concession made by the Spanish Government on the 2d April, 1800, to Pablo Suares Ruis. I am of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 33. Robert Martin claims a tract of land situate on the Bayou Boeuf, in the county of Lafourche, having a front of forty arpens on said bayou, with a depth of forty arpens, bounded above by land of Pilboro, and below by vacant land.

This land is claimed by purchase under Francois Flores, in whose favor an order of survey was made by Governor Galvez on the 7th of August, 1777. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 34. Robert Martin claims a tract of land situate on the Bayou Blake, in the county of Lafourche, having a front of fifty arpens on both sides of said bayou, with a depth of forty arpens.

This land is claimed by purchase under Miguel Saturnino, in whose favor an order of survey was made by Governor Gayoso on the 2d November, 1798. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 35. Robert Martin claims a tract of land situated on the Bayou Boeuf, in the county of Lafourche, having a front of forty arpens on both sides of said bayou, with a depth of forty arpens, bounded above by lands of Montaran, and below by lands of Dumain.

This land is claimed by right of purchase under Antoine Pilboro, in whose favor an order of survey was made by Governor Galvez on the 2d day of July, 1776. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 36. Robert Martin claims a tract of land situated in the interior of Lafourche, on the Bayou Boeuf, having a front of thirty arpens on both sides of said bayou, with the ordinary depth of forty arpens, bounded above and below by public lands.

This land is claimed by right of purchase under Jacques Montaran, in whose favor an order of survey was made by Governor Galvez on the 5th of May, 1775. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 37. William Wilson claims a tract of land situated on both sides of the Bayou Blake, having a front of forty arpens on both sides of said bayou, with a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by lands of Miguel Saturnino, and on the other by vacant land.

This land is claimed by purchase under John Slano, in whose favor an order of survey was made by Governor Gayoso on the 8th of August, 1798. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 38. Francois Saulet claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, county of German Coast, on the left bank of the Mississippi, having sixteen arpens front by a depth extending to Lake Pontchartrain. Fourteen arpens of said land is included in the plan annexed, within blue lines, and the other two arpens are situated below, and divided from the said fourteen arpens by the claim of Margaret Giradin, of one and a quarter arpens, bounded formerly by ——— Blanchard, and now by lands of Delhommer.

This land is claimed by purchase. The surveyor, Mr. Portier, certifies that the plat accompanying this claim is conformable to the plat made by the surveyor general of the province of Louisiana on the 22d day of June, 1781. The claimant produces a deed of sale for part of this land, made in the year 1794, and the depositions of two witnesses, stating that a tract of twenty-one arpens front (of which this is a part,) was granted by the Spanish Governor Unzaga to the Widow Grondel, and that this claim or grant extends to the lake. I am of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 39. Francis Joseph Delhommer claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, county of German Coast, on the left bank of the Mississippi, having three arpens front and running back forty arpens, and then two arpens front extending to Lake Pontchartrain, bounded above by lands of Francois Soulet, and below by lands of the claimant.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant produces a Spanish sale made and passed before Jacques Massicot, then commandant of the parish, and dated 15th May, 1784; he also produces several affidavits, stating that the land was granted by the Spanish Government upwards of forty years ago. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 40. John Baptiste Vickner, Nicholas Vickner, Louis Le Bon, and Andre Madere, heirs of Balthazar Vickner, claim a tract of land situate in the county of German Coast, containing five arpens front on the left bank of the Mississippi, with a depth of forty arpens, bounded above by lands of John B. Vickner, as the plat annexed shows. This land was granted by the Spanish Government to Balthazar Vickner on the 23d April, 1776, from whom it has descended to the present claimants. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 41. Edmund Drouet and John Baptiste Drouet claim a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, right bank of the Mississippi, having three arpens and eleven feet front by a depth of forty arpens, bounded above by lands of Joseph Foursier, and below by lands of Toré Gano.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimants produce a survey made by the surveyor general, by authority, in the year 1793, of which this claim is the half. I am of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 42. Widow of Joseph Faussier claims a tract of land situated in the county of Orleans, right bank of the Mississippi, containing three arpens and eleven feet front by a depth of forty arpens, bounded above by lands of Widow Jean Mendez, and below by lands of Edmund and J. B. Drouet.

This claim is founded on purchase, and is derived from the same title as the preceding one, being half of the original survey. I am consequently of opinion it ought to be confirmed.

No. 43. Samuel Alfred Taylor claims a tract of land situated in the former district of Galveztown, he thinks now in the parish of Iberville, containing three hundred superficial arpens, bounded on one side by lands of Baptiste Abair, and on the other by vacant lands.

This land is claimed by purchase, under a grant by the Baron Carondelet bearing date 10th February, 1795, to Daniel McConnell, under whom the claimant holds. I am of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 44. John Louis Drouet claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing four arpens front by forty arpens in depth, bound as per plat annexed.

This land is claimed by purchase under a survey made, by authority, by the surveyor general of the province of Louisiana, dated in the year 1802. The claimant also proves possession in himself, and those under whom he claims, upwards of forty years. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 45. The heirs of Antoine Bernard Dauterive claim a tract of land situated in the parish of Orleans, district of Barrataria, containing about fifty arpens front on the river Ouachas, extending back to the land formerly of Madame Pablo, now of Pierre Foucher, bounded above by lands of the Widow Guerbois, and below by the Bayou Dauphin.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimants prove that this land was granted by the French Government, and the witnesses testify that they have seen the concession for it. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 46. Francois Marpronne claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing, 1st. Five arpens eight toises front and eighty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Joseph Dauphin, and below by land of the claimant; 2d. Six arpens front and one hundred arpens in depth, bounded above and below by lands of the claimants; 3d. One arpent and an half front and one hundred arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of the claimant, and below by lands of Dominique Bouligny.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant produces orders of survey, and surveys executed for this land in favor of those under whom he claims, duly executed by the Spanish Government. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 47. Joseph Marie Bourgurgnon claims two tracts of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, on the left bank of the Mississippi, one containing one arpent front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by land of Widow Michel Lesch, and below by claimant; the other tract contains three quarters of an arpent front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by the first tract, and below by lands of Noel Destrehan.

This land is claimed in right of purchase, and is part of a tract of four arpens front granted by the Spanish Government, and recorded in the claims of Adam and Widow Michel Lesch, among these reports. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 48. Francois Mayronne claims a tract of land situated in the district of Barrataria, being an island containing two leagues front.

This land is claimed in right of purchase under a complete Spanish grant made 1st March, 1794. I am therefore of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 49. Adam Lesch and Widow Michel Lesch claim a tract of land situated in the parish of St. John Baptiste, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing two arpens in front by forty arpens in depth, bounded above by one arpent front of Labranche, brothers, and below by one other arpent front of Joseph Bourgurgnon.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant produces an order of survey executed by the surveyor general of the province of Louisiana in the year 1785, for four arpens front, of which this is a part, and held under that title. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 50. Eugene McCarty claims a tract of land situated in the parish of St. Bernard, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing three arpens front, crossing the Bayou Boeuf, running south on the lower line of the land of Pierre Marigny, now owned by Jourdin, freres, bounded above by the said Jourdin, and below to lands granted to the Islanders.

This land is claimed by purchase, and is part of a tract of land formerly confirmed by the late Board of Commissioners in favor of Louis De Clouet, the whole founded on a survey made by the surveyor general of the province of Louisiana in the year 1799. I am therefore of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 51. Catharine Rodriques, widow of Joseph Gonzales, claims a tract of land situated in the parish of Ascension, six miles from the Mississippi, on the right bank of the Bayou Lafourche, containing five arpens seven toises and three feet front and forty arpens in depth, and bounded above by lands of Baptiste Landry.

This land is claimed by purchase, founded on an order of survey, and survey made during the Spanish Government of Louisiana. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 52. John Baptiste Labranche, Hermegene Labranche, and Similien Labranche, claim a tract of land situated in the parish of St. John Baptiste, bounded above by land of Widow Deslonde, and below by land of Widow Joseph Schrantz, containing twelve arpens twenty-two toises front on the left bank of the Mississippi, and forty arpens in depth; also a tract of land containing one arpent in front and forty in the depth, between the land of the said Widow Schrantz and that of Adam Lesch.

This land is claimed by purchase founded on surveys made by the surveyor general of the province of Louisiana, one in the year 1786, now produced, and the other made in 1785, now in the possession of the said Adam Lesch. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 53. Pierre St. Armand claims a tract of land situated in the island of Grand Isle, district of Barrataria, county of Orleans, containing three hundred and

fifty-seven acres and three-hundredths, bounded west and north by the bay of Cormenda, and marshy lands, east by the Gulf of Mexico, and south by lands claimed by Francois Anfrai or Normond.

This land is claimed by purchase founded on an order of survey by Governor Galvez, on the 2d of July, 1781. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 54. Widow Jacques de Villiers claims a tract of land situated on the island of Plaquemine, in the parish of Iberville, right bank of the Mississippi, bounded above by the Bayou Jacob, and below by Bayou Plaquemine, containing about seven arpens front and a depth of forty arpens, running back to the lands of Antoine Rodrigues, now Cadet Jacob.

This land is claimed by deed of gift, and is part of a tract founded on a concession of the Spanish Government in the year 1772, already registered in book B, page 184, and confirmed. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 55. John Baptiste Drousin Labranche and Lucien Labranche claim a tract of land situated in the parish of Orleans, (Chapitoulas,) being a second depth back of land belonging to Alphonse Faussien, containing a front of ten arpens and three feet on the right bank of Mississippi.

This land is claimed in right of purchase, at auction, by the register of wills. The surveyor general of Louisiana executed the plat of said land, and certified that said land extended to Lake Verret, and contained four and thirty-six superficial arpens. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 56. François Mayronne claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, district of Barrataria, bounded on the north by vacant land and by lands of claimant, east by lands of D. Bouligny, south by lands of Martha Dauphin, now Manuel Rosseau, and west by vacant land, containing a front of six arpens, and forty arpens in depth.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant produces a concession made by the Spanish Government on the 8th of August, 1796, to Joseph Montegut, under whom the claimant holds. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 57. Henry Fonteneau claims a tract of land situated in the parish of St. John Baptiste, bounded on the upper side by lands of Mr. Fortin, and below by lands of Gabriel Cloutier, containing eight arpens four toises three feet front, on the second depth, extending to Lake Maurepas.

This land is claimed by purchase. It is proved that this land was part of a village of the Eolapesas Indians, and by them sold, with the consent of Governor Bienville, in 1735; afterwards surveyed by the surveyor general of the province of Louisiana in the year 1790; and deeds of sale show that this land has been possessed and cultivated by the claimant since the year 1784. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 58. The Widow Joseph Schrantz claims a tract of land situated in the parish of St. John Baptiste, bounded above and below by lands of Labranche, brothers, containing three arpens in front on the left bank of the Mississippi, and forty arpens in depth.

This land is claimed in virtue of a survey made by authority of the Spanish Government in the year 1785. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 59. John Alexis Le Blanc claims a tract of land situated in the parish of Iberville, containing about four arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded below by land recorded in the name of Joseph Rabin, and above by lands held by John Baptiste Allain.

It appears that two arpens front of said land is derived from Armand Richard, who obtained a complete title from the Spanish Government for thirteen arpens ten toises front, of which this is a part; the two other arpens front are derived from Joseph Richard, who obtained a complete Spanish grant for six arpens front, of which this is also a part. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 60. John Baptiste Allain claims a tract of land situated in the parish of Iberville, containing five arpens, bounded above by lands claimed by J. Alexis Le Blanc, and below by land of Isaac Le Blanc.

Four arpens of this land is derived from a complete grant in favor of Joseph Richard, and one arpent from a complete Spanish grant in favor of Bonaventura Le Blanc, on record in this office, in book No. 1, folio 244, for nine arpens and twelve toises front, of which this is a part. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 61. Etienne Tusson, and Victoire Le Blanc his wife, claim a tract of land situated in the parish of Iberville, bounded above by lands of Simon Broussard, and below by lands of Pierre Hebert, containing about five arpens and an half front, and forty arpens in depth.

It appears that this claim is part of a tract granted to Susan Baptiste Allain on the 5th of February, 1775, by a complete grant or concession on record in this office, lib. 1, fol. 323. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 62. Valarie Hebert, Jacques Melanson, his wife, together with Paul Hebert, severally claim a tract of land under a complete Spanish grant in favor of Pablo Hebert, from whom their title is derived, to wit: Valarie Hebert claims five arpens and four toises front and forty arpens in depth, bounded below by lands granted to Pedro Hebert, and entered in the name of Armand Hebert, and above by lands of said Melanson and wife.

The said Jacques Melanson, and his wife Maria Christine Landry, claim three toises three arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded below by said Valarie Hebert, and above by Paul Hebert.

Paul Hebert claims two arpens front by forty arpens in depth, bounded below by said S. Melanson, and above by Mathurin Landry.

The whole tract, according to the original grant and survey, contains ten arpens and seven toises front and forty arpens in depth. I am of opinion these claims ought to be confirmed.

No. 63. Gervaise Arnauth claims a tract of land situated in the county of Orleans, left bank of Mississippi, containing eighteen arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper side by lands of Ioniac, and below by lands of Norbel Fortier.

This land is claimed by purchase from persons who produce a sale made for said land in the year 1781, by authority of the Spanish Government. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 64. Civille Arnoult claims a tract of land situated in the county of Orleans, right bank of the Mississippi, containing seventeen arpens twenty toises and eleven inches front, and eighty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper side by lands of Honoré Aieux, and below by lands of Lorenzo Mesie.

It appears the first forty arpens in depth is claimed by purchase during the Spanish Government of Louisiana, that ten arpens front of the second depth was granted by Governor Gayoso on the 9th August, 1797, and the remaining part appears to have been possessed and cultivated during the Spanish Government. I am therefore of opinion that this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 65. Louis Cossier claims, for the use of Robert Martin, a tract of land situated in the parish of Lafourche Interior, fronting on the Bayou Cattou, and containing forty arpens front on each side of said bayou, and forty arpens in depth, bounded, in the year 1788, above and below by vacant land.

This land is claimed by purchase under an order of survey made by Governor Miro in the year 1788. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 66. Louis Duma, for the use of Robert Martin, claims a tract of land situated in the parish of Lafourche Interior, containing fifty arpens front on each side of the Bayou Cattou, and forty arpens in depth, bounded, in the year 1798, above by vacant lands, and below by lands of Cossier.

This land is claimed by purchase under an order of survey made by Governor Gayoso on the 7th of March, 1798. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 67. Jacques Lambez, for the use of Robert Martin, claims a tract of land situated in the parish of Lafourche Interior, containing a front of thirty arpens on each side of Bayou Cattou, and forty in depth, bounded, in the year 1789, by Cossier above, and below by vacant land.

This land is claimed by purchase under an order of survey made by Governor Miro in the year 1789. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 68. Widow Jacques Fortier claims a tract of land situated in the parish of Orleans, containing twenty-seven arpens and a half front, with all the depth to be found, lying on the left side of the Mississippi, bounded above by land of J. Holiday, and below by land of Pierre Sauvé, as more fully appears by the plat annexed.

This claim is founded on a survey executed by the surveyor general of the province of Louisiana, purporting to have been made by authority of the Spanish Government. I am of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 69. Hellen Ross M'Masters, by Samuel M'Masters, claims a tract of land situated in the parish of St. James, left bank of the Mississippi, containing thirteen arpens and twenty-nine toises front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Mr. Boucré, and below by lands of Mr. Brown.

This land is claimed by purchase. The claimant produces an order of survey made by the surveyor general of the province of Louisiana, by authority, dated in the year 1782, for a front of five arpens and fifteen toises; the balance of the claim being composed of small, probably subdivisions of a larger tract, the original titles cannot be traced, but the claimant proves quiet possession upwards of thirty years. I am of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 70. Barthelemy Jourdin, Pierre Jourdin, and Manuel Hod, claim a tract of land situated in the parish of Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, bounded above by lands of Dr. Flood, and below by lands of Bernardy and Planchard, containing twenty-five arpens and seventeen toises front and seventy arpens in depth.

This land is claimed by purchase. It appears that the upper part of this land is derived from the widow Loubise, and the lower part Raquet, who was owner of the lands adjacent and back of the first concession, since the land of Mr. Posé, now Dr. Flood's, (whose land has a depth of eighty arpens,) to the land of Mr. Brown, now Bernardy and Planchard. A deed of sale, dated 26th April, 1786, states that said Raquet had a second depth of seventy arpens, by a commission granted to him by the West Company in the year 1725, on the 20th February. Said deed also states that said Raquet, in the year 1786, made an exchange of three arpens front on the river and forty arpens in depth, for five arpens front with a depth of thirty arpens back of the first depth of said Widow Soubre, and which is also shown by the plat of survey of the surveyor general, Laveau Trudeau. The claimant also prove that the whole of this land was established and cultivated upwards of forty years. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 71. John Baptiste Marchand and Celestin Vickner claim a tract of land situated in the parish of St. John Baptiste, left bank of Mississippi, containing four arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of John Baptiste Bandry, and below by lands of Adam Jacob.

This land is claimed by purchase under a grant made to Jean Albert le Naitre, on the 23d April, 1776. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 72. Christopher Adams claims a tract of land situated about five leagues below the mouth of Bayou Plaquemine, right side of the Mississippi, beginning at the distance of eighty arpens from said river, being a cypress swamp, and containing one league square.

This land is claimed by purchase under a grant made by Governor Miro, dated 29th January, 1790. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 73. Jacques François Enoul Liraudais claims a a tract of land situated in the county and parish of Orleans, near the city, containing thirteen arpens front, to wit, eleven arpens front have a depth of eighty arpens, and the remaining two arpens have a depth of forty arpens, bounded above by lands of the nuns, and below by the Fauxbourg la Course.

The claimant holds in right of inheritance founded on an original French concession. I am therefore of opinion his claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 74. Jaques Francois Enoul Liraudais claims a tract of land situated in the parish and county of Orleans, on the left bank of the Mississippi, near the city of New Orleans, containing nineteen and three-quarters arpens front and eighty arpens in depth.

This land is held partly in right of inheritance and partly in right of purchase, the whole founded on an original French concession. I am therefore of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 75. Sosthene Roman and Antoine Marigny Dauterive, acting as syndics of the creditors of Jean Baptiste Degruys, claim a tract of land situated in the county of Orleans, district of Barrataria, being an island, containing about two leagues long and a league wide, bounded one side by the Lake Barrataria, and on the other side by the Bayou St. Dennis.

This land is claimed in virtue of an order of survey made by the Spanish governor, Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, on the 24th April, 1798. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 76. Sosthene Roman and Antoine Marigny Dauterive, syndics of the creditors of Jean Baptiste Degruys, claim a tract of land situated in the county of Orleans, district of Barrataria, being a depth of eighty arpens, adjacent to, and back of the lands of Francois Bouligny, (now Antoine Foucher, who also owns eighty arpens in depth,) and back of the property of Jacques Porte and Piguery, now Deston Destrehan Henderson, Bartl. Hazard, Saulet, and J. V. Degruys. Said depth of eighty arpens is situated on both sides of the Bayou Ouachas.

This land is claimed in virtue of an order of survey granted by Estevan Miro, late governor of the province of Louisiana, on the 12th August, 1789. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 77. Sosthene Roman and Antoine Marigny Dauterive, acting as syndics of the creditors of Jean Baptiste Degruys, claim a tract of land situated in the parish of Orleans, district of Barrataria, containing one hundred and sixty arpens front on the right bank of the Bayou Barrataria, two leagues distant from the property of Porte and Destrehan, Henderson, &c., whose lands are fronting on the right bank of the Mississippi.

This claim is founded on an order of survey made by Governor Miro 12th August, 1789. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 78. Simon Babin and the Widow Paul Babin claim a tract of land situated in the parish of Iberville, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing five arpens and twenty-three toises front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Narcisse Le Blanc, and below by lands of Charles de Armas.

This land is claimed by purchase founded on a concession and survey made pursuant thereto in the year 1772. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 79. James Williams claims a tract of land situated in the parish of Plaquemine, left bank of the Mississippi, containing fifty-four arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper side by lands of Delornelle, and below by lands of Jean Vinet.

This land is claimed by purchase founded on a proces verbal of survey, executed by Don Andry, a Spanish surveyor, dated 28th November, 1774, for forty-nine arpens front of said land: and the claimant proves possession and cultivation by himself, and by those under whom he claims, ever since the aforesaid period. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 80. Widow Thomas Alexander claims a tract of land situated in the parish of Lafourche, right bank of the Bayou Lafourche, containing seven arpens and thirteen toises front and forty arpens in depth, bounded as described in the plat of survey annexed.

This land is claimed by purchase founded on a survey made by the surveyor general of the province of Louisiana, by authority, in the year 1802. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 81. John Teirot claims a tract of land for himself and others, situated in the parish of Ascension, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing five arpens and twenty-four toises front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Joseph Richard, and below by lands of Dr. Prevost.

This land is claimed by purchase founded on a grant made by the Spanish Government in the year 1774. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 82. Dr. Prevost claims for himself and others a tract of land situated in the parish of Ascension, on the left bank of the river Mississippi, containing five arpens twenty toises and three feet front, bounded above by lands of John Tierot, and below by lands of

This land is claimed by purchase founded on a grant made by the Spanish Government in the year 1774. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

Dominique Bouligny claims a tract of land situated in the county of Orleans, right bank of the Mississippi, district of Barrataria, containing about two hundred superficial acres, bounded east by lands of Antoine and Tenon Foucher, and north and south by lands of the claimant.

This land is claimed by purchase founded on a concession made by the Spanish Government, as appears from the book of concessions in my office. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 83. John Joseph Jourdin claims a tract of land situated in the parish of Orleans, district of Barrataria, containing twenty arpens on each side of the bayou called Barrataria, and forty arpens in depth, bounded, on three sides, by lands of Thomas Durnford.

This land was granted by the Spanish Government, on the 20th March, 1794, to John Normond, and by him sold to the claimant on the 9th September, 1800, in whose possession it has been since that period. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 84. John Tregle claims a tract of land situated in the parish of St. John Baptiste, on the east side of the river Mississippi, containing seven arpens and thirty-four feet front and eighty arpens in depth, bounded above by the lands of Theodore Tregle, and below by lands of Matthias Ory.

This land claimant holds by inheritance from his father, and is part of a larger tract sold by the claimant to his brothers, who have had their claim duly confirmed by the late Board of Commissioners; the whole being found-

ed on a grant made by Governor Galvez, then governor of the province of Louisiana. I am of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 85. Ursin Perret claims a tract of land situated in the parish of St. John Baptiste, right bank of the Mississippi, containing seventeen arpens front and eighty arpens in depth.

This land is claimed by purchase, under a complete Spanish grant made in the year 1776. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 86. Louis Mollere claims a tract of land situated in the parish of West Baton Rouge, west side of the Mississippi, containing fifteen arpens in front and forty arpens in depth.

The claimant produces the order of survey of this land made by Vincent Pintado, a Spanish surveyor, in the year 1800. Claimant also proves by a certified copy of this land of the surveyor general of the province of Louisiana, that the first survey was made by order of the commandant, Grandpré, in pursuance of instructions to that effect from Governor Gayoso, bearing date 23d January, 1799. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 87. James Godberry claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. James, containing four arpens and eighteen toises front, and forty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper side by lands of Widow André Bernard, and on the lower side by lands of George Roussel.

This land is claimed by purchase, and it is expressly stated, on oath, by two respectable witnesses, that this land was originally granted by the Spanish Government, and surveyed by the same authority; and that it has been peaceably possessed and cultivated by the claimant, and those under whom he holds, during the last thirty years. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 88. Espiritie Liston claims a tract of land situate in the parish of West Baton Rouge, right bank of the Mississippi, containing twenty arpens front and forty arpens deep, lying and being at a distance of thirty arpens below a grant made to claimant, and afterwards annulled on 29th August, 1792.

The Spanish Government, on the 29th day of August, 1792, granted to claimant another tract of land, which was afterwards annulled at the instance of the claimant; and, in lieu thereof, this land was granted to him on the 27th October, 1792, as appears from the book of the Spanish grants in my office. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 89. Alexander Boudin, attorney in fact of the heirs of the late Patrick Conway, claims a tract of land situate in the district of Point Coupé, containing ten arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by vacant lands, and on the other side by lands of William Conway.

This land is claimed in virtue of a complete Spanish grant in favor of said Patrick Conway, dated 1st December, 1786, as appears from the books in my office. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

SAM'L H. HARPER, *Register.*

NEW ORLEANS, *6th January*, 1821.

CLASS SECOND.

Including claims to land under the 4th section of the act of Congress passed the 11th day of May, 1820, which have been regularly filed in the proper office, but which have not been confirmed.

No. 90. Samuel Perry claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupé, below the place commonly known by the name of Point Raccoucé on the west side of the river Mississippi, containing sixty-one chains and fifty links in front, and one hundred and four chains in depth, forming a superficies of ten hundred and forty acres, and bounded on the upper side by lands of John McLanahan, and on the lower by lands of Charles Morgan.

This land was claimed before the former Board of Commissioners for this district, who confirmed the claim to the depth of forty arpens, but rejected the balance. Their reasons for so doing, as stated by the board, were, that the land claimed is situated at the neck of a large bend of the river, and that, by granting to the claimant the ordinary depth of forty arpens, his claim would extend to the opposite neck, thereby giving him two fronts, which they contended was contrary to the principle of granting lands by the Spanish Government.

My construction adopted by the Spanish Government in relation to the refusal to grant two fronts to the same individual, is this: that, where two persons were interested in the same piece of land, it was not permitted that one should stretch across from one point to the other, to the injury of the other, but that the land should be so divided as that each might have a front upon the river, as if, in this case, the land was so situated as to give two fronts; but where the grant was made to one person, and not for a greater quantity than was usually given, as in this case, and where it is indispensably necessary that levees should be made at both points of the river, so as to render the land valuable to all by keeping the water from overflowing, I think the Spanish Government, under those circumstances, would not have hesitated to have given the claimant the whole of his claim: according to these premises, and the claimant having shown, in addition to his other proof, that no other individual pretends to have any claim to the land in question, I am of opinion he ought to be confirmed to the whole extent of his claim.

No. 91. Francis Debois claims a tract of land situate on the Bayou Moreau, in the county of Point Coupé, having twenty arpens in front on the Mississippi, with a depth of forty arpens, and bounded on the upper side by lands formerly of Francis Durcey, now of Samuel Davenport, as more fully appears by the plat of survey exhibited to be recorded.

This land is claimed in virtue of a Spanish order of survey, and the survey duly executed by the surveyor general of the province.

This claim was rejected by the late Board of Commissioners, on the ground that it did not appear to them that it was inhabited and cultivated on the 1st day of October, 1800. The claimant did then what he has done now, produced the order of survey, and the plat duly executed; and I am of opinion that, in virtue of the 1st and 2d sections of an act of Congress passed subsequently to the decision of the board, to wit: "An act entitled an act for the final adjustment of land titles in the State of Louisiana and Territory of Missouri," dated 12th April, 1814, the claimant ought to be confirmed in his claim.

No. 92. Louise Fortier Habisse claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, on the right bank of the Mississippi, and being a double concession behind the front on which the claimant resides, having a front of thirty-two arpens on the same river, and running back eighty arpens, as appears from the plan exhibited.

The half, or front of this tract of land, has already been confirmed by the late Board of Commissioners; but the other half, or rear, was not confirmed for want of evidence.

The claimant now produces written evidence that ten arpens front of the present claim was granted to Roi Villeré by the French Government, in the year 1765, under whom the claimant holds by purchase, and the remaining twenty-two arpens front, with the depth aforesaid, was granted to the husband of the claimant by the Spanish Government, in the year 1797.

I am therefore of opinion her claim to the double or second concession ought to be confirmed.

No. 93. Peter Troxclair claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having four arpens front, with a depth of forty arpens, bounded on the upper side by lands of Charles Rixner, and below by lands of Francis Troxclair.

This land makes part of another tract, and is included in the same survey which has been already confirmed to Francis Troxclair on the report of the register and receiver of public moneys for this district; and the same evidence adduced in that case equally applies to this, to wit, the permission of the proper Spanish officer to settle the land, but, by mistake, a report on this claim was omitted. Under these circumstances, I am of opinion it ought to be confirmed.

No. 94. Antoine Decuir claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupé, on the Chenelle, having forty arpens front by forty in depth, bounded on the upper side by lands of Joseph Decuir, and below by lands of ———.

This land was claimed before the late Board of Commissioners, and one-half, viz. 800 superficial arpens, confirmed. The reason why they did not confirm the balance, I presume, arose from mistake; the *agent* of the claimant filed the notice of claim only for what is already confirmed; but the whole of the land claimed rests upon an order of survey issued by the Spanish Government, dated 12th July, 1788, and duly executed by the surveyor general of the province of Louisiana, dated 18th February, 1790, and since resurveyed by the deputy surveyor of the United States. The claimant, moreover, proves possession and cultivation from the year 1790 to this time; and, also, that no other lands have been given him by the Spanish Government; also, that the claimant has made the public road and levee thereon. I am there-

fore of opinion his claim ought to be confirmed to the whole extent.

No. 95. The heirs of M. Mahier claim a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, west side of the Mississippi, having twenty arpens in front by forty arpens in depth.

This claim was acted upon by the register and receiver of this district, (No. 456 of their reports, dated 20th November, 1816,) and only nine and a half arpens front was confirmed, supposing the balance had been confirmed by the late Board of Commissioners; but, upon further examination, I find we were mistaken in the land. The confirmation of the board for ten and a half arpens related to a different tract. As the title was good, under the law upon which we acted, for nine and a half arpens which is now confirmed, it is equally good for the balance of the claim. I am therefore of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 96. Thomas Hebert claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Iberville, west side of the Mississippi, containing one hundred and fifty superficial acres, and bounded in front by lands of the claimant, and above by lands of Olivier Arnandez, and below by lands of Pierre Devet.

This claim was rejected by the late Board of Commissioners for want of sufficient evidence. The claimant now proves that he had quiet and uninterrupted possession thereof more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th of December, 1803. If this evidence had been given to the board, I think they would have confirmed the claim; and, as the title would have been good under the then existing law, I am of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 97. The widow and heirs of Diego Arnandez claim a tract of land situate in the parish of Iberville, above the Bayou Plaquemine, right bank of the Mississippi, having ten arpens in front by forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of ———, and below by lands claimed by Armand Hebert.

This claim was rejected by the late Board of Commissioners for want of testimony. The evidence now produced proves that this land was granted by the Spanish Government in the year 1787, to Pedro Hebert, who afterwards abandoned said land, and neglected to keep up the road and levee. That on the 10th of August, 1792, the Baron Carondelet ordered the commandant of the parish of Iberville to give the lands on which the levees were not made, or were abandoned, to such persons as would make them. That this tract being one of that description, pursuant to that order, the husband and father of the claimants were put in possession; who, and whose heirs, have ever since continued to reside thereon, and made the roads, levees, &c. I am therefore of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 98. Antoine Leonard and his wife (the widow of the late Bernard Dauterive) and tutor of her minor children, claim for the succession of said Dauterive, and those who hold under him, a tract of land in the parish of Iberville, containing six arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded by Thomas Hebert and Gregoire Melanson, and is part of a larger tract originally granted to Athanasio Landry.

This claim was rejected by the late Board of Commissioners for want of testimony. The claimants now prove that this land was granted by the Spanish Government, and that it was in possession and cultivation by them, and by those under whom they claim, more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803. I am therefore of opinion the claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 99. Xavier Robechaux claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Iberville, on Bayou Plaquemine, right bank, having ten arpens front by forty arpens in depth.

The claimant produces an order of survey from the Spanish Government, dated 18th December, 1794; but the late Board of Commissioners rejected this claim merely because it was not proven to have been inhabited and cultivated on the 20th December, 1803. The claim, however, I think, stands confirmed, or ought to be, in virtue of the 2d section of the act of Congress of 12th April, 1814, entitled "An act for the final adjustment of land titles in the State of Louisiana and Territory of Missouri."

No. 100. The widow and heirs of Joseph Mollere, for the use of F. P. Michel, claim a tract of land situate in the parish of West Baton Rouge, containing eight hundred superficial arpens.

This land was claimed before the late Board of Commissioners, on the ground of its being held in virtue of a Spanish order of survey, which was produced; but they rejected the claim, alleging that possession was not shown on the 1st October, 1800. The claim, however, is, and ought, to be confirmed in virtue of the 2d section of the act of 12th April, 1814, cited in the preceding claim.

No. 101. Louis Reaubeau claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, west side of the Mississippi, nearly opposite Point La Hache, containing twenty arpens front and forty arpens in depth.

This claim was reported, among others, by the register and receiver of this district, under date 20th November, 1816; but there being no evidence adduced in support thereof, it is not confirmed. The claimant now proves possession and cultivation upwards of twenty-five years, and that he has always made the roads and levees. I am therefore of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 102. Barthelemy McCarty claims, by inheritance from his father John Baptiste McCarty, a tract of land situated back of the city of New Orleans, bounded on the north side by the Canal Carondelet, the Bayou St. John, and part of Roquegny's land; on west side by lands of the claimant and the heirs of Boré, and on the southeast by vacant lands, measuring about thirteen hundred superficial acres.

This land was formerly claimed before the late Board of Commissioners in the name of John Baptiste McCarty, the father of the claimant, and by them rejected on two grounds; first, that the claimant *pretended* to have had a grant for this land from the Baron Carondelet, dated in 1795, but that it had been destroyed by fire; and, secondly, if ever the grant was made, it was clearly apparent to the board that the said land was covered with other grants long antecedent to that made to the claimant. It, however, is now proven by the testimony of the Spanish surveyor, Pintado, and by a deputy surveyor, at the time, of the United States, that the grant was made by Carondelet, and that said Pintado did actually survey it in conformity thereto, and that the grant was not burnt, but mislaid for some time, and afterwards seen by the latter witness among the papers of a certain Bertrand Gravier; that it was complete, and in the best form. With regard to the fact assumed by the board, that this land had been antecedently granted to others, I find no such evidence on record. On the contrary, it is now proven by B. Lafon and J. Pilie, both surveyors, that the land in question does not interfere with any other grant: but admitting the fact, I conceive the only point then, as well as now, to be decided, is, whether the United States have any claim to said land. I am of opinion that they have none, and therefore think this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 103. Maria Dauberville, Widow Bouligny, claims a lot of ground situate in the city of New Orleans, at the corner of Dumain and Conde streets, containing seventy-three on Conde street, and sixty-five feet on Dumain street, bounded on one side by the public ball room, and on the other side by the public stores, containing a superficies of four thousand seven hundred and forty-five feet, all French measure, under a grant from the Baron Carondelet in the year 1792, (which has been mislaid or lost,) to the late Colonel Bouligny, her husband, and which the said Colonel Bouligny, during his life time, and the said applicant after his death, have always, since the said grant, cultivated and possessed.

This claim was presented to, and acted upon by the late Board of Commissioners, and by them rejected. It appears from a minute examination of the case, and from the additional testimony offered by the claimant, that the Commissioners were probably mistaken in point of facts. They assigned as a reason for the rejection of the claim, that the lot had been granted by the Spanish Government to Don Guido Dufosset, on condition that he should pay $12 per month, and that he, having failed to comply with the condition, upon the representation of the intendant to the King, it was annexed to the royal domain. I have not been able to discover any connexion between Dufosset and the claimant.

She claims in right of her husband, deceased, late Col. Bouligny, and, in order to show a title in him, she produces the testimony of four respectable inhabitants of the county, to wit: Louis De Ferret deposes that, in the year 1793, he was a cadet in the regiment of Louisiana; that he resided in the family of Colonel Bouligny, the claimant's husband, from that time to the transfer of the province; that, during all that time to the present moment, this lot has been considered the property of the family of Colonel Bouligny; that Colonel Bouligny built a house on said lot, with the knowledge of the governors who successively commanded, and of the intendant; that he never heard any claim set up to said lot by the Government; that he has seen a concession or grant for it, signed, as he believes, by the Baron de Carondelet, to Colonel Bouligny, for the said lot; that, in the year 1794, there was a very destructive fire in the city of New Orleans, and that, in the confusion occasioned by the confla-

gration, many papers of individuals were lost and burnt. Another witness, Antoine Crugat, was a lieutenant in the regiment commanded by Colonel Bouligny, and confirms all the material facts stated by the first witness, particularly as to the building of the house, and enclosing said lot, with the perfect knowledge of the governor; and further, that it was within his knowledge, as an officer of the treasury of the State for the five last years, that the claimant has uniformly paid the taxes for the house and lot. Another witness, Manuel Garcia, says that, in the year 1792, it was generally understood by persons acquainted and connected with the Spanish Government, that a grant had been given to the husband of the claimant for this lot by the Baron Carondelet; that her husband built a house, &c. thereon; that, after the Baron Carondelet was transferred to the province of Quito, Governor Gayoso was the governor of Louisiana; that he knows Col. Bouligny possessed the lot as his own; that, in the year 1799, orders were received from Spain to transfer the cognizance of the grants of lands, and every thing that related to the public property, to the intendant of the province, Don Juan Ventura Morales; that the said intendant was very strict and scrupulous in claiming all public property, and that Col. Bouligny must have had a title for this lot, otherwise he would have been dispossessed. Witness also states that he was commander of the royal galleys; that he knows some of the Spanish Government of Louisiana were removed to Pensacola, and thence to the Havana, and that the vessel in which they were was searched by pirates and a great part of the said archives were destroyed, and that among them were papers relative to the concessions of lands in Louisiana, as well as other papers; that, some time after the cognizance of the public property was transferred to the intendant, a strict research was set on foot by the intendant, to ascertain the lots and other property belonging to the King in the city of New Orleans, but that witness never knew or heard that any claim was made to this lot by the intendant. Another witness, J. Delassire, deposes, in substance, to that sworn to by the other witnesses. Such are the facts in this case, which are respectfully submitted for decision.

SAM. H. HARPER,
Reg. Land Office E. Dist. Louisiana.

NEW ORLEANS, *Jan.* 6, 1821.

CLASS THIRD.

No. 104. John Baptiste Hebert claims a tract of land situated in the parish of West Baton Rouge, containing five hundred and seventy-four arpens and sixty-five-hundredths, fronting on the Mississippi, and bounded on the upper side by land of Alexis Hebert, and on the lower side by lands of Charles Hebert.

The claimant proves uninterrupted possession and cultivation ever since the year 1792.

No. 105. Drausin Labranche and brothers claim three tracts of land of two arpens front each, making, in the whole, six arpens front, on the right bank of the Mississippi, with a depth of forty arpens, situate in the county of Orleans, bounded on the upper side by lands of the claimants, and below by lands of Louis Dufithe, two arpens of which are held in virtue of a purchase from Charlotte Lacomb, a free woman of color; two other arpens by purchase from Simon Menard, and two other arpens by purchase from Francis Lousier and Madame Emelie Jeannet Lavergne.

The claimants prove possession and occupation, by those under whom they claim, more than ten years anterior to the cession of Louisiana to the United States.

No. 106. Francis Duplessis, sen., claims a tract of land on the left bank of the Mississippi, parish of Plaquemine, county of Orleans, having fourteen arpens front, and bounded on the upper side by Jeannet Nivet, and on the lower side by James Williams, as more fully appears from the plat hereto annexed.

This land is said to have been granted to Gentilly Dreaux by the Spanish Government, and is held by the claimant in virtue of purchase. He proves possession and cultivation, by those under whom he claims, for more than forty years.

No. 107. Pierre B. St. Martin and Madame Widow Ranson claim a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, county of German Coast, right bank of the Mississippi, having fourteen arpens two toises and five feet front, with a depth of forty arpens, bounded on the upper side by lands of Madame Ranson, and on the lower side by lands of Charles Perret, as more fully appears from the plat annexed.

The claimants prove that this land was originally the property of Charles Darenbourg, and occupied by him in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, under whom they claim by successive sales.

No. 108. Pierre Pujal Perret claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having five arpens in front by forty arpens in depth, and bounded on the upper side by lands of Pierre B. St. Martin, jun., and on the lower side by lands of Rouel Perret, being half of a tract of land of which the said Pierre B. St. Martin claims the other half.

It appears that this land was originally the property of Robert Robin Delagny, and that it was in possession in the year 1784. The claimant holds by successive purchases under the said original owner.

No. 109. Pierre B. St. Martin, jun., claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, county of German Coast, right bank of the Mississippi, having five arpens in front by forty arpens in depth, being half of the tract, one half of which is claimed by Pierre Pujal Perret, bounded on the upper side by lands of Madame Le Blan, and on the lower side by lands of Pierre P. Perret, as appears by the plat annexed.

This claim is precisely similar, and held by the same title as the preceding claim.

No. 110. George Mather claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. James, on the left bank of the Mississippi, having twenty-eight arpens (more or less) front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper side by lands of John Tirquet, and on the lower side by the Widow Raymon Cousset.

This land is claimed by purchase from the original owners, and the claimant proves uninterrupted possession upwards of thirty years of himself and those under whom he claims.

No. 111. Antoine Vichnair and Jaques Vichnair claim a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, on the left bank of the Mississippi, having four and a half arpens (more or less) front, with a depth of forty arpens, bounded on the upper side by lands of Jacques Clemant, and on the lower side by land of Michel Permy.

The claimants produce evidence of the purchase from the original proprietor, dated in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight.

No. 112. Manuel Garcier claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having twenty-two arpens and nine toises in front, with a depth of forty arpens, making a superficies, as per plan annexed, of seven hundred and ninety-five arpens, bounded on the upper side by lands of George Bossier, fils, and on the lower side by lands of Pierre Bossier, pere.

The claimant holds by purchase, and proves possession in those under whom he claims, some time anterior to the year one thousand seven hundred and fifty-eight.

No. 113. George Deslondes claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, county of German Coast, on the left bank of the Mississippi, having four arpens (more or less) front by a depth of forty arpens, bounded on the upper side by lands of Michel Camlon, and on the lower side by lands of the Widow Courad.

This land is claimed by purchase, under persons proving a possession in the year one thousand seven hundred and sixty-six, during the French Government.

No. 114. Francis Joseph Delhommere claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, on the left bank of the Mississippi, having eleven leagues front, with a depth of forty arpens, bounded on the upper side by lands of the claimant, and on the lower side by lands of Rosalie Rilleux.

This land is claimed by purchase; and possession in the original owner, under whom the claimant holds, is shown, by the deed of sale, to have been in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six.

No. 115. Pierre Daspit St. Armand claims, first, a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having nine arpens in front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper side by lands of Onephere St. Armand, and on the lower side by lands of the claimant; secondly, a tract of land adjoining to, and below the said first mentioned tract, having four arpens front by forty in depth.

For the first tract the claimant produces the survey of Charles Laveau Trudeau, the surveyor general of the province of Louisiana, dated in the year 1799; and, for the second tract, he proves possession in those under whom he claims in the year 1792.

No. 116. Hilaire St. Armand claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having two arpens and five toises front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper side by lands of John Lavergne, and on the lower side by lands of Francis Boudoucin, as appears by the plat annexed.

This land is claimed by right of purchase, and the claimant proves possession in those under whom he claims, as far as the 16th December, 1793.

No. 117. Philemon O. Wederstrandt claims, by purchase, several different parcels of land on the Bayou St. Bernard, or Bayou Terre aux Boeufs, county of Orleans, making, in the whole, a front of nineteen and three-fourths arpens on each side of said bayou, with a depth of forty arpens on each side, bounded on the upper side by lands of Antonio Ogeda, and on the lower side by lands of Hilario Bairos, as appears more fully from the plat annexed.

The claimant proves by the deposition of Col. Pierre Dennis de la Ronde, who was commanding officer at Terre aux Boeufs in the year 1792, that said La Ronde was ordered by the Spanish Government to assist the surveyor general of the province of Louisiana to lay off all the land in that neighborhood, (for the persons then claiming, of whom those under whose titles the claimants hold were a part,) and that this order emanated from the King of Spain, which was duly executed by the surveyor general aforesaid himself; and that he has never heard of any adverse claim to said lands.

No. 118. Charles Perret, sen., claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, county of German Coast, west side of the Mississippi, having ten arpens front by a depth of forty arpens, bounded on the upper side by St. Martin's, and on the lower side by lands of Madame Widow Vaugine, as more fully appears from the plat annexed.

The claimant holds in right of purchase, and proves peaceable possession and cultivation by himself, and those under whom he claims, upwards of twenty-seven years ago.

No. 119. Charles Perret, jun., claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, county of German Coast, on the west side of the river Mississippi, having four arpens front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper side by lands of Madame V. F. Brou, and on the lower side by the succession of Claudius Adam, as more fully appears from the plat annexed.

The claimant holds in right of purchase, and produces an authentic survey, dated in the year 1784; he also proves possession and cultivation.

No. 120. Mrs. Brou claims a tract of land situated in the parish of St. Charles, county of German Coast, on the west side of the Mississippi river, having four arpens four toises and three feet front, by forty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper side by the claim of Mrs. Vaugine, and on the lower side by the claim of Charles Perret, jun., as more fully appears from the plat of survey annexed.

The claimant holds in right of purchase, and produces an authentic survey made by the surveyor general of the province of Louisiana in the year 1784; she also proves possession and cultivation upwards of twenty-five years.

No. 121. Mrs. Widow Vaugine Darensbourg claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, county of German Coast, on the west side of the Mississippi river, having five arpens, less fifteen feet, front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper side by the claim of Charles Perret, and on the lower side by the claim of Mrs. Brou, as more fully appears from the plat of survey annexed.

The claimant holds in right of purchase, and proves possession in herself, and those under whom she claims, upwards of twenty-five years.

No. 122. Yves Bartelotte claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, county of German Coast, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having four and a half arpens front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper side by lands of Delette, and below by lands of Noel Delette.

The claimant holds in right of purchase, and produces a bill of sale made at public auction by Manuel Andry, Spanish commandant, dated 8th November, 1796.

No. 123. Peter and George Bossie claim a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, on the west side of the Mississippi river, having 12½ arpens front by 40 arpens in depth, bounded above by Justin and Maxamillian Bossie, and below by lands of Manuel Garcia, with an opening of 80 degrees.

The claimants hold in right of purchase, and produce a deed of sale by which it appears said land was possessed and cultivated in the year 1791.

No. 124. Eugene Bare claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, on the west side of the Mississippi, having four arpens front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper side by lands of Francis Jacob, and below by lands of Justin and Maxamillian Bossie.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant produces a deed of sale, by which it appears said land was possessed and cultivated in the year 1800.

No. 125. Antonio Mendez claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Assumption, district of Lafourche, containing 640 acres, being on the Bayou Boeuf, at the entrance of said bayou on the left hand, entering said bayou from Lake Palourde.

The claimant produces the certificate of the commanding officer at Lafourche during the Spanish Government, which states that the claimant had permission from said Government to settle said land prior to the 20th December, 1803.

No. 126. Pedro Gonzales claims a tract of land situate in the district of Lafourche, in the parish of Lafourche Interior, on the Bayou Grand Caillou, containing 640 acres, adjoining the lands of Maurieun Le Blanc.

The claimant produces the certificate of the Spanish commandant at Lafourche, which states that the claimant had permission to settle said land prior to the 20th December, 1803.

127. Louis Nichol claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Jacques, left bank of the Mississippi, having one arpent twenty-seven toises three feet front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper side by land of Felix Lambert, and below by land of Joseph Guedry, as more fully appears from the plat of survey annexed.

This land is claimed in right of purchase, and proves possession in himself, and those under whom he claims, upwards of forty years.

128. Louis Nichol claims another tract of land situate in the parish of St. Jacques, west side of the Mississippi river, having one arpent twenty-seven toises and three feet front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper sides by lands of Ennis Thibodeaux, and below by lands of Michel Lambert.

This land is claimed in right of purchase, and the claimant proves possession in himself, and those under whom he claims, upwards of forty years.

129. Joseph Bourgeois claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Lafourche Interior, on the right bank of the Lafourche descending, having four arpens front by forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Bastien Landry, and below by lands of Baptiste Daigle.

This land is claimed in right of purchase; and possession and cultivation by the claimant, and those under whom he holds, is proved upwards of twenty-eight years.

No. 130. Simon Le Blanc claims a tract of land situate in the county of Acadia, having six arpens and nineteen toises in front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper side by lands of Charles Gotreau, and below by land of Joseph Gravoise.

This land is claimed in right of, and the claimant proves possession, in himself and those under whom he claims, upwards of twenty-eight years.

No. 131. Madame Widow Millet claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. James, having two arpens front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper side by land of John Borry, and below by land of Henry Berthol.

This land is claimed in right of purchase, and the claimant proves possession and cultivation in herself, and those under whom she claims, upwards of thirty years past.

No. 132. The heirs of Joseph Hebert claim a tract of land situate in the parish of Iberville, of forty arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded below by lands of Oliver Arnandez, and above by lands of Simon Melanson, commencing at forty arpens from the river.

The claimant proves peaceable and uninterrupted possession of this land ten connective years before the 20th December, 1803, and possession on that day.

No. 133. Pierre Rivet claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Iberville, containing four and a half arpens front by forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Thomas Hebert, and below by lands of Alexander Landry, in front of other lands of the claimant, at forty arpens from the river.

The claimant proves uninterrupted possession of said lands ten connective years prior to the 20th December, 1803, and possession on that day.

No. 134. Thomas Villanueva claims a tract of land situate on the canal leading from the Bayou Lafourche to Lake Verret, containing 264 acres.

The claimant proves that one Francis Goutreaux had permission of the proper Spanish officer to settle this land several years previous to the 20th December, 1803; that it was so settled; that said Goutreaux has since conveyed the same to the claimant, in whose possession it now is.

No. 135. Louis Foucher claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Orleans, fronting on the Bayou des Cannes, having eighty-eight toises front, and running back, converging to a point, containing ninety-two arpens and 300 toises superficial measure, bounded above

by lands of Widow Panis, and below by lands of Jacques Liveaudais.

This land is claimed by purchase from Joseph Rousiniac; and, by reference to deeds of sale, it appears that, in the year 1780, Mr. Liveaudais, the father, purchased it from the Ursuline nuns, so that it must have been in possession long anterior, and, being part of a larger tract originally, it is now impossible to trace it to the first grant.

No. 136. John McDonough, jr. claims a tract of land situate eleven leagues below the city of New Orleans, on the right bank of the river Mississippi, containing sixty and a half arpens in front on the river, by eighty arpens in depth, by virtue of a purchase made by him of the late Francis Bernoudy, for the sum of $16,000.

The documents produced in favor of this claim are, first, a certificate of Charles De Latour, the late Spanish commandant of that district, attesting the right to said land in the said Francis Bernoudy, by whom it was settled and improved with extensive works and buildings, cultivated, and the levee and road made and kept in repair since the year 1779; 2d, a certificate of Francis Langlois, proving the improvement and cultivation of the said land as early as 1777 and 1778, by the said F. Bernoudy, and his residence thereon; 3d, a certificate of Bernard Bernoudy, brother to the said F. Bernoudy, proving that said tract of land had been purchased in the year 1776, by his said brother, from Charles Oliver de Vegin, and had been cultivated and expensively improved a term of forty years prior to the purchase of the claimant; 4th, a plot of survey of said land, executed by Ferdinand P. Portier, a sworn surveyor, in the year 1805; 5th, a deed of sale from Francis Bernoudy to the claimant of said tract of land, passed before Michel De Armas, esq., notary public, in the city of New Orleans, dated 7th February, 1816.

No. 137. The Widow Bertrand Dauterive claims a tract of land situate in the county of Iberville, on the right bank of the Mississippi, having seven arpens and two toises front by a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by lands of Blaize Rivet, and on the other by lands of Landry: five arpens and two toises front of said land was in possession, as appears from the deeds of sales of the persons from whom this claim is derived, in the year 1792, and the other two arpens front appears, from an inventory made, to have been in possession in the year 1790, so that the whole claim was possessed more than ten consecutive years prior to the 20th December, 1803. The claimant holds in right of purchase.

No. 138. Terrence Le Blanc claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, on the right bank of the Mississippi river, having two arpens front, with a depth of forty arpens, bounded above by lands of Charles Davensbourg, and below by lands of Alexis Pevret.

This land is claimed by purchase; and, from the deeds of sale exhibited, it appears it has been in the possession of the claimant, and those under whom he claims, since the year 1781.

No. 139. Robert Sprigg claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing about fifteen arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of B. Lafon, and below by lands of the claimant.

The claimant proves, by the certificate of Joshua Lewis, late commissioner of lands in this district, that he has had in his possession the written permission of the proper Spanish officer for the original settler, Marie Jean, to settle said land, which is now lost, and that said land was so actually settled several years before the 20th December, 1803. The claimant holds in right of purchase under the title aforesaid.

No. 140. Godefroy Boudousquee claims a tract of land situated in the parish of St. John Baptiste, German Coast, on the left side of the Mississippi river, measuring fourteen arpens front by a depth of forty arpens, and bounded on one side by the property of Antoine Dupery, and on the other by that of Martin Dubourg.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves possession and cultivation in himself, and in those under whom he claims, upwards of forty years.

No. 141. John Baptiste Baudry claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, on the left bank of the Mississippi, measuring four arpens in front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper side by lands of Henry Fontenot, and below by lands of Drausin Bourne.

This land is claimed in right of purchase, and the claimant proves possession and cultivation in himself, and those under whom he claims, upwards of forty years.

No. 142. Sainville Fernant claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupé, containing 629⅞ toises front, to the Baterie à l'extremité inforicuse de la Fausse riviére, with a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by lands of Antoine Decuir, and on the other by lands of Alexander Labry.

This land is claimed in right of purchase made during the Spanish Government.

No. 143. Honoré La Groue claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, left bank of the Mississippi, containing one arpent in front by a depth of forty arpens, bounded above by lands of Francis Clement, and below by lands of Jacques Lagrove.

This land is claimed by purchase. The claimant produces a proces verbal, made by Don Andry, dated 24th January, 1776, for six arpens front, of which this is part. He also proves a settlement since the year 1792.

No. 144. Francis Clement claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, left bank of the Mississippi, containing one arpent front by forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Widow Nicholas Elfert, and below by Honoré Lagrove.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant refers to the proces verbal made by Don Andry in the year 1776, for six arpens front, of which this is a part, and recorded in the preceding claim. He also proves possession since the year 1792.

No. 145. Henry Montz claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, left bank of the Mississippi, containing four arpens front by forty arpens in depth, bounded above and below by lands of Oliver Fourcelle. This land is claimed by purchase. The claimant produces the proces verbal of Don Andry, executed on the 24th January, 1776, and also proves settlement since the year 1792.

No. 146. Widow Nicolas Elfert claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, left side of the Mississippi, containing two arpens and a half front, by a depth of forty arpens, bounded above by lands of Oliver Fourcelle, and below by lands of Francois Clement. This land is claimed by purchase; the claimant produces the proces verbal made by Don Andry on the 25th January, 1776, and also proves settlement since the year 1792.

No. 847. Louis Dufithe claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, right bank of the Mississippi, containing six arpens in front by a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by lands of Drausin Labranche, and on the other by lands of Widow Jean Mendez. The claimant proves possession in himself and those under whom he claims, according to the expression of the witnesses, "a long time before the possession of Louisiana by the United States."

No. 148. Louis Dufithe claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, right bank of the Mississippi, containing about four arpens in front by a depth of forty arpens, bounded on one side by lands of Philip Guenault, and on the other side by lands of Thomas Poré. This land is claimed by purchase at sheriff's sale, and the claimant proves possession and cultivation upwards of thirty years.

No. 149. Adam Jacob claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, left bank of the Mississippi, containing about five arpens front by forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Baptiste Marchand, and below by lands of Charles Egeidi, as appears from the plat annexed.

This land is claimed by purchase; and the claimant produces the certificate of the clerk of the parish court of said parish, certifying a succession of sales for said land, from the present claimant, through those under whom he claims, as far back as the third day of February, 1803.

No. 150. Honore Landrunf, Joseph Laveneu, and Jourdan, frerés, claim a tract of land situated in the parish of St. John Baptiste, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing thirty-four arpens front by forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Major Lee, and below by lands of Colonel Croghan.

This land is claimed by purchase; and the claimant proves possession and cultivation upwards of thirty years; and the witnesses state that there was a Spanish or French concession for this land.

No. 151. Louis Cavalier claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing one arpent and twenty-seven toises by forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of John Louis Drouet, and below by lands of Widow Glaude Cheler. This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant exhibits a Spanish sale of an old date, and proves possession in those under whom he claims upwards of forty years.

No. 152. Wartier d'Outremer claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Ascension, left bank of the Mis-

sissippi, containing two arpens front by a depth of forty arpens, bounded above by lands of Jacob Brou, and below by Jacques, a free negro. This land is claimed by purchase, and possession is proved upwards of twenty years.

No. 153. Alexander Harang claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing nineteen arpens ten toises front, three arpens and twenty toises of which, on the upper side, have a depth of one hundred arpens; twelve arpens and twenty toises on the lower side have a depth of eighty arpens, and the remainder have a depth of forty arpens; the whole bounded above by lands of the Widow Bachelot, and below by lands of D'Lireaudais, brothers.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant produces affidavits proving that this land was originally granted by the French Government; and, also, possession and cultivation by the claimant, and by those under whom he claims, upwards of thirty-five years.

No. 154. The widow of Jacques Lesch claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, containing two arpens front on the left bank of the Mississippi, and forty arpens in depth. The claimant produces two affidavits proving quiet and uninterrupted possession of said land upwards of thirty years.

No. 155. Gabriel Clonthier claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, containing four arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Henri Fonteneau, and below by lands of Morand Vilie. The claimant produces a deed of sale for said land, made to him, dated 9th April, 1777.

No. 156. Widow George Deslondes claims a tract of land situated in the parish of St. Charles, German Coast, containing seventeen arpens front on the right bank of the Mississippi, and forty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper side by lands of Politi, and below by lands of N. Destrehan. The claimant proves possession and cultivation upwards of thirty years.

No. 157. Daniel Meterne claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, county of German Coast, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing six arpens and eighteen toises front by forty arpens in depth, bounded on the upper side by lands of John Baptiste Vierrier, and below by Juan Pedro. The claimant proves possession anterior to the year 1792.

No. 158. Jaques Charbonnet claims a tract of land situated in the parish of St. John Baptiste, left bank of the Mississippi, containing seven arpens and seven toises front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of L. Bicknell, and below by lands of André Lassigne. The claimant holds by purchase, and produces successive sales from 24th October, 1760, down to himself.

No. 159. Pierre Cazelard claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing twenty-four arpens front, and a depth to the Bayou Villars, bounded above by lands of Bernard Marigny, and below by lands of Dr. William Flood. The claimant proves possession and cultivation of this land upwards of forty years.

No. 160. John Baptiste Labranche, Lusien and Drausin Labranche, claim a tract of land situated in the parish of St. Charles, left bank of the Mississippi, containing twenty-three arpens eleven toises and four feet front, and a depth to the lake, bounded above by lands of Labranche, freres, and below by lands of Alexander Labranche. The claimants hold in right of purchase; and they prove possession and cultivation by them, and by those under whom they claim, prior to the year 1776.

No. 161. Widow George Deslondes claims a tract of land situated in the parish of Orleans, below the city, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing three arpens front on the river by eleven arpens depth; and on the back part of that depth four arpens twenty feet front, and a depth of twenty-nine arpens, making a depth of forty arpens for the three arpens front aforesaid, bounded on the upper side by Bienvenu, jr., and below by lands of Fernandez Torres. The claimant holds in right of purchase, and she proves possession and cultivation by her, and by those under whom she claims, upwards of forty years.

No. 162. Widow Jean Rodrique claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, left bank of the Mississippi, containing two arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Jean Lagman, and below by lands of Michel Campe. This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves possession by herself, and by those under whom she claims, upwards of forty-seven years.

No. 163. Christophe Astizig, alias Quatre Vinght claims a tract of land situated in the parish of St. John Baptiste, left bank of the Mississippi, containing one arpent front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Antoine Astizig, and below by —— Astoneau. This land is claimed by purchase; and the claimant proves possession and cultivation by himself, and by those under whom he claims, since the year 1782.

No. 164. Francois Trepaznier and Pierre Trepaznier claim a tract of land situated in the parish of St. Charles, county of German Coast, left bank of the Mississippi, containing sixteen arpens ten toises and three feet front, and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of James Brown, and below by lands of Labranche, freres. This land the claimants prove to have been possessed and cultivated upwards of forty-seven years.

No. 165. Louis Chauvin Delery claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing ten arpens and ten toises front and forty depth, bounded on the upper side by lands of the Widow Francois Delery, and below by lands of Joseph Vertois Degruys. This land is claimed by purchase; and the claimant proves, by affidavits, that this land was granted by the French Government, and has been possessed and cultivated upwards of eighty years.

No. 166. The family of Bontté (Jean B. Bontté) successor of Hilaire Bontté, Tisapherne Bontté, claim a tract of land, being an island called Barrataria, in the district of Barrataria, bounded north by the Bayou Villars, east by Bayou Onihas and Bayou Rigolets, south by a place called the Temple, and west by Pierrot, and the lake of Onihas, containing fourteen and fifteen leagues in circumference. The claimants prove by affidavits that this land was granted by the French Government to M. M. Villars and Dubreriel before the year 1754; that, in that year, it was bought at auction by Villars, the son; that it has since descended to them by purchase, and by them possessed and occupied upwards of forty years. It appears a great portion of this island is unfit for cultivation, and that the family claiming it are numerous.

No. 167. The widow of Jacques Deslondes and André Deslondes, her son, claim a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing about twenty-two arpens and two-thirds front, and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Charles Lasseigne, and below by lands of Labranche, freres. The claimants prove possession and cultivation anterior to, and since the year 1792.

No. 168. Louis and Hebea St. Amand claim a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Bernard, left bank of the Mississippi, bounded on the upper side by lands of the claimant, and below by lands of Bienvenu, containing four arpens front, and a depth to Lake Borgne, being a part of a tract of ten arpens front, formerly belonging to Louis Regio; six arpens of which have been sold at auction by the United States, with a depth to Lake Borgne. The claimants prove, by depositions of witnesses, that the whole of this land was originally granted by the Spanish Government, and that this land has been cultivated and occupied thirty years.

No. 169. Zenon Bonozent claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupé, west side of the Mississippi, containing ten arpens in front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Thomas Key, and below by lands of Simon Croizac. This land is claimed by purchase. The claimant proves possession and cultivation in those under whom he claims prior to the 20th December, 1803.

No. 170. Nicolas La Cour claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupé, west side of the Mississippi, containing six arpens front by forty arpens in depth, bounded above and below by lands of Widow Pierre Decuir. This land is claimed by purchase. The claimant proves possession and cultivation, in those under whom he claims, prior to 20th December, 1803.

No. 171. Widow Pierre Decuir claims a tract of land situated in the vicinity of Point Coupé, west side of the Mississippi, containing five arpens five toises and a half front, and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Zenon La Cour, and below by lands of Nicholas La Cour. This land is claimed by purchase. The claimant proves possession and cultivation, under those by whom she claims, prior to the 20th December, 1803.

No. 172. Widow Pierre Decuir claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupé, west side of the Mississippi, containing nine arpens and twenty-six toises and one-third front, and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Nicholas La Cour, and below by lands of Joseph Decuir. This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves possession and cultivation, by those under whom she claims, prior to the 20th December, 1803.

No. 173. Widow of Charles Dufour claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupé, west side of the Mississippi, containing five arpens eight toises and

four-fifths in front, and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Joseph Decuir, and below by lands of Sebastian Heniul. This land is claimed by purchase; and the claimant proves possession and cultivation, by those under whom she claims, prior to the 20th December, 1803.

No. 174. Joseph Decuir claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupé, west side of the Mississippi, containing six arpens four toises and one-third front, and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Widow Pierre Decuir, and below by lands of Widow C. Dufour. This land is claimed by purchase. The claimant proves possession and cultivation, by those under whom he claims, prior to 20th December, 1803.

No. 175. The widow and heirs of Stephen Blunt claim a tract of land situate in the parish of Iberville, on the point below the Bayou Manchac, containing about 260 acres, bounded above by lands of De la Bois, and below by lands recorded in the name of Mr. Hinson.

It appears this land was in the possession of Abner Gray, and actually inhabited and cultivated by him, in the year 1802, and from that time till 20th December, 1803; on which day said Gray resided thereon, who afterwards sold it to Dument, who sold it to Stephen Blunt, of whom the claimants are the legal representatives.

No. 176. The widow and heirs of Maturin Landry claim (for the use of Seth and James Johnn, who are purchasers under them) a tract of land situated in the parish of Iberville, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing nearly six arpens front, adjoining and bounded by land claimed by Maturin Landry, and then running back forty arpens.

This land is claimed by purchase; and it appears that said Maturin Landry, (from whom the claim is derived,) was in possession of said land in 1803, and for more than ten consecutive years prior thereto.

No. 177. Benjamin Morgan claims a lot of ground in the city of New Orleans, at the corner of Gravier and Magazine streets, containing 242 feet on Gravier street, and 132 feet on Magazine street, both French measure. This lot was purchased from Julien Poydrass, and the claimant proves, in this claim, as in all the subsequent claims for lots contained in this report, that this, and they, have been peaceably and uninterruptedly possessed prior to the cession of Louisiana to the United States.

No. 178. Benjamin Morgan claims a lot of ground in the city of New Orleans, at the corner of Gravier and Camp streets, adjoining the preceding lot, containing on Gravier street 78 feet 4 inches, and on Camp street 187 feet 6 inches, French measure. This lot claimant bought of Messrs. D. and T. Arquhart. The deeds of sale for this lot proved that it was possessed at least as early as 1799.

No. 179. Benjamin Morgan claims a lot of ground in the city of New Orleans, containing 60 feet front upon Magazine street, and having same width through the square to Camp street, between Gravier and Poydrass streets, being about 340 feet, all French measure. This lot was purchased by the claimant from Nicholas Gravier. Same proof as in claimant's first claim.

No. 180. Benjamin Morgan claims a lot of ground situate in the city of New Orleans, at the corner of Levee and Gravier streets, extending along Gravier street to Magazine street; measuring upon Levee street sixty feet seven inches, upon Gravier street 312 feet, and Magazine street 61 feet, French measure. This land claimant bought of William Flower, attorney of Cochran and Rhea, and deeds of sale prove it to have been owned and possessed as early as the year 1784.

No. 181. Benjamin Morgan claims a lot of ground in the city of New Orleans, at the corner of Levee and Gravier streets, measuring 188 feet upon Gravier street, and 60 feet on Levee street, evidencing, at the lower end of the lot, 14 feet, all French measure. This lot claimant purchased of Pierre Bailey, and deeds of sale show that this lot was possessed and sold on the 27th February, 1789.

No. 182. Benjamin Morgan claims a lot of ground in the city of New Orleans, now occupied as a brick yard, measuring upon Tchoupitoulas street 300 feet, and extending to Levee street, with the right of the Batture in front. This land claimant purchased, and deeds of sale show, that it was possessed and sold originally in the year 1792.

Note.—As the foregoing six claims are for lots in the city, I had doubts whether the law contemplated enregistering such claims; but, at the request of the claimant, I have done so, and cannot entertain a doubt as to the validity of his titles.

No. 183. Benjamin Morgan claims a tract of land called the Orange Grove, near the English Turn, left bank of the Mississippi, measuring 26 arpens front and 40 arpens deep. This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves, from deeds of sale, that this land was occupied and sold as early as the year 1803, 31st March.

No. 184. Benjamin Morgan claims a tract of land in the county of Orleans, adjoining the Orange Grove, left bank of the Mississippi, containing four arpens front by 40 arpens in depth. This land is claimed by purchase from Madam Dupré, 16th February, 1804, and deeds of sale show that she had bought the same about twenty-two years previous.

No. 185. Benjamin Morgan claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, adjoining the last mentioned tract, containing four arpens front and 40 arpens in depth. This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves, by deeds of sale, that it was possessed and sold as early as the 14th December, 1796.

No. 186. Benjamin Morgan claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, left bank of the Mississippi, near the upper end of the English Turn, containing about 30 arpens and 28 toises front, and 40 arpens in depth; the place now called "Cainanin." This land is claimed by purchase, and deeds of sale show that it was possessed and sold 1st September, 1803, and they also recognize said land as having been granted by the Spanish governor, Baron Carondelet.

No. 187. Benjamin Morgan claims a tract of land adjoining the last mentioned tract, containing three arpens front, and extending to the lake. This land is claimed by purchase, and deeds of sale show that it was possessed and sold as early as the 23d July, 1791.

No. 188. Benjamin Morgan claims a tract of land at the English Turn, right bank of the Mississippi, opposite the Orange Grove estate, containing, in front, on a line at right angles with the upper and lower boundary line, 15 arpens and 14 toises, and 40 arpens in depth. This land is claimed by purchase, and the title by occupancy and sales, to those under whom the claimant holds, is traced as far back as the year 1770.

No. 189. Benjamin Morgan claims a tract of land at the English Turn, right bank of the Mississippi, containing 10 arpens front, with a depth not exceeding 80 arpens. This land is claimed by purchase, and possession is traced, in those under whom claimant holds, to 6th December, 1787.

No. 190. Benjamin Morgan claims a tract of land at the English Turn, adjoining the last mentioned tract, containing six arpens front, with a depth of 40 arpens. This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant shows, from deeds of sale, that this land was possessed and occupied since 6th December, 1787.

No. 191. Benjamin Morgan claims a tract of land situate about seven and a half leagues below New Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing 21½ arpens, and 120 feet front and 40 arpens in depth. This land comprises three different tracts which the claimant has purchased. It appears from deeds of sale passed, that this land was sold in presence of the commandant of the parish during the Spanish Government in 1788.

No. 192. Benjamin Morgan claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, at the English Turn, adjoining the tract second above mentioned, on the right bank of the Mississippi, measuring four arpens front and forty arpens in depth, running back in two parallel lines.

This land is claimed by purchase. It appears this land was possessed by the original owners in the time of the Spanish Government in Louisiana.

No. 193. G. Roussel and Louis Le Bourgeois claim a tract of land situate in the parish of St. James, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing two arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above and below by lands of the claimants.

This land is claimed by purchase; and the claimants prove quiet possession and cultivation by themselves, and by those under whom they claim, upwards of thirty years. The witnesses also swear that this land was originally granted by the Spanish Government.

No. 194. Stephen Henderson claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, right bank of the Mississippi, containing about forty arpens front and eighty arpens in depth, bounded above by the lands of the widow of Francois Delery, and below by the lands of J. B. Degruys and Antoine Foucher, jun.

This land is claimed in right of purchase; and the claimant proves possession and cultivation by himself, and by those under whom he claims, upwards of forty years.

No. 195. Charles Lasseigne claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, on the left bank of the Mississippi, bounded on the upper side by lands of Philipe Bredi, and below by lands of Widow Jacques Deslondes, containing two arpens front and forty arpens in depth.

This land is claimed by purchase; and the claimant proves that said land has been occupied by him, and by those under whom he claims, before the year 1792.

No. 196. Thomas Becknal claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing about nine arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Pierre Roussel, and below by Pierre Maxmillian.

This land is claimed by purchase; and the claimant proves possession and cultivation by him, and by those under whom he claims, from the year 1792.

No. 197. Thomas Becknal claims a tract of land situated in the parish of St. John Baptiste, right bank of the Mississippi, containing four arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by the lands of Christophe Troxles, and below by lands of John Desnoyers.

This land is claimed by purchase: and the claimant proves possession in himself, and by those under whom he claims, from the year 1777.

No. 198. John Miner claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Ascension, left bank of the Mississippi, containing seventeen arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Louis Pavé, and below by lands of Stephen Henderson and John Anderson.

This land is claimed in right of purchase, and it is proved, by affidavit, that the said land was originally granted by the Spanish Government; as also possession and cultivation for upwards of thirty years.

No. 199. William Kenner and Philip Miner claim a tract of land situate in the parish of Ascension, county of Acadia, left bank of the Mississippi, containing two arpens front and forty arpens in depth; bounded above by lands of Edmund Brand and below by lands of John Louis Picon.

This land is claimed by purchase, and it is proved by affidavits that this land was originally granted by the Spanish Government; and, further, possession and cultivation upwards of thirty years.

No. 200. William Kenner and Philip Miner claim a tract of land situate in the parish of Ascension, county of Acadia, left bank of the Mississippi, containing twenty-eight arpens front and forty arpens in depth; bounded above by lands of S. Henderson and J. Anderson, and below by the heirs of Barthelemy Himitton.

This land is claimed by purchase, and it is proved by affidavits that it was originally granted by the Spanish Government; also, possession and cultivation upwards of thirty years.

No. 201. Joseph Verloin Dugruys claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing eleven arpens in front and eighty arpens in depth; bounded above by lands of L. Chauvin Delery, and below by lands of Balthazar Saulet.

Three arpens front of said land was purchased from Mr. Foucher, with a depth of forty arpens, and the remaining eight arpens with a depth of eighty arpens, together with forty additional arpens back of the purchase from said Foucher, was purchased from Stephen Henderson.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation by himself, and by those under whom he claims, previous to, and since the year 1790.

No. 202. Samuel McCutchen claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, left bank of the Mississippi, containing ten arpens front, and a depth to the lake; bounded on the upper side by lands of Alexander Labranche, and below by claimant.

This land is claimed by right of purchase, and the claimant proves possession and cultivation by himself and by those under whom he claims, forty-four consecutive years. This land is part of the following tract.

No. 203. Alexander Labranche claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, left bank of the Mississippi, containing four arpens front, and a depth to the lake; bounded above by lands of Duvergne, and below by lands of Samuel McCutchen, as more fully appears from the plat annexed.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves possession and cultivation by himself, and by those under whom he claims, upwards of thirty-five years.

No. 204. James Brown claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, on the left bank of the Mississippi, about twenty-seven miles above the city of New Orleans, containing four arpens front on said river, and forty arpens in depth; bounded above by lands of the claimant, and below by lands of Francis Trepagnier.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant produces deeds of sale from the 30th December, 1782, through different persons, down to himself, which also proves the possession of said land during the same period.

No. 205. Thomas Villanueva claims a tract of land, situate on the canal leading from the Bayou Lafourche to Lake Verret, containing five hundred and sixty-five and seventy-one-hundredths superficial acres, according to a plan of survey recorded in book No. 1 of Lafourche, page 79.

This land was claimed before the late Board of Commissioners, and not acted upon by them, through mistake, as one of them, to wit, the honorable Joshua Lewis, states; but it appears the claimant settled said land by the permission of the proper Spanish officers, and that it was in possession and under cultivation on the 20th December, 1803, and for several years previous thereto.

No. 206. George Emele claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, left bank of the Mississippi, containing two arpens front and forty arpens in depth; bounded above by lands of Lean Vichner, and below by lands of Leonard Tregle.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant produces deeds of sale for said land, from the 26th February, 1794, (made at that time by Don Andry, a Spanish commandant,) down to himself.

No. 207. Pierre Brand claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Ascension, left bank of the Mississippi, containing three arpens and one-fourth front, and forty arpens in depth; bounded above by lands of Alexander Chener, and below by lands of Nicholas Landry.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves possession and cultivation prior to the 20th December, 1803.

No. 208. Alexander Chener claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Ascension, left bank of the Mississippi, containing three arpens front and forty arpens in depth; bounded above by lands of John Louis Picon, and below by lands of Pierre Brand.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves possession and cultivation by those under whom he claims, prior to 20th December, 1803.

No. 209. John Louis Picon claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Ascension, left bank of the Mississippi, containing two arpens front and forty arpens in depth; bounded above by lands of Kenner and Miner, and below by lands of Alexander Chener.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves possession and cultivation, by those under whom he claims, prior to the 20th December, 1803.

No. 210. Nicholas Landry claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Ascension, left bank of the Mississippi, containing two arpens and three-fourths front, and forty arpens in depth; bounded by lands of Pierre Brand, below by lands of Joseph Babin.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves possession and cultivation by those under whom he claims, prior to the 20th December, 1803.

No. 211. Jacques Clement claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, left bank of the Mississippi, containing two arpens front and forty arpens in depth; bounded above by lands of Daniel Maderne, and below by lands of Antoine Vichner.

The claimant holds by purchase, and proves, by successive sales from the 13th August, 1780, down to himself, that said land was possessed during that period.

No. 212. Jaques, a free man of color, claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Ascension, left bank of the Mississippi, containing about one arpent in front and forty arpens in depth; bounded above by lands of Carlier d'Outremer, and below by lands of Le Blanc.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves possession and cultivation prior to the 20th December, 1803.

No. 213. Drozen Borne claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing two arpens front and forty arpens in depth; bounded above by lands of J. B. Baudry, and below by lands of Antoine Dupuy.

This land is claimed by purchase: the claimant produces two affidavits proving possession and cultivation by him, and by those under whom he claims, upwards of forty years.

No. 214. Olivier Forcelle claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, on the left bank of the Mississippi, measuring four arpens front and forty arpens in depth; bounded on one side by lands of Henry Muntz, and on the other side by lands of F. Maurice Elfer.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves possession and cultivation by himself and by those under whom he claims, since the year 1792, and prior thereto.

No. 215. Richard H. Lee claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, on the Mississippi, containing one and a half arpens front and forty arpens in depth; bounded on the upper side by lands of Godefroy Bourdoxisque, and below by lands of Chrysistom Bourne,

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves possession and cultivation, in himself and in those under whom he claims, upwards of thirty years.

No. 216. Pierre Lalanne claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Jacques, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing two arpens in front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Pierre Bourgeois, and below by lands of Etienne Richard.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves possession and cultivation, in himself and in those under whom he claims, upwards of forty years.

No. 217. Marie Bergeron, Widow of Pierre Bourgeois, claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Jacques, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing two arpens front, and forty arpens in depth; bounded above by lands of Rosalie Bourgeois, widow of Jean Maria Maland, and below by lands of Pierre Lalaure.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves possession, in herself and in those under whom she claims, upwards of fifty years.

No. 218. Evariste Villeavasse claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Jacques, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing six arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Pierre Richard, and below by Laurent Fabre.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves possession, in himself and in those under whom he claims, upwards of forty years.

No. 219. Miss Louise Carmouche claims a tract of land situate in the county of Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing one arpent and twenty-seven toises front, and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Joseph St. Amand, and on the other side by lands of Jean Louis Cavalie.

This land is claimed by succession or inheritance from the claimant's father, and she proves possession upwards of forty years.

No. 220. Antoine Mentz, Andre Mentz, and Widow Christophe Mentz, claim a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, on the left bank of the Mississippi, containing one hundred and thirty-seven toises and three feet front, and forty arpens in depth.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimants produce a survey made by the surveyor general of the province of Louisiana; and they also prove possession from the year 1792.

No. 221. James Williams claims a tract of land situate in the parish of Plaquemine, left bank of the Mississippi, containing twenty-one arpens front, and a depth of thirty-two arpens, beginning at the lower limit of other lands of the claimant, at a distance of eight arpens from the river, fronting on a bayou, and bounded below by lands of Mors Vinet.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves possession and cultivation, by himself and by those under whom he claims, upwards of thirty years.

No. 222. Andre Saixnaitré claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, containing four arpens front, and forty arpens in depth; bounded on one side by lands of Benjamin Bourne, and on the other side by lands of Yves Berthelot.

The claimant proves, from successive deeds of sale, that this land has been possessed by him and by those under whom he claims, from the year 1790, and is a part of a larger tract owned by Anthony Delatre.

No. 223. Jn. Legrange claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, right bank of the Mississippi, containing three arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of ——— Hoffman.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant shows, by successive deeds of sale, that he and those under whom he claims held possession from the year 1787.

No. 224. Charles Rom claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, right bank of the Mississippi, containing two arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of ———, and below by lands of ———.

The claimant holds by purchase, and proves, from successive deeds of sale, that said land has been possessed from the year 1793.

No. 225. George Louppe claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, right bank of the Mississippi, containing about five arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Benjamin Hottin, and below by lands of Charles Rhone.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves possession of said land by authentic deeds of sale, from 1789 down to himself.

No. 226. Henry Bandé claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, right bank of the Mississippi, containing two arpens front and thirty-six arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of L. Legrangé, and on the other side by lands of B. Hymèl.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves, from successive deeds of sale, that said land has been possessed from the year 1792 to the present time.

No. 227. Godefroy Perret claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, right bank of the Mississippi, containing one arpent front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Hebert Daremsbourg, and below by lands of Ursin Perret.

This land is claimed by purchase. The claimant proves, by deeds of sale, that said land has been possessed from the year 1787 to the present time.

No. 228. Justine Perret claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, right bank of the Mississippi, containing one arpent front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Hebert Daremsbourg, and below by lands of Ursin Perret.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves, by deeds of sale, that said land has been possessed since the year 1787, and to the present time.

No. 229. Bastien Hymel claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, left bank of the Mississippi, containing three arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Henry Bodé, and on the other side by lands of P. Montegut.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves, by deeds of sale, that said land has been possessed from the year 1781 to the present time.

No. 230. L. Legrange claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, containing two arpens in front by forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of Philip Hernan, and below by lands of André Chexnaitre.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves possession of said land since the year 1792 to the present time.

No. 231. Alexis Perret claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, on the right bank of the Mississippi, containing three and one-half arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Terence Le Blanc, and on the other side by Magloire Martin.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves possession and cultivation by himself, and by those under whom he claims, from the year 1787 to the present time.

No. 232. Henry Lorvaux claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. John Baptiste, right bank of the Mississippi, containing five arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of C. Daremsbourg, and on the other side by lands of Charles Pané.

This land is claimed by purchase, and successive sales show that it has been in possession from the year 1787. The sale dated in that year expresses forty arpens in depth, and the sale made to the claimant in 1802, and a survey made in 1813, expresses eighty arpens in depth; but, as no written evidence of title appears for the second depth, I am of opinion he is only entitled to the first forty arpens of depth.

No. 233. Alexander Lebranche claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, on the left bank of the Mississippi, beginning at the depth of forty arpens already confirmed to claimant, and having the same extent in front as the first, to wit, fifteen arpens, and running back to Lake Pontchartrain; bounded above by lands of Labranche, freres, and below by lands of Duverne.

This land is claimed by purchase. The claimant produces sales made for this land during the Spanish Government, in the year 1779. He also produces the certificate of the commandant and deputy surveyor of said parish at the time, stating that this land was always considered as the property of the claimant; that he acquired it from the succession of André Chiloe, about twenty years ago; and that said land has been possessed and occupied by claimant, and by those under whom he claims, upwards of forty years.

No. 234. Oneziphore St. Amand claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, containing nine arpens front and eighty arpens in depth.

This land is claimed by purchase, and claimant produces a deed of sale for said land made in the year 1789. He also proves, by affidavits, that this land has always been considered the property of the claimant.

No. 235. Moliere Duverney claims a tract of land situate in the parish of St. Charles, left bank of the Mississippi, containing four arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded on both sides by lands of Alexander Labranche.

This land is claimed by purchase, and the claimant proves possession by himself, and by those under whom he claims, upwards of thirty years.

No. 236. Jacque Verret claims a tract of land situate on both sides of the Bayou Terrebonne, in the county of Lafourche, containing 600 superficial acres, bounded above by lands of —— Verret, and below by lands of Nicholas Bertrand.

No. 237. Solomon Verret claims a tract of land situate on Bayou Terrebonne, containing twenty arpens front on each side of said bayou, bounded on the upper side by lands of Edward Verret, and below by lands of N. Bertrand.

No. 238. Edward Verret claims a tract of land situate on the Bayou Terrebonne, containing twenty acres on each side of said bayou, bounded on the upper side by Joseph Verret, and below by lands of Solomon Verret.

No. 239. F. Verret claims a tract of land situate on Bayou Terrebonne, county of Lafourche, containing 600 superficial acres, bounded on one side by lands of Jacques Verret, and on the other side by lands of Solomon Verret.

The claimants in these four last claims produce affidavits proving that the aforesaid tracts of land (being adjoining to each other,) were granted by the proper Spanish officer to the claimants; and, also, stating that they were severally inhabited prior to the year 1800.

No. 240. Nicholas Bertrand claims a tract of land situate on the Bayou Terrebonne, in the county of Lafourche, containing 600 superficial acres, bounded on one side by lands of —— Verret.

This claim is founded on the same title as the preceding four claims.

No. 241. Charles Berto claims a tract of land containing 600 superficial acres, bounded on one side by lands of Hypolite Hebert, and on the other side by lands of —— Verret, situate on the Bayou Terrebonne; claiming on each side of said bayou the above recited number of acres.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation prior to the year 1800.

No. 242. Joseph Hebert claims a tract of land situate on the right bank of the Bayou Lafourche, containing a front of two acres, bounded above by lands of Pierre Lazene, and below by Church lands.

This claim is founded on possession and cultivation, proved ten years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

No. 243. Pierre Billio claims a tract of land situate on the Bayou Terrebonne, containing twenty arpens front on each side of the said bayou, and about six arpens deep, bounded on one side by Charles Billio, and on the other by —— Billio.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation prior to the year 1800.

No. 244. Charles Billio claims a tract of land situate in the Bayou Terrebonne, county of Lafourche, containing twenty arpens front on each side of said bayou, and ten arpens in depth, bounded on one side by Pierre Billio, and on the other side by E. Billio.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation prior to the year 1800.

No. 245. Antoine Babin claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, containing 640 superficial acres, on the bayou running back near the Black bayou and the Bayou Terrebonne.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation prior to the year 1800.

No. 246. George Toupes claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, containing ten arpens front on both sides of the Bayou Grand Callon, and twenty arpens in depth, joining lands of Edmund Fangy.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation prior to the year 1800.

No. 247. Edmund Fangy claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, containing ten arpens front on both sides of the Bayou Grand Callon, and twenty arpens in depth, joining lands of George Toupes.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation prior to the year 1800.

No. 248. Auguste Roger claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, containing 640 superficial acres, and being on the little Bayou Terrebonne, adjoin- the claim of John B. Roger.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation of this land prior to the year 1800.

No. 249. Marianne Erice claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, containing twenty arpens front and ten arpens deep on both sides of the Bayou Terrebonne, adjoining the lands of Dardan.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation prior to the year 1800.

No. 250. Antoine Bontary claims a tract of land of 640 acres superficial, being on the Bayou Callon, Blue Water, and the Bayou Terrebonne, county of Lafourche.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation prior to the year 1800.

No. 251. Etienne Billiot claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, containing 358 superficial acres, being on the Bayou Terrebonne, adjoining the claim of Marianne Erice.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation of this land prior to the year 1800.

No. 252. John Dejan claims a tract of land situated in the county of Lafourche, on both sides the Bayou Terrebonne, containing nine hundred and forty-four superficial arpens, adjoining the lands of the widow of Joseph Crusse.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation of this land ten years prior to 20th December, 1803.

No. 253. Alexander Le Jeune claims a tract of land situated in the county of Lafourche, on the little Bayou Terrebonne, containing about five hundred superficial acres, adjoining the claim of Auguste Roger. The claimant proves possession and cultivation prior to the year 1800.

No. 254. Joseph Dianne claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, containing three hundred and twenty superficial acres, on both sides of the Bayou Terrebonne.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation of this land ten years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

No. 255. Thomas Clarke claims a tract of land situate iu the county of Lafourche, on the Bayou Terrebonne, containing four hundred and seventy superficial acres.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation of this land ten years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

No. 256. Alexander Boudin claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupé, at a place called Point Du Manoir, at the eastern mouth of Fausse riviere, containing forty arpens in front on the Mississippi, and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by the channel of Fausse riviere, and on the other side by the river Mississippi.

The claimant, in support of his claim, exhibits successive deeds of sale from the year 1774 down to himself; he also produces a certified copy of a petition made to the then commandant of the parish, dated in the year 1767, by which it appears said commandant had no objection to granting said land.

No. 257. John Mary Campo claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, containing six hundred and forty superficial acres, on both sides of the Terrebonne bayou, adjoining the lands of Thomas Fitch.

The claimant produces the certificate of the proper Spanish officer, stating his permission to settle on said land, and also proof that the land was inhabited and cultivated prior to 1803.

No. 258. Joseph Haché claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche Interior, lying on both sides of the Bayou Terrebone, containing twenty arpens front and tens arpens in depth, adjoining the lands of Thomas Fitch.

The claimant produces proofs of permission to settle on this land, by the proper Spanish officer, and also proof of habitation and cultivation prior to 1803.

No. 259. P. d'Antin claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on a bayou called Bayou Grand Brulé, adjoining Bayou Blue Water, and containing six arpens front and twenty arpens in depth.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation of this land prior to the year 1800.

No. 260. Charles d'Antin claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on a bayou called Grand Brulé, and adjoining Bayou Blue Water, containing six arpens front and twenty arpens in depth.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation of this land prior to 20th December, 1803.

No. 261. John Baptiste Roger claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on the Little Bayou Terrebonne, containing six hundred and forty acres superficial.

No. 262. Widow Cheté claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on the right side descending the Bayou Lafourche, containing twelve arpens in front and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Widow Baptiste Leonard.

Jaques Rigaud claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, right side of the Bayou Lafourche, containing sixty arpens front and twenty arpens in depth, about fifteen leagues from the Mississippi river.

No. 263. The inhabitants of the parish of Lafourche Interior claim a tract of land as a burying ground in said parish, at a distance of fifteen leagues from the Mississippi, containing about five arpens front and forty arpens in depth.

No. 264. Maria Bruné claims a tract of land situate

in the county of Lafourche, right bank of the Bayou Lafourche, containing six arpens in front by forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of John Mayzen, and on the lower side by lands of Silvier Blanc.

In the preceding five claims the claimants prove possession and occupation ten years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

No. 265. John Charles Terrio claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on the Bayou Grand Callon, between Bayou La Cere and Bayou Le Bon, containing six hundred and forty superficial acres.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation of this land prior to the year 1800.

No. 266. The Widow Crousse and the heirs of Antoine Albarrow claim a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on Bayou Terrebonne, containing twenty arpens front and ten arpens in depth, adjoining lands of Alexander Verdain and Joseph Deson.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation of this land prior to the year 1803.

No. 267. Peter Williams claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, containing twenty arpens front on both sides of Bayou Terrebone, and thirty arpens in depth, adjoining lands of C. Berto.

The claimant proves permission to settle this land by the proper Spanish officer, and also possession and cultivation prior to the year 1800.

No. 268. Louis d'Antin, jr., claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on the Bayou Grand Brulé, containing six arpens front and twenty arpens in depth, adjoining Bayou Blue Water.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation of this land ten years prior to the 20th December, 1803.

No. 269. Louis d'Antin, sen., claims a tract of land situated in the county of Lafourche, right bank of the Bayou Lafourche, containing about thirteen arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded above by lands of the heirs of Louis Pinell, and below by lands of the Widow Nicholas Bertrand.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation ten years prior to 20th December, 1803.

No. 270. Fabien d'Antin claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on the Bayou Grand Brulé, containing twelve arpens front and twenty arpens in depth, adjoining Bayou Blue Water.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation prior to the year 1803.

No. 271. John Guillot claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, behind a depth of forty arpens, at a place called Grand Chene, containing six hundred and eight seventeen-hundredths superficial acres.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation prior to the year 1800.

No. 272. Baptiste d'Antin claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, on Bayou Grand Brulé, containing six arpens front and twenty arpens in depth, adjoining the Bayou Blue Water.

The claimant proves possession and cultivation prior the year 1800.

No. 273. John Mason claims a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, containing twenty arpens front on each side of Bayou Terrebonne, and thirty arpens in depth, adjoining the claim of Peter Williams.

The claimant proves permission to settle said land by the proper Spanish officer, and also possession and cultivation prior to the year 1800.

No. 274. The widow and heirs of Albert Beau Sergent claim a tract of land situate in the county of Lafourche, containing thirty arpens front on the Bayou Callon, and thirty arpens in depth.

The claimants prove possession and cultivation of this land upwards of thirty years.

The preceding claims, comprehended in class III., are not founded on either Spanish grants, concessions, or orders of survey exhibited to me, and are therefore not embraced by the *literal* meaning of the act of 11th May, 1820, but as I believe they are within the spirit of that act, I have thought it proper to report them. I infer this from analogy to former laws on the subject. By previous acts of Congress, claims in Louisiana have been recognized as valid which were founded solely on settlement rights, provided the habitation and cultivation was shown to be on the 20th December, 1803, or anterior to that period. All the cases reported in this class are proved to have been in peaceable possession, either by the claimants or those under whom they claim, before, and some of them long previously to the 20th December, 1803, and therefore would have been valid under former laws, to which I have alluded. But I think the mere fact of the long and uninterrupted possession of those lands under the Government of Spain, is strong presumptive proof that the original settlers or claimants had a good title to the land claimed. It is a well known fact that some of the Spanish governors of the province of Louisiana, and particularly the Intendant Morales, were extremely tenacious of the lands belonging to the royal domain, and made strict inquiries as to the right of individuals, for the express purpose of detecting frauds against the Government.

It is fair to conclude, in my opinion, that, if the present claimants, or those under whom they hold, had not good titles for their lands, they would have been ejected. If good titles for those lands ever existed, the question naturally arises, why are they not produced? Various reasons might be assigned for their non-production, but the most obvious which occur to me are the following: Lands, as they are now claimed, are generally very different in their local descriptions from what they were when originally granted, owing to the various successions from fathers to their children, and the subdivisions arising from sales; so that, although a large plantation may have been regularly granted by former Governments, yet its subdivisions since that period are so described as to boundaries, that it is extremely difficult, and, in some cases, impossible, to trace them to the original source; and this difficulty is still more increased from the loose manner in which grants to land were made by the Spanish Government, frequently on loose sheets of paper, afterwards stitched together in the form of a book, which, from time or accident, are in many places much mutilated.

But another reason for the non-production of the title papers in these claims, may arise from their actual destruction. It is a well known fact, and specially proven in some claims embraced by these reports, that the archives of the Spanish Government suffered greatly by the fire which happened in the city of New Orleans in the year 1794; and it is equally notorious, that a considerable portion of the archives were removed to Pensacola, and from thence to Havana, and, on the passage to the latter place, were plundered by pirates.

All circumstances considered, and for reasons deduced, which are respectfully submitted, I am of opinion all the claims included in this class ought to be confirmed. SAMUEL H. HARPER, *Register*.

NEW ORLEANS, *6th January*, 1821.

CLASS FOURTH.

275. Pierre Leglise claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupé, on the west side of the Mississippi, containing sixteen arpens in front by forty in depth, and bounded on one side by land of Francis Mason, and on the other by land of J. B. Rabelais.

This claim was submitted to the late Board of Commissioners for this district, and by them rejected on the ground of *abandonment* on the part of the claimant. The facts before the board were, that the claimant purchased this land in the year 1806 from the heirs of Jean Pierre Dargulon, and produced, in support of his claim, the affidavit of two of the inhabitants of the district, that it was within their knowledge that Jean Pierre Dargulon was proprietor of, and did inhabit and cultivate this land upwards of twenty-five years from the date of making the affidavit, viz., from the 28th December, 1806, and that it had always been considered his property up to that period. The claimant now corroborates the proof of possession by other affidavits, as far back as the year 1775 or 1776. The late board having rejected a number of other claims in the same district of country precisely similar to this, and which were re-entered afterwards in virtue of a law extending the time for that purpose, it became my duty, together with the receiver of public moneys, to consider these cases, and report our opinion thereon; which we did, under the title of "reports of the register and receiver of public moneys of the eastern district of the State of Louisiana," &c., and dated the 20th November, 1816, which reports were confirmed by the act of Congress on the 11th May, 1820.

The same facts in relation to the claims thus reported, and afterwards confirmed by Congress, also exist in this case, and are as follows: The additional evidence filed in support of the claims reported as aforesaid, prove that, in the year 1776 or 1777, Governor Galvez issued grants for all the lands in the district where those and this claim lie; that they were, for some years, constantly inhabited and cultivated; that, in the summer of 1779, all dikes, levees, houses, &c., were swept away by the overflowing of the river Mississippi, so that all the inhabitants of that part of the country were compelled to leave their habitations; that they, however, always maintained a kind of possession by cutting timber, taking fire-wood, &c.; that the abandonment was involuntary and temporary; and that, when the country became habitable, the original occupants returned.

The same witnesses further stated, that no person was permitted to settle on lands in that part of the country without previously having obtained a grant from the commandant or governor; but that the people in general were ignorant of the importance of land titles, and often lost or mislaid them. Upon these facts, we reported favorably on the claims alluded to, as may be seen more at large in the case of Charles Gross, No. 475, and which was confirmed by the act of Congress of 11th May, 1820. The same facts exist in this claim, and the same reasoning is equally applicable to it; and, as those of a similar nature have already been confirmed, and having no reason to change my opinion formerly expressed, I am, consequently, of opinion this claim ought to be confirmed.

No. 276. Pierre Leglise claims a tract of land situated in the county of Point Coupé, on the west side of the river Mississippi, containing six arpens in front and forty in depth, bounded on each side by lands of Beleny Chatity. This land is claimed by purchase from Baptiste Lemoine. The same facts occur in this case as in the preceding; consequently, my opinion is the same.

No. 277. Pierre Leglise claims a tract of land situate on the west side of the Mississippi, county of Point Coupé, containing eighteen arpens in front and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by land claimed by Mr. Mairann, and on the other side by lands claimed by Louis Gremillion. This land is claimed by purchase. This is a similar claim to the preceding.

No. 278. Lerron La Cour claims a tract of land situate in the county of Point Coupé, west side of the Mississippi, containing seven arpens front and forty arpens in depth, bounded on one side by lands of Widow Pierre Decuir, and on the other side by lands of Widow Crozat. This land is claimed by purchase, and is similar to the preceding.

SAM. H. HARPER,
Register Land Office E. district Louisiana.

NEW ORLEANS, *Jan.* 6, 1821.

LAND OFFICE, OUACHITA, 1*st Jan.*, 1821.

SIR: In transmitting my report of the land claims entered in this office, pursuant to the act of Congress of last session, it may not be improper in me to say something in explanation of the classes into which I have divided the claims.

The first class comprehends those only in which original written Spanish titles have been filed in this office.

The second class contains those claims where there are no written titles produced; but for which, it is probable, that there have been good titles which are lost.

The third class are claims considered honest, and meriting the indulgence of the Government.

The fourth class consists of claims in which the testimony is not believed. The Spanish titles contained in this class evidently call for land in the State of Mississippi, and are believed to have been already entered in the district west of Pearl river. In fact, the whole of the claims in this last class are considered as a base attempt to defraud the Government.

I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant,
D. J. SUTTON.

The Hon. JOSIAH MEIGS,
Comm. Gen. Land Office, Washington City.

Report of the register of the land office for the district north of Red river, in the State of Louisiana, pursuant to the act of Congress passed on the 11th May, 1820, entitled "An act supplementary to the several acts for the adjustment of land claims in the State of Louisiana."

FIRST CLASS OF CLAIMS.

1. Antonio Vaca claims a tract of land of forty arpens front on each side of the Bayou Macon, in the district (distrito) of Concordia, by the ordinary depth of forty arpens, being three thousand two hundred superficial French arpens, equal to two thousand seven hundred and eight superficial American acres. This claim is founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant, dated at New Orleans on the 18th October, 1789, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of the province of Louisiana.

2. Francois Leclair claims a tract of ten arpens front on each side of the Bayou, or Rigolet du Bondieu, in the post (puesto) of Natchitoches, by the depth of forty arpens, equal to six hundred and seventy-seven American acres. This claim is founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant by Estevan Miro, governor of Louisiana, and dated at New Orleans, the 4th Dec'r, 1790.

3. Juan Belgar claims a tract of forty arpens front on the right bank of Red river, in the post of Rapides, by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand three hundred and fifty-four American acres. This claim is founded on an order of survey, dated at New Orleans, the 6th June, 1798, and granted to the claimant by Governor Gayoso.

4. Pedro Himenes claims forty arpens front on each side of the Rigolet du Bondieu, in the parish of Natchitoches, by the depth of forty arpens, equal to two thousand seven hundred and eight American acres; founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant, and signed by Governor Miro, at New Orleans, the 11th May, 1788.

5. Jacques Dupui claims thirty arpens front by forty deep, equal to one thousand and fifteen American acres, situated on the Bayou D'Areau, in the port of Rapides; founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant by Governor Gayoso, and signed by him at New Orleans, the 19th May, 1798.

6. Julian de Lion claims a tract of land of forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand three hundred and fifty-four American acres, situated on the right bank of Deer creek, (Bayou Chevreuil,) in the parish of Catahoula; founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant by Governor Miro, and dated at New Orleans, the 15th September, 1788.

7. Louis Hernando claims fifteen arpens front on each side of the Rigolet du Bondieu, in the parish of Natchitoches, by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand and fifteen American acres; founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant the 9th July, 1789, and signed by Governor Miro.

8. Juan de Lion claims a tract of land of twenty arpens front by forty arpens in depth, equal to six hundred and seventy-seven American acres, situate on the Rigolet du Bondieu, in the parish of Natchitoches, and founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant, and signed by Governor Miro at New Orleans, the 8th August, 1790.

9. Antoine La Montagne claims six arpens of land in front by forty arpens deep, equal to two hundred and three American acres, on the west bank of the river Ouachita, near the post; founded on an order of survey granted by Governor Miro to the claimant, and signed at New Orleans, the 5th April, 1790.

10. Juan Mansol claims 20 arpens front of land on both sides of the Bayou Macon, in the post of Ouachita, by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand three hundred and fifty-four American acres; founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant by Governor Gayoso, and signed at New Orleans, the 11th February, 1799.

11. Jacques Pecondom claims forty arpens front of land on each side the Bayou Toreau, in the parish of Rapides, by the depth of forty arpens, equal to two thousand seven hundred and eight American acres, and founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant, and signed by Governor Miro at New Orleans, the 24th March, 1790.

12. Baptista Garsa claims a tract of land of thirty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand and fifteen American acres, situate on the Bayou Toreau, in the parish of Rapides; founded on an order of survey signed by Governor Gayoso, the 6th June, 1799, in favor of the claimant.

13. Ramon Estrada claims a tract of land of forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand three hundred and fifty-four American acres, situate on the Bayou Marteau, in the post of Rapides; founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant by Governor Gayoso, and signed at New Orleans the 9th May, 1798.

14. Jean Pierre Valade claims a tract of land of forty arpens front on each side of the Rigolet du Bondieu, in the parish of Natchitoches, by the depth of forty arpens, equal to two thousand seven hundred and eight American acres; founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant, and signed at New Orleans, the 8th May, 1788, by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana.

15. Jean Filhiol claims a tract of land of ten arpens front on both sides of the river Ouachita, at the Prairie des Canots, by the ordinary depth of forty arpens, equal to six hundred and seventy-seven American acres; founded on an order of survey in favor of the claimant, and signed by Governor Miro at New Orleans, the 29th June, 1785.

16. Manuel Mindez claims a tract of land of forty arpens front on each side of the Rigolet du Bondieu, in the post of Natchitoches, by the depth of forty arpens, equal to two thousand seven hundred and eight American acres; founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant, and signed by Manuel Gayoso de Lemos (then governor) at New Orleans, the 7th July, 1799.

17. Henry Slaughter claims a tract of land of fifteen arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, equal to five hundred and seven American acres, situate on the Rigo-

let du Bondieu, in the parish of Natchitoches, and founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant, and signed by Governor Gayoso at New Orleans, the 11th February, 1799.

18. Alexander Breard claims a tract of land of one arpent front on the Ouachita river, near the town of Monroe, by the ordinary depth of forty arpens, equal to thirty-three American acres. This claim is founded on an order of survey granted by Governor Estevan Miro to Balthazar Foguel, on the 5th April, 1790, for six arpens front, whereof five have already been confirmed in the name of Mrs. Relf, by an entry at Opelousas. This claimant has a regular title to this one arpent front by nine successive deeds of sale from Foguel down to himself—all authentic acts, passed before the commandant and public notary.

19. Antonio Lafita claims a tract of land of thirty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand and fifteen American acres, situated on the Horse-shoe lake, in the post of Rapides; founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant by Governor Miro, and signed by him at New Orleans, the 12th February, 1790.

20. Louis Dumortier claims a tract of land of forty arpens front on each side of the Rigolet du Bondieu, in the post of Natchitoches, by the ordinary depth of forty arpens, equal to two thousand seven hundred and eight American acres; founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant by Governor Gayoso, and signed by him the 10th August, 1798.

21. Jacques Talvande claims a tract of land of twenty arpens front on each side of the Rigolet du Bondieu, in the post of Natchitoches, by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand three hundred and fifty-four American acres; founded on an order of survey granted by Governor Miro to the claimant, and dated at New Orleans, the 6th February, 1689.

22. Antonio Courvel claims thirty arpens front of land by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand and fifteen American acres, situated on Deer creek, (Bayou Chevreuil,) in the parish of Catahoula; founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant by Governor Gayoso, and signed at New Orleans, the 15th June, 1798.

23. Juan Gonzales claims a tract of land of forty arpens front, by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand three hundred and fifty-four American acres, situated on the Bayon Macon, and post of Ouachita; founded on an order of survey granted by Governor Miro to the claimant, and signed at New Orleans the 15th January, 1789.

24. Louis Morino claims fifteen arpens front of land on each side of the Rigolet du Bondieu, in the post of Natchitoches, by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand and fifteen American acres; founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant, dated the 7th December, 1789, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana.

25. Miguel de Santo claims a tract of land of forty arpens front by forty arpens deep, equal to one thousand three hundred and fifty-four American acres, situate on the Bayou Macon, in the post of Ouachita; founded on an order of survey granted by Governor Miro to the claimant, and dated at New Orleans, the 12th March, 1788.

26. Jacque Dumeni claims twenty arpens front of land by the depth of forty arpens, equal to six hundred and seventy-seven American acres, situated on the Bayou Macon, in the post of Ouachita, and founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant, under date of the 7th April, 1790, and signed by Estevan Miro, then governor of Louisiana.

20. Julien Galban claims forty arpens front of land by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand three hundred and fifty-four American acres, situated on the Bayou Toreau, in the district (distrito) of Rapides; founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant, and signed by Governor Gayoso at New Orleans, the 8th May, 1799.

28. Miguel Llano claims a tract of land of twenty arpens front, on both sides of the Rigolet du Bondieu, in the post of Natchitoches, by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand three hundred and fifty-four American acres, founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant by Estevan Miro, governor of Louisiana, and signed by him at New Orleans, the 8th April, 1790.

29. Santiago del Rio claims a tract of land of forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand three hundred and fifty-four American acres, situated in Sicily island, fronting the pine woods, in the post (puesto) of Rapides, founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant, and signed by Governor Miro at New Orleans, under date of the 10th May, 1789.

30. Jean Filhiol claims a tract of land of twenty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, equal to six hundred and seventy-seven American acres, situated in the little prairie of the Prairie of the Woods, (Prariellon de la Prairie des Bois,) in the parish of Ouachita. There is no title filed in this claim, but there is produced a certificate from Sam'l H. Harper, the register of the land office at New Orleans, containing a copy from the register of land grants kept by the Spanish Government for the province of Louisiana, and now in his possession, of an entry purporting that, on the 16th June, 1795, there was granted to Jean Filhiol twenty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, in the place claimed. This was during the government of the Baron Carondelet. The entry does not mention whether the title was an order of survey or a complete grant, but it must have been one of them, as no other entries were made, or indeed could have been, at New Orleans.

31. Francisco Adante claims thirty arpens front of land, by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand and fifteen American acres, situate in the post of Ouachita, on the Bayou Macon, founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant by Governor Miro, and signed by him at New Orleans, the 9th July, 1788.

32. Francisco de la Garsa claims forty arpens of land front, by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand three hundred and fifty-four American acres, situated on the Bayou Clair, in the parish of Catahoula, and founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant by Governor Gayoso, and signed by him at New Orleans, the 8th May, 1798.

33. Miguel Lafita claims a tract of land of forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand three hundred and fifty-four American acres, situated on Deer creek, (Bayou Chevreuil,) in the parish of Catahoula, and founded on an order of survey granted by Governor Miro to the claimant, and signed at New Orleans, the 8th September, 1790.

34. Gilberte Gallardo claims a tract of land of forty arpens front by forty arpens deep, equal to one thousand three hundred and fifty-four American acres, situated in the Prairie du Boeuf, in the parish of Catahoula, and founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant by Governor Miro, and signed by him at New Orleans, the 3d December, 1788.

35. Pedro Ariola claims a tract of land of forty arpens front, by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand three hundred and fifty-four American acres, situated in the parish of Catahoula, in the Prairie du Lac, founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant by Estevan Miro, governor of Louisiana, and signed by him at New Orleans, the 5th day of September, 1789.

36. Pedro Apolinar claims a tract of land of forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand three hundred and fifty-four American acres, situated in the parish of Catahoula, on Deer creek, (Bayou Chevreuil,) and founded on an order of survey granted by Governor Gayoso to the claimant, dated at New Orleans, the 8th June, 1798.

37. Henry Bry claims a tract of land of four arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one hundred and thirty-five American acres, on the left bank of the river Ouachita, at the place called Fort Miro. This claim is founded on a sale at public auction, by the Spanish Government, to John Hughes, for the sum of one hundred and three dollars, which was paid into the Royal Treasury, the whole approved by Juan Ventura Morales, the intendant, and by the treasurer and assessor, and countersigned and noted by Carlos Ximines, the secretary of the Government, at New Orleans, the 30th January, 1802, and by Gilberto Leonard, the auditor (contador) of the army, on the 10th February following. This appears to be equal to a complete grant, as the intendant makes use of the same words as in complete titles, after reciting that a survey had been made and returned by Carlos L. Trudeau, the surveyor general, under date of the 25th July, 1800, (usando de la facultad que el Rey nuestro senor me tiene conferida, apruevo el remate hicho en Juan Hughes, de las quatro arpanes de tierra relacionados y los concedo, &c.) There is a regular deed from Hughes to Sarpy and Cortes, and from them to the claimant, passed before notaries public in New Orleans. It appears that this land had before been granted by the Spanish Government, (although no title can be found,) as it was sold by Antoine Toupart to Louis Badins in 1789; by him to Jean Poiret in 1791, and by Poiret to the Spanish Government (for public use) in the year 1795, under the orders of the Baron de Carondelet; but, not being found further useful, was sold, as above mentioned, by the Government to Hughes in 1802. All those sales are authentic acts, passed before the commandant.

40. Antoine Dumontier claims a tract of land of fifty

arpens front by the ordinary depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand six hundred and ninety-two American acres, situated on or near the Lake San Joseph, above Natchez, in the county of Concordia, and founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant by Governor De Galvez, and dated at New Orleans, the 8th December, 1776.

41. Louis Duran claims a tract of land of twenty arpens front on each side of the Bayou Cattahoula, in the district of Rapides, by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand three hundred and fifty-four American acres, founded on an order of survey granted by Governor Miro to the claimant, and dated at New Orleans, the 8th July, 1790.

42. Louis Jarnaque claims a tract of land of forty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand three hundred and fifty-four American acres, situated at the mouth of the Bayou Marteau, in the county of Rapides, founded on an order of survey granted by Governor Miro to the claimant, and signed by him at New Orleans, the 8th November, 1786.

43. Manuel O'Garte claims a tract of land of sixty arpens front, on both sides of the river or Bayou Batea, in the county of Natchitoches, by the ordinary depth of forty arpens, equal to four thousand and sixty-two American acres, founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant by Governor Miro, and signed by him at New Orleans, the 3d March, 1785.

44. The heirs and representatives of John and Joseph Owen claim eight hundred superficial acres of land situate on the Bayou Gallion, and parish of Ouachita. This claim is founded on a survey made in June, 1804, by orders of the Baron de Bastrop in his grant of twelve leagues square, and by a sale from him by authentic act (for a nominal consideration) to the claimants in 1805, as persons who came with him under his contract with the Spanish Government, of date 21st June, 1796, (printed in the appendix to the Land Laws, page 27.) It is also proved, by official documents from the Spanish commandant, John Filhiol, that those two persons came to Ouachita to settle on the Bastrop grant, in the year 1797.

45. Christa Owen claims four hundred arpens of land, equal to three hundred and thirty-eight American acres, situated in the Prairie Simon, and parish of Ouachita, in the grant of Baron de Bastrop. In this claim is filed a plat of survey, and a conveyance to the claimant, from the attorney in fact of the Baron de Bastrop in 1810. It is also proved, by official documents, that the claimant is one of the settlers who came here in 1797, in pursuance of the Baron's contract with the Spanish Government.

46. John and Abraham Dehart claim eight hundred acres of land on the Bayou Gallion, and parish of Ouachita, in Bastrop's grant, founded on a conveyance from the Baron de Bastrop to them in 1805, as two of the settlers who came to Ouachita in conformity with his contract with the Spanish Government. It is also proved, by official documents, that those two claimants came to Ouachita in 1797, in pursuance of the Baron's contract.

47. John Dehart, jr., claims four hundred arpens of land, equal to three hundred and thirty-eight American acres, situate in the Prairie Simon, and parish of Ouachita, in the Bastrop grant. In this claim is filed a plat of survey and conveyance from the attorney in fact of the Baron de Bastrop, in 1810, to the claimant, as one of the settlers entitled to land in the Bastrop grant. It is also proved by official documents, that the claimant is one of the settlers who came to Ouachita in 1797, in pursuance of the Baron's contract with the Spanish Government.

48. Winant Dehart claims four hundred arpens of land, equal to three hundred and thirty-eight American acres, situate in the Prairie Simon, and parish of Ouachita, in the Bastrop grant, founded on a plat of survey and conveyance from the attorney in fact of the Baron de Bastrop, in 1810, to the claimant, as one of the settlers entitled to land in the Bastrop grant. It is also proved, by official documents, that the claimant is one of the settlers who came to Ouachita in 1797, in pursuance of the Baron's contract with the Spanish Government.

49. Pedro Poso claims twenty arpens front of land by the depth of forty arpens, equal to six hundred and seventy-seven American acres, situated in the Island of Sicily, and parish of Catahoula, and founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant by Governor Miro, and signed by him at New Orleans, the 6th day of August, 1788.

50. Miguel Lizondo claims a tract of land of forty arpens front by the ordinary depth of forty arpens, equal to one thousand three hundred and fifty-four American acres, situated on the east side of Red river, in the county of Natchitoches, and about four or six leagues below the post, (puesto,) founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant by Governor De Galvez, and signed by him at New Orleans, the 6th May, 1776.

51. The Baron the Bastrop claims six toises of land on each side of the Bayou Barthelemy, from its source to its mouth, founded on the grant from the Baron de Carondelet to the claimant, under date of the 12th June, 1797, and printed in the Land Laws, page 28 of the appendix. In this claim, John Heberard deposes that he was in the employ of the Baron de Bastrop in 1799, and that he knows that a mill for manufacturing flour was built on the Bayou Seard, which was commenced in the year 1798, and was manufacturing flour in the year 1799. This testimony is believed entitled to credit.

The length of the Bayou Barthelemy is not exactly known, but it is believed to be upwards of one hundred miles, (by the meanders much more.) It rises in the Arkansas Territory, and empties into the river Ouachita, a few miles from the town of Monroe.

CLAIMS OF THE SECOND CLASS.

38. Henry Bry claims four arpens front of land by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one hundred and thirty-five American acres, situated on the left bank of the river Ouachita, near Fort Miro. There is no title filed with this claim; but, by authentic acts passed before the commandant, it was sold by Jean Weigand to Louis Toutin in 1787: in this sale mention is made of the crop then on the land. Toutin sold to Auguste Roy in 1793; Roy sold to Noel Pradine in 1796; Pradine sold to Joseph de la Baume in 1796: in this sale, passed by the commandant, after noting the foregoing conveyances, mention is made that Jean Weigand had a concession of the land, which was then deposited in the commandant's office. This concession cannot now be found. La Baume sold to Vincent F. Tejeiro in 1801; Tejeiro sold to Sarpy and Cortes in 1803, and they to the present claimant in 1814. These three last acts are passed before Peter Pedesclaux, a notary public in New Orleans. This land has been settled constantly for nearly forty years.

39. Henry Bry claims six and a half arpens of land in front by the depth of forty arpens, equal to two hundred and twenty American acres, on the left bank of the river Ouachita, near Fort Miro. There is no title filed with this claim; but, by an authentic act passed before the Spanish commandant in 1786, this land was sold or exchanged by Jean Francis Carter to Jean Ramirez for another tract of land. In this act mention is made that the parties exchanged their titles. The title of Carter cannot be found; but that of Ramirez has been here exhibited, and is an order of survey granted by Governor Miro to him, under date the 31st March, 1786. It is, therefore, probable that they were both titles of the same order. This land was sold at public auction, on the decease of Ramirez, to Joseph Piboto in 1788. In this sale, made by the commandant, it is mentioned that the title of Carter was then exhibited, as, also, that the land was settled and under cultivation. Piboto sold to Pierre Preve in 1789; and in this sale mention again is made of the titles being produced, *(apert les titres.)* Preve sold to Joseph Coupelle in 1793, and Coupelle to the present claimant. All these conveyances are authentic acts, passed before the commandant, and the land is proved to have been settled and in constant cultivation upwards of thirty-five years.

52. William Weathersbee claims a tract of land of twelve arpens in front by the depth of forty arpens, equal to four hundred and six American acres, situated on the west bank of the river Ouachita, near the mouth of the Bayou Toupar, in the parish of Ouachita—supposed to have been originally granted to Joseph de la Baume who sold to the Baron de Bastrop, under whom the present claimant purchased at sheriff's sale. There is no title filed with this claim, but there is produced a plat of survey made for Joseph de la Baume on the 22d April, 1800, by James McLaughlin, conformably to his instructions from Don Carlos Levau Trudeau, surveyor general. It is not known that surveys were made under the Spanish Government without an order of survey issuing from the governor to the surveyor general, and from thence to his deputy. John Filhiol, formerly Spanish commandant of Ouachita, deposes that the aforesaid James McLaughlin was appointed and commissioned as deputy, by the surveyor general, to his certain knowledge. James McLaughlin deposes that La Baume settled the land in question about the year 1799. He understood that La Baume sold to Baron de Bastrop in 1801, and that the Baron continued to inhabit the same until some months after the Americans took possession of the country. These two witnesses are respectable men, and entitled to credit.

53. Antoine Drago claims a tract of land of six arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, equal to two hundred and three American acres, situated on the west bank of the river Ouachita, about a mile above the town of Monroe. In this claim Etienne Ripon deposes and says that, about twenty-four or twenty-five years ago, this land was inhabited and cultivated by Madame L'Ainé, who resided thereon about three years; that she sold to Jenkins, and he to Wallet, who sold to Jean Villard, who inhabited and cultivated the same, and resided thereon about five or six years; that he sold to C. Lindeman, who sold to J. F. Girod, who sold to the claimant, and that he is certain that the said land has been always settled and cultivated by some of the above named persons from the time of Madame L'Ainé to this day. Charles Betin deposes that, in the year 1795, he saw Madame L'Ainé on the land in question, and that, from that time until the present, the land has been always settled and cultivated, and has never been vacant. These two witnesses are entitled to credit.

54. Michel Le Villain La Chapelle claims a tract of land of four and a half arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, equal to one hundred and fifty-two American acres, situated on the north side of the Bayou Siard, in the parish of Ouachita. In this claim is filed a plat of survey made by James McLaughlin, a legal Spanish surveyor, dated the 21st February, 1801. Also, Charles Betin deposes that, in the year 1801, he was ordered by the commandant (as syndic of that quarter) to assist at the survey of the land in question; that the claimant procured this land from the Spanish Government for the use of the wood thereon, having a place on the other side of the bayou where he resided; and that, from that time until the present, the claimant has possessed the said land, and made use of it for the timber and other wood it contained. This witness is respectable, and entitled to credit.

55. Eleanor Hook claims a tract of land of ten arpens front on each side of the Bayou Siard, in the parish of Ouachita, by the depth of forty arpens, equal to six hundred and seventy-seven American acres. This land is supposed to have been granted to Michel Le Villain, under whom this claimant derives her right, by regular conveyances; first from Le Villain, in 1801, to Baron de Bastrop. In this claim Etienne Ripon deposes that, about twenty-six years ago, he saw a person of the name of Dufrené who was settled on this land, and that he lived on it for two or three years. Also, Samuel Blazier deposes that, about twenty-eight years ago, he saw Dufrené on the land, settled, and that he cultivated it for two years or more. These two witnesses are entitled to credit.

56. Eleanor Hook claims six arpens of land front by the depth of forty arpens, equal to two hundred and three American acres, situate on the south side of the Bayou Siard, in the parish of Ouachita, supposed to have been granted to Simon Le Boeuff, who sold by authentic act in 1800 to the Baron de Bastrop, under whom this claimant holds by regular conveyances. In this claim Samuel Blazier deposes that, about twenty-eight years ago, a certain Duval was settled on this land and cultivated the same; that he afterwards sold to Simon Le Boeuff, who lived on the same three or four years. Also, Etienne Ripon deposes that, about twenty-eight years ago, Francois Duval was living on and cultivating the land in question; that he lived there five or six years, and then sold to Simon Le Boeuff, who lived on the same about three years. These two witnesses are entitled to credit.

57. Eleanor Hook claims a tract of land of ten arpens front by forty arpens deep, equal to three hundred and thirty-eight American acres, situate on the south side of Bayou Siard, in the county of Ouachita, supposed to have been granted to Pierre Olivot, who sold by authentic act to John Filhiol in 1797, who sold the same year to the Baron de Bastrop, under whom the claimant holds by regular conveyances. In this case Jean Filhiol deposes that Pierre Olivot had a title to this land which he procured as commandant from the Spanish Government, and that the said Olivot lived on and cultivated the same in the year 1797. This witness is a respectable man.

58. Eleanor Hook claims a tract of land of twelve arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, equal to four hundred and six American acres, situate on the river Ouachita, at the junction of the Bayou Siard, descending the Ouachita. This land is supposed to have been granted to William Epinet, who sold by authentic act to the Baron de Bastrop in the year 1796, under whom the claimant holds. In this claim Jean Filhiol deposes that he procured a title to this land in his quality of commandant, for the said William Epinet, from the Spanish Government, and that said Epinet lived on, and cultivated said land in the year 1796. This witness is a respectable man.

59. The parish of Ouachita claims a tract of land at the junction of the River Ouachita and Bayou Siard, of three arpens front on the river by five arpens deep, equal to twelve American acres sixty-nine-hundredths. In this claim Jean Filhiol, former Spanish commandant, deposes that he came to Ouachita, as commandant, in the year 1783; that some time afterwards, at a general assembly of the inhabitants, it was agreed to set apart a piece of ground, *not conceded*, of the dimensions claimed, for the purpose of a grave yard, and to build a church upon; that therefore a portion was enclosed for a grave yard; that in the year 1794 several persons were buried there, and that the inhabitants continued to bury there until the change of Government, and that this land was always considered as public property. Also, Etienne Ripon deposes that he has been an inhabitant of Ouachita for forty years; that, in the year 1793 the inhabitants (among whom he was one) were ordered by the commandant to furnish pickets, and fence in this land for a grave yard, and that it was constantly used thereafter as a burial ground. These two witnesses are worthy of credit. This is a small piece of land, but very important to the feelings of the inhabitants.

60. The representatives of Jean B'te Prudhomme claim a tract of land of six arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, equal to two hundred and three American acres, situated on the left bank of the river Ouachita, about four leagues above Fort Miro. In this claim there is filed a plat of survey made by James McLaughlin, a legal Spanish surveyor, dated 26th March, 1802. Also, Samuel Blazier deposes that, about twenty-eight years ago, he lived with the old claimant, Prudhomme, and helped him to clear this land, and that said Prudhomme continued to reside on and cultivate said land until his death, many years after, and that he was living on the same in 1803. Etienne Ripon deposes, that, about twenty-eight years ago, said Prudhomme was settled on this land, and that he continued to live on and cultivate the same until his death, which happened about ten years ago. Both these witnesses are believed entitled to credit.

61. The Baron de Bastrop claims a tract of land of eighteen hundred arpens, superficial, more or less, equal to one thousand five hundred and twenty-three American acres, situated at the junction of the Bayou Siard with the river Ouachita. In this claim is filed a plat of survey made by James McLaughlin, a legal Spanish surveyor, in October, 1802, for the Baron de Bastrop, as also, six deeds of sale, all authentic acts, passed before the commandant between the years 1796 and 1801.

CLAIMS OF THE THIRD CLASS.

62. Peter B. Bruin claims a tract of land of eight hundred arpens, equal to six hundred and seventy-seven American acres, situated in the parish of Concordia, on the Mississippi, about three miles below Bayou Pierre. In this claim Joseph Vidal, formerly commandant at Concordia, deposes that, about the year 1801, he permitted the claimant, who had requested a much larger grant, to survey the land claimed; that some time afterwards he went to Spain; that, on his return in 1806, he found the claimant had a large settlement on the land, and that he lived upon it with his family for some years. James Dunlap deposes, that he does not know when the settlement of this land was commenced, but that, in the year 1809, he was on the land; that it was then well improved by the claimant, who lived thereon with his family, and had a house, negro cabins, and a larger piece of land in cultivation, say fifty acres, with twenty or thirty negroes; that the claimant continued to occupy and cultivate said land ever since, except when disturbed by inundation. William Collins deposes that, he passed the house of the claimant in the year 1806 or 1807; that, at that time, there was a considerable improvement, from sixty to eighty acres of land cleared, and that, from the appearance of the trees and improvements, it must have been commenced some years previous; that many years ago, say, ten or fifteen, he had heard from the claimant, and from Capt. Vidal, the commandant, that the claimant had a grant of said land before the change of Government. This testimony is believed to be correct. The two first witnesses are men of high respectability.

63. Richard Green claims a tract of land of one league square, equal to five thousand four hundred and sixteen American acres, situate at the mouth of Rackoon creek, on the Row Gulley, and parish of Rapides. It appears this land is claimed for the use of the pine timber on it to supply a saw-mill. Valentine Layssard, formerly commandant at Rapides, deposes, that, some time in the year 1801 or 1802, the claimant obtained from him, as commandant, a grant of one league square (the land in question) for a mill. Louis Huffman, Valentine Deville, and Jontee Deville, severally depose that Jean Bt. Jean-

nett and Philip O'Neil were employed by the claimant to get out timber to build his mill with, before the change of Government, as said Jeannett died in the year 1803. Philip O'Neil deposes that, about the year 1802, he was employed by the claimant, with his father-in-law, J. B. Jeannett, to get out timber for him for a mill, at the mouth of Rackoon creek, and that said claimant paid him fifty dollars for his part of the work. These witnesses are believed entitled to credit.

64. Jacques Paul claims a tract of land of twenty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, equal to six hundred and seventy-seven American acres, situate in the Prairie of Catahoula, joining the land of Robert Wilson. There is filed in this claim a requete signed by the commandant, Valentine Layssard, on the 4th June, 1801. Richard Green deposes, that he knows the claimant inhabited and cultivated this land in 1802, and that he continued to live on and cultivate the same until the high water of 1815. This testimony is believed entitled to credit.

65. The representatives of Lewis White claim a tract of land of six hundred and forty acres, situate on the west bank of the river Ouachita, at the Ecor à fabri. In this claim Jean Filhiol deposes that the claimant was settled on this land thirty-eight years ago, and cultivated the same; that he remained on the land two or three years, when he was killed by the Indians; that his widow and children resided there afterwards about two years. Jean Heberard deposes that he is sixty-three years old; that, about the year 1783, he saw the widow of White on this land with her children, and that she remained on the same until the year 1806. This testimony is believed entitled to credit.

66. Solomon C. Philips claims a tract of land of six hundred and forty acres, situated on the west bank of the river Mississippi, in the parish of Concordia, below the foot of Diamond island. This claimant holds under a sale from Samuel Hanna, the first settler. In this claim Joseph Hanna deposes that he descended the river with his brother Samuel Hanna, in the month of April, 1803; that his brother landed in Concordia, where he settled the land in question; and that, after bringing his family from Tennessee, he resided on said land, and cultivated it, till he sold to the claimant in 1813. This witness is believed entitled to credit.

67. Adam Huffman claims six hundred and forty acres of land on the Bayou Dareau, near its confluence with Red river, in the parish of Rapides. Valentine Layssard deposes that the claimant had permission from him, as commandant, to settle on this land about the year 1801. Richard Green deposes that the claimant resided on this land in 1801, 1802, and 1803, and kept stock there, having seen his cattle on the premises. Valentine Deville and Philip O'Neil depose that the claimant improved this land in 1801, and has cultivated and kept it ever since as a stock farm. This testimony is believed.

70. David Devore claims a tract of land of twenty arpens front by the depth of forty, equal to six hundred and seventy-seven acres, situated on the south side of the Bayou Catahoula. Valentine Layssard deposes that, in the year 1802, the claimant was brought before him, as commandant; that he took the oath required by the Government, and was permitted to settle on the Bayou Catahoula. Richard Green deposes that, in the years 1802 and 1803, the claimant cultivated this land, as he saw corn growing there; and that he has seen the land cultivated generally since, until the high water in 1815. This testimony is believed.

71. George Whitacre claims twenty arpens front of land by forty arpens in depth, equal to six hundred and seventy-seven American acres, on the Bayou Catahoula, joining the land of David Devore. Valentine Layssard in this claim deposes that, in the year 1802, the claimant had permission from him, then commandant, to settle on this land; and, further, that he then took the oath required by that Government. Also, Richard Green deposes that, in 1802 and 1803, the claimant was settled on and cultivated this land: that he saw several acres of corn there; and he believes the land was generally cultivated until the high water of 1815. Also, John Dyson deposes that he saw the claimant planting corn on this land in 1802, and shortly after saw it growing. This testimony is believed.

72. The heirs of Benjamin Miller claim a tract of land of twenty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, equal to six hundred and seventy-seven American acres, in the parish of Rapides, at the White Cliffs, on the north side of Red river. In this claim Adam Huffman deposes that he was well acquainted with Benjamin Miller; that he lived on the White Cliffs, on the north of Red river, in 1798 and 1799, and, as he believes, has continued in possession until this time. Also, Valentine Layssard deposes that, many years before the change of Government, his father, then acting commandant, gave permission to said Miller to settle on the north side of Red river, verbally, or by a requete signed by him. This testimony is believed correct.

73. The heirs of Richard Earl claim six hundred and forty acres of land in the prairie of Catahoula, and parish of same name. In this claim Richard Green deposes that he has perfect knowledge that the said Earl inhabited and cultivated the land in question in the years 1801, 1802, and 1803, and ever since until his death, which happened in the year 1818. Also, John Dyson deposes that he saw said Earl settled on this land in 1799; and that he has perfect knowledge that he lived on and cultivated the same until his death, in 1818. This testimony is believed to be correct.

75. John Henry claims 640 acres of land situated on the right bank of the Ouachita river, in the parish of Catahoula. In this claim Jean Heberard deposes that this land was settled by Theophilus Hughes in 1801, who continued to reside on and cultivate the same until about the year 1807, when this deponent left that part of the country; and that said Hughes resided on said land on the 20th December, 1803. This claimant holds under Hughes by regular conveyance. This testimony is believed correct.

76. John Henry claims a tract of six hundred and forty acres, situated on the right bank of Black river, in the parish of Catahoula. In this claim John Heberard deposes that the land in question was settled by Joseph Harris long before the year 1803; that said Harris continued to reside on and cultivate the said land until deponent left that part of the country in 1807; and that said Harris was settled and living on the said land on the 20th December, 1803. The claimant holds under Harris. This testimony is believed correct.

77. John Henry claims a tract of land of six hundred and forty acres, situated on the right bank of Black river, in the parish of Catahoula. In this claim Jean Heberard deposes that he knows that Joseph Thomas was settled on the land in question long before the year 1803: that said Thomas continued to inhabit and cultivate the same until the deponent left that part of the country in 1807; and that, on the 20th December, 1803, Thomas was settled and living on said land. The claimant holds under Thomas. This testimony is believed correct.

78. John Henry claims a tract of land of six hundred and forty acres, situate on the right bank of the river Ouachita, in the parish of Catahoula. In this claim Jean Heberard deposes that the land in question was in his near neighborhood, and was settled by Alexander Mahon about 1802: that said Mahon continued to reside on and cultivate the same until this deponent left that part of the country, about 1807; and that said Mahon lived on said land on the 20th December, 1803. The claimant holds under Mahon. This testimony is believed.

82. Edward Broughton and the heirs of William Rutherford claim a tract of land of eight hundred acres, situated on the west side of Lake St. Peter, in the parish of Concordia. In this claim there is filed an authentic certified copy of a survey for this land for John Rhea, surveyed by Peter Walker, on the 15th July, 1803, who was commissioned surveyor, from the indisposition of the adjutant surveyor. To this survey, there is a certificate of Joseph Vidal, the commandant, that said land was surveyed at the request of John Rhea; that it was not occupied by any other person; and referring him to the intendant to confirm his title. This is dated the same day. These claimants hold under Rhea, by sheriff's sale.

83. The heirs of Baptiste Fafar claim six hundred and forty acres of land situated on the river Bœuf, in the parish of Ouachita. In this claim Jean Heberard deposes that, in 1792, this land was settled and cultivated by Baptiste Fafar, who remained on the same until his death, when his son, Joseph Fafar, took possession, and cultivated it on and before the 20th December, 1803, and since that time until his death. This testimony is believed.

99. Augustus O'Neal claims six hundred and forty acres of land on the Bayou Rigolet, north of Red river, joining lands of Michel Lapance. In this claim, Michel Lapance, Louis Huffman, and Adam Huffman, severally depose that the claimant settled the land in question by John Sanders, a hireling, in 1801, who made a crop that year; that the claimant moved on to the land in 1802, and has continued to inhabit and cultivate the same from that time until now. This testimony is believed correct.

100. Lewis L. Huffman claims six hundred and forty acres of land on the north side of Red river, about two miles above the mouth of Bayou Maree. In this claim Adam Huffman and Augustus O'Neal severally depose

that the claimant settled on this land in August, 1803, and has inhabited and cultivated the same until now. This testimony is believed correct.

CLASS FOURTH.

68. Elijah L. Clark claims a tract of land of seven hundred and thirty-three acres, situated on the Lake St. Joseph, in the county of Concordia. In this claim Elijah Clark deposes that the claimant settled on the land in November, 1803, and cleared several acres of land, and had his camp thereon; and that he has continued to occupy and cultivate said land generally ever since. Also, Samuel Durosset deposes that, in November, 1803, the claimant settled on the land; that he immediately cleared several acres of land, and sowed some seeds; that he had his camp on the land, and actually inhabited and cultivated the same on 20th December, 1803, and, since that period, by himself or for his use, generally until now. He further says that said Clark, as well as himself and others in his neighborhood, had permission to settle from the Spanish commandant.

69. Lewis Clark claims a tract of land of six hundred and forty acres, situated in the county of Concordia, on the Lake St. Joseph. In this claim Elijah Clark deposes that the claimant settled on the land in November, 1803; had his camp there, and cleared several acres of land; and that, on the 20th December, 1803, he inhabited and cultivated the same; and that he has cultivated and occupied the land generally ever since. Also, Samuel Durosset deposes that the claimant settled on the land in question in November, 1803; that he had his camp on the same, and immediately cleared several acres of land, and sowed seeds; that, on the 20th December, 1803, he inhabited and cultivated the land, and has continued to do so generally ever since. He further says that the claimant, as well as himself and some others who settled in the neighborhood about the same time, had all permission to settle from the Spanish commandant.

74. John Lordevise claims a tract of land of six hundred and forty acres situated at the mouth of the Bayou L'Argent, on the Tensaw, and parish of Concordia. In this claim John Henry deposes that, in the latter part of the year 1802, he was at the house of the claimant, who lived on the land in question, and had cultivated it the same year, as he saw cornstalks on the land, and purchased potatoes and other articles from him; he knows that Lordevise remained on said land, and cultivated it for several years afterwards, and believes he was on it the 20th December, 1803.

79. David Michie claims four hundred and seventy-five acres of land, situated in the parish of Concordia, about thirty miles below Vidalia. In this claim there is filed a copy of a survey said to have been executed by Peter Walker on the 18th July, 1802, by virtue of a grant from Don Joseph Vidal, dated the 10th July, but no legal proof of either. William Glasscock, a witness, deposes that he knows this land was improved and cultivated previous to December, 1803; a cane-patch was cut, and turnips sown, and a cabin erected thereon. Several applicants for land had their claims surveyed by said Walker on the same day, among whom this deponent was one. He was one of the chain-carriers for the survey, and recollects this land was about thirty-two miles below the post of Concordia.

80. John Holliday claims a tract of land of six hundred and forty acres, situated about thirty miles below Vidalia, on the west margin of the Mississippi. William Glasscock deposes that he knows said land was surveyed by Peter Walker, who was a surveyor under the Spanish Government, and was improved and cultivated previous to December, 1803. There was on the land a cabin, and a small field of corn; and this land was never occupied and improved previous to the claimant's grant from Joseph Vidal, the Spanish commandant.

81. J. P. M'Neill and the heirs of William Rutherford claim three hundred and twenty acres of land, situate on the river Mississippi, about thirty miles from Vidalia, in Concordia. The claimants hold by regular deeds from William G. Forman. No other title.

84. James Floyd claims six hundred and forty acres of land on the Mississippi river, between that and Lake Providence. In this claim William Sanders deposes that the claimant settled this land in the spring of 1803, at which time this deponent lived with him, and continued so until 1805: during which time Floyd continued on the land, and this deponent believes he has inhabited and cultivated it for many successive years, having been at his house again in 1813, and that Floyd is still on it; that he knows Floyd had permission from the Spanish Government to settle, because he went with him and others to the Spanish commandant, and heard them obtain his permission to settle.

85. William Culfield claims six hundred and forty acres of land in the parish of Concordia, between the river Mississippi and Lake Providence, adjoining the claim of James Floyd. In this claim William Saunders deposes that, early in the spring of 1803, the claimant settled on Lake Providence, near the Mississippi, and adjoining lands settled by James Floyd; that Culfield built cabins, and put in a few acres of corn, and continued to inhabit and cultivate said land for many successive years, as this deponent lived with Floyd, adjoining, until 1805, when he left him, but was again at Floyd's in 1813, when Culfield was living on his land, and, as deponent believes, is still on it. Deponent knows Culfield had permission from the Spanish Government to settle, because he was with him, and heard him obtain it.

86. William Collins claims six hundred and forty acres of land on Lake Providence, in Concordia parish. In this claim William Saunders deposes that, early in the spring of 1803, the claimant settled on Lake Providence, next the river adjoining lands settled by Floyd; that Collins built cabins, and put in a small field of corn that year, and continued to inhabit and cultivate said land for many years, as deponent lived with Floyd, adjoining, until 1805, when he left him, but was again at Floyd's in 1813, when Collins was living on his land, and, as he believes, is still on it. This deponent was present when said Collins obtained permission from the Spanish Government to settle on said land.

87. William H. Collins claims six hundred and forty acres of land on the west bank of the river Mississippi, three or four miles below Fort Adams, in the county of Concordia. In this claim John Neal deposes that, in the spring of the year 1802, the claimant settled on the land in question; that he cleared land, built houses, and continued by himself, or others for his use, to inhabit and cultivate said land ever since, except when prevented by high water, but always reoccupying as soon as the flood had subsided; that this deponent has generally lived in the neighborhood, and has often heard, and does believe that said Collins had permission from the Spanish Government to settle on said land.

88. John Nelson claims six hundred and forty acres of land in the parish of Concordia, joining lands of Isaac Taylor. In this claim John Neal deposes, that some time in the year 1800, the claimant settled on the west bank of the Mississippi, about six miles below Fort Adams, just above Isaac Taylor; that he built houses and cleared lands, which he has by himself, and others for his use, continued to inhabit and cultivate ever since, except when driven off by high water; that this deponent generally lived in the neighborhood, and has often heard and does believe said Nelson was settled on the land by permission of the Spanish Government. James Sims deposes that, in the fall of 1802, he was at Isaac Taylor's, and that at that time the claimant resided on and cultivated the land immediately above Taylor's; that about Christmas of next year deponent spent two weeks at Taylor's, and Nelson was then on said land, and that deponent frequently saw him there several years afterwards.

89. John Boyd, junior, claims six hundred and forty acres of land in the parish of Concordia, on the west bank of the Mississippi, joining William H. Collins. In this claim John Neal deposes that, early in the fall of 1802, the claimant settled the land in question; that he built his cabins and cleared land, and, in the spring of 1803, planted his first crop, and has continued by himself, or others for his use, to inhabit and cultivate the same, except when driven off by high water. That this deponent generally lived in the settlement, and has understood and believes that Boyd had permission from the Spanish Government to settle on said land.

90. Isaac Taylor claims six hundred and forty acres of land in Concordia, six or seven miles below Fort Adams. In this claim John Neal deposes that, some time in the year 1800, the claimant settled the land in question; that he continued to inhabit and cultivate the same until 1811, when he was driven off by the high water; that since that time the claimant has kept continued possession by others when the waters permitted. This deponent has understood, and verily believes, that Taylor was settled on said land by permission of the Spanish Government. Also, James Sims deposes that, early in the fall of 1802, the said Taylor gave him permission to cut wood on his land; that Taylor was then living in comfortable cabins, and had made that year a considerable crop of corn and pumpkins; that he was again at Taylor's about a week before Christmas of the next year, and stayed with him two weeks, and was at his house two or three years afterwards.

91. John Kesler claims six hundred and forty acres of

land in the parish of Concordia, on the right bank of the Mississippi river, two or three miles below the Petty Gulph. In this claim James Young deposes that, in the year 1802, the claimant lived on and cultivated the land in question, and this deponent, having been there frequently since; does verily believe that he has occupied it ever since, except when disturbed by high water, and that the said Kesler settled there with the permission of the Spanish Government.

92. James Jarvis claims six hundred and forty acres of land in the parish of Concordia, nearly opposite the Petit Gulph. In this claim James Young deposes that the claimant did live on, and cultivate the land in question in the year 1802, which he settled on by permission of the Spanish Government, adjoining land claimed by John Kesler; and this deponent, having been there frequently since, does verily believe he has occupied it ever since, except when disturbed by the high water.

93. James Ceders claims six hundred and forty acres of land in Sicily island. In this claim Samuel Thompson deposes, that, in the years 1802 and 1803, the claimant did inhabit and cultivate a certain tract of land in Sicily island, in the State of Louisiana.

94. John Nailer claims six hundred and forty acres of land in the parish of Concordia, nearly opposite Bayou Pierre. In this claim Samuel Thompson deposes that the claimant cleared and cultivated the land in question since the years 1802 and 1803.

95. James Clayton claims six hundred and forty acres of land in the parish of Concordia. In this claim William Thompson deposes that the claimant commenced clearing and building on a tract of land on the west of the Mississippi, between Fort Adams and Red river in 1802, and continued to cultivate the same since that period, unless in the time of high water, which land was settled and occupied by permission of the Spanish Government.

96. John Strange claims six hundred and forty acres of land on the north side of Red river, a little below Vermillion island. John Jones, in this claim, deposes that the claimant did inhabit and cultivate the land in question, adjoining lands of Richard Jarvis, in 1802. This deponent was then at Strange's house, and, having been there frequently since, does verily believe that he hath occupied and cultivated it since that period, and further that he settled it with the permission of the Spanish Government.

97. Richard Jarvis claims six hundred and forty acres of land on the north of Red river, near Vermillion island, adjoining lands of John Strange. In this claim John Jones deposes that the claimant commenced building on and clearing this land in 1801, and that he has occupied and cultivated the same from that period until the present time.

98. Parker Carradini claims five hundred arpens of land, equal to four hundred and twenty-three American acres, in the parish of Catahoula, on the west side of Lake Sicily. In this claim is filed a requête signed by Manuel Gayoso de Lemos at Natchez, the 29th March, 1797, for the quantity claimed, which is requested in the Spanish dominions. This appears to be a floating requête. Leonard Hudson, a witness, deposes that, in February or March, 1803, he was at the house of the claimant on Lastley's lake, about four miles from Catahoula court-house, at which time he was comfortably settled on this land; that he continued to inhabit and cultivate the same for many successive years, as this deponent frequently called at his house.

101. George Rhea claims a tract of land of six hundred and forty acres on the north bank of Little river, two or three miles below the Chickasaw bayou. In this claim William Welsh deposes that the claimant inhabited and cultivated the land in question in the years 1802 and 1803, and ever since, by permission of the Spanish Government.

102. William Rhea claims six hundred and forty acres of land on the Chickasaw bayou, a branch of Little river. In this claim William Welsh deposes that the claimant inhabited and cultivated the land in question in 1802 and 1803, and ever since that time.

103. John Fountain claims a tract of land of forty arpens front by the ordinary depth, equal to one thousand three hundred and fifty four American acres, on the bayou Dareau, or Dearborn, north of Red river, about eighteen miles above Alexandria. In this claim is filed a requête, signed by Valentine Layssard, commandant at Rapides, in 7th May, 1800. William Simmons deposes that the claimant inhabited and cultivated the land in question in the years 1802 and 1803, and is yet in possession of it, and holds it by virtue of a requête from the Spanish Government.

104. Joseph King claims two hundred and forty arpens, equal to two hundred and three American acres, on Bayou Pierre. This claim is founded on an order of survey granted to the claimant by Estevan Miro, governor of Lousiana, and signed by him at New Orleans, the 26th April, 1790.

105. Robert Davis claims a tract of land of eight hundred arpens, equal to six hundred and seventy-seven American acres, situated on Thompson's creek, where it enters into Red river on the north side. In this claim is filed a requête signed by Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, at Natchez, the 9th January, 1795, for eight hundred arpens, in favor of the claimant, situated between the waters of the river Buffalo and Thompson's creek. Also, Samuel Wright, a witness, deposes that he knows that the claimant settled and cultivated this land in the years 1802 and 1803, and for many years since.

106. John Boyd, senior, claims a tract of land of one thousand arpens, equal to eight hundred and forty-six American acres, on both sides of the Bayou Dareau, north of Red river. In this claim is filed an authentic certified copy of a requête, signed by Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, dated Natchez, 29th March, 1797, in favor of the claimant, for one thousand arpens of land in any place in the district where it may be found. Also, William Kinchen, a witness, deposes that he well knows the claimant, and that he did actually cultivate and inhabit the land in question on the Bayou Dareau in 1802 and 1803, and continues in possession.

107. Frederic Man claims five hundred arpens of land, equal to four hundred and twenty-three American acres, situated on the Bayou Feliciana. In this claim there is filed a requete signed by Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, at Natchez, the 31st January, 1795, in favor of the claimant for the land as claimed.

108. Hugh Logan claims two hundred and forty arpens of land, equal to two hundred and three American acres, situated on Cole's creek. In this claim there is filed an order of survey, signed by Estevan Miro, governor of Louisiana, dated at New Orleans, the 7th of April, 1791, for the land as claimed.

109. Bennet Truly claims two hundred arpens of land, equal to one hundred and sixty-nine American acres, situated on the Bayou St. Catherine. In this claim there is filed an order of survey signed by Estevan Miro, governor of Louisiana, dated at New Orleans, the 3d of January, 1787, in favor of the claimant for the above land.

110. Jacob Stampley claims two hundred arpens of land, equal to one hundred and sixty-nine American acres, on any vacant land in the Spanish dominions. In this claim there is filed a grant or order signed by Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, governor of the district (distrito) of Natchez, dated 18th January, 1793, directing the surveyor of that Government to put in *possession* the claimant of two hundred arpens of land wherever it may be found vacant, for his services as a volunteer in the cavalry for six months.

111. George R. Carradine and Richard Carradine claim one thousand arpens of land, equal to eight hundred and forty-six American acres, situated on the north side of Red river below the raft. In this claim is filed an authentic copy of a requete, signed by Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, at Natchez, 29th March, 1797, in favor of the claimants, for one thousand arpens of land where the same may be found vacant in the Spanish dominions. Also, William Thomson deposes that the claimants inhabited and cultivated a tract of land containing one thousand arpens on Red river, below the raft adjoining land of Parker Carradine, in the year 1802, and occupied the same since that period.

112. John Jose Carradine claims five hundred arpens of land, equal to four hundred and twenty-three American acres, on the north bank of Red river, below the land of George R. Carradine. In this claim is filed an authentic copy of a petition to the governor of Louisiana, for a grant of such a quantity of land as may be thought proper in the annexed certificate of the surveyor general, which is signed by the Baron de Carondelet, at New Orleans, 2d March, 1797, directing the same to the governor of Natchez. On this order, Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, the governor of Natchez, under date of the 2d of April, 1797, says that he considers the claimant deserving of five hundred arpens of land where it is requested. Also, William Thomson deposes that the claimant did inhabit and cultivate a tract of land on Red river, below the raft, and adjoining land of George and Richard Carradine, in the year 1802, which has been occupied ever since that time.

113. Parker Carradine claims five hundred arpens of land, equal to four hundred and twenty-three American acres, on the north side of Red river, below the raft. In this claim there is filed an authentic copy of a

requete, signed by Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, at Natchez, the 29th March, 1797, granting five hundred arpens of land to the claimant where it may be vacant in the Spanish dominions. Also, William Welsh deposes that the claimant inhabited and cultivated a tract of land on the north of Red river, and near the raft, in 1802, which has been occupied and cultivated since that period.

114. Ardin Howard claims eight hundred arpens of land, equal to six hundred and seventy-seven American acres, on the north side of Red river, below and joining land of John J. Carradine. In this claim is filed an authentic copy of a requete signed by Manuel Gayoso de Lemos at Natchez, the 10th March, 1797, in favor of the claimant, for eight hundred arpens of land where the same may be found vacant in the Spanish dominions. Also, William Thomson deposes that the claimant did inhabit and cultivate and settle a tract of land on Red river, below the raft, adjoining land of John J. Carradine, in the year 1802, and ever since that period.

Respecting these four last claims, James Williams, a witness, deposes that, in crossing the river Mississippi, he unfortunately dropped his pocket book, containing a number of valuable papers, among which were a grant or warrant of survey in favor of George R. Carradine and Richard Carradine for one thousand arpens of land, dated 20th March, 1797; one warrant or grant in favor of John J. Carradine for five hundred arpens of land, with a certificate from the surveyor that the land was vacant, dated 2d April, 1797; one in favor of Ardin Howard for eight hundred arpens of land, dated 10th March, 1797; and one in favor of Parker Carradine for five hundred arpens of land, dated 20th March, 1791, which papers he was employed to lay before the Commissioners of the land offices at Ouachita.

LAND OFFICE, OUACHITA, *January* 1, 1821.

I, Daniel J. Sutton, register of the land office for the district north of the Red river, in the State of Louisiana, do hereby certify that the foregoing report is a faithful abstract of the notices of land claims, and of the evidence thereon, filed in this office, in pursuance of the act entitled "An act supplementary to the several acts for the adjustment of land claims in the State of Louisiana," approved 11th May, 1820.

D. J. SUTTON.

LAND OFFICE, OUACHITA, 14*th December*, 1820.

Antoine Dumontier claims a tract of land of fifty arpens front by the depth of forty arpens, situated near the Lake Providence, above Natchez, founded on an order of survey granted by Governor Galvez, and signed by him at New Orleans, the 8th December, 1776.

ANTOINE DUMONTIER.

TRANSLATION OF THE REQUETE.

To his Excellency Don Bernardo de Galvez, Governor of the province of Louisiana, &c. &c.

Antoine Dumontier, an inhabitant of the Illinois, desiring to settle himself on the lake called *Providence above Natchez*, humbly presents himself before your excellency, praying that your excellency would have the bounty to grant him the quantity of fifty arpens front of land, with the depth of forty on the said lake; bounded on the upper side by the lands of Mr. Burette, and on the lower side by vacant lands: a favor which the suppliant hopes to receive from your excellency, and will not cease to offer up prayers for the preservation of your life.

3*d December*, 1776.

ANTOINE DUMONTIER.

TRANSLATION OF THE ORDER OF SURVEY.

NEW ORLEANS, 8*th December*, 1776.

The surveyor of this province will establish this party on the fifty arpens front which he solicits, with the ordinary depth, and will make a plat thereof with the limits and boundaries, in order to deliver to the suppliant a title in form.

DE GALVEZ.

LAND OFFICE, OUACHITA, 30*th December*, 1820.

Personally appeared before the undersigned, register of the land office for the district north of Red river, John Millikin, who, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he removed on to the Mississippi river, eighteen miles above the Walnut hills by computation, and forty-five below the place then known by the name of Stock Island lake, (now called Lake Providence,) in March, eighteen hundred and ten, and has continued to cultivate on said place ever since; and that, in the capacity of a militia officer, since the organization of the militia in that place, he thinks he knows every settler on Lake Providence and the river, from the Walnut hills to the thirty-third degree of north latitude; and that, in the fall of eighteen hundred and thirteen, he, at the request of Anthony Glass and most of the settlers there and on the river, surveyed and made plats of the places of most of the settlers, as will be seen on application at the land office at Opelousas, and that he has no recollection of James Floyd or William Colfield, nor has any such names ever been enrolled in the battalion, nor has he known of any men living or settling on the river or Stock Island lake, now called Lake Providence, of the above names, or William Saunders, having lived there. The deponent knoweth that William Collins, the son of Charles Collins, deceased, lived on a place granted to said Charles, deceased, six miles above the Walnut hills, from the year eighteen hundred and ten until some time in eighteen hundred and fourteen, when, on an order for a draft, he removed with his family to Lake Providence, as said by his neighbors to avoid the draft. That in said year, on an order from General Thomas Barker, or accompanied with an order from Colonel William Willis, then said deponent's senior officer, he went to Lake Providence to raise and send on all the men that could be spared, where he saw said Collins in the house of James Estill, where he stayed, as this deponent believes, until the ensuing May, when he passed down the river by the dwelling of this deponent, and went up the Yazoo to Charles Collins, junior, his brother, who had a Choctaw wife, where he shortly died, as this deponent was informed and verily believes. That, in 1813, September or October, when this deponent was at Stock island, he knows of a Mrs. Pruit on the river, one mile below the mouth of Stock Island lake, and on the lake, Hugh White, Samuel White, Herbert Hood, two or three of the name of Dempsey, and William Barker, who raised corn, &c. in that year; and, further, he perfectly recollects that on requesting Glass, and those for whom he surveyed, the name to be set on the plats, that on a consultation it was agreed to call the place Lake Providence; and that, until that time, the citizens of the parish called it Stock Island lake, and believes it was so known to all passers of the river, and further this deponent saith not.

JOHN MILLIKIN.

Sworn to, and subscribed, at Ouachita, the 30th December, 1820, before me,

D. J. SUTTON, *Register*.

OPELOUSAS, 1*st January*, 1821.

DEAR SIR: Your favor of the 25th ultimo was handed to me yesterday evening by Mr. Graham. I highly appreciate your laudable vigilance to detect and prevent a most disgraceful scene of speculation, which I find has extended itself to every district in which the law of May last could have effect. I might, I have no doubt, have received several hundred entries under the law; but, perfectly understanding the language of it, and entertaining no doubt as to its spirit, I have refused to receive either original entries or additional testimony, in all cases which had not for their basis some *concession* from the Spanish Government. I have been urged to receive the commandant's requetes; but, knowing with what facility they may be obtained, and being confident it could not have been the intention of Congress to regard them as *concessions*, I have refused them in every case. The consequence has been, that I have only taken about seventy-five entries under the late law, the privileges of entering under which expired yesterday evening.

When I come to sum up, I believe I shall find that much more than half the land claimed under the late law is claimed under fraudulent and counterfeit documents. I could not refuse them; indeed I did not wish to refuse them; it was best to take them *out of circulation;* but I know very well how to dispose of them.

No attempt has been made to establish at this office any Concordia claims entered under former laws; and if there had been attempts, they must have failed, unless genuine Spanish concessions could have been produced.

Your friend,

LEV. M. WAILES.

Major JOHN MILLIKIN.

PARISH CONCORDIA, LOUISIANA,
1*st February*, 1821.

SIR: Being one amongst a great number who have made small purchases of lands coming under the law granting pre-emptions to actual settlers in Louisiana at or previous to 1814, I thought it prudent to go to Ouachita at the time prescribed by law for closing the office, when, to my astonishment, I was *peremptorily* and *positively* re-

fused a sight of the records and entries, though previously promised a transcript should be given me.

The enclosed paper, dated 14 December, 1820, purporting to be a translation of a Spanish concession on Lake *Providence*, which was granted in 1776: now, to my certain knowledge, Lake Providence did not receive its name until the year 1813; then it was named by myself, and never known as such before.

I cannot shut my eyes to the danger myself and a great number of my neighbors, and the citizens of this parish are exposed to; for, if one claim can be forged and sworn to, hundreds may be, and no doubt are; for I, from being an actual inhabitant for eleven years, believe that not one valid claim was left improved in the year 1813, as I then attended at Opelousas, and sought in every fair way to prove my claims. I could, however, find no such way; but two men offered their services to be my witnesses, for $100 each: by those two men I could have proved my own claim, and, if necessary, a *thousand* others. Thus you can see what a system has been pursued to monopolize all the lands of this State.

I also enclose you the letter from L. M. Wailes, (the register at Opelousas,) which will show you that my opinion is supported by his, in believing most of the claims recently entered and proven are *forgeries;* in fact I saw the former commandant sitting in the office.

From the above circumstances, I hope you will not think me intrusive, when I request that (for the benefit of the claimants under the pre-emption law,) you recommend no decisive measures in favor of claims recently proven and entered, until we, the actual settlers, may be heard in the way you may think best; or, that you sanction no claims covering pre-emptions inhabited at or since the year 1814.

Not having the honor of an acquaintance with the members in Congress from my own State, I refer you to the delegation from the State of Mississippi.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN MILLIKIN.

JOSIAH MEIGS, Esq.,
Gen. Land Comm'r.

Translation of the concession to the Baron de Bastrop, in the words and figures following, to wit:

[Book No. 8, entitled Register of the First Decrees of Concession, page 18, and following.]

21*st June*, 1796. Considering the advantages which must result from the settlement projected by the Baron de Bastrop, the commandant of Ouachita, Don Juan Filhiol, shall designate a square of twelve leagues, one-half on the side of the Bayou Siard, and one-half on the side fronting the river Ouachita, to collocate on said land the families which were directed by said Baron on that spot, it being well understood that no concession to any family shall be no less than four hundred superficial arpens of land, being gratis and free from all taxes, the principal object of that settlement being exclusively the culture of wheat.

The exportation of the produce of this province being free of duties, the petitioner shall undoubtedly be permitted to export all the flour coming from the mills of the Ouachita to the Havana, and all other posts designated for the free trade of this province.

The Government shall take charge of the conducting of the families from New Madrid to the Ouachita, and they shall be furnished with a sufficient quantity of provisions for their wants during the space of six months, and in proportion of their seed time; no one shall be molested for religious matters; and the Catholic Apostolic Roman religion shall be publicly permitted; and said petitioner shall be permitted to direct to said settlement families to the number of five hundred.

At the expiration of three years, the establishment not proving to be settled in its greatest part, the said twelve leagues in square designated for the families to be directed there by the petitioner, shall be taken possession of by the families presenting themselves the first.

Ibid: To the Baron de Bastrop, with due regard of the advantages which must result to the population of the Ouachita, and to the province in general, from the encouragement of the culture of wheat, and from the construction of mills, which the petitioner is in the intention of establishing at his own expenses, I do hereby grant, in the name of his Majesty, and by the powers vested in me, permission of surrounding the Bayou Siard, on which are to be established the mills, with a dike, in the place the most convenient for his works; equally I grant to him the exclusive enjoyment of six toises of land on each side of the Bayou Siard, from its origin to its discharge, to enable said petitioner to execute the works and dikes necessary to his mills: it being well understood that no clause in this concession shall be so construed as to prevent the free navigation of the said bayou to all the inhabitants who may be in need of using the same, who, notwithstanding, shall not have the right of erecting any bridge, nor embarrassing the navigation, which forever must be free and expeditious, under the conditions before expressed: and the mills deemed convenient being constructed, the petitioner shall dispose of said mills and of all the adjacent ground, as property entirely of his own, by virtue of the present decree; and for its better confirmation, proceedings of survey shall be had, which shall be transmitted to me by the commandant, Don Juan Filhiol, to furnish the interested with a corresponding title in due form: it being the formal and express condition of this concession, that at least one mill shall be constructed within the space of two years, otherwise the same to be null.

I do hereby certify the foregoing, and translation of the same, to be true and correct, said copy taken from an original entry in the book before described, and making part of the Spanish documents relative to land grants now deposited in this office.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, at the city of New Orleans, this eighth day of September, in the year of our Lord 1821, and in the 46th year of American independence.

CHARLES APPE,
Clerk and translator Land Office East. Dis.

N. B. The original itself being defective in some parts, the translation of course must suffer. CH. APPE.

Names of proprietors of land on Bayou de Siard who would be unjustly disturbed in the quiet possession of their property should Bastrop's claim to six toises on both sides of the bayou be confirmed.

This grant to Bastrop was revoked by the Spanish Government, the settlers there having presented then a petition to the proper authorities, showing how injurious to the settlement, and how unjust, such concession would be. Bastrop never made, nor never could erect, water grist mills on that bayou, and this was one of the peremptory conditions of that grant.

Nos.	Proprietors' names, &c.	Quantity of land, and where situated.	How held.
1	Etienne Chanon, creole - -	640 superficial acres, right bank -	Claim confirmed by Commissioners in Opelousas.
2	Parish of Ouachita - -	15 do left bank of bayou	Claim now reported by register north Red river.
3	Widow Hook, Baltimore - -	30 arpens front, left side - -	Claim part confirmed, part now reported, do. do.
4	Spenser Breedlove, Tennessee -	6 arpens front, left side - -	Claim now reported.
5	Richardson, Virginia - -	7 arpens front, left side - -	Claim confirmed.
6	J. Thomas, South Carolina - -	12 do right - -	
7	Michel le Villain, French - -	10 arpens front, left side - -	Do do
8	James Larche, creole - -	5 do. left side and 5 do. right side	Do do
9	Peter Souberease, France - -	5 do. left side and 5 do. right side	Do do
10	Jonathan Morgan, sheriff - -		
11	William Miller, Ohio - -		
12	Charles Betin, France - -	10 arpens on each side - -	Do do

NAMES OF PROPRIETORS—Continued.

Nos.	Proprietors' names, &c.	Quantity of land, and where situated.	How held.
13	John R. Dewit, Kentucky -	8 arpens on each side - -	Claim confirmed.
14	Auguste Roy, creole - -		
15	Augustin Roy, creole - -		
16	Widow Poor, Ireland - -	6 arpens on each side - -	Do do
17	Louis Cavet, creole - -		
18	John Dixon, Kentucky - -		
19	John Hughes, Ireland - -		
20	Joseph Bonaventure, creole -	6 arpens on each side	
	John Hughes, Ireland - -		
21	Frederick Morgan, Boston - -	5 arpens on each side - -	Do do
22	David Gleeson, Pennsylvania -	6 arpens on each side - -	Do do
23	Oliver J. Morgan, parish judge -	12 arpens on each side - -	Do do
24	S. Richardson, Virginia - -	6 arpens on each side - -	Do do
25	Widow McMahan, Georgia -	6 arpens on each side - -	Do do
	Peter Souberease - -		
26	Widow Roy, creole - -	5 arpens on each side - -	Do do
27	Baptiste Vernet, creole - -		
28	Baptiste Ambleton, creole - -	3 arpens on each side - -	Do do
29	Widow Kirkpatrick, Kentucky -	6 arpens on each side - -	Do do
30	Heirs of B. Brown - -	5 arpens on each side - -	Do do
31	Jesse McCaroll and Hook - -	10 arpens on left side - -	Do do
32	David Gleeson, Pennsylvania -	10 arpens front on eastern or left side	Claim confirmed by Commissioners, Opelousas.
33	Heirs of Clugh - - -	10 do do do -	Do do
34	William Campbell, Mississippi -	10 do do do -	Do do
35	Elisha Stuart, Catahoula - -	6 do do do -	Do do
36	Widow Dowell, Kentucky - -	6 do do do -	Do do
37	Heirs of William Dowson - -	20 do do do -	All these are included in Bastrop's large grant of 144 superficial leagues.
38	Lille, Sarpy, & Cortes, New-Orleans		
39	Morehouse's heirs - -	Quantity unknown - -	
40	H. Cassidy, Arkansas - -	10 arpens front on eastern or left side	
	Elisha Stuart - - -	10 do do do -	
41	John Williams, Kentucky - -	10 do do do -	
42	Monseret, France - -	10 do do do -	
43	Heirs of Thomas Patton, Alexandria	12 do do do -	
44	William Borney, Kentucky -	10 do do right side	Confirmed by Com'rs at Opelousas.
45	Jesse Ratliff, Mississippi - -	8 do do do -	Do do
46	Widow Breville, Switser. - -	10 do do do -	Do do
47	Charles Betin and wife - -	20 do do do -	Do do
	Maison Rouge, now Coxe - -	Quantity unknown - -	Before Congress.
	United States - - -	Quantity unknown.	

Among these owners there is now thirty-six heads of families settled on this land. The United States' lands there are very rich, but will not be worth surveying if the claim of six toises is confirmed to Bastrop. That land would do better to be surveyed in tracts of about forty acres deep, as on the Ouachita river and Mississippi. Having made the foregoing statement altogether from memory, I might have made some light errors, but I give it as being generally correct.

H. BRY.

WASHINGTON, 23*d June*, 1821.

17th CONGRESS. **No. 369.** 2d SESSION.

INDIAN GRANT TO CAPTAIN CARVER.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 23, 1823.

Mr. VAN DYKE, from the Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Samuel Harrison, agent for the heirs of Captain Jonathan Carver, praying for the recognition and confirmation of an Indian deed for a large tract of land near St. Anthony's Fall, on the Mississippi; and, also, the petition of the Rev. Samuel Peters, L. L. D., who claims said tract of land as assignee of the heirs of said Captain Carver, and prays that he may be permitted to take possession of the same, reported:

The petitioners state that Captain Jonathan Carver, in the year 1766, took a long tour among the Indian tribes, two hundred miles west of the Fall of St. Anthony, in the Mississippi, and made important discoveries during his travels and residence of two years and five months with various Indian tribes, which he caused to be printed and published in London in 1773.

That, by his conciliatory manners, he gained the good will of the Indian tribes, and became the peace-maker between two large nations who were at war; and, to reward him for his wisdom and friendly interposition, the sachems of the Naudowissies were pleased to grant, and accordingly gave to him and his heirs, a deed for a tract of land therein specially described, dated at the Great Cave, May the first, one thousand seven hundred and sixty-seven; that the chief of said tribe made him a chief of their tribe on the same day, and he then engaged to return and settle in said territory with his family and connexions. (An alleged copy of said deed is inserted in the first mentioned petition.) That Captain Jonathan Carver afterwards returned to Boston, and sailed for London, where he arrived in the year seventeen hundred and sixty-nine, and soon after laid his deed before the British Government, praying for the confirmation of it, and received for answer that it should be confirmed as soon as the history of his travels was printed and published. But in consequence of the misunderstanding which existed between Great Britain and America, the ratification of the deed was suspended. That Captain J. Carver died in London, January 31st, 1780, leaving a numerous progeny; and, by the establishment of the independence of America, the right to ratify Indian grants devolved upon the Government of the United States.

The Rev. Samuel Peters in his petition further states that *Lefei*, the present emperor of the *Sioux* and *Naudo-*

wissies, and *Redwing*, a sachem, the heirs and successors of the two grand chiefs who signed the said deed to Captain Carver, have given satisfactory and positive proof that they allowed their ancestor's deed to be genuine, good, and valid, and that Captain Carver's heirs and assigns are the owners of said territory, and may occupy it free of all molestation.

The committee have examined and considered the claim thus exhibited by the petitioners, and remark that the original deed is not produced, nor any competent legal evidence offered of its execution; nor is there any proof that the persons who it is alleged made the deed were the chiefs of said tribe, nor that (if chiefs) they had authority to grant and give away the land belonging to their tribe. The paper annexed to the petition as a copy of said deed, has no subscribing witnesses, and it would seem impossible, at this remote period, to ascertain the important fact, that the persons who signed the deed comprehended and understood the meaning and effect of their act.

The want of proof as to these facts would interpose in the way of the claimants insuperable difficulties. But, in the opinion of the committee, the claim is not such as the United States are under any obligation to allow, even if the deed were proved in legal form. The British Government before the time when the alleged deed bears date, had deemed it prudent and necessary, for the preservation of peace with the Indian tribes under their sovereignty, protection, and dominion, to prevent British subjects from purchasing lands from the Indians; and this rule of policy was made known and enforced by the proclamation of the King of Great Britain of 7th October, 1763, which contains an express prohibition. Captain Carver, aware of the law, and knowing that such a contract could not vest the legal title in him, applied to the British Government to ratify and confirm the Indian grant, and though it was competent for that Government then to confirm the grant, and vest the title of said land in him, yet, from some cause, that Government did not think proper to do so. The territory has since become the property of the United States, and an Indian grant not good against the British Government would appear to be not binding upon the United States' Government. What benefit the British Government derived from the services of Captain Carver by his travels and residence among the Indians, that Government alone could determine, and alone could judge what remuneration those services deserved. One fact appears from the declaration of Mr. Peters, in his statement in writing among the papers exhibited, namely, that the British Government did give Captain Carver the sum of one thousand three hundred and seventy-five pounds six shilling and eight pence sterling. To the United States, however, Captain Carver rendered no service which could be assumed as an equitable ground for the support of the petitioner's claim. The committee, being of opinion that the United States are not bound in law or equity to confirm the said alleged Indian grant, recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioners ought not to be granted.

17th Congress. **No. 370.** 2d Session.

MONEYS ARISING FROM THE SALE OF PUBLIC LANDS GRANTED TO THE NEW STATES TO AID IN OPENING ROADS AND CANALS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 27, 1823.

Treasury Department, *27th January*, 1823.

Sir: In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 3d instant, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to furnish the House "with a statement of the several amounts which have arisen from the sales of public lands within the States of Ohio, Indiana, Mississippi, Illinois, Alabama, and Missouri, appropriated by law for opening roads and canals leading to said States, which has been paid, or is due, to each of said States, appropriated by law for opening roads and canals within the same," I have the honor to transmit two statements, marked A and B, which contain the information required by the resolution.

By the latter statement, it appears that there has been paid to the State of Ohio $5,864 47 more than the net proceeds of the three per cent. fund appropriated by law for opening roads and canals within the State. Upon examination, it has been found that, in ascertaining the net proceeds of the sales of public lands, the expenses of surveying the same had not been deducted from the amount of sales. This error has been corrected in the statement marked A, which has produced a balance against that State, which will be deducted from the amount of the said fund that may accumulate during the present year.

I remain, with respect, your most obedient servant,

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

Hon. P. P. Barbour,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

A.

Statement of net proceeds arising from the sales of public lands in the State of Ohio, from the 1st July, 1802; in the State of Indiana, from the 1st December, 1816; in the State of Illinois, from the 1st January, 1819; in the State of Missouri, from the 1st January, 1821; in the State of Mississippi, from the 1st December, 1817; and in the State of Alabama, from the 1st September, 1819, up to the dates herein stated.

States.	Date to which the respective statements have been made up.	Amount received.	Incidental and surveying expenses, and repayments made to individuals for lands erroneously sold.	Net amount.	Amount of two per ct. on the net amo't applicable to roads.
Ohio, after deducting lands sold at Cincinnati, which are lying in Indiana, -	To the 30th June, 1822	$9,830,901 09	$441,585 39	$9,389,315 70	$187,786 31
Indiana, - - -	30th Sept. 1822	2,108,336 47	92,092 98	2,016,243 49	40,324 86
Illinois, - - -	do.	274,303 45	33,821 61	240,481 82	4,809 63
Missouri, - - -	do.	158,207 27	16,586 08	141,621 19	2,832 42
Mississippi, - -	30th June, 1822	366,747 92	34,628 51	332,119 41	6,642 38
Alabama, - - -	do.	910,858 12	60,167 12	850,691 00	17,013 82
	Total,	$13,649,354 32	$678,881 71	$12,970,472 61	$259,409 42

The above statement has been made as far as the accounts received at this office have allowed.

Treasury Department, *General Land Office*, *22d January*, 1823.

JOHN McLEAN.

B.

Statement of the three per cent. fund allowed for roads, &c. within the following States, showing the amount received by each State, and the balance due.

	Net amo't received for sales of public lands, as stated by the Commissioner of the General Land Office.	Amount of three per cent. on the net amo't applicable to roads within said States.	Amount received by each State on account of the three per ct. fund.	Balance due to each State of the three per cent. fund.	Amo't overdrawn of the three per ct. fund.
Ohio, - -	$9,389,315 70	$281,679 47	$287,543 94	-	$5,864 47
Indiana, -	2,016,243 49	60,487 30	42,629 46	$17,857 84	
Illinois, -	240,481 82	7,214 45	5,955 82	1,258 63	
Missouri, -	141,621 19	4,248 64	-	4,248 64	
Mississippi, -	332,119 41	9,963 58	-	9,963 58	
Alabama, -	850,691 00	25,520 73	1,750 00	23,770 73	
	$12,970,472 61	$389,114 17	$337,879 22	$57,099 42	$5,864 47

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Register's Office, January* 24, 1823.

JOSEPH NOURSE, *Register.*

17th CONGRESS. **No. 371.** 2d SESSION.

APPLICATION FOR THE REMISSION OF A FORFEITURE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 28, 1823.

Mr. RANKIN, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Alexander Macomb, reported:

Previously to the adoption of the system now in existence in relation to the mode of disposing of the public land, Congress, by a resolution of the 1st of April, 1787, directed the Board of Treasury, after drawing for a quantity of lands assigned to the army of the revolution, to expose the residue of a tract of country now within the State of Ohio at public auction, giving notice of such sale in at least one newspaper in each State for five months anterior to the time of sale. One-third of the purchase money, by that resolution, was required to be paid immediately in any of the public securities of the United States, to the treasurer of said States; and the remaining two-thirds, in like manner, to be paid in three months after the date of the sale. A condition of the sale, of which public notice was also given, was, that, if the remaining two-thirds was not paid within the time prescribed, the first payment was declared to be forfeited, and the land directed to be again exposed to sale. In pursuance of this resolution, a quantity of land was sold at the Coffee-house, in the city of New York, between the 21st of September and 9th of October, 1787, when Messrs. Macomb and Edgar became the purchasers of the quantity of 35,457 acres for the sum of $88,764 39-90ths, of which they immediately paid, in the public securities, one-third, amounting to about the sum of $29,782 65⅞, agreeably to the conditions of the sale. The remaining two thirds of the purchase money was never paid, in consequence of which the one-third paid was forfeited, and the land reverted to the United States. The object of this application to Congress is to have the one-third forfeited restored in any way the most agreeable to the National Legislature. In support of this application, without denying the right to exact the forfeiture, restoration is urged on two grounds. First, the Government, the petitioner alleges, was benefitted by the forfeiture, inasmuch as the land, after it had reverted, sold for a much greater sum than had been stipulated to be paid by Macomb and Edgar. Secondly, their inability to complete the payments arose from their having expended the means of making the payment in building a ship for the China trade, by which the Government received upwards of 200,000 dollars in revenue at a time when it was much wanted to meet public demands.

The quantity of lands purchased by two individuals shows that the intention was to speculate in western lands, and the statement of the petition, that the failure to meet the payments arose from a desire also to enjoy the profits of the China trade. Grasping at too much, they failed in the intended speculation. This class of cases appeals much less forcibly to the generosity of Congress than another, for which no remedy has been heretofore provided: cases where individuals have purchased solely with a view to settlement, to procure a residence for old age, and a patrimony for their offspring, and whose forfeitures have arisen, not from an attempt to employ their capital more advantageously in other pursuits, but from those vicissitudes in human affairs that can neither be foreseen or avoided—the acts of an overruling Providence, or a devotion to the service of their country. Fortunately for the Government the land sold higher at the second sale than the first. Had it sold for less, the United States must have sustained the loss; and it is not probable the petitioner would have felt himself under any obligation to have made up the deficiency. It is also true the Government has received money for which Macomb and Edgar have received no equivalent; but this, independent of a rigid exaction of the terms of the contract, can be considered nothing more than a compensation for the risk and delay attending a second sale, and a remuneration for the actual expense attending such first and second sale. All cases of forfeited recognizances, bonds, &c., are cases where the individual receives no equivalent; but it would be dangerous to say in all such cases the money shall be restored. Your committee can see nothing, either in the nature of this purchase or the reasons assigned for a failure to comply with the reasonable and well known conditions of the sale, which entitles the petitioner to the interposition of Congress in his favor. We therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioner ought not to be granted.

17th Congress. **No. 372.** 2d Session.

CHEROKEE RESERVATIONS IN ALABAMA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 28, 1823.

Mr. Rankin, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petitions of William Wilson, Andrew Lacy, Amos Robertson, Conelesky, John M'Nary, and Joseph Elliot, formerly of the Cherokee nation of Indians, but now within the State of Alabama, praying that certain reservations of land made by treaty to them for life, and in fee simple to their heirs, be vested in the present possessors, in fee simple, reported:

Heretofore, humanity has in vain extended her hand to rescue from annihilation whole nations, aborigines of this country. As we have increased they have diminished; and while they have disregarded or avoided our arts of civilization, they have seized our vices with avidity, by which they have wasted away, until the very names of nations, once powerful, are now scarcely recollected or known. While thus gradually disappearing, they have, at all times, since the discovery of this country, been abundantly supplied with missionaries, zealous in the work of humanity and religion, who have constantly presented the most flattering pictures of their success in civilization and christianizing them. A single question, the answer to which every one is prepared to make, presents a most melancholy commentary on these reports of success. Where have been, where are these subjects, trophies of your victories over ignorance, cruelty, superstition and barbarism? Experience has long since proclaimed, in language too strong to be disregarded, the almost total inefficiency of the measures heretofore adopted for the civilization of Indians, and most strongly indicated the necessity of adopting a different policy. Reason unites with experience on this subject. If the wilderness converts to savages our own people, in defiance of early habits, and their having been reared and educated in the bosom of civilized society, can we expect in such a place to change the man, by nature, education, and habit, a savage? Mere occupancy, without the power of disposing of it, is too slender a hold on property to render its acquisition desirable. Custom, the established common law of some Indian nations, deprives the parent of the power of transmitting to his own offspring, when he is torn from them by death, any property, real or personal, he owned while living. Such things necessarily paralyze the arm of industry. The example one individual presents to another in society, and an honorable competition in the accumulation of property, is also a powerful stimulus to industry. This stimulus can never be felt in the bosom of the savage who has no example of industry to imitate, no competition in the pursuit of wealth, no paternal feelings to gratify in providing a competency for his children, but whose habitation is the wilderness, and his farm the chace. The only instances among Indians of a desire to accumulate property, and to progress in civilization, are found connected with ideas of separate property received from our people who have settled among them, and formed matrimonial connexions with them. The commissioners who formed the treaties by which these reservations were made, appear to have viewed the impossibility of civilizing Indians, while permitted to roam through an extensive wilderness, without any of the inducements to industry which spring from separate property, as demonstrated by experience; and intending to stimulate them to industry by the example of our own citizens and the security of their property; to teach them the arts of civilization, and preserve them from that destruction which has attended other nations, made these reservations for the benefit of the Indian. To those attached to his manner of living, and to the Indian himself, the condition that he shall forfeit his land if he abandons it, is disagreeable; but the inconvenience will be much less to their children, educated with different habits, than to the original possessor. But if permitted to alien these estates, is it not highly probable that both would return and sink into the savage state? Your committee are not prepared to say, until it is at least tested by experience, that this new course of policy, adopted by the commissioners making these reservations, is founded in error; but, on the contrary, we believe that a correspondent policy, adopted by the States interested, would lead to an early extinguishment of the community of Indian title, and more effectually lead to their civilization, than any measures which could be adopted. Nor are we prepared, at this time, to say that it is within the scope of the powers of Congress to enlarge the life estate of the present possessor, so as to defeat the fee simple right already vested in the heirs.

From a careful examination of this subject, the committee have agreed to recommend to the House the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their several petitions and accompanying documents.

17th Congress. **No. 373.** 2d Session.

CLAIM TO LAND IN MISSISSIPPI.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 31, 1823.

Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, made the following report:

The Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom were referred the petition and accompanying documents of Joseph Vidal, have had the same under consideration, and report:

The petitioner claims three tracts of land situated in the State of Mississippi, by virtue of orders or warrants of survey bearing date while the Spanish Government existed, in what was called the district of Natchez, one in the name of Margaretta Thompson for one thousand arpens, one in the name of Jacintha Gallagher for one thousand arpens, and one in the name of Thomas Thompson for eight hundred arpens. The petitioner states, that, at the time the Board of Commissioners appointed to adjust land titles was in session, he and his family were in Europe, which prevented the exhibition of the proofs necessary to authorize a confirmation of his claims: wherefore he now prays the passage of an act for that purpose.

It appears, from a certified copy of the record kept by the Board of Commissioners, that, on the 26th day of March, 1806, Margaretta Thompson claimed one thousand arpens situated on the waters of Bayou Pierre, in Claiborne county, by virtue of a Spanish patent dated the 2d day of December, 1797, founded on a warrant or order of survey dated the 15th day of January, 1795.

The representatives of Jacintha Vidal claimed one thousand arpens on the same waters, by virtue of a Spanish patent to Jacintha Gallagher, dated the 2d day of December, 1797, founded on a warrant or order of survey dated the 25th of March, 1794.

About the same time Thomas Thompson claimed eight hundred arpens, situated on the same waters, and produced in support of his claim a Spanish patent dated the 2d day of December, 1797, founded on a warrant or order of survey dated the — day of March, 1795.

The board disallowed these claims for the want of sufficient evidence, and on suspicion of their being antedated.

Such documents are on file as are mentioned in minutes from the record of the Board of Commissioners.

George Overaker swears that he knew Thomas Thompson, in the district of Natchez, in the year 1793; knows that he resided there until the year 1802 or '3, when he died; does not doubt he was a resident there on the 27th day of October, 1795. He swears the same in regard to Jacintha Gallagher, except that she died in 1801. He also swears that he knew Margaretta Gallagher, and believes she resided in that district from 1795 to 1801.

Lewis Evans swears that what George Overaker has stated is true, except that Thomas Thompson died in 1804.

John Minor swears that, in 1790 or '91, he was acquainted with Thomas Thompson, and Jacintha and

Margaretta Gallagher, in the district of Natchez, where they continued to live until about the year 1800.

The Hon. T. H. Williams of the Senate, who was a member of the Board of Commissioners, states that the petitioner was in Spain at the time the board was in session, and did not, it is believed, return to the Mississippi Territory until after its dissolution.

Mr. Williams further states, that an opinion having prevailed that the Spanish Government had issued a number of antedated titles to lands in the Mississippi Territory, Congress, by the 3d section of the act passed the 27th March, 1804, (see L. L. p. 259,) authorized the Commissioners to lay the claimants under a rule to produce other evidence than the grant itself in support of their titles. It must be remembered that, by the act of the 3d of March, 1803, (see L. L. p. 254,) every person on that day occupying a tract of land without title, was allowed a right of pre-emption. These squatters, as they are called, frequently settled on lands granted by the Spanish Government, and must of course feel interested in defeating them. Vidal's claims were impeached, and it is probable there were persons settled on the lands he claimed: the Commissioners, in such cases, laid the parties under a rule to prove the time the surveys were made. If they refused to comply with this order, (and most of them did refuse or neglect to do so,) the Commissioners were "*not satisfied*" that the grants were genuine.

The first act for adjusting titles to lands in the Mississippi Territory was passed the 3d of March, 1803, (see L. L. p. 254;) the first section was intended to confirm titles to lands inhabited and cultivated on the 27th of October, 1795, and for which the claimants held British or Spanish warrants or orders of survey, bearing date prior to that period. The board was not furnished with proof of habitation and cultivation on that day.

By the fourth section of an act passed the 31st of March, 1808, (see L. L. p. 264,) the registers of the land offices east and west of Pearl river were required to report to the Secretary of the Treasury all the claims of certain persons to lands in the Mississippi Territory, founded on British or Spanish warrants or orders of survey granted prior to the 27th of November, 1795, not confirmed by former laws. The reports made in pursuance of this provision were laid before Congress, and, on the 30th day of June, 1812, an act was passed (see L. L. p. 268,) confirming to every person, or the legal representatives of every person, claiming lands in the Mississippi Territory, by virtue of a British or Spanish warrant or order of survey, granted prior to the 27th October, 1795, and who were on that day resident in that district of country. By this act, proof of habitation and cultivation of the land claimed is not deemed indispensable; and no person, whatever might have been the extent of his claim, was confirmed in his title to a greater quantity of land than 640 acres.

The proof that the persons under whom the petitioner claims were residents in the district of Natchez on the 27th of November, 1795, is deemed by the committee satisfactory; nor have they reason to doubt the genuineness of the warrants or orders of survey.

The charge of antedating appears not to be well founded. If a fraud of this kind had been attempted, it is a little extraordinary that an earlier day had not been assumed; particularly, in regard to the patents. These bear date subsequent to the treaty, though about the time the surrender of the country took place. It is not contended the instruments called patents possess complete validity; yet to say the Spanish officers who granted them were actuated by criminal motives, would be to intimate a total want of circumspection on their part. It would have been just as easy for them to have used a date, when their jurisdiction could not be questioned, as any other.

Joseph Vidal furnishes no proof of his having any claim to the lands in question. It has been stated he was the husband of Jacintha Vidal, and that he is her legal representative.

A bill is herewith reported for the relief of the legal representatives of the persons in whose right the petitioner claims.

17th Congress. **No. 374.** 2d Session.

APPLICATION OF THE UNITED BRETHREN TO BE DIVESTED OF THE TRUST ESTATE OF THE LANDS CONVEYED FOR THE BENEFIT OF CERTAIN CHRISTIAN INDIANS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE FEBRUARY 7, 1823.

Mr. Van Dyke, from the Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the memorial of Lewis D. De Schweenitz, agent of the Society of United Brethren for propagating the Gospel among the Heathen, expressing the earnest wish of the society to be divested of the trust estate of certain lands on the Muskingum, in the State of Ohio, which were granted and conveyed to the said society by the United States, by patent bearing date the 24th day of February, 1798, reported:

That, on inquiry, the committee have ascertained that some of the Indians, (say twenty,) for whose use and benefit the grant of the lands above mentioned was made to the said Society of United Brethren, yet live upon a part of the said lands, under the care of the society; and others of them, to the number of about one hundred and fifty persons, remain at Fairfield, in Canada, under the care of two pious missionaries of said society. It is, therefore, apparent, that the trust created by the said patent has not yet expired, and will not expire, so long as any of the persons for whose benefit it was created shall remain. The rules of law governing trust estates prohibit the trustee from doing any act that will defeat the object intended by its creation; and it is not in the power of the trustee to put an end to the trust at his pleasure. If he grant the estate to another, the grantee must take it clothed with all the equity of the trust, and thus become himself a trustee. No act of the said society can divest the right of the Indians, for whose benefit the land was granted. The United States having granted the lands without limitation, and without reserving the right of revoking the grant upon any condition, or on the happening of any event, the committee are of opinion that, under existing circumstances, Congress does not possess any power to legislate upon the subject; and therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee be discharged from the further consideration of the said memorial.

17th Congress. **No. 375.** 2d Session.

LAND CLAIMS IN FLORIDA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS, *With a bill for ascertaining claims and titles to land in Florida, February* 10, 1823.

[TRANSLATION.]

PETITION OF F. M. ARREDONDO.

Senor Governor: I, Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, junior, an inhabitant of this city, with due respect to your lordship, say that, to be on my guard in the case of the cession of this province to the United States happening to take effect, and to have a safeguard to oppose to any claim which, under the pretext of ancient titles, might be attempted by English subjects upon any of the various lands which have been granted to me, although by their emigration they lost all their right, your lordship would be pleased to aid me, by ordering that,

by the notary of the Government, testimony in continuation be authorized of the third article of the definitive treaty of peace between the crown of Spain and that of England, signed at Versailles on the twentieth of January, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, and the official letter of prolongation for the emigration of the English subjects; which documents are collected in evidence to the acts of inventory of bargain and sale of the houses and grounds which reverted to the royal patrimony at the time of the English having evacuated this province, by their owners having left them *pro derelicto*. That there be also authorized the testimony of the fourth article of the edict of good government published in this place on the 2d of September, 1790, relative to the royal order of 5th April, 1786, upon the remaining, in this said province, of the English inhabitants, under the indispensable condition of taking the oath of fidelity; which royal order, which is in the office of the Secretary of the Government, I pray you to be pleased also to order to be delivered to the said notary that he may legalize testimony from it, and that the whole proceeding may be lodged in the public office, and that testimony of the whole process may be furnished to me. Therefore, I pray your lordship to be pleased to decree as I request; which favor I expect from your justice.

F. M. ARREDONDO.

St. Augustine of Florida, 17*th February*, 1820.

DECREE.

St. Augustine, 17*th February*, 1820.

In every thing as is requested.

COPPINGER.

Before me, Juan de Entralgo,
Notary of Government.

NOTIFICATION.

At St. Augustine, on the same day, month, and year, I notified the preceding decree to Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, junior, attested, Entralgo. In compliance with the command, and at sight of the definitive treaty of peace made at Versailles the 20th January, 1783, which was approved in Spain by the King, our lord, I copy literally the third article, which, with the said approval and official letter of prolongation aforesaid, is as follows:

Article 3.

His Britannic Majesty shall cede to his Catholic Majesty East Florida, and his Catholic Majesty shall keep East Florida, it being well understood that there shall be granted to the subjects of his Britannic Majesty, who are established, as well in the island of Minorca as in the two Floridas, the term of eighteen months, which shall be counted from the day of the ratification of the definitive treaty, to sell their property, recover their debts, and transport their effects and persons, without molestation on account of their religion, or under any other pretext whatsoever, excepting that of debts or criminal causes: and his Britannic Majesty shall have the power of causing to be transported from East Florida all the effects which may belong to him, whether artillery or any others whatsoever. Don Carlos, by the grace of God King of Castille, Leon, Arragon, the Two Sicilies, Jerusalem, Navarre, Granada, Toledo, Valencia, Galicia, Majorca, Seville, Cerdena, Cordova, Corcega, Murcia, Jaen, the Algarves, Algesiras, Gibraltar, the Canary islands, the East and West Indies, the islands and continent of the ocean, archduke of Austria, duke of Borgona, Brabant, and Milan, Count of Absburg, Flanders, Tyrol, and Barcelona, lord of Biscay, and of Molina, &c. Whereas, in consequence of the preliminary articles of peace between my crown and that of England, signed at Versailles, the twentieth of January, of this year, by the Count of Aranda, my ambassador to the Most Christian King with my full powers, and by Don Alcine Fitz Herbet, minister plenipotentiary of the King of Great Britain, of which ratifications made by me and by his Britannic Majesty, were afterwards exchanged in due form, the same Count of Aranda on my part, and on that of his Britannic Majesty the Duke of Manchester, ambassador to the Most Christian King, and his plenipotentiary, have labored and brought to a happy conclusion, the definitive treaty of peace which consists of a preamble and twelve articles, with other two separate articles, all in the French tongue, the contents of which, with its translation into Spanish, is of the following tenor. [Here was inserted the treaty.] Wherefore, having seen and examined the before inserted definitive treaty, the twelve articles which it contains, and the two separate ones which follow it, I have come to approve and ratify what it and they contain, as in virtue of these presents I approve and ratify it in the greatest and most ample form that I can, promising, on the faith and word of a King, to fulfil and observe it, and to cause it to be fulfilled and observed entirely, as if I myself had done and signed it. In faith of which, I have ordered these presents to be despatched, signed with my hand, sealed with my privy seal, and countersigned by the underwritten my counsellor of State, first secretary of state and of despatch. Given at Ildefonso, the twelfth of September, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three. I, THE KING.

Jose Monino.

OFFICIAL LETTER.

Sir: At the moment of sailing for Vera Cruz, the sixteenth of this month, his excellency Count de Galvez charged me to copy for you the royal order which he had just received, considering the delay with which his excellency could execute it if he waited to put it in execution from Mexico; in virtue of which I do it, the said royal order being of the tenor following:

ROYAL ORDER.

In consequence of what I have intimated to your excellency in the letter of the twenty-fourth of January last, the King has been pleased to prolong, by four months, the eighteen, stipulated in the definitive article of peace for the emigration of the English subjects who may be in West Florida. I communicate to your excellency this royal determination, that its fulfilment may be provided for. God preserve your excellency many years. The Pardo, seventh of February, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five. Don José de Galvez. Senor Count de Galvez. God preserve you many years. Havana, the nineteenth of May, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five. I kiss your hands, and am your most obedient servant, Bernardo Froncoso. Senor Don Vicente Manuel de Zerpédes. Florida.

FOOTING.

It is agreeable to the documents cited, which have been delivered to me by the governor and commander general of this place, to whom I returned them: and in virtue of this decree I give these presents at St. Augustine of Florida, the eighth of March, one thousand seven hundred and nimety-one. Signed, Domingo Rodriguez de Leon, notary of Government.

It is agreeable to the testimony of their originals which are collected for the process instituted in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety, upon the sale of houses and lands which were abandoned and returned into the royal patrimony, in consequence of their English owners having emigrated; which process is in the archive under my charge, to which I refer; and in fulfilment of the command in the drecree preceding, I sign and seal these presents at St. Augustine of Florida, the eighteenth of February, one thousand eight hundred and twenty. Signed, Juan de Entralgo, notary of Government.

ROYAL ORDER.

Of this date I communicate to the captain general of both Floridas, Count de Galvez, the following royal order: At a council of the board of state, and upon a view of what your excellency has expressed in a former letter, number fifty-six, and of the contents of the copy enclosed from the governor of Louisiana, Don Estevan Miro, respecting the difficulties which occur, that the English and American families established at Baton Rouge, Mobile, Pensacola, and Natchez, may go from said provinces agreeably to the last treaty of peace, the King has been pleased to approve of the provision which your excellency has made with the said governor, that no novelty should take place towards the said families; it being his royal will that the permission be continued to them of dwelling where they are established, on the condition that, for the present, and as indispensable circumstances, they take a solemn oath of fidelity and obedience to his Majesty, and that they go not out of the limits wherein they are actually situated without the power of going to other parts, not having an express license of the Government. That those who shall not comply with these just conditions, depart by sea for the colonies of North America at their expense, or, in defect of that, at the expense of the King, who shall be reimbursed from their effects as far as possible. That this same concession be extended to the inhabitants of East Florida as far as it may be adapted to it; and that in Natchez and other places of both Floridas, where it is convenient, parishes of Irish clergy be established, in order to bring said colonists and their children and families to our religion, with the sweetness and mildness which it advises. In order that this royal resolution may have due accomplishment, and the good success which his Majesty promises himself, it is necessary that your excellency (availing yourself of your own observations, and of those which the Governors Miro and Zerpedes may furnish you) form a plan or arrange-

ment of the mode which should be pursued in the said parishes, with an expression of the number of clergymen who are to serve them; in an understanding that, under this date, I inform the bishop of Salamanca to cause, in the mean time, four to be chosen of known zeal, virtue, learning, from those of that university, or any other part where he has them, and that this royal resolution be sent to the said governors for their understanding and fulfilment. God, &c. Such is the order of his Majesty for the purposes therein expressed. God preserve you many years. The Pardo, fifth of April, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six. The Marquis of Sonora. To the Governor of St. Augustine of Florida.

DECREE.

St. Augustine of Florida, twelfth of August, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-one. Let a copy of this royal order be taken in the royal office, and let the original be returned to the department. Quesada.

Note.—That of the date of the preceding decree, a copy of this royal order, which remains in the office under my charge, and was returned to the office of the Government Secretary, was taken, according to the orders of the same decree. Gonzalo Zamorana. It is agreeable to its original which is in the Secretary's office of this Government, to which I refer; and, in fulfilment of orders, I seal and sign the present testimony at St. Augustine, of Florida, the eighteenth of February, one thousand eight hundred and twenty. Sealed. Juan de Entralgo, notary of Government.

FOURTH ARTICLE OF THE EDICT OF GOOD GOVERNMENT.

The King, our lord, by royal order of the fifth of April, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, grants to all the foreigners who may have been inhabitants of this province at the time of the English authority, that they may remain in it, protected in the possession of their land and effects, under the indispensable conditions of taking the oath of fidelity, of not augmenting the said lands, nor transferring themselves to any others. Consequently, all those who have not conformed, and do not conform to the said conditions, within thirty days positively, by proceeding to show me their dispositions in person, or, if absent, by letters, to do what is proper, shall depart from this province aforesaid.

This is agreeable to the fourth article of the edict of good government which is in the bureau of war, and was published in this place, with the usual formalities, on the second of September, one thousand seven hundred and ninety, by order of the political and military governor thereof, as appears from the book of edicts which is in the archive under my charge, to which I refer; and, in fulfilment of orders, I seal and sign these presents at St. Augustine of Florida, the eighteenth of February, one thousand eight hundred and twenty. Sealed.

JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary of Government.

FLORIDA, }
St. John's county, } ss.

I, James S. Zingle, keeper of the public archives, pro tem., do certify that the above and foregoing twelve pages contain a faithful transcript of the original now on file in my office. Witness my hand, November 29, 1822.

JAMES S. ZINGLE.

17th CONGRESS. **No. 376.** 2d SESSION.

SURVEYS SINCE 1818.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 11, 1823.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, 11*th Feb.*, 1823.

SIR: In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 17th ultimo, requiring the Secretary of the Treasury to lay before the House "a statement showing what contracts have been made by the several surveyors general of public lands; for services performed since the 1st day of January, 1819; with whom made, and when; for what quantity to each; whether the surveys were actually made by the original contractors in person, or others under sub-contracts; if by others, at what price per mile said surveys were performed; what price was stipulated to be paid per mile to each contractor, and whether the surveys have been faithfully executed;" I have the honor to transmit a statement from the office of the Register of the Treasury, and a report from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, which contain the information required by the resolution, as far as the records of the department will admit.

I remain, with respect, your most obedient servant,

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

Hon. P. P. BARBOUR,
Speaker of the House of Reps.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
General Land Office, 27th January, 1823.

SIR: In obedience to the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 17th instant, which has been referred to this office, I have the honor to state that there are no documents or records in the Land Office which will enable me to give the information required, except in answer to that part of the resolution which calls for a statement whether the surveys of the public lands have been faithfully executed. Neither the originals nor copies of contracts made by the surveyors general of public lands have been deposited in the Land Office since the 1st of January, 1819. The accounts of the surveyors general being left in another branch of the Treasury, I cannot state the prices charged for surveying by deputies; and, not having the contracts, I cannot say what compensation was stipulated to be paid. A careful examination has been made of the surveys returned since the 1st of January, 1819, and they are found, generally, to have been faithfully executed.

It may be proper, however, that I should particularly notice some surveys made under General Rector, in which there are greater deviations than usual from the cardinal points. In all large surveys there will be greater or less deviations from the cardinal points, and these will increase or diminish the number of acres in the smaller tracts. The convexity of the earth, and the influence of minerals upon the magnetic needle, are among the principal causes of these deviations. In almost all the public surveys it is found that the northern and western tiers of sections in the different townships, contain either more or less than 640 acres. Although the law requires that each township shall contain 36 square miles, it provides that the excess and deficiency which may arise in the surveys shall be thrown on the north and west sides of the township.

The deviations above alluded to in the surveys executed under General Rector, extend to about twenty-eight townships. These surveys have a diagonal shape; and the sections bordering on the fifth principal meridian, both east and west, contain, on an average, at least from 10 to 1,200 acres each. As General Rector was in the city, it was deemed proper to ask him the reason why these surveys were thus executed. It appears that the error was made in the measurement of the fifth principal meridian, drawn from the mouth of the Arkansas river. This line was run prior to 1819, and before General Rector was appointed surveyor general. The township distances were intended to be marked at every six miles on this line, as also every mile for the sectional corners, and every half of a mile for the corners of quarter sections. The mode of surveying the public lands requires, after the meridian line is run, to fix a base line east and west, and then to run parallel and standard lines at thirty miles distance from each other. Surveys of townships and sections are then executed: the exterior lines of townships designate the different ranges. It may at once, therefore, be seen that the measurement on the above meridian line being too long, would cause a deviation from the cardinal points in running from the corners marked on it to similar corners on the parallel range line, which had been correctly measured. This explanation must be satisfactory, as it accounts for the manner in which the above surveys have been made, without attaching blame to the surveyor general. Justice requires that I should further remark, that it appears extensive surveys have been executed on each side of the above meridian, but not adjoining to it, before the discovery was made that it had been incorrectly measured. This being the case, it was impossible to correct the error without re-surveying large districts of country. The sections bordering on the meridian, which contain an excess of acres, are divided into eighty acre lots, so that

little or no inconvenience can arise to purchasers from the form of the surveys.

Believing it to be important that copies of contracts made by surveyors general should be deposited in the Land Office, I have issued a circular to them, strictly requiring copies of all contracts hereafter made with their deputies, to be forwarded without delay.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN McLEAN.

Hon. Wm. H. Crawford,
Secretary of the Treasury.

General Land Office, 20*th July*, 1818.

Sir: The Secretary of the Treasury is desirous of having lands prepared for sale in the county of Arkansas. You will, therefore, please to cause to be surveyed about sixty townships, and subdivided as usual. If this quantity of *saleable* lands cannot be found in one body, the subdivided townships may be connected by surveying the intermediate lands into townships only.

I am, &c.
JOSIAH MEIGS.

William Rector, Esq.
Surveyor General, St. Louis, Missouri.

General Land Office, *December* 23, 1818.

Sir: Your letter of the 9th, covering sketches of part of Missouri and Illinois, and instructions to your deputy for surveying South Missouri, was received some time ago, and laid before the Secretary of the Treasury, who returned them this day, without any remarks. Since the receipt of said letter, you were advised of a credit of 20,000 dollars, with receivers at Kaskaskia and Edwardsville.

I am, &c.
JOSIAH MEIGS.

William Rector, Esq.
Surveyor General, St. Louis, Missouri.

General Land Office, 26*th December*, 1818.

Sir: I am gratified to know, by yours' of the 30th November, that your surveys of military bounty lands between the St. Francis and Arkansas, may be expected in a few days.

You have done rightly with respect to surveys in the districts of St. Louis and Howard county. Your estimate for your official expenses, in 1819, has been received and noticed. Your labors have been great; and, I am happy to say, that they have been performed with distinguished promptitude and fidelity.

I am, &c.
JOSIAH MEIGS.

William Rector, Esq.
Surveyor General, St. Louis, Missouri.

Surveyor's Office for the Territories of Illinois and Missouri,
St. Louis, August 24, 1818.

Sir: I received, by last mail, your letter of the 20th ultimo, in which you directed me to cause to be laid off, and subdivided into sections, &c. about sixty townships of land in the county of Arkansas. Since I received that letter, I have sent out to engage a sufficient number of the most experienced and judicious and enterprising deputy surveyors, four of whom I shall start as soon as practicable, to survey some standard lines through different parts of the country, to explore the lands, to select the best and most saleable parts, and to lay off and survey the exterior boundaries of the whole of the sixty townships. As soon as I am apprised that these surveyors have made the necessary progress in this preliminary business, I will send a sufficient number of subdividing surveyors to do the whole work in a short time, so that I can calculate to have the sixty townships ready for market by the early part of next spring. The whole of the field work of the thirty townships in the district of Edwardsville has been completed, &c.

WM. RECTOR.

Josiah Meigs, Esq. *Commissioner, &c.*

A statement exhibiting the distance surveyed, and the amount paid for the same, by the surveyors general to the deputy surveyors, from the 1*st of January to the* 31*st of December*, 1822.

Surveyors General.	Districts.	Year.	Distance surveyed.			Rate per mile.	Amount paid for surveying.
			Miles.	Chains	Links.		
William Rector	Illinois	1819	23,220	68	17	$3 00	$69,662 30
	Missouri and	1820	13,140	03	34	"	39,420 57
	Arkansas	1821	34,575	05	79	"	103,723 85
		1822	16,637	15	97	"	49,911 39
			87,573	13	27	-	262,718 11
Edward Tiffin	Ohio	1819*	80	40	-	5 00	402 50
	Indiana and	"	11,833	50	40	3 00	35,647 60
	Michigan	1820	17,255	69	02	"	51,761 29
		1821	9,854	77	57	"	29,562 92
		1822	8,441	36	59	"	25,322 23
			47,466	33	58	-	142,696 54
Thomas Freeman, late	Mississippi	1819	9,146	55	40	4 00	36,574 41
	Louisiana	1820	5,145	54	32	"	20,582 88
		1821	5,521	14	43	"	20,082 14
Levin Wailes	Do	1822	10,713	04	51	"	42,849 51
			30,526	48	66	-	120,088 94
John Coffee	Alabama	1819	10,265	62	40	4 00	41,062 92
		1820	8,062	75	20	"	32,251 76
		1821	8,252	41	60	"	33,009 98
	To 30th June	1822	2,397	43	20	"	9,589 96
	1,869 town lots	-	-	-	-	1 25	2,336 25
	1,853 do	-	-	-	-	1 50	2,779 50
			28,978	62	40	-	$121,030 37

* Boundary line between Ohio and Michigan.

Treasury Department, *Register's Office*, 10*th February*, 1823.
JOSEPH NOURSE, *Register.*

SURVEYOR'S OFFICE FOR THE TERRITORIES OF ILLINOIS AND MISSOURI,
St. Louis, November 9, 1818.

SIR: You will herewith receive a sketch of that part of the country of Arkansas, where I have, in conformity with the instructions contained in your letter of the 20th July last, made arrangements to survey and prepare for sale sixty, or perhaps eighty townships of land. I also transmit you copies of my contract with, and instructions to, Thomas Rector, whom I have employed to survey two Indian boundary lines, the base line, three standard lines, to explore that part of the country, to select the best and most saleable parts, to lay off the exterior boundary lines of all the townships to be subdivided, to assign to each deputy surveyor the number of townships which they have contracted with me to subdivide into sections, &c., and to superintend that business, generally. He is well qualified to discharge the important duties assigned to him, being thoroughly acquainted both with the theory and practice of surveying public lands, and possessing a good constitution, enterprise, and integrity.

I am, &c. WM. RECTOR.

JOSIAH MEIGS, Esq. *Com. Gen. Land Office.*

SURVEYOR'S OFFICE, ST. LOUIS, *April* 14, 1819.

