

THE TERRITORIAL PAPERS
OF THE UNITED STATES

THE TERRITORIAL PAPERS OF THE UNITED STATES

Compiled and edited by
Clarence Edwin Carter

VOLUME XV

The Territory of Louisiana-Missouri

1815-1821

Continued



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On May 24, 1950, the project of editing and publishing *The Territorial Papers of the United States* was transferred from the Department of State to the National Archives and Records Service, General Services Administration, by action of the President pursuant to Reorganization Plan No. 20 of 1950. This transfer has been approved by the Congress.

SYMBOLS

AD	autograph document
ADS	autograph document signed
AGO	Adjutant General's Office
AL	autograph letter
ALS	autograph letter signed
C	copy
CS	copy signed
D	draft
DS	document signed
Dup	duplicate
E	extract
GAO	General Accounting Office
GLO	General Land Office
HF	House of Representatives Files
LC	Library of Congress
LPC	letter-press copy
LS	letter signed
MHS	Missouri Historical Society
NA	National Archives
OIA	Office of Indian Affairs
OIT	Office of Indian Trade
PLC	Private Land Claims
PO	Post Office Department
SD	State Department
SF	Senate Files
SG	Surveyor General
SGO	Surveyor General's Office
SW	Secretary of War
TD	Treasury Department
Tr	translation
WD	War Department

PART ELEVEN

Papers Relating to the First Administration of
Governor Clark

1815-1816

(Continued)

PART ELEVEN

MAIL ROUTE REGISTER OF R. G. WATSON¹

[NA: PO, Route Register, 1814-1817]

[January 1, 1815]

R. G. Watson 1 Jan ^r 1815 to 31 Dec ^r 1817 \$67 50/100 qrlly	St. Genevieve Big Shawanoe Little Shawanoe Cape Girardot New Madrid	Leave ev ^r Arrive	[Wed] 6p [Sat] 6a	Arrive Leave	[Wed] 6a [Mon] 8p
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THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO ELIAS A. ELLIOTT

[NA: PO, P. M. Letter Book T]

January 9th 1815—

ELIAS A. ELLICOTT St Genevieve Missou. Terr.

I have received yours of the 8th ult² M^r M^oArthur is to carry the mail but once in two weeks on postroute N^o 116³—I wish you to correct the error in the bond—before it is signed.

R J M

DELEGATE EASTON TO [THE SECRETARY OF STATE]

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Jan^r 25th 1815

SIR, I will thank you to send me from the department of State a certified copy of the nomination of Andrew Henry by the house of Representatives of the Missouri Territory to the President for the appointment of a member of the Legislative Council of that territory and oblige your obed^t serv^t

R. EASTON

[Endorsed] Andrew Henry. 1815.

¹ See *ante*, XIV, 650.

² Not found.

³ See *ante*, XIV, 766.

GOVERNOR CLARK TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Mo. Terr. Papers:ALS]

ST LOUIS *January 26th 1815*

DEAR SIR I have taken the liberty of addressing you on a Subject in which I feel so much interested, that I hope it will plead my apology—

It has been reported in this country that Mr Boilvin the Indian Agent for Prarie de Chien, when he was at Washington City last winter, made a written report to the War Department, and in which Report he stated that I had improperly used Indian goods & public property &c for the use & benefit of a Nephew of mine &c If such a report has been made, I must request the favor of you to Send me a Copy of such parts as may relate to me.

Mr James Kennerly the young gentmⁿ who will hand you this letter is the the United States Agent for Transpotation at this place, and was the partner of My Nephew in Trade from his Situation for Several years past, well acquainted with all the transactions of the Indian Department of this quarter, and is inabled to give a true Statement of facts. as relates to the Statements alleged—

I have been informed that our Delegate wrote the report for Mr Boilvin, which I am unwilling to believe, but to be Convinced of that fact, I would be much gratified if Mr Kennerly could be permitted to see the report.⁴

I have the honor to be with Sentiments of the highest respect
Y^{rs} Sincerely.

W^m CLARK

Mr MONROE

[*Addressed*] The Honble James Monroe Washington City By
Mr Kennerly

[*Endorsed*] Missouri Governor Clark Jan: 26. 1816 Gov^r Clarke

RECORDER BATES TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., PLC (Mo.):ALS]

Office of the Recorder of Land Titles

ST LOUIS 28th *Jan^y 1815.*—

SIR, Previously to the institution of suits against Dodge, Wilson & Craighead, which untoward circumstances have heretofore prevented, I beg leave to submit to you the copy of a letter which I have lately received from them.

⁴ Not identified.

Several of my letters to the commissioner of the General Land Office, will shew that I do by no means acquiesce in the correctness of the reasonings employed by these persons and that even as to facts there are some material differences in opinion; yet, as they have intimated that my superiors were more willing than myself to adjust the accounts on liberal principles, I have permitted them to understand that this last communication of theirs should be transmitted to you without a repetition of former remarks.

They calculate the amount of rents at \$6,748.30—I make it something above \$10,000—The difference arises from their insisting that mineral at \$20 per thousand, could always be bought with lead at \$3.50 per hundred, or thereabout.

I was formerly permitted to employ Col^o Easton, now in Congress, as Assistant Counsel, and shall entertain considerable distrust of the event without his aid.—

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, Sir, your obedt Servant
FREDERICK BATES

HON JOSIAH MEIGS Com^r Gen^l Land Office

[*Addressed*] Hon. Josiah Meigs Commissioner of Gen^l Land Office Washington City.—

[*Endorsed*] St Louis 27 Jan^y 1815 F Bates with offer of compromise from Dodge Wilson & Craighead Ans^d 7 March 1815 ⁵

[Enclosure]

Dodge, Wilson and Craighead to Recorder Bates

Copy

ST LOUIS Jan^y 23. 1815.—

FREDERICK BATES Esq:

SIR, Finding by information rec^d from you that the Government of the United States is not willing to accede to the proposition or request made in our letter of Jan^y 3^d 1814 ⁶ we deem it necessary in further justification of that proposition to state more explicitly our reasons for desiring and expecting a relinquishment on the part of the Government of the rents that might be required by our joint contract.—

We wish particularly to direct your attention to the situation of the Lead Mines at the time we proposed to lease the Mine Shibboleth: At and before that period it had been customary for John Smith, T, claiming 10,000 Arpens of land under a Spanish concession in favour of Jacques St Vrain to take possession of every new

⁵ *Post*, p. 12.

⁶ Not seen.

Mine discovered on public land in conformity to the powers vested in him, as he supposed, by the land concession.—In uniformity with this rule he had believed, or acting as if he so believed thought that he might take possession of the Mine Shibboleth then lately discovered—We, However not deeming John Smith (T) properly and lawfully authorised to take possession and hold lead Mines according to his will and pleasure, purchased of the Discoverers of the Mine S. for the sum of \$6000 their possessive right, and immediately thereafter applied to you for a lease to enable us lawfully to work that mine, believing that this lease would completely protect us from the intrusion of all persons. It is, Sir, well known to you that our object in this respect was not effected for soon after our occupancy of the Mine, John Smith (T) not waiting for the decisions of courts of Justice, in which he had commenced law suits against us did enter on the premises leased to us, erect furnaces &^{ca} as stated in the letter before alluded to—information of these facts were communicated to you, and we had confidently believed from the construction you had put on the laws of congress, that the Executive of the territory would immediately have relieved us from the embarrassments in which this intrusion placed us: But our frequent representations on this subject availed nothing, and the consequence was confusion and disorder among the labourers at the Mine. They conceived that our Lease was an unauthorised act, and that consequently we could not or ought not to controul their labours. Many were excited to draw these conclusions from the machinations of John Smith (T) others, from motives of interest. On the faith of having an undisputed controul over the mine, we had given an extensive credit to the labourers by furnishing them with a variety of goods expecting to be remunerated from the lead ore they might raise and furnish to us; but as soon as the Miners ascertained that there was little or no probability of any effectual protection being extended towards us, they delivered the Ore they had dug to John Smith (T) in order to avoid the payment of the debts they had contracted with us.—It would become tedious to attempt a detail of the various difficulties in which we were involved in consequence of law suits one of which is yet depending—Had we been protected as we had reason to have expected in the quiet and complete possession of the Mine Shibboleth we should have had particular satisfaction in paying rents agreeably to contract, but having suffered as we have already stated in our letter of Jan^y 3, 1814 to the full amount of \$10,000 dollars we think it would be too rigid, indeed we think it would be cruel on the part of Government to take advantage of the words of a written contract if it should place it in their power to oblige us yet to pay the rents.