SIR: You will receive, herewith, a sketch of the surveys which have lately been made, and which are now under operation, in the Territory of Arkansas. You will discover, from the sketch, that the townships which have been and are to be subdivided into sections, &c. embrace separate and detached tracts. This was done in conformity with the instructions which I gave to the deputy surveyor whom I employed to superintend, generally, the surveys in that quarter of the country, in order to include the best and most saleable lands, as well as the principal settlements. (See a copy of my instructions to Thomas Rector, heretofore transmitted to the General Land Office.) These townships do embrace the principal settlements, and, I believe, the largest bodies of fertile and saleable lands. There is, however, on Red river, and its waters, a considerable quantity of excellent lands, that is not embraced by these surveys, particularly river bottoms, which, in many places are wide, and free from inundations, and extremely rich, and would sell at a high price, which can be surveyed and prepared for sale, from time to time, as Government may be disposed to bring them into market. Several of the subdividing surveyors have already completed their work in the field, and, from information that I have received from the other deputy surveyors employed in that business, expect to receive returns of the whole of those surveys before the first of July next, so that these lands may be brought into market next fall; much of which, I am induced to believe, will sell for a good price.

I deem it unnecessary, at this time, to go into anything like a particular description of the different parts of the country over which the standard and other lines have been surveyed, as I shall, as soon as I receive and examine the surveys, transmit to the General Land Office plats and descriptions of the whole, together with the report of the superintending deputy surveyor, who was instructed to examine and report the quality of the intermediate tracts of country. I will, however, remark, that Red river and its waters afford a much larger proportion of good saleable lands than any other part of that territory where we have yet surveyed or explored. That part of the country, too, is considered healthy, and extremely well adapted to the produce of cotton, as well as every thing else that grows well in the United States in the same latitude, which induces most of the emigrants to that Territory, who have any capital, to settle on those waters. Taking into consideration the situation of the surveys that have been made, and that will probably soon be made, and the quantity of the lands, and other natural advantages, possessed by the several parts of the Territory of Arkansas, I am of opinion that the land office to be established for the sale of those lands should be fixed somewhere in what is called Mount Prairie settlement, and I am informed that a place called the Saline Landing, in township No. 12 south of the base line, in range No. 27 or 28 west of the fifth principal meridian line, is the most suitable spot. I am, &c.

W. RECTOR.

JOSIAH MEIGS, Esq. *Com. Gen. Land Office.*

17th CONGRESS. **No. 377.** 2d SESSION.

CLAIM OF THE NEW ENGLAND MISSISSIPPI LAND COMPANY.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE FEBRUARY 11, 1823.

Mr. VAN BUREN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the petition of Ebenezer Oliver and others, directors of an association called the "New England Mississippi Land Company," reported:

That, by an act of Congress dated March 31, 1814, entitled "An act providing for the indemnification of certain claimants of public land in the Mississippi Territory," it is enacted that every person or persons claiming said lands, who have exhibited their claims to the Secretary of State, "shall be allowed until the first Monday in January next to deposite in the office of Secretary of State of the United States, a sufficient legal release of all such claim or claims to the United States, and an assignment and transfer to the United States of their right and claim to any sum of money" paid into the Treasury of the State of Georgia as a consideration for the purchase of the land released, with a power to recover the same, "such release, assignment, transfer, and power, to take effect on indemnification of such claimants being made conformably to the provisions of this act."

And the Secretary of State, Secretary of the Treasury, and the Attorney General of the United States for the time being, were thereby constituted and appointed a Board of Commissioners, "and fully authorized and required to adjudge and determine upon the sufficiency of the release, and assignments, and powers, to be executed and deposited in the office of Secretary of State; and, also, to adjudge and finally to determine upon all controversies arising from such claims so released as aforesaid, which may be found to conflict with, and be adverse to, each other; and, also, to adjudge and determine upon all such claims under the aforesaid act, or pretended act of the State of Georgia, as may be found to have accrued to the United States by operation of law."

By the act aforesaid the President was authorized and required to cause to be issued from the Treasury of the United States, to such claimants, respectively, certificates of stock, payable out of moneys arising from the sale of said public lands, and, among other companies, to the person claiming in the name or under the Georgia Mississippi Company, under the like terms and restrictions, a sum not exceeding, in the whole, *one million five hundred and fifty thousand dollars:* "Provided, That any person having claim under either of said companies, and entitled to indemnity by virtue of this act, shall receive such indemnity only in proportion to the amount of such claim."

By an act of Congress supplementary to the above, dated the 23d January, 1815, the President was authorized, by and with the advice of the Senate, to appoint three fit and disinterested persons to be and act as commissioners, by virtue of the said first mentioned act, in the place of the public officers therein mentioned. The said persons were constituted and appointed a Board of Commissioners, which board was "declared to be intended to effect the same purposes and services as the said original board," and was thereby "authorized to execute all the powers granted to, and directed to perform all the duties enjoined upon the said original Board of Commissioners, according to the intent and provisions of the act aforesaid."

In pursuance of the said last mentioned act, Thomas Swann, Francis S. Key, and John Law, of the District of Columbia, were duly appointed Commissioners to perform said service, and from the decree herewith exhibited, and from the case of Brown against Gilman, decided in the Supreme Court of the United States, and reported in the 4th volume of Wheaton's Reports, it doth appear that the Georgia Mississippi Company, mentioned in said act, sold and conveyed to certain persons in New England all the land which they had acquired by said act, or pretended act of the State of Georgia, estimated to contain eleven million three hundred and eighty thousand acres, at and after the rate of ten cents per acre, two cents of which were paid in money, and the residue by notes of the respective purchasers, payable in successive years, with approved endorsers. The deed of convey-

ance, in due form of law, was made to the purchasers, and being placed in "escrow" for a short time, on payment of the money and reception of the notes, with endorsers satisfactory to the venders, said deed was duly delivered to the purchasers who formed the association above mentioned, and conveyed their respective shares in said land to the trustees of said New England Mississippi Land Company, who were authorized to issue negotiable certificates, or scrips, so called, declaring the possessors thereof to be entitled to the proceeds of the quantity of land therein mentioned. The said trustees of the New England Mississippi Land Company, and directors thereof, petitioners as aforesaid, in pursuance of said act of indemnification, made proper releases and assignments of all right and claim to said land and money in the treasury of Georgia, to the United States, and deposited the same in the office of Secretary of State, as required by said act, and presented a claim for indemnification for the whole of said land, amounting, by said act, to one million five hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

The Georgia Mississippi Company above named, presented a claim to said Commissioners for indemnification, to the amount of nine hundred and fifty-seven thousand six hundred acres, part of said land sold by them as aforesaid, equal to one hundred and thirty thousand four hundred and twenty dollars and twelve-hundredths, say $130,425 12, in consequence of certain unpaid notes they possessed, given in part for the purchase of said land, amounting to ninety-five thousand seven hundred and sixty dollars, say $95,760, which claim of said Georgia Mississippi Company was opposed by said New England Company, none of which members were indebted on said notes, the sale of said land by the said original purchasers or parties to said notes, having been made soon after they acquired the title as above, their assignees being members of the company. The said Commissioners, however, adjudged and decreed that the said Georgia Mississippi Land Company, as vendors of said land, (although no mortgage or special security was made or reserved thereon,) had a just right or lien upon said quantity of land, for which said unpaid notes were given. And the said Commissioners accordingly did adjudge and assign, out of the said sum of one million five hundred and fifty thousand dollars, the sum of one hundred and thirty thousand four hundred and twenty-five dollars twelve-hundredths, say $130,425 12, to the said Georgia Mississippi Land Company, the largest portion of which, about *three-fourths*, as appears by the said decree of said Commissioners, was adjudged to belong to the United States, who claimed under the said Georgia Mississippi Land Company in virtue of shares therein surrendered to the State of Georgia, and by the act aforesaid reserved to the United States; and the United States, as appears by the said decree, now retain from said original sum, as representing shares of said Georgia Mississippi Land Company, a larger sum than the said one hundred and thirty thousand four hundred and twenty-five dollars and twelve-hundredths, say $130,425 12, taken by said Commissioners from the said New England Mississippi Land Company as aforesaid. It also appears by the report of said Commissioners herewith, that the said Commissioners received in claims on said fund the certificates or scrip of divers persons, issued by the trustees of said New England Mississippi Land Company, to the amount of one-fourth part of the stock of said company, or thereabouts; said directors urged to said Commissioners that persons who held their certificates, and were thereby members of the company, ought to resort to the trustees or treasurer for their share or dividend after the indemnification had been received by the treasurer. But the board considered that such certificate-holder might well apply to them for payment or satisfaction of their scrip in said company, deducting the reasonable proportion of the expenses of the company.

They also decreed that persons holding the scrip or certificate of said company which were derived originally from the sales made by parties to said unpaid notes, had no claim whatever on said fund, and, in a distribution thereof, assigned to such certificate-holders, whose claim they allowed as above, their proportion of the company's funds, unincumbered by certificates derived originally from the parties to said notes as aforesaid.

It further appears from the said case of Brown and Gilman, being a suit brought against said directors by the holder of one of the said certificates, which had issued from the title of the parties to said unpaid notes aforesaid, that the Commissioners erred in pronouncing that there was any lien upon said land in consequence of said unpaid notes; and the said directors were adjudged liable to pay the same certificates which the Commissioners had declared were not obligatory; and thus the said directors, the petitioners, who, by the proceedings of said Commissioners, received only about three-fourths of the stock of the company, were held liable to pay, in the first instance, the whole sum of one hundred and thirty thousand four hundred twenty-five dollars and twelve cents, say $130,425 12.

It also appears that the Commissioners were not informed of the laws of Georgia, which, similar to those of Massachusetts, do not allow any lien to the vendor of land without mortgage or special security: and the surviving Commissioners, Messrs. Swann and Key, are now fully satisfied that the said award was erroneous.

On the above facts, the petitioners have prayed that the aforesaid sum, erroneously withheld from them by said Commissioners, may be granted to them, and, if not, that they may be re-invested in their title to said nine hundred and fifty-seven thousand six hundred acres; say 957,600 acres of land, for which they have received no indemnification, by an act declaring that the said release, executed by them to the United States, shall be inoperative as respects said quantity of land, and that the deeds and evidence of title which, in virtue of said act, have been deposited by said Commissioners in said office of the Secretary of State, may be restored to them, or attested copies granted, allowing the same to have the force of originals in courts of the United States.

The committee are satisfied that the whole of said sum of one million five hundred and fifty thousand dollars ought, in strictness, to have been awarded to said directors of the New England Mississippi Land Company by said Commissioners, but they apprehend that the above prayer of the petitioners ought not to be granted, for the following reasons, viz.

The prayer of the petitioners, if granted, must be satisfied out of the moneys awarded by the Commissioners to the Georgia Mississippi Land Company, and to the United States as assignees of such of the Georgia Mississippi Land Company as had surrendered under the act of Georgia.

The reference to the Commissioners was, as has already been stated, "to adjudge and finally determine upon all controversies arising from such claims so released as aforesaid, which may be found to conflict with, and to be adverse to each other; and, also to adjudge and determine upon all such claims under the aforesaid act, or pretended act, as may be found to have accrued to the United States by operation of law." The contemplated compensation was to extinguish a disputed claim, was made by the United States for the sake of peace; the submission was voluntarily entered into by the parties, with full knowledge of the powers of the Commissioners, the circumstances of their selection, the conclusiveness of their award, and their liability to err. If the mistake had been in favor of those who claim the fund, those who hold it would have been without redress. All that the United States were responsible for, was an honest discharge of their duties by the Commissioners. That such has been the case is not controverted; and that being admitted, the committee are of opinion that the petitioners have no reason to complain if the award is suffered to remain as binding upon them as it necessarily was upon their adversaries.

Secondly. Independently of these considerations, the trustees of the New England Mississippi Land Company are not, in the opinion of the committee, entitled to the relief they ask. They have lost their legal rights by the error of the Commissioners, under the circumstances which have been stated, and their application now is to the equity of the Government, which can only be to relieve them from injustice. What is their equity? They ask money for lands for which they have never paid: they ask it at the expense of those who have. If, through the improvidence of those from whom they purchased, they, before the submission and award, could, on strict legal principles, entitle themselves to what they now ask, it was their good fortune; but, having lost that legal advantage without fraud, they are without cause of complaint that it is not restored to them, for they have lost nothing to which they were in conscience entitled.

Thirdly. If the loss had fallen on those of the New England Mississippi Land Company who had not paid, or their immediate assignees, it is conceded that this application would be without merit. That it has fallen on others is on account of the terms of the original association, and the manner of transacting their business authorized by the trustees and those they represent, and can furnish no ground of claim against those who had no agency in that matter, and who are at least equally innocent.

Fourthly. If the grounds relied on by the committee for refusing the direct relief prayed for are well founded, they are equally valid against the prayer for the surrender of the release.

17th Congress. **No. 378.** 2d Session.

LANDS PURCHASED FROM THE INDIANS IN GEORGIA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE FEBRUARY 17, 1823.

To the Senate of the United States:

In compliance with a resolution of the Senate of the 11th of this month, requesting the President to cause to be communicated to the Senate an estimate of the amount of land in the State of Georgia to which the Indian title has been extinguished by the United States since the cession of a portion of the territory of Georgia to the United States, with a statement of the cost of such extinguishment; and, also, an estimate of the amount of land within the said State to which the Indian title still remains to be extinguished, and by what tribes claimed; I transmit a report from the Secretary of War, which contains the information desired.

JAMES MONROE.

February 14, 1823.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, *Feb.* 13, 1823.

The Secretary of War, to whom was referred the resolution of the Senate of the 11th instant, requesting the President of the United States "to cause to be laid before the Senate as soon as may be, an estimate of the quantity of land in the State of Georgia to which the Indian title has been extinguished by the United States since the cession of a portion of the territory of Georgia to the United States, together with a statement of the cost of such extinguishment; and, also, an estimate of the quantity of land within said State, and by what tribes claimed to which the Indian title still remains to be extinguished," has the honor to lay before the President the enclosed statement marked A, which, with the accompanying statement of the Second Auditor, marked B, furnishes the information required by the resolution of the Senate, as far as it can be obtained at this department.

All which is respectfully submitted.

J. C. CALHOUN.

To the PRESIDENT *of the United States.*

A.

Statement showing the quantity of land in the State of Georgia to which the Indian title has been extinguished by the United States at various times, as far as it can be ascertained, since the articles of agreement and cession entered into between the United States and Georgia, the 24th April, 1802; *showing also the quantity of land within said State, and by what tribes claimed, to which the Indian title still remains to be extinguished.*

Quantity to which the Indian title has been extinguished, to wit:		
By treaty of 16th June, 1802, with the Creek nation - - - - -	—— Acres*	
By do. of 14th November, 1805, do. - - - - - - - -	2,600,000	
By do. of 9th August, 1814, do. - - - - - - - -	7,084,800	
By do. of 22d January, 1818, do. - - - - - - - -	1,450,000	
By do. of 8th January, 1821, do. - - - - - - - -	3,500,000	
Aggregate of Creek title extinguished - - - - -	Acres	14,634,800
By treaty of 8th July, 1817, with the Cherokee nation - - - - -	295,310	
By do. of 27th February, 1819, do. - - - - - - -	700,000	
Aggregate of Cherokee title extinguished - - - -	Acres	995,310
Whole number of acres to which the Indian title has been extinguished within Georgia since 24th April, 1802, as far as it can be ascertained - - - - - - - - - -		15,630,110

The quantity to which the Indian title remains to be extinguished is ascertained, from a recent and authentic map of the State of Georgia, to be 16,854,130 acres, of which the Creek nation claims 6,087,840 acres, and the Cherokee nation 9,766,290 acres.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, 13*th February*, 1823.

B.

Statement showing the amount of the considerations and expenses paid by the Government for the extinguishment of the Indian titles to lands in the State of Georgia, under the articles of agreement and cession between the United States and that State, entered into the 24th April, 1802, *to the present time; as far as can be ascertained in the Office of the Second Auditor of the Treasury Department.*

	Considerations stipulated.	Amount of considerations and expenses paid.
Creek Treaty, at Fort Wilkinson, 16*th June,* 1802, *James Wilkinson, Benjamin Hawkins, and Andrew Pickens, Commissioners.*		
CONSIDERATION, VIZ.		
$3,000 per annum in perpetuity, equal to a capital of $50,000, at six per cent. interest. Dolls.	50,000 00	
1,000 per annum for 10 years - - - - - - - - - -	10,000 00	
25,000 payable in merchandise - - - - - - - - - -	25,000 00	
Dolls.	85,000 00	
There has been paid, viz. 20 years' annuity, at $3,000 - - - - - -	- -	60,000 00
10 years' annuity, at $1,000 - - - - - -	- -	10,000 00
In merchandise - - - - - - - -	- -	25,000 00
The annuity of 3,000 dollars continues, payable annually.		$95,000 00

* The quantity of land ceded by this treaty is not known, nor are there any means in the department to enable it to ascertain it, or even form any estimate of it.

STATEMENT—Continued.

	Considerations stipulated.	Amount of considerations and expenses paid.
Creek Treaty, at the City of Washington, 14th November, 1805, H. Dearborn, Secretary of War.		
CONSIDERATION, VIZ.		
$ 12,000 annually, for eight years - - - - - - - Dolls.	96,000 00	
11,000 annually, for ten succeeding years - - - - - - -	110,000 00	
Dolls.	206,000 00	
There has been paid, viz. $ 12,000 annually, for eight years - - - - -	- -	96,000 00
11,000 annually, for nine succeeding years - - -	- -	99,000 00
There remains one year's annuity of $ 11,000, to be paid during the year 1823.		195,000 00
Creek Treaty, at Fort Jackson, 9th August, 1814, by General Andrew Jackson.		
CONSIDERATION, VIZ.		
All expenses in prosecuting the war to its termination, and to furnish them the necessaries of life until the crops of corn can be considered competent to yield a supply, and to establish trading houses.		
And all losses sustained by the friendly Creeks in their civil war, agreeably to the terms of peace offered by Major General Pinckney, 23d April, 1814, the preliminary to this treaty, since liquidated at $ 182,560 - - - - - - - - -	182,560 00	
There has been paid, viz. $ 90,801 on account of losses aforesaid - - - -	- -	90,801 00
There remains unpaid of the amount of losses, $ 91,759.		
7,084,800 acres of land were ceded by this treaty, within the State of Georgia, and a considerable cession within the limits of Alabama, but there are no means in this office by which the quantity in Alabama can be ascertained.		
Creek Treaty, at the Creek Agency, 22d January, 1818, by Gen. D. B. Mitchell, Commissioner.		
CONSIDERATION, VIZ.		
$ 20,000 payable within the year - - - - - - - -	20,000 00	
10,000 annually for ten years - - - - - - - -	100,000 00	
	120,000 00	
There has been paid, viz. $ 20,000 within the year - - - - - -	- -	20,000 00
10,000 per annum for four years - - - - -	- -	40,000 00
Expenses at the treaty, and carrying it into effect - -	- -	3,756 00
There remains six years of the annuity of $ 10,000 to be paid.		63,756 00
Creek Treaty, at the Indian Spring, 8th January, 1821, by David Meriwether and Daniel McForney, Commissioners.		
CONSIDERATIONS, VIZ.		
$ 10,000 in hand at the treaty - - - - - - - - -	10,000 00	
190,000 payable in fourteen successive years - - - - - - -	190,000 00	
The amount of claims against the Creek Indians, by citizens of the State of Georgia, not to exceed $ 250,000; since liquidated at $ 89,000 - - - - - - -	89,000 00	
	289,000 00	
There has been paid, viz. $ 10,000 00 cash at the treaty - - - - -	- -	10,000 00
45,000 00 in part of the 14 successive annuities - - -	- -	45,000 00
17,740 72 in part of the claims by citiz. of Georgia against the Creeks	- -	17,740 72
5,526 70 expenses liquidating the claims - - -	- -	5,526 70
11,810 57 expenses and presents at the treaty - - -	- -	11,810 57
854 75 running boundary line and locating reservations -	- -	854 75
$ 145,000 of the 14 successive annuities remain to be paid, and $ 71,259 28 of citizens' claims as liquidated, remain unpaid.		90,932 74
Cherokee Treaties, viz. 8th July, 1817, at the Cherokee Agency, by Andrew Jackson, Jos. McMinn, and D. Meriwether; and of 27th February, 1819, at Washington, by J. C. Calhoun, Secretary of War.		
CONSIDERATION, VIZ.		
Lands on the Arkansas in exchange for lands relinquished by the Cherokees east of the Mississippi.		
To pay for improvements on lands thus relinquished, and to furnish the emigrants with the means of removing, provisions, &c.		
THERE HAS BEEN PAID, VIZ.		
For improvements, for provisions, and the means of removing, for expenses at the treaty, and for valuing improvements, &c. - - - - $ 84,152 91		
For running and fixing boundary lines - - - - - 2,008 01		
Expenses of, and presents to, a deputation of the head men of the Cherokee nation to, at, and from the seat of the General Government, to adjust finally the above treaties - - - - - - - - - 8,942 22		
For surveying and locating reservations - - - - - 2,218 54		
Dolls. 97,321 68		
N. B. 2,719,310 acres were ceded by this treaty, of which 1,024,000 acres are in Tennessee, 700,000 in the State of North Carolina, and 995,310 in the State of Georgia; so that the proper proportion of the $ 97,321 68, appertaining to Georgia, is - - - -	- -	34,189 69
There has been transmitted to the Commissioners for holding a treaty with the Cherokees and Creeks, for the further extinguishment of their claims to lands in the State of Georgia -	- -	34,989 57

STATEMENT—Continued.

	Considerations stipulated.	Amount of considerations and expenses paid.
RECAPITULATION.		
CREEK TREATIES. There has been paid by the Government, on account of the considerations and expenses in carrying into effect Creek treaties - - - - - -	- -	$535,489 74
THERE REMAINS TO BE PAID—		
Treaty of 16th June, 1802, $3,000 annuity in perpetuity, equal to a capital of $50,000, at six per cent. interest - - - - - - - - -	$50,000 00	
Treaty of 14th November, 1805, $11,000 annuity for one year, payable in the year 1823 -	11,000 00	
Treaty of 9th August, 1814, $91,759 of the losses by the friendly Creeks - - -	91,759 00	
Treaty of 22d January, 1818, $60,000 for six years' annuity of $10,000 - - -	60,000 00	
Treaty of 8th January, 1821, $145,000 of the 14 successive annuities - - -	145,000 00	
Do do 71,259 28 of the claims by citizens of Georgia - -	71,259 28	
		429,018 28
Amount of Creek treaties - - -	- -	964,508 02
CHEROKEE TREATIES. There has been paid on account of considerations and expenses of Cherokee treaties - - - - - - - - - -	- -	34,189 69
Cherokee and Creek treaties - - - - - - - - - -	- -	34,989 57
		1,033,687 28
RESULT.		
Creek treaties - - - - - - - - -	964,508 02	
Cherokee treaties - - - - - - - -	34,189 69	
Cherokees and Creeks - - - - - - - -	34,989 57	
Aggregate amount - - - -	- -	1,033,687 28

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Second Auditor's Office, 10th February*, 1823. WM. LEE.

17th CONGRESS. **No. 379.** 2d SESSION.

LAND CLAIMS IN LOUISIANA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE FEBRUARY 18, 1823.

Mr. VAN DYKE, from the Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Elihu Hall Bay, for himself, and on behalf of Theodore Gaillard and Charles Roberts, of the State of South Carolina, reported:

The petitioners state that they presented their petition to the Senate on 21st January, 1820, setting forth that they were the holders and proprietors of sundry tracts of land in Louisiana, east of the island of New Orleans and west of Pearl river, under grants from the former province of West Florida, and conveyances from sundry grantees, all made and duly perfected in due form of law, and which were regularly exhibited to, and recorded in the register's office established at St. Helena, in pursuance of the directions of the land act of 25th April, 1812. That the commissioner on behalf of the United States, James O. Cosby, esq., did report to the Government that said grants were good and valid against the United States, as by their report filed in the office of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, in the city of Washington, may appear. That said petition then prayed for a confirmation of the said titles conformably to the reports of said J. O. Cosby, but no report was made thereon; and the petitioners now pray Congress to grant them a confirmation of their said claims so reported as aforesaid as against the United States, reserving, however, to individuals any claim (if any there be) which they may have to the said lands, or any part thereof.

The committee, on examining the grants referred to in said petition as exhibited by the petitioners, find they were made under authority of the British Government while the Territory of Florida was in possession of the said Government, and prior to the cession thereof to Spain. That the patents contain a number and variety of conditions, the performance of which is not attempted to be proved; but it is insisted that the estate vested and became absolute in the patentees notwithstanding those conditions. In the opinion of the committee, the claims are peculiarly proper for investigation and decision in a court of law; and, as a bill has already been reported, and is now depending before the Senate, which is intended to provide for the trial of land claims in the State of Louisiana, whether derived from French, British, or Spanish grants, the committee ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the said petition.

17th CONGRESS. **No. 380.** 2d SESSION.

APPLICATION OF ALABAMA TO EXTINGUISH THE INDIAN TITLE TO LANDS WITHIN THAT STATE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 19, 1823.

Mr. MCLANE, from the Committee of Ways and Means, to whom were referred the memorial of the Legislature of the State of Alabama, requesting the adoption of measures for the extinguishment of the Indian title to certain lands within the said State, reported:

That they have duly considered the subject of the said memorial, and, with the best disposition to promote the object of the memorialists, as far as it could be effected consistently with the public interest.

The committee having obtained from the Department of War all the information of which it was possessed in relation to this subject, are fully persuaded that it would be impracticable at present to conclude any treaty with the Cherokee Indians for the extinguishment of the title to their lands, upon terms compatible with the public in-

terest; and they therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to take any measures at present for the extinguishment of the Indian title to lands within the State of Alabama.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, *15th February*, 1823.

SIR: I have received your letter of the 14th instant, enclosing a memorial of the Legislature of Alabama relative to the extinguishment of the Indian title in that State, and requesting me to communicate any information I may possess on the subject, particularly as to "the propriety of authorizing a treaty with the Cherokee Indians for the extinguishment of their title to the lands referred to in the memorial, the probability of the Cherokees concluding a treaty, upon favorable terms, for the extinguishment of their title, and the sum which would be required to conclude and carry into effect any such treaty on the part of the United States."

The department has no information upon the subject to which the memorial of the Legislature of Alabama relates; nor are there any other views, touching the propriety of authorizing a treaty with the Cherokees, which it can present to the committee, than those contained in that memorial.

The probability of concluding a treaty is very uncertain, as the Cherokees have of late manifested considerable reluctance to hold any more treaties for cessions of land, as will be seen by the enclosed extract from the proceedings of a council of the Cherokee nation, and from a letter of the Commissioners appointed during the late recess of Congress to hold a treaty with said nation. It is also very uncertain as to the terms upon which a treaty could be concluded; and I know of no mode of forming an estimate of the sum that would be required to conclude and carry such treaty into effect, except by referring to the disbursements for these objects under former treaties; some of the principal of which are exhibited in a report from this department relative to the extinguishment of the Indian title in Georgia, transmitted to the Senate by the President yesterday, and to which I would respectfully refer the Committee of Ways and Means for the information desired on this point.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,

J. C. CALHOUN.

Hon. LOUIS MCLANE, *Chair'n Com. W. & M. H. R., U. S.*

P. S. The memorial of the Legislature of Alabama is herewith returned.

Extract from the proceedings of a National Committee and Council of the Cherokee nation, held Oct. 22, 1822.

Resolved, by the national committee and members of council, that the chiefs of the Cherokee nation will not meet any commissioners of the United States to hold a treaty with them on the subject of making cessions of lands the property of the Cherokee nation, as we are determined hereafter never to make any cession of lands, having not more than sufficient for our own nation and posterities. But on any other business, not relating to making a treaty of cession, we will at all times, during the session of the national council at New Town, receive the United States' commissioners or agents in friendship and cordiality, and will ever keep bright the chain of peace and friendship which links the Cherokee nation with the Government of the United States.

Extract of a letter from Colonel Duncan G. Campbell and Major James Meriwether, commissioners to hold a treaty with the Cherokees, to the Secretary of War, dated 22d January, 1823.

The object of our mission has not progressed as we could have wished; but the difficulties which we have encountered had been anticipated. Whether we shall be able to surmount them we cannot now undertake to say. Of this much, however, the department may be assured, that we shall spare no effort authorized by usage and the just expectations of the Government. This nation manifests a stronger reluctance and obstinacy at this time than on any previous occasion. The proceedings of their council and national committee have been thus far strictly adhered to.

17th CONGRESS. **No. 381.** 2d SESSION.

APPLICATION FOR A DONATION IN LAND TO IMPROVE THE NAVIGATION OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE FEBRUARY 20, 1823.

Mr. DICKERSON, from the Committee on Commerce and Manufactures, who were instructed to inquire into the expediency of making a donation of lands lying upon the waters of Pearl river, to be appropriated under the direction of the General Assembly of the State of Mississippi, to aid in the opening and improving the navigation of said river, from the seat of Government of the State to the Gulf of Mexico, reported:

That the committee are of opinion, from statements which have been exhibited to them, that the value of the lands belonging to the United States lying on each side of the Pearl river, would be greatly enhanced by improving the navigation of that river; and that a similar effect would result from improving the navigation of many other rivers running through the lands of the United States; that if lands are to be appropriated for this purpose, it ought to be upon some general system applying to all similar cases where the United States are to be benefitted by the improvement. Until such a system shall be adopted, the committee are of opinion that it would not be expedient to make the donation asked for. They submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That this committee be discharged from the further consideration of this subject.

17th CONGRESS. **No. 382.** 2d SESSION.

CONTINGENT EXPENSES OF THE LAND OFFICES.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 20, 1823.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
General Land Office, 18th February, 1823.

SIR: In reply to your letter of the 4th ultimo, I have the honor to transmit a statement from the Register of the Treasury, exhibiting the contingent expenses of the several land offices, as appears from the *final* adjustment of the land accounts on file in his office. As respects the article of clerk hire, I deem it necessary to state that, at the land office at Washington, Mississippi, there have been allowances for clerk hire not exhibited by the statement rendered, amounting to fifteen hundred dollars, being an expense incurred in bringing up the arrearages of the books of the predecessor of the present receiver. The reason that this charge is not exhibited in the statement is, that the accounts of the receiver, in which they are made, have not yet been filed in the register's office, and that the charges have not been admitted to the credit of the receiver, as he has not yet produced the requisite voucher for the payment. The charge alluded to will not, ultimately, be an expense to the Treasury, but will be recoverable from the sureties of the late incumbent.

I am, with great respect, sir,
Your obedient servant,
JOHN McLEAN.

Hon. MICAH STERLING,
House of Representatives.

A statement exhibiting the items of incidental expenses allowed at the Treasury on the settlement of the accounts of the several receivers of public moneys.

PERIODS.	Printing.	Books.	Stationery.	Advertising.	Examining the books of the l. offices, count'g money, transportation, &c.	Superintend'ts, clerks, auctioneers, &c., at tending public sales.	Clerk hire.	Postage.	Total.
MARIETTA.									
From 1st April to 31st December, 1818	-	-	$4 50	-	-	-	-	$1 50	$6 00
1st January to do. 1819	$4 55	$25 50	4 81	-	-	$12 00	-	-	46 86
Do. do. 1820	-	1 25	42 68	-	-	-	-	-	43 93
	4 55	26 75	51 99	-	-	12 00	-	1 50	96 79
ZANESVILLE.									
From 1st April to 31st December, 1818	42 00	70 00	76 87	10 75	-	-	-	-	199 62
1st January to do. 1819	45 32	140 00	32 12	-	-	-	-	-	217 44
Do. do. 1820	-	-	19 50	-	-	-	-	-	19 50
Do. 30th June, 1821	19 00	-	4 12	-	-	-	-	-	23 12
	106 32	210 00	132 61	10 75	-	-	-	-	459 68
STEUBENVILLE.									
From 1st April to 31st December, 1818	24 00	-	26 60	30 00	-	-	-	-	80 60
1st January to do. 1819	-	-	69 25	129 75	-	-	-	-	199 00
Do. do. 1820	50 00	1 25	17 50	108 12	-	-	-	-	176 87
Do. do. 1821	6 00	-	64 87	184 00	$210 00	75 00	-	-	539 87
	80 00	1 25	178 22	451 87	210 00	75 00	-	-	996 34
CHILLICOTHE.									
From 1st April to 31st December, 1818	39 00	3 00	20 50	-	-	-	-	-	62 50
1st January to do. 1819	19 00	-	46 74	103 50	-	-	-	-	169 24
Do. do. 1820	10 12	6 00	19 06	106 00	-	-	-	-	141 18
Do. do. 1821	4 00	1 00	30 00	107 00	-	-	-	-	142 00
	72 12	10 00	116 30	316 50	-	-	-	-	514 92
CINCINNATI.									
From 1st April to 31st December, 1818	159 37	165 00	286 17	198 88	-	-	-	-	809 42
1st January to do. 1819	91 50	167 50	124 13	192 93	-	-	-	-	576 06
Do. do. 1820	45 00	7 88	165 12	81 00	-	-	-	-	299 00
	295 87	340 38	575 42	472 81	-	-	-	-	1,684 48
WOOSTER.									
From 1st April to 31st December, 1818	83 06	233 87	17 00	-	300 00	12 75	-	-	646 68
1st January to do. 1819	84 00	-	36 12	-	-	12 75	-	-	132 87
Do. do. 1820	8 00	7 67	26 17	-	-	-	-	-	41 84
Do. do. 1821	10 50	12 00	17 75	-	-	12 00	-	-	52 25
	185 56	253 54	97 04	-	300 00	37 50	-	-	873 64
PIQUA.									
From 1st October to 31st December, 1820	-	15 50	43 26	7 00	130 19	21 00	-	-	216 95
1st January to do. 1821	-	-	8 87	2 75	120 00	-	-	13 62	145 24
	-	15 50	52 13	9 75	250 19	21 00	-	13 62	362 19
DELAWARE.									
From 1st July to 31st December, 1820	-	59 65	24 62	-	40 00	74 00	81 00	-	279 27
1st January to do. 1821	-	-	14 87	-	-	72 00	108 00	30 67	225 54
		59 65	39 49	-	40 00	146 00	189 00	30 67	504 81
VINCENNES.									
From 1st April to 31st December, 1818	138 75	312 00	79 91	30 00	-	-	75 00	-	635 66
1st January to do. 1819	198 62	42 00	54 85	80 00	80 00	-	-	-	455 47
	337 37	354 00	134 76	110 00	80 00	-	75 00	-	1,091 13
JEFFERSONVILLE.									
From 1st April to 31st December, 1818	297 47	92 50	92 87	9 00	-	-	-	-	491 84
1st January to do. 1819	72 25	222 50	71 75	68 12	218 75	-	-	-	653 37
Do. do. 1820	154 00	62 54	48 50	192 87	115 00	157 50	-	22 38	752 79
Do. 30th June, 1821	30 00	-	24 87	238 00	-	-	-	-	292 87
	553 72	377 54	237 99	507 99	333 75	157 50	-	22 38	2,190 87
TERRE HAUTE.									
From 1st July to 31st December, 1820	15 00	12 25	29 87	-	7 50	135 00	72 00	35 89	307 51
1st January to do. 1821	-	28 10	2 12	-	80 00	-	-	18 68	128 90
	15 00	40 35	31 99	-	87 50	135 00	72 00	54 57	436 41
KASKASKIA.									
From 1st April to 31st December, 1818	144 63	46 00	33 85	-	-	-	-	-	224 48
1st January to do. 1819	20 00	112 37	81 19	219 97	-	-	-	-	433 53
Do. 30th Sept., 1820	-	244 00	3 00	122 86	50 00	-	-	-	419 86
	164 63	402 37	118 04	342 83	50 00	-	-	-	1,077 87
SHAWNEETOWN.									
From 1st April to 31st December, 1818	54 50	-	95 62	-	-	6 00	-	-	156 12
1st January to do. 1819	94 16	272 00	74 50	163 00	-	144 00	-	-	747 66
Do. do. 1820	23 00	-	-	108 00	120 00	108 00	-	-	359 00
	171 66	272 00	170 12	271 00	120 00	258 00	-	-	1,262 78
EDWARDSVILLE.									
From 1st April to 31st December, 1818	67 00	273 00	2 00	-	-	-	-	-	342 00
1st January to do. 1819	150 50	212 00	52 37	-	-	216 00	-	-	630 87
Do. do. 1820	58 75	8 37	59 87	-	-	156 00	-	-	282 99
	276 25	493 37	114 24	-	-	372 00	-	-	1,255 86
VANDALIA.									
From 1st January, to 31st March, 1821	-	12 35	-	-	-	96 00	-	-	108 35
PALESTINE.									
From 1st July to 31st December, 1821	-	2 00	20 62	-	-	-	-	8 52	31 14
DETROIT.									
From 31st July to 31st December, 1819	47 08	14 00	4 50	-	-	-	-	-	65 58
1st January to 30th June, 1820	-	-	-	91 62	-	-	-	-	91 62
	47 08	14 00	4 50	91 62	-	-	-	-	157 20

STATEMENT—Continued.

PERIODS.	Printing.	Books.	Stationery.	Advertising.	Examining the books of the l. offices, count'g money, transportation, &c.	Superintend'ts, clerks, auctioneers, &c., attending public sales.	Clerk hire.	Postage.	Total.
ST. LOUIS.									
From 1st July to 31st December, 1818	146 00	645 25	46 75	-	-	540 00	-	-	1,378 00
1st January to 31st March, 1819	50 00	18 00	24 00	94 50	-	54 00	-	-	240 50
	196 00	663 25	70 75	94 50	-	594 00	-	-	1,618 50
FRANKLIN.									
From 1st Oct. to 31st December, 1818	22 00	-	83 07	-	98 00	114 00	-	-	317 07
1st January to 31st March, 1819	42 00	32 00	9 00	-	-	648 00	54 00	-	785 00
	64 00	32 00	92 07	-	98 00	762 00	54 00	-	1,102 07
WASHINGTON.									
From 1st April to 31st December, 1818	83 00	122 50	61 25	177 00	-	-	-	-	443 75
1st January to do. 1819	200 50	57 25	12 50	-	-	-	-	-	270 25
Do. 31st March, 1820	64 50	-	212 75	-	-	-	-	-	277 25
	348 00	179 75	286 50	177 00	-	-	-	-	991 25
JACKSON COURT-HOUSE.									
From 1st Oct. to 31st December, 1820	26 00	-	9 25	-	-	714 67	-	-	749 92
1st January to do. 1821	-	32 00	50 25	-	-	-	-	-	82 25
	26 00	32 00	59 50	-	-	714 67	-	-	832 17
HUNTSVILLE.									
From 1st April to 31st December, 1818	270 00	-	264 12	-	-	446 00	74 00	-	1,054 12
1st January to do. 1819	279 50	-	282 70	-	-	468 00	-	-	1,030 20
Do. to 30th June, 1820	21 00	-	438 26	342 00	-	156 00	-	-	957 26
	570 50	-	985 08	342 00	-	1,070 00	74 00	-	3,041 58
CAHAWBA.									
From 1st April to 31st December, 1818	235 50	598 24	353 11	-	-	814 00	-	-	2,000 85
TUSCALOOSA.									
From 1st April to 31st December, 1821	-	10 00	58 94	98 25	-	1,474 00	-	-	1,641 19
ST. STEPHENS.									
From 1st April to 30th June, 1818	-	23 62	102 01	-	-	-	-	-	125 63

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Register's Office*, 15*th February*, 1823. JOSEPH NOURSE, *Register*.

17th CONGRESS. **No. 383.** 2d SESSION.

OPERATIONS OF THE SEVERAL LAND OFFICES UNDER THE ACT FOR THE RELIEF OF PURCHASERS OF PUBLIC LANDS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 27, 1823.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, 26*th February*, 1823.

SIR: In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 29th of December, 1822, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to report to the House the operations of the several land offices, under the provisions of the act of the 2d of March, 1821, entitled "An act for the relief of the purchasers of the public lands, prior to the 1st of July, 1820," I have the honor to submit three statements from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, marked A, B, and C; which contain the information required, as far as the returns of the land offices will admit.

I have the honor to remain, your most obedient servant,

Hon. P. P. BARBOUR, *Speaker of the House of Representatives*. WM. H. CRAWFORD.

A.—*Statement exhibiting the lands relinquished to the United States under the provisions of the act of Congress passed on the 2d March*, 1821, *entitled "An act for the relief of the purchasers of public lands prior to the 1st day of July*, 1820."

Offices.	Lands relinquished.		Lands completely paid for by relinquishment and by cash at the time of relinquishment, for which final certificates have been issued.		Cash paid, and discount allowed, to complete balances due at the time of relinquishment.		Lands on which further credit has been given after partial payment by relinquishment.		
	Quantity.	Purchase money.	Quantity.	Purchase money.	Cash paid.	Dis. al. at 37½ pr.ct.	Quantity.	Purchase money.	Am't due.
	Acres. hdrths.	*Dolls. cts.*	*Acres. h'ths.*	*Dolls. cts.*	*Dolls. cts.*	*Dolls. cts.*	*Acres. h'ths.*	*Dolls. cts.*	*Dolls. cts.*
Marietta -	11,199 24½	25,383 21	4,399 43½	9,279 46	477 23	286 32	5,502 64¼	12,605 33	6,245 28½
Zanesville -	33,565 00	71,453 43	15,033 26	30,860 64	1,306 57	783 93	17,605 21	36,173 19	17,626 66
Steubenville	29,400 84	66,870 63	12,910 69	29,668 62	1,230 71¾	732 52¼	11,343 53	26,062 15	13,885 65
Chillicothe -	46,020 10	99,259 13½	20,217 67¼	42,112 73	2,137 42	1,282 77	21,007 94	51,277 87	30,395 08
Cincinnati -	102,476 08½	226,142 89	50,645 95	110,062 62	5,170 65	3,125 29	13,194 88½	28,927 49	15,653 62
Wooster -	48,101 26½	182,819 23½	19,979 29	57,813 02½	1,353 38¼	811 94	14,150 01½	44,775 05	16,828 83¼
Vincennes -	218,246 87	445,456 09	95,793 36	197,563 66	5,262 20	3,157 28	74,870 40	153,396 51	91,186 84
Jeffersonv'le	112,514 36½	227,349 72	56,482 09	112,964 19	7,019 28	4,211 56	21,780 17	46,963 30	20,774 09½
Shawneet'wn	119,123 71	238,741 02	32,959 47	66,090 94	1,733 73	1,040 23	38,233 17	76,533 54	36,588 44
Kaskaskia -	124,467 99	330,483 94	52,271 75	104,517 10	1,433 68	859 07½	25,870 41	51,760 76	28,120 60½
Edwardsville	132,046 85	266,770 52	49,379 47	99,648 93	876 72½	525 76½	22,266 40	44,666 81	22,403 46
Detroit -	20,341 72	63,309 58	6,876 89	18,080 57	1,091 26	654 73	7,147 10	20,115 57	10,570 59
Franklin -	336,571 35½	1,073,828 10	125,220 13½	348,947 81	2,638 46	1,583 77	60,574 19½	179,864 07	93,439 62
Washington	74,819 62	149,639 24	16,860 22	33,720 44	976 70	639 17	49,694 65	101,164 91	47,959 64
Cahawba -	308,790 45	1,367,546 79¾	118,765 28½	367,896 84¾	139 37	83 62¾	78,440 42	358,131 31½	185,873 25½
Huntsville -	415,196 07	3,146,886 68½	144,987 79	930,837 89	-	-	103,791 95	539,625 45	289,465 10
Total	2,132,881 53½	7,981,940 22¼	822,782 76	2,560,065 47¼	32,847 37½	19,777 98	565,473 08¾	1,772,043 31½	927,016 77¼

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, *January* 31, 1823. JOHN McLEAN.

B.—*Statement exhibiting the quantity of land completely paid for, by cash, under the provisions of the 4th section of the act of Congress passed on the 2d of March,* 1821, *entitled "An act for the relief of the purchasers of public lands prior to the* 1st *day of July,* 1820."

Offices.	Quantity.	Purchase money.	Balance due exclusive of interest accrued.	Amount of cash paid to complete the balance due.	Amount of discount, at 37½ per cent., allowed.
	Acres. Hdrths.	*Dolls. cts.*	*Dolls. cts.*	*Dolls. cts.*	*Dolls. cts.*
Marietta - - - - -	7,387 64	15,738 32	6,099 28	3,812 05	2,287 23
Zanesville - - - - -	31,330 54	64,244 12	22,918 88	14,324 30	8,594 58
Steubenville - - - - -	13,329 00	30,183 10	12,375 92	7,734 95	4,640 97
Chillicothe - - - - -	12,160 90½	26,350 09	10,689 00	6,680 63	4,008 37
Cincinnati - - - - -	72,667 17	153,538 17	69,294 82	43,309 27	25,985 55
Wooster - - - - -	23,544 07	49,393 16	20,339 65	12,712 29	7,627 36
Jeffersonville - - - - -	39,246 36	78,732 72	35,916 89	22,448 06	13,468 83
Vincennes - - - - -	33,664 41	70,189 63	32,524 19	20,327 62	12,196 57
Edwardsville - - - - -	5,427 73	10,911 46	5,476 53	3,422 84	2,053 69
Kaskaskia - - - - -	6,282 09	12,564 18	4,279 81	2,674 89	1,604 92
Shawneetown - - - - -	10,798 61	22,803 23	15,046 54	9,404 11	5,642 43
Detroit - - - - -	537 08	1,859 44	1,370 07	856 30	513 77
St. Louis - - - - -	5,786 10	11,730 94	6,751 23	4,219 52	2,531 71
Franklin - - - - -	1,249 63	2,583 69	1,566 87	979 30	587 57
Washington - - - - -	20,258 70	40,517 40	18,686 78	11,679 25	7,007 53
Cahawba - - - - -	6,450 77	24,966 11½	10,343 04	6,464 40	3,878 64
Total - - - - -	290,120 80½	656,705 76½	273,679 50	171,049 78	102,629 72

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, *January* 31, 1823. JOHN McLEAN.

C.—*Statement exhibiting the quantity of land, the amount of purchase money, the balance due thereof, and the classification of those balances on which further credit has been given under the provisions of the 3d section of the act of Congress passed on the 2d March,* 1821, *entitled "An act for the relief of the purchasers of the public lands prior to the* 1st *day of July,* 1820."

Offices.	Quantity.	Purchase money.	Balance due.	First class; payable in eight years.	Second class; payable in six years.	Third class; payable in four years.
	Acres. Hdrths.	*Dolls. cts.*	*Dolls. cts.*	*Dolls. cts.*	*Dolls. cts.*	*Dolls. cts.*
Marietta - - -	32,139 06	89,441 32	45,858 11	40,875 20	3,491 27	1,491 64
Zanesville - - -	209,430 33	422,976 81	246,343 54	187,122 29	47,439 19	11,782 06
Steubenville - -	97,597 71	212,797 68	130,947 97	108,702 72	15,231 29	7,013 96
Chillicothe - - -	115,052 60½	245,887 95	156,437 45	135,537 76	15,350 82	5,548 87
Cincinnati - - -	430,768 34	920,584 90	616,138 03	537,994 29	57,504 65	20,639 09
Wooster - - -	146,158 32	341,424 59½	217,248 18¾	185,007 01¼	24,224 38½	8,016 79
Jeffersonville - -	410,315 45	829,155 95	564,622 20	502,242 09¾	45,008 50	17,371 60¼
Vincennes - - -	191,896 84	390,373 87	267,697 18	239,293 49	21,149 86	7,253 83
Edwardsville - -	122,604 59½	246,579 57	173,186 10	159,054 16	10,791 86	3,340 08
Kaskaskia - - -	146,594 86½	294,294 96	196,056 07½	168,006 99	23,915 72½	4,133 36
Shawneetown - -	259,689 92	521,978 32	375,334 21	356,791 69	14,114 20	4,428 32
Detroit - - -	27,223 12	63,678 42	47,758 72	47,758 72		
St. Louis - - -	153,161 32½	353,474 51	253,127 08	233,031 34	18,645 13	1,450 61
Franklin - - -	148,220 66	379,981 41	274,297 16	255,547 07	17,881 40	868 69
Washington - - -	523,713 74	1,043,466 24	721,419 97	650,158 46	61,321 27	9,940 24
Huntsville - - -	573,991 57	3,279,862 85	2,453,886 20¼	2,444,357 42¼	8,577 88½	950 89½
	3,588,558 45	9,635,959 35	6,740,358 18¼	6,251,480 71¼	384,647 43½	104,230 03¾

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, 31*st January,* 1823. JOHN McLEAN.

18th CONGRESS. **No. 384.** 1st SESSION.

TRANSFER OF A CLAIM TO MILITARY BOUNTY LAND.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DECEMBER 17, 1823.

Mr. CAMPBELL, of Ohio, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom were referred the petition and documents of Jacob Shafer, reported:

The petitioner states, that in the late war, he enlisted for five years, and served for some time after the restoration of peace; that, being very anxious to see his family, consisting of his wife and eight children, whom he had left in penury, he applied for a discharge, which was given him, on the relinquishment of his right to bounty land; that, at the time he was discharged, there was a soldier of the name of John Sharp, a German, who had completed his term of service, and was solicitous to visit his own country, without any intention of returning to this; that he was advised by Captain John P. Duvall to purchase Sharp's discharge, which he did, thinking it would, in some degree, indemnify him for the loss of his own bounty land; that he cannot obtain a patent in his own name on Sharp's discharge: wherefore he asks relief.

There is documentary evidence before the committee, that the petitioner was discharged at Norfolk, in Virginia, on the 15th of April, 1815, after having served about twenty-one months; and that his discharge was upon condition that he relinquished his claim to bounty land.

Accompanying the petition in this case, there is also a certified copy of John Sharp's discharge and endorsement.

The committee, while they feel unwilling to countenance the transfer of discharges, which, for the benefit of the soldier, was made null by law, think the facts represented by the petitioner entitle him to relief; and for that purpose a bill is herewith reported.

18th Congress. No. 385. 1st Session.

CAUSES OF THE DELAY IN ADJUSTING THE LAND CLAIMS IN THE DISTRICT OF ST. HELENA, IN LOUISIANA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE DECEMBER 22, 1823.

Treasury Department,
General Land Office, 22d *Dec.* 1823.

Sir: In compliance with a resolution of the Senate dated on the 17th of December, in the following words, "*Resolved*, That the Commissioner of the General Land Office be instructed to lay before the Senate all communications received by him from the register of the land office and the receiver of public moneys at St. Helena court-house, in the State of Louisiana, touching their official duties, not heretofore communicated, and that he communicate all the information in his possession as to the causes which have delayed the adjustment of the land claims in said district," I have the honor to transmit the accompanying letters and papers, lettered from A to F.

To form a correct opinion of the causes which have delayed the adjustment of the land claims in the district of St. Helena, it will be necessary to refer to the several acts of Congress which provide for the adjustment of those claims, and to the proceedings which have been had under them respectively.

The act bearing date the 25th of April, 1812, authorizes the appointment of a commissioner for the purpose of ascertaining the titles and claims to lands in this district, derived from the French, British, and Spanish Governments, and founded on written evidence.

It requires the commissioner to transmit to the Secretary of the Treasury abstracts of all such claims, to be submitted to the Congress of the United States; and further requires him to report to Congress a list of all the actual settlers in said district who have no written evidence of their claim to lands, specifying the time at which such settlements were made. This act fixes the compensation of the commissioner at $1500 a year, that of the clerk at $1000, with a further compensation to each of them on making the report, and limits the period for which such compensation shall be allowed to two years.

A commissioner was appointed under this act in June, 1812, but in consequence of the war, and from other causes, he did not enter upon the duties of his office until some time afterwards, and his report was not made until June, 1815. This report embraced 1024 claims derived from French, Spanish, and British authorities, and a list of 1234 actual settlers. The report and list was submitted to Congress, but not acted upon until the 3d of March, 1819, when an act passed confirming the claims derived from the French, British, and Spanish authorities, under certain modifications, and granting donations of not more than 640 acres of land to each actual settler, or his legal representatives, who had cultivated the land on or before the 15th day of April, 1813, and granting a right of pre-emption to such persons as cultivated or inhabited a tract of land in the district on or before the 12th day of April, 1814. By this act the time for filing claims to land in this district was further extended to the 1st of July, 1820; and, for the purpose of adjusting those claims, and for disposing of the land which might remain the property of the United States, a land office was established, and a register and receiver of public moneys were authorized to be appointed and invested with the same powers, and directed to perform similar duties, as those vested in and required of the former commissioner, and giving them the same compensation for their extra services in relation to these claims, limiting the period for which they should receive the compensation to eighteen months.

Under this act a register and receiver of public moneys were appointed and commissioned on the 15th of March, 1819. They made two reports: one dated the 17th of March, the other the 18th of November, 1820, embracing 232 cases of claims under French, British, and Spanish authorities, and a list of 545 actual settlers. These reports and lists were submitted to Congress; the one on the 11th day of May, 1820, and the other on the 1st of January, 1821, and an act passed on the 8th of May, 1822, confirming them under certain limitations. This act imposes on the register and receiver of public moneys the duty of directing the manner in which all the claims confirmed by the acts of the 3d of March, 1819, and the 8th of May, 1822, should be located and surveyed. For this duty of directing the manner of locating and surveying a mass of claims, amounting to nearly three thousand, spread over a great extent of country, and necessarily interfering with each other in all those parts of the district where the lands were valuable, the compensation allowed by the law is the usual salary of five hundred dollars, which the register and receiver is entitled to under the general provisions of the law, and an extra compensation of one dollar, to be divided between them, on each certificate issued for the claims which were confirmed by the 2d and 3d sections of this act, embracing about 700 cases. Soon after the passage of this act, the register died, and the receiver resigned; the gentleman who was appointed to succeed him resigned in a short time after his appointment, and the present receiver, who has been in office about ten months, has intimated, it is understood, an intention also of retiring, and the register has communicated his determination to resign on the 22d inst. This simple narration of facts accounts, in a great measure, for the delays which have heretofore taken place in the final adjustment of these claims, and presents no future prospect of a speedy adjustment of them.

There are, however, intrinsic difficulties incident to the nature of the business, which produce delay and embarrassment. Although the general tenor of the laws is peculiarly favorable to the claimants of land in this district, yet there are some of the special provisions of them which have a tendency to produce dissatisfaction and discontent among a portion of the claimants. The provisions of the 2d section of the act of the 3d of March, 1819, and those of the 2d section of that of the 8th of May, 1822, give different rules of decision as it respects a particular description of claims derived from French, British, or Spanish authorities, which claims are similarly situated, though embraced in different reports. There is also some discrepancy as to the powers of revision given to the register and receiver by the 12th section of the act of the 3d of March, 1819, over the claims confirmed by that act, and the powers given to them by the 6th section of the act of the 8th of May, 1822. But the great source of embarrassment to the officers, and perhaps of dissatisfaction to the claimants, arises from the provision of the 4th section of the act of the 8th of May, 1822, which directs that, in locating these claims, the register and receiver shall have regard to the laws, usages, and customs of the Spanish Government on that subject, and to the mode adopted by the Government of the United States in surveying the claims to land confirmed by virtue of the 2d and 3d sections of an act of Congress entitled "An act regulating the grants of lands, and providing for the disposal of the lands of the United States south of the State of Tennessee, approved on the 3d of March, 1803." The two modes of surveying lands, to which the register and receiver are referred to, in this provision of the law, as guides for their conduct, are practically different, and perhaps incompatible with each other. Each claimant, therefore, assuming the most favorable construction of that particular mode referred to in the act which may best suit the peculiar locality of his claim, becomes dissatisfied if it is not located in the form which he had figured out to himself.

In addition to these, difficulties have arisen from the fact that the lands in this district have been surveyed into townships, sections, and subdivisions of sections, in conformity to the general provisions of law directing the surveying of the public lands. As the expense of surveying is not paid by the claimant, it has become the duty of the register and receiver, with a view to the public interest, to make the location, so far as the circumstances of each claim will permit, in conformity to the divisional lines of the public surveys already made.

From this view of the subject, it is evident that the act of the 8th of May, 1822, has imposed duties on the register and receiver more arduous, and having a greater tendency to bring them into collision with their neighbors and fellow-citizens, than those required under the general provisions of the law in relation to officers of that description. It is not therefore to be expected that, in a section of the country where labor is high and talent can be profitably employed, the Government can command

the services of individuals qualified by their independence of character and discriminating powers of mind, to adjust these claims speedily and satisfactorily, unless a more adequate compensation for their services shall be given. It was expected that a remuneration for these services might have been looked for in the future profits of the office from the sales of the public lands after the private claims should have been satisfied, but it is now believed that the profits from this source will be very limited in both the districts of St. Helena and Jackson court-house, which were established under the same acts of Congress.

Should it be deemed proper to give an extra compensation to the receivers and registers for the extra services required, I would recommend that the compensation be a given sum, payable on the rendition of the services, and that a pro rata compensation be allowed in case of death only.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

GEO. GRAHAM.

Hon. JOHN GAILLARD,
Pres. pro tem. Senate U. S.

A.

ST. FRANCISVILLE, LOUISIANA, *Nov.* 5, 1822.

SIR: I informed you in my last of my acceptance of the appointment of "Register of the land office at St. Helena court-house," and of my having written to Mr. Skipwith my intention to call upon him as soon as the health of Baton Rouge would permit, for the delivery of the office. In the intermediate time, I deemed it my duty to repair to St. Helena court-house, and rent a house suitable for an office.

Having ascertained that the fever had greatly abated at Baton Rouge, I yesterday visited that place, where I found Mr. Skipwith, who manifested every disposition to aid me in getting possession of the register's office. From him I understood that, on receiving my letter, he wrote a note to Mr. Herault, late clerk, desiring him to call on the curator of the estate of the late Mr. Cosby, and receive the books and papers appertaining to the office, and hold them ready to deliver on my application. I further learned, that on Mr. Herault's application to the curator of Mr. Cosby's estate, he found that the books, &c., on Mr. Cosby's death, were taken possession of by the parish judge of the parish of East Baton Rouge, in whose possession all that remained were found by Mr. Herault.

Mr. Skipwith accompanied me to the house of Mr. Herault, where I found a mass of confusion which I am incompetent to describe. One of the registers, made out by James O. Cosby, first commissioner, has, as I understood from both Mr. Skipwith and Mr. Herault, been missing since 1814, and was in that year accidentally burnt. I found from twelve to eighteen bundles of papers, wrapped up in old newspapers, except the ends, which were exposed, without order or method; and the balance of the papers of the office carelessly thrown into two trunks, rumpled, twisted, and pressed down, as if of no value. The great mass of them appeared to be unfolded, and in such posture as to require very considerable time, care, and attention, to reduce to any thing like order.

From Mr. Herault I understood that no register has been kept of the certificates that have issued, nor is there an index to a single book in the office. This is a faint outline of the condition in which I found the register's office yesterday. More confusion could not be exhibited.

Finding that getting immediate possession, without committing myself, to be impracticable, and deeming it yet unsafe to remain in Baton Rouge, (a few new cases of fever still occurring,) I engaged Mr. Herault to make out an inventory of the books and papers, (which he thinks cannot be done in less than thirty or forty days, close labor,) and returned home to-day. I shall revisit Baton Rouge again on Monday next, and remain to superintend the making out the inventory, which, when completed, I will receipt in duplicate, and forward a copy to the General Land Office.

To reduce the office from chaos to order, I felt bound to employ Mr. Herault; as, in justice to the Government or myself, I could not receive it in the state in which I found it. To deliver the office in good order being the duty of my predecessor, and finding his estate to be insolvent, I knew nothing could be expected from his curator. I therefore employed Mr. Herault, and trust to the necessity of the case for your approbation of the step I have taken, and rely on the Government for remuneration. Please inform me if Mr. Herault will be allowed a reasonable compensation for these services. I have made myself personally responsible therefor, and the value of the services are to be judged of when the work is completed.

You will readily perceive that it would have been in vain for me to have sought for your instructions to my predecessor in the chaotic state in which I found the office; and, believing it more than probable that they are lost, I have to request you to forward me such instructions as you may deem necessary for my government, and particularly on the subject of surveying. How is the surveying to begin? Are we to have it done by United States' surveyors, or are we to select such surveyors as our judgments may direct? Are we to have the patented land surveyed first? Or are we to direct our attention solely to the surveying of unpatented lands? I presume that in all cases where the lands are patented, and the calls of the survey can be found, the survey must be governed by the calls; and where there are no calls to be found, the survey will be governed by course and distance. In all cases I apprehend the claimant is to pay surveying fees; and I am of opinion that the interest of the Government, as well as of claimants, will be promoted by having an immediate survey made of all the lands in the district.

I would be glad of your opinion, also, whether we can employ a clerk, and what compensation will be allowed him: as there is some difference of opinion how far we are governed by the law of the 3d of March, 1819, and as the last law is silent on the subject, I would also be glad to be informed if office books and stationery are to be provided at the expense of the Government, or by myself. Mr. Skipwith informed me yesterday that he has paid for two blank registers for my predecessor, about twenty dollars, for which he claims compensation. If the claim will be allowed on exhibiting the necessary vouchers, I will settle the claim with him on receiving the necessary instructions so to do. It affords me much pleasure to inform you that the receiver, like myself, feels the importance of going into the several parishes of the district to collect evidence; and the expectations of Government, founded on the information of Mr. Johnson, will not be disappointed.

I this morning met the receiver on his way to Baton Rouge, where he expected to meet Mr. Skipwith, and we can assure you that we will lose no time in discharging the trust confided to us.

As soon as I can get the register's office arranged, I will give you a detailed account of its deficiencies. That some exist I know, from having heard it proven in our courts that papers have been lost from the office.

It is due to Mr. Skipwith to say, that he has offered me every facility and information he is possessed of, of which I shall not fail to avail myself.

With very great respect, I am, sir, your obedient servant,

JAMES M. BRADFORD.

The COMMISSIONER
of the General Land Office.

B.

BATON ROUGE, LA., *November* 15, 1822.

SIR: I wrote you from St. Francisville a few days since, when I informed you of the posture in which I found the land office the day before, and of my intention to return here again on the eleventh, and aid in preparing the office for delivery. The weather was so tempestuous the 9th, 10th and 11th, that I did not reach here until the 12th. I was greatly in hopes that the fever would, ere that time, have entirely abated, and that I could have remained here in perfect safety to complete the arrangement of the office. During my stay the mortality, and number of new cases presenting themselves, admonishes me that I must again retreat, for a week or ten days, until the fever entirely disappears.

I can add nothing at present to the information I have before given. The papers are folded, and are numbering, and, unless the fever prevents my giving further attention, I have every reason to believe that I shall be able to get the office organized by the 20th proximo. I am encouraged to believe that the losses from the office are not as great as I apprehended. I hope to be enabled to make out a register of certificates granted, nearly complete. I have found the law of 1819, but, as yet, no instructions to my predecessor. The law of 1819 instructs what surveyors are to be employed, but, on the other points of inquiry of my former letter, I want instructions; and I want all the laws on the subject of our land claims, except that of 1819.

I feel convinced, from the knowledge I now possess, that a longer time will be required to complete the adjustment of land claims in this district than was contemplated by Congress, and that much that has been done will have to be done again. I regret that Congress is about to meet before I can give you a perfect view of the condition of the office and of the claims. I yet flatter

myself that I shall be able to accomplish this by the middle of January, to enable Congress to legislate farther on the subject, should it be necessary, before the adjournment in March. I cannot but feel the embarrassment the commissioners will labor under from the loss of the register which I mentioned in my last, nor can I now perceive any remedy but to call upon claimants to reproduce their claims, and such as are lost to have recorded anew.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES M. BRADFORD.

The COMMISSIONER *of the General Land Office.*

C.

BATON ROUGE, 14*th June*, 1823.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the acts passed at the last session of Congress, much injured by having been sometime wet in the mail, but yet sufficiently intelligible for the use of the office.

After several efforts, which did not prove successful owing to the ill health of the receiver, on the 6th instant we met at this place, and have commenced the ordering, the location, and surveying of lands; and I have now the honor of communicating the course we have pursued.

We require every application for a survey to be made by petition. The petitioner briefly sets forth that he has a certificate, and, if there is likely to be a confliction of boundary, or if there is a conditional line, it is set forth as well as the name of the conflicting party. We also require of the petitioner that he shall notify the adverse party of his application, and, if he does not appear on that notice, we cite him to appear before us on a particular day, when, if he does not appear, we will proceed *ex parte.* As yet no disposition to embarrass or evade has manifested itself, and, from any knowledge of the inhabitants, I anticipate compliance with our citations, and acquiescence generally in our decisions. When a party appears, we require an exhibition of surveys, when they have been made by competent authority, and order the land to be surveyed according to the plat and certificate exhibited. Where the claim is a settlement only, and a front can be found on a water course, we order the land to be surveyed with a front of sixteen acres, and a depth of forty acres; and where there is no front, and the interest of the Government or the spirit of the certificate does not require it otherwise, for the sake of uniformity, we shall survey the claim in a square, making the improvement the centre. In most cases, however, the surveys of settlement claims will be eccentric owing to interferences. Two orders made you will find enclosed, which will give you an idea of our mode of making orders.

Two sources of much embarrassment have presented themselves, and our course in relation to them I now communicate. The first is, the issuing certificates for persons, and inserting the wrong christian name. One of these cases we disposed of yesterday, and is one of the enclosed orders. The second is, that certificates for the same improvement are granted to different persons. One of these cases we disposed of this morning. This we felt no difficulty in doing from the honesty of the interested parties. That decision is also enclosed.

Notwithstanding the frankness and honesty of the population in general to favor us, you will perceive that our duties are great and arduous, and I shall esteem it no small alleviation of our labors if we give satisfaction to the Government, and the inhabitants on whose claims we are to decide.

Great are the complaints of neglect in my predecessor, many of which I trust are unfounded, whilst some I know to be too just. Above fifty claims, which were entered in time, some are complete and some are incomplete titles, and more on settlement claims, remain in the office not acted on. I shall make out an exhibit of every claim, which may fall under my knowledge, of this description, and forward them to you before the meeting of Congress.

We expect to close the collection of testimony in this parish in about three weeks, when we shall return to St. Helena.

Please inform me whether the course we have adopted meets your approbation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES M. BRADFORD.

COMMISSIONER *of the General Land Office.*

D.

LAND OFFICE ST. HELENA C. H.,
July 8th, 1823.

SIR: Since the letter addressed to you by the register, from Baton Rouge, in June, we have progressed steadily in ordering the surveying of claims, and in granting certificates. We continued in Baton Rouge until the 29th ultimo, during which time we granted forty-nine orders of survey and sixty-five certificates. In granting orders of survey we have been guided by the principles communicated by the register in the letter referred to, and, as we believe, by a strict regard to the law. As yet, we are happy in believing that all are satisfied. An abstract of the certificates granted are enclosed.

We find nothing in the office to enable us to judge of the number of certificates granted by our predecessors, nor are we well aware of the principles which guided them in the granting. In a conversation held with Mr. Skipwith by the register, Mr. Skipwith said that many certificates had been granted by himself and Mr. Cosby, which it was their intention to recal; but he could not furnish the names of individuals to whom these certificates had been granted; and, even if he could, we doubt very much if we possess any power to undo what has been done by our predecessors.

You were informed by the register, immediately after his appointment, of the wretched condition of the office; and the labor and embarrassment it has produced is indescribable.

We could find nothing to guide us—we were compelled to take the office out of chaos, and point out a course for our government. By the enclosed abstract, you will perceive that we commenced the numbering of certificates at 1, and have progressed numerically. You will also perceive that we have not classed the claims, and given each class its course of numbers, but have numbered them together. Of the course we have pursued we ask your approbation.

When we commenced granting certificates we had not in our possession the letter of the late register and receiver accompanying their several registers and reports of claims, and we have some apprehensions that we have erred in granting two certificates and orders of survey. We allude to No. 1 and No. 6 of register E. Our certificates are for the whole amount of both these claims. This register being before us, without the letter explanatory of it, we hesitated not to believe, from the records of the caption, that every claim therein contained was confirmed in extenso, and were, on comparing their letter with the several laws, and the "opinion in relation to titles dated subsequently to the 20th of December, 1803," as given by our predecessors; the conclusion is strong, (and, indeed, hardly questionable,) that they did intend to confirm these claims to the full amount. Understanding, however, from a gentleman in whose veracity we place entire confidence, that Mr. Cosby, a short time before his death, declared that such was not their intention, and having before us a letter of Mr. Skipwith addressed to a gentleman in Baton Rouge, bearing date August 3d, 1822, in which he says: "Candor, and my respect for your observations in relation to my own and my colleague's opinions, said to have been expressed to you with regard to large grants, induce me to add that, under the provisions of the law of eighteen hundred and nineteen, I never did conceive the grant of Mr. Herault, or any other grants of the same description, entitled to more than 1,280 acres, allowed by the law," we now believe that it was not intended to confirm more than 1,280 acres to each of these claims. Believing, as we do, that we have the power of correcting any error which we have committed, or may hereafter commit, we intend to have the surveying of the claims suspended until we hear your opinion on them, which we solicit as early as possible. Mr. Gras has been notified by the register that your opinion would be asked upon his claim, and, if you differed from us, it would not be finally confirmed beyond 1,280 acres.

Every day opens more strongly to our minds the errors which have crept into the office in entries made under the act of the 3d of March, 1819. Our predecessors received all settlement claims of a date anterior to the close of their office, and reported them indiscriminately; and, in their official letter of the date of the 18th of November, 1820, they remark: "We trust that no difficulty can grow out of this course, inasmuch as the person who applies for a certificate, under any future law which may be passed, will of course be required to show, by sufficient testimony, that he is entitled to it. To designate absolutely, at this time, every claim that was settled before the 15th of April, 1813, would be paving the way to the commission of many errors." The evil they intended to avoid has been produced. A claimant seeing his name on the list reported, draws the conclusion that his claim is confirmed, and, if we do not concur with him instantly, seeks testimony to establish the equity of his claim. The testimony adduced to us we are bound to believe, unless the witness labors under legal disability to testify, or is not in our estimation credible; in either

case we require additional evidence, competent and credible. Here we cannot fail to feel the force of the remark, that, "where the temptation is great, it is frequently dangerous to trust a man's own evidence;" but we cannot consent to reject "the evidence of his witnesses" under the apprehension that they are "instigated to perjury by the seductions of poverty." We receive such testimony as we would credit were it admissible in a court of justice. We shall guard as much as possible against imposition, and while we look to the interest of Government, we shall constantly bear in mind the liberal spirit in which the laws were enacted. We have evidence before us, to satisfy our minds that many claims were lodged with our predecessors of a character that ought to have been reported favorably of; but, owing to causes to us unknown, were neither reported or recorded, and others recorded and not reported. We are engaged, as these claims present themselves, in making a report of them, which report we will enclose you before the meeting of Congress.

A claim was entered before our predecessors in the name of Philemon Thomas, who was purchaser of John Kennard. The claim was entered by Kennard before James O. Cosby, and rejected because of the loss of the Spanish papers. These papers have since been found and exhibited to us, and we find them to be a plat and certificate of survey, with a complete Spanish patent, for 240 acres, granted in 1799. It is desired by Thomas (who has been many years the owner of the land,) to get a certificate in his own name. We are perfectly satisfied that the claim in the name of Thomas, an actual settler, is the claim he purchased of Kennard, and that his claim, from its age and character, is indisputable; yet we cannot grant the certificate desired of us under our construction of the law. Should you believe we can do so, we will be guided by your instructions.

A peculiar case has presented itself on which we desire your opinion. A settlement was made in the parish of East Baton Rouge as early as 1804, and was kept up until 1815. About the latter period a Spanish claim, approved by James O. Cosby, was surveyed, and it covered the improvement. As soon as the survey was made, the settler removed about one hundred yards on to public land. Is this settler entitled to a certificate? There cannot be a doubt but the settler believed he was on public land; he settled in good faith; the cultivation has been kept up, and his settlement was not included 50 yards in the Spanish survey. The Spanish lines were unknown until run out in 1815. As was stated to you by the register, in his letters from Baton Rouge, we have found it impossible to pay much regard to the surveying of the country into townships and sections, in the orders we have given for surveys of settlement claims. It frequently happens that a man's improvement is in four sections, and, in more than one instance, a section corners in a man's house. Where regard can be had to township or sectional lines, they are not neglected. In two instances we have been compelled to order the surveying of two claims together, and leave it to the discretion of the surveyor to run the dividing line between them. We have been constrained to this manner of giving these orders, from the impossibility of pointing out the course a line would run between the improvements of the two claimants.

Copies of these orders are enclosed for your examination. We find, among other reasons assigned by our predecessors for removing the office from this place to Baton Rouge, was the difficulty of getting on with their duties without the services of a translator of the French and Spanish languages, and the impossibility of procuring a person qualified for translator at this place. We also find a translator of these languages important, and indeed, we may add, indispensable to a correct discharge of our duties. We find our predecessors also writing to the Commissioner of the General Land Office in these words: "Without a clerk, agreeably to the forms and instructions which we had the honor to receive from you, no certificate can issue; his attestation being necessary." If they were correct in their construction of your instructions, a clerk is as indispensable now as he was then. Telling, as we have, the importance of a translator and clerk, and believing the law warrants the appointment, (although it is somewhat questionable whether any salary is now attached to the appointment,) and finding Mr. David Bradford qualified to discharge all the duties of translator and clerk, we gave him the appointment.

If Mr. Bradford is entitled to a salary we will feel gratified at his being authorized to draw for it; and if, under the law, he cannot claim a salary, we hope and rely confidently on the liberality of Congress to allow a suitable compensation for necessary services faithfully rendered.

We are, sir, with great respect, your obedient servants,

JAMES M. BRADFORD, *Register.*
WILLIAM KINCHEN, *Receiver.*

JOHN M'LEAN, Esq.

E.

LAND OFFICE, ST. HELENA COURT-HOUSE,
29th October, 1823.

SIR: We now have the honor of enclosing you an abstract of certificates issued by us since the last report. Before we received your letter of the 13th of August, we had issued our certificates without numbering those issued on each report or register separately. Immediately on the receipt of that letter, we considered it advisable to alter this mode, and adopt the one recommended to our predecessors. We therefore began at No. 1, of a new series, to each report or register. It has been our design to get in, as far as we are able, the certificates issued prior to this change in our order of numbering, and number them in their order of the respective registers.

We have progressed considerably in granting orders of survey. In the parish of Feliciana we have granted 22; in the parish of East Baton Rouge 46; in the parish of St. Helena 17; and in the parish of St. Tammany 5. The surveyors are at work, and we have well-founded hopes that the surveying will speedily progress.

In ordering the surveying of settlement claims, it has been our wish to give the claimant his quantity in a section, half section, or quarter section, as you pointed out; but where we are bound by the laws, usages, and customs of the Spanish Government, and by conditional lines established between claimants prior to the surveying executed by the United States, those wishes could not be realized, and we have been compelled to order the surveying in forms at times very eccentric. This, however, we consider unavoidable, the law being imperative.

We have used every diligence in our power to ascertain how many claims, which were entered before our predecessors, have been neglected to be reported. As yet we have not been enabled to arrive at any certainty, but are satisfied that there can be little short of 200, and, indeed, it may exceed that number. These claimants, in our opinion, require some relief, and we earnestly recommend that the subject may be laid before Congress, at an early day, for their consideration. Many of these neglected claims, we are persuaded, ought to be confirmed, and it would be unjust to deprive them of their claims on account of the neglect of the officers of the Government. How these neglects occurred, we cannot determine, but we are certain that they exist.

We have been requested by H. H. Gurley, esq., our Representative in Congress, to express our opinion to you of the propriety of granting pre-emption rights to all actual settlers prior to the passage of the act of 1822. It is not for us to suggest the date to which pre-emption claims should be allowed, but we are most clearly of opinion that the Government would sustain little injury in the sale of the lands in this district by granting such pre-emptions.

The law of 1819, granting pre-emption rights, has not been well understood by settlers. Not one of the many who were entitled to pre-emption rights has ever made a payment to the receiver as the law contemplates—not, as we believe, from unwillingness to comply with the law, but from ignorance of its meaning. Until very recently, few people knew that the receiver was authorized to receive payment for these claims, but the general impression was, that the receiver was a co-commissioner with the register, and that his duties were confined to the granting certificates and orders of survey for lands. We are under the belief that, if the time of making this payment were extended, it would induce many to secure their pre-emption claims which are now lost, and Government would not be injured thereby.

We have neglected hitherto to inform you that the list of settlement claims, forwarded for confirmation by James O. Cosby, is destroyed. This information was communicated to the present receiver by the late Charles S. Cosby. Several applications have been made to us for certificates by persons who allege that their claims were reported favorably of by Mr. James O. Cosby. These applications have been refused, because we had no evidence before us of the claims having been entered or approved. We submit to you whether it would not be proper that some provision should be made by law to enable those people to establish their respective claims.

In September last, Henry Johnson, esq. was at the office, and requested that we would send to your office

the original report of James O. Cosby, of claims founded on patents, and other written evidences of title, returned to this office by Mr. Meigs, esq., under order of the Secretary of the Treasury. Having a copy of this report, and considering that your office would be the safest as well as the most suitable place for that report, we forward it to you by the same mail in which we send this letter.

We herewith enclose you a plat of the survey of the claim of Henry Flower, lying in the parish of Feliciana, with the field notes of the surveyor. There is not, that we are apprised of, any interference with this claim by any person. During the existence of the Spanish Government here, three persons by the name of Kavenagh, the father and two sons, applied to that Government for the land. A thousand acres were ordered to be surveyed for each, by Governor Grandpré, and the land for the three was surveyed in one body. The father died, and his children inherited. The two brothers died in 1811 or 1812, and, to satisfy a judgment obtained against their curator, the sheriff seized this land, and sold it, and Mr. Flower, the present claimant, became the purchaser. You will perceive by the field notes of the surveyor, that there is a great part of this claim of little value, except for the timber, which, although much culled, is still valuable.

We also enclose you the survey of the claim of Francis Herault, together with his written argument offered us in support of his claim. There is not, that we are apprised of, any patent land that interferes with this claim. Some settlement claims would have run into it, if we had not supposed it to be a valid claim, and ordered the settlement claims to be located adjoining. To the manner of ordering these claims to be surveyed, the settlers appear to be well satisfied. We now consider there is no interference with this claim.

We also enclose you the survey made of the claim of Mr. Louis Gras. With this claim there are three others or more that interfere. The patent land which Thomas bought of Kennard, and which we, in a former letter, called to your attention, and also a settlement claim of Philemon Thomas, and another of William Thomas, are in this claim. It is highly probable you will receive a communication on the subject of this claim directly from Gen. Philemon Thomas.

The register having come to a determination to resign his appointment on the 22d of December next, we have thought proper to suggest it now, that the vacancy may be filled as early thereafter as may be.

The vouchers for office hire, stationery, &c. being at the residence of the register, the account will be forwarded by him to you in a few days.

We cannot close this letter, without suggesting to you the perilous condition of the office. Compelled under the law to keep it at this place, we have selected the safest house for it in the place, as we conceive. The building is of wood, and liable every hour to be destroyed by fire. The salary will not justify either of us in leaving our plantations, and making a residence here; nor can we employ a person to keep charge of the office. If we were allowed a clerk, we could require him to sleep in the office for its security. We suggest the propriety of provision being made by law for the safety of the office.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

JAMES M. BRADFORD, *Register.*
WILLIAM KINCHEN, *Receiver.*

The COMMISSIONER
of the General Land Office.

F.

Extract of a letter from Levin Wailes, Esq., surveyor general south of Tennessee.

"From the maps and other documents in this office, it appears that, on the certificates of the Commissioners for the land district west of Pearl river, in this State, granted on donation and pre-emption claims, it does not appear that the claimants were confined to section or township lines, or to any particular form for their tracts, but, on the contrary, that they had the privilege of having them surveyed in the form which suited them best, taking care to include their improvements, and avoid conflicting with claims of superior dignity, and include no greater quantity than that expressed in their certificates."

The undersigned have personal knowledge that the practice mentioned in the above extract did prevail in the district west of Pearl river.

THO. H. WILLIAMS.
H. JOHNSON.

Extract of a letter from James M. Bradford, dated St. Francisville, 5th January, 1824, to the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

SIR: On the 30th ultimo I forwarded to the Secretary of State, to be tendered to the President, my resignation of the appointment of Register of the land office at St. Helena court-house. I held the appointment longer than I wished, that Congress should assemble and increase the salary, if they deemed it advisable, before a new appointment took place, persuaded that no man qualified to discharge the duties can be found to accept the appointment for the present salary.

In parting from it, I feel at liberty to express my opinion freely of the most advantageous course the Government can pursue in relation to lands in this district.

All the business appertaining to the office can be concluded in two or three years at most, by a man of capacity and industry. For that period, Government, to insure capacity and industry, should give a liberal salary. At St. Helena court-house, a man can pursue nothing to make a living, and must consequently depend entirely on the salary. However humble a man's talents may be, if he can discharge the mechanical part of the duty of register, and is trust-worthy, he can make more than $500 in any of the parishes on the Mississippi in one year. To do justice, the Register must be able to read French and Spanish, or there must be a translator allowed, as more than one-half the claims will require a slight knowledge of these languages to investigate. My own opinion is, that it would be economy in the Government to limit the business of the office to three years, give the register a salary of $1,500 or $2,000, and give the appointment to no man who cannot read and translate the French and Spanish languages. This will supersede the necessity of a translator.

Justice to the inhabitants, in my opinion, requires that the office should again be opened for the entry and proof of neglected claims. There are about 200 claims of this description, and, as the fault has not been in the people, it will be a great hardship if their claims are rejected. I would suggest, if the office is opened again, that the register and receiver should give thirty days' notice of the day on which the office will open, and a like notice of the day on which it will close, by advertisement inserted in one newspaper published in the city of New Orleans, and every newspaper published in the district. If then any claimant does not investigate his claim, the fault will be his.

18th CONGRESS. **No. 386.** 1st SESSION.

CORRECTION OF AN ERROR COMMITTED AT A LAND OFFICE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DECEMBER 23, 1823.

Mr. CAMPBELL, of Ohio, made the following report:

The Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom were referred the petition and documents of William Kendall, have had the same under consideration, and report:

The petitioner states that, in the year 1807, John Brown entered with the register of the land office in Chillicothe the northeast quarter of section 14, township 4, range 19, and paid, agreeably to law, one-fourth of the purchase money in hand; that, in the spring of 1813, the five years having expired, without any other payments having been made, the land was advertised and sold by the register to the petitioner for three hundred and twenty dollars, and was, a short time afterwards, patented to him; that, about two years subsequently, he discovered that the quarter section which he supposed he had purchased, was actually the northeast quarter of section 23, township 4, range 19; that the land covered by his patent is worth but little, as there are only about ten acres of it fit for cultivation: wherefore he asks relief.

Uriah Barber swears that, on the 12th of November,

1807, he entered with the register of the land office at Chillicothe the northeast quarter of section 13, township 4, range 19; that, on the day following, John Brown entered the northeast quarter of section 14, township 4, range 19, which was afterwards patented to W. Kendall; that, in 1814 or 15, it was discovered that a mistake had been made in entering these lands, owing to the corner having been erroneously marked by the surveyor; that, having detected the error before the emanation of a patent, he had his money applied to the payment of other land.

John Brown swears that, on the 13th November, 1807, he entered the northeast quarter of section 14, township 4, range 19, and paid one-fourth of the purchase money; that, five years having expired without his having made any other payment, the land was sold to William Kendall for about $320; that, sometime afterwards, it was ascertained he had actually entered the northeast quarter of section 23, township 4, range 19, which quarter is of little or no value.

Robert Lucas swears that, sometime in the year 1807, he was in the woods with John Brown, and assisted him in examining the corner trees of a section of land on Hale's creek, in Scioto county, and that, from the number marked on the corner tree, John Brown, to secure the land he desired, entered the northeast quarter of section 14, township 4, range 19, in the Chillicothe district, and caused considerable improvements to be made on the land which he supposed he had entered; that the said Brown having failed to make payment, the land was sold to W. Kendall; that, when it was rumored an error had been committed in the entry, the affiant went with W. Kendall, and, with his compass, ran several of the lines from the corner tree already mentioned, and found the quarter intended to be entered was the northeast quarter of section 23, in township 4, range 19, and that the land covered by the patent is mountainous, and worth but little or nothing.

It has been ascertained at the General Land Office that John Brown, on the 13th of November, 1807, entered the northeast quarter of section 14, township 4, range 19, and that, on account of non-payment, it was resold to William Kendall the 12th of April, 1813, and patented to him on the 26th of November, the same year.

The act now in force extends to cases of erroneous entries detected prior to the emanation of a patent. The committee think an extension of similar relief to a patentee, situated as the petitioner is, comports with justice. They therefore report a bill.

18th Congress. **No. 387.** 1st Session.

APPLICATIONS FOR INDEMNITY FOR LOSSES SUSTAINED BY ERRORS IN SURVEYS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 7, 1824.

Mr. Rankin, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petitions of George Salady and Elisha Wade, made the following report:

The petitioners state that they purchased each a tract of land from the United States within the State of Ohio, and for which they severally paid to the Government the whole amount of the purchase money, according to the quantity estimated by the public surveys to be contained in the several tracts by them purchased. On a re-survey of the tract purchased by George Salady, it was found to contain, instead of the quantity of four hundred and thirty-four acres and one-tenth, and for which he had paid, only three hundred and seventy acres and ninety-six-hundredths, leaving a deficiency of about sixty-four acres. The tract purchased by Elisha Wade for five hundred and sixteen acres and seventeen-hundredths, and for which he paid, he alleges contains, as appears from a re-survey, only four hundred and fifty-two acres and nineteen-hundredths, leaving a deficiency of about sixty-four acres in the quantity paid for by him. The petition of Salady is accompanied by the certificate of one William Kendall, a surveyor of Scioto county, in the State of Ohio, and other testimony, fully establishing all the material allegations of the petition. The petition of Elisha Wade has no evidence in its support. In the view, however, which the committee have taken of the subject-matter submitted to them by these petitions, an examination into the nature or weight of the evidence has not been deemed at all necessary; on the contrary, they believe if every fact stated in the petitions were supported by the most unquestionable evidence, it would be inexpedient and improper to grant the relief prayed for, or any other relief to the petitioners. It is sometimes to be regretted that a rigid adherence to general rules and principles forbids an interposition in favor of individuals who have some equity, and apparently some justice in their claims. No subject in relation to the public lands ought to be approached with more caution, and would have a more dangerous tendency, than the admission that the Government is bound to guaranty, in all cases, the accuracy of the public surveys, and to refund the money paid where any deficiency occurred. The train of evils, frauds, and perjuries, which must ensue such an admission, are incalculable in their extent. If, in the operation of the general rule, that forbids any inquiry, either on the part of the Government or of individuals, for the purpose of demanding payment for the excess of quantity, or a restitution for the deficiency, cases of individual hardship exists, they may be regretted, but no remedy can with safety be applied. Independently of any general reasoning on this subject, Congress, apparently anticipating the difficulties which might arise from the inaccuracy of the surveys, and to prepare individuals, where they thought proper to do so, to guard against errors, or meet the consequences of that negligence, passed the law of the 11th of February, 1805, which, in the opinion of your committee, exonerates the Government from all responsibility for such errors. Your committee find that this subject has been acted on by the Committee on the Public Lands, and a report thereon made on the 19th February, 1822, on the petition of the inhabitants of the eastern section of range No. 15 and township No. 2, in the Canton district, in the State of Ohio. With the conclusion of the committee in that case, founded on the act of the 11th of February, 1805, and the general impolicy of any interference on the part of the Government in such cases, this committee unhesitatingly concur. They therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioners be not granted.

18th Congress. **No. 388.** 1st Session.

APPLICATION FOR INDEMNITY FOR LOSSES OCCASIONED BY WATER COURSES.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 7, 1824.

Mr. Rankin, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of John Stealy, made the following report:

The petitioner claims by a conveyance from Francis Vigo, who had acquired his right from the original claimants, being six in number, two thousand four hundred acres of land in the State of Indiana. The right to these lands was derived from a resolution of Congress of the 29th of August, 1788, reserving four hundred acres of land to "every French or Canadian inhabitant, or other settler," being "the head of a family," and "who, on or before the year 1783, had settled at Post St. Vincents, and who had professed themselves citizens of the United States, or any of them." The governor of the Western Territory was, by that resolution, directed to cause to be laid off, in a square form, adjacent to the improvements at Post St. Vincents, and in whatever direction

the settlers should prefer, a tract of land sufficient for completing those donations; which square, when so laid off, was to be divided among the claimants entitled to the same, by lot, in the manner they might agree. An act of Congress of the 3d March, 1791, repealed so much of the resolution of August, 1798, as directed the location to be made *by the claimants*, and required it to be made by the governor of the Northwestern Territory. In conformity with these provisions, the governor caused a square to be laid off, and divided into one hundred and sixty tracts of four hundred acres each, that being the number of the claimants, and a distribution was made among the donees according to law. At what time the survey was made, and the distribution took place, does not appear by any evidence before the committee, but it must, of necessity, have preceded, in order of time, the purchase by Stealy from Vigo, which took place on the 12th of May, 1800, as must be inferred from the minute and accurate description in the conveyance to him of the numbers of the several tracts purchased. The provisions of the law required, and it is presumed they were strictly carried into effect, that the location of the whole square, the subdivision thereof into tracts of four hundred acres each, and the distribution by lot among the claimants, should severally succeed each other in their performance. In this distribution, it so happened that the exterior lines of the square thus located crossed White river, a navigable stream. This stream, the petitioner alleges, by passing through four of his tracts, numbered 160, 133, 134, and 158, has deprived him of two hundred and sixty-nine acres and eighty-hundredths of land, for which loss he prays Congress to indemnify him, by permitting him to locate a like quantity of public lands elsewhere.

As no complaint appears at any time to have been made by the donee of the United States, or the vendor of the petitioner, of the injustice done them by the Government, and as the petitioner either had an opportunity of knowing the nature and situation of the tracts purchased by an ordinary share of prudence and diligence, your committee do not believe that his claim to indemnity for what he deems a loss, at all well founded. An examination of the surveys, or of the lands purchased, would have secured him against imposition had it been attempted; but even that is not alleged in his petition for relief. The donees accepted those tracts unconditionally from the Government, and the petitioner, by purchase, acquired their rights, and was necessarily bound by their acts. The act of 1804, of the operation of which he complains, and which declares the navigable streams, &c., highways, doubtless had its origin in the ordinance of 1787, and pursues, in substance, its language. This ordinance was a public act, which every one was presumed to know, was a compact between the people of the Northwestern Territory and the people of the United States, and could only be changed by the common consent of the parties interested. *Congress* could not defeat any of its provisions, much less could the governor of the Northwestern Territory be presumed to have vested, or even to have attempted to vest, by the location, the right of obstructing this navigable stream in individuals. We must also presume that the petitioner knew this public law, the nature and situation of his land, and the extent of the rights acquired by his purchase. He therefore consented to receive those lands subject to this loss, if it be one to have them situated on both sides of a navigable river. The tenure of every species of property would be insecure, and crime would go unpunished, if we were to permit the alleged ignorance of law and of facts, which might and ought to have been known, to form, in all cases, an excuse for the party interested. No misrepresentations as to the nature of those tracts could have been made to him by the Government, and none are stated to have been made by his vendor.

Had the petitioner presented a case of great loss and hardship, his appeal might have been more forcible, if not to the justice, at least to the liberality of Congress. These tracts, notwithstanding this supposed loss, are, from locality, presumed to be more valuable than many which were drawn by lot in a square containing one hundred and sixty tracts of four hundred acres each. If we relieve the man who has the misfortune to have a navigable stream passing through his land, we could hardly refuse to extend relief to all those, a portion of whose land may be covered with lakes, swamps, or ponds. The mere letter of the law promised *land*, and if we are to execute our promise, under all circumstances, according to the letter, in favor of the petitioner, equal justice requires a general provision. That the petitioner has not sustained great injury, may also be inferred from the nature of his application, which does not propose to relinquish those tracts and have permission to locate elsewhere, but only prays that he be permitted to locate elsewhere the quantity of acres covered by the river.

Whether the purchase was made by the petitioner for the purpose of speculation or for residence, can only be inferred from the quantity purchased. In whatever situation he may, in that respect, stand, he is entitled to justice; but Government, while it extends favor to the man in search of a home for his family, should always administer sheer justice to the speculator, and with a firm and steady hand.

Your committee, on a full examination of this case, recommend to the House the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioner be not granted.

18th Congress. **No. 389.** 1st Session.

APPLICATION FOR THE CONFIRMATION OF INDIAN GRANT.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 9, 1824.

Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom were referred the petition and documents of Henry R. Teller, have had the same under consideration, and report:

The petitioner states that, in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty, the chiefs and principal leaders of the Ochipue nation of Indians did, with the consent of their tribe, by a deed of gift, convey to Garret Teller a tract of land one hundred and fifty acres in front and fifty in depth, situated on the south side of the strait connecting Lakes Huron and St. Clair; that the said grantee died in possession of the same, without having applied to the British Government for a patent; that, in the year 1801, he purchased of the only heir of the said Teller the said tract of land, for a valuable consideration; that, as he is desirous of settling on it, he asks that his title thereto may be confirmed to him.

The committee think it unnecessary to recite the evidences of title derived by the petitioner from sundry Indians called chiefs of the Ochipues. Admit the land claimed by the petitioner to have been situated within the jurisdiction of the British Government in 1780, the proclamation of 1763 forbade the purchase of lands from the Indians by private persons; hence Garret Teller's title must have been invalid. Besides, it has not been the policy of this Government to sanction such purchases. In support of this opinion, the committee will refer to the case of Johnson *vs.* McIntosh, reported in 8 Wheaton: wherefore, they recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioner be not granted.

18th Congress. No. 390. 1st Session.

LANDS IN LOUISIANA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 12, 1824.

Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred, on the 9th of December last, sundry resolutions in relation to lands in the State of Louisiana, reported:

Your committee, as they have been instructed by the first of those resolutions, inquired into the expediency of extending the time limited for entering, with the registers of the several districts in Louisiana, pre-emption rights to what are usually called back concessions, and of extending the existing provisions to other places than those mentioned in former laws on that subject. For the proper understanding of the nature of those back or double concessions, it is necessary to refer to the usages of the Spanish Government, and the reasons for making those concessions. The Spanish dominions in America were divided into provinces, under the direction of an intendant, and military posts or districts, under the direction of a commandant of the district. All applications for permission to settle in the Spanish dominions were made to the commandant, and all grants to land were made by petition in writing to the intendant, through the commandant of the district. When the conditions of settlement and cultivation were certified by the commandant to the intendant to have been complied with, and the surveys had been regularly certified and returned, a grant was obtained by the petitioner for the tract petitioned for, which, as it conceded the thing for which the petitioner had prayed, was often termed a concession. This grant was issued by the intendant of the province in the name of the King. In different sections of the province, different modes of surveying the public lands were adopted, suited to the nature of the country. On the rivers and bayous in Louisiana, from eight to twelve arpens in front, and sometimes more, were allowed to a concession, with forty in depth, which was called a single concession. A usage appears to have existed under the Spanish and French Governments, of granting, on the application of the proprietor of the land fronting upon a river or bayou, what was called a double concession, or forty arpens in depth in the rear of the original concession, and of the same width with the part fronting on the river, making in depth eighty arpens. Such grants were founded on certain conditions prescribed to, and to be performed by, the settler. The reasons for making such concessions, which, if generally extended, were in violation of the policy of the Spanish Government, and well calculated to prevent a compact settlement of the country, were founded on the nature of the places where made, and generally confined to such places. In almost all the country now constituting the State of Louisiana, the lands on the margin of the rivers and bayous are higher than at a distance from them, and soon descend into marshes or cypress swamps. The alluvial lands immediately on the banks of those rivers and bayous are fit for habitation aud cultivation, and the swamp lands, being wholly unfit for either, are well calculated to supply the front proprietors with timber. Thus, lands which were of no value to those who could neither inhabit or cultivate them, were of considerable value to those who owned the lands fronting on the rivers and bayous. The Government of the United States, having regard to the usage of the Spanish Government, passed the provision contained in the 5th section of the act of March 3, 1811, giving the right of preference in becoming the purchaser of forty arpens in the rear of grants recognized by the laws of the United States, when situated on any river, creek, bayou, or water course. Three years were given to file applications under the provisions of said act. This section was again revived, and continued in force for two years by the act of the 11th of May, 1820, and again for eighteen months by the act of the 28th of February, 1823, which limitation will not have expired until the 28th of February next. After such a time having been afforded for filing those claims, your committee know no good reason for its continuance beyond the period to which it is limited; nor can they discover any propriety in extending its provisions to a class of cases not embraced by former acts of Congress, which they believe were founded on, and are in accordance with, the Spanish usage.

The second resolution instructs your committee to inquire into the expediency of causing patents to issue for lands to persons within the State of Louisiana whose titles and claims to lands have been confirmed by the several boards of commissioners acting under the authority of the United States. By referring to the act of Congress of the 8th of April, 1814, it will be found that it is made the duty of the registers of the several land districts in Louisiana to furnish the principal deputy surveyor of that district with lists of the confirmed private claims, and it is also made the duty of such principal deputy, under the direction of the surveyor south of Tennessee, to survey those claims at the expense of the United States, which surveys are required to be returned to the several registers, whose duty it is to forward them to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, with the certificates of confirmation, whose duty it is made to make out the patents, and forward them to the registers for the use of the claimants. From this statement, it will appear that, if any unaccountable or unreasonable delay has occurred in issuing the patents to land in Louisiana, it cannot be attributed to any want of legislation on the part of Congress. Nor are the committee in the least disposed to fix censure upon any one; but, in the absence of all other evidence, except the mere want of performance of the duties required by law, feel themselves bound to presume that the delay in issuing patents has proceeded from the unsettled state of private claims to land in Louisiana, or from causes not heretofore evitable. This, they feel the more inclined to do, as they find a confirmation of private claims, on an examination made but a short time previously to such confirmation, at the last session of Congress. At all events, your committee are unwilling, unless the most conclusive evidence were presented to them of wilful negligence or omission of duty on the part of the President and officers of the Government, to add *commands* to what has already been prescribed as *duties* by former acts of legislation.

By the third resolution your committee are required to inquire into the expediency of offering for sale, as speedily as possible, the public lands in the districts south and north of Red river. The increase and diminution in the demand for public lands, must always depend on the fluctuations in the state of the market for produce; the flourishing condition or destruction of crops; with the thousand causes which impel the tide of emigration to particular points. All these require that a discretion should be vested somewhere as to the quantity of public lands which may, at any time, be exposed to sale, and the time when such sales are expedient. From the first sales of the pulic lands until the present time, that discretion has been vested in the President of the United States, and, as your committee believe, very properly. Your committee cannot therefore, consistently with their opinion of propriety, request Congress to take away that discretion from the President and place it in Congress, necessarily bound to act by general rules without regard to occurrences and emergencies, the effect of causes which essentially change the existing state of things in a few months, weeks, or even days.

The fourth resolution requires your committee to inquire into the expediency of creating a separate surveyor general's district for the State of Louisiana. Your committee do not believe that any peculiar necessity exists for the establishment of such a district in Louisiana, which is not equally felt in the several States and Territories of the United States where the public lands are, and, in relation to which, no such provision has been made. By a general resolution, the whole subject has been referred to your committee, and will, in due time, be acted and reported on to the House.

By the fifth resolution, your committee are instructed to inquire into the expediency of reducing the price of the public lands in the prairies of Louisiana, at a certain distance from wood and timber. On this subject, your committee must remark that, from the time the first pub-

lic lands were offered for sale by the United States until the present period, the minimum price has been everywhere the same. With this uniformity in price, your committee are not disposed to recommend an interference. Reasons of a different kind, but no less cogent, have been urged for the reduction of the price of public lands in other places than Louisiana. Whenever the period arrives when Congress shall think proper to class the lands according to their relative value, or to reduce the price of the refuse lands, it is presumed that some general provision will be made, embracing the subject of this resolution. In the mean time, we are not disposed to recommend any partial reduction which might give just cause for dissatisfaction to the people where such privileges were not extended.

Your committee, on an examination of the several subjects submitted by the resolutions, request the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Public Lands be discharged from the further consideration of the several resolutions submitted to them in relation to lands in Louisiana, on the 9th of December last.

18th Congress. **No. 391.** 1st Session.

FURTHER RELIEF TO PURCHASERS OF PUBLIC LANDS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 12, 1824.

Mr. Rankin, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred a resolution of this House of the 18th of December last, instructing them to inquire into the expediency of reviving and continuing in force the provisions of the act of Congress, entitled an act for the relief of the purchasers of public lands prior to the 1st July, 1820, reported:

By the act of the 2d of March, 1821, purchasers were allowed until the 30th of September following to avail themselves of the law referred to in the resolution. From some delay in transmitting the necessary instructions to the several land offices, the limited time which was given to file the applications for the benefit of that law, and the remote situation of some of the claimants from the land offices where such applications were required to be filed, Congress, believing a revival of the act of 1821 expedient, passed the supplementary act of the 20th of April, 1822. That law gave all those who had not availed themselves of the provisions of the original act an opportunity to do so at any time prior to the 30th of September, 1822. Notwithstanding this extension of time, it was discovered, from numerous petitions presented to Congress at their last session, that a large class of cases existed, and which were necessary to be provided for, where individuals intended to have availed themselves of the benefits of those acts, but, from accident or misfortune, had been prevented from filing their applications in due time. For these cases provision was made by the act of Congress of the 3d of April, 1823. Your committee believe that these laws have afforded a sufficient opportunity to all who were attentive to their own interests to have obtained the relief provided by them; and they have no information which would, in their opinion, justify recommending to Congress the expediency or propriety of reviving and continuing in force the provisions of the act referred to in the resolution. We therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That it is inexpedient, at this time, to revive and continue in force the provisions of the act of Congress, entitled "An act for the relief of the purchasers of the public lands prior to the 1st of July, 1820."

18th Congress. **No. 392.** 1st Session.

PRE-EMPTION RIGHTS IN JACKSON AND DECATUR COUNTIES, ALABAMA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 12, 1824.

Mr. Rankin, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred so much of the memorial of the Legislature of Alabama as prays that a right of pre-emption be granted to certain inhabitants of the counties of Jackson and Decatur, in said State, reported:

Your committee believe, whatever reasons of necessity, propriety, or expediency, might have operated heretofore in inducing Congress to grant rights of pre-emption to settlers on the public lands, that they have long since ceased to have any operation in relation to the public lands in Alabama. We therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the memorial of the Legislature of Alabama, in behalf of the inhabitants of Jackson and Decatur counties, in said State, be not granted.

18th Congress. **No. 393.** 1st Session.

SALE OF LANDS IN FORTY ACRE LOTS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 12, 1824.

Mr. Rankin, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the memorial of the Legislature of Alabama, praying Congress to authorize the sale of the public lands in tracts of forty acres, or sixteenth parts of a section, reported:

The existing laws require the public lands to be sold in tracts of eighty acres, or one-eighth part of a section, and requires quarter sections to be divided by lines running north and south. We believe few persons will be found whose circumstances are so limited as to preclude them from the purchase, at the minimum price, of so small a quantity as that now offered at the public, and afterwards at private sale. Every subdivision of this kind diminishes the inducement to purchase tracts of lands the aggregate value of which would induce the purchaser to take a portion of poor land with that which is good, and would greatly increase the quantity of refuse lands, of which the Government may never be able to make any disposition. Should the Government hereafter think proper to class the public lands, and dispose of them at prices proportioned to their quality, or generally to reduce the price of the refuse lands, these tracts, if kept entire, may, in that event, be disposed of; but if divided in the manner proposed, a quantity must be left which never can be sold at any price. These small divisions might also be used to encompass the public lands in the centre of a section, so as to render them of no value to any one except the proprietor of the exterior part Your committee therefore recommend the adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That it is not now expedient to divide the public lands in the manner prayed for in the memorial of the Legislature of Alabama.

18th Congress. **No. 394.** 1st Session.

APPLICATION OF THE MEMBERS OF A RELIGIOUS SOCIETY IN ALABAMA FOR THE RIGHT OF PRE-EMPTION.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 14, 1824.

Mr. Scott, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition "of the members of the Baptist church in Lawrence county, in the State of Alabama," reported:

That the petitioners ask for the right of pre-emption to twenty acres of the public lands, at the minium price of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, to be taken from a relinquished quarter section, without respect to form, &c.

The committee are inclined to believe that the right of pre-emption has already been extended far enough when limited to some legal division or subdivision of the public lands, nor are they willing to set the example of giving this privilege to any individual or body of men for such a small quantity as must necessarily, in the selection, leave the residue of the section or quarter section from which taken, so much the less valuable. The site prayed for would, in all probability, take the only well-watered building spot in the quarter section, and leave the balance, as a refuse fraction, forever unsaleable. Nor have the committee been able to find any case analogous in its character or parallel in its principle, and they are not willing to establish a precedent that would authorize any religious society or congregation in the United States to apply for similar privileges or favors. The committee therefore recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition and documents.

18th Congress. **No. 395.** 1st Session.

TRANSFERS OF CLAIMS TO MILITARY BOUNTY LAND.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 20, 1824.

Mr. Vinton, from the Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of John P. Thompson, reported:

That, from the petition and evidence offered in support of the same, it appears that, some time in the year A. D. 1819, the petitioner purchased and obtained an assignment of the claim to military bounty land of John Rodges, Stephen Jackson, and Shubal Robinson, late soldiers of the army of the United States, who were discharged in the months of May and June of that year, after having served out the full period of enlistment, each of whom, as appears by their respective discharges, were substitutes for other soldiers, who had served a part of the period of enlistment previous to substitution by the above named assignors. The petition further states that, in addition to the supposed claim of Rodges as a substitute, he also purchased of him his claim in his own right to military bounty land for a term of service performed by said Rodges anterior to his thus enlisting as a substitute as above stated. In this case it is averred that the discharge has been lost; and in the place of it is substituted the affidavit of Rodges of the existence of the discharge, and the transfer of his claim to bounty land to the petitioner. It further appears that, at the time of these assignments, no patent had been issued for any of the tracts of land intended to be transferred. Upon the foregoing facts the petitioner founds his claim for relief. Your committee, without stopping to inquire whether a soldier who served out in part or in whole, as a substitute, the term of another's enlistment, is entitled to military bounty land, find the legislation of the country has interposed an insuperable difficulty to the relief asked for, by prohibiting the assignment, in any manner whatever, of a claim to military bounty land, until after a patent shall have been granted, and declaring every such assignment to be null and void. The salutary operation of this law in preventing fraud and speculation upon a class of the community peculiarly liable to become their victim, can scarcely admit of doubt. And though individuals (of whom, possibly, the petitioner is one) may have purchased fairly, without a knowledge of their legal inability to enter into such contract, yet an attempt so far to modify the law as to discriminate between the *fair and unfair* purchaser, would, from its impracticability, in the opinion of your committee, defeat the object and policy of the law by opening a door for the introduction of all the evils it was intended to prevent. The committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition, with the accompanying documents.

18th Congress. **No. 396.** 1st Session.

CLAIM TO MILITARY BOUNTY LAND.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 21, 1824.

Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, made the following report:

The Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom were referred the petition and documents of Robert S. Foreman, have considered the same, and report:

The petitioner states he enlisted under Captain Young, of the 15th regiment of United States' infantry, on the first day of May, 1812, for eighteen months. That, although his term of service ought to have expired on the first of November, 1813, yet, that, owing to a mistake in his transfer from the 15th to the 13th regiment, he was designated as a soldier for five years, and was not discharged until the 24th of August, 1815. That, after the day on which he ought to have been discharged, he was in the battles of Williamsburg, La Cole, and Plattsburgh. Wherefore, he asks for such bounty in land as was allowed to soldiers who enlisted for five years.

The petitioner exhibits his discharge, which is an "honorable" one, dated the 24th of August, 1815, and signed by S. Churchill, adj. general.

Walter Sheldon, who acted as a district paymaster, certifies, on the discharge, that the petitioner had been paid until the 24th of August, 1815.

From the discharge, it appears the petitioner enlisted for eighteen months only, and that he served three years and three months, lacking seven days.

As the committee think the petitioner entitled to relief, a bill is herewith reported in his favor.

18th Congress. **No. 397.** 1st Session.

CLAIM TO LAND IN THE CITY OF MOBILE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 21, 1824.

Mr. Moore, of Alabama, made the following report:

The Committee on Private Land Claims, to which was referred the memorial of Thomas F. Townsley, in behalf of the heirs of the late Don Miguel Eslava, praying the confirmation of the claims of said heirs to sundry tracts and lots of land in the city and county of Mobile, conceded to the said Miguel Eslava by the Spanish authorities of Louisiana, report:

That they have had the said claims under consideration, and find them to consist of,

1. A concession made by Joaquin de Osorno, commandant and sub-delegate of the intendancy of Louisiana at Mobile, to Miguel Eslava, dated 25th February, 1803, of a tract of land containing 5,000 arpens, situate on Dog river, about a league from Mobile. This concession expresses to be in consideration of the public services of the grantee. The evidence shows that the land has been occupied and cultivated from about the year 1803.

2. A concession of a lot in the town of Mobile, made by the same commandant to Thomas Price, dated 25th February, 1803. Conveyed to Miguel Eslava 3d March, 1803.

3. A concession of a lot in the town of Mobile, made by Cayetano Perez to Miguel Eslava, dated 5th April, 1803, to be improved at the convenience of the grantee, or when circumstances permit.

4. A concession of a tract of land south of the town of Mobile, containing 460 feet by 30 arpens, made by the same commandant to Miguel Eslava, dated 23d June, 1802, to be improved at the convenience of the grantee, or when circumstances permit.

5. A concession of a tract of land containing 648 feet front on Mobile river, by 26 arpens in depth, made by the same commandant to Miguel Eslava, dated 23d December, 1802, in consideration of the public services of the grantee.

6. A concession of a tract of land containing 230 feet front on Mobile river, by 3,200 feet in depth, made by the same commandant to Miguel Eslava, dated the 14th April, 1803. Proved to have been built upon and occupied about the year 1803.

7. A purchase of a lot of ground below Mobile by Miguel Eslava at the judicial sale of the estate of J. B. de Lusser, on the 30th December, 1788; which lot has been occupied by Miguel Eslava upwards of thirty years immediately preceding his death, as his place of residence.

8. A concession of a lot in the town of Mobile, made by Cayetano Perez, commandant, &c., to Miguel Eslava, dated 21st December, 1802, to be improved at the convenience of the grantee, or when circumstances permit.

The testimony adduced before the committee shows that several of the abovementioned claims have been actually improved by the grantee, and that they are all in the occupancy of his heirs, the present claimants, and that there is no rival or conflicting claim to any of them. The accompanying documents also prove that the grantee was, from the year 1782 to 1813, the date of the change of government at Mobile, an officer employed in various responsible situations under the Spanish crown, to wit, the offices of store-keeper and commissary general, collector of the customs and treasurer of the royal finances; and, in addition to the services rendered and the legal merits of his claims, that, in consequence of his determination to remain under the American Government, he suffered heavy pecuniary losses, as is likewise shown by documents presented to the committee.

The committee are therefore of opinion that the claims of the heirs of Miguel Eslava for the several tracts and lots of land above mentioned, are such as in justice ought to be confirmed by the United States; and they have accordingly reported a bill providing for their confirmation.

18th Congress. **No. 398.** 1st Session.

BALANCES DUE FROM PURCHASERS OF PUBLIC LANDS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 23, 1824.

Treasury Department, *23d January*, 1824.

In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 30th of December, 1823, the Secretary of the Treasury has the honor to transmit, herewith, a statement, exhibiting, as far as returns have been received at the Treasury, the amount of money remaining to be paid by the purchasers of public lands prior to the first day of July, 1820; and designating the amount due for lands purchased in each State; accompanied by an explanatory letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

Treasury Department,
General Land Office, 22d January, 1824.

Sir: In pursuance of a resolution of the House of Representatives of the United States, passed on the 30th of December, 1823, requiring "a statement, showing the amount of money remaining to be paid by the purchasers of public lands prior to the first day of July, 1820, designating the amount due for lands purchased in each State," I have the honor, herewith, to transmit a statement exhibiting the balances due by individuals on account of public lands up to the end of the quarter immediately preceding that in which the relief law of 1821 took effect; also, the balances due on the 30th of September, 1821, after the liquidation, by relinquishment of land and transfer of payments; and also the balances due on the 30th of September, 1822, after the further liquidation of those balances, by cash, at the discount of thirty-seven and a half per cent., under the fourth section of the act of the 2d March, 1821, aforesaid; and the further liquidation, under the provisions of the act of the 20th April, 1822, supplementary to the act of the 2d March, 1821.

It is deemed proper to observe, that, as all the necessary official returns have not yet been received from the receivers of public money at Edwardsville, St. Louis, Cahawba, Huntsville, and St. Stephens, up to the 30th of September, 1822, it is possible that, on the final adjustment of the accounts from these offices, there will hereafter be discovered a variance from the balances stated.

With great respect, your obedient servant,
GEO. GRAHAM.

Hon. Wm. H. Crawford,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Statement exhibiting the balances due by purchasers of public lands prior to the 1st of July, 1820, on the 31st of December, 1820, and on the 30th of September, of the years 1821 and 1822.

OFFICES.	December 31, 1820.	September 30, 1821.	September 30, 1822.
Marietta - - - - -	$90,777 47	$59,426 70	$43,641 50
Zanesville - - - -	370,892 44	270,591 81	192,196 73
Steubenville - - - -	257,810 62	175,038 77	131,350 39
Chillicothe - - - -	314,825 94	197,716 63	152,050 16
Cincinnati - - - -	994,844 19	685,834 07	526,818 00
Wooster - - - -	497,857 77	290,515 64	214,814 09
Total in Ohio - -	2,527,008 43	1,679,123 62	1,260,870 87
Jeffersonville - - - -	909,752 45	633,429 47	542,547 78¾
Vincennes - - - -	1,304,416 18	810,290 76	670,267 50
Total in Indiana -	2,214,168 63	1,443,720 23	1,212,815 28¾
Kaskaskia - - - -	490,163 36	234,991 56½	204,485 04½
Shawneetown - - - -	724,812 85	468,100 48¼	429,690 14¾
Edwardsville - - - -	527,024 24	252,498 12	207,127 61
Total in Illinois -	1,742,000 45	955,590 16¾	841,302 80¼
Franklin - - - -	1,504,119 76	415,834 32	338,112 07
St. Louis - - - -	856,737 21	497,752 77	395,996 80
Total in Missouri -	2,360,856 97	913,587 09	734,108 87
St. Stephens - - - -	1,298,724 44	785,690 98	739,746 81
Cahawba - - - -	3,916,887 24	2,538,774 41	2,260,270 24
Huntsville - - - -	6,014,073 87	2,805,235 97	2,760,710 96¼
Total in Alabama -	11,229,685 55	6,129,701 36	5,760,728 01¼
Washington, Mississippi - -	972,023 38	774,387 11	684,093 50
Detroit, Michigan - - -	127,746 46	61,320 82	50,584 82
RECAPITULATION.			
STATES.			
Ohio - - - - -	$2,527,008 43	$1,679,123 62	$1,260,870 87
Indiana - - - - -	2,214,168 63	1,443,720 23	1,212,815 28¾
Illinois - - - - -	1,742,000 45	955,590 16¾	841,302 08¼
Missouri - - - -	2,360,856 97	913,587 09	734,108 87
Alabama - - - -	11,229,685 55	6,129,701 36	5,760,728 01¼
Mississippi - - - -	972,023 38	774,387 11	684,093 50
Michigan - - - -	127,746 46	61,320 82	50,584 82
Grand total - -	21,173,489 87	11,957,430 39¾	10,544 454 16¼

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *General Land Office, 22d January*, 1824. GEO. GRAHAM.

18th CONGRESS. **No. 399.** 1st SESSION.

CLAIM TO LAND IN LOUISIANA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 30, 1824.

Mr. CAMPBELL, of Ohio, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, to which were referred the petition and documents of Malachi Burns, reported:

The petitioner states that Edward Metcalf received from the Spanish Government on the 11th day of August, 1806, a concession for 310 arpens of land lying in the parish of Feliciana, in the State of Louisiana, and that the same was surveyed the year following; that, in the year 1811, he purchased the said land, and settled on it, and has inhabited and cultivated the same ever since; that in 1820, when the land office was opened at St. Helena court-house, he entered his claim with the register and receiver, and was assured it was a good one, and would be approved of by Congress; and that, from some cause unknown to him, his claim has not been reported to the General Land Office: wherefore, he asks relief.

The petitioner offers, in support of his petition, the concession to Metcalf, and the deed executed by Metcalf to him in 1811. He also exhibits the affidavit of Thomas and John Dortch, made on the 30th of October last. They swear that Malachi Burns settled on the place where he now lives in 1811, and that he has cultivated it ever since, and has from fifty to sixty acres cleared.

The committee think there would be an impropriety in sanctioning evidences of title granted by the Spanish Government long after the date of the cession of Louisiana to the United States. However, as the petitioner appears to have been a bona fide purchaser, and furnishes conclusive proof that he has constantly, since 1811, inhabited and cultivated his purchase, which is claimed by no one else, the committee recommend that he be placed on a footing with those who inhabited and cultivated a tract of land in that district of country prior to the 15th day of April, 1813; and for that purpose report a bill.

18th Congress. **No. 400.** 1st Session.

PRE-EMPTION RIGHTS IN ARKANSAS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEBRUARY 4, 1824.

Mr. Vinton made the following report:

The Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the memorial of the Legislative Senate and House of Representatives of the Territory of Arkansas in behalf of certain citizens of said Territory entitled to pre-emption rights under an act of Congress passed April 12, 1814, entitled "An act for the final adjustment of land titles in the State of Louisiana and Territory of Missouri," have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report:

That, by the above mentioned act of Congress, it was, among other things, enacted that every person, and the legal representatives of every person who had actually *inhabited and cultivated* a tract of land lying in the Territory of Missouri, (then embracing the present Territory of Arkansas,) which tract was not rightfully claimed by any other person, and who had not removed from said Territory, should be entitled to the right of pre-emption in the purchase thereof: provided, that no more than one quarter-section of land should be sold to any one individual by virtue of that act.

Every person claiming a preference in becoming a purchaser of a tract of land under that act was required to make known his claim by delivering a notice, in writing, to the register of the land office for the district in which the land might lie, therein particularly designating the quarter-section claimed. Subsequent to the notice, other steps were to be taken by the claimant to perfect his right of pre-emption, not necessary to be here enumerated. Your committee are informed that, at the time of passing said act, certain persons actually inhabited and cultivated tracts of land in that part of the then Territory of Missouri, (now Arkansas,) which was afterwards ceded by the United States to the Cherokee nation of Indians by treaty of July 8, 1817; but they have not been able to obtain any certain information as to the number of such persons, some of whom are represented to have made improvements of considerable value. No survey of the lands ceded to the Cherokees was ever made; consequently, it was not in the power of those entitled, to carry their pre-emption right into effect, or even to file the notice required of them by law. They, however, continued to occupy and cultivate the lands in their possession until after the treaty: when they were obliged to surrender them to the Indians, who took possession thereof, as proprietors, by virtue of the cession of that tract of country to them. By the stipulations of that treaty, the United States were obligated to pay the Cherokees for all lands east of the Mississippi river ceded by them to the United States, upon which improvements had been made that added real value to the land; which payment was to be made in money, or, in lieu thereof, other improvements of equal value were to be given in exchange therefor. The value of the Indian improvements was to be ascertained by a commissioner to be appointed for that purpose. Whether the Arkansas improvements were received by the Indians in exchange for those relinquished by them east of the Mississippi, is not within the knowledge of your committee. The claimants entitled under the act of 1814, are, in the opinion of the committee, entitled to relief under any aspect of the case; and, though the granting them other pre-emption rights in lieu of those to which they were heretofore entitled, may not, under existing circumstances, be a full indemnity for their losses, yet it is the only equivalent that can be given without much expense and inconvenience, and, perhaps, practice of fraud upon the public.

Your committee, therefore, recommend the giving of pre-emption rights in some other part of the Territory of Arkansas, in lieu of those which were granted by the said act of April 12, 1814; and report a bill accordingly.

18th Congress. **No. 401.** 1st Session.

CLAIM OF THE NEW ENGLAND MISSISSIPPI LAND COMPANY.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE FEBRUARY 10, 1824.

Mr. Van Buren, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the petition of Ebenezer Oliver and others, directors of a corporation called the New England Mississippi Land Company, &c., reported as follows:

1st. That, by the articles of agreement and cession of the 24th of April, 1802, between the United States and the State of Georgia, it was agreed that the United States might (in such manner as not to interfere with the payment to be made to the State of Georgia, or with the satisfaction of certain land claims agreed to be confirmed by the United States,) appropriate not exceeding five millions of acres for satisfying certain claims on the land then ceded to the United States, commonly called the Yazoo claims; provided the act of Congress making such appropriation was passed within one year.

2dly. That, by the act entitled "An act regulating the grants of land, and providing for the disposal of the lands of the United States," passed the 3d of March, 1803, so much as should be found necessary of the five millions of acres reserved, as before stated, were appropriated to the purpose for which they had been reserved. But it was provided by that act, "that no other claims shall be embraced by this appropriation but those, the evidence of which shall have, on or before the first day of January next, been exhibited by the claimants to the Secretary of State, and recorded in books to be kept in his office for that purpose," &c.

3dly. That, pursuant to the provisions of the last mentioned act, the claims to the said lands were exhibited to the Secretary of State, including those now in question, but the passage of the final act providing for their adjustment and satisfaction was delayed until the year 1814.

4thly. That many of the claims, so exhibited, were found to conflict with each other, and also with rights which had been acquired by the United States in consequence of surrenders made to the State of Georgia, and which, by virtue of the cession, enured to the United States.

5thly. That, to make the indemnity and provide for the adjustment of the claims in question, the act of the 3d of March, 1814, was passed; by which,

1st. The President was authorized and required to cause to be issued from the Treasury of the United States to such claimants, respectively, as had exhibited

their claims agreeable to the act of 1803, certificates of stock, payable out of moneys arising from the sale of said public land, and, among other companies, to the persons claiming in the name or under the Georgia Mississippi Company, a sum not exceeding, in the whole, *one million five hundred and fifty thousand dollars.*

2d. That the claimants of the lands might file, in the office of the Secretary of State, a release of all their claims to the United States, and an assignment and transfer to the United States of their claim to any money deposited or paid to the State of Georgia, *such release and assignment to take effect on the indemnification of the claimants, according to the provisions of that act.*

3d. Commissioners were to be, and were accordingly, appointed, "to adjudge and *finally* determine upon all controversies arising from such claims so released as aforesaid, which may be found to conflict with and be adverse to each other, and also to adjudge and determine upon all such claims, under the aforesaid act or pretended act of the State of Georgia, as may be found to have accrued to the United States by the State of Georgia."

6thly. That the provisions of the act of 1814, were, in all respects, pursuant to a compromise made in behalf of the United States with the claimants, including the present petitioners, and that the release required by the said act was made by them.

7thly. That, before the Commissioners, the petitioners, as trustees of the New England Mississippi Land Company, claimed, as the persons entitled to the *one million five hundred and fifty thousand dollars* directed to be issued to the Georgia Mississippi Land Company, their claim to indemnity for 957,600 acres, amounting to one hundred and thirty thousand four hundred and twenty-five dollars, was resisted in behalf of the *Georgia Mississippi Company*, on the ground that the consideration money for said lands had not been paid, and that therefore they were in equity entitled to the indemnity provided by the act of Congress. The Commissioners decided in favor of the Georgia Mississippi Company, and the one hundred and thirty thousand four hundred and twenty-five dollars were deducted from the amount awarded to the New England Mississippi Land Company, and distributed as follows: fifty thousand six hundred and eight dollars and forty-eight cents to individual members of the Georgia Mississippi Company who had released to the United States under the act of 1814, to whom the same has accordingly been paid; seventy-nine thousand eight hundred and sixteen dollars and fifty-two cents was reserved to the United States, as being the shares of those claimants who, not having been paid the consideration money by the persons who had purchased of them, claimed to be still the legal and bona fide owners of said lands, and, as such, had availed themselves of the provision of the repealing act of the State of Georgia, and obtained the repayment of the consideration money by surrendering their titles to the State.

8thly. The petitioners object to this decision as erroneous, and they ask to have the one hundred and thirty-two thousand four hundred and twenty-five dollars paid to them by the United States, or their release to the extent of the 957,600 acres cancelled, so that they may assert their title to the lands in a court of law. The Supreme Court of the United States, in the case of Brown and Gilman, 4 Wheaton, 256, have decided that the grant from the Georgia Mississippi Land Company to the individuals who afterwards constituted and composed the New England Mississippi Land Company, conveyed the legal estate, notwithstanding the act of Georgia prohibiting the deeds for the same from being recorded, and that, by the terms of the contract and the law of the land, the grantors had no lien on the lands for the consideration money, and that therefore the decree of the Commissioners, in that respect, was erroneous. For the grounds of that decision, its operation upon the interests of the petitioners, and those they represent, and for a more particular statement of the facts and circumstances connected with the whole transaction, the committee refer to the case of Brown and Gilman, to the decree of the Commissioners accompanying this report, to the accompanying certificates of two of the Commissioners, and to a more particular statement made by the petitioners to the Judiciary Committee, and adopted by them in their report last year on the same petition.

9thly. The committee acquiesce in the correctness of the decision of the Supreme Court, and believe that the decision of the Commissioners on the point of law raised before them was erroneous; but, as their decree was agreed and declared by the law to be final and conclusive on the rights of all the parties, and as they have not found any circumstance in the case requiring that the same should be opened, but many strong reasons against the propriety of doing so, a majority of the committee are of opinion

That the prayer of the petitioners ought *not* to be granted.

18th Congress. **No. 402.** 1st Session.

LANDS ACQUIRED IN SATISFACTION OF DEBTS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MARCH 8, 1824.

Treasury Department, *March* 8, 1824.

In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 12th ultimo, the Secretary of the Treasury has the honor to transmit, herewith, sundry statements, marked A, B, C, D, E, and F, which statements, with the lands described in the enclosed printed reports of the Secretary to the House of Representatives on the 2d of May, 1822, and 21st of February, 1823, contain all the information in this department relative to the several matters to which the resolution refers.

Honorable the Speaker
House of Representatives.

Treasury Department,
Fifth Auditor's Office, February 19, 1824.

Sir: In compliance with the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 12th instant, of which you have furnished me with a copy, I have caused to be prepared, and have the honor to enclose, papers marked A and B, showing the extent and description of real property which has been assigned by insolvent debtors, or set off to the United States by appraisement, under execution, its situation, and estimated value. No agent has been specially appointed for taking charge of this property. It having been acquired chiefly by reason of debts at the custom-houses in the vicinity of which this property is situated, the care and management of it has devolved upon the collectors without additional expense to the public.

The seventh section of the act of the 1st May, 1820, in relation to the Treasury, War, and Navy Departments, having forbid the purchase of lands without a special law for the purpose, no purchases of land have been made in behalf of the United States, by virtue of sales on execution, since the duties of agent of the Treasury were confided to me in July, 1821.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, sir, your obedient servant,

STEPHEN PLEASONTON,
Agent of the Treasury.

Hon. Secretary of the Treasury.

A.—*Lands, &c. assigned and set over to the United States upon Judgments obtained.*

DISTRICT OF MAINE.

Names of debtors or former owners.	Date of the judgment.	Date of the levy.	Amouut of debt.	Costs taxed by court.	Aggregate amount of debt.	Tracts of land, &c. levied upon.	Where situate. County.	Where situate. Town.	Appraised value.	Present value by estimat'n.	Remarks.
Joseph Cutts	-	1813	-	-	-	House, wharf, &c.	York	Kittery	-	-	Taken for a duty bond.
Jeremiah Clark	-	1810	$28,185 99	-	-	13 acres and a house and barn	Do	York	$2,933 32	$700	Defaulter as collector of York.
Do	-	-	-	-	-	Store and lot	Do	Do	1,933	900	
Alexander McIntire	Sept. 1817	1817	14,313 69	-	-	Dwelling-house and buildings	Do	Do	6,000	1,500	Defaulter as collector of York.
Do	-	-	-	-	-	Four small lots, 30 acres	Do	Do	1,454	600	
Joseph Deshon	-	1821	-	-	-	47 acres of land	Do	Saco	464 56	300	Penalty for smuggling. All he had.
Foxwell Staples	-	-	-	-	-	54 acres of land	Do	Do	468 58	250	do do
Nathaniel F. Fosdick	-	1807	12,573 68	-	-	2⅞ acres	Cumberland	Portland	270	200	Defaulter as collector of Portland.
John Deering	-	-	-	-	-	⅛ acre	Do	Westbrook	300	50	
Thomas Lenox	-	1821	-	-	-	House and one acre	Lincoln	Palermo	850	700	Duty bond. No other estate.
Waterman Thomas	-	1803	-	-	-	5 or 6 acres	Do	Waldoborough	-	150	Sold and bid in for U.S Title uncertain.
Jonathan Elwell	-	1806	-	-	-	10 acres and a small house	Hancock	Northport	472	300	Taken for a duty bond.
John G. Brown	-	1821	-	-	-	40 acres	Do	Belfast	509 93	250	do do
John Cooper	June, 1821	1821	-	-	-	312¼ acres	Do	Machias	1,420 11	1,100	Taken for default of Lewis Delesdernier, collector of Eastport.
Do	-	-	-	-	-	200 acres	Do	Plantation No. 12	250	100	
Do	-	-	-	-	-	600 acres	Do	Do No. 13	730	300	
Do	-	-	-	-	-	402 lots	Do	Do No. 14	502 50	200	
Lewis Delesdernier	-	-	7,175 86	-	-	Several lots	Do	Lubec and Eastport	8,824 59	5,000	Do do do

Remarks of the District Attorney relating to the above cases, viz. It will be perceived how much more for the interest of the United States it would be to have the real estate of these debtors sold at auction, instead of the present mode of valuation by three men. And there does not appear to be any objection to it, as the real estate of individuals is in this State sold at auction for payment of debts due from them to the State.

ETHER SHEPLEY, *District Attorney.*

DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Names of debtors or former owners.	Date of the levy.	Amount of debt.	Tracts of land, &c. levied upon.	Where situated.	Remarks.
Thomas and Ralph Hoskins	Year 1817	$30,000	Sundry vacant lots of land in Boston	South part of the city	Taken for duty bonds.

Remarks of the District Attorney, viz. The title conveyed to the United States by this deed is, I believe, entirely indisputable, and as the land is every day increasing in value, with the extension of the city, I have hopes that it may be found entirely sufficient to discharge the greater part, if not the whole, of the debt due to the United States, for which it was taken as security.

GEORGE BLAKE.

B.—*Lands, &c. assigned and set over to the United States upon Judgments obtained.*

DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT.

Number.	Names of debtors or former owners.	Date of the judgment.	Date of the levy.	Amount of debt.	Costs taxed by court.	Aggregate amount of debt.	Tracts of land, &c. levied upon.	Where situate. County.	Where situate. Town.	Appraised value.	Present value by estimation.	Remarks.
1	Stephen A. Treat, William Durand, and Samuel B. Gunn,	Nov. 1816	Feb. 1817	$2,148 56	$101 11	$2,249 67	Thirty-eight acres -	Milford -	New Haven -	$2,249 67	-	In charge of the collector.
2	Do do - -	Feb. 1817	Feb. 1817	2,117 94	94 26	2,212 20	Thirty-two acres -	Do - -	Do - -	2,212 30	-	Questionable as to the title.
3	Ezra Hotchkiss, J. Harrison, and William Lines,	Aug. 1819	Sept. 1819	840 87	52 90	893 77	A certain tract of land lying at and by the Union wharf, New Haven, together with store and wharf,	New Haven -	City New Haven -	2,100	$500	In charge of the collector; title good; part of the property destroyed by fire.
4	Do do - -	Aug. 1819	Sept. 1819	671 06	49 50	720 56						
5	J. Harrison & E. Hotchkiss	Aug. 1819	Sept. 1819	443 52	42 15	485 67						
6	Robt. Bowne, late of N. Y.	April, 1818 Cir. Ct., N. Y.	April, 1818	22,753 83	-	-	Ten lots in the city of Hartford, &c.	- -	City of Hartford -	22,300	-	In charge of marshal.
7	John Caldwell - -	Feb. 1820	May, 1820	695	18 43	713 43	Two lots - -	- -	City of Hartford -	1,380	-	In charge of the district attorney.
8	Do do - -	May, 1820	May, 1820	685	11 93	696 93						
9	John L. Sill & Wm. Noyes	May, 1820	Dec. 1822	7,274 96	209 49	7,484 45	Two large and two small houses, &c. with thirty acres of land, in the village of Lyme,	New London	Lyme - -	10,975 82		
10	Do do - -	May; 1821	Dec. 1822	3,359 74	131 63	3,491 37						

Extract from the Remarks of the District Attorney, viz. The claims No. 9 and 10 are the two judgments against Sill and Noyes, on which they were not committed. I have not obtained judgment in the suit on the bond taken when they were discharged from prison, last October. The district judge remains incapable of performing his official duty. I went with the marshal to Lyme, and after two days spent in viewing the different tracts of real estate, contrary to former impressions, I became convinced it was best, and directed the two judgments satisfied by levy on the most valuable property in the centre of the village, two new and expensive dwelling-houses, two small ones, with out-houses, and thirty acres of very superior land adjoining. I could select but one of the freeholders to appraise, but the estimate was on much better terms than I had expected. The buildings alone certainly cost more than $11,000. Actions of ejectment were instituted, returnable to the circuit court in April, and continued under the common rule to plead and have issues closed for trial at the September term, if we have a court to hear, &c. If we can obtain judgments, and settle the question of Sill in favor of the United States, I am confident the estate will pay the debt and interest, and probably all extra expenses.

HARTFORD, 23*d June*, 1823. HEZEKIAH HUNTINGTON, *District Attorney.*

EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Names of debtors or former owners.	Amount of debt.	Tracts of land, &c. levied upon.	Where situate.	Appraised value.	Remarks.
Two-thirds of two tracts of land, No. 133 and 188, containing 509¾ acres each, in Toby township, Armstrong county, Pennsylvania, levied on by the United States as the property of Francis Johnson, one of the sureties of Sharp Delany, late collector of the customs for the port of Philadelphia.					
William L. Young, and Elizabeth, his wife	$2,432 20	House and lot in Mulberry street, Philadelphia, assigned as a condition of his discharge from prison.	County and city of Philadelphia	$3,500	Deeded to the Secretary of the Treasury for the benefit of the United States, 7th April, 1821. Annual rent $230.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Register's Office, Feb.* 27, 1824.

SIR: I have the honor, in compliance with the reference to this office of the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 12th inst., to transmit the following papers, to wit:

Statement C, of receipts arising from the rent of real estate assigned to the United States, and accounted for by E. Shepley, attorney for the District of Maine.

Statement D, of the amount paid into the Treasury by Heman Allen, late marshal for the district of Vermont, arising from the sales of property taken under executions on suits brought by the United States, accompanied with copies of the said marshal's accounts rendered for settlement at the Treasury, marked E and F.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

The Hon. WM. H. CRAWFORD, *Secretary of the Treasury.* JOSEPH NOURSE, *Register.*

C.—*Statement of receipts arising from rents of real estate assigned to the United States, and accounted for with the Treasury, by Ether Shepley. Esq., attorney for the District of Maine.*

Names of debtors or former owners.	Amount of rents rec'd.	Expenses incurred.	Am't paid into the Treasury.
Jeremiah Clark, late collector of the customs, York - - - - -	$168 00	$6 80	$161 20
Alexander McIntire, late collector of the customs, York - - - - -	118 00	-	118 00
Lewis F. Delesdernier, late collector of the customs, Passamaquoddy - - -	341 38	16 59	324 79
	$627 38	$23 39	$603 99

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Register's Office, February* 25, 1824. JOSEPH NOURSE, *Register.*

D.—*Statement of the amount paid into the Treasury by Heman Allen, late marshal for the District of Vermont, arising from sales of property taken under executions on suits brought by the United States, the particulars of which are stated in the accompanying papers, marked* E *and* F, *being copies of the said marshal's accounts rendered for settlement at the Treasury.*

Amount received by him on account of said sales - - - - - -	- -	$13,374 08
Deduct costs of suit - - - - - - - - -	$1,161 84	
amount paid Cornelius P. Van Ness, late collector, his proportion of a forfeiture bond for the appraised value of goods seized under the non-importation act, which goods were, upon giving the bond, delivered to the claimants, and judgment subsequently obtained on the bond and property set off - - -	1,495 00	
and the marshal's commission - - - - - - -	334 35	
		2,991 19
Paid into the Treasury - - - - - - - - - -	- -	$10,382 89

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Register's Office, February* 25, 1824. JOSEPH NOURSE, *Register.*

DR. E.—*The United States in account current with Heman Allen, late marshal for the District of Vermont.* CR.

1819	To amount paid— *No. of voucher.*		
July 7	John Johnson, as per voucher herewith	1	$12 00
12	Jesse Gove, clerk - - -	2	20 55
16	E. and T. Mills, printers - -	3	14 25
Aug. 19	Ebenezer Eaton, printer - -	4	3 75
Sept. 11	Copeland & Allen, printers - -	5	4 25
Oct. 12	Titus Hutchinson, district attorney -	6	130 00
12	Jesse Gove, clerk - - -	7	81 86
12	David Robinson, late marshal - -	8	29 65
1820			
May 24	Jos. Churchill, jun., marshal's deputy -	9	27 17
Oct. 5	Titus Hutchinson, district attorney -	10	41 50
7	Joseph Bostwick, marshal's deputy -	11	470 81
1821			
May 22	Titus Hutchinson, late district attorney	12	15 50
26	Jesse Gove, clerk - - -	13	6 81
26	Copeland and Allen, printers - -	14	5 00
1822			
Aug. 2	Joseph Bostwick, marshal's deputy -	15	7 35
2	Heman Allen, marshal's fees on ex'n Jonathan Hagar - - - -		46 39
April 29	Cashier Thompson's certificate of deposite - - - -	16	4,062 60
July 20	Teller Howard's do - - -	17	2,968 00
20	making out and executing 29 deeds to purchasers - - - - -		145 00
20	making out sundry notifications for newspapers and public places, certificates to purchasers, bonds from purchasers, records, and other writings - - - - -		100 00
20	To my commission on $13,374 08, at 2½ per cent. - - - - -		334 35
20	To balance due the United States - -		4,847 29
	Dollars -		13,374 08
1822			
Oct. 2	To amount of Cornelius P. Van Ness's receipt, he being the seizing collector, for moneys paid him at this date - -	18	1,495 00
1823			
Sept. 2	To amount of Cashier Thompson's certificate of deposite - - -	19	3,347 29
Nov. 25	To amount of certificate of deposite in Branch in Washington - - -	20	5 00
	Dollars -		4,847 29

1819		
July 31	By amount of sales of lands made to Abner Rice, Amos W. Barnum, Alvan Foote, and Eleazer H. Deming, paid at time of sale - - - - -	$2,165 00
31	By residue of whole amount of sales of lands belonging to Adolph D. Latten, Josiah Parmilee, Elnathan Keyes, Thaddeus Tuttle, and John Stoddard	9,276 00
31	By one year's interest on one-third of last sum, being $3,092 -	185 52
31	By two years' do. do. do. as per letter from the Secretary of the Treasury herewith - -	371 04
1821		
Jan. 31	By whole amount of sales of lands belonging to Jonathan Hagar -	1,330 00
31	By nine months' interest on one-third of last sum, being $443 33	19 93
31	By twelve months' do. do. do. as per letter of the Secretary of the Treasury herewith -	26 59
Dollars		13,374 08
1823		
Sept. 2	By balance due the United States brought down and fully accounted for on debit side -	4,847 29
Dollars		4,847 29

HEMAN ALLEN, *late Marshal.*

F.—*Marshal's sales of lands in Burlington, set off to the United States as the property of Thaddeus Tuttle.*

Description of lands.	When sold.	To whom sold.	For what sum sold.	Casualties.
Beginning at the northwest corner of five acre lot No. 28, in the south line of Main street; thence southerly, in the line between lots No. 27 and No. 28, so far that a line running parallel with the front of the brick house now occupied by Thaddeus Tuttle will pass through said house eight feet north of the said house; thence easterly, in the line last above described, to the fence which conforms with the front part of the carriage-house; thence northerly, by said fence, to the south line of the Main street aforesaid; thence westerly, in the south line of said street, to the place of beginning, containing 64-hundredths of an acre of land - -	July 31, 1819	Roger Enos -	$1,600	For forfeitures.
The whole of five acre lot No. 27 - - -	July 31, 1819	Roger Enos -	600	For forfeitures.
The south half of five acre lot No. 28 - - -	July 31, 1819	Roger Enos -	60	For forfeitures.
The whole of five acre lot No. 29, except one acre in the northeast corner thereof - - - -	July 31, 1819	Thaddeus Tuttle -	200	For forfeitures.
The whole of five acre lot No. 39, except three rods in width off the north end of said lot - - -	July 31, 1819	Roger Enos -	265	For forfeitures.
The whole of five acre lot No. 69 - - -	July 31, 1819	Thaddeus Tuttle -	150	For forfeitures.
The whole of five acre lot No. 70 - - -	July 31, 1819	Roger Enos -	115	For forfeitures.
The whole of twenty-three acre lot No. 47 - -	July 31, 1819	Thaddeus Tuttle -	110	For duties.
The whole of five acre lot No. 36 - - -	July 31, 1819	Thaddeus Tuttle -	140	For duties.
The whole of five acre lot No. 37 - - -	July 31, 1819	Thaddeus Tuttle -	100	For duties.
The whole of five acre lot No. 38 - - -	July 31, 1819	Thaddeus Tuttle -	120	For duties.
The whole of five acre lot No. 58 - - -	July 31, 1819	Thaddeus Tuttle -	110	For duties.
The whole of five acre lot No. 59 - - -	July 31, 1819	Thaddeus Tuttle -	150	For duties.
The whole of five acre lot No. 60 - - -	July 31, 1819	Thaddeus Tuttle -	130	For duties.
The whole of five acre lot No. 68 - - -	July 31, 1819	Sandford Gadcomb -	105	For duties.
All that part of five acre lot No. 67, lying west of the road running southerly from the College green -	July 31, 1819	Abner Rice -	75	For duties.
The whole of twenty-three acre lot No. 24 - -	July 31, 1819	Sandford Gadcomb -	175	For duties.
The whole of lot No. 46, in the 8th division, containing 23 acres - - - - - - -	July 31, 1819	Thaddeus Tuttle -	120	For duties.
The whole of lots No. 221 and 222 in the first division, containing one-fourth of an acre each, and also the east half of the first division of quarter acre lots Nos. 178, 179, and 180, making three-eighths of an acre in the three last mentioned lots - - - -	July 31, 1819	Henry L. Milliken -	1,300	For duties.
The whole of lot No. 198, in 1st division, containing one-fourth of an acre of land, also the whole of lot No. 199 in 1st division, containing one-fourth of an acre of land - - - - - - - -	July 31, 1819	Sandford Gadcomb -	85	For duties.
The whole of lot No. 39, containing one hundred acres, inclusive of allowance for highways, being the third division of the right of Gilbert Weeks - - -	Nov. 6, 1819	Amos W. Barnum -	100	For duties.

Marshal's sale of lands in Burlington, set off to the United States as the property of Elnathan Keyes.

Beginning at the southwest corner of quarter acre lot No. 181; thence northerly, on the west lines of lots 181 and 182, seventy-four feet; thence easterly, on a line parallel with the north line of lot No. 182, sixty-nine feet three inches; thence southerly, on a line parallel with the first mentioned line, seventy-four feet, to the south line of lot No. 181; thence westerly, in the south line of said lot, sixty-nine feet and three inches, to the first bound, with a dwelling-house thereon; also,				
The whole of city or first division lots, containing one-fourth of an acre each, Nos. 181, 182, 183, 184, and 185, except a piece in square form at the southwest corner, one chain and twelve links north and south, and one chain five links east and west, leaving 1.132 of an acre - - - - - - -	July 31, 1819	Amos W. Barnum -	$1,400	For duties.
Fifty-one acres of the north part of 103 acre lot No. 110, being the whole of said lot, except what is owned by Alvan Foote - - - - - - -	July 31, 1819	Alvan Foote -	530	For duties.
The whole of 103 acre lot No. 111, except what has heretofore been deeded by Elnathan Keyes to William Farnsworth and Holden Farnsworth, and all that part of 103 acre lot No. 112, and twenty-three acre lot No. 19, which lies southerly of Winasshire turnpike road, and east of the west lines of said lots No. 110 and 111, continued northerly until the same intersects the south line of said Winasshire turnpike road, containing by estimation, in the whole of the last mentioned tracts, 112 acres of land - - - - - - -	July 31, 1819	E. H. Deming -	1,460	For duties.

Marshal's sale of lands in Burlington, set off to the United States as the property of John Stoddard.

Description of the lands.	When sold.	To whom sold.	For what sum sold.	Casualties.
The whole of the following tracts, viz. beginning at a post standing three chains north of the south line of five acre lot No. 3, and twelve links east of the west line of said lot, being in the east line of a lane between lots No. 2 and 3; thence northerly, in the east line of said lane, two chains and fifty links, to the south line of College street; thence easterly, in the south line of College street, eight chains and seventy links, to the east line of five acre lot No. 4; thence southerly, in the said east line of lot No. 4, three chains and eighty links; thence north 86° west, two chains and fifty links; thence north 4° east, seventy-four links; thence westerly, six chains and twenty links, to the place of beginning, containing two acres and six-tenths of an acre, with the brick house and out-houses lately occupied by John Stoddard	July 31, 1819	Samuel Buell -	$1,710	For duties.

Marshal's sale of lands in Danville, set off to the United States as the property of Josiah Parmilee.

Beginning at the southeast corner of the land purchased by said Parmilee of Beckwith and Holton, on the road leading from Danville court-house to Wheelock, at the point between said land and Edward Burts' land; thence westerly, in the gangway to the west line of the wood-house adjoining the dwelling-house formerly occupied by said Parmilee; thence northerly, in the west line of said wood-house, until it intersects the north line of said dwelling-house; thence eastwardly, in the north line of said dwelling-house, to the west line of said highway first mentioned; thence on said highway to the first mentioned bound; together with the dwelling-house and buildings within said bounds; and also the right of said Parmilee in the gang-way first mentioned - - - - - - -	Aug. 20, 1819	Josiah Parmilee -	$268	For forfeitures.

Marshal's sale of lands in Monkton, set off to the United States as the property of Adolph D. Lattin.

Beginning at the southwest corner of a tract of land owned by Eliakim Beers; thence west, two degrees south, ninety-four rods; thence south, two degrees east, thirty-three rods; thence west, fifteen degrees south, sixty-six rods, to the west line of the first division of John Brownson; thence north, two degrees west, one hundred and twenty-seven rods; thence east, two degrees north, 160 rods, to the east line of the first division of the said John Brownson; thence south, two degrees east, eighty-eight rods, to the first bounds; supposed to contain one hundred and three acres; it being the farm on which the said Adolph D. Lattin lately lived in said Monkton. Also, one other piece of land, beginning at the northeast corner of a piece of land owned by Eliakim Beers, and adjoining the aforesaid land; thence north, two degrees west, fifty-two rods; thence east, two degrees north, twenty-two rods; thence south, two degrees east, fifty-two rods; thence south, twenty-two rods, to the first bounds; being a part of the *waryer's* right in the town of Monkton, with all the buildings and appurtenances belonging to the same - - - - - -	Aug. 27, 1819	George Cleveland -	$258	For forfeitures.

Marshal's sale of lands in Middlebury, set off to the United States as the property of Jonathan Hagar.

The one equal and undivided half of the following described real estate, situate, lying, and being in Middlebury, together with the privileges and appurtenances thereof, described as follows, viz. being the tavern-house and buildings appurtenant thereto, lately occupied by Wm. Campbell, situate on the southwest side of Otter creek, and bounded west by widow Mary Goodrich's, south on the highway, east on the highway, north on lands occupied by Eben W. Judd, and being the whole of the land conveyed by John Warren to the said Jonathan Hagar, by deed executed on the 1st day of Feb. A. D. 1813; and by John Warren to George Cleveland, executed the 9th day of May, A. D. 1810; excepting and reserving one certain piece of land 50 feet in length and 30 feet in width, at the southwest corner of the above described tract, on which stands the brick store. Also, one other piece of land at the northeast corner of the above described parcel of land, being 45 feet in length and 34 feet in width, and being the land on which stands the green shop or store now or lately occupied by Amon Willcox as a tin shop, and which is more particularly described in a deed from the said Jonathan Hagar to Stafford Price, reference thereto being had - - - - - -	July 31, 1821	Jonathan Hagar -	$1,000	For duties.

MARSHAL'S SALE OF LANDS OF JONATHAN HAGAR—Continued.

Description of lands.	When sold.	To whom sold.	For what sum sold.	Casualties.
Being forty-three feet six inches in front, thirty-six feet and six inches in the rear, and twenty-four feet six inches in depth; on which stands the green shop or store now occupied in part by Amon Willcox as a tin shop, and standing at the northeast corner of the brick building now occupied as a tavern house, including the whole of said green shop or store, and the lands whereon the same now stands - - - -	Jan. 31, 1821	Philip Heartt -	$330	For duties.

VERMONT DISTRICT, MARSHAL'S OFFICE, 31 *January*, 1821. HEMAN ALLEN, *Marshal.*

18th CONGRESS. No. 403. 1st SESSION.

SCHOOL LANDS IN OHIO.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE MARCH 10, 1824.

Resolution and memorial to Congress on the subject of school lands.

Resolved, That the following memorial be submitted to the Congress of the United States during the present session, or so soon as may be practicable:

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

The memorial of the State of Ohio, in General Assembly, respectfully represents:

That, by the act of Congress of the United States, passed the 30th day of April, in the year 1802, the following, among other propositions, were offered to the Convention to be assembled for the formation of a State Government for the people of the eastern division of the territory northwest of the Ohio, including the State of Ohio, that is to say: that the section number sixteen in every township, and, where such section had been sold, other lands equivalent thereto should be granted to the inhabitants of such township for the use of schools.

Secondly. That the six miles reservation, including the salt springs, commonly called the Scioto salt springs, the salt spring near the Muskingum river, and in the military tract, with the sections of land which include the same, should be granted to the said State for the use of the people thereof: *Provided*, The said Legislature should never sell nor lease the same for a longer period than ten years.

That the foregoing propositions, when acted upon and considered in Convention of Ohio, and by an ordinance passed the 29th day of November, in the year 1802, the aforesaid propositions were accepted: *Provided*, That the following modifications should be made thereto, that is to say: that, in addition to the first propositions securing the section number sixteen in every township, within certain tracts, to the inhabitants thereof for the use of schools, a like donation, equal to the one-thirty-sixth part of the amount of the lands in the United States' military tract, should be made for the support of schools within that tract; and, also, that the like provision should be made for the support of schools in the Virginia reservation, so far as the unlocated lands in that tract would supply the proportion, after the warrants issued from said State should have been satisfied; and, also, that a donation of the same kind, or such provision as Congress should deem expedient, should be made to the inhabitants of the Connecticut reserve; and that, out of all the lands which might thereafter be purchased of the Indian tribes by the United States, and lying within the State of Ohio, that the one-thirty-sixth part should be given as aforesaid for the support of public schools; and that all lands before mentioned, to be appropriated for the use of schools, should be vested in the Legislature of said State of Ohio in trust for said purpose.

That a certain proportion of the lands lying within the State of Ohio had already been disposed of by the United States; and, by patent dated on the 13th day of September, in the year 1794, certain lands therein described were granted unto John Cleves Symmes, reserving to the United States, out of each township within the same, lot numbered sixteen for the use of schools, being one-thirty-sixth part of the whole tract granted as aforesaid.

That a certain tract had also been granted unto Manassah Cutler and others, under the name of the Ohio Company, in which lot numbered sixteen, being one-thirty-sixth part, was also reserved for the use of schools; in addition to which, are the appropriations for the Ohio and Miami Universities, but to which last appropriations to the Ohio and Miami University your memorialists have only adverted as not being intended to be embraced in the prayer of the memorial herewith submitted.

That the ordinances of the Convention of Ohio of November, 1802, gave rise to the act of the Congress of the United States of the 3d day of March, in the year 1803, by which it was enacted more specifically,

Firstly. That certain quarter townships in the tract commonly called the United States' military tract, and in said act particularly described, amounting to the one-thirty-sixth part of the estimated whole amount of lands within that tract.

Secondly. That certain other quarter townships in the same United States' military tract, and in said act particularly described, for the use of the tract of country commonly called the Connecticut Reserve, were also, by said act, granted or reserved.

Thirdly. So much of that tract within this State, commonly called the Virginia military reservation, as would amount to one-thirty-sixth part of the whole tract, was also granted, to be selected by the Legislature of the State of Ohio, out of the unlocated lands in that tract, after the warrants issued from the State of Virginia should have been satisfied.

Fourthly. There was also granted and secured by the same act, one-thirty-sixth part of all the lands of the United States lying in the State of Ohio, to which the Indian title had not been extinguished, which might thereafter be purchased of the Indian tribes by the United States, which thirty-sixth part should consist of the sections No. sixteen in each township. The specified and declared object of the aforesaid grants and reservations were for the use of common schools within the several districts of country therein specified, and were, as your memorialists conceive, granted upon full consideration arising from the increased value of the remaining lands belonging to the United States, and also from the relinquishment, on the part of the State of Ohio, of the right to tax the lands of the United States within the State of Ohio until five years after the sale thereof; and that it was by the aforesaid act expressly declared, that the several appropriations for schools, made therein, were in conformity with, and in consideration of the conditions agreed on by the State of Ohio, by the ordinance of the Convention of said State, bearing date the 29th day of November, in the year 1802, and hereinbefore particularly referred to.

That your memorialists conceive that it was the intention of the parties to the compact aforesaid, that one-thirty-sixth part of all the lands within the State of Ohio should be granted to the people thereof for the use of common schools, and should be placed under the control of the *Legislature* thereof; and that this construction is warranted by the spirit, and even by the letter, of the different acts of the Congress of the United States when considered in relation to the ordinance of the State

of Ohio above referred to, and to which a direct reference is had by the aforesaid last recited act of the Congress of the United States.

That, when it was afterwards ascertained that the grant aforesaid in relation to the tract of country commonly called the Virginia military reservation, would be rendered wholly inoperative in consequence of the limitation and condition thereunto annexed, by reason of the great and uncertain amount of warrants which had been issued by the State of Virginia, together with the extended period for locating the same, the Congress of the United States, in pursuance of the stipulations of the compact aforesaid, by the act passed the 2d day of March, in the year 1807, appropriated eighteen quarter townships and three sections, as are in said act described, for the use of schools in that tract of land in the State of Ohio commonly called Virginia military reservation, which were, by the said act, also vested in the Legislature, in trust for the use aforesaid.

That, at the period when the act aforesaid, making an appropriation for the tract commonly called the Connecticut reserve, was passed, the Indian title had been extinguished to that part only which lies east of the Cuyahoga river, and the appropriation was made only in relation to that part to which the Indian title had been extinguished, and consisted of a tract equal to one-thirty-sixth part of the reserve to which the Indian title had been so extinguished, since which time, the Indian title to that part of the reserve lying west of the Cuyahoga river has been extinguished by the United States for, and on account of, the State of Connecticut, who made the necessary appropriations for that purpose.

That, as your memorialists conceive it was in conformity with the spirit and intention of the compact aforesaid, and formed a material item of the consideration which induced the State of Ohio to make the concession they did make under that compact, that they should receive, in return, lands equal to one-thirty-sixth part of all the lands within the State of Ohio, to be appropriated for the use of common schools within said State.

The Legislature of the State of Ohio, construing the terms and spirit of the compact in the manner above set forth, do not hesitate to represent to the United States that, when the Indian title was extinguished to the tract of country lying in the Connecticut reserve, west of the Cuyahoga, the terms aforesaid required of the United States that a law should be passed appropriating, from their unlocated lands within the State of Ohio, a tract equal to one-thirty-sixth part of the Connecticut reserve lying west of the Cuyahoga river, and that they, relying on the justice and good faith of the Government of the United States, confidently anticipated the passage of such an act in aid of the exertions of the State of Ohio in establishing a system of common free schools throughout the State.

That, in relation to the lands already appropriated as above described, the Legislature of the State of Ohio, in pursuance of the trust aforesaid, and in aid of the great and important object contemplated, have resorted to various methods of rendering them productive, and, in particular, that of leasing them to such individuals as have applied therefor; that experience, however, has fully demonstrated that this fund will be wholly unavailing in their hands in its present shape. That, in order that the beneficial and laudable objects contemplated by the grants aforesaid may be secured to the people of the State of Ohio, it will, as your memorialists conceive, be necessary that the Legislature should possess the unlimited control over the lands aforesaid, with the power of disposing of them in fee.

The objections which are urged against the present mode of administering that fund, are, in the first place, that, by reason of the facilities which the State of Ohio affords of acquiring a property in real estate, a necessity exists of leasing the lands in question to persons almost wholly destitute of pecuniary means, whereby the avails of those lands are rendered at least uncertain. In consequence, also, that, as these lands are detached over the whole State of Ohio, the expense which must necessarily be incurred by creating a superintendence over them, render them much less productive than your memorialists conceive they might be rendered if the lands were sold, and the proceeds concentrated in one fund.

The fact, also, before adverted to, that these lands must necessarily be entrusted to the possession of those of the lowest class of the community, and who possess no permanent interest in the soil, has produced a waste upon these lands of their timber, and otherwise, equal, perhaps, to the whole revenue which may have been derived from them. The fact, also, that, by holding them under the present tenure, your memorialists are compelled to offer, upon lease, so great a proportion of their soil as will invite and retain a population within her boundaries of a character not to be desired, and, in amount, so great as to create an evil which can only be conceived of in a country where every individual, possessing a very moderate portion of industry and economy, may, within a single year, appropriate to himself, in fee, a quantity of land sufficient to furnish means of support for an ordinary family, is also a circumstance which your memorialists conceive is not undeserving of consideration.

While the State of Ohio, in common with her sister States, shall have her ordinary proportion of idle and unprofitable members, this great proportion of land which must be held by lease, must, of necessity, produce a corresponding feature in her population. Although many industrious and valuable citizens may be found among the lessees of school lands, yet it must be admitted that the great body of those who constitute the strength and basis of every Government, and who are to be considered as the friends of good order and public improvement, are among those who are the owners as well as occupiers of the soil. These evils, as your memorialists conceive, arise wholly from the system of granting these lands upon leases, and are such as cannot be remedied by any course of legislation whatever, if, as some have supposed, the State have not the power, under the term of the original grant, of disposing of these lands in fee. Notwithstanding your memorialists may be of opinion that they already possess this right, yet, so long as the question shall admit of any doubt, it must, of necessity, have the effect to restrain its exercise. It is true that, if the forms of proceedings established by States as the rules of action for its members, shall or can be brought to operate upon the States themselves, this question might, perhaps, be rendered still more uncertain; but your memorialists conceive that the grants aforesaid being made to the people of the State of Ohio, through the medium of the Legislature, for the use of the people, that no limitations can have any operation further than as it shall furnish an argument against diverting this fund from its original and legitimate object. The Legislature of the State of Ohio being in all respects sovereign within the constitution, their capacity to do any and every act in relation to property which its citizens hold in common is, as they conceive, necessarily implied; nor can they acknowledge that any rule other than the constitution can operate with any obligatory effect upon the power which has created the rules itself, except upon considerations of justice and policy towards those who may be affected by their acts. It may, it is true, be said that these grants partake of the nature of a compact between the United States and the State of Ohio, and that therefore they are to be limited to their particular terms in relation to the State of Ohio. It is admitted that the grant exists in consequence of a compact; but, inasmuch as the United States have received a full and valuable consideration, which formed the inducement of the grant, and inasmuch as they have not reserved to themselves any beneficial interest in the land aforesaid, or possibility of reversion, or any title whatever, it cannot be supposed that they can possess any controlling power. It may be urged, also, that, inasmuch as there has been no method pointed out in respect of the manner in which this trust should be executed, that the Legislature of the State of Ohio have an unlimited discretion in this respect, and may avail themselves of every possible method of producing the greatest advantage to those whom they represent. This argument, they conceive, is powerfully supported by the fact, that the same act grants to the State as well the school lands in question as the six miles reservation, including the Scioto Salt springs; in respect of which latter the Legislature are expressly restrained from selling the same, or leasing them for a longer period than ten years; and that the inference from this circumstance is direct, that it was the intention of the parties to that compact that no such restraint should exist in relation to the other lands which did not come within this provision. While your memorialists have been thus particular in endeavoring to give the proper definition of the powers they possess, in order that no conclusions may hereafter be drawn unfavorable to their claim from having made this application; and have thereby, perhaps, shown that, in a particular point of view, this application is wholly unnecessary, they are of opinion that an act of the Congress of the United States declaratory of the extent of the grants aforesaid, will be productive of much benefit in case the Legislature of the State should hereafter determine to dispose of the same. That it will have the full effect of removing every doubt in the minds of the purchasers, and thereby enhance the price which will be obtained for the same.

Therefore, your memorialists represent that it would be of advantage, and conduce to the future prosperity of the State of Ohio, that a law of the United States be passed, declaring the authority of the State of Ohio to dispose of the said lands granted for the use of schools within said State, in fee, and that the proceeds thereof be invested in some permanent fund, the proceeds of which shall be applied, under the directions of the Legislature, for the use of common schools within the townships or districts to which they were originally granted in said State, and for no other use or purpose whatever: Provided, that the sections numbered sixteen, granted as aforesaid for the use of schools, shall not be sold without the consent of the inhabitants of such original surveyed township; and that they may be authorized and empowered to sell and dispose of the aforesaid six miles reservation, including the Scioto Salt springs, the salt springs near Muskingum river, and in the military tract, with the sections of land which include the same, and apply the proceeds thereof to such literary purposes as the Legislature of the State of Ohio may hereafter direct.

Resolved further, That the Governor be requested to forward the foregoing memorial to the Government of the United States, and take such order and disposition of the funds as shall seem to him proper.

JOSEPH RICHARDSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
ALLEN TRIMBLE,
Speaker of the Senate.

February 26, 1824.

18th Congress. **No. 404.** 1st Session.

LAND CLAIM DERIVED FROM THE STATE OF GEORGIA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MARCH 11, 1824.

Mr. Whipple, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of James Steptoe and others, reported:

That the petitioners claim lands under certain resolutions and proceedings of the Legislature of the State of Georgia, and set forth, in their petition, that the Legislature of the State of Georgia did, on the 20th day of February, 1784, by resolution, appoint commissioners "to examine as to the quantity and quality of the land on the Tennessee river, in that district of country since ceded by said State to the United States, and authorized the said commissioners to grant warrants of survey, which, when executed, were to be transmitted, with the plats, to the surveyor general's office, that said warrants might pass to grants, with a proviso that no one person should obtain a grant for more than one thousand acres of land; and that for each warrant obtained, a bond should be given, with sureties, to pay into the treasury of the State of Georgia one-eighth of a dollar per acre, which sum shall be paid before a grant be obtained."

The petitioners further state that, under these resolutions of the State of Georgia, warrants did actually issue; and that they became the purchasers in the years 1785 and 1786, of 28,000 acres of the lands for which warrants were thus issued. That these lands were, at the expense of the petitioners, surveyed and located in the years 1789 and 1790; and the plats and certificates of these surveys were, during said years, duly returned into the office of the surveyor general of the State of Georgia, and the requisite bonds executed.

The petitioners further rely upon the fact, that, in the articles of agreement and cession between the State of Georgia and the United States, Congress was left at liberty to appropriate a portion of the lands ceded, not exceeding five millions of acres, for the purpose of satisfying and quieting any other claims than those particularly enumerated in said articles of agreement and cession, for which the Government of the United States might think proper to provide; and that, under this clause of the articles of agreement and cession, Congress, on the 3d day of March, 1803, passed a law appropriating the said five millions of acres for the purpose of satisfying such other claims to lands south of the State of Tennessee, not recognized by the said articles of agreement, as Congress may think proper to provide for.

Notwithstanding the seeming justice of the cause of these claimants, as it appears by the facts set out in their memorial, yet they have omitted to state that the Legislature of Georgia did, on the 23d of January, 1787, by resolve, direct the commissioners to give up the bonds which they had received to the purchasers, and to suspend further proceedings; so that, if, after this period, the petitioners proceeded to survey these lands at their own expense in the years 1789 and 1790, they cannot on that account pretend, (by their own acts done, not only without the authority of the Legislature of the State of Georgia, but in opposition to it,) to bind either the State of Georgia or the Government of the United States to make them compensation; nor can the committee perceive any just ground for their claim. They therefore submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petition be not granted.

18th Congress. **No. 405.** 1st Session.

CLAIM OF THE UNITED STATES TO A TOWNSHIP OF LAND IN THE PURCHASE OF JOHN CLEVES SYMMES.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MARCH 16, 1824.

Mr. Rankin, from the Committee on the Public Lands, who were directed by a resolution of this House of the 31st of December, 1823, to "inquire into the title and right of the United States in and to one township of land reserved for certain purposes in the contract entered into with John C. Symmes, as mentioned in the laws passed in 1792 and 1803, relating thereto," reported:

Your committee do not intend to examine the *legal right* of the United States to a township of land within the tract purchased by John C. Symmes, referred to in the resolution, believing it to be their duty to mature business to be acted on by Congress, and that Congress have only the power of enacting laws, but not of expounding them, or of declaring the rights created by those laws. Each of the departments of the Government, executive, legislative, and judicial, have severally certain powers delegated, and duties assigned them, by the constitution, and which they may perform without invading the prerogatives of the other, or transcending the limits of their authority. When a committee of the House of Representatives have reported on the business referred to them by the House, they have discharged the duty required of them; and when Congress has done an act of legislation, their power ceases, and it remains for another department of the Government to see the law executed, and to another distinct department to expound the law, and to declare the rights created thereby. When defects in existing legislation are properly presented, Congress may supply those defects, or may remedy existing evils, depending on legislative enactments. Had this case presented any thing requiring legislative interposition, your committee would have sought a remedy, and have proposed it to the House; but, believing as they do, that the legislation on this subject heretofore, has

been ample, and intending to confine themselves to what they believe to be their legitimate powers and duties, they cannot recommend to this House any further legal provision. Of the manner in which the provisions of the law of 1803 have been carried into effect, your committee have no information. It is sufficient for them to know, that every thing necessary to be done by Congress was done by passing that law. Its execution depended on another department of the Government, whose duty it was to see the laws duly executed. In the absence of all evidence to the contrary, your committee are bound to presume, that what was directed to be done had been performed by those charged with the execution of the laws. At all events, unless some apparent defect in the existing laws were shown, your committee would not recommend to Congress to reiterate commands, and prescribe duties already prescribed, feeling that such a course would neither comport with propriety, nor their dignity as a legislative body. Your committee, believing that this House never intended to require of them an examination of any question of mere right, and conforming their report to what they have conceived to be their powers and duties, present to the House a concise view of the reservation in the patent from the United States to John C. Symmes, and the subsequent legislation in relation thereto, by the act of the 3d of March, 1803, which they believe will show that nothing more is necessary to be done by Congress.

On the 30th of September, 1794, a patent was issued, by the authority of the United States, to John C. Symmes for 248,000 acres of land situated between the Ohio and Great Miami river, in the then Northwestern Territory, in which patent, among other things, it was declared "that one complete township, or tract of land, of six miles square should be located, with the approbation of the governor for the time being of the territory northwest of the Ohio, and in the manner and within the term of five years, as nearly as may be in the centre of the tract of land herein (by said patent) granted, hath been and is hereby (by said patent) granted, and shall be holden in trust to, and for the exclusive intent and purpose of erecting and establishing therein an academy and other public schools and seminaries of learning, and endowing and supporting the same, and for no other use, intent, and purpose, whatever." Whether the land thus reserved was located by the governor or not, can only be inferred from the subsequent act of the 3d of March, 1803, by which it is provided, in the 4th and 5th sections thereof, "that one complete township in the State of Ohio, and district of Cincinnati, or so much of any one complete township within the same, as may then remain unsold, together with as many adjoining sections as shall have been sold in said township, so as to make in the whole thirty-six sections, to be located under the direction of the Legislature of the said State on or before the 1st day of October next, (October, 1803,) with the register of the land office of Cincinnati, be, and the same is hereby, vested in the Legislature of the State of Ohio for the purpose of establishing an academy, in lieu of the township already granted for the same purpose by virtue of the act entitled 'An act authorizing the grant and conveyance of certain lands to John Cleves Symmes and his associates:' provided, however, that the same shall revert to the United States, if, within five years from the passage of this act, a township shall have been secured for the said purpose within the boundary of the patent granted by virtue of the above mentioned act to John Cleves Symmes and his associates. And that the attorney general for the time being be directed and authorized to locate and accept, from the said John Cleves Symmes and his associates, any one complete township within the boundaries of the said patent, so as to secure the same, for the purpose of establishing an academy in conformity to the provisions of said patent; and, in case of non-compliance, to take, or direct to be taken, such measures as will compel an execution of the trust. Provided, however, that John Cleves Symmes and his associates shall be released from the said trust, and the said township shall vest in them, or any of them, in fee simple, upon payment into the Treasury of the United States of fifteen thousand three hundred and sixty dollars, with interest from the date of the above mentioned patent to the day of such payment."

Whether the act of 1803 proceeded from a refusal on the part of Mr. Symmes to permit the location, or the neglect of the governor to discharge his duty in due time, your committee are not informed; nor do we know, whether the township out of the limits of Symmes' patent was located for the purposes expressed in that act; nor do they know whether Mr. Symmes was applied to, and refused the location therein provided for; or if the measures contemplated to be adopted were pursued to compel an execution of the trust. We only know that the existing laws are sufficient to secure both the interests of the people within the limits of the land granted to Symmes, and those of the United States, and that it is the duty of the officers of the Government to execute those laws. We therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Public Lands be discharged from the further consideration of the resolution in relation to the township of land, reserved for certain purposes, in the patent by the United States to John C. Symmes.

18th Congress. **No. 406.** 1st Session.

SALT SPRINGS AND LEAD AND COPPER MINES.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MARCH 30, 1824.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a report of the Secretary of War, together with a report from the Commissioner of the Land Office, accompanied by the necessary documents, communicating the information heretofore requested by a resolution of the House in relation to the salt springs, lead and copper mines, together with the probable value of each of them, and of the reservations attached to each; the extent to which they have been worked; the advantages and proximity of each to navigable waters; and the origin, nature, and extent of any claims made to them by individuals or companies; which reports contain all the information at present possessed on the subjects of the said resolution.

JAMES MONROE.

March 28th, 1824.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR,
January 23, 1824.

The Secretary of War, to whom was referred the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 8th of February last, requesting the President of the United States to communicate to the House, "at the next session of Congress, the information heretofore requested by a resolution of this House, in relation to salt springs, lead and copper mines, accompanied by such other information as he may be in possession of, or obtain, as to the probable value of each of them, and of the reservations attached to each; of the extent to which they have been worked, or are susceptible of being worked; the advantages and proximity of each to navigable waters; the origin, nature, and extent of any claims made to any of them by individuals or companies; together with any other information deemed important by him in relation to such salt springs, lead and copper mines," I have the honor to submit, herewith, a report of the Ordnance Department upon so much of the resolution as relates to lead mines, which furnishes all the information in relation to that subject in this department.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

J. C. CALHOUN.

The PRESIDENT *of the United States.*

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT,
January 17th, 1824.

SIR: In obedience to your directions to make a report to you upon the inquiries made in the resolution of the House of Representatives of the United States of the 8th of February last, in "relation to salt springs, lead and copper mines," and requiring such information respecting each as is detailed in said resolution, I beg leave respectfully to offer the following in regard to the lead

mines, those being the only part which have come within the knowledge, and under the direction of this department since the 29th November, 1821, the time at which the charge thereof was transferred to it from that of the Treasury or the General Land Office.

In replying to this particular branch of the inquiry, this report will also necessarily be confined to the lead mines of the northern parts of the State of Illinois, where the operations of this department have been chiefly directed. The information which it possesses in regard to those of Missouri being limited to that procured from other sources, and as is detailed in the first report from this office, of the 12th November, 1822, to which I respectfully beg leave to refer, as well as to that of the 18th January of the past year.

As to the probable "value" of the mines now alluded to, and as discovered in the vicinity of the Mississippi and Fever rivers, I have to state that, from the limited operations of four or five individuals on the same number of half sections of land, and within the period of a few months, (less than a year,) near a million pounds of mineral have been raised, and the discoveries of other mineral tracts made, which have led to the conclusion, in the minds of many persons who have visited that part of the country, that considerable profits can be made to accrue to individual enterprise, as well as gain to the United States, from the works and discoveries being prosecuted under prudent and able management. And the foregoing is the only extent, as inquired into by the resolution, to which they have yet been worked, though reported to be capable of being improved to an incalculable amount.

"The reservations" to which those now spoken of "are attached," are within the general limits prescribed in the treaty with certain tribes of Indians, made on the 24th August, 1815, amounting to fifteen miles square, to be located in the vicinity of the Mississippi and Ouisconsin rivers. "Their proximity to navigable waters" is, and will necessarily be, confined within the distance of a few miles from the river Mississippi and its tributary streams.

As "to the origin, nature, and extent of any claims made to any of them by individuals or companies," there are not any claims applicable to the mine lands of Illinois now under consideration, the lands having been but recently the subject of cession and retrocession on the part of the United States and the Ottoway, Chippewa, and Pottawatamie tribes or nations of Indians.

With regard to "any other information which may be deemed important" in relation to lead mines, as is required in the concluding part of the resolution of the House, it may be sufficient to add, to what has been formerly communicated, that this department has already had sufficient experience to ascertain that, with only the temporary expedients which it has had at command, it has been impossible to institute or to enforce such measures for the profitable working of the mines as were hoped for on its first undertaking the management thereof; and that, if it be proposed to continue that management, some legislative aid should be devised without further delay. With more particular reference to such aid, I would beg leave to repeat the suggestions contained in my report of 12th November, 1822, namely, the expediency of recommending to Congress the passage of a law providing for the appointment and compensation of one or more agents, well skilled in mineralogy, for the principal mining districts of Missouri and Illinois, who should be empowered to superintend the working of the mines; to receive and account for all rents; to see that no mines were worked without authority; to keep offices of records of all leases and surveys; to assist in making new discoveries of all the various minerals, such as zinc, copper, tin, and the precious metals, for which the same regulations should also be made by law in lands belonging to the United States, as in those containing lead. An extension of the leases from three to five years, as now authorized, to ten years, would give greater confidence and encouragement to men of moneyed capital to invest it in mining operations. It might also be deemed expedient to grant leases for three years free from rent, to persons who should originate discoveries of tracts of land containing any of the aforesaid minerals or precious metals.

An appropriation of money has also become necessary for defraying the expenses of surveys already incurred, and for other contingent expenses which have accrued, or which may accrue, in organizing the mining concerns to greater advantage, and for which no provision whatever has yet been made by law.

Without such or somewhat similar measures, or by opening the mines by public sale of the lands to the sole private enterprise and exertions of individuals, it is not believed by this department that they can be brought to that degree of productiveness and advantage to the United States, as it is also believed they may be rendered capable by the aids which have been suggested.

Respectfully submitted by, sir,

Your most obedient servant,

G. BOMFORD, *Lt. Col.*
on Ordnance duty.

Hon. J. C. CALHOUN,
Department of War.

Report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office in relation to lead mines and salt springs.

The Commissioner of the General Land Office, to whom was referred the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 8th of February, 1823, requesting the President of the United States to communicate to that House, "at the next session of Congress, the information heretofore requested by a resolution of this House in relation to salt springs, lead and copper mines, accompanied by such other information as he may be in possession of, or obtain, as to the probable value of each of them, and of the reservations attached to each; of the extent to which they have been worked, or are susceptible of being worked; the advantages and proximity of each to navigable waters; the origin, nature, and extent, of any claims made to any of them by individuals or companies, together with any other information deemed important by him in relation to such salt springs, lead and copper mines," has the honor to submit the accompanying report, together with the documents designated in the following schedule:

A. Map exhibiting the mine country of Missouri as reported in the official surveys, and showing the land sold; and, also, the lands excluded from sale on account of mineral appearances, as far as returns are received.

B. Copies of the documents in relation to the mines in the district of Cape Girardeau, in Missouri, with plats of the reserve mineral land.

C. Copies of the reports of the late Board of Commissioners for the adjudication of land titles in Louisiana, in relation to the claims of *lead mines* and *salt springs*.

D. Copies of two letters from J. B. C. Lucas, one of the Commissioners for deciding on land titles in Louisiana, stating the reasons for his official opinions in relation to the claims to lead mines, &c.

E. Documents alphabetically arranged, from A to P, inclusive, in relation to the titles of the claimants to lead mines and salt springs, which were laid before the Board of Commissioners by W. C. Carr, agent of the United States, accompanied by an abstract of the same, made out by the said agent.

F. Copy of a communication from Frederick Bates, recorder of land titles at St. Louis, in relation to the mines of Missouri, together with an abstract of the claims of individuals to the same, and a copy of a letter from the late John Rice Jones on the subject of the value of the mines, and the mode of working them.

G. Copy of a letter from the register of the land office at Shawneetown in relation to lead mineral in Illinois, exhibiting the lands reserved on account of the same, and accompanied by a map, showing the reserved lands.

H. Copy of a letter from Moses Austin, communicating detailed information in relation to mining in Missouri.

I. Extract from a letter of the register of the land office at St. Louis, dated July, 1821, stating the reasons why a list of the lands reserved on account of mineral appearances could not then be furnished, as was requested.

K. Statements from the Register of the Treasury of the proceeds of the lead mines and salt springs, as exhibited by the books of the Treasury.

L. Copies of letters from Levin Wailes, Wm. Clarke, and J. B. C. Lucas, in relation to mines and salines, in reply to a circular letter on that subject.

SALT SPRINGS.

OHIO.

By the second proposition of the act of Congress of the 30th April, 1802, entitled "An act to enable the people of the eastern division of the territory northwest of the river Ohio, to form a constitution and State Government, and for the admission of such State into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, and for other purposes," it is provided, that "the six miles reservation, including the salt springs commonly called the Scioto Salt Springs, the salt springs near the Muskingum river, and in the military tract, with the sections of land which include the same, shall be granted to the said State for the use of the people thereof; the same to be used under such terms, conditions, and regulations, as

the Legislature of the said State shall direct: *Provided*, The said Legislature shall never sell nor lease the same for a longer period than ten years."

The above grant includes all the salt springs known in this State, to this office, except the following, which remain the property of the General Government, viz. *Boiling spring*, situated in the *Piqua* district in S. E. quarter of section sixteen, township six S., range fourteen E.

Salt spring on *Yellow creek*, in the *Steubenville* district, on the S. E. quarter of section thirty-four, township eleven, range three. This spring has heretofore been under lease, the avails of which have been inconsiderable.

INDIANA.

By the second proposition of the act of Congress of the 19th April, 1816, entitled "An act to enable the people of the Indiana Territory to form a Constitution and State Government, and for the admission of such State into the Union on an equal footing with the original States," it is provided, "that all salt springs within the said Territory, and the land reserved for the use of the same, together with such other land as may, by the President of the United States, be deemed necessary and proper for working the said salt springs, not exceeding, in the whole, the quantity contained in thirty-six entire sections, shall be granted to the said State, for the use of the people of the said State; the same to be used under such terms, conditions, and regulations, as the Legislature of the said State shall direct: *Provided*, The said Legislature shall never sell nor lease the same for a longer period than ten years at any one time."

Hence, there are no salt springs in this State owned by the General Government.

ILLINOIS.

By the second proposition of the sixth section of the act of the 18th of April, 1818, entitled "An act to enable the people of Illinois Territory to form a constitution and State Government, and for the admission of such State into the Union on an equal footing with the original States," it is provided "that all salt springs within such State, and the lands reserved for the use of the same, shall be granted to the said State, for the use of the said State; and the same to be used under such terms, conditions, and regulations, as the Legislature of the said State shall direct: *Provided*, The Legislature shall never sell nor lease the same for a longer period than ten years at any one time."

Hence, there are no salt springs in this State owned by the General Government.

MISSOURI.

By the second proposition of the sixth section of the act of Congress of the 6th March, 1820, entitled "An act to authorize the people of the Missouri Territory to form a constitution and State Government, and for the admission of such State into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, and to prohibit slavery in certain Territories," it is provided "that all salt springs, not exceeding twelve in number, with six sections of land adjoining to each, shall be granted to the said State for the use of the said State, the same to be selected by the Legislature of the said State on or before the first day of January, of the year 1825; and the same, when so selected, to be used under such terms, conditions, and regulations as the Legislature of the said State shall direct: *Provided*, That no salt spring, the right whereof is, or hereafter shall be, confirmed or adjudged to any individual or individuals, shall, by this section, be granted to said State: *And provided, also*, That the Legislature shall never sell nor lease the same for a longer period than ten years, without the consent of Congress."

FRANKLIN DISTRICT.

The following is a list of lands reserved for the future disposal of Congress in the district of lands offered for sale at Franklin, Missouri, being those tracts including and adjoining salt springs.

Description of tract.	No of section.	No. of township.	No. of range.	Quantity. Acres.	Quantity. 100ths.
Southeast quarter - - -	13	49	14	160	
Section - - - -	2	49	15	650	04
Section - - - -	11	49	15	640	
Section - - - -	12	50	16	640	
Section - - - -	13	50	16	640	
North half of section - -	14	50	16	320	
Southwest quarter of section -	12	49	17	160	
North part of S.E. quarter of section	25	49	17	3	
Southeast fract'l quarter of section	8	51	17	146	57
West part of S.W. quart. of section	9	51	17	52	40

LIST—Continued.

Description of tract.	No of section.	No. of township.	No. of range.	Quantity. Acres.	Quantity. 100ths
Northeast quarter of section -	2	49	18	160	
Section - - - -	27	50	20	640	
Section - - - -	28	50	20	640	
Section - - - -	33	50	20	640	
Section - - - -	17	48	22	640	
Section - - - -	1	50	22	639	34
Section - - - -	4	50	22	664	
Section - - - -	9	50	22	640	
Section - - - -	17	50	22	640	
Section - - - -	20	50	22	640	
Section - - - -	21	50	22	640	
Section - - - -	24	51	22	640	
Southwest quarter of section -	27	51	22	160	
Southeast quarter of section -	28	51	22	160	
East half of section - -	33	51	22	320	
West half of section - -	34	51	22	320	
			Acres,	11,595	35

ST. LOUIS.

In township 55, north range 7 west, in sections Nos. 26 and 35, there is a pond which is reported as being salt water.

In township 43, north range 5 east, in sections 2 and 11, a salt spring is reported, situate near the Merrimac river.

Agreeably to the report of the Board of Commissioners for the adjustment of claims to land in Louisiana—(Documents marked C,) it will be perceived that there are eight claims including salt springs, all of which are rejected, except two, which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, ought to be confirmed. On reference to the surveyor's returns, there are no private claims exhibited which include salt springs; it is therefore inferred that the two private claims alluded to have not yet been surveyed.

It may be that some of the salt springs, the claims to which were not confirmed, are included in the foregoing exhibit; but the Commissioners' report having been made prior to the date of the public surveys, does not furnish the means of identifying their locality.

It is said that the General Assembly of Missouri have caused to be located six of the twelve salt springs granted by law to that State, but the official evidence of the location has not yet been received at this office.

MISSISSIPPI AND ALABAMA.

In the States above mentioned no salt springs have yet been reported by the surveyor.

LOUISIANA.

In the land districts north of Red river, in this State, the public surveys exhibit two salt springs, viz.

One in township No. 12, of range No. 5, west.

The other do 13, do 4, west.

As the exterior lines only of these townships have been surveyed, the precise locality of these springs cannot be designated.

In the county of Natchitoches, in this State, there are seven claims, including salt springs, reported on by the Commissioners, only one of which has been recommended for confirmation.

The six remaining unconfirmed are as follows, viz.

Claim, reported as No. 7, in the name of John Burnet, containing 620 and twenty-hundredths acres.

Claim, reported as No. 24, in the names of Benjamin Goodin and Alexander Baillie, containing 585 and forty-hundredths acres, on the Bayou Saline.

Claim, reported as No. 25, in the names of Benjamin Goodin and Alexander Baillie, containing 640 acres, on the Bayou Saline.

Claim, reported as No. 45, in the names of the heirs of James Morrison, embracing a league square, including the salt spring, on the Bayou Saline.

Claim No. 16, in favor of Samuel Coburn, including two salt wells, on the right bank of the Bayou Saline.

Claim No. 73, in favor of Pierre Rosseau, for forty arpens front on the Saline bayou, by forty arpens deep, also includes a salt spring. This claim is recommended for confirmation, with the exception of the salt spring.

It is believed that these claims, including salt springs, are situate in the townships above mentioned; but, as the claims to the springs have not been confirmed, and the townships have only been surveyed on the *exterior* lines, their precise locality cannot be ascertained.

Michigan Territory.

In this Territory the public surveys exhibit the following described salt springs:

One situate on the southeast quarter of section 34, township 4, north range 12, east. One situate on an island in Saline river, between sections 2 and 11, township 3, north range 14, east. One situate northeast quarter of section 12, township 4, south range 5, east. One between the northwest and southwest quarter of section 9, township 1, south range 8, east. One on the southwest quarter of section 27, township 1, south range 10, east.

Arkansas Territory.

In the district of Arkansas county, in this Territory, there is one salt spring reported, situate in section 11, township 10, south range 29, west.

MINERALS.

Minerals in Missouri.

That district of country which is included between the following boundaries, viz. from the *head waters of the St. Francis river*, in a northwesterly direction, to the *Merrimac* river, a distance of about seventy miles in length, and from the *Mississippi*, in a southwesterly direction, to the *Fourche à Courtois*, a distance of about forty-five miles in breadth, was formerly known as the *lead mine country* of Louisiana—the superficial extent of which may be estimated at about three thousand square miles. It abounds with minerals of various descriptions, but is particularly characterized by the abundance of lead ore, and appearances of lead mineral, and includes such of the lead mines as are now, or have been formerly wrought, under claims said to have been derived from foreign authorities prior to the cession of Louisiana to the United States. It comprises a considerable extent of the counties of Washington, St. Genevieve, Jefferson, and Madison, in the now State of Missouri.

The most important minerals are, lead ore, iron ore, manganese, zinc, antimony, arsenic, saltpetre, salt, nitre, steatite or soap-stone, plumbago, and a variety of others of minor importance.

It is said that *iron ore* is found in large quantities in *Washington county*, and on *Fourche à Courtois*, (where it is accompanied by *manganese*.)

Also, on *Big River*, on *Platten* and *Joachim* creeks, and on the waters of the *St. Francis* and *Black rivers*. *Zinc* accompanies the lead ore at several places in *Washington county*. *Antimony* has been found in *Bellevue*, and *arsenic* in *Cape Girardeau*. *Stone coal* is said to have been discovered in large bodies at *Florrisant*, and in various places on the *Osage river*.

Most of the principal lead mines now known in Missouri have been worked from a very early period; and, from the extent of the indications of the old diggings of lead, which are found in various parts of the country, and the discovery of ancient works, furnaces, &c., there is every reason to conclude that the lead mine country of Missouri has occupied the attention of adventurers from a very early period, and probably before the grant to Anthony Crozat, in 1712, by Louis XIV., under which grant the property of the mines and minerals was conveyed in perpetuity to Crozat, and to his heirs, on the condition that they should revert to the crown of France whenever the working of the same was discontinued for three years together. After the retrocession of Crozat's grant to the crown of France, which took place in 1717, a company of individuals at Paris, under the name of the *Western Company*, was invested, by letters patent from the French Government, with certain exclusive privileges of commerce, in Louisiana, among which was the right of working the mines to the same extent that had previously been accorded to Crozat.

The first evidences of any systematic operations in working the mines appear to have existed under the authority of this company.

The *Western Company* surrendered their grant to the crown between the years 1730 and 1740; and the country was ceded by France to Spain in 1762.

From privileges said to have existed under these foreign authorities, claims have been asserted by individuals to the *principal lead mines* of Missouri. The evidences in support of these claims have been submitted to the Board of Commissioners for adjudicating land titles in Louisiana, but no definitive decision has, however, been made by them, as will be seen from the copy of the report of the Board of Commissioners on the subject of lead mines, (which has heretofore been submitted to Congress,) together with the evidences adduced in support of these claims, all which documents are herewith transmitted; (documents marked C and E.) Pending the state of indecision in regard to these claims, which will be discovered from the report of the Board of Commissioners, the claimants, if not all, have, in numerous instances, continued their mining operations to an extent that is only very partially known to this office, and have even gone on to make new discoveries.

As to the number and locality of the land mines of Missouri, and the extent of the reservations of the same.

As before stated, the *principal mines* were discovered, and are claimed by rights said to have existed prior to the cession of Louisiana to the United States. The only measures which Government has yet taken to discover the extent to which minerals may exist on the public lands, are the instructions given to the surveyor general, to note on the official returns of surveys, all appearances indicative of their existence. The map herewith transmitted, exhibits all the information afforded by the returns of the surveyor general as to the great mine country of Missouri. (See document A.)

Agreeably to general provisions of the laws regulating the sale of the public lands, reservations have been made by the register of the proper land office, of those lands on which mineral appearances are indicated by the returns of the surveyor general; but, inasmuch as the observations of the surveyor must necessarily be restricted to the immediate vicinity of the lines of public survey, consequently, the evidences of the existence of minerals afforded by the returns must be partial and indefinite, and, in excluding from sale the lands supposed to afford mineral, the register of the land office, in the absence of definite information, must act according to the best of his judgment from the means afforded him. Under such circumstances, it may reasonably be expected that many tracts of productive mineral land may have been omitted to be reserved, and that many inferior tracts of mineral lands may *have been* reserved.

I regret my inability to state, at the present time, the precise quantity of land which has been excluded from sale on account of mineral indications.

This information was required of the register of the land office at St. Louis, as long since as 1821, and the reasons assigned by him for not complying with the request, (as will be seen from a copy of his letter, herewith transmitted—document marked I,) was, that the great pressure of business in his office would not then justify the loss of time and labor which would be incurred in its preparation. Since then, the request has been urgently repeated, and a list of these reservations is shortly expected to be received.

The map herewith transmitted exhibts those townships in the districts of Cape Girardeau and St. Louis in which there are mineral indications exhibited by the surveys. It also exhibits the reservations on account of lead mines in the district of *Cape Girardeau;* and, in the absence of positive information as to the quantity of land excluded from sale in the district of St. Louis on account of appearances of mineral, I have caused the lands which have been sold in those townships up to the date of the latest returns, to be designated, (by the yellow color,) in order to give an idea of the extent of the reservations, as it is presumable that a very great portion of what remains uncolored, (unsold,) has been excluded from sale on account of its minerals.

The following is a list of the townships which, in the returns of the Surveyor General, are reported to contain lead ore, and in which the reservations have been made.

IN THE DISTRICT OF CAPE GIRARDEAU COUNTY.

T'p No.	34 N.	R'ge	1 E.	Appearances exhibited are, "tiff, blossom, signs of mineral on the exterior lines."
Do	35 N.	do	1 E.	Same do do do.
Do	36 N.	do	1 E.	Same do do do.
Do	37 N.	do	1 E.	Same do do do.
Do	34 N.	do	2 E.	On the exterior lines north and west, appearances of mineral are stated, "tiff, blossom, iron, &c."
Do	35 N.	do	2 E.	Signs of lead in the southeast corner of this township, with tiff, blossom, iron, &c.
Do	36 N.	do	2 E.	On the exterior, signs of lead, tiff, blossom, iron, &c.
Do	37 N.	do	2 E.	On the exterior lines are signs of lead ore; on section 11 in this township is situated Mine à Burton; and on the line between sections Nos. 13 and 24, lead mine, called the New Diggings.
Do	35 N.	do	3 E.	On the north and west lines are signs of lead ore.

T'p No.	36 N.	R'ge	3 E.	On the exterior lines are signs of lead ore; and on section 23 is designated lead mineral.
Do	37 N.	do	3 E.	On the east side of sections 18 and 19 is the lead mine, called the "New Diggings;" signs of lead ore on all the exterior lines. Also, in sections 32 and 33, in the northwest corner of the township, is the lead mine called "Mine à Martin."
Do	35 N.	do	4 E.	Signs of lead ore on the west boundary of this township.
Do	36 N.	do	4 E.	On section No. 1 is the mine called "Mine au Joe;" signs of lead ore on the west side of this township.
Do	37 N.	do	4 E.	A lead mine, on private claim No. 467, signs of lead ore and lead diggings on the west boundary of this township.
Do	37 N.	do	5 E.	Lead mine on section No. 26, in the district of St. Louis.
Do	38 N.	do	1 E.	Exterior lines exhibit lead ore, blossom, diggings of lead, &c.
Do	39 N.	do	1 E.	East and south boundary exhibit signs of mineral, viz. tiff, blossom, iron, &c.
Do	41 N.	do	1 E.	Lead mine in section 19.
Do	38 N.	do	2 E.	On all the exterior lines are signs of lead ore.
Do	39 N.	do	2 E.	Section 26, lead mines; signs of lead, &c. on all the exterior boundaries.
Do	38 N.	do	3 E.	In section 18 are the "Old Mines;" between sections No. 21 and 22, is "Mine Shibboleth;" on section No. 19 is "Mine Belle Fontaine."
Do	39 N.	do	3 E.	Appearances of lead ore on all the exterior lines.
Do	40 N.	do	3 E.	A great quantity of mineral is indicated by the "tiff" in sections 31 and 32.
Do	38 N.	do	4 E.	Lead in sections 3, 4, and 10.

NOTE.—In relation to the terms "*tiff*" and "*mineral blossom*," it is proper to remark that it is understood they are both popular *local* terms, indicating the presence of *lead ore*. The former is a very white and heavy spar, and may be considered as the proper matrix of the lead ore, as it is found imbedded in, and often completely enveloped by it. It is the same substance, called "*cawk*" by the English miners, and is known to chemists as the "*sulphate of barytes*." It is said to be extremely useful as a chemical re-agent or test, and is recommended as one of the best fluxes for iron ore, in smelting, in the large way. It consists of the earth "*barytes*," united to the sulphuric acid.

"*Mineral blossom*" is a term applied to a species of *quartz* of a very brilliant appearance, which is always supposed to accompany lead ore.

AS TO THE PROBABLE VALUE OF THE MINES.

From the copy of the communication of Moses Austin, dated 7th October, 1816, this inquiry, it will be perceived, is answered as quoted below; and it is believed to be impracticable to acquire any adequate ideas as to the value of the mines, until the mining operations shall have been carried to a greater extent than they have hitherto been, and until, by a more judicious and better organized system than has hitherto existed, their extent and resources shall have been more fully developed. Mr. Austin states, that, on the subject of the lead mines of Missouri, he speaks from the experience of twenty-five years.

"To answer this question correctly is not within the capacity of any man living; there is no data on which to make an estimate. Were I to take as a standard the common mode of estimating improved farms by a five, six, or seven years' purchase, it would not apply in this case; because, the produce depends on events unknown to any man; no miner can tell the value of a mine beyond the length of his pick; were the Government to say they would take $500 per acre for mineral land, few men would be willing to give that sum, or a half of it; yet I have seen fifty feet of ground produce that amount of mineral in a month with the labor of two or three hands; and, again, in other places the same number of hands may labor with the same assiduity, and not make even common wages.

"From this state of facts, it is impossible to estimate their value; that they are immense, no one will deny; nor can they be exhausted for ages, if properly managed. Nothing is wanting to make them productive to the United States but a judicious system."

From a very interesting work published by Mr. Schoolcraft, giving a view of the lead mines and minerals, &c. of the western section of the United States, more information may be derived on every subject connected with the mineral resources of the United States in the western region, than from any other source with which I am acquainted.

Mr. Schoolcraft's statements have been made from minute personal observations, he having travelled on foot over the whole of the mine country in the years 1818 and 1819, exploring its minerals, its geological structure, its geographical positions, soil, climate, productions, towns, streams, settlements, and whatever may be supposed to interest the mind of a scientific inquirer. His views are at once intelligent and comprehensive; a variety of facts have been collated by him with persevering industry, and which he exhibits in a manner calculated to present the subject in the most interesting light.

On reference to the work of Mr. Schoolcraft, and to communications from individuals who have been engaged in mining operations, I find it is impracticable to arrive at any certain result as to the annual products of the mines, for the following reasons:

No regular accounts of the products have been kept at at the mines.

The products vary in proportion to the degree of attention bestowed, which is so fluctuating, that the products of no one year, if known with certainty, would furnish criteria by which to judge of the products for any given number of years.

From a combination of facts collated by Mr. Schoolcraft, the following is an exhibit of the probable amount of the individual and comparative products of the mines for a period of three years, ending 1st June, 1819; the number of hands stated to be employed includes all persons concerned in the operations of mining, wood-cutters, teamsters, blacksmiths, as well as those engaged in digging and smelting the ore.

Name of mine.	Pounds of lead.	No. of hands employed.	Situation.	
			Township.	County.
Mine à Burton, - - -	1,500,000	160	Burton, - -	Washington.
Mine Shibboleth, - -	2,700,000	240	Union, - -	do.
Mine la Motte, - - -	2,400,000	210	St. Michaels, -	Madison.
Lebaum's mine, - - -	1,300,000	140	Richwoods, -	Washington.
Bryan's mine, Dogget's mine, -	900,000	80	Hazel Run -	St. Genevieve.
Perry's diggings, - -	600,000	60	Burton, -	Washington.
Elliot's mines, Old mines, Belle Fontaine,	45,000	20	Union, -	do.
Mine Astraddle, - -	- -	-	Burton, - -	do.
Mine Liberty, Renault's do. Mine Silvers, Miller's do.	450,000	40	Liberty, - -	do.
Cannon's diggings, Becquet's diggings, Little mines,	75,000	30	Union, - -	do.
Rocky diggings, - -	- -	-	P. de Roche, -	do.
Citadel do. Lambert's mine, Austin's do. Jones's do.	1,160,000	130	Burton, - -	do.
Gravelly diggings, Scott's mines, Mine à Martin, Mine à Robino,	50,000	20	do. - -	do.
	10,180,000	1,130		

MINES NOT WORKED.

Name of mine.	Situation.	
	Township.	County.
New diggings, - -	Burton, -	Washington.
Pratt's mines, - -	Big river, -	do.
Mine à Joe, - -	Flat river, -	St. Genevieve.
Gray's mine, - -	Big river, -	Jefferson.
Rosebury's mine, -	Burton, -	Washington.
Moreau's diggings, -	do. -	do.
Henry's mine, -	do. -	do.
Hawkins' mine, -	do. -	do.
Bibb's mine - -	do. -	do.
Tapley's diggings, -	do. -	do.
Fourche à Courtois, -	Liberty, -	do.
Micheaux's diggings, -	Burton, -	do.
Masson's diggings, -	do. -	do.
Tibault's diggings, -	do. -	do.
Brushy run diggings, -	do. -	do.
Stricklin's diggings, -	do. -	do.
J. Scott's diggings, -	do. -	do.
McKane's diggings, -	Dry creek, -	Jefferson.

The foregoing aggregate furnishes us with an average annual produce of 3,726,666 pounds. He moreover estimates, that, since the United States acquired possession of Louisiana, in 1803, up to December 1819, a period of fifteen years, there have been smelted *fifty-five millions* of pounds of lead.

Taking the above annual product at the rate of $4 50 per cwt., the price it would sell for on the banks of the Mississippi, and at the principal depots of the mineral country, Herculaneum and St. Genevieve, it would produce to the smelters $149,728.

It would be useful, if a just estimate could be formed, of what proportion of the above sum would be *net profit*, after deducting all expenses. That, however, must vary in proportion to the yield of the ore, (which varies from 40 to 70, and sometimes 80 per cent., at different mines,) the price of wages, and the economy of the management of the operations of smelting, which generally appears to have been very injudiciously conducted.

Some ideas on this point may be collected from the statements of the late John Rice Jones in his communications made to this office in 1816, a copy of which is herewith transmitted. (Document marked F.)

Assuming the yield of the ore at 55 per cent., and the price of lead at the mines at $4 per cwt., he shows that the net profit would amount to fifty cents on every thousand pounds of crude mineral smelted.

Assuming the yield of the ore at 57½ per centum, and the price of lead at the mines at $5 per cwt., his calculation exhibits a net profit of $3 25 for every thousand pounds of crude mineral smelted.

And, assuming the yield of the ore at 60 per centum, and the price of lead at the mines at $5 per cwt., the net profit would be $4 50 on every thousand pounds of mineral smelted.

To ascertain the value of the mines, the following particulars would have to be taken into consideration, viz.

The purity of the ore.

The extent to which it exists.

The facility with which it can be obtained.

As respects the purity of the ore of the Missouri mines, it is believed not to be exceeded by any in the world. The yield of the ore, it is true, is various at different places: but this circumstance is believed to be, in a great measure, owing to the want of judicious and economical management in the operation of smelting.

As respects the extent to which it exists, sufficient experiments have not yet been made by which any positive conclusion may be arrived at. The mining operations have been pretty much confined to the surface, and have never extended to a greater depth than *eighty* feet; and no scientific inquiry, as to the extent of the veins of mineral, are known to have been made, if we except those of Mr. Schoolcraft, who, in his observations respecting the geology of the mine country in Missouri, appears to have discovered abundant reasons to justify the conclusion that the bowels of the earth are *metaliferous* to a much greater extent than has yet been penetrated; and that, very possibly, the richest veins of ore, even in those mines which are now supposed to be exhausted, may lie but a short distance below the shafts hitherto sunk. That, although no just calculations can be made of what would be the production of the mines under a well organized system of mining operations, enough is known to warrant the belief that the yield of the mines may be made sufficiently abundant for domestic consumption, and also to afford large supplies for exportation.

MINERALS IN ILLINOIS.

The lead mines on the Fevre and Ouisconsin rivers, in this State, are not noticed in this report, as they are embraced by the report made by the Secretary of War.

On the waters of the Grand Pierre creek, in the district of Shawneetown, there is stated to be abundant appearances of lead. That creek is a small stream in Pope county, emptying into the Ohio, four miles above Golconda.

The reserves which have been made of the mineral lands are as follows, viz.

Sections Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12, in township 12, south of range 7, east.

Nos. 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 34, 35, in township 11, south of range 7, east.

Sections Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, and 36, in township 11, south of range 9, east.

Sections Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, south half of section 12, north half of section 14, and sections 15, 16, 17, 18.

The nearest of these mineral appearances to Shawneetown is within twelve miles, and from three to four miles of the Ohio river.

The appearances on the waters of the Grand Pierre are about eight miles from the Ohio river, and twenty from Shawneetown.

I would here beg leave to refer to the copy of the communication from the register of the land office at Shawneetown, dated 1st November, 1816, and to the map (exhibiting the reservations) herewith transmitted; documents marked G.

There is no *official* information in this office of the existence of any copper mines either in Illinois or Missouri. It is stated, however, by Mr. Schoolcraft that a mass of native copper, weighing seven pounds, and another weighing three pounds, have been discovered on the highlands back of Harrisonville, (the seat of justice for Monroe county, in Illinois,) situate on the Mississippi river, opposite Herculaneum, and that partial attempts have been made to discover copper ore at that place, which, from untoward circumstances, were abandoned. He states that, after digging forty feet, a red compact oxyde of iron and copper was found, and therefore coucludes that ores of copper will be found in that neighborhood. Native copper, it is also stated, has been found in detached masses on Big Muddy river, in this State, which rises between the waters of Kaskaskia and Little Wabash, and empties into the Mississippi about fifty miles above the mouth of the Ohio. This stream is boatable for forty or fifty miles through a fine prairie country.

There are no mines or minerals known to exist on the public lands in the States of Ohio, Indiana, Mississippi, or Alabama; nor have any minerals in the Territory of Michigan been reported in the returns of the surveyor general, as far as the surveys have yet extended. The statements of Mr. Schoolcraft, however, are well known, that copper exists in large quantities in the northwestern part of this Territory on the head waters of the Mississippi, and on the shores of Lake Superior.

There is no official information of the existence of mineral in Louisiana as far as the surveys have yet extended.

MINERALS IN ARKANSAS.

In the Lawrence county district, the public surveys exhibit mineral appearances as follows:

Township No. 14, north of range 8, west, in sections 1, 12, and 13, and in township 14, north of range 7, west, between sections Nos. 2 and 3.

The mineral indications appear to be those of *lead ore*.

General remarks.—The extent of the mineral region of the western section of the United States is very imperfectly known. Reasoning from a variety of information as to the discoveries of mineral at numerous detached points far removed from each other, the conclusion presses itself, that the grand mineral region of the west extends from the waters of the Red river, in the Territory of Arkansas, (and possibly from the waters of the Sabine, in Louisiana,) to Lake Superior, in the Territory of Michigan, a direction nearly north and south, embracing a tract of country varying from one hundred to one hundred and fifty miles in width, abounding more or less in lead, iron, and copper ores, together with a variety of minerals of inferior importance, which usually accompany those mentioned. The following are some of the principal reasons which induce the above conclusion.

We have accounts of the existence of large masses of native copper on the head waters of the Mississippi, and along the shores of Lake Superior. We know of the

lead mines on the Ouisconsin and Fevre rivers, and Dubuque's mines on the Mississippi river, 440 miles above St. Louis; the lead mine country between the waters of the river St. Francis and the Merrimac river, in Missouri; and have accounts of the existence of lead on the Red river, and of masses of pure lead having been cut out of the bed of the Sabine river, at low water, at the point where that river is intersected by the road leading from Natchitoches to Nacogdoches; and, although many of these accounts may be much exaggerated, still there is reason to believe they are founded in *fact*.

The consideration of the probably vast extent of mineral country which will be gradually developed as the country becomes settled and discoveries progress, will, no doubt, be of much importance in determining whether it be good policy to endeavor to make mineral lands a productive source of public revenue, or whether, by throwing them into market, to leave the result to individual enterprise and competition; and it is here respectfully suggested, that, should it be desired to make the mines a productive source of revenue, that the merits of the titles which are asserted to the principal mines of Missouri be first definitively settled; that competent means be employed to make new discoveries of such minerals as may be worked to the greatest advantage; and that the most efficient and judicious system may be devised to make the mines productive, whether they be wrought by public agents or leased to individuals for a term of years.

The statement of the money received into the Treasury, which will accompany this report, compared with the immense value of the property, shows the expediency of taking some measures on the part of the Government by which this property may be made more productive, either as a source of immediate revenue to the Government, or as a source of national wealth. The extent of country throughout which lead ore is found, and the abundance and quality of the mineral, afford the best security against individual monopoly, and will insure an ample supply of the article for the demands of the Government on all occasions. As a source of revenue, there is no reason perceived why the Government should reserve, under its own immediate management and control, the lands containing lead ore, which is not equally applicable to similar reservations of the lands containing iron ore, or even of the lands of the best quality for agricultural purposes. As a source of national wealth, it is believed that the enterprise, economy, skill, and capital of individuals, applied for their own immediate benefit, would make this property more productive than any system which could be devised for the exclusive management of it by the Government.

I would beg leave further to suggest the propriety of exposing to public sale such of the salt springs (and the reservations attached to them) as have been, or may hereafter be discovered, and which have not already been granted to the States in which they are respectively situated.

All which is most respectfully submitted.

GEO. GRAHAM,
Commissioner of the Gen. Land Office.

To the PRESIDENT *of the United States.*

A.

Explanation of the map.

The map exhibits that tract of country formerly considered as the *lead mine country* of Louisiana, viz.

From the Mississippi river to the *Fourche à Courtois*, on the *west*, and from the *head waters of the St. Francis* river on the south, to the *Merrimac* river on the north.

The tract of country within the limits of the square discriminated by the green color, is what may be more properly regarded as the mineral country of Missouri, embracing an extent of 1512 square miles.

Of this portion of country there are only certain townships in St. the Louis and Cape Girardeau districts, which have been reported by the surveyors as containing mineral, or exhibiting *appearances* of mineral of any kind.

The following is a list of the townships referred to.

Township No. 34 N.,	Range 1 E.		Appearances exhibited are, tiff, blossom. Signs of mineral on the exterior lines.
Do	35 N.	1 do.	Same.
Do	36 N.	1 do.	Same.
Do	37 N.	1 do.	Same.
Do	34 N.	2 do.	On the exterior lines, N. and W. appearances of mineral are stated, tiff, blossom, iron, &c.
Township No. 35 N.,	Range 2 E.		Signs of lead in the southeast corner of this township, with tiff, blossom, iron, &c.
Do	36 N.	2 do.	On the exterior, signs of lead, tiff, blossom, iron, &c.
Do	37 N.	2 do.	On the exterior lines are signs of lead ore. On section 11, in this township, is situated "Mine à Burton;" and, on the line between sections Nos. 13 and 24, lead mine called "New Diggings."
Do	35 N.	8 do.	On the N. and W lines are signs of lead ore.
Do	36 N.	3 do.	On the exterior lines are signs of lead ore, and on sect. 23 is designated "lead mineral."
Do	37 N.	3 do.	On the east side of sections 18 and 19 is the lead mine called the "New Diggings."—Signs of lead ore on all the exterior lines; also, in sections 32 and 33, in the northwest corner of the township, is the lead mine called "Mine au Martin."
Do	35 N.	4 do.	Signs of lead ore on the west boundary of this township.
Do	36 N.	4 do.	On section No. 1, is the mine called "Mine à Joe." Signs of lead ore on the west side of this township.
Do	37 N.	4 do.	A lead mine on private claim, No. 467. Signs of lead ore, and lead diggings, on the west boundary of this township.
Do	37 N.	5 do.	Lead mine on section No. 26, in the district of St. Louis.
Do	38 N.	1 do.	Exterior lines exhibit lead ore, blossom, diggings of lead, &c.
Do	39 N.	1 do.	East and south boundary exhibit signs of mineral, viz. tiff, blossom, iron, &c.
Do	41 N.	1 do.	Lead mine in sect. 19.
Do	38 N.	2 do.	On all the exterior lines are signs of lead ore.
Do	39 N.	2 do.	Sect. 26, lead mines, signs of lead, &c. on all the exterior boundaries.
Do	38 N.	3 do.	In section 18 are the "Old Mines." Between sect. No. 21 and 22, is "Mine Shibboleth." On sect. No. 19, is "Mine Belle Fontaine."
Do	39 N.	3 do.	Appearances of lead ore on all the exterior lines.
Do	40 N.	3 do.	A great quantity of mineral is indicated by the tiff, in sect. 31 and 32.
Do	38 N.	4 do.	Lead in sections 3, 4, and 10.

Not having received precise information of the *extent* of the reserves in the St. Louis district on account of mineral appearances, from the causes mentioned in the report, those appearances are designated, as far as information has been received, by the notes in red ink; and the diggings of lead, which are designated by the circular red marks, thus, (*oooo.*)

From the land office at Jackson, (Cape Girardeau district,) more explicit information has been received, which

will be found in document marked B, accompanying the report; but it is not such as will admit of a discrimination of the *particular tracts* which have been excluded from sale.

In the absence of specific information as to the *particular tracts* excluded from sale on account of mineral appearances, and to convey, as far as practicable, an accurate idea of what may be their extent, the map exhibits, by the *yellow color*, the lands sold; and, in those townships described in the foregoing list, where there are mines, or mineral appearances, it may be very reasonably inferred that at least the *greater portion* of what is not marked *as sold*, has been *excluded from sale*.

The lands designated by the *blue color* are private claims confirmed, and those designated by the *red color* are the reserves for schools.

Those designated by the *brown color*, are private unconfirmed claims.

THE FOURCHE A CURTOIS,

Is described as a considerable stream, rising in the broken lands in the southern part of Washington and St. Genevieve counties; and running a northerly course, empties into the Merrimac on the right side. Its banks abound with lead ore, which are frequently accompanied with manganese.

THE MERRIMAC RIVER,

Is described as a large navigable stream, originating two hundred and fifty miles southwest of its mouth, and is only separated from the waters of the Gasconade by a dividing ridge of land. It is swelled in its course by a great number of streams, the most noted of which are, Little Merrimac, Borbeuse, Fourche à Courtois, Big river, and Mineral fork. It forms a junction with the Mississippi eighteen miles below St. Louis, where it is two hundred yards wide. It is only navigable about fifty miles, unless in high floods in the spring and fall, when most of its tributaries may be ascended in boats. This stream waters the country of the mines, and interlocks, by its tributaries, with the waters of the Gasconade on the west, and the St. Francis on the south. The mines of Missouri are situate on its southern shores, which also afford iron, zinc, manganese, and saltpetre.

THE ST. FRANCIS RIVER,

Rises with Big river and Fourche à Curtois, in the broken lands in the south part of Washington and St. Francis counties, and joins the Mississippi five hundred miles below, about seventy-five miles above the mouth of White river. Its navigation is much obstructed by rafts. The banks are, in many places, subject to inundation. At the head of this river is the most extensive body of iron ore in the western country. The La Motte lead mines are also on one of its tributaries.

ST. GENEVIEVE AND HERCULANEUM.

The former is a post town, and the seat of justice for St. Genevieve county, and is situated on Gabourie creek, about a mile and a half above its junction with the Mississippi, in latitude 38° N., eighty-five miles southeast of St. Charles. This town contains about 1,400 inhabitants. At high water, boats of any size can ascend the Gabourie to the town.

The latter is a flourishing post town, and the seat of justice of Jefferson county. It is situate in lat. 38° 15′, N., thirty miles south of St. Louis, and thirty-five miles northeast of Potosi, and contains between thirty and forty houses.

These towns are the great depots of the lead mine country. In the vicinity of Herculaneum are three shot towers, which are built on the precipices, from which the shot is dropped to the river's brink.

B.

JACKSON, *January* 31*st*, 1824.

SIR: We enclose six plats, containing information of the lead mines, salt springs, &c. We have reserved originals, and shall keep them in the register's office. Two reasons have prevented our not sending on this information earlier. Our attention being directed to the sales of the public lands, and wishing to make our report to embrace the proceeds of the mines closing with the last, we have been at much trouble and pains to procure the information required. With regard to the intrusions on the public lands, we would recommend the appointment of a special agent, (or the sale of these mines,) the duty of the agent compelling him to report and prevent aggressions; the distance we live from the mines making it impossible that we can prevent the repetition of trespasses, without we should keep some one in the neighborhood, whose duty would compel him, in a special manner, to attend to that matter.

We are, respectfully, your obedient servants,

GEORGE BULLITT,
T. QUARLES.

Hon. G. GRAHAM, *Washington*.

LAND OFFICE AT JACKSON, *January* 31*st*, 1824.

SIR: Yours of the 14th June, 1823, on the subject of the lead mines, salt springs, &c., has been received; and, agreeably to your request, beg leave to make the following report:

Mine la Motte is situated in Madison county, on the head waters of the St. Francis river, three miles from Fredericktown, the county seat for that county, and thirty miles from St. Genevieve, the nearest place of water transportation. The road from that place is good. This mine is claimed by John Bte. Valle, John Bte. Pratte, St. Germanus Boveas, and the representatives of Francis Valle, deceased, by virtue of an old Spanish grant for 24,000 arpens, which claim has not been confirmed. The mineral yields but little lead when compared to the mines of Flat river and Mine au Breton. There appears to be three qualities of minerals: First quality is found in lumps, weighing from half a pound to ten pounds, and has an unusual quantity of sulphur mixed with it. This mineral has, generally, to pass through five furnaces before the lead can be completely separated from the slag, and producing to the smelter thirty-eight per cent. Second quality is found in small lumps, mixed with earth, which has to be washed therefrom; the mineral has then to go through nearly the same operation as the first, and yields twenty-five per cent. Third quality is found mixed with the rock, which has all to be thrown into the furnace together, and yields seventeen per cent. This is the oldest mine in the district, having been worked at intervals for near one hundred years; but there is no data from which to form any just estimate of the quantity of mineral that has been raised since the cession of Louisiana to the United States. There has been but little done at this mine; the many new discoveries that have been made in the neighborhood of Mine au Breton, together with the quantity and richness of the mineral, having attracted the attention of the miners to that section of the country. There has, however, been made at Mine la Motte within three years past, about 1,000,000 pounds of lead; and, at this time, there are fifty hands engaged there. The mineral at this mine extends over about a half section of land; the country is fertile, and well adapted to cultivation; the timber on the south and west is heavy, consisting of oak, hickory, gum, ash, and walnut. On the north and east barren; but the land is fertile and timber thin, consisting of white and black oak.

Flat river mines. Under this head, several mines are included: 1st, Flat Mines; 2d, Mine à Joe; 3d, Grunbo; 4th, Yankee diggings; 5th, M'Kee's mines.

1st. *Flat mines*, situated on Flat river, two and a half miles from its junction with Big river, a branch of the Merrimac. It is claimed by John Smith T, under Cammille Suziere, by concession. They have been worked to a considerable extent, and are found to be very profitable to the proprietors. There are now about fifteen hands engaged at these mines, the mineral yielding to the smelter sixty-five per cent.

2d. *Mine à Joe*, claimed by Scott and Elliott, under Joseph Jarrett, by concession. This mine differs from other mines in the neighborhood of Mine au Breton, by the difficulty of finding the beds of mineral, it being found in veins between the rock, which separates from five to thirty feet, and in all cases running a north and south direction. Thus, the miner has to dig a number of wells without being able to procure one pound of mineral; but, when he is fortunate enough to strike the vein, he is sure of finding a body of mineral sufficient to reward him for all his labor. At the depth of 20 or 30 feet from the surface, the minor is often forced to abandon his well, in the midst of the mineral, by the sudden rushing in of the rock water. There has been a large quantity of mineral raised at this mine within a few years past, and we think can be worked to a much greater extent. Four hands are engaged; and the mineral yields to the smelter 70 per cent.

3d. *Grunbo* is situated half a mile northwest of Mine à Joe. There have been some very valuable wells sunk at these works; and, in 1820–'21, were thought to be the best mines in the neighborhood. They are at this time evacuated, and considered by the miners to be exhausted. Mineral producing to the smelter sixty-five per cent.

4th. *Yankee diggings*, situate two miles northwest of Grunbo. This discovery has been made within a few years past, and is found to be very productive. There are now about twenty-eight intruders at work at these mines, and the improvements are better than any of the Flat river mines. But we will here remark, that the improvements at all the mines in this district are of very little value, being composed of small log huts, to answer the purpose of one or two years. Mineral producing sixty per cent.

The whole of the abovenamed mines are situate in the county of St. Francis, about 35 miles west of St. Genevieve, and about the same distance southwest from Herculaneum. Good and convenient roads may be had to either place. The country immediately in the neighborhood of the mines, and for some distance north and east, is poor, and unfit for cultivation. On the south lies Murphy's settlement, a fine rich body of land, and well timbered. To the southwest, fifteen miles, is the Bellevieu settlement, one of the richest bodies of land in this section of the country. The timber in the neighborhood of these mines is generally post oak, and scarce. The above mines are included in township 36 N., range 4 E., and we may safely say the whole township is mineral land; and, perhaps, in some future day, valuable discoveries may be made on each section in that same township. At the Flat river mines, and near Mine au Burton, there are a number of intruders, but not permanent; for when a new discovery is made of a valuable appearance, a large proportion of the miners, consisting of several hundred, flock to it, and exhaust it in their manner of digging.

1st. *Mine au Burton*, situate T. 37, N., R. 2 E., part of northeast quarter section 15; part of southwest quarter section 11, and a part of northwest quarter section 14.

2d. Claim of Moses Austin, Spanish grant, by the Baron Carondelet, in 1798, New Orleans.

3d. *Rubeno*, 425 acres, confirmed to Peter Blott.

4th. *Cantoi*, near 5th prin. merid., and west of Mine au Burton.

5th. *New diggings*, including north part of section 19, and the south part of 18; T. 37 N., R. 3 E., 5 prin. merid. 2,000 acres claimed by John Smith T., by a part of a concession granted to Samuel Sovragin for 1,000 arpens, to be located at his pleasure, of mines, mill-seats, &c. by the Spanish Government. Timber, oak, generally, and light; soil, round the mines, generally steril.

6th. Valle and Laclare purchased from the United States those diggings public, and included in T. 36 N., R. 3 E., over several sections, and a part in T. 37, and near the line dividing the townships. At this time, there is very little mining going on, as the reduced price of lead is not sufficient to justify the expense of making it. Although within the last year there has been a considerable quantity of lead made, yet, the prospect for this year is very dull, and it is generally presumed half, or, indeed, quarter of the quantity will not be made, unless some speedy change to augment the price. Within the last year, we may safely say that there has been made at all the mines in Washington and St. Francis counties 5,000,000 pounds, of which one-half has been made from ashes that have been collecting at sundry places for the last one, two, three, and four years.

7th. These mines are dispersed over two or three miles of country, in T. 36 N., R. 4 E., including Mine à Joe, claimed by Joe Jarrett, by concession. John Smith T. also claims by same, and sundry diggings on public land: The lead mineral of the mines above stated, generally yield to the smelter about 60 per cent. in lead, with very little variation, as the mineral is nearly of the same quality.

Probable amount of lead made at all the mines in this district since the cession of Louisiana, may be estimated at 2,500,000 annually.

Probable amount of lead made at the different mines hereafter stated, within the last year, and the probable number of hands employed:

1. Mine au Burton, public diggings, 100,000 pounds; twenty to fifty men.
2. Do. do. private, 500,000 pounds; 100 to 150 men.
3. Mine Rubeno, private, 10,000 pounds mineral.
4. Mine Courtois, public, 10,000 pounds mineral.
5. Mine New diggings, private, 100,000 pounds mineral; six to twenty men.
6. Mine Valle, part private, 100,000 pounds lead; twenty to fifty men.
7. Flat River mines, 400,000 pounds lead, fifty to a hundred men.

The Mississippi saline, claimed by Dodge, Scott, and representatives of E. Hempstead, by virtue of a Spanish grant to Pryroux, is situated about eight miles below St. Genevieve. The quantity of salt made at this saline during the ten preceding years, annually, from 10,000 to 14,000 bushels; and in those years the number of kettles from 100 to 150, the last year 70. The quantity of water to make a bushel of salt about 200 gallons.

We know of no other salt springs in our land district.

We have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servants.

GEO. BULLITT, *Register*.
T. QUARLES, *Receiver*.

Hon. G. GRAHAM,
Com. Gen. Land Office, Washington.

Report of the titles and claims to lead mines.

The sealed packet which was delivered to the board by the clerk on the 28th September, 1811, addressed to the commissioners, and styled by a letter enclosed in the same, signed William C. Carr, agent for the United States, to be a collection of evidence respecting the claims to, and value of, the lead mines within the Territory of Louisiana, accompanied with a list of the documents submitted; the whole stated to have been made in pursuance of the 6th section of the act of Congress for ascertaining and adjusting the titles and claims to land within the Territory of Orleans and district of Louisiana, passed the 2d March, 1805.

Document A.

Julian Dubuque and Auguste Chouteau, claiming a tract of 148,176 arpens of land, situate on the river Mississippi, at a place called the Spanish mines, about 440 miles from St. Louis, forming, in superficies, an extent of about 21 leagues. They produce, first, a petition by the said Julian Dubuque to the Baron de Carondelet, praying for the peaceable possession of an extent of land of about seven leagues on the west side of the Mississippi, beginning at the Heights of Maquanquetons, to the Heights of Mesquantinangues, being, in front on said river about seven leagues, by a depth of three leagues; the whole forming the said tract called the Spanish mines, together with a reference by the Baron de Carondelet to one Andrew Todd, an Indian trader, of the above demand, under date of the 22d October, 1796, with the assent of said Andrew Todd to the granting of the same, provided the said petitioner should not interfere with his trade; the same dated the 29th October of the same year. The decree of the Baron de Carondelet in the form following: "Concededo como se solicito, baxo las restricciones que el commerciante Don Andres Todd, expressa in su informe 20 Noviembre, 1796. El Baron de Carondelet." The translation of which is as follows: "Granted as it is demanded, under the restriction mentioned by the merchant Don Andrew Todd, in his information." See document A.

September 20, 1806. Present, Lucas, Penrose, and Donaldson, commissioners. A majority of the board, the honorable John B. C. Lucas dissenting, ascertain the above claim to be a complete Spanish title.

December 19, 1811. Present, a full board. On a question being put by John B. C. Lucas, commissioner, Clement B. Penrose and Frederick Bates, commissioners, declined giving an opinion. It is the opinion of John B. C. Lucas, commissioner, that this claim ought not to be confirmed.

Document B. not of record.

Martin Duralde, Livre Terrien, No. 1, page 24, from which the concession is translated, is dated prior to Livre Terrien, No. 2, which contains the words stated in document marked B, No. 2.

December 20th, 1811. Present a full board. It is the opinion of the board that this title ought not to be confirmed.

Document C.

Clement B. Penrose, commissioner, retired from the board in consequence of his having become interested in this claim since the decision of the former board.

James Richardson, claiming under Gabriel Cerre 400 arpens of land, produces a petition signed Gabriel Cerre, directed to Baron de Carondelet, governor general, praying for a concession for 400 arpens of land, including a mine. On information from Zenon Trudeau, lieutenant governor, 29th March, 1796, an official letter from Baron de Carondelet to Zenon Trudeau, lieut. gov., dated 28th April, 1796; a concession from Baron Carondelet, governor general, for the same, dated 25th April, 1796; a plat of survey of the same, dated 25th January, 1800, certified 28th January, 1800; an extract of an act of partition of the estate of Gabriel Cerre, by which it appears that the said 400 arpens of land fell to the share of Antonie Soulard in right of his wife, as heir of Catharine Geard, deceased, in her lifetime the wife of Gabriel Cerre. See document C.

December 20th, 1811. Present, Lucas and Bates, commissioners. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion. It is the opinion of John B. C. Lucas, commissioner, that the claim ought not to be confirmed.

Document D.

John Baptiste Francis Menaud and Emely Josefa Renaud, of the empire of France, heirs of Mr. Renaud, claiming, as a complete title, one and a half leagues in front by six leagues in depth of land, situate on the Little Merrimac, district of St. Genevieve, produces a certified copy of a grant from Bois Briant and Desursins, dated 14th June, 1723. See document D.

December 21st, 1811. Present, a full board. A majority of the board ascertain that this title is not a grant made

and completed prior to the 1st of October, 1800. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Claimants have entered caveats, stating that this claim is interfered with by a number of other claims.

The claims alluded to are duly recorded, and some of them confirmed.

Document D, continued.

John Baptiste Francis Menaud and Emily Josefa Renaud, of the empire of France, heirs of M. Renaud, claiming, as a complete title, two leagues of land situate in Mine la Motte, district of St. Genevieve, produces a certified copy of a grant from Bois Briant and Desursins, dated 14th June, 1723. See document D.

December 21st, 1811. Present, a full board. A majority of the board ascertain that this title is not a grant made and completed prior to the 1st October, 1800. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion. Claimants have entered caveats, stating that this claim is interfered with by a number of other claims. The claims alluded to are duly recorded, and some of them confirmed.

Document D, continued.

Walter Fenwick and Andrew Henry, assignees of Francis Azor, alias Breton, claiming four arpens square of land, situate in Mine au Breton, district of St. Genevieve, produces a certified copy of a concession from Francis Cruzat, lieutenant governor, dated 20 March, 1782, certified by Francis Valle, 8th April, 1800; a transfer from Francis Azor, alias Breton, to claimants, dated 27th May, 1806. See document D.

This tract is said to be claimed by the representatives of Francis Moreau.

December 21st, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E.

Bazil Valle, claiming 400 arpens of land situate Old Mines, district of St. Genevieve, produces a concession from Charles D. Delassus, lieutenant governor, to thirty-one inhabitants of the Old Mines, dated 4th June, 1803, a connected plat of survey on which Bazil Valle is No. 1, dated 3d February, 1804, certified 25th February, 1806. See document E.

December 21st, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

P. C. H. F. Auguste Valle, claiming 400 arpens of No. 2, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21st, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

Manuel Blanco, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 3, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21st, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

John Portell, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 4, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21st, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

Pierre Martin, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 5, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21st, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

Jacob Boisse, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 6, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21st, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

Joseph Pratté, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 9, produces the same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21st, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

Francis Maniche, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 10, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21st, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

Amable Partinais, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 11, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21st, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

Joseph Blay, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 12, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21st, 1811. Present a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

Francis Roberz, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 13, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21st, 1811. Present a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

Baptiste Placit, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 15, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21st, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

Veuve Colman, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 16, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21st, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board, that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

Charles Boyer, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 18, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21st, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

Antoine Govreau, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 19, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21st, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

Nicholas Boilvin, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 20, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21st, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

T. Rose, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 21, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21st, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be granted. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

L. Lacroix, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 22, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21st, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

F. Baptiste Valle, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 23, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21st, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

F. Milhomme, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 24, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

Jaque Guibord, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 25, produces same concessions and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

F. Thibeau, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 26, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

A. Partinais, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 27, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

J. Becquette, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 28, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

B. Coleman, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 29, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

Hypolite Roberz, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 30, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

Pierre Boyer, claiming 400 arpens of land, No. 31, produces same concession and plat as in the claim of Bazil Valle.

December 21, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

John Smith T, assignee of Charles Robar, claiming 420 acres of land, situate as aforesaid, produces as aforesaid a notice to the recorder, and same concession, wherein Charles Robar is found to be one of the 31 inhabitants; also, the plat aforesaid, in which plat said Robar is No. 8, a deed of transfer from said Robar to claimant, dated 24th August, 1805.

Testimony taken October 22, 1808. Peter Boyer, sworn, says that Charles Robar was settled in the village of the Old Mines five years ago, and inhabited and cultivated a part of said tract of 12,400 arpens for three years.

December 21, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of Clement B. Penrose, commissioner, that this claim ought to be granted, being embraced by the second section of the act of the 2d March, 1805, and claims with as slight testimony have been granted. It is the opinion of John B. C. Lucas, commissioner, that this claim ought not to be granted, because the testimony of Peter Boyer concerning the inhabitation and cultivation of Charles Robar is indefinite, and does not apply more to the part of the connected plat to which his claim refers, than to any other part of the 12,400 arpens represented by the connected plat. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

John Smith T, assignee of Alexander Duclos, claiming 420 acres of land, situate as aforesaid, produces notice to the recorder, the same concession as aforesaid, wherein Alexander Duclos is found to be one of the thirty-one inhabitants; also, the plat aforesaid, in which plat said Duclos is No. 7, a deed of transfer from said Duclos to claimant, dated 24th August, 1805.

Testimony taken October 22, 1808. Peter Boyer, sworn, says Alexander Duclos was settled in the village of the Old Mines, and inhabited and cultivated a part of said tract of 12,400 arpens five years ago, and for three years.

December 21, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of Clement B. Penrose, commissioner, that this claim ought to be granted, being embraced by the second section of the act of 2d March, 1805, and claims, with as slight testimony, have been granted.

It is the opinion of John B. C. Lucas, commissioner, that this claim ought not to be granted, because the testimony of Peter Boyer, concerning the inhabitation and cultivation of Alexander Duclos, is indefinite, and does not apply more to the part of the connected plat to which his claim refers, than to any other part of the 12,400 arpens represented by the connected plat.

Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

John Smith T, assignee of Louis Boyer, claiming 840 acres of land, situate as aforesaid, produces notice to the recorder, same concession as aforesaid, wherein Louis Boyer is found to be one of the thirty-one inhabitants; also, the plat aforesaid, in which plat Louis Boyer is No. 14, an assignment from said Louis Boyer to claimant, dated 25th August, 1805.

Testimony taken October 22, 1808. Peter Boyer, sworn, says that Louis Boyer was settled in the village of the Old Mines, and inhabited and cultivated a part of said tract of 12,400 arpens five years ago, and for two years.

December 21, 1811. It is the opinion of Clement B. Penrose, commissioner, that this claim ought to be granted, being embraced by the second section of the act of 2d March, 1805, and claims with as slight testimony have been granted.

It is the opinion of John B. C. Lucas, commissioner, that this claim ought not to be granted, because the testimony of Peter Boyer concerning the inhabitation and cultivation of Louis Boyer, is indefinite, and does not apply more to the part of the connected plat to which his claim refers, than to any other part of the 12,400 arpens represented by the connected plat.

Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document E, continued.

John Smith T, assignee of Joseph Boyer, claiming 1,190 acres of land, situate as aforesaid, produces notice to the recorder, the same concession as aforesaid, wherein Joseph Boyer is found to be one of the thirty-one inhabitants; also, the plat aforesaid, in which plat Joseph Boyer is No. 17, an assignment from said Boyer to claimant, dated 9th January, 1808.

Testimony taken October 22, 1808. Peter Boyer, sworn, says that Joseph Boyer was settled in the village of the Old Mines, and inhabited and cultivated a part of the said tract of 12,400 arpens eight years ago, and ever since, until last year.

December 21, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of Clement B. Penrose, commissioner, that this claim ought to be granted, being embraced by the second section of the act of the 2d March, 1805, and claims, with as slight testimony, have been granted.

It is the opinion of John B. C. Lucas, commissioner, that this claim ought not to be granted, because the testimony of Peter Boyer concerning the inhabitation and cultivation of Joseph Boyer, is indefinite, and does not apply more to the part of the connected plat to which his claim refers, than to any other part of the 12,400 arpens represented by the connected plat.

Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document F.

Moses Austin, claiming 7,153 arpens 32⅔ feet of land, situate adjoining Mine au Breton, district of St. Genevieve, produces to the board a grant for the same from Don Juan Ventura Morales, intendant of Louisiana,

dated 5th July, 1802, and is founded on the abstract of all the concessions and patented grants of land appertaining "to the district of Louisiana, recorded in the registers kept by the Spanish and French Governments of the province of Louisiana, since the 2d of July, 1756, until the 23d April, 1802," transmitted to this board by the Secretary of the Treasury; which grant the intendant declares to be founded on an official letter from the Baron de Carondelet to Zenon Trudeau, lieutenant governor, dated March 15, 1797, ordering the said Zenon Trudeau to grant one league square, and an order of survey from said Zenon Trudeau, dated 14th January, 1799; declaration of its having been surveyed by Antoine Soulard, and registered in book of surveys No. 52; and a declaration on the part of said Antoine Soulard that the land was occupied by claimant at the time of survey, grants, on condition that claimant shall comply with the 3d, 4th, 6th, 7th, and 9th articles of the ordinances of his intendancy, dated 17th July, 1799. See document F.

December 21, 1811. Present, a full board. A majority of the board ascertain that this title is not a grant made and completed prior to the first of October, 1800.

Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document F, continued.

Representatives of Francis Moreau, assignee of Francis Azor, alias Breton, claiming four arpens square of land. See document F.

December 21, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of Clement B. Penrose, commissioner, that this claim ought to be confirmed, being embraced by the fourth section of the act of the 3d of March, 1807.

It is the opinion of John B. C. Lucas, commissioner, that this claim ought not to be confirmed.

Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document F, continued.

St. James Beauvais, claiming sixty feet in circumference round every hole where he may find mineral. See document F.

December 21, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed.

Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document F, continued.

Francis Valle, representatives of, claiming sixty feet in circumference round every hole where he may find mineral. See document F.

December 21, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed.

Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document F, continued.

F. Lalumandiere, heirs and representatives of, claiming sixty feet of land in circumference round every hole where they may find mineral. See document F. This claim is not of record.

December 21, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed.

Document F, continued.

Amable Partinais, claiming 500 arpens of land, situate adjoining Mine au Breton, district of St. Genevieve, produces a concession from Charles D. Delassus, lieutenant governor, dated 5th September, 1799, and a plat of survey dated February 20, 1800; certified 10th June, 1800. See document F.

December 21, 1811. Present, a full board. The testimony of Baptiste Valle and Jean Lemoine, stated in the report of the agent to have been taken on the 12th August, 1806, and copied by the said agent, together with the opinion of the board, from the rough minutes, which must be understood from the rough minutes of the board, is not deemed by the present board to be proper and legal evidence, inasmuch as the said testimony and opinion never were entered on the fair minutes of said board, which are the sole minutes known in law, and acknowledged by the commissioners. The board remark that no kind of testimony suggests, or makes it appear, that the land claimed includes a lead mine, and the board would have confirmed the same had it not been included in the agent's report.

It is the opinion of the board that this claim ought to be confirmed.

Document F, continued.

Charles Becquette, claiming 34 arpens of land. See document F.

December 23, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of the board that this claim ought to be granted. The board remark, that no kind of testimony suggests, or makes it appear, that the land claimed includes a lead mine, and the board would have granted the same had it not been included in the agent's report.

Document F, continued.

Louis Milhomme, claiming 20 arpens of land. See document F.

December 23, 1811. Present, a full board. The board remark, that no kind of testimony suggests, or makes it appear, that the land claimed includes a lead mine. It is the opinion of the board that this claim ought not to be granted, said claimant not having produced permission to settle.

Document F, continued.

Louis Grinya and Francis Thibeault, assignee of Louis Lacroix, claiming 40 arpens of land. See document F.

December 23, 1811. Present, a full board. The board remark that no kind of testimony suggests, or makes it appear, that the land claimed includes a lead mine. It is the opinion of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed.

Document F, continued.

Peter Martin, claiming 26 arpens of land. See document F.

December 23, 1811. Present, a full board. The board remark, that no kind of testimony suggests, or makes it appear, that the land claimed includes a lead mine. It is the opinion of the board that this claim ought not to be granted, claimant not having produced permission to settle.

Document F, continued.

Jacob Wise, claiming 37½ acres of land, situate adjoining Mine au Breton, district of St. Genevieve, produces a plat of survey, dated 26th February, and certified 28th February, 1806; produces, also, permission to settle, sworn to by Joseph Decelle, syndic.

The following testimony in this claim, taken from testimony perpetuated and attested by two of the commissioners, October 24, 1808.

Francis Thibeault, sworn, says that Jacob Wise cultivated the land claimed nine or ten years ago, and ever since; built a house the first year, and was rented to Mr. Decelle for two years; has not since been inhabited, but has always been used as a barn. Claimant lived adjoining this tract with one Charles Becquette. Claimant is a single man.

December 23, 1811. Present, a full board. The board remark that no kind of testimony suggests, or makes it appear, that the land claimed includes a lead mine.

It is the opinion of the board that this claim ought not to be granted, claimant not having inhabited the same on the 20th December, 1803.

Document F, continued.

Thomas Russ claiming 1,146 arpens 41 perches of land. See document F.

December 23, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of the board that this claim ought not to be granted. The board remark that no kind of testimony suggests or makes it appear that the land claimed includes a lead mine, and that the claim has been acted on by the board a long time prior to the report of the agent delivered to the board.

Document F, continued.

Widow Moreau, assignee of John Baptiste la Breche, claiming 500 arpens of land situate on the waters of Grand river, district of St. Genevieve, produces a concession from Charles D. Delassus, lieutenant governor, dated 5th September, 1799. See document F.

December 23, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document G.

August Chouteau, junior, claiming 800 arpens of land. See document G.

December 23, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of the majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document H.

Reuben Smith, assignee of James and Nicholas Keith, assignees of Nicholas Boilvin, claiming 800 arpens of land situate on the waters of Grand river, district of St. Genevieve, produces an order of survey from Zenon Trudeau, dated 25th January, 1798; a plat of survey, signed Boyd Denny, dated 26th February, 1806; a transfer from Boilvin to James and Nicholas Keith, dated December, 1804; a transfer from James and Nicholas Keith to claimant, dated 20th May, 1804. See document H.

December 23, 1811. Present, a full board. The board remark that no kind of testimony suggests, or makes it appear, that the land claimed includes a lead mine.

It is the opinion of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed.

Document I.

John Baptiste Pratte, senior, claiming 1,000 arpens of land. See document I.

December 23, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document K.

Rufus Easton and James Bruff, assignees of Joseph Gerrard and Patrick Flemming, claiming 840 arpens of land, situate on the 2d fork of Grand river, district of St. Genevieve, comprehending and including the Mine à Joe, produces a certified copy of an order from Manuel Perez, lieutenant governor, to Peyrouse de la Condriniere, commandant, to grant said tract, dated 7th July, 1790; a certified copy of a concession from Peyrouse de la Condriniere, commandant, to Joseph Gerrard, pere, Patrick Flemming, fils, Joel Macagne, and Laurent Macagne, for seven arpens by thirty to each of them, dated 17th July, 1790; an order of survey from Charles D. Delassus, lieutenant governor, to Joseph Gerrard and Patrick Flemming for 840 arpens, stating the aforesaid concession from Peyrouse, commandant, in consequence of the same not having been surveyed before, dated 25th September, 1799; a transfer from Patrick Flemming to claimant, dated 14th September, 1805; a transfer from Joseph Gerrard to Rufus Easton, dated 12th December, 1804; a plat of survey of 840 arpens, dated 28th September, 1799, certified 10th January, 1800; an acknowledgment, signed by Rufus Easton and James Bruff, and dated 15th November, 1805, by which it appears that said claimants are equally concerned in said tract. See document K.

December 24, 1811. Present, a full board. The testimony of James Keith and Ezekiel Eastridge, stated in the report of the agent to have been taken on the 2d of December, 1807, and copied by the said agent from the rough minutes, which must be understood, from the rough minutes of the board, is not deemed legal evidence, inasmuch as the same was ordered by the board not to be transcribed, and was not transcribed for the following reasons: that the board had established a rule not to receive evidence partially, but to receive all the testimony at one time, unless, from the peculiar situation of the parties, the testimony offered could not be produced again; in that case the same was attested, on the rough minutes, by the signature of the majority of the commissioners. The object of the rule was generally not to let the testimony open to be improved and enlarged by the parties; the board conceiving that this opportunity might have been greatly abused.

It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document L.

Camille Delassus, claiming two thousand four hundred arpens thirty-four and a half perches of land situate on the waters of Big river, district of St. Genevieve, produces record of a concession from Charles D. Delassus, L. G., dated 12th October, 1799, a plat of survey, 1st November, 1799, certified 10th January, 1800. See document L.

December 24, 1811. Present, a full board. The board make the same remarks as in the claim of Amable Partenais, page 555, as respects the rough minutes; and same remarks as in the claim of Easton and Bruff, page 558, as respects the testimony taken on the 1st and 2d of December, 1807.

It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document M.

Louis Lebaume and Charles Fremon Deloriare, claiming ten thousand arpens of land situate near Prairie a Rondo, district of St. Genevieve, produces record of a concession from Zenon Trudeau, L. G., dated 17th January, 1797. Certificate of a plat of survey signed and sworn to by Antoine Soulard, and dated 15th March, 1808. See document M.

December 24, 1811. Present, a full board. The board remarks that no kind of testimony suggests, or makes it appear, that the land claimed includes a lead mine. It is the opinion of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed.

Document N.

John Smith T, assignee of Jaque St. Vrain, claiming ten thousand arpens of land—see document N. Original papers not produced; the record of the concession much compressed; thirty-three words are interlined with different ink; the words Louis Labaume, apparently the heading of said Labaume's notice of claims, occupies one-third of the paper in the direction which four lines of the record of said concession stands in, so that two-thirds of the said paper, in the direction of the said lines, is covered, on each side, with the said four lines, and the remaining one-third, in the middle, is occupied by the said words Louis Labaume. It appears from the records, that John Smith T claims under this concession as follows: One thousand arpens at a place called the New diggings, about two miles from the Mine au Breton, a place known by the name of Mine à Robina; three hundred arpens on the branch above Renault's mine; three hundred arpens, including Dogget's mines; two hundred arpens on the first branch emptying into the Mine fork on the south side, above its junction with Big river; two hundred arpens, including a place called McKee's Discovery, about a mile and a quarter from the last mentioned place; fifty arpens, including a mill seat, on the second creek emptying into Big river, above the Mineral fork, on the west side.

December 27, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document N, continued.

Joseph Decelle, claiming six hundred and thirty acres of land. See document N.

December 27, 1811. Present, a full board. In the testimony of David Shaw, copied from the minutes of the board by the agent, there is error. It is there stated, "about three or four hundred yards from the field;" whereas, in the original, it is "two or three hundred yards." It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be granted. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document O.

Pierre Charles Dehault Delassus Deluziere, claiming seven thousand and fifty-six arpens of land. See doc. O.

December 27th, 1811. Present a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Document P.

John Baptiste Pratte, St. James Beauvais, Francis Vallé, and John Baptiste Valle, claiming two leagues square of land, situate at Mine à la Motte, district of St. Genevieve, produces record of a petition and recommendation for a concession from Charles D. Delassus, L. G., dated 22d January, 1801; record of power of attorney to James Maxwell, to obtain said concession; record of a petition of said Maxwell to the intendant, dated 29th April, 1802; an order from Morales to Peter Derbigny, to translate the documents and petition, dated New Orleans, 30th April, 1802; record of a plat of survey of twenty-eight thousand two hundred and twenty-four arpens, dated 22d February, 1806, certified 26th February, 1806. See document P.

December 27th, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

The foregoing claims, from A to P, inclusive, contain the whole of the report made to this board by the agent of the United States.

John Perry, assignee of Bazil Valle, claiming 639 arpens of land situate at the Mine à Breton, district of St. Genevieve, produces a notice to the recorder dated October 3d, 1807, and a deed of conveyance from said Valle to claimant, dated 18th March, 1806.

Testimony taken December 5th, 1807. Joseph Pratte, being duly sworn, says that, between the years 1792 and 1795, Bazil Valle built a cabin on the claim, cultivated a garden, and cleared six acres of land; in 1796 continued to inhabit and cultivate the same till sold to claimant, and has been inhabited and cultivated ever since—said Valle considering said tract not to be more extensive than his improvements; that there have been minerals found within two rods of the enclosure, but does not know of any being found on the land; that the house stands on the street of the village at the Mine à Breton.

December 27th, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be granted, because it appears Bazil Valle claims another tract of land under concession. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Thomas Alley, claiming sixteen arpens of land situate at Alley's Mine, district of Genevieve, produces record of a petition and recommendation from Francis Valle, commandant, dated 18th August, 1801; a reference from Charles D. Delassus, lieutenant governor, to the intendant, dated 28th August, 1801.

December 27th, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Abraham Armstrong and Rufus Easton, claiming 640 acres of land situate on Big and Flat river, district of St. Genevieve, produces notice to the recorder; record of a transfer of half this tract to Easton, dated 13th December, 1806; said tract called, in said notice and transfer, Armstrong's diggings.

December 27th, 1811. Present, a full board. The board remark that the term diggings is generally understood in this part of the country, when applied to designate a tract of land, diggings of lead mineral. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be granted. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

The three foregoing claims to land, containing lead mines, although not included in the report of the agent, are subjoined to the same.

JOHN B. C. LUCAS.
CLEMENT B. PENROSE.
FREDERICK BATES.

C.

Claims to land, including salt springs.

Charles Tayon, claiming 320 arpens of land situate on river Dardennes, district of St. Charles, produces a concession from Zenon Trudeau, lieutenant governor, for said quantity of land, to include a salt spring; a plat of survey of 320 arpens, dated 1st December, 1799, certified 8th January, 1800; said concession dated 7th March, 1796. Testimony taken July 30, 1806. John Laflure, being duly sworn says that the said tract of land was settled for claimant's use by one Harrington, in the year 1801; that a house was built on the same.

December 27th, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Jacque Clamorgan, assignee of Thomas Tyler, assignee of John Helderbran, claiming eight by forty arpens of land situate near Merrimac, district of St. Louis, produces a duly registered concession from Fernando de Laybee, dated November 24, 1779; a plat of survey dated 28th, and certified 29th February, 1806; and two deeds of transfer, the one from said Helderbran to Tyler, dated November 22d, 1788; and another from said Tyler to claimant, dated September 17th, 1791. Charles Gratiot produces a deed of conveyance (not on record,) from Jeremiah Connor, sheriff of St. Louis district, for the above land, to Edward Hempstead, dated 11th June, 1808; but stating, in the body of the same, to have been sold by said sheriff to said Hempstead on the 7th day of July, same year; said deed afterwards acknowledged in open court on the 11th July, 1808. Produces, also, an acknowledgment from Edward Hempstead and wife that said property was purchased by him for Charles Gratiot, and by said Hempstead and wife conveyed to said Gratiot, dated November 25, 1808. It is acknowledged by Charles Gratiot that there is a saline on this claim, which has been worked for many years. Testimony taken July 30th, 1806, John Boli, being duly sworn, says that, about 18 or 19 years ago, the time at which he arrived in this country, the aforesaid Thomas Tyler lived about one mile below the fork of a run on said land, and had there about 80 arpens of the same under fence, 40 of which were then planted in tobacco and corn, and then considered the largest farm in the country; that he remained on it for about six or seven years; that, about two years after his, the witness's arrival, the settlers being obliged, on account of the Indians, to fortify themselves, they choose the middle of the settlement, in consequence of which the said Tyler moved up to the fork; that, about four or five years afterwards, he moved again, and settled himself at about two miles from the aforesaid place down the creek, towards the saline; made a field and garden, built a house; and that the said tracts have been actually cultivated to this day, either by the said Tyler for his use, or for claimant's use by his agents; and that this tract was actually inhabited and cultivated prior to, and on the first day of, October, 1800. November 29, 1808. Peter Chouteau, sworn, says that John Helderbran inhabited and cultivated the land claimed in 1774; and that he found him still inhabiting and cultivating the same in 1780. When deponent, by order of the lieutenant governor, went on the premises to warn said Helderbran to abandon the same on account of Indian depredations, this order was obeyed by Helderbran, as well as all the inhabitants of the settlement of the Merrimac.

July 30, 1806. Present, Lucas, Penrose, and Donaldson, commissioners. The board confirm to the said claimant as per his concession.

December 27, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of the majority of the board that this claim ought to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Charles Gratiot, assignee of Pierre Chouteau, who was assignee of Benito Vasquez, claiming 7,056 arpens of land, situate on the river Merrimac, district of St. Louis, produces a duly registered concession from Francis Cruzat for the same, dated 8th Sept. 1784, and certified by Charles D. Delassus, the 9th March, 1803; the same granted for a vacherie, and on the conditions of establishment within a year and a day; the survey of the same, dated the 15th, and certified the 17th February, 1806, together with a deed of transfer of said land executed by Victoire, the wife of said Benito Vasquez, dated the 26th September, 1785, and passed before the commandant Francis Cruzat; a ratification of said transfer by said Benito Vasquez, dated the 31st January, 1805; and also a deed of transfer from the said Peter Chouteau to claimant, dated 4th May, 1804. Testimony taken August 29, 1806: Louis Bonn, being duly sworn, says that he has known the said tract of land established as a farm; that it was settled under Francis Cruzat by the aforesaid Benito Vasquez, who made a park on the same; that there is on said tract a salt spring, distant from said park about three arpens; that he went through said land at two different times; that the same was then actually inhabited and cultivated; saw a great number of cattle, but could not say to whom they did belong.

Hyacinth St. Cyr, being also duly sworn, says that he was on the said tract of land about twenty-one years ago; that the same was then actually inhabited and cultivated for the use of the said Benito Vasquez, who then had salt works established at the aforesaid salt spring; and, further, that it was prior to, and on the 1st day of October, 1800, actually inhabited and cultivated for the said Peter Chouteau.

October 25, 1808. Pierre Lajoy, sworn, says that claimant made an establishment on the land claimed about twelve years ago, when it was inhabited and cultivated for him; and that the same has been inhabited and cultivated for him ever since.

December 27, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of Clement B. Penrose, commissioner, that one league square ought to be confirmed. It is the opinion of John B. C. Lucas, commissioner, that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Pascal Cerre, claiming as devisee of Gabriel Cerre, 800 arpens of land, situate on the Merrimac, district of St. Louis, produces a duly registered concession from Francis Cruzat for eight by forty arpens, dated the 12th October, 1782; together with an order of survey for the same, with an addition of twelve by forty arpens, to be included in the same survey. Said order dated 10th January, 1798, and signed Zenon Trudeau.

Testimony taken August 30, 1806. Auguste Chouteau, being duly sworn, says that the said Gabriel Cerre settled the said tract of land in the year 1782, and that the same has been actually inhabited and cultivated to this day.

August 30, 1806. Present, Lucas, Penrose, and Donaldson, commissioners. The board confirm to the said claimant the said tract of 800 arpens, as per the said concession.

December 27, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of Clement B. Penrose, commissioner, that this claim ought to be confirmed. It is the opinion of John B. C. Lucas, commissioner, that eight by forty arpens ought to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Charles Freemon Deloriare and Louis Labeaume, claiming 10,000 arpens of land situate on Salt river, district of St. Charles, produces record of permission from Zenon Trudeau, lieutenant governor, to choose a salt spring, dated 13th May, 1799; record of a concession from Charles D. Delassus, lieutenant governor, dated 26th March, 1801; record of a plat of survey, signed Antoine Linlard, dated 15th November, 1807.

December 27, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Pierre Chouteau, claiming 30,000 arpens of land situate on Saline river, district of St. Louis, produces a concession from Charles D. Delassus, lieutenant governor, dated 20th November, 1799; a paper purporting to be a gift from sundry Indians to claimant, dated 19th March, 1792.

December 27, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Henry Peyroux, claiming 7,760 acres of land situate

on Saline creek and Mississippi river, district of St. Genevieve, produces record of a duly registered concession from Manul Perez, lieutenant governor, dated 24th December, 1787; a plat of survey dated 22d, and certified 26th February, 1806.

December 27, 1811. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

Charles Gratiot, assignee of Maturin Bouvet, claiming twenty arpens square of land, on which there is a saline, situate on the river Ha Ha, district of St. Charles, produces a concession, duly registered, from Zenon Trudeau, dated 1st June, 1795; and an act of public sale of the effects and property of said Bouvet, dated 7th December, 1800. Testimony taken July 8, 1806: Francis M. Bouvet, being duly sworn, says that he has known a saline established on said land for eleven or twelve years since; that the same was established by said Bouvet; that he died about five years ago by fire; that his house was then destroyed; and that he worked the said mine to the last moment.

July 8th, 1806. Present, Penrose and Donaldson, commissioners. The board reject this claim. They observe that the aforesaid concession is duly registered; that the conditions on which said concession was granted have been complied with, but that the same was not actually inhabited and cultivated prior to, and on the 1st day of October, 1800.

January 9th, 1812. Present, a full board. It is the opinion of a majority of the board that this claim ought not to be confirmed. Frederick Bates, commissioner, forbears giving an opinion.

JOHN B. C. LUCAS.
CLEMENT B. PENROSE.
FREDERICK BATES.

D.

ST. LOUIS, 22*d December*, 1811.

DEAR SIR: I am sorry to find myself obliged to inform you that the evil increases daily in the transaction of the business of the Board of Commissioners. Formerly some kind of respect was paid to appearances, and ingenuity could sometimes contrive an apology f r various acts which appear to me evidently wrong, but at present it matters of nothing less than an open desertion of duties.

The board has commenced, three or four days ago, to act on the report of the agent of the United States concerning the titles and claims to lead mines. Dubuque's claim stands first in the order of the report: it was accordingly taken up after a proper entry of the same had been made by the clerk on the minutes of the board. The question was put by me in order to obtain the opinion of the commissioners. Messrs. Penrose and Bates declared that they declined giving any opinion on the same. As to myself, having discovered that, by the notice of the claim as entered on record of the recorder of land titles, the claim is not introduced as supported on a complete title, but on an incipient or imperfect title: therefore, the opinion which I delivered was, that the claim ought not to be confirmed, which was entered on the minutes accordingly.

The second claim was supported on a concession from the Baron de Carondelet to Gabrel Cerre for 400 arpens of land, including a lead mine 60 leagues from St. Louis. Mr. Penrose declared that he had purchased the land claimed: of course Mr. Bates and myself were the sole commissioners competent to give an opinion: on the question being put, Mr. Bates declared that he declined to give an opinion. My opinion was, that the claim ought not to be confirmed, and was entered on the minutes. Mr. Bates expressed a wish to change his expression, by striking out the word *decline*, to introduce the word *forbear* in lieu thereof, which was agreed to. After this Mr. Penrose resumed his seat. The board acted upon about 35 claims to lead mines, in all of which Mr. Bates made the same declaration of forbearance to give any opinion. Thus far the injunction of the law made to the commissioners, to give opinions on the claims reported by the agent, is disobeyed. No reasons have been entered by Messrs. Bates or Penrose for their disobedience. Mr. Bates has merely declared that he would write to you, and explain his reasons for acting so, or, to use his own language, for his *forbearance* of action. He expressed a wish that I should also forbear or decline: he said it within the hearing of Messrs. Reddick and Penrose. I answered him that there should be no partnership between him and me as to the discharge of public duties; that every one must act for himself. This answer appeared to displease him, and he became more crusty than usual. I shall not scan the reasons of Mr. Bates: they cannot arise from the law, they cannot arise from sickness, for he gave a regular attendance at the board, and he says himself he will not desert his post. The case of Dubuque's cannot be perplexing and difficult. If it ever had been, your report to the President on the same, which the board is in possession of, would be more than sufficient to expel all doubts: hence the accountability, under every respect, for declining to give an opinion. But the persons concerned in Dubuque's claim, have laid a great stress on the former decision of the board in that claim: one of them has evinced to me much solicitude lest that decision should be reversed. At the time Morehead and Smith went with a large crew, amounting to seventy or eighty men, well armed, to take possession of Dubuque's mine, Mr. Bates, who was then acting governor, far from preventing this expedition from taking place, spoke in favor of it in my presence, and countenanced it so far as prudence permitted it. As to Mr. Penrose, his declining to give an opinion proves consistency: he dares not to give an opinion contrary to that expressed in your report, but he takes good care not to pull down his own work; there might be great danger in breaking through former engagements.

I have not, as yet, complied with my promise concerning certain acts of the commissioners: the matter is not wanting; I am only at a loss for time, and as to the means of giving a comprehensive account, and yet short or brief.

I defer stating any particulars about the agent, having now his report on the lead mines under consideration. I am more satisfied than ever of his nullity as agent. To say nothing more, his report is merely nominal; it cannot be acceptable but to lead claimants. No wonder then if he is a great favorite of theirs; no wonder if he is employed as counsel in suits by the richest of them; no wonder if a recommendation in favor of Mr. Carr has been lately signed by the most noted lead claimants in Saint Louis, and sent to the President, that he may be appointed one of the judges of this Territory. But, sir, whilst Mr. Carr did keep up and float gently on the tide of territorial popularity, for not doing his duty, and the two commissioners decline, or *forbear*, giving opinions on the most important claims, I stand alone, exposed on all sides to the shafts of the malignants. I still hope of my country, that Mr. Carr will not have a seat with me as a judge. I am at a loss how to close the report on the lead mines, for if no more than the opinion of one commissioner is entered upon two of the most important claims, it follows that the report is not full and entire, but is deficient in substance, and of course illegal. I never have been so much perplexed in my life as I am as commissioner. I never received, that I remember of, any assistance from my colleagues in point of opinions, and if I have preserved any degree of correctness, it has been by resisting their opinions, as evinced on the minutes.

Reverting to the agent's proceedings, he has included, in his report to the commissioners of claims to lead mines, several claims wherein no kind of testimony appears; nor does it appear by any written evidence that the lands thus claimed contain lead mines. As an instance of it, I shall cite the claim of Fremont Deloriere for 10,000 arpens, near Prairie Rondeau, district of St. Genevieve. It is not, however, my private opinion that Mr. Carr would have taken notice of that claim, if he had not been informed, by some means, that it contained a lead mine, but I must believe that he has only neglected to obtain the necessary testimony. The agent has failed entirely to comply with the requisites of the law as to the collection of evidence with respect to the value of the mines: thus it is out of the power of the commissioners to give any opinion as to the value of the lead mines. I intended to go to Washington this winter, as the report of the commissioners will probably be closed in the course of a week, whether right or wrong; but I find myself prevented, having received, yesterday, a notice from the sheriff of St. Genevieve, that he has in his custody a certain man charged with having committed lately the crime of murder at one of the mines, in pursuance of which I have issued a receipt for the holding of the court of oyer and terminer in the same district, on the first Monday of February next, which I am necessitated to attend, there being no other judge of the superior court but myself.

I find a great objection to the mode and quantum of the compensation intended by law for the services of the commissioners that remain due. Messrs. Penrose and Bates have pressed upon me to draw up a memorial to Congress for the purpose of remonstrating against the propriety and sufficiency of the compensation, but I have taken so different a course from them in the discharge of my duties—there may also be so great a difference in our relative situation under other respects, that I think our

respective claims to compensation require a separate statement, and justify a different result.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your humble and obedient servant, JOHN B. C. LUCAS.

Hon. ALBERT GALLATIN.

ST. LOUIS, *January* 31, 1812.

SIR: At last the commissioners have disposed, in one way or other, of all the claims entered on record, and the transcripts of the claims and evidence to be reported have been signed on the 24th instant. Towards the close of the business, the views of the commissioners have been more variant even than before. At present I shall merely allude to the business transacted during the last month, which comprehends the claims to lead mines, to salt springs, and about ten ordinary claims to land. The board has ordered these last to be surveyed previously to decision. These ten claims being for certain quantity bounded east by the Mississippi, and fronting the same, and west by the road leading from St. Louis to Prairie à Catalon, without mentioning the quantity from the river to the road, a survey was absolutely necessary for the purpose of ascertaining the quantity, before a patent certificate should issue.

In the first place, to my utter astonishment, I have found that the report of the agent of the United States concerning titles and claims to lead mines is an injudicious and careless compilation from the record of claims to land, and from the minutes of the board. Many claims are included in the report of the agent, as claims to lead mines, which do not appear so either by written or parole evidence. Other claims have been omitted by the agent which appear to be claims to lead mines. In the greatest number of claims to lead mines, no original title papers have been produced before the board; for instance, in the claim of John Smith T, the assignee of Jacques St. Vrain, for ten thousand arpens, no original title papers have been produced. Indeed it appears from the report of the agent that, generally, he has deemed sufficient to take copies from the record of the recorder of land titles, without minding the originals. He has copied off irrelevant matter from the minutes, such as the decisions of the first board, and their voluntary declarations that certain commissions, not duly authenticated, did issue at the time it bears date. Although these decisions were mere nullities under all possible respects, and, as to the valuation of the mines, he has been perfectly silent or inattentive, which is a very important omission. The conduct of Messrs. Penrose and Bates on the report of lead mines has not been less extraordinary. In the first place, in the claim of Dubuques and Chouteau for the Spanish lead mines, these two commissioners have absolutely declined to give an opinion. My own, in this case, stands alone on the minutes; it differs from that which I had given on the same claim in 1806. At this present time, my opinion is, that it ought not to be confirmed, because reading the notice, as entered on record, it appears that they don't claim under a complete title, but merely under an incipient title: thus, in 1806, the majority of the commissioners have been so kind to Messrs. Dubuque and Chouteau as to grant them even *ultra pelitum*. There is another claim to lead mine, in which my opinion also stands alone. It is a claim for 400 arpens by concession from Baron Carondelet to Gabriel Cerrè. Clement B. Penrose has since become purchaser of the same; of course he could not give his opinion. Mr. Bates did also decline to vote: indeed Mr. Bates did decline voting in any claim to lead mines or salt springs. These lead mines, from the rapid fortunes that are made by their assistance, have become objects of the first importance. Had Mr. Bates given opinions on the same, he might have run the risk of losing the popularity which his liberality has enabled him to obtain, or otherwise he might have exposed himself too openly to the censure of Government. You know very well the wide difference which exists between claims to lead mines, and claims generally. In the last case, a commissioner may indulge his disposition to liberality as far as a league square, without accountability. The principles on which he acts, the peculiar merits of the lands confirmed are not brought into view before Congress: not so with the claims to lead mines. This may account for the difficulties Mr. Penrose, and particularly Mr. Bates, found himself in with respect to the report of Mr. Carr on claims and titles to lead mines, and for the manner in which Mr. Bates extricated himself from the difficulty. Various other views may also be taken of the *reasons* which induced these gentlemen in acting as they did. As to the last ten claims, the board has acted in a manner quite novel and unknown to the law. It does not appear that they contained lead mines or salt springs, nor that they exceed a league square each; yet none of them are confirmed, nor have opinions been entered that they ought not to be confirmed. In fact, these ten claims stand as if they have not been acted on, except as to testimony, which has been given in several of them. Five or six of these claims are situated near the town of St. Louis, from half a mile to one mile distance, between the Mississippi and a road leading from St. Louis to Prairie à Catalon, or *Carondelet*. An order had issued from the board about two years ago to the surveyor, to ascertain the course of that road so far as said road is boundary to the claims. A tract of land claimed by Anthony Soulard, on which he lives, was included in the order. From all appearance, Mr. Soulard has extended his lines and enclosure beyond the road, which was given as western boundary to the concessions made to Gabriel Cerrè, whom he represents in right of his wife. Some time since the surveyor made an application to the board for more specific directions as to the means of ascertaining the road as it stood at the time the concessions were issued, which is about thirty years ago. Instead of amending the order, the majority of the commissioners rescinded it, and confirmed instantly Mr. Soulard's claim, agreeably to a survey made by Mr. Soulard himself for his father-in-law; which, from a letter of Mr. Bent, principal deputy surveyor, here enclosed, you will be satisfied that it is fraudulent.

As early as January, 1809, the agent of the United States caused a number of witnesses to be summoned for the purpose of testifying in the case of Mr. Soulard in the same claim. On the day appointed to receive testimony, Mr. Carr was sick and could not attend; he was well again the day following, and a little while after became the counsel of Mr. Soulard in his business at the general court. He was also employed as counsel of Mr. Auguste Chouteau, &c.

I am going this day to attend a court of oyer and terminer at St. Genevieve. This prevents me from entering into further details at present. Mr. Penrose has offered to the board to be carrier of the report: Mr. Bates and myself have agreed to put it in his charge.

I wish I had it in my power to go to Washington; perhaps I might be able to give you, occasionally, some satisfactory explanations. I was going to forget to observe that, in the claims to salt springs, you will find one for 800 arpens granted to Gabriel Cerré. Mr. Penrose is of opinion that it ought to be confirmed: my opinion is, that a certain quantity, to wit, 400 arpens, ought to be confirmed. You will be pleased to observe that this claim is predicated upon two concessions. It appears, by testimony, that inhabitation and cultivation has taken place on one of the parts, but not on both. Two concessions ought always to form two claims, no matter if the claimant blend them into one or not. In 31 claims at the old mines, each for 400 arpens, represented in a connected plat, John Smith T claims three of them. Mr. Penrose is of opinion that they ought to be confirmed. Please to attend to the reasons of my dissent. Permit me to observe that these concessions are not registered; that I strongly suspect them to be antedated, and that the inhabitation and cultivation which took place there was by poor mineral diggers, who had built their cabins near each other, and had a small patch behind each; the digging of mineral was their object; their cultivation was trifling, and merely incidental; that the 31 concessions are large scions grafted on very small stocks; that, from all circumstances as to the ruling policy of the Spanish Government concerning lead mines, these concessions never would have issued had not the same Government disposed of the country; and, notwithstanding the ingenuity of the contrivance, it does not appear that each tract includes the inhabitation and cultivation in pursuance of which they are respectively claimed.

It appears to me that Congress cannot go safely in acting immediately on the reports, without more information, as the report contains very little. Mr. Penrose denies, *in toto*, the active existence of Spanish laws and regulations; Mr. Bates has acted as if the position that, what is not forbidden is permitted, applied to public officers. Another material defect exists: it does not appear by the report, or otherwise, how many claims have been confirmed in the name of those, or to those that have claims, as original claimants, reported to Congress. A person can not, by law, obtain, gratuitously, but a certain quantity of land; the law might be defeated, though indirectly, by a multiplicity of grants. Cerré, Chouteau, Clamorgan, and many others, have as much land confirmed as they are entitled to by law. They style themselves *negociants*, in their petitions: thus they are out of the purview of the Spanish regulations; for the regulations extend the gratuitous concession of land to those only who are professionally cultivators of the soil, or husbandmen.

It is easy for you to imagine how my situation must be uncomfortable in this Territory. Faithful to the best interests of the United States, I stand, I may say, alone, the object of unrelenting persecution. I am even sneered at for my fidelity: they say that my services have been depreciated to less than one-third of the value which they had originally been estimated at by law. The truth of the remark adds, if possible, to the pungency of the treatment. I still hope justice from my country. If I have not been able to accomplish great yield of good, perhaps I have prevented much wrong from taking plaee. I hope that a compensation more proportionate to the duration of the labor will be allowed to me. I confidently hope that you will use your influence to obtain that object. Virtue is rarely so fervid as to support itself against every possible discouragement.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your humble and obedient servant,

JNO. B. C. LUCAS.

P. S. Being in want of money, I here enclose the certificate of Thomas F. Reddick, as clerk of the late board; I purpose to draw for $500 in the course of fifteen days.

Hon. ALBERT GALLATIN,
Secretary of the Treasury.

E.

Documents alphabetically arranged from A to P, inclusive, in relation to the titles of the claimants to lead mines in Louisiana, which were laid before the Board of Commissioners by Mr. C. Carr, agent of the United States, accompanied by an abstract of the claims made out by him.

A.

To his Excellency BARON DE CARONDELET:

The very humble petitioner of your excellency, named Julien Dubuque, having made a plantation on the frontier of your Government, in the middle of the Indian people, inhabitants of the country, has purchased from them a tract of land, with the mines included in it, and, by his perseverance, has overcome the obstacles so expensive and dangerous; and, after several misfortunes, became to be peaceable proprietor of a tract of land situate on the western part of the river Mississippi, to which tract he has given the name of the Spanish Mine, in memory of the Government to whom the said land belongs; and, as the place of his plantation is only a spot, and the several mines which he has worked at are scattered and dispersed more than three leagues of distance from one to the other, the very humble petitioner of your excellency prays you to be so good as to grant him the peaceable possession of the said mines and lands, which is to say: from the hills above the little river Maquauquitois, until the hills of Mesquabynongues, which makes about seven leagues on the western side of the Mississippi, and three leagues of depth, which the very humble petitioner dares hope that your goodness will be pleased to grant him his demand. I pray this said goodness to be so good as to allow the pure simplicity of my heart, in default of my eloquence. I do pray Heaven to conserve and lead you with all its kindness. I am, and will be all my life, of your excellency the very humble, very obedient, and very submitted servant,

J. DUBUQUE.

To his lordship the GOVERNOR.

NEW ORLEANS, *October* 22, 1796.

Let the merchant, Don Andrew Todd, be informed of the nature of this demand.

EL BARON DE CARONDELET.

NEW ORLEANS, *October* 29, 1796.

SIR: Complying with the superior decree of your lordship, by which you order me to give you a notice on the demands made by the party interested in the preceding memorial, I must say, that, about the land petitioned for, it does not offer any thing to me by which your lordship may not grant it, if you find it proper, but under the condition that the petitioner must observe what is ordered by his Majesty concerning the trade with the Indians, and that the same should be absolutely forbidden to the said petitioner, unless he will obtain my consent in writing. ANDREW TODD.

NEW ORLEANS, *November* 10*th*, 1796.

Granted, as it is demanded, under the restriction mentioned by the merchant Don Andrew Todd in his information. EL BARON DE CARONDELET.

ST. LOUIS, *July* 17*th*, 1806.

I do hereby certify that the above is truly translated from the original. M. P. LEDUC,
C. to B. of Com'rs. District Louisiana.

Copie du conseil, tenu par M. les Renards c'est a dire le chef et le brave de cinq villages, avec l'approbation du reste de leurs gens expliqué par Mr. Quinantotaye, deputé par eux en leur presence et en la notre nous soussignés, savoir, que M. les Renards permettent à Julien Dubuque, appellé par eux La Petite nuit de travailler à la mine jusquá ce que lui plaira de s'en retirer sans lui Sepeoesiffier aucun terme. Deplus qui lui vendent, et abandonne toute la cote, et contenu de la vente trouvê par la femme de Prosta que sans quáucun blanc in sauvages ne puissent pretendre sans le consentement du M. Julien Dubuque, et si en car ne trouve rien dedans il sera maitre de chercher ou bon lui semblera et de travailler tranquillement sans qu' aucun ne puisse le nuire ni porter aucun préjudice dans ses travaux, ainsi nous chef et braves par la voix de tous nos villages nous sommes convenus avec Julien Dubuque lui vendant et livrant de cejour d'hui comme il est mentionné ci dessus en presence de Francois qui nous intendent qui sont les temoins de cette piece.

A la Prairie du Chien en plein conseil le 22 Septembre, 1788.

BAPT. PIERRE, sa × marque temoin.
A LA AUSTIN, sa × marque temoin.
BLONDEAU DE QUIENEAU, marque × tobague.
ANTAGNA.
JOSEPH FONTIGNY, temoin.

An additional article to a treaty, made by William H. Harrison, with the united tribes of the Sacs and Fox Indians, dated November 3d, 1804, wherein "it is agreed, that nothing in said treaty shall affect the claim of any individual or individuals, who may have obtained grants of lands from the Spanish Government, and which are not included within the general boundary line laid down in said treaty, provided that such grants have at any time been made known to the said tribes, and recognized by them."

Certificate.

The undersigned, William Henry Harrison, governor of the territory of Louisiana, and commissioner plenipotentiary of the United States for treating with the Indian tribes northwest of the Ohio, hereby certify and declare, that, after the treaty which was made with the Sacs and Foxes at St. Louis, on the 3d day of November, 1804, was drawn up and prepared for signing, he was shown a grant from the governor general of Louisiana to a certain Dubuque, for a considerable quantity of land at some distance up the Mississippi, and where the said Dubuque has for many years resided. Finding that this tract could be considered as receded by the treaty as it then stood, the additional article was written, and submitted to the Indians. They readily consented to it; and the undersigned informed them that the intention of it was, to embrace particularly the claim of Dubuque, the validity of which they acknowledged.

Given under my hand and seal, at Vincennes, the 1st day of January, 1806.

WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.

OPINION OF THE BOARD.

September 21*st*, 1806.

Full Board.

A majority of the board, the honorable John B. C. Lucas dissenting, ascertain the above claim to be a complete Spanish title.

"December 19th, 1811. Present, a full board. On a question being put by John B. C. Lucas, commissioner, Clement B. Penrose and Frederick Bates, commissioners, declined giving an opinion. It is the opinion of John B. C. Lucas, commissioner, that the claim *ought not* to be confirmed."

Vide vol. 2. p. 544. Transcripts of the decisions of land commissioners from the district of Louisiana, now Miss.

J. M. M.

B.

TRANSLATION.

To Messrs. Louis Saintange de Bellerive, captain commandant of the Illinois, and Joseph Labuxiere, attorney of the attorney general, judge, &c. of the royal jurisdiction of the Illinois, for the French.

SIRS: Martin Miloney Duralde, inhabitant of St. Louis, has the honor of exposing to you that he has been informed, by several traders, of the discovery of a lead mine in this French country, on the borders of the Mississippi, ascending it about 80 leagues above river Moa, or 160 leagues more or less from this village, according to their estimation; that several individuals have explored lead from the same, without any previous rights

nor finding any obstacles; whereas, no application has ever been made for the possession of the same; your petitioner having in all times abandoned to the whims of fortune, and involved in the general misfortune which renders the livelihood so troublesome, and resources so scarce, prays you, and petitions you, very earnestly, sirs, to grant him the concession of said mine, as being the only resource he can foresee, with three arpens in front, by the ordinary depth, in order that he might explore it, make a garden, and procure himself the necessary fuel for his hands, and that without being interrupted in any operations respecting the same. As depositary and disposer of the goodness of the most cherished King, your petitioner waits on your humanity for the favor which he solicits, and will give you proofs of an everlasting acknowledgment, praying the Supreme Being to prolong the days of such cherished and useful persons to the public good, and to the most respectful and faithful subject, and you will do justice. St. Louis, 5th July, 1769.

MILONEY DURALDE.

And underneath is written: Seeing what is exposed in the present memorial, and making right to the same, the lead mine in question having not been granted to nobody, several individuals having worked on the same, and afterwards abandoned it, and in order to favor the intentions of the said Duralde which tends to the public good, we have granted, and grant unto him as title of property, for him, his heirs, and assigns, the lead mine above demanded, in the within petition, with three arpens in width fronting on the said mine, by three in depth or length, to facilitate him in cultivating and raising the necessary buildings for the exploration of said mine; under the condition to commence his settlement within a year and a day, or be reunited to the domain of the King. We forbid, most expressly, all persons to trouble or disturb him in the said concession, under the penalty of all costs, damages, and be punished according to the ordinances. St. Louis, 6th July, 1769.

SAINTANGE.
LABUXIERE.

I do hereby certify the above to be truly translated from the book No. 1, page 24, remaining in the office of the recorder of land claims. St. Louis, 31st January, 1809.

M. P. LEDUC, *T. B. C. L. T.*

C.

Cadastre formé par moi Martin Duralde, arpenteur nommé par Mons. Don Pedro Piernas, capitaine d'infanterie et lieutenant gouverneur des etablissements et autres dependances du Gouvernement Espagnol des Illinois, et remis aux archives du même Gouvernement, en forme de proces verbal, pour servir à désigner les differentes terres concedées au nom du Roy aux habitans de ce poste de St. Louis; tant avec titre qu'avec consentement verbal, par les chefs qui les ont gouverné depuis sa fondation jusqu'á ce moment, que jai arpentées, et qui après les échanges, cessions ou ventes que la commodité et avantage d'un chacun peuvent avoir occasionnées se trouvent actuellement dans la pocession de ceux ci après nommés, suivant leur propre attestation et avêu reciproque, situeés dant les prairies circonvoisines de ce même poste dans l'ordre et selon les directions detaillées ainsi qu'il suit.

Ainsi Je l'atteste par mon seing et par l'aveu unanime de tous les proprietaires sus nommés assemblés dans ce moment avec l'approbation de mon dit Sr. Don Pedro Piernas, dans la chambre du Gouvernement pour se servir mutuellement de temoins et affirmer le fait les uns par leurs seings les autres par leur déclarations a défaut de savoir, signer en presence de Messieurs Don Pedro Piernas, susdit lieutenant gouverneur, et de Don Louis St. Ange de Bellerive, capitaine réformé et premier prédécesseur commandant de ce même poste servant l'un et l'autre savoir le dernier a certifier par son seing en sa dite qualité et en vertu du pouvoir dont il était chargé, d'avoir concédé soit avec titre soit verbalement les susdites terres au nome de sa Majeste, et mon dit Sieur Piernas, a aprouver, confirmer et ratiffier, aussi par son seing en sa qualite d'actuel lieutenant gouverneur avec laquelle il est muni du même pouvoir de conceder les possessions, accordées par mon dit Sieur De St. Ange et specifiées dans le corp de ce cadastre que Je remèts contenant soixante huit pages écrites celle ci inclusivement aux archives de ce Gouvernement, pour y être conservé a perpétuité et servir aux besoins, sureté, authenticité et témoignage de tout ce qui y est exposé à St. Louis, le vingt trois May de l'année mill sept cent soixante douze.

M. Duralde, *Amable Guyon,*
Laclede Liguest, *Sarpy,*
Dodie, *Cotté,*
A. Condé, *St. Ange,*
René Kiersereau, *Pedro Piernas.*
Becquet,

True extract from Livre Terrien, book No. 2. St. Louis, 7th January, 1812.

M. P. LEDUC, *T. B. C. L. T.*

C.

To the Baron de Carondelet, governor general of Louisiana, &c.

Gabriel Cerré, merchant of this town, has the honor of representing to your lordship, that, having often heard spoken of a lead mine situate on the right bank of the Merrimac river, about sixty leagues above its mouth, your petitioner has taken all the care in his power to procure the discovery of the same, and as an American inhabitant of said bank offered your petitioner to show him said mine for the sum of two hundred dollars, in consideration of which he would relinquish all his pretensions of said discovery in favor of your petitioner and his heirs, which conditions your petitioner did juridically agree upon: he went on the spot to examine if there was such a mine, and, finding some appearance, your petitioner determined to satisfy said American, conformably to contract, although he is yet uncertain whether said mine can indemnify him of the expenses and works he proposes himself to cause to be made, and which may become entirely burdenous if every body was permitted to explore it. It is in that view that your petitioner prays your excellency to grant him, as concession of said mine, the quantity of twenty arpens in front by twenty in depth, taking the discovered mine in the centre, in order to explore and form settlements, and keep the necessary cattles for its exploration; which favor he hopes to obtain from your goodness. St. Louis, March 29th, 1796.

CERRE.

I am assured that the lead mine solicited belongs to the King's domain, and that the granting of it will not prejudice any body; on the contrary, its exploration by Don Gabriel Cerré, who is industrious, and possesses a quantity of slaves and many hired men, will be very beneficial to our settlements.

ZENON TRUDEAU.

NEW ORLEANS, *April 25th*, 1796.

The surveyor, Don Anthony Soulard, shall establish and put the petitioner in possession of the twenty arpens of land in front by twenty in depth, which he solicits, taking for the centre the lead mine discovered, in order that he may explore it exclusively, being vacant and not prejudicing any body, maintaining the necessary roads for the traffic and public way, under which conditions the diligence of survey shall be extended at the continuation, and remitted to me, in order to give the party interested a title in form.

EL BARON DE CARONDELET.

Recorded, folios 32 and 33, book No. 1, No. 22.

SOULARD.

With the favorable decree, I send back to your worship the memorial of Don Gabriel Cerré, merchant and inhabitant of St. Louis, which is in solicitation of a concession for a lead mine lately discovered, about sixty leagues from the mouth of Merrimac, your worship remitted to me in his official, No. 246.

God preserve your worship many years. New Orleans, April 25th, 1796.

EL BARON DE CARONDELET.

To Don ZENON TRUDEAU.

Surveyed January 5th, and certified January 28, 1800.

ANT. SOULARD.

Transfer from Soulard to James Richardson, October 20, 1802.

I do hereby certify the foregoing to be truly translated from the originals. St. Louis, July 18th, 1806.

M. P. LEDUC, *T. B. C. L. T.*

In the claim of James Richardson, assignee of Anthony Soulard, who was the representative of Gabriel Cerré.

Four hundred arpens of land situate on the Merrimac river, and including a lead mine. Claimant produces, in support of said claim, a concession from Zenon Trudeau, dated April 25th, 1796, and confirmed to the said Ga-

briel Cerré by the Baron de Carondelet, together with a certificate of survey of said four hundred arpens, dated 28th January, 1800; an act of partition of the effects and property of the said Gabriel Cerré, whereby the said four hundred arpens fell to the lot of the said Anthony Soulard, dated June 19th, 1802, and a bill of sale of the same, executed by the aforesaid Anthony Soulard to the said James Richardson, dated 20th of October, 1802.

The board confirm to the said James Richardson his said four hundred arpens of land, as per the aforesaid concession.

Extract from the minutes of the 20th day of December, 1805.

J. V. GARNIER, *Assistant Clerk.*

Laisse D, No. 2.

[*Here, in the original, is a plat of the land.*]

Don Antonio Soulard, agrim. parr. de Alta Louisiana, certifico que el 25 de Enero, de este presente ano é en virtudad del decreto que accompane del Eritant, gobierno general de estas provincias, el Sr. Baron de Carondelet en (ha de 25 de Avril, de 1796) me he transferido à la tierra de Don Gabriel Cerré para praticar el apeo areglado a su pedimiento de 400 à planos, cuyas medidas se han tomados en presencia del interesado, in virtud del poder que me ha dado al efecto con la percha de Paris de 18 prs. de largo segun costumbre adoptado en esta provincia de la Luisiana, y sin tocar a lo que puede dar de si la variacion de la abrugas, que es de 78° 30′ é como consta del plano figurativo que antecede, cuya tierra se halle a situado sobre la orilla inquise de del rio Merrimac y como a 75 mil poco mas ó minos de esta villa de Sn. Luis. Lindando por los lineas del E. N. E. N. N. O. y S. S. E. con las tierras valdias del dom. real y por el del O. S. O. con la villa izquierda del Rio Merrimac y para que conste donde combenga le doy el presente con el plano figurativo que precede en el qual se indicase las dimenciones y limites naturales y artificiales que lodean dicha tierra. Sn. Luis de Illinois a 2 de Enero de 1800.

ANTONIO SOULARD, *Agri. Par.*

D.

L'an mil sept cent vingt trois, et le quatorze Juin, accordé à Mons. Renaut en franc a lieu pour faire ses establissemens sur les mines.

Une lieüe et demi de terrein de face sur le Petit Merrimac, dans la riviere de Merrimac, a l'endroit de la premiere branch qui conduit au cabanage, nommé le Cabanage la Menaudiere, sur six lieues de profondeur la riviere faisant le milieu du Rhumb de Vent et le Ruisseau au Plomb, jusqu'au le Sr. Renaut a son fourneau et de la droit à l'endroit nommé la Grande Mine.

Une lieue de face a Pimitey dans la riviere des Illinois, regardant à l'est et tenant au lac qui porte le nom du village et de l' autre aux cotes vis a vis le village a une demie lieue au dessus sur cinq lieues de profondeur le Rhumb de Vent suivant la riviere de Illinois, en descendant d'un coté et a montant par celle d'Areyog qui en fera le milieu dans le reste de la profondeur.

Deux lieues de terrein sur la mine apellé la mine de Mr. Lamothe, le face regardant le nord et la prairie de la dite mine faisant le point milieu de ses deux lieues.

Une lieue de face sur le Mississippi, a l'endroit apellé le Grand Marret, tenant d'un coté au sauvages Illinois establi au pres du Fort de Chartres, sur deux lieues de profondeur aux environs étant l'emplacement que lui à été accordé pour faire des vivres et en pouvoir fournir a toutes les habitations qu'il fera sur les mines. Le jour et an que dessus au Fort de Chartres.

BOIS BRIANT DESURSINS.

In the year one thousand seven hundred and twenty-three, the fourteenth of June, granted to Mr. Renault, in fee simple, to make his settlements on the mines.

A tract of land of one league and a half in front by six leagues of depth, situated on the Little Merrimac, on the river Merrimac, on the first branch which goes to the place called the cabin of La Renaudiére, the river being in the centre of the Rhumb of the Wind and the Lead creek, until the place where Mr. Renault has his furnace, and from thence to the Big Mine.

A tract of land situate at Pimitey, on the river Illinois, fronting on the east, and adjoining the lake of the same name of the village, and on the other side to the hills front to the village, half a league above, containing one league in front by five leagues of depth, the Rhumb of the Wind following the Illinois river, descending it and ascending the river d'Areyog, which will make the centre of the rest of the depth.

A tract of land of two leagues, situate at the Mine à la Motte, fronting on the north, and the prairie of the Mine, making the centre of this two leagues.

A tract of land of one league, front on the Mississippi, at the place called the Big swamp, adjoining on one side to the settlements of the Illinois Indians, near Fort Chartres, on about two leagues of depth, being the seat granted to him to raise his provisions, and that he might supply them to all the settlements he will make on the mines. Fort Chartres, the day and year above written.

BOIS BRIANT DESURSINS.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is truly translated from the copy of the record of Kaskaskias, certified by Robert Morrison, recorder, on the 3d of July, 1806.

M. P. LEDUC,
C. B. of Commissioners, Dis. Lou.

By virtue of the representations and demands made to me by the named Azor, otherwise Breton, in order of granting unto him four arpens of land square, (quatro arpanes de tierra en quadro,) on a lead mine he has discovered on the river Reno, which empties its waters into the Merrimac, I, as lieutenant governor of Illinois, do grant permission unto the said Francis Azor, in order that he may work the said mine and explore the lead, four arpens of land square, remaining subject to charges, taxes, and rights, that his Majesty would be pleased to impose on. In order that nobody else might, in future, make any opposition to the enjoyment of said mine in the district limited for him, nor make any impediment to the work and exploration of the mineral found by him in the said four arpens of land square granted to him, I give him the present, at St. Louis of Illinois, March 25, 1782.

FRANCIS CRUZAT.

St. Genevieve, *April* 8, 1800.

A true copy of the original presented to us.

LOUIS VALLE.

Surveyed May 28, 1800: certified June 15, 1800.

ANTHONY SOULARD.

St. Louis, *July* 17, 1806.

I do hereby certify the foregoing truly translated from the original.

M. P. LEDUC,
T. Board of Com. Dis. Louis'a.

The only plat I have been able to find of this grant is made by the request of Francis Moro, whose widow and representatives claim this same grant, I suspect at Mine Burton. See their claim in the Mine au Breton papers, for said plat.

WILL. C. CARR, *A. U. S.*

En virtud de las representaciones y solicitades que me tienen hechas el nombrado Franc. Asor, alias Breton, para que le conceda quatro arpanes de tierra en quadro en una mina de plomo que ha encontrado en la rivera a Mr. Reno una de las que se pierden en Merrimac le concedo como tent. de gov'r de estos establicimientos de Illinois licencia al expresado para que pueda trabajos en dicha mina, y explorar el plom que halle en los quatro arpanes de tierra en quadro que se le atorgan quedando estos sujetos, a los cargos imposiciones y derechos que S. M. se digne imponerle y à fin que ningun sufreto pueda en la susecibo oponer se algose en la hemmciada mina del distrito que se le limita el impedirle el excavaso y exploracion del mineral que encuentre en los precitados quatro arpanes de tierra en quadro que lo que dan concedidos le doy el presente, en Sn. Luis de Illinois, a viente y cinco de Marzo, de mil setecientos ochenta y dos.

FRANCIS CRUZAT.

Know all men by these presents, that I, Francis Azor, (alias) Breton, of the town and district of St. Genevieve, in consideration of the sum of fifty dollars to me in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have bargained, sold, released, and conveyed, and do by these presents bargain, sell, release, and convey unto Walter Fenwick and Andrew Henry, and unto their heirs and assigns for ever, all my right, title, and interest or claim, which I have in the within concession for land at the mine of Reno. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this 27th of May, in the year 1806.

FRANCIS AZOR, his × mark. [SEAL.]

In presence of—
Geo. Bullitt,
Jos. Shenuo.

District of St. Genevieve, to wit:

Be it remembered, that Francis Azor, (alias) Breton, whose signature appears to the within instrument of transfer to Walter Fenwick and Andrew Henry, personally appeared before me the subscriber, as justice of the peace in said district, and acknowledged the same to be his act and deed for the purposes therein mentioned. Given under my hand and seal, this 27th day of May, 1806.

CHAS. HUITH, *J. P.* [SEAL.]

E.

To the Recorder of land titles in and for the district of Louisiana:

SIR: Please to take notice that I claim a tract of land of six hundred and thirty-nine acres three quarters and twelve perches, situated on the west bank of the Old Mine creek, in the district of St. Genevieve, a particular plat of which is contained on the other side hereof; which tract I claim by virtue of an actual inhabitation and cultivation before and on the 20th December, in the year 1803, dated 8th May, 1807.

PEROD BOYER,
By his agent,
E. HEMPSTEAD.

TERRITORY OF LOUISIANA,—*district of St. Genevieve:*

[*Here, in the original, is a plat of the land.*]

This plat of land represents six hundred and thirty-nine acres three quarters and twelve poles, platted at the request of Perod Boyer, who claims the same by improvements, settlement, and cultivation, in the year 1802; beginning at a stake on the west bank of the Old Mine creek, on John Pollett's conditional line, running S. 12, W. 95 poles, to a stake in Elias Bates' old line; thence N. 65, W. 40 poles along said line to the corner; thence S. 25, W. 80 poles along said line to a stake; thence N. 65, W. 60 poles to a stake; thence S. 4, E. 206 poles to a stake; thence S. 86, W. 276 poles to a stake; thence N. 4, W. 320 poles to a stake; thence N. 86, E. 431 poles to the beginning; including his house and field, supposed to contain fifteen acres.

Testimony taken.

August the 16th, 1808. Jean Portell sworn, says that claimant settled on said land in 1802, and has inhabited and cultivated the same to this day.

[*Here, in the original, is a plat of the land.*]

Esta dicha nueva orden para al dicho tribunal de la intendencia a quien pertenece privativamente per orden de S. M. el conceder toda clase de tierras realengas para loquar el titulo en forma y en el interim los interesados las poseseran tranquilamente.

CARLOS DEHAULT DELASSUS.

Plan general de la concession de 12,400 arpens dite de la veille mine situé dans le district de Ste. Genevieve, pour servir à faire connoitre la division de la dite en 31 parts en conformité de ce qui est ordonné par le titre original comme el est mentionné dans le certificat qui suit le plan:

Je certifie que les trente et une divisions du plan ci dessus ont été pratiquées par notre deputé pour le district de Ste. Genevieve, M. Thomas Maddin, le 20 Septembre, de l'année derniere, en conformité de ce qui est ordonné par le titre original, qu'a accordé sa Sr. le Col. Don Charles Dehault Delassus, ci-devant lieutenant gouverneur de cette Haute Louisiane, du 4 Juin, 1803, placé a la suite de la requete des 31 proprietaires ci-dessus nommés la dite piece officielle cijointe de même que le certificat et plan d'arpantage original de la dite terre, laquelle operation fut pratiquée par le député ci-dessus nommé en datte du 3 Fevrier, 1804, les divisions indiquées par le plan figuratif en l'autre part ne purent avoir lieu au dit epoque par diverses raisons et resterent ainsi suspendues depuis celui de la prise de possession par l'ordre officiel que me passa le capt. d'artillerie, Amos Stoddart, 1er. commandant civil de cette Haute Louisiane en datte du 28 Mars, 1804, et furent pratiquées au dit epoque ci-dessus mentionné en vertu de mon re-appointment aux mèmes fonctions par le gouverneur de ce territoire son excellence Wm. H. Harrison, en datte du 4 Octobre, 1801, et de ses directions officielles du 8 Novembre, la dite operation faisant partie de l'arpentage pratiqué sous les autorités Espagnoles, aux dattes et au que dessus; cette operation eut aussi lieu sous les directions officielles que me passa son exc. le Gl. J. Wilkinson, sous la datte du 2 de Novembre, de l'année derniere, en foi de quoi J'ai délivre le presente pour etre joint au certificat d'arpentage primitif et faire connoitre les parts echues aux intérésses par le sort du tirage des 34 num's, chacune des quelles contient 400 arpens en superficie egal la quantité enoncée par la titre de 12,400 arpens, il sera aussi delivré a chacun des interéssés un plan particulier de la partie de terre qui leur correspond pour leur satisfaction particuliere et servir a leur faire connoitre les bornes de la part de laquelle ils se trouvent est possession, &c., en foi de quoi J'ai délivré le presente pour servir à constater et valoir comme de raison et partout on besoin sera. St. Louis, ce 25 Fevrier, 1806.

ANTOINE SOULARD,
Arpenteur Gen. Territoire Louisiana.

F.

Moses Austin, claiming 1,753 *arpens of land. Testimony taken October* 12, 1808.

Elias Bates, sworn, says that a Mr. Kendal and himself took possession of the land claimed for claimants, the 5th of April, 1798, and commenced immediately after to get timber for a furnace, house, and mills, and made brick for the building of a furnace, also built cabins: claimant arrived in the country with his family about the 1st of September same year, and came out to the land claimed in October same year; furnace house was completed same year, and the furnace was completed in January following, and was put in blast about that time; a saw mill was completed in the summer of 1799, and went into operation; a dwelling-house was completed in June 1799, and claimant moved in it; also, in the summer of 1799, claimant completed a blacksmith's shop, shot factory, and other out buildings. Claimant has ever since his first establishment continued to inhabit and cultivate the land claimed to this day; the factories and mills have also been in operation to this day. Claimant had himself in cultivation in 1802, about forty-five acres: witness was a tenant of claimant in 1802, and had fifteen acres in cultivation on said tract; in 1805, claimant had himself in cultivation about sixty-eight acres. Witness says that, in the year 1800, he made a conditional bargain with claimant for the land cultivated by him, but the bargain has not yet been completed; in 1805 he, witness, had 30 acres in cultivation on the land claimed.

Question. By agent of the United States:—When did you first begin to cultivate the place alluded to?

Answer. In 1800.

Q. By the same:—Did you then cultivate that land for yourself or claimant?

A. That he then cultivated under the expectation of making an exchange for the same with claimant.

Q. By the same:—When was your bargain made?

A. It was a mere memorandum of agreement, made between the 20th and 30th March, 1801; says that his object for going on the land cultivated by him, was, that he did not think it prudent to move on a claim of his own, it being a remote situation about six miles from the land claimed, and about the same distance from any settlement, and at that time considered dangerous on account of Indians. Says that he was to give claimant an equal quantity of land, if he obtained it, out of his own claim, or land equally valuable elsewhere. One Goforth, as a tenant of claimant in 1803, cultivated about four acres and built a house. Claimant built a foot bridge over a creek, always fordable, on a public road leading through the land claimed, between the years 1801 and 1803, for the accommodation of foot passengers; said bridge being about 6 feet wide, 10 feet high, and between 60 and 80 feet long, with railing at the sides; also, two other bridges in the streets of Mine à Breton, across ditches claimant had dug to convey water.

Q. By claimant:—What has been the chief object of your pursuits from 1799 to this day?

A. The manufacturing of lead and shot extensively, and, since 1800, yearly to the amount of from one to two hundred thousand pounds.

William Bates, sworn says, that in the fall or winter of 1799, claimant had also a grist mill on the land claimed, which then went into operation, and has continued so ever since. In the year 1800 or 1801, the road leading from the Mine à Burton to the Old Mines through claimant's land, was partly opened and improved by claimant, and that the same has ever since been used as a public road, and is the only public road in that direction. Claimant also opened another road by his mills leading to the Mine à Renault. Witness says, that, from the year 1802 to the present day, claimant has had employed at eight different diggings, and at his furnace at various times, an average of from forty to sixty hands laboring on the land claimed, yearly.

Don John Bonaventure Morales, treasurer of armies, intendant interim of the royal finances of the provinces of Louisiana and Western Florida, superintendant, sub-delegate, judge of arrivals, of lands and King's domain.

Whereas Francis Merieult made application, in this tribunal, as attorney of Moses Austin, an inhabitant of

Illinois, demanding, in behalf of said Austin, the title of 7,153 arpens 32⅔ feet of land, in superficie, by virtue of an official letter from the Baron of Carondelet, late governor general of this province, dated March 15th, 1797, directed to Don Zenon Trudeau, lieutenant governor of St. Louis of Illinois, in order to grant him a league square, in the place called Mine à Breton, the said lieutenant governor, on the 14th of January, 1799, ordered the surveyor, Don Anthony Soulard, to put him in possession of said land, on the mentioned place, Mine à Breton, which he effectually executed according to said order, proceeding to the measurement, lines, and survey of said land, of which said Austin was in possession, the corresponding plat of survey amounting, in the whole, to the above mentioned 7,153 arpens 32⅔ feet in superficie, which was presented with the documents corresponding to it. I ordered the same to be presented to the attorney general of the royal finances, in the result of which he required the notice of said Soulard; and, as it was replied, according to the pretensions of the party interested, by an instrument dated the 2d inst., disposing that a title in form of said land, mentioned in the plat presented, should be despatched, I, in consequence of which, and making use of the faculty vested in this intendancy in the name of our lord the King, (God may preserve,) do grant unto the said named Moses Austin complete property, use, and domain of the aforesaid 7,153 arpens 32⅔ feet of land, in superficie, according to the results of figures and measures contained in the plat of survey drawn by said Soulard, under the rhumbs, lines, dimensions, and contiguousness of the land of the King's domain, on the four sides marked in said plat, under No. 52, which is in a summary way for that purpose, the said land being situate fifty miles, more or less, west of St. Genevieve, adjoining on the southeast, besides what is above mentioned, to the Mine and Village à Breton, for the purposes that he might dispose of the said land as he pleases, and as his own property, giving him power to continue in the possession of which he was, and is now, or claim it of this tribunal, if he is troubled by any one else in its possession, and in which I do now place him, and protect him, without any prejudice of a third that might have a better right, under the quality and condition, that as much the said Austin as his heirs, on the land granted, without any interest nor contribution whatever in favor of the royal finances, have to comply with what is included in the 3d, 4th, 6th, 7th, and 9th articles of the instruction for land made and published by this intendancy on the 17th of July, 1799, of which they have to take cognizance in order not to allege ignorance. In conformity of which I have ordered the present to be delivered: signed with my hand, sealed with my seal of arms, and countersigned by the undersigned secretary of the royal finances, who, with the treasurer, principal, is to take cognizance of what is disposed of. Given at New Orleans, July the 5th, 1802.

JOHN VENTURA MORALES.

NEW ORLEANS, *July* 9, 1802.

Cognizance has been taken of the above title, 96, and following of the record of my charge.

PIMENES.

NEW ORLEANS, *July* 5, 1802.

Cognizance has been taken in the royal treasury of my charge of the above title, 136 recto of the book kept for that purpose.

MANUEL ORMIREZ.

GILBERTO LEONARD.

ST. LOUIS, *July* 17, 1806.

I do hereby certify the above truly translated from the record of the recorder of the land title.

M. P. LEDUC,
Translator to the B. of C. Dist. Lou.

G.

A Don Char. Deh't Delassus, lieut. colonel agregé du regiment fixe de la Louisiane, et lieut. gouv. de la partie haute de la même province: Auguste Chouteau, fils, à l'honneur de vous representer que considerant les dangers aux quels expose le commerce et etant d'age a s'etablir il a cru devoir donne la préférence a l'agriculture, en consequence il espere qu'il vous plaira accueillir ses vues et lui donner des preuves de la bien veillance que vous accordés à l'industrie, c'est pourquoi il à l'honneur de vous suplie d'avoir la bonté de lui accorder la concession d'une terre de 800 arpens de superficie située à environ 60 milles du village de St. Genevieve entre la Mine à Breton, et la Veille mine de maniere à ce que la fontaine qu'il a choisie pour former son etablissement soit comprise dans l'etendue de la dite terre. Le supliant à l'honneur de vous observer, qu'il avoit obtenu la parole de votre predecesseur pour la concession de cette même quantité de terre pour l'exploration de la quelle il a tous les moyens qui correspondent á l'etablissement projetté ce qui lui fait esperer qu'il vous plaira faire droit à sa demande d'une maniere qui comble ses vues. St. Louis, 5 Janvier, 1800.

AUGUSTE CHOUTEAU.

ST. LUIS DE ILLINOIS, 5 *de Enero de* 1800.

Como estamos asequiados que el supp'te tiene los medios suficiéntes para hacer valer las tierras que solicita en el termino del reglimiento del Senor Gob. General de esta provincia, el agrimensor, Don Antonio Soulard, pondra el interesado en posecion de los 800 a's planos de tierra en el mismo sitio indicado en este memorial, lo que evacuado formara plano entregando à la parte este y certificacion para que le sirve à obtener la consecion y titulo en forma del Senor Intendente de estas provincias à quien por real orden es privativo el repartir y conceder toda clase de tierras realengas.

CARLOS DEHAULT DELASSUS.

Auguste Chouteau, jr. claiming 800 *arpens—testimony taken the 5th of May*, 1806.

Auguste Chouteau, being duly sworn, says that, about five or six years ago, he was informed by claimant's father that, in consequence of recommendations from Gayoso de Lemos, he had obtained a number of concessions for him and his children; and, further, that the above claimant was, about the time of obtaining said concession, of the age of eighteen years.

Nicholas Boilvin, being also duly sworn, says that, about five or six years ago, claimant's father having obtained the said concession for said claimant, applied to witness, and agreed with him for the establishing of the aforesaid tract of land; that the same is mine land; that, accordingly, witness moved on it for claimant, built a house and out-houses; that he then began to work said land for mineral, and that the same has been actually worked and inhabited to this day. That claimant was born in the country, and claim no other land, in his own name, in the Territory.

Decision of the board May 5, 1806. Present, Clement B. Penrose and James L. Donaldson, esq.

The board reject this claim.

[*Here, in the original, is a plat of the land.*]

NOTA.—Situé a 53 milles dans le N. O. 74 O. de Ste. Genevieve—les bornes sont deprenis sur tenados de scorie de plouis.

Arpentie parlee lieut. arpentieur, Don Thomas Maddin, en date du 6 7bre, 1803. En vertu du decrit du Lieut. Gén. Don Chs. Dehault Delassus, du 5 Janvier, 1800.

Certifical d'arpentage expedie du 15 Janvier, 1804.

The above is a true copy of a record in my office.

SILAS BENT,
Principal Dep. Surveyor.

ST. LOUIS, *27th Oct.* 1806.

H.

To Don Zenon Trudeau, lieutenant colonel and commandant of the Western of Illinois.

ST. LOUIS, *Jan.* 25, 1798.

Nicolas Boilvin, Canadian, inhabiting this province since 24 years, and having never obtained any favor of the Government which he has had the honor to serve in the painful voyage he made from this place to Boston in the course of the year 1797, in order to deliver to the Spanish plenipotentiary several important letters, trusted to him by the Lieutenant Colonel Don Carlos Howard, then military commandant of Upper Louisiana, which, to your knowledge, he has performed; as also the contrariety and losses he has suffered in the said voyage. Your petitioner never having obtained any concession from the Government, hopes that you will be pleased to grant him one of 800 arpens of land in superficie, situate in the district of St. Geneviéve, about three miles from the Grand river, on a small fork that empties in the said Grand river, which tract of land belongs to the King's domain. Your petitioner, confident in the generosity of a Government who never left services without reward, hopes to obtain of your justice the favor which he solicits.

N. BOILVIN.

ST. LOUIS OF ILLINOIS, *January* 25, 1798.

The surveyor, Don Anthony Soulard, shall put the party interested in possession of the land which he solicits, provided it does not prejudice any body, and, the survey being made, he will extend it at the continuation, and deliver it to the party, in order to have his recourse for obtaining the concession of the governor general.

ZENON TRUDEAU.

St. Louis, July 17, 1806. I do hereby certify the foregoing truly translated from the original.

M. P. LEDUC,
Clk. to the Bd. of Commrs. Dist. La.

[*Here, in the original, is a plat of the land.*]

February 26, 1806. At the request of John Smith T I have surveyed a tract of land situated near the Old Mines, in the district of St. Genevieve, consisting of 800 arpens, agreeably to the above plan.

BOYD DENNY, *Dep. Sur.*

I.

To Frederick Bates, Esq. recorder of land claims in and for the Territory of Louisiana.

ST. GENEVIEVE, *December* 3, 1807.

SIR: Jacques Guibourd, Joseph Pratte, and others, claim to hold 12,400 arpens of land, situate on the Fork à Renaud, on the Old Mine, district of St. Genevieve, by virtue of a concession from Charles Dehault Delassus, dated the fourth of June, 1803, and a plat and certificate of survey for the same, dated 20th December, 1805, certified, Anthony Soulard. February 25, 1806; both instruments herein enclosed.

J. GUIBOURD.
J. PRATTE.

Don Charles Dehault Delassus, lieutenant colonel, agrégé au regiment fixe de la Louisiane, et lieutenant general de la partie haute de la memè province, les habitans soussignées dont la majeure partie Creòles du pais, et l'autre Canadiens et Francois, etablis depuis plusieures années au lieu connu sous le nom de Veille mine, située sur une des fourches de la riviere a Renaut, a la distance de 60 milles du village de St. Genevieve, et a environ 9 milles de la mine a Breton ont l'honneur de vous representer que leurs confiance, dans les promesses réitéreés de leurs chefs et dans la generosité du gouvernement les a tenus dans une telle securité qu'ils ont tardés jusqu'a ce jour à faire les demarches necessaires pour obtenir les titres des terres qu'ils cultivent et exploirent depuis des années, la publication de votre office, en date du 18 May, de cette année a Mons. le Commandant du poste de St. Genevieve, par la quelle nous avons appris la retrocession de cette colonie à la France, nouvelle qui nous a fait connoitre combien la position de nos propriétés etoit precaire et que nous a porté a l'a demande que nous faisons aujourd'hui auprés de vs. esperant de sa justice qu'elle ne dementira en rien l'a longue suite de bienfaits dont nous avons été comblés par le gouvernement Espagnol, et qu'elle nous rendra dans les derniers moments une marque eclatante de sa justice en daignant faire droit a nos respectueuses representations. En consequence les trente et un chefs de famille soussignés ont l'honneur de vous supplier d'avoir la bonté de leur accorder au meme lieu qu'ils reclament une quantité de terre correspondante a leur population sur le pied du dernier reglement fait a cet egard par feu sa Sri. le Gouverneur General de ces provinces Don Manuel Gayoso de Lemos pour la dite quantité correspondante au nombre de individus que composent les dites familles etre divisées par portion egale a chacune d'elle et leur etre assignées par le sort suivant les dispositions qu'ils prendront entre eux avec l'approbation de Don Francois Valle leur commandant respectif de même qu'avec M. l'arpenteur de cette haute Louisiane s'engageant á l'avance les dits soussignés a vous assurer qu'aucun contestations ne troubleront la bonne harmonie qui regne entre eux dans le dit partage, pour y parvenir plús surement ils esperent que si vous daignez accorder a leurs demandes, il vous plaira ordonner l'arpentage total de la quantité de terre qui leur correspondra, d'après le quel un certificat d'arpentage sera expédié pour servir aux dits habitans a reclamer leur titre en forme de qui de droit. Le dit plan d'arpentage devra etre divisé selon la convention ci dessus par autant de portions egales qui seront toutes numérotées et chacun desdits habitans devra en outre etre nanti du plan figuratif de la partie de terre que lui sera echue par le sort, avec l'attestation de l'arpenteur pour servir a chacun d'eux a constater, precautions qu'ils croient devoir prendre pour pouvoir eviter les difficultés qui pourroient s'elever a l'avenir entre eux. Les dits habitants soussignés ont l'honneur de vous reiterer leurs supplications et de vous representer que cette même concession leur fut promise par vos predécesseurs depuis des années et que leur grande confiance dans ces memes promesses sont les seuls tords dont ils soient coupables; verité qui peut vous etre attestée par notre digne commandant respectif Don Francois Valle, à l'information du quel nous recommandons avec la même confiance qui nous porte a croire qu'il vous plaira nous accorder la concession de la quantité de terre correspondante a la totalité de la population des familles des soussignés au même lieu qu'ls reclament pour jouir en toute propriété de la partie qui leur echoira par le sort et y exercer leur industrie tant pour l'agriculture que pour l'exploration du mineral de plomb qui pourroit se trouver sur les dites terres.

Les soussignés n'ayant d'aùtres vues que celles de vivre en cultivateurs paisibles et soumis osent tout attendre de votre justice avec confiance. St. Genevieve, le 25 May, 1803.

Charleaux Boyer, Hipolite Robert, Charles Robert, sa × marque, Veuve Coleman, sa × marque, Maniche, sa × marque, Blay, sa × marque, Antoine Govereau, sa × marque, Pierre B. Boyer, sa × marque, Bernard Collman, sa × marque, Alexandre Duclos, sa × marque, Amable Partnais, sa × marque, Joseph Boyer, Jean Porter, Manuel Blanco, Baptiste Placet, sa × marque, Jean Robert, sa × marque, Louis Boyer, sa × marque, Louis La Croix, sa × marque, Bazile Vallée, sa × marque, J. Guibourd, Francois Thibault, sa × marque, Jacob Boisle, sa × marque, Joseph Bequet, sa × marque, Francois Millhomme, sa × marque, James Rose, N. Boilvin, Jh. Pratte, Pierre Martin, sa × marque, Francois Bte. Vallé, P. Ch. Francois Auguste Vallé, Amable Partnay, sa × marque.

Soit la presente requete passée a Monsieur le lieut. gouverneur, en informant que l'exposé des suppliants est en tout conforme a la plus exacte verité; qu'ils sont dignes d'obtenir la grace qu'ils reclament de votre justice, que la partie de terre demandée fait partie des domaines de S. M. que l'etablissement proposée ne peut qu'etre avantageux au pays en general, et que la population totalle des famille des soussignés est composée du nombre d'individues suivants. Chefs de famille, 31. Femmes, 13. Enfants, 72. Esclaves, 18. Les connoissances que j'ai acquise du local et des caracteres des intérestés me portent à les recommander particulierement a votre justice les considerant dîgnes d'obtenir du gouvernement la grace qu'ils en sollicitent, avec respect.

FRANCO. VALLE.

ST. GENEVIEVE, *le* 25 *May*, 1803.

SN. LUIS, *a* 4 *de Junio*, *de* 1803.

Visto el expueso en este memorial con dha. de 25 de Mayo, de este ano apoíado por el informe del Capn. Don Franco. Valle, commandant particular del puesto de Sta. Genoveva, y por su officio de misma fecha, considerando la autenticidad de estos dichos informes amas de la fidelidad y asicion que siempre han manifestado estos habitantes que en todos tiempos han merecido elogios de parte de la superioridad, y el estado miserable en el qual se hallaran los interesados si en estas circunstancias de effectuer la entrega de la colonia no tenian ningun titulo que haga constar la antigüedad de sus propriedades les concedo a titulo de propriedad para ellos y sus sucesores en el mismo lugar que habiten y cultiven desde muchos anos cuyas propriedades las estaba aseguiadas por mis predecesores, como sigue quatro cientos arpanes de superficie por cada una de las trenta y una familias que han firmada lo que hara la cantidad de doce mil y quatro cientos arpanes en surperficie, cuya sera apeada en quadro en lo posible sin que ninguna de estas concesiones pueda ser tomada se para damente, pero seran divididas en trenta y una partes de quatro cientos cada una, cuyas despues del apeo y plano figurativo deveran ser numerotadas y sorteadas en presencia de Don Franco. Valle ù otro official que comisionare para representale y el sorteo para sacar los citados Nos. se empesara por el mas antiguo establecido en dicho lugar siguiendo sucesivamente hasta el mas moderno establecido y el agrimentor particular de esta Alta Luisiana, Don Antonio Soulard, practicara este apeo segun esta expecificado en este decreto y conformando a lo pedido por los interesados en la peticion que antecede por lo que respecta à la expedicion de plano y certificaciones, observando que esta concesion no debera perjudicar à ninguna de las y à apeadas, y los dichos operaciones praticadas y certificados del apeo remitidos à los interesados, (como el Sor. Intendante de estas provincias Don Juan Ventura Morales, me previene por officio con fecha delo. de Dezre. del ano ultimo que por muerte del Sor. Acesor de la Intendencia que el tribunal de tierras esta cerrada hasta nueva orden,) esperaran.

To Don Charles D. Delassus, lieut. colonel of the regiment of Louisiana, and lieutenant governor of the upper part of the same province:

SIR: John Baptiste Pratte, merchant of St. Genevieve, inhabiting this country from about fifty years, father of a numerous family, supporter of several orphans, and proprietor of a large quantity of slaves, has the honor of observing to you, that, until this present moment, he has never obtained any concession from the generosity of the

Government, as a free gift. Considering that the neighboring lands of the place where he dwells are daily granted to foreigners, the succor of the commerce diminishing visibly, and, lastly, those offered by the agriculture being this day the most certain, and on which one can hope to live happy in future; and considering, besides, that the incursions of the Indians are less now, one can at present, with more confidence, inhabit the remote places, your petitioner has already began to settle (with the verbal permission of your predecessor) a tract of land situate on the Grand river, on which place your petitioner prays you to be so good as to grant him a concession of one thousand arpens of land of superficie. Confident in your justice, he hopes to obtain the favor which he solicits.

PRATTE.

St. Louis, *this 4th day of September*, 1799.

Considering that the petitioner is an old settler of this country, and that his family is sufficiently numerous for obtaining the quantity of land which he solicits, the surveyor of this Upper Louisiana, Don Anthony Soulard, shall put the petitioner in possession of the one thousand arpens of land which he solicits, in order that he may enjoy of the same in the same terms he requires; and, the survey being made, he shall draw his certificate accordingly, with which the party interested shall have his recourse to the intendant general of this province, to whom, by royal order, appertains the right of granting lands of the King's domain.

CHARLES DEHAULT DELASSUS.

Surveyed November 5th, 1800. Certified March 5th, 1801.

ANTHONY SOULARD.

I do hereby certify the foregoing truly translated from the original. M. P. LEDUC, *Trans. to the Board of Com'rs, district of Louisiana.*

St. Louis, *July* 17, 1806.

[*Here, in the original, is a plat of the land.*]

Los terminos puestos a todos los angulos y los mojones de 20 arps. de distancia entre los arboles indicados en el plano figurativo son marcados como signe P. y los arboles de lineas van senalados con una muezca supr. y dos canaladuras inferiores, y los dedra è izquirda muezcados solamente.

(A sentado al fo. 45, del libro A. No. 78.)

Don Antoine Soulard, arpenteur particular de la Alta Luisiana, certifico que el cinco de Noviembre del ano proximo pasado, visto lo expt. en el memorial del interesado y à consecuencia del decreto del Sor. Ce. de los Rs. extos. y tente. de gobierno de esta Luisiana Don Carlos Dehault Delassus, puesto al pie del dicho meml. con fecha decimo de Septiembre de mil setecientos noventa y nueve, me he transferido à la tierra de Don Juan Bautista Pratte, para practicar el apeo à reglado à su pedimiento de mil arps. planos cuyas medidas se han tomado en presencia del proprietario y de los vecinos linderos con la percha de Paris de diez y ocho pies de largo, segun costumbre adoptada en esta provincia de la Luisiana, y sin tocar a lo que puede dardesi la variacion de la abaja que es de 7 gdes. 30 ms. E. como consta del plano figurativo que antecede, cuya tierra se halla situada como a veinte y ocho millas al N. 78, O. del puesto de St. Genoveva, lindando por sus quatro caras como sigue, al N y al O. con las tierras Valdias del domo. Rl. al E. con tierra de Abraham Eads, al S. con otra de Don Juan Bautista Pratte, hijo. Y para que conste donde combenga le doy el presente con el plano figurativo que precede en el qual se indican las dimensiones y limites naturales y artificiales que la acorder.

Sn. Luis de Illinois, cinco de Marzo de mil ochocientos y uno.

ANTONIO SOULARD, *Ag. Pr.*

Testimony taken August 12, 1806. Full board.—Amable Partnay, being duly sworn, says that the said tract of land was settled in the year '98 by claimant, who built two or three cabins on the same, fenced in a field of about twenty-five or thirty acres, and has, at this day, about one hundred arpens of the same under cultivation, and about twelve houses or out-houses, and that the same was prior to, and on the 1st day of October, 1800, actually inhabited and cultivated for claimant's use; that he had then a wife, nine children, and forty-five slaves, and claims no other lands in his own name.

Decision of the board.—The board, from the testimony of a number of witnesses produced on the part of the United States, by their agent, reject this claim, and require further proofs.

Testimony taken from the rough minutes.

United States, *ads.* J. B. Pratte. } August 12, 1806.

Witnesses sworn on the part of the United States.

Thomas Alley, William Alley, John Baker, Abraham Baker, Henry Pagget, John Andrews, Abraham Eads.

On behalf of Pratte.

Pierre Chabotte, Francis Tibeault, Louis La Croix, Antoine Govreau, Jean Gagnon, Charles Boyer, Amable Patenaude, John Portais, Peter D. Deluziere: deposition taken before Bte. Vallee and St. James Beauvais, two of the judges of the court of common pleas of the district of St. Genevieve.

Henry Pagget has been in this country about nine years, and lived near the tract of land claimed by J. B. Pratte, about one and a half miles. Knows the mine as worked by him, began to work about seven years ago, when it was first discovered; was first worked by William Alley and others in the fall of 1800; saw some old diggings, (witness supposed made by Reneaud,) believes no digging had been done for three or four years before; no house built on said land when mine was discovered. Claimant built three houses in 1800, but cannot tell when; was on the spot about two months before; saw no buildings.

Cross-examined. Is certain it was first cultivated in 1802, and, if before, would have known it. Showed the mine to one Manitto, in claimant's employ, who showed the same to claimant about seven years ago; does not know whether it was cultivated in 1800; remembers of claimant having put up at his house about eight years ago; that he, the witness, informed him that the above tract would make a good farm; that Manitto observed to him, when informed of the mine, that he would improve on said land. Knew Gagnon and Chabot in claimant's employ in 1801.

Thomas Alley lived nine years about four miles from said tract; heard William Alley, Pagget, and others say, in 1800 they had discovered a mine on said tract; never had been on before W. worked said mine, the beginning of the summer of 1800; saw no marks of cultivation; was an entire wilderness; that claimant's plantation stands on the same spot; worked mines in the fall of 1800, and has worked since claimant has settled; cabins built late in the fall of that year. Manitto and one Connor raised said houses for claimant, as he W. understood. Understood Manitto and Connor were to be in partnership with claimant, both in title and work; it was then reported that claimant had a concession for said land. Never heard of a crop until 1802; is positive that there was no crop raised before, where the establishment now stands. Knows that there was no other improvement on any other place. Never knew the boundaries of the same. Witness worked the mine until about October, 1800.

William Alley has lived nine years two and a half miles from said land, discovered the mine in 1800; worked the same that year; saw no digging, building, or fencing, in same year; was on the spot now settled in September; saw no buildings; late in the fall of that year heard of half camps being raised on the same; saw the same in 1801; corn raised in 1802: cannot tell what quantity. Some of claimant's hands lived there on that year. That Manitto came to work, and informed that claimant had a concession for said land; better than 40 arpens cleared; never heard of claimant's having digged in 1799 for mineral; saw some old diggings; was grown up with bushes.

John Andrews arrived in 1796, settled on his plantation in February, 1797; followed hunting for maintenance of his family; was almost daily on said land; that, in the beginning of the summer, 1800, report circulated of a mine having been discovered on said land; the witness and some neighbors went on said land in June, 1800, to see what kind of a mineral it was; picked up some mineral some time afterwards; in same season heard that claimant and Mr. Valle were sending hands to dig for mineral, supposes about the middle of August. Witness saw then that they then began working, and had their slaves on the same; remained thereon until next spring, when one O'Connor lost his life; that they put up camps; understood they were five partners in said land; that Mr. Pratte and Vallee were to obtain a concession for said land; that in December, same year, the same men notched up a cabin, remained thereon; no corn raised thereon until 1802; received orders from claimant, in the fall of 1800, not to work on said land, as a concession was got for said concession; believes it was after October, and that he is certain that he had none until the spring of 1801. Believes it was 1st April, 1801; that Manitto informed them that claimant was to obtain a

concession, and that he, Manitto, and others were to be in partnership; never heard from claimant of a partnership; was over the whole tract, never saw corn raised until 1802; said land was surveyed in 1802.

Abraham Eads settled on Big river, in December, 1799; is about one mile from claimant's settlement; that, when claimant surveyed his tract, he took in witness's improvement, his concession being three days older than witness's; had lived thereon about one year before surveying said land; the last aforesaid settlement is about one mile from the mines. Said land was surveyed in June, 1802; witness's land was surveyed same day. First crop raised in 1802, to his certain knowledge; lives about a mile and a quarter from said improvement. Pagget, and others, informed him in June, 1800, of a mine on said land; witness and others went to dig; informed one Manitto of the same some time afterwards, and proceeded to the working of the same.

John Baker, one of the first settlers, about nine years, one of those who first discovered mineral in 1800, never heard of any claim to the same at that time; never worked said mine. Believes first crop was raised in 1800. Cabins or camps built on the same in the fall of 1800. Saw Manitto, La Broche, and O'Connor, working on the same—was informed, for Pratte; does not know when they left off; went on in August, 1800, and to this day.

Abraham Baker, latter end of June, began the working of said mine; first crop raised in 1802; camps put up in 1800; first cabin put up late in the fall of 1800. Claimant's hands came on in August, 1800, and have been there to this day; was informed by Manitto, late in the fall of 1800, that a concession was to be got, and they were to be in partnership: claimant had some of his negroes.

On the part of claimant.

Pierre Chabotte has worked for claimant's mine; about seven years ago digged for mineral, and cut timber for building a house; begun in July, and stayed three months; begun the house, split rails for fencing, but did not remain until the same was completed; that, in 1800, raised corn on the same. Was inhabited; and crops have been raised every year on the same to this day. Saw corn growing, and ate some of it. Wheat has been raised, but cannot tell when; about six or seven arpens in cultivation. Never saw concession; heard of claimant's having one, but does not know when. Three cabins in 1800. Is thirty-one years of age; lived at St. Genevieve before he went to said land; that one Manitto and Labreche, with claimant's negroes, were on and remained there all the time he was on; is a laborer, and has worked at several other places for his living; no crop raised in 1799; does not remember when survey took place; did not live there in October, but has passed by repeatedly; that this is the same place he worked upon; saw a number of holes which had been worked in for mineral; knows Abraham Eads, who was present at said survey; believes it had been cultivated prior to said survey; never saw Alley and others working at the mine; Eads lived a little below Abraham Baker when survey was taken. Manitto and Labreche worked with him, and had been there before, but does not know how long, but believes they had been there but a short time, from the appearance of the works. Eads, Pagget, and witness, believes A. Baker were neighbors.

Francis Tibeault worked said mine for claimant about six years ago in April; cut rails, &c.; had two houses on the same; saw nothing but the houses and rails; remained thereon about six days; no appearance of cultivation then; that it was the first year they raised crop; about two months after went there and saw corn growing on the same; that Chabotte was then working with Chabotte and and some slaves of claimant; has seen the same often; was not there in October that year, and does know who lived thereon; that Chabotte did not work at the farm, but was engaged for three days at the mine; does not know if he was there afterwards; Manitto and Labrece were working there also; they were there six years ago; lived at St. Genevieve before; had been at Mine à Breton before he went with Pratte, and returned there again after he had done.

Louis La Croix worked claimant's mine seven years ago; melted a furnace of mineral; does not know the time of the year; had no house on the same; built houses on the same. Witness cannot tell how long; saw corn growing about three or four years; never worked there afterwards; worked there six days; was on it six years ago in the fall; saw houses; does not recollect of corn being then growing; made use of wooden furnaces for melting of lead; it took him three days to build it; Manitto, Labreche, and negroes worked with him; did not see any mark of old digging that Pratte and Valle had digged before; Manitto and Labreche were then working; went from mine to village for claimant same year.

Antoine Govreau: that, about six year next fall, latter end of October, he went to said land; that claimant was then there with his hands; had three houses on the same; he carried flour to claimant; saw no crop; that he cut one of his fingers in crossing the river establishment; several plantations on that road then; never was there since until very lately.

Amable Patenaud worked the mine about five years ago; had three houses; three fields under enclosure; assisted in gathering a crop of corn, wheat; appearance of having been cultivated for about three years before; from about sixty to eighty arpens in cultivation; remained there six months; slaves remained there all the while; claimant was there occasionally; has been cultivated to this day; witness is now in claimant's employ; no one else worked on said land but claimant and his hands; never worked at mine; saw holes where mineral had been digged out; knew Manitto and Labreche, who worked on said place some years before he went on, as he is informed; went by repeatedly about seven or eight years ago when they were at work at the mine.

Jean Gagnon worked for claimant about six years ago, 17th April; three houses; lived there five months; raised corn but does not know what quantity; negroes were there then; Manitto and Labreche worked also; heard claimant say then that he had a concession for land, but did not hear the quantity; has been cultivated to this day; Baker, Eads, and Pagget, were then the nearest neighbors.

John Portais never worked at the mine; saw, about six years ago, about October or November, when passing by, that claimant's slaves were there; saw two or three cabins; does not remember of a crop nor of any enclosure.

Charles Boyer never worked at the mine, nor at the farm; that six years ago he saw a cabin on said land; saw Manitto and Labreche were working on the same; that he advised claimant, prior to 1800, to wit, in '97, to settle on said land; that the same would form a fine settlement, as there was a spring on the same; that claimant then informed him he was about applying for a concession for the same; does not know when claimant got a concession for the same; claimant was not there; went into the house; saw no fences; said house was for the use of slaves; house close by mines.

A Dn. Chas. Deht. Delassus, lt. colonel, agrégé au regt. fixe de la Louisiane, et lt. gouv'r de la partie haute de la même province: Les Srs. Joseph Gurard, pere, et Patrice Flemming son beau fils ont l'honneur de vous representer en vertu de la copie certifiée par Mr. Francis Vallé des pieces originales deposes dans l'archive de Ste. Genevieve, la quelle copie ci jointe qu'ils obtinant conjointemt. avec les Srs. Laurent Macagne mort sur la Rive Ameriquaine en l'année 1800, et le Sr. Joel Macagne, frere, en vertu des ordres de Mr. le lieut. gouv'r, Dn. Manuel Perez, la concession d'une terre de 7 a de face pour chacun d'cuy sur 30 de profondeur, ou de 28 a de front sur la de]profondeur de 30, formant en tout une superficie de 340 a située dans be lieu fixé par le d'titre, cette même terre fut établie au bout de l'an et le jour selon le terme de la loi et a été cultivé pendant plus de trois, que les incursions des sauvages furent la seule cause qui les determina comme tant d'autres ont été obligés de faire a abandonner la de terre jusqu'a des tems plus heureux, les sups. vous atestent se servant mutuellement de témoins que le Sieur Laurent Macagne mort sur la Rive Ameriquaine, comme il est dit ci-dessus, quelque tems avant sa mort leur fit un abandon volontaire et gratuis de les droits sur la quatrieme partie de cette concession, et que comme le Sieur Joel Macagne, frere, et parti depuis plusieurs anneés sans qu'on puisse savoir quel lieux il habite, les sups. osent esperer de V. T. qu'il vous plaira vu la possibilité existant aujour d'hui d'etablir des habitations isollées avec surté ordonner a l'arpenteur de cette Haute Louisiane, de leurs mesurer et délivrer son certificat d'arpentage de la d. terre pour les mettre a même de constater sur la legalité de leur propriété et qu'ils puissent a l'apuy de lenr titre primitif en soliciter la ratification de Monsieur l'Intendent General de ces provinces, St. Genevieve, le 10 Septembre, 1799.—Joseph Gerrard, Patrick Flemming. Nous informons Monsieur l'Intendant General que la terre reclamée par les Sieurs Joseph Gerrard et Patrice Flemming dont la propriété est constates par la copie ci jointe des pieces originalles deposés dans l'archive de ce poste que la d. terre a été etablié au terme de la loi, et habitée pendant plus de trois ans, que les incursions seules des sauvages ont obliges les proprietaires a l'abandoner pour attendre des tems plus calmes, que les sups. ont toujours habité dans ce poste, et que leurs caracteres m'est trop connu pour ne pas ajouter foi a l'abandon que les d. Sieurs disent leur avoir été faitte par le Sieur Laurent Macagne, avant sa mort

de la part de la d. il nous est aussi tres connus que le d. Sieur Joel Macagne, père du defunt, a laissé le pays peus apres l'etablissement de la d. terre, ce qui selon moirant les sup'nt susceptible de pretendre a la propriété de la totalité de la d. terre St. Genevieve, le 10 Septembre de 1799. Signed FRANCOIS VALLE.

SAN LOUIS DE ILLINOIS, 25 *de 7bre de* 1799.

En virtud de las copias de los documentos originales que se hallan en el archivo de Ste. Genoveva certificados por aquel com de Don Francois Vallé, y a consequencia del memorial que precedé por los Senores Josef Gerrard y Patricio Flemming informado por dicho comte, el agri. de esta Luisiana Alta, Don Antonio Soulard, pondra a estas en posesion de la tierra cuya propriedad reclaman arreglandose al tener del titulo de concesion que les ha sido expedido en Sn. Genoveva, en 17 de Julio de 1790, per el Capn. Don Henrique Peyroux, coma. de alli en aquella epoca como lo testifica la orden data al afecta en 7 del mismo mes y ano, por el Sr. Don Manuel Perez, tente. de Gobr. que fue de estos establecimientos y despues de praticadas todas las diligencias de apeo se remitirar los documentos a la Intendante General de estas provincias para obtener titulo de concesion formal.

CARLOS DEHT. DELASSUS.

[Here, in the original, is a plat of the land.]

Alta Louisiana, San Genoveva, dist. de S. Luis de Illinois.

Nota.—Los terminos puestos a los quatro angulos y los mojones de 20 à de distancia entre ellos y todos indicados en el plano figurativo todos estampados al nombre del proprietario E. los arboles de los limites estan senalados sentada en el lib. A. f. 35, No. 69.

Don Antonio Soulard, agr. particular de los establecimientos de la Alta Luisiana, certifico que el vente y ocho de 7bre del ano proximo pasada (en virtud del decreto que antecede de Senor Don Carlos Deht. Delassus, tente. de Gobier. de estos establecimientos,) me he transferido a la tierra de Josef Gerrard y Patricio Flemming para praticar el apeo arreglado à su pedimiento de otro documentos, formando 840 arpens planos de superficie, cuyas medidas se han tomado en presencio del proprietario con la percha de Paris de 18 pies de largo segun costumbre adoptada en esta provincia de la Luisiana cuya tierra se halla situada como à 26 millas al O. S. O. imedia del puesto de Sta. Genoveva lindando por sus quatro lados con la tierras valdias del dominio real, y para que conste donde combenga le doy el presente con el plano figurativo que precede en el qual se indican las dimensiones y limites, naturales y artificiales, de dicha tierra.

SAN LUIS DE ILLINOIS, *a* 10 *Enero de* 1800.

ANTONIO SOULARD.

Rufus Easton and James Bruff, claiming 840 arpens of land as assignees of Joseph Gerrard and Patrick Flemming, said tract situate on the second fork of the Grand river, comprehending and, including the Mine à Joe, produce in support of said claim a certified copy.

Testimony taken. (From the rough minutes.)

December 2d, 1807. James Keith, being duly sworn, says, that in the fall of 1803, he saw a crop of corn on the land claimed, which he supposes belonged to Joseph Gerrard; that there were three or four cabins on said tract, and three or four acres in cultivation; and that said Gerrard resided on the tract ever since, until about one year ago.

Ezekiel Eastridge, being duly sworn, says that, in 1803, he saw corn growing on the tract claimed, and Gerrard living there at the time; and said Gerrard has inhabited and cultivated said tract ever since, and resided on it in 1803; had about four acres in cultivation: said Gerrard had a wife and one child.

To Don Francis Vallé, captain commandant, civil and military, of the post of Ste. Genevieve of the Illinois.

Joseph Gerrard has the honor of exposing to you, that, having obtained, in the year 1790, a concession for a tract of land situate on the Merrimac, otherwise called Grand river, above Shallow river, and about one league distant of said river, having lost the copy of said concession, he has the honor of praying you to be so good as to make the search of said concession in the archives of this post, and to deliver him a copy of the same.

JOSEPH GERRARD.

ST. GENEVIEVE, *September* 7, 1799.

ST. GENEVIEVE, *September* 8, 1799.

In virtue of the demand of the petitioner, we do here adjoin a copy of the original instruments deposited in the archives of this post. FRANCIS VALLE.

SIR: The petitioners have the honor of exposing to you that they would be flattered to clear and cultivate a tract of land situate on the second fork of the Grand river Merrimac, containing one league square, distant one league and a half below Shallow river, and about twelve leagues from this village: so considering, be pleased, sir, to grant unto them the said concession, in order that they and their heirs may enjoy it, and you will do justice. St. Genevieve, June the 27th, 1790.

JOSEPH GERRARD.

And one cross for LORRAN MACAGNE.

Be the present petition presented to Don Manuel Perez, lieutenant governor of this said part of the Illinois, in order to ordain what he pleases. St. Genevieve, June 27, 1790.

PEYROUX DE LA COUDRONIERE.

Don Henry Peyroux, captain commandant of St. Genevieve, may grant to the petitioner five arpens of land in front by forty in depth, to each of them, in the place they solicit, belonging to the domain of the King, in order that they may establish themselves as they wish it, and be subject to the Spanish laws, as vassals of his Catholic Majesty, whom may God preserve. St. Louis of Illinois, July the 7th, 1790.

MANUEL PEREZ.

We, Don Henry Peyroux, captain of infantry, commandant, civil and military, of the post of St. Genevieve of the Illinois, in consequence of the orders of the lieutenant governor of this part of Illinois, do grant, as a title of property, unto Laurent Macagné, Joel Macagné, brothers, Joseph Gerrard, father, and Patrick Flemming, junior, aged about eighteen years, the quantity of seven arpens in front to each of them, by thirty arpens of depth, in the place mentioned in the petition of the other part; which tracts of land shall be taken jointly, without being separated from one to the other, and be subject to the maintenance of public roads, and be established within a year from the date of this day: in default of which, the said land shall be re-united to the domain of the King. Given at St. Genevieve, July the 17th, 1790.

PEYROUSE DE LA COUDRONIERE.

True copy, compared and conformed to the original remaining in the archives of this post. St. Genevieve, September the 8th, 1799.

FRANCIS VALLE.

I do hereby certify that the above is truly translated from the copy of the archives at St. Genevieve. St. Louis, August 20, 1806.

M. P. LEDUC,

Cl'k Board of Commissioners, Dist. Louisiana.

L.

To Charles Lehault Delassus, colonel of the armies of his Catholic Majesty, and liutenant governor of Upper Louisiana.

HUMBLY PETITION:

Camille Delassus, junior, son of Peter Charles Dehault Delassus Deluzieres, commandant, civil and military, of the post of New Bourbon, in the Illinois, and has the honor of exposing to you that, in the year 1792, when his father came and settled in this country, his intentions were always to settle near him. Having then made his said intentions known to his lordship the Baron de Carondelet, the governor general then promised and assured him a tract of land at his own choice in this country, as it appears by a copy of an official letter from said governor to his father, dated 8th May, 1793; and said governor did, at the same time, send his orders to Don Zenon Trudeau, your predecessor, ordering him to grant a concession to your petitioner, who deferred to demand and chuse it till now, on account of his youth, and the desire he had to learn the works of agriculture and exploration of lead mines under the direction of his said father. Finding himself at present of age, and in a situation of conducting a plantation and exploring a mine with the hired men, slaves, and animals, he possesses, he prays your worship to grant him a concession of 2,500 arpens of land in superficie, situate about the Grande river, and the river called River Platte, (shallow) bounded on every side by the King's domain. Your petitioner prefers that place to any other on account of its being more handy to oversee the exploration and attend at his father's mines, which are situated on a branch or fork of the river St. Francis, otherwise Gaboury, to the end that, by the lead he may discover and explore on the concession he solicits, he may defray the considerable and great expenses already made by his father on his said mine.

Your petitioner being second lieutenant of militia, and his knowledge of the English language, in which he has

been employed very often under the command of his father, with the greatest zeal for the King's service and without any reward, flatters himself to obtain of your worship the favor which he solicits. To that end, your petitioner applies to your worship, in order that you would be pleased, according to the orders and manifest intentions of Government, to grant him the said concession of 2,500 arpens above mentioned, and accordingly give your orders to Anthony Soulard, surveyor of Upper Louisiana, to survey said concession, drawing the plat, and make a verbal process of survey. So doing, your petitioner will pray for the preservation of your days.

CAMILLE DELASSUS.

NEW BOURBON, *October 3d*, 1799.

ST. LOUIS OF THE ILLINOIS, *October* 12, 1799.

By virtue of the above memorial, and instrument added thereto, and also by what appears in the two officials from the governor of this province, the Baron de Carondelet, bearing date the 7th and 8th of May, 1793, filed in this archives:

The surveyor, Anthony Soulard, shall survey 2,500 arpens of land in superficie, demanded by the petitioner, according to the orders of said governor; and, after the execution of the survey, the party interested shall have recourse to the intendant general of this province, (in order to obtain the title in form,) to whom, by royal order, appertains the right of granting all classes of lands belonging to the King's domain.

CARLOS DEHAULT DELASSUS.

Survey dated November 1, 1799. Certified January 10, 1800. ANTHONY SOULARD.

I do certify the foregoing to be truly translated from the original.

M. P. LEDUC, *T. B. C. L. T.*

ST. LOUIS, *July* 17, 1806.

April 17, 1802. I do hereby certify, that I relinquish all the right and claim to the cabin and labor that I have done on the Platte river, as I find that Mr. Camille Delassus has a right for it, before these presents.

JACOB DOGGETT, his × mark.

JACOB MOSTELLER.
JOHN MACY.
ABRAHAM ARMSTRONG.

Je certifie la presente copie confirme a l'original depose aux archives de ce post St. Genevieve, le 20 Avril, 1802.

FRANCIS VALLE.

[*Here, in the original, is a plat of the land.*]

Nota.—Los terminos puestos a los angulos y los mojones des puestos de 20 à de distancia entra ellos y todos indicados en el plano figurativo, todos estampados al nombre del proprietario C. D. les arboles de los limites estan senalados sentad. en el lib. A. f. 36, No. 69.

Don Antonio Soulard, agrim. par. de los establec. de la Alta Luisiana, certifico que el 1o. dia del mes de 9bre. del ano proximo pasado (en virtud del decreto que antecede del Sr. Dn. Ch. Deh. Delassus, tente. de Gober. de estos estableci.) me he transferido à la tierra de Don Camille Delassus. Para praticar el apeo a reglado a su pedimiento y dicho documentos, formando 2,400 as. y 34 pas. planos de superficie, cuyas medidas se han tomado en presencia del proprietario y de los vecinos linderos, con la percha de Paris, de 18 pies de largo segun costumbre adoptada en esta prova. de la Luisiana, y sin tocar a lo que puede dar de si la variacion de la abaja que es de 7 gs. y 30 ms. E. como consta del plano figurativo que antecede. Cuya tierra se halla situada como a 26 ms. al S. O. del puesto de Sta. Genoveva, lindando por sus quatro caras como sigue al N. con las tierras de Thomas Alley's y el de Guillermo Montgomery, al S. y E. con las tierras valdias del domo. real, y el del O. en partida por el mismo domo. real, citado y tierra de Joseph Gerrard y Patrick Flemming, y para que conste donde combenga le doy el presente con el plano figurativo que precede en el qual se indican las dimensiones y limites, naturales y artificiales, de dicha tierra. Sn. Louis de Illinois, 10 de Enero de 1800.

ANTONIO SOULARD.

Testimony taken from the rough minutes.

Camille Delassus claims 2,500 arpens of land situate on the waters of the river Platte, district of St. Genevieve, and produces a coecession from Charles Dehault Delassus for the same, 12th October, 1799; and a plat and certificate of survey dated 12th January, 1800. Surveyed November same year.

J. B. Vallé, sworn, was told by claimant, about '99 or 1800, having had a concession for said land, and was about having the same surveyed; that the said land had been established by one Doggett, who built a house on the same in 1801. A letter from the Baron de Carondelet to P. D. Deluzieres, dated 8th May, 1793; that a Mr. Aubuchon told witness he had discovered a mine on said land, in '92, on said land.

Wm. Montgomery, sworn, says that the first mineral was discovered in 1801; moved on Big river in 1800, about two miles from said land; never heard of a mine having been discovered before, nor of a concession granted before 1802.

Thomas Alley, sworn, says that the said tract was surveyed the latter end of 1802. Said land lies about 1½ miles from claimant. Heard of a mine having been discovered on the same in 1801.

December 1, 1807. *Susanna Doggett, widow of Jacob Doggett, claiming* 1,047 *arpens and* 28 *poles.*

William Montgomery, duly sworn, says one Samuel Pierceall first marked the place, and then gave up the place, or authorized Jacob Doggett to take possession of it, and build on it; he also saw a house built on it in the year of 1802; was not present when it was built.

Abraham Parke, duly sworn, says Jacob Doggett employed him to haul the house logs in the year 1801, which he accordingly did, and that the above claim of land was taken up by said Doggett, as he, said Doggett, told the witness as his head-right, in 1802, and that said Doggett had permission to settle on the vacant land in the King's domain, and he was present when he obtained said permission to settle. He also says said Doggett came into the country in 1800, and has since died in the country, he thinks in the year of 1803.

James Keith, duly sworn, deposes that, in 1801, he assisted the deceased Doggett to build a house on the premises about 18 feet square; soon after the raising of said house, a man of the name of Armstrong came to said Doggett at Montgomery's mill, with a paper in his hand, which he, Armstrong, called a *requete*, containing, as deponent understood, an order to take said Doggett to the calabouse if he should refuse to leave the premises and give up his claim. Deponent says that Doggett appeared much alarmed, left the premises in obedience to said order, and died in the year 1802, about Christmas. Claimant purchased afterwards a tract of land, on which he resided until his death.

Abraham Baker, being sworn, says, that sometime after the deceased had left the premises, and after his death, his widow, the present claimant, desired him, the deponent, to inquire of Camille Delassus whether he would not make her a compensation for the expenses incurred by her late husband on the land which he had been obliged to abandon. That deponent *did* make the inquiry, and was informed by Mr. Delassus that he should *not*.

Deponent says, that the claimant, Susanna, is the widow and relict of the late Jacob Doggett, and that she had, previously to and at the death of her said husband, four children, who were all living on the 20th December, 1803.

December 2d, 1807. Camille Delassus claiming the same lands as Susanna Doggett, of yesterday, against which claim, there was a *caveat* by said Delassus.

Abraham Armstrong also enters a caveat to the claim ~~of said~~ Camille Delassus, which said caveat is now on file, dated December 15th, 1807.

Testimony taken on the part of the United States.

Susanna widow Doggett, duly sworn, says that she was informed that Jacob Doggett, hér husband, had built a house on said land, but cannot tell when.

Abraham Baker, duly sworn, says that Doggett raised a house on said land in the fall of 1801; he, the witness, assisted him in so doing; believes claimant never paid Doggett any thing for said improvement; that a mine was discovered on it by Pierceall.

Samuel Pierceall, duly sworn, says that he, witness, discovered mineral on said land in 1801; that he worked on the same in the summer of that year. That one Doggett, that —— in the fall of 1801, he, the witness, and one Armstrong, having discovered mineral on said land, went to St. Genevieve for the object of obtaining a concession for him, said Armstrong, and the witness; that when at St. Genevieve, he that —— when Doggett was building said cabin, in 1801, he was forbid going on any further with said building, as he owned said tract. That Doggett, when building on said land, did not contemplate to take in any of the mines on said land, but merely to have a plantation.

M.

To Don Zenon Trudeau, lieut. governor of the western part of the Illinois, and chief commandant at St. Louis, &c.

Charles Fremon Delauriere has the honor of exposing to you that, having been seen in this country for services respecting this Government, that he has been employed in the service of his Catholic Majesty as volunteer in a party of militia which he has had the honor to command on an expedition on the Mississippi in the year 1795: now desirous to settle in this province, and get a property that might fix him in the same, in making, as soon as his means will permit, the useful and advantageous settlement for his livelihood and fortune, of which he has been partly deprived by the events of the French révolution; in consequence, he applies to your justice, and to the generosity of this Government, in order to take what is above stated into consideration, and grant him, if you please, sir, in full property, a concession of ten thousand arpens of land, in superficie, to be located near Prairie Rondo, district of St. Genevieve, and to give the necessary orders to the surveyor general of Upper Louisiana to put him in possession, as soon as he will be required so to do by your petitioner, who will not cease to pray for your preservation.

FREMON DELAURIERE.

St. Louis, 15*th January*, 1797.

Don Zenon Trudeau, lieutenant governor of Upper Louisiana, &c.

The surveyor, Don Antony Soulard, will put the interested in possession of the ten thousand arpens of land, in superficie, which he solicits, on the place mentioned, provided they are vacant and belong to the domain of the King. After having made the survey, he will deliver it to him, together with this decree, that it may serve him as title of property, until he obtains a title in form from the General Government, to whom he will apply in convenient time.

ZENON TRUDEAU.

St. Louis, 17*th January*, 1797.

I do hereby certify the above to be truly translated from the original remaining in the office of the recorder of land claims.

M. P. LEDUC, *Translator, &c.*

St. Louis, *February 7th*, 1809.

Surveyed for F. D. Ch. Delauriere 10,000 acres of land in the Rich wood about fifty miles in a southwest direction from St. Louis, on the head waters of Upper Big creek, a branch of Renow's fork of the Merrimac, and bounded as followeth: Beginning at an ash and black oak in a line with Horine's survey, and running with the same north 85 west, 60 acres, to a white oak; thence, north 55 east, 100 acres, to a stake and white oak; thence, south 35 east, 100 acres, to a stake and white oak; thence, south 55 west, 100 acres, to an ash; thence, north 35 west, 40 acres, to the place of the beginning, passing a corner of said Horine's survey, and with his line.

JOHN FERRY.

Je certifie, partout, ou besoin sera qu'a la datte ci dessus le Sr. John Ferry etoit employé comme mon lieutenant arpenteur, et que le dit plan s'etant trouvé egaré parmi d'autres papiers le retour et enregistrement official n'a pu avoir lieu avant la remise de l'archives, ce que Je certifie en mes ci-devant qualities.

ANTOINE SOULARD.

St. Louis, 15 *Mars*, 1808.

Sworn to, and subscribed before me, a justice of the peace for the township of St. Louis, district of St. Louis, the 28th June, 1808.

THOMAS F. RIDDICK.

[*Here follows the plat.*]

N.

Territory of Louisiana, district of St. Genevieve, plotted by a scale of 100 *poles to the inch.*

(Diagram descriptive of the plot.)

This plot represents six hundred and thirty acres of land, plotted at the request of Joseph Decelle, who claims the same by virtue of improvement and cultivation, beginning at two black walnuts on the S. E. side of a branch or fork of the Preiza Spring creek, below the Double spring, running south 315 poles to a stake; thence, west 320 poles to a stake; thence, north 315 poles to a post oak; thence, east 320 poles to the beginning; including his field, supposed to contain six or seven acres.

To the Recorder of land titles in and for the Territory of Louisiana:

Sir: Please to take notice that I claim, in virtue of an actual inhabitation and cultivation before and on the 20th December, 1803, the above tract of land of six hundred and thirty acres, situate in the district of St. Genevieve, as designated in the above mentioned plot thereof, dated the 8th May, 1807.

JOSEPH DECELLE,
By his agent, E. HEMPSTEAD.

Know all men by these presents, that I, Manuel Blanco, of the Mine à Breton, and district of St. Genevieve, have sold unto Joseph Decelle of said district an improvement made by myself in the year one thousand and eight hundred, within one and a half miles of Mine à Burton, proper, for the consideration of fifty dollars in hand paid by the said Joseph Decelle, as a consideration for said improvement, in consideration of which, I do by these presents make over and convey all my right and title to said improvement, together with all advantages that may arise in consequence of said improvement, by the virtue of any law of the United States that has been made, or that may be made, securing to settlers their improvements; to have and to hold the said improvemenents, with all and singular the rents, emoluments, mines, streams, and minerals thereunto belonging, or in any way appertaining, for the proper use of him the said Joseph Decelle, his heirs and assigns, forever; and, at the same time, to ask for, and demand, a title for said lands and improvements, the same as if demanded in my own name, without let or hindrance. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

MANUEL BLANCO.

In presence of Elias A. Elliot.
Mine a Burton, *May* 2, 1807.

N. B. Be it also known, that the sale and possession of said improvement was made, and possession given to the said Decelle in the year one thousand eight hundred and two. I received my pay at the time possession was given.

MANUEL BLANCO.

Test: Elias A. Elliot.
James Austin.

Testimony taken.

December 5th, 1807.

Alexander Duclos, being duly sworn, says that he knows the tract claimed is situate at the new mine, and it is the mine called the New diggings; that, about six years ago, there was about two arpens fenced in, and a crop raised for Decelle.

John Strickland, being also sworn, says, that, in 1803, he helped Mr. Decelle to plant corn, and that there was no appearance of cultivation before that time; that there was no fence, but logs laid round where the fence ought to be. He does not know whether the crop of corn was ever gathered in, and that this took place next May will be four years.

David Strickland, being also sworn, says that the year he moved at the Mine à Breton, which was in 1803, his son, John Strickland, the above witness, helped Mr. Decelle to plant corn.

Charles M'Durmett, being also sworn, says, in 1803, he helped to plough ground on said tract, and that the ground did not look as if it had been worked before; there was a sort of French fence round it; does not know whether the corn was gathered that year.

David Shaw, being also sworn, says, that he was on the land claimed in 1804, and that a crop of corn was raised on the same that year, by Decelle, and in the fall of the same year, or the year after, the fence around the enclosure was burnt; there was also no mineral discovered on the same at that time; that, about a year ago, or perhaps a little more, mineral was discovered on the land, and it has been reputed the richest mine in the country, and that Mr. Decelle, previous to the discovery of mineral on the land, cut timber for fencing the field, but, being sick and weakly, he did not complete it; that place where the mineral has been found, is situate about three or four hundred yards from the field.

August 16*th*, 1808.

In this case, on motion made, and affidavit filed, that the evidence of Amable Partenais dit Mason is material to the claim, and that his testimony was not taken when the board was last at St. Genevieve, on account of the indisposition and absence of Major Penrose, one of the members, and of Mr. Christy, the clerk; and praying that the same be now admitted to be taken before the

board, although this claim has, as it appears, been laid over for decision. The honorable Frederick Bates, one of the commissioners, recollects that, during the session of the board at St. Genevieve last winter, Henry Elliot, who appeared to be acting in behalf of the claim of Joseph Decelle, appeared to be anxious to obtain the testimony of certain witnesses residing at the lead mines, and who were not then at the village; that said Elliott rode to the Mine à Breton, as is believed, with a summons for said witnesses, but did not return in time, as the board had unexpectedly adjourned, owing to the sudden return to St. Louis of the honorable C. B. Penrose and William Christy, the clerk of the board; recollects that he conversed with Mr. Elliot on his return, and remarked that he was greatly disappointed that his testimony could not be received. The board are thereupon of opinion that this case be opened and farther testimony given.

Amable Partenais dit Mason, sworn, says that Don Francois Vallé, commandant of St. Genevieve district, being at the Mine à Breton in April or May, 1800, Manuel Blanco applied to him for a concession for the land claimed; said commandant replied to him that he could not grant him a concession; that he must apply to the lieutenant governor of St. Louis, but that said Blanco might settle on the same and cultivate it, and that nobody should disturb him; that, in 1801, said Blanco fenced in three sides of a field, but did not finish it. In 1802, joined with claimant, finished their fence, and raised a crop of corn. In 1803 and 1804 also raised a crop. In 1805 the fence was burnt; says that Joseph Decelle, claimant, was, in 1802 and 1803, a syndic of the setttement of Mine à Breton, and resided in the village, and was also a syndic under the American Government in 1804; that Manuel Blanco is a Spaniard, and was for a long time a Spanish soldier.

On the 29th December, 1807, John Smith T entered for record, in my office, the following tracts of land, located and claimed by him by virtue of a concession, as is said, to Jacques St. Vrain, for 10,000 arpens, dated the 9th February, 1796, to wit:

New diggings, two miles from Mine à Breton -	1,000
Mine à Robena - - - - - -	300
A tract on the branch above Renaut's mine -	300
A tract to include Doggett's mines - -	300
A tract on the first branch emptying into the Mine Fork, above its junction with Big river, on the south side - - - - - -	200
M'Kee's discovery, and adjacent lands, 1¼ miles from the foregoing tracts - - -	200
A tract, including a mill seat on the said creek, emptying into Big river, above the junction of the Mineral fork, on the west side - -	50
Amount of locations under St. Vrain's grant,	2,350

Claims of John Smith T derived in another manner:

A tract on waters of St. Francis, Murphy's settlement - - - - - -	800
A tract on waters of St. Francis, by concession, as is said, to Joseph Fenwick, 18th August, 1796 - - - - - - -	20,000

To his lordship the Baron de Carondelet, knight of Malta, brigadier of the royal armies, governor general, vice lord of Louisiana and Western Florida, and inspector of its troops, &c.

My Lord: James Ceran de St. Vrain Delassus, officer of the royal French marine, with all the respect due to you, hath the honor to expose, and saith, that, being obliged to emigrate in the United States by some too well known circumstances, and having lost his fortune and his military appointment, hath followed his family to associate himself to its fate, and which your generous goodness has taken care to better.

During that interval, the petitioner has had the happiness of rendering himself useful to the Government who has received him, endeavoring to show his zeal, activity, and consecration, against a party of the French who dare to threaten the Spanish possessions.

The knowledge of mineralogy which your petitioner possesses, has engaged his father to yield him the contract he had made with the Government for the supply of a certain quantity of lead, and, in the view to fulfil more easily the conditions which his father entered into with the intendant, in satisfying the Government, and to procure him a convenient livelihood, such to secure him in future an honorable support, the petitioner prays you, sir, to grant him, in all, property for him and his heirs, ten thousand arpens of land superficie, with the particular permission to take them in several separated tracts, on mines of what nature they may be, salt springs, mill seats, or any other places that will appear convenient to his interests, without being obliged to make any improvements, which he could not perform at present with success, on account of the great expenses that those improvements and explorations would require, and that the seats cannot be had but in very remote places from the population, and be exposed to the insults of the Indians. These are the favors which your petitioner dare expect of your generous goodness and of your justice.

JACQ. DE ST. VRAIN.

St. Genevieve, *November* 16, 1795.

Granted:

EL BARON DE CARONDELET.

New Orleans, *February* 10, 1796.

I do hereby certify the above to be truly translated from the original.

M. P. LEDUC, *T. B. C. L. T.*

St. Louis, *August* 26, 1806.

O.

I send you back the primitive title of the concession granted to Francis Valle of St. Genevieve, who made the same over to Mr. Dodge, and of which said Dodge made over one half to Mr. Tardiveau, who made you a gift of it, with the revision and approbation you desired. By this opportunity I write to Mr. Zenon Trudeau to grant you the land where you will have discovered the lead mines, with some adjacent, of a sufficient extent for their exploration: provided, however, they should not be already granted to some other.

Your son-in-law and your sons shall also have, as you wish it, a plantation in any place of the Illinois they will choose, and of an extent proportioned to the culture and settlements they propose themselves to arise, which is the answer to your No. 3.

God preserve you many years.

EL BARON DE CARONDELET.

New Orleans, *May* 8, 1793.

I do hereby certify the above to be truly translated from the original.

M. P. LEDUC, *Translator to Board of Com'rs Loui'a district.*

St. Louis, *February* 3, A. D. 1807.

To Don Zenon Trudeau, lieutenant governor of the western part of the Illinois, &c.

Very humbly petition Peter Charles Dehault, knight and lord of Lassus, Luzieres, and knight of the grand cross of the royal order of St. Michael, residing at New Bourbon, dependency of the Illinois, near St. Genevieve, and has the honor of exposing to you that, when he was at New Orleans, in May, 1793, he resolved to settle in the Illinois country, on account of the assurances given to him by his lordship, the Baron de Carondelet, governor general of Louisiana, that he, the said governor, would send his orders, and authorize you to grant him a tract of land to explore, exclusively, lead mines of a convenient and sufficient extent for the said exploration, provided it should not be already granted to some others, which promises and assurances of Government were expressly mentioned in an original letter herein enclosed, directed to the petitioner by his lordship the Baron de Carondelet, and dated May 8th, 1793, and which you have been pleased to inform me that it was exactly conformable to another official letter by you received on that subject by the same authority. The lengthy and cruel disease which your petitioner experienced on his arrival at the Illinois in August, 1793; the hostile threats of invasions made a short time after by the French against this upper colony; your orders to the inhabitants not to leave the posts, and the troubles and cares (which to your knowledge) I have taken, in that time, in helping you in the wise and efficacious measures you have employed, with success, in putting the several places of this country in a state of defence in cases of an attack, and Government having been informed of my zeal, cares, and endeavors, I received from his lordship Louis De Las Casas, then captain general of Havana, the honorable testimony of his satisfaction, as appears by his letter to me directed, dated May 20th, 1794, and of which a copy is here joined. All these circumstances having impeded the petitioner to begin sooner his searches of a tract of land and mines, and, by the assistance of my children, son-in-law, and the knowledge of several persons, I have found one tract of land, situate on a branch of the river St. Francois, otherwise Gaboury, in the district of St. Genevieve, and about thirty-six miles from said St. Genevieve, which said tract has not yet been granted, and on which it is assured that there is a

lead mine, which, by the principles of mineralogy, is sufficiently authenticated by the exterior appearances. Your petitioner having determined to venture a regular exploration of lead mines on that place, he expects, every day, on, his eldest son, who is now in Holland, and well acquainted with that branch: for, having studied it, and having been interested with your petitioner in the exploration of such mines in Europe, he will be very useful in conducting the works with great advantages. Your petitioner flatters himself that you will not decline in giving to said concession one league square, inasmuch as to secure the necessary timber for the melting of the mineral, the wants of the hands, and the sustenance of the last one. To this end, your petitioner requests you, sir, that, in conformity of the intentions of Government mentioned in the aforesaid letter, and in the letter to you directed by the said governor general, you will be pleased to grant him, for him, his heirs and assigns, a concession of a league square of land, situate on the said branch of the river St. Francois, otherwise Gaboury, in the district of St. Genevieve, with the exclusive right to explore the lead mines which might be found on the same, and to cultivate and raise stocks, if necessary. In so doing, your petitioner will for ever pray for the preservation your days.

DELASSUS DELUZIERES.

NEW BOURBON, *March 3d*, 1795.

ST. GENEVIEVE,
Of the Illinois, March 10th, 1795.

We, commandant of the post aforesaid, do inform the lieutenant governor that the land petitioned for by the above petition makes a part of the King's domain; that it is not granted to nobody, and that the extent for a league square, as solicited, is absolutely required for securing the necessary timber for the melting of mineral, and the wants of workmen.

LOUIS VALLE.

Copy of a letter written by his lordship Louis De Las Casas, captain general of Havana, &c., to the knight Dehault Delassus, of New Bourbon.

The Baron de Carondelet, in his letter of the 27th of February last, has informed me of the zeal and activity which your worship has manifested in exciting your settlers and Indians in the common defence of those settlements, and also of what your worship had done in the settlement where you live. I hope that you will continue the same with the same influence, and give me opportunity to reward and serve your worship.

God preserve your worship many years. Havana, 20th May, 1794.

LUIS DE LAS CASAS.

TO PETER DEHAULT DELASSUS DELUZIERES.

True copy, conformable to the original compared by us, captain commandant, civil and military, of the post of St. Genevieve of the Illinois, in faith of which we have signed and affixed our seal. St. Louis of the Illinois, April 1st, 1795.

LOUIS VALLE.

Seeing the present petition; the letter of the Baron de Carondelet, directed to the petitioner, and herein enclosed, dated May, 1793; also the official, directed to us by the same governor general, authorizing and giving us order to grant the petitioner a concession of a sufficient extent, in the place by him chosen, to explore, exclusively, the lead mines he will find; having also seen the information above stated of the commandant of St. Genevieve, by which it appears that the land petitioned for belongs to the King's domain, and that it is convenient that its extent should have one league square: We, the lieutenant governor, in conformity of said orders and intentions of Government, do give and grant to the petitioner, for him, his heirs and assigns, in all property, the concession which he demands, situate on a branch of the river St. Francois, otherwise Gaboury, on the spot by him chosen, to the extent of one league square, in order to explore, exclusively, to any others, the lead mines on the same, and, if necessary, to cultivate and raise stocks, giving order, by these presents, to Francis Valle, commandant of St. Genevieve, in the district of which the said land is situated, to put the petitioner in possession of the same; to the regular survey of which it shall be hereafter proceeded by the surveyor, who is to be incessantly appointed for the Upper Louisiana.

ZENON TRUDEAU.

ST. GENEVIEVE *of the Illinois, April 15th*, 1795.

We, Don Francis Valle, captain commandant, civil and military, of the post of St. Genevieve, in conformity to the within decree of Don Zenon Trudeau, lieutenant governor of this western part of the Illinois, dated the first of this present month of April, we have, this day, the 15th of said month, put the knight, Peter Charles Delassus Deluzieres, in possession of the league square of land situated on the river St. Francois, otherwise Gaboury, as granted to him by the aforesaid within decree, in conformity of the orders, and with the approbation of his lordship the governor general of this province, the said concession to be in future regularly surveyed by the King's surveyor, which is to be incessantly appointed and established in the upper part of this colony, of which the present is an act.

FRANCIS VALLE.

I do hereby enclose to you the primitive titles of the concession granted to Mr. Francis Valle, of St. Genevieve, who did give up the same to Mr. Dodge, and which said Dodge did give up the one-half to Mr. Tardiveau, who afterwards made you the free gift of the same, together with the viso and approbation you desired.

By this opportunity I write to Mr. Zenon Trudeau to grant you the tract of land on which you might have discovered the lead mines, with an adjacent tract of a sufficient extent for their explorations; provided, however, it is not formerly granted to nobody.

Your son-in-law and your children shall, also, agreeably to your desire, have a concession in any place they will choose in the Illinois, and of an extent proportioned to the settlements they intend to make. This is the answer to your letter No. 3.

God preserve you.

EL BARON DE CARONDELET.

NEW ORLEANS, *May* 8, 1793.

True copy of the original remaining in my hands.

M. P. LEDUC, *Recorder*.

ST. LOUIS, *February* 27, 1806.

Petition from Peter Delassus Deluzieres to Charles Dehault Delassus, demanding the survey of the land, dated November 25, 1799.

PETER DELASSUS DELUZIERES.

Order of survey from Charles Dehault Delassus to Anthony Soulard, dated November 29, 1799.

CARLOS DEHAULT DELASSUS.

Surveyed by Soulard, December 14, 1799; certificate of survey, dated March the 5th, 1800.

ANTHONY SOULARD.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is truly translated from the originals.

M. P. LEDUC, *T. B. C. L. T.*

ST. LOUIS, *July* 17, 1806.

[*Here, in the original, is a plat of the land.*]

Nota.—Los terminos puestos a todos los angulos y los mojones de 20 as. de distancia entre ellos y todos cimentados con porcion de olla de Hieno. 1. Piquetes. 2. Roble Blanco. 3. Nogal. 4. Freno. 5. Roble Bronco, estampado al nombre del proprietario D. L. todos los arboles de los limites estan senalados. Libro, A. fo. 50, No. 135.

Don Antonio Soulard, agri. par. de los establi'os. de la Alta Luisiana. Certifico que el 14 de Deciembre del ano proximo expirado (en virtud del decreto que antecede del Senor tente. de Gobr. de estos establi'os. de la Luisiana Alta Don Carlos Dehault Delassus, en fecha de 29 de 9bre. del mismo ano ultimo pasado) me he transferido a la tierra del Senor Don Pedro Delassus Deluzieres, para praticar el apeo areglado a su pedimiento de una legua en quadro, formando 7,056 arpens planos de superficie, cuyas medidas se han tomado en presencia del proprietario, con la percha de Paris de 18 pies de largo segun costumbre adoptada en esta prova. de la Luisiana cuya tierra se halla situada como a 25 ms. al O. S. O. del puesto de Na. Bourbon, lindando como sigue por los quatro lados del N. S. E. y O. con las tierras valdias del domo. de S. M. y para que conste donde combenga le doy el presente con el plano figurativo que precede en el qual se indican las dimenciones y limites naturales y artificiales que la circonden. St. Luis de Illinois, a 5 de Marzo de 1806.

ANTONIO SOULARD, *Agr. Par.*

[TRANSLATION.]

NEW ORLEANS, *May* 8, 1793.

As I have intimated to your worship in an official separate letter, informing your worship of the contract made by the Knight Don Peter Charles Delassus for the annual delivery of thirty thousand pounds of lead in shots or plates, your worship will grant him the quantity

of land that will be necessary in order that he may explore a mine of said metal in the place required by him, as also other regular concessions, in order that his children and son-in-law make their settlements according to the means they possess, and the instruction given for the new colonists.

God preserve your worship many years.

EL BARON DE CARONDELET.

To Zenon Trudeau.

St. Louis, *24th November*, 1808.

I do certify the above to be truly translated from the original remaining in the recorder's office of the district of St. Louis.

M. P. LEDUC, *T. B. C. T. L.*

New Orleans, *May* 7, 1793.

The knight Don Peter Dehault Delassus has made a contract with this intendancy for the delivery of 30,000 pounds of lead yearly, either in ball or plates, during five years.

In order that he may comply with said contract, your worship will put him in possession of a sufficient quantity of land for the exploration and privilege of the mine, in consequence of which he will present a memorial directed to me, which your worship will forward to me, in order that I may give the necessary decree of concession; but be it understood that, until then, your worship will put him in possession.

God preserve you many years.

EL BARON DE CARONDELET.

Mr. Don Zenon Trudeau.

St. Louis, *January* 31, 1807.

I do certify that the above is truly translated from the original.

M. P. LEDUC,
Trans. to the Board of Com. La. Dist.

P.

To Don Charles Dehault Delassus, lieutenant governor of Upper Louisiana, &c.

St. Genevieve, *October* 15, 1800.

The undersigned have the honor of exposing to you that, having purchased at public sale a part of the property of John Datcherut, deceased, on the lead mine called a La Motte, together with what did belong to some of the subscribers, that since that time, they have explored the said mine with considerable expenses, for the reestablishment of the same, which had, for a considerable length of time, remained without explorations, and that, by their industry and constant works, they have been at, it would now begin to answer their views in becoming profitable, and, as wood is the most essential for the melting of the minerals, and at present at remote distance from the said mine on account of the consummation which had been made of it heretofore by the ancient explorator of the said mine, of which your petitioners, on account of the great length of time which has elapsed since that period, have no other knowledge than that derived of their friends who have worked the same, without being able to give them the fixed time at which they did work it. The said petitioners pray you, sir, to grant them the quantity of two leagues square adjoining the said mine, to enjoy of the forests, timber, materials, and other convenient commodities for the exploration of said mine, without which they would suffer a considerable injury, and ruin all their present and future works. Your petitioners do obligate themselves to conform to the laws, customs, and constitution of the kingdom: in so doing, they never will cease to offer their prayers for your conservation.

J. B. VALLE.
ST. J. BEAUVAIS.
FRANCIS VALLE.
PRATTE.

St. Louis, Illinois, *January* 22, 1801.

It not being in our power to grant a concession for such an extent, we refer the petitioners to the intendant, whom we have the honor to inform that the use they propose to make of these two leagues square is absolutely indispensable and necessary to explore the mine, and to dig the lead; besides, that the four persons who demand it have for this long time employed all their means and strength in digging the mineral so useful to the Government and to the public, and are of the most ancient and respectable inhabitants of the country, and faithful subjects of his Catholic Majesty, and that, in every instance, have always been employed by the Government, and have always showed the greatest zeal whenever occasion has offered; in consideration of which, and in order that their works should not suffer, by any delay, we do provisionally permit them to cut the necessary timber on the King's domain, on the place demanded, hoping of the goodness of his lordship, the intendant, that he will be so good as to grant them this concession—favor of which they are worthy in every respect.

CHAS. DEHAULT DELASSUS.

St. Louis, *September* 4, 1806.

I do hereby certify that the above is truly translated from the record of the recorder of land claims.

M. P. LEDUC,
Trans. Board Com. Dist. Lou.

Survey, February 22, 1806, received.

ANTHONY SOULARD.

February 26, 1806.

Nous soussignés, Francois Vallé, Jean Bte. Vallé, St. Germ. Beauvais et Jean Baptiste Pratte, donnons plein pouvoir à Don Jacques Maxuell, grand vicaire et curé de la paroisse de Ste. Genevieve qui descend à la Nouvelle Orleans, de demander en notre nom la concession mentionnée dans notre requete presentée à Mr. le lieut. gouverneur de la Louisiane superieure et renvoyée par lui a Monseigneur l'Intendant de la Nouvelle Orleans à l'effet de quoi l'autorisons a presenter requete pour nous, au dit Seigneur Intendant faire tous ecrits et demarches necessaires pour obtenir la dite concession, promettant avoir pour agréable tout ce que fera la dit Sieur Don Maxuell a ce sujet et l'avouer comme si nous l'eussions fait nous même. En foi de quoi nous avons signé a Ste. Genevieve, ce neuf Mars, de l'an dix-huit cent deux, en preseuce des Sieurs Louis Largeau et de Pierre Deluzieres, qui ont aussi ici signés comme temoins.

PRATTE.
FRANCOIS VALLE.
JEAN B. VALLE.
J. ST. G. BEAUVAIS.

L. Largeau.
Am. P. Deluzieres, *temoin.*

Senor Intendente General, Don Santiago Maxuell, cura de la parroquia de Sta. Genoveva de Illinois a V. con el debido respeto expongo:

Que segun consta del poder que accompana Don Francisco y Don Juan Bautista Vallé, Don Juan Bautista Pratte, y Don St. James Beauvais, me han encargado de solicitar en su nombre, la concesion de dos leguas en quadro circa del parage nombrado la Mina a la Motte, en consideracion de los trabajos y gastos que han hecho en la dicha mina, cuyos motivos van expuestos en el adjunto memorial presentado par ellos al ten'te gobernr. de Illinois, quien por la carta que tambien agrego les aviso que huvieran de acudir al tribunal de V. en esta atencion, y en consideracion de las razones en que se fundan para solicitar la dicha concesion, suplico se sirva V. conceder les la gracia que peden, y espero obtenir de su notoria rectitud.

DIEGO MAXWELL.

Nueva Orleans, 29 *de Abril, de* 1802.

Nueva Orleans, 30 de Abril de 1802. Por presentados los documentos que accompana, traduscasen al idioma castellano por el interprete Don Pedro Derbigny, y fecho de se vista al Senor Fiscal. MORALES.

[*Here, in the original, is a plat of the land.*]

I do certify that the above plat represents 28,224 arpens, or 24,142 acres of land, situate on the river Saint Francois, including Mine à la Motte, beginning at A, as laid down in the plot; surveyed by me for John B. Vallé, St. James Beauvais, Francis Vallé, and Pratte. Done by virtue of a concession granted them by Don Ch. Dehault Delassus, bearing date the 22d January, 1801. Given from under my hand, this 22d February, 1806.

NATHANIEL COOK,
D. Surveyor, Dist. St. Genevieve.

24,126 acres 75 poles.

Received for record, St. Louis, February the 26th, 1806.

ANTOINE SOULARD,
Surveyor Gen. Ter. Louisiana.

B.

[*Here, in the original, is a plat of the land.*]

Nota.—The stones placed every five arpens of distance between them, with rust at their bottom, the letter C. at one arpent and two perches of a white oak on the N. 54° E.; the same letter C. at one arpent 7½ perches, of a red oak on the N. 55½° E.; every tree on the lines marked with the axe.

Don Charles Trudeau, royal and principal surveyor of the province of Louisiana, &c.

I certify, that in behalf, and in presence of Don Gabriel Cerré, and with the assistance of the neighbors, has been surveyed and measured one tract of land, of 400 arpens and a half in superficie, with the perches of Paris, of 18 feet in length, French measure, adopted in this colony, which tract is situated in the district of St. Louis, of Illinois, about four miles N. of the town of St. Louis, adjoining southeasterly with other tracts belonging to the party interested, northeasterly to the river Gingras, northwesterly to the small hills and vacant land of the domain of his Majesty, the boundaries made according to the limits of the plot, after having corrected the variation, to wit: the lines A B and D C, directed S. 48° west, the first A B of 85½ perches, and the line B C of 401 perches S. 45° 30′ east, in which lines has been placed the distances marked on the above plot, all of them with stones and rust at their bottom; the survey having been made according to the decree of the lieutenant governor, &c., dated the 3d of January of this present year, and in conformity of the adjudication of the property of the late Mr. Hubert, made before the Lt. Gov. Don Pedro Piernas, dated the 2d day of October, 1774, in favor of Luis Perrault, which instrument has been presented by the party interested, as a title of property as purchaser of said tract of land; and, in order that the whole of it may appear as such, I have delivered the present by virtue of the Governor General, &c. dated the 14th of this present month and year, and in conformity of the diligences made by the particular surveyor, Don Anthony Soulard, dated the 20th of February, last year, marked book B, folio 34, number 148. In witness whereof, I have delivered the present, this 16th day of August, 1798.

CARLOS TRUDEAU,
Royal Surveyor.

Don Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, brigadier of the royal armies, governor general of the provinces of Louisiana and Western Florida, and inspector of its troops and militias, &c.

Seeing the aforesaid diligences made by the surveyor of this province, Don Charles Trudeau, on the possession that he has given to Don Gabriel Cerré, of the quantity of 400½ arpens of land in superficie, situate in the district of St. Louis of Illinois, about four miles N. of the town of St. Louis, adjoining on the S.E., to the lands of the party interested, on the N.E., to the river Gingras, and on the N.W., to the small hills and lands of the domain of the King, as it is demonstrated in the above plot of survey, and acknowledging the same to be conform to the regulation of survey, without prejudicing a third, approving as we do approve of them, using of the faculties vested in us by the King, we do grant in his royal name unto the aforementioned Gabriel Cerré, the above mentioned 400½ arpens of land in superficie, in order, that, as his own property, he may dispose and enjoy of it, confining himself to the above diligences, and observing the conditions enjoined by the regulation on the subject.

Given the present, signed with our hand, sealed with the seal of our arms, and countersigned by the undersigned commissary of war, secretary of this Government, for his Majesty.

MANUEL GAYOSO DE LEMOS.

NEW ORLEANS, *August* 17, 1798.

[L. S.] By his lordship's command,
ANDRES LOPEZ ARMESTO.

Recorded.

ST. LOUIS, *January* 5, 1807.

I do hereby certify the foregoing to be truly translated from the original.

M. P. LEDUC,
Trans. B. Com. Dist. Lou.

To the honorable Board of Commissioners for ascertaining and adjusting the titles and claims to land in the Territory of Louisiana.

I herewith submit to you that collection of evidence respecting the claims to, and value of, the lead mines within the Territory of Louisiana, which I have made in pursuance to the 6th section of the act of Congress, "for ascertaining and adjusting the titles and claims to land within the Territory of Orleans, and district of Louisiana," passed the 2d of March, 1805.

On examination it will be found that a great part of this collection has been compiled, not only from the recorder's office, but also from the proceedings of the board; and in those cases where decisions have been heretofore made by the commissioners, I have also submitted copies thereof. Several other discoveries of lead mineral have also been made in the neighborhood of Mine au Breton and the Old mines, most of which are on public land; particularly Mine Shibboleth, near the Old mine claims. This is held under a lease from the United States, and is considered very valuable.

As to the second branch of the inquiry, viz. the value of the different mines, no certain evidence has fallen within my reach; of course I can have little else to submit on this head than general report. Many of the mines here noticed have been abandoned or not wrought for the last two or three years. But amongst those at present occupied or worked, Dubuque's mines, Mine au Breton, Lebeaume's mines, those situated on the Old mine tract, the new diggings and late discovery of Mine Shibboleth, are generally reputed much the most valuable.

The whole of which is respectfully submitted by

WILL. C. CARR,
Agent for the United States.

A statement of the different documents submitted to the Board of Commissioners relative to the title of the lead mines in the Territory of Louisiana.

A. Dubuque's mines.—Copies of the petition to, and grant from, the Baron de Carondelet; counsel and cession of the Sacs and Foxes to J. Dubuque; additional article of a treaty made by Governor Harrison with said Indians; testimony and decision of the former board.

B. Martin Duralde.—Concession from St. Ange and Labuxiere.

C. Wilkinson's mines.—Copies of the grant to Gabriel Cerré, the original claimant; and plat of survey, and extract from the minutes.

D. Mine Renault.—Copies of four concessions made by Bois Briant and Desursins to Mr. Renault, of which one is at Mine la Motte, as will be seen by reference to said copies certified by the county recorder at Kaskaskia. A grant of four arpens square by Frs. Cruzat to Azor, alias Breton, and the transfer to Tenwick and Henry, the present claimants.

E. Old mines.—Copy of the concession from Lassus to 31 inhabitants, and of the plat of survey. Also of the claim of P. Boyer, who has laid in a separate title to the land whereon he lived and cultivated, being included in the general plat of the 31 persons.

F. Mine au Breton, Moses Austin's claim.—Copy of his patent from Morales and testimony given before the board. The heirs and representatives of Frs. Moro—copy of a concession from Frs. Cruzat to Frs. Azor, alias Breton, for four arpens; a petition to Francois Valle by F. Moro, and decree of C. D. Delassus thereon, plat of survey, testimony and decision of the board. The claim of St. Germ. Beauvais; concession from Manuel Perez for 60 feet square, and testimony; the claim of Francois Valle; concession from Manuel Perez for 60 feet square, and testimony; the claim of the heirs and representatives of Frs. Lalumendiere; copy of the statement of the claim; testimony given, and decision of the board. [Note—The concession in this case could not be found.] Amable Partenais concession from Lassus for 500 arpens; plat of survey, testimony, and opinion of the board. Charles Bequette, notice of claim; two plats of survey, testimony and decision of the board.

Louis Millehomme, the same.

Louis Grinya, the same.

Peter Martin, two plats and same, but no decision.

Jacob Wise, one plat of survey, notice of claim and testimony.

Thomas Russ, one plat of survey, testimony and decision of the board.

The heirs and representatives of Frs. Moro, assignee of Jno. B. Lebreche, 500 arpens; concession from Lassus to Lebreche; plat of survey; testimony and decision of the board.

G. Auguste Chouteau, jun., concession from Lassus for 800 arpens; plat of survey; testimony and decision.

H. Nicholas Boilvin, original claimant; concession from Zenon Trudeau, and plat.

I. Mine a Menetto.—John B. Pratte, sen., concession from Lassus for 1000 arpens; plat of survey, testimony, and decision.

K. Mine a Joe.—Concession from Peyroux by the order of Manuel Perez; petition to C. D. Delassus, and his decree thereon; plat of survey and testimony.

L. Mine La Platte.—Camelle de Lassus 2,500 arpens; concession from C. D. Delassus' plat; Jacob Dogget's relinquishment to claimant, and testimony.

M. Labaume's mines.—Concession from Zenon Trudeau to Fremon Delauriere and plat of survey.

N. New Diggings.—1000 arpens located by John Smith T by virtue of a grant to Jacques St. Vrain from Baron Carondelet for 10,000 arpens, and other locations made by virtue of said grant, as per copy of thereof, and his list of claims, herewith submitted.

The claim of Joseph of Decelle for 630 acres—notice of claim; plat of survey and testimony.

O. Mine a Gerboree. P. C. D. D. De Luzierre 7,056 arpens; grant from Zenon Trudeau; copies of three letters from the Baron de Carondelet, and one from Las Casas, governor at Havana, and plat of survey.

P. Mine La Motte. Petition to Chs. Dehault Delassus, by J. B. Valle and others, together with his decree thereon; application to the intendant, and an order by him for the same to be translated.

The foregoing statement contains an account of all the documents that I have been able to procure relating to the title of the lead mines. WILL. C. CARR,
Agent United States.

A catalogue of the lead mines and Salt springs in the Territory of Louisiana, as discovered and generally known at the present day.

Number.	Name.	No of arpens.	Nature of the claim.	Date of the concession.	Date of the survey.	District.	Claim't on record, present owner, or person in possession.	Remarks.
*1	Mine la Motte -	2 leagues square	Petition for concession refused	22 Feb. 1816		St. Genevi'e	J. B. Valle and others	
2	Mine a Gerboree -	1 league square	Concess'n	1 April, 1795	14 Dec. 1799	-	Pierre De Luzierre and others	A letter from Baron Carondelet to Z. Trudeau, Lt. Gov. to grant lands to claimant, dated 1793.
3	Mine a Breton -	7,153	Patent -	5 July, 1802	- -	-	Moses Austin -	Inhabited & cultivated constantly since 1798
4	Mine a Robina -	300	Concess'n	10 Feb. 1796	- -	-	John Smith T -	Concession proved to have been left with Louis Labaume in '97.
5	Mine a Maneto -	1,000	-	5 Sept. 1799	5 Nov. 1800	-	John B. Pratte -	Considered by the former board as antedated, and rejected.
6	Mine a Joe -	1,000	-	17 July, 1790	- -	-	R. Easton and J. Bruff.	
7	Mine a la Platte -	2.500	-	12 Oct. 1799	1 Nov. 1799	-	Camille Delassus.	
8	Mine a Lange -	Public.						
9	Mine a Renault -	1½ by 6 lea.	-	14 June, 1723	- -	-	Heirs of Renault	
		4	-	25 Mar. 1782	28 May, 1800	-	W. Fenwick and	A. Henry.
		300	-	10 Feb. 1796	- -	-	John Smith T	
10	Old Mines -	12,400	-	4 June, 1803	3 Feb. 1804	-	V. Coleman, J. Blay and 30 others	Divers settlem'ts made on this claim in the year 1803, and continued ever since.
11	New Diggings -	630	Settlement	right -	- -	-	Joseph Decelle -	Cultivated from 1802 till 1805.
		1,000	Concess'n	10 Feb. 1796	- -	-	John Smith T	
12	Dogget's Mines -	300	-	10 Feb. 1796	- -	-	John Smith T	
13	Smith's Mines -	800	-	25 Jan. 1798	- -	-	John Smith T	
14	Labaume's Mines -	10,000	-	17 Jan. 1797	- 1804	-	Louis Labaume.	
15	Brown's Mines.							
16	Wilkinson's Mines	400	-	25 Apr. 1796	5 Jan. 1800	St. Louis	B. Wilkinson -	Ascertained by the former board to be a complete title.
17	Dubuque's Mines	3 by 7 lea.	-	10 Nov. 1796	- -	St. Charles	Julien Dubuque -	The same.
	Susannah Dogget	1,047	Settlement	right -	- -	St. Genevi'e	J. Dogget's widow	These two claims are believed to be included in the claim for Mine Platte.
	Jacob Dogget's heirs	400	-	- -	- -	-	J. Dogget's heirs	
	M. M. Duralde -	3 by 40	Concess'n	6 July, 1769	- -	St. Charles.		

* The heirs of Renault also have a claim of two leagues of land, which includes this mine. The claim is in every respect similar to the one for Mine Renault. It was made at the same time, by the same persons, viz. Desursins and Bois Briant, and never surveyed.

The following are claims, of which a part is either immediately adjacent to Mine au Breton, or so near it that I have thought it my duty to notice them in the collection of testimony relative to lead mines which I shall hereafter submit to the commissioners. In the most of these small claims, the claimants have surveyed an additional quantity at Bellevieu, to make up the whole of what they claim under the second section of the act of Congress, 2d March, 1805.

Amable Partenait -	500	Concess'n	5 Sept. 1799	20 Feb. 1800	St. Genevi'e	Amable Partenait -	Inh. and cult. constantly since 1799.
John Perry -	639	Settlement	right -	- -	-	John Perry.	
St. Germ. Beauvais	60 feet squ.	Concess'n	27 Nov. 1788	- -	-	St. Germ. Beauvais.	
Widow Moro -	16	-	25 Mar. 1782	- -	-	Widow Moro.	
Do -	500	-	5 Sept. 1799	10 Feb. 1800	-	Widow Moro -	Inh. & cult. in 1802-3.
Joseph Decellé.							
John Bte. Michaux -	-	-	- -	- -	-	J. B. Michaux.	
Jacob Wise -	37½	Settlement	right -	- 1806	-	J. Wise -	Persons who were at the proper season of the year engaged in working the mines, and who, for their convenience, built cabins, and cultivated a garden spot, or small field, without permission to settle, and therefore rejected by the former board.
Louis Millhomme -	20	-	- -	- 1806	-	L. Millhomme -	
Louis —— and F. Tibeault	40	-	- -	- 1806	-	Louis —— and F. Tibeault	
Charles Bequette -	34	-	- -	- 1806	-	C. Bequette -	
Peter Marten -	30	-	- -	- 1806	-	P. Wharton -	
Peter Aber (Hebert)	58	-	- -	- 1806	-	P. Aber (Hebert) -	
John Perry -	2	-	- -	- -	-	J. Perry.	
Francis Vallé -	60 feet squ.	Concess'n	29 Apr. 1792	- -	-	Fr. Valle.	
SALT SPRINGS.							
1 Henry Peyroux -	-	Concess'n	- -	- -	St. Genevi'e	Henry Peyroux.	
2 JacquesClamorgan	-	-	- -	- -	St. Louis	Charles Gratiot.	
3 Charles Gratiot -	-	-	- -	- -	-	Charles Gratiot.	
4 United States.							
5 James Mackay -	4,000	-	- -	- -	St. Charles	J. Mackay.	
6 Chs. F. Delaurier-	10,000	-	- -	- -	-	C. F. Delaurier.	
7 Pierre Chouteau	30,000	-	- -	- -	St. Louis	P. Chouteau.	
8 Gabriel Ceré -	8,000	-	- -	- -	-	Heirs of G. Ceré.	

ST. LOUIS, 11*th April*, 1810. WILL. C. CARR, *A. U. S.*

MINE A BURTON, *6th Nov.* 1816.

SIR: When I was last at St. Louis, about three weeks ago, you were pleased to request my ideas in answer to a number of queries transmitted to you, if I mistake not, by the Commissioner General of the United States' Land Office. My private affairs not permitting my return home until the 2d instant, prevented my complying with your wishes at an earlier date; but I shall now proceed to do so, not only to the best of my judgment, but from the information of some of the most respectable inhabitants of the country; and for the purpose of making myself understood as explicitly as possible, I shall answer the queries in the order they were proposed:

1st. The situation of the lead mines; their extension; their product; the general character of the ore; their value.

Answer. The mines of Mine à Burton are situated about 46 miles west of St. Genevieve, and about 36 miles southwest of Herculaneum, both of them on the Mississippi, in about 37° 40′ of north latitude, and 16° of west longitude from Philadelphia.

The extent of the mines round this place, now worked, is about 8 or 10 miles. Indices of lead ore, (and frequently the ore itself,) are, however, found at a much greater distance; and, in my opinion, the country from this, southwardly, to Mine la Motte, about forty miles southwestwardly of St. Genevieve, northwestwardly, towards, and perhaps on the waters of the Missouri, and northeastwardly to Dubuque's mines on the Mississippi, may be considered as partially interspersed with mineral of various descriptions, particularly iron.

Yet, notwithstanding these general indices, no bodies of lead ore, worthy of attention, have, to my knowledge, been found, but in and about the following parts, viz. Mine la Motte, this place, Dubuque's mines, and on the waters of the Ouisconsin and Roche rivers, (the two latter on the east side of the Mississippi.) The extent of the La Motte mines are not, from the best information, considerable: but I believe those on the Ouisconsin and Roche rivers, as well as Dubuque's, are very much so.

The lead ores of this neighborhood are of the Galena kind, sometimes in small but generally in large lamines. They are often found in hard rocks, from which they are not detached but with great labor and expense; but, for the most part, either in a red clay mixed with gravel, forming together a hard compact body, or else attached to, or combined with, a vitreous spar, (called by the old French inhabitants, and adopted by the American, *tiff.*) The substance appears to be the matrix of the ore, seldom being found without its presence, and is generally found in large bodies, often without any mineral near it, and sometimes with only a speck in the centre not larger than a pea. There is but little silver in the ores either of this place or Mine à la Motte, for, from very careful assays made by Mr. Renault, and able chemists in his employ, near 70 years ago, it was ascertained that 25 lbs. weight of the La Motte mineral contained but one grain of silver, and that the same quantity of the mineral of this neighborhood contained only half of a grain.

The product of the ore is various. The best (after having undergone two different processes) will yield about 60 lbs. per cent. of lead, while others, after having passed through the same process, will not yield more than from 40 to 50 per cent. It often happens that the ore found in one hole will be of the first, while that taken from another one, only a short distance from it, will be of a very inferior quality; nay, sometimes the ore from the same hole will be very different in its quality. On the whole, however, the general product may be estimated at from 55 to 60 per cent.

I am at a loss to determine whether (from the words made use of, "their value," in the queries,) it was intended to inquire into the value of the mines themselves, or into that of the mineral when raised.

Should it have been to inquire into the value of the mines themselves, I would observe, that it would be difficult for me, or I believe any other person, to give such an opinion on that head as would be satisfactory either to the Government or myself: because, 1st, the present mode of mining, which is nothing more than simply digging of holes or pits in the ground, is by no means calculated to ascertain whether there may be any or what quantities of mineral at a considerable depth in the earth, and, if so, whether it is more or less abundant than near the surface; 2d, because, as some of these mines have as yet (unless perhaps in Renault's time) been either properly opened or explored, and as no shafts have been sunk or drifts cut, but to a very inconsiderable extent, it is impossible to judge whether there are any regular veins, and if so, of their length, breadth, or thickness. In fact no such regular veins have as yet been found, as the ore hitherto got having been found in detached bodies or pieces of a greater or less magnitude; and, 3dly, because, as each hole is various in its value, that value must necessarily depend on the quantity and quality of the ore, the depth in which it is found, and the facility or difficulty of detaching it from the surrounding strata.

Should it have been intended to inquire into the value of the mineral dug up, I then answer, that this depends entirely on the price of lead at New Orleans, and other seaport towns of the United States. To elucidate this the more clearly, it will be necessary to mention that those employed in the mining business are either miners or smelters.

The latter, who are few in number, and generally lessees under the United States, give the miners 400 lbs. of smelted lead, equal to 40 per cent. for every 1,000 lbs. of mineral they raise. The smelter, for his part, calculates on making 45 per cent. from the first smelting or process, and 15 per cent. on the second, making in all 60 per cent. In this, however, he is often disappointed. From the 20 per cent. remaining after paying the miner, he pays the United States their rent, (at this time I believe 350 cents on every 1000 lbs. of mineral;) the balance he retains for his trouble and expenses of smelting the whole. The United States and the miner must, at all events, be paid, and the smelter runs all the risk. If lead bears a tolerable price, he may make a small profit; if not, he will be a loser. With the view of explaining myself more fully, I beg leave to submit the following statement by way of account; first premising that lead, at this time, is at four cents per lb., equal to $4 per hundred at the mines, and that the common charge of a furnace is about 3,000 lbs. mineral.

The Smelter

Dr.		Cr	
To 1,650 lbs. lead, net produce of 3,000 lbs. mineral smelting, at 4 cents, -	$66 00	By paid miner 1,200 lbs., -	$48 00
Deduct per contra,	64 50	United States' rent,	10 50
		Expenses out of pocket in both processes,	6 00
	$1 50		$64 50

Leaving him for his trouble, skill, and care, (at the rate of 55 per cent. on the mineral,) 150 cents; equal to 50 cents on the 1,000 lbs. of mineral smelted. But, should he obtain 60 per cent. from the mineral, there will then be a balance in his favor of $7 50. This sum, in my opinion, considering that he can smelt but once in two days, should even wind and weather permit, and that the furnace, when in blast, must be carefully watched and attended to for twenty-four consecutive hours, is not much more than sufficient to compensate him for his risk and labor in making the first, to say nothing of the second smelting.

When lead is at five cents, as it was until lately, and to bring the medium between 55 and 60, viz. 57½ per cent. as the product of the mineral, the above account, in that case, will stand as follows, viz.:

The Smelter

Dr.		Cr.	
To 1,725 lbs. lead, at 5 cents, -	$86 25	By paid miner 1,200 lbs., -	$60 00
Deduct as per contra,	76 50	United States' rent,	10 50
		Expenses, - -	6 00
	$9 75		$76 50

Leaving a balance of $9 75 in his favor. But, admitting that the mineral should produce 60 per cent., it would then leave a balance in his favor of $13 50; about $8 50 more than the sum he ought, in my opinion, to be entitled to.

From the foregoing statement, it is evident that the rents to be received ought to be in proportion to the price of lead; and that, from the present low price at the mines, the rent now reserved is more than any one can afford to pay: were, however, the price advanced to any thing above five cents, then the rent to be reserved ought to be advanced in proportion. Hence it appears to be the interest not only of the community at large, but of the Government in particular, that such protecting duties should be laid as would prevent the importation of foreign lead. Such a measure would give encouragement to national industry and enterprise, induce capitalists (much to be desired,) to enter into the mining business, and, in all probability, would be the means of bringing into general use those treasures which now, and for ages to come, may otherwise remain buried in the bowels of the earth; and, (considering the vast extent of mineral ground own-

ed by the United States,) insures a much greater revenue than is now received by way of duty on the importation of foreign lead.

I can see no substantial reason for the manufactures receiving any greater encouragement than the miner and smelter. The skill employed by them all may be equal, but the risk and labor of the latter are much greater than the former; yet, foreign lead only pays a duty of *one* cent per pound on importation, while, in a manufactured state, it pays *three*. Some may suppose that a quantity sufficient for the national consumption cannot be procured from the United States' mines: of this there is no danger, as proper encouragement only is wanting to insure a superabundance.

I will now make a statement of the prime cost and charges of exporting 1,000 pounds of lead from this place to Philadelphia, New York, or Baltimore.

Prime cost of 1,000 lbs. lead, at 4 cents, -	$40 00
Carriage to St. Genevieve, $8; warehouse rent there 75 cents, - - - -	8 75
Freight to New Orleans, - - -	40 00
Commission and warehouse there, - -	3 75
Sea freight, from ½ to 1 cent per lb., averaged at ¾, - - - - - -	7 50
River and sea insurance, - - -	4 00
Cartage, brokerage, wharfage, &c., at the different places, - - - - -	3 00
Commission and wharfage at the port of delivery,	3 25
Difference between foreign and American weight, being as 108 is to 112, - - -	1 70
Interest on $80, three months at least before remittance received, - - - -	1 20
	$83 15

Lead is now said to be from seven and an half to eight dollars per hundred weight at Philadelphia: allowing it to be the latter, the exporter will lose 315 cents, at least, on every 1,000 lbs. weight exported. A continuation of such a state of things must, consequently, prevent the exportation of any lead from these parts, and, in all probability, put a stop to the mining business.

I will conclude my observations in answer to the first set of queries, by stating, 1st. That, during the time this country was a colony of Spain, the smelter, as at present, only gave the miner 40 per cent. of lead for his minerals; but, then, neither of them paid any rent to the Government, every subject having full liberty to dig for and smelt lead when and where he pleased on the King's domains; and, 2d. That, as it requires a good deal of time and experience to become perfect smelters, as well as much risk, care, and attention, in carrying on the business, such a calculation of the rent to be reserved ought to be made, as to leave him a profit of about ten dollars on every 6,000 lbs. of mineral smelted. This sum will not, in my opinion, be too much, especially when it is considered that, in the winter season, and in all rainy and windy days, a furnace cannot be put in blast without running the (almost certain) risk of having the greatest part of the mineral burnt; and that, at all events, in the most favorable weather, only one charge, 3,000 lbs., can be smelted in forty-eight hours; equal to three charges per week.

Question 2. The nature of the adjacent country; the proximity of towns and settlements; the facility of land and water carriage.

Answer. The country around Mine à Burton is broken; parts of it may be called second rate land, there being but little, if any, of the first rate; the remaining parts are either rocky or barren; the general growth of the timber, pine, white, black, and post oak. It is well watered with never failing springs and streams; very healthy, being several hundred feet higher than the level of the Mississippi, and neither swamps nor pond within thirty miles of the mines.

The nearest towns (excepting Potosi, the seat of justice of Washington county, in which these mines are situated) are St. Genevieve and Herculaneum. St. Louis is about sixty-five miles to the northeastward, and St. Charles is much about the same distance, in nearly the same point of the compass.

The settlements adjacent are, in general, but thin and scattering, but fully sufficient to supply the wants of their inhabitants. There are no towns, and but few settlements to the northwest and southwest; on the southwest are the pretty extensive and flourishing settlements of Bellview, St. Michael, and Cape Girardeau. The first about twelve, the second about forty, and the latter about seventy miles distant. The now extensive and fast populating settlement of Boon's Lick is about one hundred and fifty miles, a little to the southwest.

Land carriage is easily procured to St. Genevieve at eight dollars, and to Herculaneum at seven dollars per thousand pounds, French weight. Both of these places are on the Mississippi, which admits of a constant navigation, when not impeded by ice, which is seldom for more than two months in the year; but I have been informed, and believe that the Negroes fork of the Merrimac, at the distance of about twelve miles from this, is navigable for boats many months in the year. The distance down it to the river Merrimac will be about forty miles, from whence there is a good navigation of about forty miles to the latter's junction with the Mississippi, at about eighteen miles to the southward of St. Louis, and twelve miles to the northward of Herculaneum.

Question 3. The state of the titles generally; the intrusions, either permanent or transitory; the improvements.

Answer. There are but four who have complete titles, either from the Spanish Government or America, for the lands they possess. The most, if not the whole, of those who claim lands have laid their claims before the United States' commissioners for deciding on them, and but few of them, as far as I can learn, have been finally decided on.

Many of them will, no doubt, be eventually confirmed. But, as it would be indecorous for an individual, even were he both competent to the task and possessed of the necessary information, to attempt to enter into a particular investigation of any land titles, I shall forbear making any other remark than barely to observe that, as the officers of Government must, from the report of the commissioners made to them, and the evidence adduced, be much more fully informed on the subject than I possibly can be.

Unless the General Government will please to consider those persons whose claims are not decided on as intruders, I know of no permanent intrusions; of transitory ones there may be some, but of no great extent, and not worth taking notice of.

The improvements are small. The reason is obvious, as those who are both willing and desirous of making valuable and lasting ones, will not venture to do so in the present uncertain state of their titles.

Question 4. The terms on which grants or leases may be made; the reservations that should be made; the extent to be leased; the limitation of the demise; the improvements to be made in buildings, works, &c.: the timber to be preserved.

Answer. The terms on which leases or grants of mineral lands may be made, ought, in my opinion, as is before stated, to depend on the price of lead in the United States; and, as that price either raises or falls, so ought the rents to be reserved.

When lead is at eight cents in Philadelphia, it will not, cannot, be more than four cents here; in which case, 350 cents rent per 1,000 lbs. of mineral is more than the smelter can give or afford to pay. But, should he do so, he must diminish the quantity allowed to the miner, who (as he does not, on an average, gain more than reasonable daily wages for his labor,) will, on such an event taking place, be effectually deterred from following a business which will not compensate him; when lead is above ten cents at Philadelphia, the present rent may be advanced. From those maximum and minimum prices, the rents to be reserved can be easily apportioned.

The extent to be leased ought not to exceed fifty acres to any one person. This quantity is fully sufficient for the purpose of mining, and is as much as he can properly attend and do justice to; less would not answer, as otherwise he might be encroached upon when drifting under ground: a much larger quantity would have the effect of a monopoly, with all its usual concomitant evils.

The present method of granting leases for a year only, I by no means approve of: it is much too short to induce a lessee to enter into the necessary and great expenses attendant on mining in a regular and proper manner. The great object of the lessee, for a year, being to procure the largest quantity of mineral without taking the necessary, but expensive precaution, to secure his underground works in such a manner as to render them valuable and lasting, lest he might be turned out at the expiration of his term.

I, therefore, think leases ought to be made for five years at least; in which, however, clauses should be inserted, declaring them determined, if the lessee should cease his mining operations for a given length of time, say six consecutive months.

I know of no improvements that ought to be made on premises demised for the purpose of mining, excepting that the lessee, when a sufficient quantity of mineral is obtained to justify his entering into the expense of erecting furnaces, he should be bound to keep them in repair,

(which his own interest ought to induce him to,) during his lease, and deliver them up in such repair at the expiration of it, wear and tear excepted; and, should he have built any cabins or houses, to leave them in tenantable order. He should also be bound to secure his shafts and drifts in a proper manner, and leave them so secured.

As the mining and smelting business requires a great deal of timber, no clause (excepting for wilful waste) can, with propriety, be inserted for its preservation, there being but little probability that in this country, especially in the neighborhood of mines, any one tract demised will have a sufficiency of timber on it for the purpose of carrying on the mining and smelting business. On the contrary, when the necessary timber is not to be found on the tract demised, a lessee ought to have the liberty of taking such timber or stone as he may stand in need of, from any of the adjacent lands belonging to the United States, not demised to another.

Having answered all the queries to the best of my judgment, I shall take the liberty of making a few observations, which will not, I hope, be deemed intrusive.

All, or at least most of the mines now known, were discovered by private individuals at a great expense and fatigue, in nearly the following manner: A man (and sometimes a company of men in partnership) went into the woods, and having fixed on a spot which, in their opinion, might contain mineral, dug a number of pits and holes of greater or lesser depths, according to circumstances. Sometimes, but seldom on the first trial, he succeeded; if not, he tried other spots again and again, with no better success, until at last he abandoned the project in despair, or for the want of funds; and numbers of instances have occurred when a whole summer's work has been employed without being able to make a discovery of mineral. In fact, not one in fifty has succeeded. When fortunate enough to do so, it was the invariable practice of the Spanish Government to compensate him by the grant of part (four arpens) of the land, including his discovery, (all around being left for any that pleased to dig on.) As such a compensation may not accord with the views of our Government, I would respectfully submit the justice and propriety of compensating a new discoverer, by giving him the preference of obtaining a lease from the United States, and that on more moderate terms than those made to lessees of mines already discovered.

Such a compensation will be trivial to the Government, but it will have the effect of inducing many (who would not otherwise do so) to spend their money and time in search of discoveries; and each discovery will be a certain benefit not only to the United States in particular, but to the country in general.

Leases of known mines should be publicly made at stated rents fixed on by the Government, but not more than fifty acres to any one individual. The granting of leases in this manner would give public satisfaction, and be a sure means of preventing the Government's being imposed upon. In fixing the rents to be reserved, due regard ought, as is before mentioned, to be had to the price of lead.

A report having for some time prevailed, that the United States' Government contemplated the appointment of agents to superintend their different mines, I would suggest the propriety, nay, necessity, of each agent's being of the most unblemished character, active and industrious, and, with all, possessed of much prudence, combined with energy, so as to make himself respected and attended to. He should be a resident of the mines committed to his charge, and well acquainted, as well with them as with the mining business in general; but he ought not, (for very obvious reasons,) while in commission, to be directly or indirectly, in any manner, either on his own account or on the account of others, concerned in the mining or smelting of lead, or owner of any mineral land.

One agent will be sufficient for all the mines in this county.

Any further information, that either the commissioner general or yourself may think me capable of giving on the above, or any other subject, will, on receiving your commands, be cheerfully communicated by,

Sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JNO. RICE JONES.

P. S. When writing the above, the probability of the appointment of agents never occurred to my mind. Should such an event take place, I think the difficulty of fixing on the proper rents to be reserved might be obviated without regard to the price of lead in the United States.

From the foregoing observations it appears, (at least in my opinion,) that when lead is at five cents at the mines, (as it was when the present and former leases were made,) the lessees can afford to pay 350 cents (the present rent,) per 1,000 lbs. of mineral raised from the public mines. This sum would, at the given rate, purchase 70 lbs. of lead. The plan I would therefore suggest is, that the mines should be leased, reserving a rent of 350 cents, or 70 lbs. of lead, at the option of the lessee, for every 1,000 lbs. mineral; and as it is to be presumed the agents will be authorized to receive the rents, they may as well do so in one as the other. In case, however, of payment in lead, the lessee should be bound to deliver it at the public warehouse, to be established at the mines, clear of expense, which would save the agent much trouble as well as considerable charges to the United States. The agent, according to such instructions as might from time to time be given him, might either sell the lead here, or send it to New Orleans, or elsewhere, to be disposed of for public use, or otherwise, as the Government might think proper: and, as the United States must yearly want considerable quantities of lead, it can therefore make no great difference whether those wants are furnished by way of rent from their mines, or by purchase. If any, the former, I should suppose, would be preferred.

In my opinion, it will be much more to the interest of the United States to receive their rents in smelted lead, rather than in mineral; for, should they receive it in mineral, and undertake to smelt, it either through the intervention of agents, or any other persons on their account, I will confidently vouch for it they will lose considerable.

By way of additional statement, I will make an account of the expense of smelting 540,000 lbs. mineral. The charge for a single furnace is 3,000 lbs., of a double one, 6,000 lbs., charged three times a week will smelt 18,000 lbs. weekly; and, admitting it could be in blast thirty weeks in the year, it would smelt 540,000 lbs. in the whole.

Wages 2 log furnace-men for 7 months, at $22 each, - - - - - -	$280 00
Wages 1 chopper for three months, at $15, -	45 00
Provisions for furnace-men and chopper, at $6 per month, - - - - -	102 00
Paid for making log furnace, all materials included, - - - - -	60 00
Paid for making ash furnace, complete, -	100 00
Paid for split wood for ash furnace, at the rate of sixteen cords for every 100,000 lbs. mineral, in all 86 cords, at $1 50, - - -	129 00
Wages of six hands three weeks, at ash furnace, at $25 per month, - - -	112 00
Hire paid oxen, cart, and driver, for at least four months of the time, about both furnaces, at $1 50, - - - - -	168 00
Also, wear and tear of tools, $13; liquor for all hands, at least $23, - - - -	36 00
Total expense out of pocket, -	$1,080 50

Which is at the rate of two dollars for every thousand weight of mineral smelted.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS, *Nov.* 20, 1816.

SIR: While I was preparing to transmit to you my own opinions in answer to your inquiries of 3d of July last, I received a letter from John Rice Jones, esq., which I take the liberty to enclose. Mr. Jones was lately a member of the Legislative Council of this Territory; he is a man of extensive and accurate observation; joint claimant with Mr. Austin in the Mine à Burton tract, and conversant, as I am told, with all the economy of mineral operations.

After so minute and comprehensive a statement as he has given, nothing remains for me, except a more special reply to your third inquiry.

The state of the title generally—the grants and leases of the mines and neighboring lands—the intrusions, either permanent or transitory—the improvements.

I enclose a list of private claims to lead mines and salt springs, collected from the books of the recorder's office, not one of which has been heretofore recognized as a complete title; and the laws have forbidden the confirmation of any incomplete pretensions to land, including either lead or salt. Persons, however, who were thus in possession on the 10th March, 1804, have not heretofore been considered as intruders ;because the Government has not yet adopted, and made *final*, the adverse decisions of the commissioners. Locations since that day, though made under authority of grants, real or pretended, of the Spanish Government, I consider as falling obviously under the penalties of the intrusion act. With unexampled lenity, however, Government has not only

forborne to inflict those penalties, but even left persons, thus offending, in the undisturbed possession of the most valuable mines in the county of St. Genevieve. Even if their titles had been good, surely they should have been previously recognized by the competent authority; but they have adopted a more summary course, because, as they have abundantly found it, the profits were certain and immediate, when the regular decision in their favor would require time, and perhaps, even in their own partial views of the subject, would be attended with considerable doubt.

From hence it has arisen that your agents have possession of but a small proportion of those lead mines and salt springs, to which you have unquestionable titles: I know of none except those leased to Partenay, of which you are already sufficiently informed, and a recent discovery, of which I have put his son in possession, near Mine à Breton. A *settler* in the neighborhood, who has no survey, and who expects from your bounty 500 arpens on account of his improvement, has instituted a suit for that *trespass*. Such is the situation of your agents here: I should not be surprised if, in a little while, we should be *fined* and *imprisoned* by those for whose punishment the intrusion acts were intended.

Speculative mischiefs should be surpressed in their origin; they acquire accession and strength every day that they are tolerated; the confederacy extends itself; the interest becomes diffused and ramified; and he, who at first thought of no more than a momentary advantage, begins to plead *principles* in support of his own violations of law. For the most part, the improvements at the different mines and salines are inconsiderable, and calculated merely for temporary operations, cabins, furnaces, &c. Mr. Austin indeed, at Mine à Breton, and Messrs. Scott, Dodge, and Hempstead, at Peyroux's saline, near St. Genevieve, have costly establishments.

The salines at Salt river, in the county of St. Charles, claimed by Deloriane and La Gotorie, have been occasionally wrought for many years. And those of Boon's Lick, now county of Howard, are, I understand, becoming profitable to those who manage them. This latter settlement abounds with salt, insomuch that Government reservations at each spring would engross the greater part of the county. When wells are dug, however, it is probable that the principal works may be concentred within the compass of a few miles.

These will all, I presume, be the property of the United States, as the claim of James Mackay, mentioned in the accompanying list, has been considered of no validity. Mr. Jones has spoken of the transportation of lead. I will yet observe that the salines are much more conveniently situated, being on, or in the neighborhood of, the great rivers.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,
Sir, your most obedient servant,
FREDERICK BATES.

Hon. JOSIAH MEIGS,
Commissioner General Land Office.

Claims to lead mines in the Territory of Missouri, as specially reported to the Secretary of the Treasury by the late Board of Commissioners, or to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, by the recorder of land titles.

Julian Dubuque and Auguste Chouteau, 148,176 arpens, Spanish mines on the Mississippi, about 440 miles above St. Louis. See Mr. Gallatin's remarks on this claim, Digest of Land Laws: Appendix, page 81. Not confirmed.

Martin Duralde. Not of record. See commissioners' report. Not confirmed.

James Richardson, under Gabriel Cerré. 400 arpens on the Merrimac. Note. I know nothing, with certainty, as to the precise situation of this claim, more than that it is on the Merrimac, and is founded on a concession of Baron de Carondelet, in 1796. It has not, probably, been thoroughly explored, and its extent and richness cannot, consequently, be known. Not confirmed.

Renault and heirs. One and a half leagues in front by six leagues deep, on the little Merrimac, in the old county of St. Genevieve. Also, two leagues at Mine La Motte, or La Mothe, in old county of St. Genevieve. See appendix to Digest of Land Laws, and Mr. Gallatin's remarks, pages 79 and 80. Not confirmed.

Walter Fenwick and Andrew Henry, under Francis Azor, alias Breton. Four arpens square at Mine a Breton, founded on concession from Cruzat, lieutenant governor, in 1782. Not confirmed.

Thirty-one claimants of what has been called the Old mines. 12,400 arpens, situated in the old county of St. Genevieve, now county of Washington, a few miles from Mine a Breton, and about sixty miles southwest from St. Louis; these claims are founded on a concession from Charles D. Delassus, late lieutenant governor, dated 4th June, 1803, on connected plat of survey, dated 3d February, 1804. See commissioners' and the recorder's reports. Not confirmed.

Moses Austin. 7,153 arpens, 32½ feet of land at Mine à Breton, old county of St. Genevieve, now county of Washington, founded on grant of Juan Ventura Morales, intendant of Louisiana, dated 5th July, 1802, and on other official papers. See commissioners' report. Not confirmed.

Francis Moreair's representatives, under Francis Azor. Four arpens square; Mine à Breton; concession from Zenon Trudeau, late lieutenant governor, in 1797. Not confirmed.

James Beauvais and Francis Valle's representatives claim, each, sixty feet in circumference round every hole where they may find mineral; concession from Perez, in 1788. Not confirmed.

Widow Moreau, under John B. Labreche. 500 arpens on the waters of Grand river, in the old county of St. Genevieve; concession from Charles D. Delassus, late lieutenant governor, in September, 1799. Not confirmed.

Auguste Chouteau, jr. 800 arpens, old county of St. Genevieve; concession from Delassus, lieutenant governor, in January, 1800. Not confirmed.

John B. Pratte. 1000 arpens; Grand river, in the old county of St. Genevieve; concession from same, in 1799. Not confirmed.

Easton and Bruff, under Gerrard and Fleming. 840 arpens, Mine à Joe; second fork of Grand river, in the county of St. Genevieve, founded on various official papers. See special report of the recorder. Not confirmed.

Camille Delassus. 2,400 arpens, 34½ ps. of, by river, county of St. Genevieve; concession from Delassus, lieutenant governor, in October, 1799. Not confirmed.

Labeaume and Delaurier. 10,000 arpens, Prairie a Rondo, old county of St. Genevieve, now county of Washington; concession from Zenon Trudeau, lieut. governor, in January, 1797. Not confirmed.