Having believed that the laws of the United States, respecting Leases were sufficiently clear to have authorised Officers to have acted under them and to remove Intruders and understanding that they would do so—we consider our conversations on that point as forming a part of the contract—And as a principal part of the disadvantages we suffered was in consequence of that understood part of the Contract not being complied with on the part of government, we cannot believe that Officers will only regard the letter of it, excluding now all the attendant circumstances

At the extent of our calculation and without allowing us a Cent of credit, Gov^t could demand of us but \$6,748.30.—We have stated and we do suppose from the vouchers that accompanied that statement it will not be doubted, that our loss from the want of protection in our lease has been fully 10,000 dollars.—

We have now to state notwithstanding our declarations and belief that Government ought not to require a Cent from us, on the rigid rules of equity and justice, and indeed even thinking it doubtful whether any thing could be recovered from us in Law, yet in order to avoid the disagreeable embarrassment of a law suit, and to have this, a long time troublesome business finally adjusted, in order to ensure our future tranquility on this subject, we are induced to propose to you to accept of us the sum of two thousand dollars, on condition of being released from the Obligation of the leases granted to us for the Mine Shibboleth.—

We are, Sir, very respectfully, Your mo H Serts.

Signed H. DODGE

N. WILSON

for themselves and

ALEX^r CRAIGHEAD.—

A True Copy—F^r Bates

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA: GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

General Land Office 9th *Febru* 1815

SIR, With this I return the papers referred to me on the 7th
Ins^t 7

I am fully satisfied of the propriety & expediency of surveying into townships that part of the Territory of Missoure in which the confirmed claims of individuals are situated. I am not able to say what ought to be the extent of such survey; on this subject I shall consult the principal deputy Surveyor for that Territory whose opinion I should prefer to that of any other person.

⁷ Not found.

I apprehend that the expence of the surveys will not exceed \$10.000—

I have the honer &c.

HON^{ble} ALEXANDER J DALLAS Secretary of the Treasury.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA: GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

General Land office, 24th Feb^y 1815.

SIR, In the act making appropriations for the support of Government, published this day, I do not perceive any appropriation for Surveying the public Lands. There was appropriated, for that purpose, in 1810—30,000

1811—100,000

1812—48,620

1813—61,262

1814—60,000

If it is contemplated to prepare Lands in the Territories of Mississippi and Missouri for Sale, and to Survey the Six millions of acres for military Services, I respectfully submit that an appropriation may be necessary equal to that of the year 1811.

I have taken the liberty of addressing you on this subject, lest it might, through the multiplicity of other business, have escaped your attention.

I have the honor, &^{ca}

HON. A. J. DALLAS, Secretary of the Treasury—

JOSIAH MEIGS TO JOHN MCKEE

[NA: GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

General Land office, 27th Feb^y, 1815.

SIR, I will thank you to explain to me the meaning, or rather the intention of the Legislature, by the following words in the third section of the act of 17th inst.* for the relief of the inhabitants of Madrid; "which certificate shall be filed with the said recorder, within twelve months after date, and the recorder shall thereupon issue a certificate in favor of the party."

Were those words omitted, the section would direct the recorder to "deliver to the party a certificate stating the circumstances of

* 3 STAT. 212.

the case, and that he is entitled to a patent for the tract therein designated, which certificate being transmitted to the Commissioner of the General Land office, shall entitle the party to a patent," &^{ca}

As I cannot see the utility of requiring the party, when he has obtained his certificate, to re-deliver it to the recorder, and get a similar one twelve months after, I presume there is a clerical error in the section.

I have the honor, &^{ca}

HONORABLE M^r M^cKEE, Chairman of the Committee on public lands.

not sent On re-perusing the act above mentioned, I find, in the first Section, that the persons intended to be relieved, are "authorised to locate the like quantity of Land, on any of the public lands of the said territory, the sale of which is authorised by law." I do not know that the sale of any land in the territory has been authorized by law;—in that case, is not the whole act a nullity?—

JOSIAH MEIGS TO JEREMIAH MORROW

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
General Land office, 28th February, 1815.

SIR, I duly received your favor of 25th inst. with a Bill relative to the final adjustment of Land titles in the Territory of Missouri; * and, in compliance with your request, I offer the following remarks:—

The board of Commissioners, by their report of 22nd January, 1812,¹⁰ rejected claims to the amount of about two millions of acres.

The Recorder, agreeably to the third section of the act of 13th June, 1812,¹¹ has confirmed claims to the amount of about 80,000 acres of the above mentioned rejected claims: he has not transmitted any report of claims filed under the acts 3^d March & 2^d August, 1813: ¹²—I presume none have been filed.

I observe that the present bill opens a much wider door for claimants, than the act of 12th April, 1814,¹³ did: that law required

* Not found.

¹⁰ Printed, A.S.P., *Pub. Lands*, II, 463–729.

¹¹ 2 STAT. 750.

¹² See sec. 3, act of Mar. 3, 1813 (2 STAT. 814), and sec. 3, act of Aug. 2, 1813 (3 STAT. 87).

¹³ 3 STAT. 121–123. For reference to the bill here referred to see *House Journal*, IX, 657, 735 (erroneously numbered 635), 747, 750. A copy of this bill (H.R. 299) is in NA (HF).

that the claims it confirmed should be embraced in the reports, and appear to have been located, or surveyed before 10th March, 1804;—the bill gives claimants who have not located, a right to locate where they please. It gives land on the evidence of one witness, and it is well known, that perjury the most bold and atrocious, has been very frequently resorted to for the purpose of substantiating claims.

The Law mentioned, prohibits persons who have obtained donations from having claims confirmed to them; this Bill does not prohibit such persons: on the contrary, the last clause of the first section, is in these words, "Nothing in this act shall, in any manner, affect the rights of any person claiming lands by virtue of a confirmation heretofore made."

The Law authorized the issue of patents for land confirmed by the Recorder, only if the Commissioner of the General Land office was satisfied that the confirmation certificate was fairly obtained; this Bill requires the issue of patents, if the Recorder's lists of confirmations agree with his certificates to individuals—thus giving the Recorder a power unchecked, and much greater than was vested in the board of Commissioners.—Upon the whole, I fear the bill has passed the house of Representatives too hastily.

I have reason to believe, that if this bill becomes a law, the United States will lose at least a million acres of their land in the territory of Missouri; and well knowing the avidity with which the perpetual effort to deprive the United States of their lands has been pursued, I cannot but express a hope that this bill will not become a law.

I am, &^{ca}

HON. JEREMIAH MORROW, Senate U. States.—

COMMISSION OF ALEXANDER McNAIR AS REGISTER

[NA:SD, Misc. Perm. Comms., D]

[February 28, 1815]

JAMES MADISON, President of the United States of America

To all who shall see these presents, Greeting

Know Ye, That reposing special Trust and Confidence in the Integrity, Diligence and Discretion of ALEXANDER McNAIR, of the Missouri Territory, I have nominated, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate do appoint him Register of the Land Office of the United States for the District of S^t Louis, as desig-

nated by the President;¹⁴ and do authorize and empower him to execute and fulfil the duties of that office according to law; and to Have and to Hold the said office, with all the powers, privileges and emoluments thereunto legally appertaining unto him the said Alexander McNair during the pleasure of the President of the U States for the time being.