Joseph Decelle. 630 acres, near Mine à Breton, in the old county of St. Genevieve, now county of Washington, claimed under the settlement provisions of the act of Congress, called New Diggings. See also John Smith T. Not confirmed.

P. C. D. Delassus Duluziere. 7,056 arpens; waters of St. Francis, county St. Genevieve; concession from Zenon Trudeau, lieutenant governor, in 1795. Not confirmed.

John B. Pratte, St. James Beauvais, Francis Valle, and John B. Valle. Two leagues square at Mine à la Motte, county of St. Genevieve; concession from Charles D. Delassus, lieutenant governor, in January, 1801, together with other official papers. See special report of late Board of Commissioners. Not confirmed.

John Perry, under Basil Valle. 639 acres, Mine à Breton; by settlement. Not confirmed.

Thomas Alley. 16 arpens; Alley's Mine, county of St. Genevieve; reference by the late Lieutenant Governor Delassus to the intendant, in August, 1801. Not confirmed.

Abraham Armstrong and Rufus Eaton. 640 acres, Armstrong's diggings, county of St. Genevieve; settlement. Not confirmed.

John Smith, assignee of Jacques de St. Vrain. 10,000 arpens of land; original papers not produced. See appendix to Digest of Land Laws, page 80; see also special report of recorder of land titles. An alleged grant of Baron de Carondelet, which has been made the basis of this claim, was not located when the American Government actually received the possession of this upper country. Since the 10th of March, 1804, John Smith T has made the following locations, to wit:

359 arpens 52 ps. Mine à Liberty, county St. Genevieve.
2,500 arpens, Shibboleth and Belle Fontaine, six miles N. Breton.
36 arpens waters White river, county New Madrid.
64 arpens on waters of White river.
64 arpens to include the Grand Lead mines of White river.
13⅓ arpens on the waters of Arkansas river, at the first large rock (and above the same) above the village.
1,000 arpens, New diggings, near Mine à Breton. *Note.* Claimed also by Joseph Decelle, by settlement.
300 arpens, including Doggett's mines, county of St. Genevieve.
300 arpens on the branch above Reanault's diggings.
250 arpens on McKee's branch, county St. Genevieve.

200 arpens on 1st branch emptying into Mineral fork, on south side above its junction with Big river.

300 arpens including Mine Robina, county St. Genevieve.

294 arpens including McKee's discovery, county St. Genevieve.

The following claims have been classed with lead mines, but have not been proven to contain mineral.

Amable Partenay. 500 arpens adjoining Mine à Breton; concession from Delassus, lieutenant governor, in September, 1799.

Charles Becquette. 34 arpens near Mine à Breton; claimed by settlement.

Louis Millhomme. 20 arpens near Mine à Breton; claimed by settlement.

Louis Gringa and Francis Thubeault, under Louis Lacroix. 701 arpens near Mine a Breton; claimed by settlement.

Peter Martin. 26 arpens at Mine a Breton. John Wise. 37½ arpens same situation; both by settlement.

Thomas Russ. 1,146 arpens near Mine a Breton, by settlement: and lastly, Reuben Smith, under Nicholas Boilvin, 800 arpens, waters of Grand river, county of St. Genevieve. Order of survey by Zenon Trudeau, lieutenant governor, in January, 1798.

Claims to salt springs, heretofore specially reported by the commissioners or by the recorder.

Charles Tayon. 320 arpens, Dardenne, county of St. Charles; concession from Z. Trudeau, lieutenant governor, for four arpens, 19th March, 176.

Jacques Clamorgan, under John Helderbran. 320 arpens near Merrimac; founded on registered concession.

Charles Gratiot, under Beneto Vasquez. 7,056 arpens near Merrimac; concession from Cruzat in 1784, registered.

Pascal Cerré, assignee of Gabriel Cerré. 800 arpens, Merrimac; concession from Cruzat, registered for eight by forty arpens, and an augmentation by Zenon Trudeau, lieutenant governor, in 1798,

Charles F. Deloraine and Louis Labaume. 10,000 arpens, Salt river, in county of St. Charles; concession from C. D. Delassus, lieutenant governor, in March, 1801. See recorder's special report.

Peter Chouteau. 30,000 arpens, Saline river, county of St. Louis; concession from C. D. Delassus, lieutenant governor, in 1799; also, a paper purporting to be a gift from sundry Indians.

Henry Peyroux, now claimed by John Scott, Henry Dodge, and Edward Hempstead, 7,760 arpens of land near town of St. Genevieve, on Saline creek and Mississippi river. See special report of the late Board of Commissioners, also the recorder of land titles. See latter reports for claims of heirs of Francis Valle and others.

Charles Gratiot, under Maturin Rouvet. 400 arpens, river Ohaha, county of St. Charles; concession from Zenon Trudeau, lieutenant governor, duly registered, dated June, 1795.

James Makay. 400 arpens at Bonne Femme, (Boon's lick,) county of St. Charles; concession from Z. Trudeau, lieutenant governor, May, 1797. The concession of this claim has been supposed antedated, and otherwise fraudulent.

Victor la Gotoire. 800 arpens, Salt river, county of St. Charles; concession from Ch. D. Delassus, lieutenant governor, in February, 1800.

Note. There are two surveys under this concession, one of which would have been confirmed but for the uncertainty of the situation of the salt spring.

John Smith T. Locations of salt springs under the concessions of Jacques de St. Vrain, 64 arpens, six or seven miles north of Missouri, near the dividing ridge between Bonne Femme and Salt creeks, in old county of St. Charles, occupied formerly, as is said, by Joseph Burkhart.

64 arpens near Grand Minotaur, and said to be occupied by John G. Heth, county of St. Charles.

70 arpens, three miles north of Missouri, nearly opposite mouth of Lemoin, county of St. Charles.

25 arpens, on the waters of White river, in the county of New Madrid.

OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF LAND TITLES,
St. Louis, Nov. 20, 1816.
FREDERICK BATES.

G.

REGISTER'S OFFICE AT SHAWNEETOWN,
1*st November*, 1816.

SIR: In pursuance of your instructions, bearing date 19th of June, 1815, I proceeded, as early as the season would permit, to carry the instructions of the Secretary of the Treasury into effect, and have explored the whole of the Shawnee district.

I proceeded to the meridian line, and commenced on the waters of Cash river. Near the mouth of said river, in township 14 south, range 1 east, section 20, is a flattering appearance of salt. The timber, for about one half mile around this lick, is all young growth, and has the appearance of having been cut off nearly at the same time, which to me is an evidence of the lick having been worked at an early period. For a considerable distance around this lick is fine farming land, of a first and second quality, somewhat rolling, except the Cash river bottoms.

I have reserved for this lick, sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, and 33, in the above described township. Should the Government deem it advisable to extend the reserve, it ought, in my opinion, to be taken out of the Kaskaskia district. In township 11 south, range 1 east, sections 35 and 36, is a saline appearance; some of the oldest hunters of the country informed me that formerly the Indians made salt at this place. I have reserved for this lick, sections 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, and 27, in township 11 south, range 1 east, (a part of sections 33 and 34 were purchased by individuals before the reserve was made,) sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, in township No. 12 south, of range 1 east; sections 19, 20, 29, 30, 32, in township 11 south, range 2 east; and sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 17, and 18, in township No. 12 south, of range 2 east; the southwest quarter of section 5, in township 12 south, of range 2 east, was entered before the reserve was made. The lands for ten miles around this lick are generally of a first and second quality. This lick is situated on the head waters of Cash, and about four miles from Johnson court-house. I do not consider this saline appearance flattering. Should it not prove good, on making an experiment, the President at any time can take off the reserve and have the land exposed to sale.

In township No. 13, of range No. 5 east, sections 26 and 27, on the waters of Big bay creek, there is a large saline appearance, known by the name of the Flat and Root licks; the former in section 26, the latter in section 27. A fine tract of land for a considerable distance around these licks. I have reserved sections 13, 14, 15, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, and 36, in township No. 13 south, of range No. 5 east; and sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, in township 14 south, of range No. 5 east; sections 17, 18, 19, 20, 29, 30, 31, 32, in township No. 13 south, range No. 6 east; and sections 5, 6, 7, and 8, in township No. 14 south, range No. 6 east.

In township No. 7 south, of range No. —, section 22 or 28, there is a very considerable saline appearance. The corner trees around this lick were so decayed and defaced, that I could not, without a surveyor, designate the precise situation of the lick. I have reserved the south half of section No. 13, (the northwest quarter of that section was entered before I made the reserve,) and the whole of sections 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, and 28.

In township No. 8 south, of range No. 8 east, section No. 16, there is a lick, immediately on the bank of the north fork of the Saline creek, and adjoining the old Saline boundary. Also one in section 3, in the same township, about two and a half miles northeast of the first mentioned lick. I have reserved for the two, sections 32, 33, 34, and 35, in township No. 7 south, of range No. 8 east; and sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, and 17, in township No. 8 south, of range No. 8 east; the four last mentioned sections lie immediately adjoining the line of the old Saline reserve, that, should those licks prove good, there is an abundance of timber within the old boundary, and so remote from the old United States' saline, that it cannot be conveyed thither, and may be made use of at those establishments. The northwest quarter of section No. 14, in township No. 12 south, of range No. 8 east, contains a saline appearance; it is supposed there can be salt water procured at this place: I think the case a doubtful one. The southeast quarter of the same section was sold by Government, as a pre-emption right, in 1814. The lands between the lick and the river, immediately on the margin of the river, were entered shortly after the office was opened, and long before the register knew that there were any saline appearances in that quarter. Under the impression that this saline will not be very valuable, I have reserved only sections 10, 11, 12, and 13, three-quarters in 14, the whole of 22, and the west half of 23. North and east of this lick, the lands will not be entered, being rocky and hilly, but covered with good timber.

On the waters of the Little Wabash, in sections Nos. 2 and 3, township No. 4 south, range No. 9 east, are two considerable saline appearances, within one quarter of a mile of each other. The prospect for salt at those places

appears good; on the west and south, the lands are fine; on the east and northeast they are swampy and wet, but heavily timbered. I have reserved sections 25, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, and 36, in township No. 3 south, range No. 9 east; and sections Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, in township No. 4 south, range No. 9 east.

There is scarcely a prairie but you find more or less saline appearances, and some of them appear promising. I have not noticed any of them in this report, owing to their being remote from wood.

The lands, from the third principal meridian line to the Big Wabash are generally of a first and second quality for seven ranges of townships south of the base line. The four first ranges east of the meridian are generally good land, from the base line until within a few miles of the Ohio river, and parallel with it, when you fall in with a swamp that crosses nearly four townships from three to six miles from the Ohio. The lands between these swamps and the river (with exceptions of the river and creek bottoms) are generally high and rolling, and a considerable portion of it barrens.

Between the fourth and ninth ranges, the land, from the river, is generally hilly, and in many places rocky; the soil thin, until you reach the seventh range of townships south of the base line.

The ninth, tenth, and eleventh ranges, are generally good lands, of first and second quality, with the exception of a considerable tract of wet lands contained within the old saline boundary. A part of the same swamp embraced in that boundary extends north and east to the Wabash river.

About five miles north of Shawneetown you come into the low grounds, which are interspersed with a number of fine tracts of good land. At twelve miles from the town the land becomes more rolling, and generally of a good quality, a great deal of it first rate, until you reach the base line.

THOMAS SLOO.

Hon. Josiah Meigs,
Commissioner of the General Land Office.

MINERAL APPEARANCES.

Register's Office, Shawneetown,
1st November, 1816.

Sir: In pursuance of your instructions of the 19th of June, 1815, I proceeded to examine all the mineral appearances that I could hear of in this district. I found on the waters of Grand Pierre, in sections 27 and 34, in township No. 11 south, of range 7 east, a promising appearance of lead. The blossom, or tiff, as it is termed by miners, appears in many places on the small branches of Grand Pierre in abundance. The external appearances at this place, and in different parts of this neighborhood, are said to be flattering by those who are acquainted with mineral appearances. No experiment has been made more than a few feet below the surface. I have no doubt but this mine, when fairly opened, will prove a profitable one. I have reserved for the use of an establishment at this place, sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12, in township No. 12 south, of range No. 7 east; and sections 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, in township No. 11 south, of range 7 east. There are a number of improvements within the limits of this reserve. The lands in township 11 south, range 9 east, are broken and rocky, the greater part unfit for cultivation. There are mineral appearances in a number of places in this township, particularly in sections 33 and 34. A part of this township lies within the saline boundary: there are several entries made near the boundary, but no appearance of mineral near them. I have reserved, in this township, sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, and 36.

In fractional township No. 12, range No. 9 east, section 4, a shaft has been sunk about twenty feet, and I am informed that about 2,000 pounds of mineral was raised by some men employed by Taylor, Wilkins, and Co., who, I understand, had obtained a lease for this mine from Government. I am induced to believe, from the information of the settlers being in the neighborhood, and the experiments made by those gentlemen, that the prospect for lead is promising. Mr. Taylor and his friends were extremely anxious to procure those lands, and actually entered several quarter sections before the register knew that they covered a valuable and promising prospect of mineral. All the entries are withdrawn except one held by Jonathan Taylor, as assignee of Benjamin Rodgers, who entered under the act of the 5th of February, 1813, granting the right of pre-emption to settlers. I have reserved, in this fractional township, sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, the south half section No. 12, the north half section 14, and the entire sections 15, 16, 17, and 18. There are about ten families settled in the latter township.

With regard to the inquiries stated in your circular—the situation of the mines I have stated in the body of this report. Their extent and product could not be ascertained by me, as they never have been fairly opened. The character of the ore is good; that which I have seen is rich and fine. The country around, for a considerable distance, is hilly and rocky. The nearest of those mineral appearances is within twelve miles of Shawneetown, and from three to four of the Ohio river. Those mineral appearances on the waters of Grand Pierre are about eight miles from the Ohio, and twenty from Shawneetown.

You also inquire the terms upon which leases may be made most advantageously to the public. On that subject I presume the Government will obtain more correct information from the Missouri Territory than I possess. I should advise the leasing them in small lots, and obligate the lessee to work them immediately, or forfeit his lease. The Government might take their rent in lead or cash, as they might deem most advisable. I could not risk an opinion on the per centage to be required per cwt.; that I presume must be governed, in some good degree, by the labor it takes to procure it.

THOMAS SLOO.

Hon. Josiah Meigs,
Commissioner of the General Land Office.

Extract from a letter of Mr. Sloo, dated 1st Jan. 1824.

"I herewith transmit you a copy of my report on mineral appearances within this district, made to the Commissioner of the General Land Office on the 1st of November, 1816. In addition to which, I will barely observe, that, from information since received, I have been induced to change my opinion in regard to those reserves, and now think them entirely unnecessary, and believe it would be to the interest of the Government to offer the lands contained in them, as well as the reserves of Fort Massac, for sale."

THOMAS SLOO.

H.

Mine a Burton, *October* 7, 1816.

Sir: I have enclosed to you my observations on lead mines. They are confined to the mines situated in the counties of St. Genevieve, Washington, and St. Louis. The mines in Upper Mississippi do not come within my knowledge. I have therefore omitted to say any thing respecting them. Salt springs and salt works have not come within any of the pursuits of my life. I am therefore not sufficiently informed to hazard any thing on that subject. If you find matter worthy of consideration in the communication I have made, I shall be gratified, and fully paid for my trouble.

I am, dear sir, with much respect, yours,

MOSES AUSTIN.

Josiah Meigs, Esq. *Commissioner of the General Land Office, City of Washington.*

Sir: In compliance with your request relative to the lead mines, I submit to your consideration the subjoined observations on the following questions:

First. Situation, extent, produce, and general character of the lead ore, and value of the mines.

Second. The nature of the adjacent country, the proximity of towns and settlements, fertility of land, and water transportation.

Third. The state of titles generally, the grants and leases for the mines, and neighboring lands; the intrusions, either permanent or transitory; the improvements, &c.

Fourth. The terms on which grants or leases may be made most advantageous to the public; the reservations that should be made; the extent to be leased, and the limitations of the demise; the improvements to be made in building and furnaces; the timber to be preserved.

Fifth. Similar information relative to salt works and salt springs.

SPECIFICATION FIRST.

To answer your first specification, I shall divide it into five parts:

1. Situation of the lead mines.
2. Their extent.
3. Produce.
4. General character of mineral.
5. Value.

Most of the lead mines now worked are situated in Washington county, about thirty-five miles south of the Missouri, on the head waters of the south and southwest branches of the river Maramig, which form a junction with the Mississippi about twelve miles above Herculaneum, and eighteen below St. Louis. These branches are known by the names of Grand river and Renault,

or, as it is now called, Mineral fork of the Maramig. Grand river rises west of the Mine à Burton, about fourteen miles, running south and east, passing through a fine country of land both for cultivation and mineral, forming a horse-shoe around the Mine à Burton of sixty or seventy miles in circumference, and unites, twelve miles north, with the Mineral fork, forming what is now called the Negro fork of Maramig, but in Renault's time, Renault's Grand fork of the Maramig; and after running in a serpentine manner about thirty miles through extensive bottoms of fine land, unites with the Maramig twenty-five miles above its junction with the Mississippi.

2. The extent of the lead mines, as they are now worked, in Washington county, embrace a country of about fifty miles in circumference, within the horse-shoe of Grand river, the Mine à Burton being nearly the centre; and are known under the following names, viz.

1. Mine à Burton, extensive old diggings, including Moses Austin's concession and mines.	
2. Belleview Diggings, south of Mine à Burton	10 miles,
3. Mine à Joe, east of Grand river, out of the horse-shoe, southeast - - -	18
4. Mine de Luziers, east of Grand river, out of the horse-shoe, southeast of Mine à Burton - - - - -	19
5. Mine de Laroys, do do do -	17
6. Andrews' Diggings, do do do -	18
7. Pratte's Mines, within the horse-shoe, do east - - - - -	16
8. Henry's Diggings, southeast do - -	1½
9. New Diggings - - - -	2
10. Misho's Diggings, do do - -	1½
11. Brinker's Diggings, east southeast -	1½
12. James Austin's Diggings, east - -	1½
13. Valle's Diggings, do - -	3½
14. Mine à Robina, old diggings, extensive, east - - - - -	3
15. Martin's Diggings, northeast - -	4½
16. Wheeler's and Rosebury's Digging, northeast - - - - -	3
17. Partenay's and Scott's Diggings, do -	4
18. Wilkinson's Diggings, northeast of Mine à Burton - - - - -	4½
19. Shibboleth Mines, extensive, do -	6
20. Belle Fontaine, do -	8
21. Old Mines, old diggings, extensive, north	8
22. Cannon's Mines, do -	10
23. Elliot's Mines, do -	12
24. Beckett's Mines, do -	13
25. Rich Wood Mines, northwest - -	14
26. Mine Renault, old diggings, extensive, northwest - - - - -	12
27. Mine à Straddle, do -	10
28. Mine à Liberty, do -	9
29. Silver's Diggings, west - - -	8
30. Lambert's Diggings, do - - -	6
31. Scott's Diggings, do - - -	8
32. Perry's Diggings, do - - -	6
33. Mine à Coustoin, do - - -	12

The intervening land between the diggings herein named, will, undoubtedly, produce mineral in great abundance; and, I have no doubt, with proper inducements, lead ore, within the same circumference, will be found equal in goodness and extent to any of the mines or diggings now opened and worked.

There are other mines situated in the county of St. Genevieve, of which Mine à la Motte is the most extensive. It is situated on the waters of the river St. Francois, about thirty miles south-south-west of the village of St. Genevieve, and about thirty-five south of the Mine à Burton. Bryan's mines are situated on the east side of Grand river, east of Mine à Burton eighteen miles. In the county of St. Louis, and north of the Mine à Burton about twenty miles, are diggings called Gray's mines, but not extensive: they are situated on the Grand river, eighteen or twenty miles west of Herculaneum.

PRODUCE.

3. It is difficult to give any correct account of the produce of the different mines and diggings for any given time, there being no data by which such a statement can be given; so that all that can be said on this subject is merely opinion, arising from observation, and information derived from sources subject to misrepresentation; inasmuch as some of the mines were opened and worked by Mons. Renault seventy or eighty years past, and the account of their produce extremely problematical. But, if I were to judge from the extent of Renault's old workings, great quantities of mineral must have been produced; and, from the number of old furnaces, large quantities of lead must have been made. The only mines of which I can speak with any tolerable correctness, are such as have been opened or worked since I have become acquainted with them, which is now nineteen years. The Mine à Burton has produced abundantly from the time I became acquainted with it to the present: and while the workings were confined to the Mine à Burton, I think the average produce may be calculated at about three hundred and sixty thousand pounds per annum, from the year 1798 to 1804, or until this country passed into the hands of the United States, since which the increased population has greatly increased the produce of the mines; which, from 1804 to 1808, may be estimated at about eight hundred thousand pounds per annum. From 1807 to 1812, the number of miners at Mine à Burton were greatly reduced, in consequence of new discoveries, and especially the diggings, which drew off two-thirds of the miners; since which, many other discoveries have continued to be made; that, from 1808 to 1816, I do not think the lead made at Mine à Burton will exceed four or five hundred thousand pounds per annum. The New diggings were discovered in the close of the year 1806, and for four years produced most astonishingly; nor was it uncommon for a mine to raise from $20 to $60 value of mineral in a day. I believe I am within bounds in saying that this mine produced from one and a half to two millions of pounds of mineral per annum for several years; but, for some time past, it has been neglected, and is not worked at present. The mineral is neither so readily obtained, nor in such quantities, as heretofore. Shibboleth mines were discovered in the spring of 1811, and have been the most productive mines that ever came within my knowledge. The first and second years, this mine produced about three and a half millions of pounds of mineral per annum; since which the produce has been much reduced, in consequence of other discoveries. This mine is now worked, and very productive. Under judicious arrangement, it would have yielded the Government ten thousand dollars per annum for the two first years, and five or six thousand since. They have been much injured in consequence of the irregular and ruinous manner of working them. They are now worked, and are valuable, and worthy the attention of the Government.

Mine à Martin was opened in the year 1814, and for twelve months produced great quantities of mineral, and ought to have yielded the Government some thousands of dollars. This mine has been but superficially worked, and is now abandoned for new discoveries. I believe it yet valuable. All the other mines spoken of have produced, some in a greater, others in a less degree; all of which would have, under proper leases, yielded a valuable revenue to the Government. Taking into view the mines now opened, and such as undoubtedly will be opened under a regular system, the revenue, in my opinion, may be raised to forty or fifty thousand dollars per annum; and, as the population increases, so would the number of miners, and, consequently, the revenue. But you are to understand that every thing depends on a new order of things. Lessees must be supported in a quiet possession of their leases. Intruders must be removed. New discoveries secured to the discoverer, by his fulfilling the requisition of the law.

General character of the mineral.

4. All the lead ore I have seen in this country is of a blueish lead gray, generally in masses of from one to five hundred pounds. To this mineral is attached a hard sparry lead ore. It is found, however, in some of the mines in red ochre earth, dry and hard, in lumps of indeterminate figure and size, unconnected with any spar, and when broken exhibits a brilliant metallic lustre, and of a rhomboidal figure. At Bryan's and Pratte's mines, the mineral is in plats of from three or four inches thick, and from twelve to twenty inches large. This kind of mineral is mostly found in a kind of iron earth, and sometimes you pass bodies of iron ore before you obtain the lead ore. No spar of any kind is attached to this mineral.

Shibboleth mineral is much of it sparry mineral. But, in some of the diggings of that mine, the ore is connected with an iron earth firmly attached to the mineral, and, when exposed to the weather, becomes covered with an iron rust. At Martin's mines, the mineral is found in a hard iron-gray spar and earth, and is not unlike iron ore in appearance unbroken; but, when broken, is as brilliant as any lead mineral whatever.

The above description of mineral will apply to all yet found in this country, which is nearly of the same quality, except the Mine à la Motte, which is a steel grain, connected with limestone. The mineral of this mine differs from the mineral of all others both in appearance and

quality, as well as produce. The sparry mineral, when cleanly smelted, may be estimated at sixty-five per cent.; but the mineral found in clay, unconnected with spar, and covered with iron rust, may be made to produce seventy per cent. smelted in a well-constructed reverberatory furnace. The silver contained in the lead ore of this country is not in quantity sufficient to justify a refining furnace.

Value of the lead mines.

5. To answer this question correctly is not within the capacity of any man living. There is no data on which to make an estimate. Were I to take, as a standard, the common mode of estimating improved farms by a five, six, or seven years' purchase, it would not apply in this case, because the produce depends on events unknown to any man. No miner can tell the value of a mine beyond the length of his pick. Were the Government to say they would take $500 per acre for mineral land, few men would be willing to give that sum, or a half of it; yet I have seen fifty feet of ground produce that amount in mineral in a month, with the labor of two or three miners; and again, in other places, the same number of hands may labor with the same assiduity, and not make over common wages. From this state of facts, it is impossible to estimate their value. That they are immense, no one will deny; nor can they be exhausted for ages if properly managed. Nothing is wanting to make them productive to the United States, but a judicious system.

SPECIFICATION SECOND.

The nature of the adjacent country; the proximity of towns and settlements; fertility of land; and water transportation.

Washington county is divided into four townships, viz. Breton, Belleview, Concord, and Rich Woods, and may be called a hilly, but not mountainous country. The township of Breton is divided into moderate ridges and valleys, supplied with living streams. These valleys are not broad, but generally sufficient for farms of moderate extent on each side of the streams. The land is good for either tobacco, Indian corn, wheat, oats, rye, peas, beans, &c. The ridges are gravel, intermixed with small pieces of spar of variegated colors, and most commonly contain lead mineral. The rich bottoms sometimes produce mineral, but it is most commonly found on the sides of ridges, post-oak flats, and prairies. The township of Breton is generally badly timbered. Belleview township is a plat of good land of about twelve by fifteen miles, watered and timbered equal to any land on the west bank of the Mississippi. It is situated ten miles south of Potosi; but, as yet, has produced but little lead ore, but abounds in iron ore of the first quality, and sites for water works equal to any in the western country.

The township of Concord is situated immediately on Grand river, east of Potosi fifteen miles. It contains a quantity of rich upland river bottoms, sufficient to accommodate a large settlement. It is, however, a hilly township. Four lead mines have been opened, and yielded much lead; but are not now worked. This township is also well timbered and watered. Rich Woods township, so called on account of a plat of rich land of about ten thousand acres, is situated fourteen miles north of Potosi, near the centre of which is the Rich Woods mines, which have produced a large quantity of lead. The greater part of this township consists of high gravel ridges, covered with white flint and spar, and badly timbered; lead mineral has also been found, and some openings have produced some thousands of pounds of lead. To the west southwest of Potosi about a mile, runs a ridge of pine from two to six miles over, which commences on the Mississippi, south of Potosi seventy miles, and continues to the Maramig, northwest, twenty-eight miles. Lead ore has been found in several places on this ridge, but not in quantities. There are a number of fine springs that rise in this pinery, on which saw-mills are erected. The whole extent of this pine land is covered with gravel and diamond spars of various shapes and shades. No county is better furnished with mill sites than the township of Burton; at the village of Burton, and contiguous thereunto, there are four grist mills, and three saw mills, and convenient situations for as many more.

Towns and settlements.

The only towns and villages of consequence near the mines, are the old village of Burton, and Potosi, the county town of Washington. The village of Burton was settled under the authority of the Spanish Government in the year 1799. But no regular allotment was ever made by that Goverment: each citizen built his cabin, and enclosed a few acres of land, by common consent; and, when Mr. Austin's concession was located and surveyed in 1800, this village was reserved for the use of the French settlers, together with one hundred and five arpens of the old diggings of Mine à Burton, as a public common; and was used as such, together with about the same quantity adjoining, which comprised all the old Mine à Burton. This privilege continued until the change of Government in 1804, since which it has been claimed, in part, as private, and the balance leased by the agent of the Government; so that, as it now stands, the object of the Spanish Government has been lost to the people of this village and county. Washington county was established in the year 1814; since which the village of Burton has become a place of considerable business, and contains about one hundred houses, some of which are valuable buildings. Potosi is contiguous to, and united with, the village of Burton, and contains fourteen houses; and, from its situation, will become a large town. All the wealth and business of the mines will centre at this place. The settlement at the Old mines forms a small village of about twenty houses, and settled with French families. It is situated eight miles north of Potosi, and is built of logs. The county is generally settled in its vicinity. The county of Washington is thinly peopled, except near the mines, and the township of Belleview, which is well established in farms. Concord township is also more of a farming than a mining township; although the township of Burton has settlements scattered over the whole township, yet mining is the general dependance of the people.

Water carriage.

Grand river may be used for boat navigation within fourteen miles of the Mine à Burton, during the spring season; yet it can never be useful for the transportation of lead. The river Maramig may be navigated within twenty-five miles of the Mine à Burton, part of the year. It has not any falls, but innumerable shoals; which renders the navigation unsafe only in high water, with the exception of a few miles from its mouth.

Herculaneum, situated on the Mississippi, in the county of St. Louis, thirty miles northeast from Mine à Burton, and twenty-two from Shibboleth, is now the great depot for most of the lead made at the mines in Washington county. Some part, however, still goes to St. Genevieve, which is forty-five miles southeast of Mine à Burton. This place was the general depot for lead until the establishment of Herculaneum in 1810; since which Herculaneum receives most of the lead. It is situated immediately on the banks of the Mississippi, and advantageous for shipping.

SPECIFICATION THIRD.

The State of titles generally; the grants and leases for the mines and neighboring land; the intrusions, either permanent or transitory; the improvements.

The claims and grants for lands, I trust, in this Territory, have long since been submitted to the proper agents of the Government for their consideration, together with all the documents relating thereunto: it would, therefore, be highly presuming in me to say any thing on this subject. The leases that now exist for the lead mines, and the sums of money they have produced, I also supposed have been submitted to the Government by the proper officer. As to the face of the country and land, I have answered that part of the third specification in the second. Intrusions, permanent or transitory, I do not think comes within my province to point out. That there are intruders on public lead mines is true; that the public have suffered some thousands of dollars annually is an unquestionable fact; but these facts may be drawn from the officer charged with the care of the domain. The improvements of the country have also been treated of, except mills. From the number of living streams this country affords, mills, in numbers sufficient, have been erected, to furnish a much larger population in flour and meal as also saw-mills for plank. The proximity of pine timber enables saw millers to sell pine boards at a moderate price.

SPECIFICATION FOURTH.

The terms on which grants or leases may be made most advantageous to the public; the reservations that should be made; the extent to be leased, and the limitations of the demise; the improvements to be made in buildings, works, and furnaces; the timber, how to be preserved.

I shall divide this specification into four parts, viz.
First. Terms on which leases may be made.
Second. Reservations.
Third. The extent to be leased, and the limitations of the demise.

Fourth. The improvements in works, buildings, and the preservation of timber.

I consider this specification to contain much matter for the consideration of Government. I shall speak somewhat fully on the subject therein contained.

FIRST.—*Terms on which leases may be made.*

It is necessary to say something on the internal situation of the mines to substantiate the system I am now recommending. The stratas of earth, and other substances in this country, are in no wise the same as in England, in regular beds, which gives the miner a tolerable knowledge how many stratas he has to pass before he may expect the mineral. Nothing can be more confused than the substances of clay, spar, gravel, sand, limestone, mineral, and flint, which are found in every place where mining has been attempted in this country; nothing regular. Nature appears to have undergone one grand convulsion, and left all her works in sixes and sevens. It is, therefore, impossible to fix on any given rule when you are to expect mineral, or when spar, gravel, sand, or limestone; for, in many places, you find valuable beds of mineral immediately after passing the soil; and, at other places, immense masses of gravel, spar, sand, and limestone before any mineral is obtained; and all these variations within fifty yards square. It is not uncommon, within the same acre of ground, to find mineral within two feet of the surface, and, in other places, to sink twenty feet before a pound of mineral is obtained. You may then strike on a bed or vein of mineral of great extent; after passing which, spar or sand rock in very irregular shapes and situations will continue some four or six feet, when you again find the mineral. In this way I have sunk shafts seventy feet without any regular stratras of earth, but intermixed as if they had been thrown together by some general commotion. Mines thus situated require a regular system, or they will soon become useless both to government and miner. All shafts should be secured with timber, properly placed to prevent ground from breaking from the sides of the shaft. When thus secured, they may work to a great depth with safety, and all the different veins of mineral may be worked to great extent by drilling. And when new shafts are sunk, the old answer for air shafts; but, if suffered to cave, or partially fill with earth, they serve as reservoirs for top water, and the drifts soon become charged with destructive vapor, that in a little time renders it impossible to work the mines at all. Not only so, should it be found necessary to sink a greater depth to search for deeper veins, it cannot be done without great expense, and then not safely. It therefore results, that the mines worked without care, attention, or system to secure the shafts or sinks that are made, become abandoned so soon as the mineral is taken out near the surface of the ground, and new discoveries are sought for. This mode of mining will, in a few years, produce ruin to the public property; for no man will work an old mine, thus destroyed, so long as he can find new ones; but, on the contrary, if the miner secure his shaft or diggings as he makes them, the mine may be worked for ages to advantage, both to public and private; and the more mines that are opened under such regulations the better, inasmuch as the public revenue will thereby be greatly increased.

The terms of leases should, therefore, be so fashioned as to give to the lessee proper encouragement to secure his diggings. The object of the Government is to produce a revenue, and, at the same time, to have the mines so worked as to secure them from waste. It is, therefore, expedient to extend the time so as to make it an object worthy the attention of men of some capital to take leases, and also to justify a proper establishment in houses, and to leave them entire for the next lessee.

The rents should be paid in mineral. The per cent. must be regulated, in some measure, by the agent on the spot, confined within proper limits, say not under one hundred and fifty pounds of mineral to the thousand, nor over three hundred pounds; which mineral ought to be cleaned and ready for smelting. The rents in this way could be collected every month or quarterly, and sold at public sale, on three or six months credit, properly secured; by which means the Government will always obtain the best price for mineral. Some discretion is necessary, because some of the mines are much richer in mineral than others, and the rents regulated accordingly.

By receiving clean mineral in payment, the Government may obtain an advance price for the mineral, nearly equal to the expense of an agent. I have understood that all the leases that have been heretofore granted, have been predicated on the belief that mineral was only worth twenty dollars per thousand. This, however, is not correct. Mineral is always worth twenty; and, years past, has been purchased up, cash in hand, at 24, 25, and 26 dollars per thousand. This advance price is now lost to the Government; whereas, if the rents are paid in mineral, and sold on a credit of three and six months, the Government would always receive the highest price. That is not all: the lessees have it always in their power to pay the mineral, if demanded, monthly or quarterly; but when paid in cash, at the end of each year, difficulties will many times arise in the collections; but the purchasers of mineral will be smelters, and men that have a great command of money; and, by taking a negotiable note, payable at the bank of St. Louis, will render the payment prompt and secure, with proper precaution on the part of the agent.

SECOND.—*Reservations.*

It would be good policy in the Government to reserve to themselves the right of calling in, or making null and void any lease, whenever the lessee should neglect to work the mine six months, and remove him from the land, because the revenue of the Government is not only stopped, but persons that would work the mine, was it at liberty to be re-leased, are prevented. And that is not the only evil: the timber would be destroyed without producing any advantage to the Government; and, in fine, the property would be greatly reduced in value; for, without timber, mining cannot be prosecuted to advantage, nor, in fact, at all in this country. The works, such as houses and furnaces, should be delivered up in good order by the lessee. The number of miners employed on each lease ought not to be under ten, and some twenty. Of this the agent must judge, as some mines will better justify thirty than others will ten.

THIRD.—*The extent to be leased, and the limitations of the demise.*

I take it to be the intention of the Government to make the lead mines a source of revenue. With this impression, I shall treat the subject, and give my idea of the best system to produce the desired object. Mining is a business that requires laborious manual exertions, attended with considerable dead expense and frequent delays. Mining should be systematic; every shaft should be sunk to the depth the mineral is supposed to extend, and first secured against water and the giving of the earth in wet seasons, before any drifting is attempted. This takes time and expense; and, while doing, most likely produces little to the miners, except what mineral may be obtained in the size of his shaft, about six by six feet.

It is also necessary to sink a second shaft near the first one, and drive a drift from one to the other to obtain a communication for air; which drift, together with all others driven, must be securely timbered both for the duration of the works as well as the security of the mine. Mines thus opened and secured may be worked many years within the compass of ten acres. If the mine is good fifteen acres of common mining land would last twenty hands for an age; but, to work them after the present practice, they would be ruined and exhausted in six months. It is seldom that any man can command means sufficient to occupy twenty-five acres of mining land, in addition to which sufficient allotment should be made for timber, and the cultivation of a garden and pasturage. I think one hundred acres to each lease is fully sufficient, unless it should prove that the mine is situated in open land, and destitute of wood and water. In that case it would be well for the agent to have some discretionary power. I therefore advise a hundred acres to each lessee, as fully sufficient for all the objects of mining.

From what has been said, it is evident that leases should be extended to a sufficient length of years to justify the expense that each lessee must incur in opening and securing the mine. To the Government it can make no difference whether A, B or C, has the mine in possession, so that they are properly worked, the revenue secured, and the public domain preserved. I therefore recommend leases for seven, ten, or fifteen years, as may meet the views of the lessee, under judicious reservations.

Improvements in works and buildings.

The improvements requisite for a mining establishment depend much on the mode adopted in smelting the mineral, and whether each lessee smelts his own mineral. A moderate size log or frame house, with common outhouses, together with an enclosure for a garden, and a few acres for corn and pasturage, is as much as a miner wants, inasmuch as farming is not his object. It would not, therefore, be advisable to require any extensive building and enclosure, but such as the lessee should think proper to make, and such as ought to be preserved and delivered in good tenantable repair at the expiration of the lease. The furnaces now generally in use are of

little expense, except what is called ash furnaces: they are commonly made of limestone, which burn down at each blast of twenty or thirty days. If the body of the furnaces were made of brick, they would stand for years with small repairs. It may also happen that a lease may not include any land worthy of cultivation, even for a garden. When this is the case, it would be lost expense to enclose land, or erect any other buildings but such as the nature of the lead works required. I should, however, advise a stipulation to be entered into by each lessee, to preserve, undestroyed, old improvements, whatever they may be.

Timber—how to be preserved.

I cannot conceive of a better regulation than to confine each lessee to the ground he has leased for timber, If some regulation of this kind is not established, innumerable disputes will arise, and petty altercations the consequence, and some mines left without timber. Another fact worthy of notice is, that hundreds of acres of mining land is badly timbered at best, and of such a quality as not to be re-timbered for ages by a new growth.

Salt works and salt springs.

This is a subject on which I am not sufficiently informed to make a useful communication; I have never been conversant with salt making. I must, therefore, decline saying any thing on this head.

General observations.

What has been said on the subject of mines and mining is the result of an experience of twenty-five years. A more detailed account might have been delineated; such as the general appearance of the surface of mineral ground in and about the mines, the various kinds of fossils, the position of the mineral, whether in beds or veins, horizontal or perpendicular, the different stratas of earth, the general physical properties of various substances, which are found in mining, all of which would have been gratifying to the practical and speculative chemist, but not material in establishing a general system of mining, best calculated to produce a permanent revenue, and save the public mines from unnecessary waste. The produce of leases heretofore falls so far short to what I have stated the revenue may be raised, that an explanation may be expected. In the first place, you are to understand that lessees under the Government have not been properly supported in their leases. It has invariably been the case, that they have been involved in law suits and personal vexation, and in some cases the leases have been abandoned altogether.

The case of Shibboleth may be instanced as extremely oppressive to those who have confided in the Government. Few discoveries of mineral have been made free from claims conjured up as a pretext to seize on the mine.

Second. The leases have been very injudiciously granted; but, let me here say, that it is not my intention to call in question the good intentions of the public agent entrusted with the granting leases. There is no man acting under the authority of the Government for whom I have a greater respect, and to whom I think the Government are more indebted for faithful services; yet, I am compelled to say that, in the business of the mines, he has greatly misjudged in leasing all the public mines contained in this report to a man whose ability doth not extend to the working more than one with energy. It therefore results that every miner in the county of Washington must become tributary to this farmer general, or abandon mining. The consequence of this arrangement is, that the revenue from all the mines is not greater than would be from each of them divided into thirty or forty leases. So long as such a state of things exist no valuable revenue can be expected; and, sir, you may be assured that the time is rapidly progressing when the mines will become useless to public and private, unless the present ruinous system is abolished. These observations will apply to all mines wherever they are situated. Had the Government entered on a regular system of leasing and working the mines in 1804, the revenue might have been benefitted to this time not less than four or five hundred thousand dollars. There were, at that time, no intruders, and any system the Government had deemed expedient would have been acceptable, provided it held out reasonable advantages, but will now be attended with some difficulty, inasmuch as the practice of trespasses have been so long continued with impunity that the most reasonable restrictions, I am apprehensive, will give the Government some trouble: but once established, all opposition will vanish. Whatever system the United States may think proper to adopt must be carried into execution by an agent at the mines. He will then be always present to hear all complaints and give prompt redress, and, at the same time, act as guardian of the public domain.

All which is respectfully submitted by your most obedient servant,

MOSES AUSTIN.

JOSIAH MEIGS, Esq.,
Commissioner of the General Land Office.

I.

Copy of a letter from the register of the land office at St. Louis to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, in reply to a circular letter dated 10th July, 1821, requiring registers of land offices to furnish lists of forfeited and reserved lands.

REGISTER'S OFFICE,
St. Louis, Missouri, 17th August, 1821.

SIR: Your circular of the 10th July has been received. No lands sold in this district have ever been forfeited to the United States. The deposite of the 20th part of the purchase money has, in some instances, been forfeited. Your circular does not, I believe, intend to embrace such cases. If it does, the monthly returns from this office will show what is required.

There are no lands in this district reserved by Congress for future disposal, unless it is *mineral land* and *salt springs;* to designate which would be so laborious an undertaking that it cannot be made until the present press of business under the law of Congress of 2d March is over.

Respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

WM. CHRISTY, *Register.*

JOSIAH MEIGS, Esq.,
Com'r General Land Office, Washington City.

K.

Statement of moneys received on account of rent, &c. of the United States' saline, near the Wabash.

1811.	From Ninian Edwards, governor of the Illinois Territory - -	$2,500 00
1812.	From Taylor, Wilkins, & Co., lessees of the saline - - -	7,910 25
1813.	From Leonard White, agent - -	13,750 00
1815.	From do. - - -	4,000 00
		$28,160 25

Statement of moneys received on account of the rent of the salt spring in the Steubenville District.

1815.	From David Hodge, agent - -	$76 80
1816.	From do - - - -	76 80
1817.	From do - - - -	76 80
		$230 40

Statement of moneys received on account of the lead mines in the Missouri Territory.

1818.	From Frederick Bates, agent -	$2,000 77

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Register's Office, Feb. 4th, 1824.

JOSEPH NOURSE, *Reg.*

L.

SURVEYOR'S OFFICE.
Washington, Miss., 23d Oct. 1823.

SIR: Your circular dated the 5th of August past, to which is subjoined two resolutions of the House of Representatives of the United States of the 6th of January and 8th of February last, requesting information from the President of the United States in relation to salt springs and lead and copper mines, has been duly received.

I was confined to a sick bed when your letter came to hand, and consequently have not had it in my power to extend my inquiries on the above subjects.

I believe, however, I may say with confidence that no lead or copper mine has been discovered either in the State of Louisiana or Mississippi.

I know it has been said that lead has been found on the rapids of Red river, about a mile above Alexandria, and I have heard very extravagant accounts of the Indians having cut massive pieces of very pure lead out of the bed of the Sabine, at low stages of the water, a few miles below where that river is intersected by the road leading from Natchitoches to Nacogdoches. I give these, however, as mere rumors, very little to be relied upon.

There is a salt spring in the State of Louisiana, from fifteen to twenty miles in a north or northeasterly direction from the town of Natchitoches—I am not certain whether in the parish of Natchitoches or of Rapide. It is

not far from the dividing limits of those two parishes. My information of this spring is derived from Mr. Drury Brazile, now a practising attorney in this State, whom I happened to travel in company with in the year 1816; and, as far as my recollection now serves me, is to this amount:

That this spring is one of the sources of a bayou called Saline bayou, which falls into Rigolet du Bon Dieu, one of the channels of Red river, that there is canoe navigation to within a few miles of the spring; that the soil in the immediate vicinity of the spring is steril, the country hilly, and the growth principally pine; that he, Mr. Brazile, had once established works for making salt at this spring, but had abandoned the enterprise from finding that the merchants of Alexandria and Natchitoches could sell imported salt at a more reduced price than that at which he could afford it.

I do not recollect whether Mr. Brazile stated that he had carried on the works with sufficient regularity or extensiveness to determine the quantity of salt which the spring is capable of producing in any given time.

Several other persons, however, to whom this spring is known, and with whom I have conversed on the subject, agree in stating that, in favorable seasons, it may be made very productive.

For the title to the land comprising this spring, I beg leave to refer you to the reports of the Board of Commissioners for the western district of the Territory of Orleans, (now State of Louisiana,) on claims to lands within either the county of Natchitoches or Rapides, I do not now recollect which. I have no documents at hand to which I can refer, but recollect, from having been a member of that board, that there were several conflicting claimants. Bailey and Goodwin, the heirs of James Morrison and Burnett, are names impressed on my mind as claimants. The reports, to the best of my recollection, are alphabetically arranged. You will therefore, sir, find no difficulty in referring to them.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

LEVIN WAILES.

GEO. GRAHAM, Esq.
Commissioner of the Gen. Land Office,
Washington City.

ST. LOUIS, 10*th Nov.*, 1823.

DEAR SIR: I have delayed answering your letter of the 14th of June, under an expectation of procuring information in relation to the salt springs and lead and copper mines, &c. in this district of country, with a view of giving you information in a form calculated to be useful; but I find it impossible, and must beg leave to observe, that lead ore and salt water is so abundant in this section of country, that there will be difficulty in pointing out their number, extent, or value, as new discoveries are made very frequently of both lead and salt.

Indeed, from the best information which I have been enabled to collect from individuals since I have been in this country, of the mineral and salt discovered in its different sections, added to my own observation, it would appear that there is a range of country abounding in mineral, such as lead, iron, and other ores, reaching from Red river to Lake Superior, passing west of this place, in a direction nearly north and south, and from 100 to 150 miles in width. In this range there has been found a number of springs of very salt water. West of this range is found salt water in great abundance, which gains in strength as it approaches the south. In many places, particularly on the waters of Kanzas and River Pratte, salt is found in a powdered and pulverized state; and still further to the south, on the water of Arkansas, it is found incrusted on the surface of the earth, and in small streams, and at the Great Saline it is found in solid masses.

In and about the claim of Dubuque, which is on the west side of the Mississippi, below Prairie du Chien, there are several lead mines; one, a quarter of a mile back from the river from Dubuque's old house; a second, three miles above; a third, is nine miles above, on Ma-qua-ke-to creek; and a fourth is fifteen miles below, and two miles from the Mississippi. On the Osage river, there are five or six mines, one about seventy-five miles up Grand river, one on Grand Glaize, and three on Potato creek. Neither of those mines are worked at present.

Accept the very high respect, with which I remain, your obedient servant,

WM. CLARK.

GEORGE GRAHAM, Esq.
Commissioner of the General Land Office.

Extract of a letter from John B. C. Lucas, dated St. Louis, November 14, 1823.

There remains an impression on my mind, from all the information I have received officially or otherwise, that the lead mines and salt springs are so numerous, and occupy so great an extent, that they cannot be leased by the public to any advantage, nor can the manufacturing of salt or lead be an object of monopoly. I believe there are hundreds of salt licks through the State in a natural state. You may then imagine that, with the process of boring which is now so well understood and improved, salt water could be gotten in a hundred of other places, particularly up the Missouri. As to the lead mines, it is well known that the lead region extends from the head waters of St. Francois to near Prairie du Chien, and from the Mississippi into the Michigan and the Illinois States. New discoveries are daily made, and notwithstanding the provisions of the law not to sell lead mines or land containing mineral, the provision proves nugatory; and indeed there would or should not be any land sold in the counties of Washington, of La Mine, &c. Mineral is found on the best farming land, and where it is sometimes the least expected. I therefore think that all the public lands ought to be offered for sale without reserve; with this difference, perhaps, that where the land is known to contain mineral, or very valuable salt licks, the minimum price ought to be higher than for common land; and that one or two sections of land ought to be annexed to each salt lick in order to secure fuel. In turning to the special report of the commissioners concerning lead mines, salt springs, you will perceive that none of the claims for that description of land were confirmed, not because they were all destitute of legal merits, but because the commissioners had only power to report opinions on the same; and as Congress has not as yet acted upon those claims, the holders thereof are kept in suspense and uncertainty ever since, which prevents enterprise, checks industry and population. A great many of those claims are for small quantities of land; they are held by actual settlers, who had these lands conceded by the Spanish Government for the purpose of cultivation. Mineral was found upon them since by accident. The caution of Congress not to trust the commissioners with the power of deciding those claims, and reserving it to itself, without having exercised it until now, is a real oppression. I have no kind of doubt but Congress would immediately act upon them, provided it was sufficiently informed of the true state of things.

18th CONGRESS. **No. 407.** 1st SESSION.

LANDS RECONVEYED TO THE UNITED STATES BY THE UNITED BRETHREN FOR PROPAGATING THE GOSPEL AMONG THE HEATHEN.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APRIL 2, 1824.

Mr. WRIGHT, from the Select Committee, to whom was referred the message of the President of the 25th March, 1824, with the accompanying documents, relating to the recession to the United States of the title of the United Brethren for Propagating the Gospel among the Heathen, to certain lands on the Muskingum river, in Ohio, reported:

That they have attentively considered the message, documents, and evidence, submitted to them, and find that, in pursuance of the authority of the act of the last session of Congress, entitled "An act making further appropriation for the military services of the United States for the year 1823, and for other purposes," a contract was entered into on the 4th of August, 1823, at Gnadenhutten, in the county of Tuscarawas, in the State of Ohio, between Lewis Cass, on the part of the United States, and Lewis D. de Schweinitz, on the part of the United Brethren, which has since been ratified and approved by the President and by the Society of United Brethren.

By this agreement the said society stipulate to retrocede to the United States the three several tracts of land on the Tuscarawas branch of the Muskingum river, in the aforesaid county and State, which had been patented to the society by the United States, the 24th of February, 1798, in trust for certain purposes therein expressed, under the act of Congress of the 1st of June, 1796. To transfer to the United States the leases outstanding of part of said lands, granted by the society to certain individuals who reside thereon; to procure a surrender to the United States of an outstanding lease of a part of said land, granted to one Joseph Rhodes, for thirty-three years from the 1st of April, 1821, and to save the United States harmless on account of any stipulations therein. By this agreement the United States stipulate to pay to the said society out of the first proceeds of the sales of the said lands, in full consideration for the retrocession, and all the expense the said society has incurred in executing the said trust, the sum of $6,654 25; to convey to the society, free from condition or limitation, ten acres of ground, including the church Bersheba, and the grave-yard on the Gnadenhutten tract; also the church lot, parsonage house, and grave-yard in the town of Gnadenhutten; also, the house and lot occupied by one John G. Demuth, and the house and lot occupied by one David Peter, each about five rods in front and sixteen rods in depth; also, the house and lot occupied by one Frederick Dell, not exceeding two acres; and, also, the missionary house and grave-yard at Goshen, all on said tracts; to determine upon the manner, and to allow a pre-emption right to John Andreas, John Neigaman, Jacob Winsh, and Catharine Tschudy, of certain lots in the town of Gnadenhutten, of five by fifteen rods, on which they had erected houses under leases from the society; and to pay, out of the proceeds of said land, to Isaac Simmers, Jesse Walton, Bazillai Walton, and Boaz Walton, lessees of parts of the Gnadenhutten tract, and one Jesse Hill, a lessee of part of the Salem tract, such sums as may be awarded to each of them under clauses in their leases, not exceeding $1,800 in the whole.

That, by other articles of agreement entered into on the 8th of November, 1823, by the said Cass on the part of the United States, and Kootalees and others, the descendants and representatives of the Christian Indians, for whose use the said trust was created, the said Christian Indians declare their full assent to the retrocession by the society to the United States as aforesaid, and cede, for themselves, to the United States all their right to said trust estate.

The United States, on their part, agree to pay to the said Christian Indians an annuity of $400, to commence so soon as a sum is received from the sale of said lands, (after having first paid the several sums stipulated to be paid by the United States in the aforesaid agreement with the Society of United Brethren,) sufficient, as a principal stock, to produce $400, at an interest of six per centum per annum, and to continue as long as said Indians shall occupy their present residence; but, should the said Indians be desirous of removing from their present residence, the United States agree to secure to them a reservation of not less than 24,000 acres of land, to be held by said Indians on the usual condition of Indian reservations, so long as they shall live thereon; and when the said Indians shall remove to said reservation, the said annuity to cease.

It appears by the schedule and surveys returned with the contract entered into with the United Brethren, that, in the said three tracts of land, (amounting together to 12,000 acres,) 3,759 acres and 97.100ths have been surveyed and leased: that, on the lands leased, there have been 1,077 acres cleared and improved, including forty-three dwelling-houses, varying in dimensions from fourteen by fourteen feet to twenty-four by forty-two feet, and twenty-two barns, varying, also, from twenty by twenty to twenty-five by fifty-four feet. These leases expire at different periods from the year 1825 to 1854, and vary much in the amount and kind of rent reserved; some cases providing for the payment of the rent in cash, and others in improvements. The surveys exhibit lots of different sizes, from twenty-nine to one hundred and seventy-six acres. Besides these surveys and improvements, there appear to be on said tracts town or village plats of building lots, some of which are leased and improved. Most, if not all of the leases, contain provisions restraining their assignment and the commission of waste, &c., &c., for the violation of which, as well as for the non-payment of rent, &c., the leases become forfeit.

The committee have not thought it necessary, or within the scope of their inquiries, to go into a detailed exposition of the promises made to these Christian Indians by the Congress prior to the declaration of independence, and since the close of the revolutionary war, to recount their meritorious services during that war, nor to set forth the benevolent and indefatigable exertions of the United Bretheren in the faithful discharge of the trust confided to them, but give, to gentlemen desirous of examining into these matters, the following references to facilitate their inquiries. The ordinances of Congress, *Laws U. S. vol*, 1, *pp.* 668-9 *and* 579; *the 5th section of the act of* 1*st June*, 1796, *vol.* 2, *p.* 567; *and the message of the President of the United States of December* 10, 1822, *vol.* 1 *Senate Papers*, *No.* 3.

The committee are of opinion, on the evidence submitted to them, that measures ought to be taken, on the part of the United States, for carrying the said agreements into execution; to survey and allot the said lands; to ascertain their value, improvement, the situation of the leases, the terms on which their surrender or commutation can be secured, the minimum cash value of each lot, and the amount to be awarded for improvements. That pre-emption rights should be allowed to the persons named in the contract, to such of the lessees as have complied with their leases and will surrender them, and to the Society of United Brethren, for such portions of lots and lands as will pay them, at the minimum cash price, the sum stipulated to be paid them as the consideration of their surrender of said lands. That patents should be granted for such of said lands as the United States are bound to convey as soon as their boundaries are ascertained; and that the remainder of said lands, deducting the usual allowance for schools, should be offered for sale at public vendue, and, if not so sold, be liable to entry and purchase at the land office at Zanesville, in the same manner other United States' lands are entered and sold.

The committee therefore beg leave to report a bill.

Extract from the articles of agreement made and concluded at Gnaaenhutten, in the county of Tuscarawas, and State of Ohio, between Lewis Cass, on the part of the United States, being thereto specially authorized by the President of the United States, and Lewis D. de Schweinitz, on the part of the Society of United Bretheren for Propagating the Gospel among the Heathens being thereto specially authorized by the said society.

I. The said society agree to retrocede to the United States the three tracts of land lying on the Muskingum river, in the county of Tuscarawas, and State of Ohio, containing each four thousand acres, which said tracts of land were granted to the said society, by patent from the United States, on the 24th day of February, 1798, for certain purposes therein expressed, which will more fully appear by reference to the said patent, and to the act of Congress of June 1st, 1796, entitled "An act regulating the grants of land appropriated for military services, and for the Society of the United Brethren for propagating the Gospel among the Heathen," by the authority of which act the said patent issued.

The conveyance required by this article shall be made by a good and sufficient deed, at the expense of the said society, as soon after the ratification of this agreement as possible; which deed shall convey to the United States all the right and title vested in the said society by the patent and act of Congress aforesaid.

II. The schedule hereunto annexed contains a descriptive list of all the leases which have been granted by the said society, together with the number of the lots, and the quantity of acres granted to each person, the commencement and expiration of the lease, and the rent which each tenant is bound to pay. These leases, as soon as this agreement is ratified, shall, by a sufficient conveyance in law, be assigned by the said society to the United States, after which the right and duties created by the said leases shall be vested in, and performed by, the United States.

III. Whereas, by the documents which accompanied the President's message to the Senate of December 9, 1822, it appears that the sum of $43,356 was actually expended by the said society upon the objects connected with the trust created by the acceptance of the said patent to the 21st August, 1822, and that the whole receipts from the said land were $9,998 58¼, leaving a balance due to the said society of $32,587 50¾; of which sum, $15,840 10¼ were actually expended in procuring the title of the said land, and in surveying the same; the repayment of which, amounting now with the interest, to $2,596 13, was guaranteed by the ordinance of Congress of September 3, 1788; in the settlement, at an early period of these remote tracts, being more than seventy miles distant from the nearest white settlement; in cutting roads, building temporary mills, and making other improvements, which have greatly added to the value of the said lands, all which will more fully appear by a

reference to the said documents: and whereas the committee of the Senate, to whom the said documents were referred, state, "That it appears satisfactorily to the committee that the society, ever since they assumed the trust, have, under circumstances of great difficulty and embarrassment, exerted their best endeavors to effect the great and benevolent purposes of civilizing, improving, and protecting the Indians thus placed under their charge, and have, with persevering industry, care, and fidelity, performed the duty and trust reposed in them by Congress:" and whereas, by an account this day exhibited by the treasurer of the said society, it appears that the said three tracts of land are actually holden for the payment of a debt of $6,654 25, being part of the said sum of $15,840 10¼ expended as aforesaid: Now, therefore, it is reasonable, and it is hereby agreed, that the sum of six thousand six hundred and fifty-four dollars twenty-five cents shall be paid by the United States to the said society out of the first proceeds of the sales of the said land, in full consideration of the retrocesssion hereby made, and of all the expenses which the said society have incurred in the execution of the trust aforesaid in relation to the said land.

IV. It is also agreed that ten acres of ground, including the church called Bersheba, and the graveyard on the Gnadenhutten tract, and also the church lot, parsonage house, and graveyard, in the town of Gnadenhutten, the house and lot occupied by John G. Demuth, the house and lot occupied by David Peter, both which lots are about five rods in front by sixteen rods in depth, and the house and lot occupied by Frederick Dell, which lot does not exceed two acres; and, also, the missionary house and graveyard at Goshen, shall be conveyed by the United States, in perpetuity, to the said society, free from any condition or limitation whatever.

V. Whereas, John Andreas, John Neigaman, Jacob Winsh, and Catharine Tschudy, have erected houses in the town of Gnadenhutten, upon lots of five by fifteen rods, under leases from the said society, conditioned for the payment, the two former of the annual rent of $1 65, and the two latter of $3 60, each, with an understanding that the said lessees should hold the said lots as long as they complied with the conditions of the lease, and should also be allowed the privilege of selling the same, at their option: it is therefore agreed that the said John Andreas, John Neigaman, Jacob Winsh, and Catharine Tschudy, shall be allowed a pre-emption right to the said lots, to be exercised in such manner as may be determined by the United States.

VI. Five of the leases yet unexpired, to wit: those to Isaac Simmers, Jesse Walton, Barzillai Walton, and Boaz Walton, on the Gnadenhutten tract, and to Jesse Hill, on the Salem tract, contain clauses for the payment of such sums as may be awarded to them, in the mode pointed out by the said leases, for certain improvements upon the tracts leased to them. It is therefore agreed that a sum not exceeding one thousand eight hundred dollars shall be paid by the United States out of the proceeds of the said land, should that amount be awarded to the said persons; but, should the amount awarded to them fall short of that sum, then the United States shall be held to pay only the amount actually awarded. Joseph Rhodes having leased a lot for the term of thirty-three years from the 1st of April, 1821, and having advanced to the said society the consideration therefor, amounting to $215 25, under an agreement that the same, at the expiration of the lease, shall be refunded to the said Rhodes, without interest, the said society agree to procure a surrender to the United States of the laid lease, within the term of four years, and to save the United States harmless from the effect of any stipulation in the said lease.

Extract from the articles of agreement, made this eighth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, between Lewis Cass, commissioner on the part of the United States, and Zacharias, or Kootalees, John Henry, or Killbuck, Charles Henry, or Killbuck, Francis Henry Killbuck, John Peter, Tobias, John Jacob, and Matthias, or Koolotshatshees, being the descendants and representatives of the Christian Indians, who were formerly settled upon three tracts of land lying on both sides of the Muskingum river, in the State of Ohio, containing four thousand acres each, which were granted by patent from the United States, dated February twenty-fourth, seventeen hundred and ninety-eight, in pursuance of the act of Congress of June first, seventeen hundred and ninety-six, entitled "An act regulating the grants of land appropriated for military services, and for the Society of the United Brethren for Propagating the Gospel among the Heathen," to the said society, for the use of the said Christian Indians, or the remains of that society, including Killbuck and his descendants, and the nephew and descendants of the late Captain White Eyes, Delaware chiefs.

ART. I. The descendants and representatives aforesaid, for themselves and for the Society of Christian Indians aforesaid, do hereby declare their full assent to the agreement concluded at Gnadenhutten, in the State of Ohio, on the fourth day of August, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, between Lewis Cass, commissioner on the part of the United States, and Lewis de Schweinitz, agent for the Society of United Brethren aforesaid.

ART. II. The said descendants and representatives do, for themselves and for the Christian Society of Indians aforesaid, forever cede to the United States all right and interest in and to the tracts of land before described, the use of which was granted to them by the patent and act of Congress aforesaid.

ART. III. The United States agree to pay to the said Christian Society of Indians an annuity of four hundred dollars, which annuity shall commence as soon as a sum is received from the sale of the said land sufficient, as a principal stock, to produce the amount of four hundred dollars, at an interest of six per centum per annum. But the proceeds of the sales of the lands are to be applied to the sums secured to be paid to the Society of United Brethren, and to the lessees described in the sixth article of the agreement executed at Gnadenhutten aforesaid, before the creation of the principal stock provided for in this agreement; and the annuity of four hundred dollars shall continue so long as the said Society of Christian Indians shall occupy their present residence.

ART. IV. It is further agreed that, should the said Society of Christian Indians be desirous of removing from their present residence, the United States will secure to them a reservation containing not less than twenty-four thousand acres of land, to be held by them upon the usual condition of Indian reservations, so long as they shall live thereon; and when the said Christian Society shall remove to the said reservation, then the annuity herein granted shall cease.

18th CONGRESS. **No. 408.** 1st SESSION.

STATE OF THE FUNDS RESERVED TO CERTAIN STATES FROM THE SALES OF THE PUBLIC LANDS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APRIL 13, 1824.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *12th April*, 1824.

In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to lay before the House "a statement of the sums of money that have been received in the Treasury from the two per cent. funds, payable on the sales of public lands in the States of Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama, designating the yearly and total amount paid in from each of the said States; and how much money has been advanced by the General Government, for the repayment of which these funds or any of them, are pledged; also, the yearly and total amount in each of the above named States arising from the three per cent. funds payable on the sale of public lands, and what sums, if any, have been advanced to each of said States of the three per cent. fund," the Secretary has the honor to transmit the accompanying statements, marked A, B, and C, from the Register of the Treasury and the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

The Hon. the SPEAKER
of the House of Representatives.

A.

Statement in obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 17th December, 1823, requiring a "statement of the sums of money that have been received in the Treasury from the two per cent. funds, payable on the sales of public lands in the States of Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama, designating the yearly and total amount paid in from each of said States, and how much money has been advanced by the General Government, for the repayment of which these funds, or any of them, are pledged; also, the yearly and total amount in each of the above named States, arising from the three per cent. funds, payable on the sale of public lands; and what sums, if any, have been advanced to each of said States of the three per cent. fund."

DATE.	OHIO.		INDIANA.	
	Fund of three per cent. net receipts.	Fund two per cent. on net receipt.	Three per cent. fund net receipt.	Two per cent. fund net receipt.
From 1st July, 1802, to 31st December, 1802, -	$2,325 45	$1,550 30		
1st January, 1803, to 31st December, 1803, -	3,771 16	2,514 10		
1st do 1804, to 31st do 1804, -	8,582 56	5,721 71		
Do do 1805, do do 1805, -	11,856 81	7,904 54		
Do do 1806, do do 1806, -	15,873 18	10,582 12		
Do do 1807, do do 1807, -	14,532 38	9,688 25		
Do do 1808, do do 1808, -	13,796 81	9,197 88		
Do do 1809, do do 1809, -	11,994 81	7,996 54		
Do do 1810, do do 1810, -	15,722 06	10,481 38		
Do do 1811, do do 1811, -	15,722 06	10,481 38		
Do do 1812, do do 1812, -	15,722 06	10,481 38		
Do do 1813, to 30th Septem'r, 1813, -	11,831 33	7,887 56		
Do 1st Oct. 1813, to 30th Septem'r, 1814, -	21,521 60	14,347 74		
Do do 1814, do do 1815, -	7,190 57	4,793 72		
Do do 1815, do do 1816, -	24,565 98	16,377 31		
Do do 1816, do do 1817, -	25,321 01	16,880 68		
1st Dec. 1816, do do 1817, -	- -	- -	$7,673 80	$5,115 87
1st October, 1817, do do 1818, -	24,960 14	16,640 10	9,762 91	6,508 61
1st October, 1818, to 30th Septem'r, 1819, -	14,522 22	9,681 48	7,935 03	5,290 02
1st October, 1819, to 30th Septem'r, 1820, -	9,749 89	6,499 87	4,661 87	3,107 91
1st October, 1820, to 30th Septem'r, 1821, -	8,040 65	5,360 44		
1st October, 1820, to 31st May, 1821, -	- -	- -	12,595 85	8,397 23
1st October, 1821, to 30th Septem'r, 1822, -	4,076 74	2,717 83		
1st June, 1821, to 30th Septem'r, 1822, -	- -	- -	20,557 84	13,705 23
1st October, 1822, to 30th Septem'r, 1823, -	6,328 52	4,219 02	8,762 73	5,841 82
Totals, -	288,007 99	192,005 33	71,950 03	47,966 69

	ILLINOIS.		MISSOURI.	
	Three per cent. fund net receipt.	Two per cent. fund net receipt.	Three per cent. fund net receipt.	Two per cent. fund net receipt.
From 1st January, 1819, to 31st March, 1821, -	5,955 82	3,970 55		
1st April, 1821, to 30th Septem'r, 1822, -	1,258 63	839 08		
1st January, 1821, to 30th Septem'r, 1822, -	- -	- -	4,248 64	2,832 42
1st October, 1822, to 30th Septem'r, 1823, -	1,293 17	862 12	1,445 30	963 53
Totals, -	8,507 62	5,661 75	5,693 94	3,795 95

	MISSISSIPPI.		ALABAMA.		LOUISIANA.
	Three per cent. fund net receipt.	Two per cent. fund net receipt.	Three per cent. fund net receipt.	Two per cent. fund net receipt.	Five per cent. fund net receipt.
From 1st Dec. 1817, to 30th June, 1822, -	9,963 58	6,642 39			
1st Sept. 1819, to 30th June, 1822, -	- -	- -	25,520 73	17,013 82	
1st June, 1822, to 30th Septem'r, 1823, -	1,959 57	1,306 38			
1st July, 1822, to 30th Septem'r, 1823, -	- -	- -	9,198 28	6,132 18	
1st January, 1811, to 30th Septem'r, 1823, -	- -	- -	- -	- -	8,361 39
Totals, -	11,923 15	7,948 77	34,719 01	23,146 00	8,361 39

The first statements for Mississippi and Alabama have been made collectively, instead of yearly, as required by the resolution, on account of the lands sold at St. Stephens, in Alabama, which are lying in Mississippi. In each State the proper discrimination has been made. In Louisiana the irregular situation of the office at Opelousas has necessitated an aggregate statement also.

GEORGE GRAHAM.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *General Land Office, 27th December*, 1823.

B.

A statement showing the amount of moneys annually advanced from the Treasury of the United States, predicated on the two per cent. fund arising from the sales of public lands in the States of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois: prepared in obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the United States of the 17th December, 1823.

Years.	Amount.	Years.	Amount.	Years.	Amount.
1806 - - -	$2,310 00	1812 - - -	$37,320 75	1818 - - -	$308,065 65
1807 - - -	3,920 00	1813 - - -	60,789 02	1819 - - -	509,699 99
1808 - - -	7,694 85	1814 - - -	70,324 57	1820 - - -	91,795 00
1809 - - -	277 05	1815 - - -	73,708 80	1821 - - -	65,320 11
1810 - - -	336 00	1816 - - -	95,296 00	1822 - - -	3,904 77
1811 - - -	11,659 56	1817 - - -	309,613 60	1823 - - -	5,289 48
The whole amount advanced from the Treasury, (for the Cumberland road,) predicated upon the two per cent. funds,					$1,657,325 20

JOSEPH NOURSE, *Register.*

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Register's Office, April* 12, 1824.

C.

A statement showing the amount of warrants issued in favor of the State of Ohio by the Treasury Department, on account of the appropriation of three per cent. on the net proceeds of public lands lying within the State of Ohio, sold subsequent to the 30th June, 1802; prepared in obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the United States, of 17th December, 1823.

1810.	August	17.	Warrant No. 2603, in favor of William M'Farland, Treasurer of the State of Ohio,	$3,732 00	
		17.	2604, do. - -	4,500 00	
		17.	2605, do. - -	7,000 00	
		17.	2606, do. - -	9,493 00	
		17.	2607, do. - -	15,000 00	
		17.	2608, do. - -	16,000 00	
					$55,725 00
1811.	March	30.	3304, do. - -	15,000 00	
		30.	3305, do. - -	4,000 00	
					19,000 00
1812.	March	31.	4508, do. - -	20,000 00	
	December	15.	5369, do. - -	5,000 00	
					25,000 00
1813.	July	20.	6218, do. - -	-	17,000 00
1814.	September	15.	7687, Benjamin Hough, auditor of the State of Ohio, - -	-	3,000 00
1815.	September	25.	9229, Wm. M'Farland, treasurer do.	-	40,781 71
1816.	February	19.	185, Ralph Osborn, auditor of public accounts for do. -	-	12,700 00
1817.	April	26.	2956, do. - -	-	36,416 57
1818.	March	6.	4858, do. - -	-	24,200 00
1819.	February	16.	6718, do. - -	-	505 00
1820.	April	26.	8474, do. - -	-	40,155 27
1821.	January	26.	102, do. - -	-	9,802 85
1822.	April	8.	1481, do. - -	-	3,257 54
					$287,543 94

JOSEPH NOURSE, *Register.*

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Register's Office, 29th December,* 1824.

A statement showing the amount of warrants issued in favor of the State of Indiana by the Treasury Department, on account of the appropriation of three per cent. on the net proceeds of public lands lying within the State of Indiana, sold subsequent to the first day of December, 1816; prepared in obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the United States, of 17th December, 1823.

1820. March 18.	Warrant No. 8244, in favor of Jonathan Jennings, governor of the State of Indiana, -	$10,000 00
1822. Feb'y 28.	Warrant No. 1369, in favor of Christopher Harris, an agent for the State of Indiana,	32,629 46
1823. April 7.	Warrant No. 2918, in favor of Christopher Harris, an agent for the State of Indiana,	17,857 84
		*$60,487 30

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Register's Office, 29th Dec.* 1823. JOSEPH NOURSE, *Register.*

* Since the foregoing statement was formed this payment has been made to the State of Indiana, viz. 1824. February 25. Warrant No. 177, in favor of Christopher Harrison, agent, for $11,462 73.

A statement showing the amount of warrants issued in favor of the State of Alabama, by the Treasury Department, on account of the appropriation of three per cent. on the net proceeds of public lands lying within the State of Alabama, sold subsequent to the first day of September, 1819; prepared in obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the United States of 17th December, 1823.

1821. Sept. 30.	Warrant No. 879, in favor of Thomas Bibb, acting governor of Alabama, - -	$950 00
1822. June 30.	Warrant No. 1776, in favor of Thomas Bibb, acting governor of Alabama, - -	800 00
		$1,750 00

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Register's Office, 29th Dec.,* 1823. JOSEPH NOURSE, *Register.*

A statement showing the amount of warrants issued in favor of the State of Illinois, by the Treasury Department, on account of the appropriation of three per cent. on the net proceeds of public lands lying within the State of Illinois, sold subsequent to the first day of January, 1819; prepared in obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the United States, of 17th December, 1823.

1821. December 24. Warrant No. 1164, in favor of R. K. McLaughlin, treasurer of the State of Illinois, $5,955 82

JOSEPH NOURSE.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Register's Office, 29th Dec.*, 1823.

A statement showing the amount of warrants issued in favor of the State of Missouri, by the Treasury Department, on account of the appropriation of three per cent. on the net proceeds of public lands lying within the State of Missouri, sold subsequent to the first day of January, 1821; prepared in obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the United States of 17th December, 1823.

1823. August 23. Warrant No. 3402, in favor of N. Simonds, treasurer of the State of Missouri, *$4,729 14

JOSEPH NOURSE.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Register's Office, 29th Dec.*, 1823.

* Since the foregoing statement was formed, this payment has been made to the State, viz. 1824. March 17. Warrant No. 232, in favor of N. Simonds, treasurer, for $3,282 79.

18th CONGRESS. **No. 409.** 1st SESSION.

PRE-EMPTION RIGHTS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APRIL 23, 1824.

Mr. WHIPPLE, from the Committee on Public Lands, to whom were referred several resolutions and petitions relative to pre-emptions, reported:

Before adverting to the particular cases embraced by the resolutions and petitions referred, the committee deem it proper to make some general observations on the subject of pre-emption grants, as connected with the general policy of the Government in relation to the public lands.

By reference to the various laws on the subject of pre-emptions, it will be perceived that, where the United States have acquired territory where settlements existed at the time of the acquisition, the persons having made such settlements have been permitted by the Government to retain their lands by paying therefor the minimum price, subject to a reasonable limitation as to the quantity to be retained.

In cases where territory has been acquired from foreign powers by treaty, this privilege has been extended to the period in which the United States took the actual possession of the ceded territory. Some modifications of these principles have, at times, and under particular circumstances, existed, but the main principle has been generally adhered to.

The committee are of opinion that an extension of these principles would be injurious to the Government as well as to those who may hereafter become the purchasers of the public lands, and probably to those also who may venture to settle upon Government lands without authority hereafter.

It cannot be perceived by what principle persons having no color of title, should, after lands on which they have settled were known to belong to the United States at the time of making such settlement, claim the pre-emption right to such lands.

Should the Government sanction applications of this nature, an inducement would be offered to persons of an enterprising disposition, to anticipate, in every quarter, the Government in its sales of the public lands, and to settle upon and improve the most valuable tracts of land, which they would claim at the minimum price whenever such lands were brought into market by authority of the United States.

Purchasers of land finding themselves prevented from acquiring good lands would abstain from purchases, and resort to illegal settlements in the hope of obtaining that at the minimum value which they could not obtain at fair and open sale.

Thus, a competition would be excited among a certain description of our population to locate themselves upon the public lands without much regard to lines or boundaries, and with very little respect for the rights either of the Government or their Indian neighbors.

When it might become necessary for the Government to offer for sale the tracts on which these settlements had been made, the persons interested would find arguments at hand, in their poverty and distress, and the situation of their families, to show why they should be permitted to retain their homes and their improvements.

Abuses like these would necessarily attract the attention of the Government, and induce Congress to adopt rigorous measures to repress them, by which many who had thus precipitately made unauthorized settlements would be deprived of their labor, and again be compelled to begin anew, thus losing the labor of years.

A system of indulgence to those who trespass by making unauthorized settlements upon the lands of the United States, after those lands are known to be the property of the Government, would, in the opinion of the committee, be productive of much perplexity to the Government as well as of injury to those concerned in the purchase and settlement of the national domain.

The committee will now proceed to consider the several resolutions and petitions referred to them, which relate either to pre-emption rights or to indulgences prayed for by those who have made unauthorized settlements upon the public lands.

By the resolution of December 31st, 1823, the committee are "instructed to inquire into the justice and expediency of granting to actual settlers in that part of the State of Louisiana lying east of the Mississippi and island of New Orleans, a right of pre-emption to public lands in the same manner, and for the same period of time, after possession thereof by the Government of the United States, as was granted to such settlers in the late Territory of Orleans after possession thereof as aforesaid."

It will be perceived, by reference to the act of Congress of April 12th, 1814, that pre-emption rights were granted to actual settlers in that part of the State of Louisiana west of the river Mississippi up to the date of said act, that is, to the 12th April, 1814.

The United States took possession of this portion of the State of Louisiana on the 10th of December, 1803; consequently, settlers for a period of eleven years after the possession of the Territory of Orleans by the United States had the right of pre-emption of the lands on which they had settled secured to them.

In that portion of the State of Louisiana which lies east of the river Mississippi and island of New Orleans, a different rule was adopted.

The Government did not get possession of this portion of the ceded territory until the autumn of 1810, prior to which time it was under the Government of Spain; consequently, settlers in this portion of the Territory had the right of pre-emption secured to them by the act of 1814, only for a period of four years after the possession by the United States.

The resolution, therefore, contemplates extending to all who had made settlements on the public lands of the United States in the portion of the State of Louisiana

east of the river Mississippi, up to the year 1821, the right of pre-emption of the land on which they have settled.

The committee deem it inexpedient to extend the right of pre-emption in this manner.

The act of the 12th April, 1814, extended equally to all portions of the State of Louisiana, and if any inequality existed in the situation of the people of different sections of the State, this circumstance ought not of itself to be made ground of claim upon the Government. Those who reside east of the river Mississippi and island of New Orleans had, by that law, the right of retaining their lands at the minimum value, although they had settled on them without leave of the Government four years after the lands were, by solemn transfer and formal possession, known to be the property of the United States: the Government has therefore treated these settlers with great lenity and indulgence; and if some of their neighbors have, by the peculiarity of their situations, derived greater benefits from the act of April 12th, 1814, the committee cannot, on this account, be induced to deem it proper to sanction the principle that persons ought to be encouraged to settle upon the public lands for 10 or 11 years after they are known to be the property of the United States. It may, however, be doubted, whether the act of 1814 has not operated nearly equally upon the settlers on the public lands within the State of Louisiana. It was well known by the people, that the whole territory acquired by the treaty ceding Louisiana to the United States would ultimately fall under their Government, and there can be little doubt that many settlements were made within the Territory in anticipation of this event; hence, the time of taking the possession of different portions of that tract of country could produce very little inequality with respect to those who had pre-emption rights granted them by the act of the 12th April, 1814.

By the resolution of January 2d, 1824, the committee are instructed "to inquire into the expediency of granting the right of pre-emption to all persons to mill seats on public lands where the same have been actually improved as such by them."

It will be readily perceived that, if the Government should sanction a principle of this kind, these valuable appendages to the public lands would be universally taken up and occupied to the great injury of the Government, and with no advantage to those who may wish to purchase public lands, except to the favored individual.

The committee are therefore of opinion that it would be injudicious, and that it is inexpedient, to adopt such a provision.

By a resolution of the same date, the committee are instructed "to inquire into the expediency of granting to actual settlers prior to the 1st of July, 1820, in the State of Alabama, the right of purchasing, by pre-emption, of at least one quarter section of land, embracing their family residences."

The committee refer to the general observations in the commencement of this report, and again repeat that they can see no sound reason for permitting persons who have knowingly made unauthorized settlements on the public lands to have and enjoy peculiar privileges and indulgences. They are therefore of opinion that the adoption of such a measure would be impolitic and inexpedient.

By a resolution of January 23d, 1824, the committee are instructed "to inquire into the expediency of reviving the law of the 25th March, 1816, relating to the settlers on the lands of the United States."

This act, as will be seen by reference to it, provides that persons settled on the public lands of the United States, may, upon application to a register, recorder, or marshal, or to such person as either of them may appoint, be permitted to remain on such lands, provided the applicant shall sign a declaration, purporting that he or she has no claim to the lands on which he or she may be located. Books are to be kept, and a registry of these applications and permissions is to be made, and such forms prescribed as the Secretary of the Treasury, with the approbation of the President of the United States, may direct. The persons availing themselves of the provisions of this act are to be considered as tenants at will, and to obligate themselves not to commit waste, and to yield quiet possession when the lands shall be sold by the Government.

The committee can see no good reason for renewing this law, which has been continued in force until the 3d March, 1819, a period of three years.

Those who had located themselves on the public lands prior to, and until the 3d of March, 1819, have had opportunity to avail themselves of the benefits of this act, and those who have since that time made unauthorized settlements on the vacant lands of the United States can have no just ground of complaint, if left to the ordinary operation of the laws relating to such persons.

To revive the law of 1816, would be to hold out inducements to settle on the public lands under the expectation that, until such lands were sold, the persons making settlements would be permitted to cultivate and improve them for their own profit and benefit. Were the Government to grant these facilities, it is easy to perceive that no regard whatever would be paid to the regulations of the laws forbidding unauthorized settlements upon the public lands.

The experience of the Government would lead us to conclude, that the final request of these settlers would be for pre-emption rights, or at least to be permitted to retain their crops. But the committee trust that enough has been said to show the indefensible nature of this proposition. They will therefore dismiss it.

The petition of Lewis C. Davis was referred to the committee on the 26th January, 1824. He states that he purchased a quarter section of land in the State of Alabama, for which he gave $14 per acre; that he is unable to pay for it, and was compelled to relinquish it, and prays to be permitted to re-enter the land at the pre-emption price. There appears to be nothing in this case to entitle the petitioner to particular favor, and the committee see no cause why he should not be subjected to the operation of the laws and regulations of the Government relative to such cases.

The petition of Hardy Doyal and George Caperton, of Alabama, referred to the committee on the 27th January, 1824, states that the petitioners have erected a grist-mill on the public lands, and cleared a farm adjoining it; that they have expended their whole property in the enterprise. They therefore pray to be permitted to take a certain quantity of land, including their mill, at the pre-emption value, and that the Government should grant them a credit of six months from the issuing of the patent.

The committee deem it unnecessary to enter into detailed reasoning to show the inadmissibility of this proposition. It is sufficient to remark, that it is in direct contravention of the policy which it is believed the Government ought to pursue for the purpose of putting a stop to unauthorized settlements on the public lands.

18th Congress. **No. 410.** 1st Session.

CLAIMS TO LAND BETWEEN THE LINES OF LUDLOW AND ROBERTS, IN OHIO.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MAY 4, 1824.

Mr. Vance made the following report:

The committee, to which was referred a resolution inquiring into the expediency of granting relief to certain purchasers of the public lands lying between Ludlow's and Roberts' lines, in the State of Ohio, have had the same under consideration, and submit the following report:

From a decision of the Supreme Court in the case of Doddridge's lessee against Thompson and Wright, it appears both parties claim under title derived from the United States. The plaintiff, under a warrant granted to one of the soldiers of the Virginia line on continental establishment, and the defendants under purchase directly from the Government, and under the laws regulating their general land system. In this case the court has decided in favor of the plaintiff, who derives his title under the Virginia warrant for military services, the recovery about 700 acres; the defendants liable to eviction, and entirely at the mercy of the successful party; and there yet remains 14,000 acres dependant on the same principle, and must be decided in the same way. This land is divided into small farms, generally in a high state of cultivation and improvement; owned by individuals in

moderate circumstances, who are unacquainted with litigation, fearful of being dragged into a court of justice, at much expense, where no doubt can be entertained of their ultimate failure and defeat.

Your committee regret that the omission of the parties in not establishing the western line of the Virginia reservation prior to the sale of the public lands, should have rendered it necessary to legislate specially on this subject; but of such necessity there is no doubt, as every principle of justice and good faith requires an exertion on the part of the Government to quiet, in their possessions, persons who have expended their all in purchasing and improving lands for which they hold the warrantee of the United States. Your committee are aware that all attempts on the part of the United States to quiet, in their possessions, the persons above alluded to, must fail, unless, in the spirit of mutual forbearance and good feeling, the persons claiming under Virginia military warrants, should have a disposition to compromise and settle this business on such terms as may be considered fair and equitable; and this, it is to be hoped, will be the fact, and may be effected so as to give mutual satisfaction to both parties.

Your committee can properly appreciate the local partialities of persons who have underwent every privation incident to the settlement of a new country, and the high estimate they must necessarily put on homes secured by an economy and industry unparalleled in the history of any country, and for which no remuneration could be as acceptable as that of being continued unmolested in the enjoyment of property long considered by them as their own, and for which they have paid the Government a valuable consideration.

Your committee will not undertake to say what measure of damages would be proper to allow the occupants, provided no adjustment can be made between the Government and the claimants under Virginia military warrants, as the decisions throughout the United States are various; some States regulating by statutory provisions, and others adopting the common law principle of refunding the purchase money with interest; but they have no doubt, from previous legislation on this subject, that the most liberal allowances would be extended towards its citizens thus situated.

Your committee know of but one case where relief has been granted under similar circumstances, and that is an act in favor of the legal representatives of Philip Barbour, passed January, 1820. There the Government has acted with that liberality which has marked her policy throughout, by awarding damages agreeably to valuation. Your committee think the case presented for their consideration equally strong, and in their opinion no good reason can be assigned why equal liberality should not be extended.

Your committee know of no public lands sold under the conditions of refunding the purchase money with interest, in case of eviction, with the exception of those conflicting with the Yazoo claims; and there the purchaser was made acquainted with the nature and extent of the Government's guarantee at the time of sale.

Your committee are aware of the importance of the subject to them referred, and the different views that might be presented; but, as their object is brevity, they will content themselves with the submission of the before recited facts and deductions; and, for a more comprehensive view of the subject, they will call the attention of the House to the opinion of the Supreme Court, which they adopt as part of their report. All of which is respectfully submitted, together with a bill for the relief of the said purchasers.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES.

DODDRIDGE'S LESSEE, *vs.* THOMPSON AND WRIGHT. } *Opinion of the court.*

Both parties in this cause claim under grants made by the United States in that tract of country which was reserved by Virginia out of her cession to Congress, for the purpose of satisfying the claims of her officers and soldiers on continental establishment. The reserve was at first dependant on a deficiency of good land to satisfy those claims in a territory reserved for the same objects in Kentucky, which was then a part of Virginia. But the necessitity of making this fact appear was afterward dispensed with, and the deficiency was admitted to exist. The plaintiff having the oldest patent has, of course, the better title, if his patent be valid.

A case was argued in the circuit court in which a *pro forma* judgment was rendered for the defendant, which is now before this court on a writ of error.

The plaintiff claims under a military warrant issued to one of the officers of the Virginia line on continental establishment, and the defendant under a purchase made from the United States subsequent to the emanation of the plaintiff's grant. The first question made in the cause is, whether the land in controversy be within the Virginia reserve. The words are, that if the quantity of land reserved on the southeast side of the Ohio, "for the Virginia troops on continental establishment, should prove insufficient for their legal bounties, the deficiency should be made up to the said troops in good lands between the Scioto and Little Miami."

In 1790 Congress passed an act,* in which, after reciting that the agents for the troops of the State of Virginia had reported to the executive of that State that there was a deficiency of good lands in the territory reserved on the southeast of the Ohio, and after directing the Secretary of War to make a return to the executive of that State of the number of officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates, who served in the Virginia line on continental establishment, it is enacted, "that it shall be and may be lawful for the said agents to locate land for the use of said troops, between the rivers Scioto and Little Miami, such a number of acres of good land as shall, together with the number already located between the said two rivers, and the number already located on the southeasterly side of the river Ohio, be equal to the aggregate amount so to be returned as aforesaid by the Secretary of the Department of War."

In June, 1794, Congress passed another act† on this subject, that every officer and soldier of the Virginia line on continental establishment entitled to bounty lands between the Scioto and Little Miami rivers, "shall, on producing the warrant, or a certified copy thereof, and a certificate, under the seal of the office where the said warrants are legally kept, that the same, or a part thereof, remains unsatisfied, and, on producing the survey, agreeably to the laws of Virginia, for the tract or tracts to which he or they may be entitled as aforesaid, to the Secretary of the Department of War, such officer and soldier, his or their heirs or assigns, shall be entitled to, and receive, a patent for the same from the President of the United States."

Under these acts the plaintiff's patent was issued. It is not, we think, to be questioned, that, under the reserve contained in the cession act of Virginia, and under the acts of Congress which have been recited, the whole country lying between the Scioto and Little Miami was subjected to the military warrants, to satisfy which the reserve was made, and any part of it might be surveyed for any person holding such warrant. What is the extent of this country? The plaintiff contends that it is the territory between the Ohio into which both rivers empty, and a line, to be drawn from the source of the main branch of one river to the source of the main branch of the other, and the rivers themselves from their sources to their mouths.

The Scioto is a much longer river than the Little Miami, and the defendant has suggested that the country reserved may be limited by the Ohio on one side, and a line drawn from the source of the Miami to the Scioto, which shall be parallel with the Ohio on the opposite side. But this suggestion has not been pressed, and the idea it conveys is directly opposed to the words of the reserve, and the construction which has been uniformly given to the deed of cession by both the contracting parties. The territory lying between two rivers is the whole country from their sources to their mouths; and, if no fork of either of them has acquired the name in exclusion of another, the main branch to its source must be considered as the true river. Any other rule would be arbitrary, depending on caprice, not on principle; and the whole legislation of Congress upon the subject shows, we think, a disposition to be guided by this reasonable rule.

We are relieved from inquiry respecting the main branches of these rivers by the case agreed, which finds a map certified by the Commissioner of the Land Office, dated the 26th of February, 1820, and that a line on the said map, marked, and thereon described, as Robert's line, represents a line extending from the source of the Little Miami to the source of the Scioto, and that the sources of both rivers are truly shown thereon.

Admitting this line to constitute the true boundary of the military reserve, the land in controversy lies within it; and the plaintiff's patent would, consequently, be valid, if it depended entirely on the original deed of cession, and the acts of Congress which have been recited. But the defendants' counsel contends that, as the plaintiff's title was to be derived from the Government of the Union, it must have been obtained conformably to the laws of the United States, or is invalid.

* Vol. II, page 179.

† Vol. II, page 440.

It has been very truly observed that, while the Government of the Union is to be considered as holding the territory ceded by Virginia in trust for the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line, so far as the reservation for their benefit extends, it is also to be considered as holding the lands not reserved in trust for the nation, and as being bound, by its high duties, to execute that trust. Congress, therefore, found it necessary to provide for the sale of the territory not included within the reserve, and its laws, made for this purpose, may control, and have controlled, the original rights of the military claimants, and have established a line between the sources of the Scioto and Little Miami, different from that for which the plaintiff contends.

Without questioning the power of the Government, the court will proceed to inquire, whether Congress has passed any law contracting the military reserve within narrower limits than are prescribed by the deed of cession as here construed, or has made any provision which, in any manner, affects the plaintiff's grant.

In May, 1785, Congress passed "an ordinance for ascertaining the mode of granting lands in the western territory," in which, for the purpose of securing to the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line on continental establishment the bounties granted them by that State, it is ordained that no part of the land between the rivers called Little Miami and Scioto, on the northwest side of the river Ohio, be sold, or in any manner alienated, until there shall first have been laid off and appropriated for the said officers and soldiers, and persons claiming under them, the lands they are entitled to, agreeably to the said deed of cession, and act of Congress accepting the same.

In May, 1796, Congress passed an act* for the survey and sale of these lands; directing the appointment of a surveyor general, whose duty it should be "to survey and mark the unascertained outlines of the lands lying northwest of the river Ohio, and above the mouth of the river Kentucky, in which the titles of the Indian tribes have been extinguished, and to divide the same in the manner hereinafter directed."

The second section enacts, "that the part of the said land which has not been already conveyed," &c. or "which has not been heretofore, and during the present session of Congress may not be appropriated for satisfying military land bounties and for other purposes, shall be divided," &c.

This law, then, which gives to the surveyor general his authority to survey the country generally, and to lay off the lands as prescribed in the said act, excludes, from this general authority, all lands previously appropriated for military land bounties and for other purposes, and, consequently, excludes the lands between the Scioto and the Little Miami.

In May, 1800, Congress passed an act† providing further for the sale of these lands, and establishing, for that purpose, four land offices. The places at which these offices shall be fixed are designated in the act, and the district of country attached to each is described. Neither of their districts comprehends any lands between the Scioto and the Little Miami. The surveyor general was not authorized to survey any lands within the military reserve, nor was the sale of such land authorized at any of the land offices. In the execution of this act, the surveyor general caused a line to be run from the source of the Little Miami towards what he supposed to be the source of the Scioto, which is denominated Ludlow's line, and surveyed the lands west of that line in sections, and parts of sections, as prescribed in the act of Congress.

In March, 1804,‡ Congress passed a law for ascertaining the boundary of the land reserved by the State of Virginia for military bounties, which enacts, "that the line run, under the direction of the surveyor general of the United States, from the source of the Little Miami towards the source of the Scioto, and which binds on the east the surveys of the lands of the United States, shall, together with its course continued to the Scioto river, be considered and held as the western boundary line, north of the source of the Little Miami, of the territory reserved by the State of Virginia, between the Little Miami and the Scioto rivers, for the use of the officers and soldiers of the continental line of that State: *Provided*, That the State of Virginia shall, within two years after the passing of this act, recognize such line as the boundary of the said territory." The line mentioned in this act is called Ludlow's line.

This act shows, we think, very clearly, that Congress did not mean to assert a power to fix the western boundary of the military reserve. The deed of cession, and the act of acceptance, were considered as forming a contract respecting a territory, the western line of which could not, at the time, be fixed with precision, and which was unavoidably described in terms requiring subsequent explanation and adjustment. This adjustment was to be made not by one of the parties, but by both; and this act is an essay towards it. Congress makes a proposition to Virginia by which the United States are to be bound, provided Virginia accepts it within two years. If it be not accepted within that time, the parties stand on their original rights, as if it had never been made. This is a very fair and equitable proceeding on the part of the Government, and is founded on the idea that the rights of the parties are equal. Had Virginia accepted this proposition, it would have become a contract, and Ludlow's line would have been established as the western boundary of the military reserve. The land in controversy lying west of that line, it would not have been liable to be surveyed to satisfy the plaintiff's warrant. But Virginia did not accept the proposition, and the rights of the parties remained as if it had never been made.

In 1812§ Congress made another effort to establish this line. The President was authorized to appoint three commissioners, to meet commissioners to be appointed by Virginia, who were to agree on the western line of the military reserve, and to cause the same to be surveyed and marked out. Should commissioners from Virginia fail to meet them, they were to proceed alone, and to make their report to the Executive. In the mean time, and until the line should be established by consent, Ludlow's line was to be considered as constituting the western boundary of the Virginia reserve.

The commissioners of the United States were met by those of Virginia, and they proceeded to ascertain the sources of the two rivers, and employed a Mr. Charles Roberts to survey and mark a line from the source of one to that of the other. This line is called Roberts' line; is reported by the commissioners to the Executive, and is found, in the case agreed, to represent truly a line drawn from the source of the Little Miami to the source of the Scioto. The Virginia commissioners, however, refused to accede to this line, and claimed to run from the source of the Scioto a straight line to the mouth of the Little Miami, which would pass south of that river, and include a considerable tract of country not lying between that river and the Scioto. This demand prevented an agreement establishing Roberts' line; and, as the act of June, 1812, provisionally designated Ludlow's line as the western boundary of the reserve until one should be finally established with the consent of Virginia, it remains the boundary for the present.

Had the plaintiff's title been acquired subsequent to the passage of this act, there would be much force in the objection to it; but it was acquired before this act passed, and cannot, we think, be affected by it. Congress cannot have intended to annul, by a legislative act, a title which was valid at the time, and a law which does not express that intention ought not have that effect given to it by construction.

If the words of the act of 1804 were doubtful, which they are not, the act of 1812 would expound them, and show that not even a temporary boundary had been previously fixed. The appointment of commissioners to meet others to be appointed by Virginia, who were to agree upon and mark the true line, and the establishment of a temporary line till such agreement should be made, prove, incontestibly, that Congress did not suppose the line to be established. Had the commissioners from Virginia assented to the equitable proposition made by those of the United States, the plaintiff's patent, founded on a survey made before the time, would be admitted to be unassailable; and yet the land was, in fact, within the Territory actually reserved at the time the survey was made, and no law had then passed substituting any other line for the true one. The act of 1812 does not look back and annul existing titles. It is entirely prospective, and leaves prior titles as it found them. If, then, there is no other act of Congress which impairs this patent, it must be considered as valid.

The defendant contends, that there are previous acts by which the land between Ludlow's and Robert's line was withdrawn from the territory liable to be surveyed for military warrants. The act of 1804, already mentioned, enacts "that all officers and soldiers, or their legal representatives, entitled to bounty lands within the above mentioned reserved territory, shall complete their locations within three years after the passing of this act, and that the locations made within that part of the territory to which the Indian title has been extinguished,

* Vol. II. page 533. † Vol. III. page 385. ‡ Vol. III. page 592. § Vol. IV., p. 455.

shall be surveyed, and the surveys returned to the Department of War within five years. The third section provides that such parts of the territory as shall not have been located, and such part as shall not have been surveyed, and the surveys returned to the Department of War within the times prescribed by the act, shall be released from any claim for such bounty lands, and shall be disposed of in conformity with the laws passed for that purpose.

In March, 1807, the act passed, giving three years further time for making locations, and five years further time for making and returning surveys, "provided, that no location, as aforesaid, within the above mentioned tract shall, after the passing of this act, be made on tracts of land for which patents had previously been issued, or which had been previously surveyed; and every patent which may, nevertheless, be obtained for land located contrary to the provisions of this section shall be considered as null and void."

The time for making locations and surveys was further extended by subsequent acts containing the same proviso.

The defendant contends, that this proviso comprehends the land previously surveyed by the surveyor general of the United States. We do not concur in this opinion for several reasons. The words refer to the whole military reserve, aud seem intended to apply to surveys which might be made throughout that entire tract of country, not to the land surveyed in townships, sections, and parts of sections, by the United States, west of Ludlow's line. There were such surveys. The records of this court show that many controversies were produced in that country by the mode of locating and surveying military lands, which had been adopted under the laws of Virginia, and it is not unreasonable to suppose that Congress, when giving further time to make locations and surveys, might be disposed to cure the defects in titles already acquired, and to prevent second locations on lands already located. The words of the proviso, too, are adapted to the saving of private rights.

It has great influence, we think, on this question, that if the proviso be construed to comprehend the surveys made by the United States, it would amount to the establishment of Ludlow's line; for those surveys were made to that line, and would indirectly curtail the Virginia military reserve. This was obviously not at that time the intention of the Government. Subsequent to this period, in 1812, commissioners were appointed for the purpose of agreeing with those of Virginia on the true line, and marking it, who were directed "to note the intersections, if any, of said line, with any surveys heretofore authorized by the United States." Congress was induced to give further time for making these locations and surveys, by a just sense of the real difficulties attending the completion of titles in that country, and an equitable regard for the rights of the claimants. There can be no reason to suppose that it was intended to withdraw one part of the country from these claims more than another.

If this intention had existed, it would have been manifested in more intelligible and direct words. Instead of the ambiguous language used in this proviso, all locations would have been restrained beyond Ludlow's line. Congress would have avowed its intention in plain terms, and would have effected its object by direct means. But, the course of legislation which has been pursued on this subject—the scrupulous regard which the Government has shown to the conditions on which the cession of Virginia was made—the liberal and fair offers of the United States for adjusting the real extent of the reserve—forbid a construction which would indirectly abridge that reserve.

But, were it to be admitted that the proviso does comprehend the lands between the lines surveyed by Roberts and Ludlow, that admission could not affect this cause. The words of the proviso are, "that no *locations shall* be made on tracts of land for which patents had been previously issued, or which had been previously surveyed." The prohibition respects future locations—not future surveys; and the case does not show when this location was made. It might have been made previous to the passage of the act of 1807, and the presumption of law is that it was made before that time; since the patent is presumed to be valid until the contrary is shown.

On both points, the court is of opinion that the law upon this case is for the plaintiff, and that the judgment of the circuit court in favor of the defendant must be *reversed*, and judgment entered for the plaintiff.

18th Congress. **No. 411.** 1st Session.

SALE OF SALT SPRINGS IN OHIO.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MAY 14, 1824.

Mr. Vinton made the following report:

The Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the resolution and the memorial of the Legislature of the State of Ohio, to Congress, of the 26th of February last, have had so much thereof under consideration as relates to the prayer of the Legislature of said State, that they may be authorized and empowered to sell and dispose of the six miles' reservation, commonly called the Scioto Salt Springs, the Salt Springs near the Muskingum river, and in the military tract, with the sections of land which include the same, and apply the proceeds thereof to such literary purposes as the said Legislature may hereafter direct; and beg leave to report, in part:

That, by the act of Congress for the admission of the State of Ohio into the Union, approved April 30th, 1802, the abovementioned tracts of land were granted to the said State, for the use of the people thereof, to be used under such terms, and conditions, and regulations, as the Legislature of said State should direct: *Provided*, the said Legislature should never sell nor lease the same for a longer period than ten years. At the time of the admission of Ohio into the Union, the abundant resources of that section of the country in salt were comparatively unknown; and the abovementioned tracts of land were supposed to possess a permanent and peculiar value, in consequence of the saline water that had been discovered upon them. It was believed the manufacture of salt at those places would yield a lasting and valuable annuity to the State; to secure the certain enjoyment of which, is presumed to have been the reason for this limitation upon the power of the State over the title of those lands. Since that period, salt water has been found, and manufactories of salt have arisen in various parts of the western country, in situations possessing decidedly superior advantages of location, and value of water, so that the anticipated benefits have been almost wholly disappointed. The proceeds of the rent of those lands are payable into, and form a part of the revenue of the State.

The manufacture of salt on the Muskingum river, and in the military tract, has been entirely abandoned; and as no one in a country so abundant in land can find an inducement in taking up a leasehold estate for so short a term as ten years, those tracts not only yield no revenue to the State, but remain, and ever must remain, uncultivated, or, if cultivated at all, in the worst possible manner. It is believed the State realizes a rent of about one hundred dollars a year from the Scioto reservations, which has been generally expended in making unsuccessful and discouraging experiments to improve the quantity and quality of the water. Every fact in relation to these lands, which are of considerable value, justifies a belief, that, so long as the present limitation upon the title to them shall exist, the object for which the limitation was imposed will be defeated. The lands themselves, if sold, would, in all probability, contain a much greater and better population than can inhabit them under the present restriction. Your committee are, therefore, satisfied of the policy of permitting those lands to be sold, and entirely approve of the appropriation of the proceeds proposed by the Legislature of Ohio, and beg leave to report a bill to carry the same into effect.

18th Congress. No. 412. 1st Session.

LAND CLAIMS IN FLORIDA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MAY 20, 1824.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *May* 20, 1824.

The Secretary of the Treasury, by direction of the President, has the honor to transmit, herewith, for the information of the Committee on Public Lands, copies of the following dacuments, viz.

No. 1. Report from Messrs. Floyd and Blair, commissioners for ascertaining land claims in East Florida, including the evidence taken in the case of John H. M'Intosh, taken 21st February, 1824.
2. Decrees of the commissioners.
3. A joint letter from the above commissioners, dated 29th December, 1823.
4. A letter from W. W. Blair, dated 24th September, 1823, enclosing a memorial from the inhabitants of St. Augustine.
5. A letter from the Hon. R. M. Johnson, enclosing one from W. W. Blair, dated 21st February, 1824.
6. A letter from W. W. Blair, dated 7th August, 1823.
7. A letter from Alexander Hamilton, dated 14th July, 1823.
8. A letter from Alexander Hamilton, dated 12th January, 1824.
9. A letter from Alexander Hamilton, dated 22d January, 1824.
10. A letter from Alexander Hamilton, dated 23d January, 1824.
11. A letter from Alexander Hamilton, dated 31st March, 1824.
12. A letter from Alexander Hamilton, dated 1st May, 1824.

The minutes of the Board of Commissioners, and the evidence taken in the other cases acted upon by them, are too voluminous to be transcribed in season to be submitted to the committee during the present session of Congress.

Hon. CHRISTOPHER RANKIN,
Chairman Committee on Public Lands.

No. 1.

Report of Davis Floyd and W. W. Blair, Land Commissioners in East Florida.

JOHN H. M'INTOSH AND OTHERS,
vs.
UNITED STATES.

In conformity to the provision of an act of Congress passed on the 8th of May, 1822, constituting a Board of Land Commissioners for Florida, and requiring of them, in certain cases, to report the testimony, with their opinions, to the Secretary of the Treasury, to be laid before Congress for their determination," we respectfully submit the following report:

"The laws and ordinances, heretofore existing, of the Governments making the grants, respectively," have, of necessity, been the first subject of inquiry with the commissioners, not only because they were pointed out by the statute as our peculiar guides, but because it was obviously impossible to do justice with exactitude without them; but we are not able to say that we have arrived at all the information that might have been possessed on that subject, owing to the careless manner in which the Spanish records have ever been kept; to the removal of all the British records upon the retrocession of the territory, and the subordination of the authorities here, subsequently to those at Havana. The rules by which we have been governed in our adjudications are drawn,

1st. From the code of Spanish law, entitled the Laws of the Indies.

2d. From royal orders, made with particular reference to this Territory.

3d. The decrees and regulations appointed and published by the local governors.

4th. The customs and usages which prevailed in the various offices in the Territorial Government.

As the general or local enactments and customs of the British Government are not drawn in question by any of the claims now submitted and reported for the revision of Congress, that part of the subject will more properly constitute the matter of another report, when claims of that description shall be regularly before us.

The authority first referred to contains the following general provision, which, as far as we are able to understand it, applies to all the ultra-marine provinces of the Spanish empire:

*Of the sale, adjustment, and distribution of lands, lots, and waters.**

In order that our subjects be encouraged to the discovery and settlement of the Indies, and may live with the comfort and convenience which we desire, it is our will that houses, lots, lands, knights' shares, and peasants' shares of land, may and shall be distributed to all those who go to settle new lands in townships and villages, which, by the governor of the new settlement, shall be assigned them, making a distinction between gentlemen and peasants, and those of an inferior degree and merit, and increase and give them of better quality, according to the importance of their services; and that they may devote themselves to the culture and improvement of them, and, having made on them their residence and place of labor, and resided in those townships four years, we grant them the right, from thenceforward, to sell and dispose of them at their will, freely, as of a thing their property.

Continuation of the same ordinance.

And, as it may happen that, in distributing the lands, there may be a doubt as to the measurements, we declare that a peasant's portion is a lot of fifty feet in breadth and one hundred in depth, arable land, capable of producing one hundred fanegas of wheat and ten of Indian corn; as much land as two oxen can plough in a day, for the raising of esculent roots, and eight of woodland; pasture land for eight breeding sows, twenty cows, and five mares, one hundred sheep, and twenty goats. A *gentleman's portion* (caballeria) is a lot of one hundred feet in breadth and two hundred in depth, and all the remainder five times the *peasant's portion*, (peonia,) to wit: arable land capable of producing five hundred *fanegas* of wheat or barley, fifty of Indian corn, as much land as ten oxen can plough in a day for raising esculent roots, and eight of woodland; pasture land for fifty breeding sows, one hundred cows, twenty mares, five hundred sheep, and one hundred goats; and we direct that the distribution be made in such form as that all may participate in the good or middling, and of that kind of which there may not be any in that part which shall be pointed out to each.

This seems to have been the rule for the distribution of the public lands during the first administration of the Spanish Government within these provinces, and after the retrocession, up to the date of the 2d September, in the year 1790, when Governor Quesada published the following regulations, referring for his authority to a royal order, investing him with plenary powers, but which we have not been able to procure.

Internal regulations of police.

Don Juan Nepomuceno de Quesada, colonel in the royal armies, governor of this city of St. Augustine and province of East Florida, for his Majesty, &c.

Whereas I am commanded, by royal orders, agreeable to the public wants, to apply the most seasonable and quick remedies thereto: for the purpose, therefore, of accomplishing this in the edict commonly called "Internal regulations of police," I have taken the most conducive steps, notwithstanding much to my sorrow. There has been so much to amend and establish, that a voluminous code would scarcely be sufficient for me to comprise all, in proportion to the ardent desire which animates me for the prosperity of the province and the service of the sovereign: wherefore, merely for the present, and reserving, hereafter, when permitted by my other duties, the right of attending particularly to this important subject, I therefore make known and order the following:

1. I grant to all the inhabitants, permanently settled, and subjects of his Majesty, in his royal name, for their use, the quantity of land they may require, in proportion

* Book 4th, law 1st, chap. 12th of the Collection of the Laws of the Indies.

to their force, in any part of this desert province, without any exception. To this end, those desirous of obtaining the same will present themselves to me within twenty days, stating their circumstances by memorial; what lands they have obtained to the present period, and what quantity, and in what place they are desirous of locating them now, under the precise condition that it will be without injury to a third person. I will attend to their solicitude according to the examination I may make thereof; and, although the laws of the Indies authorize me to make an absolute distribution of the same, and being in the case of the first of title 12th, book 4th, I abstain therefrom from powerful motives. But, for the greater security of those interested, I will forward my ideas and representations on the subject to the King, persuaded that, in consequence thereof, those obtaining grants from me now will be confirmed in the possession of the same.

2. Relates to free blacks.

3. Relates to the raising of horned cattle near the city.

4. The King, our master, by a royal order of the 5th of April, 1786, granted to all the foreigners, inhabitants of this province, during the British dominion, the liberty of remaining protected in the possession of their lands and property, under the following indispensable conditions: that they take the oath of allegiance; that they will not add to said lands, or transfer the same from one to another. Therefore, all those who are discontented, or will not conform with said conditions within thirty days, must remove from the above mentioned province, presenting themselves in person, or by letter, manifesting their resolution on the subject, that I may proceed thereon as may be most expedient.

5. Relates to the rules to be observed by new subjects, as regards foreign commerce.

6. Declaring the port of St. Augustine open by the laws of the Indies.

7. Relates to bakers and the assize of bread.

8. Relates to the regulation of the market, the quality and weight of beef, &c.

9. Relates to the cleansing of chimneys.

10. Relates to the appointment of police officers for the city and country.

11. Not permitting persons to come into the province without knowing their object for so doing.

12. Prohibiting all women, under the age of forty, (whether widows or single) from living otherwise than under the immediate protection of their parents or relations.

13. Prohibiting women from leading a dissolute life.

14. Recommending to the inhabitants to present their ideas as to the best method of repairing the roads, and making easy the water conveyance in the province.

15. Granting to persons vacant lands under article the first, that they may build houses at the distance of six miles apart for the accommodation of passengers going or returning from St. Johns.

16. Appointing a patrol of six men, and a commander, for the purpose of going through the country to prevent disorders, robberies, &c.

17. Recommending the clearing of the woods through which the public roads pass.

18. Relative to the license on taverns.

19. Relates to the cleanliness of the streets.

20. Ordering that all filth and dirt collected in the yards and houses to be thrown in the marsh at the back of the town.

21. Ordering all owners of stone or wooden houses (should said houses be in a ruinous state) to have them repaired within six months.

22. Not permitting persons to build houses without the knowledge of the commandant of engineers.

23. Forbidding masters or supercargoes of vessels from selling their cargoes by wholesale, without first exposing the same for sale by retail, eight days previously, to the public.

24. Prohibiting that hogs and dogs should be allowed at large, except hounds and pointers.

25. Prohibiting persons from galloping horses through the streets.

26. Prohibiting horses from going at large.

27. Prohibiting persons from walking the streets after nine o'clock at night, without a lantern with a light therein.

28. Prohibiting, at the same time, the use of fire-arms, sword canes, knives, dirks, &c.

29. Persons, with lawful arms, are not permitted to walk at night in groups of more than two persons; and, in no wise, with noisy and suspicious women.

30. Not permitting the sale of gunpowder by shopkeepers or tavern-keepers, to the boys, or other persons, except those known.

31. Prohibiting artificial fire-works, rockets, &c.

32. Prohibiting silversmiths, store-keepers, or other persons from purchasing any article whatsoever from soldiers, slaves, house servants, or children.

33. Relative to billiard-tables, and prohibiting games of hazard.

34. Prohibiting gaming in private houses.

35. Expressly forbidding all games in hotels, taverns, wine stores, &c.

36. The owners of billiard-tables expressly forbid from admitting tradesmen, laborers, domestics, and boys on working days.

37. As relates to the duties of the catholics in the observance of their religion.

A certificate of Domingo Rodriguez de Leon, Government notary, as to the publication of the foregoing regulations; as also a note of the said notary, attesting that a copy of said regulations was posted in the usual place pointed out.

St. Augustine, *September* 2, 1790.

A true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

Although the authority vested in the governor of this province by the Code of the Indies, is specifically disclaimed in practice by Governor Quesada, it is apparent that it did not cease to be the law: 1st, because the governor was incompetent to repeal a law of the empire; and, 2d, because he professes only to abstain from its execution for the present, and until he could know the royal will in relation to that subject.

The precise extent to which these regulations interfered with the provisions of the general law, and the privileges of the emigrant or inhabitant, cannot be clearly understood, from its equivocal phraseology; nor is it eminently important to know if it be proper to construe the following letter and extract from a royal order in connexion with it, as, in that case, it will be seen that the powers reserved to himself by the decree of the governor are over-ruled, or regulated and restrained, by the order of the captain general of the Havana. The governor seems to have written to the captain general of Cuba touching various subjects in connexion with the situation and police of this territory, but among them no notice is taken of the anterior act of distribution. An appeal seems to have been made in favor of admitting Irish emigrants upon a peculiarly favorable footing, and some allusion was evidently made to the custom which was supposed to have existed at some anterior period, of paying from the royal treasury for the transportation and temporary maintenance of emigrants. These subjects are put to rest, and a rule prescribed to the governor for the disposition, in future, of the public domain to voluntary emigrants.

[TRANSLATION.]

Havana, *October* 29, 1790.

I acknowledge the information given me by your lordship, under date of the 16th of September last, relative to Don Thomas Wooster, whose conduct and transactions gave cause for his leaving that province by order of the Government, of which I will inform his Majesty.

Relative to the introduction of families from Ireland, which your lordship proposes, I cannot accede on other terms than strictly adhering to what the King has advised me on the subject, and herewith transcribe the same for your lordship's government.

"No settlers shall be admitted in Louisiana or Florida, should they pretend to have their transportation to those provinces, and maintenance there for some time, paid by the royal treasury. That those foreigners alone will be received who may of their own free will present themselves, and swear allegiance to his Majesty, to whom there shall be granted and measured lands gratis, in proportion to the working hands each family may have. That they shall not be molested in matters of religion, although there shall be no other public worship than the catholic. That there shall be given them no other assistance or aid than lands, protection, and good treatment; each family having the right of taking with them their property, of any description, all free from duties; but in case of exporting the same to any other place, they shall pay the six per cent. as established, and obliging them only to take up arms in defence of the province, should an enemy invade the same."

To which rules your lordship must adhere in any solicitude that may occur under similar circumstances. God preserve your lordship many years.

LUIS DE LAS CASAS.

His Lordship Don Juan Nepomuceno de Quesada.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *December* 12, 1790.
Take an account at the royal accountant's office.
[A flourish.]

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *December* 12, 1790.
An account was taken in the accountant's office under my charge.

GONZALO ZAMORANO.

A true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

It is evident that the rule prescribed by the above order relates exclusively to emigrants, leaving the law as it stood before in relation to those who had already, or should have thereafter, the character of inhabitants or subjects.

It is worthy of notice also, that, although it provides for giving lands in proportion to the laboring hands introduced, it has entirely failed to designate the quantity each laborer should receive, either leaving that part of the subject to the government of existing custom, or to the sound discretion of the governor.

The provisions of this ordinance may be considered as having defined and rendered certain the bounty upon emigration, which seems to have been uncertain, or but little understood before.

The following order, issued by Governor Quesada, to carry into effect the preceding, must be construed to relate to emigrants in general, although it is evident that it was made to apply to those cases of residents who had not received their titles in consequence of the prevailing uncertainty as to the quantity they should receive. It assigns one hundred acres to each father of a family, and fifty to each other person, white or black, composing it; and an additional quantity of one thousand acres when it was probable it would be cultivated.

[TRANSLATION.]

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *Nov.* 20, 1790.

Don Juan Nepomuceno de Quesada, colonel of the royal armies, and commander-in-chief of this city and province of St. Augustine, Florida, by his Majesty:

Whereas, by the last packet which arrived at this port, his excellency, the captain general of this province, encloses me, under date of the 29th of November of the last year, the following royal order:

In virtue of which I order the same to be published for the present, that it may be made known to all, being understood that only those shall be admitted as resident settlers, who, besides their good conduct and honorable proceedings, are good farmers and mechanics, who are beneficial to the settlement and advancement of the province, for which purpose there shall be granted them the gifts set forth in the inserted royal order. It is also made known to those who have obtained lands, in the mean time, from this Government, that they present themselves to the same within the space of two months, for the purpose of asking and obtaining the requisite title of property from the office of the Government secretary, from whence the necessary orders will be issued after having registered the same in the notary's office.

And that it may serve as an incitement to all, I order, according to the powers I am vested with, and make known for the present, that the grants be of one hundred acres to each father of a family, and fifty to each white person, or of color, of which said family is composed; also, that if persons are desirous of obtaining a greater quantity of land, and there being a probability of their cultivating the same, they shall obtain an additional number of a thousand acres; it being understood that, in all the concessions, the utility and not the quality of the lands shall be attended to, so that each person shall acquire a proportionate quantity of each; as, also, that the width of each of said concessions must be only the third part the length, and said length must not extend on the banks of the rivers and creeks, but towards the interior of the lands, resting always with the Government the care of rewarding or punishing with additional expenses or absolute privation, as time shall discover, the merit, application, and advantages of the agriculturists, or the contrary vices.

A copy from the original, I attest:

DOMINGO RODRIGUEZ DE LEON,
Notary of Government.

In conformity to the spirit of the above orders, the governor appointed one Pedro Marrott to the office of the surveyor general, in October, 1791; and, along with his commission, gave him sundry instructions as to the manner in which he should proceed in distributing to emigrants their respective portions of public territory, which are as follows:

[TRANSLATION.]

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *Oct.* 24, 1791.

Instructions which are given to the Captain Don Pedro Marrott, of the third battalion of the infantry regiment of Cuba, which garrison the city of St. Augustine, Florida, appointed by the Government, with the assent of the council of ministers, to proceed to the survey and laying off of the lands which is to be executed by order of his Majesty, for the benefit of the new settlers.

1st. He will take with him the public surveyor, and will take care that the measurements be made, adhering to the title, and to that ordered in the edict of which I transmit a copy, in the document No. 1, which will more fully instruct on the subject.

2d. He will likewise take with him a canoe, with two tents, two tarpaulings, four sailors, and two laborers, who will assist in the necessary work, with a pay of four dollars the first, and two dollars the latter; and in case of the sickness or abandonment, they can be replaced, informing the Government thereof, that those may be noted in a book formed for the purpose, of what may be owing them.

3d. There will also be formed another large book, in which will be placed the distribution which may be made of the lands, with the name of the whites of each family, and the number of slaves, with a distinction of the ages and sexes of each white or colored person.

4th. He will not consent that they pass off as fit persons to obtain lands, those who belong to other places, and, in general, to those who have not been admitted by the Government under the oath of allegiance, and therefore declared to be proper.

For the purpose of obviating frauds in this part, he will receive the oath from those wishing lands, according to the number of persons of their families, and they shall be informed, that if, for the future, any fraud is committed, they will remain liable to a deduction of lands the Government may think proper to make.

5th. The married sons of families can obtain the part belonging to them, acting conjointly with their fathers, but they shall be notified that it must be forever; and that in the book will be written the number of acres appertaining to each.

6th. He will inform, particularly all those obtaining these gifts, that certain conditions must be performed before they can consider themselves owners in absolute right, and lawful for them to dispose of what is now granted them.

7th. He must send them to the Government secretary's office for their respective titles, where they will be informed of what is necessary.

8th. Those who obtain lands cannot change or alienate them without informing the Government, that it may take just measures to prevent confusion.

9th. When lands are to be surveyed, bounding those of individuals having them of their own, they will be cited to appear for the purpose of exhibiting their titles, permitting them to remain in possession, running the lines without injuring them, and the Government reserving the right of examining, at a proper time, the validity of their titles, and defects of their petitions.

10th. On the sides of rivers, creeks, and roads, there must not be left small vacant spaces between the lands which are distributed, and for the purpose of avoiding it, cutting off a part of the depth, and adding the same quantity to the front, and by this method the line of division of one tract may serve for that of the adjoining. The front of all tracts must be, if possible, not more than a third part.

The 11th and 12th articles are obliterated, and treat of the buildings appertaining to the royal domain.

Note.—It will be made known to all those who are to obtain lands, that one hundred English varas are equal to three Spanish caballerias, on which footing the measurement will be made.

The foregoing is a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

How far these regulations were observed in practice by Captain Marrott and his successors in office, will appear by the testimony of witnesses, whose examination makes a part of this report.

The next governmental act, in order of time, relates to the houses and lots in the city of St. Augustine. Although time was allowed by the treaty of cession between Great Britain and Spain for the subjects of the former

to sell their property in this province and remove, it was found impossible, in a great many cases, to get purchasers at any thing like fair prices, and the owners preferred, in all such cases, abandoning their property, which, immediately, by the laws of Spain, re-attached to the royal domain.

The following order from the King will show the manner in which that property was disposed of, and has become the property of individuals:

[TRANSLATION.]

The King to the governor and commander-in-chief of the province of St. Augustine, Florida.

In a letter dated November 20, 1791, your predecessor gave an account, with accompanying documents, of the steps he had taken; and, according to which the sale of the lots and houses relinquished by the English, and becoming part of my royal domain, agreeably to the third article of the preliminary treaty of peace concluded with that power; as also in regard to what had taken place relative to the estates owned by the widow Donna Isabel Perpall, purchased from the English in a suspicious manner; but she not only being a widow, but poor, a Spaniard, and very possibly having acted with the most honest intentions, which makes her deserving of my royal clemency; and a number of other inhabitants being nearly in the same case, suspected of having purchased houses, some after the time allowed the English to sell, and others without his consent and intervention; and although it was necessary to make a minute examination, he neglected doing the same, thinking it would be for the good of the service; and observing that said buildings were falling to decay, he ordered their sale at public auction, a valuation being first made by skilful persons, with the proviso that those taking said property should give security for the payment of the materials and lots when he thought it convenient, and repair said houses in the course of one year, paying in the mean time five per cent. annually, which was accordingly so done. After the purchasers had consented to pay him the principal amount, and having verified the sale, the total thereof amounted to 157,974 reals and a *quartilla*,* including the value of the houses said to appertain to the above named Donna Isabel Perpall, to Mateo Martinez Fernandez, and to Manuel de Herrera, which were declared as belonging to my royal domain on account of their sale being false. And, lastly, in your letter of the 20th October, '98, you stated, with proof, that some refused the payment of five per cent., founding their objections on the grants of lands made to the foreigners establishing themselves in that colony, and that the houses and lots in that city were not comprehended in those grants; and seeing the continued increase therein of taverns and shops, without any improvement whatever in agriculture and other staples of commerce, you gave an account, for my royal resolution, not only of this incident, but likewise of the other, pending from the time of your predecessor.

Having observed, in my council of Indies, the opinion of my fiscal, with the information on that subject given by the accountant general's office, and consulting on the the same the 17th April last, I have resolved to remit in favor of those indebted to the finance, the payment of the capital and interests on the houses and lots they acquired, and approve the sale and other steps as taken by your said predecessor, giving to each a title of possession and property, that they may be secured hereafter in the possession of said estate, it being thus my will; and let an account of the present be taken in the said accountant general's office. Dated at Aranjuez, the 17th June, 1801. I, THE KING.

By order of the King, our master,
ANTONIO PORCEL.

OFFICIAL.

To the governor of Florida, informing him of having remitted, in favor of those indebted to the finance in that city, the payment of the capital and interests on the houses and lots they acquired at the transfer of the country by the English, and so forth, as expressed therein.

COMMUNICATED.
MADRID, *July* 9, 1801.

Take an account thereof in the northern department of the accountant general's office of the Indies.
PEDRO APARICI.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *Feb.* 18, 1802.

Take an account of this royal letter patent in the accountant's office, and be it afterwards annexed to the proceedings on the subject, and it will be delivered to the attorney general, that he may give his opinion thereon.
ENRIQUE WHITE.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, 18*th Feb.* 1802.

An account of this royal letter patent was taken in the principal accountant's office, under my charge.
GONZALO ZAMORANO.

The following decree of Governor White seems to have had no other object than to carry into execution the will of his King, in relation to the debts due him for the sale of property in this city.

[TRANSLATION.]

Having seen ———, let what his Majesty orders in his royal letter patent of the 17th June last, be kept, complied with, and executed, posting the same by handbills in the customary places, and inserting particularly as relates to the royal donation, and grant of the houses and lots which, by appertaining to his royal domain, were sold here in the year '91, with the yearly interest of five per cent. on the value of the property to which the purchasers bound themselves. Let the royal approbation of said sale be likewise published; and, in consequence of the same royal gift, let the mortgages given them by the purchasers on said property, be cancelled, and those which progressively have been made over to other proprietors, to whom said property was transferred by the original owners; at the same time, for the security of these last, let the conveyances of the royal donation be drawn out, to which, for the security and possession of the legitimate possessors, let the royal favor be also extended. And, in respect to the doubts which took place as to the legitimate ownership of the property in the possession of Donna Isabel Perpall, Mateo Martin Hernandez, and Don Manuel de Herrera, in the proceedings relative to the sale of said lots and houses, which were, notwithstanding, sold as the others, as belonging to the royal domain, inform them, in particular, or their legitimate agents, of the royal patent, that it is also extended to the aforesaid property, that they may make use of all their rights; upon which, and in all incidents relative thereto, and which, in this general provision, cannot be taken into consideration, other provision will progressively be made, and as the cases and circumstances may require; of all which the fiscal representation shall be informed with respect to what concerns his duty.
WHITE.

LICENTIATE ORTEGA.

Don Enrique White, colonel in the royal army, civil and military governor of the city of St. Augustine and province of East Florida, for his Majesty, provided the foregoing, which he signed, after having consulted his lieutenant auditor of war, and assessor general, on the 18th of March, 1802.
JOSE DE ZUBIZARETTA,
Government Notary.

St. Augustine, same day, month. and year, I notified the foregoing act to Don Gonzalo Zamorano, accountant of the royal finance, to take cognizance of the same, which I attest. ZUBIZARETTA, *Notary.*

A true translation from a document in the Spanish language.
F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

The following order of Governor White brings us back to the subject of the public lands, and the terms on which they should thereafter be granted to individuals.

[TRANSLATION.]
ST. AUGUSTINE, *October* 12, 1803.

Don Enrique White, colonel of the royal armies, civil and military governor and chief of the royal finance of this city and province of St. Augustine, Florida, by his Majesty, &c. Whereas, it being necessary to vary and modify, in part, the rules and conditions which the Government had established for the concessions and divisions of lands to the new settlers, in consideration of the actual circumstances, on account of the great number of persons coming to enjoy the favors and privileges which his Majesty has granted to those who may come to establish themselves in this province, many abuses have arisen, on the part of those grantees, under the system and object which influenced the Government at that time in the prosecution of that plan; those, as well as other inconveniences, which experience has demonstrated, have plainly shown that they may tend to the hindrance of the advancement and prosperity of the province; for which reason, and to remedy the same, I have thought proper and ordered that the rules prescribed in the following articles be observed for the future.

* About $19,746 78.

1. That, whenever the new settlers shall take the customary oath of allegiance, they shall declare exactly the number of their children, their sexes and ages, and in consideration of which lands will be allotted them, excepting those under eight years of age.

2. That to each head of a family there shall be granted fifty acres of land, and an equal quantity to a single person, widow, or widower, and to the children or slaves of sixteen years, twenty-five acres each; but, from the age of eight to sixteen years, they shall be granted fifteen acres each.

3. That to those employed in the town, of whatever class they may be, if lands be granted them, or to their slaves, it shall be with the express condition of their cultivating the same within one month of the concession; being understood that, if they fail in so doing, it shall be granted to whomsoever shall denounce and lawfully prove the same.

4. That all concessions, in which no time is specified, shall become extinct, and shall be considered as null, if the persons to whom they are made do not take possession and cultivate the same within the space of six months.

5. That to none of those who cede or convey their lands to others, under pretence of selling the improvements, there shall be granted them more lands in future; nor shall these transfers or conveyances be admitted, if done without the consent of Government.

6. Notwithstanding what is stated in the foregoing article, if it should suit any settler to change his situation, if he desires it, granting him lands in the place he may choose, but on consideration of giving up the improvements of the land he left for the benefit of the royal revenue; which will prevent the abuse of the transfers and sales, which are prohibited under any pretext whatever, until the proper time pointed out in the former plan or rules.

7. That, on the lands not fit for cultivation, but have timber, or that are only proper for pastures, for which purpose alone they have been solicited, the owner cannot prevent any person from cutting and appropriating the timber to his own use, who may present themselves with an order from the Government; but it is understood that it shall not injure the owner thereof.

8. That all those who shall, for the future, ask for lands, must indicate a fixed spot from whence the measurement must commence; which will be the cause of avoiding the mistakes and disputes which by that fault have been experienced, particularly a short time back.

9. That all persons who shall have abandoned or discontinued the cultivation, nor actually cultivates the lands, which at any period shall have been measured to them by the surveyor general, although they have obtained the corresponding title of property from the notary's office, they shall lose their right to the same, and shall be given to any person not having lands for cultivation, who shall legally prove that said lands have been uncultivated at least two years following.

And for the punctual observance of what has been set forth, and that no person may plead ignorance, I order that copies be posted up in the public places of this city, as is customary, and that one be transmitted to the brevet captain of militia, commandant of the same, and commissioned judge of the rivers St. Johns and St. Marys, Don John McQueen, that he may cause it to be made known to those inhabitants.

ENRIQUE WHITE.

By order of his Excellency,
JOSE DE ZUBIZARETTA,
Notary of Government.

It is worthy of remark, that this order refers to the abuses under the former regulations, and undertakes to correct them. It ought, therefore, to be confined to the same subject-matter; and as we have already construed *those* to relate exclusively to emigrants, *this* must receive the same interpretation. The use of the terms, "*new settlers*," in the preamble and first section, the only parts descriptive of the persons to whom it should be applied, confirms the interpretation. The quantity of land to be given to each head of a family is reduced from one hundred to fifty; but the same quantity is allowed to each single person, widow, or widower; to each child, or slave of sixteen years, twenty-five acres; and to those over eight years, fifteen acres. The third, fourth, and ninth sections, prescribe the manner in which lands shall be forfeited to the crown for non-performance of conditions. The third and ninth require that legal proof shall be made, in the one case, of non-possession, within one month; in the other, of abandonment for two years; and, in both, the estate is given to the prosecutor. The fourth declares that the grant or concession shall be null if the grantee fails to take possession within the space of six months, without requiring a legal investigation. Under the two former sections, it seems to the board that nothing could work a forfeiture but a decree of a competent tribunal, and a subsequent grant or concession to another individual: under the latter, it seems to be uncertain whether a subsequent grant alone would not be sufficient.

The following letter to the captain general of the island of Cuba purports to have enclosed the preceding order of Governor White, and communicates the reasons upon which it was founded, for his intelligence and approbation.

It is worthy of being noticed, that the regulations are said to be for "the purpose of avoiding the abuses which have been experienced in the granting of lands to the new settlers." The former rule is recognized as a bounty upon emigration, and justified, at the time when "there were few strangers who came in solicitude of lands;" but subsequently changed, because there were "many who came."

[TRANSLATION.]

To the Captain General.

For the purpose of avoiding the abuses which have been experienced in the granting of lands to new settlers, without certain restrictions that will oblige them to cultivate the same, I have thought it convenient to establish the rules in the accompanying document, which I forward your lordship for your intelligence and approval.

My predecessor has assigned one hundred acres of land to the fathers of families, and fifty to each child and slave, whether full grown or small; a quantity really excessive, and could only have taken place at that time, in which there were few strangers who came in solicitude of lands; but at the present there are many who come, and, consequently, there would result the greatest injury in the improvement of the province, unless said number of acres be diminished, on account of its being more than one individual can cultivate in a year, even divided in three parts, for the purpose of giving rest to the lands; which circumstance I have also had present, for the deduction which has been made. God preserve your lordship many years.

THE MARQUIS DE SOMERUELOS.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *October 15th*, 1803.

I certify the foregoing to be a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

The next order is dated April, 1805, and seems to have had no other object than to alter the provision of the 9th section of the previous, so as to appropriate the value of all forfeited buildings, in favor of the royal finance, instead of to the prosecutor.

It can be taken to relate only to such cases as fall within the meaning of the section referred to, and which it purports to alter. These, we have already seen, are cases of emigrants who have abandoned their possessions for two years.

[TRANSLATION.]

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *2d April*, 1805.

Don Enrique White, colonel of the royal armies, civil and military governor of this city and province, and superior chief of the royal finance.

Whereas, on the 12th of October, 1803, I thought proper to have published an edict in which were prescribed various rules to remedy the many abuses and disorders, as committed on the part of those obtaining lands; and ordering, in the 9th article of said edict, that all persons having abandoned, or that may not have continued cultivating, or do not actually cultivate the lands which may have been measured for them, at any time, by a surveyor, although the necessary title of possession should have been given them from the notary's office, they would lose their right to them, and would be given to any person who, not having lands to cultivate, would lawfully prove, in a summary manner, that the said lands were without cultivation for at least two years in succession: it is now made known that the improvements, or buildings, remaining on the lands thus abandoned or uncultivated, in the specified time, their value shall be appropriated in favor of the royal finance, as a deposite, until a new determination: and that it may be made known to all persons, I order copies to be posted in the customary places, and that another be transmitted to the brevet captain of militia, and commandant of the same,

and commissioned judge of the rivers St. Johns and St. Marys, Don Juan M'Queen, that he may make the same known to the inhabitants thereof.

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

Although Governor White was continued in office until the year 1811, we have not been able to obtain any subsequent official publication of his, relating to the disposal of public lands.

Governor Estrada, who succeeded White in the administration, immediately upon his coming into office issued the following commission, and, shortly afterwards, the following instructions to George J. F. Clarke, as surveyor general of this province. The duties and responsibilities of that office can only be made to appear by parol evidence, as it was neither created nor regulated by any law of the empire, but depended alone upon the will of the acting governor. The following commission demonstrates the existence of such an office, and the following instructions explain the manner in which the governor was desirous its duties should be performed at that time; but parol evidence alone can explain what alterations were compelled by necessity, or permitted by the unwritten authorization of the governor himself. These will appear by the annexed examinations.

[TRANSLATION.]

Don Juan Jose de Estrada, &c.

Whereas the appointment of public surveyor being vacant, on account of the absence of Don John Porcel who exercised the same, and wherefore, being in want of one for the measurement by the Government in the laying off of lands gratis to the new settlers, and those of each private individual, to fill up said appointment without prejudice to the person whom his Majesty may think proper to appoint; and there not being at the present period any person to practice the same, and having seen the memorial made by Don George Clarke, soliciting it, and having at the same time the qualities of capacity and aptness, according to the information given by the commandant of engineers to whose examination he was made liable, as will be seen by the proceedings on that subject; using, therefore, the powers appertaining to me, I have thought proper to appoint the said Don George Clarke public surveyor in this province and its jurisdiction, receiving the emoluments per tariff, which for that purpose will be made by the said commandant of engineers, with the advice of the said Government, and under the terms and instructions they may think proper to make in the present circumstances, and other occurrences which may hereafter take place. And, that the above mentioned Don George Clarke may be appointed and known as said public surveyor, and that all rights appertaining to him may be observed, I have ordered that, he previously taking the accustomed oath, there be given him the present commission, signed by me, and countersigned by the undersigned secretary, in St. Augustine, &c., 2d of May, 1811.

JUAN JOSE DE ESTRADA.
THOMAS DE AGUILAR.

Note.—A copy was transmitted, with the same date, to the commandant of engineers. A correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

[TRANSLATION.]

ST. AUGUSTINE OF FLORIDA, 10*th June*, 1811.

Instructions to be observed by the acting surveyor, Don George Clarke, in partitioning land, and the fees to be paid by those who call on him for this purpose.

Article 1st. The possessors of lands in this province shall be considered under three classes: 1st, as proprietors; 2d, as grantees; and, 3d, as grantees and proprietors. The first are those who hold lands by titles not obtained by grants from the Government; the second are they who, on compliance of certain conditions of time and labor, will get titles of property; and the third are those who have acquired those titles.

2d. The surveyor having been called on by any person to measure and bound lands to him, he will require his title of property or grant from Government, that on sight thereof he may proceed to its measurement and demarcation.

3d. For this purpose he will cite to appear those persons having lands adjoining, that, in the presence of them and their titles, all matters may be regulated in justice. This has reference to possessors of the second and third classes, and those who purchased under the following article:

4th. On the side of rivers, creeks, and roads, spaces of *little* " consideration are not to be left vacant between lands distributed. In order to avoid this, he will endeavor to reduce the depth and augment the front, so as that the boundary line of one tract may serve for that of another. In the front of all lands he will endeavor not to exceed one-third part." This article, extracted from the instructions, that, for the same purpose, were given by Government on the 24th October, 1791, will be considered as now in its full force and vigor. That part should be regarded as the front of the land which faces to the best side; namely, first on rivers, second, on navigable creeks, and third, on roads; and the depth will be the longitudinal extension back. All lands that depend, or have depended on the grant of Government, should have been, and must be, bounded in rectangular parallelograms, whose front line will be one-third of that of the depth, or as nearly so as possible, for the purpose of not leaving empty spaces of less than ten chains in front.

5th. To each person whose lands have been measured a plat will be given, constructed in running lines of ink, marking in the perimeter, the corners, by a small circle of a line in diameter; and, on the longitude of each line, note its magnetic direction and length in chains and links. When the perimeter should not have some of its lines straight on account of its being bounded by a river, creek, or swamp, he will bound on them, and note the surface he considers sufficient to augment or diminish a rectilineal surface. In the centre of the plat he will place, in numbers, the acres of land which he has measured. The scale of these plats will invariably be of one inch to four chains. The plat being made, he will deliver it with the following inscription:

Plat of the number of acres of land of A B, in such a place, measured and bounded by the public surveyor of this province, Don George Clarke, East Florida, the day of the year and month, on the same tract.

GEORGE CLARKE.

6th. The surveyor will keep a book of large paper, and copy therein the plats he gives out, according to the foregoing article. These plats will be numbered. At the beginning of the book there will be an index, showing the page of each plat, its number, and the person to whom the land appertains. At the end of the book he will have a sheet of a sufficient size for a general plan, containing the surveys for individuals, with the number of each. This plan will be on a scale of eighty chains to one inch.

7th. The book mentioned in the foregoing article will serve to show Government what lands are vacant, or not measured; he should form, in legal surveys, a journal of his operations, to satisfy the persons having lands adjoining.

8th. That the boundaries should be permanent, he will cause to be drove down at the corners stakes of three feet long, and three inches thick at their heads, leaving them three inches above ground, informing the owners thereof that they should encircle them with a deposite of oyster-shells of two feet in diameter and as much in depth, as a durable mark, that their boundaries may be known.

9th. Those who employ the surveyor will pay him four dollars per day for his personal services, calculating from his departure from the mansion where he is found, until he concludes the work performed for them.

10th. For the measurement of lumber, which is likewise placed in charge of the surveyor, he will be paid by those who employ him at the rate of two and a half *reals* the thousand feet, superficial, of one inch thick, when the measurement is made on logs; and, when on sawed bumber, at four *reals*. It must be considered that this payment is to be made as well by the purchaser as by the seller.

MANUEL DE LA HITA.

I certify the foregoing to be a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

The following letter from Governor Estrada to the captain general of Cuba is designed, principally, to obtain permission to sell, instead of giving away, the public lands; but it introduces to the notice of the Government a condition annexed by Governor White to his concessions of lands, to wit: the condition of ten years' occupancy, before the claimant should be entitled to a royal grant, or the privilege of disposing of his estate. We have not been able to find such an order in writing, but it is proved to have been practised during the greater part of White's administration.

[TRANSLATION.]

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: The miserable situation, at present, of this city and province, and seeing that, of the one hundred and forty-one thousand thirty-one dollars and four reals which is allowed annually for salaries, there is owing, to the end of April last, nine hundred and twenty-five thousand one hundred and thirty-three dollars one and a half reals, obliges me to seek for some adequate measure to relieve myself from the difficulties under which I labor for the want of funds: for most urgent wants, such as the purchase of provisions, the allowance and pay of the third battalion of Cuba, the annual presents of the Indians, and the payment of the large balance of accounts due the persons employed in the royal finance, invalids, Florida pensioners, and to the heads of families, settlers who receive a daily pension and charity, whose outcries are so continual that the most obdurate heart would melt at them with compassion.

The greatest part of the commerce of this province consists, at present, of British vessels, arriving at the port of Fernandina, in Amelia island, for the purpose of loading with timber, to convey to their arsenals in England, leaving the small duty of seven and a half per cent., under moderate valuations, these inhabitants cutting the same on the most convenient places, without any restriction whatever; our neighbors, the Americans, also availing themselves of cutting the wood, clandestinely, without paying us any duty, adding the inconveniency of its not being in my power to put a stop thereto on account of the uninhabited situation of the places where the same takes place.

That the King may receive the benefit therefrom, I am of opinion that a very advantageous step may be taken for the advancement of this province, which is, that, for the purpose of aiding the royal treasury of West Florida, (which may not be in so deplorable a situation as this,) a determination was taken to sell to the natives and foreigners, without distinction, the public lands, according to their quality, the said system be established here, transferring to the new settlers admitted, or to be admitted, conformably to what his Majesty sets forth by royal orders.

The lands are granted, gratis, to those who, with the necessary requisites, come to settle; but, by an administratory arrangement, the title of ownership cannot be issued them until after ten years' possession and uninterrupted cultivation, which practice is injudicious, on account of its being too long a period for them to dispose of the land granted them according to the number of their families and slaves; and, should there occur in that time, any diplomatic change, they could not prove their legitimate possession, being liable to lose all their improvements thereon.

The public lands being purchased by those, and also by the inhabitants already established here, which I do not doubt they would do if the prescribed time of ten years were not necessary, then this great difficulty would be obviated, and a greater number of new settlers would come, and receiving, of course, their title of possession, they would prize it, having cost them their money, and they would improve the land to procure some utility; the results would be the greatest advancement and prosperity of the country, income to the royal treasury, and would prevent, in some measure, the Americans from being benefitted by what belongs to us: as each settler would take very good care that their property should not be taken away.

The measure which I propose to your excellency is not only for the utility of the country, or in regard to the unfortunate state of this royal treasury, but likewise the situation in which the nation is placed at present; as it is necessary to put into operation the most effectual ways and means to support and alleviate, in some manner, the immense burden and expense it is at, without opposing, in any wise, the will of the sovereign, who wishes the prosperity and increase of his royal interests by all possible means; and I therefore believe that his royal intentions would be fully realized by the settlement of this province, and alleviation of his royal finance. In virtue of which, should your excellency conceive that this measure will meet the approbation of his Majesty, I await that of your excellency to put it in execution.

God preserve your excellency many years. St. Augustine, Florida, June 19, 1811.

To his excellency the MARQUIS OF SOMERUELOS.

I certify the foregoing to be true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

[TRANSLATION.]

I have seen your letters No. 26 and 37, setting forth, in the present circumstances, the ability of alienating public lands to the new settlers of that province, on the terms expressed therein; and, in answer, inform you that the said alienation cannot take place, as the admission of citizens of the United States in the Floridas is expressly prohibited by a royal order of the 14th November, 1804, and by another of the 31st March, 1806, forbidding, on no pretext whatever, the sale of lands to foreigners coming into East Florida.

God preserve you many years. Havana, Sept. 14, 1811.

THE MARQUIS DE SOMERUELOS.

To the GOVERNOR *of East Florida.*

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

The reply of the captain general alludes to two royal orders, dated in 1804 and 1806, which we have not been able to obtain, nor do they seem to be important to the general objects of the commission.

[TRANSLATION.]

Havana.

Royal order, communicated officially to his excellency the political chief and captain general of this city, superior chief of the province island of Cuba and the two Floridas, by the ultra marine department in the peninsula; that, for a compliance thereof, it be inserted in this Gazette.

The Secretary of State, and of the office of Government of the Peninsula, has communicated to me the following decree:

Don Fernando the seventh, by the Grace of God, and by the constitution of the Spanish monarchy, King of the Spains, and, in his absence and captivity, the regency of the kingdom, appointed by the General and Extraordinary Cortes, to all to whom these presents may come, greeting: Know ye that the Cortes have decreed the following:

The General and Extraordinary Cortes, considering that the conversion of public lands into private property is one of the measures which the welfare of the people, as well as the advancement of agriculture and industry, most imperiously demands, and desiring, at the same time, that this class of lands should serve as an aid to the public necessities, a reward to the deserving defenders of the country, and a support to the citizens who are not proprietors, do decree—

Art. 1st. All the uncultivated or public lands, and those of the corporation of cities, with the timber thereon, or without it, both in the peninsula and adjacent islands, as well as in the ultra marine provinces, except the commons necessary for the towns, shall be made private property, taking care that those of the corporations of cities give an annual rent by the most convenient means, which, at the proposal of the respective provincial deputations, shall be approved of by the Cortes.

Art. 2. In whatever manner these lands be distributed, it shall be in full property, and, in the class of enclosures, that the owners thereof may fence them without injury to the pathways, roads, water courses, and passage, and use them freely and exclusively, and apply them to the use or culture which best suits them; but they can never entail nor pass them at any time, or anywise, to a *mortmain.*

Art. 3. In the alienation of said lands, a preference shall be given to the inhabitants of the town within the limits of which they are, and to the proprietors who use the said uncultivated lands.

Art. 4. The provincial deputations shall propose to the Cortes, through the medium of the regency, the time and the terms when it will be most convenient to carry this disposition into effect in their respective provinces, according to the circumstances of the country, and the lands which it may be indispensable to preserve for the townships, in order that the Cortes determine upon what may be most convenient to each territory.

Art. 5. This business is recommended to the zeal of the regency of the kingdom, and to the two secretaries of State, in order that they may bring forward and inform the Cortes, at all times, of the representations which the provincial deputations direct to them.

Art. 6. Without injury to what has been provided, half of the uncultivated and public lands of the monarchy, excepting the commons of towns, is reserved, that the entire, or any part which is deemed necessary, may serve as a pledge for the payment of the national debt; and with preference for the credits which the inhabitants of the towns to which the lands appertain may have against the nation, the first place amongst those credits to be given to such as arise from supplies for the national armies, or loans which the said inhabitants may have made for the war since the 1st of May, 1808.

Art. 7. In the alienation for the public debt of this half of the uncultivated and public lands, or the part which it is deemed necessary to pledge, the inhabitants of the respec-

tive towns, and the occupiers who use the said lands, shall be preferred as purchasers; and the credits competently adjusted which either the one or the other may have on account of the said supplies and loans, shall be admitted in payment for the full value; and, in defect thereof, any other lawful national credit which they may have.

Art. 8. In the said half of the uncultivated and public lands, there shall be comprehended and computed the part which may be justly and lawfully alienated in some provinces for the expense of the present war.

Art. 9. Of the remaining uncultivated and public lands, or of the arable lands belonging to corporations of towns, there shall be given, gratuitously, a quantity of those fittest for culture, to each captain, lieutenant, or sub-lieutenant, who, from advanced age or being disabled in the military service, with due leave, without censure, and with a lawful document accrediting his good behavior; and the same to each sergeant, corporal, soldier, trumpeter, and drummer, who, for the same causes, or having completed the time, obtain a final discharge, without censure, whether either the one or the other be natives or foreigners, wherever, in the districts in which they may fix their residence, there may be this class of lands.

Art. 10. The quantity which in each town is granted to officers or soldiers, shall be in equal proportion of value to the space and quality of the same, and more or less in some places than in others, according to their circumstances, and the greater or less extent of the lands, managing, if possible, that, at the least, each quantity shall be such as to be sufficient, regularly cultivated, for the maintenance of an individual.

Art. 11. The assignment of these quantities shall be made by the constitutional councils of the towns to which lands appertain, as soon as the interested present to them the documents which accredit their good services and resignation, the syndic being heard, as respects the whole, in a concise and lawful manner, and without exacting any costs or dues whatever. After which the proceedings shall be sent to the provincial deputation that they may approve it, and remedy any grievance.

Art. 12. The concession of these quantities of land, which shall be called *patriotic bounty*, shall not extend at present to other individuals, but those who served, or have served in the present war, or in the pacification of the actual disturbances of any of the ultra-marine provinces; but includes the captains, lieutenants, sub-lieutenants, and troops, who, having served in one or the other, have retired without censure and with lawful leave from having been wounded and incapacitated to serve in action, and not in any other manner.

Art. 13. It also includes those individuals, not military, who, having served as partisans, or contributed in any other manner to the national defence in this war, or in the disturbances of America, have remained, or remain, wounded or disabled by the result of battle.

Art. 14. These favors shall be granted to the said individuals, although they should enjoy other rewards for their services and distinguished actions.

Art. 15. Out of the same remaining uncultivated and public lands, those fittest for culture shall be marked out and given, gratuitously, by lot to every inhabitant of the respective towns who asks for it, and has no other land of his own, and in a quantity proportioned to the extent of the land, so as that the whole of those divided in any case do not exceed the fourth part of the said uncultivated and public lands; and if these should not be sufficient, the quantity shall be given in the arable land of the corporations of the town, directing in such case a redeemable fee, equivalent to the income of the same in the five years, up to the end of 1807, in order that the municipal funds should not decay.

Art. 16. If any of the grantees in the preceding article should, for two successive years, fail to pay the fee, the quantity of land belonging to the corporation, or to keep it employed usefully, it shall be granted to a more laborious inhabitant who has no land of his own.

Art. 17. The writings for these concessions shall be made also without any expense by the councils, and shall be approved by the provincial deputations.

Art. 18. All the quantities of land which are conceded conformably to articles 9, 10, 12, 13, and 15, shall be also in full property for the grantees and their successors, on the terms and with the privileges which the 2d article expresses; but the owners of these quantities cannot alienate them before four years from the time they were granted, nor ever subject them to entail, or pass them at any time, or by any title to *mortmain*.

Art. 19. Whoever of the said grantees, or his successors, establishes his permanent residence on the same quantity of land, shall be exempt for eight years from every contribution or impost upon that land or its products.

Art. 20. This decree shall be circulated not only in all the towns of the monarchy, but also in all the national armies, publishing it in them so as that it may come to be known by all the individuals composing them.

The regency of the kingdom will take notice of the above, and will do what is necessary for its accomplishment, causing it to be printed, published, and circulated.

FRANCISCO CISCAR, *President*.
The deputy FLORENCIO CASTILLO, *Secretary*.
The deputy JUAN MARIA HERRERA, *Secretary*.

Given at Cadiz, the 4th of January, 1813.

To the Regency of the Kingdom:

Wherefore we command all tribunals, judges, chiefs, governors, and other authorities, as well civil as military and ecclesiastical, of whatever class or degree, that they keep and cause to be kept, comply with and execute, the present decree in all its parts: You will take notice of the same for its completion, and you will order that it be printed, published, and circulated.

J. MOSQUERA Y FIGUERA.
THE DUKE DEL INFANTADO.
JOHN VILLAVICENCIO.
IGN. RODRG. DE RIVAS.
JUAN PEREZ VILLAMIL.

Given in Cadiz, the 7th of January, 1813.

By order of the regency of the kingdom, I communicate this to your excellency, in order that, transmitting it to the provincial deputation as soon as it be installed, you keep, and comply punctually with, the part which respects you, exciting the zeal of your excellency, to the end that agriculture and industry, aided by this powerful auxiliary, should be elevated to the point of grandeur of which it is susceptible, and that the beneficent views of the august national congress, and of their highnesses, in their incessant toils, may produce the happy results anticipated for the Spaniards of both hemispheres. Their highnesses also desire that the same provincial deputations give an account, through the medium of the ultra-marine department, provisionally in my charge, of the circulation of this decree, as soon as your excellency has communicated it, without preventing your excellency from doing so separately; and also making the observations which, from the knowledge you have of the country, you judge proper, and conducive to the elucidation of the matter. God preserve your excellency many years.

JOSEPH DE LIMOTA.

Cadiz, the 22d January, 1813.

To the CAPTAIN GENERAL *of the Island of Cuba, Political chief of the Havana.*

The object of the preceding order by the Cortes seems to have been to encourage agriculture, to reward those who had served their country, and to support the poor. To this end it declares,

1st. That all public lands shall be made private; which was, in fact, an instruction to the Governors of provinces to use liberally, and without delay, the powers vested in them in relation to the disposal of public lands, and with a view to the purposes declared in the preamble.

2d. That they should be granted in fee simple.

3d. To those who resided in the adjacent towns.

4th. That the provincial deputations propose the best manner of carrying into execution.

5th. That the regency and two secretaries of state inform what the provincial deputations report on this subject.

6th. One half of the public lands are reserved from the above decree as a pledge for the public debt, and to pay the claims which the inhabitants of the nearest towns may have against the nation. First, for supplies furnished during the war to the army; second, for loans made to the Government for that purpose since 1808.

7th. In addition to the above, any other national credit shall be allowed which is lawful, and lands granted therefor.

8th. In the reserved half shall be computed those lands that shall be justly sold in some of the provinces, to support the war.

9th. Of the lands remaining undisposed of as above, there shall be given to each captain, lieutenant, or sub-lieutenant, who shall quit the service from advanced age, or wounds, without censure, an undefined quantity; and the same to each soldier or private who shall retire for the same causes, or who shall complete his times without censure.

10th. The quantity given to each shall, if possible, be sufficient to support a family.

11th. The assignment of quantities shall be made by the constitutional councils of the town.

12th. This provision includes the officers and soldiers, both of the Spanish army and the troops employed in the provinces.

13th. It includes those who, though not in commission, acted in the national defence, and remained wounded or disabled.

14th. Having received other rewards shall not exclude them from these gifts.

15th. The public lands that remain uncultivated shall be divided off among the inhabitants who have no other lands.

16th. If the proprietors fail to cultivate for two years, it shall be given to a more industrious inhabitant.

17th. The grants, or concessions, shall be made without expense.

18th. These lands shall not be alienated in less than four years.

19th. Those who live upon their lands shall be exempt from impost or contribution for eight years.

20th. Directs the publication of this decree.

The following letter is the basis of the royal order of 1815. It sets out the merits of the militia of this province, and asks for compensation for them for their services and sacrifices during the rebellion.

No. 203. [TRANSLATION.]

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: The first of this month I discharged from the military service in which they were employed, the three companies of white militia of this city, not only for want of provisions here, but for the urgent necessity there was that the inhabitants should be allowed to turn, once more, their attention to the care of their respective families and occupations, with the object of making as light as possible the injuries suffered by them in the insurrection of the province.

With this motive, I cannot but recommend to your excellency the fidelity manifested by the militia and third battalion of Cuba in the performance of their duty, from the first moment in which the rebellion broke out, and for which I consider them worthy the gifts to which the Supreme Government may think them entitled, taking the liberty of recommending the granting of some, which may be as follows: to each officer who has been in actual service in said militia, a royal commission for each grade he may obtain as provincial, and to the soldiers a certain quantity of land, as established by regulation in this province, agreeably to the number of persons composing each family, and which gift can also be made exclusively to the married officers and soldiers of the said third battalion of Cuba.

Men in general require to be excited by some stimulus, and it is not easy to find any who are indifferent to public approbation of their services. What I propose, without giving them in reality any thing, will be the means of contenting them, and produce henceforward the best effects; it being understood that this gift will be for those who occupy themselves in the defence. And for this end, and in case that these my ideas merit the approbation of your excellency, I enclose, as regards the officers of both corps, lists of those who ought, in that case, to be comprehended.—God preserve your excellency many years. St. Augustine, Florida, June 4, 1813.

His Excellency Don JUAN RUIZ DE APODACA.

The governor of the city of St. Augustine, East Florida, gives notice of his having discharged from the military service the companies of white militia of said city; and recommends their merits, as well as the third battalion of Cuba, which they obtained on account of the insurrection of this province.

A true translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

The following is an explanation, by the King, of the edict published by the Cortes, January 4, 1813.

[TRANSLATION.]

The King, wishing to prevent the doubts which have begun to arise on account of the decree of the 4th of January of the year last past, relative to the distribution of lands, and that there disappear whatever competition that may have taken place by the forgetfulness, or little observance of the provisions of the laws of the Indies and ordinances of intendants, with great injury to the royal exchequer, and of the owners, who, regulating themselves accordingly, had obtained the legal acquisition; he has, therefore, been pleased to order that the intendants comply strictly with what has been ordered in the said ordinances relative to the distribution of lands; the proceeds of which, together with the rest appertaining to the royal finance, serve to support the expenses of the same; and, in the proceedings thereof, they adhere to what is prescribed in the laws of the Indies, and particularly in the royal instruction of the 15th of October, 1754; not admitting, in any wise, the least appeal of a corporation or town whatever, against those lands that are laid off or measured for the use of their owners, in virtue of a title of gift, agreement, or purchase; as his Majesty wishes, in no wise, that interpretations be given contrary to what has been ordered, to the prejudice of his royal interests, or those of his loyal subjects in those dominions: which I communicate to your lordship, by royal order, for your information, and that you may order the punctual compliance thereof. God preserve your lordship many years. Madrid, June 8, 1814. GONGORA.

The GOVERNOR *of St. Augustine, Florida.*

The following is the answer of the King to the letter of Governor Kindelan to the captain general of Cuba, in June, 1813, approving the gifts and rewards proposed for the disbanded militia of this province.

[TRANSLATION.]

HAVANA, *July* 7, 1815.

Under date of the 29th of March last, his excellency the minister of Indies writes me the following:

"I have informed the King of what your excellency sets forth in your letter, No. 236, of the year 1813, relative to the rewards which the governor of East Florida considers the individuals of the companies of white militia, and married officers and soldiers of the third battalion of the regiment of Cuba entitled to for their meritorious conduct during the insurrection of the province; and, at the same time that his Majesty approves said gifts, he desires that your excellency will inform him as to the reward which the commandant of the third battalion of Cuba, Don Juan José de Estrada, who acted as governor pro tem. at the commencement of the rebellion; the officers of artillery, Don Ygnacio Salens, Don Manuel Paulin; and of dragoons Don Juan Pucheman, are entitled to, as mentioned by the Governor in his official letter. By royal order, I communicate the same to his excellency for your information and compliance therewith, enclosing the royal commissions of local militia, according to the note forwarded by your excellency."

I forward you a copy of the same, enclosing also the documents abovementioned, that you may give them their correspondent direction, with the intention, by the first opportunity, of informing his Majesty of what I consider just, as to the remuneration beforementioned. God preserve you many years.

APODACA,
the Governor pro tem. of East Florida.

A true translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

The following royal order invest the superintendent of the island of Cuba with the superintendency of the two Floridas, and makes it his especial duty to advance the population and settlements of those provinces by all the means in their power.

Among them he has exercised the power of making grants of land, upon the condition of bringing an actual population upon them.

[TRANSLATION.]

Seal the 3d, 10 S. Reals. | SEAL. | for the years 1822 & 1823.

Don Juan Nepomuceno de Arocha, honorary comptroller of the army, and secretary of the intendancy of the army, superintendency of the public finance of this island and that of Puerto Rico.

I do hereby certify that, in compliance with the decree of the 7th of this month, of the superintendent, Don Francisco Javier de Ambari, made at the petition of Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, of the 4th instant, and filed in the secretary's office under my charge, exists the royal order of the following tenor: "His Majesty, understanding by the letters of your lordship of the 14th and 18th of August and 21st October, of the year last past, No. 18, 28, and 107, of the resolutions concluded with the captain general of that island, to regulate all that appertains to the branch of the royal finance, and to attend to the protection and advancement of the two Floridas, and having conformed himself with the advice given by the supreme council of the Indies, in their deliberations held on the 11th of August last, his Majesty

has been pleased to approve, for the present, all which has been done with respect to the regulations of said branch, as also the supplies administered by the board of royal finance for the payment of the regiment of Louisiana, and other indispensable expenditures for the fortifications and defence of the cities of St. Augustine and Pensacola, authorizing your lordship, in case of necessity, to aid or supply them. His Majesty likewise has determined, for the present, the superintendency of the two Floridas in favor of your lordship, as superintendent of the island of Cuba; and, lastly, his Majesty has been pleased to command me to inform your lordship, as I now do, that you facilitate the increase of the population of those provinces by all the means which your prudence or zeal can dictate; informing, as soon as possible, the motives for the absence of Don Juan Miguel de Losadas and Don Manuel Gonzalez Almirez, from their offices.

All which I communicate to your lordship by royal order, for your intelligence and compliance thereof.

God preserve your lordship many years.

GARAY.

MADRID, 3*d September*, 1817.

A true and correct translation.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

To the Intendant of Havana,

JUAN NEPOMUCENO DE AROCHA.

HAVANA, 10*th October*, 1823.

The concession to John H. M'Intosh being the first case before us for final adjudication, we have deemed it proper to make a general inquest into the customs and usages of the different departments of the Spanish provincial Government in connection with it, that we might be able to ascertain with more certainty how far the written rules prescribed by the governors, from time to time, were carried into execution; and, further, that we might be able to fix upon certain principles, as corollaries from the whole, to serve as a general basis for future decisions. It was found necessary to mingle the testimony peculiar to Mr. M'Intosh's case with our general examination. It however forms but an inconsiderable part of the following evidence, which is now reported precisely as written by the secretary of the board, who was instructed to give, as near as possible, the language of the witnesses.

We are conscious that some errors have crept into it, but we have not thought ourselves authorized to make any material alterations after the disappearance of the witnesses, and therefore report it as substantially the testimony of the most intelligent and respectable inhabitants within our reach, touching the customs and usages of the Spanish provincial Governments.

Evidence in the case of John H. McIntosh vs. the United States.

JOHN H. MCINTOSH,
vs.
THE UNITED STATES.

George Morrison, sworn and examined December 8, 1823, deposeth that Mr. McIntosh sent, in July, 1804, under his charge, two old negro men, and capable of working, and built one negro house. Recollects that Mr. McIntosh sent in his negroes, about 200, in the early part of the spring of 1804, time enough to make a crop, and settled them on Fort George, Pablo, and M'Girt's creek, in February, on property belonging to Mr. McIntosh, and there made crops, one crop at Pablo, and planted at Fort George and M'Girt's until 1812. That the lands at Fort George, Pablo, and M'Girt's, are distinct from the lands claimed. That the two negroes remained on the lands at Indian river three years; the two last years they supported themselves. He went to the tract in May following, the year he took the negroes there. That the two negroes were left under the control of the neighbors. Mr. McIntosh never undertook to cultivate. Mr. McIntosh sent a vessel, in 1803, from Cumberland, loaded with lumber for building, which was lost in consequence of the vessel's stranding on the bar of Indian river. He never saw Mr. McIntosh or any of his family upon the land. Witness has never been on the land since, but says he knows the island called Marrott's, and has been on it; has also been upon the tract called Stewart's swamp. Found out the tracts claimed by information obtained from a Mr. Merritt. Visited these tracts by request of Mr. M'Intosh. Says he does not know if Mr. McIntosh took possession of Marrott's island, Stewart's swamp, or Cabbage swamp. The negroes abandoned the 6,000 acre tract. Does not know whether Mr. McIntosh gave any security as required by the grant. Supposes that the negroes abandoned the 6,000 acre tract on account of the white people leaving that part of the country. The negroes had no stock. Mr. McIntosh never received any confirmatory title: the concession from Governor White required that the conditions should be performed within twelve months.

James Hall, being duly sworn and examined, says that he saw two negroes belonging to Mr. McIntosh, on the tract claimed at the head of Indian river, in 1805. The negroes remained there in 1806, and had about one acre cultivated. Says that Mr. McIntosh came into the province in 1804.

Where grants were made several tracts, in order to make out the quantity he had a right to claim, was it necessary to occupy each tract?

Witness says he did not think it necessary, and the contrary was the custom: says that, in 1804, Governor White required that the grantee should take possession of his lands, and continue to occupy them; always understood that Mr. McIntosh had a large number of negroes. Witness resided about 30 miles from Mr. McIntosh's settlement at Fort George.

Testimony of George J. F. Clarke.

Witness has no recollection what year Mr. McIntosh came into the province; thinks that he came about 1801, or after; understands that Mr. McIntosh moved into the country, and brought a large number of negroes, and settled them in the northern part of the province. When a person takes up a quantity of land, he could divide it in a number of parcels, and, by settling on a part, retain the whole. Subsequent to 1803, it was the rule, in memorializing for lands, that a concession was first given, but a royal title was never given until ten years' occupancy was proved. Should any person purchase a tract, and one was given him, and he should put his force upon the tract purchased, and but two negroes on the tract granted, he complies with the condition of the grant. The claimant was always obliged to prove to the governor his having complied with the conditions of the grant before obtaining royal titles. Mr. McIntosh was excepted in the general pardon by the King, although the fact was not generally known. Mr. McIntosh sailed from St. Marys, in 1818 or 1819, for St. Augustine. He was pardoned by special order in 1816 or 1817.

Testimony of Gabriel W. Perpall.

Witness states that, when lands were granted to any person for head-rights, under the royal order of 1790, although in several tracts, by his taking possession of one of said tracts he made good the whole, and that he could not dispose of said lands until the ten years were expired, except the improvements thereon, and that others could take possession of said lands by his abandoning them. A person (memorialist) petitioning for lands, should he bring into the country any number of head-rights, although he establish himself in any part of the province, and not on the lands granted him, he was bona fide entitled to them as having complied with the conditions. It was necessary that the person or persons having lands granted him or them, should come forward, and prove his locating the lands granted before the ten years had expired, when he got his fee simple thereof; and that, by placing on the property one or two head-rights, the land was considered as being taken possession of by the party. He does not know of any claim being approved by the governor knowing that the conditions were partly complied with. If a person comes into the province with a certain number of head-rights, by placing one or two on the lands granted, the governor would confirm the title. When a party comes forward to prove the confirmation of his title to lands, it was necessary to do so by witnesses. The governor told witness that Mr. McIntosh had applied for leave to come on shore, and that the governor returned for answer that he could only be responsible for his safety as long as he, the said McIntosh, remained in his sight. Witness was here when Mr. McIntosh came into the then province, but does not recollect at what time. Does not know how many negroes he brought into the province, and does not know at what time: was never on any of the tracts alluded to.

Antonio Alvarez sworn and examined. Witness says that possession was considered a survey, being on the land, or making improvements thereon. Witness was never on the tract on Indian river. Witness says that, when a person obtained a concession or grant of land on conditions, that he was obliged to prove the said conditions to have been fulfilled to the governor, before he could obtain the royal title for the same. Witness says, in cases where lands were granted on conditions, and the lands abandoned previous to the performance of said conditions, the governor would, nevertheless, consider himself authorized to exercise his discretion to grant confirmatory or royal titles. Does not recollect when Mr.

McIntosh came to this country. Witness does not feel himself able to say as to the custom, whether the conditions would be considered as performed, should the claimant, instead of settling on the lands granted, settle elsewhere. Witness says he was a clerk in the escrivano's office in the year 1807, and continued such under the administrations of Governors White, Estrada, Kindelan, Estrada, and Coppinger. Witness, being cross-examined, states that it was always necessary that the party should prove his having complied with the conditions of the grant, before royal titles were given him. Does not know if, in case of any persons bringing head-rights into the country, and locating them on other lands, and not on those granted, whether the concession would be confirmed or not. Witness says that Governor White was very particular as to the parties complying with the conditions of their grants. Witness states that he was in the governor's office, which had nothing to do with the judiciary, but merely with the military and police.

Testimony of Joseph M. Hernandez. Witness says it was necessary to represent in the memorial the number of head-rights, in order to ascertain the quantity of acres: it was necessary to settle the head-rights upon the lands conceded. In applying for royal titles, it was necessary to prove that the conditions were performed. The governors were generally reasonably rigid in requiring conditions to be performed. That placing one or two negroes on the lands granted, the grantee would have the right of possession as against third persons. The Government did not require that all the head-rights should be placed thereon immediately, and that a person was obliged to take bona fide possession of the land in the time specified in the memorial. Witness says, that where a person abandoned the land conceded to him, upon condition of occupying it a certain number of years, it was discretionary with Governor White, upon an application after two years' abandonment, to conform or reject his title. The other governors required that the grantees should prove the cultivation, and uninterrupted possession, for ten years, of said lands. The government considered it an abandonment when the party left the Territory, but not where the party removed from one tract to another. Witness says, that, if several tracts of land were granted for head-rights, and mentioned in a concession, if the person take possession of one tract, and holds it for ten years, it gave him a right to the other tracts. Witness claims a tract of land formerly conceded to a person who left this Territory, and has returned for the purpose of claiming the same. Government, for the encouragement of emigration, required that grantees should settle on the lands granted them. Witness says that, if a person settled on a different tract of land with his head-rights, and not upon the one granted to him, the grantee, by placing a few persons on the tract so granted him, would be in possession thereof. Witness does not know that lands were granted to individuals for head-rights, without the conditions being complied with; he believes that one grant was made to a Mr. Huertas, by Governor Kindelan, without conditions. The governors have uniformly re-granted land where the party has abandoned the same on any circumstance whatever. The consideration for giving lands in this Territory, was the removal of emigrants here; they received lands in proportion to the number of their families; they need not settle on more than one tract. When the grant is for several, or many, and the sending any force, however small, upon one was considered as occupying the whole. Where the emigrant left the Territory with an intention to abandon his settlement, after two years absence the governors felt themselves at liberty to forfeit his right by granting to others. There was no other legal mode practised of declaring a forfeiture but by a subsequent grant to others.

George Morrison re-examined.

The witness did not see any object or mark to attract notice on the 300 acre tract, Stewart's swamp; was never round the tract, but had been on it; saw no lines; saw a small ancient improvement. Has been on the Cabbage swamp tract; does not know how many acres; never was round the tract; had been throgh it in one or two places; did not see any marked trees or lines; saw no improvement; saw nothing to attract notice. Has been on the 6,000 acres tract at the head of Indian river; has been through it in several directions; passed on it three or four days; saw no marked lines or corners; did not see the beginning corner marked on the survey; supposed the two negroes were settled, and that the building was made for their accommodation; was about the middle of the tract, near the east line, called by the witness an improvement. The 300 acre tract lies between the Indian river and the Musquito lagoon, about ten miles above the Haul Over. The Cabbage swamp lies between the river and the sea, near a place called the Narrows; made a small hole on the Cabbage swamp tract, about three or four feet deep, to procure water near the river; the river was salt: the witness was, at the time, a subject of the King of Spain; was born in Virginia, and was in the employ of claimant. Witness says he came for the first time into Florida, with Mr. McIntosh, in the spring of 1804, when Mr. McIntosh brought his negroes, in the month of February. Witness took the oath of allegiance in June or July; the claimant settled his negroes at Fort George, Pablo, and McGirt's creek. Witness repeats that the claimant sent a vessel loaded with lumber from Cumberland, for the purpose of making a settlement on Indian river, in the year 1803; says that the last time he, the witness, was upon the tract, was in May, 1805; continued in the employ of claimant until 1823, and still continues in his employ, but for the last year receives no wages; is paid by claimant when specially employed; does not know the particular time the two negroes returned to Fort George from the tract on Indian river; thinks the negroes did not return until the beginning of the year 1807; understood at the time, from the negroes, that they returned in consequence of the white population leaving that part of the country.

George J. F. Clarke, being re-examined, says that the survey signed by himself, as having surveyed a tract of 6,000 acres, was not surveyed by him in person, but by his deputies Robert McHardy and Charles Clarke. Says Charles Clarke told him that he had surveyed a part, and that Robert McHardy was employed by him to survey, who gave to witness a general description of the land. Witness believes that his deputies made, each, partial surveys. The deputies were competent to survey the land in question. Witness gave directions, in 1817, to Robert McHardy to survey the tract in question; and, in the latter part of 1818 or beginning of 1819, he instructed Charles Clarke to survey. The witness does not recollect when he made the plat.

Question. Do you think the plat bearing your name was made at the time it bears date?

Answer. I do not know. I believe it was made before the winter of 1818 or 1819, but do not know whether it was made in 1817 or 1818.

Witness doubts whether he has the notes of the survey made by his deputies. Kept no regular book of surveys since June or July, 1817, but kept copies of surveys. Gave the plat to claimant in 1820 or 1821, in the town of St. Marys. The claimant, witness thinks, called for it. Claimant did not call for the plat until the time it was handed to him; but he frequently informed claimant that the plat was ready. Witness had, generally, authority to survey lands as surveyor general, and no special order was necessary for him. It was not customary for the governor to issue an order of survey to witness; yet, when applications were ignorantly made to the governor, orders were sometimes issued to him. In the case of the claimant there was no other survey. Claimant requested witness to survey his lands in 1817. Does not know whether he saw Robert McHardy in 1817 or 1818. McHardy was not a regular surveyor. He sent to witness his notes of survey in the summer of 1817. Witness was, for many years, surveyor; and, upon receiving field notes from his deputies, it was customary for him to make out his plats, which he dated with the date of the notes. This practice was not objected to by the Government. Does not think it was customary to apply to the Government for the appointment of a special surveyor, upon the ground of his being otherwise employed. While witness resided at St. Marys he was acting as surveyor and lieutenant governor, that is, captain of a division over that part lying north and west of St. Johns; also, Spanish consul residing at St. Marys. When the land was not specially designated, the witness would locate wherever claimant pointed out, provided the place was vacant; and in cases where the land was specially located by the grant, he would, nevertheless, at the request of the grantee, locate in any other place.

Was such custom objected to by the Spanish Government?

Knows that several grants have, under similar circumstances, been confirmed, and without their having made any petition for the transfer; does not recollect any cases in particular, but where the claimant resided in one part of the country, he required of the claimant to procure an order to change the survey. In many instances he changed the location after actual possession, without special authority from the governor; where the claimant lived on his survey, the witness was not bound to respect the metes or bounds, but might give others. The plat and concession do not agree: witness does not know whether the survey includes the improvements made by Mr. McIntosh; says that he did not give any instructions to

McHardy having reference to the metes and bounds mentioned in the concession. Did not consider himself under the necessity to conform to the order of Government contained in the grant or concession. Did not consider the metes and bounds contained in the concession as an order of Government. Might have surveyed the lands on St. John's river, or elsewhere, although by the concession directed to be located at Mosquito. Does not think the Government required the petitioners to designate their lands. The Government, in the opinion of the witness, are not acquainted with the character of the lands in the different parts of the country. He was, from the commencement of his appointment, in the habit of changing the location. Has done it frequently, in large tracts as well as small. Has also divided entire tracts. Always was customary with him, and antecedent to the royal order of 1815. Had done so for Mr. Seton, Bethune, and Argotes. These grants were made under the royal order of 1790. The original practice pursued by foreigners to procure land under the order of 1790, was, first, the oath of allegiance; second, applied for the quantity of lands to the surveyor general, who determined the quantity to be given, who had it surveyed and platted. The plat was then given to the claimant when called for. Claimant then presented his plat to the secretary for royal titles. This practice was continued until between the years 1801 and 1804, when Governor White changed the system into a direct application to himself. The grants under the first practice were absolute. The witness does not know whether Governor White had any royal authority for the change. The general impression was, at the time, that he had no authority. The former practice was not established by royal orders. Believes, if there had been any royal order changing the mode of granting lands, it would have been published. Witness states the latter practice as changing the royal order of 1790. Witness has seen the royal order of 1790.

If any approbation had been made by royal order, would it have been published?

The witness answers, that he thinks it would.

George J. F. Clarke appeared before the board the 11th of December, and presented duplicates of surveys made by him as late surveyor general. These plats were taken and kept for the purpose of satisfying Government what lands were vacant, and that they exhibit an account of all lands located and surveyed by witness under the Spanish Government. These acts were done in a country where we did not always do as we would, but as we could; that the situation of the country rendered the data very precarious in consequence of the Indian disturbance, and the various rebellions of the country; and witness considered it sufficient information to the inquiries of Government, and conceived himself answerable only to God Almighty and Governor Coppinger.

Q. Were you interrupted by the Indians in making your survey?

A. In no other way than the fear of losing my life by them.

Q. In what section of the country did this fear extend?

A. In the southern and western parts of the province.

Q. What do you mean by the southern?

A. All south of St. Augustine. Witness understood from his deputies that the Indians frequently destroyed the marks and trees pointing out the surveys.

Q. Did an apprehension of Indians, southerly, at all times, render it unsafe to survey in that direction?

A. The deputies reported that they did not go into particulars, as much as they wished, on account of the dread of the Indians, but made such marks as would identify the land.

Q. Do you know of any instance where the survey was interrupted by the Indians?

A. I do not.

Q. During your surveyorship, did the white population reside south of this place?

A. Very little—as much as at present. Witness was interrupted in his surveys in the rebellion of 1812, and the invasion of McGregor in 1817. The rebellion of 1812 lasted until 1816.

Q. Would you make plats of surveys without regular field notes?

A. I would for the purpose of identifying lands, to answer the inquiries of Government; for the purpose of knowing where a particular piece of land was located. Witness generally made out two surveys and plats, one for Government, the other for the grantee.

Q. Did Government entirely rely upon you for information respecting the location of lands?

A. Principally so: but there were instances where persons surveyed by special permission from the Government.

Q. Did Government keep any memorandum of the lands that were located?

A. No regular record. The surveys were generally handed into the Government office.

Q. How could you answer the questions of Government, when other persons were employed to survey?

A. Only as far as the other surveys came to my knowledge; for they were not reported to me.

Q. As surveyor general, did you not consider the permission to others to survey irregular?

A. I did. I know of Government refusing to give permissions to persons to survey.

Q. How did you know this?

A. From the decrees sent me; a copy of a request was once sent to me, when an individual applied for a special survey, and the governor stated that, if the surveyor general could not survey, his deputies could.

Q. Did you ever remonstrate against the custom of granting special permission to survey?

A. Not officially; I mentioned it once or twice to Governor Coppinger.

Q. Upon what principle did you make this communication?

A. Anterior to my appointment, there had been several permissions of this kind granted, and I was desirous of regulating things so as to prevent confusion, for which purpose I made a sketch of the rivers and streams.

Q. When this practice was stopped, did those persons specially appointed to survey report to you?

A. They did.

Q. How do you know that permission to survey was refused?

A. I was told that the governor would give no further permission.

Q. What has become of your sketches?

A. They were generally lost when McGregor sacked Fernandina. I believe I have some few.

Q. Was there ever a regular field book kept of the surveys in this country?

A. There was not.

Q. When lands were granted for so many acres, upon a certain river, what rule was adopted in laying them off as to dimensions and figure?

A. I followed no rule, but governed myself by the localities.

Q. Do you know of any general rules?

A. I am not certain, but believe that, in the general instructions given me, there are rules.

Q. Were those general rules given you?

A. They were not.

Q. When you were appointed surveyor, did you know where the lands were located?

A. I did not.

Q. Did Mr. Marrott pursue any rules as to the survey, as far as conformable to the particular form of the grant?

A. None but the most general rules, and the survey was made in the manner the grantee pointed out.

Q. Have you any knowledge that Marrott kept a field book?

A. Does not know. Witness says Purcell had particular and rigid instructions as to survey.

Q. Was Mr. Purcell limited to any particular section to survey?

A. He *generally* surveyed on Halifax river, but he also surveyed in other parts of the country.

Q. How do you know that he was confined to Halifax river?

A. From conjecture and hearsay about the year 1801.

Q. Do you know that the lands surveyed then were according to particular form?

A. I do not.

Q. Do you know the hand-writing of Purcell?

A. I do.

Q. Did you ever see Governor White's instructions of the 12th of October, 1803, relative to the confiscation and granting of land, consisting of nine articles?

A. I never did.

Q. Did you not consider it your duty to become acquainted with the rules and regulations relative to lands?

A. All those relative to lands I considered necessary.

Q. What regulations did you become acquainted with?

A. I know of no other than the quantity governing the grant, and without injury to a third person. I have never seen any other instructions than those contained in my commission.

Q. Have you those instructions?

A. I believe I have, and have not read them more than two or three times, as other instructions were given me afterwards, which were verbal.

Q. Did your verbal instructions differ essentially from those which were written?

A. The Government allowed me to pursue such a course as I thought proper.

Q. Were your first instructions limited?

A. I do not recollect whether they were limited or not; they referred to some general rules on surveying.

Q. Have you your instructions?

A. I am not certain, but think I have. I changed the location of the lands of Argote, and, in part, that of Seton and Bethune. Mr. Seton's was changed anterior to 1817, and the others after.

Q. Did these persons comply with the conditions upon which their lands were granted?

A. Mr. Seton did comply; Mr. Bethune did not.

Q. Were you well acquainted with Governor White?

A. Intimately.

Q. Was he not a very strict and a very honest man?

A. He bore that character.

Q. When a grant was made on conditions, and those conditions not complied with, was the land not confiscated by Governor White?

A. He would exercise his pleasure.

Q. Did he not require that persons applying for land should locate these lands?

A. He does not think that it was a requisition.

Q. If the location of lands was made known by the parties to Governor White, would he allow them to change the location?

A. Always, as I have been told.

Q. If the party did not apply to Governor White to change this location, would he allow them to do so?

A. I think not, unless he received an order from some one.

Q. When Captain Marrott made a survey, was it optional with him afterwards to change the location, without applying to Governor White?

A. It was not.

Q. Would Governor White allow any one to change their location without his permission?

A. He would not.

Q. Would you have changed the location of lands during the life of Governor White?

A. I was not in office during that period.

Q. Do you imagine that any other surveyor would have done it?

A. I imagine not.

Q. Would you have done it under Estrada?

A. I would; I received my first instructions from him.

Q. Do you know of no particular reason that induced Estrada to pursue a different course from White?

A. I do not.

Q. How long did Estrada remain governor?

A. From 1811 to 1812, when he was superseded by Kindelan.

Q. Who preceded you as surveyor?

A. Between Purcell and myself there was a considerable interval of time.

Q. How long?

A. Two or three years.

Q. Was Purcell surveyor in Governor White's time?

A. No, he was not in the country.

Q. Do you know if Purcell was an intelligent man?

A. He was rather too much the contrary.

Q. Who appointed him?

A. I believe Governor White appointed him.

Q. When did Marrott cease to be surveyor?

A. In about 1800.

Q. Who superseded him?

A. A young man by the name of John Travers.

Testimony of Mr. Turnbull.

Q. When grants were made upon condition, and the condition not complied with, were the lands not forfeited?

A. Certainly, according to the regulations of Governor White, which I got out of the office for my guide; and, finding them so very hard to comply with, that I did not return to this country after leaving it.

Q. When, in the petition of the grantee, he located his lands, was it optional for him to change his location?

A. It was not, without petitioning the governor.

Q. Could the surveyor change the location of the lands granted?

A. I was informed by Mr. Purcell and Mr. Tate that they could not.

Q. Was Tate an intelligent man?

A. He was. The office he held was that of practical surveyor.

Q. Was Purcell an intelligent man?

A. He was not.

Q. Did you ever hear Purcell say that he was governed by any particular rules?

A. He told me he was; and the parties were generally given one-third in front and two-thirds in depth.

Q. When a particular description or outline was given in the grant, could the surveyors change the same?

A. I do not know whether the surveyor was bound to do so.

Q. Was Mr. Purcell considered as a general surveyor at that time?

A. I believe he was.

Q. Did you understand that his powers were confined to a particular section of the country?

A. I did not.

Q. Do you know that when Government granted lands upon conditions, she required the same to be fulfilled?

A. Yes.

Q. If lands were granted you, would you conceive it a performance of the conditions by settling on any other land?

A. No.

Q. If you had settled your negroes on lands not granted, and cultivated the same, and had placed a few negroes on lands granted, would you consider it complying with the conditions?

A. No; I think I ought to place all my force on the land granted.

Q. When you applied for lands, did you not take pains to find out what rules were to govern you, and did you do so?

A. Yes; and received the same from Mr. Tate, who obtained them from the record.

Q. Did you get any memorandum of lands that had been granted?

A. I did, from Mr. Tate; but I do not know whether they were taken from the record, as they had no signature.

Q. Was it necessary to present to the Government, when you applied for lands, a list of your property?

A. I did, and presented a schedule of all my property.

Q. Why did you not take possession of the lands granted you?

A. I employed a person to make camps, which cost me sixty dollars.

Q. Why did you not go on with the settlement?

A. Because I considered the conditions so difficult, that I abandoned it. I have a British claim to Marrott's island, in the case now before the board.

Q. What was the general custom of the governors as to the granting of lands?

A. I only know the practice at the time of the regulations.

Q. Do you know, of your own particular knowledge, what was the general custom of surveyors in laying off lands?

A. I know of no other custom than that of one-third front and two-thirds in depth.

Q. How long have you been in the province?

A. About four months in 1803, and one month in 1804.

Q. Where have you lived since that time?

A. In Georgia.

Q. Have you been in this country since?

A. Not under the Spanish Government.

Q. Who got you those regulations?

A. Mr. Tate, and translated by Bernardino Sanchez, as public interpreter.

Q. Was it the general opinion here, in 1803, that the regulations of Governor White were in force?

A. I presume so.

Q. Did you ascertain from Mr. Purcell that there were general regulations governing his survey?

A. He told their were.

Mr. Clarke re-examined, the 12th of December, 1823, by Mr. Lancaster.

Q. Were you not authorized by the Government to appoint deputies under you to survey?

A. I was.

Q. As far as you know, was your work always received and approved by the Government?

A. It was.

Q. In all the plats which you have made out, did you not endeavor to date them as nearly as possible at the time when the survey was actually made?

A. Yes; before I was authorized to distribute lands, I frequently surveyed for individuals before they petitioned and had a concession; I then dated the survey so as to correspond with the concession, or an order I had to distribute lands.

Q. Was a survey actually necessary to a settler to enable him to obtain a royal title?

A. No; royal titles were made sometimes without a survey.

Examined by United States' Attorney.

Q. What was the taking possession in the eye of the Spanish law?

A. Any work done by the parties on the premises.
Q. Was the digging of a well, or planting of a tree, taking possession?
A. Yes; the digging of a well, planting a post, or surveying, or any work costing him labor or money.
Q. Did it matter how trivial the labor or expense was?
A. There was no rule to go by.
Q. When a person obtained a concession of land on condition of improvement, as in the case of a mill-seat, what was necessary to be done?
A. I conceived there were three conditions: that of settling the land without injury to a third person, and building a mill.
Q. In such a condition as a mill-seat, was it not necessary that the conditions be substantially complied with?
A. Yes.

Examined by Mr. Hamilton.

Q. Was your authority to appoint deputy surveyors in writing?
A. It was not. It was merely verbal.
Q. Were you ever authorized to appoint deputy surveyors to survey lands during your absence?
A. I was.
Q. In what manner were you authorized to make these appointments?
A. By the governor; directing me to do, in all cases, for the best.
Q. Have you not made out many plats long subsequent to the 24th of January, 1818?
A. Yes, many.
Q. Can you tell to whom you have made these plats?
A. I do not recollect.
Q. Do you recollect making the plats of Mr. McIntosh's survey of Indian river tract after January 24, 1818?
A. I do not recollect.
Q. You mentioned that Mr. McHardy had run the river line, and one of the back lines, but that that survey was not sufficient, and that you sent Mr. Charles Clarke to complete the survey?
A. I said that I had received from Mr. McHardy data sufficient to satisfy the Government; and that the Government respected the survey made.
Q. Was McHardy an intelligent and active surveyor?
A. He was.
Q. When did you employ Mr. McHardy?
A. I think it was as early as 1815.
Q. Were his notes proofs of his capacity?
A. They were.
Q. Were they accurate?
A. I cannot say, as I never re-survey any of his surveys.
Q. Had not the field notes of McHardy an appearance of accuracy?
A. Sometimes his plats were handsomely and well made out, and his field notes had the appearance of accuracy.
Q. Do you not suppose, when he acted from your orders, he done so strictly?
A. He did so.
Q. In what manner did you give your orders?
A. Sometimes in writing, sometimes verbally: when he was not present, always in writing.
Q. Was he a permanent deputy of yours?
A. At times he was, and at others he was not.
Q. When was he a permanent deputy?
A. I cannot say as to date; he was so occasionally between the years 1815 and 1821. By a permanent deputy, I mean he could survey grants with my permission.
Q. Was he your deputy at the commencement of his employment?
A. No, not 'till 1817.
Q. Where did you see him in the year 1817?
A. I cannot recollect.
Q. Did you give him any verbal instructions in 1817?
A. I do not recollect.
Q. Did you give him any written instructions in 1817?
A. We corresponded, but I do not recollect whether I gave him instructions or not.
Q. In what manner did you give him his appointment as deputy surveyor?
A. I cannot say.
Q. When a grant was given him containing the metes and bounds, would he not go strictly by them?
A. Not always.
Q. In the case of McIntosh, did you give him written or verbal instructions?
A. I do not recollect.
Q. Do you recollect of giving him any instructions?
A. I do not, but I recollect of calling on him for several surveys. I requested him to make various surveys for various persons, and at various times.
Q. Look at the grant of 6,000 acres and the survey, and tell me if they agree in metes and bounds?
A. They do not.
Q. Are they essentially different?
A. They are.
Q. If McHardy was given that grant, would he not consider it his duty to go by the metes and bounds?
A. He would not. Mr. McIntosh, soon after his return to the province, requested me to survey the lands he had, unsurveyed, in the province, and placed in my hands the papers relative to the lands he got from Government.
Q. Did you retain possession of the papers?
A. I do not know that they were all in my possession.
Q. Are you the agent of Mr. McIntosh?
A. I was, and in one instance with power to make a conveyance of one tract of land which he had sold to Mr. Kingsley; which tract was Fort George.
Q. Had you authority to sell his lands?
A. I had a power to attend generally to his business, and a special power to sell said tract of Fort George.
Q. Did you leave with Mr. McHardy the papers of Mr. McIntosh relative to the Indian river tract?
A. I did not.
Q. Who did?
A. I believe that no one did.
Q. Who directed McHardy to make survey?
A. I did.
Q. Are you sure that *you gave* the order to McHardy to survey McIntosh's lands?
A. I did.
Q. How are you sure?
A. As he had not the papers, it was necessary he should have something from me to go by.
Q. Did Mr. McIntosh direct you where he wished the survey made?
A. When he showed me his papers, I saw that the land could not be surveyed to Mr. McIntosh's advantage, if it was surveyed as the grant directed: I therefore advised him to make the change.
Q. Did you advise him as surveyor or as agent?
A. I advised him as surveyor and not as agent; and I directed McHardy to make the survey, as appears by the plat.
Q. Did you give McHardy any reasons for the change from the grant?
A. I did not.
Q. When did you give him these instructions?
A. About the year 1817.
Q. Did you advise McHardy to make out the survey, and give McIntosh as much good land as possible?
A. I did. I do not recollect whether I told McHardy to survey for McIntosh or not.
Q. Do you believe that he made a memorandum at the time you gave him the directions?
A. I do not; the probability is that I gave him directions to survey a certain quantity of land, without telling him for whom.
Q. Did the field notes you received from McHardy designate the land as belonging to McIntosh?
A. I think not.
Q. At the time you gave him directions to survey, did you give him any other?
A. I cannot recollect.
Q. You are perfectly sure you gave directions to McHardy to survey Mr. McIntosh's land?
A. I am perfectly sure I gave McHardy directions to survey these lands.
Q. What is the reason you are sure you gave these directions?
A. Because I received field notes from him of the survey, and must therefore have given him directions.
Q. Did you make that plat of Marrott's island?
A. I did.
Q. Who surveyed that?
A. I do not think it has been regularly surveyed, that is, regularly chained. McHardy gave me the field notes.
Q. Did you give McHardy orders to survey Marrott's island at the same time with the other tracts?
A. I did, though I cannot recollect the time.
Q. From whom did you receive the field notes of Marrott's island?
A. From McHardy.
Q. What did you direct him to do in respect to these tracts?
A. I directed Charles Clarke to ascertain the front line of 6,000 acres, for the purpose of locating some other tracts. I also directed him to pass on the other tracts to see where they lay.
Q. Did he inform you of his being on these tracts?
A. He gave me a description of Marrott's island and the 6,000 acre tract.

Q. Whose lands were located by Clarke next to the 6,000 acre tract?
A. Argotes' tract, then Garvin's, and then located his own land.
Q. Have you copies of Argote's tract?
A. I have.
Q. Do you suppose that the person who made those surveys was an accurate surveyor?
A. I have no reason to suppose otherwise.
Q. Did you receive the field notes of Argote's tract from Clarke?
A. No: from McHardy.
Q. Who surveyed Garvin's tract?
A. McHardy.
Q. Who surveyed Charles Clarke's tract?
A. Charles Clarke himself.
Q. When did he do it?
A. I do not know whether it was in 1819 or 1820.
Q. Do you think it could be in 1818?
A. I do not know. I think it was in 1819 or 1820.
Q. Do you recollect when Mr. McIntosh removed from Florida?
A. About 1813, when the United States' troops left the province.
Q. Did Mr. McIntosh remove all his negroes from Florida?
A. He did all those within his control.
Q. Where did he afterwards settle?
A. In Georgia.
Q. Did he ever bring them back?
A. Never.
Q. When did he take the benefit of the pardon?
A. He returned personally to take the pardon in 1816 or 1817, but I am not certain.
Q. Was it a special pardon?
A. It was.
Q. Has Marrott's island, or any part of it, been granted to any other person?
A. I do not know whether it was ever surveyed or granted to any other person.
Q. In the case where lands are granted in one entire tract, and that tract be abandoned, would not a re-grant of a part of that tract be a forfeiture of the whole?
A. That depended on the inclination of the governor.
Q. Would the governor have re-granted that land if he considered it as appertaining to the royal domain?
A. This I am unable to answer.
Q. Why do you suppose that it depended upon the will of the governor to make this forfeiture?
A. Because, as he was arbitrary, there was no one to oppose him.
Q. Do you know what quantity of land Mr. McIntosh has in this country?
A. I do not know exactly, but believe about 20,000 acres. His lands are generally valuable. The certificates were kept in a field book, which I have not.
Q. Did the Government direct you to keep a field book?
A. Yes.

Examined by Mr. Lancaster.

Q. What validity, under the Spanish Government, had British grants, where the grantees had removed from the province under the treaty of 1783?
A. If they had not recorded their grants, and got them recognized by the Spanish Government, they had no validity. Recorded and recognized are the same thing. All persons who claimed lands under British grants came forward, and had them recorded.
Q. Upon what conditions were these British grants recorded, and what has the grantee to conform to?
A. The grants were recorded upon condition of taking the oath of allegiance.
Q. Were they recorded upon any other condition?
A. No, sir.
Q. Were those rules rigidly enforced, and the lands forfeited in consequence of their not being observed?
A. Yes.
Q. What was the evidence of forfeiture?
A. Their being granted to another person.
Q. Was the re-granting of lands the only mode of declaring them forfeited?
A. I know of no other.

SATURDAY, DEC. 13, 1823.

Testimony of Mr. Segin. Examined by Mr. Macon.

Q. What is your age?
A. Thirty-eight years.
Q. How long have you resided in the province?
A. Ever since I was born.
Q. Were you a clerk in any office?
A. I was a clerk in the escrivano's office.
Q. How old were you when you were first taken into that office?
A. About fourteen or fifteen years.
Q. How long did you write in that office?
A. About ten or twelve years.
Q. Were the grants recorded in the office in which you wrote?
A. The royal titles were, but not the grants.
Q. Were you in the escrivano's office during Governor White's administration?
A. I was.
Q. Up to what period did you remain in that office?
A. From 1800 to 1806 or 1807, and from 1809 to 1812 or '13.
Q. Did you continue in the office in any other capacity?
A. In 1812 or 1813 Mr. Entralgo and myself were appointed escrivanos pro tem. on account of the death of Zubizarreta.
Q. How long did you continue as acting escrivano?
A. Until some time in 1814, when Mr. Entralgo was appointed by the King as escrivano.
Q. After the period of 1814, had you any charge in the office?
A. Not officially.
Q. Were you not very intimate, and frequently attending the office, after the period of 1814?
A. I was appointed escrivano at Fernandina, and continued in that appointment until 1817.
Q. When you were at Fernandina, was it your duty to record grants to lands in your office?
A. It was not, but merely deeds and conveyances.
Q. After your return from Fernandina in 1817, did you not frequent the escrivano's office?
A. When business called me there.
Q. As far as you were advised, did not the customs of the escrivano's office continue the same after you left it, as when you were in it?
A. It did.
Q. Do you not suppose, that if the customs were changed, you would have known it?
A. I suppose I should.
Q. After your return from Fernandina, in the business you transacted with them, did you not find the same customs prevailing as before?
A. I did.
Q. Were the concessions issued from the escrivano's office?
A. They were not; they were issued from the Secretary's office, and the royal titles from the escrivano's office.
Q. Had the escrivano any thing to do, but the bare registering of the royal title?
A. He had not.
Q. What do you mean by recording?
A. The original was placed in the care of the escrivano, who gave certified copies of them when required of him.
Q. Whose duty was it to make out the royal title?
A. The escrivano's, by order of the governor. The royal title was made out by the escrivano, and taken to the governor to sign, after which it was returned to the escrivano, who filed it in his office. The escrivano made out the royal title when the governor was satisfied that the party was entitled to it.
Q. Was it not usual to consult the escrivano previous to any application for royal titles?
A. It was not necessary, though it was sometimes done.
Q. When a party applying for confirmatory titles to the governor, was it not necessary to satisfy him that the conditions were performed?
A. It was, and he would not issue them unless satisfied.
Q. In what manner did the parties satisfy the governor that they had complied with the condition?
A. He directed the party to prove by witnesses before him, the Escrivano, or judge, that they had done so.
Q. Was it always required that the party examined should be put on oath?
A. Always.
Q. Was it not always necessary for the party to prove by witnesses, in addition to his own oath, the compliance with the conditions of the concession?
A. It was.
Q. Were you ever present when the party claiming royal titles proved the compliance of the conditions of the concession?
A. Several times.
Q. Were not the examination of those witnesses in these cases strict?
A. Yes.
Q. Do you know of any royal title being refused by the governor for a non-compliance of conditions?
A. None. The parties would not dare go before the governor, if they had not complied with the conditions.

Q. Do you know of any person failing to apply for royal titles who had a concession, and had not complied with the conditions?
A. I do not know of any person.
Q. Was it necessary to locate the lands granted in correspondence with the description of the concession?
A. It was generally so.
Q. When a party obtained a concession which was occupied, was it not necessary to petition for a new location on vacant lands?
A. Yes, it was.
Q. How was the legality of the previous possession ascertained?
A. By the previous occupant proving his possession by his certificate.
Q. Were not the original concessions found in the secretary's office?
A. They were.
Q. Where a person had a concession for a tract of land adversely occupied, would the governor allow him to locate it elsewhere?
A. Yes.
Q. Do you think that when a person had obtained concession of lands for head-rights, and when it was shown to the governor that he had removed his head-rights out of the Spanish dominion, that the concession would be confirmed by royal title?
A. I cannot say, having never known such a case.
Q. When a person had a concession of land for head-rights, was it not necessary to settle them on the lands conceded before he applied for the royal title?
A. If his head-rights were one hundred, by placing one upon the land it would be considered as complying with the conditions.
Q. Where a person applying for royal title in confirmation of his concession for head-rights, was it not necessary to prove to the governor that he had the head-rights?
A. I believe it was.
Q. When a party applied for a confirmation of a concession for head-rights, and it was shown to the court that the party had removed himself, his family, and negroes, out of the Spanish dominion, that the governor would have given a royal title?
A. I think he would not.
Q. Was not Governor White very rigid in exacting a compliance of the conditions annexed to concessions of lands?
A. I do not think that Governor White was more rigid than the other governors.
Q. Do you think that the situation which you were in, permitted you to know whether Gov. White was more rigid than the other governors?
A. Yes; I could perceive that whilst I was in the office.
Q. Was not the public domain highly estimated by the governors?
A. You must show services before you could obtain grants, and lands could not be purchased for money.
Q. When a person was injured by the governor, could he not appeal to a higher tribunal?
A. Yes.
Q. Was not a decree of the governor considered the law of the land until it was reversed by a higher tribunal?
A. Yes.
Q. During the Spanish Government, did you not practice law here?
A. Yes.
Q. How were the British titles of such claimants as removed from here under the treaty of 1783, regarded by the Spanish administration of this country since that time?
A. I do not know; I was not born until 1785.

By Judge Floyd.

Q. Could any other person have any thing to do with the public lands but the governor?
A. No one.
Q. Was the governor tenacious of this right?
A. He was.

MONDAY MORNING, DEC. 15, 1823.

Mr. Perpall re-examined by Mr. Macon.

Q. Have you been a resident of this country since the year 1790?
A. No. I left this country in 1790, and returned in 1803.
Q. Have you resided since 1803 in St. Augustine?
A. I have.
Q. What time of 1803 did you return?
A. On the 29th June.
Q. Was Colonel White governor of the province when you returned?
A. He was.
Q. Were you well acquainted with Governor White?
A. I was.
Q. Have you not also been well acquainted with all the governors that succeeded him?
A. I have.
Q. Was not Governor White remarkably rigid in a compliance of his official duties?
A. He was.
Q. Was he not also very particular in granting the public lands?
A. He was.
Q. As far as you know, did not Governor White exact a rigid compliance with all the conditions annexed in the concessions of lands?
A. He did, as far as I know: he was the most rigid governor we have had in that respect.
Q. As far as you know, were not Governor White's officers very much in awe of him?
A. They were.
Q. Did not persons petitioning for lands from Governor White for their head-rights, find great difficulty in obtaining them?
A. No difficulty, upon proving what they were entitled to.
Q. Was it not a principle of the Spanish Government, in granting land, to procure population, or reward services?
A. It was: but there were no grants for services until the year 1815—meaning military services.

By Mr. Lancaster.

Q. Had the governors not discretionary powers, at all times, to grant lands?
A. I do not know.
Q. Was it not always a custom with the governor to grant lands for the erection of mills?
A. It was.
Q. Was it not also the custom to grant lands for making tanyards?
A. Yes, or any other machinery that was beneficial to the country.
Q. Did they not also grant lands for cowpens?
A. Yes.
Q. Was it not also customary to grant lands for turtle crawls?
A. A person fishing for turtle in Indian river applied for lands as head-rights, which were granted him.
Q. Were these various grants, as far as you know, under any particular order?
A. They were made pursuant to the order of 1790. Where lands were granted for the erection of mills, tanyards, and cowpens, they were never given in fee simple, and the land reverted to the King when the parties thought proper to remove therefrom.
Q. When a tanyard had been erected, did you ever know a royal title to be given?
A. I do not know that it was ever given.
Q. Do you know what validity the Spanish Government gave to British grants, where the grantees moved out of the province under the treaty of 1783?
A. None, except they remained here, and took the oath of allegiance.

By Mr. Hamilton.

Q. Do you believe that the governors had the power to grant a definite quantity of lands?
A. I do not know.
Q. Have you seen the royal order of 1790?
A. I have, of 1790, 1791, 1792, 1793, and 1815.
Q. Have you these royal orders?
A. I have.
Q. Will you produce them to the board?
A. I will.
Q. How did you get them?
A. From my brother-in-law, Mr. Arribas, at Havana.
Q. Have you seen the regulations made by Governor White?
A. I have. They were made on account of a difference existing with the settlers at Musquito.
Q. Were these rules adhered to by the other governors?
A. They were, except the diminution of the quantity relative to head-rights.
Q. Have you seen any other rules by Governor White?
A. No.
Q. Have you got a copy of the regulations by Governor White?
A. I have not.
Q. Did you, at any time, apply for lands as head-rights?
A. I have.
Q. What course did you pursue, considering yourself acting in pursuance to the regulations?
A. I presented my memorial, asking for lands according to the number of head-rights, and they were granted

to me on conditions of taking possession and cultivating the same for ten years.

Q. At the expiration of ten years, was it necessary to prove the possession and cultivation, before you obtained royal titles?

A. It was.

Q. Was your own oath necessary, with other evidence?

A. It was.

Q. Was there much form and strictness in making this examination?

A. There was of form, but not of strictness.

Q. Was it not always necessary that proof should be given, on a substantial compliance of the conditions?

A. It was.

Q. Would it be a compliance of the conditions if the grantee should put but two negroes on the lands, and cultivate elsewhere?

A. It would.

Q. How do you reconcile the present answer with a former one, that it would be necessary to prove that you had cultivated the lands, and placed your head-rights thereon to get royal titles?

A. I do not mean to be understood that it was necessary to have uninterrupted possession with the head-rights, and that the lands granted should be cultivated for ten years successively; possession and cultivation during the ten years were sufficient. A substantial performance was all that was necessary. In order to get a royal title, it was necessary to petition for the same; and, upon proof of the performance of the conditions in the concession, it was granted.

Q. If the lands were abandoned for two years, did he not grant those lands to others?

A. I believe not, if the parties were in the province, and had their head-rights with them.

Q. If a petitioner were in possession of the lands, and cultivated the same, would he grant him other lands?

A. He would grant him other lands for the surplus of his head-rights.

Q. If a person were to place his head-rights on lands at Musquito and move them on other lands, would he be entitled to a royal title for the first, provided his head-rights were in the Territory?

A. If his head-rights were in the province, he would be entitled to it.

Q. Was it not necessary to obtain from the governor an order of survey, in order to have lands surveyed?

A. It was.

Q. Was there any other person to whom you could apply for an order to survey?

A. There was not.

Q. Was it not necessary to petition the governor for permission to change the location of lands?

A. It was.

Q. Did you ever apply to the governor for permission to change location?

A. I did make one application. It was commonly thought necessary, and it was granted where a person could show good cause for the same.

Q. Could you not obtain this change of location by applying to the surveyor general?

A. No—to the governor.

Q. Could you change metes and bounds of a tract without applying to the governor?

A. No.

Q. Do you think the surveyor, without presenting a petition to the governor, [could] change the survey?

A. do not believe he could.

Q. When grants were made in one entire tract, had the surveyor, without permission of the governor, power to divide it in various tracts?

A. I believe not.

Q. Did you ever know of an instance of such a change?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever know an application to the governor to divide the location?

A. Not in my knowledge.

Q. What was the nature of the lands granted for saw-mills?

A. Pine barren, generally.

Q. If in these lands, for mill seats there should be plantable lands, would not the governor grant them to persons applying for the same?