In Testimony whereof I have caused these Letters to be
L S made patent and the seal of the U States to be hereunto
affixed, at the City of Washington the 28th February A D
1815 and of the Independence of the U States the Thirty Ninth.¹⁵

JAMES MADISON

By the President

JAS MONROE Secy of State

COMMISSION OF SAMUEL HAMMOND AS RECEIVER

[NA:SD, Misc. Perm. Comms., D]

[February 28, 1815]

JAMES MADISON, President of the U. States of America

To all who shall see these presents, Greeting

Know Ye, That reposing special Trust and Confidence in the Integrity, Diligence and Discretion of SAMUEL HAMMOND, of the Missouri Territory, I have nominated, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate do appoint him Receiver of public monies for Lands of the United States at St Louis;¹⁶ and do authorize and empower him to execute and fulfil the duties of that office according to Law; and to Have and to Hold the said office, with all the rights and emoluments thereunto legally appertaining unto him the said Samuel Hammond during the pleasure of the President of the United States for the time being.

In testimony whereof I have caused these Letters to be
L S made patent and the Seal of the U States to be hereunto
affixed, at the City of Washington the 28 February A D
1815 & of the Independence of the U S the Thirty Ninth.

JAMES MADISON

By the President

JAS MONROE Secy of State

¹⁴ Nominated Feb. 27, 1815, and approved Feb. 28, 1815 (*Senate Exec. Journal*, II, 622, 625).

¹⁵ See *post*, p. 17.

¹⁶ Nominated Feb. 27, 1815, and approved Feb. 28, 1815 (*Senate, Exec. Journal*, II, 622, 625).

JOSIAH MEIGS TO RECORDER BATES

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

[March 1, 1815¹⁷]

SIR, Enclosed you have a copy of an Act of Congress, passed 17th ult^o entitled "An act for the relief of the inhabitants of the late county of Madrid, in the Missouri Territory, who suffered by Earthquakes."¹⁸

The first section declares that "the title of the person or persons to the land injured as aforesaid, shall revert to, and become absolutely vested in the United States."

You will therefore take from the parties who may apply for the benefit of this act, transfers of their titles, (for the Lands injured) in favor of the United States, and make those acts matter of record in your office.

The third Section requires you to transmit to this office, "a report of the claims allowed, and locations made." You will be pleased also, to report the lands transferred to the United States by the claimants under this act.¹⁹

I am, &^{ca}

FREDERICK BATES, Esq^r Recorder, St. Louis.—

JOSIAH MEIGS TO RECORDER BATES

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

General Land office, 7th March, 1815.

SIR, I duly received your letter of 28th January last; ²⁰—In reply to which, I have to request that no more time may be lost in instituting a suit to recover the rents due to the United States from Dodge, Wilson & Craighead.²¹ You will be pleased to employ W^m C. Carr, Esq^r (formerly agent to the U. States,) in aid of the attorney hitherto employed; and if you deem it necessary, employ M^r Easton also.²²

I am, &^{ca}

FREDERICK BATES, Esq^r Recorder of Land titles, St. Louis.—

¹⁷ Date under which letter is entered.

¹⁸ 3 STAT. 211-212.

¹⁹ Answered *post*, p. 21.

²⁰ *Ante*, p. 5.

²¹ See Bates to the Secretary of the Treasury, June 20, 1812 (Marshall, ed., *Bates Papers*, II, 226), relative to the lead mine lease of Dodge, Craighead, and Wilson, and the delays due to lawsuits.

²² Answered *post*, p. 21.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO BERNARD PRATTE

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Sent, Mil. Bk. 8]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, *March 8th 1815.*

BRIG^r GENERAL BERNARD PRATTE, of the Missouri territory.

SIR, Inclosed herewith, you will receive a commission as brigadier general of the Missouri territory, which the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, has been pleased to grant.²³

On the receipt of this communication, you will please to signify to this department, your acceptance or non-acceptance of your appointment.²⁴

(Signed) JA^s MONROE.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

General Land office, *9th March, 1815.*

SIR, The ninth section of the act of 3^d March, 1811, entitled "An act for the final adjustment of claims to lands. and for the sale of the public lands in the territories of Orleans and Louisiana, &^{ca}"²⁵ authorizes the appointment of land officers and the establishment of a land office in the territory of Louisiana, (now territory of Missouri,) and as other land offices will probably be established in the same territory; I recommend that this first district be denominated the district of St. Louis: in that town the records have been, and are at present kept by the recorder of land titles.

I have the honor, &^{ca}

HON. JAMES MONROE, Secretary of State.—

THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO GOVERNOR CLARK

[NA: WD, SW, Lets. Sent, Mil. Bk. 8]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, *March 10th 1815.—*

W^m CLARK Governor of the Missouri Territory

SIR, I have the honor to inform you that I have ordered five hundred men now under the command of Col^o Miller at Erie Pennsylvania, to be marched to S^t Louis, this force it is believed will be useful in keeping the Indians in check, and will be entirely sufficient for the defence of your frontier.

²³ Nominated and confirmed Mar. 3, 1815 (*Senate, Exec. Journal*, II, 627, 628).

²⁴ Reply not seen.

²⁵ 2 STAT. 665.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO THE INDIAN
COMMISSIONERS[NA:OIA,SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. C ²⁶]WAR DEPARTMENT *March 11th 1815*

GENTLEMEN I had the honor to transmit to you on the 24th ultimo ²⁷ a Copy of the Treaty of Peace which was concluded on the 24th of December last between the United States and Great Britain at Ghent and ratified by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate on the 17 ultimo.²⁸ By the ninth article of this Treaty, it is Stipulated that the United States shall put an end to all Hostilities with the Indian Tribes with whom they might be at War at the time of the ratification, and to restore to such Tribes all the rights and privileges to which they were entitled previous to the war; provided that such Tribes or Nations should agree to desist from all hostilities against the United States of America their Citizens and Subjects upon the ratification of such Treaty being notified to such Tribes or Nations and should so desist accordingly. By the same Article it is also Stipulated that his Britanic Majesty should likewise put an end in like manner and on the same conditions, to Hostilities with the Tribes or Nations of Indians with whom he might be at War at the time of the ratification of said Treaty.

It is incumbent on the United States to execute every Article of this Treaty with perfect good faith and it is their firm resolution to do it. They wish to be particularly exact in the execution of the Article above recited relating to the Indian Tribes. For this purpose the President has in consequence appointed you commissioners with full power to conclude a treaty with all those tribes, for which I inclose you a commission.

You will give immediate notice to all the tribes with whom the United States are at War on the Mississippi and its Waters of the peace which has been concluded between the United States and Great Britain and of the Stipulations contained in it, in regard to them, and that you likewise invite them to attend by a deputation of Chiefs, at such place or places, as you may appoint for the purpose of concluding the proposed treaty of Peace and amity between the United States and all those Tribes. It is thought proper to confine this Treaty to the sole object of peace. Other arrangements between the United States and the Indian Tribes adapted to their mutual Interests may be entered into hereafter.

²⁷ Printed also in *A.S.P., Ind. Affairs*, II, 6.

²⁸ Letter not seen.

²⁹ Miller (ed.), *Treaties*, II, 574-584.

You will avail yourself of the opportunity to inform the Indian Tribes that it is intended to establish Strong Posts verry high up the Mississippi and from the Mississippi to Lake Michigan, and to open Trading Houses at those posts or other suitable places for their accommodation.²⁹

I have the honor to be &c—

Signed J. MONROE

GOVERNOR CLARK, GOVERNOR EDWARDS & AUG CHOTEAU.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO GOVERNOR CLARK

[NA:OIA, SW, Lets. Sent. Bk. C]

WAR DEPARTMENT, *March 11th 1815.*

HIS EXCELLENCY GOVERNOR CLARK

SIR It was intended to have given to Col. McNair the command of the Rangers which was contemplated to be raised for the defence of your Territory. But the peice has deprived him of that Situation; he is desirous of being employed as an Indian Agent; and should you be of opinion that his services would be required in that department, either previous or during the treaty or for a longer period you are authorised to employ him.³⁰

I have the honor to be Sir &c.

WILLIAM RUSSELL TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., R99:ALS]

BELL-FONTAINE *ye 12th March 1815—*

SIR Enclosed I send on the returns of our strength in these Terrytories.³¹ I fear they are not Stritly correct, but are made from the best documents could be precured in this Office. The news of peace has greatly frustrated my plans of operation in this country—I had formed a plan to carry on an expedition as high as

²⁹ See the Secretary of War to Edwards, Mar. 13, 1815 (*Terr. Papers*, III., xvii, 149). See also Graham to McArthur, Mar. 11, 1815 (*ibid.*, Mich., x, 517-518).