A. I do not know.

Q. Was it, or was it not, necessary that the surveyor general should survey himself, or could he do so by deputies?

A. He might appoint a deputy, but it was his, the surveyor general's, duty to certify the same.

Q. Was it not the duty of the surveyor general to make a report of all the surveys made?

A. I believe not.

Q. Was there at any time, to your knowledge, a surveyor general's office kept in this city?

A. Not to my knowledge.

Q. For the last twelve years where did the surveyor general reside?

A. I do not know; but understood that Mr. Clarke was surveyor general, and he resided at St. Marys.

Q. Had you any doubts that Mr. Clarke was surveyor general?

A. None.

Q. Where did Mr. Clarke reside when surveyor general?

A. Generally at St. Marys, but visited St. Augustine now and then.

Q. When the surveyor general was absent, how did persons get their lands surveyed?

A. By representing to the governor that he was absent, and requesting a special surveyor should be appointed.

Q. Do you know whether the governor gave Mr. Clarke verbal powers, independent of his written instructions, as to the division of lands?

A. I do not know. If any, it was Governor Coppinger: he had great confidence in Mr. Clarke.

Q. As you were intimate with Gov. White, you know whether his acts in this province were approved of by the captain general of Cuba?

A. I do not know: he was a cautious, discreet man, and never communicated his official concerns to any person.

Q. When Mr. Clarke visited this city, did it cause any degree of interest among the inhabitants?

A. No.

By Mr. Floyd.

Q. Do you know when there was a surveyor general appointed?

A. I do not.

Q. Did you ever see the instructions to the surveyor general?

A. No.

Q. If a person introduced a number of head-rights, obtained for them a concession, and afterwards, before the ten years had expired, by misfortune lost them or sold them, would his grant be confirmed?

A. I think it would.

By Mr. Blair.

Q. Are those regulations before you the same published by Gov. White in 1803?

A. They are.

Q. Do you think the lands granted by other governors governed by those regulations?

A. I believe they were, except what apertains to head-rights.

Q. Was the regulation prescribing the shape of lands adhered to by Gov. White and his successors?

A. They were attended to by Gov. White, but not by his successors.

Q. When two persons' lands interfered, had each not a right to call for a re-survey, according to the regulations of 1803?

A. Yes.

Q. Did not the governors subsequent to White, require the regulation laying off land one-third in front and two-thirds in rear, to be conformed to?

A. Only where individuals required it.

Q. Were foreigners permitted to hold lands in Florida?

A. No, unless they took the oath of allegiance.

By Mr. Lancaster.

Q. When grants were located on lands previously occupied, was it not a matter of course to locate them elsewhere?

A. It was.

By Judge Floyd.

Q. What was the rule where the land called for was discovered to be covered by water, or was not good?

A. To locate elsewhere, upon application to the governor.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1823.

Mr. Andrew Burgevin, by Mr. Hamilton.

Q. How long have you resided in this country?

A. Since October, 1817.

Q. What has been your employment since your arrival?

A. I was appointed surveyor some months after my arrival.

Q. By whom were you appointed?

A. First by Mr. Clarke, as one of his deputies, and afterwards by the governor; that is to say, when a person wished a survey, I got a license from the governor.

Q. Did you make any surveys?

A. Yes.
Q. When you received your license from the governor, did you receive any instructions?
A. No.
Q. Were you ordered to obey the instructions of George Clarke, by the governor?
A. I was not.
Q. To whom did you make returns?
A. To the owners of the lands.
Q. Did you not consider yourself bound, when you were called on to survey, to give one-third front and two-thirds depth?
A. I never received any instructions on the subject.
Q. When have you seen George Clarke?
A. I do not remember.
Q. Have you not conversed with him within the last week?
A. I do not know whether I did or not.
Q. When you had an order of survey, were you accurate in the surveys?
A. I was; and always went on the lands to survey.
Q. Did you ever certify to plats of land which you never surveyed?
A. When I received an order of survey, I went on the lands.
Q. Did you make actual surveys, in all cases, where you have given certificates?
A. I went upon the land, but was sometimes prevented from making the survey, for fear of being murdered by the Indians.
Q. Do you know whether Mr. McHardy had an appointment from the governor as surveyor?
A. McHardy surveyed as I did.
Q. Did Mr. Clarke direct you to make a survey for him?
A. He did.
Q. Did you ever survey lands belonging to Mr. Clarke?
A. I did, by an order from the governor, obtained by petition.
Q. What tract did you survey for him?
A. A tract in Alachua.
Q. Did you go to that land in Alachua, and make the survey?
A. I did go to Alachua, but did not go round the land. I have not been in the Hammock.
Q. Was Mr. Clarke aware as to the manner you surveyed the land?
A. I believe he was; and that Mr. Clarke knew, or was aware, that it could not be done otherwise.
Q. Did Mr. Clarke tell you it was unnecessary to go upon the land to be surveyed?
A. He did not.
Q. Did Clarke ever tell you it was unnecessary to make actual surveys?
A. Yes, provided the survey could not be made.
Q. Have you not made many surveys since 1818?
A. I have. The original survey was given to the owner, who deposited it in Mr. Entralgo's office.
Q. Did Clarke give you any written instructions?
A. He did not.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 17, 1823.

Daniel Hurlburt, by Mr. Macon.

Q. What year did you settle in this country?
A. I became a Spanish subject in the latter part of 1801, or the first part of 1802.
Q. When you first came into this country, did you apply for lands?
A. It was near two years after I came into the country that I applied for lands.
Q. When you applied for lands, did you apply for your head-rights?
A. Yes.
Q. In what manner did you make this application?
A. By memorial to the governor.
Q. Before you got a final title, was it not necessary to prove to the governor the number of head-rights stated in the memorial?
A. It was; the concession which I had was conditional.
Q. At the time you applied for your head-rights, was it not necessary to produce them?
A. It was.
Q. As far as you know, was this necessary?
A. Generally.
Q. Do you know of any instance where this was not done?
A. I do not.
Q. Do you not believe it was always necessary?
A. I do.
Q. Do you know in what manner orders of survey were procured?
A. Yes; by a memorial to the governor.
Q. Was that order directed to any particular person?
A. It was directed to the surveyor.
Q. In order to change the location of lands, was it not necessary to memorialize the governor
A. Certainly.
Q. Do you know of an instance where the governor refused to change the location of lands?
A. Never, except with the interference of a third person.
Q. Where persons changed their location, did you not know that they applied to Government?
A. Yes.
Q. As far as you know, was it not necessary that the conditions of grants should be substantially complied with?
A. Yes, it was.

By Mr. Hamilton.

Q. Was it necessary to take possession and cultivate the land?
A. According to the time of the grant.
Q. Where lands were granted to a person for head-rights, and the grantee should put but one or two negroes on the grant, would it be considered as complying with the conditions?
A. It would be, if the head-rights remained in the province.
Q. Do you know anything of the instructions of the surveyor general?
A. I do not.

By Mr. Blair.

Q. Do you know what has been the custom in forfeiting lands?
A. In the time of Governor White they were much more strict than latterly.
Q. Do you know whether it was the custom of the country to require the person to put all his head-rights on the lands granted him?
A. It was not customary to put all the head-rights on the lands granted him.
Q. In case where a person came into the province, and procured lands in separate parcels, was he obliged to take possession of each separate tract?
A. It has not been the custom while the head-rights remained in the province.
Q. Where a person procured land for head-rights, and settled the head-rights on land purchased, would the person be entitled to the land conceded?
A. Yes; provided the head-rights remained in the Territory.
Q. What did you consider taking possession of the land?
A. Upon putting my head-rights upon the lands granted. It was necessary, also, to cultivate the land to take possession. Government granted land for the purpose of populating the country.

Examined by Judge Floyd.

Q. Was it customary for the order of survey to be contained in the concession?
A. No. You were obliged to petition Government.
Q. Do you know when the surveyor general was appointed?
A. I do not.
Q. Do you know what were the rules and regulations in the surveyor general's office?
A. No.
Q. Were there regulations?
A. There were.
Q. Do you know if George Clarke was appointed surveyor general?
A. I understood so.
Q. Do you know by whom he was appointed?
A. By Governor Coppinger or Kindelan; but I do not know by which.

Farquhar Bethune sworn and examined on behalf of the United States.

Witness says, I have been a resident in the Territory since 1803; and in and about 1805, I saw Mr. McIntosh at Fort George, with a large number of negroes; which, I believe, he informed me he had introduced from Georgia. I also know that Mr. McIntosh did, in 1812 or 1813, carry back a large number of negroes into Georgia, and that they were never brought back under the Spanish Government. I presume that Mr. McIntosh brought as many as 150 negroes into the province. I have understood, from what source I cannot recollect, that Mr. McIntosh purchased some of Mr. McQueen's negroes. I heard of the regulations of Governor White, I think, in 1805 or 1806. I have seen them; I considered them as official acts, and binding while he was governor.

We obtained land under him, by memorial, setting forth our head-rights; upon which the concession was issued, corresponding to the representation of those head-rights; they were granted on condition of locating by a certain time, but the concession was not considered forfeited by a non-compliance in the stated time; royal titles would not be given unless the parties would show they had complied with the conditions: I allude now to the royal order of 1790. Previous to the appointment of surveyor general, it was necessary, when a tract of land was granted, and found to be in possession of another, to apply by memorial to the governor for permission to change the location; but if not in possession, and after the appointment of a surveyor general, it was unnecessary. I have lands, the location of which was made without application to the governor: I claim one small tract, the location of which was changed by a decision of the tribunal, there being a difficulty as to the concession or grant, there having been a grant or concession made, previously, to another person, who came forward and made a representation of the case; upon which the judge ordered that I should be allowed to change the location. I also claim one large tract, a mill seat, for 16,000 acres: the change of location of this claim was made in 1817 or 1818. The general regulations for surveying lands under the royal order of 1790, granted for head-rights, were, that, when upon rivers, they should be one-third front and two-thirds back. The same regulations were not pursued in the location of lands under the royal order of 1815. My lands are in the interior, upon a creek partly navigable. I understood from the surveyor general, and from no other public officer, that it was not necessary to apply for permission to change location of land. I applied to Mr. Clarke to know what was necessary to be done to insure a change of location: I was induced to this, by knowing changes of the kind made by particular surveyors, and I supposed that the surveyor general had better authority for so doing than the private surveyors had.

Q. Did you ever understand from Mr. Clarke that he was vested by the Government with the discretionary power of changing the location of lands?

A. Mr. Clarke informed me that he had that power by virtue of his office.

Q. Did you ever know this to be done by any other person than George J. F. Clarke?

A. There was no other surveyor here.

Q. In case a grant was made, and the land granted was found vacant, and that it had been so for more than two years, although granted to another, would not the first grantee lose his right to it?

A. In such cases, the Government required the first grantee to be cited, and, in case he could not show good reasons for his not complying with the conditions of his grant, he lost all title to the same.

Q. Would it not be considered as 'prima facie' evidence in case the land had been vacant for two years in succession; and would not the first grantee be then obliged, in defence of his claim, to come forward and show cause why he had not complied with the conditions of the grant?

A. When the first claimant resisted the grant to the second, the second was then cited by the first.

Q. When a tract of land was granted to a second person, and found to be in legal possession of the first grantee, what was the course pursued?

A. It was a requisite, previous to the appointment of a surveyor general, for the second grantee to present a memorial to the governor stating the case, and petition for a change of location. Those persons in the neighborhood of St. Augustine, after the appointment of surveyor general, applied to Government. The surveyor general resided, previous to 1817, at St. Marys, (Georgia.) The regulation of Governor White was, that any lands which had been vacant for more than two years reverted to the Government, and were liable to be disposed of. This regulation, however, was not enforced. It referred, I believe, to persons in general, without regard to their being in or out of the Territory. I was a judge under the Spanish Government for two years, in 1813 and 1814. My jurisdiction was unlimited as to object and amount: the parties could appeal for any amount above 100 dollars. It was necessary that I should make myself acquainted with the orders and regulations of the governors. In deciding differences relating to lands, I considered myself as bound to conform to the orders and regulations of the governor. Disputes concerning lands were settled or adjudicated upon by the judge and governor, (constituting what was called the tribunal,) instituted either originally or by appeal. The regulations of the governors were considered as the laws of the land, subject to be changed by the governor who promulgated them, or his successors. That the permission to change the location of concessions was a matter of course, and the memorial requesting this permission was equally a matter of form. A concession was always considered as a good title against the Government, subject, alone, when the land was previously granted and in possession, to a change of location.

Q. Did you ever know of a refusal of permission to change the location upon reasonable grounds?

A. Never.

Q. In order to divide a concession in two parts, was it not necessary to to apply to the governor for permission?

A. It was before the appointment of a surveyor general.

Q. Have you any grant or concession which was divided by the surveyor general?

A. Yes, the mill grant was so divided; this was in 1818.

Q. What was the fate of lands which had been granted by the British Government by the operation of the treaty with Great Britain in 1783?

A. Those persons who remained and took the oath of allegiance were confirmed in their titles; but those who left the country lost their claims, and the land reverted to the Spanish Government.

Q. Could any person, having lands granted to him for head-rights, obtain other lands without showing that he had fulfilled the conditions of the first, and introducing additional negroes?

A. He could not, unless he could show that the first lands were not sufficient for his hands.

Q. What was the character of Governor White?

A. He was a man of strict integrity, and was distinguished for the scrupulous performance of the duties of his office.

Q. Was he considered as lavish of the public lands?

A. Quite the contrary.

Q. At what time did he come into office?

A. In about 1794 or 1795.

Q. When did he die?

A. In 1811.

Q. What was the character of Governor Kindelan?

A. A respectable man, and a man of integrity.

Q. Was he strict in the discharge of his duty?

A. Very much so: as much so as White, but a more polished man than White: he was quite an intelligent man. During the time of White and Kindelan there was no surveyor general: persons were sometimes appointed to survey a particular district.

Q. Had either of those persons appointed power to change the location within their district?

A. I fancy they had not.

Q. When persons applied for lands to Gov. White or Gov. Kindelan, did they not require that proof should be made of the performance of the conditions?

A. Yes.

Q. Was not this proof made before the tribunal?

A. Yes.

Q. Would either of those governors issue royal titles unless they were satisfied that the grantees had acted in good faith?

A. They would not.

Q. When permission or grants were given for cowpens, did not the Government reserve to itself the right of granting away all the plantable lands included in it?

A. I do not know.

Q. What was the estate conveyed by permission to pasture?

A. I believe an absolute one to the applicant and his heirs.

Q. Upon a disuse it reverted to the Government?

A. I am unable to say.

Q. Did you not always understand that the Government of Cuba approved of the conduct of Gov. White?

A. I have always understood so.

Q. By whom were the governors of this province appointed?

A. By the King.

Q. White and Kindelan were both appointed by the King?

A. Kindelan was a brigadier general, and White a colonel, at the time of their appointments.

Q. Who appointed Coppinger?

A. The captain general of Cuba.

Q. Did he come from Cuba here?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What rank had he?

A. He was a colonel.

Q. What was his character?

A. In my opinion much less respectable than either of the others.

Q. Was he not considered as negligent of the duties of his office?

A. I considered him relax.

Q. Was he considered as an honest man?

A. I do not think that, in point of integrity, he stood so high as White or Kindelan.

Q. Was it not supposed that, by a proper application to Governor Coppinger, improper favors might be obtained?

A. A suspicion was entertained, by many, of his honesty: I know not how correctly.

The commissioners have found it difficult to elicit many general principles from the uncertain and conflicting evidence before us. It will be perceived, by the examinations of the most intelligent and respectable inhabitants of the Territory, that the royal orders, addressed to the governors of this province, did nothing more than announce the royal will, leaving it to the local authorities to adopt and arrange all the means necessary to carry it into execution. These administrative arrangements seem, in some cases, to enlarge, and sometimes to narrow, the operations of the order. They were sometimes in writing and published to the community, but were often adopted in practice without any written authority. None of the written rules seem to have been uniformly adhered to by all the governors; and the practice changed, not only with the change of officers, but, also, with every alteration in the circumstances and condition of the country.

Under these circumstances, we have felt ourselves bound to regard the actual practice of the Government by its various functionaries, rather than adhere to the neglected rules published by the local authorities, particularly where they seemed to be in opposition. This rule we felt ourselves bound to adopt in justice to the community, first, because the will of the governor, whether written or unwritten, was the rule of conduct to all the other functionaries, and equally authoritative when it was equally well ascertained; second, because the people were bound to conform to existing customs, as there was no tribunal to which they could appeal to enforce the execution of any written law or regulation. We also felt ourselves bound to confirm, or recommend for confirmation, all cases consummated by royal title, without condition, and when no evidence of fraud either against the Government of Spain or the United States was produced before us, because such grants would evidently be valid against the Spanish Government—a rule prescribed by the treaty itself, and repeated in the act of Congress passed on the 8th of May, 1822. Beside which, it would evidently be attended by the most unjust consequences to the grantees, in such cases, to go back beyond the grant, and, after years have elapsed, and a considerable portion of the population have left the country, to require proof of conditions performed or services rendered. But, although we receive an unconditional royal grant as prima facie evidence of right, we do not preclude ourselves from inquiring into the verity of the grant itself, or whether it may not have been antedated.

In relation to conditions, we have, in general, required proof of a substantial compliance, according to the actual practice of the Government; but it will be perceived they were of various kinds, and the consequences of non-performance still more various, and, withal, entirely uncertain, depending on the discretion of the governors. Under these circumstances, it has been found difficult to digest any set of rules to embrace so great a variety of cases. We have exercised our best discretion in doing substantial justice between the United States and all such claimants.

DAVIS FLOYD.
W. W. BLAIR.

St. Augustine, *February* 21, 1824.

No. 2.

We send herewith the following cases, which have been before us for final adjudication, together with the evidence where the cases are beyond the final jurisdiction of the commission.

LIST OF CASES.

Ramon de Fuentes	house & lot	Confirmed.
James Bosley -	500 acres	do.
John H. McIntosh -	6,000 do	Advised for the confirmation of Congress.
Same -	300 do	do.
Same -	1,000 do	do.
Pedro Miranda -	1,000 do	Confirmed.
Bernardo Segui -	7,000 do	Adv. for confir. of Cong.
Mary Ann Davis -	500 do	Confirmed.
Samuel Fairbanks -	lot in St. Aug.	do.
Same -	240 acres	Do. 80 of which confir'd to Wm. Beardon & wife.
Moses Elias Levy -	36,000 do	Advised for confirmation.

LIST—Continued.

Antelm Gay, No. 1	160 acres.	Confirmed.
Same No. 6	400 do	do.
Same No. 7	5,000 do	Advised for confirmation.
Same No. 8	300 do	Confirmed.
Belton A. Copp -	1,200 do	Recom. for confirmation.
William Berrie -	350 do	Confirmed.
John Huertas -	15,000 do	Recom. for confirmation.
Eliza Robinson -	105 do	Confirmed.
S. Fairbanks & others	2,000 do	do.
Peter Bagley -	200 do	do.
Charles Hogan -	200 do	do.
Samuel Fairbanks -	500 do	do.
Reuben Hogan -	385 do	do.
Francis R. Sanchez	4,000 do	Recom. for confirmation.
Joseph Delespine -	560 do	Confirmed.
Same -	600 do	do.
Eusebio Bushnell -	600 do	do.
Sarah Tate -	450 do	do.
Moses E. Levy -	14,500 do	Recom. for confirmation.
Antelm Gay -	400 do	Confirmed.
Same -	700 do	do.
Same -	500 do	Ordered to be reported to Cong. for consideration.
Avice and Viel -	1,000 do	Ordered to be reported to Cong. with the facts attending it, and opinion that the same should be confirmed.
Peter Fouchard -	1,500 do	Confirmed.

The following cases, which are reported on minutes of the board to have been confirmed or recommended for confirmation, have since been discovered to be interfered with by British grants, and therefore are not reported.

Williams's heirs - - - -	2,020 acres.
Same - - - -	180 do
James and Emanuel Ormond - -	2,000 do
Ant. Gay and Frs. J. Avice - -	2,000 do
Michael Crosby's heirs - -	2,000 do
Same - - - -	500 do

DAVIS FLOYD.
W. W. BLAIR.

COPIES OF DECREES.

Ramon de Fuentes vs. the United States.

This is a claim for a house and lot in the city of St. Augustine, known and designated in the schedule of the buildings and lots in said city as lot No. 203, in square 28, measuring upon its front from east to west fifteen Spanish yards, and in depth from north to south sixty Spanish yards, with its improvements and appurtenances. Upon this day this cause came on to be heard, and upon exhibits therein filed, and the testimony of Peter Miranda, Charles W. Clarke, Nicholas Rodriguez, Francis Medicis, being therein taken, and the board being sufficiently advised of and concerning the premises, do order and decree that all claim of the United States of and to said lot be released to said claimant; which decree was ordered to be recorded.

January 16, 1824.

James Bosley vs. the United States. Claim to five hundred acres of land at Moultrie.

In this case James Bosley claims five hundred acres of land at Bella Vista, or Moultrie, in virtue of a deed of bargain and sale from William G. D. Worthington, dated 8th of October, 1822, who derived title from Charles Gobert and others, dated 26th February, 1822, who derived title in virtue of a public sale of property of José Maria de la Torre, who, by a memorial and decree of the governor of East Florida, dated 30th July, 1806, claimed the same. It also appeared in evidence that the said Charles Gobert, who received the lands subject to the same conditions on which they were granted to José Maria de la Torre, took possession, and held uninterrupted possession of the same up to the end of the year 1820. This being all the evidence in the case which was submitted to the board, and they being fully advised of and concerning the premises, give the following opinion, to wit: The claimant, James Bosley, having produced a regular claim of title from the competent Spanish authorities, to himself, the only question which could arise, (the power of the governor being admitted to grant lands,) is whether the conditions contained in the original concession have been complied with, and whether the transfers have been such as were conformable to the regulations and laws of the Spanish provinces. From all the

researches which we have been able to make, we find no difficulty in deciding that, in the year 1806, lands were granted under the royal order of 1790, to such settlers as, of their own free will, presented themselves and swore allegiance; and in proportion to the number of their families, and grants made from 1790 to 1803, (29th October,) were regulated by certain edicts of the King—vide 1791. To remedy certain evils, and which had become manifest, the acting governor adopted certain rules and regulations to be observed in granting lands—vide (regulations 29th October, 1803.) We find another regulation, that no title of absolute property would be given until the grantee had occupied or held possession ten years. This regulation we have received incidentally from other documents and oral testimony, there being no such written documents within our reach. Those regulations of 1803, had sundry other conditions applicable to ordinary cases, which it is unnecessary here to examine. As the then governor ordered this five hundred acres of land to be sold for the payment of the debts of the original grantee, we feel bound to presume that he possessed the power, and that no failure had taken place previous to the sale; and, as no other condition could with propriety apply to the purchaser than the holding possession, cultivating, &c. we feel no hesitation, from the evidence in the case, and orders and regulations of the Spanish authorities, in ordering and adjudging, and we do hereby order and adjudge, that the claim which the United States may have to the land in question be relinquished in favor of said James Bosley, and that he be confirmed in his title to the same, so far as the United States have an interest, and no farther.

John H. McIntosh vs. the United States.

The claimant applied, by a memorial, to the Spanish governor, on the 18th May, 1803, for a concession of land, under the royal order of 1790, allowing head-rights to new settlers, and obtained a grant for ten thousand nine hundred acres, it being the amount he was entitled to by the number of his family: but upon the condition, in substance, that he would take possession of said lands in twelve months from the date of the grant.

Whether he had performed this condition, or had afterwards forfeited the right acquired by its performance, were the questions before us which gave rise to the voluminous examination of facts attached to our report. We think it was sufficiently proved, that Mr. McIntosh came into the province, with all his head-rights, within or about the time limited in the concession; that this was a substantial compliance with the views of the Government, but that custom made it necessary that he should settle a part on the lands conceded; that he did settle a small part of his force on one of the tracts, and that this was taking possession, according to the custom of the country, of the whole concession. We also think it is proved that he remained in the province, and employed his head-rights in planting, until the year 1812, when he removed them to the State of Georgia, where he has ever since remained. We do not think there is any evidence of a forfeiture under the written regulations, or the practice of the local Government, both of which required the fact of abandonment to be ascertained by a legal tribunal and a subsequent grant to another person, to divest a right already vested by possession. We also find that Mr. McIntosh was pardoned by a special act of the King in the year 1816 or 1817, which restored him, in general, to the privileges of a subject. We do therefore advise, that the claim of the United States in and to the aforesaid concession of land ought to be relinquished to the said McIntosh.

Pedro Miranda vs. the United States. Memorial for one thousand acres of land.

The claimant, in support of his title, produced, in evidence, a memorial and decree for a thousand acres of land, without conditions, dated January 2d, 1816, to Don José Simeon Sanchez; also, a deed of bargain and sale from Joseph Simeon Sanchez for the said one thousand acres of land, dated 15th April, 1823. This case being submitted, and the board being fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the claim of the said Pedro Miranda be confirmed to him and his heirs, so far as the United States may have any interest to the one thousand acres of land aforesaid, and no further.

Bernardo Segui vs. the United States. Memorial for 7,000 acres.

The claimant, in this case, produced in evidence a memorial and decree of absolute property from the governor, dated 20th December, 1815, for seven thousand acres of land, as, also, a plat and certificate of survey, by which it appears that, in virtue of the decrees of the Cortes of 22d January, 1813, and the royal order of 1815, there was granted to the claimant, in absolute property, the seven thousand acres of land at the place set out in the memorial and certificate of survey; and as we conceive that, by the decrees and order aforesaid, the quantity to be apportioned according to the merit of the applicant and the number of his family was left alone to the discretion of the governor for the time being, that title of the claimant would have been confirmed to him under the Spanish Government, we recommend the case to Congress for their confirmation.

Mary Ann Davis vs. the United States. Memorial for 500 acres of land.

The claimant, in support of her title, introduced sundry depositions, which went to prove that John Barker, the original grantee, made application to the governor, in 1815 or '16, for permission to settle on the King's road, at a place called Davis's creek, and occupy 500 acres of land, and obtained permission from the governor to settle there, with a promise to give a title at some future period; that the said Barker did settle on the land, and, after he had been on it for some time, the governor offered to have the grant made out to him for the 500 acres of land, but that he, Barker, was not able to pay the fees; that the family of Barker consisted of eight or nine, white and black; that the said Barker lived on the land from the year 1815 or '16 till the year 1822; also a deed of bargain and sale from John Barker to claimant, Mary Ann Davis, dated 12th day of September, 1822; that the said Barker enjoyed quiet and peaceable possession under the Spanish Government during the time aforesaid. The case being submitted, and the board being fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the claim of the said claimant, Mary Ann Davis, to the five hundred acres of land, as described in her said memorial, be confirmed to her and her heirs, so far as the United States may have any interest to the same, and no further.

Samuel Fairbanks vs. the United States. Memorial for 240 acres of land.

The claimant, Samuel Fairbanks, claims 160 acres of land as tenant in common with Polly Beardon, wife of William Beardon, who was Polly Gilbert, daughter of Robert Gilbert, deceased. The said Samuel Fairbanks claims title in virtue of a deed of bargain and sale dated 16th March, 1822, from Absalom Beardon and Hanna his wife, who was Hannah Gilbert, daughter of Robert Gilbert, deceased, for the quantity of 80 acres of land; and one other deed of bargain and sale dated 28th October, 1823, from Robert Gilbert, son and heir of Robert Gilbert, deceased, and Elizabeth his wife, for 80 acres of land. And the claimants, in support of their respective rights, produce an absolute title from the Government of Spain to Robert Gilbert, in which royal title is recapitulated the original memorial, decree, and order of survey, as far back as 1791, signed by the governor of the province in 1815; and also the deposition of one witness, who proves that the said Robert Gilbert is the only son, and Polly Beardon and Hannah Beardon the only daughters, of Robert Gilbert, deceased; and, furthermore, that the said Robert Gilbert lived on and cultivated the land in question until his death, in 1820; that the claimants are still in possession of the same. The case being submitted, and the board being fully advised of and concerning the premises, order and adjudge as follows, i. e., that the title of the said Samuel Fairbanks, for the quantity of 160 acres, be confirmed to him and his heirs, and that the quantity of 80 acres of the aforesaid tract of 240 be confirmed to Polly Beardon, wife of William Beardon, and her heirs, so far as the United States may have any claim to the same, and no farther.

Moses E. Levy vs. the United States.

This is a claim for 36,000 acres of land lying in Alachua. The claimant produced, in evidence, a certified copy of a concession or grant made to Fernando de la Maza Arredondo and son, by the sub-delegate general, superintendent of the island of Cuba and the two Floridas, Alexander Ramirez, bearing date the 22d day of December, 1817, for four leagues of land to each wind, reckoned from a point, or the settlement of Alachua, to lie in rectilineal figure, with the conditions imposed, that the grantee shall settle upon said lands two hundred Spanish families; and that, also, they should begin the said establishment in three years from the date of the grant, which proceeding occurred with the advice of the fiscal of the royal domain and the surveyor general, under a royal order to the said superintendent, &c., dated the 3d of September, 1817, requiring him to use all means in

his power to augment the population in Florida. The claimant also produced a deed of conveyance for 36,000 acres of land, executed by F. M. Arredondo, agent and attorney in fact for F. M. Arredondo and son, bearing date on the 2d of January, 1822, in exchange for another tract on Aligator creek, for which it is in proof claimant paid twenty-five thousand dollars. Claimant also produced, in evidence, a decree of the said sub-delegate general, superintendent of the island of Cuba, &c., dated the 2d of December, 1820, allowing one year prolongation. It however appears, from the testimony of William T. Hall, (see exhibit F,) that the settlement did actually begin on the 12th of November, 1820—he, the deponent, being a Spanish subject, employed to commence said settlement. Although, from much of the testimony taken in this cause, it appears that the hostile disposition of the Indians rendered a settlement difficult and precarious sooner than that period, and even then; yet, since that time, (the testimony is abundant to show) a continuation of the settlement, the establishment of several families there, and a great expenditure of labor and money by the proprietors. It is in proof (see the depositions of F. P. Sanchez and Frederick Warburg,) that Levy, the claimant, has expended, in the settlement of families, building houses, clearing lands, furnishing provisions, clothing, &c., upwards of $18,000, and that he has been making arrangements with many families in Europe, for several years past, to bring them to this country and settle them, for which purpose he purchased this tract of land. It is further in proof that there are settled upon said grant fifty or more persons, of which about thirty have been introduced by Levy, the claimant, and that, amongst those he has introduced, there are five or six heads of families. Under all these circumstances, although it cannot be pretended that the condition of the grant to Arredondo have been complied with, we cannot but see a degree of merit in the claim of Mr. Levy for a part proportionate to his compliance, which entitles it to the peculiar consideration of Government. Whether the commissioners are bound to regard the merits of the original grant alone, or may decide upon the claims subsequently carved out of it, is a question upon which we have had some difficulty, and a difference of opinion; but, whatever may be the true construction of our powers, we have no difficulty in deciding in favor of the equity of Mr. Levy to have his claim confirmed to a quantity proportionate to the merit and extent of his compliance.

Antelm Gay vs. the United States. Memorial for 160 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced, in evidence, the memorial and decree of absolute property, for one hundred and sixty acres of land, to Juan Leonardy, dated 15th February, 1816; also, a plat and certificate of survey, dated 28th April, 1819, of the same; and, also, a deed of sale from grantee to the claimant for the land in question: and the case being submitted, and the board fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the title of the claimant be confirmed to him and his heirs so far as the United States have any interest, and no further.

Antelm Gay vs. the United States. Memorial for 400 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced in evidence a memorial and concession for four hundred acres of land in the name of John Andrew, dated 8th October, 1801; also, a memorial, and certain evidence adduced, which prove that the grantee took possession of the land granted him, and cultivated it for some time; that, in consequence of the revolution in 1812, had been compelled to leave it: also, a conveyance from grantee to claimant, dated 24th day of April, 1820; also, a plat and certificate of survey, dated the 18th August, 1818. This case having been submitted, and the board being fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the title of claimant to the four hundred acres of land, as set out in his memorial, be confirmed to him, so far as the United States have interest, and no further.

Antelm Gay vs. the United States. Memorial for 5000 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced in evidence a memorial and decree of the acting governor for fifteen thousand acres of land, with authority to locate five thousand acres of it at Tocoy, five miles above Picolata, dated 24th December, 1817, to Juan Huertas; also, a plat and certificate of survey of the same, dated 9th September, 1818; and, also, a deed from the grantee to the claimant, for the five thousand acres of land set out in the memorial, dated 7th July, 1821. This case being submitted, and the board being fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order that the same be reported to Congress for their confirmation, with our opinion that, (no fraud having been suggested,) the claim ought to be confirmed.

Antelm Gay vs. the United States. Memorial for 300 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced in evidence a memorial and decree for three hundred acres of land in the name of Lewis Matteir, dated 3d February, 1801; also, an order of survey, dated the 26th of April, 1821; also, a plat and certificate of survey of the same, dated 29th May, 1809; also, the certificate of R. McHardy, and others, showing that the grantee had occupied the land in question, and cultivated it for several years; and, also, a deed from grantee to the claimant, dated 20th January, 1822. This case being submitted, and the board fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the title of the claimant be confirmed to him and his heirs, so far as the United States have any interest, and no further.

Belton A. Copp vs. the United States. Memorial for 1200 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced in evidence a memorial of Don Bernardo Segui, and a decree of the governor accompanying the same, for twelve hundred acres of land, without condition, dated 22d January, 1818; also, a plat and certificate of survey of the lands in question, dated 1st August, 1818; also, a deed from the grantee to Don George Fleming, dated the 18th January, 1819; also, bill (or deed) of sale, from George Fleming to claimant, dated the 23d day of August, 1821. This case being submitted, and it appearing that the claimant was not a resident in the province at the time of the cession, and the quantity claimed being over one thousand acres, we order and adjudge that the memorial, with all the evidence and documents, be forwarded to Congress for their determination, with our opinion that the claim ought to be confirmed.

William Berrie vs. the United States. Memorial for 350 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced in evidence an absolute grant from the Government for 350 acres of land, dated 12th February, 1817. This case being submitted, and the board fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the title of claimant to the land in question be confirmed to him and his heirs, so far as the United States have any interest, and no further.

Antelm Gay vs. the United States. Memorial for 600 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced in evidence a memorial and decree of the governor for a tract of land, dated 27th May, 1799, in the name of John Granoply, the quantity undefined; also, certain depositions taken, by which it is proved that the grantee had taken possession and improved the lands in question by erecting buildings on it, clearing a small piece of the land, and establishing a cowpen; that possession was uninterrupted till 1819, December 29, when the grantee conveyed the land in question to the claimant by deed of that date; also, a plat and certificate of survey of six hundred acres of land, pursuant to the memorial and decree aforesaid; also, the deposition of Dn. Bartolemé de Castro y Ferrer and others, proving that the grantee was a subject of the King of Spain, and resident in this province at the change of flags. This case being submitted, and the board being advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the memorial, and evidence accompanying the same, be forwarded to Congress for their determination. The quantity being undefined, we conceive that, notwithstanding the claimant has made out a good equitable right to the land in question against the United States, yet, from the provisions of the act organizing this board, approved 8th May, 1822, the board are prohibited from confirming any claim, or part thereof, where the amount claimed is undefined.

Antelm Gay vs. the United States. Memorial for 2,000 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced in evidence a memorial and decree of the governor, without condition, for the two thousand acres of land mentioned in his memorial, in the name of Pablo Rosette, dated 14th October, 1817; also, a plat and certificate of the same of 25th July, 1818, as, also, a deed of sale from grantee to claimant, dated 24th November, 1819, all of which we find to have been regularly executed according to the forms of the Governments under which they respectively took place.

The commissioners then referred to the parol exami-

nations of Peter Miranda, &c., who were duly sworn in other cases of Mr. Gay, and who stated, in substance, that the said A. Gay had been a resident in the Territory of East Florida for a number of years, and was so at the exchange of flags. Wherefore, we do confirm unto the said A. Gay his right and title to the said claim of two thousand acres as far as the United States have any interest, and no further.

John Huertas vs. the United States. Memorial for 15,000 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced in evidence an absolute title from the governor for the 15,000 acres of land; that is to say, five thousand at Tocoy, and the remaining ten thousand on the St. Johns river, dated the 24th December, 1817. Also, an order of survey, together with two plats and certificates of surveys, dated 4th June, 1822. This case being submitted, and the board fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that this case, with the memorial, documents, and other evidence, be forwarded to Congress, with our opinion that the same ought to be confirmed.

Eliza Robinson vs. the United States. Memorial for 105 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced in evidence a memorial, in the name of Pedro Capo, and a decree of the governor, dated the 5th of March, 1803; also, a deed of sale from the grantee to the claimant for the land in question, dated November 9, 1821; also, a plat and certificate of survey of the same. It was proven by Fran. J. Fatio that the original grantee, many years ago, cultivated the lands in question, and that he was a man of family. This case being submitted, and the board fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the title of claimant to the one hundred and five acres of land in question be confirmed to her and her heirs, so far as the United States have any claim, and no further.

Samuel Fairbanks, &c. vs. the United States. Memorial for 2,000 *acres of land.*

The claimants produced in evidence a memorial of Joseph S. Sanchez, and the decree of the governor thereon, granting two thousand acres of land at the place mentioned, without condition; also, a deed from Joseph S. Sanchez and wife, and Antonio Alvarez and wife, for one undivided half of the land in question, to the claimant, Samuel Fairbanks. It further appeared in evidence, that the claimants were both resident in the province at the cession. This case being submitted, and the board being fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the title of the claimants be confirmed to them and their heirs, as tenants in common, so far as the United States have any interest in the same, and no further.

Samuel Fairbanks vs. the United States. Memorial for 500 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced in evidence a memorial in the name of Rafael D. Fontaine, and the decree of the governor granting him five hundred acres of land as petitioned for, without condition, dated 10th December, 1815; also, a plat and certificate of the survey of the same, dated 25th September, 1819; also, a deed from grantee to Samuel Fairbanks, dated 10th April, 1823. This case being submitted, and the board being fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the title of the claimant to the five hundred acres of land, as set out in his memorial, be confirmed to him, so far as the United States have any interest in the same, and no further.

Peter Bagley vs. the United States. Memorial for 200 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced in evidence a memorial of Reuben Hogan, dated 19th December, 1799, and the decree of the governor, dated 20th December, 1799; also, a relinquishment from grantee to claimant, dated the 4th day of March, 1823. This case being submitted, and the board being fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the title of the claimant to the two hundred acres of land as set out in his memorial, be confirmed to him and his heirs so far as the U. States have any interest in the same, and no further.

Charles Hogan vs. the United States. Memorial for 200 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced in evidence a title of absolute property to him for 200 acres of land, dated 12th January, 1818. The case being submitted, and the board fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the title of the claimant to the two hundred acres of land as described in his title, be confirmed to him and his heirs so far as the United States have any interest in the same, and no further.

Reuben Hogan vs. the United States. Memorial for 385 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced in evidence a royal title in absolute property to him and his heirs, dated 14th October, 1801, for three hundred and eighty-five acres of land, as set out in his memorial. This case being submitted, and the board fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the title of the said claimant to the land aforesaid be confirmed to him and his heirs, so far as the United States have any interest in the same, and no further.

Francis R. Sanchez vs. the United States. Memorial for 4,000 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced, in evidence, his memorial to the governor of Florida, dated 18th December, 1815; also, the governor's decree granting him the land in his memorial, of 4,000 acres. This case being submitted, and there being an absolute title of property in the memorialist from the law and usages of this province, we have no doubt but, had the claimant applied to that Government, that his title would have been recognized as a sufficient one. We therefore recommend the same to Congress for their confirmation.

Joseph Delespine vs. the United States. Memorial for 560 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced, in evidence, the memorial of Antonio Huertas to the governor of the province, dated the 3d of October, 1800, and the Governor's decree of the 7th same month, granting the same without condition; also, a plat and a certificate of survey of the same, dated 6th August, 1821; also a deed from grantee to claimant for the five hundred and sixty acres of land as set out in his memorial dated 9th July, 1821. It also appeared in evidence, that the grantee has occupied the land for many years before, and within one year of the cession, as a pasture, and had cabins built for his slaves, who took care of his cattle. This case being submitted, and the board being fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the title of the claimant to the five hundred and sixty acres of land, as set out in his memorial, be confirmed to him and his heirs so far as the United States have any interest in the same, and no farther.

Sarah Tate vs. the United States. Memorial for 450 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced in evidence the memorial of John E. Tate to the governor, dated 18th September, 1811; also, the decree of the governor, dated 20th of same month, granting the land solicited, on conditions set out in the decree; also, an official document, by which the applicant agreed to take the land upon the condition named in the decree, dated 23d September, 1811; also, a plat and certificate of the survey of the 450 acres of land named in the memorial, dated 21st April, 1821. It also appeared in evidence, that the grantee, shortly after the grant, made an attempt to establish himself on the land, but was prevented by the revolution of 1812; that, previous to the revolution, he had got out timber to build on the land, which afterwards decayed; that he died in the year 1822; and that the claimant is his only child. This case being submitted, and the board being fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the title of the claimant to the 450 acres of land set out in her memorial, be confirmed to her and her heirs so far as the United States have any interest in the same, and no further.

Peter Fouchard vs. the United States. Memorial for 1,500 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced in evidence his memorial to the governor, dated 16th November, 1815; also, the governor's decree of absolute title, dated 20th November, 1815, for fifteen hundred acres of land at the place set out in his memorial. It also appeared, by the deposition filed, that the claimant was resident in the province at the cession, and is still so; and that, from the continued hostilities of the Indians, it was unsafe to take possession, and survey lands. This case being submitted, and the board being fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the title of the claimant to the fifteen hundred acres of land, as set out in his memorial, be confirmed to him and his heirs so far as the United States have any interest in the same, and no further.

Eusebius Bushnell vs. the United States. Memorial for 600 *acres land.*

The claimant produced, in evidence, his memorial dated March 17, 1799, for 600 acres of land; also, the de-

cree of the governor for the same, dated 13th March, 1799. It appeared in evidence that the claimant was in possession of the land in question in the year 1803; that his son was killed in 1800 or 1801. The claimant died in the year 1812. This case being submitted, and the board fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the claim to the 600 acres of land in the memorial, be confirmed to the unknown heirs of Eusebius Bushnell, deceased, and their heirs, as far as the United States have any interest in the same, and no further.

Antelm Gay vs. the United States. Memorial for 400 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced in evidence a royal title from the Government to Don Bartoleme de Castro y Ferrer for four hundred acres of land, without condition, dated July 15th, 1815; also, a plat and certificate of survey, dated 1809; also, a deed from grantee to claimant dated 21st February, 1821. This case being submitted, and the board fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the title of the claimant be confirmed to him and his heirs so far as the United States have any interest, and no further.

Antelm Gay vs. the United States. Memorial for 700 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced in evidence a memorial and decree of the governor for seven hundred acres of land, in absolute property, to Lewis Mattier, dated 19th August, 1814; also, a plat and certificate of survey of the same, dated 4th September, 1818; as, also, a deed of sale from grantee to claimant for the land in question, dated 4th September, 1818. This case being submitted, and the board being fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the title of the claimant to the seven hundred acres of land, as described in his memorial, be confirmed to him and his heirs, so far as the United States have any interest, and no further.

Avice & Viel vs. the United States. Memorial for 1,000 *acres.*

In this case the claimants produced in evidence the memorial of Francisco and John Triay, dated 19th August, 1794, together with the decree of the governor for the same, dated the 26th of the same month; also, the memorial of the grantees and Don José Peso de Burgos to the governor, praying liberty to exchange lands, dated 11th September, 1798, together with the decree of the governor permitting the exchange, dated the same day. It was proven, by depositions, that Mr. Burgos occupied the land twenty years; that Messrs. Triay occupied it before, knows not how long; that his family consisted of fifteen blacks and six whites; also, a deed of bargain and sale from Maria M. de Burgos and others, widow and heirs of Jose Carlos Peso de Burgos, deceased, to claimants, for the land in question. This case being submitted, and the board conceiving that, as the claim is undefined in quantity, they have no jurisdiction of final confirmation, they therefore order and adjudge that the same, with the evidence and other documents, be forwarded on to Congress, with their opinion that it ought to be confirmed, inasmuch as, by the rules and regulations of the Spanish authorities at that time, the claimants prove that, from the number of their family, they were entitled, at the least, to one thousand acres.

Joseph Delespine vs. the United States. Memorial for 600 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced in evidence the memorial of Don Juan Huertas, dated 3d May, 1811; also, the decree of the governor granting him the six hundred acres of land he solicits, without condition, dated 3d May, 1811; also, a plat and certificate of survey of the same, dated 18th March, 1821. Also, a deed from grantee to the claimant, dated the 10th day of February, 1821. It also appeared in evidence that both the grantee and claimant were resident in the province at the time of the cession, and were Spanish subjects, and that grantee had been in possession of the land for upwards of three years before the cession. This case being submitted, and the board being fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the title of claimant to the six hundred acres of land set forth in his memorial, be confirmed to him so far as the United States have any interest in the same, and no further.

Samuel Fairbanks vs. the United States. Memorial for lot in St. Augustine.

The claimant, in support of his title, produced in evidence the original grant from the governor to Da. Maria Ventura Rodriguez, dated 18th August, 1796, to the lot set out in the memorial; also, a power of attorney from the said Donna Maria Ventura Rodriguez to John A. Cavedo, authorizing and empowering him to sell and convey the lot aforesaid; and, also, the deed of John A. Cavedo, as attorney in fact for the said Donna Maria Ventura Rodriguez, to the claimant, Samuel Fairbanks, for the lot mentioned in the memorial. This case being submitted, and the board fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the claim of the said Samuel Fairbanks be confirmed to him and his heirs, to the lot in question, so far as the United States have any interest, and no further.

Heirs of Lorenzo Capo vs. the United States. Memorial for 157 *acres land.*

The claimants produced in evidence a plat and certificate from John Murphey, deputy surveyor, dated 3d January, 1783, for the quantity of fifty acres, surveyed for James Bradshaw; also, a receipt of John Murphey for the surveyor's fees, with an endorsement on the back of the same transferring it to Lorenzo Capo; also, a receipt of William Price for the sum of fifty-seven dollars, the consideration of a tract of one hundred and seven acres opposite the aforesaid tract. It also appeared, by the deposition of Anthony Hindman, that he has resided upwards of thirty years near the land in question; that he was well acquainted with James Bradshaw during the time the British had possession of this province; that he, Bradshaw, held possession of the island of fifty acres of land, and that he occupied and cultivated the land for from seven to nine years uninterrupted; also, that he was well acquainted with William Price; that, after the death of Bradshaw, his whole property went into the possession of said Price, who was his administrator; and that, as such, he settled the business of the estate; and that, as a part of the property of said decedent, was sold the said island of fifty acres of land to Laurence Capo, of this city, which contract was made and ratified in presence of this witness, in this city, in the year 1784. At the same time another contract was made between the said William Price and Laurence Capo, for the purchase of another tract of land containing about one hundred and seven acres, nearly adjoining the island aforesaid, for the sum of fifty-seven dollars; and that the last mentioned tract belonged solely to said William Price. It also appeared that the said Capo took possession of the two tracts of land aforesaid, and rented them out, for some time, under the Spanish Government; that the tenant of Capo planted the land in corn and other provisions.

This case having been submitted, and the board fully advised of and concerning the premises, do order and adjudge that the title to the one hundred and fifty-seven acres of land in the claimants' memorial be confirmed to them as the legal heirs and representatives of Lorenzo, alias Laurence Capo, deceased, so far as the United States have any interest in the same, and no further.

Antelm Gay vs. the United States. Memorial for 500 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced in evidence an absolute title from Government to Don George Fleming, for twenty thousand acres of land, for services performed under the royal orders of 1813 and 1815, dated 24th September, 1816; also, a plat and certificate of survey of the five hundred acres, part of the aforesaid grant, dated 2d February, 1820; also, a deed from Don George Fleming to Don Andres Burgevin, dated 21st February, 1820; also, a deed from said Don Andres Burgevin to claimant Don Antelm Gay, 22d February, 1820, for the land aforesaid. This case being submitted, and the board dividing in opinion on this point, "whether the board have power to confirm to a claimant any part of a grant, where the quantity in the original is such as to take from them their power to decide finally," it is ordered that the memorial, and evidence accompanying the same, be forwarded to Congress for their decision.

Moses E. Levy vs. the United States. Memorial for 14,500 *acres of land.*

The claimant produced in evidence the memorial of Don Fernando del a Maza Arredondo, by his son, to the governor, dated 1st March, 1817, together with the decree of the governor dated 24th March, 1817, by which is granted to Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, the senior, 30,000 acres of land, at the places named in his memorial. Also, the memorial of Arredondo, junior, dated 8th June, 1819, praying that the lands in the aforesaid memorial may be surveyed, &c. Also, the decree of the governor appointing Don Andres Burgevin the surveyor to perform the said surveys, same date. Also, the plat and certificate of survey of 14,500 acres, dated

15th August, 1819. Also, a royal title for the 14,500 acres of land in favor of the said F. Arredondo, in absolute property, dated 9th August, 1819. Also, a deed from grantee to Hernandez and Chauviteau, dated 3d August, 1820. Also, a power of attorney from said Hernandez and Chauviteau to Moses E. Levy, authorizing him to convey the land in question, dated 2d Nov., 1820. Also, a deed from said Moses E. Levy, attorney for Hernandez and Chauviteau, to Abraham M. Cohen, for the land aforesaid, dated 8th June, 1821. Also, a deed from said A. M. Cohen to the claimant, dated 8th June, 1821; all which appear to have been regularly executed according to the laws of the Government under which they were made. Although the royal title and survey bear date subsequent to the 24th day of January, 1818, yet the original concession, made at the time that the governor was legally authorized to make it, and it being without condition, and there having been no suggestion of fraud in the transaction, we deem the concession obligatory on us. Therefore, we recommend the same for confirmation.

No. 3.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *December* 29, 1823.

DEAR SIR: We beg leave to lay before you, for your consideration, and the information of others who may feel interested in the subject, the following account of the proceedings of the Board of Land Commissioners constituted for East Florida, together with the difficulties which lay in the road to a successful termination of the duties of the commission; and, as far as we are able, to advise the measures most likely to facilitate the objects of the Government.

Immediately after the organization of the board, the question arose, what part of the claimants' exhibits are required to be recorded? A majority of the commissioners were of opinion that, according to the 4th section of the act passed in May, 1822, the entire deraignment of title, when it could be produced, including all the papers to be read in evidence, should be recorded at the cost of the claimant. This decision gave rise to complaints among the people that they were loaded with unnecessary expenses either by the Government or the commissioners. Although we believe the public mind is at present satisfied, at least in a great degree, in relation to that subject, in consequence of ascertaining that the expense is far short of what was apprehended, we still beg leave to say, that the operation of this provision is severely felt by the poorer class of people in the Territory; and if it be possible to relieve them in any manner compatible with the views of the Government, it would not only be felt by them as a happy exemption, but would greatly facilitate the future operations of the board. In consequence of the necessity for translating and recording all the voluminous documents comprising Spanish titles to real estate, at the very time, also, that the law made it necessary that the secretary should record the memorials of the claimants and the proceedings of the board, more time has been consumed in preparation for final adjudication than comported with the expectations and wishes of this country, or perhaps with the views of the Government. This difficulty was the more sensibly felt, in consequence of the improvidence of the law in allowing but one secretary, and failing entirely to furnish him with the means of collecting his recording fees; which have not been paid but in a very few instances, and are scattered, in small sums, through the United States and the Spanish islands. The law requires the services to be done unconditionally, and creates a simple debt against the claimant, which, in a great majority of cases, would not be worth collecting by the ordinary process of law. Under these circumstances, we required of the secretary to employ one assistant, which reduces his regular salary to a mere pittance, out of which it would be ungenerous and unjust to ask of him to employ another. The two secretaries, thus employed, placed the record in sufficient forwardness to authorize a notification to the public that we would begin to adjudicate on the second Monday of the present month. But it soon became apparent that the whole time of our principal secretary would be taken up in attendance on, and recording the minutes of, the board; so that translations having ceased to progress, would soon be overtaken, and claimants subjected to uncertain, and therefore harassing delays, while our clerks would be preparing their cases. To obviate this difficulty, and supply ourselves with the means of continually progressing, we have employed, upon our individual responsibility, another clerk to take and record the proceedings of the board, at the rate of four hundred dollars per annum, relying upon the justice or munificence of the Government to make an appropriation for that object. One clerk is now continually employed in translating; another in recording the evidence of titles; and the third in attendance on the board, which holds its sessions every day.

To return from this detail, we beg leave to advert to the petition of the inhabitants of this city in relation to a subject which was presented to our consideration at a very early period of our session.

Those who owned property within the city, or within the town of Fernandina, desired that the board would exempt them from the trouble and expense of exhibiting their titles, or would give them time to appeal to the Government on that subject. A majority of the board agreed to wait the advice of your department in answer to the petition of the people; and, also, to communicate such information in relation to the public property as they possessed, under an impression that an answer would be received in time to allow an exhibition of their titles, if it should be unfavorable, before the time limited by law shall have expired. The answer, however, has not been received, nor have any of those claims been exhibited.

We would respectfully submit that, by the second article of the treaty with Spain, "all public lots and squares, public edifices, fortifications, barracks, and other buildings, which are not private property," are transferred to the United States; and that, subsequently, this article was at least partially executed, by the Spanish authorities delivering to the agent of our Government a schedule, purporting to be of all such property, together with actual possession of such as could be occupied. The Spanish inhabitants here look to the act of receiving that document as being a recognition, on the part of the United States, of their private rights to all other lots and houses.

In addition to this view of the subject, they consider it rigorous policy in the Government to require of them to spread on record, at a considerable expense, (which, indeed, many of them are ill able to bear,) deraignments of titles to more than three hundred lots, for no other purpose than to show the Government its small modicum of ground. They think it would better comport with the views of a just and liberal sovereignty, to employ its Executive and legal officers in ferreting out a few illegal claims, than to tax with extreme rigor the whole of a very poor community for that purpose.

In recapitulating these views, we do but wish to show the grounds on which we suspended, as we then supposed temporarily, the reception of these claims. But, as this subject may be a matter of inquiry with other departments of the Government, we take the liberty of communicating the information we possess in relation to the property said to belong to the United States within this city, besides that contained in the schedule before alluded to.

1. A row of water lots extending from the fort to the mouth of the St. Sebastian the whole length of the town, and of various depths, from one to two hundred feet. Some of these, a few in number, are claimed as private property; but the majority, we believe, are acknowledged to belong to the public. A few years ago they were above high water mark, and were covered by orange groves; but the water has gradually encroached, until almost the whole area is subject to the ordinary flood. It is, however, said that the water is again retiring, and some of the inhabitants believe that some of these lots may hereafter be of value.

2. A swamp of about sixty yards in breadth, running parallel with the bay, and nearly through the centre of the chartered limits of the city, containing from fifty to sixty or seventy acres; all of which is covered by a thin sheet of water at every flood tide, but which a slight embankment, of little more than one hundred yards, would entirely protect.

3. On the south and west the city is bounded by the river St. Sebastian, which forms, by its diurnal floods, an extensive marsh or swamp, which contains several hundred acres, but its value will depend upon the practicability of excluding the water.

4. An extensive esplanade, reaching fifteen hundred yards northward from the Castle, and from the St. Sebastian's on the west, to the north river on the east, a distance nearly as great; the whole commanded by the guns of the fort, and being the only approach to the town, has been kept by the Spanish authorities free from the least obstruction. A few grants have been made within it, and we at first believed, from casual information, that they were grants of temporary use, and made without authority; but we are since informed that the proprietors claim a higher degree of title, which they intend applying to the Government to affirm, and we must, therefore, decline expressing, because we have not had an opportunity of forming, an opinion upon the subject.

5. It has been said that some of the houses nearest the

fort are built on public ground, perhaps by parol permission of a governor, but contrary to an ordinance reserving a certain distance from the fort in every direction. Of this we do not speak with certainty, nor have we the means of certain information. Indeed, in relation to all these details, we beg leave to say we do not make them upon the assurance of any official investigation, but as bare suggestions growing out of the inquiries made of the inhabitants; of course, not to be taken as conclusive, but are merely intended to guide the inquiries of the Government in case it should think proper to relieve the inhabitants from the necessity of exhibiting their titles, and should take upon itself to separate the public from the private property by legal investigation.

Besides the above specifications, we have no reason to suspect that any property in the city, claimed to be private, is not held by fair and equitable titles. Mr. Smith, the marshal of the district, and formerly mayor of the city, has been engaged in similar inquiries, without being able to trace any claim of the Spanish Government to property held as private.

The board has experienced some difficulty upon the subject of procuring transcripts of titles when they are not in possession of the claimant, and cannot be obtained but by an application to the keeper of the public archives, We first adopted a rule requiring claimant to file, with our secretary, their original papers, or attested copies; but, as the customs of the Spanish Government required all originals to be left in the public office, and but few copies were given out, the expense of transcripts was sensibly felt and complained of by the people, which, added to a serious doubt entertained by the board as to the legality of the requisition, induced us to discontinue the demand, and, finally, to rescind it. In the mean time, however, a communication was received from the Department of State advising us of, and enclosing a letter to the keeper of the archives, directing him to deliver to our order the papers and records which had been turned over to his office by the Spanish authorities. This order, the officer to whom it was directed was unwilling to obey, and we did not feel ourselves authorized to make or enforce a peremptory demand. If it embraced any, it embraced all, the public records of the Territory, and virtually abolished the office of the keeper of the archives, which had been established by an act of the Legislative Council, and approved by Congress. Besides which, the same act had deposited these records with that officer exclusively, and had made copies, certified by him alone, evidence in all the courts of the Territory. If they should be taken from his possession, the object of the law would be defeated, as it is clear that a copy, certified by the secretary of the board, would not be legal evidence; nor could he ever receive them back for the purpose of certifying copies, without the authority of a legislative act; because they are not bound in books that could be identified, but contained upon loose sheets of paper, which might be taken away or misplaced without the possibility of detection. They are even without a complete index, and the keeper is obliged to rely on his memory to facilitate his researches. This will also suggest the great inconvenience of having such a mass of indigested record thrown in upon our secretary, who, if constantly employed, would not be able to meet the demand of the public for transcripts for which the law would not allow him fase, and yet which he could not deny without the grossest outrage against the public.

In addition to these difficulties in the way of making such a demand, the act of Congress under which we are acting seems to confine us to the privilege of inspecting and taking transcripts of the public record within the Territory.

Finding ourselves unable to compel any other or better arrangement, our translating secretary is now obliged to take from the public records all such documents as are required to be produced in evidence before us. It is, however, but justice to the keeper of the archives to say, that he has furnished every possible facility in the discharge of this troublesome duty.

Since our adjudications commenced, we have been somewhat embarrassed by the presentation of cases not contemplated by any express provision of the statute, but apparently within its equity.

1st. Consists of cases in which the grantee has not made an entire, but has made a partial performance of the conditions of his grant.

2d. Cases in which purchasers from grantees of a part interest in such grants have made a compliance with the conditions in proportion to their interest.

We do not doubt that, in all cases, the Government intends to secure to the settler what he had a right to expect from the well-established customs and usages of the Spanish authorities, but the rigid limitations contained in the statute under which we are constituted leave the subject involved in embarrassment. In some instances within our knowledge, individuals have made heavy expenditures in improvements, extensive clearings, and numerous buildings, towards a compliance, but have stopped short of a fulfilment. We feel confident that it is not the interest or desire of the Government to reduce these persons to poverty by taking from them, in some instances, all they possess, and the more especially as they received their property upon conditions which, by the usages of the Spanish Government, they had an unlimited time to perform. But, in all such cases, we would beg leave to suggest the propriety of directing such proportions to be surveyed in a given mathematical figure around their dwellings or improvements. The last remark introduces a subject of greater difficulty. Owing to the fear of Indian hostilities which universally prevailed, many of the claims before us are without surveys or other means of location; and in many others the plats and certificates filed with the claim were made by the surveyors without their ever having been on or near the premises. The objects called for, which are generally a stake or a pine tree, were at first supplied by imagination, and, being without a mark or other designation, leave the location as uncertain as in former cases. Many of the concessions and grants, thus vague and uncertain, will, no doubt, be affirmed; and the difficulty will be felt by the public surveyor when he is called on to re-survey these claims under the direction of the statute. He will be obliged to survey them, in many instances, wherever the party shall direct, or not survey at all, unless the Government will devise some means of avoiding the inconvenience.

We beg leave, also, to inform the Government that, as far sa we are informed and believe, the country between the Suwannee and Appalachicola is unembarrassed by any other claim than that of Forbes and Co. We make this statement under the impression that it would comport with the wishes of the people of this country, and the views of the Government, to have that part of the public territory brought into market at as early a period as practicable. Mr. George J. F. Clarke, who officiated for many years as surveyor general of this province under the Spanish authorities, and kept a record of all public surveys executed by himself or his deputies, upon examination before us, deposed that he knew of no location within the country bounded by these two rivers except the one before alluded to, nor has any such claim been filed before us.

Under an impression that it is our duty to do so, we communicate, that about the number of six hundred claims have been presented to the board, of which we hope to be able to report to Government from one to two hundred within the time limited by the act of Congress, and also that a greater number is believed to be still unpresented; some of which have been deposited in the office since the time allowed for filing them elapsed, under the impression that Government would renew the permission.

We remain, with sentiments of sincere respect, your obedient servants,

DAVIS FLOYD.
W. W. BLAIR.

Hon. Wm. H. Crawford, *Secy. of the Treas'y.*

No. 4.

St. Augustine, *24th Sept.* 1823.

Dear Sir: Herewith you will receive a memorial from the inhabitants of this place, upon the subject of titles to lots of ground within the chartered limits of the town.

Many of the most respectable inhabitants regard the transfer stipulated in the second article of the treaty, of "all public lots and squares, public edifices, fortifications, barracks, and other buildings, which are not private property," as having been perfectly executed when the Spanish authorities here delivered to Colonel Butler a schedule of all such property, together with actual possession of all such as could be occupied; and they look to the act of receiving that document as containing a recognition on the part of the United States of their private rights to all other lots and houses.

In addition to this view of the subject, they consider it rigorous policy in the Government to require of them to spread on record, at considerable expense, which indeed many of them are ill able to bear, deraignments of titles to more than three hundred lots, for no other purpose than to show the Government its small modicum of ground. They think it would better comport with the views of a just and liberal sovereignty to employ its executive and legal officers in ferreting out a few illegal claims, than to tax with extreme rigor the whole of a very poor community for that purpose. With these views, they are unwilling to believe that the several acts of

Congress, subjecting land titles to the investigation of commissioners, were intended to embrace their claims to lots and houses; or they are flattered with the hope that an appeal to Government will procure them exemption from what they regard as a peculiar hardship. With a view to giving an opportunity for such an appeal, as well as to obtain information for ourselves, Judge Floyd and myself, previous to his leaving here for Kentucky, whither he has gone for his family, concurred in the propriety of asking the instruction of your department on this subject, which was not then executed only because of the Judge's hasty departure, without signing a letter that had been submitted to the board, and assented to.

Since that time, however, I have been occasionally engaged in making inquiries, which have resulted in ascertaining that several parcels of ground within the city, and not embraced by the schedule before alluded to, are public property.

1st. A row of water lots extending from the fort to the mouth of the St. Sebastian's, the whole length of the town, and of various depths, from one to two hundred feet. Some of these lots, a few in number, are claimed as private property, but the great majority are acknowledged to belong to the public. A few years ago they were above high-water mark, and were covered by groves of oranges, but the water has gradually encroached until almost the whole area is subjected to the ordinary flood. It is, however, said that the water is again retiring, and some of the inhabitants believe that these lots may hereafter be of value.

2d. A swamp of about sixty yards in width, running parallel with the bay and nearly through the centre of the chartered limits of the city, containing about fifty acres, which is covered by a thin sheet of water at every flood tide, but which a slight embankment of little more than one hundred yards would entirely exclude.

3d. On the south and west the city is bounded by the river St. Sebastian's, which forms, by its diurnal floods, an extensive marsh or swamp, which contains from two to three hundred acres, but its value will depend on the practicability of excluding the water.

4th. An extensive esplanade reaching fifteen hundred yards northward from the castle, and from the St. Sebastian's to the North river a distance nearly as great, the whole commanded by the guns of the fort, and being the only approach to the town, has been kept by the Spanish authorities free from the least possible obstruction. A few grants have been of late made within it, but they are grants of merely temporary use, and even these seem to have been without authority.

5th. It is said that some of the houses nearest the fort are built on public ground, perhaps by parol permission of a governor, but contrary to an ordinance reserving a certain distance from the fort in every direction. Of this I do not speak with certainty, nor have I the means of certain information; and beside this I have no reason to believe that any property in the city, claimed to be private, is rightfully the property of the public. Mr. Smith, the marshal of the district, and also mayor of the city, has been employed at my request in similar inquiries, without being able to trace any claim of the Spanish Government to the property claimed as private within the city.

This information may not be of any importance to the Government, but I have thought it right to possess them of it while the memorial of the inhabitants is before them. And, in the mean time, beg leave to subscribe myself, with sentiments of cordial esteem,

Yours, &c.

W. W. BLAIR.

The Hon. Wm. H. Crawford.

To the Hon. Wm. H. Crawford, Secretary of the Treasury.

The memorial of the subscribers, lot-holders of the city of St. Augustine, humbly showeth:

That your memorialists, in common with the holders of land in the country, have been suffering great difficulties, hardships, and embarrassments, for two years, in consequence of the protracted and undetermined condition of the claims of the United States to lands in this Territory.

Thus situated, your memorialists trust it will not be deemed unreasonable that they represent to your department their full conviction that neither the interest nor policy of the United States require a determination of the land claims in any other mode than such as is consistent with equity, economy, simplicity, and despatch.

Of the lots in St. Augustine to which this memorial has exclusive reference, that part belonging to the United States was officially designated, and a schedule thereof delivered by the Spanish authorities to those of the United States; and to this schedule your memorialists humbly beg your reference, as being ample and sufficient evidence of the extent of public property within the limits of this city.

The lots of private property are upwards of three hundred in number, and have passed through chains of title; some commencing in the seventeenth century, and the greater part early in the eighteenth century; and these chains or deraignment of title are not only on record, but the facts of descent, conveyance, and occupancy, are matter of great public notoriety.

Your memorialists further represent, that they are fearful that the late act of Congress prescribing the mode of ascertaining land claims, may be so construed as to make it necessary that the lot-holders of St. Augustine should furnish the commissioners with copies of the deraignment of title, and your memorialists beg leave to urge on you the inexpediency of such a construction, from the following considerations:

First. Copies of all the titles to lots in St. Augustine would appear to be unnecessary, because they are already on record in the public archives.

Secondly. The lot-holders would not only be put to great inconvenience from delay, but many of them are absolutely unable to pay the expense attendant on the copying of such voluminous documents.

Thirdly. Such a construction of the law would have the effect of retarding the public business, and operating to the ruin of many individuals who have already suffered so severely from delay.

And, lastly. If, by inadvertence or otherwise, the official schedule referred to should be defective in omitting any public property, such defects your memorialists humbly submit to be of comparative insignificance, and can be remedied either by the personal knowledge of the land commissioners, or by a few hours' inquiry.

Under these considerations, your memorialists pray that you will be pleased to instruct the land commissioners, or otherwise act in the premises so that the lot-holders of St. Augustine may be relieved from the expense and inconvenience, and the public from the delay attendant on such a construction of the law.

PETRONA VALDEZ,
For myself, and as attorney for Joseph M. Hernandez, and by 124 *other persons.*

No. 5.

Senate Chamber, 11*th March*, 1824.

Sir: I send you a letter from Mr. Blair, of St. Augustine, explaining the conduct of that commission. I was requested to place it before you.

Sincerely yours,

RH. M. JOHNSON.

Col. James Monroe, *President.*

St. Augustine, *February* 21, 1824.

My Dear Sir: A letter received from Gen. Call informs us that difficulties existed in the Senate, arising out of information received by a member of that body from a gentleman of this Territory relative to our proceedings, but particularly in relation to our decisions under the second section of the second law under which we are acting. Our decision was under the second clause of that section, and related exclusively to the extent of our jurisdiction. We decided that an "actual settler," within the meaning of the clause, was any person actually settled within the province at the exchange of flags. If the Senate have no other objection to our proceedings, we may deem ourselves peculiarly fortunate, for, among the almost innumerable questions we have been called on to decide growing out of the most inexplicable statute I remember to have seen, to have erred but once would be, of itself, a source of great consolation; but to have erred only on a question that cannot, by possibility, injure the rights of the United States, is peculiarly so. But I deny that there is error in the decision rendered.

By the first act of Congress we have confirmatory jurisdiction to the amount of one thousand acres, unconditionally. By the second our jurisdiction is extended to three thousand five hundred acres, but only in favor of actual settlers. This latter provision is contained in the second section, which may be thus translated:

Actual settlers shall not be required to produce in evidence a deraignment of title where it cannot be obtained, but their claims shall be confirmed where they do not exceed three thousand five hundred acres, provided they have been recognized by the Spanish Government, and provided the claimants shall produce satisfactory evidence of right to the land claimed.

The commissioners shall have jurisdiction over all claims of actual settlers to the amount of three thousand five hundred acres.

The first clause enables us to decide on cases without

a deraignment of title, provided the claimants are actual settlers. Under this clause it has never become necessary to decide upon what was meant by actual settlers, because there is not a single claim filed before us that does not rely on a deraignment of title or actual possession of the premises claimed. A naked right without either has never been set up before us, nor is there a single case, in a list of nearly one thousand now before us, without a deraignment of title, when the claim is over one thousand acres.

The reason why a title or possession is always set up is very obvious. The law requires, in the absence of a title, that the party shall prove a recognition by the Spanish Government, and therefore a right to the property. If there is any written evidence of the claimant's right it is a muniment of title, and must be produced whether it amount to a complete title or not; but where there is no such writing, how can the claimant show a right or recognition without actual possession? A right could not be obtained by purchase, nor in any way known to the Spanish law, but by an actual settlement. I mean a naked right, independent of the governor's discretionary power to bestow titles. For it is worthy of particular notice that, although the governors claimed the right to distribute lands, at their discretion, for the promotion of laudable public objects, it was also understood that the royal order of 1790 was imperative, and invested the actual settler with a right to demand of the governor his proportion of the public lands. We do not mean to say that every actual settlement gave an abstract right, but that it was the only basis for a right, separate from a title.

It is, besides, the basis of the only mode of recognition that this board can regard. Wherever the Spanish Government has recognized a claim in writing, if done in proper time and by competent authorities, it would amount to a title, as they had no settled form for conveyances, and a title means nothing more than an expression of the governor's will in favor of the claim. But where there is no such expression in writing, could I rely on any proof that a governor had said A B was entitled to a given quantity of land? I think not, because the governors were incompetent to convey by any mode except that established in the country, and because of the general insecurity of such testimony, against which most nations have provided in the form of statutes of frauds and perjury. But an uninterrupted possession of the premises under the Spanish Government, and with its knowledge and consent, although it might not amount to a sufficient recognition in all cases, would in all be the only safe basis for such proof. Although an actual and continued possession under the Spanish Government does not in all cases prove either a right or a recognition of itself, yet we cannot see how either a right or recognition can be proven without it. This has been so well understood that not a single claim has been presented without either a deraignment, or an allegation of actual possession.

As far as the clause under consideration purports to extend our jurisdiction over one thousand acres, it is useless, because there is no case filed before us over that amount without a deraignment of title; and, in relation to all the cases without a deraignment, the words actual settlers are useless, because they all set out an actual possession.

Thus much for the first clause under consideration. The second extends our jurisdiction, not only to cases in which there is no deraignment of title, but to all cases under three thousand five hundred acres in favor of actual settlers. The question to which I allude arose under this clause in a case of Mr. Gay for two thousand acres, in which he produced a deraignment of title, and proved that he was a settler in Florida, but not on the land at the exchange of flags. The question then arose, what is meant by an actual settlement in the clause under consideration?—whether it meant a settlement in the territory or on the land claimed. We discussed and considered it as a question of jurisdiction only, the discussion of which either way could enlarge or lessen the rights of any man in the Territory; the utmost effect it could have would be to confine our jurisdiction to the cases of those who occupied their lands, or extend it to those who lived on other lands in the province.

We decided upon taking jurisdiction in all cases of actual settlers within the Territory, for the following reasons:

1st. The words *actual settlers* are entirely vague and indefinite, the sentence in which they are found not containing any indication of place, or any means of ascertaining whether *actual settlers in the Territory*, or *actual settlers* on the land, were meant; for one is certainly as much an actual settler as the other. Beside which, it would have been so easy and natural, if the latter was meant, to have added "on the land," or to have used the plain English and legal word "occupants," instead of a word which has no precise meaning in the English language. As Congress choose to use the word without giving it any specific application, we thought it our duty to give the most general application. The word "*actual*," alone, qualifies the unmeaning word settler, and greatly strengthens our construction of it, because if settler means only those who were living on the land, the word "actual" seems to be unnecessary, as the fact of cultivating a plantation or not, can scarcely ever be dubious, nor is it a matter about which false pretences are ever used; but, if the other construction is adopted, it is often difficult to tell whether a person is a settler or a transient resident, and it is common to practice deceits to get the advantages of the former, without forfeiting citizenship elsewhere. This view seemed also to unlock the policy of the Government in this enactment. It seemed evidently to make a distinction between those who were permanently interested, and itinerant speculators who came for the purpose of obtaining lands upon a speculation, and removed elsewhere, or had their families in other places. Here we saw the basis of a proper distinction, but we own we have not been able to see the policy of making the distinction between the *town* and *country*. It was well known to the Government that the Americans who settled in the province lived on plantations, while the Spaniards all lived in the towns. To give the clause such a construction as would give us jurisdiction over American claims to the amount of three thousand five hundred acres, and confine it in cases of Spaniards to one thousand, seemed to us an invidious and unnecessary distinction.

How strange, too, that the Government should invest us with power to decide, finally, on claims of a difficult and doubtful character, to the amount of three thousand five hundred acres, and, in plain cases of a deraignment, jealously confine us to one thousand.

We have deemed it right to look at the operation as well as the letter of the act, and adapt it to practical purposes. It is the only way by which any set of commissioners will ever be able to do justice to the people or the Government. We have, in substance, construed the act to give us jurisdiction to the increased amount in favor of all actual inhabitants of this Territory, but, to avoid the ill consequences of an error, if it should be one, we have directed that all such cases over one thousand acres, shall be reported with the evidence entire, so that the committee, if they think we have overreached our jurisdiction, may consider the cases as recommended instead of confirmed. Every possible inconvenience is thus avoided.

But, until it is altered by the Government, I must continue to place the distinction where it now is; but, to avoid inconvenience, we will also continue to report the evidence in cases over one thousand acres.

With sentiments of high respect,

I remain, your most obedient servant,

W. W. BLAIR.

Hon. Rh. M. Johnson.

No. 6.

St. Augustine, *August* 7, 1823.

Dear Sir: The Board of Commissioners have this day decided that it is necessary, under the fourth section of the act of the 8th of May, 1822, to have all written evidence of title presented to the board recorded by its secretary.

This decision, rendered unavoidable by the language of the act alluded to, and by the proceedings of several previous boards constituted for similar purposes, is likely to operate severely upon the poorer class of people in the Territory. If it be possible to relieve them, in any manner compatible with duty, it would afford me pleasure; and as the views of the Government may be somewhat different, I solicit your exposition of the clause before alluded to.

In the mean time, I remain,

Your obedient servant,

W. W. BLAIR.

Hon. Wm. H. Crawford.

No. 7.

St. Augustine, *July* 14*th*, 1823.

Sir: I enclose a translation of what is commonly called the royal order of 1815, together with a copy and translation of a letter supposed to have been written by Gov. Kindelan, the apparent inducement to the order.

In the letter there has evidently been an erasure, and the word "extensiva" introduced in place of "exclusiva." As the most numerous and extensive grants have been made in virtue of the above order, it is very important that correct copies of all the correspondence that

may have passed between the captain general of the island of Cuba and the governor of East Florida, should be procured for the consideration of the commissioners.

If a copy of the royal order could be obtained, in extenso, it would afford the commissioners a better opportunity to adjudicate upon many of these grants. The magnitude of the grants requires that the authority through which they are created should be scrupulously examined, the more especially as most of them are made to persons not enumerated in the military rolls, and generally as late as 1817, 1818.

The regulations issued under the intendancy of Morales, forwarded for our Government, are expressly named for Louisiana and West Florida, and the concessions in this province have most certainly not been governed by those instructions. If the titles be genuine, there has been a most extraordinary latitude in the discretionary powers, or at least in the exercise of the powers of the governors.

To a pilot named Miranda, 360,000 acres was granted by Governor White, and, by the same person, several from 5 to 50,000. Coppinger's grants do not exceed 100,000, but there are very many 1,000 to 70,000.

The public archives, as placed in possession of the American commissioners at the cession, together with the contents of the six boxes of papers claimed by Gov. Coppinger, ought to be put under our charge. The latter contain correspondence of much importance, connected with the disposition of public lands, and ought to be examined, and subject to more restraint than they are at present.

As the commissioners will require some accommodation for offices, ought we not to be authorized to hire, or would it not be advisable to appropriate, the "Treasurer's house" to this use?

It is rumored that Judge Blair has resigned. If so, permit me to suggest the propriety of appointing some person in this neighborhood, and particularly to recommend Dr. Richard B. Furman, of Charleston, now residing in this place, as every way qualified.

I have the honor to remain, your obedient servant,

ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

Hon. Wm. H. Crawford.

No. 203. St. Augustine, *June* 4, 1813.

H. E. Don Juan Ruiz de Apodaca:

Most Excellent Senor: On the first of the present month I discharged from the service the three companies of whites who were under arms in this place; and this I did, as well on account of the scarcity of provisions, which rendered it urgent, as their own necessity to devote themselves to the care of their respective families, and to their labors, after an insurrection from which both they and the province had suffered so much.

I cannot avoid recommending to your excellency the good order and fidelity that animated this militia, and also the third battalion of the regiment of Cuba, since the first moments of the insurrection, for all which I think them all worthy of the favors to which the supreme Government may deem them entitled; and I make bold to recommend that some favors, and such as I shall recommend, be granted unto them: that a commission be granted by the King to every officer of the militia who has been under arms, corresponding to the grade which he held under the denomination of provincial; and that a portion of lands be granted to each soldier, which, by the regulations established in this province, corresponds with the number of persons composing each family, and the same favors might also be extended to the married officers and soldiers of said third battalion of Cuba.

Men, in general, must be excited by something that will stimulate them, and it is not easy to find one who is indifferent as to the public estimation of his services. With what I propose, without giving them in reality any thing, they will receive a satisfaction which ultimately must be productive of benefical effects, particularly if that favor be granted to those only who were at the defence. To that end, and in case your excellency should approve my proposal, I transmit, respecting the officers of both these corps, a list of those who, under that conception, ought to be comprised.

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a document on file in my office. St. Augustine, June 29, 1823. WILL. REYNOLDS,
Keeper of the Public Archives.

I hereby certify that the foregoing translation is faithfully made, and that the copy of certificate is correct. St. Augustine, June 30, 1823. P. LYNCH.

Havana, *July* 7, 1815.

H. E. the Governor *pro tem. of East Florida:*

Under date of the 29th of March, ult. his excellency the minister for the general department of the Indies, writes me as follows:

"I have rendered an account to the King of the contents of the letter of your excellency, No. 236, of the year 1813, with respect to the rewards which you considered the governor of East Florida ought to grant to the individuals composing the white local militia, and, also, to the married officers and soldiers of the third battalion of the regiment of Cuba, for the zeal they manifested during the insurrection of the province; and his Majesty, while he thus assents to said favors, desires that your excellency may state the recompense which you think due to the commandant of the third battalion of Cuba, Don Juan Jose de Estrada, who acted as governor pro tem. during the first moments of the insurrection; to the officers of artillery, Don Ignacio Saleres and Don Manuel Paulin; and to the officer of dragoons, Don Juan Purcheman, whom the governor mentions in his official despatch. By the desire of the King, I communicate this information for the government of your excellency, including the royal despatches of the local militia, according to the note transmitted by your excellency."

And I transmit the same to you, including the documents therein mentioned, that you may act as directed, and report to his Majesty, by the first opportunity, whatever you may deem just with respect to the recompenses in question.

APODACA.

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a document on file in my office. St. Augustine, June 19, 1823. WILL. REYNOLDS,
Keeper of the Public Archives.

I hereby certify that the foregoing translation is faithfully made, and that the copy of certificate is correct.

P. LYNCH.

St. Augustine, *June* 29, 1823.

No. 8.

St. Augustine, *January* 12, 1824.

Sir: I take the liberty to request that the enclosed letter addressed to Davis Floyd, esq., and recorded on the minutes of the commission, with the note to which it is an answer, may be presented to the consideration of the Committee on Public Lands; to which I deem it proper to subjoin the following extraordinary doubts of the *majority* of the commissioners, with a copy of the regulations of the 1st of August, submitted by me, and unanimously adopted by the commission.

The majority of the commission entertain, and have at their sittings, expressed doubts whether the claimants to city property are required to present their claims to the adjudication of the commissioners.

The law makes no distinction. In my opinion the commissioners ought to possess a discretionary power to call on those only where there exists any suspicion of public interest. I make this suggestion with great deference, but with a perfect knowledge of all the circumstances.

The majority of the commission entertain, and have at their sittings expressed doubts whether they be not authorized to adjudicate finally on claims, a part of a grant, the whole amount of which exceeds our jurisdiction.

That Congress might be informed on this subject previous to any future legislation, and to prevent the extravagant speculation that would result from such a decision, a motion was made to ascertain the sense of the commission, which the majority declined to consider, notwithstanding there were cases before it immediately involving the question.

There are other sources of objection to the proceedings of the commission, which were intended to be communicated by the *minority* had the commission made an official report; and, as such, would necessarily have been subject to the inspection of Congress.*

The circumstances connected with the appointment of our secretary and assistant secretary, are, perhaps, within the knowledge of your department.

In consequence, I recommend to the consideration of Congress, whether it would not be advisable to fix the salary of the secretary at fifteen hundred dollars, and authorize the appointment of an assistant with a compensation of one thousand dollars; *and both should possess a knowledge of the Spanish language.* As yet there have been no fees paid for recording; and such is

* Mr. Lloyd, of the Senate, is fully informed.

the poverty of the country, that it would be almost impossible to collect them. If Congress should not see fit to relieve the claimants from this charge, *incident to an investigation instituted for the purpose of ascertaining public lands, and, in many instances, charging claimants whose titles have been acknowledged for centuries*, I earnestly recommend that the compensation of the secretary shall have no contingent reference to this source of payment. If I be not misinformed, the attorney general has given it as his opinion, and such is the construction of my colleagues, that the compensation to the secretary may amount to 2,500 dollars. This may be a correct legal conclusion: it certainly is not a fair inference, and never was intended by Congress. The fees imposed on the claimants were meant to be appropriated in payment of the salary and the contingent expenses of the commission, and not to the amount of 1,250 dollars, to be reserved by the secretary as an addition to his salary.

The important and procrastinated situation of the business of the commission renders it necessary that there should be an extension of its session, and the interests of the United States require that time should be allowed for a thorough investigation of the claims.

I have the honor to remain, with much respect, your obedient humble servant,

ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

WM. H. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of the Treasury.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *8th January*, 1824.

SIR: It is with much pleasure I reply to your note of this morning, in the hope that a full explanation of our respective views of the course most advisable for the commission to pursue, may lead to the adoption of such regulations as will tend to facilitate the discharge of the important and delicate responsibilities with which we are entrusted. It is for this purpose I submit the following propositions and regulations:

1st. That the secretary be directed to translate and record the royal orders, the official correspondence, the regulations of the governors, and the instructions and calculations controlling the surveyors.

2d. That the commission ascertain whether the governors of East Florida possessed any authority to dispose of the public lands independent of the royal orders, and whether their regulations are to be considered the acts of the Spanish Government, and, as such, to be respected in our adjudications.

3d. That the commission determine whether the royal order of the 29th March, 1815, authorizing grants for military services, be not controlled by that of the 29th October, 1790, and what are the conditions referred to in the latter order.

4th. That the commission ascertain whether the surveyors were authorized to change the location of concessions at discretion, and in the same manner to divide grants and locate the several parts; and whether they were not subject to certain regulations, and the table of Purcell explanatory of the same.

5th. That the commission determine whether they can inquire into the validity of the circumstances of a grant antecedent to the issuing of the royal titles, where the concessions have been made within the authority of the royal orders.

6th. That the commission decide whether the abandonment of the province by the British subjects, after its cession to Spain in 1783, did not, by operation of the treaty of cession, re-attach their lands to the royal domain.

7th. That the commission inquire whether grants containing the customary clause, "*without injury to third persons*," *were valid against the Spanish Government, if it should appear that the lands petitioned for had been previously granted, without a subsequent decree and order to change the location.*

8th. That the commission ascertain whether decrees for pasturage and mill seats conveyed more than a permission to use the pasture and timber, and whether the Government did not reserve the right to concede to others all the plantable lands contained therein.

9th. That the commission determine whether lands abandoned for more than two years in succession were not considered vacant lands, reverting to the royal domain—the grantee continuing to reside in the province; and whether, if so, the effect of such an abandonment can accrue to the benefit of the United States when the absence of the claimant was an incidental consequence of the rebellion of 1812.

The propriety of establishing these preliminary principles will, I am confident, appear to you necessary upon mature reflection. Without settling some general law, it will be impossible for the commission to do justice to the claimants, and perform their duty to the United States. The means of deciding are in the possession of the commissioners, for which the United States are principally indebted to the detention of the public documents from Governor Coppinger by the order of General Andrew Jackson.

I again offer for the consideration of the commission regulations, the utility of which, if candidly examined, cannot fail to meet its concurrence, the more especially as the embarrassment of our present proceedings practically teach the necessity of resorting to some change.

First regulation.

That the secretary be directed to prepare a descriptive list of the claims, according to the form presented by me, and adopted by the commission.

Second regulation.

That the secretary be directed to class the claims under the respective royal orders on which they are predicated, and that the commission proceed to the examination and adjudication of the claims in classes.

First class.

Those predicated on the royal order of the 29th March, 1790, separating those with, from those without, royal titles.

1st specification,		those not exceeding	1,000	acres;
2d	do.	those not exceeding	3,500	do.
3d	do.	those exceeding	3,500	do.

Second class.

Those predicated on the royal schedule of the 17th June, 1801, granting the houses and lots, and remitting the principal and interest to the purchasers.

Third class.

Those under the royal order of 29th of March, 1815, authorizing bounties for military services, divisions and specifications as in the first class.

Fourth class.

Those under the royal order of September 3, 1817, directing the intendant of Cuba to dispose of lands in East Florida.

Fifth class.

Those emanating from the British Government.

Sixth class.

Those grants for services, and not predicated in either of the royal orders.

See Miranda's for 24 miles, and Arredondo's for 20 miles square, and Buyck's for fifty thousand acres.

Divisions and specifications as in first class.

Seventh class.

Those dated after the 24th January, 1818, and by the treaty declared null and void.

Third regulation.

That the commission commence, as soon as the papers are in readiness, to adjudicate upon the claims under the order of 1790, and, in the mean time, that they collect the evidence in the large grants to be transmitted to Congress during the present session.

Fourth regulation.

That in all those cases within the final jurisdiction of the commissioners, that the memorial of the claimant, or an abstract of the same made by one of the commissioners, together with the original grant, concession, or order of survey, be alone recorded, *with a memorandum* exhibiting the deraignment of title as follows: that C claims from B, by deed, bearing date the —— day of ——, in the year ——, who derived title from A, the grantee, on, &c. *Wills, deeds, bills of sale, or other mesne conveyances, not to be recorded except by reference, as exhibits A, B, C.*

Fifth regulation.

That in all cases beyond the final jurisdiction of the commissioners, that the memorial of the claimant, with the documents incident to the grant, the memorial, decree, order of survey, survey and confirmation, or royal titles, (if there be any) be recorded, together with an abstract of the documentary evidence, but that the deraignment of title be only recorded *by reference*, as in the preceding regulations.

Seventh regulation.

That the commission will retain, through the whole course of the examination of witnesses, a supervisory control, that immaterial and illegal evidence be not recorded.

Eighth regulation.

That it will no longer be the duty of the secretary to make out memorials or prepare commissions for the examinations of witnesses.

Ninth regulation.

That the secretary will hereafter confine his written translations to material parts of Spanish documents, and, in all cases within the final jurisdiction of the commission, having royal titles, the attendance of the secretary will only be required to give parol translations.

Tenth regulation.

That in all cases where there are royal titles the fees for recording will only be charged on the memorial and royal title; but in all cases, on condition, seeking confirmation, fees will be charged on such records as the commission shall determine essential for the establishment of the claim when directed to be recorded.

I have been thus particular, to avoid the usual misunderstandings incident to the irregular manner in which our proceedings have been minuted, and more illegally kept, in loose sheets; and I anticipate that you will no longer indulge in so disingenuous an interpretation of my motives as to imagine that I would attempt to expose the regulations of the commission by the introduction, in a disguised form, of a practical illustration of their injurious inexpediency. It is impossible that the commission can investigate the claims with advantage, if they are to be taken into consideration without any other system than the order in which they have been entered. I am confident when you have deliberated upon these propositions and regulations, you will be convinced of the propriety of their adoption, the more especially if you reflect upon the embarrassments that now procrastinate our examination, and that, for all useful purposes, the business of the commission is now essentially suspended. I appeal to your candor to acknowledge whether I have not repeatedly anticipated our present difficulties, as the necessary consequences of the decisions of the commission, and whether your recent anxiety to have perfected the descriptive list submitted by me might not be considered as conclusive evidence?

I am aware, in some instances, arising from the unfortunate indulgence of the commission in permitting claims to be filed not corresponding with our regulations of the 1st August last, that the memorials present but an imperfect statement of the claim, which may, however, be supplied by a little extra attention on the part of the commissioners in collating from the testimony a brief analysis, or by directing the claimants to file supplementary memorials.

It is with much pleasure I avail myself of your admission, that "the time when we must make report to Congress will shortly elapse," to renew the proposition to report immediately to the Secretary of the Treasury the acts and proceedings of the commissioners; and, inasmuch as we have done little more than to order the claims to be filed, (none of which have been recorded) that we suggest the propriety of an indefinite extension of our session, if our secretary is to translate and record all the testimony, and that further time be allowed for the admission of the numerous claims that remain to be presented.

I am perfectly willing "to take all the claims now in readiness into consideration," which state of preparation, according to the decisions of the majority of the commission, will place under our consideration only thirty-seven claims, of which eleven are not within our final jurisdiction, notwithstanding we have a secretary authorized by law, and two assistants appointed by the commission.

The following decisions I have uniformly opposed, and in my estimation they ought to be reported to Congress.

The majority of the commission have decided that all documents presented shall be recorded *in extenso*, and those in Spanish be translated by the *secretary:* thus giving an employment to the secretary of an indefinite termination; and inasmuch as the mesne conveyances are of indifference to the United States, and as Congress has reserved no right to revise our proceedings within our final powers, there can be no necessity to record the evidence in cases of confirmation, as our decisions will undoubtedly be made upon the force and authenticity of the originals.

The majority of the commission have decided to adjudicate upon claims where the grants have issued subsequent to the 24th of January, 1818, and without giving any reasons for so doing, notwithstanding the treaty declares all such grants null and void.

The majority of the commission have decided that the authorization to confirm to actual settlers to the amount of three thousand five hundred acres, must be understood to include all persons *resident* in the Territory at the time of the cession, and not to be limited to those who were at that period in the actual possession and occupancy of the lands claimed.

The majority of the commission have decided that they will adjudicate on claims without examining the original documents, while they are aware that the public records in the possession of the keeper of the public archives have been much exposed, and are still kept in loose sheets, without schedule or descriptive list, and that the letter from Governor Kindelan, the foundation of the royal order of 1815, has been essentially altered, and that transcripts of different import have been furnished. The advertisement of the keeper of the public archives also makes known to the commission that a small grant has been withdrawn from the office, and one of 16,000 acres substituted.

The majority of the commission have repeatedly refused to report its proceedings, while they have unofficially communicated with the Secretary of the Treasury, without giving any intimation of the time, manner, or substance of their communication. The delicacy and propriety of such conduct I do not understand, and abstain from comment.

I have the honor to remain, with much respect and regard, your obedient servant,

ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

DAVIS FLOYD, Esq.

Note referred to, from David Floyd, esq., to Alexander Hamilton.

"Inasmuch as the commissioners will be able to make final decisions of but few claims, and as much time will be necessary to investigate and report sundry rules, regulations, and customs, prevalent in the province relative to granting lands, and as the time when we must make report to Congress will shortly elapse, I would propose for consideration, whether it would not be proper to take all the claims now in a state of readiness into consideration, have them recorded, and finally decided; and whether we would be able to devote more of our time, and our secretary, to the investigation of new cases; or whether, probably, the whole time may not be necessary to the preparation of those before us. Yours," &c.

NOTICE.

Whereas, on or about the 27th November, there was introduced into the office of the subscriber, in a clandestine and dishonorable manner, a document purporting to be a memorial and concession for 16,000 acres of land, to an inhabitant of this province, (whose name is, from motives of delicacy, withheld from the public, as he could not have been privy to the transaction,) this is, therefore, to give notice to those interested, but more particularly to him who was *mean* enough to take advantage of the confidence placed in him while in my office, that the imposition has been detected, and that the document now bears upon it my certificate of the circumstances, and the fact of its having been illegally introduced into the office. As I have reason to believe that the person who introduced the said document into my office *stole* therefrom another of a similar description, although not so valuable, I hereby offer a reward of $100 to any person who, knowing the facts, will give information, to enable me to prosecute the *thief* to conviction.

WILLIAM REYNOLDS,
Keeper of the Public Archives.

NOTICE.

The following regulations have been adopted by the commissioners appointed to ascertain claims and titles to lands in that part of the Territory of Florida known as East Florida.

All persons claiming title to lands under any patent, grant, concession, or order of survey, will make a brief statement, by memorial, setting forth the situation, boundaries, and, if possible, the deraignment of title, to the lands claimed, together with the number of acres, when and by whom granted, and by what authority; and whether the same be the whole or part of the original grant.

All cases where grants have been made on conditions, it will be necessary to show the nature of the conditions; whether they have been performed; and, if not, the reasons why they have not been complied with.

Where lands are claimed by actual settlers, without grants, concessions, patents, or order of survey, the same must be declared, and the circumstances of possession and occupancy stated distinctly, together with the nature of the evidence in support of the claim; and whether the said possession ever was, and in what manner, acknowledged or sanctioned by the Spanish Government.

In all instances where claims are made in virtue of British patents, grants, &c., the claimants must describe in what manner they claim, whether as original patentees or grantees, or by assignment; also, whether they are in actual possession; and, if out of possession, that they claim, bona fide, as American citizens.

All original documents, if in the possession of the claimants, must be exhibited; and, in all other cases, certified copies, the memorial, order of survey, survey and confirmation, together with translations of the same.

Claimants will show whether they were actual residents at the time of the cession, and where they now reside.

The office of the commissioners will be at the Government house until further notice.

A. HAMILTON, }
W. W. BLAIR, } *Land Commissioners.*
DAVIS FLOYD, }

ST. AUGUSTINE, *August* 1, 1823.

On the 8th of August, a resolution was adopted by the commissioners, requiring only so much of the papers to be transmitted as were material, at my suggestion.

A. HAMILTON.

No. 9.

ST. AUGSUTINE, *January* 22, 1824.

SIR: As the course I have pursued as a member of the Board of Land Commissioners, may induce those who are interested to attempt to create prejudices, I take the liberty to request that no unfavorable impressions may be made until the proceedings of the board are subject to your inspection. I feel that all the invidious responsibilities of the commission have devolved on me; and, whatever may be the result, I shall support the part I have taken with firmness. The board have commenced the adjudication of claims without settling the preliminary principles that are to govern their decisions. I have come to the determination, as the board will not ascertain the law, nor examine the original documents, to be present without taking any part in the adjudication, and to report, to the Treasury Department, our proceedings for the consideration of Congress.

The act creating the commission terminates on the second Monday in February.

I am aware that, in writing to you, I ought not to ask to be excused; but such are the circumstances, that I must either communicate in haste, or lose an unexpected favorable opportunity.

I am, with much respect,
ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

JAMES MONROE, Esq.

No. 10.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *January* 23, 1824.

SIR: As a member of the commission appointed to ascertain claims and titles to land in East Florida, I have the honor to request that you will lay before the President of he United States the enclosed letter for his consideration.

With sentiments of the highest respect,
I remain, sir, your obedient servant,
ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

Hon. W. H. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of the Treasury.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *January* 23, 1824.

SIR: It is with extreme regret I have to inform you that I have considered it my duty to the interest of the United States to decline any participation in the final adjudication of claims to lands, and to recommend that the proceedings of this commission be suspended until Congress shall have an opportunity to investigate its acts. I have also to advise, that the records in the possession of the keeper of the public archives, and those papers specially detained from Governor Coppinger by the order of General Jackson, be transferred to a different charge.

In assuming this responsibility, I am aware that I have undertaken an invidious, embarrassing, and unthankful office, and I anticipate the corresponding sacrifice of reputation and respectability, if I be not justified by the result; and were I to consult personal interest, I should be induced to resign, the more especially as there cannot accrue the slightest advantage to my character.

The act of Congress, in virtue of which we have been appointed, expires on the second Monday in February, when it is my intention to proceed to Charleston to anticipate any order that may be sent requiring my attendance in Washington, if such a requisition should be deemed necessary.

In partial explanation of the differences in the commission, I take the liberty to refer to my letter of the 10th instant, addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury, enclosing one from me to Davis Floyd, esq. of the 8th January, in answer to his note of the same date.

I have the honor to remain,
With great respect, your obedient servant,
ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

JAMES MONROE, *President.*

I should recommend, as safe *depositories* of the public records, Edward R. Gibson and William Simmons.

No. 11.

WASHINGTON, *March* 31, 1824.

SIR: The remarkable differences of opinion that have characterized the proceedings of the Board of Commissioners appointed to ascertain claims and titles to land in East Florida, induce me to tender my resignation, notwithstanding I have had the satisfaction to observe that the act of the present session of Congress affirmatively supports the positions I have uniformly advocated.

In electing to pursue this course, I desire to avoid the invidious task of being constrained, through the force of official duty, to arraign the conduct of those with whom I have been associated, when, perhaps, the pride of an avowed opinion may have created an injudicious pertinacity in its adherence, and caused the dictates, possibly, of the purest intentions, to become the subjects of serious reprehension, from the deleterious influence of their arbitrary practice. I allude to the extraordinary indisposition, constantly manifested, to adopt any measures that might tend to facilitate the progress of the duties with which we were charged; and, unaccountable as it may appear, the unexplained refusal to settle general principles as preliminary to correct adjudication, necessarily operating injurious to the rights of the United States, by embarrassing and paralyzing the influence of the minority of the commission, and to the claimants productive of endless inconvenience, expense, and trouble; the frequent decisions of important questions, in reference to the powers of the commission, without the certainty and responsibility of written opinions, and consequent invariable misconceptions of what was determined; the illegal and improper manner in which the minutes were kept on loose and imperfect sheets, and the still more extraordinary procedure, the refusal to secure and examine the original papers and records, trusting to their genuineness upon the certified transcripts of a territorial officer, whose assistant was one of the secretaries of Governor Coppinger, notwithstanding they were officially informed that a fraudulent erasure had been made in an important document in that office, corroborated by a tacit admission of the propriety of the charge, by the issue of subsequent transcripts, without persisting in the alteration, and while it was a subject of public notoriety that records had disappeared, and, in one instance, a grant of 16,000 acres discovered to have been introduced in place of another for less than as many hundreds. These papers and records are publicly exposed, and are without schedule, neither numbered nor lettered, and in loose sheets.

I must, however painful may be the reflection, notice, as inconsistent with the performance of a confidential trust, unsusceptible, from its peculiar nature, of control through legislative provisions, and vitally dependant on the integrity with which it is administered, to answer the objects of its creation, the *fact of practicing the law in actions of real estate involving questions and conflicting interests* which are the immediate subjects of their adjudication. In the first case involving any doubt, the claim of John M. McIntosh, my associates were both engaged as counsel. In reference to *this* case, I must remark that, in consequence of a determination to decide upon the validity of claims before any general principles were settled, I declined joining in the adjudication. The correspondence I had the honor to transmit to you from Charleston, and my communication of the 10th of January last, enclosing my answer to Davis Floyd, of the 8th of January, in reply to his note of the same date, will fully explain the arrangements and principles proposed by me to be adopted by the commissioners, together with which I take the liberty to refer to a copy of a tabular descriptive list* prepared by me for the use of the commission, exhibiting the circumstances of each and all the grants.

I cannot avoid mentioning that I have observed with regret the imperfections of the official report forwarded to your department, *and especially in the omissions of an adjudicated case connected with circumstances of peculiar delicacy;* together with the suppression of the first regulations, and all the correspondence alluded to in the preceding paragraph.

To express my dissent from the conclusions of the report, I must remark, with all due deference, that the argument seems to be drawn from an extraordinary bias, indicative of an impulse corresponding with the feelings of counsel employed and interested in the cause of their clients. The report decides in favor of the unlimited powers of the governors to dispose of the public lands; and commences in support of this position, with an extract from the Codes of India, 12 title, book 4th. In my estimation, the contrary is the just conclusion to be drawn from an examination of the whole documentary and respectable parol testimony. It is evident, from the extract taken from the Codes of India, through all the royal orders and official correspondence, to the change of the

* In possession of Mr. Barton, of the Senate.

intendancy of Florida, in 1817, to the intendant of the island of Cuba, that the governors possessed a very circumscribed and limited authority.

In answer to Zespedez, the first governor after the recession of the Floridas to the King of Spain by the Government of Great Britain, communicating the embarrassed state of the country, and asking permission to make grants of lands, the Count de Galvez, on the 4th July, 1785, Mexico, remarks, that he approves of the police arrangements contained in his letter of the 8th May, 1785, but, with respect to his request for instructions for the purpose of granting lands "to the old Floridians, as well as any other Spaniards or foreigners, he will inform his excellency the minister of the Indies, that, by his superior prudence, measures may be taken as are agreeable to him, or may merit the approbation of the King." It also is represented by Zespedez, that the houses abandoned by the English were rapidly decaying, and recommends that they should be sold: to which subject there appears no reference, until the royal order of the 17th June, 1801, is communicated to Governor White. In this order, Quesada, successor of Zespedez, is represented as having made sale of the houses and lots for the benefit of the treasury, the payment of which is remitted in consequence of information communicated by Governor White, in 1798, that the purchasers refused to comply with their promises, *founding their objections on the grants of land made gratis to foreigners*, after a consultation with the council of Indies by the King. The next evidence is Quesada's edict; the copy of which, in my possession, is without date, but must have been antecedent to 1796, at which time he ceased to be governor, announcing, "that he grants to all the inhabitants, permanently settled, and subjects of his Majesty, in his royal name, for their use, the quantity of land they may require, *in proportion to their force*, without any exception;" and predicates this authority on the 12th title, 4th book, of the Codes of India, but declines, until he receives instructions from his Government, "*to make absolute distributions for powerful motives.*" On the 12th October, 1803, Governor White informs the captain general of Cuba that he had reduced the quantity of lands to be granted to new settlers from one hundred acres, to heads of families, to fifty, and to laborers, from fifty acres to twenty-five, for the approbation of his Government. In the year 1813, Governor Kindelan recommends the services of the militia, and the married officers and soldiers of the Cuba battalion, as entitled to the royal favor, to which an answer is sent in 1815 by the captain general, communicating the royal disposition, and authorizes grants of land to be made to the privates of the militia, and exclusively to the married officers and soldiers of the Cuba battalion, giving to the *officers* of the militia royal commissions corresponding with their respective militia grades. On the 21st October, 1817, the powers of the intendant of Cuba seem to be limited; for, by royal order of that date, the liberal policy authorized for the settlement of the island of Puerto Rico is extended to that of Cuba; and, in December, 1817, the same authority is given to the intendant in relation to the lands in Florida, and the intendancy transferred to his direction.

The order of the regency of the 22d of January, 1813, provides for the division of the public lands into two equal parts, appropriating the one to the payment of the public responsibilities, and the other is declared for the use of private individuals; and makes provision for disabled officers and soldiers honorably discharged. The 10th article of this ordinance is as follows: "The quantity which, in each town, is granted to officers or soldiers, shall be in equal proportion of value to the space and quality of the same, and more or less for some places than in others, according to their circumstances, and the greater or less extent of the lands; managing, if possible, *that, at the least, each quantity shall be such as to be sufficient, regularly cultivated, for the maintenance of an individual.*"

In this statement, we have a tacit admission, at least, of the first governor, that his powers did not authorize him to grant lands, notwithstanding he considered the circumstances of the country requiring the exercise of such a power. And, again, we find Governor Quesada, as late as 1793, practically construing his instructions imperfect, and predicating his sole authority on the limitations contained in the Code of India. It should also be remarked, that the governors had their council, with whom they were directed to consult and advise; and, consequently, we may fairly conclude that, whatever doubts may have been entertained, when disposed in favor of the Territory, must have received their sanction. We have, in addition to this, the regulations of the regency in 1813, providing for the disposal of public lands, and for *military* services. Then, I ask, how it can be pretended that the governor possessed an unlimited authority, and how the royal order of 1815, authorizing remuneration in lands for *military* services, could be construed as undefined? *This last royal order has not only been carried into effect by excessive grants, but has been made the excuse for repeated extravagant gifts to the same individual, for the same services.*

It is worthy of observation, that none of the grants made in opposition to the regularly established custom, were in the possession of *actual settlers* at the time of the cession; and that, until the Agrarian prodigal Coppinger issued absolute titles for mill-seats, cowpens, &c., they were only considered, and occupied, as privileges to use the timber and pasture, the Government reserving the right to dispose of all the plantable lands within their customary limits of sixteen thousand acres.

The report is certainly in error in declaring, or even intimating, that no established rule governing the surveyors was legally in force. It was in evidence, that the written instructions to Marrott, and these in principle corresponding with the universal Spanish custom, direct that the front line shall not exceed one-third of the depth, and that they were uniformly pursued until the general jubilee distribution commenced upon the prospect of the cession to the United States; and even during the absence of all integrity and regulation, no written evidence could be produced of an authorized departure. In all differences about boundaries, references were always made, and conclusively, to these regulations.

To this will be opposed the evidence of Geo. J. F. Clarke and his pretended deputy, Burgevin. In mentioning the name of the latter, I ought to apologize to Mr. Clarke, as I considered him too contemptible for serious examination, and too trifling to support or injure any other.

The extravagant pretensions, and inconsistent representations of Mr. Clarke, with a memory on some subjects singularly tenacious, and on others peculiarly forgetful, to my mind created such unfavorable impressions as to destroy all confidence in his accuracy. It is possible this gentleman may have mistaken his instructions. I certainly entertained much respect for him antecedent to his examination, and regretted his evidently painful situation afterwards. It was, however, *my* duty to make the examination without respect to his feelings. Several of his tracts, and those of his immediate friends, were involved in the successful establishment of the powers he advocated, and that of Mr. McIntosh, even further than my colleagues were aware. Mr. Clarke was an interested witness to the amount of 40,000, and Burgevin exceeding 20,000 acres.

I must here take the liberty to remark, that the conduct pursued by my colleagues gave to my examinations an invidious inquisitorial character, and, what was more unfortunate, it created an indirect sanction to witnesses to attempt to impose improper testimony.

I regret that the discrepancies of the report prevent my referring to Purcell's table of calculations, in connection with Marrott's and Clarke's instructions. The whole would show a perfect system, and, notwithstanding the governors may have exhibited occasional favoritism, there existed a most respectable degree of regularity while there was any expectation of responsibility to the Spanish Government.

The amount of acres of land included in the exceptionable grants, cannot be estimated at less than 1,500,000; and, as they are pretended to be surveyed, extending along the shores and spreading over the hammocks, giving to many tracts fronts greatly exceeding the depth, the public interests involved must bear almost a duplicate value to the numerical computation.

To those acquainted with the peculiarities of our southern countries, and who reflect that the extension of the front line gives a greater proportional advantage than the mere additional front, this estimate will not appear excessive. In a parallelogram composed of three successive square miles receding from the river or front, the hammock, as in most cases, not extending in the same direction to exceed a half mile, the tract will have but one-sixth of what is appreciated the most valuable lands; when, if the relative position of the figure be reversed, the amount of hammock lands in the triple front will be one-half of the tract, and the whole brought within an average distance of the water of less than two-thirds of a mile, leaving to the United States, in the rear, the entire pine lands.

It is certainly material to the interest of the United States, and especially to the honest claimants, that the proceedings should be speedily examined. If the decision of the commission be correct, the business ought to be concluded in less than six months, and, if not, the sooner it is terminated the better.

It may not be improbable that, with some, the course I have pursued may be condemned as erroneous in not submitting, as the minority, to the judgment of the commission expressed by the majority. I am, nevertheless, conscious that, although this may in general, and in minor points, be correct, there are occasions when silent acquiescence would be censurable, and an independent opposition imperiously required.

It is my matured opinion that Congress will not sanction many of the claims recommended for confirmation as authorized by the Spanish Government, but will consider them as fraudulently made in anticipation of the cession of the Floridas to the United States.

I have the honor to remain, with much respect, your obedient humble servant,

ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

Hon. Wm. H. Crawford,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Note.—I am inclined to believe that all the papers I have referred to have not been embodied in the report of my colleagues.

No. 12.

New York, *May* 1, 1824.

Sir: I had the honor this morning, in reply to Mr. Jones's note received by to day's mail, to inform the Government that I was not in possession of any draft of my letter written from Charleston, and that I should be under the necessity, with the exception of the copies of the letters contained therein, to give my communication from memory, which I now do, treating the subjects thereof more at large, affording the President a better opportunity to understand the bearings of the transactions to which it relates, with the request that this may be considered as its substitute.

I have dated the enclosed from Charleston to preserve the order of the correspondence, and to answer the reference in my letter of the 31st March, written the day after my arrival in Washington.

I am, respectfully, your most obedient servant,

ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

Hon. W. H. Crawford,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Charleston, *February* 25, 1824.

Sir: I had the honor, from St. Augustine, under date of the 10th of January, to transmit to you, for the inspection of the President, my correspondence with Davis Floyd, esq., of the 8th of the same month, to which I have now to add the last communications that passed between myself and colleagues.

The majority of the commission having refused to settle any general principles, or to adopt any organization of our business that would facilitate or render it intelligible, I considered it my duty to assume the responsibility of withdrawing from the adjudication; at the same time I continued a constant attendant, noting in written memoranda whatever transpired.

I have come to this place in anticipation of some communication from the chairman of the Committee on Public Lands, requesting my attendance in Washington previous to the passage of any act of Congress extending the term of the commission.

With much respect, I remain, &c.,

ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

Hon. W. H. Crawford.

St. Augustine, *January* 27, 1824.

Sir: We shall commence this morning making out a report of the proceedings of the board to send on to the Secretary of the Treasury. We would be sorry that a difference of opinion amongst the commissioners should deprive the people and the Government of the aid of any one member of the board, and hope therefore that, notwithstanding we may have differed in opinion on an important question, whether the majority were right or wrong, it affords no good reason why we should not all unite in making up the report of the board; and, also, in rendering the reasons for the confirmation or rejection of such claims as have been decided. We therefore hope that you will change your previous determination, and unite with us in making out the report and decisions aforesaid.

We are respectfully, &c.

DAVIS FLOYD.
W. W. BLAIR.

Col. Alex. Hamilton.

As I had declined joining in the adjudication, I conceived it a matter of delicacy to absent myself from all private meetings; and, having absolutely disapproved of the conduct of my colleagues, I returned the following answer to their letter, immediately upon its receipt. The board being in session, I wrote immediately, to prevent delay.

St. Augustine, *January* 27, 1824.

Gentlemen: If my attendance were not mere matter of form, I should regret that my absence would "deprive the people and the Government" of my assistance in making up the report of the commission; but as I have uniformly disapproved of the course that has been pursued, and since there has been no difference of opinion in the few cases that have been the subjects of your adjudication, I can perceive no other consequence in my interference than to occasion delay and embarrassment. As I have not heard, notwithstanding my constant attendance, the principles which have governed the commission in its decisions, it would be impossible for me to show their propriety; and to attempt to illustrate their inaccuracy by the assumption of what has been your interpretation of the rules, regulations, and royal orders, that have been in force, and governed the disposition of the lands in this Territory, while under the jurisdiction of the Spanish Government, would be a preposterous and most idle task.

When the report shall be made, I presume the commission will terminate its session, to prevent further inconvenience resulting from my refusal to participate in its proceedings.

It is with great regret that I have considered it my duty to the public interest, and not less so to the claimants, who are deeply concerned in the propriety and strictness of our examinations, to decline your invitation to change my determination.

I have the honor to remain, with much respect, your obedient servant,

ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

Hons. Davis Floyd, and
Wm. W. Blair.

St. Augustine, *January* 30, 1824.

Gentlemen: It may be proper to inform you that, in my opinion, the document upon which Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, junior, claims title to 50,000 acres of land, is not authentic; and I have to request, in consideration of the interest of the United States, that the records of title in the office of the keeper of the public archives may be deposited in a trunk, and secured with separate locks—one for the use of the commissioners, and the other for the keeper of the public archives.

I am, with much respect, your obedient servant,

ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

Hons. Davis Floyd, and
W. W. Blair.

P. S. I shall be obliged to you to inform me what is your determination in relation to the *records of title.*

To the above, no answer was given; but on the succeeding day, while I was directing transcripts to be made from the minutes, Mr. Floyd joined me, when I directed his attention to my note in reference to the public records. It was our united opinion that these papers were insecurely kept; and mine, that it was our duty to direct the marshal to take forcible possession, if the proposition I had submitted should not be complied with. To this course Mr. Floyd objected; and alleged, as his reason, that he would not do any act that might compromise his communications to Washington. We then ordered the marshal to call upon the keeper of the public archives, and request him to concur with the proposed arrangement. The following is the answer, and such as I had anticipated. I had made repeated unsuccessful attempts to secure these papers, aware that I ought not in prudence, and in the exercise of a sound discretion, commence an investigation into their validity while they were subject to intrusions, and under an irresponsible control. The President had directed these documents to be transferred to the charge of the commissioners, which was not complied with, under an evasion sanctioned by the majority of the board. This order from the President was issued in consequence of a communication made by Mr. Floyd and myself, the day after his arrival in St. Augustine, at my suggestion.

The treaty declares, that the public records shall be transferred to the American commissioners at the cession of the Territory. The communication of the President advises that the public records, transferred by Governor Coppinger, (the Spanish) to General Jackson, (the American commissioner) should be placed in charge of the land commission. The majority of the commissioners, with the keeper of the public archives, decide that, as there was no other than a constructive transfer, there was not such a delivery as to embrace the documents alluded to within the order of the President. It was also contended that, as the Florida Legislative Council had placed a certain portion of these papers in charge of the keeper of the public archives, he was bound to retain

possession of them. To which it was objected that, inasmuch as Congress had limited the powers of the Legislative Council, and especially prohibiting them from interfering with the landed rights of the United States, they had no power to dispose of the original titles to lands that were, with the Territory, transferred as public property; in which character they had always been held under the Spanish Government. It being also a well established principle of law, that the muniments of title ought always to attend the highest right to the land, they were, in fact, the only evidences of the acts of the Government, to illustrate under what conditions and circumstances the public lands were appropriated. These records were the representatives of the allodial right of the King; and no sales could be made without the sanction of the Government, obtained by regular petition; and in all cases where lands remained vacant for two successive years, they were considered re-annexed to the "royal domain;" and were frequently, under such circumstances, conveyed to others by subsequent grants, and the improvements sold for the benefit of the public treasury. [See Governor White's regulations, published in 1803 and 1805.] The original grants were never given to the grantees—transcripts were alone issued.

The annexed report was made by the marshal on the 2d February, 1824.

To the honorable the Commissioners appointed to ascertain claims and titles to land in East Florida:

GENTLEMEN: In obedience to your order of the 31st ultimo, I called at the office of the keeper of the public archives, and proposed to Antonio Alvarez, esq., [*late secretary to Governor Coppinger*,] that all the original titles to lands in that office should be deposited in a chest to be provided for that purpose, on which should be placed two locks—the chest and key of one of the locks to remain in charge of the keeper of the public archives, the key of the other lock to remain in charge of the land commissioners; that, when any papers should be required, some person authorized by the commissioners would attend with their key at the office of the keeper of the public archives, that he might have free access to the papers, at the same time protecting them from improper exposure. Mr. Alvarez declined acceding to the arrangement proposed. With much respect, I remain, your obedient servant,

WATERS SMITH, *Marshal E. F.*

Note.—The words within brackets by myself. A. H.

Perceiving that my colleagues were determined not to take any steps that would coerce the production or tend to secure the public records, which became the more necessary after transcripts had been issued, with the official certificate that they were copies of the originals in his possession, I resolved to expose the proceedings of the commission, and, if possible, cause it to be suspended. Under the impression *that, as we ceased to be in commission* on the 7th February instant, the expiration of the act of Congress in virtue of which we had been appointed, it would be necessary to re-nominate us to the Senate, I had intended to have made a formal protest.

The majority of the commission having decided that, as Congress had, by the act of 3d of March, 1823, extended the final jurisdiction of the commissioners in favor of "actual settlers" to 3,500 acres, this extension was not to be considered as confined to those only who were in the cultivation or occupation of the land claimed, but that it embraced the claims of all those who were merely residents within the Territory at its cession, the period referred to in the act. It was not alone on the ground that this interpretation was not authorized by fair construction, and the reasons apparent why Congress should be more confiding to the commission in a class of claimants so peculiarly advantageously situated, that I was opposed to their decision, but because I considered the public interests essentially jeopardized by the admission of claims that, in my opinion, *had been made in fraud of the United States, and in direct violation of the provisions of the royal order of* 1815, *in virtue of which they were avowedly made.* Of these grants few, if any, were in actual possession at the time of the cession, and of those which had been located since the surveys had not corresponded with the regulations of the Spanish Government, but in such a manner as, at least, to duplicate the injury to the public interest.

If the view I had taken of this subject was correct, and of which I entertain no doubt, it was of importance to the community, and every individual desirous to make purchases in Florida, that no act of the commission should facilitate the imposition intended to be practised upon those who might be induced to speculate under the sanction of the decisions of the commissioners. I consequently sent the subjoined note to the presiding commissioner:

ST. AUGUSTINE, *February* 4, 1824.

SIR: In order to guard against any unfortunate speculations that might arise from the decisions of the majority of the commissioners, permit me to recommend that no evidence of confirmation issue in those cases exceeding one thousand acres, where the claimants are not actually settled on the lands claimed, until Congress shall have an opportunity to examine our proceedings.

I am, with much respect, your obedient servant,

ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

To DAVIS FLOYD, Esq.

To the above no answer was made, and, on the following day, I departed for Charleston.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

MINUTES

OF THE BOARD OF FLORIDA LAND COMMISSIONERS.

Board of Land Commissioners, city of St. Augustine, district of East Florida.

Agreeable to an act of Congress, entitled "An act for ascertaining claims and titles to land within the Territory of Florida," approved the 8th of May, 1822; also, an act of Congress entitled "An act amending and supplementary to the act for ascertaining claims and titles to land in the Territory of Florida, and to provide for the survey and disposal of the public lands in Florida," approved the 3d of March 1823—Present, the Hons. Davis Floyd, William W. Blair, and Alexander Hamilton, appointed and commissioned for the purpose of ascertaining the claims and titles to lands within the district of East Florida: The said commissioners met at the Government house, in the city aforesaid, on Monday the 4th day of August, 1823, agreeably to previous notice published in the East Florida Herald, and proceeded to open their session for the performance of the duties assigned to their office. Whereupon, on motion,

Resolved, That the Hon. Davis Floyd be appointed presiding member of the board.

Ordered, That Francis J. Fatio be appointed secretary to this board. Whereupon, the said Francis J. Fatio took and subscribed the oath of office prescribed by the acts of Congress in that case made and provided.

Ordered, That John Lowe be appointed messenger to the Board of Commissioners.

Waters Smith presented to the board the following documents, with an accompanying memorial from James Bosley, of the city of Baltimore, to wit:

A deed from William G. D. Worthington to James Bosley, marked A, for 500 acres of land;

A deed from Charles Gobert, and others, to said Worthington, marked B;

A certificate of Mr. Arredondo relative to Moultrie plantation;

Which documents were ordered to be filed by the secretary of the board.

RULES.

Ordered, In all cases where, in the deraignment of title, the documents may be very voluminous, the commissioners will require only so much of their contents as they may deem essential to a fair understanding of the claims.

Ordered, That the secretary of this board do apply to Patrick Lynch for all papers heretofore filed with said Lynch relating to land titles in the district of East Florida, by virtue of an appointment as provisional secretary of this board, made by the Hon. Alexander Hamilton; and that the accounts of said Lynch, for his services, be audited.

Ordered, That all claimants may be permitted, in the time of adjournment of the commissioners, to file their memorials and documents with the secretary, who shall produce them before the board at its next meeting for examination.

Ordered, That the board be adjourned until to-morrow morning, at 10 o'clock.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 1823.

The Board of Commissioners met according to adjournment. Present, all the members.

The following rules were then adopted:

Resolved, That claimants be not required to produce their title papers translated into the English language, but, in all cases, be permitted to file the original documents. The Hon. Alexander Hamilton dissenting.

Ordered, That all the papers heretofore filed before the meeting of the board be returned to their respective owners, and that they be permitted to present the same in proper order.

Upon the motion of Francis J. Fatio, secretary of this board, Joseph B. Lancaster is admitted and sworn his deputy, well and truly and faithfully to perform the duties required of him by the Board of Commissioners.

Resolved, That the district attorney, the keeper of the public archives, nor the secretary to this board, are not authorized to represent, as attorneys or agents, any claims to lands before the commissioners. Hon. Davis Floyd dissenting.

The board then adjourned until to-morrow morning, at 10 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, all the members.

John H. McIntosh presented to the board his memorial for sundry tracts of land, with the following documents:

A memorial and certificate of four tracts of land, with surveys of each. The first, a tract of land at the head of Indian river, containing six thousand acres, and bounded by Indian river and vacant lands. Second, a tract called Stony point, on Marrott's island, lying in Indian river; the number of acres not specified. Third, a tract of land of three hundred acres, situated on the north side of Marrott's island, and lies between the lagoon of Indian river, bordering on the said island and the Musquito lagoon. Fourth, a tract of land of one thousand acres, called Cabbage swamp, situated on the east of Indian river, opposite the Narrows.

Also, a copy of the royal title to John McQueen for ninety-eight caballerias and eight acres, or about 3,254½ acres of land, upon St. John's river and McGirt's creek, together with a copy of the bill of sale for third tract; and another called Fort George, executed by said McQueen in favor of said McIntosh.

A conveyance from Timothy Hollingsworth to said McIntosh, of a tract of land containing eight hundred acres upon St. John's river, called Mulberry Grove.

An obligation from John McQueen to said McIntosh to make title to a tract of land upon Miami river, with a receipt acknowledging payment for said tract. Also, a receipt from said McQueen to said McIntosh for the sum of twenty-eight thousand dollars, expressed to be the full consideration for three tracts of land.

Also, a title from said McQueen to said McIntosh for a tract of land on Miami river, containing two thousand acres. Also, an official copy of the concession to McQueen of said tract.

John B. Strong, esq., moved the Board of Commissioners upon the following interrogatory, to wit: "Will the board require of the claimant to file with the secretary his memorial only for record, or will he be compelled to file therewith the documentary evidence of his title; and does the law require such document to be recorded, and fees paid to the secretary therefor?"

On which motion and interrogatory the board resolved that they will hear argument upon to-morrow.

The board then adjourned until to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, all the members.

John Love, by his agent, William R. Gibson, presented his memorial to the board, praying confirmation to three hundred acres of land situate about fifteen miles south of St. Augustine. Also, a document marked A, purporting to be a copy of Benjamin Lord's receipt for surveying the same, and a copy of an appraisement thereof by William Moss and George Gressall, all of which are ordered to be filed. Also, an exhibit marked B, purporting to be a copy of a certificate of naturalization of said Love, obtained from the clerk's office of the federal district court, held in the city of Charleston, South Carolina.

Leave is given John B. Strong, esq. to withdraw his motion made on yesterday, and set down for argument for to-day.

Samuel Fairbanks, by John B. Strong, his attorney, presented his memorial, claiming title to a lot of ground in St. Augustine, on St. George street, containing near one acre of land, without any document accompanying the same; which is ordered to be filed.

The board adjourned until to-morrow morning, at 10 o'clock.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Patrick Lynch presented his account against the United States as provisional secretary to this board, appointed by the Hon. Alexander Hamilton, one of the members of this board, from the 7th of June to the 5th of August, sixty days, at twelve hundred and fifty dollars per annum, two hundred and eight dollars and thirty-three cents; which is ordered to be certified to the Treasurer of the United States.

Duncan L. Clinch presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation to a tract of land of five hundred acres of land situated in the Twelve-mile swamp, near Joseph Thomas's land, and about seven miles northwest from St. Augustine; also, filed an original grant for the same, as spoken of in his memorial, to William Penn; a conveyance from said Penn to William Frazer and John Richardson, and a conveyance from Thomas Stone and William Wilson to Thomas Clarke. Also, a conveyance from C. W. and J. F. Clarke to said memorialist; also, a plat of the survey of the same. All of which papers are ordered to be filed.

The board then adjourned until Monday morning the 11th instant, at 10 o'clock.

MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, all the members.

No business ocurring, *Ordered*, That the board be adjourned until Wednesday the 13th instant, at 10 o'clock in the morning.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Samuel Fairbanks presented his memorial for eighty acres of land lying in St. Antonio's bend, on the margin of St. John's river, being the one-third part of an undivided tract containing two hundred and forty acres, granted to Robert Gilbert, which grant, and a conveyance to the memorialist from Absalom Beardon, and Hannah Beardon his wife, one of the heirs of Robert Gilbert, the grantee, accompanies said memorial, and together therewith is ordered to be filed.

Fifteen sheets of royal orders, in the Spanish language, filed and ordered to be translated into the English language by the secretary of this board.

Resolved, That, hereafter, whenever a claimant of land shall present his evidence of title to the secretary of this board, desiring to bring the same before the commissioners, it shall be the duty of the said secretary, without any fee therefor, to put the same in the form of a memorial, containing, in substance, what has already been required by the resolution of this board; and that the said secretary be authorized to obtain from the printer in this city one thousand blank copies of said form, and to authorize said printer to present his account therefor before this board, who will direct the said account to be paid out of the moneys which may come into their hands for appropriation; or, in case of none such, will certify said document to the Treasurer of the United States.

And be it further ordered, That the Secretary be required to deliver one of those printed forms to any person or persons applying for the same.

Ordered, That the board be adjourned until to-morrow morning, seven o'clock.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, all the members.

A memorial from the citizens of St. Augustine, holders of lots in said city, received by this board. After due consideration thereof, the board formed an address which, together with said memorial, is forwarded to the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States for information as to the subject matter thereof; and the board postpone delivering any opinion upon said memorial until their address shall be answered.

Memorial of Peter Miranda for a tract of land of one thousand acres upon North river, to include Blide's Old Field, together with a grant to Joseph S. Sanchez for the same, and deed of conveyance from the grantee to memorialist, presented to the board, and ordered to be filed.

The board then adjourned until Monday morning, the 18th instant, at 11 o'clock.

MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair.

Memorial of Mary Ann Davis for 500 acres of land upon Davis's creek, upon the road from St. Augustine to St. John's river, about twenty-five miles from the former place, together with a conveyance for the same from John Barker and William G. Davis to memorialist, received, and ordered to be filed.

The memorial of Bernardo Segui for seven thousand acres of land at Buffalo bluff, upon St. John's river, together with a survey and grant of the same, received and ordered to be filed.

The memorial of Moses E. Levy for thirty-six thousand acres of land upon Alachua, together with the exhibits thereto appended, and referred to in said memo-

rial, marked A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, and I, received, and ordered to be filed.

The board then adjourned until Wednesday morning the 20th instant, at 11 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair.

Ordered, That the secretary of this board do call upon William Reynolds, esq., keeper of the public archives for the district of East Florida, and require of him the original documents in the schedule marked A, and numbered from 1 to 35 inclusive, to be filed in the office of the secretary to this board, for the use of said board, and that the said secretary do forthwith observe this order, and report to this board upon to-morrow.

The board then adjourned until to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair.

A copy of a letter from the secretary of this board to William Reynolds, esq., keeper of the public archives, dated upon the 20th of August, 1823, and an answer thereto from said Reynolds, dated the 21st August, 1823, read before this board.

It is ordered by the board that a *subpœna duces tecum* do issue against William Reynolds and Antonio Alvarez, on behalf of the United States; that they, as commissioners appointed for examining the archives of the district of East Florida, do appear here upon the 22d instant, with the original documents in their department contained in a schedule marked A, and numbered from 1 to 35 inclusive.

Mr. Hamilton moved the board that transcripts, in the Spanish language, of the documentary evidence of title to claims exceeding thirty-five hundred acres, should be recorded by the secretary of this board in his record book, without charge to the claimants: upon which motion the board were divided.

The board then adjourned until to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair.

William Reynolds and Antonio Alvarez appeared here under a *subpœna duces tecum*, with the documents referred to, and required by said subpœna, and delivered said documents to the Board of Commissioners for their inspection.

Mr. Blair moved the board that the documents contained in the schedule marked A, and numbered 1 to 35 inclusive, which have been delivered to this board by Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Alvarez, the commissioners appointed by the Secretary of State of the United States under and by virtue of his letter to them, dated upon the 5th of April, 1823, a copy of which letter is marked B, and filed with the secretary of this board, should be redelivered to said commissioners: upon which motion the board were divided, and the documents retained.

Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Alvarez were discharged from any further attendance upon this board under a *subpœna duces tecum* awarded against them, on behalf of the United States, upon the 21st August, 1823.

The board then adjourned until Monday the 25th inst. at 11 o'clock in the morning.

MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair.

The memorial of Antelm Gay for one hundred and sixty acres of land in Twelve-mile swamp, with exhibits Nos. 1, 2, and 3, were laid before the board, and ordered to be filed.

The second memorial of Antelm Gay, for four hundred acres of land in Twelve-mile swamp, with the accompanying exhibits Nos. 1, 2, and 3, were laid before the board, and ordered to be filed.

The third memorial of Antelm Gay, for seven hundred acres of land in Twelve-mile swamp, with exhibits Nos. 1, 2, and 3, were laid before the board, and ordered to be filed.

The fourth memorial of Antelm Gay, for five hundred acres of land eighteen miles north of St. Augustine, with Nos. 1, 2, and 3, were laid before the board, and excluded from the consideration of the board, because the grant bears date after the 24th of January, 1818.

The fifth memorial of Antelm Gay, for six hundred acres of land in Wilson's swamp, with exhibits Nos. 1, 2, and 3, were laid before the board, and ordered to be filed.

The sixth memorial of Antelm Gay, for four hundred acres of land at St. Vincente errer, Fnear the bluff on St. John's river, with exhibits Nos. 1, 2, and 3, were laid before the board, and ordered to be filed.

The seventh memorial of Antelm Gay, for five thousand acres of land at Tocoy, on the St. John's river, with exhibits Nos. 1, 2, and 3, were laid before the board, and ordered to be filed.

The eighth memorial of Antelm Gay, for three hundred acres of land at Mosquito, to include an old English settlement called Ross plantation, with exhibits Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, were laid before the board, and ordered to be filed.

The ninth memorial of Antelm Gay and Francis J. Avice, for two thousand acres of land at Mosquito, with exhibits Nos. 1, 2, and 3, were laid before the board, and ordered to be filed.

The tenth memorial of Antelm Gay, for five hundred acres of land upon Indian river, with exhibits Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, were laid before the board, and ordered to be filed.

The eleventh memorial of Antelm Gay, for five hundred acres of land upon Indian river, with exhibits Nos. 1, 2, and 3, therein referred to, were laid before the board, and were excluded by the board from their consideration, because the grant bears date after the 24th of January, 1818.

The twelfth memorial of Antelm Gay, for two lots of land in the city of St. Augustine, with exhibit No. 1 therein referred to, ordered to be filed; No. 2 not produced.

The thirteenth memorial of Antelm Gay, for a lot of land in Fernandina, with exhibits Nos. 1 and 2, were laid before the board, and ordered to be filed; No. 3, therein referred to, not produced.

Patrick Lynch and Lewis Huguon are appointed to transcribe the documents brought before this board by Messrs. Reynolds and Alvarez upon the 22d instant.

No further business occurring, the board then adjourned until Thursday the 28th instant, at 11 o'clock in the morning.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair.

Ordered, That John Lowe, messenger to this board, do inform Edgar Macon, esq., United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, that his presence is required before this board.

Edgar Macon, esq., United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, is this day in attendance upon this board.

John Rodman, esq., attorney at law for Antelm Gay, moved that the board do reconsider the cases Nos. 4 and 11, of said Gay, in which they have excluded the documents from consideration of the board, as appeared in their minutes of the 25th instant; and that they do hear an argument of said motion by parol: upon which motion the board were divided, Mr. Hamilton being unwilling to hear any argument, unless in writing.

No further business occurring, the board adjourned until Monday morning the 1st of September, 1823, at 11 o'clock.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair.

Robert Miller and wife, by Belton A. Copp, present their memorial for sixty acres of land in Martin's island, with a grant of the same to David Garvin, which is ordered to be filed.

Elizabeth Tucker, widow and administratrix of Andrew Tucker, deceased, by Belton A. Copp, presents her memorial for three hundred acres of land in Duval county, opposite Amelia island, with a survey of the same marked B, and a certificate of the concession to Andrew Tucker of the same marked A, which are ordered to be filed.

John Underwood, by Belton A. Copp, presents his memorial for six hundred acres of land upon Black creek, three-fourths of a mile south of St. Mary's river, with a memorial to Governor Coppinger, and his decree upon the same; also, a grant for the same; all of which are ordered to be filed.

John B. Richards' heirs, by Belton A. Copp, their agent, present their memorial for two hundred and thirty acres of land lying on the south side of St. John's river, in St. John's county, with a certificate of a grant of the same to the said John B. Richards, marked A.; which are ordered to be filed.

Belton A. Copp presents a memorial for twelve hundred acres of land opposite New Buena Vista, called Gray's place, or Pelitka, with a memorial of Bernardo Segui to Governor Coppinger for the same, and his decree, marked A.; and, also, a title to the said Segui for

the same, with a survey and bill of sale from said Segui to George Fleming, and a bill of sale from said Fleming to the memorialist, all marked B; which are ordered to be filed.

Ordered, That the account of Patrick Lynch for sixteen dollars and eighty-two cents, this day presented to this board, for transcribing certain documents, under an appointment of this board made upon the 25th of August, be certified to the Treasurer of the United States for payment.

Ordered, That the account of Lewis Huguon for eight dollars and sixty-nine cents, this day presented to this board, for transcribing certain documents under an appointment of this board made upon the 25th of August, be certified to the Treasurer of the United States for payment.

The board then adjourned until Thursday morning the 4th instant, at 11 o'clock in the morning.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1823.

The Board of Commissioners met. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair, and adjourned until Monday the 8th of September, 1823, at 11 o'clock A. M.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1823.

Present, the Hon. Alexander Hamilton. William Berry presented his memorial to this board for three hundred and fifty acres of land at the Cowpen branch, and a grant for the same, marked A; which are ordered to be filed.

Juan Huertas presented his memorial to this board for fifteen thousand acres of land at Tocoy and Buena Vista, on St. John's river, with a grant for the same, marked A, and surveys of the same, in two parts, marked B and C, and order of survey, marked D; which are ordered to be filed.

Francis J. Avice presented to this board his memorial for five hundred acres of land at Little Lake George, with exhibit E, a title for the same to F. M. Arredondo, and a conveyance from said Arredondo to Andrew Burgevin, marked G, and a conveyance from said Burgevin to the memorialist, marked H; all of which are ordered to be filed.

Francis J. Avice and Prosper Viel presented to this board their memorial for one thousand acres of land on the river St. Sebastians, with title to the same, in the name of Jose Peso de Borgos, marked M, and survey of the same, marked N, and a conveyance from the widow and heirs of said Borgos to memorialists, marked Q; all of which are ordered to be filed.

Francis J. Avice presented to this board his memorial for six thousand acres of land upon the river St. Johns, with a copy of a grant for the same to Juan Huertas, marked B; survey of the same, marked D; conveyance of the same from said Huertas to the memorialist, marked E.

Francis J. Avice presented his memorial to this board for one hundred and fifteen acres of land situated on the river Matanzas, with a title for the same to Aysick Travers, a free black, marked A; a survey of the same, marked C; a conveyance of the same from said Travers to Andrew Burgevin, marked P; and a conveyance from Luis Solomon to memorialist, marked Q; all of which are ordered to be filed.

Eliza Robinson presented her memorial to this board for one hundred and five acres of land lying one and a half miles north of the city of St. Augustine, with a concession of the same to Pedro Capo, marked A; with a survey of the same, marked C; and a power of attorney from said Pedro Capo to Pedro Miranda, marked B; all of which are are ordered to be filed.

Bernardo Segui presented his memorial to this board for three hundred acres of land on the river Halifax, near Pelican island, with a concession of the same to Estevan Arnau, marked A; survey of the same, marked B; and a conveyance from said Arnau to memorialist, marked C; all of which are ordered to be filed.

Bernardo Segui presented his memorial to this board for sixteen thousand acres of land lying on the Ys or Indian river, with a concession of the same to memorialist, marked A, and a survey of the same, marked B; all of which are ordered to be filed.

Isaac Hendricks presented his memorial to this board for two hundred and sixteen acres of land lying at the Cow-ford, on the river St. Johns, with a concession of the same made to father of memorialist, and survey of the same; and royal title, dated May 8th, 1817, made to memorialist; all of which are ordered to be filed.

John Houston presented to this board his memorial for two hundred and seventy acres of land, called Pine island, on the river Nassau, with a title of the same to the memorialist; which are ordered to be filed.

John Houston presented to this board his memorial for one hundred and sixty acres of land lying at Cain's swamp, on the river Nassau, with a title for the same to memorialist; which are ordered to be filed.

John Houston presented to this board his memorial for one hundred and fifty-five acres of land lying at the Half-moon bluff, on the river Nassau, with a title for the same to memorialist; all of which are ordered to be filed.

John Houston presented to this board his memorial for one hundred and twenty acres of land lying on Mill branch, or Dunn's creek, of the river Nassau, with a title for the same to memorialist; which are ordered to be filed.

Daniel C. Hart presented to this board his memorial for one hundred and fifty acres of land lying at the Nine-mile point, about six miles distant from Buena Vista, on the river St. Johns, with a concession of the same to the memorialist; which are ordered to be filed.

The heirs of James Baird, by Robert Miller and wife, presented their memorial to this board for six hundred and twenty acres of land lying upon an island, name unknown, between the mouths of the river Ys, or Indian river, and Jupiter river; with a petition of Guillermo Lawrence, and Governor Estrada's decree thereon; and a petition of Robert Miller to Governor Coppinger, and his decree upon the same; all of which are ordered to be filed.

Sarah Fish presented her memorial to this board for about ten thousand acres of land lying on St. Anastasia island, with a copy of decree of the court, affirmed by the governor, ordering said land to be sold; and an instrument purporting to affirm said sale, and vest said land in Josef Fish; also, a receipt for the purchase money to said Josef Fish; all of which are ordered to be filed.

Sarah Fish presented her memorial to this board for five hundred acres of land lying in Graham's swamp, at the head of the river Matanzas, with a title for the same, dated 24th of April, 1819, in favor of the heirs of Jesse Fish; which are ordered to be filed.

Edgar Macon, esq., United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, attended here under the order of this board.

The board then adjourned until Thursday morning the 11th, at 11 o'clock.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1823.

The Board of Commissioners met this day. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair.

Sundry resolutions, in the words and figures following, to wit, (eight in number:)

Resolved, That the commissioners will, on the 15th day of September, commence the examination of the evidence of all claims, and conditionally adjudicate upon those arising under the royal order of 1790, commonly known as the order regulating *head-rights*, and such as may be founded on the general law of India.

Resolved, That as, by the provisio of the 4th section of the act of Congress approved the 8th of May, 1822, the commissioners are not authorized to decide upon claims emanating both from the British and Spanish Governments, they will suspend forming any final decisions until the 1st of December, the ultimate period established by Congress for the admission of claims.

Resolved, That, in the opinion of the commissioners, the acts of Congress in virtue of which they are authorized to ascertain claims and titles to land, *no exception or distinction* is made between city and county property: but that, in consideration of the interests of the United States not requiring that the commissioners should be vested other than with discretionary power to examine claims to city lands, where the same, by common report, may appear to the commissioners questionable, they do recommend to the inhabitants of St. Augustine and Fernandina to memorialize Congress to relieve them from the necessity of exhibiting their claims to city lots, and the consequent expense and embarrassment incident thereto.

Resolved, That the secretary to the Board of Commissioners be authorized to demand the recording fees, established by law, upon all *memorials of claims* ordered to be recorded; but that upon all other documents no fees shall be demanded until the termination of the next session of Congress.

Resolved, That all memorials presented to the consideration of the commission shall be subscribed by the proper signature of the claimant, or by his agent.

Resolved, That the public papers received by the commissioners in virtue of a subpœna duces tecum, and by them ordered to be transcribed, be returned to the keeper of the public archives by the secretary of the board, and that the transcripts of the same be immediately translated.

Resolved, That claimants desiring to obtain the testimony of any witnesses residing without the Territory of Florida, shall file with the secretary their interrogatories; and that the district attorney, under direction of the board, shall, if required, annex cross-interrogatories on behalf of the United States; and that in all cases where the witnesses are resident within the Territory, the claimants may file depositions taken ex parte, as the said witnesses are subject to the jurisdiction of the commissioners, leaving it optional with the claimants to proceed by filing interrogatories—

Were presented to the board by Mr. Hamilton, which were ordered to be laid over for further consideration.

Edgar Macon, esq., attended here under the order of this board.

No further business occurring, the board adjourned until Saturday morning, September 13th, 1823, at 11 o'clock.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1823.

The Board of Commissioners met this day. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair.

The Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution in the words and figures following, to wit:

"*Resolved*, That the public papers received by the commissioners in virtue of a *subpœna duces tecum*, and by them ordered to be transcribed, be returned to the keeper of the public archives by the secretary of the board, and that the transcripts of the same be immediately translated."

William Thomas Jones, a minor, by his father and natural guardian, presented his memorial to this board for two thousand acres of land lying on the neck of land between St. John's river and Maxton's creek, known as Maxton's creek island, with a patent from the British governor, James Grant, esq., for the said lands, bearing date upon the 12th of January, 1790, in favor of Abraham Jones; also, a conveyance for said lands from the heirs of said Abraham Jones, bearing date, as to the widow and a part of the heirs, upon the 1st of May, 1783, and, as to the residue of said heirs, upon the 20th of February, 1820, in favor of William Jones; and a conveyance from the heirs of said William Jones to memorialist, bearing date upon the 19th of March, 1822; all of which are ordered to be filed.

John F. Brown presented his memorial to this board for ninety-five acres of land lying in a place called Clapboard creek, on the north side of the river St. Johns, consisting of a small island called Pilots, and a pine barren near it, with a royal title made to Josiah Gray on the 8th of February, 1819, with a conveyance from said Gray to George Fleming, dated 8th March, 1819, and a conveyance from said Fleming to John F. Brown, dated 22d November, 1820; also, a memorial and certified copy of plat of said lands, bearing date 8th of May, 1816; also the grant for said land, bearing date the 16th of February, 1816; all of which are ordered to be filed.

John F. Brown presented to this board his memorial for fifty-one acres of land lying on the north side of St. John's river, and known by the name of Dame's point, comprising two islands divided by a neck of land and marsh in front of said river, with a concession of the same, bearing date 16th February, 1816, to Josiah Gray; a memorial and certificate of survey, bearing date the 6th of May, 1816, and royal title dated 8th February, 1819. Also, a conveyance from said Gray to George Fleming, bearing date 8th of March, 1819, and a conveyance from said Fleming to John F. Brown, dated the 22d of November, 1820; which are ordered to be filed.

Mariano A. Berta presented his memorial to this board for one hundred and eighty-six acres of land lying in St. John's county, on Cartel point neck, with a royal title made to Andres Pacity, bearing date the 16th of October, 1815, for two hundred acres; and a conveyance from Maria del Castel, late widow of Andres Pacity, deceased, to Mariano A. Berta, of two hundred acres, more or less, dated upon the 13th day of June, 1822; which are ordered to be filed.

George Atkinson presented to this board his memorial for three hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the east side of the river St. Johns, and known by the name of Colonel Castle, with a royal title to William Hart for the same, dated upon the 4th October, 1811; a power of attorney from said Hart to Dr. Thomas de Aguilar, dated the 9th of April, 1808; and conveyance from Aguilar to George Atkinson, dated 17th October, 1811; also, memorial and plat of survey of said lands to said Atkinson, dated 25th of February, 1812; which are ordered to be filed.

Elihu Woodruff, Sidney P. Haines, and James Mavor, present their memorial to this board for three hundred and fifty acres of land lying near a place called Rolles' town, on the river St. Johns, about six miles from the port of Buena Vista, with a royal title for the same to John Moore, dated the 9th of November, 1805, and a conveyance from said Moore to memorialist, dated upon the third day of May, 1823; which are ordered to be filed.

Jose Bernardo Reyes presented his memorial to this board for two hundred acres of land upon Moultrie creek, with a royal title to Bartolome de Castro y Ferrer, dated upon the 6th of July, 1818, exhibited and marked A; also a conveyance from said Ferrer to memorialist, dated upon the 21st of July, 1818, exhibited and marked B; which are ordered to be filed.

Samuel Worthington presented his memorial to this board for one hundred acres of land lying on river St. Marys, near Pigeon creek, with a concession of the same to memorialist, dated the 18th of March, 1817; also, a plat and certificate of survey of said lands, dated 9th of May, 1818; which are ordered to be filed.

Isaac Hendricks presented his memorial to this board for three hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the north side of the river St. Johns, on McCoy's creek, with a royal title in favor of memorialist, dated upon the 28th of September, 1816, marked A; also a plat and certificate of survey of same, dated upon the 14th of February, 1817; which are ordered to be filed.

Robert Hutchinson presented his memorial to this board for one hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the west side of St. Johns river, two miles north of McGirt's creek, with a concession to memorialist of said lands, dated December 12th, 1815; also, a plat and certificate of survey of the same, dated 12th January, 1817, marked C; which are ordered to be filed.

Nathaniel Wilds presented his memorial to this board for three hundred and thirty-three and one-third acres of land lying on the river St. Marys, one mile below the junction of the Little and Big St. Marys, with a royal title to Reuben Hogan, dated upon the 26th of May, 1815, and a conveyance of same from said Hogan to Nathaniel Wilds, dated the 26th of December, 1822; which are ordered to be filed.

Nathaniel Wilds presented his memorial to this board for three hundred acres of land lying on Lofton's creek, a branch of Nassau, with a survey of the same, dated the 4th of December, 1817, exhibited and marked B; which are ordered to be filed.

William Hart presented his memorial to this board for two hundred acres of land lying on San Pablo, with a concession of the same to memorialist, dated 19th of June, 1816; also a plat and certificate of survey of same, dated the 1st of August, 1819, marked D; which are ordered to be filed.

The following resolution was introduced by Mr. Hamilton, in the words and figures following, to wit:

"*Resolved*, That the resolution of this board directing the secretary to prepare memorials be repealed, and that, henceforth, it shall be the duty of the secretary to examine all memorials, and endorse on the back of the same the particulars set forth, and in what, if at all, defective."

Upon a motion to adopt said resolution, the board were divided.

Ordered, that the marshal of the district of East Florida do pay the account of Lewis Huguon, eight dollars and sixty-nine cents, which was allowed by this board at a former day of their session.

Edgar Macon, esq. United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, was this day in attendance under the order of this board.

The board then adjourned until Monday morning the 15th instant, at 11 o'clock.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair.

Mary Smith presented her memorial to this board for three hundred and fifty acres of land lying on Chica creek, with a royal grant for the same to Maria Tharp, dated upon the 23d of February, 1809; which are ordered to be filed.

Mary Smith presented her memorial to this board for four hundred and fifty acres of land lying at a place called Plantage Rico, on Nassau river, with a royal title in favor of Maria Tharp, dated 23d of February, 1809; which are ordered to be filed.

Archibald Clarke and Elihu Atwater presented their memorial to this board for two hundred and fifty acres of land lying on St. John's river, at or near a place called the Cow-ford; concession of the same to James William Lee by Governor Quesada, dated 11th of November, 1794; a conveyance from said Lee to Samuel Betts, dated 5th of September, 1803; also, a conveyance from said Betts to James Hall, dated 20th of June, 1806, and a

conveyance from said Hall to memorialists, dated the 11th of September, 1823; which are ordered to be filed.

Levin Gunby presented his memorial to this board for four hundred acres of land lying on the west side of St. John's river, at a place called Dames' point, with a concession to memorialist from Governor White, dated the 16th of August, 1803; which are ordered to be filed.

Edgar Macon, esq., United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, attended here this day under the order of this board.

George W. Martin presented his memorial to this board for three hundred acres of land lying in a place called the Big swamp, on the river St. Johns, with a royal title made by Governor Coppinger in favor of Charles Clarke for the same, dated the 10th of April, 1817; a conveyance from said Clarke to memorialist, dated the 23d of April, 1822; and a conveyance from George J. F. Clarke to memorialist, dated 23d of April, 1822; also, a plat and certificate of survey, dated the 30th of May, 1820; all of which are ordered to be filed.

A resolution, in the words and figures following, was this day offered for the consideration of this board, to wit: "*Resolved*, That claimants desiring to obtain the testimony of any witnesses residing without the Territory of Florida, shall file with the secretary their interrogatories; and that the district attorney, under direction of the board, shall, if required, annex cross-interrogatories on behalf of the United States; and that, in all cases where the witnesses are resident within the Territory, the claimants may file depositions taken ex parte, as the said witnesses are subject to the jurisdiction of the commissioners, leaving it optional with the claimants to proceed by filing interrogatories; and that a commission, with the interrogatories so annexed, shall be directed to any person authorized to administer oaths, sealed by the secretary, and delivered to the party so making application; and it shall be the duty of said person to take the answers of said witness to all such interrogatories, and none other, and to certify the same, and whether the said commission was sealed when delivered." Which resolution was adopted by the board.

The board then adjourned until Thursday morning the 18th instant, at 11 o'clock.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair.

Shadrach Standly presented his memorial to this board for three hundred acres of land lying on St. Marys river, with a plat and certificate of survey to said Standly, dated the 10th of December, 1817; which are ordered to be filed.

Zachariah Hogan presented his memorial to this board for two hundred acres of land lying at Jacksonville, on the north side of the river St. Johns, with a royal title made by Governor Coppinger in favor of Maria Suarez, widow of Turnel Taylor, dated upon the 13th of September, 1816; also, a plat and certificate of survey of the same, dated 21st of February, 1817; which are ordered to be filed.

Frederick McMunen presented his memorial to this board for four hundred and fifty acres of land lying at Wilder's plantation, about eight miles south of Trader's hill, on St. Mary's river, with a concession by Governor Coppinger for the same to said McMunen, dated 30th of January, 1816; also, a plat and certificate of the same, dated the 10th of February, 1816; all of which are ordered to be filed.

Robert Hutchinson presented his memorial to this board for three hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the west side of the river St. Johns, near Girt's creek, with a concession of the same to said Hutchinson by Governor Coppinger, dated 9th of January, 1819, and plat and certificate of survey of same, dated 15th of May, 1821; which are ordered to be filed.

Charles Love presented his memorial to this board for three hundred acres of land lying on the river St. Marys, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same, dated upon the 10th of Dec. 1817; which are ordered to be filed.

John Houston presented his memorial to this board for three hundred and fifty-eight and one-half acres of land lying on a plantation called San Carlos, on the north side, and near the river St. Johns, with a royal title for the same in favor of Spicer Christopher, made by Governor White upon the 8th of April, 1809; which are ordered to be filed.

Abraham Bellamy, sen'r, presented his memorial to this board for three hundred and fifty acres of land lying on Funk Savannah branch, a branch of Nassau, with a concession of the same by Governor Estrada to Samuel Sands, dated the tenth of October, 1815; also, plat and certificate of survey of the same, dated the 10th of March, 1819; which are ordered to be filed.

Lewis Matteir presented his memorial to this board for one hundred and fifty acres of land lying at the head of Pablo creek, with a royal title made by Governor White to the heirs of Josefa Espinosa, dated the 25th of January, 1811; also, a conveyance from said heirs to said Matteir, bearing date 18th of January, 1819, and marked B; also, a plat and certificate of survey, dated the 4th of November, 1819; which are ordered to be filed.

Lewis Matteir presented his memorial to this board for three hundred acres of land lying on the south side of the river St. Johns, at a place called Bori's branch, with a concession of the same to memorialist by Governor Estrada, dated the 24th October, 1815, marked (A); also, a plat and certificate of survey, dated 3d of August, 1817, marked (B); which are ordered to be filed.

Moses E. Levy presented his memorial to this board for two hundred and seventy-five acres of land lying on the plains of San Diego, with a royal title in favor of Antonio Mier, made by Governor Coppinger the 16th of February, 1816; also, a conveyance from said Mier to memorialist, dated upon the 6th day of July, 1822; which are ordered to be filed.

Edgar Macon, esq., United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, attended here this day under the order of the board.

The board then adjourned until Thursday morning the 25th instant, at 11 o'clock.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair.

A letter from the Department of State, addressed to the commissioners for ascertaining claims to lands in East Florida, dated upon the 4th of September, 1823, and subscribed by Daniel Brent, was this day received by this board, covering another letter addressed to William Reynolds, keeper of the public archives at St. Augustine. The letter from the Department of State to this board is ordered to be filed; and it is further ordered that the Secretary of this board do deliver to William Reynolds, esq., the letter enclosed, addressed to him; and, also, open a communication with said Reynolds to know when, and in what manner, he will be willing and ready to deliver over to this board the documents referred to, and named in said letter.

Resolved, That the United States' marshal for the district of East Florida be directed to attend the sittings of this board upon this day, and that he be required to procure a house for the commissioners, and an office for their secretary.

Bartolome de Castro y Ferrer presented his memorial to this board for thirty-five acres of land lying on San Pablo, in the county of St. Johns, with a royal title for the same made by Governor Coppinger, and bearing date the 10th of April, 1817; which are ordered to be filed.

Bartolome de Castro y Ferrer presented his memorial to this board for one thousand acres of land lying at a place called the Three Runs or Little Creek, with a royal title for the same made by Governor Estrada, and dated 15th of July, 1815; also, plat and certificate of survey, dated April 3, 1821; which are ordered to be filed.

Samuel Fairbanks and Joseph S. Sanchez presented their memorial to this board for two thousand acres of land lying on the river Santa Fé, with a concession to Joseph Simeon Sanchez of said land, dated the 12th of January, 1818, and made by Governor Coppinger; also, a conveyance for one thousand acres of land made to said Fairbanks upon the 28th of July, 1823, by Antonio Alvarez and wife, and Joseph S. Sanchez and wife; which are ordered to be filed.

William and John Lofton presented their memorial to this board for fifty acres of land lying on Amelia island, at a place called *Cabbage Spot*, with a concession of the same to John Lofton, made by Governor Morales, and dated 18th September, 1800; which are ordered to be filed.

William and John Lofton presented their memorial to this board for two hundred acres of land lying on the north branch of the river Nassau, with a seal and a few words of a British grant, purporting to have been made in the year 1768; also, a conveyance from Cornelius Rain to John Lofton, bearing date 10th of November, 1769, for two hundred acres of land; which are ordered to be filed.

John Jones presented his memorial to this board for one hundred acres of land lying on Trout creek, with a concession for the same made by Governor White upon the 26th of August, 1803; which are ordered to be filed.

Sarah Petty presented her memorial to this board for eight caballerias (about two hundred and sixty-five acres) of land, lying on Julinton creek, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same, dated the 9th of April, 1793,

to George Long; also, a conveyance from Christina Long, Matthew Long, Joseph Long, and Jane Long, to memorialist, dated the 26th of November, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-one; which are ordered to be filed.

Sarah Petty presented her memorial to this board for six caballerias (about two hundred acres) of land, lying on the river St. Marys, with a plat and certificate of the same, dated 30th of March, 1792, and made for John Houston; which are ordered to be filed.

Sarah Petty presented her memorial to this board for one hundred and fifty acres of land lying on St. John's river, near Buena Vista, with a concession to Thomas Rodgers for fifty acres of land above Buena Vista, made by Governor White, and dated 5th of September, 1804; also, a receipt upon the concession, made by said Rodgers in favor of Mrs. Houston, for sundry commodities as a payment for said land, and dated the 4th of November, 1805; which are ordered to be filed.

Pedro Tropé presented his memorial to this board for one hundred and fifty acres of land lying at Musquitos, with a concession to Marie Ortega for the same by Governor White, and dated 15th of March, 1803; which are ordered to be filed.

William and John Lofton presented their memorial to this board for three hundred and fifty acres of land lying between St. Mary's and Nassau rivers, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same to John Lofton, dated the —— day of February, 1792; which are ordered to be filed.

Joseph Summerall presented his memorial to this board for three hundred acres of land lying on St. John's river, with a plat and certificate of survey made for Diego Clatworthy, dated the 11th of November, 1791; also, the will of Mary Ann Clatworthy, and a deposition of Edward M. Wanton, attached thereto; which, together with the certificates thereon, are ordered to be filed.

Joseph Summerall presented his memorial to this board for four hundred acres of land lying on Willis's creek, near Julinton creek, with a concession of the same made by Governor Estrada upon the 26th of June, 1815; also, a plat and certificate of survey, dated the 15th of May, 1821; which are ordered to be filed.

Joseph Summerall presented his memorial to this board for two hundred acres of land lying at Long bluff, on St. Mary's river, with a concession in favor of said Summerall for the same, dated the 28th of April, 1792, made by Governor Quesada; which are ordered to be filed.

Joseph Summerall presented his memorial to this board for one hundred and fifty acres of land lying on Cormorant branch, with a concession of the same by Governor Coppinger, dated upon the 7th of May, 1817; also, a plat and certificate of survey, dated the 6th of June, 1819; which are ordered to be filed.

Joseph Summerall presented his memorial to this board for one hundred and fifty acres of land lying five miles from Nassau river, on the head of the river or creek called *Williams*, with a plat and certificate of survey, dated upon the 11th of March, 1792; which are ordered to be filed.

Sarah Tate presented her memorial to this board for four hundred and fifty acres of land on the river St. Johns, with a concession to John E. Tate for the same, made by Governor Estrada, and dated the 20th of September, 1811; also, said Tate's acceptance of the terms of the concession, marked No. 3, and dated 23d September, 1811, and decree of Governor Estrada thereon, dated upon the same day; also, a plat and certificate of the survey of same, dated 21st April, 1821; which are ordered to be filed.

Samuel Fairbanks presented his memorial to this board for five hundred acres of land lying at a place called Derbin swamp, with a concession to Rafael Dionisio Fontané, made by Governor Estrada, the 11th of December, 1815, marked No. 1; also, a plat and certificate of the same, dated the 25th of September, 1819, marked No. 2; also, a conveyance from grantee to memorialist, dated 10th of April, 1823, marked No. 3; which are ordered to be filed.

Peter Bagley presented his memorial to this board for two hundred acres of land on Pottsburgh creek, with a concession to Reuben Hogan for the same by Governor White, dated the 20th of December, 1799; also, a royal title to Reuben Hogan, dated 27th March, 1818, made by Governor Coppinger; also, a relinquishment by said Hogan to memorialist, dated the 4th of March, 1823; which are ordered to be filed.

Charles Hogan presented his memorial to this board for two hundred acres of land lying on Hendricks' creek, on the river St. Johns, with a royal title by Governor Coppinger for the same, dated the 12th of January, 1818.

Reuben Hogan presented his memorial to this board for three hundred and eighty-five acres of land lying on Goldsburgh creek, with a royal title for the same made by Governor Estrada, and dated 14th of October, 1811; which are ordered to be filed.

William and John Lofton presented their memorial to this board for three hundred and fifty acres of land lying between St. Mary's and Nassau rivers, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same, dated 24th February, 1792; which are ordered to be filed.

Francis R. Sanchez presented his memorial to this board for four thousand acres of land, lying on the south side of the river Santa Fé, with a concession of the same to memorialist by Governor Estrada, dated the 18th of December, 1815; which are ordered to be filed.

Antonio Proctor presented his memorial to this board for one hundred and eighty-five acres of land lying about five miles from St. Augustine, westward of a a grove called Orange grove, with a royal title for the same made by Governor Coppinger, and dated the 8th of March, 1816; also, a plat and certificate of survey of the same, dated the 18th of December, 1818; which are ordered to be filed.

Joseph Delespine presented his memorial to this board for forty-three thousand acres of land lying on the west side of the river Ys or Indian river, opposite an island called Merritt's island, with a concession of the same to memorialist, dated the 9th of April, 1817, and made by Governor Coppinger; also, a certificate of said Delespine on the back of said concession, bearing date the 16th of November, 1820, marked B; also, plat and certificate of survey of the same, dated the 20th of February, 1820, marked A; which are ordered to he filed.

Joseph Delespine presented his memorial to this board for five hundred and sixty acres of land lying at a place called Deep creek, about six miles north of St. Augustine, with a concession to Antonio Huertas, made by Governor Morales, and dated 17th of October, 1800, and a conveyance from said Huertas to memorialist, dated upon the 9th of July, 1821; also, a memorial and order of survey, dated the 31st March, 1820, and a plat and certificate of survey, dated 6th of April, 1821; which are ordered to be filed.

Ramon Sanchez presented his memorial to this board for two hundred acres of land lying on the south side of the river St. Johns, at a place known by the name of the Ship Yard, with a royal title for the same made by Governor Coppinger, and dated the 19th of April, 1816, marked B; which are ordered to be filed.

Peter Fouchard presented his memorial to this board for fifteen hundred acres of land lying on the west side of Indian river, with a concession to said Fouchard of the same by Governor Estrada, and dated upon the 20th of November, 1815, marked A; also, a memorial and order of survey, dated 29th of December, 1815, marked B; which are ordered to be filed.

Joseph Delespine presented his memorial to this board for six hundred acres of land lying about two miles north of St. Augustine, with a concession of the same to John Huertas made by Governor Estrada, and dated 3d of May, 1811; also, memorial by said Huertas for leave to sell the said lands to said Delespine, dated the 10th of February, 1821, decree thereon, bearing date the same day, and conveyance from said Huertas to Joseph Delespine, dated upon the 10th of February, 1821, marked A; also, a plat and certificate of survey of the same, dated the 18th of March, 1821, marked B; which are ordered to be filed.

Edgar Macon, esq., United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, attended here this day under the order of this board.

The board then adjourned until Monday the 29th instant, at 11 o'clock in the morning.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair.

Francis P. Sanchez presented his memorial to this board for one hundred acres of land lying at the head of North river, at a place called Qui Qui in Diego plains, with a plat and certificate of survey, (exhibit A,) dated the 30th of June, 1818, made for Pablo Fontané; a royal title to José Fernandez, dated the 19th of June, 1816, and made by Governor Coppinger, exhibit B; a conveyance from José Fernandez to José Simeon Sanchez, dated 4th of September, 1816, marked exhibit C; a conveyance from José Simeon Sanchez to Pablo Fontané, dated the 16th July, 1818, marked exhibit D; a conveyance from Pablo Fontané to Francisco P. Sanchez, dated the 18th of July, 1818, with an order of survey attached thereto, dated 31st October, 1818, marked exhibit E; which are ordered to be filed.

Francis P. Sanchez presented his memorial to this

board for nine hundred acres of land, lying on the west side of the river St. Sebastian, and made of what was two tracts, with a copy of a royal title made to John Geiger by Governor Coppinger, for six hundred acres, dated the 29th of July, 1817, and a memorandum of a purchase of three hundred acres adjoining said tract bought by said Geiger from William Travers, dated 6th of October, 1820, marked exhibit A; plat and certificate of survey of nine hundred acres by Andres Burgevin, dated the 16th of September, 1820, marked exhibit B; and a certified copy of a conveyance from John Geiger to Francisco Pasqual Sanchez, dated the 16th of October, 1820, marked exhibit C; which are ordered to be filed.

Francis P. Sanchez presented his memorial to this board for two thousand acres of land lying at a place called the Big Hammock, about forty miles westward from Buena Vista, on a creek, with a plat and certificate of survey of two thousand acres made for Thomas de Aguilar, by Andres Burgevin, upon the 9th of September, 1819, marked exhibit A; a certified copy of a royal title made to said Aguilar by Governor Coppinger for two thousand acres, dated the 7th of December, 1817, marked exhibit B; a conveyance from Pedro Miranda, in fact for Thomas Aguilar, to Francisco P. Sanchez and José M. Hernandez, dated the 22d day of February, 1822, and marked C; which are ordered to be filed.

Francis P. Sanchez presented his memorial to this board for two hundred and twenty acres of land lying on the St. Mary's river, at a place called McIntosh's causeway, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same for Domingo Estacholy, by George J. F. Clarke, dated the 15th of May, 1817, marked exhibit A; a certified copy of a royal grant to Domingo Estacholy by Governor Coppinger, and dated the 5th of December, 1816, marked and referred to as exhibit B; a conveyance from Ursula Llafico, widow of the late Domingo Estacholy, to Francis P. Sanchez, dated the 29th of July, 1822, and marked and referred to as exhibit C; which are ordered to be filed.

Francis P. Sanchez presented his memorial to this board for three hundred and eighty acres of land lying to the north of Diego plains, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same for memorialist by Roberto McHardy, dated the 1st of May, 1819, marked and referred to as exhibit A; a certified copy of a royal title in favor of José Simeon Sanchez made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 26th of June, 1816, marked and referred to as exhibit B; a certified copy of a conveyance from José Simeon Sanchez to Francisco de Paula Sanchez, dated the 26th of January, 1818, and marked and referred to as exhibit C; which are ordered to be filed.

Francis P. Sanchez presented his memorial to this board for three hundred and forty-five acres of land lying on the river St. Johns, at a place called the Ship Yard, distant about half a mile from San Vincente Ferrer, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same made for heirs of Juan Rafo, by George J. F. Clarke, and dated the 4th of September, 1820, marked and referred to as exhibit A; a certified copy of a royal title in favor of Juan Rafo by Governor Coppinger, dated the 8th of May, 1816, marked and referred to as exhibit B; a certified copy of a conveyance from Pedro Miranda, on behalf of the heirs of Juan Rafo, deceased, to Thomas de Aguilar, dated the 2d of July, 1820, marked and referred to as exhibit C; a certified copy of a conveyance from Thomas de Aguilar to Francisco Pasqual Sanchez, dated the 11th of January, 1811, marked and referred to as exhibit D; which are ordered to be filed.

Francis P. Sanchez presented his memorial to this board for eight hundred acres of land in two tracts, the one of four hundred and fifty acres, lying at a place called Funk's savannah, which runs to the waters of Nassau river, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same made by Andrew Burgevin for José Maria Ugarté, dated 15th of February, 1821, marked and referred to as exhibit A; the other tract of three hundred and fifty acres situated at a creek called Alligator creek, with a plat and certificate of survey of same made by Andrew Burgevin for José Maria Ugarté, dated 15th of February, 1821, marked and referred to as exhibit B; a certified copy of a concession to José Maria Ugarté, of eight hundred acres of land, made by Governor Coppinger, and dated the 17th of December, 1817, marked and referred to as exhibit C; a certified copy of a royal title to said José Maria Ugarté for four hundred and fifty acres, made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 5th of February, 1818, marked and referred to as exhibit D; a certified copy of a royal title to José Maria Ugarté for three hundred and fifty acres of land made by Governor Coppinger, dated the 5th of February, 1818, and marked and referred to as exhibit E; a conveyance from José Maria Ugarté to Francis P. Sanchez for four hundred and fifty acres of land, dated 25th of September, 1821, marked and referred to as exhibit F; and a conveyance from Joseph Maria Ugarté to Francis P. Sanchez for three hundred and fifty acres of land, dated 25th of September, 1821, marked and referred to as exhibit G; all of which are ordered to be filed.

Francis P. Sanchez presented his memorial to this board for 2,700 acres of land on St. John's river, at a place known by the name of Dunn's lake when the British occupied this Territory, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same made for Fernando de la Maza Arredendo, sen., by George J. F. Clarke, and dated the 2d of April, 1818, marked and referred to as exhibit A; a certified copy of royal title to Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, sen., made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 13th of December, 1817, marked and referred to as exhibit B; a certified copy of a conveyance from Fernando de la Maza Arredendo, jr., as attorney in fact of his father, of the same name, to Pedro Miranda, dated 15th of December, 1817, marked and referred to as exhibit C; a certified copy of a conveyance from Pedro Miranda to Francisco Pasqual Sanchez, dated the 11th of January, 1821, marked and referred to as exhibit D; which are ordered to be filed.

Philip R. Yonge presented his memorial to this board for 2,000 acres of land lying in Twelve-mile swamp, with a plat and certificate of survey made for memorialists by George J. F. Clarke, and dated 4th of November, 1815, marked and referred to as exhibit A; a certified copy of a concession to memorialist by Governor Kindelan, of 2,000 acres, dated 23d of February, 1815; a certified copy of a royal title, made to said Philip R. Yonge by Governor Coppinger, dated 26th of January, 1816, referred to and marked B; which are ordered to be filed.

George Atkinson, executor of Lindsey Todd, presented his memorial to this board for 390 acres of land lying on Cedar creek, on the St. John's river, with a plat and certificate of survey to Lindsey Todd made by George J. F. Clarke, and dated 21st of April, 1817, referred to, and marked A; a copy of concession, and a copy of a royal title, to Lindsey Todd made by Governor Coppinger, and dated the 11th of February, 1817; which are ordered to be filed.

George Atkinson, executor of Lindsey Todd, presented his memorial to this board for 600 acres of land lying at New Smyrna, with a certified copy of a plat and certificate of survey of the same made for Lindsey Todd by Jno. Purcell, and dated 19th of December, 1803, referred to, and marked A; a copy of concession for the same to said Todd by Governor White, dated the 21st of July, 1803; also, a certified copy of a royal title made by Governor Estrada to Lindsey Todd, dated July 1st, 1815; which are ordered to be filed.

George Atkinson presented his memorial to this board for 220 acres of land lying between North river and Guana creek, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same for Andres Burgevin by Pedro Marrot, upon the 27th of May, 1793, referred to and marked A; a certified copy of concession by Governor Quesada to Andres Atkinson, dated 29th of April, 1793, referred to, and marked B; which are ordered to be filed.

George Atkinson presented his memorial to this board for 1,060 acres of land lying on the north side of the river Nassau, at a place known by the name of *Spell's Swamp*, with a plat and certificate of survey made for George Atkinson by George J. F. Clarke, upon the 30th day of October, 1816, referred to and marked A; a certified copy of a royal title made by Governor Coppinger to George Atkinson, and dated 8th March, 1816, referred to, and marked B; also, a concession to said George Atkinson made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 16th of February, 1816; which are ordered to be filed.

George Atkinson presented his memorial to this board for 550 acres of land lying on the west of the river St. Johns, with a certified copy of a plat and certificate of survey to memorialist, made by George J. F. Clarke, and dated August the 1st, 1815, referred to, and marked A; a certified copy of a royal title to memorialist made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 22d of February, 1816, referred to, and marked B; also, a certified copy of concession of said land to memorialist made by Governor White, and dated the 8th of August, 1803; which are ordered to be filed.

George Atkinson presented his memorial to this board for 1000 acres of land lying on the west side of the river St. Johns, at the mouth of a creek called Muy, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same for memorialist, made by George J. F. Clarke, upon the 10th of March, 1821, referred to, and marked C; a certified copy of a concession of said lands made by Governor Coppinger to memorialist, dated 21st of April, 1817, referred to, and marked D; which are ordered to be filed.

Antonio Hindsman presented his memorial to this

board for 240 acres of land lying on the west side of North river, at a place called *Araguey*, with a certified copy of a royal title for the same made by Governor Coppinger to the memorialist, 1st September, 1819, referred to, and marked A; which are ordered to be filed.

Philip Weadnan presented his memorial to this board for one hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the road to Picolata, twelve miles north of the city of St. Augustine, with a certified copy of a royal title made to the memorialist by Governor Coppinger, dated 3d July, 1819, referred to, and marked A; which are ordered to be filed.

Edgar Macon, esq. attended here this day, under the order of this board.

The board then adjourned until Monday the 6th of October, 1823, at 11 o'clock in the morning.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair.

James Hall presented his memorial to this board for seven hundred and seventy-five acres of land lying near Julinton creek, on St. John's river, between Dauven and Durbin creeks, with a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, bearing date 21st July, 1819, marked and referred to as exhibit A; also, a concession of the same number of acres, bearing date the 8th day of January, 1818, made by Governor Coppinger, marked and referred to as exhibit B; which are ordered to be filed.

Robert Prichard's heirs presented their memorial to this board for seven hundred acres of land lying on Goodby's lake, on the river St. Johns, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same made by George J. F. Clarke, and dated upon the 18th of July, 1819, referred to, and marked as exhibit A; and also a certified copy of concession for same number of acres made to Robert Prichard by Governor White, dated upon the 22d of March, 1800, referred to, and marked as exhibit B; which are ordered to be filed.

John Lacount presented his memorial to this board for three hundred acres of land lying at the east side of Dunn's lake, or George's lake, on the river St. Johns, with a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke for memorialist, for the same number of acres, dated upon the 26th of April, 1821, marked and referred to as exhibit A; a certified copy of concession made to memorialist for same number of acres by Governor Estrada, dated the 11th of August, 1815, marked and referred to as exhibit B; which are ordered to be filed.

Agueda Segui presented her memorial to this board for twelve hundred acres of land lying at a place known by the name of the Three Runs, on the road to San Vincente Ferrer, on the St. John's river, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same made by Andres Burgevin for memorialist, dated 8th of January, 1819, marked and referred to as exhibit A; also, a certified copy of a royal title made to Bernardo Segui by Governor Coppinger for the same land, dated upon the 20th July, 1816, marked and referred to as exhibit B; which are ordered to be filed.

Edgar Macon, esq., United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, attended this day, under the order of this board.

The board then adjourned until Thursday the 9th day of this present month, at 11 o'clock in the morning.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair.

Edgar Macon, esq., United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, attended this day upon the sitting of this board, under their order.

Henry Eckford presented his memorial to this board for an undivided moiety of two thousand acres of land lying on Musquito river, and to the westward of where stood the village of New Smyrna, with a certified copy of a concession to Samuel Betts for two thousand acres, made by Governor White, and dated 8th of July, 1803, marked C; a conveyance from Samuel Betts to Joseph F. White of two undivided third parts of said tract, bearing date the 13th of April, 1816, marked and referred to as exhibit A; a conveyance from said Joseph F. White to Henry Eckford of the one equal undivided moiety, or half part, of the grant to Samuel Betts of two thousand acres, bearing date the 22d day of January, 1823, marked and referred to as exhibit B; which are ordered to be filed.

Matthias B. Edgar presented his memorial to this board for five thousand acres of land lying in St. John's county, on the west side of the Oklawaha river, being the half of a ten thousand acre survey conveyed by Richard S. Hackley to Ezbon Slossen, with a copy of a conveyance from said Hackley to said Ezbon Slossen for ten thousand acres, made 12th day of February, 1823, and a copy of a conveyance from said Ezbon Slossen to Matthias B. Edgar for five thousand acres, dated 21st of February, 1823; and it is ordered by the board that the consideration of said papers be postponed until after they shall have decided upon the question now before them upon the claims of Antelm Gay.

Anthony Dey presented his memorial to this board for fifty thousand acres of land lying in the county of St. Johns, on the left bank or westerly side of the Ocklawaha, at the old Indian crossing place, with an original conveyance; and, also, a copy thereof made by Richard S. Hackley, and Harriet his wife, to said Dey for the said fifty thousand acres of land, bearing date the 14th day of December, 1822. And it is ordered by the board that all consideration of said papers be postponed until they shall have decided upon the question now before them upon the claims of Antelm Gay.

The board then adjourned until Monday the 13th instant, at 11 o'clock in the morning.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair.

Eleazer Waterman's heirs, by Sarah Waterman, widow of said Eleazer Waterman, deceased, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and seventy-five acres of land lying on the south side of Bell's river, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 4th of February, 1815, marked and referred to as exhibit A; and a certified copy of a royal title made to Eleazer Waterman for one hundred and seventy-five acres, by Governor Coppinger, dated February 22d, 1816, marked and referred to as exhibit B; which are ordered to be filed.

Eleazer Waterman's heirs, by Sarah Waterman, widow of said Eleazer Waterman, presented their memorial to this board for five thousand four hundred and sixty acres of land lying at McQueen's swamp near St. Mary's river, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same bearing date 21st of March, 1821, made by George J. F. Clarke, and marked and referred to as exhibit A; and a copy of a concession for six miles square made to said Eleazer Waterman, dated upon the 15th of February, 1816, marked and referred to as exhibit B; also, a certificate of George J. F. Clarke that the terms of said grant were complied with, dated 20th of May, 1820, marked and referred to as exhibit C; which were ordered to be filed.

Eleazer Waterman's heirs, by Sarah Waterman, widow of said Eleazer Waterman, deceased, presented their memorial to this board praying confirmation of title to two hundred and sixty acres of land lying on Bell's river, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same made by George J. F. Clarke, and dated the 5th of February, 1816, marked A; a copy of a royal title made to Joseph Howell by Governor Coppinger, who afterwards sold the same to Eleazer Waterman, as is recognized by said title, which bears date 22d of February, 1816, marked and referred to as exhibit B; which are ordered to be filed.

Eleazer Waterman's heirs, by Sarah Waterman, widow of said Eleazer Waterman, deceased, presented their memorial to this board for confirmation of title to two hundred and seventy acres of land lying on McQueen's swamp, near the river St. Marys, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same made by Geo. J. F. Clarke, and dated the 20th of March, 1816, marked A; and a copy of concession of the same made to said Eleazer Waterman by Governor Coppinger, dated 17th of February, 1816, marked and referred to as exhibit B; which are ordered to be filed.

Andrew Burgevin presented his memorial to this board for sixteen thousand acres of land lying on Pallisur's creek, at the crossing place on the road leading to Chocochati, with a certified copy of a concession to said Burgevin, of five miles square, made by Governor Coppinger, and bearing date January 13th, 1818; which are ordered to be filed.

John Gianopoly presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying at the place west of the head of the lagoon of St. Marcos, distance twelve miles from St. Augustine, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same made by Andres Burgevin, and dated 29th of October, 1819; also, a certified copy of a concession to said Gianopoly made by Governor White, and dated upon the 6th of July, 1799; which are ordered to be filed.

John Gianopoly presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to fifteen acres of land lying without the Gates and fifteen hundred yards, with a plat and certificate of survey of same amount, made for said

Gianopoly by G. Darling, and dated October 7th, 1823, with a certified copy of a concession to Domingo Segui, junior, for ten acres of land made by Governor White, the 19th of January, 1805, and a conveyance from said Segui to said Gianopoly, dated 25th of June, 1821; which are ordered to be filed.

John Gianopoly presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to ten acres of land lying without the fifteen hundred yards, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same made for said Gianopoly by G. Darling, and bearing date October 3d, 1823; also, a copy of concession of ten acres to John Gianopoly made by Governor White, and dated June the 1st, 1807; which are ordered to be filed.

Antonio Montero's heirs presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to twenty-five acres of land lying on the road to Capuaca, and adjoining the lands of John Gianopoly, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same made by G. Darling, and dated upon the 3d ——, 1823; also, a certified copy of concession of the same amount of lands to Antonio Montero, made by Governor White, and dated January the 23d, 1808; which are ordered to be filed.

William Williams's heirs presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 2,020 acres of land lying at Spring garden, on the St. John's river, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same, bearing date the 20th of December, 1822, made by Andrew Burgevin for said heirs; and, also, a certified copy of concession to William Williams for the same made by Governor White, and bearing date upon the 1st day of September, 1804; which are ordered to be filed.

William Williams's heirs presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 2,200 acres of land lying at New Smyrna, at a place on the Musquito's, with a certified copy of a concession to William Williams for 2,200 acres made by Governor White, and dated 21st of July, 1803; which are ordered to be filed.

Lorenzo Capo's heirs presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to fifty acres of land lying on an island in the North river, and to one hundred and seven acres of land adjoining the fifty acre tract, except being divided by a creek, with a deposition of Anthony Hindsman, taken before William Robertson upon the 10th day of September, 1822; a receipt from William Price to Lorenzo Capo, dated 21st of January, 1784; a receipt of John Murphy to William Price for surveyor's fees, dated 21st of January, 1784; and a plat and certificate of survey of fifty acres made for James Breedshaw by John Murphy, dated January 3d, 1783; which are ordered to be filed.

Lorenzo Capo's heirs presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 160 acres of land lying in the Twelve-mile swamp, adjoining the lands of Lewis Scofield, with a copy of concession of 175 acres to Lorenzo Capo, made by Governor White, dated the 24th of February, 1808; also, a memorial and order of survey for the same, bearing date 18th of June, 1819; which are ordered to be filed.

Bartholome Mestre presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 300 acres of land lying on Thompson's branch, on the opposite side of the Matanzas river, from the Little bar, with a certified copy of concession of lands to said Mestre made by Governor White, and bearing date 28th of June, 1796; which are ordered to be filed.

Augustine Buyck presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 200 acres of land lying at the Musquitos, adjoining the lands of Josiah Dupont, with a copy of concession to said Buyck of the same amount of lands made by Governor White upon the 3d of May, 1799; which are ordered to be filed.

Josiah Dupont's heirs presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 500 acres of land lying in Graham's swamp, adjoining the lands of Charles and George Clarke, with a certified copy of concession to Josiah Dupont of 500 acres made by Governor White upon the 29th of July, 1801; which are ordered to be filed.

Josiah Dupont's heirs presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 500 acres of land lying at the Musquitos, between the lands of Travers, Carter, Pallisier, and Madam Clarke, with a certified copy of a concession of the same to Josiah Dupont made by Governor Quesada, and dated the 18th day of October, 1794; which are ordered to be filed.

Gideon Dupont's heirs presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 1,400 acres of land lying in Graham's swamp, next to the lands of Josiah Dupont, deceased, with a certified copy of concession to Gideon Dupont for 700 acres, with 700 acres intervening spac e, made by Governor White, and dated June 3d, 1802; which are ordered to be filed.

Augustine Buyck presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 1,500 acres of land lying in the vicinity of the Old Town of St. Peters, at the Musquitos, in the place called Spruce Pair creek, with a copy of concession made by Governor White to said Buyck for 1,500 acres, bearing date the 18th of July, 1801; which are ordered to be filed.

Augustine Buyck, and the heirs of Josiah Dupont, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to an island of about thirty acres of land lying between the two Bars of the Matanzas, with a certified copy of concession of the same to Augustine Buyck and Josiah Dupont made by Governor Quesada, and dated 9th of August, 1794; which are ordered to be filed.

Augustine Buyck presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 1,500 acres of land lying in the vicinity of the Old Town of St. Peters, north of the town, in the swamp or hammock opposite Mount Oswald, towards the beach, with a copy of concession of the same to said Buyck made by Governor White, and dated upon the 18th of July, 1801; which are ordered to be filed.

Andrew Plyme's heirs presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 500 acres of land lying at the place called Doctor's lake, on the St. John's river, occupied by Christopher Nelly in the time of the British, with a copy of concession to said Andrew Plyme for the same made by Governor Quesada, and dated the 10th of February, 1791; which are ordered to be filed.

Eusebius Bushnell's heirs presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 600 acres of land lying in the Twelve-mile swamp, adjoining Cowan's land, with a certified copy of concession of the same to Eusebius Bushnell made by Governor White, and dated the 13th of March, 1799; which are ordered to be filed.

Edgar Macon, esq., United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, attended here this day, under the order of this board.

Samuel A. Laurence presented his memorial to this board for confirmation of title to 23,040 acres of land lying in St. John's county, commencing on the left or western bank of the Ocklawaha creek or river, at the upper crossing place, where the path from St. John's river to Chicuchaty traverses the said river, running back southwestwardly in a course perpendicular to the general direction of the river at that place 680 chains; thence northwardly, for quantity, with a duplicate copy of a deed of conveyance from Richard S. Hackley, and Harriet his wife, to said Samuel A. Laurence, dated upon the 24th day of December, 1822; and it is ordered by the board that all consideration of said memorial be postponed until after they shall have decided upon a question now before them in relation to some claims of Antelm Gay.

Samuel Sterry Laurence presented his memorial to this board for confirmation of title of ninety-two thousand one hundred and sixty acres of land lying in St. John's county, on the east side of the Ocklawaha river, with a duplicate copy of a deed of conveyance for said lands made by Richard S. Hackley, and Harriet his wife, to said Samuel Sterry Laurence, bearing date the 24th day of December, 1822; and it is ordered by the board that all consideration of said memorial be postponed until after they shall have decided upon a question now before them in relation to some claims of Antelm Gay.

The board then adjourned until Thursday the 16th instant, at eleven o'clock in the morning.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1823.

The Board of Commissioners met upon this day, pursuant to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair.

John D. Vaughn presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and fifty acres of land lying in Amelia island, together with a royal title for the same made by Governor Coppinger, and bearing date upon the 18th of June, 1821, marked and referred to as exhibit A; which are ordered to be filed.

John D. Vaughn presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to nine hundred and fifty acres of land lying on Lofton's creek, near Nassau river, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same made by George J. F. Clarke, and dated upon the 8th day of December, 1816, marked and referred to as exhibit B; and a deposition of George J. F. Clarke, sworn to before Thomas H. Miller, a justice of the peace at the town of St. Marys, in Georgia, upon the 15th day of September, 1821, marked and referred to as exhibit C; which are ordered to be filed.

Edgar Macon, esq., United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, attended the session of the board this day, under their order.

The board then adjourned until Monday the 20th day of this month, at 11 o'clock in the morning.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1823.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair.

Philip Embara presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying about three miles west from the ferry, at a place called Pevit, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same made by Robert McHardy, dated the 11th of March, 1817, referred to, and marked exhibit C; also, a certified copy of concession to said Philip Embara for said lands made by Governor White, and dated 5th of January, 1807, referred to, and marked A; also, a memorial and order of survey, dated March 3d, 1817, referred to, and marked exhibit B; which are ordered to be filed.

Juana Paredes presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and ten acres of land lying at a place on the North river, at a place known by the name of Marshall's plantation, with a plat and certificate of survey of the same made by G. Darling, dated 16th of September, 1823, exhibit marked A; a certified copy of a concession made to father of memorialist, John Paredes, by Governor White, dated 17th of April, 1807, referred to, and marked B; also, a memorial and order of survey dated June 2d, 1818, referred to, and marked as exhibit C; which are ordered to be filed.

John Underwood presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to eight thousand four hundred and seventy-six acres of land lying on Little St. Mary's river, bounded on the west by lands of John Forbes, with a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 17th of July, 1819, referred to, and marked exhibit A; a certified copy of concession of said lands made by Governor Coppinger, dated 15th of July, 1816, exhibited, and marked B; a petition of said Underwood, marked C; and a petition of sundry people on behalf of said Underwood, marked D; which are ordered to be filed.

Edgar Macon, esq., United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, attended the sitting of the board this day, under their order.

The board then adjourned until Thursday the 23d of this month, at 11 o'clock in the morning.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1823.

The Hon. William W. Blair, pursuant to adjournment, was present, and adjourned the board until Monday the 27th instant, at 11 o'clock in the morning.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1823.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair.

Andrew McDowell and Alexander Black presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred and ninety acres of land lying on a creek to the east of the river St. Johns, at a place called Little Orange grove, in East Florida, with a certified copy of concession to Andrew Burgevin made by Governor Coppinger, dated the 11th of December, 1817, referred to, and marked exhibit A; memorial dated the 2d January, 1818, and order of survey dated the 5th of January, 1818, referred to, and marked exhibit B; plat and certificate of survey made by Robert McHardy, dated 27th of March, 1818, referred to, and marked exhibit C; certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger to Andrew Burgevin, and dated 24th April, 1818, referred to, and marked exhibit D; a certified copy of conveyance from said Burgevin to Francis P. Sanchez, dated 12th of June, 1820, referred to, and marked exhibit E; and conveyance from said Sanchez to memorialist, dated 10th of June, 1823, referred to, and marked exhibit F; which are ordered to be filed.

Samuel Clarke and George F. Brown presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three thousand acres of land lying on Pigeon creek, a creek of St. Mary's river, in East Florida, with a plat and certificate of survey of same made by George J. F. Clarke, and dated 15th of November, 1819, referred to, and marked exhibit A; a certified copy of concession to Thomas Travers made by Governor White, and dated 30th of April, 1799, referred to, and marked exhibit B; a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger to the heirs of Thomas Travers, deceased, dated 15th of February, 1819, referred to, and marked exhibit C; a certified copy of conveyance from William Travers, for himself and on behalf of the other heirs of Thomas Travers, deceased, to Francis P. Sanchez, in trust, dated 20th of December, 1819, referred to, and marked exhibit D; which are ordered to be filed.

Joseph Delespine presented his memorial, praying confirmation of title to ninety-two thousand one hundred and sixty acres of land lying on the north of the river *De los Maimies*, which lies on the northwest of *Cayo Viscayo*, with proceedings had before the captain general of Cuba granting said lands to Juan Xavier de Arambide, dated in Havana, 14th December, 1813, and a certified copy of proceedings had before the corporation of St. Augustine in relation to said claim, dated 22d March, 1814, all referred to, and marked exhibit A; a certified copy of conveyance from John B. Strong, attorney for Juan Xavier de Arambide Goicochea, to George Clarke, dated 29th April, 1820; also, power of attorney from said Arambide to John B. Strong, dated Puerto Principe, 20th of January, 1820, referred to, and marked exhibit B; memorial and order of survey dated 7th of May, 1821, referred to, and marked exhibit C; conveyance from George J. F. Clarke to John B. Strong, dated 4th January, 1823, referred to, and marked D; a conveyance from John B. Strong to Joseph Delespine, dated 25th February, 1822, referred to, and marked E; which are ordered to be filed.

Joseph Delespine presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to ten thousand two hundred and forty acres of land lying on a creek on the northwest side of Indian river, towards the north end, running northwest, with a certified copy of concession of said lands to Pablo F. Fontaine, made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 10th of November, 1817, referred to, and marked exhibit A; an order of survey dated 21st of August, 1820, and plat and certificate made by Andres Burgevin, dated 18th of September, 1820, referred to, and marked exhibit B; a conveyance from Pablo F. Fontaine to Joseph Delespine, dated 6th of March, 1822, referred to, and marked exhibit C; which are ordered to be filed.

Andrew McDowell and Alexander Black presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the creek or lagoon of Spring garden, about half a league, in a northeastwardly direction from a place called Little Orange grove, with a certified copy of concession made to Andres Burgevin by Governor Coppinger, dated 24th of January, 1818, referred to, and marked A; a memorial for, and order of survey, dated 26th of January, 1818, referred to, and marked exhibit B; a plat and certificate of survey made by Robert McHardy, dated 27th of March, 1818, referred to, and marked exhibit C; a certified copy of royal title to Andres Burgevim made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 24th of April, 1819, referred to, and marked exhibit D; a certified copy of conveyance from Andres Burgevin to Francis P. Sanchez, dated 12th of June, 1820, referred to, and marked exhibit E; conveyance from said Sanchez to memoralist, dated 10th of June, 1823, referred to, and marked exhibit F; which are ordered to be filed.

Andrew McDowell and Alexander Black presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to nine hundred acres of land lying in East Florida, between the Halifax and Matanzas rivers, and is a part of Graham's swamp, with a certified copy of royal title to said lands, made upon the 20th of June, 1815, by Governor Estrada, in favor of Jose de la Maza Arredondo, referred to, and marked exhibit A; a plat and certificate of survey made by Robert McHardy, and dated 12th of March, 1818, referred to, and marked exhibit B; a conveyance from Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, jr., attorney in fact for Jose de la Maza Arredendo, to Francis P. Sanchez, dated 12th of June, 1820, referred to, and marked exhibit C; a copy of conveyance from Francis P. Sanchez to memorialist, dated 10th of June, 1823, referred to, and marked exhibit D; which are ordered to be filed.

Francis P. Sanchez presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 250 acres of land lying in East Florida, on the south side of the river St. Johns, at a place called Wills' swamp, about nine miles south of the late military post of St. Nicholas, with a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke for David S. H. Miller, dated 3d of May, 1817, referred to, and marked exhibit A; a certified copy of concession of said lands to David S. Miller, made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 18th of March, 1817, referred to, and marked B; a conveyance from said Miller to Francis P. Sanchez, dated 25th of January, 1822, referred to, and marked exhibit C; which are ordered to be filed.

Francis P. Sanchez presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 500 acres of land lying in East Florida, being part of a grant of 10,000 acres of land made to F. M. Arredondo, about five miles to the eastward of a place called Spring garden, with a certified copy of concession to F. M. Arredondo, jr., of 10,000 acres, by Governor Coppinger, dated 20th of March, 1817, referred to as exhibit A; a copy of royal title to said F. M. Arredondo, jr. for five hundred acres, part of 10,000 acres, conceded as aforesaid, made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 9th of August, 1820, referred to, and marked exhibit B; a copy of conveyance from said

F. M. Arredondo, jr., to Julia Guillet, wife of Andres Burgevin, of said 500 acres, dated 18th of December, 1820, referred to, and marked exhibit C; a certified copy of conveyance from Julia Guillet, wife of Andres Burgevin, to Francis P. Sanchez, dated 8th of January, 1821, referred to, and marked exhibit D; a memorial and order of survey dated 20th of August, 1819, referred to, and marked exhibit E; and a plat and certificate of survey made by Andres Burgevin, dated 9th of August, 1820, referred to, and marked as exhibit F; which are ordered to be filed.

Francis P. Sanchez presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to six hundred acres of land lying in East Florida, on the North river, about sixteen miles from the city of St. Augustine, between the road to San Vincente Ferrer and lands of John Andreo, with a copy of three concessions to Roque Leonardy of two thousand acres, one dated the 11th of April, 1793, made by Governor Quesada; another, dated 24th of December, 1792, made by Governor Quesada; another 3d of January, 1799, made by Governor White—all of which are referred to, and marked exhibit A; memorial for resurvey, dated 3d April, 1819, and order thereon, dated 5th of April, 1819, referred to, and marked exhibit B; a certified copy of plats and certificates of surveys for fourteen hundred acres and six hundred acres, both dated 28th of April, 1819, made by Andres Burgevin for the heirs of Roque Leonardy and Aguida Coll, referred to, and marked exhibits C and D; a certified copy of royal title made to the heirs of Roque Leonardy, of six hundred acres of land, by Governor Coppinger, dated upon the 25th of May, 1821, referred to, and marked exhibit E; and a conveyance from the heirs of Roque Leonardy, deceased, to Francis P. Sanchez, dated 21st of March, 1822, referred to, and marked exhibit F; which are ordered to be filed.

Raymond Sanchez, for himself and the other heirs of Sebastian Espinosa, deceased, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying in East Florida, at a place called Ulridge, in Diego plains, with a certified copy of concession made to Bernardino Sanchez, on behalf of Sebastian Espinosa, by Governor White, dated the 5th of September, 1801, referred to, and marked exhibit A; a certified copy of royal title in favor of Sebastian Espinosa, made by Governor Coppinger, dated 31st of March, 1818, referred to, and marked exhibit B; which are ordered to be filed.

Magdelina Juaneda, widow of Nicholas Sanchez, deceased, for herself and the heirs of Nicholas Sanchez, deceased, presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred and eighty-five acres of land lying in East Florida, in Diego Plains, on the south side of the land of Sebastian Espinosa, with a certified copy of royal title made to Nicholas Sanchez by Governor Coppinger, dated upon the 4th of April, 1816, for said lands, referred to, and marked exhibit A; which are ordered to be filed.

Teresa Marshall's heirs, by Eliza Burnell, one of said heirs, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred and thirty-three and one-third acres of land, lying in East Florida, on the North river, on the west side thereof, about nine miles from the city of St. Augustine, and is known by the name of Santa Teresa, with a certified copy of concession to Teresa Gill made by Governor Quesada, and dated upon the 10th of October, 1791, referred to, and marked exhibit A; and, also, a memorial from Teresa Marshall to Governor Coppinger, dated 6th of May, 1819, for permission to obtain from G. J. F. Clarke a certified copy of the survey of said lands made by Josiah Dupont, with certificate of Pedro Marrot, together with said copy and certificate of said Clarke, dated same date, referred to, and marked exhibit B; which are ordered to be filed.

Reuben Charles presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying at the Nine-mile spring, on the King's road, adjoining the lands of Marshall and Hindsman, with a certified copy of concession to Lewis Scofield, made by Governor White, dated the 16th of June, 1796; also, a conveyance from Margaret Scofield to Reuben Charles, dated 2d day of May, 1823; which are ordered to be filed.

Josiah Dupont's heirs presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to nine hundred and twenty acres of land lying at the Matanzas, on the head of the last water stream, ten miles south of the fort at Matanzas; also, nine hundred and twenty-five acres of land in Graham's swamp, on Graham's creek, with a certified copy of concession made to Josiah Dupont by Governor Quesada, dated 31st of August, 1792; which are ordered to be filed.

John Kershaw, trustee for the children of John and Margaret Du Bose, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying at a place called Governor grand, upon the North river, with a certified copy of royal title to José and Miguel Andrew, made by Governor Estrada, dated 24th of November, 1815, No. 1; a certified copy of concession of said lands to said José and Miguel Andrew, dated 24th of November, 1815, and made by Governor Estrada, No. 2; a petition of José and Miguel Andrew, dated 29th of August, 1815, and decree of Governor Estrada thereon, dated 13th of December, 1815, No. 3; a memorial and order of survey, dated 29th of January, 1819, No. 4; and, also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by Andres Burgevin, dated February 1st, 1819, No. 5; which are ordered to be filed.

John Floyd's heirs, alias José Juaneda's heirs, by John Rodman, their attorney, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying on the North river, about twenty miles from St. Augustine, with a certified copy of concession made to Augustin Buyck by Governor Quesada, of three hundred acres, dated upon the 1st of February, 1793, No. 1; a certified copy of transfer of two hundred acres of land to José Juaneda by Governor White, dated the 30th of April, 1799, No. 2; also, a plat and certificate of survey made by Pedro Marrot, dated the 15th of May, 1793, for Augustin Buyck, No. 3; which are ordered to be filed.

Robert Prichard's heirs presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred and fifty acres of land lying in Jacksonville, comprising the town of Jacksonville, on the west side of the river St. Johns, in Duval county, with a certified copy of concession to Robert Prichard made by Governor Quesada, and dated January 3d, 1791; which are ordered to be filed.

Prudence Plummer presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred and fifty acres and one-half acre of land lying on east side of the river St. Johns, known by the name of Montpelier, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by Pedro Marrot, and dated 6th of January, 1792, for Samuel Eastlake; and, also, a decree of the attorney general of East Florida, Joseph Ortega, dated 17th September, 1800, in favor of Prudence Plummer; which are ordered to be filed.

Caroline Eliza McHardy's heirs presented, by their guardians, their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to eleven hundred acres of land in two tracts: one tract of five hundred acres lying in M'Dougal's swamp, in the district of Musquito; the other tract of six hundred acres lies in Bisset's swamp, in the district of Musquito, with the following documents: a certified copy of concession to Caroline Isabel Williams, of eleven hundred acres of land, made by Governor Estrada, and dated upon the 20th of August, 1815, numbered 1; a memorial and order of survey for the same, 2d of September, 1818, numbered 2; plat and certificate of survey of five hundred acres made by Andres Burgevin, and dated 8th of September, 1818, nembered 3; a plat and certificate of survey of 600 acres made by Andres Burgevin, and dated 8th September, 1818, numbered 4; petition for absolute title, dated 20th of March, 1819, numbered 5; and a certificate of improvements made upon the land, dated 27th of May, 1819, numbered 6; which are ordered to be filed.

John Rodman, trustee for the benefit of the creditors of Robert McHardy, deceased, presented his memorial, praying confirmation of title to one thousand acres of land lying and situate at Tomoka, with a copy of royal title to Robert McHardy for the same, made by Governor Estrada, and dated 3d of July, 1815; which are ordered to be filed.

John Rodman, trustee for the benefit of the creditors of Robert McHardy, deceased, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to sixteen thousand acres of land lying on the west side of the river St. Johns, in a district where there is a spring and stream of fresh water, formerly known by the name of *Old Stores*, with a certified copy of concession of said lands to Robert McHardy by Governor Kindelan, dated upon the 8th of November, 1814; also, a memorial and order of survey dated 7th of February, 1815, and a plat and certificate of survey made by Andres Burgevin, dated the 10th of May, 1819; which are ordered to be filed.

John Rodman, trustee for the benefit of the creditors of Robert McHardy, deceased, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three thousand acres of land lying at a place called Turkey branch, on the west side of St. John's river, and distant therefrom about forty-five miles, with a certified copy of concession of said lands to Robert McHardy by Governor Estrada, and dated upon the 29th of September, 1811;

also, a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 8th of May, 1819; which are ordered to be filed.

John Rodman, trustee for the benefit of the creditors of Robert McHardy, deceased, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to six hundred acres of land in two tracts of three hundred acres each—the one situated in a place called McDougall's swamp, in the district of Musquito; the other on the west side of the river St. Johns, with a grant or concession of six hundred acres in two tracts of three hundred acres each, made to Robert McHardy by Governor Coppinger, and dated upon the 4th day of July, 1815; also, a petition for, and order of survey thereon, dated September 2d, 1818; and a plat and certificate of survey made for said McHardy, of three hundred acres in McDougall's swamp, by Andres Burgevin, and dated 24th of September, 1818; which are ordered to be filed.

Philip R. Young presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to twenty-five thousand acres of land in two tracts—one of thirteen thousand acres, lying on the west side of Long lake, about forty miles south of Lake George; the other of twelve thousand acres, lying on the west side of a lake called Second lake, with the following documents: a plat and certificate of survey of thirteen thousand acres made by Andres Burgevin, and dated 2d of August, 1819, marked A; the other a copy of a plat and certificate of survey of twelve thousand acres made by Andres Burgevin, and dated 2d of August, 1819, marked B; copy of a petition of Philip R. Young for twenty-five thousand acres of land, dated 5th of December, 1816, and a decree of Governor Coppinger thereon, dated 11th of February, 1817, marked C; and a copy of a royal title made to Philip R. Young by Governor Coppinger, dated the 22d of February, 1816, marked D; which are ordered to be filed.

George Atkinson presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four thousand acres of land lying about twenty miles west of the river Ocklawaha, and on the northeast side of the road that goes from Joe Gray's to the town of Alachua, with a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, and dated 15th of December, 1817, marked A; also, a copy of conveyance from Pedro Miranda to George Atkinson, dated 20th of June, 1821, marked B; also, a copy of concession to Pedro Miranda made by Governor White, and dated 22d of February, 1810; which are ordered to be filed.

Edgar Macon, esq., United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, attended the session of the board this day, under their order.

The board then adjourned until Thursday, 30th of this month, at 11 o'clock in the morning.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Alexander Hamilton and William W. Blair.

Edward Macon, esq., United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, attended the session of the board this day, under their order.

Samuel Clarke and George S. Brown, mortgagees, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred acres of land lying in East Florida, in the county of St. Johns, near Picolata, and is distant about two and a half miles south of the plantation of Manuel Solano, together with a certified copy of concession of seven hundred and fifty acres of land, in two tracts, made by Governor White, in favor of Edward Wanton, upon the 23d of November, 1801, referred to, and marked exhibit A. A certified copy of royal title for four hundred acres in favor of said Wanton, referred to, and marked exhibit B; a certified copy of conveyance from Edward Wanton to Lewis Guibert, of four hundred acres of land, dated upon the 18th of May, 1820, referred to, and marked exhibit C; a deed of mortgage from Lewis Guibert to memorialists, dated the 29th of April, 1823, together with a copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George Clarke, dated 17th of November, 1819, referred to, and marked exhibit D; which are ordered to be filed.

Samuel Clarke presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot of ground in Fernandina, in Amelia island, with a certified copy of certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 6th of May, 1817, marked exhibit A; a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger to Teresa Marshall, and dated 21st of May, 1819, marked exhibit B; and an indenture of conveyance made by Teresa Marshall to Samuel Clarke, dated November 9th, 1818, marked exhibit C; which are ordered to be filed.

Christina Hill, widow of Joseph Sanchez, deceased, on behalf of herself and his children, presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred and five acres of land, fifty-five acres thereof lying at a place called *Casina Loca*, and the residue in *Diego plains*, bounded on the north by lands granted Sebastian Espinosa, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Estrada, dated 17th November, 1815, for the amount of four hundred and five acres of land in favor of Christina Hill, widow of Joseph Sanchez, marked exhibit A; and a certified copy of royal title in favor of the widow and heirs of José Sanchez, made by Governor Coppinger, and dated the 16th of April, 1818, marked exhibit B; which are ordered to be filed.

Francis P. Sanchez presented his memorial to this broad, praying confirmation of title to fourteen hundred acres of land, part of a concession to José M. Hernandez of twenty thousand acres, lying in two tracts—the one tract being of seven hundred acres, part of a ten thousand acre survey under said concession, which lies upon the west bank of Lake George, and is situated at the northeast corner of said ten thousand acre survey; the other tract is seven hundred acres, part of a survey of five thousand acres under said concession, situated on the east side of the river St. Johns, between a place called Buffalo bluff, and another place called Mount Tucker, with a certified copy of concession of twenty thousand acres to Joseph M. Hernandez, made by Governor Coppinger, dated 18th of November, 1817, marked exhibit A; a certified copy of royal title for ten thousand acres to José M. Hernadez, made by Governor Coppinger, and dated the 9th of April, 1821, exhibit B; a plat and certificate of survey of ten thousand acres made for Joseph M. Hernandez by Andres Burgevin, and dated 4th of April, 1821, marked exhibit C; a plat and certificate of survey of seven hundred acres in favor of Francis P. Sanchez, by Andrew Burgevin, dated 22d of May, 1823, marked exhibit D; a certified copy of royal title to Joseph M. Hernandez of ten thousand acres, in two tracts, or one tract on both sides of St. John's river, made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 9th of April, 1821, marked exhibit E; a plat and certificate of survey of five thousand acres made by Andres Burgevin, dated 4th of April, 1821, marked exhibit F; a plat of seven hundred acres of land, parcel of said five thousand acre survey, and is marked exhibit G; a conveyance from José M. Hernandez to Andres Burgevin of fourteen hundred acres, in two tracts, dated 30th July, 1821, marked H; and a conveyance from Andres Burgevin to Francisco P. Sanchez, of fourteen hundred acres aforesaid, dated 15th of February, 1822, marked exhibit I; which are ordered to be filed.

The board then adjourned their sittings from this house to the house of Joseph Sanchez, upon the corner of the public square in this city, to meet again upon Monday the 3d day of November, 1823, at 11 o'clock in the morning.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, was in attendance before the board this day, under their order.

Joseph Arnau presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and nine acres of land on the North river, a part thereof being an island, with a certified copy of concession to memorialist made by Governor White, and dated 31st of August, 1799; which are ordered to be filed.

William Ladd presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to fifteen hundred and twenty-five acres of land lying on Hillsborough river, Musquito, and beginning at the entrance of Fresh Water brook, adjoining a tract originally granted to James Ormond, with a certified copy of concession to memorialist made by Governor White, and dated 3d of January, 1804; which are ordered to be filed.

John Christopher presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to fifty acres of land lying on the river Nassau, adjoining other lands of memorialist, with a certified copy of concession to John Tucker, dated 24th of May, 1804, and made by Governor White, and marked A; a copy of certificate of exchange of lands between John Tucker and Gilbert Mann, dated 22d of January, 1807, marked B; and a copy of certificate of relinquishment of said plantation to John Christopher, dated 31st of October, 1807, marked C; which are ordered to be filed.

John Christopher presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the river Nassau, with a certified copy of royal title to Spicer Christopher, made by Governor White, and dated the 8th of April, 1809; a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by Pedro Marrot,

and dated 5th of February, 1792; which are ordered to be filed.

Farquhar Bethune presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to eleven hundred acres of land lying on the Halifax river, Musquito, and is bounded on the north by lands of Samuel Williams, with a certified copy of royal title to memorialist made by Governor Kindelan, dated the 4th of March, 1814; a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, made by Juan Purcell, and dated the 18th of May, 1806; which are ordered to be filed.

John Middleton presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying on Cedar branch, on the west side of the river St. Johns, with a certified copy of royal title to William Garvin, made by Governor Coppinger, dated 29th of March, 1817, marked A; a conveyance from William Garvin to John Middleton for said lands, dated the 3d of December, 1821, marked B; a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 6th April, 1817, marked C; which are ordered to be filed.

John Middleton presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot of ground in the town of Fernandina, designated in the plan of said town as No. 8, in square 21, with a certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, for Benjamin Ayres, for half lot No. 8 in said plan, marked A; a conveyance from William P. Yonge to John Middleton for a lot, dated 10th of July, 1818, marked B; which are ordered to be filed.

John Middleton presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two half lots in the town of Fernandina, designated in the plan of said town by the numbers 3 and 4, in square 14, with a concession of a lot to Anna Wiggins made by Governor Kindelan, the 21st of May, 1814, and marked A; a conveyance from Henry A. Yonge to memorialist, dated 25th of August, 1819, marked B; a concession to Guillermo Buason of a lot No. 6, in square 14, by Governor Kindelan, dated 4th of March, 1814; which are ordered to be filed.

Jose Sanchez presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and ten acres of land lying upon the west bank of the river Hillsborough, or South Musquito, to the southward of the town of Smyrna, with a royal title to Rafael Andreo, dated June 2d, 1817, made by Governor Coppinger, with conveyance from Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, jun., to memorialist, dated 25th of March, 1822, marked A; and a certified copy of plat and certificate, made by Robert McHardy, and dated the 22d of January, 1818, marked Z; which are ordered to be filed.

John Larcey presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred acres of land lying in three tracts: one of one hundred and fifty acres, on Front creek, between the lands of Joseph Fenwick and the river St. Johns; also, one tract of fifty acres on Cedar creek, and one other tract of one hundred acres on a branch of Six-mile creek, with a copy of concession to memorialist of three hundred acres made by Governor Estrada, and dated the 21st of August, 1815, and marked A; a certificate of survey and two plats, the one of fifty and the other of one hundred acres of land, made by George J. F. Clarke, and dated the 28th of May, 1821, marked B; which are ordered to be filed.

The board then adjourned until Thursday the 6th instant, at 11 o'clock in the morning.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1823.

The Hon. Davis Floyd was present, and adjourned the board until Monday the 10th instant, at 11 o'clock in the morning.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1823.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Davis Floyd and William W. Blair; and adjourned until three o'clock, at which time they again met. Present, the Hons. Davis Floyd and Alexander Hamilton.

Charles Seton presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to fourteen hundred acres of land lying on the river Nassau, and beginning on said river below the junction of Thomas creek therewith, together with a certified copy of concession of said land made by Governor Kindelan upon the 1st of March, 1815; a plat and certificate of survey of twelve hundred and fifty-one acres made by George J. F. Clarke, and dated the 16th of May, 1816; also, a plat and certificate of survey of five hundred and twenty acres made upon the same day by same surveyor; which are ordered to be filed.

Charles Seton presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to sixteen thousand acres of land lying on the Nassau river: the first line commencing at a pine a little below the entrance to Plummer's swamp, with a conditional concession made to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, and dated upon the 8th day of May, 1816; a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, of fifteen thousand six hundred and thirty acres, dated upon the 1st of November, 1816; a certificate of George J. F. Clarke dated 28th of August, 1817; an agreement made upon the 1st of March, 1817, between Samuel Kingsley, master millwright, Calvin Waterman, and Benjamin Waterman, of the one part, and Charles Seton of the other, together with an inventory of expenditures in mill building, dated from the 31st of December, 1816, to 7th of January, 1822; which are ordered to be filed.

Charles Seton presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to six hundred acres of land lying in Sample swamp, on the river Nassau, with a royal title of said land to memorialist, made by Governor Coppinger the 13th of September, 1816; and a plat and certificate of survey of the same made by George J. F. Clarke, and dated the 18th May, 1816; which are ordered to be filed.

Charles Seton presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to seven hundred acres of land lying on the river St. Marys, joining the old township formerly belonging to Thomas Cryer, with a certificate of Pedro Marrot, showing a grant, by Governor White, for the same to George Anons, dated 14th of April, 1792; a royal title to William Carney of said land, made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 26th of August, 1818; and a conveyance from said Carney to memorialist, dated 28th of April, 1818; and a relinquishment of dower, subscribed by Mary Carney, as wife to said William Carney, in favor of memorialist, dated 10th of April, 1819; which are ordered to be filed.

Charles Seton presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to forty acres of land lying on Pelot's island, in the river St. Johns, with a concession thereof made by Governor White in favor of Thomas Holland, and dated 30th of December, 1807; also, a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, and dated 6th of January, 1815; which are ordered to be filed.

The inhabitants of the town of Fernandina presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to the use of the inhabitants of said town, of fifteen hundred varras, commencing at the flagstaff of said town, and forming a circle; which is ordered to be filed.

Francis Kinloch presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two thousand three hundred and fifty acres of land lying in East Florida, on the east side of the river St. Johns, at a place called Periwinkle bluff, about twenty-nine miles southwest ½ south from the town of St. Augustine, with a copy certified from the original record in England, of a grant to Francis Kinloch, esq. for the said tract, bearing date upon the 3d day of June, 1816, marked A, No. 1, and executed by James Grant, esq., governor and commander of the said province under the jurisdiction of Great Britain; also, a precept from the said James Grant, esq. to the surveyor general, to survey said tract to the said Francis Kinloch, esq., dated the 7th of May, 1766, marked A, No. 2, with a plat and certificate of survey of the said tract, certified the 30th May, 1766, marked A, No. 3; which are ordered to be filed.

Francis Kinloch, esq. presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying in East Florida, on the east side of the river St. Johns, about twenty-nine miles southwest ½ south from St. Augustine, adjoining his tract of two thousand three hundred and fifty acres, and lying on the north side thereof, and adjoining the river, with a certified copy from the original record in England, of a grant for said five hundred acres, made to Francis Kinloch, esq. by James Grant, esq., governor and commander of said province, under the jurisdiction of the Government of Great Britain, dated upon the 3d day of June, 1766, marked B, No. 1; a precept or order of survey by said James Grant, esq., dated 9th of May, 1766, marked B, No. 2; and a plat and certificate of survey marked B, No. 3, certified by John Funk, deputy surveyor, upon the 30th of May, 1766; also, the affidavit of Francis Kinloch, and the affidavit of Cleland Kinloch, sworn to upon the —— day of June, 1823; also, an authentication of the papers filed in both his claims, dated Consulate of the United States of America, London, upon the 27th of September, 1822, and signed by Thomas Aspinwall; which are ordered to be filed.

Edgar Macon, esq., United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, attended the sitting of the board during this day, under their order.

The board then adjourned until Saturday the 13th instant, at three o'clock P. M.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1823.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Ramon de Fuentes presented his memorial to this board, by his agent, praying confirmation of title to a square of ground in the city of St. Augustine, designated as square 28, and lots Nos. 202 and 203; which is ordered to be filed.

Robert Hutchinson, by his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and fifty acres of land lying on little St. Mary's swamp, about seven miles from its junction with St. Mary's river, with a concession to memorialist for four hundred and fifty acres made by Governor Coppinger, and dated the 8th of May, 1816; which are ordered to be filed.

David S. H. Miller presented his memorial to this board, by his attorney, praying confirmation of title to three hundred acres of land lying on the south side of the river St. Johns, with a royal title in favor of Anna Hogan for the same amount, made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 24th December, 1817; also, a plat and certificate of survey of three hundred acres made by George J. F. Clarke, and dated 24th of June, 1818; which are ordered to be filed.

William Fitzpatrick, by his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred and forty acres of land, lying on the north side of the river St. Johns, at the mouth of said river, at a place called Cedar point, with copy of concession dated 2d of November, 1795, made by Governor Quesada; and a plat and certificate of survey made by John Purcell, dated 24th of January, 1800; which are ordered to be filed.

Zachariah Hogan presented his memorial to this board, by his attorney, praying confirmation of title to fifty acres of land lying on the north side of the river St. Johns, on or near Front creek, with a royal title to said Hogan made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 22d of July, 1818; which are ordered to be filed.

John Houston presented, by his attorney, his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying on Talbot Island, with a royal title made to Spicer Christopher by Governor White, and dated 12th of April, 1809; which are ordered to be filed.

John Houston presented, by his attorney, his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying on Talbot island, with a royal title for the same, made to Spicer Christopher by Governor White, and dated 12th of April, 1809; which are ordered to be filed.

John D. Edwards presented, by his attorney, his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred and fifty acres of land lying on a branch on Nassau river, at a place called Lardin, with a certified copy of a royal title, made to Isaac Carter by Governor White, and dated 4th of June, 1806; which are ordered to be filed.

John Dixon, by his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying on St. Mary's river, at a place called Fack's swamp, with a concession to memorialist made by Governor White, and dated 31st of May, 1805; which are ordered to be filed.

Isaac Hendricks presented his memorial to this board, by his attorney, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying on Pottsburg creek, five miles from the river St. Johns, on the south side of said river, with an order of survey, and plat and certificate of survey, by Pedro Marrot, dated the 22d of January, 1792; which are ordered to be filed.

William Gardiner, by his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the south side of St. John's river, with a concession to said William Gardiner of said land, made by Governor Kindelan, and dated the 6th of April, 1815; which are ordered to be filed.

Uriah Bowden presented, by his attorney, his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying on the south side of the river St. Johns, adjoining lands granted to Gilbert, with a royal title for the same in favor of memorialist, made by Governor Kindelan, and dated 17th of April, 1815; which are ordered to be filed.

Moses Bowden, by his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the south side of the river St. Johns, with a concession of the same to memorialist by Governor Kindelan, dated 5th of April, 1815; which are ordered to be filed.

David Turner, by his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred and ninety acres of land lying on the north side of the St. John's river, with a concession to memorialist of three hundred and ninety acres made by Governor White, and dated 3d of February, 1809; which are ordered to be filed.

John Uptegrove, by his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the north side of the river Nassau, at a place called Peach Orchard, with a concession to memorialist made by Governor White, and dated 27th of July, 1803; which are ordered to be filed.

William Lain presented, by his attorney, his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and ten acres of land lying on Front creek, a branch of St. John's river, with a plat and certificate of survey, dated 10th of February, 1793, made by Pedro Marrot for memorialist; which are ordered to be filed.

Isaac Hendricks, by his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying on the south side of the river St. Johns, near the Cow-ford, with a concession to William Hendricks by Governor White, dated the 6th of December, 1796; which are ordered to be filed.

Edgar Macon, esq. United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, was present at the sitting of the board this day, under their order.

A resolution was adopted by this board in the words and figures following, to wit:

"*Resolved*, That the marshal apply to the keeper of the public archives, and that he present him with a copy of the letter addressed to the board by the Department of State, and know from him what and how many papers of the kind referred to in that letter are in his possession; and that he request the keeper of the public archives to deliver them to him, or show cause, if any he can, why he does dot do so."

The board then adjourned until to-morrow evening at three o'clock.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1823.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, Davis Floyd and Alexander Hamilton, esq'rs.

Waters Smith, marshal for the district of East Florida, made his return here upon the resolution adopted by the board yesterday, in the words and figures following, to wit:

"Served William Reynolds, esq., keeper of the public archives, with a copy of this resolution, and with a copy of the letter addressed to the board by the Department of State. Said Reynolds stated that he would personally appear before the Land Commissioners this day, at three o'clock P. M.

"WATERS SMITH, *Marshal.*

"ST. AUGUSTINE, 14*th November*, 1823."

William Reynolds, esq. attended here before the board, and made a parol answer to the resolution adopted by this board upon yesterday. Whereupon the board discharged the said William Reynolds from further attendance upon the board at this time, and discharged the rule for him to show cause.

The board then adjourned until Monday, 17th instant, at 3 o'clock P. M.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1823.

The board having met by special arrangement upon this day, at 4 o'clock P. M.:—(present, all the members:) to take into consideration a letter addressed to them by Edgar Macon, esq., chairman of committee of a public meeting, dated 15th of November, 1823, do answer as follows: To the first question, to wit:

1st. Whether the regulations published in the newspapers are still in force, and are required to be observed by the claimants to land in this district?

Answer. One of the regulations adopted by the board at its first meeting, and published, requiring claimants to present translations of their title papers, has been rescinded. Some other regulations, to wit: those requiring the claimants to say whether the claim presented be the whole or part of the original grant, and to present certified copies of their title papers, have not been exacted of claimants, though these regulations have not been formally annulled. Claimants have generally conformed to the last regulation as written, but not always: neither have any memorials been rejected for the non-production of such papers, where they have been referred to as on record in the public archives, or in the clerk's office of the superior or county courts. With those exceptions, the regulations, as published, are in force as far as we now remember.

Question 2d. Whether any other rules and regulations on the subject have been adopted by the board; and particularly, first, whether all the documents presented with the memorial to the board must be translated by the secretary of the board before the claim can be taken into consideration?

Answer. The board have adopted some other resolutions, but we presume that answers to the specifications to this question are all that is required. We answer to the first specification, to wit, that the board has not adopted any resolution upon the subject, but they believe it necessary that all the papers produced and filed as evidence in each case, should be translated by the secretary before it is finally decided on by the board.

Second specification, to wit: Whether all the documents in each case, together with the memorial, must be recorded? We answer, that we require the memorial, and all the documents produced by the parties, and filed as evidence, to be recorded.

Third specification, to wit: Whether any claim will be taken into consideration before it be recorded with the accompanying documents? *Answer.* We do not require the memorial or evidence of title in any case to be recorded before we take it into consideration.

Fourth specification: If the documents are to be recorded, is the record to be the original Spanish, or the translation, or both? *Answer.* The translations are alone to be recorded.

Fifth specification: Are the claimants required to pay for the recording of the documents; or only for the recording of the memorial or claim? *Answer.* The claimants are required to pay for all the papers they require to be recorded, and for no more.

Sixth specification: Have any of the claims presented yet been recorded in any manner whatever? *Answer.* None of the claims have yet been recorded.

Ordered, That the secretary do make out a copy of the proceedings of the board upon this day, and furnish Mr. Macon therewith.

The board then adjourned.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1823.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Davis Floyd and Alexander Hamilton.

Edgar Macon, esq., United States' attorney, attended the board this day, under their order.

James Hutchinson's heirs, by their attorney, George Murray, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two thousand acres of land lying on an island in the lagoon which runs south from the mouth of Indian river to Jupiter inlet, with a certified copy of concession in favor of James Hutchinson made by Governor White, and dated 14th of April, 1807, marked A. The affidavit of Joseph Hutchinson, subscribed and sworn to 24th April, 1823, marked B; also, another statement of Joseph Hutchinson, of same date, with the certificate and seal of John G. Cowling, notary public in the city of Augusta, in the State of Georgia, attached thereto, marked C; which are ordered to be filed.

Francis Dalcour, executor of John Forbes, by his attorney George Murray, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to seven thousand acres of land lying on little St. Mary's river, with a concession of ten thousand acres to said John Forbes, dated 28th of July, 1814, made by Governor Kindelan, marked A; also a plat and certificate of survey of the same, made by George J. F. Clarke, and dated 23d of October, 1816; which are ordered to be filed.

Francis Dalcour, executor of the last will and testament of John Forbes, deceased, by George Murray, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three thousand acres of land lying in Cabbage swamp, on or near an arm of the little St. Mary's river, being part of a ten thousand acre grant in bundle No. 1; and, also, a plat and certificate of survey of three thousand acres made by George J. F. Clarke, and dated 20th of October, 1816; which are ordered to be filed.

John Bunch, by George Murray, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 2,170 acres of land lying on the waters of the Musquito or Halifax river, with a concession made to him by Governor White, and dated 11th day of August, 1804, marked A; and a copy of plat and certificate of survey of same, marked B, made by Andrew Burgevin, and dated June 5th, 1823; which are ordered to be filed.

John Bunch, by George Murray, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 995 acres of land lying on Musquito or Halifax river, near and fronting Pelican island, with a royal title for the same made to the heirs of Patrick Dean, made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 4th of June, 1819; which are ordered to be filed.

Juan Blas Entralgo, by his attorney, George Murray, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 4,000 acres of land lying about five miles east of Spring Garden, with a certified copy of conveyance from F. M. Arredondo, jr., to memorialist, dated 5th of January, 1821, marked A, and a royal title to F. M. Arredondo, jr., made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 9th of August, 1820, marked B; which are ordered to be filed.

Juan Blas Entralgo, by his attorney, George Murray, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 2,000 acres of land lying on the western bank of St. John's river, with a royal title for the same, dated 15th of November, 1817, made by Governor Coppinger; and a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 10th of April, 1818; which are ordered to be filed.

Catalina de Tenis Hipulos, by her attorney, George Murray, presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 2,000 acres of land lying about forty miles west from Buena Vista, in the part called the Big Grove, with a royal title to memorialist, made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 7th of December, 1817, marked A; and a plat and certificate of survey made by Andres Burgevin, and dated 9th of September, 1819, marked B; which are ordered to be filed.

Bartolome de Castro y Ferrer, executor of Manuel Solano, deceased, by George Murray, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying on the west side of St. Sebastian's creek, at the place called Solano's ferry, with a certified copy of concession to Manuel Solano made by Governor Quesada, and dated 11th of June, 1791, marked A; which are ordered to be filed.

William Travers, by George Murray, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred and fifty acres of land lying at a place called Santa Lucia, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor White to Lazaro Ortega, dated 4th of June, 1798, marked A; a certified copy of royal title to Lazaro Ortega for four hundred and fifty acres made by Governor Coppinger, dated 9th of April, 1821, marked B; a certified copy of conveyance from Lorenzo Ortega to William Travers, dated 11th of May, 1821, marked C; and a memorial, order of survey, and plat and certificate, made by Andres Burgevin for said Ortega, and dated 15th of March, 1821, marked D; which are ordered to be filed.

Ferdinand Falany's executor, on behalf of his heirs, by his attorney, George Murray, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to twelve hundred acres of land lying on Moultrie creek, with a certified copy of royal title made to said Falany by Governor Coppinger, and dated 18th of May, 1819; which are ordered to be filed.

Peter Cose Fatio, by his attorney, George Murray, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the river Guana, with a certified copy of royal title to memorialist, made by Governor Estrada, and dated the 12th of October, 1815; which are ordered to be filed.

Thomas Forbes, by George Murray, attorney for William Travers, agent for said Forbes, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the lower part of Cedar swamp, near the river St. Johns, with a certified copy of a British grant made by Governor Tonyn, and dated 16th of June, 1782, with a plat and certificate thereof appendant to said copy; which are ordered to be filed.

William Panton, by his attorney, George Murray, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the landing of Cedar swamp, bounded on southwest by lands of Peter Edwards and vacant lands, and on all other sides by vacant lands, with a certified copy of a British grant made by Governor Tonyn, dated the 9th of September, 1782, with a plat and certificate thereof appendant to said copy; which are ordered to be filed.

Juan Blas Entralgo, by his attorney, George Murray, presented his memorial to this board for twenty thousand acres of land lying at Chachala, in the district of Alachua, and forty-five miles west of St. John's river, with a certified copy of royal title made to George Clarke by Governor Coppinger, and dated 17th of December, 1817, marked A; a certified copy of conveyance from George Clarke to memorialist, dated 7th of February, 1820, marked B; and a plat and certificate of survey of two surveys—one of two thousand acres, the other of twenty thousand acres—made by Andres Burgevin; the first dated 10th of June, 1819, the last dated 2d of August, 1819, which are appendant to a concession of twenty-six thousand acres made to George J. F. Clarke by Gover-

nor Coppinger, and dated 17th of December, 1817; which are ordered to be filed.

James Smith's representatives, by Archibald Clark, their attorney, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and fifty acres of land lying between the river Little St. Marys and head of Nassau river, with a certified copy of concession to Henry Giebel, made by Governor White, and dated the 17th of March, 1806, with a certificate of the Government secretary pro tem. of an exchange of lands by the said Henry Giebel, and a conveyance from said Henry Giebel to John Thorp; which are ordered to be filed.

John K. S. Holzendorf, on behalf of his wife, late &c., by Archibald Clarke, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred acres of land lying on Graham's swamp, (Matanza river,) with a certified copy of concession by Governor White to Valentine Fitzpatrick, dated 27th of July, 1803; which are ordered to be filed.

Sarah Waterman, on behalf of herself and the other heirs of Eleazer Waterman, deceased, by Archibald Clarke, her attorney, presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and sixty acres of land lying on Mills' swamp, in Duval county, with a certified copy of concession to Eleazer Waterman made by Governor Coppinger, and dated the 18th of March, 1816; also, a plat and certificate of survey made by Geo. J. F. Clarke, and dated 9th of April, 1821.

Augustine Buyck, by John B. Strong, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board for fifty thousand acres of land lying on the north and south of the Musquitos, and has not been surveyed, with a certified copy of concession for same amount to memorialist, made by Governor White, and dated 29th of July, 1802, and a receipt of Bernardo Segui for taxes, dated 12th of October, 1803; which are ordered to be filed.

Gideon Dupont's heirs, by John B. Strong, their attorney, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred and fifty acres of land lying at a place called Moultrie, and is about five miles south of the city of St. Augustine, on the Matanzas river, with a certified copy of concession to Antonio Uzina, made by Governor Zespedes, for thirty acres, dated 4th of May, 1787, and a confirmation thereof by Governor Quesada, dated 15th of November, 1792; memorial of Antonio Uzina and John Holzendorf to Spanish governor, dated December 15th, 1794, and decree of Governor Quesada thereon of same date; a certificate of the Government secretary, that John Holzendorf had leave to sell his lands on a place called Moultrie to Richard Ryan, dated 15th of April, 1796; a permission from Governor White to said Richard Ryan to sell to Gideon Dupont, dated 20th November, 1797; a conveyance from Richardson Ryan to Gideon Dupont of four hundred acres of land at Moultrie, dated 9th of December, 1797; which are ordered to be filed.

Bartolome de Castro y Ferrer presented his memorial to this board praying confirmation of title to 2,266 and two-thirds acres of land at San Pablo, on a creek by the same name, near the mouth of the river St. Johns, about 40 miles to the north of St. Augustine, with a royal title made to John McQueen by Governor White, dated February 27, 1804; a certified copy of conveyance from said McQueen to memorialist, dated 9th of February, 1809, marked exhibit B; and a plat and certificate of survey made by Pedro Marrot for said McQueen, dated February 3d, 1792, marked A; which are ordered to be filed.

Francis P. Fatio presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 10,000 acres of land lying on the east side of the river St. Johns, about 60 miles from its mouth and 30 miles from the city of St. Augustine, with a plat and certificate of survey made by Pedro Marrot, and dated November 25th, 1791, and marked A: —this is a British grant, and the grant is lost; which are ordered to be filed.

Roque Leonardy's heirs presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 1,400 acres of land lying on the west side of the north river, twelve miles north of the city of St. Augustine, with a plat and certificate of survey made by Andrew Burgevin, dated 28th of April, 1819, marked exhibit A; a royal title to memorialists, by Governor Coppinger, dated 25th of May, 1821; which are ordered to be filed.

Francis Ferreira presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to an island known by the name of *Bacas*, and four small islands adjoining, situated to the south of Cape Florida, and known as one of the Florida Keys, with a concession to memorialist made by Governor Kindelan, and dated the 5th of January, 1814; which are ordered to be filed.

The board then adjourned until Thursday evening the 20th instant, at 4 o'clock in the evening.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1823.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Davis Floyd and William W. Blair.

Edgar Macon, esq., United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, attended the board this day, under their order.

Michael Lynch presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 335 acres of land lying between Halifax river and Tomoke creek, to the west and southwest of lands now or late belonging to Henry Yonge, and west of the canal on which was formerly a sugar plantation, with a certified copy of concession to memorialist made by Governor White, and dated 22d of June, 1805, marked M. L.; which are ordered to be filed.

Andrew Atkinson presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 100 acres of land lying on St. John's river, with a certified copy of concession for a piece of land made to memorialist by Governor Quesada, and dated 4th of February, 1792, marked W. A.; which are ordered to be filed.

Hibberson and Yonge presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 2,000 acres of land, lying in two tracts of 1,000 acres each, on Front Creek swamp, with two plats and certificates of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, and dated 24th of June, 1821, and 21st of March, 1816, marked H. Y.; and a certified copy of concession to memorialist made by Governor Kindelan, and dated 23d of February, 1815, marked H. Y.; and memorial and order of survey dated 20th of June, 1821; which are ordered to be filed.

Thomas Yonge presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 1100 acres of land lying at Musquito, and known by the name of Bisset's Plantation, with a certified copy of royal title to Isaac Wilks by Governor Coppinger, and dated 31st of March, 1818, and marked W; which are ordered to be filed.

George Atkinson presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to seventy-five acres of land lying on the south side of the river St. Johns, at a place known by the name of Springfield, with a certified copy of concession made to John Strain by Governor White, dated 17th April, 1806, marked S, and assignment thereof to George Atkinson, dated 7th of May, 1806; which are ordered to be filed.

Hannah Nobles presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of a title to 1000 acres of land lying in Twelve-mile swamp, about four miles from the lake or pond of St. Marks on the west, with a certified copy of concession made to Robert Cowan by Governor White, and dated 3d of July, 1799, marked H; which are ordered to be filed.

Hannah Nobles presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying on Wills' swamp, on the south side of the river St. Johns, with a certified copy of royal title made to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, dated the 26th of March, 1819, marked G; which are ordered to be filed.

Hannah Nobles presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and eight acres of land lying on St. John's river, with certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by Pedro Marrot, dated 20th of December, 1791, marked P; and a certified copy of royal title made to Robert Cowan by Governor Kindelan, dated 24th of April, 1815, and marked L; which are ordered to be filed.

Zephaniah C. Gibbs presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and twenty-one acres of land, more or less, on the head of Guana river to the west, on the St. Diego plains, with a plat and certificate of survey made by Roberto McHardy, dated 12th of September, 1818; and a certified copy of royal title in favor of Francisco X. Sanchez made by Governor White, and dated 12th of February, 1811, marked Z; which are ordered to be filed.

Mary Dewees presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the south side of the St. John's river, with a certified copy of a royal title in favor of the heirs of Roberto Clarke Maxey made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 18th of May, 1821, and transfer to Mary Dewees by Peter Maxey, dated 1st February, 1822; which are ordered to be filed.

John G. Rushing presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to eighty acres of land lying on the north side of St. John's river, on Clapboard creek, with a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 8th of February, 1817, marked C; which are ordered to be filed.

John G. Rushing presented his memorial to this board, praying conrfimation of title to one hundred and twenty-five acres of land lying on the north side of the river St. Johns, with a plat and certifiate of survey made by Geo.

J. F. Clarke, dated 1st of February, 1818, marked B, and a certified copy of concession made by Governor Estrada for two hundred and five acres, dated 27th of November, 1815, marked A; which are ordered to be filed.

Jesse Newton presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the south side of St. Mary's river, on Live-oak landing, with a plat and certificate of survey made for said Newton by George J. F. Clarke, dated the 27th of November, 1817; which are ordered to be filed.

Joseph Haddock presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and fifty acres of land lying in Cabbage swamp, on the river St. Marys, with a plat and certificate of survey made for memorialist by George J. F. Clarke, dated 20th November, 1817; which are ordered to be filed.

Ezekiel Haddock presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and fifty acres of land lying in Cabbage swamp, on the river St. Marys, with a plat and certificate of survey made for memorialist by George J. F. Clarke, dated 20th of November, 1817, and marked A; which are ordered to be filed.

Zachariah Haddock presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying on the river St. Marys, at a place formerly occupied by John Raine, near Wills' swamp, with a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 20th of February, 1816, marked A; and a certified copy of concession made by Governor White, dated 24th of September, 1803, marked B; which are ordered to be filed.

Francis P. Fatio presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one thousand acres of land lying on the east side of St. John's river, at a place known by the name of Berresford; which is ordered to be filed.

José Alvarez presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred and fifty-five acres of land lying at a place known by the name of Thomas's swamp, near Nassau river, with a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 2d of February, 1817, marked A; a royal title made by Governor Coppinger, dated 9th of September, 1816, marked B; and a certified copy of concession, of same date, marked C; which are ordered to be filed.

Francisco Barbe presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the head of the river Nassau, on Cedar creek, at a place called Thomas's swamp, with a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated the 8th of February, 1817, marked A; a certified copy of royal title made to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, dated the 27th of March, 1819, marked B; and a certified copy of concession to memorialist, dated 10th of April, 1817, marked C; which are ordered to be filed.

Joseph Sanchez's heirs presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to twelve acres of land lying at the end of the *fifteen hundred varras*, or Spanish yards, north of St. Augustine, with a plat and certified copy of royal title to the widow and heirs of Joseph Sanchez, deceased, made by Governor Coppinger, dated the 10th of June, 1818; which are ordered to be filed.

William Hobkirk presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred and fifty acres of land lying on Bell's creek, with a certified copy of a royal title to memorialist, made by Governor Coppinger, dated 24th September, 1816, marked A; which are ordered to be filed.

William Hobkirk presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a town lot in Fernandina, numbered square 18, and lots 3 and 4, with a certified copy of a royal title to memorialist, made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 13th of January, 1816, marked A; which are ordered to be filed.

William Hobkirk presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred and twenty-five acres of land lying on the St. Mary's river, in East Florida, with a certified copy of a royal title to memorialist made by Governor Coppinger, dated 24th of September, 1816; which are ordered to be filed.

Michael Crosby's heirs presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two thousand acres of land lying at Mount Tucker, on the west side of the river St. Johns, with a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 12th of April, 1818, and marked A; a certified copy of a royal title to Michael Crosby, made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 2d of March, 1818, marked B; which are ordered to be filed.

Michael Crosby's heirs presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying at Mount Tucker, on the east side of the river St. Johns, with a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 10th of April, 1818, marked A, and a certified copy of a royal title made to memorialist, dated 2d March, 1818, made by Governor Coppinger; which are ordered to be filed.

James Riz presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying in a tract of four thousand acres, with a conveyance from Joseph R. Rattenbury to memorialist, dated 24th of August, 1820, and a certified copy of naturalization of said Riz, marked A; and a passport of Governor Coppinger to said Riz, marked B; and a confirmation of the attorney of the executors of James Alexander, deceased, marked C; which are ordered to be filed.

Zephaniah Kingsley presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two thousand five hundred and sixty acres of land lying between the creeks called Boggy swamp and Clapboard creek, adjoining to lands on the south of Charles Seton and Tilano Edwards, with a concession for sixteen thousand acres made to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, dated 2d December, 1816, and marked S; also, a plat and certificate of survey of two thousand five hundred and sixty acres, made by George J. F. Clarke, and dated the 27th of March, 1818, marked V; which are ordered to be filed.

Zephaniah Kingsley presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two thousand five hundred and sixty acres of land, lying on the west side of the Twelve-mile swamp, with a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, and dated 2d of April, 1818, marked R; which are ordered to be filed.

Zephaniah Kingsley presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to ten thousand eight hundred and eighty acres of land, lying on the north side of St. John's river, and north and west of Doctor's lake, with a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, and dated the 8th of February, 1821, marked T; which are ordered to be filed.

Zephaniah Kingsley presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to fifty acres of land lying on St. John's bluff, on the south side of the said river, with a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 15th of April, 1817, marked M; and a conveyance from Francisco Estacholy to memorialist, dated 27th of March, 1817, marked N; also, a certified copy of a royal title to said Francisco Estacholy, made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 15th of March, 1817, marked O; which are ordered to be filed.

Zephaniah Kingsley presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying on the south side of St. John's river, at a place commonly called St. John's bluff, with a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated the 15th of April, 1817, marked A; conveyance from Manuel Castilla, agent of Isabel Rodriguez, widow of Manuel Romero, dated 27th of March, 1817, to memorialist, marked B; also, a memorial of said Kingsley to the Spanish Government, and answer thereto, relating to a claim of Antonio Suarez for part of said land, marked No. 2; a certified copy of royal title to the widow and heirs of Manuel Romero, made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 7th of March, 1817; which are ordered to be filed.

Zephaniah Kingsley presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred acres of land lying on Doctor's creek, on the river St. Johns, called *Fuento del Alamo*, with a plat and certificate of survey made by Pedro Marrot, dated 30th November, 1791, marked E; a conveyance from Isabel Kane, widow of William Kane, dated 1st of September, 1809, marked F; a power of attorney from Elizabeth, Margaret, and Anna Kane, daughters of William Kane, to Isabel Kane, their mother, to sell said land, dated 1st of September, 1809; a certified copy of royal title to William Kane for said land, made by Governor White, and dated 19th of August, 1809; a bond from Elizabeth Kane to Timothy Hollingsworth, dated 5th of February, 1806, and a relinquishment from said Hollingsworth to Zephaniah Kingsley, dated 18th of January, 1807; which are ordered to be filed.

Zephaniah Kingsley presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the south side of St. Mary's river, which it parts, fronts to the north, with a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 10th of January, 1816, and marked M; a certified copy of royal title to the widow and heirs of Burrows Higginbottom made by Governor Coppinger, and dated 16th of April, 1819, marked E; a conveyance from Isabella Higginbottom to

Zephaniah Kingsley, dated the 30th of January, 1822; a power of attorney to Isabella Higginbottom from Elijah, Joseph, David, and Thomas Higginbottom, children of Burrows Higginbothom, deceased, to sell said lands, dated the 8th of February, 1820; and a bond of indemnity from Isabella Higginbottom and James Crosier to Zephaniah Kingsley, dated 30th January, 1822; which are ordered to be filed.

Zephaniah Kingsley presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one thousand acres of land lying on the St. Mary's river, on the south side thereof, with a plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated the —— day of ——; also, a certified copy of royal title made to memorialist by Governor Estrada, and dated the 22d of December, 1815, marked I; which are ordered to be filed.

Zephaniah Kingsley presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred acres of land lying on Spanish river, a branch of St. Mary's river, and White Oak creek, with a conveyance from James Martinelly to memorialist, dated 13th of May, 1818; and a receipt of Pedro Miranda, for payment for a tract of land of three hundred acres, purchased by Z. Kingsley, and dated 3d of April, 1818; which are ordered to be filed.

Zephaniah Kingsley presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot in the town of Fernandina, with a certified copy of royal title made to memorialist by Governor Estrada, and dated the 7th of July, 1815, and marked A; which are ordered to be filed.

Zephaniah Kingsley presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two thousand acres of land, lying in Twelve-mile swamp, with a plat of survey marked G., and a certified copy of royal title to memorialist, made by Governor Coppinger, and dated the 18th of January, 1816; which are ordered to be filed.

Zephaniah Kingsley presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred acres of land, lying at the head of Saw-mill creek, with a plat of survey marked H; and a certified copy of royal title in favor of memorialist made by Governor Coppinger, and dated the 18th of January, 1816, and marked H; which are ordered to be filed.

Zephaniah Kingsley presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two thousand acres of land lying on the island called Drayton island, at the entrance of Lake George, with a certified copy of royal title in favor of memorialist for one thousand five hundred acres, made by Governor Kindelan, and dated the 7th of January, 1815, marked K; which are ordered to be filed.

Zephaniah Kingsley presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred and sixty-five acres of land lying on the east side of St. John's river, being half of eleven hundred and thirty acres, with a certified copy of conveyance from Francisco Roman Sanchez to memorialist, dated the 16th of March, 1819, marked A; which are ordered to be filed.

Zephaniah Kingsley presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the west side of the river St. Johns, opposite the mouth of Dunn's creek, known by the name of Orange Grove, in the swamp, with a bond for conveyance from William Hartley made by Governor Coppinger, dated 13th of December, 1817, marked B; also, a plat and certificate of survey made for said Hartley by Andres Burgevin, and dated the 10th of April, 1818, and marked C; which are ordered to be filed.

Zephaniah Kingsley presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to seven hundred and thirteen acres of land lying on the northeast side of the river St. Johns, at its mouth, being the whole of an island called Fort George, with a certified copy of conveyance by George J. F. Clarke, agent of John H. McIntosh, to memorialist, with appendant documents; which are ordered to be filed.

The board then adjourned until Monday next the 24th instant, at four o'clock P. M.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1823.

The board met according to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Susannah Cashen presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one thousand and fifty acres of land lying on St. Mary's river, at a place known by the name of Cabbage swamp, with a certified copy of royal title made to James Cashen by Governor Coppinger, and dated the 23d of February, 1816; also, a plat and certificate of survey made for James Cashen by George J. F. Clarke; which are ordered to be filed.

Susannah Cashen presented her memorial to this board praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land situated on the west side of the river St. Johns, at a place known by the name of Hawkes' or Fleming island, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made for James Cashen by Andres Burgevin, and dated the 15th of June, 1821; also, a certified copy of royal title made to James Cashen by Governor Coppinger, and dated the 12th of February, 1821; which are ordered to be filed.

Susannah Cashen presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and fifty acres of land lying on Amelia island, near the lands formerly granted to her late husband by the Spanish Government, with a plat and certificate of survey made for James Cashen by Juan Purcell, dated the 30th of November, 1807, and marked No. 2; also, a conditional concession made to James Cashen by Governor White, dated the 7th of October, 1805, and marked No. 2; which are ordered to be filed.

Susannah Cashen presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and thirty acres of land lying on the banks of the river St. Marys, at a place known by the name of Old township, with a conveyance from Joseph Reed and Nancy Reed to Moses Harral, dated 5th of February, 1811, and marked A; and conveyance from Moses Harral to James Cashen, dated the 12th of November, 1811, and marked B; also, a certified copy of concession made to José Reed by Governor White, dated 13th of July, 1804; which are ordered to be filed.

Susannah Cashen presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to seven hundred acres of land situated on the west side of Amelia island, at a place known by the name of Plum Orchard, with a certified copy of a plat and certificate of survey made for James Cashen by Andres Burgevin, dated the 12th of July, 1820, and marked No. 1; also, a certified copy of royal title made to James Cashen by Governor Kindelan, dated the 11th of June, 1824, and marked C; which are ordered to be filed.

Susannah Cashen presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying on Amelia island, on Beach creek, with a certified copy of concession made to Juan D. Kerr, and dated the 29th of July, 1801; which are ordered to be filed.

Susannah Cashen, on behalf of the orphan children of Samuel Meers, deceased, presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land situated on Tyger island, in East Florida, with a certified copy of royal title made to the widow and heirs of the said Samuel Meers, deceased, by Governor Estrada, dated the 17th of October, 1811, and marked M; which are ordered to be filed.

Susannah Cashen presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying on Amelia island, at a place called Red Bay, at the head of Beach creek, between the sand hills and the pine barren, with a certified copy of concession made to Solomon Miller by Governor White, and dated the 26th of June, 1802; also, a conveyance from said Miller to James Cashen, dated the 24th of February, 1804, and marked C; which are ordered to be filed.

Domingo Acosta, by his attorney, B. Segui, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to six hundred and ninety-five acres of land, lying in three surveys, as follows: two hundred and fifty acres on the east side of St. John's river, at a place called Mount Tucker; two hundred and fifty acres on the east side of Lake George; and one hundred and ninety-five acres on the east side of the river St. John's, at the first point above a place called Mount Royal, with a plat and certificate of survey of each, made for memorialist by George J. F. Clarke, dated the 1st of June and 10th of April, 1821, and 30th of May, 1820, and marked A, B, C; also, a certified copy of royal title made to the memorialist by Governor Coppinger, dated the 20th of March, 1817, and marked E; which are ordered to be filed.

Eleanor Pritchard presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and seventy acres of land lying on the east side of the river St. Johns, at a place called Beauclark's point; which is ordered to be filed.

Valentine Fitzpatrick's heirs, by their agent, James Hall, presented their memorial to this board for twenty-five acres of land situated on Matanzas river, at a place known by the name of Sam's hammock, about fifteen miles south of the city of St. Augustine; which is ordered to be filed.

Robert Pritchard's heirs, by their agent, James Hall, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the east side of the river St. John's, at a place called Goodby's lake, with a certified copy of plat and certifi-

cate of survey, made for Thomas Bowden by Pedro Marrot, and dated the 19th of December, 1791; which are ordered to be filed.

Robert Pritchard's heirs, by their agent, James Hall, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to sixteen thousand acres of land lying on Julington creek, which empties into the river St. Johns, on the east side, with a plat and certificate of survey made for Robert Pritchard by George J. F. Clarke, dated the 20th of July, 1819, and marked Z; and a certified copy of concession made to Robert Pritchard by Governor White, dated the 10th of October, 1803, and conditional confirmation by Governor Coppinger to the heirs of said Robert Pritchard, dated the 5th of June, 1818, and marked A; which are ordered to be filed.

Juana Paredes presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to sixty-nine acres of land lying on the North river, at a place known by the name of Alligator point, with a plat and certificate of survey made for memorialist by Andres Burgevin, dated the 3d of April, 1819, and marked A; also, a certified copy of royal title made to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, dated the 17th of April, 1809, and marked B.

Francis de Medicis, agent for Mariano Fontan, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to twenty-six acres of land lying at the point of the river Juanes, on the east side of the North river, with a certified copy of concession made to Mariano Fontan by Governor White, dated the 29th of January, 1808, and marked F; also, a general power of attorney from Mariano Fontan and Clara Salom to memorialist, dated the 10th of January, 1810, and marked S; which are ordered to be filed.

Antonio Pons' widow and heirs, by their agent, Richard Murray, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and seventy-five acres of land situated at the mouth of the river Halifax, to the southward of St. Augustine, with a plat and certificate of survey made for Antonio Pons by Robert McHardy, dated the 20th of May, 1819, and marked P; also, a certified copy of royal title made to the widow and heirs of Antonio Pons, deceased, by Governor Coppinger, dated the 27th of May, 1819, and marked B; which are ordered to be filed.

John Herault presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and forty-five acres of land situated about seven miles north of St. Augustine, on Red-house branch creek, with a plat and certificate of survey made for memorialist by George J. F. Clarke, and dated 20th of April, 1818, marked F; also, a certified copy of concession made to memorialist by Governor White, dated the 25th of September, 1806, and marked I, A; which are ordered to be filed.

Patrick Lynch presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one thousand one hundred acres of land lying near Tomoca, between the Haul-over and Smith creeks, with a certified copy of a royal title made to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, and dated the 10th ——, 1818; which are ordered to be filed.

Mary Kunen presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land near Tomoca, one-half on each side of Smith creek, with a certified copy of royal title made to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, and dated the 10th of June, 1818; also, a plat and certificate of survey made for memorialist by Robert McHardy, and dated the 20th of April, 1818; which are ordered to be filed.

Nicolas Rodriguez presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying on St. Anastasia island, with a certificate by the notary of the Government, stating that memorialist came into possession of said lands as one of the heirs of his deceased father, Lorenzo Rodriguez, and dated the 26th of February, 1817; also, a certified copy of royal title to Lorenzo Rodriguez, by Governor White, dated the 9th of January, 1805; which are ordered to be filed.

Stephen M. Ingersol presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying in the Twelve-mile swamp, at a place formerly occupied and cultivated by Lewis Schofield, with a concession to Lewis Schofield by Governor White, dated the 13th of March, 1799; and a conveyance from said Schofield, and Susannah his wife, to memorialist, dated the 29th of March, 1819; which are ordered to be filed.

Estevan Cheves presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying on the river Matanzas, and known by the name of Tom Johnson, with a certified copy of concession in favor of memorialist by Governor White, and dated the 14th of November, 1797; which are ordered to be filed.

Stephen M. Ingersol presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying north of St. Augustine, and joining lands of Manuel Marcial and Barbara Hamsman, with a certified copy of concession made in favor of Lewis Schofield, dated the 16th of June, 1796, by Governor White; which are ordered to be filed.

William Pengree's heirs, by their agent, Julius Alford, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one thousand acres of land lying near the head of the creek called Nepomuceno, and near Doctor's lake, with a certified copy of concession made in favor of William Pengree, by Governor Quesada, and dated the 29th of January, 1793, marked P.

Rebecca Pengree's heirs, by their agent, Julius Alford, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying adjoining the said Rebecca Pengree's plantation, on the river St. Johns, formerly owned by Mrs. Jones, with a certified copy of concession made to Rebecca Pengree by Governor White, dated the 9th of May, 1798, and marked 4; which are ordered to be filed.

George F. and Oliver Palmes presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to nine hundred and ninety-nine and three-fourth acres of land lying at a place called Turnbull, on both sides of Spruce creek, in the territory of Musquitos, with a certified copy of conveyance from Robert McHardy to Paul Dupon of said lands, and dated the 2d of June, 1818; which are ordered to be filed.

George F. and Oliver Palmes presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and forty-five acres of land lying on San Diego plains, with a plat and certificate of survey made for Joseph Delespine by Robert McHardy, dated the 12th of September, 1816, and marked A; a certified copy of conveyance from Joseph Walles to Paul Dupon, dated the 27th of May, 1818; and a conveyance from Paul Dupon to memorialists, dated the 1st of April, 1819; which are ordered to be filed.

George Fleming's heirs, by Sophia Fleming, his widow and relict, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one thousand acres of land lying on the west side of the river St. Johns, on an island known by the name of Fleming's island, with a plat and certificate of survey made for George Fleming by Andres Burgevin, dated the 16th of November, 1818, and marked A; also, a certified copy of royal title made in favor of George Fleming by Governor Coppinger, dated the 8th of March, 1816, and marked F; which are ordered to be filed.

George Fleming's heirs, by Sophia Fleming, his widow and relict, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to twenty thousand acres of land lying on Indian river, at the mouth of St. Sebastian's creek, with a plat and certificate of survey made for George Fleming by Andres Burgevin, dated 3d of February, 1820; which are ordered to be filed.

George Fleming's heirs, by his widow and relict Sophia Fleming, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to nine hundred and eighty acres of land, situated in two tracts—one on the west side of the river St. Johns, at a place called Langley Bryan; the other lies in Coco swamp, about one mile west of Buena Vista fort: the first contains seven hundred and eighty acres, the other two hundred acres, with a plat and certificate of survey of the first made for George Fleming, dated the 2d of December, 1818, marked D; also, a plat and certificate of the second survey made for said Fleming, dated 16th November, 1818, marked E; which plats and certificates were made by Andres Burgevin; also, certified copy of royal title made in favor of George Fleming by Governor Coppinger, dated the 5th of April, 1816, and marked G. F.

George Fleming's heirs, by his widow and relict Sophia Fleming, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot of ground lying in Fernandina, designated as lot No. 7, in square No. 7, with a concession made in favor of George Fleming by Governor Estrada, dated the 2d of May, 1811, marked B; which are ordered to be filed.

Gabriel W. Perpall presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to six hundred and sixty acres of land lying at a place called the Big Hammock, about forty miles west of Buena Vista, and on the west side of the river St. Johns, with a plat and certificate made for memorialist by Andres Burgevin, dated the 9th of September, 1819; also, a certified copy of royal title made in favor of memorialist by Governor Coppinger, dated the 12th of January, 1818; which are ordered to be filed.

Gabriel W. Perpall presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to thirteen hundred

and forty acres of land lying on the west side of the river St. Johns, opposite a place called Rowlestown, with a plat and certificate made for memorialist by George J. F. Clarke, dated the 15th of April, 1818; also, a certified copy of royal title made in favor of memorialist by Governor Coppinger, and dated the 22d of February, 1817; which are ordered to be filed.

Gabriel W. Perpall presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and eighty acres of land situated at the head of Matanzas river, at a place called Sam's hammock, with a plat of the same; which are ordered to be filed.

Gabriel W. Perpall presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying in Turnbull's swamp, about twelve miles north of St. Augustine, with a plat and certificate made for memorialist by Andres Burgevin, dated the 17th August, 1818; also, certified copy of royal title made in favor of memorialist by Governor Coppinger, for seven hundred and eighty acres, and dated the 19th of June, 1818; which are ordered to be filed.

Gabriel W. Perpall presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to fifteen or more acres of land lying at the Little Matanza bar, known by the name of *Barataria* island, with a certified copy of conveyance made to memorialist by Joseph Hughes, and dated the 27th of January, 1818; which are ordered to be filed.

Gabriel W. Perpall presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to six hundred acres of land lying at Matanza bar, to the south of the Orange Grove, called *Buen Retiro*, with a plat of survey of seven hundred acres; also, a certified copy of conveyance from José Bonely to memorialist, dated 30th of December, 1803; and certified copy of concession in favor of said Bonely, by Governor White, dated the 16th of January, 1799, and (*Buen Retiro*, No. 2;) also a petition from memorialist to this board, dated August, 1823; which are ordered to be filed.

Gabriel W. Perpall presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a small island containing about *one acre*, lying on the river opposite the Orange Grove of *Buen Retiro*, with a certified copy of royal title made in favor of memorialist by Governor Coppinger, dated the 15th of January, 1818; which are ordered to be filed.

Gabriel W. Perpall presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred and thirty-five acres of land lying at a place called Trumbull, about twelve miles northwest of St. Augustine, with a plat and certificate of survey made for José Maria Bousquet by Andres Burgevin, dated the 13th of August, 1818; also, a certified copy of conveyance from said Bousquet to memorialist, dated the 20th of October, 1818; which are ordered to be filed.

Gabriel W. Perpall presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to six hundred and forty acres of land lying on the river St. Sebastian, about one mile in a southwest direction from this city, with a certified copy of conveyance from Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, sen., as agent and attorney of George Taylor, to memorialist, dated the 18th of March, 1809; which are ordered to be filed.

Gabriel W. Perpall presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to sixteen acres of land, about one mile north of St. Augustine, with a plat and certificate of survey made for Diego Carreras by Andres Burgevin, dated the 15th of February, 1819; also, a certified copy of royal title made in favor of Diego Carreras by Governor Coppinger, dated the 19th of June, 1818; and a certified copy of conveyance from said Carreras to memorialist, dated the 3d of April, 1819; which are ordered to be filed.

Gabriel W. Perpall presented his memorial to this board, praying confimation of title to twenty acres of land lying about one mile and a half to the north of the city of St. Augustine, and in front of the stockades, with a plat and certificate of survey made for the widow and heirs of Jose Sanchez, deceased, by Andres Burgevin, dated the 1st of March, 1820; also, a certified copy of royal title made in favor of the widow and heirs of said Sanchez by Governor Coppinger, dated the 10th of June, 1818; and a certified copy of conveyance from Christina Hill to memorialist, dated the 12th of June, 1820; which are ordered to be filed.

Gabriel W. Perpall presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to twenty-five acres of land, with a certified copy of concession made in favor of Pedro Triay by Governor White, dated the 30th of September, 1806; also, a receipt of *Lucas Munoz* to memorialist for twenty dollars, dated 20th of February, 1820; and also a receipt for the same amount from Pedro Triay, and dated the 13th of January, 1820; which are ordered to be filed.

Gabriel W. Perpall presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred and thirty-five acres of land lying at the head of Matanza river, and known by the name of Sam's hammock, with a plat of survey and certified copy of royal title made in favor of memorialist by Governor Kindelan, and dated 24th of May, 1815; which are ordered to be filed.

Gabriel W. Perpall presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the river Halifax, opposite to Mount Oswald, with a certified copy of royal title made in favor of memorialist by Governor Kindelan, and dated the 23d of May, 1815; which are ordered to be filed.

Gabriel W. Perpall presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying at the Little Matanza bar, joining *Buen Retiro*, and opposite the lands of Francis Pellicer, with a certified copy of concession, made in favor of John Daly by Governor White, dated the 15th of March, 1779; also, a conveyance from Maria Daly to memorialist, dated the 10th of June, 1808; which are ordered to be filed.

Pedro R. de Calas, executor of G. W. Perpall, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying in the Territory of the Musquitos, adjoining the lands of Antonio Alvarez, on the south side, and on the west side of Hillsborough river, with memorial and order of survey dated the 3d of September, 1818, and plat and certificate of survey dated the 15th of September, 1815; also, a certified copy of royal title made in favor of memorialist by Governor Coppinger, for services, dated the 27th January, 1818; which are ordered to be filed.

Pedro R. de Calas, executor of G. W. Perpall, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying in San Diego swamp, at a place known by the name of Clarke's rice plantation, and on the south of the lands of the late Francis Sanchez, deceased, with a certified copy of concession made to Thomas Ellerby for head-rights, by Governor Quesada, dated the 20th of October, 1791; also, a certified copy of concession for the same on account of the death of said Ellerby, and certain debts due to memorialist by Governor White, dated the 4th of August, 1803, and marked P. R.; which are ordered to be filed.

Elizabeth, widow of Samuel Bunch, deceased, by her attorney, G. W. Perpall, presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying on the river Halifax, near Pelican inlet, with a certified copy of concession made in favor of Samuel Bunch by Governor White, dated the 3d of June, 1806, and marked S. B.; which are ordered to be filed.

Lazaro Ortega, by his agent, G. W. Perpall, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to eighty-eight acres of land lying on the North river and Guana creek, which lands were transferred to him by Thomas Travers, with a plat and certificate of survey made for memorialist by Andres Burgevin, dated the 30th of January, 1819, and marked L. O.; which are ordered to be filed.

Mariano Berta, by his attorney G. W. Perpall, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and sixty-six and two-third acres of land, lying on Cartel Point neck, and on the north of lands belonging to Andrew Paceti, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by Andres Burgevin, dated the 27th of April, 1819; and a certified copy of conveyance from Andres Paceti to Manuel Fernandez Bendicho, dated the 29th May, 1804; also, a certified copy of conveyance from Thomas Andrew to memorialist, dated the 15th of April, 1819; which are ordered to be filed.

Mariano Berta, by his attorney, Geo. W. Perpall, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying on Cartel Point neck, and adjoining lands belonging to memorialist, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by Andres Burgevin, dated the 27th of April, 1819; also, a certified copy of conveyance from Juan Capo to Manuel Fernandez Bendicho, dated the 14th of September, 1804; and certified copy of conveyance from Thomas Andrew to the memorialist, dated the 15th of April, 1819; which are ordered to be filed.

John Frazer's executors presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the St. Mary's river, about twelve miles from Amelia island; which is ordered to be filed.

Mary Dewees, by her attorney George Gibbs, presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation

of title to 2,633 acres and a third of land lying on the south side of St. John's river, and on the east side of San Pablo creek, with a certified copy of Royal title in favor of Catalina Chicken, widow of Andres Dewees, of *sixty-nine caballerias*, made by Governor White, and dated 4th of May, 1804, marked D; which are ordered to be filed.

George Atkinson, by his attorney, George Gibbs, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot of ground in the town of Fernandina, with a concession to George Clarke, made by Governor White, dated 31st of January, 1811; a certificate of George J. F. Clarke, marked G. A.; which are ordered to be filed.

George Atkinson, by his attorney, George Gibbs, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot, No. 7, in the town of Fernandina, containing, front, fifty feet, and depth, one hundred feet, with a concession to memorialist made by Governor White, and dated the 12th of September, 1810; and a certificate of George J. F. Clarke, marked G. A.; which are ordered to be filed.

George Atkinson, by his attorney, George Gibbs, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot in the town of Fernandina, with a concession to Antonia Estephanopoly made by Governor White, dated 27th February, 1811; and a certificate of Lopez attached thereto, and also certificate of George J. F. Clarke, marked G. A., 10; which are ordered to be filed.

George Atkinson presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot in the town of Fernandina, with a concession from Juan Fernandez, made by Governor Estrada, and dated the 29th of April, 1811, and a certificate of Justo Lopez attached thereto, marked G. A.; which are ordered to be filed.

George Atkinson, by his attorney, George Gibbs, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot in the town of Fernandina, with a concession to Maria Mitchet, made by Governor White, and dated 14th of November, 1810, with a certificate of Justo Lopez, and a certificate of George J. F. Clarke, G. A., 6; which are ordered to be filed.

Hibberson and Young, by their attorney, George Gibbs, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot in the town of Fernandina, seventeen yards in front and seventeen yards deep, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Kindelan, dated 31st January, 1814, marked X; which are ordered to be filed.

Hibberson and Young, by their attorney, George Gibbs, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot in the town of Fernandina, with a concession made to them by Governor Estrada, and dated 4th December, 1811, and a certificate of Justo Lopez attached thereto, marked U; which are ordered to be filed.

George Atkinson, by his attorney, George Gibbs, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot in the town of Fernandina, seventeen yards in front and thirty-four yards deep, with a certified copy of royal title made to memorialist by Governor Kindelan, dated the 16th of August, 1814, marked G. A.; which are ordered to be filed.

Lindsey Todd's executors, by George Gibbs, their attorney in fact, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot in the town of Fernandina, seventeen yards in front and thirty-four in depth, with a certified copy of a royal title to Lindsey Todd, made by Governor Kindelan, and dated the 7th of June, 1814, marked W; which are ordered to be filed.

Hibberson and Young, by their attorney, George Gibbs, presented their memorial to this board praying confirmation of title to one and three-quarters acres of high land and two and a half acres of marsh, in the town of Fernandina, with a certified copy of royal title made to them by Governor Coppinger, dated the 1st of February, 1816, marked Z; which are ordered to be filed.

George Atkinson, by his attorney, George Gibbs, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation to a lot in the town of Fernandina, seventeen yards in front and thirty yards deep, with a certified copy of royal title to memorialist, made by Governor Coppinger, dated the 7th of May, 1817, marked R; which are ordered to be filed.

George Atkinson, by his attorney, George Gibbs, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot in the town of Fernandina, seventeen yards in front and thirty-four in depth, with a certified copy of royal title to memorialist, made by Governor Coppinger, dated the 7th of May, 1817, marked P; which are ordered to be filed.

Hibberson and Yonge, by their attorney, George Gibbs, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot in the town of Fernandina, consisting of thirty-four yards of marsh land, with a certified copy of royal title made to memorialists by Governor Coppinger, and dated the 1st of February, 1816, marked H; which are ordered to be filed.

Hibberson and Yonge, by their attorney, George Gibbs, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot in the town of Fernandina, consisting of thirty-four yards of marsh land, with a certified copy of royal title to memorialists made by Governor Coppinger, dated 1st of February, 1816, marked Y; which are ordered to be filed.

Peter Miranda presented, by his attorney, Waters Smith, his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two thousand acres of land lying on the west of the river St. Johns, at a place called Bernard, with a certified copy of royal title to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, and dated the 12th of December, 1817; which are ordered to be filed.

Peter Miranda, by Waters Smith, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two thousand acres of land lying on a creek or river called Big spring, on the west of the river St. Johns, about twenty-five miles south of Lake George, with a certified copy of royal title to memorialist, made by Governor Coppinger, dated 11th of April, 1821, for services; which are ordered to be filed.

James Arnau, by his attorney, Waters Smith, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and twenty-five acres of land lying on the North river, nineteen miles from St. Augustine, with a certified copy of concession to memorialist, made by Governor White, and dated 13th of April, 1807, marked A; memorial and order of survey dated 15th of June, 1818, marked B; and a plat and certificate of survey made by Andres Burgevin, and dated 30th of June, 1818, marked C; which are ordered to be filed.

Clara Pretos Arnau, by her attorney, Waters Smith, presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and seventy-five acres of land lying on the North river, about nineteen miles from St. Augustine, on the south side of Roque Leonardy's lands, with a certified copy of concession to Francisco Arnau, made by Governor White, and dated the 24th of April, 1807, marked A; a memorial and order of survey dated 15th of April, 1818, marked B; and plat and certificate of survey made by Andres Burgevin, dated April 1st. 1819, marked C; which are ordered to be filed.

Henry Eckford, by his attorney, George Murray, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to forty-six thousand and eighty acres of land lying on the waters of Hillsborough bay, with a deed of conveyance from Joseph Delespine and Philo Andrews, attorneys in fact of Pedro Miranda, dated the 13th of November, 1823, marked A; which are ordered to be filed.

Alexander M. Muir et al., by their attorney, George Murray, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to thirty thousand seven hundred and twenty acres of land lying in the district of Alachua, and is an undivided part of a grant of two hundred eighty-nine thousand six hundred and forty-five English acres and five-sevenths of an acre, made to F. M. Arredondo and Jose M. Arredondo, with a conveyance from grantees to memorialist, dated 30th of October, 1823; which are ordered to be filed.

Thomas Forbes's heirs, by their agent, William Travers, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the west side of the river St. John's, on Lake George, near the springs, with a plat and certificate of survey made by Benjamin Lord, and dated 26th of November, 1799, marked B; also, a British grant made to Thomas Forbes, by Governor Tonyn, and dated 3d of February, 1780, marked A; which are ordered to be filed.

Thomas Forbes's heirs, by their agent, William Travers, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the west side of the river St. Johns, on Lake George, with a plat and certificate of survey made by Benjamin Lord, and dated 23d of November, 1799, marked B; and a copy of a British grant made to Thomas Forbes by Governor Tonyn, dated 3d of February, 1780, marked A; which are ordered to be filed.

Thomas Forbes's heirs, by their agent, William Travers, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on Cedar swamp, on the west side of St. John's river, with a plat and certificate of survey made by Benjamin Lord, dated 5th of October, 1780, marked B; and a copy of a British grant made to Thomas Forbes by Governor

Tonyn, dated 15th of February, 1781, marked A; which are ordered to be filed.

William Panton's representatives, by their agent, William Travers, presented their memorial, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the head of Spring creek, about six miles east of St. John's river, and seventy miles southwardly from St. Augustine, with a plat and certificate of survey thereof, made by Benjamin Lord, dated the 23d of November, 1779; and a copy of a British grant made to William Panton, by Governor Tonyn, dated 3d of February, 1780, marked A; which are ordered to be filed.

Thomas Forbes's heirs, by their agent, William Travers, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on an island in Lake Lomand, in the St. John's river, seventy-five miles southwardly from St. Augustine, with a plat and certificate of survey made by Benjamin Lord, dated 9th of February, 1782, marked B; and a copy of a British grant made to Thomas Forbes by Governor Tonyn, dated 11th November, 1782, marked A; which are ordered to be filed.

Thomas Forbes's heirs, by their agent, William Travers, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to seven hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the St. John's river, about half a mile above Hester's bluff, and is river marsh, with a certified copy of a British grant made to Thomas Forbes by Governor Tonyn, dated the 11th of November, 1782, and certificates attached thereto; which are ordered to be filed.

William Panton's heirs, by their agent, William Travers, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on Cedar swamp, west side of St. John's river, with a certified copy of a British grant made to William Panton's heirs by Governor Tonyn, dated the 15th of February, 1781, with appendant certificates; which are ordered to be filed.

William Panton's heirs, by their agent, William Travers, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 2,000 acres of land lying on Cedar swamp, bounded northwest by the lands of William Panton and Thomas Forbes, with a plat and certificate of survey, dated 3d of May, 1780, made by Samuel Wilkins, marked Q; and a copy of a British grant made to William Panton by Governor Tonyn, and dated 16th of June, 1782, marked 1; which are ordered to be filed.

Nehemiah Brush, jr., by his attorney, George Murray, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 30,000 acres of land lying in the Alachua district, and is an undivided part of F. M. Arredondo and Son's grant, in that district, for 289,645 acres of land, with a conveyance from grantees to memorialist, dated 4th of September, 1821, and certificates attached thereto; which are ordered to be filed.

John B. Entralgo, by his attorney, George Murray, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 1,000 acres of land lying about 30 miles west of the post of *Buena Vista*, with a certified copy of royal title made to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, dated 15th November, 1817, marked A; also, a plat and certificate of survey made by Andres Burgevin, dated 9th of September, 1819; which are ordered to be filed.

John B. Entralgo, by his attorney, George Murray, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 1,000 acres of land lying on the east side of St. John's river, at a place called Rolles town, with a certified copy of royal title made to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, dated the 5th of May, 1821, for services, marked A; also, a plat and certificate of survey made by Andres Burgevin, dated the 7th of April, 1821, marked B; which are ordered to be filed.

John B. Entralgo, by his attorney, George Murray, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 3,400 acres of land, lying at the *Big Spring*, 25 miles south of Lake George, with a certified copy of royal title to Pedro Miranda, for services, made by Governor Coppinger, dated 11th of April, 1821; and conveyance from said Miranda to memorialist, dated 5th of December, 1821, attached thereto, marked A; and a plat and certificate of survey made by Andres Burgevin, dated 5th of April, 1821; which are ordered to be filed.

William Travers, by his attorney, George Murray, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one thousand acres of land lying at a place called Santo Thomas, on the St. John's river, with a certified copy of royal title made to Doctor Thomas Travers by Governor White, dated 27th September, 1818; which are ordered to be filed.

William Travers, by his attorney, George Murray, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to seven hundred and fifty and a third acres of land lying on the St. John's river, at a place called Glorat, with the documents marked No. 13; which are ordered to be filed.

John Bolton presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two thousand acres of land lying in Turnbull's Back swamp, in the territory of Musquitos, with a certified copy of royal title to John Atkinson, made by Governor Coppinger, for services, dated 7th of December, 1817; a deed from said Atkinson to George Atkinson, dated the 17th of May, 1820; and a deed from George Atkinson to William Cook, dated 6th of June, 1820; and conveyance from said Cook to the memorialist, dated the 4th of April, 1823; plat and certificate of survey made by Robert McHardy, dated 2d of May, 1818; which are ordered to be filed.

John Bellamy, by A. Bellamy, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred acres of land, with certified copy of royal title made to Robert Hutchinson by Governor Coppinger, and dated the 31st July, 1816; which is ordered to be filed.

John Bellamy, by A. Bellamy, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to fifty acres of land lying at Jacksonville, on the St. John's river, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger to John Mestre, dated 3d December, 1816; ordered to be filed.

William Hollingsworth presented his petition to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and fifty acres of land lying at the mouth of Goodby's lake, on the north side, and on the river St. John's, being the half of a tract of land of three hundred acres granted to George Whitmore and William Valentine, with a certified copy of concession made to Guillermo Valentine by Governor Quesada, and dated the 4th April, 1792; also, a document of William Valentine, purporting to bind himself in the penalty of $1,000 to said Hollingsworth, if he does not make good and sufficient title for said land; which are ordered to be filed.

Magwood, administrator of Isaac Sasportas, deceased, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred and twenty-five acres of land lying on the river St. Johns, at a place called Scipio's swamp, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger to Eusebio Maria Gomez, dated 6th May, 1811; a certified copy of conveyance from said Gomez to Pablo Dupon, dated 5th February, 1819; also, copy and plat of certificate of survey of said land by Andres Burgevin, dated 1st of October, 1818; and a conveyance of Paul Dupon to Isaac Sasportas, dated Darien, 5th March, 1819; which are ordered to be filed.

John Houston, by A. Bellamy, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to ninety-two acres of land lying on Talbot island, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor White to Spicer Christopher, dated the 12th of April, 1809; which are ordered to be filed.

John Houston, by A. Bellamy, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to six hundred acres of land lying on the north side of the Island of Talbot, which he derives from a decree made to Spicer Christopher by Governor Queseda, dated 2d December, 1795, as will be seen by reference to the decree in the keeper of the public archives' office: ordered to be filed.

John Houston, by A. Bellamy, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to the island and marshes of Little Talbot, which island memorialist derives from a decree made by Governor White in favor of Spicer Christopher, dated 31st January, 1798, as will be seen by a reference to the decree in the keeper of the public archives' office: ordered to be filed.

John Christopher, by A. Bellamy, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on or near the mouth of the river Nassau, at a place called Santa Maria, with a certified copy of royal title made to Spicer Christopher by Governor White, dated the 8th of April, 1809; ordered to be filed.

Joseph Higginbottom, by A. Bellamy, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred acres of land lying on Spell swamp, a branch of the Nassau river, in Duval county, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made to memorialist by George J. F. Clarke, dated 16th November, 1817; ordered to be filed.

Robert Harrison, by his attorney, John Drysdale, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to seven hundred and seventy-five acres of land

in East Florida, on an island in the river Nassau, near a place called the Round-about, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Coppinger to memorialist, dated 10th of May, 1816, marked exhibit A; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made to memorialist by George J. F. Clarke, dated 20th of April, 1821, marked exhibit B; which are ordered to be filed.

Estevan Arnau, by his attorney, John Drysdale, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying at a place called the Black General, a little distance from St. Mark's lake, about seven miles north of the city of St. Augustine, with a certified copy of royal title made to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, dated 19th of June, 1808, marked exhibit A; which are ordered to be filed.

Horatio S. Dexter, by John Drysdale, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying on the east side of St. John's river, in East Florida, between Little lake and Lake George, and known by the name of Mount Royal, with a certified copy of concession made to George Petty by Governor Kindelan, dated 5th of April, 1815; a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke to said Petty, dated the 1st of May, 1821; a conveyance from the said Petty to Mrs. Abby Dexter, dated the 21st of May, 1821; and a note of hand for two hundred and fifty dollars from Horatio S. Dexter, payable to George Petty, for his right, title, interest, and property in Mount Royal, dated January 26th, 1820, erased by a pen; which are ordered to be filed.

Horatio S. Dexter, by his attorney, John Drysdale, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying at a place called McCullough's point, on the river St. Johns, about seven miles south of Picolata, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Kindelan to William Bardin, dated the 17th of March, 1815, with a plat; also, a conveyance from said Bardin to memorialist, dated the 23d of December, 1819; which are ordered to be filed.

Peter Mitchell, by his attorney, John Drysdale, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot of ground, with the buildings and improvement on the same, situated at the south corner of the public square, with a conveyance for the same from Francis P. Sanchez to memorialist, bearing date —— day of October, in the present year, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three; which said conveyance has been duly recorded in the office of the clerk of the county court: ordered to be filed.

John McQueen's heirs, by John Drysdale, their attorney, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to ten thousand acres of land lying and being near the bay of Tampa, in East Florida, with an affidavit of Peter Mitchell attached thereto: ordered to be filed.

Samuel Harrison, by his attorney, John Drysdale, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying at the west point of Amelia island, and has never been surveyed, with a certified copy of concession made to memorialist by Governor White, dated the 16th of May, 1799: ordered to be filed.

Samuel Harrison, by his attorney, John Drysdale, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on Amelia island, in Duval county, and is known by Harrison's Old Fields, with a certified copy of concession made to memorialist by Governor White, dated 12th of November. 1807, marked A; a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, made by Juan Purcell for memorialist, dated the 15th of April, 1807, marked B: ordered to be filed.

Peter Miranda, by his attorneys, John Drysdale and John Rodman, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred and sixty-eight thousand six hundred and forty acres of land lying on Tampa and Hillsborough bays, in East Florida, which has never been surveyed, with a certified copy of concession made to memorialist by Governor White, dated the 26th of December, 1810: ordered to be filed.

Robert Isaac, by his attorney, John Drysdale, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three lots in the city of St. Augustine, as by deed bearing date the 10th of October, 1823, conveyed by Octavius Mitchell, by his attorney Peter Mitchell, to memorialist in fee simple, absolute, and recorded in the office of the clerk of the county court for the county of St. Johns: ordered to be filed.

Sophia Fleming, on behalf of herself as widow, and the heirs of George Fleming, deceased, and William Gibson, presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to ten thousand seven hundred and sixty-two acres of land lying on the south side of the branch of Nassau river, about ten miles above the forks, with a British grant made to Robert Paris Taylor by Governor Grant, dated 18th of April, 1771; also, articles of agreement between said Taylor and Daniel Wagenfield, dated 15th of February, 1767, and an assignment of said agreement by said Wagenfield to John Thomas, dated 10th of July, 1770; also, a mutilated release of property in said ten thousand acres, made by Robert P. Taylor to John Thomas, dated on or about the 21th of July, 1770, which said Thomas, by release bearing date the 10th of August, 1770, did convey all his interest and title in said lands to Francis P. Fatio and Joachim Noel Farnen, herewith exhibited; also, a patent from the British Government, executed by Governor Tonyn, for seven hundred and sixty-two acres, in favor of Francis P. Fatio, adjoining said ten thousand acres, dated 27th day of March, 1775; also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by Pedro Marrot, by order of the Spanish Government, dated 29th of March, 1793; all of which are ordered to be filed.

Stephen Pierce and wife, by their attorney, John Drysdale, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred acres of land lying in south branch of, and about four miles distant from the river St. Marys, about ninety miles distant from the city of St. Augustine, with a British grant made to Thomas Mills, dated — of May, 1767; a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, (mutilated) made by Brahm unto Thos. ——, dated 14th of November, 1765; ordered to be filed.

Hannah Drayton and others, by their attorney, John Drysdale, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a tract of land in the Territory of East Florida, with an order of survey from Governor Tonyn to F. G. Mulcaster, surveyor general, "to lay unto William Drayton, esq. a plantation or tract of one thousand acres," dated the 11th of February, 1775; also, another order of survey from Governor Tonyn to F. G. Mulcaster, surveyor general, to "measure and lay out unto Wm. Drayton, esq. a tract of one thousand acres of land, 11th day of February, 1775;" also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey of one thousand acres of land, made for William Drayton by John Funk, deputy surveyor, certified the 20th of February, 1775; all of which being labelled and marked exhibits A, 34.

Also, a British grant for one hundred acres of land lying at the Matanzas, west side of Crooked creek, to William Drayton, dated October 1, 1772, and signed by Arthur Gordon, attorney general, with two orders of survey bearing date the 16th of February, 1771, directed to Frederick George Mulcaster, surveyor general, by Governor James Grant; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey of one hundred acres of land, certified the 18th of May, 1771, by John Funk, deputy surveyor; all of which being labelled, and marked exhibits B, 33.

Also, a British grant for one hundred acres of land lying on Matanzas river, about twenty miles southeastward from St. Augustine, to William Drayton, dated 1st October, 1772, and signed by Arthur Gordon, attorney general, with two other orders of survey bearing date the 29th of June, 1771, directed to F. G. Mulcaster, esq., surveyor general, by Governor John Moultrie, and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey of one hundred acres of land, certified the 8th September, 1772, by John Funk, deputy surveyor; all of which being labelled and marked exhibits C, 32.

Also, a British grant for two hundred acres of land lying on Northwest creek, about twenty miles southeast from St. Augustine, to William Drayton, dated May 14, 1772, signed by Arthur Gordon, attorney general, with a warrant of survey by James Grant, directed to F. G. Mulcaster, surveyor general, dated 26th December, 1770, and an order of survey by said Governor Grant, dated 26th December, 1770; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, certified the 18th May, 1771, by John Funk, deputy surveyor; all of which being labelled and marked exhibits D, 31.

Also, a British grant for three hundred acres of land lying on the north side of the Northwest creek running into the Little Matanzas, to William Drayton, dated 14th May, 1772, signed by Arthur Gordon, attorney general, with a warrant of survey by Governor James Grant, directed to F. G. Mulcaster, surveyor general, dated 3d of December, 1770; all of which being labelled and marked exhibits E, 30.

Also, a warrant of survey by Governor James Grant, directed to Wm. G. De Brahm, surveyor general, "to survey one hundred acres of land on Rain's Cowpens creek, opposite to his former tracts," dated 19th September, 1769; and an order of survey from said Governor Grant, dated 19th of September, 1769, and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey certified the 19th December, 1770, by Andrew May, deputy surveyor; all of which being labelled and marked exhibits F, 29.

Also, a warrant of survey by Gov. Grant, directed to William Gerard De Brahm, esq., surveyor general, "to measure, or cause to be admeasured and laid out unto William Drayton, esq., a plantation or tract of land, containing five hundred acres of land, situated on the west line of a tract petitioned for by Mr. Coursorvie, on Rain's Cowpens creek," dated 24th of July, 1769; an order of survey from said Governor Grant, dated 24th of July, 1769, and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, certified the 1st of September, 1769, by Andrew May, deputy surveyor; all of which being labelled and marked exhibits G, 28.

Also, a warrant of survey by Governor Grant, directed to William Gerard De Brahm, esq., surveyor general, "to measure, or cause to be admeasured and laid out, unto William Drayton, esq., a plantation or tract of land, containing five hundred acres of land, situated on Rain's Cowpens, adjoining his former five hundred acre tract," dated 3d of August, 1769; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, certified the 2d of September, 1769, by Andrew May, deputy surveyor; all of which being labelled and marked exhibits H, 27.

Also, a warrant of survey by Governor Grant, directed to William Gerard De Brahm, esq., surveyor general, "to measure, or cause to be admeasured and laid out, unto William Drayton, esq., two hundred and fifty acres, situated on a cypress swamp, about eight miles west from St. Augustine, near his tract of fifty acres," dated 13th of January, 1768; and an order of survey from the said Governor Grant, dated 13th of January, 1768; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, certified the 15th of February, 176–, by John Funk, deputy surveyor; all of which being labelled and marked exhibits I, 26.

Also, a warrant of survey by Governor Grant, directed to William Gerard De Brahm, esq., surveyor general, "to measure, or cause to be admeasured and laid out, unto William Drayton, esq., fifty acres, situated in a swamp about eight miles west from St. Augustine, near a tract of Mr. Jollies'," dated 4th January, 1768; an order of survey from the said Governor Grant, dated 4th January, 1768, and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, certified the 14th of February, 1769, by John Funk, deputy surveyor; all of which being labelled and marked exhibits J, 25.

Also, a British grant for one hundred acres of land lying northwesterly five miles from St. Augustine, to William Drayton, dated 14th October, 1768, and signed by James Box, attorney general, with a warrant of survey directed to William Gerard De Brahm, surveyor general, dated 22d June, 1767; all of which being labelled and marked exhibits K, 24.

Also, a British grant for one thousand three hundred and two acres of land lying and being an island situated in Lake George, to William Drayton, dated the 3d October, 1768, and signed by James Box, attorney general, with a warrant of survey directed to William Gerard De Brahm, esq., surveyor general, dated 22d of June, 1767, and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, certified 2d of August, 1767, by John Funk, deputy surveyor; all of which being labelled and marked exhibits L, 23.

Likewise, a certified will of William Drayton, marked M; a certificate of James D. Mitchell, ordinary, specifying that William Drayton did administer on the estate and effects of Jacob Drayton, marked N. Memorialist further presented, for the consideration of the board, certified copies of eleven British grants obtained from the British Colonial Department in London; which, with the exhibits already referred to, are ordered to be filed.

Nicol Turnbull, and other heirs of Andrew Turnbull, deceased, by their attorney John Drysdale, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to *fourteen grants* of land, to wit:

The first grant of three hundred acres lying on Hillsborough river, opposite the north side of his (Andrew Turnbull's) tract of twenty thousand acres, with a warrant of survey for the said land, directed to Wm. Gerard De Brahm, surveyor general, by Governor James Grant, dated the 17th January, 1767; an order of survey, same date; a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, dated 18th January, 1767, signed by John Funk, deputy surveyor, referred to, and marked exhibit A, No. 1.

The second grant of one thousand three hundred acres of land lying on Spruce creek, with a warrant of survey for the said land directed to William G. De Brahm, surveyor general, by Governor James Grant, dated 3d December, 1770; a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey dated 4th day of January, 1771, signed by John Funk, deputy surveyor, referred to, and marked exhibit B, No. 2.

The third grant of one thousand acres of land, lying on Don Pablo's creek, opposite to Mr. Wooldridge's land, with a warrant of survey for the said land, directed to William G. De Brahm, surveyor general, by Gov. James Grant, the 16th April, 1770; an order of survey, same date; a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, dated 20th April, 1771, signed by James Delaire, deputy surveyor, referred to, and marked exhibit C, No. 3.

The fourth grant of two hundred acres of land, lying on an island swamp, about two miles west from the Stockades fort, with a warrant of survey for the said land directed to William G. De Brahm, surveyor general, by Governor James Grant, dated 17th January, 1767; a grant signed by James Box, attorney general, dated 21st January, 1767, for said land; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, dated 20th January, 1767, signed by John Funk, deputy surveyor, referred to, and marked exhibits D, No. 4.

The fifth grant of ten thousand acres of land, lying on the south side of the forks of Nassau river, with a warrant of survey for the said land directed to Frederick George Mulcaster, surveyor general, by Gov. John Moultrie, dated 5th April, 1773; with a plat of survey having no date, referred to, and marked exhibits E, No. 5.

The sixth grant of one hundred acres of land, lying about seventy miles southwardly from St. Augustine, with a warrant of survey for the said land directed to Frederick George Mulcaster, surveyor general, by Gov. Pat. Tonyn, dated 18th October, 1774; an order of survey, same date; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, dated 24th ———, 1774, referred to, and marked exhibits F, No. 6.

The seventh grant of fifty acres of land, lying between Halifax river and the sea beach, about three quarters of a mile to the northward of the Mosquito inlet, with a warrant of survey directed to F. G. Mulcaster, surveyor general, by Gov. Tonyn, bearing date 18th October, 1774; an order of survey, of same date; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, by John Funk, deputy surveyor, dated 2d January, 1775, referred to, and marked exhibits G, No. 15.

The eighth grant of one hundred acres of land, lying on the east side of Hillsborough river, and a little to the northward of the Musquito inlet, with an order of survey, dated 7th June, 1773, "signed John Moultrie," and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by John Funk, deputy surveyor, dated 8th June, 1773, referred to, and marked exhibits H, No. 7.

The ninth grant of twenty thousand acres of land, lying two miles and three quarters from the Musquito inlet, with a *mandamus* for twenty thousand acres of land, dated the 18th day of June, 1766; a warrant of survey directed to William Gerard De Brahm, surveyor general, by Gov. James Grant, dated 15th January, 1767; a grant signed by James Box, attorney general, dated 17th January, 1767; and certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by John Funk, deputy surveyor, dated January 15th, 1767, referred to, and marked exhibits I, No. 9.

The tenth grant of one thousand acres of land, lying about sixty miles south from St. Augustine, on the head of Fishing creek, a branch of the river Halifax, with a mutilated warrant of survey directed to William Gerard De Brahm, surveyor general, by Gov. James Grant, dated the 25th of June, 1767; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by John Davis, deputy surveyor, dated 29th December, 1768, referred to, and marked exhibits J.

The eleventh grant of three thousand six hundred acres of land, lying on Sugar island, about twenty miles to the southward of Mr. Elliot's plantation, with a warrant of survey directed to Frederick George Mulcaster, surveyor general, by Governor Tonyn, dated 21st January, 1775; an order of survey of same date, and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, by John Funk, deputy surveyor, dated the 17th of March, 1775, referred to, and marked exhibits K.

The twelfth grant of two hundred and fifty acres of land, lying on the west side of Tomoka creek, adjoining on the south line of lands surveyed for the children of the late James Moultrie, esq., with a warrant of survey directed to Frederick George Mulcaster, surveyor general, by Gov. Grant, dated the 16th of February, 1771; an order of survey same date; also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by John Funk, deputy surveyor, dated 20th February, 1771, referred to, and marked M.

The thirteenth grant of two hunded acres, lying on the west side of Tomoka creek, adjoining Mr. Alert's line, with a warrant of survey directed to William Gerard De Brahm, surveyor general, by Gov. Grant, dated 9th of August, 1770; an order of survey same date; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey dated 4th of January, 1771, by John Funk, deputy surveyor, referred to, and marked exhibits N

The fourteenth grant of 200 acres, lying on the west side of Tomoka creek, opposite an island in the said creek, with a warrant of survey directed to F. G. Mulcaster, surveyor general, by Gov. Grant, dated 11th October, 1770; an order of survey same date, and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey dated 4th January, 1771, by John Funk, deputy surveyor, referred to, and marked exhibits O.

And Robert Harvey, one of the heirs of the aforesaid Andrew Turnbull, claims title to a tract of land granted to his mother, Mary Turnbull, daughter of the said Andrew Turnbull, before her marriage with the father of memorialist, consisting of five thousand acres of land lying on the east side of Lake George, adjoining the south line of Nicholas Turnbull, with an order of survey signed James Grant, dated 19th day ——, 1768; a grant for the land, dated 29th March, 1769, signed by James Box, attorney general; a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by John Funk, deputy surveyor, dated 2d February, 1769, referred to, and marked P.

And John Holland and Jane Holland, heirs of the aforesaid Andrew Turnbull, claims title to a tract of land granted to the said Jane, daughter of said Andrew Turnbull, before her marriage with the said Holland, consisting of five thousand acres, lying on the great fork of Nassau river, with an order of survey signed James Grant, dated 5th day of May, 1769; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by James Delaire, dated 14th April, 1770, referred to, and marked exhibits Q.

And Nichol Turnbull, one of the heirs of the aforesaid Andrew Turnbull, claims title to a tract of land granted to him, consisting of five thousand acres, on the east side of Lake George, with the following exhibits: A warrant of survey directed to William Gerard De Brahm, surveyor general, by Governor Grant, dated 19th September, 1768; an order of survey same date; a grant signed by James Box, attorney general, dated 29th March, 1769; two certified copies of survey—one by John Funk, deputy surveyor, dated 1st of February, 1769, the other by R. Romans, deputy surveyor, dated 27th February, 1769, referred to, and marked exhibits R.

And Elihu Hall Bay and Margaret Bay, formerly Margaret Turnbull, daughter of the aforesaid Andrew Turnbull, likewise heirs to said Turnbull, claim title to a tract of land granted to the said Margaret before her marriage, consisting of five thousand acres, lying across the heads of the middle branches of Nassau river; with the following exhibits: A warrant of survey directed to William G. De Brahm, surveyor general, by Governor Grant, dated 5th day of May, 1769; a grant signed W. Owens, attorney general, dated 13th February, 1779; a *mandamus* for five thousand acres, dated the 13th day of May, 1767; an order of survey dated 5th May, 1769; and certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by James Delaire, dated 16th July, 1770, referred to, and marked S.

And the memorialist further presented two affidavits, marked U and V., purporting that the original grants could not be procured; that no compensation was ever received from the British Government; that Andrew Turnbull was a citizen of the United States, by the certificate of Judge Burke. The memorialist further presented, for the consideration of this board, certified copies of fifteen grants from the department of the Secretary of State for the Colonial Department in London; all of which documents are ordered to be filed.

Nichol Turnbull, by his attorney, John Drysdale, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot of ground lying in this city, situated on the south side of Convent lane, with a copy of a British grant made by Governor Tonyn for memorialist, and dated 2d August, 1783, marked exhibit A; also, a warrant of survey by Governor Grant for one acre, dated 15th January, 1767; certified copies of plat and certificates of survey by John Funk, deputy surveyor—no date; a certified copy of survey by Benjamin Lord, assistant surveyor general, dated the 21st of June, 1783, referred to as exhibits A and B, in exhibit B: ordered to be filed.

James Marshall, by his attorney, John Drysdale, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the east side of Rain's cowpen, with a warrant of survey made by Governor Moultrie, dated 3d May, 1773; a plat and certificate of survey, and a representation of Edwin C. Holland attached thereto, dated Charleston, April 1st, 1819, referred to, and marked exhibit A; an attested copy of a British grant made by Governor Pat. Tonyn, bearing date 18th October, 1774, obtained from England, in favor of Abraham Marshall, referred to in exhibit T: ordered to be filed.

Elihu Hall Bay and wife presented, by their attorney, John Drysdale, their supplementary memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five thousand acres of land lying across the heads of the branches of Nassau river, already petitioned for, with an attested copy of a British grant dated the 16th of February, 1771, made by Governor James Grant to Margaret Turnbull, obtained from England, referred to in exhibit T: ordered to be filed.

The board then adjourned until Thursday afternoon, November 27, at 4 o'clock.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1823.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, Hons. Davis Floyd and William W. Blair.

Edward Macon, esq., United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, attended the sitting of the board, under their order.

William Drummond presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the north of the river St. Johns, on Cedar creek, at a place named *Mount Agreeable*, with a certificate of concession to John Youngblood by Governor White, dated 19th February, 1799: ordered to be filed.

William Drummond presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred acres of land lying at a place called White House, in the St. Mary's river, with a conveyance from David Lang to memorialist, dated 24th February, 1817; a memorial from said Lang to Governor Coppinger, dated the 6th of February, 1816; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 7th October, 1818: ordered to be filed.

William Drummond presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying at a place called Bird Pond, on the bank of the river St. Marys, near Cabbage swamp, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke for memorialist, dated 20th of November, 1817: ordered to be filed.

William Drummond presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred acres of land lying in Wilder's swamp, on the banks of the river St. Marys, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke for memorialist, dated 1st November, 1817; which are ordered to be filed.

William Drummond presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five thousand seven hundred and sixty acres of land lying on a creek called Buck branch, on the banks of the river St. Marys, with a certified copy of concession to memorialist by Coppinger, dated 12th September, 1816: ordered to be filed.

Matthias Pons's heirs, by Francis Marin, administrator, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred acres of land lying on the river Matanzas, known by the name of *Casapula*, to the south of St. Augustine, with a certified copy of royal title made to Matthias Pons by Governor Kindelan, dated 7th September, 1814: ordered to be filed.

Daniel Hurlbert presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying four miles north of the city of St. Augustine, with a certified copy of sale of said land by Government, by Governor Coppinger, dated the 23d July, 1818: ordered to be filed.

Daniel Hurlbert presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and twenty-five acres of land lying on Seret Swamp branch, to the southward of the city of St. Augustine, with a certified copy of concession made to memorialist by Governor White, dated 3d September, 1805: ordered to be filed.

Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, jr., presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying on the east side of St. John's river, about thirty miles to the west of the city of St. Augustine, with a certified copy of concession of said land made to Francis P. Fatio by Governor Quesada, dated the 21st November, 1771: ordered to be filed.

Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, jr., presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to twenty-one caballerias and twenty acres, (about seven hundred and twenty acres of land,) and two small islands of marsh in front of the river St. Johns, on the east side thereof, about forty-five miles northwestward from St. Augustine, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Pedro Marrot, dated March 9th, 1793.

Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, jr., presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land on the east side of Maxwell's creek, emptying into St. John's river near Jacksonville, with a British grant made to Francis P. Fatio by Governor Tonyn, of said land, dated the 28th day of March, 1775; and a British certified copy of plat and certificate

of survey by Frederick George Mulcaster, surveyor general, dated the 16th of February, 1775: ordered to be filed.

Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, jr., presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot of land lying in the suburbs of the city of St. Augustine, on the west side of the Powder-house street, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Estrada, dated 7th of March, 1812: ordered to be filed.

Peter Miranda presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot of land situated in the south suburbs of the city of St. Augustine, on the east side of Burnt-barrack street, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Estrada to said Miranda, dated 12th of May, 1812, with an order of survey dated 4th of April, 1821, by Governor Coppinger, and a certificate of survey dated 30th April, 1821: ordered to be filed.

George Webber, by George Gibbs, his agent, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the edge of the marsh of Graham's creek, about two miles southwest of the plantation of Dupont, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor White, dated 21st January, 1804: ordered to be filed.

George Atkinson, by his attorney, George Gibbs, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot of ground in the town of Fernandina, Island of Amelia, with a license to Antonio Triay, made by Governor White, dated 31st January, 1811: ordered to be filed.

Mary Dewees, by George Gibbs, her attorney, presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot of ground consisting of five hundred and thirty-two square feet, in the town of Fernandina, Amelia island, with a certified copy of concession made to Joseph Fenwick by Governor Kindelan, dated the 2d of March, 1814, referred to, and marked S: ordered to be filed.

Andrew Atkinson, by George Gibbs, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying between Dunn's creek and Front creek, on the west side of St. John's river, with a certified copy of concession made to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, dated 17th November, 1817: ordered to be filed.

Zephaniah Kingsley, by George Gibbs, his agent, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two thousand six hundred and eleven acres of land lying on the west side of the St. John's river, and on the south by Doctor's lake, or creek called *Laurel Grove*, with a certified copy of conveyance from Rebecca Pengree to memorialist, dated the 26th of November, 1803, marked Z. K.: ordered to be filed.

Hannah Kingsley, by George J. F. Clarke, presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred and fifty acres of land—two hundred and twenty-five being on Dunn's lake on the east side, and one hundred and twenty-five on St. John's river, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger, dated 12th January, 1816: ordered to be filed.

Moses Elias Levy, by his attorney, Isaac N. Cox, esq., presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to an undivided fourth part of a tract consisting of *ten miles square on each wind*, lying on the Manate and Tolosatachy rivers, on the bay of Espirituo Santo, containing in the whole two hundred and fifty-six thousand acres, with a deed of conveyance from Fernando de la Maza Arredondo to memorialist, dated St. Augustine, 24th of January, 1822, certified by Edmund Law, esq. on the same day; which are ordered to be filed.

John Foulk's heirs, by their attorney, Isaac N. Cox, esq., presented their petition to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the river St. Johns, at a place called Mulberry Grove, south of the ancient post of *Buena Vista*, with a certified copy of a concession made by Governor White to John Foulk, dated 17th of March, 1803: ordered to be filed.

Moses Elias Levy, by his attorney, Isaac N. Cox, esq., presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to *thirty-eight thousand* acres of land lying on Alligator creek, in the county of St. John, with the following exhibits: a certified copy of concession for said lands made by Governor Coppinger to Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, dated the 24th March, 1817, in the Spanish language, marked A; a translation of the same, marked B; a certified copy of conveyance from said Arredondo to Hernandez and Chauviteau, with other accompanying documents in the Spanish language, marked C; a translation of the same, marked D; a declaration of Hernandez and Chauviteau, marked E; lease and release of Moses E. Levy and A. Cohen, marked F; a power of attorney from Hernandez and Chauviteau to Moses E. Levy, marked G; which are ordered to be filed.

Peter Miranda, by his attorney, Waters Smith, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land situated on the river St. Marys, at the place called *Montford*, or *Lowford*, with a certified copy of royal title to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, dated the 28th of November, 1816: ordered to be filed.

Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, by his attorney, Isaac N. Cox, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a tract of land consisting of *ten miles on each wind*, situated between the rivers Tolosatachy and the Manaté, in the bay of *Espirituo Santo*, with a certified copy of the proceedings relating to said tract at the Havana, referred to, and marked A; and an affidavit of William Reynolds, keeper of the public archives, dated 11th December, 1823; which are ordered to be filed.

Fernando M. Arredondo and Son, by their attorney, Isaac N. Cox, esq., presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one-half part of a tract of land consisting of thirty-eight thousand acres of land, lying on Alligator creek, in the county of St. Johns, with a certified copy of a power of attorney from Joseph M. Arredondo to memorialists, referred to, and marked A: ordered to be filed.

Moses E. Levy, by Isaac N. Cox, esq., his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to fourteen thousand five hundred acres of land lying at a place called Hope Hill, with a certified copy of concession made to Fernando de la Maza Arredondo by Governor Coppinger, dated the 9th of August, 1819, marked A; a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by Andres Burgevin, dated the 5th August, 1819, marked B: ordered to be filed.

Francis de Medicis presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred acres of land lying on the west side of the North river, about nine miles from St. Augustine, with a certified copy of concession, dated the 27th September, 1798, made to John Salon; also, a quit claim to memorialist by Miguel Salon, one of the heirs of Juan Salon, dated the 23d March, 1820, marked C; and a conveyance from Lewis Ricardo to memorialist, dated 18th May, 1822, marked B; which are ordered to be filed.

Charles Edmonston, by his agent, Peter Poirier, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the east side of St. John's river, with a certified copy of conveyance from Francisco Gué to Augusto Poujaud, dated 6th February, 1821; also, a certified copy of conveyance from Augusto Poujaud to memorialist, dated 11th May, 1821, and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by Andres Burgevin for Francisco Gué, dated 14th August, 1818: ordered to be filed.

Charles Edmonston, by his agent, Peter Poirier, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the west side of St. John's river, opposite his tract on the east side of said river, with a certified copy of royal title made to Francis Gué by Governor Coppinger, dated 12th of June, 1818; a conveyance from said Gué to Augusto Poujaud, dated 6th of February, 1821; a conveyance from Poujaud to memorialist, dated 11th May, 1821; a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by Andres Burgevin for Francisco Gué, dated the 14th August, 1818: ordered to be filed.

José Youngblood presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to six hundred acres of land lying on the river St. Mary's, at the place formerly occupied by the rebel John Bayley, with a certified copy of concession made to him by Governor White, dated 7th February, 1798, and a plat of survey of D. Garvin, of June 17th, 1816; ordered to be filed.

Philip R. Yonge, trustee of Josiah Starkey, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred and fifty-five acres of land situated on the St. Mary's river, in East Florida, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, for Charles Sibbald, dated 8th July, 1816, and a conveyance from said Sibbald and wife to memorialist, in trust for J. Starkey, bearing date the 1st of January, 1818: ordered to be filed.

John Batchelot presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a small island of marsh near that of the *Doctor*, with a certified copy of concession made to him by Governor White, dated 29th November, 1800: ordered to be filed.

John Batchelot presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred acres of

land lying on the north point of Amelia island, with a certified copy of royal title made to him by Governor Coppinger, dated 10th June, 1816, with plats and certificates: ordered to be filed.

John Batchelot presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred acres of land lying on Amelia island, at a place called White point, with a certified copy of royal title made to him, dated 10th June, 1816: ordered to be filed.

Ezekiel Hudnell's heirs, by John B. Strong, their attorney, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying at the south head of San Pablo creek, with a certified copy of concession to Selby Taylor by Governor Coppinger, dated 14th of April, 1817; also, a conveyance from said Taylor to Hudnell, bearing date 28th November, 1821; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke to Selby Taylor, dated 7th June, 1821: ordered to be filed.

Ezekiel Hudnell's heirs, by John B. Strong, their attorney, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying on St. John's river, and east side thereof, at a place called *Falck*, with a certified copy of royal title to *Jose Garcia*, dated the 5th of December, 1817; and a conveyance from Jose Garcia to Ezekiel Hudnell, dated the 29th November, 1821; also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 8th June, 1821: ordered to be filed.

Ezekiel Hudnell's heirs, by John B. Strong, their attorney, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the north bank of the river St. Johns, nearly opposite the fort of *St. Nicholas*, with a certified copy of concession made to Daniel Hogan, 18th March, 1817, by Governor Coppinger, with a conveyance from Hogau to Hudnell, dated 11th November, 1818; a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 9th May, 1817: ordered to be filed.

Ezekiel Hudnell's heirs, by John B. Strong, their attorney, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to nine hundred acres of land lying at the mouth of Lake George, on the south part of the river St. Johns, with a certified copy of concession made to E. Hudnell by Governor Coppinger, dated 3d June, 1817; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 1st April, 1821: ordered to be filed.

James Darley, by his attorney, George Murray, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land in Turnbull's swamp, in the territory of Musquito, with a certified copy of concession to memorialist of one thousand acres, made by Governor Coppinger, dated 15th June, 1817, referred to, and marked B; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by Robert McHardy, dated 20th June, 1818: ordered to be filed.

James Darley, by his attorney, George Murray, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying in the territory of Musquito, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by Robert McHardy, dated the 25th June, 1818: ordered to be filed.

Henry Yonge, by his agent, Peter Mitchell, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and ninety acres of land lying in Lofton's swamp, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 8th June, 1817: ordered to be filed.

William P. Yonge, by his agent, Peter Mitchell, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on St. Mary's and Little St. Mary's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 3d April, 1816, for Henry Yonge: ordered to be filed.

Ezekiel Hudnell's heirs, by John B. Strong, their attorney, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying in the place known as the *Baranco de las Calabazas* to the south, and near the mouth of the river Nassau, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor White to Hudnell, dated the 29th January, 1802; which are ordered to be filed.

John P. Williamson, by his agent, Peter Mitchell, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to eight hundred and fifty acres of land lying about two miles from the junction of the rivers Tomoka and Halifax, and with no exhibit for the same: ordered to be filed.

William P. Yonge, by his agent, Peter Mitchell, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred and eighty acres of land lying on St. Mary's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 1st April, 1816: ordered to be filed.

Francis Kinloch, of South Carolina, by his attorney, Richard B. Furman, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the east side of the river St. Johns, about twenty-eight miles from the town of St. Augustine, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by John Funk, deputy surveyor, dated 30th of May, 1766: ordered to be filed.

Thomas Napier, by his attorney, Richard B. Furman, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to eight hundred acres of land lying and being in the territory of Musquitos, in the passage called *Paulano*, of the west of Turnbull, about three miles to the west of New Smyrna, with a conveyance from Isaac Wickes to memorialist, dated 22d of April, 1820; also, a certified copy of conveyance from Juan de Entralgo to Isaac Wickes, dated 20th August, 1818; also, a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger to said Entralgo, dated 15th November, 1817; also, a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger to the aforesaid Entralgo, for 3,800 acres, dated 20th May, 1817; also, a memorial of Entralgo to Governor Coppinger to have the 800 acres recorded in the archives, dated 26th February, 1818; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke to said Entralgo, dated 20th February, 1818: ordered to be filed.

Thomas Napier, by Richard B. Furman, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three thousand acres of land in three tracts, to wit: one tract of one thousand acres, granted to George J. F. Clarke, lying and being on the west side of the Musquito, South Lagoon or Hillsborough river; one tract of one thousand, being the southermost moiety of two thousand acres granted to William Garvin the 26th of November, 1817, lying on the west side of the river Ys or Indian river; one tract of one thousand acres of land, or moiety of two thousand acres, granted to Charles Clarke the 10th of June, 1816, lying at Chacala, in the territory of Alachua, with a deed of conveyance from George J. F. Clarke to Thomas Napier, dated the —— day of ——— 1823, recorded in the office of the clerk of the county court July 17, 1823; and three plats of survey translated from the Spanish language: all of which are ordered to be filed.

Domingo Reys, by his attorney, Isaac N. Cox, esq., presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two thousand acres of land at a place known by the name of Spring Garden, on the river Halifax, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger to memorialist, dated 5th of May, 1820, referred to, and marked A A: ordered to be filed.

Andrew R. Govan, by his attorney, Edward R. Gibson, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to sixteen hundred acres of land lying on the east side of St. John's river, and named Orange Grove, and near Buena Vista, with no exhibits: ordered to be filed.

Artemas E. Ferguson's heirs, by Susan Sleigh, his widow, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to thirty-four caballerias and seventeen acres of land adjoining Doctor's creek and Negro creek, being the plantation called Armonia, with a certified copy of royal title made to them by Governor Estrada, dated the 5th of October, 1811, referred to, and marked A: ordered to be filed.

Artemas E. Ferguson's heirs, by Susan Sleigh, his widow, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to forty-three and one-third acres of land lying on Doctor's creek, adjoining the plantation of Armonia, belonging to memorialist, with a certified copy of royal title made to memorialist by Governor Estrada, dated the 7th of October, 1811, referred to, and marked B: ordered to be filed.

Artemas E. Ferguson's heirs, by Susan Sleigh, his widow, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred and seven acres of land lying on St. John's river, being a plantation known by the name of *San Onces*, with a certified copy of royal title made them by Governor Estrada, dated 5th October, 1811, referred to: ordered to be filed.

William Walker presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and seventy-five acres of land lying on a little island in the northern branch of Nassau river, at a place known by the name of Cypress grove, with a certified copy of royal title made to him by Governor Coppinger, dated 16th of February, 1816: ordered to be filed.

John Baptist Gaudry presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three thousand

acres of land lying on the river St. Johns, at a place known by the name of Spring garden, with a certified copy of concession made to memorialist, dated 8th of October, 1817, and the proceedings to obtain royal title; also, a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger, dated 14th of May, 1818; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Robert McHardy, dated 12th of December, 1817: ordered to filed.

Charles W. Clarke presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to sixteen thousand acres of land in four tracts: first contains four thousand acres, situated on the west side of Alachua pond; second contains four thousand acres, situated at Fatio's Negro town, to the south of Payne's town; third contains four thousand acres, on the west side of Indian river; fourth contains four thousand acres, on Black creek, St. John's river, with a certified copy of concession made to memorialist by Governor Coppinger for a mill seat on Black creek, dated the 29th of October, 1817: ordered to be filed.

Charles W. Clarke presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred and seventy-five acres of land lying on the south side of Dunn's lake, at a place known by the name of Cowing's Old Field, with a certified copy of concession made to him by Governor Coppinger, dated 15th December, 1815: ordered to be filed.

Charles W. Clarke presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying in Graham's swamp, between the heads of of the Matanza and Halifax rivers, with no exhibits: ordered to be filed.

Charles W. Clarke presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two thousand three hundred acres of land in five tracts—the first consisting of eight hundred and eighty acres, situated on the east side of St. George's lake; the second consisting of four hundred and four acres, on the east side of St. George's lake; the third consisting of two hundred and ninety-two acres, on the east side of St. George's lake; the fourth consisting of two hundred acres, on the east side of St. George's lake, which memorialist has sold to Dr. Weightman; and the fifth consisting of five hundred and twenty-four acres, likewise memorialist has sold to Andrew Stores, lying on the east side of Lake George; with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Coppinger to memorialist, dated 12th of February, 1817: ordered to be filed.

George J. F. Clarke presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four thousand acres of land in six tracts, to wit: the first contains one thousand acres at a place called Spring grove, west side of St. George's lake, and south of Spring creek; the second contains one thousand acres, on the west of the river Hillsborough, at a place called McDougall Old field, in Turnbull's swamp, which memorialist has sold to Thomas Napier; the third contains five hundred acres, at the Big bend of Durbin's swamp; the fourth contains five hundred acres at the Big bend of Durbin's swamp, adjoining the foregoing tract; the fifth contains five hundred acres, at the Big bend of Durbin's swamp; the sixth contains 500 acres, at the Big bend of Durbin's swamp—this tract the memorialist has sold and conveyed to James G. Forbes, now absent from this Territory. The memorialist, therefore, claims title to two thousand five hundred acres of the said four thousand acre tract, with a concession made to him by Governor Coppinger, dated 3d May, 1816; all of which are ordered to be filed.

George J. F. Clarke presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one thousand acres of land lying at the head of Matanzas river, and place called Big savannah, east of Graham's swamp, with a certified copy of concession made to him by Governor White, dated 28th December, 1815: ordered to be filed.

George J. F. Clarke presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one thousand acres of land lying on Picolata swamp, on the west side of St. John's river, and south of the road going to Alachua, with a certified copy of royal title made to him by Governor Coppinger, dated 27th August, 1818: ordered to be filed.

George J. F. Clarke presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one thousand acres, five hundred acres thereof lying on the head of Durbin's swamp, to the west part of said swamp; and the other five hundred acres lie in Picolata swamp, on the west side of the river St. Johns, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Kindelan, dated 9th May, 1815: ordered to be filed.

George J. F. Clarke presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying on Amelia island, to the northeast of the town of Fernandina, by the name of Willow pond, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Estrada, the 15th December, 1815: ordered to be filed.

George J. F. Clarke presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two thousand acres of land lying on Cedar, alias Bugg's hammock, on the south of Mizell's lake, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor White to memorialist, dated the 7th of February, 1811: ordered to be filed.

George J. F. Clarke presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two thousand acres of land, one thousand of which lies in Chachala hammock, at the westernmost part of Payne's savannah; five hundred acres lying in Twelve-mile swamp, adjoining on the south to lands belonging at the time of survey to Charles and George Clarke; and another five hundred acres, adjoining to the next above described, in Twelve-mile swamp, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Kindelan to memorialist, dated the 10th July, 1814: ordered to be filed.

George J. F. Clarke presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to sixteen thousand acres of land in different tracts, eight thousand of which lies on the west shore of St. John's river, along the said river from the former ferry, called Picolata ferry, where the road leading to Alachua commences on that side of said river, and down to Buckley creek, including the place named White spring; a tract containing three thousand acres situated in about Cone's hammock, to the south of Mizell's, alias Orange lake; a tract containing five thousand acres lying in Lang's hammock, on the south side of Mizell's, alias Orange lake; which said five thousand acres, and one thousand of the next preceding tract here described, the memorialist has sold and conveyed to Colonel Duncan L. Clinch, leaving memorialist in possession of ten thousand acres of land, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger, dated 6th April, 1816: also, two memorials of survey, one dated the 29th December, 1818, with the order of survey dated 11th January, 1819; the other memorial of survey dated 25th January, 1819, with the order of survey dated same date: ordered to be filed.

James Clarke presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the east head of Springer's branch, about ten miles to the west northwest from St. Augustine, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor White, dated 12th April, 1810: ordered to be filed.

Flora Leslie presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 500 acres of land lying in Lang's hammock, on the south of Mizell's lake, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Coppinger, dated 17th December, 1817: ordered to be filed.

Thomas Clarke presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on Lang's hammock, on the south of Mizell's lake, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Coppinger, dated 17th December, 1817: ordered to be filed.

Daniel Clarke presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the north part of the Big bend, in Durbin's swamp, and on the west of the road going from hence to St. John's bluff, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Coppinger, dated the 17th December, 1817.

Francis Richard presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred and sixty-six acres of land lying at a place called Branchester, on St. John's river, with a royal title made by Governor Kindelan, dated 20th March, 1815: ordered to be filed.

Francis Richard presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and thirty acres of land lying at a place called Vargue, on St. John's river, with a certified copy of royal title made to memorialist by Governor Kindelan, dated 20th March, 1815: ordered to be filed.

Francis Richard presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 110 acres of land lying on the St. John's river, at a point called *Santa Esabela*, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger, dated the 27th January, 1818: ordered to be filed.

George Atkinson presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 15,000 acres of land in different tracts, to wit: a tract of 6,000 acres lying near the *Santa Fe* river, at Darcey's creek, on *Ray's Trail;* a tract of 4,000 acres lying on the north of Dunn's creek, that communicates with St. John's river; a tract of 3,000 acres of land on the middle branch of Han creek, running into Dunn's lake; a tract of 2,000 acres lying on Dixon's *hammock*, on the southeast of Bowleg's savannah, with a certified copy of concession made to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, dated 20th October, 1816: ordered to be filed.

John Low presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 16,000 acres of land in two tracts, to wit: a tract of 6,000 acres of land lying on Bell's river, at a place called Doctor's branch; and a tract of 10,000 acres lying on the northwest of the head of Indian river, on the west of the savannahs of North creek, with a certified copy of concession made to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, and dated the 6th of April, 1816: ordered to be filed.

John Brevard presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 16,000 acres of land in different tracts, 7,000 of which lie between Cedar creek and Dunn's creek, on the north side of St. John's river; 3,000 lie on the north side of St. John's river, and on the east of the road to St. Mary's river; 4,000 acres lie on the south of Dunn's creek, that connects Dunn's lake with St. John's river at a place called Cabbage hammock; 2,000 acres lie at Sugar town, Cedar swamp, on the west of St. John's river, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Coppinger, dated 24th April, 1816: ordered to be filed.

Domingo Fernandez presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 16,000 acres of land in different tracts, 6,000 acres of which is situated about Cooley's hammock, on the northeast of Ray's trail; 4,000 acres is situated on the west side of St. John's river, above Bernard's ford, and below the Semfeloky ford, and bounded on the south by another tract belonging to memorialist; 3,000 acres are situated on the west side of St. John's river, next above the preceding 4,000, and at the place where Semfeloky road fords said river; 3,000 acres lie in Moody's hammock, to the southeast of Payne's town, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Coppinger, dated 16th December, 1817: ordered to be filed.

George J. F. Clarke, on behalf of the estate of William Garvin, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 3,000 acres of land in two tracts—2,000 thereof lie on the west side of Indian river, at a place called Flounder creek; the other 1,000 acres lie in Youngblood's hammock, on the southeast of Ray's trail, which said Garvin sold to George J. F. Clarke; the remaining 2,000 acres are now claimed, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Coppinger, dated 26th November, 1817: ordered to be filed.

Christopher Minchin presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 400 acres of land situated in Durbin's swamp, to the eastward of Twenty-mile house, with a certified copy of concession made to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, dated the 10th November, 1817: ordered to be filed.

Charles Clarke presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 300 acres of land lying on the east of St. George's lake, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Coppinger, dated 2d October, 1817: ordered to be filed.

Elizabeth Wiggins presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 300 acres of land lying on the east side of Lake St. George, with a certified copy of grant made by Governor Estrada, dated 6th August, 1815: ordered to be filed.

Pedro Ponce presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 875 acres of land situated in Mill's swamp, on the river Nassau, with a certified copy of royal title made to him by Governor Coppinger, dated 4th June, 1817: ordered to be filed.

George J. F. Clarke, for the estate of Job Wiggins, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 1,200 acres of land lying near Rowle's town, on St. John's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by Pedro Marrot, bearing date the 10th of November, 1791: ordered to be filed.

Domingo Acosta presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to 8,000 acres of land in different tracts; a tract of 1,500 acres in Ibbin's hammock, on the southwest of Ray's trail; a tract of 4,000 acres situated on the west side of Indian river, at Flounder's creek; a tract of 1,500 acres on the north of Dunn's lake that communicates with St. John's river; a tract of 1,000 acres at Bowleg's old field, west of Payne's town, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Coppinger the 20th May, 1816: ordered to be filed.

Jane Meers, by Belton A. Copp, her attorney, presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land in Duval county, on Tyger island, with no exhibits: ordered to be filed.

Joseph Hull, by Belton A. Copp, his agent, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land in two tracts—the first situated at the mouth of Nassau river, in Duval county, and known by the name of Hammock, containing one hundred acres; the other situated in the same county, west of the St. Johns, on the bank of said river, fronting a place called A. E. Ferguson's plantation, with no exhibit: ordered to be filed.

William Berrie, by his agent, Belton A. Copp, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying in the county of Duval, north and west of the river St. Johns, called Miller's old field, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor White, dated 16th June, 1801, to memorialist; also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, dated 15th March, 1807: ordered to be filed.

William Berrie, by his agent, Belton A. Copp, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying north of a place called Lofton's, said place called Turkey island, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor White to Thomas Mann, dated the 3d July, 1799; also, a relinquishment of said Mann to memorialist, dated November 2, 1805: ordered to be filed.

William Hart's heirs, by their agent, Belton A. Copp, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to fourteen hundred acres of land lying in Duval county, on the west side of St. John's river, between Smith's and Six-mile creek, with no exhibits: ordered to be filed.

Belton A. Copp presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to fifteen hundred acres of land lying in that tract called Alachua, west of Alachua pond, being part of a two thousand acre tract, with a conveyance from George J. F. Clarke to memorialist, dated 19th November, 1823, with a plat of survey attached thereto: ordered to be filed.

William Frink presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred and twenty-one acres of land lying on the St. Marys, at Camp Pinckney ferry, at a place called M'Girt's neck, with no exhibit: ordered to be filed.

Francisco Ramon Sanchez, by his attorney, B. A. Copp, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land in Alachua, on the branches of Hogtown creek, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 16th November, 1819: ordered to be filed.

Nathaniel Wilds, by Abraham Bellamy, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and eighty-four acres of land adjoining the lands of memorialist, near the mouth of Little St. Marys, on the St. Mary's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 8th of May, 1818: ordered to be filed.

John Bellamy, by Abraham Bellamy, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on M'Girt's creek and its head waters, at a place called Gravelly hill, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 28th October, 1820: ordered to be filed.

Francis Ramon Sanchez presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred acres of land lying on Hogtown creek, in Alachua, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke for Simeon Sanchez, dated the 8th of December, 1819: ordered to be filed.

John Sanchez presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred acres of land in Alachua, lying on a creek called *Hogtown* creek, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 6th December, 1819: ordered to be filed.

Louisa Ann Christopher, by Abraham Bellamy, her attorney, presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and eighty acres of land lying on the river St. Johns, on the east side of said river, at a place called Dame's creek, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke for John Houston, dated the 9th April, 1817; also, a conveyance from said Houston to memorialist, dated 3d June, 1822: ordered to be filed.

John Houston, by his attorney, Abraham Bellamy, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and seventy acres of land situated on the river Nassau, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke for John Houston, dated the 16th May, 1816; also, a conveyance from John C. Houston to memorialist, dated 3d June, 1822: ordered to be filed.

Thomas Suarez, administrator of Antonio Suarez, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on Mill's swamp, a branch of Nassau river, near the crossing place

of the public road in Duval county, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 1st March, 1817, for Antonio Suarez: ordered to be filed.

Theophilus Williams presented his memorial to this board, by Abraham Bellamy, his attorney, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying on St. Mary's river, two miles below Camp Pinckney, at a place called *Cattle Hickory Hill*, with a Spanish paper signed by Fernando de la Puente, purporting to be a permission to memorialist to occupy said lands for the purpose of grazing cattle: ordered to be filed.

Duncan L. Clinch presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one thousand acres of land in Alachua, on the south side of Mizell's, alias Orange lake, in Cone's hammock, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by Andres Burgevin, dated 12th March, 1819: ordered to be filed.

Duncan L. Clinch presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five thousand acres of land in Alachua, on the south side of Mizell's, alias Orange lake, called Long's hammock, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Andres Burgevin, dated 10th March, 1819, for George J. F. Clarke; also, a conveyance from Clarke to memorialist, dated 24th November, 1823: ordered to be filed.

George Morrison, by Duncan L. Clinch, his agent, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and fifty acres of land lying in Duval county, at the St. Mary's river, on the point formed by the Big and Little St. Marys. with a certified copy of concession made by Governor White, dated 2d May, 1805: ordered to be filed.

Duncan L. Clinch presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one thousand acres of land lying in *Chacala* hammock, on the western side of Payne's savannah, Alachua, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 1st November, 1817; also, a conveyance made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 24th November, 1823, to memorialist: ordered to be filed.

John H. McIntosh presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to eight hundred acres of land lying on the St. John's river, opposite the Cowford, with a certified copy of concession made to Philip Dell, dated the 11th February, 1801: ordered to be filed.

Thomas Suarez, administrator of Antonio Suarez, deceased, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the island of Amelia, at a place called Black point, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor White, dated the 27th July, 1809, to Antonio Suarez: ordered to be filed.

Elijah Higginbottom presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred and fifty acres of land lying on little St. Marys, seven miles from its junction with little St. Marys, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 19th December, 1818: ordered to be filed.

William Hogan presented his memorial to the board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred acres of land lying on the public, or King's road, from St. Augustine to the river St. Marys, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made J. F. Clarke, dated 13th May, 1818: ordered to be filed.

Samuel Spicer Christopher presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the river St. Marys, at a place called Old township, with no exhibits; which is ordered to be fiiled.

Samuel Russell, sen., presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two tracts of land consisting of three hundred and fifty acres—one tract of one hundred and fifty acres, on Brass swamp, two miles from the Old township on St. Mary's river; the other, of one hundred and fifty acres on the north side of the river Nassau, two miles below John Christopher's plantation, called Santa Maria, near the mouth of said river, with no exhibits: ordered to be filed.

Joseph Rain and William Bailey, by their attorney, Abraham Bellamy, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one thousand acres of land lying on Front creek, where the road leading from St. Augustine to the State of Georgia crosses in Duval county, with a certified copy of British survey made the 15th day of February, 1773, by John Funk, surveyor, for Frederick Rolfe; also, a deed of conveyance from John Haley, provost martial, to Peter Bagley, dated 1779; also, a lease for one year from Benjamin Dodd to Arthur Gordon; also, a release from said Dodd to said Gordon; also, a deed of conveyance from John Hollingsworth to Joseph Rain and William Bailey; also, a deed of conveyance from Elizabeth Bagley to Joseph Rain and William Bailey; all of which are ordered to be filed.

The heirs of Joseph Peavett, deceased, by their agent, William Travers, and George Murray, his attorney, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the branches of Pablo creek, twenty-five miles west from St. Augustine, with a British grant dated the 29th April, 1771, made by Governor Grant to Rcbert Payne, marked A; a deed of conveyance from said Payne to Henry Sowerby, dated the 5th December, 1780, marked C; a paper from Henry Sowerby to Joseph Peavett, dated 24th January, 1781, marked D: ordered to be filed.

The heirs of Joshua Yellowly, deceased, by their agent, William Travers, and George Murray, his attorney, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on Durbin's swamp, about three-fourths of a mile to the eastward of St. John's river, with a British grant made by Governor Tonyn to Joshua Yellowly, dated 23d April, 1777, marked A: ordered to be filed.

The heirs of Joseph Peavett, deceased, by their agent, William Travers, and George Murray, his attorney, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying near the Three runs of Pablo creek, with a British grant made by Governor Tonyn to Joseph Peavett, dated 11th March, 1782, marked A: ordered to be filed.

The heirs of Joseph Peavett, deceased, by William Travers, their agent, and George Murray, his attorney, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and fifty acres of land lying near the Three runs, with a British grant made to Joseph Peavett, by Governor Tonyn, dated 14th April, 1783, marked A: ordered to be filed.

The heirs of Joseph Peavett, deceased, by William Travers, their agent, and George Murray, his attorney, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on a fork made of Durbin's swamp, and a branch made of Julinton creek, with a British grant made to Joseph Peavett, by Governor Tonyn, dated 12th February, 1783, marked A: ordered to be filed.

The board then adjourned to Friday afternoon next, at 3 o'clock, November 28, 1823.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1823.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Maria Mabrity, widow of John Andrew, deceased, presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four caballerias and twenty-eight, or one hundred and sixty-one and one-third acres, lying on the North river and Guana creek, at a place called Oyster bank, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor White to Juan Andrew, dated 10th July, 1814; also, a certificate of the division of the notary of Government of the estate of said Andrew; also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by Pedro Marrot for Juan Andrew, dated 24th May, 1793: ordered to be filed.

The heirs of Cornelius Griffiths presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying on a small branch of the waters of Front creek, east side of said creek being a branch of the St. Johns, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor White to Edward Crosson, to Samuel Betts, dated 7th day of September, 1803; a conveyance from Samuel Betts to Cornelius Griffiths, dated 4th February, 1807: ordered to be filed.

Samuel and George Brennan presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred acres of land lying at a place called the Forks of Black creek, on the west side of the river St. Johns, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 29th September, 1819: ordered to be filed.

Andrew Brennan presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred acres of land lying on Black creek, at a place called Brown's fort, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, for Andres Brennan, dated 4th October, 1819: ordered to be filed.

William Drummond presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land situated on Front creek, a water of St. John's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke for Henry Groves, dated the 12th November, 1818; also, a conveyance from said Groves to memorialist, dated 5th November, 1821: ordered to be filed.

William Drummond presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on the north side of St. John's river, known by the name of Green hill, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Quesada to Solomon King, dated 3d January, 1792; also, a certified copy of the will of Sarah King, widow of said Solomon King, dated 30th April, 1808; also, a deed of conveyance from Solomon King Rain to memorialist, dated 19th of February, 1823: ordered to be filed.

Absalom Beardon and wife presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the east side of St. John's river, in St. John's county, being the place granted to Aaron Travers for head-rights, with a paper: ordered to be filed.

John Salome, by his attorney, John B. Strong, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred and forty-seven acres of land situated on the St. John's river, in the plantation called Montpelier, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by Pedro Marrot, dated 6th January, 1792; also, a petition from memorialist to Governor White, dated 22d January, 1800: ordered to be filed.

William T. Hall, by his attorney, John B. Strong, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two thousand acres of land in two tracts—one of twelve hundred acres lying between Indian and Musquito rivers, called the Haul-over; the other tract of seven hundred and thirty acres, lying in McDougal Back swamp, with a memorial to have the lands surveyed, dated May 23d, 1818; an order of survey by Gov. Coppinger, dated June, 1818; a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by Robert McHardy for memorialist, dated 24th July, 1818; a translation of a memorial and decree of 18th October, 1819, and 20th October, 1819: ordered to be filed.

Sarah Tate, by John B. Strong, her attorney, presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred and fifty acres of land on the Tomoka river, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor White to John Edward Tate, father of memorialist, dated July 8, 1803; also, a deposition of James Arnon, attested by James S. Tingle, clerk of the superior court; an order of survey from Juan de Pierra, dated 24th January, 1804, to Juan Purcell, surveyor; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, dated 10th September, 1804, made by Juan Purcell for Juan E. Tate: ordered to be filed.

Robert Gilbert, by John B. Strong, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying on Matanzas river, and has not been surveyed, with a certificate of Juan de Pierra, dated 1st March, 1798: ordered to be filed.

Joseph S. Sanchez, by John B. Strong, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to twenty acres of land lying on Anastasia island, and has not been surveyed, with a certified copy of concession by Governor White to Francis Xavier Sanchez, father of memorialist, dated 8th July, 1802: ordered to be filed.

Moses E. Levy presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one thousand acres of land lying on the west bank of the river Matanzas, to the southward of St. Augustine, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 15th March, 1818; also, a certified copy of royal title to Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, jun., by Governor Coppinger, dated 7th March, 1816; and a deed of conveyance from said Arredondo to Moses E. Levy and James R. Hanham, dated 5th May, 1822: ordered to be filed.

Moses E. Levy presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying on Moses or Pelica creek, on Matanzas river, south of St. Augustine, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 20th July, 1819: ordered to be filed.

Francis de Medicis presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to eighty-three and a third acres of land lying on the east side of the river St. Johns, a mile and a half from Picolata fort, being the third part, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor White to Isabel Cain, dated 23d December, 1802; a conveyance from Margaret Cain, daughter of Isabel Cain, to memorialist, dated 8th of September, 1808: ordered to be filed.

John Addison presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one thousand eight hundred acres of land lying on the river Tomoka, at a place called Carrickfergus, to the southward of St. Augustine, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger the 8th June, 1816, to memorialist: ordered to be filed.

Isaac Hendricks, by Abraham Bellamy, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred and fifty acres of land lying on St. John's river and Coy's creek, a branch of said river, one mile above Jacksonville; with no exhibits: ordered to be filed.

George Anderson, by George Murray, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the west side of the Tomoka river, with no exhibits: ordered to be filed.

John Silcock presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred acres of land lying three miles from the road of Nassau river, in Duval county, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by Pedro Marrot, dated 18th March, 1792: ordered to be filed.

Francis Marein presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two thousand acres of land lying on the west side of the river St. Johns, at a place known by the name of Cabbage hammock, with a certified copy of concession made to him the 15th November, 1815, by Governor Estrada; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 24th April, 1821: ordered to be filed.

Gabriel Priest presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on Black creek, with a certified copy of concession made to John M. Fontané by Governor Estrada, dated the 5th January, 1816: ordered to be filed.

Mary Fontané, administratrix of the estate of Joseph Fontané, deceased, presented her memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred and ninety-five acres of land lying at the head of Moultrie creek, with a certified copy of royal title made to Joseph Fontané by Governor Coppinger, dated 4th April, 1816: ordered to be filed.

Francis Pellicer presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one thousand one hundred acres of land in the territory of Matanzas, at a place called Pellicer's plantation, with a certified copy of royal title made to memorialist by Governor Kindelan, dated 30th March, 1815: ordered to be filed.

Farquhar Bethune presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four hundred and twenty-five acres of land situated on the river St. Mary's, at a place called Cabbage swamp, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger, dated 22d April, 1817, to memorialist; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, made by George J. F. Clarke for memorialist, dated 10th June, 1818: ordered to be filed.

Farquhar Bethune presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four caballerias and eleven acres, equal to about one hundred and forty-five acres, lying on the river St. Johns, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor White to Francis Xavier Hill, dated 30th January, 1811: ordered to be filed.

Farquhar Bethune presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and seventy-two acres of land lying in Spell's swamp, Nassau river, with a certified copy of concession made to memorialist by Governor Estrada, dated 25th August, 1815; also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, the 13th December, 1818: ordered to be filed.

Domingo Fernandez presented, by his attorney, Farquhar Bethune, his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to eleven hundred and fifty acres of land lying on Big Dunn's creek, St. John's river, with a certified copy of royal title made to him by Governor Coppinger, 10th April, 1817, marked A: ordered to be filed.

Domingo Fernandez, by Farquhar Bethune, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land on Amelia island, with a certified copy of conveyance from Isabella Jourdine to memorialist, dated 28th July, 1810: ordered to be filed.

Domingo Fernandez, by his attorney, Farquhar Bethune, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and twenty-eight acres of land lying on the west side of Amelia island, with a certified copy of royal title made to him by Governor Coppinger, dated 10th April, 1817: ordered to be filed.

Domingo Fernandez, by his attorney, Farquhar Bethune, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred and forty-five acres of land lying near the mouth of the river Nassau, on Amelia river, with a certified copy of royal title made to Lewis Matteir by Governor Coppinger, dated 4th February,

1820, marked B; also, a certified copy of conveyance from Lewis Matteir to memorialist, dated April 11th, 1820, marked A: ordered to be filed.

Domingo Fernandez, by his attorney, Farquhar Bethune, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred and fifty acres of land lying on Amelia island, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor White, dated 19th August, 1807, to memorialist, marked A: ordered to be filed.

Domingo Fernandez, by his attorney, Farquhar Bethune, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot in the town of Fernandina, by the number of two, square number eighteen, with a certified copy of royal grant made by Governor Coppinger, dated 27th March, 1818: ordered to be filed.

Domingo Fernandez, by his attorney, Farquhar Bethune, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to a lot in the town of Fernandina, by the number four, square number twenty-three, with a certified copy of royal grant made by Governor Coppinger, dated 10th April, 1817: ordered to be filed.

Domingo Fernandez, by his attorney, Farquhar Bethune, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred acres of land lying on Amelia island, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger, dated 11th April, 1817: ordered to be filed.

Pedro Estopa presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to fifteen and three-tenths acres of land lying at a place known by the name of Stockade, one mile and three quarters north of St. Augustine, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Quesada to memorialist, dated the 23d September, 1793; also, a plat and certificate of survey made by Gamaliel Darling.

Domingo Fernandez, by his attorney, Farquhar Bethune, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to three hundred acres of land called Myrtle grove, situated on Amelia island, with a certified copy of conveyance from Isabella Jourdine to memorialist, dated 4th of May, 1809: ordered to be filed.

Domingo Fernandez, by his attorney, Farquhar Bethune, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one hundred acres of land lying on Amelia island, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Kindelan to memorialist, dated 1st September, 1813, referred to, and marked A: ordered to be filed.

Domingo Fernandez, by his attorney, Farquhar Bethune, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to four half lots in the town of Fernandina, numbers 5, 6, 7, and 8, of square number 23, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger to memorialist, dated 10th April, 1817, marked A: ordered to be filed.

Domingo Fernandez, by his attorney, Farquhar Bethune, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two hundred acres of land lying on the main land opposite Amelia island, and known by the name of Orange grove, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor White to the heirs of Maria Matteir, dated the 25th April, 1807, marked A; a certified copy of conveyance from Lewis Matteir to memorialist, dated 11th April, 1820, marked B: ordered to be filed.

Bartholome de Castro y Ferrer, by John B. Strong, his attorney, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two thousand acres of land lying at San Pablo, in the county of St. Johns, with the following exhibits, to wit: a certified copy of a decree, dated 24th January, 1818, by Governor Coppinger; also, a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger, dated 28th February, 1818; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, dated 16th June, 1818, by Andres Burgevin: ordered to be filed.

Belton A. Copp presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one thousand acres of land lying in the county of St. Johns, on the east side of the river of that name, from six to ten miles above Lake George, with schedule B, containing a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger to Captain Francisco Rivera, dated 31st October, 1818; also, a conveyance from said Rivera to Gabriel Guillermo Perpall, dated the 2d November, 1818; also, a conveyance from Gabriel G. Perpall to memorialist, dated 23d August, 1821; also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Andres Burgevin, dated 6th February, 1819; likewise, schedule A, containing a certified copy of concession of said one thousand acres of land, by Governor Coppinger, to the said Captain Francisco Rivera, dated 27th February, 1818: ordered to be filed.

Francisco P. Sanchez, by his attorney, John Drysdale, presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one thousand acres of land lying on Indian river, to the east of the said river, with the following exhibits, to wit: a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger, dated 31st October, 1818, marked exhibit A; also, a certified copy of royal title to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, dated 3d April, 1818, marked exhibit B; also, an order of survey by Governor Coppinger, dated 2d September, 1818, marked exhibit C; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey dated 15th September, 1818, by Robert McHardy, marked exhibit D; which are ordered to be filed.

Andrew McDowell and Alexander Black, by John Drysdale, their attorney, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one thousand acres of land lying on the St. John's river, on the east side of Dunn's lake, in the middle branch, called Han creek, with the following exhibits, to wit: a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger to William Trvaers, dated 14th May, 1818, marked exhibit A; also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, by Andres Burgevin for William Travers, dated 5th November, 1818, marked exhibit B; also, a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger to William Travers, dated 6th November, 1818, marked exhibit C; also, a certified copy of conveyance by William Travers to Francisco P. Sanchez, dated 20th October, 1820, marked exhibit D; and, also, an attested copy of conveyance from Francisco P. Sanchez to memorialist, of said land, dated 11th June, 1823, marked exhibit E; which are ordered to be filed.

Petrona Martinez, and other heirs of Matthias Martinez, deceased, by their attorney, John Drysdale, presented their memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to one thousand acres of land lying at a place called the Big hammock, about forty miles westward of Buena Vista, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger to Matthias Martinez, dated the 26th January, 1818, marked exhibit A; also, a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger, dated 24th January, 1818, marked exhibit B; also, an explanatory document, marked exhibit C, dated the 26th of January, 1818: ordered to be filed.

Moses Elias Levy presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to two thousand acres of land lying on the west bank of Indian river, opposite the Haul-over, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger to Thomas Lorente, dated 26th June, 1818; also, a memorial and order of survey, made the 28th April, 1819, and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by Andres Burgevin, dated the 24th May, 1819, for said Lorente; also, a deed of conveyance from the said Thomas Lorente to memorialist, dated in the Havana, the 14th of November, 1821: ordered to be filed.

Moses Elias Levy presented his memorial to this board, praying confirmation of title to five hundred acres of land lying on Jupiter island, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger in favor of Joaquim Sanchez, dated 15th June, 1818; also, a conveyance from Joaquim Sanchez to Antonio Mier, dated 22d January, 1822; and a conveyance from Antonio Fernandez Mier, dated 22d January, 1822: ordered to be filed.

In a resolution adopted by the board upon the 15th of September, 1823, two blanks were filed:—the first, by inserting the words "to any person;" the second, by inserting the word "person;" and the following words were erased by the board, to wit: "*and living in the vicinity of the witness.*" The said resolution then read as follows:

"*Resolved*, That claimants desiring to obtain the testimony of any witness residing without the Territory of Florida, shall file with the secretary their interrogatories; and that the district attorney, under the direction of the board, shall, if required, annex cross-interrogatories on behalf of the United States; and that, in all cases where the witnesses are resident within the Territory, the claimants may file depositions taken ex parte, as the said witnesses are subject to the jurisdiction of the commissioners, leaving it optional with the claimants to proceed by filing interrogatories; and that a commission with the interrogatories so annexed, shall be directed to any person authorized to administer oaths, sealed by the secretary, and delivered to the party so making application; and it shall be the duty of said person to take the answers of said witness to all such interrogatories, and none other, and to certify the same, and whether the said commission was sealed when delivered."

Which resolution was adopted by the board.

The board then adjourned until to-morrow morning, at 9 o'clock, November 29th, 1823.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1823.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present,

all the members, and adjourned until Monday, December 8th, 1823.

The following claims were received this day:

John Salome, claim for two hundred acres of land lying on the head of Five-mile branch of Trout creek, St. John's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated the 18th March. Filed.

Jeremiah Wingate, claim for four hundred and twenty acres of land in different tracts—two hundred thereof on the north side of Nassau river; one hundred and twenty in Plummer's swamp, one hundred in Plummer's swamp, Nassau river, with three plats and certificates of survey, by George J. F. Clarke, referred to, and dated 2d and 23d December, and 6th October, 1818. Filed.

John Wingate, claim for two hundred acres of land lying on Lofton's swamp, Nassau river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 4th October, 1818. Filed.

Lewis Bailey, claim for three hundred and ninety-two acres of land lying on Turkey branch, St. Mary's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 5th November, 1818. Filed.

Ellis Stafford, claim for five hundred acres of land in two tracts—three hundred thereof lying at the mouth of Dunn's creek, St. Mary's river; two hundred acres on Dunn's creek, St. Mary's river, with two certified copies of plats and certificates of surveys by George J. F. Clarke, dated 12th October, 1818, and 4th November, 1818: ordered to be filed.

Frederick Hartley, claim for four hundred acres of land lying at the head of Nassau river, with no exhibit. Filed.

Frederick Hartley, claim for six hundred acres of land lying on Old Field branch, Julington creek, St. John's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 8th July, 1819. Filed.

Charles Homer, claim for two hundred acres of land lying on Boggy swamp, Nassau river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 14th April, 1821: ordered to be filed.

Horatio Low, claim for four hundred acres of land lying on St. Mary's river, in front of Colerain, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 12th June, 1821: Filed.

William McCully, claim for three hundred acres of land on St. Mary's river, high up, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 8th September, 1818. Filed.

Westley Low, claim for four hundred acres of land lying on Plummer's swamp, Nassau river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 19th June, 1821. Filed.

James Woods claim for seventy-five acres of land lying on the north of Mill's swamp, and east of the King's road, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 13th December, 1818. Filed.

Thomas Moy, claim for 350 acres of land lying at Row's bluff, Bell's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 21st September, 1819. Fled.

Thomas King, claim for 350 acres of land in two tracts, viz. 257 acres of which lies at Live-oak landing, St. Mary's river, and 100 acres on Walker's swamp, St. Mary's river, with two plats and certificates of surveys by George J. F. Clarke, dated 26th November, 1818, and 27th January, 1821. Filed.

Martha Dell, claim for 450 acres of land lying on St. Mary's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 26th May, 1818. Filed.

Simeon Dell, claim for 696 acres of land in three tracts —400 lies on the north side of Payne's savannah; 200 lies on Boggy swamp, Nassau river; and 96 lies on Meely's creek, St. Marys, with three plats and certificates of surveys by George J. F. Clarke, dated 14th May, 1818, 25th of August, 1820, and 10th of November, 1820. Filed.

William and John Lofton, claim for 300 acres of land lying on the north of Julington creek, St. John's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 6th July. Filed.

Joseph Prevatt, claim for 400 acres of land lying in Turner's swamp, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 10th October, 1818. Filed.

Joseph Summerall, claim for 200 acres of land lying on St. Mary's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 18th January, 1820. Fled.

James Bradley, claim for 450 acres of land in two tracts—250 thereof lies on Cedar swamp, and 200 on Black creek, both on the waters of St. John's river, with a certificate of permission by George J. F. Clarke, dated 16th August, 1820. Filed.

Thomas Prevatt, claim for 550 acres of land lying on the St. Mary's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 14th May, 1818.

William Eubanks, claim for 100 acres of land lying below the mouth of Trout creek, St. John's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 12th of December, 1818. Filed.

William Hartley, claim for 250 acres of land lying on Willis's swamp, Julington creek, St. John's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 10th July, 1819. Filed.

George Hartley, claim for 400 acres of land lying on Old field branch, Julington creek, St. John's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke. Filed.

Daniel Plummer, claim for 600 acres of land lying on St. Mary's river, at the place called Old township—no exhibits, but reference to the public archives for the grant and survey. Filed.

Edward Dixon, claim for 100 acres of land lying on Pigeon creek, St. Mary's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke. Filed.

William Garvin's heirs, claim for 16,000 acres of land lying in the neighborhood of the head of Oklawaha creek, with a certified copy of concession of a square of land five miles in length, by Governor Coppinger, dated 21st October, 1817. Filed.

Theophilus Woods, sr., claim for 370 acres of land in two tracts—220 lie on Deep creek, St. Mary's river, and 150 on Reedy branch, St. Mary's river, with two certified copies of plats and certificates of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 9th November, 1818, and 10th December, 1820. Filed.

Theophilus Woods, jr., claim for 250 acres of land in two tracts—160 lie on St. Mary's river, and 96 lie likewise on St. Mary's river, with two certified copies of plats and certificates of survey, dated 11th December, 1820, and 12th December, 1820, by George J. F. Clarke. Filed.

Delia Broadway presented her memorial for 2,500 acres of land lying on Dunn's creek, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Estrada dated the 15th September, 1815, to memorialist. Filed.

John Birks, claim for 300 acres of land lying on Front creek, east side of St. John's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey dated 11th June, 1817, by George J. F. Clarke. Filed.

Joseph Gaunt, claim for 325 acres of land lying in Turnbull's swamp, west of Hillsborough river, with a concession made to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, dated 12th October, 1816. Filed.

Maxey Dill, claim for 700 acres of land in two tracts; 400 thereof lie on the north of Payne's savannah, and 300 lie on Dunn's creek, St. Mary's river, with two certified copies of plats and certificates of survey, dated 13th May, 1818, and 9th July, 1819, by George J. F. Clarke. Filed.

Isaac Tucker, claim for 200 acres of land in two tracts—100 lie on Coy's creek, St. John's river; and 100 lie on St. John's river, in two surveys of fifty each, with a certified copy of concession for 100 acres of land by Governor White, dated 24th May, 1804, and two certified copies of plats and certificates of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 6th April, 1821, and 10th April, 1821. Filed.

Thomas Higginbottom, claim for two hundred acres of land lying on St. Mary's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by George J. F. Clarke, dated 17th October, 1818. Filed.

Joseph Hagens, claim for four hundred acres of land lying in two tracts—two hundred lie on the forks of Cormorant creek and Julington creek, St. John's river; the other two hundred on the north of Julington creek, St. John's river, with certified copies of two plats and certificates of survey by George J. F. Clarke, both dated 15th September, 1819. Filed.

William Thomas, claim for two hundred acres of land lying on a branch of Little St. Marys, with a conveyance from John Hall to William Thomas, dated the 12th April, 1823, and an affidavit of said Hall same date. Filed.

Stephen Eubank's, jr., claim for four hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the north side of Thomas's swamp, near Snake bluff, Nassau river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey dated 17th December, 1818. Filed.

James Plummer, jr., claims for three hundred acres of land on the north of Julington creek, St. John's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke. Filed.

Hartwell Leath, claim for three hundred acres of land in two tracts—two hundred lie on Big creek, St. Mary's river, and one hundred on Sweet Spring branch, St. Mary's river, with two copies of plat and certificates of survey by George J. F. Clarke, both dated 11th November, 1818. Filed.

John Mizell, claim for eight hundred acres of land lying in different tracts—four hundred lies in Long's hammock, on the south side of Mizell's lake; two hundred lie on Hickory bluff, St. Mary's river; and two hundred on Brandy creek, St. Mary's river, with three copies of plats and certificates of survey certified by George J. F. Clarke, and dated as follows: one 6th May, 1818, and the other 10th November, 1818. Filed.

Charles Hovey, claim for four hundred acres of land lying on Plummer's swamp, Nassau river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey dated 18th June, 1818, by George J. F. Clarke. Filed.

William Nelson, claim for three hundred and fifty acres of land in two tracts—two hundred and fifty lie on St. Mary's river, Mills' ferry, and one hundred acres between said river St. Marys and river Nassau, with a permission of George J. F. Clarke, dated 8th October, 1818. Filed.

John Dixon, claim for three hundred and fifty acres of land in two tracts—two hundred lie on St. Mary's river, and one hundred and fifty acres lie on Pigeon creek, with two plats and certificate of survey certified by George J. F. Clarke, dated 12th and 13th May, 1818. Filed.

Peter Swelly, claim for one hundred and fifty acres of land lying on Long bay, about seven miles to the northwest of St. Augustine, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke. Filed.

David Scurry, claim for three hundred acres of land lying on the east of Godsby's lake, St. John's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 26th July, 1820. Filed.

George Long's heirs, claim to three hundred and fifty acres of land lying at the head of Matanzas river, west side of Graham's creek: not been surveyed, and with no exhibits. Filed.

William Sparksman, claim for three hundred acres of land on the north side of the crossing place of Boggy swamp: no survey. Filed.

George J. F. Clarke, claim for three hundred and fifty acres of land lying in Graham's swamp, at the head of Matanzas river, with a concession of Governor Quesada, dated the 23d February, 1792, and a memorial from Honoria Clarke to the Government, dated the 19th September, 1787, praying confirmation of certain documents; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated the 12th May, 1818. Filed.

James Clarke, claim for three hundred acres of land lying on Graham's swamp, at the head of Matanzas river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 10th May, 1818. Filed.

James and George J. F. Clarke, claim to five hundred acres of land lying on the west of Matanzas river, with a British grant by Governor Tonyn to Honoria Clarke, dated 29th September, 1780. Filed.

Charles W. and George J. F. Clarke claim three hundred acres of land on the Matanzas river, at a place called Worcester, with a British grant by Governor Grant, dated 2d April, 1770. Filed.

Charles and George J. F. Clarke, claim for one thousand acres of land in different tracts—three hundred acres of which lie on the Matanzas river, at a place called Johnson's; three hundred acres lie at Emery's, on the Matanzas river; three hundred acres lie at Durbin's swamp, near the Twenty-mile house, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Quesada, dated 6th February, 1792. Filed.

George J. F. Clarke, claim for two thousand acres of land lying on the northwest of Payne's savannah in Alachua, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Coppinger to C. W. Clarke, dated 10th June, 1816; also, a conveyance from Charles W. Clarke to Duncan L. Clinch, dated 24th November, 1823; and a conveyance from Duncan L. Clinch to the memorialist, dated the 24th November, 1823. Filed.

John Low, claim for seven hundred and fifty acres of land lying at Bell's old field, on Bell's river, with a certified copy of royal title, dated 30th January, 1812, by Governor Estrada, made to memorialist. Filed.

Daniel O'Hara, claim for fifteen thousand acres of land lying on the heads of Nassau river, on Alligator swamp, and Mills' swamp, with a certified copy of concession, dated 5th September, by Governor White. Filed.

George Henning, claim for two hundred acres of land lying on Bell's river, near Row's bluff, with a certified copy of concession by Governor White, dated 2d October, 1805. Filed.

James Lewis, jr., claim for three hundred acres of land in two tracts—fifty of which lie at *Buena Vista*, on St. John's river, and two hundred and fifty lie in *Caucah swamp*, east side of St. John's river, with a certified copy of concession for fifty acres by Governor White, dated 22d December, 1806; and a reference for the two hundred and fifty acres to the public archives. Filed.

James Dell, claim for sixteen thousand acres of land lying in different tracts, to wit: eight thousand acres lie on *Santa Fe* river or creek, three thousand lie on Brushy creek, St. Mary's river, and five thousand lie in Turnbull's swamp, near the head of Indian river, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Coppinger, dated 24th March, 1816. Filed.

Sarah Brevard, claim for three hundred acres of land in different tracts, to wit: one hundred and sixty acres lying on the waters of Nassau river, at the place called Doctor's island; thirty-eight acres lie near the head of Pumpkin-hill creek, and one hundred acres at Pumpkin-hill swamp, with a certified copy of concession made to John Brevard by Governor Coppinger, dated 7th August, 1817; also, a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger, dated 13th of February, 1816, to the heirs of Francisco Brevard. Filed.

James Dell presented his memorial for five hundred acres of land lying on the north part of Payne's savannah, at a place called Hagin's point, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger, dated 16th December, 1816. Filed.

James Dell, claim for five hundred acres lying on the south of Mizell's, alias Orange lake, with a plat and certificate of survey certified by George J. F. Clarke, dated 8th January, 1818. Filed.

John Hampton, claim for five hundred and thirty-five acres lying in front of Trader's hill, on St. Mary's river, with a plat and certificate of survey certified by George J. F. Clarke, dated 8th May, 1818. Filed.

John Lowe, claim for two hundred and fifty acres of land lying on Bell's river, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger to William Carney, dated 4th April, 1816. Filed.

Moses Harrold, claim for three hundred and ninety-five acres of land lying on the river Nassau, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger to memorialist, dated the 8th May, 1821, and a reference to the public archives for plat and certificate of survey. Filed.

Stephen Eubanks, jun. claim for three hundred and twenty-five acres in two tracts—two hundred and ten acres lies on Trout creek, St. John's river; the other, one hundred and fifteen acres, has not been surveyed; with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Coppinger, dated 18th March, 1817. Filed.

Stephen Eubanks, sen., claim to two hundred and fifty-five acres of land on Nassau river, with no exhibit, but a reference to the public archives for the grant. Filed.

William Eubanks presented his claim for two hundred acres of land in two tracts—one hundred and seventy lie on Big Cedar creek, the other thirty acres lie on Burton island, Nassau river, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger, dated 18th March, 1817. Filed.

John Creighton, claim to three hundred and five acres of land lying on Plym's island, on the west of St. John's river, with a certified copy of concession by Governor White, dated 29th October, 1803. Filed.

Alexander Creighton, claim for 254 acres of land lying on St. John's river, at a place called Lovett's, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Pedro Marrot and John Samuel Eastlake, dated 14th November, 1792. Filed.

Charles Brevard, claim for two hundred and fifty acres of land lying on Cedar creek, of St. John's river, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger, dated the 18th November, 1817. Filed.

Charles Brevard, claim for one hundred acres of land lying on Lofton's branch, south side of Nassau river, with a plat and certificate of survey certified by George J. F. Clarke, dated the 14th December, 1818. Filed.

Francis Richard, claim for sixteen thousand acres of land lying on Pottsburg creek and Cedar swamp, about a mile distant from McQueen's mills, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger, dated 4th June, 1817. Filed.

Abraham Hannean, claim for fifty acres of land lying at Little Grove, on the east side of St. John's river, and north of the military station of Buena Vista, has never been surveyed, with a certified copy of concession by

Governor Coppinger, dated 18th September, 1816. Filed.

Ezekiel Tucker claim for one hundred and fifty acres of land lying on Tucker's creek, Nassau river, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger, dated 18th March, 1817. Filed.

Eugenia Brant, claim for two hundred and fifty acres of land lying at Row's bluff, on Bell's river, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor White to Stephen Brant, her deceased husband, dated 18th April, 1803. Filed.

Heirs of David Garvin, claim for five hundred acres of land lying on Pope's hammock, west of St. John's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 4th of December, 1817. Filed.

John Jennings, claim for five hundred and fifty acres of land lying at a place called Belly, south of St. Mary's river: no exhibit. Filed.

James Bose, claim to twenty-five acres of land lying in Pivet's swamp, four miles west from St. Augustine, with a certified copy of concession by Governor White, dated 15th September. Filed.

James Woodland, claim to two hundred acres of land lying on Sample's creek, Nassau river, with a deed of conveyance from Susannah Blunt to Robert Rollins, dated the 2d July, 1821; also, another deed of conveyance from Robert Rollins to memorialist, dated 30th July, 1822; and, also, a reference to the archives for the original grant. Filed.

Mrs. Collier, widow of Thomas Collier, claim for one thousand two hundred acres of land lying on Tomoka river, with a certified copy of concession by Governor White, dated the 8th May, 1804. Filed.

Pedro Cocifacio, by George Murray, his attorney, presented his claim for two thousand acres of land lying north of the post of Buena Vista, with a certified copy of royal title made to him by Governor Estrada, dated 12th of October, 1815. Filed.

James Darley, by his attorney, George Murray, presented his claim to twenty-three thousand acres of land lying on the west side of Dunn's lake, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Coppinger, dated the 10th November, 1817; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated the 21st December, 1817. Filed.

John Bunch, claim to one thousand one hundred and sixty acres of land lying in the territory of Musquitos, at a place called Moultrie and Moncrief, with a certified copy of royal title made to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, dated the 24th April, 1819. Filed.

William Travers, claim to eight thousand acres of land lying on the west side of Long lake, west part of St. John's river, about forty miles south of Lake George, with the following exhibits, to wit: a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger, dated the 22d February, 1817, to Felipe Robert Yonge; a certified copy of concession by the same governor to said Yonge, dated 11th February, 1817; order of survey dated 25th May, 1818; and a conveyance from said Yonge to memorialist, dated the 22d December, 1820. Filed.

William Travers, claim to twelve thousand acres of land lying at the lagoon called *Second*, south of Lake George, on St. John's river, with a conveyance from Filipe Roberto Yonge, dated the 22d December, 1820. Filed.

William Travers, administrator of Thomas Travers, deceased, claim to one hundred and seventy-two acres of land lying on the river St. Johns, at a place called St. *Patricio*, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor White, dated 27th September, 1808. Filed.

William Travers, agent for John Forbes and Co., claim to one thousand nine hundred acres of land and twenty-five perches lying on San Pablo creek, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor White for Catalina Chicken, and other heirs of Andrew Dewees, dated the 4th May, 1804; likewise, a certified copy of conveyance from Catalina Chicken to John Forbes, dated 5th June, 1811. Filed.

William Travers, administrator of Thomas Travers, deceased, claim for one hundred and twenty-five acres of land lying on St. John's river, at a place called St. *Patricio*, with a certified copy of royal title made to Thomas Travers by Governor White, dated 28th September, 1808, and a reference to the public archives for certificate of survey. Filed.

William Travers, one of the heirs of Thomas Travers, deceased, claim for one thousand acres of land at a place called the Old *Savannah*, where Mr. Mann had a rice plantation, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger to the heirs of Thomas Travers, dated the 9th July, 1819. Filed.

Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, jun., claim for fifteen hundred acres of land lying five miles east of Spring garden, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger to memorialist, dated the 9th August, 1820. Filed.

Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, jun., by George Murray, presented his claim for fifteen thousand acres of land lying on the west side of Lake George, in East Florida, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger to memorialist for services, dated the 9th August, 1819. Filed.

Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, by his attorney, George Murray, presented his claim for *fifty thousand acres of land* lying about forty miles west of the St. John's river, with a certified copy of *royal title* (merced) to him, dated the 24th April, 1810, by Governor White. Filed.

Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, by his attorney, presented his claim for five hundred acres of land lying on the south side of Nassau river, about ten miles from its mouth, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor White to Samuel King, dated 9th March, 1803; a certified copy of transfer from said King to memorialist, dated 9th June, 1808. Filed.

Joseph M. Arredondo, by his attorney, George Murray, presented his claim for twenty thousand acres of land lying in Alachua, about eighty miles from St. Augustine, at a place called Big hammock, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger to him, dated 30th March, 1817. Filed.

José M. Arredondo, by his attorney, George Murray, presented his claim for forty thousand acres of land lying on the river Oklawaha, on both sides of the river, with a certified copy of royal title to him by Governor White, dated 2d January, 1811. Filed.

Pedro Cocifacio, claim for five hundred and twenty-two acres of land, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Estrada to memorialist, dated the 2d October, 1815. Filed.

Juan B. Entralgo, by his attorney, George Murray, presented his claim for four thousand acres of land lying at a place called Big spring, on the river St. Johns, and about twenty-five miles south of Lake George, on the west bank, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger to Pedro Miranda, dated the 11th April, 1821; also, a renunciation of said title to the aforesaid land by Pedro Miranda to memorialist, dated 5th December, 1821. Filed.

Juan B. Entralgo, by his attorney, George Murray, presented his claim to ten thousand four hundred acres of land lying on the St. John's river to the west, and about twelve miles south of Lake George, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger, dated the 10th April, 1821, to Antonio Huertas; a renunciation of Huertas to memorialist, dated the 4th December, 1821; a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Andres Burgevin, dated the 5th April, 1821. Filed.

Juan B. Entralgo, by George Murray, his attorney, presented his claim to four thousand acres of land lying on Black creek, with the following exhibits: a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger to Fernando de la Maza Arredondo for ten thousand acres of land, (four thousand of which lie on Black creek,) dated 9th August, 1820; also, another certified copy of royal title made by same governor to F. M. Arredondo, dated 9th August, 1820, for four thousand acres; a certified copy of conveyance from F. M. Arredondo to memorialist, dated 5th January, 1821. Filed.

José Cone, claim for one hundred and fifteen acres of land lying on St. Mary's river, at a place called Upper Dunn's creek, with a certified copy of concession made to him, dated the 29th May, 1805. Filed.

Francis Miles, a minor, by John M. Hanson, presented his claim for three hundred acres, land lying on the river St. Johns, at place called *Terios*, with a certified copy of royal title made to the heirs of Francisco Xavier Sanchez by Governor White, dated 4th February, 1811. Filed.

Francis Miles, a minor, by John M. Hanson, presented his claim for two hundred acres of land lying on the North river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Pedro Marrot for Barbara Strasburg y Hainsman, dated the 2d June, 1793, and a conveyance (certified copy of) from Barbara Hainsman to Francisco Xavier Sanchez, dated 11th September, 1797. Filed.

Samuel Miles, claim for sixteen thousand acres of land lying at the mouth of St. Lucia river, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Kindelan to him, dated the 19th July, 1813; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Robert McHardy, dated the 7th May, 1815. Filed.

James R. Hanham, claim to one hundred and seventy-five acres of land lying between the North river and Guana river, called *El Burgos*, with a certified copy of

plat and certificate of survey by Pedro Marrot and Josiah Dupont, dated the 26th May, 1793, and a translation thereof by A. Gay, and a deed of conveyance from Andres Pacety to the memorialist, dated the 20th May, 1822. Filed.

Nicholas Gomez's heirs, by George Murray, their attorney, presented their claim for twelve hundred acres of land lying in the territory of Musquitos, on Hillsborough river, at a place called "Ross's place," with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger, for the heirs of Dona Nicolasa Gomez, dated the 5th November, 1818. Filed.

James and Emanuel Ormond, by George Murray, presented their claim for two thousand acres of land at Tomoka, at a place called Damietta, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger, dated 18th April, 1816; also, a memorial and order of survey, dated 10th February, 1816; and a copy of a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey of Robert McHardy, dated 19th February, 1816. Filed.

George Murray, claim to an island called Key West, *Cayo Hueso*, consisting of eight thousand acres of land, at the extremity of the Florida reef, in the county of Monroe, and has ever been known by the name of *Cayo Hueso*, or Key West, until recently it has received the name of Thompson's island, with a certified copy of conveyance from John P. Sallas to John B. Strong, dated the 24th September, 1821, referred to, and marked B; and a certified copy of conveyance from John B. Strong to memorialist, dated 11th February, 1822, referred to, and marked C. Filed.

James G. Smith, claim for five hundred acres of land lying in McQueen's swamp, on St. Mary's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated the 3d October, 1818. Filed.

Philip R. Yonge, by his attorney, Farquhar Bethune, presented his claim for five hundred acres of land lying on the river St. Johns, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Pedro Marrot, dated the 17th December, 1791. Filed.

Ferdinand McDonald, claim for eight hundred and fifty acres of land lying at Sn. Stout, Matanzas, near the bars, with a certified copy of concession made to Guillermo McHenry by Governor Quesada, dated 8th October, 1790; also, a certificate of Tomas de Aguilar, dated 19th December, 1817. Filed.

Thomas Andrew, on behalf of himself and sister, heirs of Robert Andrew, deceased, by his attorney, Farquhar Bethune, presented his claim for five hundred acres of land lying at San Diego, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor White to father of memorialists, dated the 6th April, 1809, referred to, and marked B; a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Pedro Marrot, dated 12th May, 1793, referred to, and marked A. Filed.

Farquhar Bethune presented his claim for sixteen thousand acres of land in three different parts, viz. nine thousand five hundred and seventy-two acres on Black creek, St. John's river; five thousand acres in Turnbull's swamp, Musquito; fourteen hundred and twenty acres in Cabbage swamp, near the river St. Marys, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor Coppinger, dated the 22d April, 1817; and three certified copies of plat and certificate of survey of said lands, dated 3d July, 1817, 19th February, 1820, and 19th May, 1820. Filed.

James Pelot, by his attorney, Farquhar Bethune, presented his claim for six hundred and twenty acres of land on Amelia island, with a certified copy of concession by Governor White to John Francis Pelot, son of memorialist, dated 20th December, 1823, marked A; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, dated 16th July, 1816, by George J. F. Clarke, marked B. Filed.

Ferdinand D. McDonald, by his attorney Farquhar Bethune, presented his claim for 855 acres of land, with a decree of Governor Coppinger, dated 24th May, 1819, and a certificate from the Government notary, dated 25th May, 1819. Filed.

Maria Mills, for herself and children, by her attorney, Farquhar Bethune, presented her claim to 150 acres of land contiguous to Johnson's creek, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger for the widow and heirs of William Mills, dated 9th July, 1819, and a reference to the archives for the survey. Filed.

Thomas Andrew, guardian of the grandchildren of Margaret O'Neale, by Farquhar Bethune, presented his claim for 300 acres of land lying on Langford creek, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor White to the children and heirs of Margaret O'Neale, deceased, dated 15th June, 1810. Filed.

Thomas Andrew, guardian of the grand children of Margaret O'Neale, deceased, by Farquhar Bethune, their attorney, presented his claim for 307 acres of land lying on Langford creek, near Amelia island, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor White to Margaret O'Neale, dated 12th March, 1807. Filed.

Thomas Andrew, on behalf of himself and sisters, heirs of Robert Andrew, deceased, by Farquhar Bethune, his attorney, presented his claim for 200 acres of land lying on the northwest side of the river St. Johns, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, dated 20th April, 1807, by Juan Purcell, marked B, and a certified copy of concession by Governor White, dated 23d September, 1803, marked A. Filed.

James Pelot, by his attorney, Farquhar Bethune, presented his claim for ten caballerias and twenty acres of land lying on Pumpkin hill, river Nassau, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Pedro Marrot and Josiah Dupont, dated March 31, 1793. Filed.

James Pelot, by his attorney, Farquhar Bethune, presented his claim for fourteen caballerias and twenty-nine acres of land, or about four hundred and ninety-six acres lying on Pelot's island, St. John's river, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey made by Pedro Marrot and Josiah Dupont, dated 14th April, 1793. Filed.

Domingo Fernandez, claim for 322 acres of land—has not been located, with a reference to the public archives for decrees. Filed.

John W. Simonton, by his attorney, John Rodman, presented his claim to a tract of land, being the island of Key West, known also by the name of Thompson's island, with a reference to the public archives for the grant, and a certified copy of the grant, dated the 26th August, 1815. Filed.

Teresa Rodriguez, on behalf of herself and children, by her attorney, John W. Simonton, presented her claim for five thousand five hundred acres of land lying on two margins of a creek running from the west, and empties into the river St. Johns about two miles north of a lake known by the name of *Long lake*, and has never been surveyed—with reference to the public archives in this city for the grant, and a certified copy of concession by Governor Estrada, dated 18th October, 1815. Filed.

Geronima Martinelly, claim for three hundred and sixty-six and two-thirds acres of land lying at Guana creek, being the plantation known as San Genaro, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Coppinger to Jose Peso de Burgo, father of memorialist, dated the 28th February, 1818; and a certificate of Bernardo Segui, Charles Robion, and F. M. Arredondo, stating that the above tract fell to memorialist on a division of the estate of Jose Peso de Burgo, her father. Filed.

Eusebio M. Gomez, claim for twelve thousand acres of land lying on the rivers Jupiter and Santa Lucia; never been surveyed; with a certified copy of concession by Governor Estrada, dated the 17th July, 1815. Filed.

John M. Sanchez, claim for eleven hundred and thirty-six acres of land on the St. John's river, being the plantation called San Jose, with a reference to the public archives for proofs. Filed.

James Richards, claim for two hundred acres of land lying on Amelia island, adjoining the lands of Harrison and Lamb, with reference to the public archives for proof. Filed.

Peter Mitchell et al., claim for five hundred and fifty acres of land on the Oklawaha, in lieu of fifteen hundred varras in the town of Fernandina, or a confirmation of either of them, with plat of survey by said Mitchell, marked exhibit B; and a document, purporting to be the proceedings in relation to the land in Fernandina, marked exhibit A. Filed.

Peter Mitchell, agent for Robert Mitchell, presented his claim for a lot of land within the limits of the city of St. Augustine, known as Mitchell's grove, with reference to the archives and the clerk of the superior court for proofs; likewise, a plat of survey of said grove. Filed.

Robert Mitchell and John P. Williamson, assignees of Carnochan L. Mitchell, by Peter Mitchell, presented their claim for two lots in the town of Fernandina, Nos. 2 and 3, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

Robert Mitchell, trustee for the children of Julia Scarborough, by Peter Mitchell, his agent, presented his claim for six thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight acres of land, or a section and a half, in Alachua, with reference to the public archives for proofs; likewise, reference to the office of this board for vouchers filed by Peter Mitchell and Moses E. Levy; and, likewise, reference to the clerk of the superior court for the conveyance by F. M. Arredondo and Son. Filed.

Peter Mitchell, agent for Henry Yonge, presented his claim to sixteen thousand acres of land lying on Black creek, river St. Johns, with a reference to the public archives for the concession, and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated

15th June, 1816, referred to, and marked exhibit A. Filed.

Anthony L. Molyneaux, by Peter Mitchell, his agent, presented his claim to a lot in this city, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

Scipio, a free black claims to twenty-five acres of land on the east side of the river St. Johns, at a place known by the name of Podan Aram, 28 miles west of St. Augustine, with a certified copy of concession by Gov. White, dated 9th October, 1809. Filed.

Peter Mitchell, for himself and Ogden, Day, and Co. and Anthony L. Molyneaux, presented his claim for three thousand five hundred acres of land lying at a place called Volusia, on the St. John's river, with a copy of two surveys referred to, and marked exhibit A; and sundry documents relating to said land, referred to, and marked exhibit B. Filed.

Joseph Delespine, by John Drysdale, his attorney, presented his claim for two hundred acres of land lying south of Turtle mount, district of Musquito, east bank of the Hillsborough river, with a reference to the public archives for evidence. Filed.

Francis P. Sanchez presented his claim, by his attorney, John Drysdale, for twenty-five acres of land in St. John's county, at Moultrie, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

Francis P. Sanchez, by John Drysdale, his attorney, presented his claim for one hundred acres of land in St. John's county, on the North river and Guana creek, with a reference to the public archives and the clerk of the superior court of St. John's county. Filed.

Manuel Marshall, by his attorney, John Drysdale, presented his claim for two hundred and fifty acres of land—never been surveyed, lying on St. Mark's pond, nine miles from the city of St. Augustine, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

J. Allen Smith, by John Drysdale, presented his claim to a lot in this city, with reference to the public archives and the clerk of the county court. Filed.

J. Allen Smith, by John Drysdale, his attorney, presented his claim to a lot in this city, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

Magdalena Joanada, for herself and heirs of Nicholas Sanchez, deceased, by her attorney, John Drysdale, presented her claim for three hundred acres of land lying in Diego plains, at a place called Qui Qui, with a certified copy of concession made by Governor White to Nicholas Sanchez, dated 3d February, 1800, referred to, and marked exhibit A; also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Juan Purcell, dated 23d June, 1809, referred to, and marked B; and a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger to the heirs of Nicholas Sanchez, dated 2d April, 1819, marked exhibit C. Filed.

Francis P. Sanchez, by his attorney, John Drysdale, presented his claim for two thousand acres of land lying at a place called Oklawaha, on a creek of the river St. Johns, with a certified copy of concession to Francisco de Medicis by Governor Estrada, dated 14th December, 1815, referred to, and marked exhibit A; also, a certified copy of an order of survey by Governor Estrada, dated 25th December, 1815, referred to, and marked exhibit B. Filed.

Francis P. Sanchez, by his attorney, John Drysdale, presented his claim to two thousand acres of land lying at a place called Oklawaha, on the margin of a creek of the river St. Johns, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Estrada to Juan Percheman, dated 12th December, 1815. Filed.

Andrew McDowell and Alexander Black, by their attorney, John Drysdale, presented their claim to four hundred and fifty acres of land lying on Graham's swamp, between the heads of Halifax and Matanzas rivers, with a reference to the public archives; also, a plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 12th March, 1818, referred to, and marked exhibit A; also, a certified copy of conveyance from Jose M. Ugarté, agent of Margarita Clarke, to F. M. Arredondo, dated the 23d August, 1820, referred to, and marked exhibit B; also, a certified copy of conveyance from F. M. Arredondo to Francis P. Sanchez, dated 25th August, 1820, referred to, and marked exhibit C; and a reference to the records of the clerk of the county court. Filed.

Joseph Simeon Sanchez, for himself and other heirs of Francisco Xavier Sanchez, by his attorney, John Drysdale, presented his claim for one thousand acres of land lying in Diego plains, at a place called Montes de San Juan, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Robert McHardy, in four parts, dated the 26th May, 1819, referred to, and marked exhibit A; also, a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger, dated 5th June, 1821, for the heirs of the deceased Francisco Xavier Sanchez, referred to, and marked exhibit B. Filed.

Joseph Simeon Sanchez, for himself and other heirs of Francisco Xavier Sanchez, by his attorney, John Drysdale, presented his claim for one hundred acres of land lying in Diego plains, at a place called Montes de Puercos, with a certified copy of concession by Governor White to Francisco Xavier Sanchez, dated 4th August, 1801, marked exhibit A; also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Andres Burgevin, dated 30th March, 1819, marked exhibit B; and a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger to the heirs of Francisco Xavier Sanchez, dated the 5th June, 1821, marked exhibit C. Filed.

William G. Saunders, by his attorney, John Drysdale, presented his claim for thirty-six caballerias, or twelve hundred acres of land, lying at a place called Russel town, on the St. John's river, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Quesada to memorialist's father, dated 10th Dec. 1791, referred to, and marked exhibit A. Filed.

Heirs of William Mills, by their attorney, John Drysdale, presented their claim for five hundred acres of land situated on the south side of St. Mary's river, at a place called Mills' ferry, and has never been surveyed, with reference to the public archives for proof. Filed.

Samuel Harrison, on behalf of himself and other heirs of Samuel Harrison, deceased, by John Drysdale, his attorney, presented his claim to eighteen caballerias, or six hundred acres of land lying on Seymour point, Nassau river, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Quesada, dated 1st October, 1791, referred to, and marked exhibit A; also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Pedro Marrot and Samuel Eastlake, dated 14th February, 1792, referred to, and marked exhibit B. Filed.

Thomas Murphy, claim to three thousand acres of land lying on St. John's river, on the eastern branch thereof, and known as Murphy's island, with a reference to the public archives, and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Andres Burgevin, dated the 4th July, 1818. Filed.

Octavius Mitchell, by his attorney, John Drysdale, presented his claim to two thousand acres of land lying in the territory of Musquito, with a memorial and order of survey by Governor Coppinger, dated 2d June, 1818, referred to, and marked exhibit A; also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Robert McHardy, dated 25th of July, 1818, referred to, and marked exhibit B; and a reference to the public archives for concession. Filed.

George J. F. Clarke, claim to two thousand acres of land lying in Yallahasasa, west of the river St. Johns, on the road to Alachua, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Quesada, dated 12th January, 1812. Filed.

George J. F. Clarke, claim to four thousand acres of land lying in different tracts, (being the remainder of a twenty-six thousand acre tract,) with a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger, dated 17th December, 1817. Filed.

Peter Mitchell, by John Rodman and John Drysdale, his attorneys, presented his memorial, claiming title to a tract of land lying on Alachua, with reference to the public archives, and a plat. Filed.

John Drysdale and John Rodman, by their attorney, Thomas F. Cornell, presented their claim to two thousand two hundred and sixty-two acres of land lying in Alachua, with a reference to the public archives, the memorial of Peter Mitchell, and the clerk of the county court of St. John's county. Filed.

Jasper Ward, by John Drysdale, his attorney, presented his claim to the moiety, or half part of the Alachua grant, with a reference to the public archives. Filed.

Antonio Huertas, by John Rodman, his attorney, presented his claim to ten thousand acres of land lying on Six-mile creek, with reference to the public archives for documents relating to the said land. Filed.

Horatio S. Dexter's claim to the Alachua country, with the exception of Peter Mitchell's part, with no reference or exhibits. Filed.

Horatio S. Dexter, by John Rodman, his attorney, presented his claim to two thousand acres of land, being an undivided part of the tract commonly known by the name of Volusia tract, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

Horatio S. Dexter, by John Rodman, his attorney, presented his claim to a tract of land three miles square, lying on Indian river, with no reference or exhibits. Filed.

Horatio S. Dexter, by John Rodman, his attorney, presented his claim to a tract of land containing a mill-seat, and two thousand five hundred and sixty acres of land

lying on Moultrie creek, and known by the name of Bushnell's mill-seat, with a certified copy of conveyance by Robert Cain to memorialist, dated 10th September, 1818; also, a plat of the same, and a reference to the public archives. Filed.

Horatio S. Dexter, by John Rodman, his attorney, presented his claim to sixteen thousand acres of land lying on Indian river, with a certified copy of a plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 15th August, 1819. Filed.

James Curtis, by John B. Lancaster, his attorney, presented his claim for four hundred acres of land lying on the North river, eight miles from St. Augustine, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Benjamin Lord, dated 20th day of May, 1784, and sundry other British papers relating to said land. Filed.

Paul Dupon, by John Rodman, his attorney, presented his claim for three thousand acres of land lying on an island on the eastern side of the river St. Johns, with a certified copy of royal title to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, dated the 26th April, 1819; a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Andres Burgevin, dated 3d June, 1818. Filed.

Andrew Drouillard, by his attorney, John Rodman, presented his claim for three thousand acres of land on Dunn's lake, at a place called Old Field, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger, dated 10th January, 1818; also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 15th April, 1818. Filed.

Josiah Smith, by John Rodman, his attorney, presented his claim for 40,824 square yards within the precincts of this city, with a reference to the public archives; also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Andres Burgevin, dated 9th December, 1819. Filed.

Josiah Smith, by John Rodman, his attorney, presented his claim for four hundred acres of land lying on Nassau river, at a place called Spell's old fields, with a certified copy of concession by Governor White to Archibald Atkinson, dated 12th July, 1804. Filed.

Josiah Smith, by John Rodman, his attorney, presented his claim for one thousand acres of land lying at a place called Row's bluff, on St. Mary's river, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger to him, dated 24th April, 1820; also, a plat. Filed.

Hannah Smith, by her attorney, John Rodman, presented her claim to three hundred and eighty-nine and two-thirds acres of land lying at a place called St. Lucia, with a reference to the public archives.

Antelm Gay, by John Rodman, his attorney, presented his claim for five hundred acres of land lying on Indian river, front of the Barrederos; with a certified copy of conveyance from Lewis Matteir, dated the 19th of February, 1821; also, a certified copy of royal title to Lewis Matteir, by Governor Coppinger, dated 3d January, 1821; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, by Andres Burgevin, dated the 30th December, 1820. Filed.

Antelm Gay, by John Rodman, his attorney, presented his claim for five hundred acres of land situated 18 miles north of this city, at a place called Governor Grant, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger to Joaquim Sanchez, dated the 16th May, 1820; also, a certified copy of conveyance from said Sanchez to memorialist, dated the 19th May, 1820, and a plat of the tract. Filed.

Marie Rose Francois Felix, marquis de Fourgeres, by his attorney, John Rodman, presented his claim for sixteen thousand acres in two tracts six thousand acres of which lie on Black creek, and six thousand on Indian river, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger to Don José Argote Villalobos, dated 29th October, 1817; also, a certified copy of conveyance by Villalobos, with the proceedings thereon under the Spanish Government; also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey for lands on Indian river by George J. F. Clarke, dated the 15th December, 1817; and another certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 1st December, 1817, for lands on Black creek. Filed.

John Geddes, Duke Goodman, and William Lance, executors of the will and testament of Charles A. Bulow, deceased, on behalf of the heirs of said Bulow, by John Rodman, their attorney, claim title to two thousand acres of land lying at Tomoka, with a certified copy of royal title to Francisco Pellicer, by Governor Coppinger, dated the 22d July, 1818; also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Robert McHardy for Pellicer, dated 14th March, 1818, and a reference to the public archives; likewise to the public records kept by Mr. Tingle. Filed.

John Geddes, Duke Goodman, and William Lance, executors of the will and testament of Charles W. Bulow, deceased, on behalf of the heirs of said Bulow, presented their claim, by John Rodman, their attorney, to four thousand six hundred and seventy-five acres of land in three different tracts: The first tract lies on Graham's swamp, between the Matanzas and Tomoka rivers, and contains three thousand four hundred and eighty-six acres; the second tract, of five hundred and fourteen acres, lies west side of the river Halifax; the third tract, of six hundred and seventy-five acres, lies on the west side of Halifax river; with a reference to the public archives for evidence, and the public records of this city, kept by Mr. Tingle. Filed.

John Geddes, Duke Goodman, and William Lance, executors of the last will and testament of Charles W. Bulow, deceased, on behalf of the heirs of said Bulow, by John Rodman, their attorney, presented their claim to a dwelling-house in St. Augustine, with a certified copy of conveyance from Dona Maria de la Conception Miranda, and proceedings thereon, dated the 4th of April, 1821. Filed.

John Geddes, Duke Goodman, and William Lance, executors of the last will and testament of Charles W. Bulow, deceased, on behalf of the heirs of said Bulow, presented their claim to six acres of land and an Orange grove, within the precincts of the city of St. Augustine, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Kindelan to Matthias Pons, dated 9th April, 1813; also, a reference to the public archives, and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Andres Burgevin, dated 23d May, 1821. Filed.

William Gibson, of St. Marys, Georgia, executor of the last will and testament of Ambrose Hull, deceased, for and on behalf of the heirs of said Hull, by John Rodman, his attorney, presented his claim to three hundred acres of land lying at a place called Col. Plummer, west side of the river St. Johns, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger to Daniel Plummer, dated 23d December, 1819. Filed.

William Gibson, of St. Marys, Georgia, executor of the last will and testament of Ambrose Hull, deceased, for and on behalf of the heirs of the said Hull, by John Rodman, his attorney, presented his claim to two hundred acres of land situated on the west side of the river St. Johns, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger, dated the 18th January, 1816, to James Hull, and reference to the public archives. Filed.

William Gibson, of St. Marys, Georgia, executor of the last will and testament of Ambrose Hull, deceased, for and in behalf of the heirs of said Hull, by John Rodman, his attorney, presented his claim for two thousand six hundred acres of land in two tracts, as follows: fifteen hundred is situated in the district of Musquito, at a place named Turnbull's eastern hammock, or New Smyrna, with a certified copy of royal title made by Governor Estrada to Ambrose Hull, dated the 2d February, 1812, and certified copies of memorials, order of surveys, certificates of surveys, and plats, and a reference to the public archives. Filed.

The heirs of Andrew Dewees, by John Rodman, their attorney, presented their claim to eighteen hundred and nine acres and twenty-five perches of land lying at Pablo, county of St. Johns, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez presented his claim to this board for eight hundred acres of land lying on Graham's swamp, with reference to the public archives for proofs of grant and survey. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez, claim for six hundred and thirty-five acres of land lying at Matanzas, at a place called Buyck's hammock, with reference to the public archives for evidence of concession. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez, claim to one hundred acres of land lying on the west side of the river Halifax, at a place called Old Chimneys, with no reference. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez, claim to four hundred and 55 acres of land situated on the Northwest creek, a branch of the river Matanzas, otherwise called Pellicer's creek, with reference to the public archives for evidence of possession. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez, claim to three hundred and seventy-five acres of land situated at Matanzas, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez, claim to ten thousand acres of land lying at the place known as the Salt spring, west side of Lake George, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez, claim for five thousand acres of land situated between Buffalo bluff and Mount Tucker, being the half of a grant of ten thousand acres granted to him, with reference to the public archives for proofs of grant, royal title, and survey. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez, claim for five thousand acres of land lying on the west side of the river St. Johns, being the half of a grant of ten thousand acres made to him, with reference to the public archives for grant, royal title, and survey. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez, claim for about seventy acres of land, being a small island fronting the Little Matanzas bar, and has not been surveyed, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez, claim, as attorney for Samuel Williams, deceased, for three thousand two hundred acres of land situated on Halifax river, with reference to the public archives for grant, royal title, and survey. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez, claim to a house and lot in this city situated in St. George street, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez, claim to a house and lot in this city, with reference to public archives for conveyance. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez, agent of Thomas Backhouse, presented his claim to five hundred acres of land on Indian river, near the St. Lucia river, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger to T. B. Backhouse, dated the 20th June, 1818. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez, attorney for Martin Hernandez, presented his claim for three houses and lots in this city, with no exhibits. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez, for George Anderson, presented his memorial for a house and lot in this city, with no exhibits. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez, attorney in fact for Martin Hernandez, presented his claim for five hundred acres of land lying on the river Halifax, south of lands belonging to G. W. Perpall, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez, attorney in fact for Martin Hernandez, presented his claim for five hundred acres of land lying in Cypress swamp, north side of Picolata road, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez, attorney in fact for Martin Hernandez, presented his claim to twenty acres of land lying on the river St. Sebastian, called the Ferry, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez, attorney in fact for Martin Hernandez, presented his claim for ten and one-quarter acres and one perch of land lying within the present limits of this city, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez, attorney in fact for Martin Hernandez, presented his claim for one thousand acres of land lying at the head of the Northwest creek, commonly called Pellicer's creek, Matanzas, with no exhibits. Filed.

Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, jr., presented his claim for one hundred and seventy-five acres, lying on the west side of the river St. Sebastian, about three miles west from St. Augustine, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger to Prince, a free black, dated 9th March, 1816, and a certified copy of conveyance from Flora, widow of Prince, to memorialist, dated 30th June, 1821. Filed.

Mrs. Ann Campbell, by Isaac N. Cox, esq., her attorney, presented her claim to a town lot in this city. Filed.

The heirs of Richard Malpas, claim for two hundred acres of land lying on the east side of the river St. Johns, at a place called Terrios, about thirty-eight miles from this city, with a reference to the public archives.

Charles Robion, claim for seven hundred and ninety acres of land lying on the west side of the river Matanzas, south of St. Augustine, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated the 18th March, 1818. Filed.

Margaret Scofield, by Isaac N. Cox, esq., her attorney, presented her claim to three hundred acres lying at a place called Springfield, in the Twelve-mile swamp, with a certified copy of concession by Governor White, dated the 7th June, 1798, also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Andres Burgevin, dated the 24th of February, 1823. Filed.

Joseph F. White, by his attorney, Isaac N. Cox, esq., presented his claim to two hundred and fifty acres of land lying in Graham's swamp, with a certified copy of concession by Governor White to Alexander Watson, dated the 28th July, 1803; also, a certified copy of a decree by said governor, dated the 28th June, 1804, and a conveyance from the aforesaid Watson to memorialist, dated 22d March, 1820. Filed.

Fernando de la Maza Arredondo and Son, by their attorney, Isaac N. Cox. esq., presented their claim to *two hundred and eighty-nine thousand six hundred and forty-five acres of land* situated, and known by the name of the *Alachua country*, with a certified copy of concession by Alexander Ramirez, intendant general of the island of Cuba, dated 22d December, 1817. Filed.

Felipe Solana, by Antonio Alvarez, presented his claim for one hundred acres of land lying at Moultrie, about four miles from St. Augustine, and has not been surveyed, with reference to the minutes of the Common Council of this city during the Spanish domination. Filed.

John A. Cavedo, claim for three hundred and fifty acres of land lying on Black creek, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Estrada to him, dated 4th January, 1816. Filed.

Antonio Huertas, by Antonio Alvarez, his attorney, presented his claim for one thousand five hundred acres of land on the St. John's river to the west, and about twelve miles south of Lake George, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger, dated the 10th April, 1821, to memorialist, referred to, and marked A. Filed.

Antonio Huertas, by Antonio Alvarez, his attorney, presented his claim for two thousand five hundred acres of land lying on the river St. Johns to the west, about twelve miles south of Lake George, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger to memorialist, dated the 10th April, 1821, referred to, and marked A, and a reference to the public archives for survey. Filed.

Geronimo Alvarez, by Antonio Alvarez, presented his claim to two half lots in the town of Fernandina, seventeen yards in front and thirty-four in depth, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger to memorialist, dated 26th March, 1818. Filed.

Geronimo Alvarez, by Antonio Alvarez, presented his claim for a lot in the town of Fernandina, seventeen yards in front and thirty-four in depth, with a certified copy of royal title to memorialist by Governor Coppinger, dated the 26th March, 1818. Filed.

Joseph Simeon Sanchez, claim to six hundred acres of land in Diego plains, with a certified copy of royal title to the heirs of Francisco X. Sanchez, deceased, dated the 12th February, 1811. Filed.

Joseph Simeon Sanchez, claim for five hundred acres of land lying on the North river, with a certified copy of and from the treasurer of this city, Don Bartoleme Benitez y Galvez to Francisco X. Sanchez, dated 12th April, 1792. Filed.

Joseph Simeon Sanchez, claim for a town lot in Fernandina, with a certificate of George J. F. Clarke, dated 2d February, 1817. Filed.

Antonio Huertas, by Isaac N. Cox, esq., his attorney, presented his claim for eight hundred acres of land lying on the west bank of St. Sebastian river, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Kindelan to him, dated 26th October, 1813. Filed.

The heirs of Francis Goodwin, deceased, by L. H. Coe, their attorney, presented their claim to thirteen hundred acres of land lying at a place called Bailey, in the time of the British, four miles north of St. Vincent Ferrer, two miles north of Jno. McIntosh's lands, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

The heirs of Francis Goodwin, deceased, by L. H. Coe, their attorney, presented their claim to thirteen hundred acres of land lying on the east side of St. John's river, on Pablo creek, at a place called Dutch settlement, on McGirt's encampment, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

Ynez Gomez, by her attorney, Waters Smith, presented her claim to one thousand and seventy-five acres of land lying on the river St. Johns, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger to memorialist's husband, dated the 4th of June, 1817. Filed.

William Bardin, by his attorney, Waters Smith, presented his claim for six lots of land lying on the St. John's river, at a place called St. Anthony, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Kindelan to Uriah Bowden, dated the 17th April, 1815, and a reference to the public archives for the survey. Filed.

William Hobkirk, by Waters Smith, his attorney, presented his claim for a tract of land of five miles square lying on St. Mary's river, near John Forbes' lines, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger, dated the 18th September, 1816, marked A; an order from George J. F. Clarke to survey, dated 20th December, 1816, marked B; also, a certificate of George Atkinson, dated 1st January, 1816, marked C. Filed.

Farquhar Bethune, claim for a lot in the town of Fernandina, No. 7, with a bill of sale of George Atkinson to memorialist, dated the 1st of September, 1815, marked A; and a certified copy of royal title by Governor Kindelan to George Atkinson, dated the 16th August, 1814. Filed.

Farquhar Bethune, claim to a lot in the town of Fernandina, No. 10, with reference to public archives. Filed.

Farquhar Bethune, claim to a lot in the town of Fer-

nandina, No. 5, with a concession by Governor Estrada to Andrew Atkinson, dated 2d May, 1811. Filed.

Farquhar Bethune, claim for a lot of land in Fernandina, No. 9, with a concession from Governor White to Francisco Entralgo, dated 31st January, 1811. Filed.

John Middleton, by Farquhar Bethune, his attorney, presented his claim for a lot in the town of Fernandina, No. 6, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Kindelan to James Cashen, dated the 13th March, 1814, referred to, and marked A; a conveyance from James Cashen, and Susannah his wife, to Middleton and Selby, dated the 20th November, 1817. Filed.

Maria Mills, by Farquhar Bethune, her attorney, presented her claim to a lot in the town of Fernandina, No. 12, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger to the heirs of William Mills, dated 19th December, 1818. Filed.

Maria Mills, by Farquhar Bethune, her attorney, presented her claim to two half lots in the town of Fernandina, numbers 1 and 2, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Kindelan to Samuel Betts, dated 2d March, 1814. Filed.

William T. Hall, claim for twelve hundred and sixty-five acres of land lying in the territory of Musquito, at a a place called Haulover, between Indian and Hillsborough rivers, with reference to the public archives for evidence of possession. Filed.

William T. Hall, claim for seven hundred and sixty-five acres of land lying in McDougall's back swamp, in the territory of Musquito, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

Charles Gobert, claim to two thousand acres of land lying on St. John's river, about ten miles south of Rollstown, at the entrance of Dunn's lake, with a certified copy of concession by Governor White to memorialist, dated the 12th November, 1804. Filed.

Joseph M. Sanchez, claim to two hundred acres of land lying at Musquito, on the river Musquito, at a place called Sorragney, on the river Hillsborough, with a certified copy of concession by Governor White to Gertrude Carello, dated 4th February, 1804, and a decree of said governor, dated 27th March, 1804; also, a conveyance from Jno. M. Fontané to memorialist, dated the 23d of May, 1822. Filed.

Lewis Guibert, by Thomas F. Cornell, his attorney, presented his claim for four hundred acres of land lying to the east of the river St. Johns, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

Edward M. Wanton, by Thomas F. Cornell, his attorney, presented his claim for three hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the east of the river St. Johns, and known by the name of Picolata ferry, with reference to the public archives, and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated the 17th November, 1819, marked D. Filed.

Edward M. Wanton, by Thomas F. Cornell, his attorney, presented his claim to three hundred acres of land lying on the creek called Coleson's branch, on the east of the river St. Johns, and known by the name of the Old Cowpen, with reference to the public archives, and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated the 17th November, 1819, marked C. Filed.

Edward M. Wanton, by Thomas F. Cornell, his attorney, presented his claim to two hundred acres of land lying on the east of the river St. Johns, with reference to the public archives, and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated 17th November, 1819, marked A. Filed.

Edward M. Wanton, by Thomas F. Cornell, his attorney, presented his claim for one hundred and fifty acres of land situated on the east of the river St. Johns, and known by the name of Wanton's plantation, with reference to the public archives, and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated the 17th November, 1819, marked B. Filed.

John Creyon, executor of Lucas Creyon, deceased, by John M. Fontané, presented his claim for one thousand acres of land in the territory of Musquito, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

Joseph Wales, by John B. Strong, his attorney, presented his claim to 2,375 acres of land lying in McDougall's back swamp, with a memorial of memorialist to the Government, dated 6th October, 1817, and a concession of Governor Coppinger, dated 8th October, 1817, for lands in Spring garden; likewise, a memorial from memorialist to change location, dated 5th February, 1818; likewise, a decree from Governor Coppinger, dated 1st April, 1818, granting his request; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Robert McHardy, dated the 25th July, 1818. Filed.

Daniel Hurlbert, claim for three hundred acres of land, lying about six miles north of this city, and is called Levet, with a certified copy of the proceedings of a public sale by order of Government, and a conveyance from Francis P. Sanchez to memorialist, dated 12th April, 1823. Filed.

Daniel Hurlbert, claim for 200 acres of land lying about three miles from this city, on the savannahs and marshes of *Casacola*, with a certified copy of the proceedings of a public sale by order of Government. Filed.

William Harvey, claim for 200 acres of land lying on Front creek, emptying into the river St. John's, at a place called *Mult*, with a certified copy of royal title, by Governor Coppinger, to memorialist, dated 9th ——, 1818. Filed.

William Harvey, claim for 851 acres of land lying on *Petas* creek, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger, to Hannah Moore, mother of memorialist, dated 8th June, 1818; likewise, a plat. Filed.

John Uptagrove, by George Gibbs, his attorney, presented his claim for 100 acres of land on Amelia island, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

Philip R. Yonge and Zephania Kingsley, executors of John Frazus, deceased, by George Gibbs, their attorney, presented their claim for a tract, consisting of less than 3,000 acres, with a reference to the public archives. Filed.

Hibberson and Yonge, by Governor Gibbs, their attorney, presented their claim for 45 acres of land lying north of Fernandina, and north of a creek called *Viega*, on Amelia island, with certified copies of concession by Governor White, dated 27th January, 1810, marked Y. Filed.

Zephaniah Kingsley, by George Gibbs, his attorney, presented his claim to a marsh lot in the town of Fernandina, with a certified copy of a memorial and decree, dated the 8th July, 1815, marked A; and a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger, dated the 26th March, 1817. Filed.

Cyrus Briggs, by Abraham Bellamy, presented his claim for 250 acres of land lying on the river Nassau, adjoining Lofton's creek, with no exhibits. Filed.

Robert Shepherd, by John B. Strong, his attorney, presented his claim for 100 acres of land lying on the Musquito river, and has never been surveyed, with a certified copy of concession, by Governor White, to memorialist, dated 30th December, 1803. Filed.

Cyrus Briggs, by Abraham Bellamy, his attorney, presented his claim for 100 acres of land lying on Nassau river, at a place called *Pearcent island*, with no exhibits. Filed.

Robert Walker, by John B. Strong, his attorney, presented his claim for 100 acres of land on the river Musquito, and has not been surveyed, with a certified copy of concession by Governor White to memorialist, dated 14th May, 1803. Filed.

The heirs of Henry Martin, deceased, by John B. Strong, their attorney, presented their claim for 400 acres of land, praying confirmation of title to the same, lying at the Musquitos, and has not been surveyed, with a certified copy of concession, by Governor White, to memorialist, dated the 3d September. Filed.

Sarah Petty, by John B. Strong, her attorney, presented her claim for 200 acres of land lying on the river St. Marys, with a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Pedro Marrot and Samuel Eastlake, dated the 13th April, 1792. Filed.

Seymour Pickett, by John B. Strong, his attorney, presented his claim to 350 acres lying on the Musquitos river, at a place called New Smyrna, with a certified copy of concession, by Governor White, to memorialist, dated 3d September, 1803; also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Juan Purcell, dated 24th May, 1804. Filed.

Seymour Pickett, by John B. Strong, his attorney, presented his claim to 250 acres of land lying at a place called Hodquin plantation, with a certified copy of royal title, by Governor Kindelan, to Reuben Hogans, dated 26th of May, 1815, and an instrument purporting to be a conveyance from Reuben Hogans to memorialist. Filed.

Thomas Briggs and John Robertson, by their attorney, Edward R. Gibson, presented their claim for 1800 acres of land lying on Halifax river, with reference to the public archives and the public records of St. John's county. Filed.

Stephen Pearce and wife, on behalf of themselves and other heirs of William Mills, deceased, presented their claim for 250 acres of land, by John Drysdale, their attorney, with a mutilated copy of a British grant made to William Mills by Governor Grant; likewise, a mutilated copy of a plat and certificate of survey dated 28th July, 1768. Filed.

Geronimo Alvarez, by George J. F. Clarke, presented his claim to 500 acres of land lying on the west side of Hillsborough river, with a certified copy of royal title, by

Governor Coppinger, to memorialist, dated 12th January, 1818. Filed.

Antonio Triay, by George J. F. Clarke, presented his claim to 1,500 acres of land situate at Mount Tucker, river St. Johns, with a certified copy of royal title, by Gov. Coppinger, to memorialist, dated 9th April, 1821. Filed.

Antonio Alvarez, by George J. F. Clarke, presented his claim for 1,500 acres of land situate on the west side of Ocklawaha creek, with a certified copy of royal title, by Governor Coppinger, to him of said land, dated the 7th December, 1817. Filed.

Pablo Sebate, by Antonio Alvarez, presented his claim for two hundred acres of land lying at *San Diego*, at a place known by *Plantage de Arroze de Clarke*, and has not been surveyed, with a certified copy of concession by Governor White, dated 21st May, 1803, marked A. Filed.

Pablo Sebate, by Antonio Alvarez, presented his claim for a tract of land six miles in length, situated at a place called *Casacola*, between Indian creek and *Araguez* creek, *emptying* into the North river, and has not been surveyed, with a reference to the public archives, and a certified copy of conveyance from the widow of Bryan Conner, deceased, to memorialist, dated the 7th of September, 1809, marked A. Filed.

Estevan Arnau, by Antonio Alvarez, presented his claim for one hundred acres of land lying on Hillsborough river, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger to him, dated the 19th June, 1818, marked B; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Robert McHardy, dated the 20th October, 1818, marked A. Filed.

Pablo Sebate, by Antonio Alvarez, presented his claim for two thousand five hundred acres of land lying about seven miles from St. Augustine, with an order of survey by Governor Coppinger of 18th June, 1818; a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Andres Burgevin, dated the 30th June, 1818; and a certified copy of royal title by Gov. Coppinger, dated 2d April, 1818. Filed.

Felipe Solana, by Antonio Alvarez, presented his claim for thirty acres of land situated at a place called Moultrie, with a certified copy of concession by Governor White to Pedro de Cala, dated 10th March, 1807, and a conveyance from said Cala to memorialist, dated the 30th June, 1821, marked A and B. Filed.

Francis Richard, by Antonio Alvarez, presented his claim for one thousand and twenty-five acres of land lying on the west side of Lake George, seven miles from Drayton's island, near the place known by Big spring, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger to memorialist, dated the 10th January, 1818, marked A. Filed.

Felipe Solana, by Antonio Alvarez, presented his claim for two hundred and forty-five acres of land at a place called Two Sisters, on Diego plains, with a certified copy of royal title to memorialist, dated May 6, 1816. Filed.

Francis Richard, by Antonio Alvarez, presented his claim for six hundred and fifty acres of land lying at a place known by the name of Dudley, on the east side of the St. John's river, and north of Pottsburg creek, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Quesada to Samuel Russell, dated the 2d December, 1795, marked A; and an order of survey of Governor Coppinger, dated 5th June, 1821, marked B; likewise, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey, dated 4th November, 1820, by George J. F. Clarke, marked C. Filed.

Francis Richard, by Antonio Alvarez, presented his claim for two hundred and fifty acres of land situated on St. John's river, near the Cowford, at a place known by the name of Red Bay hammock, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger, dated the 7th November, 1817, marked B; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by D. S. H. Miller, dated the 22d March, 1819. Filed.

Francis Richard, by Antonio Alvarez, presented his memorial for three hundred and fifty acres of land lying at a place called Strawberry hill, and has not been surveyed, with a certified copy of royal title to Reuben Hogans by Governor Coppinger, dated the 17th of April, 1817, marked A. Filed.

Francis Richard, by Antonio Alvarez, presented his claim for two hundred acres of land lying east side of St. John's river and head of Pottsburg creek, known by the name of *Tyger Hole*, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger to Louis Zachariah Hogans, dated the 12th June, 1817, marked B; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated the 26th June, 1818. Filed.

Gabriel Triay presented his claim for one of the Keys, known by the name of *Key Vacas*, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger to memorialist, dated 3d January, 1818, marked A. Filed.

Francis Philip Fatio, assignee of Samuel Betts, deceased, presented his claim for two thousand acres of land lying in the territory of Musquito, south of Ambrose Hull, and north of New Smyrna, with reference to the public archives. Filed.

Francis Philip Fatio, assignee of Samuel Betts, deceased, presented his claim for eighteen hundred acres of land lying in the territory of Matanzas, with reference to the records, and an instrument conveying the said lands, together with the above tract, to Messieurs Arredondo, Fatio, and Fleming, in trust. Filed.

James Toole, claim to nine hundred and forty-five acres of land lying in Graham swamp, on the Matanzas, with a certified copy of concession by Governor White, dated January 7, 1804. Filed.

Joseph M. Hernandez, claim to eight hundred acres of land lying on the river Matanzas, with the following exhibits:—first, a certified copy of proceedings to the grant to Dupont, and the title of Miguel Crosby, dated 31st May, 1805; second, a certified copy of regulations of Governor White, dated 12th October, 1803; third, a certified copy of grant to Miguel Crosby, dated 3d February, 1804; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Robert McHardy, dated 4th September, 1818. Filed.

Francis Ferreira, claim to fourteen acres of land lying without the old lines, three-fourths of a mile north of this city, with a certified copy of concession by Governor White to Juan Bautista Ferriera, dated 27th July, 1803. Filed.

Benjamin Chair's claim to five hundred acres of land lying at the head of the North river, at a place known by the name of Cabbage swamp, with a deed of conveyance by the heirs of Robert Andrew, deceased, dated the 16th August, 1822. Filed.

Andres Papy's claim to one hundred and twenty-six acres of land lying at a place by the name of San Diego, north of this city, with a certified copy of conveyance from Philip Solana to Ana Pons, dated 9th February, 1819; a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Pedro Marrot, dated 13th May, 1793, and a reference to the public archives for royal title. Filed.

Joseph Baya, claim to one hundred and thirty acres of land, more or less, situated about two miles north of St. Augustine, known by the name of Moses, with a deed of conveyance from Bartoleme de Castro y Ferrer, attorney for Gumana Soria to memorialist, dated the 21st June, 1823. Filed.

Richard Murray, administrator of Francis Brady, deceased, presented his claim for one hundred and forty-five acres of land lying on the east side of St. John's river, on the west side of an arm of Trout creek, with a certified copy of concession by Governor White, dated 22d December, 1803, to John Wright; a deed of conveyance from Adam and Molly Wright to said Brady, dated 11th July, 1821; a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by George J. F. Clarke, dated the 5th July, 1821. Filed.

Susannah Cashen, claim to three hundred acres of land lying on Plym's island, on the river St. Johns, with no exhibit. Filed.

Charlotte Gobert, by her trustee, Gabriel W. Perpall, presented her claim to one hundred acres of land lying on the west side of San Marcos, nine or ten miles northwest from St. Augustine, with a certified copy of concession by Governor White to Charles Hill, (a free black,) dated the 4th December, 1806. Filed.

Robert Hutchinson, claim for one hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the banks of Little St. Mary's river, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Estrada to the memorialist, dated the 11th September, 1811. Filed.

Antonio Williams, (a free black,) claim for three hundred acres of land lying on St. Mark's lake, with a certified copy of concession by Governor White to memorialist, dated the 1st December, 1801. Filed.

Edward Ashton, claim for two hundred and forty-five acres of land situated at the head of the creek called Turnbull, northwest from this city, with a certified copy of royal title by Governor Coppinger, dated the 18th of January, 1816. Filed.

John B. Strong, attorney for the estate of Ezekiel Hudnall, deceased, presented his claim for six hundred acres of land lying on Amelia island, at a place known by the name of Beech hammock, with a certified copy of concession by Gov. White, dated 4th August, 1802. Filed.

John B. Strong, attorney for the estate of Ezekiel Hudnall, deceased, presented his claim for one hundred acres of land lying on St. John's river, at a place known by the name of St. Nicholas, with a certified copy of conveyance by David S. Miller to Hudnall, dated the 11th February, 1819; also, a certified copy of plat and

certificate of survey, by D. S. H. Miller, dated the 16th October, 1818. Filed.

Ezekiel Hudnall's estate, by John B. Strong, the attorney, presented their claim to two hundred and fifty-five acres of land lying on the north bank of the river St. Johns, nearly opposite the Fort of St. Nicholas, and on the east of a creek called Hogans' creek, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger to Daniel Hogans, dated the 18th March, 1817. Filed.

John B. Strong, attorney for the estate of Ezekiel Hudnall, deceased, presented his claim for two wooden houses at St. Nicholas, on the St. John's river, with a conveyance from Juan Jose Robles to Hudnall, dated May 6, 1818. Filed.

John B. Strong, attorney for the estate of Ezekiel Hudnall, deceased, presented his claim for a house and lot at St. Nicholas, on St. John's river, with a conveyance from Ann Munro, dated 17th October, 1818. Filed.

William Travers, by George Murray, his attorney, presented his claim for five hundred acres of land four miles west of St. Augustine, with sundry British documents, and a memorial and order of survey by the Spanish Government, dated the 16th day of December, 1819; and a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Andres Burgevin, dated 20th December, 1819. Filed.

Josè Bernardo Reyes, claim for one thousand acres of land lying on the east side of the Ocklawaha river, at a place known by the name of Bella Vista, near Chicochati ferry, west side of St. John's river, in St. John's county, with a certified copy of concession by Governor Coppinger to him, dated the 1st of June, 1818; also, a certified copy of plat and certificate of survey by Robert McHardy, dated 3d October, 1818, marked A. Filed.

At a meeting of the Board of Land Commissioners on Monday, the 8th December, 1823, pursuant to adjournment: present, all the members:

Joseph B. Lancaster came before the board, and tendered his resignation as assistant secretary of this board; which was accepted.

James Bosley vs. *the United States*. Waters Smith, agent of said Bosley, being called on to answer if this claim was prepared for trial, declared it was not: whereupon, it is ordered that the same stand continued for further order of this board.

Edgar Macon, esq. attended, by order of this board.

John H. McIntosh vs. *the United States*. Claim for six thousand, three thousand, six hundred, three hundred, and one thousand acres, on Indian river: this day this case came on to be heard, and George Morrison, James Hall, and George J. F. Clarke, were examined as witnesses in the same; but, the board not being sufficiently advised, it is ordered that the same be continued until to-morrow.

The board then adjourned until to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1823.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under order of this board.

Lewis Hugeron was this day admitted and sworn in as assistant secretary of this board, well and truly and faithfully to perform the duties required of him by the Board of Land Commissioners.

Mr. Hamilton objected to either of the commissioners administering oaths when the board is not in session; that, depositions taken before either of the commissioners receive a consequence and importance from their official situation, that may mislead the judgment of Congress, as it will be presumed that the commissioners will have asked all pertinent and necessary questions.

Ordered, That the secretary be directed, forthwith, to record the minutes of this board in a well bound book.

Ordered, That the marshal of the United States for the district of East Florida be directed to prepare the Government house for the reception of this board.

It is *ordered*, That the rules of evidence governing courts of law govern this board for the future, viz. That the party calling the witness first examine him, and then turn him over to the district attorney; and, when he has finished, the board can ask him any pertinent question which they conceive to have been omitted; but the party examining the witness cannot be interrupted without he is putting an improper question.

Mr. Hamilton dissented as to any restraint on the board in its examination.

The board then resumed the consideration of the case of John H. McIntosh, which was postponed until this day, and examined sundry witnesses, to wit: Gabriel W. Perpall, Antonio Alvarez, and Joseph M. Hernandez, and re-examined George J. F. Clarke.

At half past two o'clock P. M., the board adjourned until to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock A. M.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1823.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under order of this board.

Elias B. Gould presented his account to this board for printing and stationery, amounting to seventy-one dollars and twenty-five cents; which was approved, and ordered to be certified.

The board resumed the consideration of the case of John H. McIntosh, which was postponed until this day, and re-examined the former witnesses, viz. George Morrison and George J. F. Clarke.

At two o'clock P. M., the board adjourned until to-morrow morning at nine o'clock A. M.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1823.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under order of this board.