³⁰ See *id.* to *id.*, same date (NA, OIA, SW, Lets. Sent. Bk. C; printed, *A.S.P., Ind. Affairs*, II, 6), concerning the proposed treaties with the western Indians; and *id.* to *id.*, Mar. 13, 1815 (NA, *op. cit.*; printed, *A.S.P., op. cit.*), advising that Boilvin had been continued as Indian agent and that he would assist in informing Indian tribes of the peace with Great Britain. See also Clark to the Secretary of War, Mar. 3, 1815 (NA, WD, SW, Lets. Recd., C229), that he had received news of peace and had suspended military operations until further advice, although the Indians were still hostile.

³¹ Not found.

Purari du Chein, on such a Scale as would I have no doubt ensured Success to our Armis—This was to be effected by land and water, and with the assistance of one 18 & two 12 we should been able to have taken the British out of their works. These three pices of ordnance, and stores are now on their way to this place. I should been of, in six weeks, had not the news of peace reached so soon; this force, I had contemplated ~~the raising~~ of to rase, from these three Terrytories, in this I have been backed by the opinion of Governor's Clark, & Edwards—Should the news recently reached us be true as to pice with Great britton, it will I have no doubt be several Months before the Indian depredations are at an end—A few days ago up the Missouri, they killed Cap^t James Calaway, United S. rangers, five of his Company are also sed to be missing, and but little doubt they are killed also. I shall be compeled to call out, in addition to the rangers a few Companys of Militia, untill the present bustle is over, to keep the frontiers from braking—I hope Sir you will pardon me when I tell you that these hostile bands up the Mississippi must be humbled, for their own good, and that of this country—I have never asked any aid but that of the Territories for the purpose of clearing our frontier of the enemy, and should you incline to believe such plan an advantage to the government, I hope you will have the goodness to advise me of it, as early as possible—

I haste, I have thrown these Idias together Just as they have occured—

I have the honor to be your obdt Servt

W RUSSELL

Col^o 7th & District Commandant

[*Addressed*] The honorable James Monroe Esq^r war department Washington City. Mail

[*Endorsed*] Col^o Russell Belle Fontaine March 12th 1815.
Col W^m Russell Relative to the defence of Territories—Wants instructions rec^d 10 Ap^l 1815

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO JOHN McARTHUR

[NA:PO, P.M. Letter Book T]

March 14. 1815.

JOHN M^cARTHUR St Genevieve M. T.

Yours of the 22^d Ult is rec^d ³² The mails must be duly & faithfully carried. We cannot admit of excuses for failures that are not founded on grounds as strong as those arising from actual im-

³² Not found.

possibility. In relation to the great main route entrusted to you I must refer you to M^r Arundel ³³ who is the Agent for this Office

R.J.M.

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO ELIAS BATES ³⁴

[NA:PO, P.M. Letter Book T]

March 15. 1815

ELIAS BATES Herculanum M T

I am obliged by the information given in your letter of the 17th of Jan.³⁵ If the contractor does not do his duty he must be superseded.

R.J.M.

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO MOSES AUSTIN

[NA:PO, P.M. Letter Book T]

March 15 1815

MOSES AUSTIN Mine a Burton. M. T.

I have rec^d yours of Jan. 22^d ³⁶ I hope that the mail has become regular—The Contractor has been assured that a strict compliance with his Contract will be expected

R.J.M.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO ALEXANDER MCNAIR

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

General Land office, 15th March, 1815.

SIR, Enclosed I transmit to you a Commission from the president of the United States, appointing you to be Register of the Land office at S^t Louis ³⁸

I have therefore to request that you will immediately qualify yourself by taking an oath to support the Constitution of the United States & for fidelity in office, with a bond executed by yourself and one or more good sureties in the sum of ten thousand dollars. A form of the bond is enclosed.

³³ See the Postmaster General to Arundel, Mar. 6, 1815 (*Terr. Papers*, III., xvii, 143-144).