George J. F. Clarke presented to this board seven bundles of plats and certificates of surveys, and a register of the town of Fernandina—said surveys commencing in 1811, and ending in 1821; which are ordered to be put in the care of the secretary of this board.

The board resumed the consideration of the claim of John H. McIntosh, and re-examined therein George J. F. Clarke, and examined —— Turnbull. At two o'clock P. M., not being sufficiently advised of and concerning the said claim, adjourned the further consideration thereof until to-morrow.

The board adjourned until to-morrow, ten o'clock A. M.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1823.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under order of this board.

On motion of Isaac N. Cox, a commission was issued to John Mountain, Collin Mitchell, and Daniel Osgood, or any one of them, in the city of Havana, for the purpose of obtaining the deposition of Thomas de Aguilar, in the case of F. M. Arredondo, jr. vs. the United States; and cross-interrogatories were filed by the district attorney, under direction of the board.

The board resumed the consideration of the claim of John H. McIntosh, and re-examined therein George J. F. Clarke. At half past two o'clock P. M., not being sufficiently advised of and concerning the said claim, adjourned the further consideration until to-morrow.

The board adjourned until to-morrow at ten o'clock A. M.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1823.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under order of this board.

The board then resumed the consideration of the claim of John H. McIntosh, and examined therein Bernard Segui. At one o'clock P. M., not being sufficiently advised of and concerning the said claim, adjourned the further consideration thereof until Monday next.

The board adjourned until Monday next at ten o'clock A. M.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1823.

This day the board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under order of the board.

Resolutions were offered by Mr. Hamilton for the adoption of the board, in the words and figures, to wit:

"*Resolved*, That in all cases the board will direct their secretary to obtain from the keeper of the public archives the original documents upon which claims are founded, previous to their adjudications.

"*Resolved*, That the secretary be directed to procure from the keeper of the public archives the original documents in the case of James Bosley and John H. McIntosh, the first claims on the docket;" which, after due deliberation, was overruled; Messrs. Floyd and Blair both voting against its adoption.

The board resumed the consideration of the claim of John H. McIntosh, and re-examined therein Gabriel W. Perpall; at two o'clock P. M., not being sufficiently advised of and concerning the said claim, adjourned the further consideration thereof until to-morrow.

The board adjourned until to-morrow at 10 o'clock A. M.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1823.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under order of this board.

The board resumed the consideration of the claim of John H. McIntosh, and examined therein Andrew Burgevin; and at 12 o'clock P. M., not being sufficiently advised of and concerning the said claim, the further consideration thereof is postponed until to-morrow.

The board then adjourned until to-morrow at ten o'clock A. M.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1823.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under order of this board.

Mr. Hamilton presented a resolution in the following words and figures, to wit:

"*Resolved*, That the board will direct their secretary to select the claims presented to this board under the royal order of 1790, when the claims are supported by royal titles;" the consideration of which was postponed until to-morrow.

The board resumed the consideration of the claim of John H. McIntosh, and examined therein Daniel Hurlbert; but not being sufficiently advised of and concerning the same, and good cause herefor appearing, they postponed the further consideration thereof until Monday the 22d inst.

James Marshall vs. the United States, for five hundred acres. Upon motion of the claimant, by his attorney, John Drysdale, leave is given him to file interrogatories, to be propounded to Nichol Turnbull, a resident of Chatham county, in the State of Georgia; and that a commission be awarded to James M. Wayne, judge of the superior court of the eastern district of Georgia, and John P. Williamson, one of the justices of the inferior court of the said county of Chatham, or either of them, to take the answers of said Turnbull to said interrogatories.

The affidavit of Adam Tunno, and J. M. Davis, and Adam Tunno, and John Maynard Davis, proving the legitimate heirs of Doctor Andrew Turnbull, formerly of East Florida, deceased, were allowed to be withdrawn from the claims filed by John Drysdale, attorney for Nichol Turnbull.

John Love vs. the United States, for three hundred acres. Upon the calling of this claim, it appearing to the satisfaction of this board that the same is not prepared for adjudication, it is ordered that it be continued until a further day, and leave is given to introduce documents.

Samuel Fairbanks vs. the United States, for a lot in the city of St. Augustine. Upon the calling of this claim, it appearing to the satisfaction of this board that the same is not prepared for adjudication, it is ordered that it be continued until a further day, and leave is given to introduce documents.

Duncan L. Clinch vs. the United States, for five hundred acres. This claim not being prepared for adjudication, on motion of his attorney, it is ordered that it be continued until a further day.

Samuel Fairbanks vs. the United States, for eighty acres. This claim being called, and it appearing to this board that the same is not prepared for adjudication, it is ordered that it be continued until a further day, and leave is given to introduce documents.

Pedro Miranda vs. the United States, claim for one thousand acres. This day this claim came on to be heard; and, on motion, the papers were submitted to the board for their decision.

Bernard Segui vs. the United States, claim for seven thousand acres. This claim being called, and not being prepared for adjudication, it is ordered that it be continued until a further day.

Mary Ann Davis vs. the United States, claim for five hundred acres. This claim being called, and not being prepared for adjudication, it is ordered that it be continued until a further day.

Moses Elias Levy vs. the United States, claim for thirty-six thousand acres. This claim being called, and not being prepared for adjudication, on motion of his attorney, it is continued until to-morrow morning.

The board adjourned until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock A. M.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1823.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day under order of this board.

The form of a docket, exhibiting the character and circumstances of each claim, submitted by Mr. Hamilton, was adopted by the board, and that Mr. Macon, the United States' attorney, be authorized to employ as many persons as he may think proper to make out the same, aided by the secretary of the board.

To the decision of the commissioners in favor of the admission of the claims of Antelm Gay and others to record and adjudicate, Mr. Hamilton dissents; and states, as the grounds of his disagreement, that, by the treaty all grants, concessions, and orders of survey, dated subsequent to the 24th of January, 1818, are declared null and void; and that, unless *expressly* and *specially* revived by the acts of Congress, the commissioners can have no authority to take the said claims into consideration, inasmuch as the documents on which these claims are predicated bear date subsequent to 24th January, 1818.

On motion of Mr. Drysdale, the following rule was adopted by a majority of the board, viz. "It is ordered that, hereafter, commissions for the taking of testimony may issue in blank as to the names of the witness or witnesses to be examined: *Provided*, That the claimant shall, in all such cases, whenever he can do so, name to the board, as commissioner, a judge of one of the courts of the United States, or a judge or justice of the superior, circuit, or county courts of the State in which the commission is to be executed."

Mr. Hamilton dissents to the issuing of any commission to ——— witness, unless the same *be directed* to a judge of the United States, or a judge or justice of the superior, circuit, or county courts of the State in which the commission is to be executed. Mr. Hamilton not being willing to issue ——— commissions to any person or persons authorized to administer oaths, such as justices of the peace, notaries public, &c.

The board adjourned until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock A. M.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1823.

This day the board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day under order of this board.

On motion of Mr. Cox, leave is given him to amend his memorial in the case of Arredondo and Son vs. United States, for two hundred and eighty-nine thousand six hudred and forty-five acres and five-sevenths of an acre.

This day the United States' attorney made a motion, "whether the board considered themselves authorized to adjudicate and make a final decision upon a claim over which they had this power, which claim was a part of a grant for a greater number of acres of land than this board can finally act upon?" which was postponed for further consideration.

The board took into consideration the claim of Moses E. Levy for thirty-six thousand acres of land; and the documents marked with red ink, A, B, C, D, E, G, H, F, and J, being read, as well also as the deposition of E. M. Wanton, the board then proceeded to examine therein Thomas Murphy. At two o'clock P. M., not being sufficiently advised of and concerning the said claim, adjourned the further consideration thereof until to-morrow.

The board adjourned until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock A. M.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1823.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under the order of this board.

The consideration of the motion made by the United States' attorney on the —— instant, was, on motion of Mr. Hamilton, brought up, and was postponed by the board until Saturday next the 27th instant, Mr. Hamilton dissenting.

Ordered, That the testimony of Hipolite Chateauneuf, as taken in the claim of Moses E. Levy vs. the United States, for thirty-six thousand acres of land, be read in evidence in all the cases under the Alachua grant.

The board resumed the consideration of the claim of Moses E. Levy, and re-examined therein Thomas Murphy, and examined Hipolite Chateauneuf. At 4 o'clock P. M., not being sufficiently advised of and concerning the said claim, adjourned the further consideration thereof until Monday next.

The board adjourned until Monday next at 10 o'clock.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1823.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under order of this board.

The board resumed the consideration of the claim of Moses E. Levy.

A certified copy of the royal order of the 3d of September, 1817, from the secretary's office of the intendant of the Havana, was offered as evidence by Moses E. Levy; and satisfactory proof being made by the testimony of Antonio Alvarez, John Cavedo, and E. M. Gomez, sworn and examined that Juan Nepomuceno de Arrocha, who certifies the same, is secretary of said office; that he has no seal of office, as well, also, as proof identifying his signature, it is resolved, upon due deliberation by the board, unanimously, that the said copy of the royal [order] of the 3d of September, 1817, and the certificate of said Arrocha, secretary as aforesaid, be received and allowed as evidence in the claim of said Levy; and that the same, together with the certificate of John Mountain, vice commercial agent of the United States at Havana, thereto appendant, be filed.

The board adjourned until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1823.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under order of the board.

The board then proceeded to the appointment of an assistant or minuting secretary; and John H. Lawrence was appointed.

The board resumed the consideration of the claim of Moses E. Levy for thirty-six thousand acres of land, and examined therein James Riz. At 1 o'clock P. M., not being sufficiently advised of and concerning said claim, adjourned the further consideration thereof until to-morrow morning.

Before adjournment, the board resolved that the depositions of all witnesses in the case of Moses E. Levy be admitted in all cases under the Alachua grant represented before this board; upon condition, however, that the whole of each deposition should be taken, or the whole rejected.

The board then adjourned until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock A. M.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1823.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Davis Floyd and Alexander Hamilton.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day under order of the board.

The board resumed the consideration of Moses E. Levy's claim for thirty-six thousand acres, and examined therein George J. F. Clarke, Gabriel W. Perpall, and Francis P. Sanchez. At 2 o'clock P. M., not being sufficiently advised of and concerning said claim, adjourned the further consideration thereof until Friday the 26th instant. The board then adjourned until Friday the 26th instant, at 10 o'clock A. M.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1823.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under order of the board.

The board resumed the consideration of the claim of Moses E. Levy, and examined therein Anthony Rutant and William Simmons. It was then submitted for final decision, with leave to introduce the evidence of Frederick Warburg, if thought fit.

The board then took into consideration James Bosley's claim for five hundred acres of land; the papers and documents of which having been read, the secretary was ordered to translate the concession of said claim, and the case was laid over for further consideration.

Mr. Strong made a motion to make an amendment in the memorial of Samuel Fairbanks for eighty acres of land; which amendment was admitted. The amendment was as follows: "Samuel Fairbanks, for himself, claims two-thirds of two hundred and forty acres of land, and on behalf of Polly Beardon, wife of William Beardon, for the remaining one-third; and files the following documents, viz. A deed from Robert Gilbert and his wife for one-third part of the above two hundred and forty acres, the affidavit of Joseph Summerall, and the affidavit of William Lofton.

The board adjourned until Monday the 29th instant at 10 o'clock.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1823.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under order of the board.

The board then took into consideration the claim of Mary Ann Davis for five hundred acres of land, and examined therein William Beardon Edward R. Gibson. The case was then submitted.

The board then took into consideration the claim of Samuel Fairbanks for eighty acres; which was also submitted.

The board took into consideration Duncan L. Clinch's claim for five hundred acres of land; which was laid over.

The board then took into consideration Bernardo Segui's claim for seven thousand acres. Submitted.

The board then took into consideration the claims of Antelm Gay, for one hundred and sixty, four hundred, seven hundred, six hundred, four hundred, five thousand, three hundred, and two thousand acres; all of which were submitted.

Mr. Hamilton made a motion that a letter should be addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury, reporting the proceedings of this board up to this meeting; which motion was overruled.

The board then adjourned until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock A. M.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1823.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under order of the board.

The board again took into consideration Antelm Gay's claim for two thousand acres, which was submitted; also, another claim of Antelm Gay for five thousand acres, which was likewise submitted.

The question then arose, "what should constitute an actual settlement under construction of the 2d section of an act amending and supplementary to the act for ascertaining claims and titles to land in the Territory of Florida, and to provide for the survey and disposal of public lands in Florida?" and it was decided that a residence in the Territory, and not the occupation of land, constituted the actual settlement; the majority of the board agreeing therein, and Mr. Hamilton dissenting.

On motion of Mr. Hamilton, it was resolved that all royal orders and correspondence of governors, and all the rules of the governors, in relation to lands, omitting all facts which have no relation to lands, be recorded on the minutes of the board.

The board then adjourned until to-morrow morning at ten o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1823.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under order of the board.

The board then took into consideration the claim of Sarah Tate for four hundred and fifty acres of land, which was submitted.

The board then took into consideration the two claims of the heirs of Lorenzo Capo, one for fifty acres, and the other for one hundred and fifty-seven acres. These claims interfere with the claim of Pablo Sabate.

The memorial of Charles Seton, Domingo Acosta, and Francisco Ponce, in behalf of the inhabitants of Fernandina, was read, and, upon motion of Mr. Hamilton, it was resolved that the district attorney be directed to address a letter to the memorialists upon the subject of their memorial, stating to them that the board will receive testimony with regard to their case.

The board then adjourned till ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 1824.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney of East Florida, attended this day by order of the board.

The board then adjourned till to-morrow morning at at 10 o'clock.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 1824.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under order of the board.

The board certified to the account of Elias B. Gould, of seventy-one dollars and twenty cents for printing and stationery.

The board then took into consideration the claim of Robert Miller and wife to Martin's island; which was laid over.

Memorial No. 14, entered for a reference by the request of Mr. Hamilton.

It appears by the concession of Governor Coppinger to Jehu Underwood, dated the 17th October, 1821, that the license for a mill-seat was considered as a permission only to use the timber.

The board took into consideration the claim of Samuel Fairbanks to eighty-two acres of land; which was submitted.

The board then took into consideration the claim of William Williams, and co-heirs of William Williams,

deceased, for one hundred and eighty acres of a grant of two thousand two hundred acres of land at New Smyrna, and another for two thousand and twenty acres of land at Spring garden, which is claimed by virtue of an exchange of a like number of acres of the grant of two thousand two hundred acres at New Smyrna; and examined therein George W. Perpall and Andrew Burgevin. The claim was then submitted.

Mr. Hamilton moved that the deponent, Joseph Summerall, in the case of William Williams and co-heirs, be summoned to appear before this board, inasmuch as that the deposition of said Joseph Summerall was taken before J. B. Strong, esq., attorney for claimants; which was agreed to, Judge Blair dissenting.

Mr. Strong, attorney for claimants, moved that he be allowed to withdraw the deposition of Joseph Summerall; which was agreed to, Mr. Hamilton dissenting.

The board then took into consideration the claim of Joseph Simeon Sanchez, and examined therein Daniel Hurlbert and Charles W. Clarke. The claim was then submitted.

Francis Roman Sanchez, claim for four thousand acres of land was then taken into consideration, and Daniel Hurlbert and Charles W. Clarke examined therein. The claim submitted.

The following motion was made by Mr. Hamilton, and rejected by the majority of the board: "That the board would take into consideration the regulations of Governor White of the 12th of October, 1803, in relation to the granting possession and forfeiture of lands, and decide whether the said regulations be respected by the board as the regulations of the Spanish Government.

The board adjourned till ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 1824.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under order of the board.

The board then took into consideration the claim of Belton A. Copp for twelve hundred acres; which was then submitted.

The claim of Moses E. Levy for fourteen thousand five hundred acres of land at Hope hill was then taken into consideration, and submitted.

Ordered, That the secretary produce the original concession, or a transcript thereof, in the case of Belton A. Copp for twelve hundred acres.

The board then took into consideration the claim of Sarah Tate, heiress of John E. Tate, deceased, for four hundred and fifty acres of land on the river Tomoka; the papers of which having been read, the claim was submitted.

Mr. Macon submitted cross interrogatories to be propounded to William Gibson in the case of Fernando de la Maza Arredondo vs. the United States.

Mr. Cox, attorney for claimant, moved that the said cross-interrogatories be put by two or more persons of the highest judicial authority in the place where Mr. Gibson should be found; which was agreed to.

Ordered, That the memorial, concession, and order of survey referred to in the royal title exhibited by the claimant, and also the power of attorney from Hernandez and Chauviteau to Moses E. Levy, be translated by the secretary, and furnished to this board; and, in the mean time, the further consideration of this case be postponed.

George J. F. Clarke appeared, at the request of Mr. Hamilton, by virtue of a subpœna "*duces tecum*," and presented his instructions from the Government as surveyor general, with a translation of the same; which are ordered to be filed.

Judge Blair offered the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That, hereafter, when a claim is presented to the consideration of the board, it shall be the duty of the party, or his attorney, if present, if not, then the secretary officiating, to read all the papers and documents; and if the board shall determine that the deraignment in English is not sufficient, then the case shall be returned to the secretary, and an order made requiring the production of such other papers; and, so also, in cases where the party or district attorney shall require further parol evidence, and in all cases where the party is absent, and has not an attorney, such order requiring further evidence shall be published in the East Florida Herald for two weeks successively.

"In all cases hereafter submitted, the commissioners will deliver a final decree, or opinion only."

This resolution was laid over, upon motion of Mr. Hamilton.

The board then adjourned till Monday morning the 5th instant, at 10 o'clock.

MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 1824.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

The board then adjourned until to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1824.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under order of the board.

Mr. George J. F. Clarke appeared before the board, and presented a paper containing notes explanatory of the instructions of general survey presented on Saturday by him; which explanation was ordered to be filed.

The board then adjourned until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1824.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Davis Floyd and Alexander Hamilton.

Edgar Macon, esq., attended this day under order of the board.

Frederick Warburg, witness in case of Moses E. Levy for thirty-six thousand acres at Alachua, was then introduced; a part of whose evidence was taken—the further examination postponed.

The board adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 1824.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Davis Floyd and Alexander Hamilton.

Edward Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended under order of the board.

William Buries' claim was then taken into consideration by the board, and submitted.

John Huertas' claim was taken into consideration, and also submitted.

The board then took into consideration the claim of Joseph Delespine for five hundred and sixty acres of land, which was submitted—Francisco Ferreira having been examined therein; also, another claim of Joseph Delespine for six hundred acres: Francis Ferreira examined therein; which was submitted.

Inserted by order of the board.

January 8, 1824.

Inasmuch as the commissioners will be able to make final decision of but few claims, and as much time will be necessary to investigate and report sundry rules and regulations and customs prevalent in the province relative to granting land, and as the time when we must make report to Congress will shortly elapse, I would propose for consideration, whether it would not be proper to take all the claims now in a state of readiness into consideration, have them recorded, and finally decided; and whether we would be able to devote more of our time, and our secretary, to the investigation of new cases; or whether, probably, the whole time may not be necessary for the preparation of those before us.

Yours,

DAVIS FLOYD.

TO ALEXANDER HAMILTON, Esq.

The board then took into consideration the claim of Francis J. Avice, for five hundred acres; which was submitted.

The claim of Avice and Viel for one thousand acres of land was taken up and submitted.

The board then adjourned until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 1824.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Davis Floyd and Alexander Hamilton; the Hon. Wm. W. Blair being indisposed.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended under order of the board.

The board then took into consideration the claim of Charles Hogans for two hundred acres; which was submitted.

Reuben Hogans' claim for three hundred and eighty-five acres, was taken into consideration, and submitted.

The board then adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 1824.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Davis Floyd and Alexander Hamilton.

There being no business before the board, they adjourned until Monday morning, the 12th instant, at 10 o'clock.

MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 1824.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Davis Floyd and Alexander Hamilton.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended under order of the board.

The board then took into consideration the claim of Fernando de la Maza Arredondo for fifty thousand acres; which was submitted.

Peter Bagley's claim for two hundred acres was taken into consideration, and submitted.

José M. Arredondo's claim for twenty thousand acres was taken into consideration, and laid over.

Mr. Hamilton presented a letter addressed to Davis Floyd, esq., being an answer to one addressed by him to Mr. Hamilton on the 8th instant.

The board then adjourned until to-morrow morning, at 10 o'clock.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1824.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Davis Floyd and Alexander Hamilton.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended under order of the board.

Francis J. Avice's claim for one hundred and fifteen acres of land was taken into consideration, and submitted.

The claim of James and Emanuel Ormond for two thousand acres of land on Halifax river was taken into consideration, and submitted.

The board then adjourned until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1824.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Davis Floyd and Alexander Hamilton.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under order of the board.

The board then took into consideration the claim of Eliza Robinson for one hundred and five acres of land; which was submitted.

The claim of Joseph Summerall for one hundred and fifty acres was taken into consideration, and submitted.

The board then adjourned until to-morrow morning, at 10 o'clock.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1824.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended under order of the board.

There being no business before the board, they adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 1824.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended under order of the board.

The board then took into consideration the claim of Don Ramon de Fuentes; and having examined therein, Nicholas Rodriguez, Charles W. Clarke, Pedro Miranda, and Francisco Medicis, declared as follows:

Ramon de Fuentes vs. the United States. This is a claim for a house and lot in the city of St. Augustine, known and designated in the schedule of the buildings and lots in said city as lot No. 203, in square 28, measuring upon its front, from east to west, fifteen Spanish yards, and in depth, from north to south, sixty Spanish yards, with its improvements and appurtenances.

Upon this day this cause came on to be heard; and, upon the exhibits therein filed, and the testimony of Peter Miranda, Charles W. Clarke, Nicholas Rodriguez, Francisco Medicis, and Antonio Alvarez, being therein taken, the board being sufficiently advised of and concerning the premises, do order and decree that all claim of the United States of and to said lot be released to said claimant; which decree was ordered to be recorded.

The board then adjourned until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 1824.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended, under order of this board.

The board then took into consideration the claim of Joseph Wales for 2,375 acres, which was laid over, having first examined therein Samuel Miles.

The claim of Samuel Fairbanks for a lot in St. Augustine, was submitted.

The board then adjourned until Monday morning, 19th instant, at 10 o'clock.

MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 1824.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Davis Floyd and Alexander Hamilton.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended under order of this board.

The board then took into consideration the claim of James Bosley for final adjudication; which was laid over.

Farquhar Bethune was introduced, sworn, and examined, in the case of John H. McIntosh.

The board then adjourned till to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1824.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended, under order of the board.

James Bosley's claim was again taken into consideration. This claim was for 500 acres of land, and it was confirmed.

John H. McIntosh's claim for 6,000 acres was submitted, and advised for the confirmation of Congress.

The majority of the board refusing to establish, preliminarily, what was to be considered as the law of the land under the Spanish Government, as governing the decisions of the board, Mr. Hamilton declines interfering in the adjudication of claims.

John H. McIntosh's claim for 300 acres was submitted, and advised for the confirmation of Congress.

John H. McIntosh's claim for 1,000 acres of land was submitted for the confirmation of Congress.

John H. McIntosh's claim for 3,274 acres and two-thirds of an acre was submitted and advised for confirmation.

Pedro Miranda's claim for 1,000 acres was submitted and confirmed.

Bernardo Segui's claim for 7,000 acres was submitted, and advised to Congress for confirmation.

Mary Ann Davis's claim for five hundred acres was submitted and confirmed.

Samuel Fairbanks' claim for a lot in St. Augustine submitted and confirmed.

Samuel Fairbanks' claim for 160 acres submitted and confirmed: 80 acres were also confirmed to William Beardon and wife.

Moses E. Levy's claim for 36,000 acres was submitted, and advised for confirmation.

The board then adjourned till to-morrow morning at ten o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1821.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended under order of the board.

The board then proceeded to the consideration of the claims of Antelm Gay, the first of which, being for 160 acres, was confirmed.

The second claim of Antelm Gay was taken into consideration and rejected, with the condition that the claimant, whenever he is able to procure additional testimony, may move the board to a reconsideration of the case.

Antelm Gay's third claim, for 700 acres, was likewise rejected, with the above conditions.

Antelm Gay's fifth claim, for 600 acres, was also rejected, conditionally, as above.

No. 6 of Antelm Gay's claim was taken into consideration, and confirmed.

The board took into consideration, and advised for confirmation, No. 7 of Antelm Gay's claim.

No. 8 of same claims was taken into consideration, and confirmed.

No. 9 came under consideration of the board, and was rejected under conditions as of 2, 3, and 5.

The 10th number of Gay's claims was taken up, but the board not being sufficiently advised of and concerning said claim, it was ordered to be held under further advisement.

Antelm Gay's claim, No. 12, for two lots in St. Augustine, was taken into consideration, and laid over for further consideration.

The board then proceeded to the consideration of Belton A. Copp's claim for 1200 acres, which was ordered to be recommended for confirmation.

The board then adjourned till to-morrow morning at ten o'clock.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1824.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended under order of the board.

The board then took into consideration the claim of William Berrie for three hundred and fifty acres; which was confirmed.

The board then took into consideration the claim of John Huertas for fifteen thousand acres; which was recommended for confirmation.

The claim of Francis J. Avice for five hundred acres was taken under consideration; and, on motion of

claimant's attorney, the board gave leave to introduce an amended memorial, which was ordered to be filed. The case was then laid over for further consideration.

Avice and Viel's claim for one thousand acres was then taken into consideration, and rejected for want of evidence, with leave to move the board for a reconsideration of the case, when sufficient evidence can be procured.

The claim of Eliza Robinson for one hundred and five acres was taken into consideration, and confirmed.

The claim of Samuel Fairbanks and others for two thousand acres was taken into consideration, and confirmed.

The board then took into consideration the claim of Samuel Fairbanks for five hundred acres, which was confirmed.

The claim of Peter Bagley for two hundred acres was taken up and confirmed.

The board then took into consideration and confirmed the claim of Charles Hogan for two hundred acres.

Reuben Hogan's claim for three hundred and eighty-five acres was also taken into consideration, and confirmed by the board.

Francis R. Sanchez's claim for four thousand acres was taken up, which was recommended for confirmation.

Joseph Delespine's claim for five hundred and sixty acres was taken under consideration, and confirmed.

Another claim of Joseph Delespine, for six hundred acres, was taken up and confirmed.

Sarah Tate's claim for four hundred and fifty acres upon the St. Johns, having been laid before the board, was confirmed.

The board then adjourned till to-morrow at ten o'clock A. M.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1824.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under order of the board.

The board then entered upon the consideration of the case of Peter Fouchard for fifteen hundred acres, which was confirmed.

The claim of Williams's heirs for one hundred and eighty acres was taken under consideration, of which the board, not being sufficiently advised, order it to be held under further advisement.

The claim of Williams's heirs for two thousand and twenty acres was taken into consideration, and was recommended for confirmation.

The board then entered upon the adjudication of the claim of Eusebio Bushnell for six hundred acres, which was confirmed.

The board then took into consideration the claim of the heirs of Lorenzo Capo for one hundred and fifty-seven acres, which was rejected.

The claim of James and Emanuel Ormond for two thousand acres of land was taken under consideration; which was confirmed.

The claim of Moses E. Levy for fourteen thousand five hundred acres was taken under consideration, and recommended for confirmation.

The claim of F. M. Arredondo, jun., for fifty thousand acres was taken under consideration of the board, and was laid over for further advisement.

The claim of Sarah Tate for four hundred and fifty acres on Tomoka river, was taken into consideration; upon which Mr. Floyd and Mr. Blair forming different conclusions, and Mr. Hamilton refusing his opinion thereon, it was ordered to be reported to Congress.

The board then adjourned until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 1824.

The board met this day pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended this day, under order of the board.

Resolved, That, in the future decisions of the board, there being only two members of the board who act in the adjudications, that, in case of a disagreement, the case will be reported to Congress, with the facts attending it, for their decision.

John B. Strong, attorney for the heirs of Lorenzo Capo, petitions the board of commissioners for a re-hearing in said case, and exhibits the deposition of Anthony Hindsman, which is herewith filed, and prays that the former decree, rejecting said claim, may be set aside, and a decree of confirmation entered thereon.

JOHN B. STRONG,
Attorney for claimant.

The board then, agreeably to the said petition, reversed the decree of rejection upon said case, and granted thereon a confirmation.

Ordered by the board, that, in the case of Antelm Gay for four hundred acres, the decree of rejection be set aside, and a reconsideration of the case be allowed.

Ordered by the board, that, in the case of Antelm Gay for six hundred acres, the decree of rejection be set aside, and a reconsideration of the case be allowed.

Ordered by the board, that, in the case of Antelm Gay for two thousand acres, the decree of rejection be set aside, and a reconsideration of the case be allowed.

Ordered by the board, that, in the case of Avice and Viel for one thousand acres, the decree of rejection be set aside, and a reconsideration of the case be allowed.

John B. Strong, attorney for Sarah Tate, only heiress of John E. Tate, deceased, respectfully represents, that he expects to be able to give testimony in this case which will satisfy the honorable the Board of Commissioners of the justice of the claim of the petitioner or claimant to the land in question, by proving that Governor Coppinger offered to give other lands in lieu thereof. Your petitioner therefore prays that the board will vacate the decision or order heretofore made in this case, and permit the petitioner to introduce the testimony which he expects will show that the Spanish Government have considered the claimant's father legally entitled to the land in question, since the grant made to him in 1811, on the St. John's river.

JOHN B. STRONG,
Attorney for claimant.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *Jan.* 24, 1824.

Agreeable to the request of the petitioner, ordered by the board, that, in the case of Sarah Tate for four hundred and fifty acres, the decree of rejection be set aside, and a reconsideration of the case be allowed.

The board then adjourned until Thursday morning, the 29th instant, at ten o'clock.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 1824.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, all the members.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended, under order of the board.

The board then entered upon the reconsideration of the case of Antelm Gay for four hundred acres of land; which was confirmed.

The claim of Antelm Gay for seven hundred acres was then taken up and reconsidered, and was confirmed.

Antelm Gay's claim for six hundred acres was then taken up for reconsideration, and ordered to be reported to Congress for their consideration.

The claim of Antelm Gay and Francis J. Avice for two thousand acres was then taken up and reconsidered; upon which, the board being fully advised, it was confirmed.

The claim of Avice and Viel for one thousand acres was taken up and reconsidered; upon which the board ordered that the case be reported to Congress, with the facts attending it, and opinion that the same should be confirmed.

The claim of Michael Crosby's heirs for two thousand acres was taken into consideration, and confirmed.

The claim of Michael Crosby's heirs for five hundred acres was taken under advisement, and confirmed.

The board then adjourned until Saturday morning the 31st instant, at ten o'clock.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1824.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Davis Floyd and Alexander Hamilton.

The board then examined, in the case of Joseph Wales, for two thousand three hundred and seventy acres of land, James Pellicer, José B. Reyes, and Peter Mitchell.

Edgar Macon, esq., United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, attended, under order of the board.

The board adjourned until Monday morning, the 2d instant, at 10 o'clock.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1824.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Davis Floyd and Alexander Hamilton.

Edgar Macon, esq., district attorney for East Florida, attended, under order of the board.

There being no business before the board, they adjourned until Thursday morning, the 5th instant, at 10 o'clock.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1824.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Davis Floyd and William W. Blair.

Edgar Macon, esq., United States' attorney for the district of East Florida, presented his account against the United States for his attendance upon the Board of Land Commissioners up to this day; which said account was ordered to be certified.

The board then entered upon the reconsideration of the case of Joseph Wales, and examined therein Francis J. Fatio and Joseph S. Sanchez: the case was then submitted.

The board then adjourned until Monday, the 9th instant. at ten o'clock.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1824.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, the Hons. Davis Floyd and William W. Blair.

Edgar Macon, esq., United States' attorney, attended this day, under order of the board.

Waters Smith, esq., United States' marshal, presented to the board two accounts, marked Nos. 1 and 2.

No. 1, being for the summoning and attendance of witnesses, amounting to forty-six dollars; which was certified.

No. 2, being an account for stationery and other supplies and contingencies of the board, amounting to three hundred and thirty dollars ninety-five cents; which was also certified.

Joseph M. Sanchez presented his account to this board for house rent for three months, at thirty dollars per month, amounting to ninety dollars; which was likewise certified.

Waters Smith presented No. 3 of his accounts, being a compensation allowed him for subpœnaing witnesses, amounting to twenty-three dollars and forty-five cents; was also certified.

The board then adjourned *sine die.*

ST. AUGUSTINE, *February* 9, 1824.

In conformity to the provision of the act of Congress passed the 3d of March, 1823, requiring of this board to make a return of their proceedings to the Secretary of the Treasury, to be laid before Congress, we certify that the foregoing is a correct and full copy from the minutes of the board.

DAVIS FLOYD.
W. W. BLAIR.

FLORIDA LAND CLAIMS RECOMMENDED FOR CONFIRMATION.

No. 1.

To the honorable the Commissioners appointed to try claims and titles to land in East Florida.

The memorial of Belton A. Copp, a citizen of the United States, residing in the county of Camden, in Georgia, showeth:

That your memorialist claims title to a tract of land situated on the west side of the river St. Johns, opposite New Buena vista, and known by the name of Guy's place or Pelitka, first line commencing on the river St. Johns, and running north 45 degrees, west 120 chains; second line running north 45 degrees, east 120 chains; third line running south 54 degrees, east 80 chains; and the fourth line bounded on the east by the river St. Johns, as per survey thereof, in schedule B, will more fully appear, which said tract of land contains 1,200 acres; and was granted to one Bernardo Segui on the 22d day of January, 1818, as will appear by exhibit A, by virtue of the royal order of the 29th March, 1815, which concession was carried into a royal grant on the 3d of August, 1818, which will appear by exhibit B; and which said tract of land, on the 18th of January, 1819, was conveyed, in fee, by the said Bernardo Segui, for the consideration of $1,200, to one George Fleming, a Spanish subject, and a resident of Florida, till the 23d of August, 1821; and after, as per exhibit B, will also appear that, on that day last mentioned, the said George conveyed the said tract of land to your memorialist, which conveyance also forms a part of exhibit B. Your memorialist further says that he is *in actual possession* of said tract of land, and that a part of it is in cultivation: all which is humbly submitted.

BELTON A. COPP.

August 29th, 1823.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, 16*th December*, 1817.

Don Bernardo Segui, a native and inhabitant of this city, to your excellency, respectfully showeth:

Being advised of the royal clemency of his Majesty, by his royal order of the 29th of March, 1815, his having acceded to the gifts proposed by the Government of this province, that, to the faithful subjects of the same, who occupied themselves in the defence thereof during the last invasion, lands should be granted them in absolute property.

The services rendered by the memorialist in all that period are well known and notorious; and although they were not materially taken up arms and undergoing the fatigues of a malitiaman, he was exercising the duties of police officer and other trusts peculiar to the royal service, which your excellency's predecessors thought proper to charge me with, and which I performed to their satisfaction. These limited services, and the sight of a large family which surround him, obliges him to resort to the said royal clemency, and by it prays that your excellency will be pleased to grant him, in absolute property and dominion, a tract of vacant land containing 1,200 acres, opposite a place known by the name of *Joe Gres*, and situated on the opposite side of the banks of the river St. Johns, in this said province, bounded on the north and west by vacant lands, and on the south by those belonging to Don Gabriel Perpall, which he hopes to receive from the known justice of your excellency.

BERNARDO SEGUI.

To the GOVERNOR.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *January* 22*d*, 1818.

Grant the memorialist the 1,200 acres of land in the place pointed out, of which there will be given him a title, in form, by the Government notary and royal finance.

COPPINGER.

I certify the foregoing to be a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

Title in favor of Don Bernardo Segui to 1,200 *acres of land on the opposite side of the banks of the river St. Johns.*

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, 3*d August*, 1818.

Don Jose Coppinger, colonel of the royal armies, civil and military governor, and chief of the royal finance in the city of St. Augustine, Florida, and its provinces, by his Majesty:

Whereas, by royal order of the 29th March, 1815, his Majesty has been pleased to approve the gifts and premiums proposed by my predecessor, the brigadier general Don Sebastian Kindelan, for the officers and soldiers, both of the line as well as of the local militia, and other individuals of this province who contributed to its defence at the time of the rebellion, being one of said gifts, the distribution of lands, according to the number of family each individual may have, Don Bernardo Segui having presented himself, and making known his services rendered in said defence, he petitioned, in virtue of them and the aforesaid gifts, for the concession of 1,200 acres of land which were granted him by my decree of the 22d January of the present year, opposite the place known by name of *Joe Gres*, and situated on the opposite side of the banks of the river St. Johns, bounded on the north and west by vacant lands, and on the south by those of Don Gabriel Perpall, the dimensions of the said lands being as follows: the first line begins at an oak, and runs north 45 degrees west, 120 chains, and ends at a pine; the second line commences at the said pine, and runs north 45 degrees east, 120 chains, and ends at another pine; the third line begins at the last mentioned pine, and runs south 45 degrees east, 80 chains, and ends at a cypress, as is fully seen in the proceedings brought forward by the said Don Bernardo Segui, filed in the office of the notary of Government. Wherefore, I have thought proper to grant, and by these presents do grant, in the name of his Majesty and his royal justice, which I administer to the said Don Bernardo Segui, the aforesaid one thousand two hundred acres of land, without injury to a third person, in the place already pointed out, for himself, his heirs, and successors, in absolute property; and I hereby, and by these presents, deliver him the corresponding title, by which I separate it from the royal domains, from the right and dominion it held in said land; and I cede and transfer it to the said Bernardo Don Segui, his heirs and successors, that in consequence thereof they may possess it as their own, make use of and enjoy it free from any claim whatever, with all its entrances, outlets, uses, customs, rights, privileges, and all and in general, which hath, doth, or in any manner by right may belong or pertain thereto; and, it being their wish, they may sell, cede, transfer, barter, or alienate it at their will and pleasure. To all of which I interpose my authority, as far as possible and according to law, in compliance with the sovereign will. Given under my hand, and countersigned by the undersigned notary of Government and royal finance in this said city of St. Augustine, Florida, the 3d of August, 1818.

JOSE COPPINGER.

By order of his Excellency:

JUAN DE ENTRALGO, *Notary of Government and Royal Finance.*

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, 3*d of August*, 1818.

Conformable to the original filed in the archives under my charge, to which I refer, and at the request of the

party, do seal and sign the present copy on two leaves of ordinary paper, stamps not being used.

JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary of Government and Royal Finance.

In virtue of the order, dated the 11th of July last past, which was communicated to me by Don Joseph Coppinger, colonel of the royal armies, civil and military governor of this city and its province, I certify that I have measured and laid off for Don Bernardo Segui a tract of land situated on the west of the river St. Johus, opposite the place on which there is a military post; which land contains one thousand two hundred acres, its figures and demarcations being the same as is represented in the preceding plat, [see plat No. 1, at the end of Doc. No. 412,] and give this certificate, which I sign in St. Augustine, Florida, the 1st day of August, 1818.

ANDRES BURGEVIN.

The foregoing plat is copied from the original, but on a double scale, to which I refer. A. BURGEVIN.

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

CONVEYANCE.

Know ye, that I, Don Bernardo Segui, resident of this city, do sell to George Fleming, inhabitant of this province, one thousand two hundred acres of land, which I possess as my property, opposite the place known by the name Joe Gres, and situated upon the opposite side of the banks of the river St. Johns, bounded on the north and west by vacant lands, and on the south by those of Don Gabriel Perpall, the first line beginning at an oak, and running N. 45°, W. 120 chains, and ending at a pine. The second line begins at said pine, and runs N. 45°, E. 120 chains, and ends at another pine. The third line commences at the last mentioned pine, and runs S. 45°, E. 80 chains, and ends at a cypress; which lands appertain to me in absolute property, by a concession made to me by this Government on the 22d of January, 1818, and of which there was given me corresponding title on the 3d of August of the same year, as a recompense for my services rendered at the time of the insurrection of this province, agreeable to the royal order on the subject; and I sell him the said one thousand two hundred acres of land under the boundaries and dimensions already explained, with all its entrances, outlets, uses, customs, rights, and privileges, which it has or may belong to it, free from any incumbrance, (as I, the said notary, do certify as results from the register of mortgages under my charge, which to that effect I examined,) in the sum of one thousand two hundred dollars, which the purchaser has paid me in cash, of which sum I acknowledge the receipt of my own will, renouncing the proof, laws of delivery, exception for pecuniary misreckoning, fraud, and other circumstances of the case, whereof I acknowledge a formal receipt. In virtue of which I separate myself from the right of possession, title, and whatever other right, real and personal, I had, or may have, to said lands, which I cede, renounce, and transfer in favor of the purchaser, and whomsoever may represent him, that he may, as his own, possess, sell, and alienate the same at his will, in virtue of this deed, which I make in his favor, as a sign of real delivery, with which will be proved his having acquired possession without the necessity of further proof, from which I relieve him; and I bind myself to the eviction and goodness of this sale in sufficient form, and in the most formable manner to the purchaser, with my present and future property, with power and submission to the tribunals of his Majesty, that they may compel me to the fulfilment thereof, as by sentence agreed to and passed by virtue of an adjudged cause, upon which I renounce all laws, customs, rights, and privileges in my favor, and the general in form which it prohibits. And I, the said Don George Fleming, being present, do accept in my favor this deed, and by it receive as purchased the aforesaid one thousand two hundred acres of land in the price and manner it has been sold me, which I acknowledge to have received of my free will, renouncing the proof, laws of delivery, those of the things not seen, nor received, fraud, and all other things in the matter, of which I give a receipt in form. In testimony whereof, it is dated in this city of St. Augustine, Florida, the 18th of January, 1819.

I, the notary, do attest and know the parties who signed, being witnesses. Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, Jr., Don Pedro Miranda, and Don Guillermo Travers, residents, present.

BERNARDO SEGUI,
GEORGE FLEMING.

Before me, JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary of Government.

Conformable to its original, filed in the archives under my charge, to which I refer, and at the request of the party, do seal and sign this present copy on two leaves of ordinary paper, stamps not being used. St. Augustine, Florida, this day of the acknowledging thereof.

[L. S.] JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary of Government.

I certify the foregoing to be a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

TERRITORY OF EAST FLORIDA, *City of St. Augustine:*

Know all men by these presents, that I, George Fleming, for and in consideration of one cent to me in hand well and truly paid by Belton A. Copp, the receipt whereof is acknowledged, hath bargained and sold, and hereby do bargain and sell and transfer to said Belton A. Copp all my right, title, and interest, in the lands to which the plat on the other side, and A. Burgevin's certificate opposite to it, refers, which were conveyed to me by Bernardo Segui, as by the documents herewith appears, to have and to hold to said Belton, his heirs and assigns, without warranty on my part.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, on this twenty-third day of August, eighteen hundred and twenty-one.

GEORGE FLEMING. [L. S.]
In presence of DANIEL D. COPP.

No. 2.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *December* 18, 1815.

Don Francisco Roman Sanchez, native and inhabitant of this province, with due respect to your excellency, showeth that, on the south part of the river known by the name of Santa Fé, about ten miles to the westward of the Alachua road to St. Marys, there is great quantity of vacant lands adapted for cultivation, and raising of stock, to which he intends dedicating himself for the purpose of increasing the same; and, as the petitioner has not obtained any concession of lands on which he can establish himself as he wishes with all his family and slaves, he therefore prays your excellency will be pleased to grant him four thousand acres of land at said place, bounded on the north by said river Santa Fé, and on the other sides by vacant lands, which quantity of acres are necessary, not only on account of the number of negroes he owns, but also for the said raising of stock, and many other purposes relating to a planter; being a favor which he hopes to merit from the goodness of your excellency.

FRANCIS R. SANCHEZ.

To the GOVERNOR.

DECRÉE.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *December* 18, 1815.

In consideration to the urgent necessity there is of settling this province by all possible measures, and for the purpose of raising horned cattle, on account of the scarcity thereof, which is daily observed, grant the petitioner the four thousand acres of land in the place where he prays for, without injury to a third person; and, for his security, grant him a certified copy from the secretary's office of this memorial and decree.

ESTRADA.

I certify the foregoing to be a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

Roman Sanchez vs. United States.

Witter Clarke sworn and examined. Deposed that he had always heard that there were Indians at the Santa Fé; he thinks it would have been unsafe to establish a plantation or carry stock there: that the Indians stopped him while about attempting a survey, and would not let him proceed, but threatened him if he did attempt it.

Daniel Hurlbert sworn and examined. Deposeth that it was considered unsafe, even on the St. Johns, to settle there on account of the Indians.

No. 3.

To the honorable the Commissioners appointed to ascertain claims and title to lands in East Florida.

The memorial of Francis Julian Avice and Prosper Viel, respectfully showeth, that your memorialist claim title to a tract of land consisting of one thousand acres, situated on the river St. Sebastian, opposite the city of St. Augustine, which were granted to Jose Peso de Burgo by the Spanish Government the eleventh of September, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight, in virtue of the royal order of the 29th of October, 1790,

and for which lands the said Peso de Burgo received a title from Governor Coppinger upon the 24th of February, one thousand eight hundred and eighteen, which title and plat of the survey of said tract of land are herewith filed, and marked M. and N. And your memorialists further showeth that they became the proprietors of said tract of land by virtue of a bill of sale from the Widow Peso de Burgo to your memorialists, dated upon the 22d of October, in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, which is also herewith exhibited, and marked O. Your memorialists further showeth that they are actually seized and possessed of said land; that they are citizens of the United States, and residents of the city of St. Augustine. All of which are respectfully submitted, &c.

FRANCIS J. AVICE.
PROSPER VIEL.

To the honorable the Commissioners appointed by law to ascertain claims and titles to lands in East Florida.

Francis J. Avice and Prosper [Veil], with leave, amend their memorial before this board for 1,000 acres of land lying on the west side, and on the bank of the St. Sebastian river, to the following effect: they state that, in the year 1794, a concession for an undefined quantity of land at St. Sebastian's river, was made to Francis and John Triay by Governor Quesada, which they herewith exhibit. That, on the 11th of September, 1798, the said Francis and John Triay exchanged their said lands to Jose Peso de Burgo for lands which he had at a place called Gov. Grant. That no steps were taken, at any time, to ascertain the quantity of said lands till after the 24th of January, 1818, but that the same was in the possession of the original grantee from 1785 until the exchange aforesaid, which was permitted by Governor White; which said exchange, and Governor White's permission for the same, are herewith exhibited. That, after the exchange, the said lands were always in the possession and cultivation of the aforesaid Jose Peso de Burgo until 1819, when he died, and afterwards in the possession of his widow until the time of the purchase by memorialists from her, since which time they have been actual occupants. They aver that the said lands were as head-rights to said Jose Peso de Burgo, and that, for many years before his death, his head-rights would have entitled him to more than 1,000 acres.

J. B. LANCASTER,
Att'y for Claimant.

[TRANSLATION.]

Memorial to the Governor and Commander-in-chief.

Francis and John Triay, brothers, and residents of this city, to your excellency most humbly and respectfully show, that, in the year 1785, at their request, they were granted, by your excellency's predecessor, some arable lands which belonged to the Englishman Don John Forbes, situated on the west of the river St. Sebastians, as will be seen by the annexed memorial and its decree: and believing that, with the anterior permission, they could enjoy the right of a good and legitimate property, they have since understood that, unless they could obtain the authorization and new license of your excellency, they had no right to said lands: in virtue of which they humbly pray that you will be pleased, not only to excuse this unforeseen circumstance, but also to grant them the necessary license, in order to show the same whenever it is required; in which your excellency will be pleased to interpose your authority for its greater validity—a favor which they hope to obtain from the humane heart of your excellency. For the petitioners,

RAFAEL SAAVEDRA DE ESPINOSA.

FLORIDA, 19*th August*, 1794.

DECREE.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *August* 26, 1794.

The parties may continue in the enjoyment of the lands on which they are situated, until, in the general survey, they be allowed whatever portion may appertain to them.

QUESADA.

A certificate was delivered.

RENGIL.

I certify the foregoing to be a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

ST. AUGUSTINE, 14*th September*, 1798.

SENOR GOVENOR: Don Peso de Burgo and Francisco and John Triay, with the respect due to your excellency, say, that the former, having possession of the land lying nine miles to the north of this town, at a place known by the name of Governor Grant, and the latter other lands on the west of the river called St. Sebastian, which were granted to them by this Government to be cultivated, as is shown by the annexed certificates; and the aforesaid Don Jose Peso de Burgo and Francis and John Triay having agreed to exchange the said lands one for the other, for the conveniences and advantages that can result to both parties; therefore beg your excellency to allow them the said exchange, by which means they will settle themselves on said lands without further difficulties. By so doing, you will confer a favor which they expect from your kindness.

For Francis and John Triay, who do not know how to write,

JUAN DE ENTRALGO.
JOSE PESO DE BURGO.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *September* 11*th*, 1798.

It is granted to the above interested petitioners to do the exchange of lands they ask for; which exchange is to take place with the knowledge of the commanding engineer, and the same to be recorded in the office of the Government; at which office the necessary certificates will be delivered.

WHITE.
LICE. ORTEGA.

I certify the foregoing to be a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

[TRANSLATION.]

Title of property for one thousand acres of land in favor of Don José Peso de Burgo.

Don José Coppinger, colonel of the royal armies, civil and military governor pro tem., and chief of the royal finance of this city of St. Augustine, Florida, and its province, by his Majesty:

Whereas by royal order, communicated to this Government the 29th of October, 1790, by the captain general of the island of Cuba and two Floridas, it is provided, among other things, that, to those strangers who, of their own free will, shall present themselves to swear allegiance to our sovereign, lands should be measured for them free of expense, in proportion to the number of laborers each family may have; Don José Peso de Burgo having presented himself, he solicited of, and was granted by the Government, the 11th of September, 1798, in consequence of a transfer made by him with Francisco and Juan Triay of a quantity of land, without specifying the quantity, on the west side of the river St. Sebastian, which belonged to Don John Forbes at the time this province was under the British dominion; which, according to the number of the family of the said Peso de Burgo, shall consist of a thousand acres of land, in the following form: fifteen acres front towards the said river, and the rest in depth, until the quantity of the said one thousand acres be complete; on the west and low pine barren, under the following boundaries—on the east and south of said river St. Sebastian, and on the west and north by the pine barren, as will be seen by the documents and memorial presented by the said Don José Peso de Burgo, attached to the proceedings instituted for the purpose of obtaining the title of property of said one thousand acres of land, all of which remain filed in the archives of the present notary; and, as no title whatever had been given to the said Don José Peso de Burgo for the security and evidence of his possession of the said land in the form adopted towards others, that more than ten years' uninterrupted possession have elapsed, to obtain possession of said lands in fee simple and absolute property on which he has built houses, cultivated the same, and complied with all the conditions established by the Government for the gifts and concessions of this nature, as is seen in the titles given to other settlers, and is set forth in the same proceeding: Wherefore, and in consideration thereof, I have granted, and by these presents do grant, in the name of his Majesty, and of his royal justice, which I administer to the said Don José Peso de Burgo, the abovementioned one thousand acres of land, for him, his heirs, and successors, in absolute property; and I hereby, and by these presents, deliver him the corresponding title, by which I separate it from the royal domain, from the right and dominion it held to said land; and I cede and transfer it to the said Don José Peso de Burgo, his heirs and successors, that in consequence thereof they may possess it as their own, make use of and enjoy it free from any claim whatever, with all its entrances, outlets, uses, customs, rights, and hereditaments, and all and in general which hath, doth, or in any manner may belong or pertain thereto; and, being their wish, they may sell, cede, transfer, and alienate, at their will and pleasure: To all of which I interpose my judicial authority as far as possible, and according to law, in compliance with the sovereign will.

Given under my hand, and countersigned by the undersigned notary of Government and royal finance, in this said city of St. Augustine, Florida, February 28th, 1818.

JOSE COPPINGER.

By order of his Excellency:

JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary of Government and Royal Finance.

Conformable to the original filed in the archives under my charge, to which I refer, and, at the request of the party, do seal and sign the present copy on two leaves of ordinary paper, stamps not being used. St. Augustine, Florida, 28th February, 1818.

[L. S.] JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary of Government and Royal Finance.

Don Andres Burgevin, of this city, private surveyor:

I certify that, by virtue of the decree of this Government of the 10th May of the present year, I have measured and laid off for Dona Maria Maberty, widow of the deceased Don José Peso de Burgo, a tract of land containing one thousand acres situated on the opposite side of the river St. Sebastian, and in front of this city, and being conformable in all other circumstances to the following plat. [See plat No 2, at end of Doc. No. 412.] I give the present, which I sign in St. Augustine, Florida, December 29, 1820.

ANDRES BURGEVIN.

A copy of the original to which I refer.
A. BURGEVIN.

I certify the foregoing to be a true and correct translation from two documents in the Spanish language.
F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

TERRITORY OF FLORIDA, *county of St. Johns:*

This indenture made the 22d day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, between Maria Maberty de Burgos, widow of Jose Carlos Peso de Burgos, deceased, and Maria de Burgos, wife of Don Miguel Papy, and Geronima de Burgos, wife of Don James Martinely, Magdalina de Burgos, wife of Don Jose Ximenes, and Pedro de Burgos, children and heirs of the said Jose Carlos Peso de Burgos, of the first part; and Prosper Viel and Francis Julian Avice, of the second part, witnesseth: That the said parties of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of one thousand eight hundred dollars to them in hand paid by the said parties of the second part, and of the further sum of one thousand dollars secured to be paid to the said Maria Maberty de Burgos, by the said parties of the second part, at or before the sealing and delivery of these presents, have granted, bargained, sold, alienated, released, and confirmed, and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell, alien, release, and confirm unto the said parties of the second part, as tenants in common, and to their heirs and assigns, all that tract or parcel of land situate, lying, and being, in the aforesaid county of St. Johns, in the territory aforesaid, on the west side of the river St. Sebastian, opposite the city of St. Augustine, in the said county, known commonly by the name of the "Ferry tract," containing one thousand acres, more or less, and having such boundaries as in and by the annexed plat are described, and also all the houses, out-houses, edifices, buildings, improvements, groves, advantages, hereditaments, rights, members, and appurtenances whatsoever, to the said tract or parcel of land above mentioned belonging or in anywise appertaining; and the reversion and reversions, remainder and remainders, rents, issues, and profits of the said premises, and of every part and parcel thereof, and all the estate, right, title, interest, claim, and demand, whatsoever, of the said parties of the first part, in and to the said tract or parcel of land and premises, and every part thereof: to have and to hold the said tract or parcel of land, and all and singular other the premises above mentioned, and every part and parcel thereof, with the appurtenances, unto the said Prosper Viel and Francis Julian Avice, the said parties of the second part, as tenants in common, and to their and each of their heirs and assigns forever; and to the only proper use, benefit, and behoof of the said Prosper Viel and Francis Julian Avice, their, and each of their heirs and assigns, forever. And the said parties of the first part, for themselves respectively, and for their respective heirs, executors, and administrators, the aforesaid tract or parcel of land, and all and singular other the aforesaid premises, and every part and parcel thereof, against them, and each of them, respectively, and their and each of their respective heirs, and against all and every other person or persons whomsoever, to the said parties of the second part, their and each of their heirs and assigns, shall and will warrant and defend forever by these presents. And the said parties of the first part, for themselves respectively, and for their respective heirs, executors, and administrators, do further covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said parties of the second part, and their heirs and assigns, that they, the said parties of the second part, and their and each of their heirs and assigns, shall and may, from time to time, and at all times, forever, hereafter, peaceably and quietly, have, hold, occupy, possess, and enjoy, the aforesaid tract or parcel of land, and all and singular other the premises mentioned to be hereby granted and sold, and to receive and take the rents, issues, and profits thereof, to and for their own use and uses, without the let, suit, hinderance, interruption, or denial of them, the said parties of the first part, or any of them, or of their or any of their heirs or assigns, or of any other person or persons claiming, or to claim by, through, or under them, or any of them, or of any other person or persons whomsoever, lawfully claiming, or to claim, the said tract of land and premises in any manner or way whatsoever.

In witness whereof, the parties to these presents have hereto set their hands and seals, the day and year first above written.

her
MARIA M. + DE BURGOS.
mark.
her
MARIA B. + PAPY.
mark.
GERONIMA B. Y MARTINELY.
MAGDALENA B. XIMENES.
PEDRO DE BURGOS, *by Att'y in fact.*
her
MARIA M. + DE BURGOS.
mark.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of—
MEYNARDIE DE NADALIE.
CHARLES ROBION.
JOHN DRYSDALE.

TERRITORY OF FLORIDA, *St. John's county:*

Received of and from the within named Prosper Viel and Francis Julian Avice, the sum of $2,800, the consideration in the within deed mentioned to have been paid or secured by them to us by the payment in money of $1,800, and by a mortgage on the within mentioned land and premises.

October 22, 1822.

her
MARIA M. + DE BURGOS.
mark.
her
MARIA B. + PAPY.
mark.
GERONIMA B. MARTINELY.
MAGDALENA B. XIMENES.
PEDRO DE BURGOS, *by Att'y in fact.*
her
MARIA M. + DE BURGOS.
mark.

Witness:
MEYNARDIE DE NADALIE.
CHARLES ROBION.

TERRITORY OF FLORIDA, *county of St. Johns:*

Know all men by these presents that we, Miguel Papy, James Martinely, and John Ximenes, do respectfully assent to, and approve of the foregoing deed, as and for the act of our respective wives, for the purposes therein mentioned; and we do, and each of us doth, by these presents, relinquish, release, quit claim, and conform unto the said Prosper Viel and Francis Julian Avice, and unto their heirs and assigns forever, all our, and each of our estate, right, title, interest, and demand, of every kind whatsoever, of, in, to, and upon, the land and premises in the said aforegoing deed mentioned.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals, the —— day of October, 1822.

MIGUEL PAPY.
JAIME MARTINELY.
JOSE XIMENES.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of
P. PORRIER.
MEYNARDIE DE NADALIE.
CHARLES ROBION.

Proved by Charles Robion and Menardie.
24th October, 1822.

TERRITORY OF FLORIDA, *county of St. Johns, ss.*

Be it remembered that, on this 24th day of October, anno Domini 1822, the annexed deed of bargain and sale from Maria Maberty de Burgos and others, children and heirs of Jose Carlos Peso de Burgos, parties of the first part, to Prosper Viel and Francisco J. Avice, parties of the second part, was presented to me in my office, and proven to be the act and deed of the parties of the first part, for the purposes therein mentioned, by the oath of John Drysdale and Charles Robion, witnesses thereto, (they being duly sworn by me for that purpose,) and the said deed admitted to record according to law; and on the same day the within deed of release from Miguel

Papy, Jaime Martinely, and Jose Ximenes, to the said Prosper Viel and Francisco J. Avice, was proven, by the oath of Charles Robion and Menardie de Nadalie, to be the act and deed of the said Papy, Martinely, Ximenes, for the purposes therein, the said Robion and Menardie de Nadalie being subscribing witnesses thereto, and being by me duly sworn; which said deed of release is admitted to record.

Witness my hand, as clerk of the circuit court for the county aforesaid, the day and year aforesaid.

JAMES S. TINGLE, *Clerk.*

FRANCISCO J. AVICE AND PROSPER VIEL, vs. UNITED STATES. } For 1,000 acres.

The claimants, by their counsel, pray a new trial on the ground that they have, as they believe, a good title, emanating to their grantees, through whom they claim, anterior to the 24th January, 1818, which they had supposed it was not necessary to exhibit, as the royal title, dated after that date, specially referred to it; and they exhibit, as evidence upon which they claim a new trial, an amended memorial, and the documents therein referred to.

J. B. LANCASTER,
Attorney for Claimants.

AVICE AND VIEL VS. THE UNITED STATES.

Bernardo Segui sworn and examined on part of claimant, January 24, 1824.

I know Mr. Burgos; he occupied the land in question for about twenty years. His family consisted of about fifteen or twenty negroes, himself, his wife, and four children.

G. W. Perpall sworn and examined.

I have known Mr. Burgos; he occupied the land for about twenty years. The Messrs. Triay occupied it befor him; I know not how long—I know they did occupy it. Mr. Burgos's family consisted of about fifteen negroes, himself, his wife, and four children. This was, I believe, the number of his family at the time of his death, and long before. His youngest child is, I presume, more than twenty.

AVICE AND VIEL VS. THE UNITED STATES.

Gabriel W. Perpall sworn and examined on part of claimant, January 24, 1824.

Witness says, I have known Mr. Burgos; he occupied the land for about twenty years; the Messrs. Triay occupied it before. I know not how long, but I know they did occupy it. Mr. Burgos's family consisted of about fifteen negroes, himself, his wife, and four children. This was, I believe, the number of his family at the time of his death, and long before. His youngest child is, I presume, more than twenty years of age.

Bernardo Segui, being sworn and examined, says I know Mr. Burgos; he occupied the land in question for about twenty years. His family consisted of about fifteen or twenty negroes, himself, his wife, and four children.

No. 4.

Title of property in favor of Don Juan Huertas of 15,000 *acres of land.*

Don José Coppinger, colonel of the royal armies, civil and military governor pro tem., and chief of the royal finance of this city and province, by his Majesty:

Whereas, by royal order, communicated to this Government the 29th October, 1790, by the captain general of the island of Cuba and two Floridas, among other things it is provided, that, to strangers, who, of their own free will, shall present themselves to swear allegiance to our sovereign, lands should be laid out for them free of expense, in proportion to the number of laborers each family may have. That Don Juan Huertas having presented himself, he solicited of this Government the concession of fifteen thousand acres of land as a compensation for his well-known services, and for the purpose of establishing a cowpen, and the raising of black cattle, which was granted him the 26th of August, 1814, in consideration of the truth of his petition, according to the following boundaries: 5,000 acres at a place called Tocoy, five miles above Picolata, bounded on the north by the lands of Don Manuel Solano, on the southwest by vacant lands, and on the west by the river St. Johns; and the remaining 10,000 acres on the banks of the river, about twelve miles above a place called the Ferry, below B. Rayant's, bounded on the south by the lands of John Mure, and from thence east to the head of Deep creek, taking in the east and west banks of the said creek, and bounded on the north by the southwest line of Tocoy, and on the west by the river St. Johns, as results from a a certificate given by the secretary of this said Government, with the said date of the 26th of August, 1814, which is found attached to the proceedings instituted by the above mentioned Don Juan Huertas, praying that the corresponding title of the said land be given him. Therefore, and in consideration that the above mentioned Don Juan Huertas has fully proved his having established said cowpen, and that he employs himself in the raising of cattle, complying with the object of said concession, as is seen by the said proceedings filed in the archives of the present notary; and, according to my decree of the present month, I have therefore granted, and by these presents do grant, in the name of his Majesty, to the said Don Juan Huertas, his heirs and successors, the said fifteen thousand acres of land in absolute property; and I hereby, and by these presents, deliver him the corresponding title, by which I separate it from the royal domain, from the right and dominion it held in said land, and I cede and transfer it to the aforesaid Don Juan Huertas, his heirs and successors, that in consequence thereof they may possess it as their own, make, use, and enjoy it, free from any claim whatever, with all its entrances, outlets, uses, customs, rights, appurtenances, and all, and in general, which hath, doth, or may belong or pertain thereto; and, it being their wish, they may sell, cede, transfer, barter, and alienate it at their will and pleasure. To all of which I interpose my authority as far as possible, and according to law, in virtue of the sovereign will.

Given under my hand, and countersigned by the undersigned notary of Government and royal finance, in the city of St. Augustine, Florida, the 24th of December, 1817.

JOSE COPPINGER.

By order of his Excellency:
JUAN DE ENTRALGO, *Notary of Government and Royal Finance.*

Conformable to the original filed in the archives under my charge, to which I refer, and at the request of the party, do seal and sign the present copy on two leaves of ordinary paper, stamps not being used.

[L. S.] JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary of Government and Royal Finance.

ST. AUGUSTINE, 19*th April*, 1820.

I certify the foregoing to be a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

No. 5.

PETITION.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, 19*th December*, 1815.

Don Bernardo Segui, notary public, pro tem., of the town of Fernandina, resident in this city, respectfully showeth:

That, with the permission of your lordship, he has come to this capital, with solely the object of making known to you, as he has already done verbally, the deplorable situation and condition of that population, originating from a want of commerce, in consequence of the declaration of peace between Great Britain and the United States of America. In May, of the present year, your memorialist was appointed by your lordship's predecessor, Don Sebastian Kindelan, to the office he now holds in said town; and, as he thought to have obtained by it the greatest advantages, he abandoned in this city, as is well known, the business which he had for the support of himself and family, resulting thereby his leaving a certainty for an uncertainty, and, consequently, at present, without any means whatever. The town of Fernandina, as he has already stated, is in such a deplorable situation, on account of their not being any trade whatever, that your memorialist passes entire weeks without obtaining a half rial in fees. If, therefore, a fact so positive, adding thereto the limited services he has performed, merit the consideration of your lordship, he hopes to obtain from your well known justice, and in virtue of the superior orders of his Majesty, (whom God preserve,) in which he recommends that lands be granted gratis to Spanish subjects, that you be pleased therefore grant him, in alsolute property, the quantity of seven thousand acres of land on the east side of the river St. Johns, between the place called Dunn's lake and that known as Horse landing, including in said tract of land the place called Buffalo bluff, which was latterly given up to the Government by the house of Don Juan Forbes and Co. in exchange for other lands. Therefore, your memorialist prays that your lordship may be pleased to grant him the said quantity of seven thousand acres of land in the place mentioned, not doubting that he will obtain them from the well known justice of your lordship.

BERNARDO SEGUI.

To the GOVERNOR.

DECREE.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *December* 20, 1815.

The renunciation made by Don Juan Forbes and Co. of the lands mentioned by the interested in this memorial, being certain, and in virtue of the reasons which he indicates to this Government, let there be granted to him, in absolute dominion, the seven thousand acres of land which he petitions for, under the boundaries which he points out, without injury to a third person, despatching for his security a certified copy of this concession, which will serve him in every event for a title in form.

ESTRADA.

DON ANDRES BURGEVIN, *Private Surveyor in this city of St. Augustine, East Florida.*

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *September* 10, 1818.

I certify that, in virtue of the permission of this Government, I have measured and marked the boundaries of a tract of land containing seven thousand acres, more or less, situated on the east of the river St. Johns, at the place known as Buffalo bluff, and running south, bounding the waters of said river, as is more fully seen by the annexed plat, [see plat No. 3, at the end of Doc. No. 412,] which piece of land belongs to Don Bernardo Segui, by a concession made to him by this Government, the 19th December, 1815. ANDRES BURGEVIN.

No. 6.

To the honorable the Commissioners appointed to ascertain claims and titles to land in East Florida.

The memorial of Antelm Gay, a citizen of the United States, and actual resident of the city of St. Augustine, East Florida, and who was such citizen and resident at the time of the cession of Florida to the United States, respectfully showeth:

That your memorialist claims title to a tract of land, consisting of five thousand acres, situated on the east side of the river St. Johns, near Tocoy, bounded on the north by lands now or late of Don Manuel Solana, on the southeast by vacant lands, and on the west by the river St. Johns; the same being a part of a grant for fifteen thousand acres made by the Spanish Government, on the 26th August, 1814, to Don Juan Huertas, in virtue of the royal order of the 29th of October, 1790, as appears by the certificate of full title given by Governor Coppinger on the 24th of December, 1817, herewith presented; and the title of your memorialist is derived from a purchase of the said five thousand acres of land made from the grantee, the said Don Juan Huertas, on the 7th day of July, 1821; from which time your memorialist has been in possession of said land. In confirmation of the said title of your memorialist, the following documents are respectfully presented herewith.

1. Certificate of full title and grant by Gov. Coppinger.
2. Conveyance from grantee to your memorialist.
3. Certificate of survey and plat.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ANTELM GAY,
By his attorney, JOHN RODMAN.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *20th August*, 1823.

Translation of conveyance.

Know ye, that I, Don Juan Huertas, resident of this city, do really sell to Don Antelmo Gay, also a resident, five thousand acres of land which I possess as my property in this province, situated at a place called Tocoy, five miles above Picolata, bounded on the north by the lands of Don Manuel Solano, on the southwest by vacant lands, and on the west by the river St. Johns; which lands were granted me by a decree of this Government of the 26th of August, 1814, and of which there was given a title of absolute property on the 24th of December, 1817, the said land being known by the following dimensions and limits: The first line commences on the banks of said river St. Johns, near the mouth of Tocoy creek, at a cypress marked H, thence south 70 degrees, east 160 chains; the second likewise begins at a pine marked H, at which the former line ends, and runs thence south 110 chains, to a swamp; third line crosses said swamp, and runs east 100 chains; and the fourth begins at a pine marked as the former, runs south 130 chains, and ends on the margin of Deep creek, as is seen by a certified plat by Don Andres Burgevin, private surveyor, dated the 19th of September, 1818; which I herewith deliver to the said Don Antelm Gay, and I sell him the said five thousand acres of land under the boundaries and dimensions already explained, with all its entrances, outlets, uses, customs, rights, and privileges which it has, or may belong to it, free from any incumbrance, (as I, the said notary, do certify, as results from the register of mortgages under my charge, which, to that effect, I examined) for the sum of five thousand dollars, which the purchaser has paid me in cash, of which sum I acknowledge the receipt, of my own will, renouncing the proof, laws of delivery, exception for pecuniary misreckoning, fraud, and other circumstances of the case, whereof I acknowledge a formal receipt; in virtue of which I separate myself from the right of possession, title, and whatever other right, real and personal, I had, or may have, to said five thousand acres of land, which I cede, renounce, and transfer in favor of the purchaser, and whomsoever may represent his cause and right, that he may, as his own, possess, sell, and alienate the same, at his will, in virtue of this deed, which I make in his favor, and consent to, as a sign of real delivery, with which will be proven his having acquired possession, without the necessity of further proof, from which I relieve him. And I bind myself to the eviction and goodness of this sale, in sufficient form, and in the most favorable manner to the purchaser, with my present and future property, with power and submission to the tribunals of his Majesty, that they may compel me to the fulfilment thereof, as by sentence agreed to and passed by virtue of an adjudged cause, upon which I renounce all laws, customs, rights, and privileges in my favor, and the general in form which prohibits. And I, the said Antelm Gay, being present, do accept in my favor this deed, and by it receive as purchased the said five thousand acres of land in the price and manner it has been sold me, which I acknowledge to have received of my free will, renouncing the proof, laws of delivery, those of the thing not seen nor received, fraud, and all other things in the matter, of which I give a receipt in form. In testimony whereof, it is dated in this city of St. Augustine, Florida, the 7th of July, 1821. I, the notary, do attest and know the parties who signed, being witnesses, Don Francisco Pascual Sanchez, Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, jun., and Don Francisco José Fatio, residents present.

JUAN HUERTAS.
ANTELMO GAY.

Before me,
JUAN DE ENTRALGO, *Notary of Government.*

Conformable to its original remaining in the archives under my charge, to which I refer, and at the request of the party do seal and sign the present copy on two leaves of ordinary paper, stamps not being used.

[L. S.] JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary of Government.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *the same day of its date.*

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

[TRANSLATION.]

Title in favor of Don Juan Huertas of 15,000 *acres of land.*

Don Jose Coppinger, colonel of the royal armies, civil and military governor pro tem., and chief of the royal finance of this city city and province, by his Majesty:

Whereas, by royal order communicated to this Government the 29th of October, 1790, by the captain general of the island of Cuba and two Floridas, among other things it is provided, that to strangers, who, of their own free will, shall present themselves to swear allegiance to our sovereign, lands should be laid out for them free of expense, in proportion to the number of laborers each family may have: that Don Juan Huertas having presented himself, he solicited of this Government the concession of fifteen thousand acres of land as a compensation for his well known services, and for the purpose of establishing a cowpen and the raising of black cattle, which was granted him the 26th day of August, 1814, in consideration of the truth of his petition, according to the following boundaries: five thousand acres at a place called Tocoy, five miles above Picolata, bounded on the north by the lands of Manuel Solano, on the southwest by vacant lands, and on the west by the river St. Johns; and the remaining ten thousand acres on the banks of the river, about twelve miles above a place called the Ferry, below B. Rayant's, bounded on the south by the lands of John Mure, and from thence east to the head of Deep creek, taking in the east and west banks of said creek, and bounded on the north by the southwest line of Tocoy, and on the west by the river St. Johns; as results from a certificate given by the secretary of this said Government, with the date of the 26th August, 1814, which is found attached to the proceedings instituted by the abovementioned Juan Huertas, praying that the corresponding title of the said land be given him. Therefore, and in consideration that the abovementioned Juan Huertas has fully proved his having established said cowpen,

and that he employs himself in raising cattle, complying with the object of said concession, as is seen by the said proceedings filed in the archives of the present notary, and according to my decree of the 22d of the present month, I have therefore granted, and by these presents do grant in the name of his Majesty, to the said Juan Huertas, his heirs and successors, the said fifteen thousand acres of land in absolute property; and I hereby, and by these presents, deliver him the corresponding title by which I separate it from the royal domain, from the right and dominion it held in said land, and I cede and transfer it to the aforesaid Don Juan Huertas, his heirs and successors, that in consequence thereof they may possess it as their own, make use of and enjoy it free from any claim whatever, with all its entrances, outlets, uses, customs, rights, privileges, and all and in general which hath, doth, or may belong or pertain thereto; and it being their wish they may sell, cede, transfer, barter, or alienate it at their will and pleasure; to all of which I interpose my authority as far as possible, and according to law, in virtue of the sovereign will.

Given under my hand, and countersigned by the undersigned notary of Government and royal finance, in this city of St. Augustine, Florida, the 24th of December, 1817. JOSE COPPINGER.

By order of his Excellancy:

JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Not. of Gov. and Royal Finance.

Conformable to the original filed in the archives under my charge, to which I refer, and at the request of the party do seal and sign the present copy on two leaves of ordinary paper, stamps not being used. St. Augustine, Florida, the 15th of June, 1821.

[L. S.] JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Not. of Government.

Don Andres Burgevin, surveyor, appointed by a decree of this Government dated the 3d inst., in favor of the interested:

I certify that I have measured and laid off to Don Juan Huertas a tract of land situated on the east bank of the river St. Johns, about six miles to the south of Picolata, containing five thousand acres; the first line of which commences on the bank of the river, near the mouth of Tocoy creek, and at a cypress marked H, and runs south 70 degrees east, 160 chains; the second begins at a pine marked H; then south 110 chains, and ends at a swamp; the third crosses the swamp, and runs east 100 chains; the fourth begins with a pine marked H, and runs south 130 chains, and ends on the bank of Deep creek; and, in all its other circumstances, is conformable to the following plat. [See plat No. 4, at the end of Doc. No. 412.]

In witness whereof, I sign the present certificate in St. Augustine, Florida, the 19th September, 1818.

ANDRES BURGEVIN.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

No. 6.

To the honorable the Commissioners appointed to ascertain claims and titles to land in East Florida.

The memorial of Antelm Gay, a citizen of the United States, and actually a resident of St. Augustine, in the Territory of Florida, and who was such citizen of the United States, and resident in Florida, at the period of the cession of said country to the United States, respectfully showeth:

That your memorialist claims title to a tract of land, consisting of five hundred acres, situated on the west side of Indian river, and at the mouth of St. Sebastian river, bounded on the south by the last named river, the same being part of a grant of twenty thousand acres from the Spanish Government, made by Governor Coppinger, the 29th of September, 1816, to George Fleming, in virtue of the royal order of the 29th March, 1815; and which said tract of five hundred acres your memorialist purchased from Andrew Burgevin on the 22d February, 1820, who purchased the same from the original grantee aforesaid on the 21st of February, 1820.

And your memorialist further showeth, that no conditions whatever were annexed to said grant, and that your memorialist is in possession of the five hundred acres aforesaid.

The following documents, in confirmation of the title of your memorialist, is herewith presented.

1st. Original grant to George Fleming of 20,000 acres.
2d. Survey and plat of the same.
3d. Conveyance of the 500 acres from George Fleming to A. Burgevin.
4th. Conveyance from Burgevin to your memorialist.
5th. Survey and plat of the same.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ANTELM GAY,
By his attorney, JOHN RODMAN.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *20th August*, 1823.

Title of property in favor of Don George Fleming of 20,000 acres of land, on the banks of the river St. Sebastian.

Don Jose Coppinger, lieutenant colonel of the royal armies, civil and military governor, and chief of the royal finance in this city of St. Augustine, Florida, and its province:

Whereas, in the royal order of 1815, 29th of March, his Majesty has been pleased to approve the gifts and premiums proposed by my predecessor, the Brigadier General Don Sebastian Kindelan, for the officers and soldiers, both of the line as well as the local militia of this province, who contributed to its defence at the time of the rebellion, being one of said gifts, the distribution of vacant lands; and Don George Fleming, captain of militia, and resident of this city, having set forth his distinguished and extraordinary services, to which he has contributed both with his property and person in the defence of this said province, at different periods; sacrificing and abandoning his property, as a faithful subject, worthy of every recompense for his love, fidelity, and patriotism, and according to the powerful reasons which he has made known to me in his memorial, dated the 9th of the present month, I have thought proper, by my decree of the same day, to accede to his prayer relative to the granting him 20,000 acres of land, with a title of absolute property, in a place situated on the banks of the river St. Sebastians, to the south of Indian river or the river Ys, and between the east coast of Florida and the river St. Johns, setting forth hereafter with more clearness and precision the dimensions, whenever the surveyor shall measure the same, as will be fully seen in the said memorial and decree filed in the archives of the present notary. Wherefore, and in attention to said recommendable services, agreeably to the will of the sovereign, and as ordered by the laws, to remunerate with distinction those who are worthy, according to the nature of said services, and of the persons who have performed them, I have thought proper to grant, and by these presents do grant, in the name of his Majesty, and according to his royal justice, which I administer, to the said Don George Fleming, the above mentioned twenty thousand acres of land in the place pointed out, without injury to a third, for himself, his heirs, and successors, in absolute property; and I hereby, and by these presents, deliver him the corresponding title, by which I separate it from the royal domains, from the right and dominion it held in said land, and I cede and transfer it to the aforesaid Don George Fleming, his heirs and successors, that, in consequence thereof, they may possess it as their own, make use of and enjoy it free from any claim whatever, with all its entrances, outlets, uses, customs, rights, and privileges, and all and in general which hath, doth, or in any manner may belong or pertain thereto; and, it being their wish, they may sell, cede, transfer, barter, or alienate it, at their will and pleasure. To all of which I interpose my judicial authority as far as possible, and according to law, in virtue of what has been already explained, and in compliance with the sovereign will. Given under my hand, and countersigned by the undersigned notary of Government and royal finance, in this said city of Augustine, Florida, the 24th of September, 1816.

JOSE COPPINGER.

By order of his Excellency:

JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Not. of Gov. and Royal Finance.

Conformable to the original filed in the archives under my charge, to which I refer, and at the request of the party, do seal and sign the present copy on two leaves of ordinary paper, stamps not being used. St. Augustine, Florida, June 15, 1821.

[L. S.] JUAN DE ENTRALGO, *Notary Public.*

Don Andres Burgevin of this vicinity, and private surveyor:

I certify that the following plat [see plat No. 5, at the end of Document No. 412,] represents a tract of land containing five hundred acres, situated on the west side of the river Ys, Indian river, and near the mouth of the river St. Sebastian, bounded south by the last mentioned river. Said land is a part of a tract of twenty thousand acres which I measured, by order of this Government, for Don George Fleming, and was granted him

on the 9th day of September, 1816, and being, in all other circumstances, conformable to the boundaries herein mentioned. In witness whereof, I sign the present in St. Augustine, Florida, the 3d of February, 1820.

ANDRES BURGEVIN.

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct translation from two documents in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

CONVEYANCE.

Know ye, that I, Don George Fleming, resident of this city, and captain of the provincial militia in the same, do really sell to Don Andres Burgevin, likewise a resident, five hundred acres of land, being a part of a concession made to me by this Government, as a recompense for services, on the banks of the river Ys, (Indian river,) and St. Sebastian, and of which there was granted me the corresponding title of property on the 24th of September, 1816; which five hundred acres are situated at the mouth of the river St. Sebastian on the north side, and measures one hundred chains front on the river Ys. The first line begins at a palm tree on the banks of said river Ys, and runs S. 45° W. 50 chains, and ends at a pine marked ≡. The second line runs S. 45° E., and ends at a stake in the river St. Sebastian, measuring 100 chains: and I sell him the said five hundred acres of land under the boundaries and dimensions explained, with all its entrances, outlets, uses, customs, rights, and privileges, which it has, or may belong to it, free from any incumbrance, (as I, the said notary, do certify, as results from the register of mortgages under my charge, which to this effect I examined,) in the sum of five hundred dollars, which the purchaser has paid me, of which sum I acknowledge the receipt, of my own will, renouncing the proof, laws of delivery, exception for pecuniary misreckoning, fraud, and other circumstances of the case, whereof I acknowledge a formal receipt: In virtue of which I separate myself from the right of possession, title, and whatever other right I had, real and personal, I had or may have to said five hundred acres of land, which I cede, renounce, and transfer in favor of the purchaser, and whomsoever may represent his right, that he may, as his own, possess, sell, and alienate the same at his will, in virtue of this deed which I make in his favor, and consent to as a sign of real delivery, with which will be proven his having acquired possession, without the necessity of further proof, and being present; and I, the said Don Andres Burgevin, being present, do accept in my favor this deed, and by it receive, as purchased, the aforesaid five hundred acres of land, in the price and manner it has been sold me, which I acknowledge to have received of my free will, renouncing the proof, laws of delivery, those of the thing not seen nor received, fraud, and other things in the matter, of which I give a formal receipt. In testimony whereof, it is dated in this city of St. Augustine, Florida, the 21st day of October, 1820.

I, the notary, do attest and know the parties who signed, being witnesses, Don William Travers, Don Francisco Pasqual Sanchez, and Don Bernardo Segui, residents, present.

GEORGE FLEMING.
ANDRES BURGEVIN.

Before me:

JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary of Government.

Conformable to its original, remaining on file in the archives under my charge, to which I refer, and, at the request of the party, do seal and sign the present copy on two leaves of ordinary paper, stamps not being used. St. Augustine, Florida, 14th June, 1821.

[L. S.] JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary of Government.

A true translation.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

CONVEYANCE.

Know ye, that I, Don Andrew Burgevin, resident of this city, do really sell to Don Antelmo Gay, likewise a resident, five hundred acres of land, which I possess as my property at the mouth of St. Sebastian river, on the north side, and measures 100 chains front upon the river Ys, or Indian river. The first line begins at a palm tree on the banks of said river Ys, and runs south 45°, west 50 chains, and ends at a pine marked ≡. The second line runs south 45° east, and ends at a stake in the river St. Sebastian, measuring 100 chains; which said five hundred acres of land I obtained and purchased from Don George Fleming of this vicinity, by deed acknowledged by him before the present notary (yesterday) in this archive; and I sell him the same under the boundaries and dimensions explained, with all its entrances, outlets, uses, customs, rights, and privileges, which it has, or may belong to it, free from any incumbrance, (as I, the said notary, do certify, as results from the register of mortgages under my charge, which to this effect I examined,) in the sum of $750, which the purchaser has paid me in cash, of which sum I acknowledge the receipt of my own free will, renouncing the proof, laws of delivery, exceptions for pecuniary misreckoning, fraud, and other circumstances of the case, whereof I acknowledge a formal receipt: In virtue of which, I separate myself from the right of possession, title, and whatever other right, real and personal, I may have or had to said 500 acres of land, which I cede, renounce, and transfer, in favor of the purchaser, and whomsoever may represent his right, that he may, as his own, possess, sell and alienate the same at his will, in virtue of this deed, which I make in his favor as a sign of real delivery, with which will be proved his having acquired possession, without the necessity of further proof, from which I relieve him; and I bind myself to the eviction and goodness of this sale in sufficient form, and in the most favorable manner to the purchaser, with my present and future property, with power and submission to the tribunals of his Majesty, that they may compel me to the fulfilment thereof, as by sentence agreed to and passed by virtue of an adjudged cause, upon which I renounce all laws, customs, rights, and privileges in my favor, and the general in form which prohibits it: And I, the said Don Antelm Gay, being present, do accept in my favor this deed, and by it receive, as purchased, the said 500 acres of land in the price and manner it has been sold me, which I acknowledge to have received of my free will, renouncing the proof, laws of delivery, those of the thing not seen nor received, fraud, and other things in the matter, of which I give a receipt in form. In testimony whereof, it is dated in this city of St. Augustine, Florida, 22d of February, 1820. I, the notary, do attest, and know the parties who signed, being witnesses, Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, jr., Don Pedro Miranda, and Don Gabriel W. Perpall, residents present.

ANDRES BURGEVIN.
A. GAY.

Before me:

JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary of Government.

Conformable to its original remaining on file in the archives under my charge, to which I refer, and at the request of the party do seal and sign the present copy on two leaves of ordinary paper, stamps not being used. St. Augustine, Florida, 15th June, 1821.

[L. S.] JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary of Government.

I certify the foregoing to be a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

Plan of 20,000 acres of land [see plat No. 6, at the end of Doc. No. 412,] in absolute property to George Fleming, esq., on 24th September, 1816, for the services he rendered his Catholic Majesty as captain of the militia of Florida, and other services. These lands are situated on the river St. Sebastian, precisely at the place where it joins with Indian river, having the advantage of two fronts. The land is admirably adapted for the cultivation of sugar, cotton, rice, and other productions of the climate; and surveyed by Mr. Andrew Burgevin.

I certify that the above plat is a copy of the original.

ANDREW BURGEVIN.

No. 8.

To the honorable the Commissioners appointed to ascertain claims and titles to lands in East Florida.

The memorial of Antelm Gay and Francis J. Avice, citizens of the United States, and actually residents of St. Augustine, in the Territory of Florida, and who were such citizens of the United States and residents in Florida at the period of the cession of said country to the United States, respectfully showeth:

That your memorialists claim title to a tract of 2,000 acres of land situated at Musquito, bounded on the north by lands of Octavius Mitchell, on the east and west by vacant lands, on the south by lands of Francis P. Sanchez; which tract of land was obtained from the Spanish Government by a grant made by Governor Coppinger on the 14th of October, 1817, to Don Pablo Rosete, in virtue of the royal order of the 29th March, 1815, and which land was purchased by your memorialists from the grantee the 24th November, 1819; and your memorialists are now in possession of said land. In confirmation of your memo-

rialists' title, the following documents are respectfully presented herewith:

1st. A certified copy of the original grant.
2d. Conveyance from the grantee to your memorialist.
3d. Certificate of survey and plat.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ANTELM GAY,
By his attorney, JOHN RODMAN.
F. J. AVICE.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *20th August*, 1823.

[TRANSLATION.]

Petition of Don Pablo Roseté.

To his Excellency the GOVERNOR:

Don Pablo Roseté, lieutenant of the army, adjutant of the staff of the whites attached by his Majesty to the battalion of the disciplined miiitia of the regular infantry of the Havana, and commandant of the two companies of the same which serve as auxiliaries in this place, with due respect to your excellency, represents:

That, being one of those who, in his opinion, are concerned and comprehended in the royal order of the 29th March, 1815, relative to the distribution of lands in consequence of having been in this province from the 13th of March, 1813, at which epoch it was invaded and beseiged by rebels of the same, and by parties of the State of Georgia, when the petitioner was appointed to the defence of the redoubt situated at Solano's ford, with a sergeant, a drummer, two corporals, and fourteen grenadiers of the aforesaid companies, by his excellency Don Sebastian Kindelan, the predecessor of your excellency; that he rigorously complied with the first duties of his commission, and moreover daily attended his excellency aforesaid, and his secretary's office, in the capacity of an amanuensis, as will certify the secretary of said office, the lieutenant of the armies Don Thomas de Aguilar, that he rendered those extra services without any salary or emolument being awarded to him for the same: and whereas his Majesty, by his said royal order, has been pleased to approve the rewards which your predecessor aforesaid proposed to be given to such individuals who contributed to the defence of said province until the entire tranquillity thereof was effected, whether they were veterans or voluntarily engaged, and whereas one of the favors or indemnities alluded to consists in a distribution of lands in absolute property: The petitioner therefore supplicates your excellency that, as a reward for his laborious services, and in consideration of the services which, by their notoriety, entitles him to that royal favor, you be pleased to grant him two thousand acres on the river Ys, (Indian river,) bounded south by lands granted to Isaac Weeks; which favor your petitioner entertains no doubt of receiving from your excellency.

PABLO ROSETE.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *14th October*, 1817.

DECREE.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *October* 14, 1817.

In consideration of the well-known services rendered by the petitioner, the two thousand acres situated in the place by him mentioned are hereby granted to him, for which the title of absolute property will be issued in his behalf, in the usual form, from the secretary's office of the Government and of the royal domains.

COPPINGER.

I certify the foregoing to be a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

[TRANSLATION.]

Title of property in favor of Lieutenant Don Pablo Roseté of two thousand acres of land, at the head of the river Ys, (Indian river.)

Don José Coppinger, colonel of the royal armies, civil and military governor and chief of the royal finance in this city of St. Augustine, Florida, and its province, by his Majesty:

Whereas, in the royal order of the 29th of March, 1815, his Majesty has been pleased to approve the gifts and premiums proposed by my predecessor, the Brigadier General Don Sebastian Kindelan, for the officers and soldiers both of the line as well as of the local militia, and the other individuals of this province who contributed to its defence at the time of the rebellion, being one of said gifts, the distribution of lands in proportion to the number of family each individual may have: That Don Pablo Roseté, lieutenant in the army, adjutant of the general staff attached by his Majesty to the battalion of infantry of disciplined militia of free blacks of the Havana, and commandant of the two companies of said battalion which remain as auxiliaries in this city, having set forth the merits of his services rendered in the said defence, and soliciting in virtue of the same, and of said gifts, the concession of two thousand acres of land, they were granted him at the head of the river Ys, (Indian river,) bounded on the south by those granted to Don Isaac Weeks, as is proven by my decree of the 14th of October of the year last past, on the memorial of the interested, with the same date, which remains on file in the Government notary's office: wherefore I have granted, and by these presents do grant, in the name of his Majesty, and according to his royal justice which I administer, to the said Lieutenant Don Pablo Roseté the above mentioned two thousand acres of land in the place pointed out, without injury to a third person, for him, his heirs, and successors in absolute property; and I hereby, and by these presents deliver him the corresponding titles by which I separate it from the royal domains from the right and dominion it held in said land; and I cede and transfer it to the said Lieutenant Don Pablo Roseté, his heirs and successors, that in consequence thereof they may possess it as their own, make use of and enjoy it free from any claim whatever, with all its entrances, outlets, usages, customs, rights and privileges, and all and in general which hath, doth, or in any manner by right may belong or pertain thereto; and, it being their wish, they may sell, cede, transfer, barter, or alienate the same at their will and pleasure. To all of which I interpose my judicial authority as far as possible, according to law, and in compliance with the sovereign will.

Given under my hand, and countersigned by the undersigned notary of Government and royal finance in this said city of St. Augustine, Florida, the 17th April, 1818.

JOSE COPPINGER.

By order of his Excellency,
JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary of Government and Royal Finance.

Conformable to the original, filed in the archives under my charge, to which I refer, and at the request of the party, do seal and sign this present copy on two leaves of ordinary paper, stamps not being used.

[L. S.] JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary Public.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *June* 15, 1821.

Don Robert McHardy, planter in the territory of Musquito, surveyor, appointed by a decree of the Government, of the 14th of May of the present year, at the petition of the interested:

I certify that I have measured and laid off for Don Pablo Roseté a tract of land containing two thousand acres, situated in the territory of Musquito, bounded on the north by lands of Don Octavius Mitchell, on the east and west by vacant lands, and on the south by the lands of Don Francisco P. Sanchez, the figures and lines of which are according to the foregoing plat. [See plat No. 7, at the end of Doc. No. 412.]

In witness whereof, I sign the present, in St. Augustine, this 25th day of July, 1818.

ROBERT McHARDY.

A copy from the original, to which I refer.

ROBERT McHARDY.

I certify the foregoing to be a true and correct translation from two documents in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

CONVEYANCE.

Know ye, that I, Don Pablo Rosete, first adjutant of this city, do really sell to Don Francisco Julian Avice and Don Antelmo Gay, new settlers of this province, 2,000 acres of land which I possess as my property in the territory of Musquito, of this said province, bounded on the north by the lands of Don Octavius Mitchell, on the east and west by vacant lands, and on the south by the lands of Don Francisco P. Sanchez. The first line commences at a pine, marked M and R, and runs south 35°, east, 41 chains 43 links, to another pine marked R. The second line commences at the last mentioned pine, and runs south 65°, west 141 chains 43 links, to a stake. The third line commences at said stake, and runs north 35°, west 141 chains 43 links, to a pine marked |||||. The fourth line runs north 65° east, beginning at the last mentioned pine and ending at the first, where the measurement began, and containing the same number of chains as the others, as is seen by the plat, which, under date of the 25th of July, 1818, was made by Don Robert McHardy, an intelligent person, by permission

of the Government; which lands were granted me by a decree of this Government of the 14th of October, 1817, as a recompense for my services, and of which a title of absolute property was given me on the 17th of April of the said year of 1818: and I sell unto them the said 2,000 acres of land, under the boundaries and dimensions already explained, with all its entrances, outlets, usages, customs, rights, and privileges, which it has or may belong to it, free from any incumbrance, (as I, the notary, do certify, as results from the register of mortgages under my charge, which, to that effect, I examined,) in the price of $3,000, which the purchasers have paid me in cash, of which sum I acknowledge the receipt of my own will, renouncing the proof, laws of delivery, exception for pecuniary misreckoning, fraud, and other circumstances of the case, whereof I acknowledge a formal receipt, in virtue of which I separate myself from the right of possession, title, and whatever other right, real and personal, I had, or may have to said lands, which I cede, renounce, and transfer in favor of the purchasers, and whomsoever may represent them, that they may, as their own, possess, sell, and alienate the same at their will, in virtue of these writings, which I make in their favor as a sign of real delivery, with which will be proven their having acquired possession without the necessity of further proof, from which I relieve them: and I bind myself to the eviction and goodness of this sale, in sufficient form, and in the most favorable manner to the purchasers, with my present and future property, with power and submission to the tribunals of his Majesty, that they may compel me to the fulfilment thereof, as by sentence agreed to, and passed by virtue of an adjudged cause, upon which I renounce all laws, customs, rights, and privileges in my favor, and the general in form which prohibits it: and we, the said purchasers, being present, do accept, in our favor, this indenture, and by it receive as purchased the aforesaid 2,000 acres of land in the price and manner it has been sold us, which we acknowledge to have received of our free will, renouncing the proof, laws of delivery, fraud, and all other things in the matter, of which we give a receipt in form. In testimony whereof, it is dated in this city of St. Augustine, Florida, the 24th of November, 1819. I, the notary, do attest and give faith to the parties who signed, in the presence of the witnesses, Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, jun., Don Antonio Mier, and Don Juan Huertas, residents, present.

PABLO ROSETE.
F. J. AVICE.
A. GAY.

Before me: JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary of Government.

Conformable to the original remaining in the archives under my charge, to which I refer, and at the request of the party do seal and sign the present copy on two leaves of ordinary paper, stamps not being used.

JUAN DE ENTRALGO, *Not. Pub.*

ST. AUGUSTINE, *Florida*, 14*th June*, 1821.

I certify the foregoing to be a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

Petition for re-hearing.

Antelm Gay vs. the United States.—Claim for seven hundred acres of land.

Antelm Gay vs. the United States.—Claim for four hundred acres of land.

Antelm Gay vs. the United States.—Claim for two thousand acres of land.

Antelm Gay vs. the United States.—Claim for a lot in St. Augustine.

Antelm Gay vs. the United States.—Twelve acres of arable land, with pine land adjoining.

To the honorable the Board of Commissioners appointed to ascertain claims and titles to land in East Florida:

The petition of Antelm Gay respectfully showeth, that the original concession upon which the royal titles, or absolute grants mentioned in the above claims, respectively, are founded, are severally dated, and were severally made anterior to the 24th of January, 1818. That the reason they were not produced by the counsel of your petitioner was, as your petitioner believes, that it was considered that the royal titles in the memorials of your petitioner mentioned, and by him exhibited to this honorable board, would be received as, if not conclusive, at least "*prima facie*" evidence of the facts they set forth, and especially of the existence of the concessions on which they are founded. Your petitioner represents to this honorable board, that he is able to lay before them the said several concessions on which the said royal titles are founded. Your petitioner also further represents, that he was under the impression that, at the time his said claims, which have been rejected, were under the examination of the board, that it was taken as proved and admitted that your petitioner was an inhabitant and resident of this Territory before, and at the time of, it cession to the United States, and that he has been so ever since. These facts your petitioner has power to prove to the satisfaction of this honorable board.

Your petitioner, understanding that the failure on his part to produce the aforementioned concessions, or to prove the fact of his having been a resident of this Territory at its cession, has been the cause of the rejection of his claim in the above cases; he therefore prays that this honorable board will grant him a re-hearing of his said claims, and thereby afford him an opportunity of introducing his said evidence; and he will ever pray, &c.

A. GAY.

TERRITORY OF FLORIDA, *county of St. Johns:*

On this 4th day of February, 1824, personally appeared before me Elias B. Gould, a justice of the peace for said county, Don Ramon Sanchez, Don Bartolome de Castro y Ferrer, Don Pedro Miranda, who, being duly sworn, upon their oaths say, that they are severally acquainted with Don Juan Gianople, and that they have been so acquainted with him for twenty-five years now last past. That he was then a man with a numerous family of children, and owned five slaves. And the said deponents further state, that the said Don Juan Gianople has, since their acquaintance with him, been an inhabitant of East Florida, and is an inhabitant thereof at this time.

B. CASTRO Y FERRER.
RAMON SANCHEZ.
PEDRO MIRANDA.

Sworn to before me the day and year above written.

E. B. GOULD, *Just. of the Peace.*

No. 9.

To the honorable the Commissioners appointed to ascertain claims and titles to lands in East Florida, from the memorialist, the subscriber, who declares,

That he resides in the United States, and that he was not in the province of East Florida at the time of the cession of the said province to the United States.

That he resided at a former period in the said province, and that the Government of the same made to him, on the 18th May, 1803, the following concession of lands, as his head-rights, on certain conditions, which, when required, he can prove were complied with, being allowed one hundred acres for himself, and fifty for each of his family and negroes: 1st. A tract of land at the head of Indian river, containing six thousand acres, and bounded by Indian river, and vacant lands were adjoining the same. The same is described by a survey which is herewith presented. [See plat No. 8, at the end of Doc. No. 412.] 2d. A tract called Stoney point, or Marrot's island, lying on Indian river. The number of acres contained in the same is undefined, both in the memorial which your memorialist made to the Spanish Government, and in the concession of the same to him, it being considered as containing but a small proportion of good land. A survey of the same is herewith presented. 3d. A tract of land of three hundred acres, situated between north and east, on the north side of Marrot's island, and lies between the lagoon of Indian river, bordering on the said island and the Musquito lagoon, in front of the other, &c. &c. A survey of the same is herewith presented. 4th. A tract of one thousand acres, called Cabbage swamp, situated to the east of Indian river, opposite the Narrows, so called from its being narrower than any other tract. A survey of the same is herewith presented, together with an official copy of the concession to your memorialist, which enumerates all and each of the said tracts of land.

Your memorialist begs leave to state that he would have required, and probably have obtained, royal titles for the said concessions of lands previous to the change of Government of said province, but from an insurrection which took place in 1812 in the country, and in which your memorialist, being a principal actor, though pardoned by the King, had raised such an excitement in the minds of those who were devoted to the Spanish Government, that his life might have been taken by some bigoted and malignant assassin, who would the more readily have committed such an act, as he might have calculated to have done it with impunity. Your memorialist can prove that, a short time before the cession of the province, he arrived in a vessel off St. Augustine, wishing to enter the same; but, on inquiring of the governor whether he would be responsible for the safety of

his person, he replied, only "while your memorialist was in his sight." Your memorialist has respectfully further to show, that, on the 20th March, 1804, he made a purchase, in conformity to all the forms of the Spanish laws, from the late John McQueen, of two tracts of land situated on the St. John's river: the one called Fort St. George he has since sold; and the other, called *St. Juan Nepunensana*, containing ninety-eight caballerias and eight acres, having one front on St. John's river and another on McGirt's creek, and which is very particularly defined in an official copy of the royal title to said John McQueen, who had possession of the same from the year 1790 to that of 1804, and from John McQueen to your memorialist; an official copy of which is also herewith presented.

Your memorialist also purchased from Timothy Hollingsworth, deceased, a tract of land on St. John's river, called Mulberry grove, and containing eight hundred acres, in the year 1805, under a royal title, with all the Spanish forms, in such cases; but, not having a translation of the same, cannot particularly describe it. An official copy of his conveyance to your memorialist is herewith presented; the royal title to him is on record in the office with the archives.

Your memorialist also purchased from the said John McQueen two thousand acres of land on Miami river, but for which he did not receive Spanish titles, from the circumstance of this concession not having been obtained ten years. Your memorialist took Mr. McQueen's obligation to make *titles* for the same, together with a receipt acknowledging to have received a full consideration for this tract, together with the other two tracts which your memorialist had purchased from him, and, subsequently, titles in full for the same—all of which papers are herewith submitted to your board; but none of them being on record, your memorialist requests that they may be taken care of. An official copy of the concession to Mr. McQueen is also presented. Your memorialist having offered to your honorable body a particular statement of his claim and titles for lands in the Territory of Florida, respectfully requests a confirmation of the same; and that, where they exceed three thousand five hundred acres, your honorable board will recommend to Congress to confirm such claims and titles.

And your memorialist will ever pray, &c. &c.

JOHN H. McINTOSH.

St. Augustine, *5th August*, 1823.

To the honorable the Board of Commissioners appointed to ascertain titles and claims to lands in East Florida, from their memorialist, who showeth,

That, in a memorial which he presented to your board on the 5th day of August last, he described one of the tracts of land called Marrot's island, (a part of the concession of land which the Spanish Government had granted to him for his head-rights,) as undefined in its quantity of acres; since which he has ascertained, from seeing an old British grant for the said island, that it contains three thousand six hundred acres: he therefore requests that it may be considered by your honorable board that it does contain the said quantity of three thousand six hundred acres, and act accordingly.

JOHN H. McINTOSH.

[TRANSLATION.]

Don George Clarke, lieutenant of the militia of St. Augustine, Florida, commissioned judge of the northern district, and surveyor general of the province, by his Government:

I certify that I have measured and laid off for Don Juan McIntosh six thousand acres of land situated at the head of river Ys, or Indian river, and on the west side, being part of a larger quantity granted him by the Government the 18th of May, 1803, and is conformable in all its parts to the following plat, a copy of which remains in the book of surveys under my charge. [See plat No. 8, at the end of Doc. No. 412.]

GEORGE J. F. CLARKE.

St. Augustine, *December 2d*, 1817.

[TRANSLATION.]

Don George Clarke, lieutenant of the militia of St. Augustine, Florida, commissioned judge of the northern district, and surveyor general of the province, appointed by his Government:

I certify that I have measured and laid off for Don Juan H. McIntosh three hundred acres of land at a place known by the name of Stewart's swamp, situated northeast from the northern point of Marrot's island, between the river Ys, or Indian river, and Hillsborough, being part of a larger quantity granted him by the Government the 18th of May, 1803; and is conformable in all its parts to the following plat, a copy of which remains in the book of surveys under my charge. [See plat No. 9, at the end of Doc. No. 412.]

GEORGE J. F. CLARKE.

St. Augustine, *December 2d*, 1817.

[TRANSLATION.]

To the Governor:

Don John H. McIntosh, recent settler, admitted under the protection of his Catholic Majesty, respectfully showeth:

That he intends removing to this province in the course of twelve months, with his family and slaves, amounting to two hundred and fifty, besides five white men, two of whom have families; and, for the purpose of carrying into effect said intention, he solicits that your excellency will be pleased to grant him the lands which appertain to him, according to the number of his family and slaves as abovementioned, in the following places: an island in the river Ys, (Indian river,) known by the name of Stoney point, or Marrot's island, which name he gave it, having a person residing thereon. Likewise, three hundred acres of land which contain about one hundred and fifty acres of hammock or plantable land, known formerly by the name of Stewart's swamp, situated about northeast from the north part of Stoney point island, and lies between the lake of river Ys, (Indian river,) near said island and Musquito lake, opposite the other, intersected on the part of the hammock by a creek from said river, on the east of said island. Also, one thousand acres of land which contain from seven to eight hundred acres, called Cabbage swamp, situated on the east side of river Ys, (Indian river,) opposite the Narrows, so called on account of said river being more narrow there than at any other part, and about twenty miles distant from its mouth. Likewise, six thousand acres of land one mile below the head of river Ys, (Indian river,) on the west side, running north from that to another point two miles; thence, in a direct line south three miles, until it stops in front of the first point, and one mile distant, containing three miles square, comprising the lands described on said lines—a creek empties into the river Ys that runs through said lands; a favor which he doubts not of obtaining from your excellency, and which he will gratefully acknowledge.

DECREE.

St. Augustine, Florida, *May* 18, 1803.

Grant the memorialist the land he petitions for, without injury to a third; and, until the number of his family he may have for its cultivation is known, let the quantity appertaining to him be surveyed, with the absolute conditions, that he must present a person of property as his security that he will take possession of said lands in the course of the twelve months, and of his having executed the same, will be put in continuation of this, my decree, and that it will be out of his power to claim damages in case of an invasion, or for other motives, in which the royal service demands his retiring into the interior of the province.

WHITE.

Note.—The memorialist has presented himself, declaring that the said six thousand acres of land is understood to be situated one mile below the head of river Ys, (Indian river,) on the west side, although the boundaries described in the memorial are not very correctly explained, which he sets forth on account of not having seen said land, but has petitioned for them through the information he has obtained. Dated as above.

PIERRA.

The foregoing is a copy of the original filed in this office, under my charge, which I certify.

JUAN DE PIERRA.

St. Augustine, Florida, *May* 21, 1803.

[TRANSLATION.]

Don George Clarke, lieutenant of the militia of St. Augustine, Florida, commissioned judge of the northern district, and surveyor general of the province, appointed by his Government:

I certify that I have measured and laid off for Don Juan H. McIntosh one thousand acres of land at a place called Cabbage swamp, on the east side of the narrows of river Ys, or Indian river, being a part of a larger quantity granted him by the Government the 18th of May, 1803, and is conformable, in all its parts, to the following plat, a copy of which remains in the book of surveys under my charge. [See plat No. 10, at the end of Doc. No. 412.]

GEO. J. F. CLARKE.

St. Augustine, *December* 2, 1817.

No. 10.

To the honorable the Commissioners appointed to ascertain claims and titles to land in East Florida:

The memorial of Moses Elias Levy respectfully showeth, that your memorialist, in his own behalf and that of others concerned, claim a title to a portion of land consisting of one-eighth of the grant hereinafter mentioned, and not less than thirty-six thousand acres of land situated in Alachua county, which title was acquired by a purchase made by your memorialist from Fernando de la Maza Arredondo and Son, as will appear by the attested copy of the covenant and indenture annexed, and marked A, who obtained it by a grant made by the sub-delegate general superintendent of the island of Cuba and the two Floridas, Alexandro Ramirez, which concession was made by virtue of the powers which the laws of Spain invests his high office with, and other royal orders, particularly that of the 3d of September, 1817, which the grant makes mention of, and by and with the advice and consent of the fiscal or attorney general for the royal or national domain, and the surveyor general.

Your memorialist further showeth, that the original grantees and others concerned were in actual possession at the time of the cession; that, from the date of the purchase, your memorialist was, and is now, in actual occupancy of said lands, as may be attested by Edward M. Wanton, Horatio S. Dexter, Francis P. Sanchez, and others, and that your memorialist is a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Miconope, in Alachua.

Your memorialist further showeth, that the grant alluded to in this memorial consists of four leagues of ground towards each point of the compass, to be reckoned from the point which is established as the centre; and that this grant was made on the 22d day of December, 1817, as evidenced by the attested copy herewith annexed, and marked B. That the settlement of two hundred families was attached as a condition of the grant, and to be commenced within the period of three years from the date of the grant; that the grantees had a prorogation of one year over and above the aforementioned three years, for the fulfilment of the aforegoing terms, as will appear by the decree of the superintendent, and the correspondence between said superintendent and Coppinger, the then governor of this province—attested copies are herewith annexed, and marked C, D, and E; that, notwithstanding the extension of this time, the concerned did, in September, 1820, enter into an agreement with William Tudor Hall to settle, with certain number of other persons, on the said tract of Alachua; and that the said William Tudor Hall, with others, did proceed to the said territory of Alachua, and, on or about the 7th day of November of the same year, actually began the establishment, as will appear by the deposition annexed, and marked F.

Your memorialist begs further to state, that, in November, or early in December of same year, Edward M. Wanton and Horatio S. Dexter were employed and engaged to proceed to the aforesaid territory of Alachua, and established themselves as settlers, as will be attested by the same persons, Francis P. Sanchez and others.

Your memorialist begs leave further to state that, long before the settlement was first established, the territory of Alachua was abandoned by the native Indians of this Territory, and that the chiefs, in a talk which they formally held with Governor Coppinger, were apprized of the grant in question, as being made by his superior in authority, to the said Arredondo and Son, and that two hundred families were to be established in it. The documents or record of said *talk*, like many other documents, as your honorable body must be well aware, are missing from the archives, and the only means left your petitioner to prove the existence of this talk, and its result, is the deposition of Antonio Alvarez, then first officer of the secretary's office, and now one of the officers of the keeper of the Spanish archives' office, and Pedro Miranda, both present at said talk, as will appear by their affidavits annexed, and marked G and H.

Your memorialist also represents that, although the treaty of cession of 22d February, 1819, ratified by his Catholic Majesty on the 24th October, 1820, in the spirit of which, and according to the literal translation of that on the Spanish side, the 8th article provides, "that the *proprietors* of such lands, who, by reason of the recent circumstances of the Spanish nation, and the revolution in Europe, have been prevented from fulfilling all the conditions of their grants, shall complete them within the terms limited in the same, respectively, from the date of the treaty," &c. &c.; which might have justified the grantees in waiting until the title was confirmed by the Government of the United States, or, at any rate, to defer a settlement calculated to incur immense expense and trouble, as it was to be made in a wild and inhospitable country, seventy miles from the capital and in the neighborhood of savages, to even as late a period as the 24th of October ensuing. Yet the grantees, notwithstanding all the disadvantages and hardships they had to contend with, did continue, even after the ratification and promulgation of the treaty, with vigor and zeal, the objects which, from the date of the grant, had been in preparation, and which they actually began to carry into effect on the 7th of November, 1820, and have advanced and augmented the establishment to its present respectable footing.

The present settlers, with their families, amounts to about forty-seven persons, the most of whom have been transported and maintained at the expense of the concerned; who have, also, at considerable cost, cut a road for wheel carriages of about forty-five miles, leading from the river St. Johns to the settlement; have built upon the same eight bridges, erected twenty-five houses, and established three plantations on the tract, of which about three hundred acres are cleared, and now under cultivation. The present owners of said grant or tract of land consist of more than seventy individuals, most of them agriculturists from New York, New Jersey, and other parts; many rich and opulent citizens, the major part of whom became purchasers with the intention of settling on the said lands—circumstances publicly well known, and which will be substantiated when the parties present their respective claims before your honorable body.

The proprietors have now prepared materials, and are about erecting a saw-mill, have got out the frames, &c. to build ten or fifteen houses, and are now clearing land for the establishment of eleven farms, as will be made to appear by the annexed affidavit, marked J. Further testimonies may be obtained from Mr. Edward M. Wanton and others settled on the lands. All of which is respectfully submitted.

M. E. LEVY.

St. Augustine, *August* 14, 1823.

A.

Whereas Messrs. Hernandez and Chauviteau did, some time in the month of August, one thousand eight hundred and twenty, purchase from Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, the elder, a concession or tract of land situated on both sides of Alligator creek, in East Florida, containing about thirty-eight thousand and four hundred acres, a more particular description of which will be seen by reference to the deed and other accompanying documents, bearing date in the month aforesaid; which concession or grant was afterwards transferred to Moses E. Levy for, and in consideration of, the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars actually paid by Moses E. Levy, who has since that time remained, and still is, the owner of said concession or tract, the one-half or moiety of which he desires to give and grant unto Arredondo and Son, of Havana, in exchange for certain lands hereinafter mentioned; and the said Arredondo and Son, proprietors of a large portion of a certain grant, or concession of land, made to them, the said Arredondo and son, in and by a decree bearing date at Havana on or about the twenty-second day of December, one thousand eight hundred and seventeen, commonly called the Alachua grant, situated in East Florida, a more particular description of which will be seen by reference to said grant, have consented, and agreed to give and grant the one-sixteenth part of the said concession to the said Moses E. Levy in exchange for the lands above mentioned. *This indenture*, therefore, between Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, the younger, agent and attorney in fact for said Arredondo and Son, of the one part, and Moses Elias Levy of the other part, witnesseth: that the said Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, agent and attorney as aforesaid, hath given, granted, aliened, exchanged, and released, and by these presents, doth give, grant, alien, exchange, and release unto the said Moses Elias Levy, one-sixteenth part of said concession, grant, or tract of land, lying and being in Alachua as aforesaid, to have and to hold the said one-sixteenth part unto him, the said Moses Elias Levy, his heirs and assigns forever, in exchange for the lands hereinafter mentioned, granted by said Levy to said Arredondo and Son. And the said Moses Elias Levy hath given, granted, aliened, exchanged, and released, and doth by these presents give, grant, exchange, and release unto Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, otherwise called Arredondo and Son, one undivided half or moiety of the concession, grant, or tract, lying on Alligator creek as aforesaid: to have and to hold the one-half or moiety of the said concession, grant, or tract, to them, the said Arredondo and Son, and their heirs and assigns forever, in exchange for the lands before mentioned given and granted by, to said Moses

Elias Levy. And the parties to these presents do covenant and agree, that if both of the above mentioned concessions shall be established, and recognized as legal and valid, on or before the first day of April, 1824, they shall reciprocally give and exchange, at the cost of the party requiring them, all further and other assurances which they may deem necessary more effectually to secure the interests hereby meant to be conveyed; and it is further covenanted and agreed that, if the title to Alligator creek tract shall not be established and ratified and deemed valid by a board of land commissioners, or some other tribunal or commissioners, on or before the day and year last mentioned, then, and in that event, Arredondo and Son shall transfer and convey unto Moses E. Levy one other sixteenth part of said Alachua concession, so as to make the whole amount conveyed to said Levy one-eighth part of the whole concession; and, in order the more effectually to secure the same, the said one-sixteenth part set a side for this purpose is, by these presents, placed uuder the absolute control of said Levy until the said 1st day of April, 1824, or until the title to the Alligator creek tract, which was granted to Arredondo, the elder, shall be recognized; and they further covenant and agree that, if the Alachua concession shall not be deemed valid by a competent tribunal on or before the said 1st day of April, 1824, so as to secure to the said Moses Elias Levy the one-sixteenth or eighth part thereof, according to the contingencies herein mentioned, then, and in that event, the said Moses E. Levy shall be entitled immediately to an equivalent in other lands owned or provided by Arredondo and Son, or an equitable indemnity in the manner pointed out by the contracts on the subject of Florida lands heretofore made between F. M. Arredondo, the elder, and Moses E. Levy. And it is further agreed and covenanted, that the said Moses Elias Levy shall continue to exercise the sole and absolute control in all respects, as if he were the sole owner over the whole of the Alligator creek tract, as well as one-eighth of the Alachua, until the question of titles be determined, or until the day and year above mentioned, whichever event may first happen; and the said Arredondo, the younger, agent and attorney as aforesaid, covenants to and with the said Moses Elias Levy that the one-sixteenth part of said concession shall not contain less than 18,062½ acres, and the one-eighth not less than 36,125 acres, but may, respectively, contain a greater quantity, if the quantity contained in the whole grant will justly allow of a greater to these proportions. And said Arredondo, agent as aforesaid, covenants to reimburse and refund to said Levy any sum or sums of money which he may lay out and expend in and about the premises; and, upon consultation and deliberation, the parties to these presents covenant and agree that the above written covenants and agreements shall be modified and changed in the following manner: that is, if one of the above-mentioned tracts shall, on or before the 1st day of January, which shall be in the year 1826, shall be recognized and deemed valid before any court or tribunal in the United States, and the title of the other tract not determined, then, and in that event, the rights and claims of the parties in the tracts of land, respectively, as settled by this exchange, shall not be altered or changed; and Moses E. Levy shall, in that event, retain his claims on Alachua, and Arredondo and Son shall retain their claims on one-half of Alligator creek tract; nor shall Arredondo and Son be required to convey to said Moses E. Levy the additional one-sixteenth part of Alachua until the title, grant, or concession of Alligator creek tract shall be annulled; nor shall the said Arredondo and Son be required, in the case of either grant, to give an equivalent therefor, as provided by this and their several contracts on the subject of Florida lands, until the said grant shall be actually annulled and determined to be not the property of Arredondo, Levy, or their assigns; and the said Moses E. Levy shall do and perform whatever lies within his power to effect, as early as possible, a legal recognition of said grants. In testimony whereof, they, the said F. M. Arredondo, agent and attorney as aforesaid, and Moses E. Levy, have hereunto affixed their hands and seals, this 22d day of January, 1822, the word "Fernando" in the second page, and word "hundred" on fourth page, being first obliterated.

F. M. ARREDONDO.
M. E. LEVY.

Signed, sealed, and delivered, in presence of
BERNARDO SEGUI.
WM. M. GIBSON.

TERRITORY OF FLORIDA, *county of St. Johns:*

I, James S. Tingle, clerk of the county court for the county aforesaid, do certify that the foregoing is a true copy from the records in my office.

JAMES S. TINGLE.

B.

[TRANSLATION.]

[The original appears to have been written on stamped paper, of the second class, valid for the years 1816 and 1817.]

Don Alexandro Ramirez, intendant of the army, superintendant general, sub-delegate of the royal treasury of this island of Cuba and the two Floridas, president of the tribunal of accounts, and of the committee of tythes, superintendant of the crusada, sole judge of arrivadas, protector of the royal lottery, chief director and inspector of the royal monopoly of tobacco, &c.

Whereas Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo and Son, of this city, merchants, have presented a petition, in this intendancy, and general sub-delegate superintendancy, dated the 12th November last, praying for a gratuitous grant of a piece of ground in East Florida, where they have been established, and where the greatest part of their family reside, with much of their property, offering to form an establishment in the territory known by the name of *Alachua*, the same being suitable for the raising of cattle and grain, if cultivated, by 200 families, which they will, at their expense, transport there; showing, also, other advantages that will result in favor not only of the other inhabitants already established and living in the city of St. Augustine, but likewise of the Creek and Seminole Indians on the boundaries of that country, provided that the said tract of land be granted unto them, with an absolute dominion thereon, it being consisting of four leagues of ground to each point of the compass reckoned from the aforesaid establishment of Alachua, which is to be fixed as the central point: which petition having, by my decree of the 12th instant, been referred to the captain of infantry, Don Vincente Sebastian Pintado, surveyor general of the Floridas, he returned it, on the 15th, with the requisite explanation, advancing the most solid reason to show and demonstrate how convenient and useful it would be to encourage the settling of that province without any expense of the royal treasury, and to accept the proposals of the concerned on account of the importance of the undertaking, and of the great expenses they must make in order to put it into execution. In consequence thereof, and by a decree of the same day, the aforesaid petition and report were passed to the inspection of the King's attorney in the treasury department, who, in his memorial of the 17th, supported the petition of De la Maza Arredondo and Son, founding his opinion on the royal orders for the encouragement of settling in these possessions of his Majesty, and consented that the said grant of the tract of land should be made unto them on the terms they propose: in consequence whereof I issued, yesterday, the decree, as follows:

"These proceedings being examined, in consequence, and by virtue of, the royal order of the 3d of September of this year, by which his Majesty appointing me to the superintendancy of the two Floridas, has most expressly ordered that I should endeavor to encourage the settling of those provinces by every means that my prudence and zeal could suggest, in conformity with the opinion of the King's attorney, and the report of the surveyor general of said provinces, the tract of land called *Lachua*, in the East Florida, is declared unappropriated, and belonging to the King. In consequence thereof, and taking into consideration the notorious honesty and fidelity, as well as the well-known wealth and other good qualities of Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo and Son, I grant unto them that piece of ground which they ask out of the said unappropriated tract of land, in full property, in conformity with the royal orders on the subject, and under the precise condition to which they are bound, there to settle two hundred families, and that they shall be Spanish, together with all other requisites already set forth, and that will be set forth, by this superintendancy by virtue of the said royal order; and, also, that they must begin the establishment in the term of three years at furthest, without which this grant shall be void, and that the same must be understood, provided that it will not be prejudicial to the right of any third person, and more especially to the native Indians of that country that may have returned, or may intend to return to it, to cultivate the fields."

Let these proceedings pass to the said surveyor general, to make the plan of this grant in conformity to his report, and to the extent of four leagues to each point of the compass, as herein granted, in rectilineal figure, with all possible clearness, in order to prevent doubts and lawsuits in future. All which being done, let a title in due form be granted, with the said plan annexed to it, of which a copy must be kept with the proceedings, it being understood that the three years as aforesaid for the

commencing the establishment of the families must be reckoned from this day; and that on the first families being ready to be sent, the concerned will lodge information thereof, with a list of the individuals, their birthright and employment, that the necessary orders and instructions be given to the government and sub-delegation of the royal treasury in the East Florida, in order that his Majesty may be opportunely informed thereof.

The figurative plan, as aforesaid, being presented by the surveyor, together with the explanation of the survey and admensuration, it appears that the above-mentioned tract of land is situated in the East Florida, fifty-two miles more or less west of the city of St. Augustine, and about thirty-six miles west of the eastern shore of the river San Juan, bounded on all sides by unappropriated land, having in or about its centre the place known by the name of *Alachua*, which was formerly inhabited by a tribe of Seminole Indians that abandoned it, and according to the dimension and form set forth in the said plan, and the explanations thereto annexed; and taking it into consideration that the leagues used in that province consist of three English miles, and each of them of one thousand seven hundred and sixty yards, or eighty Gunter's chains, the tract of land granted as aforesaid contains two hundred and eighty-nine thousand six hundred and forty-five English acres and five-sevenths of another, which are equal to three hundred and forty-two thousand two hundred and fifty arpens and one-seventh of another of those in use in West Florida—the English acre being reckoned at one hundred and sixty poles or perches, and each linear English perch at sixteen and a half London feet, according to the use in the time of the British possession of that country, which has been since tolerated by our Government. Wherefore, and using the faculties which our lord the King (whom God preserve) has conferred upon me, in his royal name, I gratuitously grant unto the above mentioned Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo é Hijo the number of acres of land above stated, in the direction, boundaries, and distances, set forth in the figurative plan, of which a copy must be annexed to this title, that they may possess and enjoy them as sole masters thereof, and in the terms mentioned in my decree herein inserted. In testimony whereof, I have ordered this title to be given, signed by me, sealed with the royal seal of my secretary's department, and countersigned by the commissary at war, Don Pedro Carrambot, appointed by his Majesty secretary of this intendancy, and sub-delegate superintendancy.

Given at Havana, on the twenty-second day of December, one thousand eight hundred and seventeen.

ALEXANDRO RAMIREZ.

PEDRO CARRAMBOT.

The foregoing title was registered in the book for that purpose, in the office under my charge. Havana, dated as above.

CARRAMBOT.

A copy: JUAN NEPOM. DE ARROCHA.

C.

[TRANSLATION.]

Don Juan Nepomuceno de Arrocha, secretary of the *intendencia de exercito*, (intendancy of the army,) general superintendancy, sub-delegate of the national domain of this island and the two Floridas:

I certify that his honor, the intendant of the army, superintendent general, sub-delegate of the same national domain, has this day decreed as follows: "Having before me the information received at this office from the Senor *gobernador* and sub-delegate of San Augustin of Florida, and in consequence of the instructions given him by this general superintendancy on the 2d of October ultimo, and attending to the reasons which the concerned adduced, Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo and Son, they are allowed *prolongation* of one year, which they have solicited for the object proposed: without any prejudice to their interest, let it be given to them, certificates of the secretary's office for the end and purposes which may suit their interest, and let this be communicated to the same senor sub-delegate for his intelligence: and, in conformity of this decree, I give the present in Havana the 2d day of December, 1820.

JUAN NEPOMUCENO DE ARROCHA.

D.

HAVANA, *2d April*, 1820.

The annexed memorial which Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo and Son, of this commerce, presented me, with the title of the concession of a lot of land which was granted them by this sub-delegate general superintendancy in December, 1817, asks for prolongation of one year to accomplish or carry into effect the establishment of the families which he proposed, and it is convenient that your lordship inform on this particular point. I have, in consequence, so decreed it on this day, accompanying it with a certified copy of the title, not to expose the original to the dangers of the seas.

God preserve you for many years.

ALEXANDRO RAMIREZ.

DON JOSE COPPINGER.

E.

In your lordship's official letter of this current month, you ask me to inform on the subject of one year's prolongation solicited by Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo and Son, of that commerce, for the establishment of the families which he proposed in the territory of Alachua, which gratuitous concession, with formal title, he obtained of that sub-delegate general superintendancy in December, 1817. I must inform your lordship that, as yet, only the copy of the said grant has come to hand, but not the memorial of Arredondo which your lordship speaks of in your said official letter. I have to inform your lordship that I find no obstacle, or have no objection, that the said prolongation shall be granted, because, if this meditated establishment takes place, the benefits that will result from it will be considerable, and will further the prosperity of this province, which our Government so anxiously desires to promote.

God preserve your lordship many years. St. Augustine, October 23, 1820.

To the INTENDANT OF THE ARMY,
Superintendent General of the two Floridas.

G.

AFFIDAVITS.

Whereas, by the laws of the Territory of Florida, the judge of the circuit court is the only officer pointed out to issue a commission for taking depositions in suits not already commenced, and, as there is no such officer now in this circuit, the following depositions are therefore taken without the said commission.

CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE, *Territory of Florida.*

Personally appeared this twentieth day of January, 1823, before me, Waters Smith, mayor of the city of St. Augustine, Antonio Alvarez, who, being duly sworn, doth depose and say that this deponent acted as chief clerk to Governor Coppinger, and was present at a talk held between the said governor and some Indian chiefs shortly after the establishment made by Mr. Wanton on the Alachua; that the chiefs complained that white men had settled at the Alachua; the governor replied that they were sent there by Mr. Arredondo, with his (Governor Coppinger's) permission, in consequence of Mr. Arredondo's having obtained a grant of the land from a person having more power, or a greater man than himself, meaning thereby the superintendent of the island of Cuba and both Floridas. The Indian chiefs said, in substance, that they were satisfied, and would comply with the governor's request, and not molest or disturb the white men.

And this deponent further saith, that this talk was carried on with the usual formalities observed on such occasions, the King's interpreter, Antonio Huertas, being present and interpreting. And this deponent further saith, that the Indians have abandoned the Alachua ever since the year one thousand eight hundred and thirteen, since that time having had no regular settlements on these lands. This information is obtained by means of the office of chief clerk to the governor, and not from this deponent's having actually been on the lands.

ANTONIO ALVAREZ.

Sworn to before me the day and year first above written.

WATERS SMITH, *Mayor.*

H.

TERRITORY OF FLORIDA:

On the twentieth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, personally appeared before me, Waters Smith, mayor of the city of St. Augustine, Peter Miranda, who, being duly sworn, doth depose and say that, shortly after Mr. Arredondo had sent Mr. Wanton to settle in the Alachua, this deponent was present at a part of a talk held with the Indians by Governor Coppinger. The governor directed the interpreter to tell the Indians not to disturb the white men who had settled at Alachua, as the land had been given to Mr. Arredondo by a man at Havana having more command than himself, and who had command also over him, (the governor.) This deponent then left the talk, and cannot, from his personal knowledge, say what further took place; but Governor Coppinger afterwards informed this deponent that the In-

dians were perfectly satisfied that Mr. Arredondo's agent should remain.

PEDRO MIRANDA.

Sworn to before me the day and year first above written. WATERS SMITH, *Mayor.*

F.

CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE, *Territory of Florida.*

On the 25th day of July, 1823, personally came and appeared before me, Waters Smith, mayor of the city of St. Augustine, William T. Hall, who, being duly sworn, doth depose and say that he is a subject of the King of Spain, and that, about the month of September, in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty, this deponent entered into an agreement with Peter Mitchell, (who understood that said Mitchell, Arredondo, and others, were owners of a tract of land in Alachua,) to go himself, and employ others with him, to make settlements at Alachua on said lands; that this deponent, shortly after, proceeded to Alachua to view said lands, and, on his return, employed two men by the names of John Smith and Patrick Lannam to become settlers with deponent; that, on the seventh day of November of the same year, the said party reached Alachua, and immediately proceeded to clear land and erect dwellings of the following dimensions: one of twenty by fifteen feet for the two men and other settlers which deponent calculated to send on, and one other thirty by twenty feet for the dwelling of deponent, and for a store. While Smith and Lannam were at work, deponent returned to St. Augustine, having fallen sick, and continued indisposed for two and a half months. Early in January of eighteen hundred and twenty-one, Smith came to town, and reported that the houses were finished, wanting only locks and hinges, which report being confirmed by Burges, a very intelligent half-breed Indian, deponent furnished Smith locks and hinges, and forty dollars in cash, for the use of himself and Lannam. That, on the recovery of deponent, he understanding that several other settlers, employed by said Mitchell and Arredondo, had made establishments at Alachua on the aforesaid lands, some of which settlers being personally disagreeable to deponent, he abandoned the project and settlement. And this deponent further saith, that, during the time he was engaged in the before-mentioned settlement, he kept a diary of the occurrences, but which was destroyed by the rains and wet in swimming creeks. Therefore, in this deposition, he has not stated dates with precision, but to the best of his recollection. And deponent further saith, that the settlement made by himself, Smith, and Lannam, was about one and a half miles east of old Payne's town. And the deponent further saith, that he is not directly or indirectly interested in any lands or grants in the Alachua.

WM. T. HALL.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of July, 1823.

WATERS SMITH, *Mayor.*

J.

CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE, *Territory of Florida.*

On the seventh day of August, 1823, personally came and appeared before me, Waters Smith, mayor of the city of St. Augustine, Thomas Brush, who, being duly sworn, doth depose and say that he, with other settlers from New York, arrived at Alachua the beginning of January last for the purpose of settling; their expenses, as well as one year's maintenance, being borne by the Alachua Company. That the settlers or company have opened a road from Picolata, on the St. Johns, opposite Buena Vista, to Alachua, being a distance of about forty-five miles; they have erected eight bridges, and made the road passable for wheel carriages. That on the arrival at Alachua of deponent and his party, they found the Alachua settlement at Micanopé consisting of thirteen houses, most of the houses about twenty by eighteen feet, two of which, however, were larger, one being forty-five by thirty, and one thirty-five by twenty-five feet. To the settlement have since been added twelve houses, and materials ready for ten more houses; and hands are now employed sawing timber, and arrangements making, and many of the materials ready, for erecting a water saw-mill. The settlement at present consists of the following persons, viz. this deponent, Edwards, Thomas Brush, jr., George Downs, Sidney Haines, Ogden, John Smith Penny, Jacob Brandenburgh, Elisha Morris, Bonnell, Warburg, Chateauneuf, Moore, Levy, Edward Wanton, Elias Haines, Elihu Woodruff, William Wanton, and Dr. Kelly. The above persons, with their families, make in all forty-seven persons. There are three different plantations at the Alachua, and this present year there is planted, as near as this deponent can judge, about one hundred and fifty to one hundred and fifty-five acres. There are in those three plantations about three hundred acres of cleared land, and the settlers are about clearing land for twelve more plantations. That provisions from the seaboard to the Alachua, before the road above mentioned was opened, were transported at a very great expense; and deponent thinks that every bushel of corn must have cost, by the time it was delivered at the settlement, five dollars per bushel, and other provisions in proportion. And further this deponent saith not.

THOMAS BRUSH.

Subscribed and sworn to before me the day and year first above written.

WATERS SMITH, *Mayor.*

I do hereby certify that the foregoing are true and correct copies of four depositions taken before me, having been this day compared by me with the originals. In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal in the city of St. Augustine, at the said city, this eleventh day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three.

[L. S.] WATERS SMITH, *Mayor.*

CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE, *Territory of Florida.*

On the 11th day of September, A. D. 1823, personally came and appeared before me, Waters Smith, mayor of the city of St. Augustine, Edward M. Wanton, who, being duly sworn, doth depose and say that, on the 16th day of December, 1820, he was applied to for the purpose of settling at Alachua; deponent then resided at Picolata, and on the same day started for *Volusia*, and there concluded an agreement with Horatio S. Dexter to go and settle on the Alachua lands; and as said Dexter had previously entered into terms with the Alachua Company to settle on said lands, this deponent agreed with said Dexter to go and settle there, and to participate in the agreement previously made between Dexter and the company; and, on the agreement being made with Dexter, deponent immediately began to make preparation for the settlement, and continued at Volusia perfecting his arrangements until the 8th day of April following, when he left Volusia, and, on the 16th day of the same month, arrived at Alachua, and has ever since continued to reside there with his family; also, deponent's son, with his family, and still resides there. And deponent further saith, that the Alachua Company still continues to carry on and support the settlement at very great expense and trouble; and the establishment has been progressing ever since deponent first became a settler, and at the present time consists of twenty-eight houses, and preparing to erect others; have dug several wells, and established three plantations, on which is about three hundred acres cleared land, and about one half the cleared land cultivated the present season. Preparations are making for eleven or twelve more plantations. The company have had a road cut from Buena Vista to Alachua, a distance of forty or forty-five miles. A number of bridges have been erected on this road, as near as deponent can now recollect, about eight or ten. A saw-mill is about to be erected, the materials being ready; the present population being about fifty. And deponent further saith, that before the road was cut from Buena Vista to Alachua, it is his opinion that the cost and transportation of corn to the Alachua settlement would bring the price to five or six dollars per bushel, and every other article proportionally high.

EDWARD M. WANTON.

Subscribed and sworn to before me the 11th September, 1823.

WATERS SMITH, *Mayor.*

No. 11.

To the honorable the Commissioners appointed to ascertain claims and titles to lands in East Florida:

The petition of Moses E. Levy respectfully showeth: that your memorialist claims title to a tract of land, consisting of fourteen thousand five hundred acres, situated on the west bank of the Saint John's river, at a place called Hope hill. The first line runs south 75° west, 176 chains, to an old path of the Chocochate Indians. The second line runs north 25° west, 520 chains, to a stake on a path of the Okelooka Indians, and is bounded as follows: on the north by the Indian path last mentioned, on the east by the river St. Johns, and on all other sides by unseated lands; which title your memorialist derives from a grant made to Fernando M. Arredondo, sen., by Governor Coppinger, in virtue of the royal order of 29th March, 1815, who sold the same to your memorialist, and is the whole original grant. And your memorialist further showeth, that he is in actual possession

of said lands, that he is a citizen of the United States, and resident of Meconopé, in East Florida.

Documents filed with this memorial.

1. Copy of title to F. M. Arredondo, marked A.
2. Plat of survey, marked B.

Other documents relating to this claim will be found filed with a memorial of your petitioner, marked A. A. The papers alluded to are marked C, D, E. G.

[TRANSLATION.]

Bill of sale.

Know ye, that I, Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, inhabitant and merchant of this town, do declare that I am owner and lawful proprietor of a tract of land containing fourteen thousand five hundred acres, situated in the province of East Florida; and that Don Fernando, of the same surname, my son, is owner of another tract containing thirty-eight thousand five hundred acres, situated in the same province; which two tracts of land are intended to be sold to the firm of Hernandez and Chauviteau, under the condition that, within the final termination of two months, there shall be presented to them the necessary authority for the portion belonging to my aforesaid son, as also his title of acquisition therein; and, as respects the land which is my own property, there having only been required to be produced the copy, (of the title,) attested by the notary, Don Juan de Entralgo, of the ninth of August, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, it is presented to them, as also the map and explanation of the location and boundaries of both tracts. In which state the firm of Hernandez and Chauviteau agreed to my guarantee and security respecting my son, Don Fernando. There remained another difficulty to be got over somewhat greater, which was, to make it appear that no duties were to be paid thereon, for the reasons stated to the superintendent sub-delegate of the two Floridas, in a representation made to him on the seventh of July last; who, having taken all the necessary informations in the business, declared, by a decree of the twenty-fourth of the said month of July, that, in conformity to the proceedings, (as made out,) the matter should be sent back to the general administration, that a permit might be delivered as petitioned, with exemption from duties; and the only requisite that, on the delivery of the document, there should be a copy thereof given in to the Government and national bureau of Florida for the proper effect; upon view whereof, the administration aforesaid so determined yesterday, as will more particularly appear by the proceedings which are attached hereto upon nine sheets of paper, that the consequences which are just may ensue. And, in pursuance thereof, I declare for myself, and in the name of the said Don Fernando de la Maza, my son, on whose behalf, in the fullest manner, I give my voice and assurance, *derato et grato*, with an express renunciation of all laws upon the case, and which shall be cancelled upon a delivery of the power and title of ownership mentioned in the beginning, and upon these conditions I actually sell, and give in perpetual alienation to the firm of Hernandez and Chauviteau, inhabitants and merchants here, the aforesaid two tracts of land, the one, my property, containing fourteen thousand five hundred acres, and that of my son, thirty-eight thousand four hundred acres, both situated in the province of East Florida, having the bounds and courses appearing on the map attached to the proceedings, which are hereto annexed, upon which also are found the titles of my property; and, as respects the thirty-eight thousand four hundred acres of my son, his title of ownership shall be produced at the end of two months, a little more or less, attached to the power, which is to be added with proper notification to this writing; which two tracts of land I transfer in favor of the aforesaid Hernandez and Chauviteau, according to, and in their present state, with all their inlets, outlets, uses, customs, and appurtenances, acquired and lawful, thereto belonging and appurtaining, I and my son, Don Fernando, having possessed them free from all incumbrances, as I, the recorder of mortgages, do declare and certify hereafter, for the price and sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, out of which twenty thousand are appropriated for the land and sale of my son, and the remaining five thousand dollars for the land and sale of my own property; and of which two portions or amount of twenty-five thousand dollars, to which the price of both tracts amounts, as received in ready coin to my satisfaction. I renounce the proof, delivery, exception on account of pecuniary misreckoning, fraud, and other circumstances in the case, and do deliver, in the fullest manner, a formal receipt. Manifesting, as I do declare, that the price and just value of both lands is that already stated, and if they are worth any thing more, or may be valued above the contract, whatever it may be, I make of it to the purchasers a gift and donation, absolute, entire, perfect, and irrevocable, according to the right titles made out, with all recordings, clauses, entails, and requisites, for their better and necessary validity. In consideration whereof, I separate, quit, and transfer from myself and my legitimate son, Don Fernando, all title of propriety, voice and appeal, useful possession, ownership, and other deeds, real, personal, lawful, direct and indirect, which to the aforesaid two tracts of land we had and held in the part and portion which is set forth belonged to each: therefore, under the recited conditions and guarantee, I renounce and transfer them to the firm of Hernandez and Chauviteau, or to whomsoever may hold their power, that, as their own property, they may possess, enjoy, or alienate at their will by virtue of this writing, which I deliver them in testimony of an actual delivery, whereby is acknowledged their having acquired possession and holding the same without a necessity of other proof, from which I absolve them; and I bind myself to the security and validity of this sale with my present and future property, and by making a full guarantee for punctual fulfilment thereof, upon which I renounce all laws and privileges in my favor, which I moreover hereby bar. And we, the firm of Hernandez and Chauviteau, being present, do accept in our favor this writing, which is made to us of the aforesaid two tracts of land, for the sum, and in the manner which they are sold to us, and of which we acknowledge the delivery, with a renunciation of all the laws upon the case, and do deliver a formal receipt, dated in the ever faithful city of the Havana, the third of August, in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty.

I, the public notary, certify that I am acquainted with the parties conveying, who, moreover, ratified, delivered, and signed hereto, there being as witnesses, Don Rafael Garcia, Don Thomas Gomez, and Don Buenaventura Calvet, present, and residents.

FERNANDO DE LA MAZA ARREDONDO.
HERNANDEZ & CHAUVITEAU.

Before me: CAYETANO PONTON.

Copy of the title of ownership in favor of Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, of fourteen thousand five hundred acres of land situated to the west of St. John's river.

Don Joseph Coppinger, colonel in the royal army, civil and military governor, and head of public finance in this city of St. Augustine, in Florida, and province, on behalf of his Majesty:

Whereas, by a royal order of the 29th of March, one thousand eight hundred and fifteen, his Majesty has deigned to approve the gifts and rewards proposed by my predecessor, Brigadier Don Sebastian Kindelan, for the officers and soldiers, not only regulars, but citizens and other individuals of this province, who united in the defence thereof in the time of rebellion. One of the said favors being a distribution of vacant lands, and in consideration of Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo having manifested to me the distinguished and extraordinary services which he has rendered in various employs, which he exercised with liberality and usefulness to the royal treasury, and in duty towards his King and country, as also in the defence of the said province when it was invaded in the year one thousand eight hundred and twelve, as appears more fully by the memorial which he has presented to me, dated the twenty-first of March, one thousand eight hundred and seventeen, in regard to which, and in consequence of the authority which I exercise, I have thought fit, by my decree of the twenty-fourth of the same month of March, to grant his request, whereby, as a remuneration of his said services, there should be awarded him a donation of thirty thousand acres of land, with titles of absolute property, which have been designated in three different places, and one of them consisting of fourteen thousand five hundred acres, is situated to the west of the river St. John's, commencing its measurement to the north by the old path of the Chocochati Indians, whose dimensions and boundaries are known in the following manner: The first line runs south seventy-five degrees to the west, measuring one hundred and seventy-six chains; the second line runs north twenty-five degrees to the west, measuring five hundred and twenty chains parallel to the river St. Johns, until it meets the road from the town of Okelawaca, which road from thence to the river forms the last line, and finishes on the same path of the Indians, as more fully appears by the plan made out by Mr. Andrew Burgevin, surveyor, dated the fifth of the present month, in pursuance of my decree of the eighth of June of the present year, authorizing him for that purpose, and by virtue of that

which is granted by the aforesaid decree of concession of the twenty-fourth of March, one thousand eight hundred and seventeen; all which united proceeding remains in the archive of the present notary: Therefore, and in reference to the said worthy services, in compliance with the will of our sovereign, and of what is imposed by the laws for rewarding with distinction such as may be worthy, and in consideration of the said services, and of the persons who rendered them, I have determined to grant, and, in the name of his Majesty, and of the royal justice which I administer, do grant to the aforesaid Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo the aforesaid fourteen thousand five hundred acres of land in the place designated, without prejudice to a third person, for himself, his heirs, and successors, in absolute property, and make out to him, as by these presents I do, the suitable title thereto, whereby I separate it from the royal exchequer, all right and dominion which it held to the said land, and do yield and transfer to the aforesaid Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, his heirs and successors, that, by virtue thereof, he may possess it as his own, use and enjoy the same, without any rent, with all its inlets, outlets, uses, customs, rights, and appurtenances, which it has held and holds, and of acquisition or in right thereto belonging, and may touch, and of his own free will, sell, cede, transfer, and alienate, as they may best think fit: to all which I give my judicial authority as far as I can do, and of right ought, by virtue of what is set forth, and of the will of the sovereign.

Given under my hand, and countersigned by the underwritten notary of the Government and royal exchequer in this said city of St. Augustine, in Florida, the ninth of August, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen. JOSEPH COPPINGER.

By order of his Excellency:

JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary of Government and Royal Finance.

Conformable to the original remaining in the archives under my charge, to which I refer, and at the request of the party, do sign and subscribe this present copy on three sheets of common paper, stamps not being used. St. Augustine, in Florida, ninth day of August, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen.

JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary to the Government and Royal Finance.

Conformable to the originals remaining in the registry under my charge, to which I refer, and at the request of the party, I give these presents, at the ever faithful city of Havana, the ninth of August, one thousand eight hundred and twenty. Correction—"*Los concessiones*" *testado* is correct; "*acordado*" to be left out.

[L. S.] CAYETANO PONTON.

[L. S.] *College of Notarial Scriveners of the Havana.*

We, the subscribers, do certify that Don Cayetano Ponton, by whom this preceding copy appears attested, is also a public, faithful, legal, and confidential person, and to his acts there is and ought to be given all faith and credit in law and equity. In witness whereof, we seal this with our national collegiate seal, in this ever faithful city of the Havana, on the day of the above date.

PHS. ALVAR, (*Rubric.*)
JOSE NUNO DE CUETO, (*Rubric.*)
MANUEL DE AYALA, (*Rubric.*)

Faithfully translated from the originals in the Spanish language. Certified at St. Augustine, East Florida, this fifth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, and the forty-sixth year of the independence of the United States of America.

CHARLES VIGNOLES,
Public Translator.

I certify the foregoing to be a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

To the GOVERNOR:

Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, inhabitant of St. Augustine, and actually residing in the city of the Havana, through his son, of the same name, residing in this place, to your excellency, respectfully showeth:

That he has the honor of having served his Majesty in different employments and destinations, and particularly in the department of commissary of the Indians, without any salary, or any other emolument whatever, for more than twenty years, having discharged the duties of that office with the utmost exactitude, to the satisfaction of all the governors of this place, contributing thereby to the peace and harmony which existed with those savages; with which commission, and that of comptroller pro tem. of the royal military hospital of this town, which he likewise discharged for many years without any salary or emolument; which meritorious services have saved to the royal revenue many thousands of dollars, as is well known to your excellency, and to the public authorities of this place.

Latterly, after obtaining a discharge from these different employments, he separated himself from the service of his Majesty to attend to the discharge of his duty towards his family, he engaged himself in the fatiguing service of patrols, and aid-de-camp to the Governor de Estrada, in consequence of the invasion of this province in the year 1812, and for want of officers for that service, in which he was occupied until the year 1813; when, having been elected by a majority of votes, with all the necessary solemnities on the occasion, elector of the parish and district of this said province, he was obliged to go to the city of Havana, and remain there as one of the deputies of the Provincial Junta. To discharge the said duty, he was under the necessity, as a loyal subject, to expend large sums, which he willingly did, in the service of his King and country, being well persuaded that he would be rewarded for it at a future period.

He has been informed that the royal order of his Majesty of the 29th March, 1815, directs that a remuneration of grants of land be given to all the individuals who were armed in the defence of their country during the insurrection which began in 1812; and, as your petitioner is one of them, and is entitled, for this reason, to said gifts; as also being one of the oldest settlers, and having augmented his family and negroes ever since the cession of this province to his Majesty, and one of those whom the royal ordinances and laws recommend that they may be attended to, both in quality of first settlers, as also on account of his distinguished services, that he be preferred in the partition of lands; he therefore prays your excellency will be pleased to grant him, in absolute property, thirty thousand acres of land, to say, fifteen thousand acres to the southwest of the large lagoon known by the name of Lake George, which survey may be so made that a creek of sweet water, situated in that place, may occupy the centre of the front thereof; and the remaining fifteen thousand acres on the west side of the St. John's river, the measurement of which to commence from the old Indian Chucichatty path, opposite the site on which the firm of Panton and Leslie had their store established, known by the name of the Upper store, being at the south side of the great lagoon known by the name of Lake George, and thence in line to run southerly until it completes the number of acres; and, as the actual circumstances of the province does not permit at present the measurement and chaining of said lands, and, at the same time, as the survey could not take place for want of surveyors, as Don George Clarke, named by this Government, has other occupations which give him no time to attend to it, he therefore hopes, from the justice of your excellency, that you will be pleased to suspend the acknowledgment of the titles of the property whilst the memorialist does not obtain the plats of said lands, in order that their situation and limits may be specified with exactness, for perfecting the location and situation of the same, and, in the mean time, the grant which your lordship may think fit to make him may serve as a title, under your decree, in continuation; for it is the wish of the memorialist that, when the same be given him, that it may have all the requisites necessary; a favor which he hopes to receive from the justice of your excellency.

FERNANDO DE LA MAZA ARREDONDO.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, 1*st March*, 1817.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *March* 24, 1817.

In attention to the services which this party specifies, which are manifest and notorious, and making use of the power conferred on me by the laws, and the royal will, I grant in the name of his Majesty, and the royal justice which I administer, to Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, the senior, the 30,000 acres of land he solicits, in absolute property, in the places he has designated, without prejudice to a third person; of which titles of dominion will be given as soon as the plats to be made by the surveyor be presented, serving, in the mean time, this decree, and an equivalent, in all its parts, which, with the foregoing petition, will be filed in the archives of the notary of Government and royal finance office, from whence the interested will be furnished with a certified copy of the proceedings, properly authenticated, and in due form, in order that this concession may be duly credited, and that he may be able to make use of said lands, and to dispose of them as he may think proper.

COPPINGER.

Before me: JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary of the Government.

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S.B.L.C.*

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *June* 8, 1819.

Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, jun. inhabitant of this city, and in the name, and as attorney for his father, of the same name, now residing in the Havana, to your excellency respectfully showeth:

That, under decree of the 24th March, one thousand eight hundred and seventeen, your excellency thought proper to grant to his said father, in absolute property, 30,000 acres of land, in the two situations marked and designated in the certified copy which accompanies: And whereas the unfortunate situation of this province have not permitted that said lands be measured and laid off by the surveyor general, Don George Clarke, who had not time to attend to this survey in consequence of his absence, having been and now actually occupied on other service for the Government in the northern part of this province; and as there is a favorable opportunity for your memorialist having the said survey made by Don Andres Burgevin, a person who, by special commission of this Government, supplies the place of said Clarke, and who has hitherto refused to travel to the above-mentioned place, fearing the hostile disposition of the Indians; all of which were the causes that hindered his said father from obtaining the titles of dominion and property which he is entitled to, ever since the above mentioned date of the 24th of March, 1817:

Therefore your petitioner prays your excellency be pleased to authorize said Andres Burgevin, that he may proceed to the survey of said lands as is specified in said concession, separating from the second tract 500 acres, which he will survey, commencing about one mile to the south of the old Indian path of Chocochate, in order that they may be made in three different surveys, that is to say: one of 15,000, the other of 14,500, and one of the said 500 acres; a favor which he hopes to obtain from the justice of your excellency.

FERNANDO DE LA MAZA ARREDONDO, JR.

To the GOVERNOR.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *June* 8, 1819.

Let his request be granted accordingly; Don Andres Burgevin previously accepting the same, and taking the necessary oath, citing the parties to appear having lands adjoining. COPPINGER.

Before me: JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Escrivano to the Government.

In St. Augustine, on the same day, month, and year, I notify the foregoing decree to Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo. I attest: ENTRALGO.

On said day I notified Don Andres Burgevin the appointment of surveyor made him, and, in consequence thereof, said he accepted the same; promising, under oath, according to law, to comply well and truly, and to the best of his abilities, said commission, and signed, of which I attest. Before me: JUAN DE ENTRALGO.

ANDRES BURGEVIN.

I certify the preceding to be a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S.B.L.C.*

In the ever loyal city of Havana, on the 2d of November, 1820, before me, the notary, and witnesses, whose names will appear at foot, that the commercial firm of Hernandez and Chauviteau, inhabitants and merchants of this city, whom I know, and give full faith and credit, appeared before me, and declared that they give their full power, which by right is required and necessary, to Don Moses Elias Levy, inhabitant of this place; that, in the name of said grantors of said power of attorney to represent their persons, rights, and actions, may dispose at the highest price which at the time of sale may be offered, fifty-two thousand nine hundred acres of land, the property of said grantors, which they purchased in two lots comprising, the one of 14,500, the other of 38,400 acres, situated in the province of East Florida, under the limits and boundaries which the surveys set forth, attached to the documents and bill of sale which Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo made in this office the 3d August in this present year, and by which said attorney will be guided in giving the competent bill of sale of said 52,900 acres of land, under the clauses, renunciations, cessions, obligations, and requisites, which may be required for its validity and stability; all of which they now approve and ratify, as if they were personally present at its execution, disposing of the receipts thereof according to instructions, and, if necessary, requiring of Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo the exact fulfilment of the condition pending in the said bill of sale made to them on the third of August last past, without omitting the necessary judicial and extra-judicial proceedings, or conciliatory steps, which may be offered in the discharge of the duties which, by this power of attorney, are conferred on said Moses Elias Levy, being well understood that the omission of any precise clause or circumstance which in this instrument ought to be included, may not detain him from practising in all which may necessarily occur in all its incidents and occurrences which they confer on him, the said Levy, in the most ample and general form, without any limitation whatever, with ample power to judge, to take oath, to summon, protest, to take exception, to appeal, to supplicate, to ask for terms, to abandon and separate, or to continue the same, as may best suit him, as also to substitute, to revoke substitutes, to name others, and exonerate them in due form; for the security of which they bind themselves, their properties, present or future, with an inserted clause of guarantee for its punctual fulfilment, upon which they renounce, from this time, when the occasion may offer, to realize the effects for which this power of attorney is given, all the laws and privileges in their favor and defence, and that which prohibits it.

In testimony whereof, the parties have signed this instrument before the witnesses, Rafael Garcia, Tomas Gomez, Buenaventura Calvet, present, and inhabitants.

HERNANDEZ & CHAUVITEAU.

Before me: MANUEL DE AYALA.

Conformable to its original, on file in the office of Don Cayetano Ponton, to which I refer, and in consequence of the indisposition of the said officer, and at the request of the party, I give these presents, in the ever loyal city of Havana, this second day of November, 1820.

MANUEL DE AYALA.

I certify the foregoing to be a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

This indenture, made the 8th day of June, in the year of our Lord 1821, between Francisco Hernandez, of the city of Havana, in the island of Cuba, merchant, and John Joseph Chauviteau, of the same place, merchant, by Moses Elias Levy, of Philadelphia, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, their attorney, duly qualified, constituted, authorized, and appointed by them for that purpose, by a power of attorney bearing date on the 12th day of November, 1820, of the one part, and Abraham M. Cohen, of the city of Philadelphia, merchant, of the other part, *witnesseth:* that the said parties of the first part, for, and in consideration of, the sum of $35,875 to them in hand paid at or before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge, and themselves therewith fully satisfied, contented, and paid, have bargained, sold, aliened, transferred, conveyed, released, and confirmed, and by these presents do bargain, sell, alien, transfer, convey, release, and confirm, unto the said Abraham M. Cohen, his heirs and assigns, all that piece, parcel, or tract of land, situate, lying, and being, in the Territory of East Florida, bounded as follows: situate on the west bank of the river San Juan, bounded on the north side by an old Indian path of the Chocochati Indians, and containing 14,500 acres of land, more or less, which said tract of land was surveyed by Andres Burgevin, surveyor, appointed by a decree of the Government of Florida, a copy of a draft of whose survey is hereunto annexed, marked A, reference being had thereunto, the boundaries, situation, and extent of the said tract will more fully appear; also, a certain other tract of land situate, lying, and being in the said Territory of East Florida, situate on both sides of a creek called Alligator creek, beginning at seven miles west of an Indian town called Alligator town, (leaving the said distance of seven miles between the said Indian village and the now described tract,) being about twelve miles in length and five in breadth, that is to say, two and a half miles on each side of said river, containing 38,400 acres, a plan or draft of which last mentioned tract is hereunto annexed, marked B, by which the boundaries, situation, and extent of the said last mentioned tract will more fully appear, being the tracts conveyed by Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, on behalf of himself and Son, to the said parties of the first part, by an instrument of writing bearing date at Havana the 3d day of August, 1820, and confirmed subsequently by Don Fernando, the son, together with all and singular the woods, under-woods, waters, water-courses, ways, houses, fences improvements, rights, members, hereditaments, and appurtenances thereunto belonging, or in any wise appertaining; and the reversion and reversions, remainder and remainders, rents, issues, and profits thereof, and of every part and parcel thereof; and, also, all the estate, right, title, interest, benefit, property, claim, and demand, whatsoever, in law or

equity, of them, the said parties of the first part, and each of them, of, in, and to, the same, and every part and parcel thereof, to have and to hold the said lands, tenements, hereditaments, and all and singular the premises hereby granted, or intended so to be, with the appurtenances, unto the said Abraham M. Cohen, his heirs and assigns, to his own proper use and behoof forever; and the said Francisco Hernandez and John Joseph Chauviteau, for themselves, their heirs, executors, and administrators, separately and jointly, do covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said Abraham M. Cohen, his executors, administrators, and assigns, that they have not jointly done, committed, or suffered any act, matter, or thing whatsoever, whereby the title of the said parties of the first part to the premises, as above described, has been or can be impaired, weakened, destroyed, or encumbered, and that the said parties of the first part, each, against his own acts and deeds, and against his own heirs, and all person or persons claiming under him, or his heirs, all and singular the premises, unto the said Abraham M. Cohen, his heirs and assigns, shall and will warrant, and at all times defend, by these presents. In witness whereof, the parties to these presents have, interchangeably, hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written. FRANCISCO HERNANDEZ,
J. JOSEPH CHAUVITEAU,
By their attorney, M. E. LEVY.

The word "year" being first inserted in the second line.
Sealed and delivered in the presence of
A. A. BROWNE.
J. SIMON COHEN.

Received, on the day of the date of the above indenture, of above named Abraham M. Cohen, the sum of $35,875, the consideration named. M. E. LEVY.
Witness: J. SIMON COHEN.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Be it remembered, that, on the ninth day of June, anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and twenty-one, before me, the Hon. Bushrod Washington, one of the associate justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, came Joseph Simon Cohen, of the city of Philadelphia, attorney at law, one of the subscribing witnesses to the above written indenture, who, being duly sworn, did depose and say that he was present, and saw Moses Elias Levy, therein named, sign, seal, and deliver the said indenture, as the attorney of Francisco Hernandez and John Joseph Chauviteau, for the uses and purposes therein mentioned; and this deponent, together with A. A. Browne, signed their names thereto, as witnesses thereof.
J. SIMON COHEN.

Witness my hand and seal the day and year last aforesaid. BUSHROD WASHINGTON.

Recorded 18th January, 1822. A true copy from the records in my office.
Attest: JAMES SCOTT TINGLE, *C. C. C.*

This indenture, made the 8th day of June, in the year 1821, between Abr. M. Cohen, of the city of Philadelphia, within named, of the first part, and Moses E. Levy, of the said city, of the other part, witnesseth, that the said party of the first, for and in consideration of the sum of $35,875, to him in hand paid at or before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have bargained, sold, aliened, and confirmed, and by these presents do bargain, sell, alien, assign, convey, release, and confirm unto the said Moses Elias Levy, his heirs and assigns, those two several tracts or pieces of land described and contained in the within deed, with all and singular the appurtenances and hereditaments belonging, or anywise appertaining, and the reversion and reversions, remainder and remainders, rents, issues, and profits thereof, and every part thereof, and the estate, right, title, interest, benefit, claim, and demand, whatsoever, in law and equity, of him, the said party of the first part, of, in, and to the same, and every part thereof, to have and to hold the same, and all and singular the premises hereby granted, or intended so to be, with the appurtenances, unto the said Moses Elias Levy, his heirs and assigns, to his own proper use and behoof forever; and the said Abraham M. Cohen, for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, doth covenant, promise, and agree to and with the said Moses Elias Levy, his executors and administrators, and assigns, that he has not done, committed, or suffered any act, matter, or thing, whatsoever, whereby the title of the said party of the first part, to the premises, as above described and conveyed, has been, or can be, weakened, impaired, destroyed, or encumbered; and that he, against his heirs, and all person or persons claiming under him or them, all and singular the premises unto the said Moses Elias Levy, his heirs and assigns, shall and will warrant and at all times defend by these presents. In witness whereof, the said Abraham M. Cohen hath hereunto set his hand and seal the day and year first above written.
ABRAHAM MYERS COHEN.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of
A. A. BROWNE.
J. SIMON COHEN.

Received, on the day of the date of the above indenture, of the above named Moses Elias Levy, the sum of $35,875, the consideration above named.
ABRAHAM MYERS COHEN.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Be it remembered, that, on the 9th day of June, anno Domini eighteen hundred and twenty-one, before me, the Hon. Bushrod Washington, one of the associate justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, came Joseph Simon Cohen, of the city of Philadelphia, attorney at law, one of the subscribing witnesses to the preceding indenture, who, being duly sworn, did depose and say that he was present, and saw Abraham M. Cohen, the grantor therein named, sign, seal, and deliver the said indenture as his own act and deed, for the use and purposes therein mentioned: and that this deponent, together with A. A. Browne, signed their names thereto as witnesses thereof. J. SIMON COHEN.

Witness my hand and seal the day and year last aforesaid. BUSHROD WASHINGTON.

Recorded the 18th January, 1822. A true copy from the records in my office.
Attest: JAMES SCOTT TINGLE, *C. C. C.*

Don Andres Burgevin, as surveyor, appointed by a decree of this Government, made the 8th of June of the present year, in favor of the interested:

I certify that I have measured and laid off to Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, sen., a tract of land containing fourteen thousand five hundred acres, situated on the west bank of the river St. Johns, beginning on its north side, by the old Indian road of Chocochati, and being conformable, in its other points, to the preceding plat. [See plat No. 11, at the end of Doc. No. 412.]

In witness whereof, I give the present, which I sign in St. Augustine, Florida, the 5th August, 1819.
ANDRES BURGEVIN.

A copy of its original, to which I refer.
ANDRES BURGEVIN.

DR. *Messrs. Hernandez and Chauviteau, in account with Fernando de la Maza Arredondo.* CR.

1820, August 3. To a tract of land consisting of thirty-eight thousand four hundred acres in East Florida, on the margin of the creek known by the name of Alligator creek, belonging to my son, of the same name, as appears by the indenture and bill of sale in the office of Panton, the notary public, of this date, which expresses having been sold for 20,000 dollars, but in reality for - - - -	$25,000	By M. E. Levy's order on said gentlemen, dated the 10th May, and paid by the said gentlemen -	$5,000
To 14,500 acres of land situated on the banks of the river St. Johns, of said province, in the old Indian tract, or road of Chocochati, belonging to me, for the amount of $10,875, although, in the said sale, appears to have been sold but for $5,000 - - -	10,875	By do. of this day's date . - - -	5,000
		By 15,000 lbs. copper leaches or boilers, which I have received - - - -	15,000
		By M. E. Levy's note, payable in one and two years after the United States of America taking possession of said province, free of any responsibility of said Messrs. Hernandez and Chauviteau - - - -	10,875
	$35,875		$35,875

HAVANA, *3d August*, 1820. (Duplicate.) FERNANDO DE LA MAZA ARREDONDO.

I certify the above to be a true translation of an account current in the Spanish language.
ST. AUGUSTINE, *December* 17, 1823. F. J. FATIO, *S. B. L. C.*

MOSES E. LEVY VS. UNITED STATES.

Evidence of Thomas Murphy.

Q. How long have you been acquainted with the settlement of Alachua?

A. I have been on the land in 1821. I have been previously acquainted with the circumstances of the settlement in February of the same year, and was employed by Mr. Mitchell, one of the owners, and Mr. Dexter, agent, to keep the books relative to this settlement.

Q. Do you know when Mr. Dexter was engaged to promote that settlement?

A. The 1st November, 1820, as far as I recollect, he was engaged by Mr. Mitchell to make a settlement at Alachua, but would be more certain by referring to his books.

Q. Were any other persons engaged at the same time?

A. Not in December, but in February Mr. Wanton was engaged by Mr. Dexter, on the part of Mr. Mitchell; and afterwards, and in March of the same year, by Mr. Arredondo, confirmed the said nomination.

Q. How do you know of such arrangements, and Mr. Arredondo's agreement to it?

A. I was present at Volusia when Mr. Dexter engaged Mr. Wanton. Mr. Arredondo's assent became acquainted with by correspondence from himself.

Q. Do you know what powers Mr. Mitchell gave Mr. Dexter?

A. I do not know whether he gave him any more powers than to effect a settlement at Alachua, with the consent of the Indians.

Q. Was it to induce others to go to the land?

A. I do not know, at that time; but subsequently, and ever since, that Mr. Mitchell approved of the employment of Mr. Dexter, of myself.

Q. By Mr. Hamilton. How long did you stay at Alachua, and at what time did you go there?

A. I went in August, 1821; staid there until the spring of 1822. Have not been there since.

Q. Do you consider yourself a settler there?

A. I do not.

Q. Were you, at the time, a Spanish subject?—Did you make a settlement of yourself at the time?

A. I did not.

Q. Was there a settlement there the first time you went?

A. There was.

Q. Describe it?

A. There were about eight buildings; one large log house, used as a lodging house, a trading store with the Indians, a corn house, a kitchen, and two negro cabins. The second time there were very little alterations, except some additional negro houses.

Q. Was Mr. Wanton a Spanish subject?

A. He was.

Q. Had he any family?

A. He had a son the first time I was there, and in November following his —— came there as I was about leaving the settlement.

Q. Have they remained there since?

A. I believe they have.

Q. Did Mr. Wanton go there to make a settlement, or trade with the Indians?

A. To make a settlement.

Q. Did Mr. Wanton do any thing but trade with the Indians?

A. He cleared and cultivated part of a field, and introduced stock there.

Q. Had he any negroes?

A. He had about seven or eight the first time; I found that he had cleared, when I went there in August, the field.

Q. Was any arrangement made by the Indians to permit Mr. Dexter and Mr. Wanton to make this settlement? What was the nature of the arrangement?

A. As far as I know, to cultivate and establish.

Q. What was the establishment?

A. Principally a trading establishment, and to cultivate the land.

Q. Who were the Indians?

Y. One of King Hijah's sons, John Hicks, Osecke, Latake, and others that I don't recollect.

Q. Was Micanope or Jumper there?

A. Neither.

Q. Did Micanope or Jumper ever approve of the settlement?

A. Does not recollect whether they approved of it. Has frequently heard them speak, and never heard them speak as regards the settlement.

Q. Was Mr. Dexter there the first time you went?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you see Mr. Dexter the first time you went?

A. I did. He (Mr. Dexter) never lived there permanently.

Q. What did Mr. Dexter do?

A. I have seen him assist Mr. Wanton in the store, and also in making arrangements for the reception of Indian agent, bringing up provisions from the river St. Johns to the Alachua settlement.

Q. Did Mr. Dexter never build a house there?

A. Never, to my knowledge.

Q. Where is the place of residence of Mr. Dexter?

A. At Volusia, and occasionally in town.

Q. Are you certain Mr. Dexter was employed to make a settlement on account of the Alachua proprietors?

A. I am positive he did.

Q. Do you not know that he went there for the purpose of making the settlement, and, at the same time, had a trading house? Was the said store for himself, or the Alachua concern?

A. I conceive it was on account of the Alachua concern.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1823.

Mr. Murphy re-examined by Mr Hamilton.

Q. Have you ever understood that Mr. Dexter had an Indian title to this land?

A. I have.

Q. Have you seen it?

A. I have not. I have seen a copy of a relinquishment of the Indians of said lands in favor of Dexter, as agent of Arredondo and Son.

Q. Who do you understand were the witnesses to said contract?

A. Edward Wanton, William M. Gibson, and Wm. Wanton.

Q. Do you know whether these persons are interested in this grant?

A. Mr. E. Wanton is interested in the grant.

Q. Was there any difficulty in making this settlement?

A. It was considered dangerous at that time.

Q. After obtaining permission from the Indians, do you imagine it was dangerous?

A. I imagine not.

Q. Did you understand why the settlement was not commenced before?

A. No.

Q. Was either of the Arredondos residents of this Territory at the time of the settlement?

A. Fernando Arredondo, jun.

Q. Were any Spanish families introduced antecedent to 1822, into this Territory, for this settlement?

A. I do not know. I never understood that there were.

Q. Are the Arredondos men of large property?

A. I do not know.

Q. Did you understand that the Arredondos owned large grants, other than this?

A. Merely from general rumor.

Q. Did you understand that those grants were antecedent to this grant?

A. Know nothing of it.

Q. Do you understand that Mr. Dexter makes an adverse claim to this grant?

A. I have.

Q. When did you come to this province?

A. In May or June, 1818.

Q. Were any attempts made to settle the Alachua at that time?

A. None that I know of.

Q. Did you never hear of the Alachua grant before you were engaged to settle it?

A. No, never.

Q. Did you ever understand from Messrs. Dexter, Mitchell, and others, that it was necessary to commence the settlement in order to save the grant?

A. No, I did not.

Q. Was there not a great deal of anxiety expressed on the occasion?

A. Mr. Mitchell wrote to Mr. Dexter on the occasion.

Q. When did the settlement commence?

A. In April, 1821.

Q. By Mr. Lancaster. Might there not, as far as you know, have been improvements at Alachua previous to 1821?

A. There might.

Q. Do you know whether Mr. Dexter was a Spanish subject at the time he was employed to make this settlement?

A. He was.

Q. Do you know whether Mr. Dexter was to settle on the land by agreement with the proprietors?

A. I do not.

Testimony of Hipolite Chateauneuf.

Q. By claimant. Are you established at Alachua?

A. I am.

Q. How long have you been established?

A. One year.

Q. From whence came you?

A. From France.
Q. From what part of the United States?
A. From Delaware county, State of New York.
Q. By whom were you engaged to come to this country?
A. By Mr. Levy, now present.
Q. How long are you from France?
A. Six years.
Q. Were you in this country all that time?
A. No, in the United States.
Q. Did any other persons come with you from New York to Alachua.
A. Yes, twenty-seven or twenty-eight.
Q. For what purpose did you come to Alachua?
A. To cultivate the olive, vine, and other productions of the south of France.
Q. Who paid your expenses?
A. Mr. Levy paid my expenses from the north, as well as the persons who came with me.
Q. Do you know what were the expenses of yourself and other persons from New York to Alachua?
A. I do not; but imagine them to be very great.
Q. Were not you and the other settlers engaged as permanent settlers?
A. We were.
Q. How have you all been supported at Alachua?
A. By provisions principally furnished by Mr. Levy.
Q. Has not the maintenance of the settlement been very expensive?
A. Yes, very expensive.
Q. For what purpose do you leave the Territory?
A. For the purpose of bringing my family and two other French families.
Q. How many houses are there built at Alachua?
A. There are about twenty finished, and about as many not.
Q. How many persons are there at the establishment?
A. About fifty odd, white and black.
Q. How many negroes are there?
A. Seventeen or eighteen.
Q. Do you know that there are a great number of familes in Europe engaged to come to Alachua?
A. I have understood it from Mr. Levy and a Mr. Warburg.
Q. Where is Mr. Warburg from?
A. From Hamburg.
Q. When did Mr. Warburg arrive at the settlement?
A. At the same time I did.
Q. Are the settlers now at Alachua engaged in clearing and making new settlements?
A. Yes, certainly.
Q. About what quantity of land is there cleared?
A. About seven or eight hundred acres.
Q. How many acres of land has there been cultivated this year?
A. I cannot say, but believe about two hundred.
Q. How many acres have the settlers cleared?
A. Mr. Levy has about one hundred and twenty.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1823.

Testimony of Mr. Alvarez.

Q. By claimant's attorney. Do you know the signature, now before you, of Juan Nepomuceno de Arrocha?
A. I am acquainted, as clerk, with the signature of *Arocha;* and, to the best of my knowledge, believe it to be the same.
Q. Were all the acts sent by him to this office sent enclosed with acts of the intendant, or were they sometimes sent without them?
A. They were generally sent enclosed in official letters of the intendant, and at others without.
Q. When they were sent without letters of the intendant were they regarded as evidence? Was it customary to receive a certificate without a seal of office?
A. Yes; the secretary has no seal of office.
Q. By Mr. Hamilton. Has the intendant any seal of office?
A. I am not certain whether it was a public or private seal.
Q. Has the intendant a seal he affixes to public papers?
A. He does.
Q. Does he affix it to royal orders?
A. No.
Q. To what does he affix the seal of office?
A. To patents, grants; and the secretary has no right to place the seal of the intendant to any document.
Q. Whose duty was it to promulgate the royal orders to the governor of Florida?
A. The secretary issued the royal orders, and the intendant enclosed them to the governors.
Mr. Alvarez states that, if the secretary had have affixed intendant's seal to any certificate of his own, it would have been rejected.

Testimony of John Cavedo.

Q. By attorney of claimant. When were you last in Havana?
A. About the month of February or March, 1823.
Q. Do you know the signature of the secretary of the intendancy?
A. Yes, I have seen the signature, both in the Havana and St. Augustine; have seen his signature in the notary public's office and custom-house.
Q. Did you know Arrocha as secretary of the intendancy?
A. I did.
Q. Have you seen him at his office?
A. I have. I never spoke to him, and have seen him at his table writing. I have never seen any document bearing his signature in his office.
Q. Was it not a matter of public notoriety that he was the secretary of the intendancy at Havana?
A. Yes.
Q. Was the intendant in the office at the same time you were there?
A. No; he had a separate office.
Q. Did you undertand that the secretary acted of his own will, or under the direction of the intendant?
A. I never understood that he had powers separate from those of the intendant.
Q. Those papers you have seen in the custom-house with Arrocha's signature, were they sent there by him, or the intendant?
A. In letters of the intendant.

Mr. Gomez's testimony.

Q. Is that the signature of Mr. Arrocha?
A. It is, to the best of my knowledge.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1823.

George J. F. Clarke, being introduced and sworn, was examined by claimant's counsel.

Q. What was the state of the Seminole nation, in the neighborhood of Alachua, in the years 1818, 1819, 1820; whether disturbed or not? and if so, the causes of disturbance?
A. General Jackson's army broke up at Micasooky town, on the borders of Florida, in May, 1818; the army then progressed east of the town of Suwanee, lying northwest of the centre of Alachua about thirty miles, which they broke up. The Indians, in consequence of which, were dispersed in small parties, and were scattered over East Florida as far as Indian river and the seaboard. With these circumstances I became acquainted from report. I am unacquainted with them myself. I am not certain with regard to the distance from Alachua to the *Suwanee.* The Indians were dispersed in small marauding parties, and it was considered dangerous to go among them. This was the state of affairs, more or less, until the late transfer of this country to the American Government.
Q. Did the unsettled state of affairs in Spain, in 1818, 1819, 1820, cause any degree of stagnation in the business generally in this Territory?
A. Florida has been upon the decline from the revolution in France, and at this period was at a very low ebb; so low, indeed, that it scarcely could have been worse.
Q. Was not the Government of this Territory jeopardized or enfeebled by the unsettled state of Spain?
A. The Government was almost destitute at that period of funds and military, and unable to protect those who were at a distance from the town.
Q. Were not the enterprise and exertions of the inhabitants of this Territory, at that time, very much cramped and paralyzed in consequence of these causes?
A. The efforts of the inhabitants were much enervated, in consequence of their political insecurity.
Q. Whether, from these causes, emigration from all quarters, and particularly from Spain, was not checked?
A. It was; and I believe from these causes. As for emigration from Europe, we seldom had much; but from the United States, from which we generally received emigrants.
Q. Was it not more difficult to get emigrants from Europe under such a state of affairs, than if no disturbance or difficulties had existed?
A. It was.

Cross-examined.

Q. Do you think that this state of affairs would prevent emigration from Cuba to this country even under the protection of some wealthy or powerful personage?
A. I really cannot say.
Q. Were the inhabitants of this Territory in the habit of travelling into the interior?
A. It was not customary; there was but little travelling.
Q. Why not?

A. Because, in the first place, they had no business to call them them there, and there was danger, besides, apprehended.

Q. Was there any apprehension of the Indians by the inhabitants?

A. There was.

Q. Were the inhabitants averse to making settlements upon the outskirts of the present settlements?—I do not mean insulated location among the Indians.

A. Yes. They were averse to being on the frontier, although there were some hardy few who formed a frontier, though none wished or was willing to go beyond them.

Q. What are the Spanish inhabitants in the Territory, emigrants of old Spain?

A. I do not know.

Q. Do you know whether they are few or many?

A. I do not know.

Q. Do you know whether there are 20 or 100 more or less, either one or the other?

A. I really do not know; I never made any inquiry.

Q. Have you ever resided in the city?

A. I have had occasion to be here frequently, but never for a long period at once since the year 1808.

Q. Have you not made it your study to gain an intimate acquaintance with the population and general resources of Florida?

A. I have, sir, until the change of Governments.

Q. Are you not the author of many pieces appearing in the Florida Herald, signed *A Native Floridian?*

A. I am.

Q. Have you not published some pieces upon the subject of the Indians?

A. Some of my pieces have been published, but not by me.

Q. Have you known any emigration of Spanish subjects, not *Minorcans*, unconnected with Government?

A. Yes; from Cuba, who came upon a bounty paid by the Spanish Government.

Q. Did you know any of them?

A. I did; do not recollect the names at present; came here about 1800; their descendants have left this place.

Q. Do you recollect of any emigration from Old Spain direct, or from Europe, Spanish subjects?

A. I do not.

Q. Do you know whether it has been the subject of solicitude of the Spanish Government to increase the populatiou of Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Floridas?

A. It was. I have seen a proclamation in one of the publications of the United States, which was intended to induce persons to emigrate and settle in Cuba—did not obtain my knowledge of Puerto Rico from the same source.

Q. Was the Spanish Government jealous of the emigration of the citizens of the United States?

A. It was. At one time, about 1792, the Territory was open to all; afterwards a proclamation, about 1804 or '5, prohibiting the emigration only of citizens of the United States.

Q. Was this order of prohibition enforced?

A. It was, until the cession, although there were occasional exceptions.

Q. Did not the revolution in 1817, under McGregor, increase the jealousy?

A. It did not.

Q. The incursion under McGregor was principally conducted by Americans, and principally conducted by them—was it not?

A. Yes.

Q. What was the conduct of the Spanish population at that time?

A. Generally in favor of the Government.

Q. Was the revolution in 1812 principally supported by the American population of this Territory, aided by the American army?

A. It was.

Q. Do you know of any American citizen who aided McGregor in his revolution?

A. I recollect but one only.

Q. In consequence of the revolution of 1812, were not bounties of lands given by orders of the King to such persons as remained faithful in their allegiance, and served the Government in some military capacity?

A. Yes.

Gabriel William Perpall, on part of the claimant.

Question by Mr. Lancaster. Will you state the situation of the Seminole Indians in the neighborhood of Alachua in 1818, 1819, 1820?

A. They were in a very disturbed and turbulent state. The Indian settlements having been broken up, and their towns destroyed by Jackson's army, they dispersed themselves over the country as far south as Indian river, and between that and Tampa, and on the coast.

Q. Were they considered as stationary?

A. No; they were roving about.

Q. Was it not considered as dangerous, at that time, to go out to Alachua, for fear of meeting some of those roving parties of Indians?

A. It was; it was always necessary for the surveyors to take with them, as a safeguard, a *negro* to whom the Indians were known, and who was known by them.

Q. By Col. Hamilton. What do you suppose is the number of the Spanish inhabitants, settlers, from Spain?

A. I know of but three from Spain.

Q. Do you know of any settlers, Spanish subjects, from Spain, since the year 1800?

A. No.

Q. Have the Spanish Government been jealous of the population from the United States latterly?

A. They were, I believe.

Q. What induces you to suppose so?

A. The Government could neither grants them lands, nor even allow them to take the oath of allegiance.

Q. What was the cause of this restriction?

A. The revolution of 1812 was one of the causes.

Q. Did the Government of this country entertain any doubts of its political security in 1812 or 1817?

A. I do not know.

Q. Did the inhabitants of this country, in the year 1817, 1818, 1819, from the insecure and unsettled state of the Government?

A. They did feel themselves insecure by reason of the incursions of these disturbers of the public tranquillity.

Q. Were the inhabitants of the country friendly to the Spanish Government in 1817, 1818, 1819?

A. Some were, and some were not.

Mr. Francis P. Sanchez examined by Mr. Lancaster, in behalf of claimant.

Q. Were you employed by Messrs. Mitchell and Arredondo for the purpose of furnishing supplies for the Alachua settlement?

A. I was employed in the last of 1820 or '21, by Messrs. Mitchell and Arredondo, to procure supplies for the Alachua settlement: I was busied, from the time of my engagement with Messrs. Mitchell and Arredondo, in furnishing supplies till the last of 1822, to the amount of four or five thousand dollars.

Q. What were the supplies which you furnished?

A. They were principally provisions; some few dry goods.

Q. Did you understand whether the supplies were for the purpose of making a settlement or entering into trade?

A. I understood that they were intended for a settlement.

Q. Are you aware of any other expenses incurred by the company than those in which you were concerned, and was the amount large or small?

A. As large or larger than those in which I was concerned.

Q. Were these expenses incurred during the time in which they were contracting their expenses with you?

A. They were.

Q. Who incurred them?

A. Messrs. Arredondo and Mitchell.

Q. Do you know, of your own proper knowledge, that this settlement was made by Mr. Levy?

A. I know it only from my correspondence with Mr. Levy's agent. I had written to Mr. Wanton, Mr. Levy's agent, giving him directions concerning the erection of buildings, &c.: from Mr. Levy and from the agent I received letters, saying that the works and improvements had been attended to, and were progressing as fast as possible.

Q. How long were you employed by Mr. Levy to furnish him with supplies for his settlement?

A. From March or April, 1822, until sometime in the beginning of 1823.

Q. What was about the amount of the supplies furnished for Mr. Levy?

A. About fifteen or sixteen hundred dollars.

Q. Do you know of any other expenses incurred by Mr. Levy for this settlement?

A. I do: he has paid in my presence moneys to different persons for the settlement, besides not less than fourteen negroes, which I received from Mr. Levy for the settlement at Alachua.

Q. Can you form any estimate of what amount Mr. Levy expended upon the settlement?

A. I suppose he has expended from three to five thousand dollars, exclusive of his account with me, and the

cost of the above fourteen negroes, besides stock sent there by Mr. Levy.

Anthony Rutant examined on part of claimant, by claimant's attorney.

Q. Did you go to Alachua last year to take charge of Mr. Levy's agricultural establishment there, and at what time?

A. I did, on the 18th July, 1822.

Q. Was it your intention to establish yourself permanently there?

A. Yes, in concert with Mr. Levy.

Q. Be so good as to state whether, and if any, what articles you took there, and the amount?

A. As near as I can tell about 799 dollars in value, of which 200 dollars was in dry goods, six horses, and other articles of agriculture, made up the amount of about 799 dollars, as per invoice, more or less.

Q. Will you state what was the state of the settlement when you arrived there?

A. There were about twenty-five acres cleared and planted in corn.

Q. How many negroes did you find there?

A. But one. Mr. Wanton, the agent, used occasionally to hire Indian negroes. There were two white persons employed there.

Q. By Col. Hamilton. How long did you remain there?

A. Between two and three months.

Q. Are you a settler there now?

A. I am not.

Q. Have you been there since?

A. I have been there occasionally, but not as a settler.

Dr. William Simmons sworn, and examined by claimant's attorney.

Q. Will you be so good as to state generally what you know concerning the settlement at Alachua?

A. I think it was in February, 1822, I was there; there was then five, or six, or seven houses. Mr. Wanton was there, and established there, and I understood had been there upwards of a year. There were five or six negroes about the establishment. I remained there about a fortnight on my visit to that place. I observed, during my stay, several head of cattle belonging to the establishment. I was there again in the course of the last month; there were three additional houses; there was also an additional white family, a Mr. Brush, with whom was residing three white men, who, I understood, had come out as settlers. I was also at Mr. Levy's settlement, Pilgrimage, about three miles off. I do not recollect the number of persons there, but I should judge that there were thirty, about eight or nine of whom were whites. I observed five or six horses and three team of oxen, which were employed on the settlement: I did not see the rest of the stock. There was a range of tenements which would accommodate nearly all the persons there; besides which, I observed a corn-house, stable, and an out-house, which served, I believe, as a negro house, besides a blacksmith's shop. There was a good crop of corn raised this year; quite sufficient, I should think, for the support of the whole establishment for a year.

Q. You travelled upon a road from Alachua to St. John's river, which road was made by the Alachua Company?

A. I did. The road must have been made at a considerable expense, as it extends for about fifty miles; the road being sufficiently wide for a carriage, and having on it nine bridges.

Q. From the information which you have been able to obtain, can you say what number of people there are settled at Alachua?

A. Upon the three settlements, Mr. Wanton, Colonel Haines, and Mr. Levy's, there were about fifty persons.

Q. Did there appear to be any preparations making for any other settlement?

A. There were two other settlements under way, having commenced clearing and cutting for the purpose of building: there was more than one family at each settlement. The largest proportion of settlers are at Mr. Levy's, the next at Mr. Wanton's.

Q By Colonel Hamilton. What was your intention or motive for visiting that part of the country?

A. Merely from motives of curiosity, and having a desire to see the country.

Q. Had Mr. Wanton his family there in 1822?

A. *He had.*

Q. Were there any families besides the one you have mentioned?

A. There were two negro families besides.

Q. What was Mr. Wanton's occupation?

A. He had the directions of the planting, and other concerns, and had a store for the purpose of trading with the Indians.

Q. Were there any other persons besides the negroes there?

A. The proprietors were expected, and had arrived, but merely to look after their concerns. I saw Mr. Murphy there.

Q. Do you think that Mr. Wanton was in Alachua for any other purpose than that of trading with the Indians?

A. I understood that Mr. Wanton was there rather for the purpose of becoming a settler under the conditions of the grant.

Q. Did you understand that Mr. Murphy was there for the same purpose?

A. No. I understood that he was employed by the concern as corresponding clerk. He was not established there, but by engagement he was to meet the proprietors at that time. At my first visit, there was no other person established there but Mr. Wanton and some negroes.

Testimony of James Riz, examined by claimant's attorney.

Q. Were you not, sometime ago, engaged to forward a settlement on the Alachua?

A. I was engaged by Mr. Peter Mitchell, of Savannah, in November, in 1820, to assist in promoting the settlement at Alachua, under the direction of Messrs. Arredondo and William T. Hall.

Q. When did you arrive there?

A. I arrived on the 5th of December, of the same year, at Picolata, and on the next day at St. Augustine; I brought a small schooner boat of about five tons burden, laden with goods, for settlement; said goods shipped by Mr. Mitchell, and landed at Picolata under charge of Mr. Wanton, who was requested to take charge of them by Mr. Mitchell.

Q. Do you know the value of the goods?

A. I do not, but believe I have a copy of an invoice or a bill of lading at home. I have heard it said that the value of the goods might be about two thousand dollars. I know that some of the articles were sent to Alachua. I was engaged by Mr. Mitchell to assist in any way pointed out by Messrs. Arredondo and Hall. In January, I became a Spanish subject. There was nothing actually done until the month of April, 1821; after which time, until the 17th July, I was engaged in forwarding supplies, consisting of corn, &c., from this place to Buffalo bluff, and from thence to Alachua. I discontinued services on account of sickness.

Cross-examined by the district attorney.

Q. Were the goods sent to Alachua not intended principally for the Indian trade?

A. They were not; the principal part corn, strouds, &c., a greater part of which was required for the persons employed at the settlement. Should application be made to Mr. Sanchez, he could give correct information upon the subject.

Q. Did you never hear the proprietors declare an intention of entering into trade with the Indians?

A. No.

Q. When you were first employed by the company, did they not state that they were anxious to have the settlement made as soon as possible, that the conditions of the grant might be fulfilled?

A. No; I understood that the settlement was made.

Examined by Col. Hamilton.

Q. Did not Mr. Rattenbury engage you to come to this country?

A. He induced me to come, by giving me, in conjunction with nine others, five hundred acres of land.

Q. Was Mr. Rattenbury's grant a conditional one?

A. Yes.

Q. Were you not engaged by Mr. Rattenbury to come to this country for the purpose of settling the land?

A. The conditions were, merely, that I should come to St. Augustine. I was induced to come to this country, and would have settled upon the lands of Mr. Rattenbury, could I have done so, but was prevented by the Indians, in consequence of which we purchased a lot of land on Picolata.

Q. Did your companions settle with you on Picolata?

A. They did; there were six of us.

Q. Have you ever told any one that Mr. Rattenbury deceived you?

A. I think he did deceive me: he told me that there were no instances of fever here, but my mother and father both died of it.

Q. You came on from Savannah in continuation of your original scheme from Liverpool?

A. Yes; I came on in Mr. Mitchell's boat, and paid Mr. Mitchell ten dollars for my passage. I understood that Mr. Alexander, Mr. Rattenbury's partner, or agent, had died a few months before in St. Augustine, which materially affected my affairs.

Q. Did you enter into any engagement with Mr. Mitchell in Savannah?

A. I did.

Q. What was the nature of that engagement?

A. That I should come on to St. Augustine, and assist in the settlement of Alachua.

Q. Did you consider yourself, from the time you left Savannah, as under the direction of Mr. Mitchell?

A. Yes; I was directed to apply to Messrs. Arredondo and William T. Hall.

Q. Did either of the Alachua concern repay you the money for your passage?

A. No.

Q. Were you ever on the Alachua tract?

A. No.

Q. Were you ever requested to go there?

A. Yes.

Q. To go as a settler?

A. Yes.

Q. By whom was this request made?

A. By Mr. Wanton, who wrote to me while at Buffalo bluff; but I was prevented from going, from the nature of my engagements.

Q. Did either of your companions take part in the establishment at Alachua?

A. No.

Q. Were either of your companions included in your engagements with Mr. Mitchell, in Savannah?

A. No.

Q. Do you not consider Mr. Rattenbury as bound, in justice, to repay the amount of your expenses?

A. I do not consider him bound, by our engagements, to pay them: for, should I obtain the lands, I shall consider him exonerated, but, should I not, I shall consider him in honor bound to refund me the amount.

Examined by Judge Blair.

Q. Were you engaged by Mr. Mitchell, in Savannah, to come to this country for the purpose of facilitating the settlement of the Alachua tract?

A. I was.

Examined by Mr. Drysdale, for claimant.

Q. You understood that, upon your arrival here, Mr. Hall was sick?

A. I did; he was sick of the fever and ague.

Q. Did you not have occasion to pay the Indians in your intercourse with them?

A. I did.

Q. Did you pay them in money, or in corn, or other articles?

A. The payments were principally made in money; sometimes they were paid in corn, and other small articles.

Q. Were your engagements with Mr. Rattenbury such as to prevent your engaging in other employments?

A. No, they were not.

Testimony of Andrew Burgevin; examined by Mr. Hamilton.

Q. Did you ever survey a tract of land for Mr. Arredondo, on the St. Johns?

A. I surveyed several; one of fifteen or sixteen thousand acres; I am not certain as to the number of acres. I measured the front alone with the chain. The survey was not made according to the Government order, as Mr. Hamilton states it, one-third front and two-thirds back.

Mr. Cox for claimant.

Q. Witness never was directed to survey the land in any particular manner?

A. I never heard that it was required that the land should be surveyed in any particular manner, except in case of Musquitos, by Governor White. I, myself, never had any orders for a particular mode of survey. I never saw any directions of survey. My surveys have been always considered as correct by the Government, and titles given on them.

Q. By Colonel Hamilton. What proportion does the line upon the river bear to the back, or any receding from the line upon the river?

A. Not quite two to one.

Testimony of George J. F. Clarke.

Q. Have you any written explanation of your orders of survey?

A. I have; and will present a fair copy on Monday.

Frederick S. Warburg's testimony.

Q. Do you know for what purpose Mr. Levy purchased this tract?

A. I do. From a correspondence held by me with Mr. Levy, since 1816, it was purchased for the purpose of settling it with certain families.

Q. Do you know whether Mr. Levy made any arrangements with those families to come to Florida?

A. I know that Mr. Levy did make such arrangements with some of them.

Q. Will you state at what time Mr. Levy first left his home for the purpose of purchasing or procuring lands for the families you speak of?

A. He left St. Thomas in 1816, to purchase lands for this purpose. The lands were to be purchased in some part of the United States.

Q. At what time did Mr. Levy procure the land?

A. I think it was in 1820. I procured this information from Mr. Delavente, in London, a correspondent of Mr. Levy, who had received letters from Mr. Levy; which letters I saw.

TERRITORY OF FLORIDA, *district of East Florida: Moses E. Levy vs. the United States. Deposition of Warburg.*

The examination of Frederick S. Warburg, on the part of the plaintiff, taken before Elias B. Gould, a justice of the peace for the county of St. Johns, in said Territory, to be read in evidence before the honorable the Land Commissioners to adjudicate on the claims and titles to lands in said district of East Florida.

Frederick S. Warburg, being sworn, says: In the fall of the year 1816, deponent saw said Mr. Levy in London: that Mr. Levy informed deponent that it was his intention to settle a number of families in America. In 1820, Mr. Levy informed deponent, through Mr. Delavente, that the families could now come out, as he had purchased lands in Florida; that Mr. Levy again sent to deponent, in 1821, and engaged him to come out to this country. When deponent came out, he stayed for some time at the north to wait the arrival of several families who were also to come for the purpose of forming a part of the contemplated settlement: that, on the arrival of said families, deponent came with them to Florida, (say twenty-two persons, including colored people;) that the families who were principally relied on for the said settlement in Alachua still remained in Europe, with the exception of some who are now in the United States waiting for an opportunity to come. Deponent further states, that the number of persons now waiting in the United States and in Europe, who are expected to arrive at the settlement in Alachua to form a part of it, is from forty to fifty, and that engagements with them are of long standing: that, from 1821 to this period, deponent has been continually engaged in procuring settlers upon the lands of the said Levy in the Alachua, and is still in correspondence with individuals in Europe for that purpose: that deponent, from the knowledge he has of the original plan of Mr. Levy, further states that said settlement was to consist of about sixty families; that there are about five heads of families on Mr. Levy's settlement at the present time, and twenty-three souls, including fifteen slaves.

Upon the inquiry of the United States' attorney, deponent states that the reasons why the families have not arrived here before this are, the inconveniences of accommodation, for want of proper buildings and other necessaries to render them comfortable. Deponent says that he has been acquainted with Mr. Levy since 1816; that he does not know whether he is a Spanish subject.

Being further interrogated by the plaintiff's counsel, deponent says that Mr. Levy has expended about eleven thousand dollars.

F. S. WARBURG.

Affirmed before me this 7th day of January, 1824.

E. B. GOULD, *J. P.*

On application of F. S. Warburg to correct an error in the deposition taken before E. B. Gould, esq., the said Warburg, being first duly sworn, says that the twenty-two persons alluded to in the said deposition were partly on account of Moses E. Levy, and partly on account of the Alachua proprietors in general; that the colored people joined deponent in the river St. Johns.

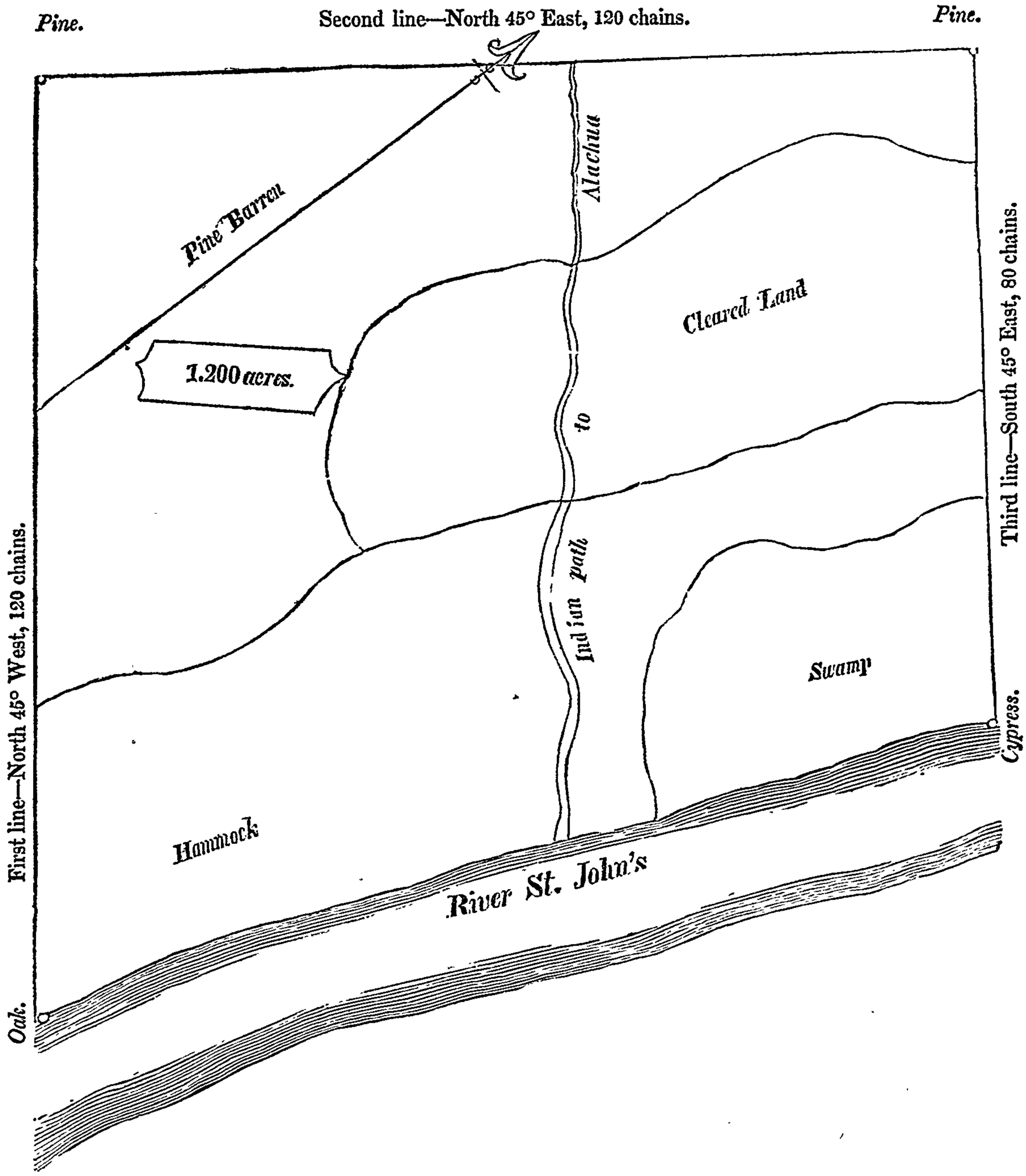
F. S. WARBURG.

Sworn and subscribed before me:

W. FLOYD.

Francis J. Fatio, esq., sworn—And swears to the hand writing of Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, in an account current in the Spanish language.

PLAT No. I.



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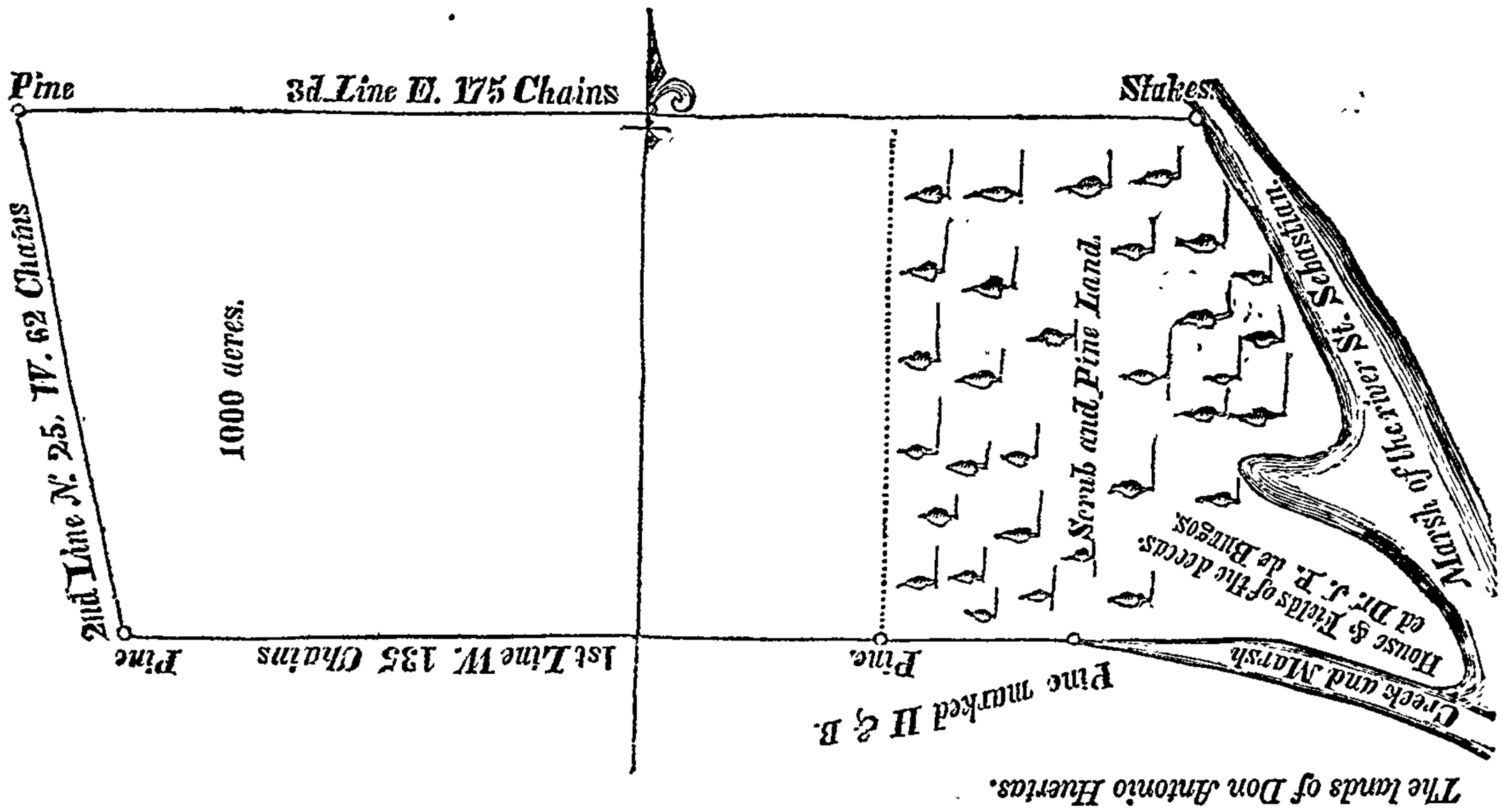

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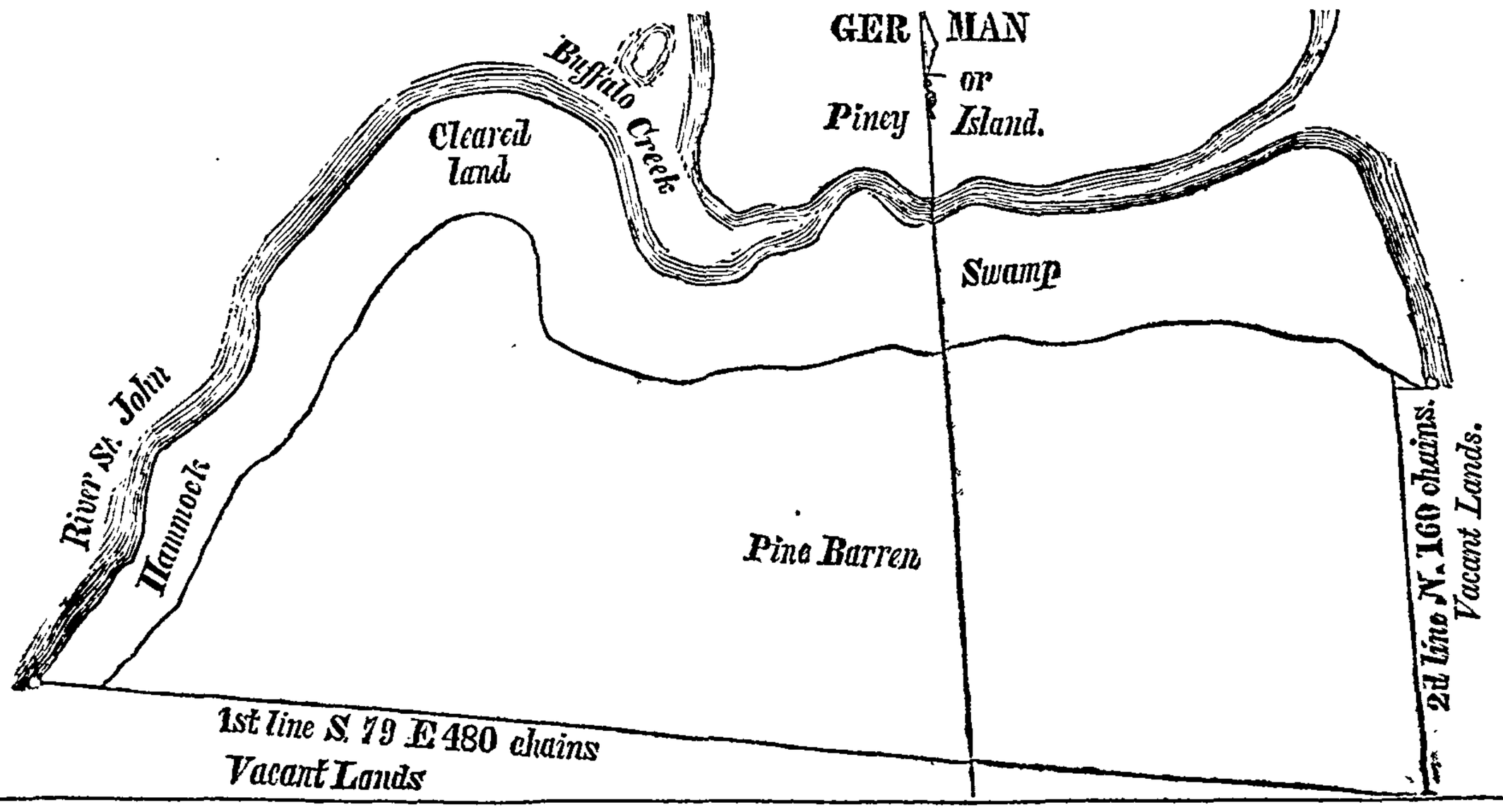

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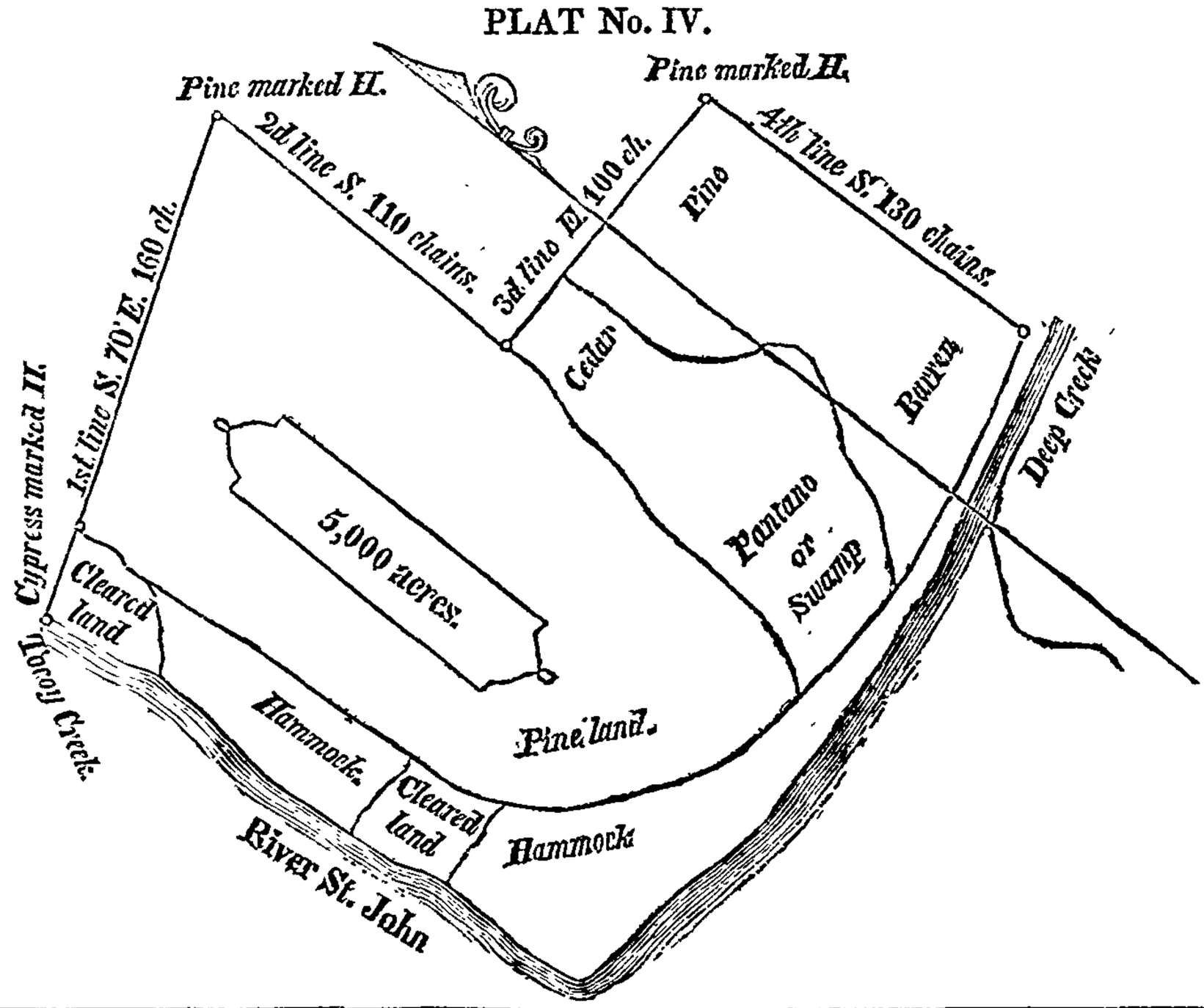

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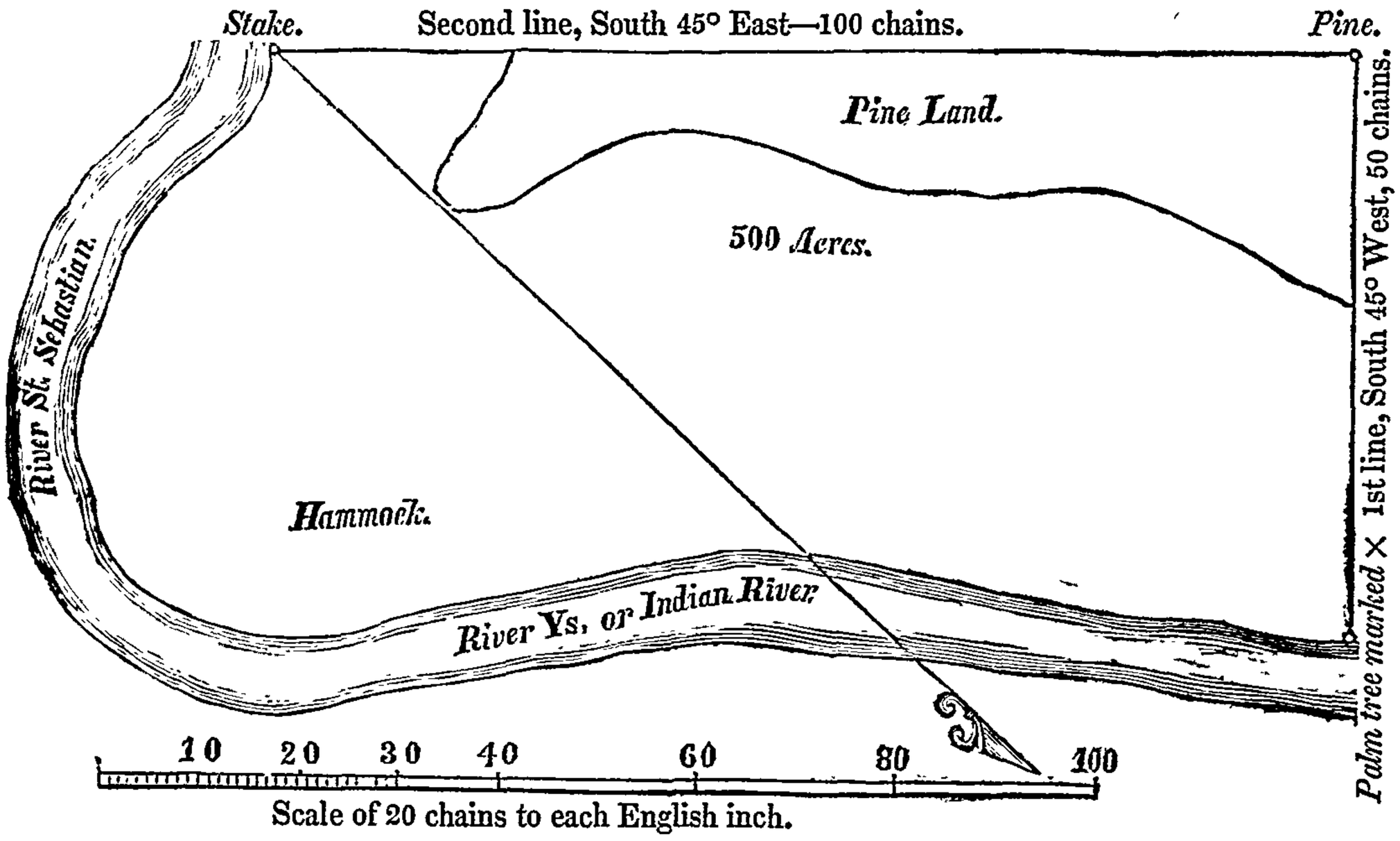
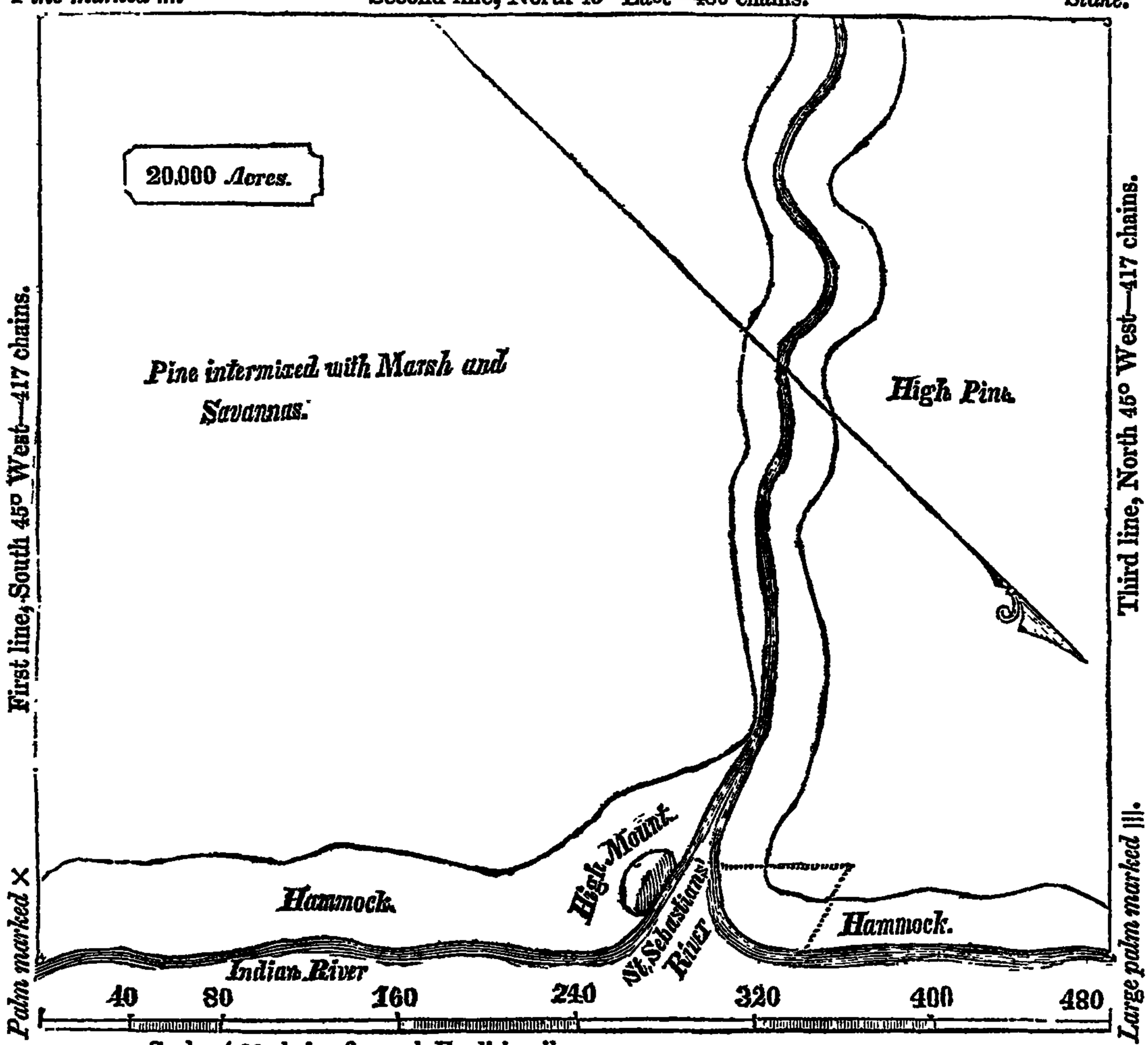


PLAT No. VI.

Second line, North 45° East—480 chains.

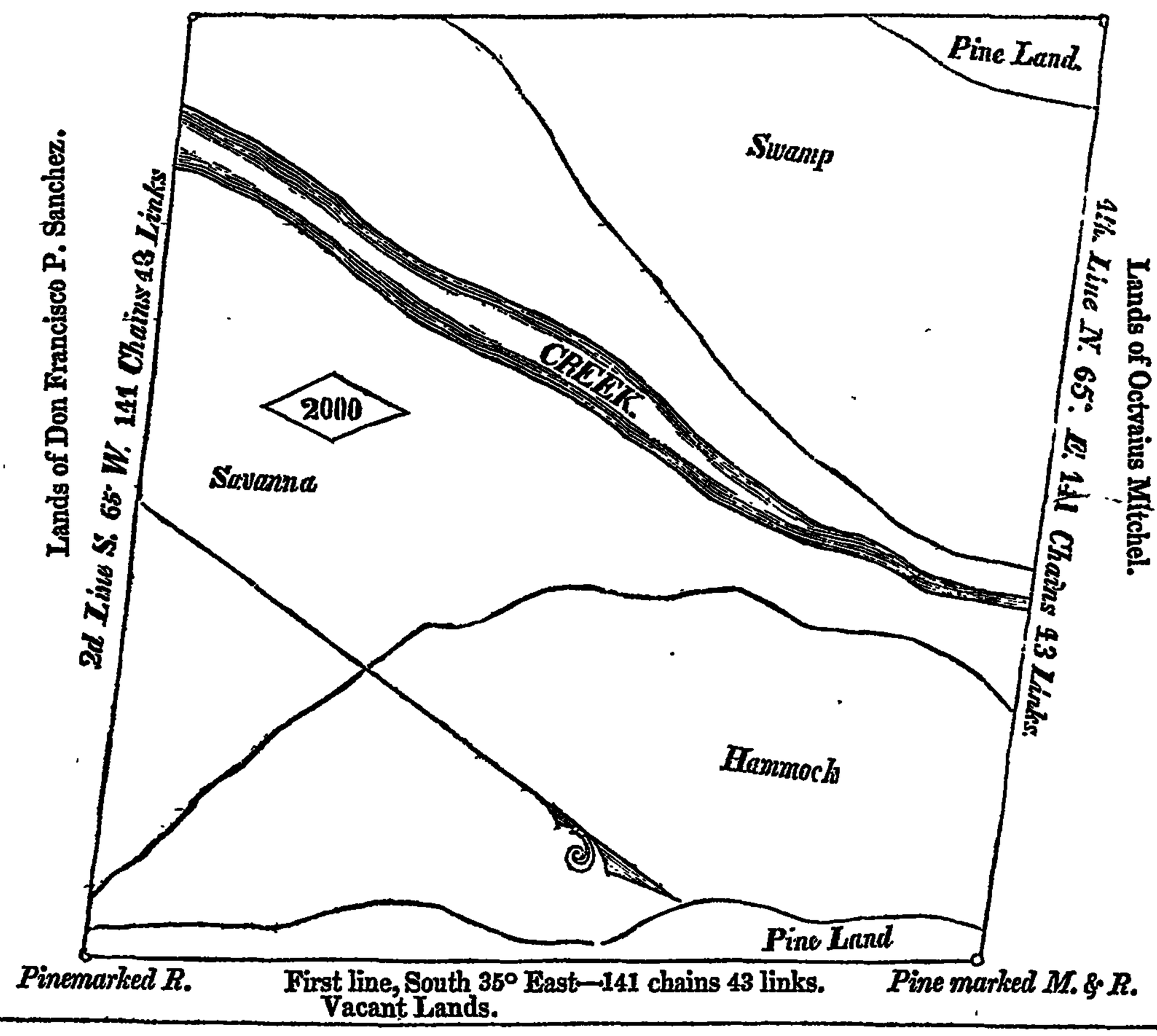


Scale of 80 chains for each English mile.

PLAT No. VII.

Vacant Lands.

Stake. Third line, North 35° West—141 chains 43 links. Pine marked IIII.



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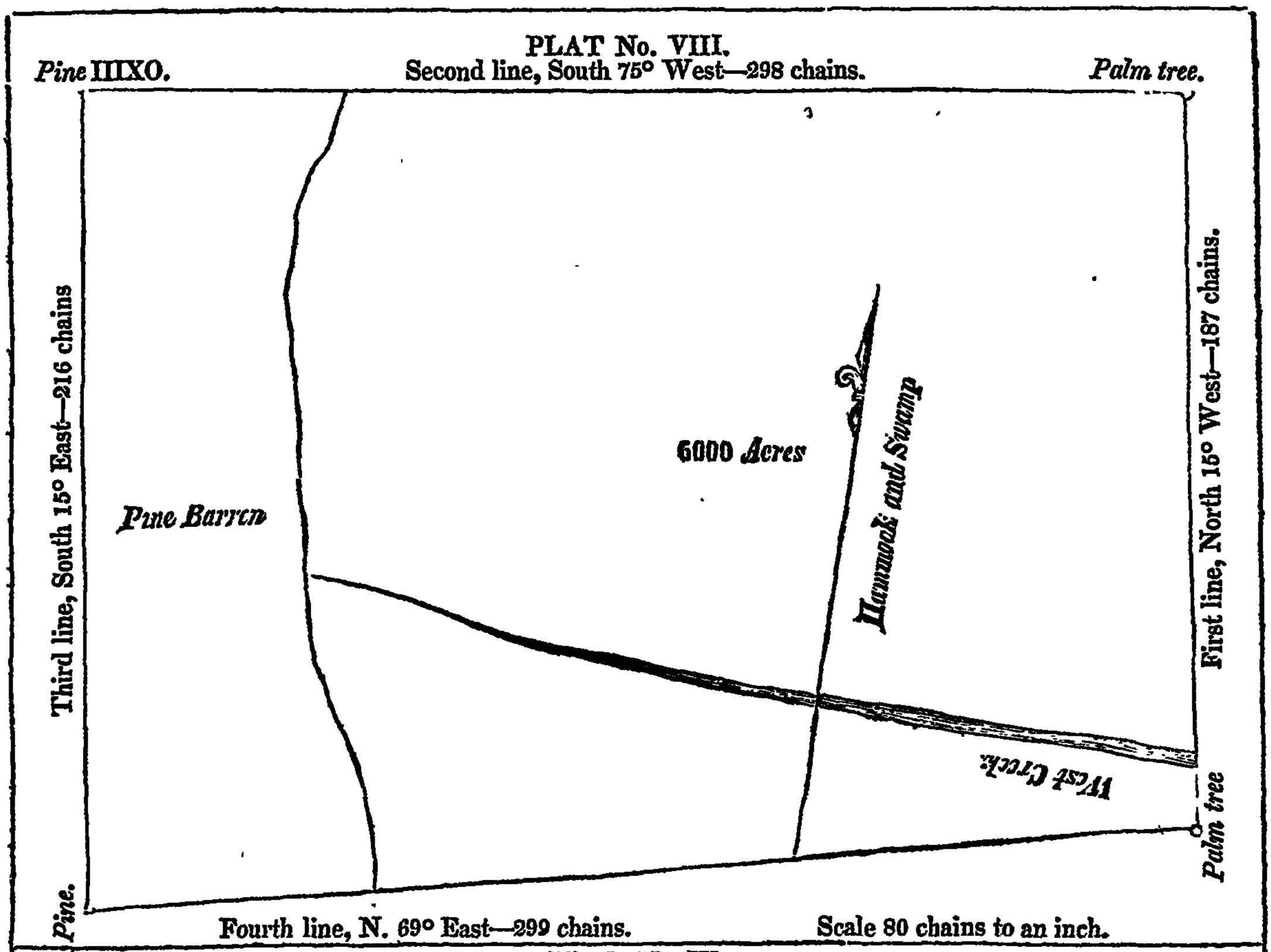

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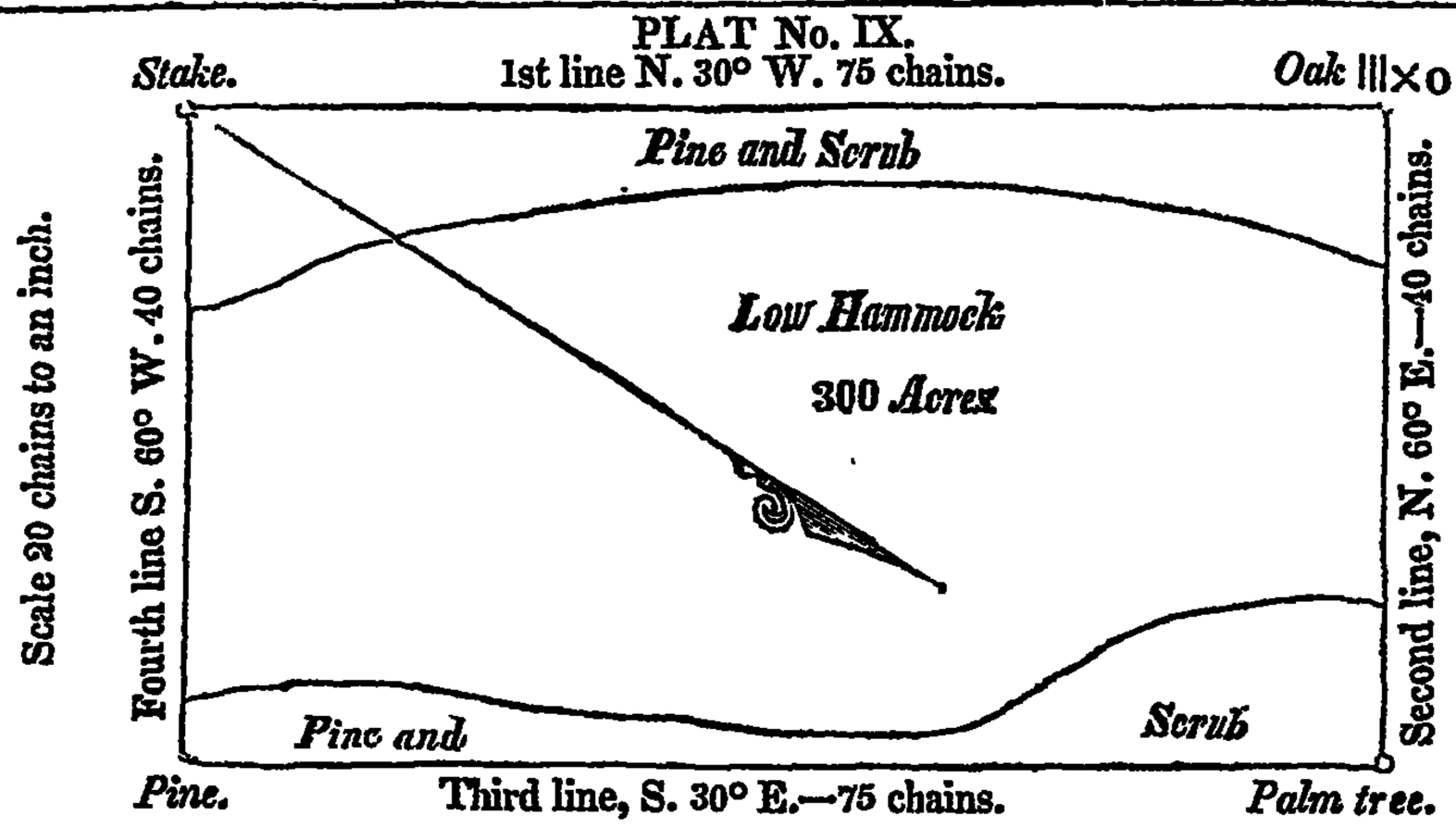

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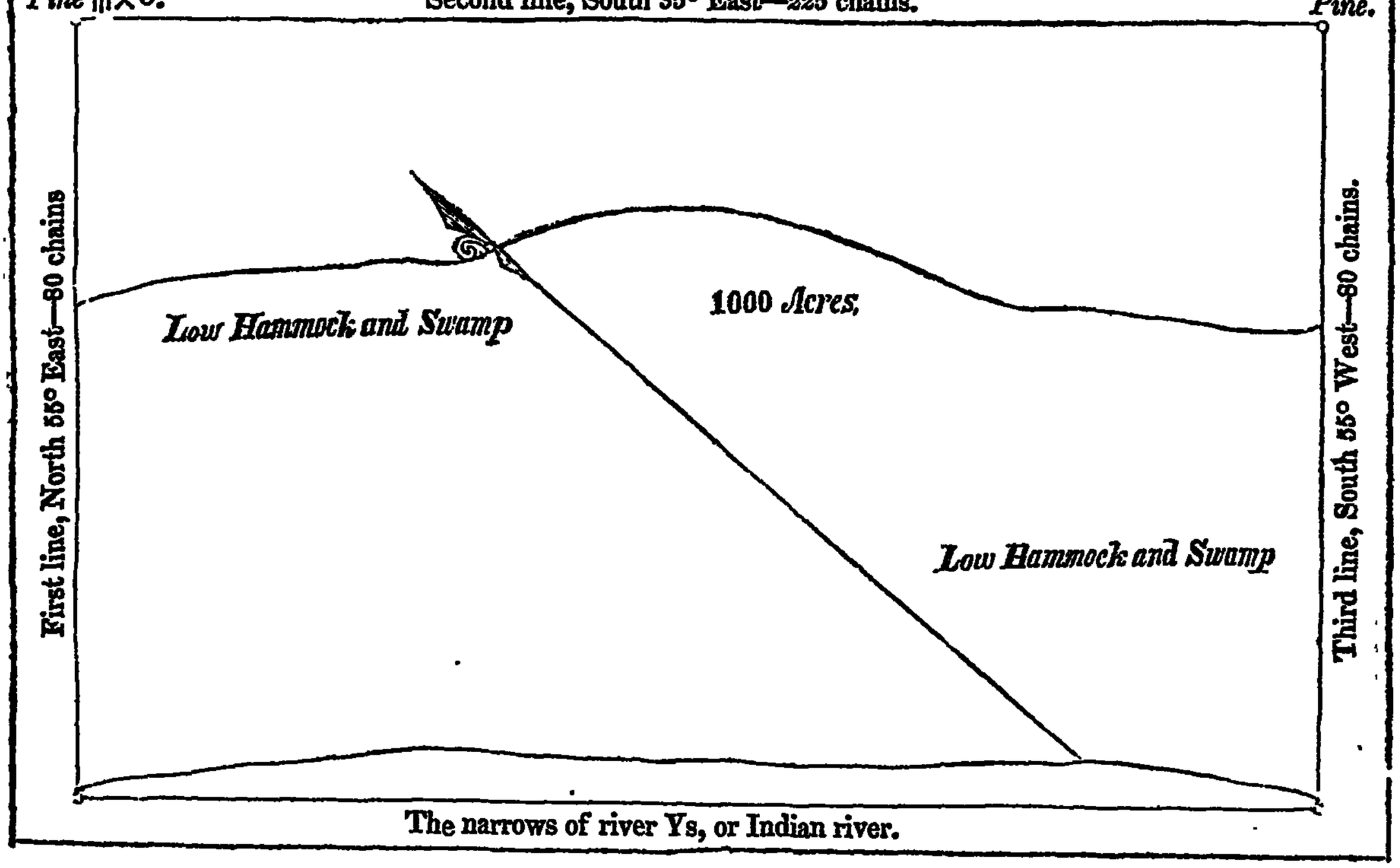

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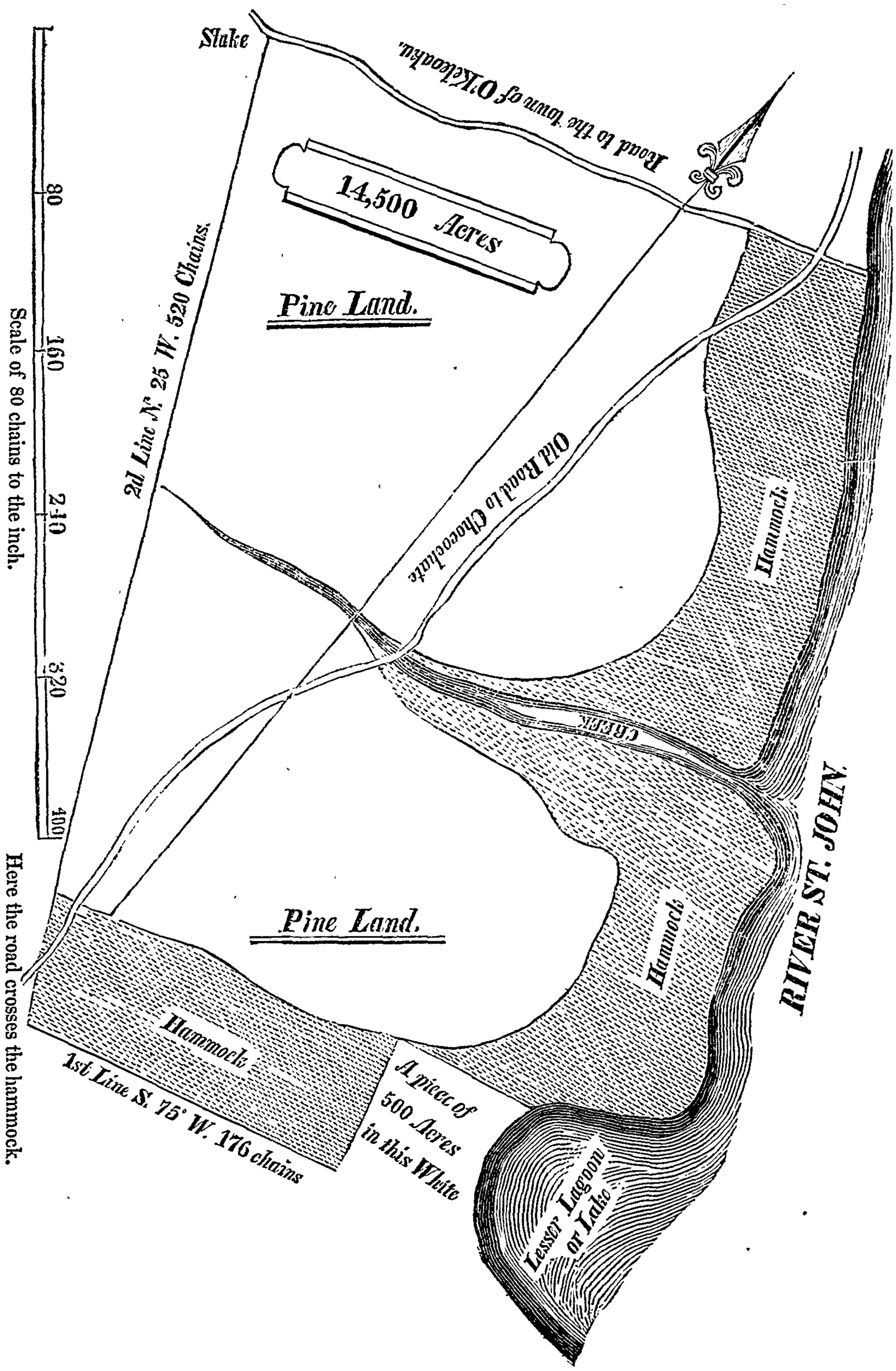

Stake
Road to the town of Okeechobee
14,500 Acres
Pine Land.
2d Line N. 25 W. 520 Chains.
Old Road to Okeechobee
Hammock
CREEK
RIVER ST. JOHN
Hammock
Pine Land.
Hammock
1st Line S. 75° W. 176 chains
A piece of 500 Acres in this White
Lesser Lagoon or Lake
Scale of 80 chains to the inch.
80
160
240
320
400
Here the road crosses the hammock.

18th Congress. No. 413. 1st Session.

COMMISSIONERS OF LAND TITLES IN EAST FLORIDA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MAY 26, 1824.

Mr. Whipple made the following report:

The Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the message of the President of the United States, with the report of Alexander Hamilton, one of the commissioners for ascertaining claims and titles to lands in Florida, have had the same under consideration, and report—

That the Boards of Commissioners in Florida have been constituted in the mode usually adopted by the Government in similar cases, where the claims of individuals were to be examined.

In all legislation much must necessarily be left to construction, and the sound discretion of those charged with the administration of the laws. Had the mode of deciding claims and titles to lands in Florida been new, and the expediency or propriety of the system required to be tested by experiment, your committee might have been disposed to examine with more rigid scrutiny the laws to ascertain if some defect might not be discovered in them demanding the legislative interference of Congress, and whether some other tribunal might not be constituted better adapted to the decision of these claims than the present Board of Commissioners.

But knowing that similar tribunals have decided on the claims of individuals to lands in all the States and Territories of the United States, where such decisions were necessary, and believing that the existing laws relative to the decision of claims in Florida are sufficient, if properly administered, your committee feel no disposition to recommend either a change in the tribunal for decision, or to add other legislative provisions to those already in existence, and which they believe sufficient if properly executed. The committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to cause to be prepared and transmitted to the commissioners for the examination of claims and titles to lands in Florida, such instructions, touching their powers and the performance of their duties under the existing laws, as he may deem necessary, from an examination of the report of Alexander Hamilton, one of the commissioners, and the report of the other two commissioners for East Florida.

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to adopt such measures as he may deem necessary for the safe keeping and security of the public records of the Spanish Government in relation to lands in Florida.

To the House of Representatives of the United States:

I communicate to the House a report, with accompanying documents, received from Alexander Hamilton, one of the commissioners of land titles in East Florida—deeming the statements therein contained to be worthy of the particular attention of the House, and of a nature which may, perhaps, require their interposition, or that of both branches of the Legislature.

JAMES MONROE.

Washington, *May* 18, 1824.

An act for ascertaining claims and titles to land within the Territory of Florida.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, for the purpose of ascertaining the claims and titles to land within the Territory of Florida, as required by the treaty of the twenty-second of February, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, there shall be appointed by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, three commissioners, who shall receive, as compensation for the duties enjoined by the provisions of this act, two thousand dollars each, to be paid quarterly from the Treasury; who shall open an office for the adjudication of claims at Pensacola, in the Territory of West Florida, and St. Augustine, in East Florida, under the rules, regulations, and conditions hereinafter prescribed.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of said commissioners to appoint a suitable and well qualified secretary, who shall record, in a well bound book, all and every their acts and proceedings, the claims admitted with those rejected, and the reason of their admission or rejection. He shall receive, as a compensation for his services, one thousand two hundred and fifty dollars, to be paid quarterly from the Treasury. He shall be acquainted with the Spanish language; and, before entering on a discharge of the duties of his office, shall take and subscribe an oath before some authority competent to administer it, that he will, well and truly, and faithfully discharge the duties assigned him, and translate all papers that may be required of him by the commissioners.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That said commissioners, previously to entering on a discharge of the duties assigned them, shall, before the judge of the Territorial court at Pensacola, or some other authority in his absence competent to administer it, take an oath faithfully to discharge the duties of their offices, and shall commence and hold their sessions on or before the first Monday of July next at Pensacola, and on the first Monday of January thereafter at St. Augustine, for the ascertaining and determining af all claims to land within the said Territories; notice of which shall be given, by said commissioners, in some newspaper printed at each place, or, if there be no newspaper, at the most public places in said cities, respectively, of the time at which their sessions will commence, requiring all persons to bring forward their claims, with evidence necessary to support them. The session at St. Augustine shall terminate on the thirtieth of June, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-three, when said commissioners shall forward to the Secretary of the Treasury, to be submitted to Congress, a detail of all they have done, and deliver over to the surveyor all the archives, documents, and papers, that may be in their possession.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That every person, or the heirs or representatives of such persons, claiming title to lands under any patent, grant, concession, or order of survey, dated previous to the twenty-fourth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eighteen, which were valid under the Spanish Government, or by the law of nations, and which are not rejected by the treaty ceding the Territory of East and West Florida to the United States, shall file, before the commissioners, his, her, or their claim, setting forth, particularly, its situation and boundaries, if to be ascertained, with the deraignment of title, where they are not the grantees, or original claimants; which shall be recorded by the secretary, and who, for his said services, shall be entitled to demand from the claimants ten cents for each hundred words contained in said papers, so recorded; he shall be entitled to twenty-five cents for each subpœna issued: *Provided*, That if the amount so received shall exceed one thousand two hundred and fifty dollars, which is hereby declared the compensation for his services, the excess shall be reported to the commissioners, and be subject to their disposition; and said commissioners shall proceed to examine and determine on the validity of said patents, grants, concessions, and orders of survey, agreeably to the laws and ordinances heretofore existing, of the Governments making the grants respectively, having due regard, in all Spanish claims, to the conditions and stipulations contained in the eighth article of a treaty concluded at Washington between his Catholic Majesty and the United States, on the twenty-second of February, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen; but any claim not filed previous to the thirty-first day of May, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, shall be deemed and held to be void and of none effect. *Provided, nevertheless,—And be it further enacted*, That, in all claims submitted to the decision of the commissioners, where the same land, or any part thereof, is claimed by titles emanating both from the British and Spanish Governments, the commissioners shall not decide the same, but shall report all such cases, with an abstract of the evidence, to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the commissioners shall have power to inquire into the justice and validity of the claims filed with them; and shall be, and are hereby, authorized to administer oaths, to compel the attendance of witnesses by subpœnas issued by the secretary, and the adduction of such testimony as may be wanted; they shall have access to all papers and records of a public nature relative to any land titles within

said provinces, and to make transcripts thereof. They shall examine into claims arising under patents, grants, concessions, and orders of survey, where the survey has been actually made previous to the twenty-fourth January, one thousand eight hundred and eighteen; whether they are founded upon conditions, and how far those conditions have been complied with; and, if derived from the British Government, how far they have been considered valid under the Spanish Government; and, if satisfied that said claims be correct and valid, shall give confirmation to them: *Provided*, That such confirmation shall only operate as a release of any interest which the United States may have, and shall not be considered as affecting the rights of third persons: *And provided*, That they shall not have power to confirm any claim, or part thereof, where the amount claimed is undefined in quantity, or shall exceed one thousand acres; but, in all such cases, shall report the testimony, with their opinions, to the Secretary of the Treasury, to be laid before Congress for their determination. Every witness attending under any process from the commissioners shall be allowed one dollar a day, and one dollar for every twenty miles' travel, to be paid by the party summoning him: *Provided, nevertheless*, That the commissioners shall not act on, or take into consideration, any British grant, patent, warrant, or order of survey, but those which are bona fide claimed and owned by citizens of the United States, and which have never been compensated for by the British Government.

Sec. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That there shall be appointed by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a surveyor, who shall possess the power and authority, and receive the same salary, as by law appertains to the surveyor south of the State of Tennessee; but his duties shall not commence until the commissioners shall have examined and decided upon the claims in West Florida, who shall, thereupon, furnish the surveyor with a list of those admitted, and he shall thereupon proceed to survey the country, taking care to have surveyed and marked, and laid down upon a general plan to be kept in his office, the metes and bounds of the claims so admitted; causing the same to be surveyed at the expense of the claimants, the price whereof shall be the same as is paid for surveying the public lands; but no surveyor shall charge for any line except such as may be actually run, nor for any line not necessary to be run. He shall appoint a suitable number of deputies, and shall fix and determine their fees: *Provided*, That the whole cost of survey shall not exceed four dollars a mile: *And provided, also*, That none other than township lines shall be run where the land is deemed fit for cultivation. Said surveyor shall reside at such place as the President of the United States may direct, and shall keep his office there, and may charge the following fees, viz. for recording the plat and surveys of private claims made by any of his deputies, twenty-five cents for each mile contained in the boundary of such survey, and twenty-five cents for any copy certified from the books of his office.

PHILIP P. BARBOUR,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
JOHN GAILLARD,
President of the Senate, pro tempore.

May 8, 1822—Approved:

JAMES MONROE.

An act amending and supplementary to the act "for ascertaining claims and titles to land in the Territory of Florida," and to provide for the survey and disposal of the public lands in Florida.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the powers of the Board of Commissioners heretofore appointed for ascertaining claims and titles to lands in the Territory of Florida, shall be confined exclusively to the examination of titles and claims in that portion of said Territory heretofore known as West Florida; and that, for ascertaining titles and claims in East Florida, the President is hereby authorized, in the recess of the Senate, to appoint three commissioners, which appointments shall be of force until the end of next session of Congress thereafter, who may appoint their secretary, and who, with their secretary, shall, within the district of East Florida, possess all the powers given by, perform all the duties required, and shall in all respects be subject to, the provisions and restrictions of the act of the eighth of May, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, entitled "An act for ascertaining claims and titles to lands in the Territory of Florida," except so far as the same is altered or changed by the provisions of this act; which Board of Commissioners, heretofore appointed, with that hereafter appointed, shall hold their sessions, severally, at the place within their respective districts, heretofore designated by law; but may adjourn to some other convenient place within their district, and may continue their sessions until the second Monday in February next, when they shall make a return of their proceedings to the Secretary of the Treasury, to be laid before Congress.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That, in the examination of titles to land before either of said Boards of Commissioners, the claimant or claimants shall not be required to produce in evidence the deraignment of title from the original grantee or patentee, but the commissioners shall confirm every claim in favor of actual settlers at the time of session of the said Territory to the United States, where the quantity claimed does not exceed three thousand five hundred acres, where such deraignment cannot be obtained, the validity of which has been recognized by the Spanish Government, and where the claimant or claimants shall produce satisfactory evidence of his, her, or their right to the land claimed: And said commissioners shall have the power, any law to the contrary notwithstanding, of deciding on the validity of all claims derived from the Spanish Government in favor of actual settlers, where the quantity claimed does not exceed three thousand five hundred acres.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That each of the commissioners heretofore appointed, who has performed, and shall hereafter perform, the duties assigned him, shall receive compensation in proportion to that heretofore allowed him. And each of the commissioners hereafter appointed for East Florida, who shall actually perform the duties assigned him, shall receive the sum of two thousand dollars as a full compensation, payable quarterly, from the Treasury of the United States.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the district attorneys for said districts, respectively, whenever required to do so by the commissioners within his district, to attend them for the purpose of arguing and explaining any points of law that may be deemed necessary to be examined; and said attorney shall be entitled to the same compensation therefor as when attending on the district court of said Territory.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That all claims not filed with the commissioners of the district where the land claimed is situated, in the manner prescribed by the act to which which this is an amendment, on or before the first day of December next, shall be held to be void, and of none effect.

Sec. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the marshal to execute and make return of all process which may be issued by the said commissioners, or the commissioners may, where they deem it necessary, authorize and empower any other person to execute and return said process.

Sec. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That so soon as the commissioners shall have decided and reported on the private claims in said Territory of Florida, a surveyor shall be appointed for the Territory of Florida, who shall keep his office at such place within the said Territory as the President of the United States shall designate, and shall receive the sum of two thousand dollars, payable quarterly, at the Treasury of the United States.

Sec. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That, for the disposal of the lands of the United States lying in the district of East Florida, a land office shall be established and kept at such place within said district as the President of the United States shall direct; and that, for the disposal of the lands of the United States lying in the district of West Florida, a land office shall be established at such place in said district as the President of the United States shall direct.

Sec. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That, so soon as, in the opinion of the President of the United States, there shall be a sufficient quantity of the public lands surveyed within either of the districts of East or West Florida to authorize the opening of one or both of the land offices aforesaid, he shall cause the same to be opened, and shall proceed from time to time to appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, for each of the said offices, a register and receiver of the public moneys, who shall give security in the same sums, and in the same manner, and whose compensation, emoluments, duties, and authority, shall in every respect be the same, in relation to the lands to be disposed of at their offices, as are or may be provided by law in relation to the registers and receivers of public moneys in the several land offices established for the disposal of the public lands of the United States.

Sec. 10. *And be it further enacted*, That, whenever a land office shall have been established in either of the districts aforesaid, and a register and receiver of public moneys appointed for the same, the President of the

United States shall be, and he is hereby authorized to direct so much of the public lands lying in such district, as shall have been surveyed according to law, to be offered for sale in the same manner, and with the same reservations and exceptions, and on the same terms and conditions in every respect, as have been, or may hereafter be, provided for the sale of the public lands of the United States.

Sec. 11. *And be it further enacted*, That an entire township, in each of the districts of East and West Florida, shall be reserved from sale for the use of a seminary of learning, to be located by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Sec. 12. *And be it further enacted*, That all the navigable rivers and waters in the districts of East and West Florida shall be, and forever remain, public highways.

Sec. 13. *And be it further enacted*, That so much of the act approved the eighth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, entitled "An act for ascertaining claims and titles to land in the Territory of Florida," as is inconsistent with the provisions of this act, be, and the same is hereby, repealed; and so much thereof as provides for the appointment of a surveyor general, and allows him to charge fees, is hereby repealed.

PHILIP P. BARBOUR,
Speaker of the Ho. of Reps.
JOHN GAILLARD,
President of the Senate, pro tem.

March 3, 1823.—Approved:

JAMES MONROE.

An act to extend the time limited for the settlement of private land claims in the Territory of Florida.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the time limited for the settlement of private land claims in the Territory of Florida, by an act of the seventeenth Congress, entitled "An act amending and supplementary to the act for ascertaining claims and titles to land in the Territory of Florida, and to provide for the survey and disposal of the public lands in Florida," be, and the same is hereby, extended and enlarged, until the first day of January next, when the commissioners for ascertaining claims and titles to the lands aforesaid, shall make a return of their proceedings to the Secretary of the Treasury, to be laid before Congress.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the claimant or claimants shall not be required to produce, in evidence, a deraignment of title from the original grantee or patentee, but the exhibition of the original title papers, agreeably to the fourth section of an act passed the eighth of May, eighteen hundred and twenty-two, entitled "An act for ascertaining claims and titles to lands within the Territory of Florida," with the deed or devise to the claimant, and the office abstract or abstracts of the intermediate conveyances for the last ten years preceding the surrender of Florida to the United States; and, where they cannot be produced, their absence being satisfactorily accounted for, shall be sufficient evidence of the right of the claimant or claimants to the land so claimed as against the United States: *Provided*, The claim be defined in quantity, and the amount does not exceed the quantity limited in the second section of the act which this is intended to extend: *And provided*, The conditions required by the laws and ordinances of the Spanish Government, and the treaty between Spain and the United States, shall have been complied with.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That no person shall be taken and deemed to be an actual settler within the provisions of the "Act amending and supplementary to an act for ascertaining claims and titles to land in the Territory of Florida," passed on the third day of March, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, unless such person, or those under whom he claims title, shall have been in the cultivation or occupation of the land at and before the period of the cession.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That so much of the act to which this is an amendment, as authorizes the secretary of the said commissioners to demand and receive from the claimants ten cents per hundred words for recording titles to land, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the former secretaries, or those who may now be secretaries, to the said Boards of Commissioners, who shall have received their salary of one thousand two hundred and fifty dollars from the Treasury of the United States, which is by law declared to be their full compensation, shall be, and they are hereby, required to pay over, respectively, to the commissioners, conformably with the provisions of the original law, all such fees as have been demanded and received by them, which shall be appropriated to defray the expenses of the commission.

Sec. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That so much of the acts of which this is amendatory, as makes void all claims not filed before the first day of December, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, be, and the same is hereby, repealed; and it shall be lawful for claims to be filed any time previous to the first day of September next; but all and every claim not filed by that time, shall be held and deemed void and of none effect.

Sec. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That each of the commissioners heretofore appointed, or who may hereafter be appointed, who has performed, and shall hereafter perform, the duties assigned him, shall receive, from the first Monday in February until the first day of January next, at the rate of two thousand dollars per annum, in full compensation for his services.

H. CLAY,
Speaker of the Ho. of Reps.
DANIEL D. TOMPKINS,
Vice Pres. of the U. S. and Pres. of the Senate.

WASHINGTON, *Feb.* 38, 1824—Approved:

JAMES MONROE.

WASHINGTON, 12*th May*, 1824.

SIR: I had the honor, on the 31st March last, to tender my resignation as land commissioner, and, on the first of the present month, to request that it might be considered as withdrawn. I was induced to adopt the latter determination, that my communications might have the consequence of official importance. The situation in which I am placed is not without its difficulties. I have not been informed whether the President refuses to sanction the course I have been desirous to take, or whether he has deemed it most consistent with the public interest that I should be discharged from the responsibility of any further representations. I candidly confess that the manner in which my official reports have been treated, has occasioned to me very considerable surprise, the more especially as they related to subjects of serious national importance; and, until I am otherwise advised, I shall make my communications to the Government as being in commission.

In this understanding, I take the liberty to present, for the consideration of the President, the accompanying report, with the request that it may be transmitted to Congress in pursuance of the requisitions of the law in virtue of which I have been appointed.

In order to afford some opportunity to the President and Congress to understand the peculiar nature of the grants, I present the annexed documents in support of the following statement.

On the 6th December, 1814, Governor Kindelan is represented as having granted to Bernardo Segui 16,000 acres of land, on the authority of the royal order of 1790; and, on the 20th December, 1815, Estrada gave to the same person 7,000 acres, which you will find, in the report of the majority of the commissioners, recommended to Congress for confirmation as sanctioned by the orders of 1813 and 1815; at the same time reporting for confirmation a claim presented by Belton A. Copp, which he derives from a grant made to Segui, *in virtue of the order of* 1815, in consideration of his military services.

The situation of Segui is worthy of notice, and will be best understood by an examination of his memorial soliciting the 7,000 acres. I am under an impression, which I entertain with confidence, that Segui received other grants.

In selecting the case of Segui, I have chosen one of the most moderate. I take this opportunity to remark that, at the termination of the present session of Congress, I wish my commission may be considered as resigned, and that, in the mean time, I may be held officially responsible. It is with unfeigned regret, and at the sacrifice of strong personal considerations, that I feel myself under the necessity of assuming the course I now take.

I have the honor to remain,
With sentiments of high respect, &c., &c.
ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

Hon. JOHN Q. ADAMS,
Secretary of State.

WASHINGTON, *May* 24*th*, 1824.

SIR: I take the liberty to enclose, as accompaniments to the documents ordered to be printed, the royal orders of the 27th of April and 18th July, 1818, as having an important bearing on any question that may arise under the grants to the Duke de Alagon, Count de Punon Rostro, and Don Pedro de Vargas. It is also worthy of remark, that the order of 27th April is addressed by Ramirez, the intendant of Cuba, "*to the governor*

sub-delegate of finance, St. Augustine, Florida," as affording an explanation of the character of the transfer of the intendancy of Florida to the intendant of Cuba, by the royal order of the 3d September, 1817. I would also suggest the propriety of adding to the documents the regulations of Morales of the 17th July, 1799.

If it be within the discretion of the committee, I should be much gratified with an opportunity to revise and condense my report of the 10th of May instant, which was written in such haste as not to allow me time to make a transcript. If this cannot be done, I hope I may be at liberty to examine the proof sheet to correct imperfect phraseology, and re-letter the accompanying documents. It will be noticed that my letter of the 31st March last, tendering my resignation, was withdrawn by that of the 1st May following, for the purpose of presenting a statement of the proceedings of the commission more in detail, which I beg may be returned, and that a printed copy of all the documents may be furnished to me, in order to prepare a more perfect report, and relating to important subjects that have not heretofore been examined.

I have the honor to be, with much respect, your obedient servant,

ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

Hon. CHRISTOPHER RANKIN,
Chairman of the Com. on the Public Lands.

P. S. The regulations of Morales, intendant of Louisiana and West Florida, will be found among the introductory papers to the Laws of the Territory of Florida, published by order of the Legislative Council in 1822, and submitted to Congress, at the last session, for its approval.

JOHN H. MCINTOSH AND OTHERS,
vs.
THE UNITED STATES.

The majority of the commissioners having elected to report upon the general powers of the Spanish governors to appropriate the public lands, without attempting to explain the several royal orders in virtue of which almost all the grants are respectively and ostensibly made, it becomes my duty to communicate the views I have taken of this subject, the more especially as they are in conformity to the interests of the United States, which I consider involved to an important amount.

It has been my endeavor to give the most liberal constructions to the legitimate powers of the governors, and to sustain, if possible, the pretensions of the claimants, aware that several persons had become purchasers upon the authority of the ex parte opinions of some of the most respectable professional gentlemen in this country. I have scrupulously avoided every influence that might be produced by the introduction of abstract and arbitrary rules founded on judicial precedents, confining myself to the plain and obvious conclusion, that those grants could not be considered valid under the Spanish Government that were made in direct hostility to its laws, orders, and regulations, and that the United States, who are, by the treaty with Spain, placed in the same relative situation, is entitled to corresponding considerations. *If the objection to confirm the grants had arisen from mere irregularities, and they had been made within any reasonable conformity to the authorities in virtue of which they are avowedly issued, I should, unquestionably, have yielded, if not acquiesced, in the decisions of the majority; but, when it was evident that the grossest and most extravagant frauds were attempted to be imposed upon the United States in anticipation of the cession of the Floridas to its sovereignty, I felt imperiously bound, scrupulously to investigate all those grants involved within this character, and all such as, from their extravagance, would bear the least suspicion of forgery.*

I am sensible that the performance of the conditions of a grant were not, at all times, rigidly exacted; and that although, as a general regulation, if lands remained vacant for two years in succession, they became, ipso facto, forfeited, and that any person desirous to possess them might, in a summary manner, prove the vacancy to entitle himself to a concession, it was, nevertheless, customary, upon a reasonable excuse anterior to the possession by a subsequent grantee, to permit a re-assumption.

It has also been my opinion, founded upon an accurate examination of the uniform practice of the Spanish tribunals, corroborated by the most respectable testimony, that all grants made without injury to "third persons," a constant condition, and the lands should appear the property of an adverse valid claimant, a change in the location was invariably allowed, upon petition to tribunal, as a matter of course. The propriety of this conclusion cannot be questioned when we consider the object in issuing the grant, and reflect that it was for the purpose of extending agriculture and increasing population. In accordance with this policy, lands were given gratis to settlers, the motive and benefit of which must have been contravened if the grant were not sustained by an equivalent in a new location.

In this communication, I shall confine myself to an examination of the authorities of the governors, reserving for a subsequent one a full exposition of the indelicate proceedings of the majority of the commissioners, in explanation of the motives that finally induced me to withdraw all confidence in their conduct; with the remark, as it will appear through the progress of this communication, that the allegation contained in the *report*, (by which appellation I shall hereafter distinguish that of the majority,) that, "the laws and ordinances heretofore existing of the Governments making the grants, respectively, have, of necessity, been the first subject of inquiry with the commissioners, not only because they were pointed out by the statute as our peculiar guides, but because it was obviously impossible to do justice with exactitude without them," *is an instance of intentional disingenuousness, for the purpose of imposing upon Congress the appearance of a scrupulous performance of our official duties, derogatory to the delicate and important confidence which has been entrusted to our honor and integrity.* (See correspondence with Davis Floyd, of the 8th January, and with Davis Floyd and William W. Blair, of the 27th January, 1824.)

In order to facilitate an understanding of the differences of our constructions of the authorities of the Spanish governors, I shall adopt the course pursued by the report, and examine "the rules by which they have been governed in their adjudications, and the authorities from whence they are drawn."

"1st. From the code of Spanish law, entitled the Laws of the Indies."

"2d. From the royal orders, made with particular reference to this Territory."

"3d. The decrees and regulations, appointed and published by the local governors."

"4th. The customs and usages which prevailed in various offices in the Territorial Government."

The authority first referred to, contains the following general provision governing the distribution of the public lands, and, as appears from the code of laws from whence it is extracted, applies to all the ultra-marine provinces of the Spanish empire.*

Of the sale, adjustment, and distribution of lands, lots, and waters.

"In order that our subjects be encouraged to the discovery and settlement of the Indies, and may live with the comfort and convenience which we desire, it is our will that houses, lots, lands, knights' shares, and peasants' shares of lands MAY, AND SHALL, be distributed *to all those who go to settle* NEW LANDS in townships and villages, which, by the governor of the new settlement, shall be assigned them, making a distinction between gentlemen and peasants, and those of an inferior degree and merit, *and increase, and give them of better quality, according to the importance of their services*, and that they may devote themselves to the culture and improvement of them; *and, having made on them their residence, and place of labor, and resided in those townships four years*, we grant them the right, from *thence forward*, to sell and dispose of them at their will, freely, *as* of a thing their property."

The brief explanation of this ordinance is, that the Governors "*may and shall*" distribute to all those who go to settle new lands, being the subjects of his Majesty, a quantity of land corresponding to their degrees, which may and shall be increased, and of better quality, according to the importance of their services; and that they may devote themselves, in security, to the culture and improvement of them, they shall be entitled to absolute ownership at the expiration of a residence of four years.

It is important to notice the import of the words "*may and shall*," as they are explanatory of the authority of the governors to dispose of the property of the King. If the imperative "*shall*" had been alone made use of, an inference might be drawn that, according to some constitutional provision, the governors possessed a discretionary power; but, as it is, accompanied and preceded by the word "*may*," no such interpretation can be reasonably assumed. In my opinion, there is no room for speculation, and the only explanation that can be given to

* Book 4th, law 1, chap. 12, of the collection of the Laws of the Indies.

the expression *may*, is, that, by this ordinance, the King delegates to his gubernatorial representatives, (associated, as other official papers show, with their councils,) an authority to distribute his personal patrimony to a certain description of persons, in order to encourage emigration to his newly acquired territories; and, that there may be no disappointment of the policy of the King or to the emigrant, it is made imperative on the governor that he *shall* make the distribution. The word *may* is not intended to convey a discretionary power, that *he may or may not* grant lands to new settlers, but that he may be clothed with authority to dispose of the lands to meet the emergency contemplated, and *shall* do so when applied to for lands by the class of persons to whom it refers.

And, in continuation of the above extract, the annexed will show in what proportions the lands were to be distributed, affording an additional illustration of the definite powers of the governors.

"And as it may happen that, in distributing the lands, there may be a doubt as to the measurement, we declare that a *peasant's portion* is a lot of fifty feet in breadth and one hundred in depth, arable land, capable of producing one hundred fanegas of wheat and ten of Indian corn; as much land as ten oxen can plough in a day, for the raising of esculent roots, and eight of woodland; pasture land for eight breeding sows, twenty cows, and five mares, one hundred sheep, and twenty goats. A *gentleman's portion* is a lot of one hundred feet in breadth and two hundred in depth, and all the remainder five times the peasant's portion, to wit, &c. And we direct that the distribution be made in such form as that all may participate in the good or middling, and of that kind of which there may not be any in that part which shall be pointed out to each."

The report remarks, that, "this seems to have been the rule for the distribution of the public lands during the first administration of the Spanish Government within these provinces, and, after the retrocession, up to the date of the second of September, in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety, when Governor Quesada published his regulations, referring, for his authority, to *a royal order investing him with* PLENARY POWERS, but which we have not been able to procure."

The first of the above declarations is entirely a gratuitous volunteer; and, inasmuch as no grants were made subsequent to the retrocession antecedent to Quesada's regulations, as officially appears, it can only be considered the law of the land, unaccompanied with any practical demonstration. And it is utterly absurd, and contrary to fact, "that Quesada refers for his authority to *a royal order*" (or *royal orders*,) "investing him with plenary powers, but which we have not been able to procure." (See document A.)

In anticipation of the regulations of Quesada, I insert an extract from Governor Zespedez's letter to his excellency Don Joseph de Galvez, of the 29th of April, 1785, (A,) enclosing an edict published by him on the 25th September, 1784, directing that all purchases made from British subjects should be recorded, otherwise to be considered null, and of no value; and, after an exposition of the situation of the province, and the necessity of the royal interference to relieve its distresses and advance its prosperity, he remarks: "For the attainment of such considerable benefits, and to re-establish vigor in this actually debilitated province, it is necessary that the royal clemency deign to grant, as soon as possible, the most efficacious assistance in settlers and money. *Your excellency being informed of the royal will, it rests with you to make the dispositions which you may find suitable as regards population; but, at the same time*, I consider it my duty to set forth, for your superior wisdom, that, if his Majesty was pleased to admit as subjects, as well as Spaniards, those foreigners who are Roman Catholics, &c., granting them, in fee simple, lands in proportion to their means and industry, a number would come, who, in a short time, would be useful members of the community."

To the above I have not seen any answer, although, in all probability, it is to be found among the papers obtained from Governor Coppinger; and for the want of which I must apologize, and present in excuse that, after having taken almost all the documents produced before the commission by a *subpœna duces tecum*, from the keeper of the public archives, for the purpose of having them transcribed, the constant answer to all my future inquiries was, that none others were discovered. My colleagues, in pursuing a course more friendly towards this *office*, were, in two or three instances, less unfortunate, and procured public papers to govern their decisions without the formality of an order of the commission, and of which I, alone, acquired a knowledge accidentally. The minutes of our proceedings, if they have been accurately reported, will afford frequent evidences of the official disappointments that have attended every attempt, subsequent to the one referred to, made by me to secure a thorough examination of these papers, "*so necessary, as guides, to do justice with exactitude.*"

The following is, however, a communication of the same tenor with the preceding, addressed by Zespedez on the 8th May, 1785, (B) to Count de Galvez, viceroy of Mexico, together with his answer in reply.

The Count de Galvez is informed of the deplorable situation of the province, and of the return of many of the *old inhabitants*, soliciting to be restored to their possessions which they were compelled to abandon by the change of the sovereignty of Florida to Great Britain; and, after stating his reasons for not complying with the request of the petitioners, he observes, "the great commiseration of our Monarch, who is desirous to relieve his faithful subjects, will, it is to be hoped, with a liberal hand, protect, if possible, *the returning Floridians*, granting them, if possible, their identical property, *and if not, of that which has devolved to his royal person.*"

"As no person has purchased lands they have devolved to the crown, for which motive, besides the instructions relative to the division of lots and houses, as approved by your excellency, I respectfully conceive that it is important for the settlement of this country that power should be given me as soon as possible to grant lands with preference to the *old inhabitants* of the country, afterwards to *Minorcans* or any other Spaniards who may come to settle, and, lastly, to foreigners, in case his Majesty may think proper to admit the same as his subjects."

Answer from the Count de Galvez. (C) "With the letter No. 72, of the 8th of May of the present year, your lordship encloses me a copy of the act which you issued on the 25th September of the last year, 1784, (D) and had publicly posted by hand-bills for the government of the Spaniards who had purchased from the English landed or moveable property; your lordship also informing of the decay of said houses, *and the consideration you have thought just in favor of the old Floridians*, asking from me instructions for the purpose of expediting *to them*, as well as any other Spaniard or foreigner, *lots and lands for the improvement of the country.* Inasmuch as regards the first point, I inform your lordship, without hesitation, that the step taken by you has appeared to me very proper, but, as regards the same, as well as all the rest, I will inform his excellency the minister of the Indies, that, by his superior prudence, such measures may be taken as are agreeable to him, or may merit the approbation of the King. Mexico, July 4, 1795.

EL CONDE DE GALVEZ."

The above documents are not so much given to show the little dependance to be placed in the statements of the report, (as the regulations of Governor Quesada, of the 2d of September, 1790, and 20th November, 1790, are conclusive on that subject,) as to prove, by the correspondence, edicts, and practice of those officers, that they considered themselves as possessing very limited, if any authority, to dispose of the public lands. It is probable the little importance in which these documents* were held in the estimation of my colleagues, as they were subject to their inspection, will account for their being excluded from the report.

As the regulations of Quesada of the 2d September, 1790, (E) are represented as referring to "*a royal order*" which the commissioners have not been able to procure, investing him with plenary powers to dispose of the lands, I give the annexed articles of the regulations entire.

"*Internal regulations of police. Don Juan Nepo. de Quesada, &c.*

"Whereas I am commanded *by royal orders*, agreeable to the public wants, to apply the most seasonable and quick remedies thereto; for the purpose, therefore, of accomplishing this, *in the edict* commonly called '*internal regulations of policee*,' I have taken the most conclusive steps, notwithstanding, much to my sorrow, there has been so much to amend and establish that a voluminous code would scarcely be sufficient for me to comprise all, in proportion to the ardent desire which animates me for the prosperity of the province and the service of the sovereign. Wherefore, merely for the present, and reserving hereafter, when permitted by my other duties, the right of attending particularly to this important subject, I therefore make known and order the following:

* The correspondence between Zespedez and Galvez.

"1st. I grant *to all the inhabitants permanently settled and subjects of his Majesty, in his royal name, for their use, the quantity of land they may require, in proportion to their force*, in any part of this desert province, without any exception. To this end, those desirous of obtaining the same will present themselves to me within twenty days, stating their circumstances by memorial, what lands they have obtained to the present period, and in what quantity and in what place they are desirous of locating them now, under the precise condition that it will be without injury to a third person. I will attend to their solicitudes according to the examination I may make thereof, and although the laws of the Indies authorize me to make an absolute distribution of the same, and being in the case of the first of title 12th, book 4th," (see extract) "I abstain therefrom from powerful motives; but, for the greater security of those interested, I will forward my ideas and representations on the subject to the King, persuaded that, in consequence thereof, those obtaining grants from me now, will be confirmed in the possession of the same."

The remaining articles, with the exception of the 4th, which gives the terms on which the British subjects were permitted to remain, have no reference to the matter under consideration.

As these regulations are made the ground work to justify the adjudications of the majority of the commissioners, and in deference to which Congress is recommended to confirm grants to almost every amount within 360,000 acres, it becomes essentially important, however apparent the misconstruction may be, to examine it with attention.

I confess that I have been unable to find any expression affording a reasonable excuse for the report that, in the preceding regulations, "Governor Quesada refers, for his authority, to a *royal order* investing him with *plenary powers;*" and I have been equally at a loss to ascertain where "the authority vested in the governor of this province by the Code of Indies is, by Quesada, *specifically disclaimed in practice*," or even inferred.

It is somewhat surprising that the majority should not have remarked that Quesada speaks of *royal orders*, and not of *a royal order*, as it might have relieved them from the extraordinary interpretation or inference founded upon imaginary premises, that "*plenary powers*" had been conferred to a governor of East Florida which, if practice be any evidence, were not possessed by his superior the captain general of Cuba, and while the Count de Galvez, notwithstanding his high and distinguished station, (Viceroy of Mexico,) did not consider himself authorized to direct or sanction the distribution *to old Floridians* soliciting lands under peculiarly interesting circumstances.

The declaration of the governor is, "that he is commanded by royal orders, agreeable to the public wants, to apply the most seasonable and quick remedies thereto; to accomplish which, he had published an edict commonly called 'Internal Regulations of Police.' That these royal orders were not confined to those communicated to himself, but included those addressed to his predecessor, it is but reasonable to suppose; and that they had reference to the ordinary political administration of the country cannot be questioned, from the comment the first article of the regulations afford, and the direct appeal to the royal order of the fifth April, 1786, (F) specifically, and only treating of the conditions on which the British were permitted to remain.

It is a subject, also, worthy of particular attention, that, in every instance that came under the observation of the commission, where the governors undertook to dispose of the public lands, that they always justified their acts, or at least attempted so to do, in virtue of some authority specifically referred to. Is it to be presumed, and for what purpose, that Governor Quesada should found his authority to distribute lands to the permanent settlers, who might be desirous to cultivate and improve them, on the provision contained in laws of the Indies, if he possessed "*a royal order*" delegating to him plenary or any powers connected with the subject? and how much more extraordinary is it, that he should be clothed with *plenary authority* to grant lands to an indefinite amount, and that, at the time he considered it important, in correspondence with the emergencies of the occasion, to grant lands for the use of the inhabitants, he would not, for "*powerful motives, issue absolute titles,*" *but promised* "*to forward his ideas and representations on the subject to the King, persuaded that, in consequence thereof, those obtaining grants from me now will be confirmed in the possessiom of the same?*"

If I entertain any ability to form a construction upon principles of common sense, I must conclude that Quesada not only yielded to the strict legal interpretation of the laws of the Indies, in not granting absolute titles before the expiration of four years' residence and culture, but, in so doing, expressly and practically showed that he considered himself governed by them, and that, without them, he had no authority. The solution of the "powerful motives," if explained, would doubtless be, the novelty of the residence, and, notwithstanding the province was reputed a desert, his Majesty's subjects had been located on the *improved lands* abandoned by the British, and consequently, the circumstances equivocal, it was therefore thought prudent not to commit any act that might give rise to serious difficulties in case his conduct should not meet the royal approbation. It must also have been within his knowledge, that his predecessor Zespedez had applied for permission in reference to the identical subject. At all events, these are the circumstances upon which my colleagues have had the confidence to pronounce, that "*the authority vested in the governor of this province by the Code of the Indies is specifically disclaimed in practice by Quesada.*"

In the estimate I formed of the conduct of my associates, I, without hesitation, declined all participation in making up the report, aware that it must become the subject of Congressional scrutiny, (see communication to the Secretary of the Treasury of the 25th February, 1824;) and I am now the more satisfied that the course I have pursued was correct, from the discrepancies apparent on its face.

The majority have been peculiarly unfortunate in their discoveries. In the first place, they interpret *royal orders* to mean *a royal order*, and as that order cannot be found, it is supposed that, of necessity, it must convey *plenary powers;* to say the least, *a bold inference in a doubtful case.* The facts are still more extraordinary, a *royal order* was issued and published by Quesada on the 20th of November, just seventy-nine days after the date of his regulations; which, if we may judge from the coincidence of time, and the specific use made of it in reference to his previous grants, must have been decreed in consequence of his promised representations; the existence of which my colleagues ought to have recollected from the pertinacity with which I insisted upon its production before the commission—a transcript of which I now give from a translation in the hand-writing of its secretary.

EDICT. (G.)

Don Juan Nepomuceno de Quesada, colonel of the royal armies, and commander-in-chief of the city and province of St. Augustine, Florida, by his Majesty:

Whereas, by the last packet which arrived at this port, his excellency the captain general of this province encloses me the following royal order:

ROYAL ORDER.

No settler shall be admitted in Louisiana or in Florida, should they pretend to have their transportation to those provinces, and maintenance there for some time, issued by the royal treasury. That those foreigners, alone, will be received who may, of their own free will, present themselves and swear allegiance to his Majesty; to whom there shall be granted and measured lands, gratis, in proportion to the working hands each family may have. That they shall not be molested in matters of religion, &c.

In virtue of which, I order the same to be published for the present, that it may be made known to all, it being understood, that only those shall be admitted as resident settlers who, besides their good conduct and honorable proceedings, are good farmers and mechanics, who are beneficial to the settlement and advancement of the province; for which purpose there shall be granted them the gifts set forth in the inserted order. It is also made known to those who have obtained lands in the mean time from this Government, that they present themselves to the same for the purpose of asking and obtaining the requisite title of property from the office of the Government secretary, from whence the necessary orders will be issued after having registered the same in the notary's office.

And that it may serve as an incitement to all, I order, according to the powers I am invested with, and make known for the present that the grants be of one hundred acres to each father of a family, and fifty to each white person, or of color, of which said family is composed; also, if persons are desirous of obtaining a greater quantity of lands, and there being a probability of their cultivating the same, they shall obtain an additional number of a thousand acres; it being understood that, in all the concessions, the *utility, and not the quantity of the lands* shall be attended to, so that each person shall acquire a proportionate quantity of each; and, also, that the width of each of said concessions must be only the third part of the length, and said length must not extend on the

banks of the rivers and creeks; resting always with the Government the care of rewarding or punishing with additional expenses or absolute privation, as time shall discover, the merit, application, and advantages of the agriculturist, or the contrary.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *the 20th Nov.* 1790.

If, in the absence of this edict and royal order, there could be any justification for the assertion that Quesada, in his regulations, referred to *a royal order* vesting him with *plenary powers*, such a pretence will no doubt now be considered at rest.

The interpretation of the conditions of this order corresponds with the provisions of the laws of the Indies, and the quantum of land allowed seems to bear the same proportion. In the one case the quantity is left undefined, except in the enumeration of the objects, which of course renders it susceptible of being reduced to a reasonable degree of certainty; and, in the other, the aggregate is experimentally declared, and the maximum increase fixed, as authorized by the laws of the Indies. In calling upon those who had received lands anterior to this order to present themselves for the purpose of procuring absolute titles, he also shows that it is in virtue of the authority there delegated that he has been enabled to perfect his previous grants—*and, by this act, he has afforded a practical exposition of the term settler, and that there existed no difference in the principles of distribution, between new settlers coming from abroad, and settlers "permanent residents of the province, subjects of his Majesty."*

If I have been correct in my deductions, the laws of the Indies were in force during the administration of Quesada, and the royal order of the 29th October, 1790, was expounded as corresponding with, and subservient to those laws. If, on the contrary, it is to be considered as a specific independent authority, commonly known as the royal order regulating "head-rights," by which lands are authorized to be granted and measured gratis in proportion to the working hands each family may have, it must then be taken as a limitation of the general laws, removing all distinction as to the quality of the settler, in the distribution of the lands, giving to all an equal quantity in proportion to the strength of the family. Taken in either sense, it affords positive evidence that the powers of the governors were restrained, and that there was no foundation for the report of the existence of plenary powers.

It is somewhat difficult to reconcile the following language of the report in reference to Quesada's regulations with what has been previously stated. Where my colleagues at least ought to have entertained doubts, they seem most certain, and where there is no excuse for any, they immediately become embarrassed with difficulties. *The whole object seems to be to establish the existence of an unlimited plenary power, or, at all events, to involve whatever power did exist in such perplexity as to lead to the conclusion that the only authority was the uncertain capricious whim of the governor, changeable, and ever changing with every new administration.*

It is remarked by the report, that "the precise extent to which the regulations of Quesada, of the 2d September, 1790, interfered with the provisions of the general law, and the privileges of the emigrant or inhabitant, cannot be clearly understood from its equivocal phraseology; nor is it eminently important to know, as this subject is put to rest by a letter from the captain general."

The irrelevancy and absurdity of this answer cannot require any other comment than to request that it may be compared and tested with the regulations. It nevertheless must be noticed as unaccountable, that a letter of the captain general of the 29th of October, 1790, (H) authorizing the admission of Spanish emigrants, could give rise to the observation "that, by this, it will be seen that the powers reserved to himself (Quesada) by the decree of the governor (Quesada,) are over-ruled, or regulated and restrained," when there does not appear a single word or allusion in the regulations referring to the admission of emigrants. The letter from the captain general was in answer to one from Quesada of the 16th September, 1790.

"It is evident," says the report, "that the rule prescribed by the order of 1790, relates exclusively to emigrants, leaving the law as it stood before in relation to those who had already, or should have thereafter, the character of inhabitants or subjects. It is worthy of notice, also, that, although it provides for giving lands in proportion to the laboring hands introduced, *it has entirely failed to designate the quantity* each laborer should have, either leaving that part of the subject to the government of EXISTING CUSTOM or to the sound discretion of the governor. The *provisions* of this ordinance may be considered as *having defined and rendered certain* the bounty upon emigration, which seems to have been *uncertain*, or but little understood."

I do not conceive it necessary to add more than has already been said in relation to the quantity to be distributed, according to the nature and evident intention of the order. As well might it be declared that the specifications contained in the laws of the Indies have entirely failed to designate the quantity each settler is entitled to. In the last sentence of the above, it is declared that the provisions of the ordinance have defined and rendered certain the bounty to the emigrant, that before seemed to be uncertain; and, in the preceding, it is said to have entirely failed to designate the quantity.

It is, however, of more importance to examine whether it be true, that "it is evident that the rule prescribed by the order of 1790 relates exclusively to emigrants, leaving the law as it stood before in relation to those who had already, or should have thereafter, the character of inhabitants or subjects."

It is almost impossible to refrain from expressions of harsh indignation at a representation so unwarranted by the whole evidence, written and parol, produced before the board. The majority cannot be ignorant that almost, if not all the valid grants, made previous to the year 1813, were predicated on that order, and so, avowedly, confirmed by the commission. If the minutes be examined, it will be found that, indiscriminately, residents and emigrants, old Floridians, Spaniards and foreigners, all participated. In virtue of this authority Governor Quesada gave public notice that absolute titles would be issued, and directs that all those who are desirous to avail themselves of the offer, must present themselves to Government within two months from the date of his edict. Governor White, on the 20th October, 1798, (I) remarks to the captain general, Saavedra, "that the King, desiring the improvement and settlement of the country, has determined that lands in the country should be given, gratis, to the foreigners or *natives* who would settle them," and recommends that the purchasers of the houses and lots should be released from their obligations, which was accordingly done by the Kng in his order of the 17th of June, 1801; (J) and Zespedez, on the 8th of May, 1785, expressly informs the captain general "that it is important that power should be given to him to grant land in preference to the old inhabitants of the country, afterwards to the Minorcans."

On the 12th of October, 1803, (K) Governor White published his edict, reducing the quantity of lands to be distributed to half that established by his predecessor, Quesada; which he communicated to the captain general on the 15th of October, 1803, (L) as follows: "For the purpose of avoiding the abuses which have been experienced in the granting of lands to the settlers without certain restrictions that will oblige them to cultivate the same, I have thought it convenient to establish the rules in the accompanying document, (K) which I forward to your lordship for your intelligence and approval."

On the 2d of April, 1805, (M) the following edict was published by White:

"Whereas, on the 12th of October, 1803, I thought proper to have published an edict, in which were prescribed various rules to remedy the many abuses and disorders as committed on the part of those obtaining lands, and ordering, in the 9th article of said edict, that all persons having abandoned, or that may not have continued, or do not actually cultivate the lands which may have been measured for them at any time by a surveyor, although the necessary title of possession should have been given them from the notary's office, they would lose their right to them, and would be given to any person *who, not having* lands to cultivate, would lawfully prove, in a summary manner, that the said lands were without cultivation for at least two years in succession. It is now made known that the improvements and buildings remaining on the lands thus abandoned or uncultivated *in the specific time*, that their value shall be appropriated in favor of the royal finance, as a deposite, until a new determination."

I concur with the report, that, although Governor White continued in office until his death in the year 1811, (with the exception of the important edict of the 31st May, 1805,) (N) there were no subsequent official publications of his relating to the disposal of public lands: there was, nevertheless, a communication from Estrada to the captain general on the 19th of June, 1811, (O) recommending the sale of lands to emigrants, and suggesting the propriety of altering Governor White's regulations, which was answered by the Marquis de Somerruelas, on the 14th September, 1811, (P) refusing to permit the alteration desired, and *totally neglecting to notice* the advice relative to the change of the regulations.

It might have also been remarked by the report, that, from that period to the cession, the governors of Florida published no edict enlarging their powers. It was during the insurrection that Governor White died, from which time such was the situation of the country, that there was but little, if any, emigration, and no Spaniard would venture to settle far beyond the neighborhood of St. Augustine.

The regulations, correspondence, and character of Governor White, are worthy of respectful consideration, as being in direct hostility with several extravagant grants said to have been made by him in 1811, but which had never been located antecedent to the cession of the Floridas to the United States, and three of which alone amount to the enormous aggregate of 700,000 acres.

The next royal order in succession, is that of the 4th January, 1813, (Q.) and is, in every particular, a restrain, if not a revocation, of the powers of the governors to distribute the public lands. This very voluminous order will be found in the report. The copy in my possession is almost illegible: it is, notwithstanding, presented.

Extract from the order of the 4th January, 1813.

"Don Fernando 7th, by the grace of God, and by the constitution of the Spanish monarchy, King of the Spains, and, in his absence and captivity, the regency of the kingdom, appointed by the General and Extraordinary Cortes, to all to whom these presents may come, greeting: Know ye that the Cortes have decreed the following:

"The General and Extraordinary Cortes, considering that the conversion of public lands into private property is one of the measures which the welfare of the people, as well as the advancement of agriculture and industry, most imperiously demands, and desiring, at the same time, that this class of lands should serve as an aid to public necessities, a reward to the deserving defenders of the country, *and a support to the citizens who are not proprietors*, do decree," &c.

The above preamble affords a general view of the succeeding twenty articles.

The 6th article declares one-half of the uncultivated and public lands pledged for the payment of the national debt contracted since the 1st of May, 1808.

The 9th article declares that, of the remaining uncultivated and public lands, there shall be given a portion, gratuitously, to the officers of the army, who, from advanced age, or disability occasioned in the military service, and honorably discharged, the quantity of which is, by the 10th article, defined to be as much as will be sufficient, regularly cultivated, for the maintenance of an individual; which the 11th article *directs to be assigned by the constitutional council* of each town. *The concessions of these quantities of lands* are, by the 12th article, directed to be called patriotic bounty, which shall not extend, at present, to other individuals than those who have served in the present war, or in the pacification of the actual disturbances of the ultra-marine provinces; and the 13th article includes those individuals who have served as partisans, or contributed in any other manner in the national defence, *and have remained wounded or disabled by the result*. The 15th article observes, that, "out of the same remaining uncultivated and public lands, those *fittest for culture shall be marked out and given gratuitously, by lot, to every inhabitant* of the respective towns who ask for it, and has no other land of his own, and in a quantity proportioned to the extent of the land, so as that the whole of those thus divided, in any case, do not exceed the fourth part of the said uncultivated and public lands of the corporations of the town; and by the 16th article it is ordered, that, if any of the grantees in the preceding article should, for two successive years, fail to pay the fee on the quantity of land belonging to the corporation, or to keep it employed usefully, it shall be granted to a more lahorious inhabitant who has no land of his own.

On the 8th of June, 1814, (R,) the above order was recognized and confirmed by the King; and, to prevent the abuses that had arisen under it, the intendants are enjoined strictly to adhere to what is prescribed in the Laws of the Indies, and particularly in the royal instruction of the 15th of October, 1754—to regulate the distributions of lands to be made in virtue of the order of 4th January, 1813.

If documentary testimony afford any proof of the correctness of the position I have taken, and consequently of the very limited authorities of the goverors; and if the United States are disposed to secure their rights, jeopardized by the report of the majority of the commissioners, there can exist no more favorable period than while the great portion of the grants are still held by the original grantees, the *particeps crimines* to the frauds.

In submitting the following letter of the 4th June, 1813, (S) from Governor Kindelan to the captain general, and royal order of the 29th March, 1815, (T) I must remark, that they have been made the ostensible justification of most of the extravagant grants, some of which will be seen on the table herewith presented, and heretofore referred to in my previous correspondence. The letter from Governor Kindelan is evidence that he considered his power to grant the public lands as limited; and, in recommending that bounties should be given for military services, he practically shows that the royal order of the 29th of October, 1790, afforded no authority *to make grants for services*.

June 4, 1813.

Most excellent Sir: On the 1st of the present month, (S) I discharged from the service the three companies of whites who were under arms in this place, and this I did as well on account of the scarcity of provisions, which rendered it urgent, as their own necessity to devote themselves to the care of their respective families, and to their labors, after an insurrection from which both they and the province had suffered so much.

I cannot avoid recommending to your excellency the good order and fidelity that animated the militia, and also of the third battalion of Cuba, since the first moment of the insurrection; for all which I think them worthy of the favors to which the Supreme Government may deem them entitled: and I make bold to recommend that some favors, and such as I shall recommend, be granted unto them: That a commission be granted by the King to every officer of the militia who has been under arms, corresponding to the grade which he holds under the denomination of Provincial; *and that a portion of land be granted to each soldier, which, by the regulations established in this province, corresponds with the number of persons composing each family;* and the same favor might also be granted, exclusively, to the married officers and soldiers of the said third battalion of Cuba.

Men in general must be excited by something that will stimulate them, and it is not easy to find one that is indifferent as to the public estimation of his services. What I propose, *without giving them in reality any thing*, will be the means of contenting them, and produce henceforth the best effects, it being understood that this gift will be for those who occupied themselves in the defence; and for this end, and in case that these my ideas merit the approbation of your excellency, I enclose, as regards the officers of both corps, lists of those who ought in that case to be comprehended.

His Ex. Don Juan Ruiz de Apodaca.

It is worthy of notice, as a further evidence of a continued system and practical demonstration of the acknowledged limited powers of the governors, that Apodaca, an intelligent, correct, and distinguished officer, who remained captain general of Cuba eight years contrary to custom, two terms, and was afterwards promoted to the vice royalty of Mexico, considered himself, even under these imposing circumstances, bound to refer the solicitation of Governor Kindelan to Spain for the King's approbation, which was given as follows:

Under date of the 29th of March last, (T) his excellency the minister of the Indies writes to me the following:

Havana, *July* 7, 1815.

I have informed the King of what your excellency sets forth in your letter, No. 236, of the year 1813, relative to the rewards which the Governor of East Florida considers the individuals of the companies of white militia, and married officers and soldiers of the third battalion of the regiment of Cuba, entitled to for their *meritorious* conduct during the insurrection of the province; and, at the same time that his Majesty approves of said gifts, he desires that your excellency will inform him as to the reward which the commandant of the third battalion of Cuba, Don Juan Jose de Estrada, &c. By royal order, I communicate the same to your excellency for your information and compliance therewith, enclosing the royal commissions, according to the note forwarded by your excellency.

APODACA.

The Governor *pro tem. of East Florida.*

Having thus traced the official authorization the governors had, at different periods, received to dispose of the public lands for the support of his Majesty's subjects, and to promote agriculture and the increase of population, I have now only to add, (discrediting and entirely disbelieving in the validity of a few grants said to have been made in the last year of Governor White's administration,) that the practice of granting lands was in pursuance of some established and uniform *system* as late as

the year 1814, and, subsequently, until the time of the cession to the United States, when distributions were made to individuals claiming their legal rights; and it is even to be doubted whether the exception be not unsustainable, inasmuch as there are strong suspicions that when the flood-gates of prodigality were opened, the frauds were not confined to a violation of the ordinary authority, but extended to the charge of forgery in antedating, &c.

I have now come to the royal order of the 3d of September, 1817, (U) which, as it transfers the intendancy of Florida to the captain general and intendant of Cuba, by whom there are instances of its having been exercised, it must be considered, pro tanto, as an entire revocation of the powers of the Florida governors; and, as it has appeared by the documents to which I have already referred, that the captain general would, on no antecedent occasion, interfere in the disposal of these lands, that the authority now given was perfectly new, and may reasonably be considered as transferred in conformity to the regulations of 1813 and 1814, establishing an entirely novel system in the property and uses of the public lands.

If I have succeeded in my considerations of this subject, I have shown, in the first place, that, without the provisions contained in the laws of the Indies, there was no authority in the governors to dispose of the uncultivated and public lands, and that, in virtue of those laws, it could only be done in a definitely limited quantity, to promote agriculture and increase population; and that, in the next, the governors who administered the Government of Florida immediately subsequent to the retrocession from Great Britain, in the most unqualified terms, did solicit and obtain *an authorization to grant lands to all persons, residents and emigrants, without distinction*, "old Floridians, Minorcans as well as Spaniards, and to foreigners;" and that, notwithstanding Quesada recognizes a right founded on the general laws, he emphatically declares that, from powerful motives, he prefers abstaining from its exercise until he be regularly instructed.

It must also appear evident, if the practice established by Quesada in his regulations of the 2d September, 1790, and those of White of the 12th October, 1803, and the application of Kindelan on the 4th June, 1813, to be permitted to give a gratuity in lands to those who had performed military services, ("as a mere testimonial of the royal approbation, being 'in reality of little importance' if distributed according to the regulations established in the province") are to be received as practical commentaries on the royal order of the 29th of October, 1790, that none other than a limited authorization was conveyed, arising out of the representations incidental to the peculiar situation of Florida upon its restoration to the sovereignty of the Spanish nation, and beyond all question, when it is connected with the fact of having been communicated by the minister of the Indies, to whom all subjects were referred previous to the royal approbation, for the examination of the "Council of the Indies," it may be understood as issuing in conformity, and not in conflict, of the laws of the Indies, which seem to be revered and regarded as immutable as the laws of the Medes and Persians.

It must also be considered as established, that the royal order of the 29th of March, 1815, while it was issued to authorize a remuneration for particular and patriotic services, it being made referrible "to the established regulations of the province," illustrated by the letter of Governor Kindelan of the 4th June, 1813, was a mere extension of the character of the objects for which the public lands were to be for a specific occasion appropriated, and not an enlargement of the quantity of the lands to be distributed.

It has been alleged, and in support of which I confidently appeal to the minutes of the commission, that, during the administration of the Government of Florida, (*within a presumable recognizance of the Spanish nation,*) that there existed an established systematic rule in the distribution of the public lands, and that the grants made inconsistent with these restrictions have been subsequent to the year 1814, with the exception of perhaps five *said* to have been issued by *Governor White.*

It has also been proved that the report is unwarranted in its conclusions that the governors possessed any *plenary powers* to dispose of the public lands, and that the arguments in support of such an authority are founded on a suppositious existence of *a royal order*, in direct hostility to the positive evidence of the contrary.

It has also been proved by the documents herewith annexed, that, if Congress were not attempted to be imposed on, they have at least been kept ignorant of the knowledge of the existence of public papers essentially necessary to a proper understanding of the subject in which the interests of the United States are involved to a value amounting to millions of dollars.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

WASHINGTON, *May* 11*th*, 1824.

Note.—I must apologize for the extreme want of brevity, and perhaps injudicious arrangement, of the matter contained in the above report, with the remark, that, so limited has been my time, that I have been unable even to make a fair transcript.

In consequence of a communication received from the Treasury Department, that it was the opinion of the President I ought to attend in this place, I arrived on the evening of the 6th instant; and, on the following day, understanding that the President was about to make a communication to Congress in relation to the Florida commission, I have prepared, as an accompaniment, the report I now submit.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

WASHINGTON, 11*th May*, 1824.

I take the liberty to suggest that, instead of an adjudicatory commission, an agency ought to be created and established in Washington, to collect the claims and evidence to be reported to Congress.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

Governors of Florida.

Zespedez, from the year	1784	to	1790	parts of both years inclusive.
Quesada, "	1790	to	1796	
White, "	1796	to	1811	
Estrada, (1st time)	1811	to	1812	
Kindelan, "	1812	to	1815	
Estrada, (2d time)	1815	to	1816	
Coppinger, "	1816	to	1821	

It is of some importance to remark, that Zespedez, Quesada, and White, were originally appointed by the King; that Estrada, being the next in command, on the death of White, he became temporarily his successor; and that Kindelan and Coppinger were first appointed by the captain general of Cuba. The long administration of White, a period of fifteen years, affords a strong corroboration of his general reputation for distinguished intelligence, integrity, and scrupulous correctness, worthy of attention in adjudicating on the extravagant claims reputed to be made by him. A. H.

A.

[TRANSLATION].

The prolonged time of four months having expired on the 19th instant, which the King, in his goodness, added to the eighteen established by the treaty of peace for the emigration of the British subjects, I consider it my indispensable duty to inform your excellency of the extreme decline of this province; unprofitable the abundant variety of its excellent timber; uncultivated the pleasant banks of the navigable rivers of St. Johns, St. Marys, and Nassau, situated to the northward of this city and that of Musquitos to the southward; the houses destroyed that adorned their fertile margins; the plantations abandoned which remunerated the industrious planter with abundant crops; the roads and paths covered with weeds and obstructions; and a general desolation reigning in all the province to the very gates of this city, and even within the same, not presenting to the sight, either within or without, but unroofed edifices, threatening ruin, or already fallen to the ground; even the houses which the subjects of his Majesty have purchased from the English, impaired at the time of the purchase, are not repaired by them for want of funds—the greatest part of the purchasers being dependant on the King's pay, and those not having received any part of their salaries in money, relying on the rations of flour and salt meats which, until now, have been supplied us on credit by foreigners, and fresh beef, which I have supplied also on credit, from an old Floridian, Don Francisco Sanchez.

This total want of money, besides the grief of having suffered the same in the sight of a foreign nation, has occasioned on this new-born Government various unavoidable bad consequences; among others, were of their being many of the Minorcans and others, who, at first, that determined and desirous of remaining, by paying attention to the emissaries of General Tonyn, who did not neglect even calumnies to induce them to emigrate to the British dominions: many have done so already, compelled by the impossibility of gaining their livelihood for want of the circulation of money. The wretchedness, most excellent sir, has arrived to such a degree, that there are days in which the market being well supplied with vegetables, all the gardeners together cannot dispose to the value of one rial of their product.

The superior penetration of your excellency will bring to your consideration that, in an established Government,

a chief can always, when the wants of the State or arrears of the royal treasury make it necessary, use the most prudent ways and means that his talent and zeal for the royal service and public welfare may dictate to him. But here, in a country which has just ceased to exist for England, and is on the point of existing for Spain, there are no other ways and means than that of applying, through the channel of your excellency, to the paternal love of the best of Kings, stating, with frankness and respect, the melancholy situation of this growing commonwealth.

This sketch, equally true as it is deplorable, of the actual situation of this province, is afflicting, and would discourage me completely were I not sustained by the well-founded hope which I have conceived, of seeing it in time, by means of the benign hand of his Majesty and patriotic zeal of your excellency, rise from its actual decline to a state of vigor and utility. Its fertile soil, rich pasturage, abundant variety of timber, and the facility with which pitch, tar, turpentine, and rosin can be supplied, as well as its navigable rivers, in which, together with the sea that washes its coasts, there abounds the most delicious fish, proclaim it; and, above all, the commodiousness and goodness of the port of St. Marys (of which I will forward your excellency a description and plan, as soon as the engineer can execute the same) ensures it. This port is acknowledged to be that of the greatest depth of water and easiest entrance of any on the extensive coast of North America from the Gulf of Mexico to New York, and consequently well adapted to admit, with benefit to the royal service and to the commerce, those national vessels which have suffered any damage going through the New Bahama channel would not, in this manner, be obliged to enter American ports to repair, as has been, and is the case. Besides this advantage in time of peace, it would afford, in case of a rupture with England or with the United States, the very important one of affording a secure asylum against the Providence privateers, as well as against the Americans, from whose ports that command the said channel, it would be easy for them to injure our commerce.

"*For the attainment of such considerable benefits, and re-establish vigor in this actually debilitated province, it is necessary that the royal clemency deign to grant, as soon as possible, the most efficacious assistance in settlers and money. Your excellency being informed of the royal will, it rests with you to make the dispositions which you may find suitable as regards population; but, at the same time, I consider it my duty to set forth for your superior wisdom, that, if his Majesty was pleased to admit as subjects, as well as Spaniards, those foreigners who are Roman Catholics, or are desirous of being converted to said holy faith, granting them, in fee simple, lands in proportion to their means and industry, a number would come, who, in a short time, would be useful members of the community;*" and, believing in the utility that can result to the crown from such an admission, I enclose your excellency by this opportunity a triplicate copy of a manifest which I forwarded to the Count de Galvez in my representation No. 53. The manifest is of Don Francisco Felipe Fatio, whose services, and those of his son Don Luis, I made known to the Count de Galvez in my representation No. 42, and of which I forwarded your excellency a triplicate copy in another under No. 88; and I must now further state, that, owing to the utility and merits of both, I have thought proper to place on a plantation (the only one remaining in the province) which they have, situated on the river St. Johns, a sergeant and eight men, hoping that their industry and experience will serve as an incitement to others to imitate them.

As respects money, I respectfully conceive that it would be beneficial, as soon as possible, to make a remittance here of the sums and correspondent royal orders, to make a beginning in the repairing, or rather the rebuilding of all the works and public edifices of this country. This alone would give spirit, energy, and support to this truly weak commonwealth.

I brought with me forty thousand dollars: this has not only been consumed, but this treasury is indebted (that for months does not receive one rial) a much greater sum, the greater part to foreigners, who only wait the payment thereof to quit the province.

God preserve your excellency many years.

ZESPEDEZ.

St. Augustine, Florida, *April* 29, 1785.

To his excellency Don Jose de Galvez.

B.

[translation.]

St. Augustine, Florida, *May* 8, 1785.

Most excellent Sir: The positive intelligence which I received, some time since, of your excellency being appointed by his Majesty to go to that city, made me delay (as it was not very urgent at that time) forwarding your excellency the copy, which I now enclose you, of an edict which I had published the 25th of September last, for the ends as expressed therein.

I must at the same time inform your excellency, that some of the old Spanish proprietors have arrived, and will arrive here, with the idea that each of them had a right to take possession of their respective property, and others, by virtue of powers and transfers, without any other formality than that of saying, this formerly belonged to me, or to my grandfather, or to my uncle, &c.

I assure your excellency it would have been the greatest pleasure and satisfaction to me, if I had thought myself authorized to grant each one the possession of what he could have proved to have been legitimately his formerly, but the following consideration, which I lay before your excellency, have and do hinder me.

The King of Great Britain, in virtue of the treaty of peace of the year 1763, considered all those lots, houses, and landed property of this province, not purchased within the limited term by said treaty from the Spaniards, to have devolved to the crown, and, as sovereign, he made a donation of them to those he thought proper; so that each legitimate English proprietor has acquired his landed property by purchase made from an old Floridian, or by a donation made by the British governors in the name of their sovereign, under the royal seal of the province; and, as the last treaty of peace, (the only rule that I have had to govern me,) a period of 18 months is allowed from the ratification, and afterwards a prolonged time to the British proprietors, according to the value of their respective possessions, that they may dispose of their property and transport their effects, I have not doubted a moment in permitting and approving these purchases, not only for the motives set forth, but likewise for the superior one of considering that, as all the landed property of this country that was not purchased within the specified term by the treaty of 1763, by the English from the Spaniards, devolved to the sovereignty of the King of Great Britain, in the same manner has devolved to his Majesty, in virtue of the recent treaty of peace, all English property that has not been purchased by Spaniards within the time specified by the last treaty.

This has been, and will be, my invariable answer to all pretensions relative to the former Floridian property: but, at the same time, I have mitigated my refusal, setting forth the magnanimity of our benign sovereign, who, without doubt, will attend with a pious breast to the claims of every Floridian who proves having formerly been the owner of property not transferred under the sanction of the recent treaty; as likewise stating that the pension assigned to those exiled, through the benign generosity of his Majesty, was not done alone as a duty of their sovereign, but likewise in justice as their protector and absolute owner of the landed property of this province not actually purchased by Spaniards. But, supposing for an instant that this property does not devolve by right or justice in his gift, even in that case it would be beneficial for the public good that the King should take possession thereof to avoid the law suits and disagreements which would undoubtedly arise between the old inhabitants and those who have lately (about seventy in number) purchased houses and lots, confiding in the clause of the treaty.

On the other hand, it appears to be hard to deny the subjects, (I understand those who did not transfer their property to English subjects,) who abandoned their homes to remain faithful to God and to their sovereign, the possession of an heritage founded by their ancestors, in which they saw the first light of day as well as of religion. This consideration is of so much force, that the public faith, pledged by the late treaty, giving permission to the British to sell their property, can alone destroy it; and, consequently, to the Spaniards the permission of purchasing it, remaining always in favor of the Floridians who think of returning to their native country. The great commisseration of our monarch, who is desirous to relieve his faithful subjects, will, it is to be hoped, with a liberal hand, protect the returning Floridians, granting them, if possible, their identical property, and, if not, of that which has devolved to his royal person.

All the houses of this city in general are in a state of ruin; almost the half uninhabitable, and a great number of the whole tumbling to the ground, so that all the inhabitants who have arrived, or may shortly arrive, will be under the necessity of repairing or rebuilding.

As no person has purchased lands they have devolved to the crown, for which motive, besides the instructions relative to the division of lots and houses, as approved by your excellency, I respectfully conceive that it is important, for the settlement of this country, that power

should be given me as soon as possible to grant lands, with preference *to the old inhabitants of the country; afterwards to the Minorcans*, or any other Spaniards who may come to settle; and, lastly, to foreigners, in case his Majesty may think proper to admit the same as his subjects.

I have thought it my indispensable obligation to inform your excellency of the foregoing statement, for the purpose of laying before the King these circumstances, so important to the prosperity of this new-born province, that he may be pleased, according to the superior information of your excellency, to issue those orders he may judge most convenient.

God preserve your excellency many happy years, which I wish and need. ZESPEDEZ.

His excellency Count DE GALVEZ.

C.

MEXICO, *July 4th*, 1785.

With the letter No. 72, of the 8th of May of the present year, your lordship encloses me a copy of the act which you issued on the 25th of September of the last year, and had publicly posted by hand-bills, for the government of the Spaniards who had purchased from the English landed or moveable property. Your lordship also informing me of the decay of said houses, and the consideration you have thought just in favor of the old Floridians, asking from me instructions for the purpose of expediting to them, as well as any other Spaniard or foreigner, lots and lands for the improvement of that country; inasmuch as regards the first point, I inform your lordship, without hesitation, that the step taken by you has appeared to me very proper; but, as regards the same, as well as all the rest, I will inform his excellency the minister of the Indies, that, by his superior prudence, such measures may be taken as are agreeable to him, or may merit the approbation of the King.

God preserve your lordship many years.

EL CONDE DE GALVEZ.

To his lordship Don VICENTE M. DE ZESPEDEZ.

D.

Correspondent to representation No. 72.

Copy of an edict which was publicly posted by hand-bills, that all persons who had purchased, or may purchase from British subjects and other individuals, landed or moveable property, they make the same known, soliciting with anticipation the formalization of deeds whereby they may be secured and protected in their direct possession; it being understood that, should it so happen, that before the term, as specified, until the 20th of March, it is not closed, as it is ordered, any purchase or sale that may be made will be considered null and of no value.

IN THE CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE, *September* 26, 1784.

His lordship, Don Vicente Manuel de Zespedez, brigadier general of the royal armies, governor and commander-in-chief of this city and province, by his Majesty:

Whereas, considering it convenient in regard to what may occur as to debts, disagreements, and law suits, on the purchase of houses, lands, slaves, or any other species of landed or moveable property, made, or may hereafter be made, by Spanish subjects from the British, and to obviate all discord, dispute, or injury that might hereafter arise on the subject; taking a step that will be efficacious in putting a stop to such results as contrary to the tranquillity and public utility: Having, therefore, taken into consideration the only one which can be applied to gain such important ends, which is that of ordering that the contracts shall be made public instruments: I, therefore, by these presents, do order that all persons who have purchased, or may purchase, of said British subjects or of other individuals, landed or moveable property in this said city, or its district, shall, indispensably, and with the necessary anticipation, have made out the necessary deeds to secure and protect them in the possession of the property so acquired, and prevent the disturbance which has heretofore perplexed them, applying for the same to the present notary of Government with the sellers, these having first proved, in this tribunal, the legitimate possession of the property they are about transferring, as is already ordered and is observed; which deeds must be stipulated and registered in the protocol or register of the same with the accustomed solemnities, and according to the laws of these kingdoms; it being well understood that all purchases and sales that, before the 20th day of March next, are not made according to the mode and circumstances pointed out, shall be considered null and of no value: and that the same be made known to all, obtaining by this method the most punctual observance, and that no one plead ignorance, hand-bills shall be posted at the places pointed out containing this resolution: and by this which I decree, order, sign, and attest.

VICENTE MANUEL DE ZESPEDEZ.

Before me:

CARLOS XIMENEZ, *Notary of Government.*

E.

[TRANSLATION.]

[*For internal regulations of police, see page* 624.]

F.

[TRANSLATION.]

With this date, I communicate to the captain general of the two Floridas, Count de Galvez, the following royal order:

"Agreeably to the report of the council of State, and according to what your excellency has manifested in your letter of preference, No. 56, and of the contents of the copy enclosed from the governor of Louisiana, Don Estevan Miro, relative to the difficulties arising as to the removal of the English and American families established at Baton Rouge, Mobile, Pensacola, and Natchez from said provinces, according to the last treaty of peace, his Majesty has been pleased to approve the intimation given by your excellency to the said governor, that no steps be taken as regard said families, being his royal will that, for the present, they continue to have permission to reside at the place they now inhabit, with the indispensable requisite that they take a solemn oath of fidelity and obedience to his Majesty, and not to exceed the limits in which they are at present situated, without obtaining from the Government an express license for that purpose. That those who do not comply with these just conditions shall immediately leave the country, by sea, for the colonies of North America, on their own account; or, if not in their power, then on the King's, who shall repay himself out of their property as soon as it may be possible. That this same concession be extended to the inhabitants of East Florida, so far as may be adapted to them; and that in Natchez, and other parts of Florida where it may be necessary, there be established parishes of Irish clergymen, who may bring over said colonists, their children, and families, to our religion, with that softness and persuasion which it advises."

With the end that this royal resolution have the necessary course and happy results which his Majesty promises himself, it is necessary that your excellency (relying on your knowledge, and the information given you by Governors Miro and Zezpedez) form a plan, or regulation, of the course to be observed in said parishes, setting forth the number of clergymen to be employed therein; it being understood that, this date, I inform the Bishop of Salamanca in order that he may choose, in the mean time, four, of known zeal, virtue, and learning, of those in that university, or in any other part where they may be found. And I forward a copy of this royal resolution to the said governors for their information and compliance therewith. God, &c.

I communicate the same by order of his Majesty, for the purposes therein expressed. God preserve your lordship many years. The Prado, April 5th, 1786.

MARQUIS DE SONORA.

To the GOVERNOR *of Augustine, Florida.*

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *August 12th*, 1791.

Make copy of this royal order in the royal accountant's office, and return the original to this Government office.

QUESADA.

Note.—Under date of the foregoing decree, a copy was made of this royal order, which remains in the accountant's office under my charge, and the original returned to the Government office, as ordered in the same decree.

GONZALO ZAMORANO.

I, Francis J. Fatio, secretary of the Board of Land Commissioners for the district of East Florida, do certify that the foregoing is a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO.

ST. AUGUSTINE, E. F., *January 9th*, 1824.

G.

[TRANSLATION.]

To the GOVERNOR:

Don Zephaniah Kingsley, new settler of this province, to your excellency respectfully showeth:

That a period of ten years has elasped since he came to establish himself in the same, and enjoy the rights and privileges conceded to the new settlers, in vir-

tue of the different royal orders which have been promulgated inviting population. With this motive your memorialist has introduced seventy-four negroes belonging to him, for the sole object of dedicating them to agriculture and the working of the lands; which, according to the quantity set forth by this Government, appertaining to him according to the number of workers he presented, having no other views of speculation or injury to the public finance by the right of importing, free of duties, goods, as many others have done, abusing and placing a wrong interpretation on the royal gifts, but that his object has been always that of promoting the industry, and occupying the only place for which they were invited; whereas, when other settlers, in their name, and for their particular interest, have enjoyed the privileges for the purpose of exempting them from paying the duties due the nation, your memorialist has left a well-known advantage in the exportation of his crops. No person can fail to know that the settlers who are most to be desired in this province are those who, from the moment of their reception, dedicated themselves to the cultivation of the land. Of this class your memorialist was, and has ever been, so that as soon as he brought in his negroes, no delay or excuse should be admitted for the concession of three thousand eight hundred acres of land, which, according to the regulations made for the partition thereof, belonged to him at the rate of fifty acres for each worker, and one hundred for himself as head of a family. But your excellency, as well as every other sensible man, will not be surprised to hear that, when your memorialist presented himself to the late governor, Don Enrique White, praying that the lands should be granted him, he answered that they were reserved for the poor settlers, and other similar expressions, delaying him until your memorialist tired, and not having wherein to employ his negroes, he resolved to acquire lands by purchase. Your excellency, according to the royal orders on the subject, will see at once the sovereign will, and it is not reasonable to believe that the lands were alone to be granted to poor persons, when the gift extends according to the number of laborers each person may have, directing the lands should be measured and laid off free of expense; and every prudent mind will discern that, if it was not the incitement of obtaining the lands gratis, and that the quantity promised should be given them, no person having so numerous a gang of negroes as your memorialist would have presented themselves. Wherefore, taking advantage of the said sovereign gifts, which have been made known for the purpose of inducing settlers to come, the memorialist does not ask for more than that belonging to him by right, and with justice, and confiding in the noble sentiments of your excellency, so well known, induces him to pray that you will be pleased grant him the three thousand eight hundred acres which ought to have been conceded to him, without any pretext whatever, when he moved his abode, and placed himself under the protection of his Catholic Majesty, as, by not having granted to him said gifts, it was also not fulfilling the sovereign will, under which security the memorialist came to establish himself. With this view, should your excellency be pleased to accede to this prayer, as your memorialist hopes, according to a right so manifest, which he has never abandoned, and that an arbitrary proceeding alone could have deprived him then of what all the other settlers enjoyed, he will point out the lands and places unseated, for his settlement, on this side the river St. Johns, or wherever may be most convenient for the cultivation of grain, and principally rice, to which he proposes dedicating himself, that it may serve as an incitement to other inhabitants, making known the advantages of its production, and the utility that would result in the settlement of the province, which he hopes to receive from the impartial administration of justice of your excellency.

Z. KINGSLEY.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *January* 5, 1814.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *January* 26, 1814.

For the purpose of awarding what may belong thereto, add, in continuation, a copy of the royal order which treats of the admission of settlers and foreigners, and the regulation for the partition of lands made by this Government according to said royal gift, and that lastly amended by my predecessor, the Brigadier General Don Enrique White, certified by the present notary, with reference to his archives of the number of slaves it appears Don Zephaniah Kingsley has introduced, after which present the same.

KINDELAN.

Before me: JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary of Government.

EDICT.

Don Juan Nepomuceno de Quesada, colonel of the royal armies, and commander-in-chief of this city and province of St. Augustine, Florida, by his Majesty:

Whereas by the last packet which arrived at this port, his excellency the captain general of this province encloses me, under date of the 29th of November of the last year, the following royal order:

ROYAL ORDER.

No settler shall be admitted in Louisiana or in Florida should they pretend to have their transportation to those provinces, and maintenance there for some time, paid by the royal treasury. That those foreigners alone will be received who may, of their own free will, present themselves and swear allegiance to his Majesty, to whom there shall be granted and measured lands gratis in proportion to the working hands each family may have. That they shall not be molested in matters of religion, although there shall be no other public worship than the Catholic. That there shall be given them no other assistance or aid than lands, protection, and good treatment, each family having the right of taking with them their property of any description, all free from duties; but, in case of exporting the same to any other place, they shall pay the six per cent. as established, and obliging them only to take up arms in defence of the province should an enemy invade the same. In virtue of which I order the same to be published for the present, that it may be made known to all, being understood that only those shall be admitted as resident settlers who, besides their good conduct and honorable proceedings, are good farmers and mechanics, who are beneficial to the settlement and advancement of the province, for which purpose there shall be granted them the gifts set forth in the inserted royal order. It is also made known to those who have obtained lands in the mean time from this Government, that they present themselves to the same within the space of two months for the purpose of asking and obtaining the requisite title of property from the office of the Government secretary, from whence the necessary orders will be issued after having registered the same in the notary's office. And that it may serve as an incitement to all, I order, according to the powers I am vested with, and make known for the present that the grants be of one hundred acres to each father of a family, and fifty to each white person, or of color, of which said family is composed; also, that if persons are desirous of obtaining a greater quantity of land, and there being a probability of their cultivating the same, they shall obtain an additional number of a thousand acres; it being understood that, in all the concessions, the utility and not the quality of the lands shall be attended to, so that each person shall acquire a proportionate quantity of each, as also that the width of each of said concessions must be only the third part of the length, and said length must not extend on the banks of the rivers and creeks, but towards the interior of the lands, resting always with the Government the care of rewarding or punishing, with additional expenses, or absolute privation, as time shall discover, the merit, application, advantages, of the agriculturists, or the contrary vices.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, 20*th November*, 1790.

A copy from the original, I attest;
DOMINGO RODRIGUEZ DE LEON,
Notary of Government.

Don Enrique White, colonel of the royal armies, civil and military governor, and chief of the royal finance of this city and province of St. Augustine, Florida, by his Majesty, &c.

Whereas, it being necessary to vary and modify, in part, the rules and conditions which this Government had established for the concessions and divisions of lands to the new settlers, in consideration of the actual circumstances, on account of the great number of persons coming to enjoy the favors and privileges which his Majesty has granted to those who may come to establish themselves in this province, many abuses have arisen on the part of those grantees: Under the system and object which influenced the Government at that time in the prosecution of that plan, those as well as other inconveniences which experience has demonstrated, have plainly shown that they may tend to the hindrance of the advancement and prosperity of the province, for which reason, and to remedy the same, I have thought proper, and ordered that the rules prescribed in the following articles be observed for the future:

1st. That, whenever the new settlers shall take the customary oath of allegiance, they shall declare exactly the number of their children, their sexes, and ages, and

in consideration of which lands will be allotted them, excepting those under eight years of age.

2d. That to each head of a family there shall be granted fifty acres of land, and an equal quantity to a single person, widow, or widower, and to the children or slaves of sixteen years, twenty-five acres each, but, from the age of eight to sixteen years, they shall be granted fifteen acres each.

3d. That to those employed in the town, of whatever class they may be, if lands be granted them, or to their slaves, it shall be with the express condition of their cultivating the same within one month of the concession; being understood that, if they fail in so doing, it shall be granted to whomsoever shall denounce and lawfully prove the same.

4th. That all concessions in which no time is specified shall become extinct, and shall be considered as null, if the persons to whom they are made do not take possession and cultivate the same within the space of six months.

5th. That to none of those who cede or convey their lands to others under pretence of selling the improvements, there shall be granted them more lands in future; nor shall these transfers or conveyances be admitted if done without the consent of Government.

6th. Notwithstanding what is stated in the foregoing article, if it should suit any settler to change his situation, if he desires it, granting him lands in the place he may choose, but on consideration of giving up the improvements of the land he left for the benefit of the royal revenue, which will prevent the abuse of the transfers and sales which are prohibited, under any pretext whatever, until the proper time pointed out in the former plan or rules.

7th. That, on the lands not fit for cultivation, but have timber, or that are only proper for pastures, for which purpose alone they have been solicited, the owner cannot prevent any person from cutting and appropriating the timber to his own use who may present themselves with an order from the Government, but it is understood that it shall not injure the owner thereof.

8th. That all those who shall, for the future, ask for lands, must indicate a fixed spot from whence the measurement must commence, which will be the cause of avoiding the mistakes and disputes which, by that fault, have been experienced, particularly a short time back.

9th. That all persons who shall have abandoned or discontinued the cultivation, nor actually cultivates the lands which at any period shall have been measured to them by the surveyor general, although they have obtained the corresponding title of property from the notary's office, they shall lose their right to the same, and shall be given to any person not having lands for cultivation, who shall legally prove that said lands have been uncultivated at least two years following. And, for the punctual observance of what has been set forth, and that no person may plead ignorance, I order that copies be posted up in the public places of this city, as is customary, and that one be transmitted to the brevet captain of militia commandant of the same, and commissioned judge of the rivers St. Johns and St. Marys, Don John McQueen, that he may cause it to be made known to those inhabitants. St. Augustine, October 12, 1803.

ENRIQUE WHITE.

By order of his excellency:
JOSE DE ZUBIZARRETA,
Notary of the Government.

Conformable to their originals remaining on file in the archives under my charge, to which I refer, and agreeable to what is ordered, I seal and sign the present copy, in St. Augustine, Florida, the 27th of January, 1814.

JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary pro tem. of Government.

In the most ample and proper manner, I certify and attest that, in various proceedings filed in the archives under my charge, it appears that Don Zephaniah Kingsley has introduced into this province, for the cultivation of lands, seventy-four negroes as his property, viz. twenty-five of them in the schooner Laurel, from the port of St. Thomas, the 5th of May, 1804; ten ditto, the 25th of June, of the same year, in the schooner Laurel, alias Juanita, from the Havana; sixteen ditto in the sloop Fish (Pez) from Charleston, the 15th of July, 1806; three ditto in the schooner Esther, from the Havana, the 21st of October, 1806; and ten ditto in the schooner Industry, from Georgia, the 9th of March, 1808. And that it may be made known, and in compliance with what is ordered in the foregoing decree, I seal and sign the present in St. Augustine, Florida, the 27th of January, 1814.

JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary pro tem. of Government.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *28th January*, 1814.

Having seen, let it be made known that Don Zephaniah Kingsley has a right to, and is worthy of the concession of three thousand three hundred acres of land which ought to have been granted him when he took the oath of allegiance, and came to this province to establish himself as a new settler, according to the number of seventy-four slaves which is known he has introduced, and will be seen by the preceding certificate of the present notary, regulated at fifty acres for each of them, and one hundred for the applicant as head of a family, which this Government allowed agreeably to the royal order communicated by his excellency the captain general of the island of Cuba, the 29th of November, 1790, relative to the admission of settlers, which, copied, is found added to these proceedings, and was in force when the aforesaid Kingsley took the said oath, being prior to the new regulations made by this same Government, in the year 1803, for the partition of lands.

KINDELAN.

Before me: JUAN DE ENTRALGO,
Notary pro tem. of the Government.

H.

[TRANSLATION.]

I acknowledge the information given me by your lordship, under date of the 16th of September last, relative to Don Tomas Wooster, whose conduct and transactions gave cause for his leaving that province by order of the Government, of which I will inform his Majesty.

Relative to the introduction of families from Ireland, which your lordship proposes, I cannot accede on other terms than strictly adhering to what the King has advised me on the subject, and herewith transcribe the same for your lordship's government:

"No settlers shall be admitted in Louisiana or in Florida, should they pretend to have their transportation to these provinces, and maintenance there for some time, paid by the royal treasury. That those foreigners alone will be received who may, of their own free will, present themselves and swear allegiance to his Majesty; to whom there shall be granted and measured lands, *gratis*, in proportion to the working hands each family may have. That they shall not be molested in matters of religion, although there shall be no other public worship than the Catholic. That there shall be given them no other assistance or aid than lands, protection, and good treatment—each family having the right of taking with them their property of any description, all free from duties; but, in case of exporting the same to any other place they shall pay the six per cent. as established; and obliging them only to take up arms in defence of the province should an enemy invade the same."

To which rules your lordship must adhere in any solicitude that may occur under similar circumstances. God preserve your lordship many years. Havana, October 29, 1790.

LUIS DE LAS CASAS.

His lordship Don JUAN NEPOMUCENO DE QUESADA.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *December* 12, 1790.

Take an account at the royal accountant's office. [A flourish.]

An account was taken in the accountant's office under my charge.

GONZALO ZAMORANO.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, 12*th December*, 1790.

I.

[TRANSLATION.]

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *October* 20, 1798.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: Under date of the 20th November, 1791, index the 3d, No. 5, my predecessor transmitted to his excellency Don Pedro de Lerena, a document relative to the valuation of the houses and lots which devolved to the royal patrimony on account of the abandonment thereof by the British when this province was taken possession of in the name of his Majesty.

By the decree which heads the said document, of which I forward your excellency a copy, No. 1, it was determined that the purchasers should pay the annual rent of five per cent. until the determination of the King; and the royal accountant's office having determined to collect what was due since that period, on account of the scarcity of funds at that time in this royal treasury a number of individuals have refused to make said payment; in consequence of which a suit was entered into, of which I likewise forward your excellency document No. 2, establishing their refusal, on the ground *that, as lands had been granted gratis to the foreigners, with more reason ought the native subjects of his Majesty to be attended to.*

It is manifest, most excellent sir, that the King, desiring the improvement and settlement of this country, he

has determined that lands in the country should be given gratis to the foreigners, OR NATIVES, *who may come to settle them;* but, in no wise, that lots and houses in the city should be granted them, as in the present case. And seeing, with sorrow, the too great increase of this city in shops and taverns, without any increase in agriculture and other branches of commerce, which is the most essential for the prosperity of this possession of our sovereign; with this information, and with a view of the accompanying testimony, I hope that your excellency will inform me of the will of his Majesty not only as relates to this affair, but also in the principal, which, as I have already mentioned, my predecessor transmitted in the year '91, without having in all this period received any determination; and thereby causing great injury to the interests of the King, by the displeasure which a suspension of so many years occasions the people in an affair of this nature. God preserve your excellency many years. H. W.

His excellency Don FRANCISCO SAAVEDRA.

J.

[TRANSLATION.]

The King to the governor and commander-in-chief of the Province of St. Augustine, Florida.

In a letter dated November 20th, 1791, your predecessor gave an account, with accompanying documents, of the steps he had taken, and according to which the sale of the lots and houses relinquished by the English, and becoming part of my royal domain, agreeably to the third article of the preliminary treaty of peace concluded with that power, as also in regard to what had taken place relative to certain estates owned by the widow Donna Isabel Perpall, purchased from the English in a suspicious manner, but she not only being a widow, but poor, a Spaniard, and very possibly having acted with the most honest intentions, which makes her deserving of my royal clemency, and a number of other inhabitants being nearly in the same case, suspected of having purchased houses; some after the time allowed the English to sell, and others without his consent and intervention; and, although it was necessary to make a minute examination, he neglected doing the same, thinking it would be good for the service; and, observing that said buildings were falling to decay, he ordered their sale at public auction, a valuation being first made by skilful persons, with the proviso, that those taking said property should give security for the payment of the materials and lots when he thought it convenient, and repair said houses in the course of one year, paying in the meantime five per cent. annually, which was accordingly so done, after the purchasers had consented to pay him the principal amount, and having verified the sale, the total thereof amounted to 157,974 reals and a quartilla, including the value of the houses said to appertain to the above named Dona Isabel Perpall, to Mateo Martinez Hernandez, and to Don Manuel de Herrera, which were declared as belonging to my royal domain on account of their sale being false. And, lastly, in your letter of the 20th of October, '98, you stated, with proof, that some refused the payment of five per cent., founding their objections on the grants of lands made to foreigners establishing themselves in that colony, and that the houses and lots in that city were not comprehended in those grants; and, seeing the continued increase therein of taverns and shops, without any improvement whatever in agriculture and other staples of commerce, you gave an account for my royal resolution not only of this incident, but likewise of the other, pending from the time of your predecessor. Having observed, in my Council of Indies, the opinion of my fiscal, with the information on that subject given by the accountant general's office, and consulting on the same the 17th of April last, I have resolved to remit, in favor of those indebted to the finance, the payment of the capital and interests on the houses and lots they acquired, and approve the sale and other steps as taken by your said predecessor, giving to each a title of possession and property that they may be secured hereafter in the possession of said estate, it being thus my will; and let an account of the present be taken in the said accountant general's office. Dated at Aranjuez, the 17th of June, 1801. I, THE KING.

By order of the King, our master:

ANTONIO PORCEL.

OFFICIAL.

To the Governor of Florida, informing him of having remitted, in favor of those indebted to the finance, of, in that the payment of the capital and interests on the houses and lots they acquired at the transfer of the country by the English, and so forth, as expressed therein.

COMMUNICATED.

MADRID, *July 9th*, 1801.

Take an account thereof in the northern department of the accountant general's office of the Indies.

PEDRO APARICI.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *Florida, Feb. 18th*, 1802.

Take an account of this royal letter patent in the accountant office, and be it afterwards annexed to the proceedings on the subject, and it will be delivered to the attorney general, that he may give me his opinion thereon. ENRIQUE WHITE.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *Feb. 18th*, 1802.

An account of this royal letter patent was taken in the principal accountant's office under my charge.

GONZALO ZAMORANO.

Having seen, let what his Majesty orders in his royal patent of the 17th of June last be kept, complied with, and executed, posting the same by hand-bills in the customary places, and inserting, particularly as relates to the royal donation and grant of houses and lots which, by appertaining to his royal domain, were sold here in the year 1791, with the yearly interest of five per cent. on the value of the property to which the purchasers bound themselves:—let the royal approbation of said sale be likewise published; and, in consequence of the same royal gift, let the mortgages given them by the purchasers on said property be cancelled, and those which progressively have been made over to other proprietors, to whom said property was transferred by the original owners, at the same time, for the security of these last; let the conveyances of the royal donation be drawn out, to which, for the security and possession of legitimate possessors, let the royal favor be also extended. And, in respect to the doubts which took place as to the legitimate ownership of the property in the possession of Dona Isabel Perpall, Mateo Martin Hernandez, and Don Manuel de Herrera, in the proceedings relative to the sale of said lots and houses, which were, notwithstanding, sold as the others as belonging to the royal domain, inform them in particular, or their legitimate agents, of the royal patent, that it is also extended to the aforesaid property, that they may make use of all their right upon which, and in all incidents relative thereto, and which, in this general provision, cannot be taken into consideration; other provisions will progressively be made, and, as the cases and circumstances may require, of all which the fiscal representation shall be informed with respect to what concerns his duty.

LICENCIATE ORTEGA. WHITE.

Don Enrique White, colonel in the royal army, civil and military governor of the city of St. Augustine and province of East Florida, for his Majesty, provided the foregoing, which he signed, after having consulted his lieutenant, auditor of war, and assessor general, on the 18th of March, 1802.

JOSE DE ZUBIZARRETA,
Government Notary.

St. Augustine, same day, month, and year, I notified the foregoing act to Don Gonzalo Zamorano, accountant of the royal finance, to take cognizance of the same; which I attest.

ZUBIZARRETA, *Notary.*

K.

Don Enrique White, colonel of the royal armies, governor, political and military chief of the royal revenue of this place, and province of St. Augustine, in East Florida, for his Majesty, &c.:

Forasmuch as it is proper partly to vary and modify the rules and conditions which the Government had established for the concessions and divisions of lands to the new settlers; considering the actual circumstances which, on account of the great number of applications, and to distribute the favors and privileges which his Majesty has granted to those who may come to establish themselves in this province, many abuses, on the part of those new settlers, have arisen under the system which Government, to prosecute their plans, had there established; which, and other inconveniences since by experience demonstrated, have made it evident that they may tend to the prejudice and hindrance of the advancement of the province: for which reason, and to remedy them, I command and ordain that, for the future, the following rules and regulations shall be observed:

1. That at the time when any of the new settlers shall take the oath of fidelity and vassalage, as is customary, they shall declare exactly the number of their children,

sexes, and ages; in proportion to which *lands* will be allotted to them, excepting those under eight years of age.

2. That to every head of a family shall be granted fifty acres of land; an equal quantity to a single person or widow; and to children or slaves, from sixteen and upwards, twenty-five acres; but, from the age of eight to sixteen, they shall only be allowed fifteen acres each.

3. That to those employed about town, of whatsoever description, if lands should be given for themselves or slaves to cultivate, it shall be with the express condition of their beginning to cultivate it within a month; in failure of which, it shall be granted to whomsoever shall improve it, and enter complaint.

4. That all concessions of lands in which no time is specified, shall expire and be annulled if the person to whom they are made shall not appear to cultivate and take possession of them within the space of six months.

5. That to none of those who cede or convey their lands to others under pretence of selling their improvements, shall be granted any lands in future; nor shall these cessions or conveyances be admitted, if done without the consent of Government.

6. Notwithstanding what is said in the foregoing article, if it should suit any settler to change his situation, it will be permitted—if he desires, grant him lands where he may wish, but on express condition of giving up the improvements of the lands he left for the benefit of the royal revenue, on purpose to hinder the abuse of transfers or sales, which are prohibited, under that pretext, until the right time prefixed in the former rules in place.

7. That, in those lands which are not fit for cultivation, but only for pasture or woodland, and under which title they have been granted, the owner shall not be empowered to hinder any person, presenting, henceforth, an order of Government, from cutting down the trees, and appropriating them to his own use; but it shall be understood the possession should not be injured by it.

8. That all those who shall solicit lands for the future, must indicate a fixed spot from whence the measurement begins, on purpose to avoid disputes; too many of which have been already experienced.

9. That every person who shall have abandoned or discontinued cultivating, or not actually cultivates, the lands which, at any period, shall have been measured to him by the surveyor general, even after he has obtained the corresponding title of proprietorship from the officer, shall lose his right to them, and they shall be given to any one not having land already, by proving, summarily, that they have laid uncultivated at least two following years.

And, for the punctual observance of what has been said, and that no one may plead ignorance, I order copies of this to be stuck up in the public places of the city, as is customary, and another shall be transmitted to the captain graduatiate of the militia, commander of them, and commissioned judge of the rivers St. Johns and St. Marys, Don Juan McQueen, who shall make it known to those inhabitants.

ENRIQUE WHITE.

St. Augustine, 12*th October*, 1803.

Signed by the secretary:
Jose de Zubizarreta.

And translated by the public interpreter:
Bernardus Sanchez.

October 20*th*, 1803.

L.

To the Captain General:

For the purpose of avoiding the abuses which have been experienced in the granting of lands to the new settlers, without certain restrictions that will oblige them to cultivate the same, I have thought it convenient to establish the rules in the accompanying document, which I forward your lordship for your intelligence and approval.

My predecessor had assigned one hundred acres of land to the fathers of families, and fifty to each child and slave, whether full grown or small—a quantity really excessive, and could only have taken place at that time in which there were very few strangers who came in solicitude of lands; but, at present, there are many who come, and, consequently, there would result the greatest injury in the improvement of the province unless said number of acres be diminished, on account of its being more than one individual can cultivate in a year, even divided in three parts, for the purpose of giving rest to the lands, which circumstance I have also had present for the deduction which has been made.

God preserve your lordship many years. St. Augustine, Florida, October 15th, 1803.

WHITE.

The Marquis de Someruelos.

M.

Don Enrique White, colonel of the royal armies, civil and military governor of this city and province, and superior chief of the royal finance:

Whereas, on the 12th of October, 1803, I thought proper to have published an edict in which were prescribed various rules to remedy the many abuses and disorders as committed on the part of those obtaining lands, and ordering, in the ninth article of the said edict, that all persons having abandoned, or that may not have continued cultivating, or do not actually cultivate, the lands which may have been measured for them at any time by a surveyor, although the necessary title of possession should have been given them from the notary's office, they would lose their right to them, and would be given to any person who, not having lands to cultivate, would lawfully prove, in a summary manner, that said lands were without cultivation for at least two years in succession: it is now made known that the improvements or buildings remaining on the lands thus abandoned or uncultivated in the specified time, their value shall be appropriated in favor of the royal finance, as a deposite, until a new determination. And that it may be made known to all persons, I order copies to be posted in the customary places, and that another be transmitted to the brevet captain of militia, and commandant of the same, and commissioned judge of the rivers St. Johns and St. Marys, Don Juan McQueen, that he may make the same known to the inhabitants thereof.

St. Augustine, Florida, 2*d April*, 1805.

N.

Edict of Governor White.

Means for restraining the disorders concerning lands, and the various frauds and abuses which are committed against the royal revenue, by the new settlers in this province of East Florida.

1st. That it shall not be permitted to any settler, of whatsoever condition, to hold land, slaves, or other property in the province, if he do not reside in it; obliging all to a fixed and permanent residence, and assigning to those who do not comply the term of one month to withdraw their slaves, and one year to sell their lands, and whatever property they may have acquired; and that, after the expiration of the aforesaid term, the lands which they shall not have transferred, and the slaves found in the province, be forfeited in favor of the royal treasury.

2d. That the new settler shall not be reputed a subject of his Majesty who is absent from the province a year, or, at most, two successive years, and shall lose the lands granted him; and, also, be obliged to satisfy the duties on the merchandise he may have introduced, discounting them from the surety given for the protection of the King's droits, in case he emigrate from the province before the term, as is expressed below.

3d. That to the new settler who, at the time of taking the oath of fidelity and allegiance, declares himself to be married, and has not brought his wife and family with him, a positive term shall be assigned for him to bring them; and, in case he does not comply, he shall incur the penalties prescribed in the foregoing article—the same being observed towards him who avers that he is not married, and conceals it in his oath.

4th. That a title of property shall not be despatched for the lands granted until after ten years' possession; the certificate which is delivered by the secretary when the lands are granted, and the survey of the surveyor general in conformity with it, being, until that period, sufficient to protect the interested.

5th. That the inhabitant who shall solicit full property of the lands granted to him shall give proof that he has cultivated them for ten successive years, with the slaves or laborers of his family corresponding with the number of acres granted him, and that he has complied with the other established conditions. The said proof being rendered, it shall pass to the fiscal of the royal revenue, that he may expound what is presented to him, and promote such information as he may judge proper in opposition to that of the interested, determining the proceeding in the contradictory judgment.

6th. That the children of a family whose parents have emigrated from the province, shall have no right to claim a title, in full property, of lands granted to them, although they had been possessed of them more than the ten prescribed years, unless they had continued in the possession and cultivation of them with written permission from the Government, in which case they shall be delivered a title of full property, if it be solicited. The proof required in the preceding article having been given, and that always, after the absence of their parents, they had remained constantly in the province. This rule shall

be observed as regards children whose parents may die in the said province.

7th. That those who have lands that have been ceded or transferred to them by others with the consent and permission of the Government, shall have the same time allowed to them as their principals had, to claim, in due time, the titles of property; which shall be despatched to them after the requisite proof that they, and those they derive from, have complied with the conditions of the grants.

8th. That, at the time of receiving the oath of fidelity and allegiance of the new settlers, there shall be prescribed by Government a specified period for the importation of merchandise he manifests to be his property, according to the distance from whence he came, paying the import duties on those articles he may afterwards introduce.

9th. That the new settler shall satisfy the duties on importation, who, at the time of taking his oath, declares it to be his intention to sell his houses, lands, and other property, in order to introduce the amount in negroes and implements of agriculture, and afterwards, on the contrary, he would do it in merchandise, which would give room for many frauds, and would elude the provision of the former article.

10th. That in case any new settler shall declare that he owns houses, lands, credits, &c., and shall make it appear that he desires to introduce the value of said property and credit in merchandise, a certain term will be appointed for their introduction, free of duties, as is provided in the foregoing 8th article.

11th. That if it be proved that any new settler has introduced, as his own, merchandise belonging to foreigners or inhabitants of the province, defrauding thus the royal revenue, all the effects which may be seized shall be confiscated, giving the third part of the value thereof to the informer, if there should be one, after having deducted the costs of court; and, further, the delinquents and their accomplices be punished, by imprisonment or banishment, for such a number of years as may be held fit: and that, in case of proof of the crime, no goods should be found, there shall be exacted from the delinquents and accomplices a considerable fine.

12th. That no new settlers shall be permitted to go into the dominions of his Majesty, if they have not at least resided four years constantly in the province.

13th. That every new settler, a captain or owner of a vessel, who may desire to pass in her to the Havana, or any other of his Majesty's dominions permitted, loaded with the produce of the country, shall have permission, giving security, in the value of the vessel, for her return into the province.

14th. That there be not admitted on the roll of the vessels destined to the dominions of his Majesty any new settlers who are not mariners by profession, and go in a fixed situation gaining a salary, excepting from this rule those who have completed the term of residence in the province prescribed by article 12th.

15th. That every new settler who declares any merchandise to be his property, shall give surety, in proportion as he goes, on introducing them, in the term which is assigned in his oath for the security of the royal duties, which he must pay if he emigrates from the province before the ten years of his establishment.

16th. That, in case it be proved that any new settler navigates with Spanish and American papers at the same time, or with those of any other foreign nation, the vessel and cargo shall be confiscated, giving the third part of the value to the informer, if there should be one, after satisfying the judicial costs and other expenses; and it shall be deemed sufficient proof for the establishment of this crime to have foreign colors hoisted at the ports where the vessels arrive, and that the captains do not present themselves to the consuls of his Majesty in the ports where they may be.

17th. That the dissensions which occur between the new inhabitants as regards granted lands, be decided summarily, without form or judicial clamor; and that, if the case were any thing complicated in its circumstances, a process of information and *de officio* should be formed; and, if it shall result that the dispute was promoted by the malice or bad faith of either of the litigants, he shall be condemned to satisfy all the costs, as well as the damages and expenses, that the adverse party may have occasioned.

18th. That, also, those causes shall be decided summarily, without noise or judicial form, which occur on declaration whether any new settler ought or not be deemed a subject of his Majesty, for which declaration the character, rank, and other circumstances of the interested shall be taken into consideration.

19th. That if any new settler shall consider himself aggrieved by the decisions of the Government in any of the cases of which the two preceding articles speak, he can recur to the captain general of the province for the determination which said superior chief considers just.

St. Augustine, Florida, *May* 31, 1805.

O.

Governor Estrada to the Marquis Someruelos.

[TRANSLATION.]

Most excellent Sir: The miserable situation, at present, of this city and province, and seeing that, of the one hundred and forty-one thousand thirty-one dollars and four reals which is allowed annually for salaries, there is owing to the end of April last nine hundred and twenty-five thousand one hundred and thirty-three dollars one and an half reals, obliges me to seek for some adequate measure to relieve myself from the difficulties under which I labor for the want of funds for most urgent wants, such as the purchase of provisions; the allowance and pay of the third battalion of Cuba; the annual presents of the Indians; and the payment of the large balance of accounts due the persons employed in the royal finance, invalids, Florida pensioners; and to the heads of families, settlers, who receive a daily pension and charity, whose outcries are so continual that the most obdurate heart would melt at them with compassion.

The greatest part of the commerce of this province consists at present of British vessels arriving at the port of Fernandina, in Amelia island, for the purpose of loading with timber to convey to their arsenals in England, leaving the small duty of seven and an half per cent. under moderate valuations—these inhabitants cutting the same in the most convenient places, without any restrictions whatever: our neighbors, the Americans, also availing themselves of cutting the wood clandestinely, without paying us any duty, adding the inconveniency of its not being in my power to put a stop thereto on account of the uninhabited situation of the places where the same takes place.

That the King may receive the benefit therefrom, I am of opinion that a very advantageous step may be taken for the advancement of this province, which is, that, for the purpose of aiding the royal treasury of West Florida, (which may not be in so deplorable a situation as this,) a determination was taken to sell to the natives and foreigners, without distinction, the public lands, according to their quality; the said system be established here, transferring to the new settlers admitted, or to be admitted, conformably to what his Majesty sets forth by royal orders.

The lands are granted gratis to those who, with the necessary requisites, come to settle, but, by an administrative arrangement, the title of ownership cannot be issued them until after ten years' possession and uninterrupted cultivation, which practice is injudicious on account of its being too long a period for them to dispose of the land granted them according to the number of their families and slaves; and, should there occur in that time, any diplomatic change, they could not prove their legitimate possession, being liable to lose all their improvements thereon. The public lands being purchased by those, and also by the inhabitants already established here, which I do not doubt they would do if the prescribed time of ten years were not necessary, then this great difficulty would be obviated, and a greater number of new settlers would come, and receiving, of course, their title of possession, they would prize it, having cost them their money, and they would improve the land to procure some utility; the results would be the greatest advancement and prosperity of the country, income to the royal treasury, and would prevent, in some measure, the Americans from being benefitted by what belongs to us, as each settler would take very good care that their property should not be taken away.

The measure which I propose to your excellency is not only for the utility of the country, or in regard to the unfortunate state of this royal treasury, but likewise the situation in which the nation is placed at present, as it is necessary to put into operation the most effectual ways and means to support and alleviate, in some manner, the immense burden and expense it is at, without opposing, in any wise, the will of the sovereign, who wishes the prosperity and increase of his royal interests by all possible means; and I therefore believe that his royal intentions would be fully realized by the settlement of this province, and alleviation of his royal finance. In virtue of which, should your excellency conceive that this measure will meet the approbation of his Majesty, I await that of your excellency to put it in execution.

God preserve your excellency many years. St. Augustine, Florida, June 19th, 1811. ESTRADA.

To his excellency the Marquis of Someruelos.

P.

[TRANSLATION.]

I have seen your letters Nos. 26 and 37, setting forth, in the present circumstances, the utility of alienating public lands to the new settlers of that province on the terms expressed therein; and, in answer, inform you that the said alienation cannot take place, as the admission of citizens of the United States in the Floridas is expressly prohibited by a royal order of the 14th November, 1804, and by another of the 31st March, 1806, forbidding, on no pretext whatever, the sale of lands to foreigners coming into East Florida.

God preserve you many years. Havana, Sept. 14, 1811. THE MARQUIS DE SOMERUELOS.

To the GOVERNOR *pro tem. of East Florida.*

Q.

[TRANSLATION.]

The Secretary of State and of the office of the Government of the peninsula, has communicated to me the following decree:

Don Fernando the Seventh, by the grace of God and by the constitution of the Spanish monarchy, King of the Spains, and, in his absence and captivity, the regency of the kingdom, appointed by the General and Extraordinary Cortes, to all to whom these presents may come greeting: Know ye, that the Cortes have decreed the following:

The General and Extraordinary Cortes, considering that the conversion of public lands into private property is one of the measures which the welfare of the people, as well as the advancement of agriculture and industry most imperiously demands; and desiring, at the same time, that this class of lands should serve as an aid to the public necessities, a reward to the deserving defenders of the country, and a support to the citizens who are not proprietors, do decree:

Art. 1. All the uncultivated or public lands, and those of the corporations of cities, with the timber thereon, or without it, both in the peninsula and adjacent islands, as well as in the ultra-marine provinces, except the commons necessary for the towns, shall be made private property, taking care that those of the corporations of cities give an annual rent, by the most convenient means, which, at the proposal of the respective provincial deputations, shall be approved of by the Cortes.

Art. 2. In whatever manner these lands be distributed it shall be in full property, and in the class of enclosures, that the owners thereof may fence them without injury to the pathways, roads, water-courses, and passages, and use them freely and exclusively, and apply them to the use or culture which best suits them; but they can never entail nor pass them at any time, or any wise, to a *mortmain.*

Art. 3. In the alienation of said lands, a preference shall be given to the inhabitants of the towns within the limits of which they are, and to the occupiers who use the said uncultivated lands.

Art. 4. The provincial deputations shall propose to the Cortes, through the medium of the regency, the time and the terms when it will be most convenient to carry this disposition into effect in their respective provinces, according to the circumstances of the country, and the lands which it may be indispensable to preserve for the townships, in order that the Cortes determine upon what may be most convenient to each territory.

Art. 5. This business is recommended to the zeal of the regency of the kingdom, and to the two secretaries of state, in order that they may bring forward and inform the Cortes, at all times, of the representations which the provincial deputations direct to them.

Art. 6. Without injury to what has been provided, half of the uncultivated and public lands of the monarchy, excepting the commons of towns, is reserved, that the entire, or any part which is deemed necessary, may serve as a pledge for the payment of the national debt; and, with preference for the credits which the inhabitants of the towns to which the lands appertain may have against the nation, the first place amongst those credits to be given to such as arise from supplies for the national armies, or loans which the said inhabitants may have made for the war, since the 1st of May, 1808.

Art. 7. In the alienation for the public debt of this half of the uncultivated lands, or the part which it is deemed necessary to pledge, the inhabitants of the respective towns, and the occupiers who use the said lands, shall be preferred as purchasers; and the credits competently adjusted, which either the one or the other may have on account of the said supplies and loans, shall be admitted in payment for the full value, and, in defect thereof, any other lawful national credit which they may have.

Art. 8. In the said half of the uncultivated and public lands, there shall be comprehended and computed the part which may be justly and lawfully alienated in some provinces for the expenses of the present war.

Art. 9. Of the remaining uncultivated and public lands, or of the arable lands belonging to corporations of towns, there shall be given, gratuitously, a quantity of those fittest for culture to each captain, lieutenant, or sub-lieutenant, who, from advanced age, or from being disabled in the military service, with due leave, without censure, and with a lawful document, accrediting his good behavior; and the same to each sergeant, corporal, soldier, trumpeter, and drummer, who, for the same causes, or having completed his time, obtain a final discharge, without censure, whether either the one or the other be natives or foreigners, wherever, in the districts in which they may fix their residence, there may be this class of lands.

Art. 10. The quantity which, in each town, is granted to officers or soldiers shall be in equal proportion of value to the space and quality of the same, and more or less in some places than in others, according to their circumstances, and the greater or less extent of the lands, managing, if possible, that at the least each quantity shall be such as to be sufficient, regularly cultivated, for the maintenance of an individual.

Art. 11. The assignment of these quantities shall be made by the constitutional councils of the towns to which lands appertain, as soon as the interested present to them the documents which accredit their good services and resignation, the *syndic* being heard, as respects the whole, in a concise and lawful manner, and without exacting any costs or dues whatever. After which, the proceedings shall be sent to the provincial deputation, that they may approve it, and remedy any grievance.

Art. 12. The concession of these quantities of land, which shall be called *patriotic bounty*, shall not extend at present to other individuals but those who served, or have served in the present war, or in the pacification of the actual disturbances of any of the ultra-marine provinces; but includes the captains, lieutenants, sub-lieutenants, and troops, who, having served in one or the other, have retired without censure, and with lawful leave, from having been wounded and incapacitated to serve in action, and not in any other manner.

Art. 13. It also includes those individuals, not military, who, having served as partisans, or contributed in any other manner to the national defence in this war, or in the disturbances of America, have remained, or remain wounded or disabled by the result.

Art. 14. These favors shall be granted to the said individuals, although they should enjoy other rewards for their services and distinguished actions.

Art. 15. Out of the same remaining uncultivated and public lands, those fittest for culture shall be marked out and given, gratuitously, by lot, to every inhabitant of the respective towns who asks for it, and has no other land of his own, and in a quantity proportioned to the extent of the land, so as that the whole of those thus divided, in any case, do not exceed the fourth part of the said uncultivated and public lands; and, if these should not be sufficient, the quantity shall be given in the arable land of the corporations of the town, directing in such case a redeemable fee equivalent to the income of the same in the five years up to the end of 1807, in order that the municipal funds should not decay.

Art. 16. If any of the grantees in the preceding article should, for two successive years, fail to pay the fee, the quantity of land belonging to the corporation, or to keep it employed usefully, it shall be granted to a more laborious inhabitant who has no land of his own.

Art. 17. The writings for these concessions shall be made also without any expense by the councils, and shall be approved by the provincial deputations.

Art. 18. All the quantities of land which are conceded conformably to articles 9, 10, 12, 13, and 15, shall be also in full property for the grantees and their successors, on the terms, and with the privileges, which the 2d article expresses; but the owners of these quantities cannot alienate them before four years from the time they were granted, nor ever subject them to entail, or pass them at any time, or by any title, to *mortmain.*

Art. 19. Whoever of the said grantees, or his successors, establishes his permanent residence on the same quantity of land, shall be exempt for eight years from every contribution or impost upon that land or its products.

Art. 20. This decree shall be circulated not only in all the towns of the monarchy, but also in all the national armies, publishing it in them, so as that it may come to be known by all the individuals composing them.

The regency of the kingdom will take notice of the

above, and will do what is necessary for its accomplishment, causing it to be printed, published, and circulated.

FRANCISCO CISCAR, *President.*

The deputy FRANCISCO CASTILLO, *Secretary.*

The deputy JUAN MARIA HERERA, *Secretary.*

Given at Cadiz the 4th of January, 1813.

To the REGENCY *of the Kingdom.*

Wherefore, we command all tribunals, judges, chiefs, governors, and other authorities, as well civil as military and ecclesiastical, of whatever class or degree, that they keep and cause to be kept, comply with and execute, the present decree, in all its parts. You will take notice of the same for its completion, and you will order that it be printed, published, and circulated.

J. MOSQUERA Y FIGUERA.
THE DUKE DEL INFANTADO.
JOHN VILLAVICENCIO.
IGN. RODZ. DE RIVAS.
JUAN PEREZ VILLAMIL.

Given in Cadiz the 7th of January, 1813.

CADIZ, *the 22d January*, 1813.

By order of the regency of the kingdom, I communicate this to your excellency, in order that, transmitting it to the provincial deputation as soon as it be installed, you keep, and comply punctually with, the part which respects you, exciting the zeal of your excellency to the end that agriculture and industry, aided by this powerful auxiliary, should be elevated to the point of grandeur of which it is susceptible, and that the beneficent views of the august national congress, and of their highnesses, in their incessant toils, may produce the happy results anticipated for the Spaniards of both hemispheres. Their highnesses also desire that the same provincial deputations give an account, through the medium of the ultramarine department provisionally in my charge, of the circulation of this decree as soon as your excellency has communicated it, without preventing your excellency from doing so separately; and, also, making the observations which, from the knowledge you have of the country, you judge proper and conducive to the elucidation of the matter. God preserve your excellency many years.

JOSEPH DE LURIOTA.

To the CAPTAIN GENERAL *of the Island of Cuba, political chief of the Havana.*

HAVANA.

Royal order, communicated officially to his excellency the political chief and captain general of this city, superior chief of the province island of Cuba and the two Floridas, by the ultra-marine department in the peninsula, that, for a compliance thereof, be inserted in the Gazette.

R.

[TRANSLATION.]

MADRID, *June* 8, 1814.

The King, wishing to prevent the doubts which have begun to arise on account of the decree of the 4th of January, of the last year, relative to the distribution of lands, and that whatever competition might have taken place disappear in the forgetfulness or little observance in the provisions of the laws of the Indies and ordinances of intendants, with great injury to the royal exchequer, and of the owners, who, regulating themselves accordingly, had obtained the legal acquisition; he has therefore been pleased to order that the intendants comply strictly with what has been ordered in the said ordinances relative to the distribution of lands, the proceeds of which, together with the rest appertaining to the royal finance, serve to support the expenses of the same; and in the proceedings thereof, they adhere to what is prescribed in the laws of the Indies, and particularly in the royal instruction of the 15th of October, 1754; not admitting, in any wise, the least appeal of a corporation or town whatever against those lands that are laid off or measured for the use of their owners in virtue of a title of gift, agreement, or purchase, as his Majesty wishes, in no wise, that interpretations be given contrary to what has been ordered, to the prejudice of his royal interests, or those of his loyal subjects in those dominions: which I communicate to your lordship, by royal order, for your information, and that you may order the punctual compliance thereof. God preserve your lordship many years.

GONGORA.

The GOVERNOR *of St. Augustine, Florida.*

S.

The governor of St. Augustine to the captain general of Cuba.

[TRANSLATION.]

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: The first of this month, I discharged from the military service in which they were employed, the three companies of white militia of this city, not only for want of provisions here, but for the urgent necessity there was that the inhabitants should be allowed to turn once more their attention to the care of their respective families and occupations, with the object of making as light as possible the injuries suffered by them in the insurrection of the provice.

With this motive I cannot but recommend to your excellency the fidelity manifested by the militia and third battalion of Cuba, in the performance of their duty, from the first moment in which the rebellion broke out, and for which I consider them worthy the gifts to which the Supreme Government may think them entitled, taking the liberty of recommending the granting of some, which may be as follows: to each officer, who has been in actual service in said militia, a royal commission for each grade he may obtain as provincial; and to the soldiery, a certain quantity of land as established by regulation in this province, agreeably to the number of persons composing each family; and which gift can also be made to the married officers and soldiers of the said third battalion of Cuba.

Men in general require to be excited by some stimulus, and it is not easy to find any who are indifferent to public approbation of their services. What I propose, without giving them in reality any thing, will be the means of contenting them, and produce henceforward the best effects; it being understood that this gift will be for those who occupy themselves in the defence. And for this end, and in case that these my ideas merit the approbation of your excellency, I enclose, as regards the officers of both corps, lists of those who ought, in that case, to be comprehended. God preserve your excellency many years.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *June* 4, 1813.

His excellency Don JUAN RUIZ DE APODACA.

The governor of the city of St. Augustine, East Florida, gives notice of his having discharged from the military service the companies of white militia of said city, and recommends their merits, as well as the third battalion of Cuba, which they obtained on account of the insurrection of this province.

I, Francis J. Fatio, secretary of the Board of Land Commisioners for the district of East Florida, do certify that the foregoing is a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO.

ST. AUGUSTINE, EAST FLORIDA, *January* 9, 1824.

[TRANSLATION.]

CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA.

List of the officers of militia companies of said city, and those of the third battalion of Cuba, who have been constantly employed in its defence.

MILITIA.

Captains—Don Bernardo Segui, Don Pedro Cocifacio, Don Jorge Fleming.

Lieutenants—Don Juan O'Reilly, Don Juan Clark.

Ensigns—Don Joaquim Sanchez, Don Geronimo Alvarez.

THIRD BATTALION OF CUBA.

Captains—Don Manuel de Castella, Don Gil Vacot, Don Francisco Ribera, (brevet.)

Lieutenants—Don Ramon Castillo, Don Miguel Fuentecilla, Don Justo Lopez.

Ensigns—Don Christoval Bravo, Don Blas Crespo, Don Lorenzo Boniguet, Don Manuel Palomino.

Note.—The commandant of the battalion of Cuba, Don Juan José de Estrada; the captain and lieutenant of the corps of national artillery, Don Ignacio Salens and Don Manuel Paulin; and the ensign of dragoons of America, Don Juan Percheman, have been equally occupied in the defence of this city; the said Don Juan José de Estrada having had the provisional command of the same at the beginning of the insurrection, and who, equally with the other officers in the above list, have, with the greatest exactitude, zeal, and vigilance, complied with their respective duties.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *June* 4, 1813.

I, Francis J. Fatio, secretary of the Board of Land Commissioners for the district of East Florida, do certify that the foregoing is a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO.

ST. AUGUSTINE, E. F., *January* 9, 1824.

T.

[TRANSLATION.]

Under date of the 29th of March last, his excellency the minister of the Indies writes me the following:

"I have informed the King of what your excellency sets forth in your letter, No. 236, of the year 1813, relative to the rewards which the governor of East Florida considers the individuals of the companies of white militia, and married officers and soldiers of the third battalion of the regiment of Cuba, entitled to for their meritorious conduct during the insurrection of this province; and at the same time that his Majesty approves said gifts, he desires that your excellency will inform him as to the reward which the commandant of the third battalion of Cuba, Don Juan José de Estrada, who acted as governor pro tem. at the commencement of the rebellion, the officers of artillery, Don Ygnacio Salens, Don Manuel Paulin, and of dragoons Don Juan Percheman, are entitled to, as mentioned by the governor in his official letter. By royal order, I communicate the same to your excellency for your information and compliance therewith, enclosing the royal commissions, according to the note forwarded by your excellency."

I forward you a copy of the same, enclosing also the documents above-mentioned, that you may give them their correspondent direction, with the intention, by the first opportunity, of informing his Majesty of what I consider just as to the remuneration before-mentioned. God preserve you many years.

APODACA.

HAVANA, *July* 7, 1815.

The GOVERNOR *pro tem. of East Florida.*

I, Francis J. Fatio, secretary of the Board of Land Commissioners for the district of East Florida, do certify that the foregoing is a true and correct translation from a document in the Spanish language.

F. J. FATIO.

ST. AUGUSTINE, E. F., *January* 9, 1824.

U.

[TRANSLATION.]

Seal the 3d, 10 S. Reals. [SEAL.] for the years 1822 & 1823.

Don Juan Nepomuceno de Arrocha, honorary comptroller of the army, and secretary of the intendancy of the public finance of this island, and that of Puerto Rico:

I do hereby certify that, in compliance with the decree of the 7th of this month, of the superintendent Don Francisco Javier de Ambari, made at the petition of Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo of the 4th instant, and filed in the secretary's office under my charge, exists the royal order of the following tenor: "His Majesty, understanding by the letters of your lordship of the 14th and 18th of August, and 21st October of the year last past, Nos. 18, 28, and 107, of the resolutions concluded with the captain general of that island to regulate all that appertains to the branch of the royal finance, and to attend to the protection and advancement of the two Floridas, and having conformed himself with the advice given by the supreme council of the Indies in their deliberations held on the 11th of August last—his Majesty has been pleased to approve, for the present, all which has been done with respect to the regulations of said branch, as, also, the supplies administered by the board of royal finance for the payment of the regiment of Louisiana, and other indispensable expenditures for the fortifications and defence of the cities of St. Augustine and Pensacola, authorizing your lordship, in case of necessity, to aid or supply them. His Majesty, likewise, has determined, for the present, the superintendancy of the two Floridas in favor of your lordship as superintendent of the island of Cuba; and, lastly, his Majesty has been pleased to command me to inform your lordship, as I now do, that you facilitate the increase of the population of those provinces by all the means which your prudence or zeal can dictate, informing, as soon as possible, the motives for the absence of Don Miguel de Losadas and Don Manuel Gonzalez Almirez from their offices.

"All which I communicate to your lordship, by royal order, for your intelligence and compliance thereof.

"God preserve your lordship many years.

"MADRID, 3*d September*, 1817. "GARAY.

"To the Intendant of Havana,

"JUAN NEPO. DE ARROCHA."

HAVANA, 10*th October*, 1823.

1.

[TRANSLATION.]

In compliance with orders, and agreeably to the definitive treaty of peace made at Versailles the 20th day of January, 1783, which was approved in Spain by the King, our master, I make a true copy of the 3d article, which, with the said approval, and the official letter of prorogation made known, are as follow:

Article 3d. His Britannic Majesty will cede to his Catholic Majesty East Florida, and his Catholic Majesty will retain West Florida; it being understood that the term of eighteen months will be allowed to the subjects of his Britannic Majesty not only established on the island of Minorca, but likewise in the two Floridas, which will commence from the day of the ratification of the definitive treaty, that they may sell their property, recover what may be owing to them, and transport their persons and effects, without being molested on account of religion, or on any other pretext, excepting that of debts or criminal causes; and his Britannic Majesty shall have power to transport from East Florida all the effects appertaining to him, whether artillery, or any other.

Ratification of the King.

Don Carlos, by the grace of God, King of Castile, of Leon, of Arragon, &c. &c. &c.: Whereas, in consequence of the preliminary articles of peace between my crown and that of England, signed at Versailles on the 20th of January of the present month, by Count de Aranda, my ambassador near his Most Christian Majesty, with my full powers, and by Don Alleyne Fitzherbert, minister plenipotentiary from the King of Great Britain; which ratifications, made by me and his Britannic Majesty, were afterwards exchanged in due form, and afterwards perfected by the above named Count de Aranda on my part, and by the Duke of Manchester, ambassador and plenipotentiary near his Majesty, on the part of his Britannic Majesty, having happily concluded the definitive treaty of peace, which is composed of a preamble and twelve articles, with two other separate articles, all of which are in the French language, and the contents, with a translation in Spanish, is of the following tenor: [here the treaty is inserted.] Wherefore, having seen and examined the preinserted definitive treaty, the twelve articles contained therein, with the two separate ones which follow, I have thought proper to approve and ratify, and by these presents do approve and ratify the same, in the best form and manner possible; promising, faithfully, and on the word of a King, to comply with and observe the same, and to order a strict compliance and observance thereof, as if made and signed by myself. In testimony whereof, I order these presents despatched, signed by me, and sealed with my privy seal, and countersigned by the undersigned, my counsellor and secretary of state. Given at St. Ildefonso, the 12th of September, 1783.

I, THE KING.

JOSE MONIMO.

HAVANA, 19*th May*, 1785.

MY DEAR SIR: At the moment of getting under way for Vera Cruz, the 16th of this month, his excellency Count de Galvez has charged me to forward you a copy of the royal order, which he just received, on account of the loss of time for executing the same by his excellency, should he wait to do so from Mexico; in virtue of which, I forward you the said royal order, being as follows:

ROYAL ORDER.

In consequence of my indication to your excellency, in a letter of 24th January last, the King has been pleased to prolong for four months, the eighteen stipulated in the definitive treaty of peace for the emigration of English subjects at present in West Florida. I make known to your excellency this royal determination, that you may have the same duly complied with. God preserve your excellency many years.

DON JOSE DE GALVEZ.

THE PRADO, *February* 7, 1784.

To the COUNT DE GALVEZ.

God preserve your lordship many years. Your lordship's most attentive servant,

BERNARDO TRONCOSO.

To Don VICENTE MANUEL DE ZESPEDEZ, *Florida.*

Conformable to the above named documents, which were delivered me by the governor and commandant general of this city, to whom I returned them; and, in compliance with his decree, I give the present in St. Augustine, Florida, March 8, 1791. [Here a notary signet.]

DOMINGO RODRIGUEZ DE LEON,
Government Notary.

2.

[TRANSLATION.]

Governor Zespedez to Count de Galvez.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *June* 22*d*, 1785.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: Under date of the 19th of May last, which I received the 16th instant, the governor pro tem. of the Havana informs me that your excellency had left him charged to forward me a copy of a royal or-

der of the 7th of February last past, of the following tenor:

"In consequence of what I have indicated to your excellency in a letter of the 24th of January last, the King has been pleased to protract for four months, the eighteen stipulated in the definitive article of peace for the emigration of the English subjects who remain in East Florida. I communicate this royal determination to your excellency, that you may take measures for a due observance thereof."

In consequence of which, I caused to be communicated the said royal order to the British subjects, the 20th of the same month, for their information and government, and, in virtue of it, I will consider all British property immoveable that was not legally alienated previous to the 19th instant, (except that appertaining to those being Catholics, or who are desirous of being converted to that holy religion, as also the house of Panton and Leslie, they wait the royal determination relative to the memorials which I forwarded to your excellency in my representation, No. 42, and by this same opportunity I forward a triplicate in a private manner,) as devolved to his Majesty, persuaded that the royal magnanimity will extend to those who have supplied with provisions or money the urgent necessities of the royal finance, the officers and troops, that they may not quit the province until they are reimbursed for what they have advanced; and I communicate the same to his excellency the minister of the Indies. God preserve your excellency many happy years.

To his excellency COUNT DE GALVEZ.

3.

[TRANSLATION.]

Letter from Count de Galvez to the Governor of Florida.

HAVANA, *10th March*, 1795.

I am informed of the various particulars contained in your lordship's letter, dated 10th of February last, No. 663, and the letter of his Britannic Majesty's consul in Savannah, of which I enclose a copy. It is convenient that your lordship try to procure and transmit me a copy of the act of the Legislature of Georgia, for the purpose that I may form a calculation on the sale of the territory which the British consul announces having been made to American merchants; at the same time your lordship will inform me relative to the limits of the said territory, and the reasons and documents showing it, appertaining to the province of West Florida, as the information which I have on this subject is limited and vague. God preserve your lordship many years.

LUIS DE LAS CASAS.

The GOVERNOR *of Florida.*

4.

[TRANSLATION.]

Governor White to the Captain General of Cuba.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *February* 16, 1802.

I have complied with the royal letter of the 17th of June last, pardoning the debtors of the rents of this city, from the payment of the capital and interest on the houses and lots which they acquired by the evacuation of the British, and every thing else as expressed therein.

I communicate the same to your lordship for the intelligence of that Supreme Council of the Indies, and in answer to your official letter of the 25th of July of last year.

God preserve your lordship many years.

His lordship Don ANTONIO PORCEL.

5.

[TRANSLATION.]

THE KING.

MY GOVERNOR OF THE FLORIDAS: The Duke de Alagon, baron de Espes, made known to me, in a memorial of the 12th of July of the year last past, that which follows: "Sir, the Duke de Alagon, baron de Espes, captain of the guards of your Majesty's royal person, respectfully showeth: That, it being the interest of the crown to bestow on great capitalists uncultivated lands, in order that they may be peopled and cultivated, from which result many advantages, evident, and to be advised by all politicians, in which case are many, or the greatest part of the fertile soil of the Floridas; and it being also a right of your Majesty, as absolute lord, to distribute them for the furtherance of agriculture, and as a reward and recompense for the interesting services which are done with profit to your Majesty and your kingdom: desirous to merit these marks of esteem of your magnanimous heart, and to contribute, on my part, to fulfil the views of population so interesting to the common good, he supplicates your Majesty to deign to grant him the uncultivated land which is not found ceded in East Florida, between the banks of the rivers Santa Lucia and St. Johns, unto their outlets unto the sea, and the coast of the Gulf of Florida, and the adjacent islands, with the inlet into the river Hijuelos, in the 26° of latitude, following its left bank unto its source, drawing a line to the Lake Macaco; going down then by way of the river St. Johns to Lake Valdes; cutting, by another line, from the extreme north of this lake to the source of the river Amanima; following the right bank unto its mouth near the 28th or 25th degree of latitude, and continuing by the sea coast, with all the adjacent islands, to the mouth of the river Hijuelos, in full property to himself and his heirs, and permitting the introduction of negroes, for the labor and cultivation of the land, free of duties, a favor which he hopes to receive from the innate benevolence of your Majesty."

Being informed of the contents of this representation, and attending to the distinguished merit of this individual, and to his approved zeal for my royal service, as also to the advantages which will result to the State from the increase of population of the said lands which he asks for, I have thought proper to accede to the favor which he solicits, inasmuch as it does not oppose the laws of these my kingdoms, and to communicate it to my Council of the Indies for its execution, in royal order, of the 17th of December of the said year. In consequence, I command and charge you, by this my royal letter patent, that, agreeably to the laws which govern in this matter, to effectually aid the execution of the said gift, taking all the dispositions which may tend to its due effect, without prejudice to a third person; and, in order that the said Duke de Alagon may, from this time, put in execution his design, conforming in all things to my beneficent desires for the advancement of the agriculture and commerce of said possessions, which call loudly for a population proportioned to the fertility of the soil, and to the defence and security of the coasts, giving an account, successively, of its progress, it being understood that the introduction of negroes, which the same gift comprises, shall be subject, as regards the traffic of them, to the rules prescribed in my royal letters patent of the 19th of December last, for such is my will; and that, of this royal letter patent, an account shall be taken in the Accountant General's office of the Indies. Dated at the Palace, the 6th of February, 1818.

I, THE KING.

By command of the King, our master:

ESTEVAN VAREA.

To the Governor of the Floridas, that he may order the necessary steps to carry into effect the gift granted the Duke de Alagon, of various lands situated in East Florida, with the other things expressed therein.

Let an account be taken in the accountant general's office of North America.

JOSEF DE TEJADA.

MADRID, 16*th of February*, 1818.

DUPLICATE AND TRIPLICATE.

HAVANA, *July* 19*th*, 1818.

For the punctual compliance of the *royal letter patent of the 6th of February last*, presented by Don Nicolas Garrido, agent of his excellency the Duke de Alagon, your lordship will take the nesessary steps to put him in immediate possession of the lands of that province, which his Majesty has been pleased to grant him, without obstacle or impediment, and will aid him inasmuch as lies on your part to carry this gift more fully into effect; permitting him to make use of his full powers to all the extent to which they were conferred by the said duke, agreeably to the testimonial which your lordship has forwarded me, with your official letter No. 13, of the 28th of June last past, and your lordship taking the necessary steps in this important affair, as the same royal letter patent has been communicated direct to him; and that you give me an account of what has been done in the same, that I may also inform his Majesty, as I am ordered.

God preserve your lordship for many years.

JOSE CIENFUEGOS.

To Don JOSE COPPINGER.

Spanish decrees in relation to the land claims in Florida.

[TRANSLATION.]

His excellency Don Martin De Garay, secretary of state and of the office of the treasury of the Indies, has communicated to me, under date of the 31st July last, the following royal order:

Under date of the 27th instant, the secretary of state informs me what follows:

"EXCELLENT SIR: Under date of the 28th of April last, I have communicated, by royal order, to the president of the Council of the Indies what follows:

"'EXCELLENT SIR: When the King, our master, thought proper, a little time since, to condescend to the distribution of various lands of his dominions in the Floridas, as solicited by some of his meritorious subjects, it was under the idea that this gift would cause no injury, and that the donees should use them agreeably to the legislative system which governs on the subject, as is expressly manifested by his Majesty in his own concession communicated to that supreme tribunal, transmitting also correct copies of their respective solicitudes for examination. In this state, his Majesty having understood that the covetousness of foreigners had deceived the good faith of the donees by trying to enter into negotiations for the purpose of appropriating a part or the whole of these gifts, or taking advantage of the benefits arising therefrom, which, should it be verified, would not only cause many political inconveniencies, but might occasion great injuries to the said donees by the invalidity of their contracts, notwithstanding their good faith. To obviate, therefore, such evils, his Majesty has determined that, by the same supreme tribunal that has issued the orders of concession, each of the persons interested in the same be notified the precise terms in which they are to understand the tenor of said gift, so as that the general expression *granted in so much as it is not opposed to the laws*, can give no room for explanations; and making them understand that it is not in their power to alienate them, in part or the whole, particularly to foreigners. I communicate the same to your excellency, by his royal order, for your intelligence and compliance thereof in the council, of which you will give an account to his Majesty.'

"Which copy to your excellency, from the same royal order, inasmuch as it may refer to the same in that ministerial department of the Indies, as also that, under date of the 19th of the present month, I have informed the proper council of the punctual observance of that decree, inasmuch as his Majesty has understood that, compromising his high policy, and against the only sense and spirit of the laws, it was in contemplation to promote the alienation of the lands granted in the Floridas to various individuals; which I copy to your lordship, for your intelligence, by royal order."

I transcribe the same to your lordship for your information and compliance thereof.

God preserve your lordship many years. Havana, November 11, 1818.

ALEXANDRO RAMIREZ.

To the GOVERNOR, *Sub-delegate of Finance, St. Augustine Florida.*

[TRANSLATION.]

The Capt. Gen. of Cuba to the Governor of East Florida.

His excellency the Secretary of State and of that office, under date of the 18th of July last, states to me as follows:

"MOST EXCELLENT SIR: Under this date I state to the president of the Council of the Indies the following: The King, our master, has understood that the alienation of the lands granted in the Floridas to the Duke de Alagon, Count de Punon Rostro, and Don Pedro de Vargas, and others, has been encouraged, thereby compromitting the high policy of his Majesty, and contrary to the only import and true meaning of the laws. His Majesty, therefore, commands me to renew to your excellency the order for the information of that council, that the gifts of said lands are not to be understood as alienable, and much less to foreigners, according as it is ordered and is provided by our laws. By royal order I communicate the same to your excellency for your information, and that of the council, and for your more exact knowledge thereof; and by the same I forward it to your excellency for your information and government."

I transcribe it to your lordship for the same ends on your part.

God preserve your lordship many years.

JOSE CIENFUEGOS.

HAVANA, *October* 30, 1818.

Under this date I communicate to the captain general of the two Floridas, Count de Galvez, the following royal order: "Having consulted the council of State, and taking into consideration what your excellency has expressed, particularly in your letter No. 56, with the contents of the copy therein enclosed from the governor of Louisiana, Don Esteban Miro, about the difficulties that occur relative to the English and American families established at Baton Rouge, Mobila, Pensacola, and Natchez, leaving said provinces in compliance with the last treaty of peace, his Majesty has deigned to approve of the preventive orders issued by your excellency to the said governor, that nothing new should take place with the aforesaid families. It is his royal wish that permission be granted them to remain where they are settled under that denomination for the present, they being of necessity obliged to make oath of fidelity and obedience to his Majesty, and not to exceed the limits of their actual settlements, nor remove to other parts without the express permission of the Government; that those who do not comply with these just conditions may embark, at their own expense, for the colonies of North America, or, if they do not, to be sent by the King, who shall be reimbursed by their property as far as it may be possible. That this same provision, as far as practicable, be extended to the inhabitants of East Florida; and that at Natchez, and all other places of the two Floridas where it may be convenient, parishes shall be organized under the direction of Irish clergy, with a view to bring those inhabitants, their children and families, over to our religion, with the mildness and suavity which she prescribes.

"In order that this royal resolution have due effect, and the success which his Majesty promises to himself, "it is necessary that your excellency (from your own experience and the knowledge which their governors, Miro and Zespedez, possess of them,) form a plan of the manner in which those parishes ought to be conducted, expressing the number of clergymen necessary for the same; and, with that view, I have, under this date, directed the Bishop of Salamanca to make choice of four of that university, or of any other where they may be had, and who may be distinguished by their zeal, virtue, and learning. And this royal resolution shall be transmitted to the aforesaid governors for their information and due compliance therewith. God preserve, &c."

And this I do by order of his Majesty, for the purposes therein expressed. God preserve you many years. Prado, April 15th, 1786.

THE MARQUIS DE SONORA.

To the GOVERNOR *of St. Augustine, Florida.*

ST. AUGUSTINE, *August* 12, 1791.

Let a copy of this royal order be taken in the royal contaduria, and let the original be returned to this secretariat.

QUESADA.

Note.—That, under date of the foregoing decree, a copy of this royal order was taken in the contaduria under my charge, and it was returned to the secretariat of the Government, as ordered by said decree.

GONZALO ZAMORANO.

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a document on file in my office. St. Augustine, June 27th, 1823.

WILL. REYNOLDS,
Keeper of the Public Archives.

In compliance with orders, and having before me the definite treaty of peace concluded at Versailles on the 20th January, 1783, which was approved in Spain, by the King, our lord, I copy, to the letter, the third article of said treaty, pursuant to instructions, the tenor of which is as follows:

Art. 3d. His Britannic Majesty will cede to his Catholic Majesty East Florida, and his Catholic Majesty will preserve West Florida, it being understood that, reckoning from the date of the definitive treaty, the term of eighteen months shall be granted to all his Britannic Majesty's subjects who are established on the island of Minorca and in the two Floridas, to settle their accounts, and remove their persons and property, without any molestation, through motives of religion, or under any other pretext, excepting that of debts or criminal causes; and his Britannic Majesty shall have the faculty of transporting, from East Florida, any property which may belong to him, whether of artillery, or any other kind.

Ratification of the King, our lord.

Don Carlos, by the grace of God, King of Spain, &c. Whereas, in consequence of the preliminary articles of peace between my crown and that of England, closed at Versailles on the 20th of January of this year, by the Count de Aranda, my ambassador near the Most Christian King, having my full powers, and by Don Alleyne Fitzherbert, minister plenipotentiary of the King of Great Britain, which ratifications being made by me and by his Britannic Majesty, were afterwards exchanged in due form, they have successively proceeded, the said Count de Aranda on my part, and the Duke of Manchester, ambassador and plenipotentiary near the Most Christian King, on the part of his Britannic Majesty, and they have happily come to a conclusion of the definitive treaty of peace, which is composed of a preamble and twelve articles, with two more separate articles, the whole in the French language, the contents of which, with its translation into Spanish, is of the following tenor:

[HERE FOLLOWS THE TREATY.)

Therefore, having seen and examined the said treaty in all its articles, I have approved and ratified all and

every part thereof, as by these presents I approve and ratify the same in the most ample manner and form, promising, on the faith and word of a King, to comply therewith, and to cause it to be complied with and observed as if I myself had made and signed it. In virtue of which, I order the present to be executed, signed by me, and sealed with my private seal, and countersigned by the undersigned, my counsellor of State, first secretary of state and despatch. Done at Ildefonso, this 12th day of September, 1783. I, THE KING.

JOSE MONIMO.

HAVANA, 19*th May*, 1785.

MY DEAR SIR: At the time of setting sail for Vera Cruz on the 16th instant, the excellent senor, the Count de Galvez, charged me to copy for you the royal order he had just received, on account of the delay with which it would be attended had you to wait his arrival in Mexico. In consequence of which I perform the same, said royal order being of the following tenor: Consequent to what I informed your excellency in my letter of the 24th January last, the King has been pleased to prolong, by four months, the term of eighteen months specified in the definitive treaty of peace for the migration of the British subjects who were settled in Florida. I communicate this royal determination to your excellency, that you may so act as that it have full effect. God preserve you many years. DON JOSE DE GALVEZ.

To the senor the COUNT DE GALVEZ.

PRADO, *February 7th*, 1785.

God preserve you many years. Your most humble and obedient servant,

BERNARDO TRONCOSO.

To the senor Don VICENTE MANUEL DE ZESPEDEZ, *Florida.*

They agree with the documents which have been delivered to me by the governor and commandant in chief of this place, to whom I returned them; and in virtue of his decree I deliver the present in St. Augustine, Florida, March 8, 1791. [*A signature.*]

DOMINGO RODEIGUEZ DE LEON, *Government Notary.*

BANDO DE BUEN GOBIERNO.

Regulations for the good government of the province.

Don Juan Nepomuceno de Quesada, colonel in the royal service, governor of this place of St. Augustine, East Florida, for his Majesty.

[*Here is a preamble.*]

Art. 1. In the name of his Majesty there shall be granted to all his subjects being and domiciliated in this place, for their use, such a portion of land as they may need, in proportion to their forces, in any part whatever of this desert province, without any exception whatever. To that end, those who may desire lands shall present themselves within the term of twenty days, declaring, by memorial, their circumstances, the lands they have obtained to the present period, the quantities and situations of the lands which they now solicit; it being understood that it is to be without injury to a third person. I shall attend to their solicitations according as I shall have examined into them; and, although the laws of the Indies authorize me to make an absolute partition of the lands—finding myself, as I precisely am, to be in point with article 1st, of chapter 12th, book 4th—I abstain from it, for serious motives; but, for the better security of the interested, my observations and representations shall be submitted to the King, being persuaded that, in consequence thereof, those who now may obtain lands from me will be maintained and protected in the possession of the same.

Art. 4. The King our lord, by royal order of the 5th April, 1786, grants to all foreigners who were inhabitants of this province at the time it was under the British dominion, leave to remain therein, and that they shall be protected in the possession of their lands and property, upon the necessary conditions that they take the oath of allegiance, that they do not extend the limits of their lands, nor transfer them to one another. Consequently, all those who have not conformed, and those who do not conform thereto, shall leave this said province within the term of thirty days, peremptorily; and all persons shall come forward and manifest in person their intentions; and, if absent, by letter, in order that the necessary measures may be adopted.

"I hereby certify the within and foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a 'bando' recorded in a book called 'Libro primero de gobierno,' which is on file in my office. Witness my hand and private seal, (there being no seal of office,) at St. Augustine, this 14th day of July, 1823."

WILL. REYNOLDS,
Keeper of the Public Archives.

I hereby certify that the foregoing translation is faithfully made, and that the copy of certificate is correct.

P. LYNCH.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *July 16th*, 1823.

WASHINGTON, *May* 12, 1824.

SIR: As an accompaniment to the tabular descriptive list, I make the following representations:

Antecedent to the arrival of my colleagues in St. Augustine, in the latter part of July, 1823, I appointed a temporary secretary, and collected about seventy claims, which I directed to be filed in the manner indicated in the table. And, notwithstanding the obvious utility of such an arrangement, and the absolute necessity of some organization of a similar character, to answer the expectations of Congress terminating our session on the first Monday in February last, this and every other corresponding proposition to preface a classification of the claims, was invariably rejected, until, at my request, and before the public, the district attorney offered, if permitted, to prepare the list, as now presented, at his own expense; when it was directed to be done by the commission; which was, at that time, composed alone of Mr. Floyd and myself.

When the claims are thus filed, and alphabetically arranged, *in the names of the grantees*, the quantity of the lands given to each will be exhibited; while, at the same view, it will appear in virtue of *what authorities*, and for *what consideration*, the grants were made. It will, in fact, give a complete classification of the claims, and afford an opportunity for the detection of every imposition that might be attempted to be practised; and, as it frequently occurred that locations were changed, and distinct and separate titles issued, the greatest attention will be necessary to discover whether the claimant be not the representative of a forfeited or relinquished grant.

The concession made to John H. McIntosh by Governor White on the 18th day of May, 1803, apportioned to the ratio of his "head-rights," which he represented as his intention to introduce into the province, and for which he never acquired absolute titles, was undoubtedly forfeited, in consequence of his having abandoned the land three years after its occupation by two old negroes. The law on this subject, by reference to White's regulations, corroborated by the royal orders of 1813 and 1814, together with the fair interpretation of the laws of the Indies. This remark will also apply to many other claims, and especially to those where there never was any possession.

The claims that will be subject to the examination of the commissioners, exclusive of the city property, may be estimated to amount, at least, to *fifteen hundred*, of which not more than *forty* have been the subject of adjudication, in consequence of the entire want of system.

Under this state of mismanagement, no reasonable idea can be formed when the commission will probably terminate, creating a deliterious embarrassment deplorable to the Florida community, and in evident sacrifice of the public interest. The mere procrastination of the disposable available interests in the residuum of those lands will operate as an injury to the United States, not unworthy the consideration of the Government; and if it would not be pressing too much on the public attention, I would suggest, that if all the claims were reported to the President on the plan I have proposed, and the records of title in the possession of the keeper of the public archives correspondently scheduled, a measure which ought to be taken for their security, it might be ascertained which were the public lands, totally disembarrassed; and authorization might be given to the Executive to appoint a surveyor, and immediately to establish a land office in the neighborhood of St. Marks, in order to check the present increasing illicit appropriation and occupation of the unquestionable public lands there.

With much respect, I have the honor to remain, your obedient servant, ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

Hon. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS,
Secretary of State.

NOTE.—In the county of Gadsden, where the best lands are, there have been no grants, unless part of that to Panton, Leslie and Co. be embraced.

Documents A, B, and C, accompany this letter.

A.

To the Hon. &c.

The memorial of Bernardo Segui respectfully showeth, that your memorialist claims title to a tract of land containing 16,000 acres situated at the head of the river Ys, (Indian river,) on the west side, at a place known by the name of Tokay; bounded on the north by lands of Joseph Delespine, on the south, east, and west, by public lands, which title your memorialist obtained by a grant from the Spanish Government, made by his excellency Gov.

Kindelan, for services, the 6th December, 1814, and filed herewith, and marked A; and your memorialist farther showeth that he is actually legally seized and possessed of said land; that he is a citizen of the United States, and resident of the city of St. Augustine. All which is respectfully submitted, &c.

BERNARDO SEGUI.

LANCASTER, *Attorney.*

Certificate of survey in hand-writing of Segui, dated 2d September, 1818, and signatures apparently in same hand. The ink certainly the same. From the great quantity of surveying done by McHardy, as appears by his plats bearing date about this period, McHardy could not have been in St. Augustine; or, if so, could not have surveyed.

MEMORIAL TO THE GOVERNOR.

Don Bernardo Segui, native and resident in this city, respectfully showeth, that, inasmuch as, by the accompanying documents, it is proved his having been commissioned by your excellency to take charge of the runaway negroes of this province, belonging to the inhabitants thereof, who, on account of the invasion of 1812, presented themselves nnder the protection of this Government, which service I performed gratuitously, with pecuniary disbursements for the maintenance of said slaves; until, in consequence of the royal pardon and order of your excellency, I delivered them to their respective owners who presented themselves, at the same time make known, I complied lastly with exactitude, going to the city of Havana in December of the year last past, 1813, elected by the inhabitants for the purpose of doing the duty of elector of the parish and district, for which purpose I was obliged to contract debts, suffering immense expenses. To these services, with others, not of so much consideration, which your excellency has been pleased to confide to me, there is added, that, on account of the death of my father, the captain of militia, Don Bernardo Segui, I have the charge of, and compromitted, notwithstanding my losses, not to abandon his widow, my mother, and two sisters, single, who are under my protection. It is notorious and well known that said captain died last November, 1813, being in the service of his Majesty, omitting to make known his character and merits, on account of your excellency being satisfied as to the truth thereof. With this idea, and according to what has been set forth, not doubting to obtain the recompense that will be useful in future, and as I intend dedicating myself in this province in the cutting of timber, for which purpose some of my friends have proposed aiding me with their protection in beginning thereof, I therefore pray your excellency will be pleased to grant me, in absolute property, five miles square of land in the place Tokay, at the west end of the river Ys, situated between this and that of St. Johns, in which place I intend establishing the necessary machinery for the sawing of said timber, by which a well known benefit is made to the public, and likewise to the royal domain, by the cheapness of the materials when it may be in want of the same: Wherefore, I humbly pray that your excellency will be pleased, in consideration of what has been set forth, grant me, in absolute dominion, the five miles square of land, or the wood of Tokay already designated, with the object of establishing the machinery for the sawing of timber, and enjoying as my own, in the manner they have been granted to others, (asi lo espacio,) which I hope to obtain from the justice of your excellency. St. Augustine, Florida, 6th December, 1814. B. SEGUI.

DECREE.

ST. AUGUSTINE, *6th December*, 1814.

The merits and services which the interested alleges in his memorial being, as they are, manifest, the utility and advantages which must accrue to this province and its commerce by the machinery to saw timber which he intends constructing, and by what is ordered in the royal order of the 30th of October, 1790, communicated to this Government by the captaincy general of the island of Cuba and this said province, on concessions of land to the new settlers, there is conceded to said memorialist in the place which he designates, in absolute property, the five miles of land, or square, which he asks, and for its attainment and security, in whatever event, there shall be granted him by the secretary's office a certified copy of this said memorial and decree, which will serve him as a title in form. KINDELAN.

Don Tomas de Aguilar, ensign of the army and secretary of Government of the city and province, by his Majesty: I certify that the foregoing copy is faithfully made from the original; and, in compliance with what is ordered, I give the present in St. Augustine, Florida, the 6th December, 1814.

TOMAS DE AGUILAR.

B.

PETITION TO THE GOVERNOR.

Don Bernardo Segui, notary public pro tem. of the town of Fernandina, resident in this city, respectfully showeth:

That, with the permission of your excellency, he has come to this capital solely with the object of making known to you, as he has already done verbally, the deplorable situation and condition of that population, originating from a want of commerce, in consequence of the declaration of peace between Great Britain and the United States of America. In May, of the present year, your memorialist was appointed by your lordship's predecessor, Don Sebastian Kindelan, to the office which he now holds in said town, and, as he thought to have obtained by it the greatest advantages, he abandoned in this city, as is well known, the business which he had for the support of himself and family, resulting thereby his leaving a certainty for an uncertainty, and consequently at present without any means whatever. The town of Fernandina, as he has already stated, is in such a deplorable situation on account of there not being any trade whatever, that your memorialist passes entire weeks without obtaining a half real in fees. If, therefore, a fact so positive, adding thereto the limited services he has performed, merit the consideration of your lordship, he hopes to obtain from your well known justice, and in virtue of the superior orders of his Majesty, (whom God preserve,) in which he recommends that lands be granted gratis to Spanish subjects, that you be pleased, therefore, grant him, in absolute property, the quantity of seven thousand acres of land on the east side of the river St. Johns, between the place called Dunn's lake, and that known as Horse landing, including in said tract of land the place called Buffalo bluff, which latterly given up to the Government by the house of Juan Forbes and Company in exchange for other lands. Therefore, your memorialist prays that your lordship may be pleased to grant him the said quantity of seven thousand acres of land in the place mentioned, not doubting that he will obtain them from the known justice of your lordship.

BERNARDO SEGUI.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *19th December*, 1815.

DECREE.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *December* 20, 1815.

The renunciation made by Don Juan Forbes and Co. of the lands mentioned by the interested in this memorial being certain, and in virtue of the reasons which he indicates to this Government, let there be granted to him, in absolute dominion, the seven thousand acres of land which he petitions for, under the boundaries which he points out, without injury to a third person, despatching for his security a certified copy of this concession, which will serve him in every event for a title in form.

ESTRADA.

Don Andrew Burgevin, private surveyor in this city of St. Augustine, East Florida:

I certify that, in virtue of the permission of this Government, I have measured and marked the boundaries of a tract of land containing seven thousand acres, more or less, situated on the east of the river St. Johns, at the place known as Buffalo bluff, and running south, bounding the waters of the said river, as is more fully seen by the annexed plat, which piece of land belongs to Don Bernardo Segui, by a concession made to him by this Government, the 19th December, 1815.

ANDRES BURGEVIN.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, *September* 10, 1818.

C.

To the honorable the Commissioners appointed to ascertain claims and titles to lands in East Florida.

The memorial of Bernardo Segui respectfully showeth, that your memorialist claims title to a tract of land containing about seven thousand acres, situated on the east side of St. John's river, at a place known by the name of Buffalo bluff; bounded on the north by Buffalo creek and Piney island, on the south by vacant lands, on the east by part of Dunn's creek and vacant lands, and on the west by St. John's river; which title your memorialist obtained by a grant from the Spanish Government, made by his excellency Governor Estrada, for services, the 20th December, 1815, and filed herewith; [A] and your memorialist further showeth that he is actually *legally* seized and possessed of said lands, that he is a citizen of the United States, and resident of the city of St. Augustine. All which is respectfully submitted, &c.

BERNARDO SEGUI.

LANCASTER, *Attorney.*

Copy of concession, dated 19th December, 1815, and certificate of survey, dated 10th September, 1818, by Andres Burgevin, *the only evidence exhibited or seen by the commissioners. Received for confirmation.*

Claimants to Lands in East Florida.

Names of claimants.	Names of grantees.	Documents submitted. Dates of: Memorial.	Grant or concession.	Survey.	Cofirmation of royal title.	Conditions: With.	Without.	Performed.	In virtue of the order: June 17, 1801	Oct. 29, 1790	Mar. 29, 1815	British titles.	By whom granted.	By whom confirmed.	Amount claimed.	Amount granted.	Location.
Gay, Antelm -	John Huertas -	-	Aug. 26, 1814	Sept. 19, 1818	Dec. 24, 1817	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	Coppinger	-	5,000	15,000	Tocoy, east side of St. John's river.
McIntosh, John H. -	Timothy Hollinsworth	-	-	-	March 9, 1805	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	White	-	800	800	Mulberry Grove, St. John's river.
Same - -	John H. McIntosh -	May 17, 1803	May 18, 1803	Dec. 2, 1817	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	do	-	6,000	6,000	At the head of Indian river.
Same - -	Same - -	do	do	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	do	-	unk	nown	An island in Indian river.
Same - -	Same - -	do	do	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	do	-	300	300	Stewart's swamp, Indian river.
Same - -	Same - -	do	do	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	do	-	1,000	1,000	Cabbage swamp, east side Indian river.
Same - -	John McQueen -	-	-	Jan. 14, 1792	Feb. 27, 1804	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	do	-	3,274⅔	3,274⅔	St. John Nepomuceno, St. John's river.
Same - -	Same - -	Oct. 29, 1795	Nov. 5, 1795	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	Quesada	-	2,000	2,000	On the river Miami.
Fairbanks, Samuel -	Maria Ventura Rodriguez	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	Lot in the city of St. Augustine.
Clinch, Duncan L. -	William Penn -	-	- 1769	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	Grant	-	500	500	Twelve-mile swamp.
Fairbanks, Samuel -	Robert Guilbert -	-	-	Dec. 21, 1791	April 17, 1815	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	Kindelan	80	240	St. Anthony Bend, on the river St. John.
Miranda, Pedro -	Joseph S. Sanchez -	Jan. 2, 1816	Jan. 2, 1816	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Estrada	-	1,000	1,000	On the west side of North river.
Segui, Bernardo -	Bernardo Segui -	Dec. 19, 1815	Dec. 20, 1815	Sept. 10, 1818	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	do	-	7,000	7,000	Buffalo bluff, St. John's river.
Davis, Mary Ann -	John Barker -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	500	500	Davis creek, on the road to the Cowford.
Levy, Moses -	Fernando de la Maza Arredondo & Son	Nov. 12, 1816	Dec. 22, 1817	-	Dec. 22, 1817	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ramirez	-	36,000	289,645	Alachua, in East Florida.
Gay, Antelm -	John Leonardy -	-	Feb. 15, 1816	April 28, 1819	April 3, 1818	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	Coppinger	160	160	Twelve-mile swamp.
Same - -	John Andrew -	-	Oct. 9, 1801	Aug. 18, 1818	April 7, 1820	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	do	400	400	Twelve-mile swamp.
Same - -	Lewis Matteir -	-	Aug. 19, 1814	Sept. 4, 1818	Nov. 4, 1818	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	do	700	700	Twelve-mile swamp.
Same - -	John Ginopoly -	-	May 27, 1799	Oct. 29, 1819	Dec. 3, 1819	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	do	600	600	Wilson swamp.
Same - -	Bartolo de Castro Ferrer	-	Aug. 20, 1802	Nov. 10, 1809	July 15, 1815	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	Estrada	400	400	St. Vincent Ferrer, St. John Bluff.
Same - -	Lewis Matteir -	Jan. 31, 1801	Feb. 3, 1801	*May 29, 1809	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	White	-	300	300	Ross plantation, Musquito river.
Same - -	Pablo Rosell -	-	Oct. 14, 1817	-	April 17, 1818	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	Coppinger	2,000	2,000	Territory of Musquito.
Same - -	George Fleming -	-	Sept. 24, 1816	Sept. 9, 1816	Sept. 24, 1816	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	do	500	20,000	Indian river, mouth of St. Sebastian.
Same - -	Anto. Ballejo & Anto. Petrus	-	Nov. 10, 1814	-	June 17, 1801	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2 lots	2 lots	In the city of St. Augustine.
Same - -	John Moor -	-	-	Nov. 10, 1814	Aug. 5, 1819	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	Coppinger	1 lot	1 lot	Town of Fernandina.
Miller, Robert, & wife	David Garvin -	-	Novemb. 1803	-	Dec. 5, 1814	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	Kindelan	an isl	and	Martin island, river St. Marys.
Tucker, Elizabeth -	Andrew Tucker -	-	Oct. 24, 1804	June 26, 1816	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	White	-	230	230	Black hammock, opposite Amelia Island.
Underwood, Jehu -	Jehu Underwood -	May 20, 1805	May 20, 1805	-	Feb. 17, 1821	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	do	Coppinger	600	600	Black creek, river St. Johns, Duval county.
Richard, Jn. B. heirs of	John B. Richards -	-	Oct. 19, 1803	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	do	-	230	230	Potsburg creek, river St. John.
Copp, Belton A. -	Bernard Segui -	Dec. 16, 1817	Jan. 22, 1818	Aug. 1, 1818	August 3, 1818	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	Coppinger	Coppinger	1,200	1,200	Joe Gray, west side St. John's river.
Berrie, William -	William Berrie -	-	-	-	Feb. 12, 1817	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	do	350	350	Orange Grove, river of Amelia, Cowpen branch.
Huertas, John -	John Huertas -	-	Aug. 26, 1814	†June 26, 1820	Dec. 24, 1817	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	do	15,000	15,000	Tocoy and B. Bayant, e. side river St. Johns.
Avice, Francis J. -	Fern. Maza Arredondo	Mar. 21, 1817	Mar. 24, 1817	August, 1819	August 9, 1819	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	Coppinger	do	500	500	Little lake, St. John's river.
Avice, J. F. & P. Viel	Joseph Peso de Burgo	-	Sept. 11, 1798	Dec. 29, 1820	Feb. 28, 1818	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	do	1,000	1,000	W. side St. Sebastian river, near St. Augustine.
Avice, J. Francis -	John Huertas -	-	Aug. 26, 1814	May 30, 1820	Dec. 24, 1817	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	do	6,000	15,000	Buena Vista, east side of St. John's river.
Avice, J. Francis -	Aysick Travers -	-	Nov. 10, 1805	June 14, 1821	June 18, 1821	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	do	115	115	River Matanzas, south side of St. Augustine.
Robinson, Eliza -	Pedro Capo -	Feb. 28, 1803	Mar. 5, 1803	Sept. 30, 1821	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	White	-	105	105	St. Sebastian river, 1½ miles n. of St. Augustine.

* Order of survey dated April 26, 1821. † Order of survey dated Sept. 3, 1818.

Observations.—In McIntosh's claim there were no absolute titles; the evidence was, that he had taken possession of his land by placing thereon two negroes, who abandoned it in 1805. The quantity of the lands was determined by his head-rights, he having represented that he would introduce 250 negroes.

The claims here inserted are in the order they were filed with the commission, 37 out of about 1200.

Plate 1.

Fig. 1.

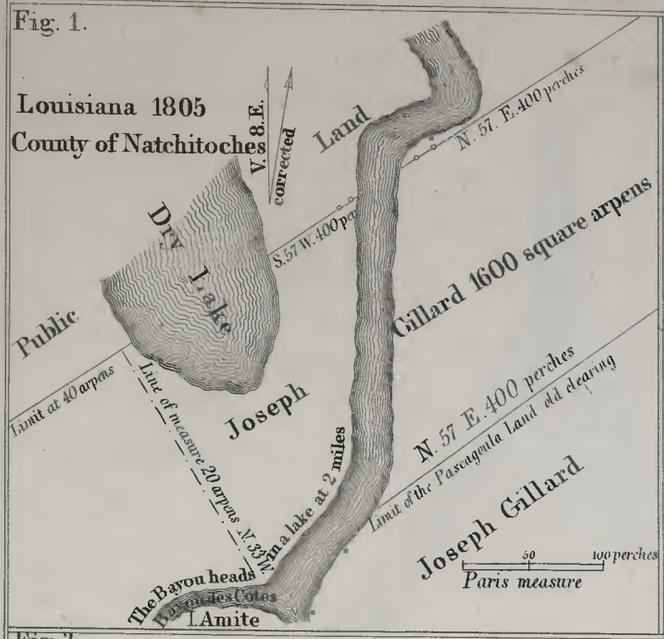


Fig. 2.

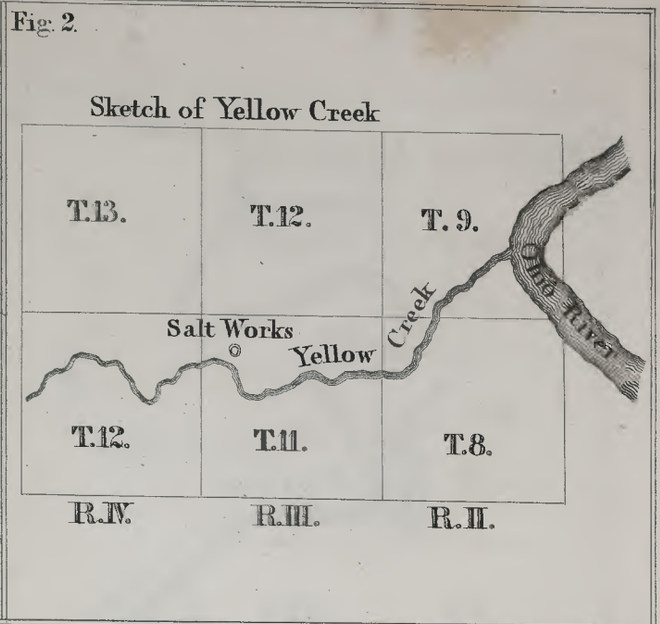


Fig. 3.

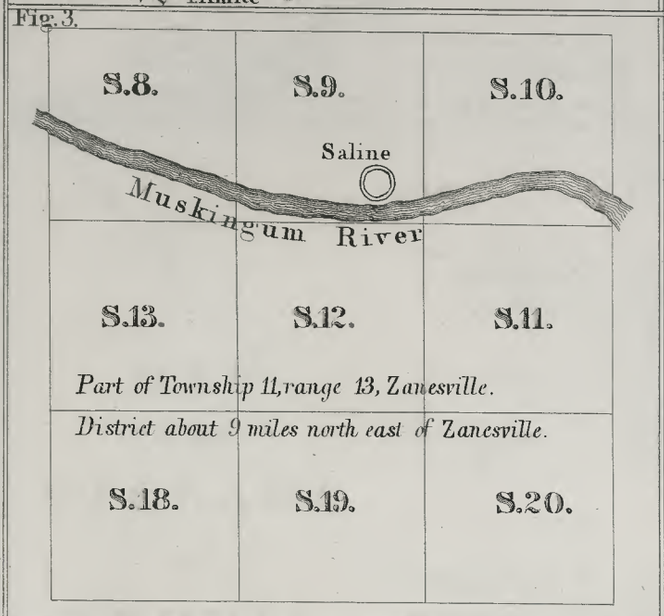


Fig. 4.

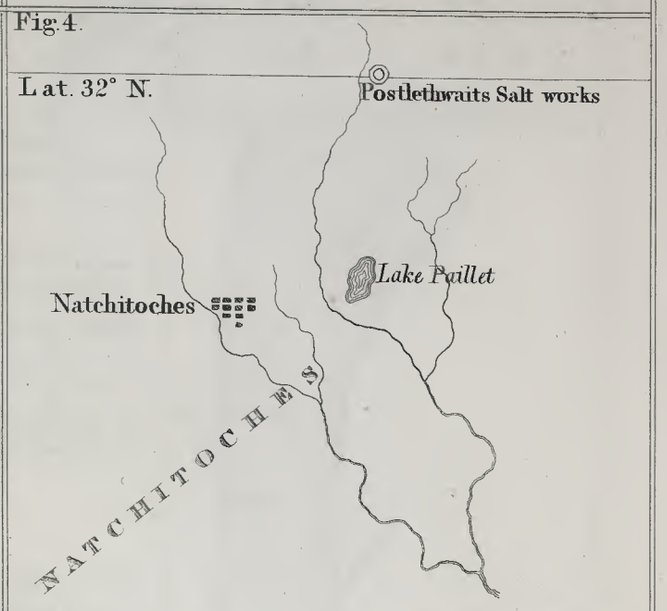
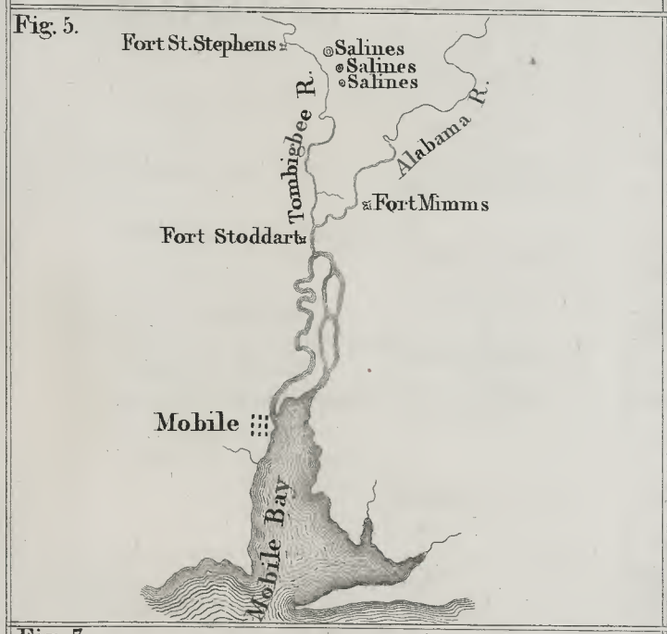


Fig. 5.



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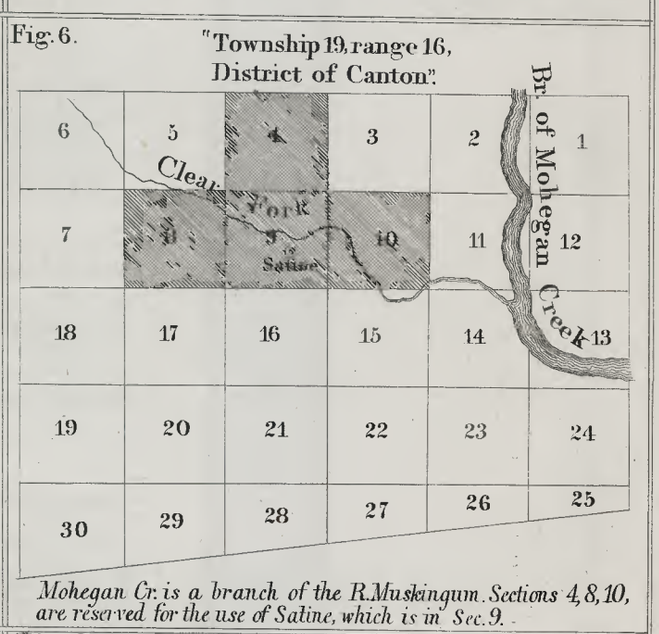


Mohegan Cr. is a branch of the R. Muskingum. Sections 4, 8, 10, are reserved for the use of Saline, which is in Sec. 9.

Fig. 7.

Towns. 2 & 3, north, range 4, east, district of Jeffersonville. Indiana.

The distance between section 15, of town. 2, and the mouth of Great Blue River, on the Ohio, is about 40 miles.

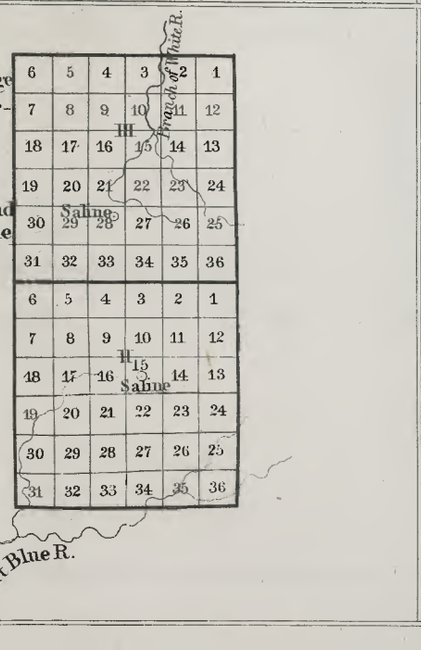


Fig. 8.

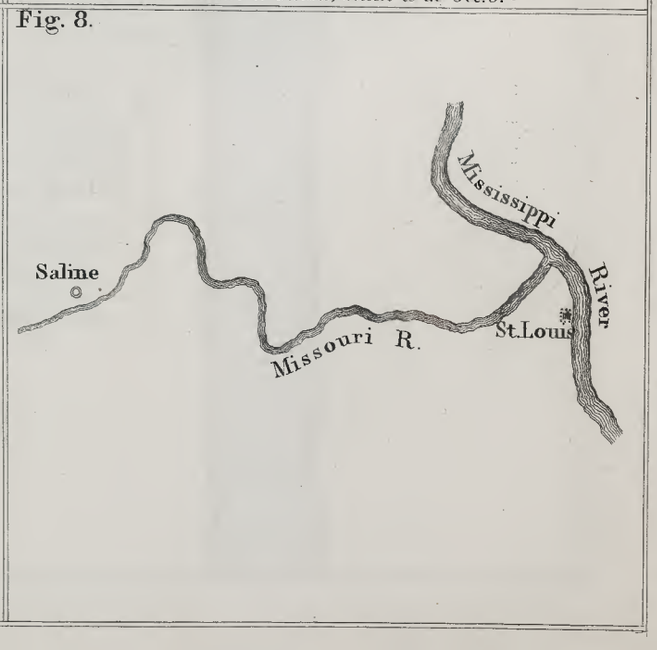


Plate 2.

FIG. 1.

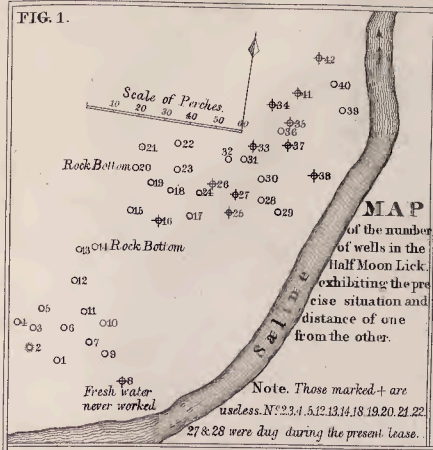


FIG. 2.

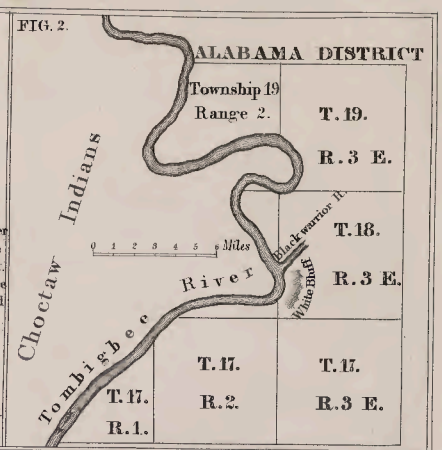
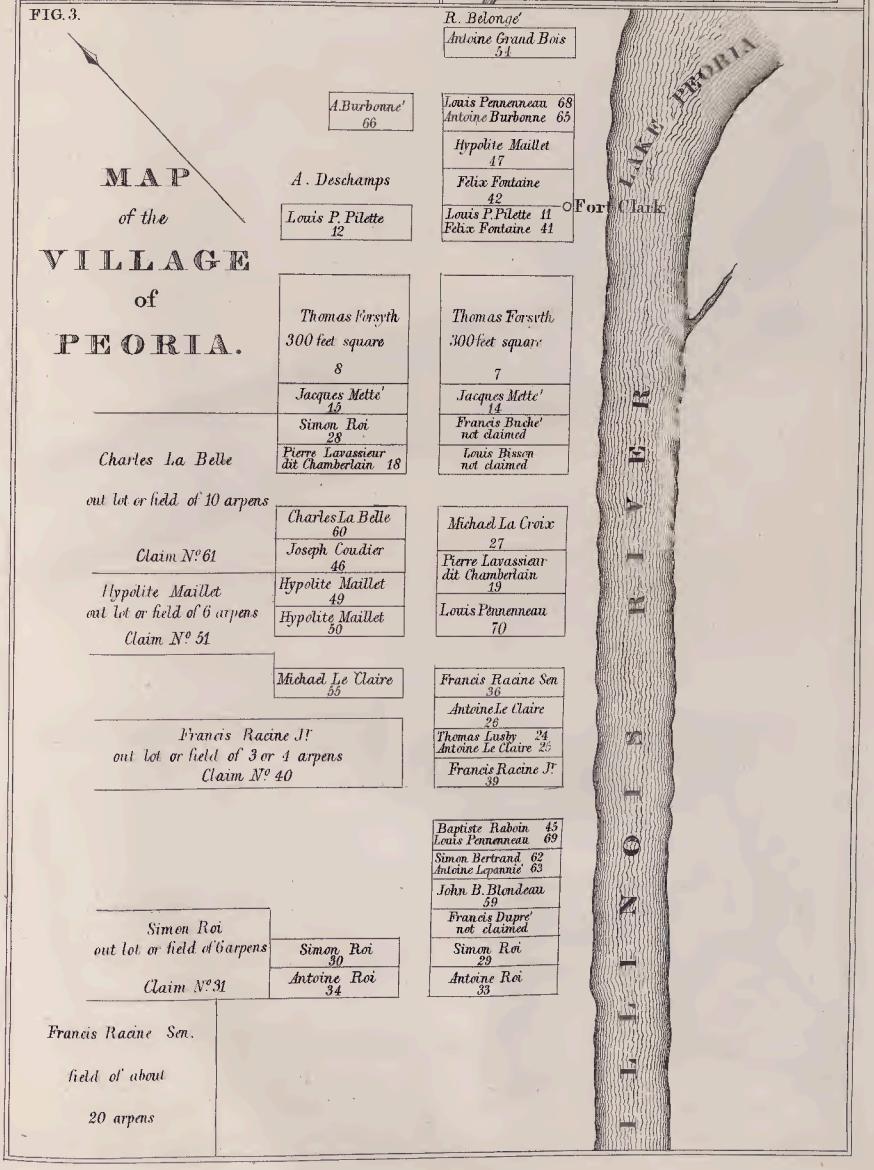


FIG. 3.



INDEX.

[In the following Index, the *names* printed in *Roman characters* refer to those whose claims have been reported on by some one of the various Boards of Commissioners created to decide on land claims; and the *names* printed in *italics* refer to those whose claims have been reported on by Committees of Congress, &c.]

A.

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