³⁴ A nephew of Moses Austin, the proprietor of Mine à Burton (Barker, ed., "*Austin Papers*", *A.H.A. Rept.* 1919, vol. II, pt. 1, p. 2).

³⁵ Not found.

³⁶ Not found.

³⁸ See *ante*, p. 11.

The forms and instructions necessary for your government shall be made out & transmitted to you as soon as convenient & instructions will shortly be given to the Surveyor general to have lands prepared for sale at Louis

I am &

ALEXANDER McNAIR Esq^r Regist^r L. office S^t Louis (now at Pittsburgh)

Be pleased to hand the enclosed letter to M^r Hammond Rec^r of pub: monies.³⁹

JOHN MASON TO GOVERNOR CLARK

[NA:OIT, Supt. Lets. Sent, Bk. C]

Indian Office GEO TOWN *March 24th 1815*

HIS EXCELLENCY GOV^N CLARK Saint Louis

SIR On the return of peace on which auspicious Event I beg leave very sincerely to congratulate you—we are about turning our attention again to the Public Trade with the Indian Tribes; which has been so much intercepted in your quarter by the Events of the War—about which I shall take the liberty as formerly to consult you frequently.—and in the course of a little time will address you fully on such of your letters as remain unanswered The principal object of this is to request that you will do me the favor to advise M^r Belt (the Assistant of M^r John Johnson, and who is at S^t Louis in charge of the Goods heretofore belonging to the Factory at Le Moin) as to the safety and propriety—in the state of things which may exist when this gets to hand—of an Expedition to the Mouth of the Osage River—Conditionally directed by M^r Johnson, in consequence of an Engagement of his to meet this spring a party of the Sacs & Foxes, to trade and receive his credits.—

I have written M^r Belt by this Mail ⁴⁰ & taken the liberty to instruct him to call on you—and be entirely governed by your direction & to go or not to go, as you may advise.—I shall be particularly obliged to you to direct him on that head, as you may think it safe or otherwise from the then disposition & situation toward us of the Indians in that quarter I will only remark, that if it is safe, it will be desirable that he should go, in order to fulfill the promise

³⁹ Dated Mar. 15, 1815, identical in language with the above and found in the same file.

⁴⁰ Mar. 24, 1815 (NA, OIT, Supt. Lets. Sent, Bk. C), enclosing a letter from John Johnson and requesting Belt to consult with Clark; and instructing him, with the approbation of Clark, to proceed along the Osage River to trade with the Indians under directions given by Johnson. But Belt did not go. See Mason to Clark, Aug. 7, 1815, *loc. cit.*

of Mr Johnson, and to collect the debts due his trading fund. The Government are about to send a pretty strong Military force to the upper Mississippi & to occupy Prairie des Chiens—

I am preparing Mr Johnson and Mr Sibley with a good supply of goods ⁴¹—and mean to locate one of them (Mr Johnson) at the Prairie des Chiens ⁴²—& the other in the Osage country at some convenient point ⁴³—

I have just received an order from the War Department ⁴⁴ to prepare and send you about 20.000 Dollars cost of Presents to be distributed in your quarter they will be sent off as soon as possible in the care of those Gentlemen. ⁴⁵

I am &c &c

J. M.—

⁴¹ Sibley and Johnson were at this time in Washington and Philadelphia on public business. With respect to the problem of collecting, purchasing, preparing the goods in question and their transportation to St. Louis, see Mason to the following persons: Jacob Bowman, agent at Brownsville, Pa., Mar. 14, Apr. 11, May 15, and May 16, 1815; E. I. Dupont, iron manufacturer at Brandywine, Pa., Mar. 31, 1815; Robert Patterson, Director of the Mint at Philadelphia, Mar. 25, Apr. 1, Apr. 27, and May 1, 1815; Sibley, Apr. 10, Apr. 29, May 13, and May 16, 1815; Johnson, May 25, 1815; Sibley and Johnson, May 15, 1815; Jeremiah Bronaugh, Apr. 29, May 8, May 13, and May 15, 1815; Jonathan Smith, cashier, Bank of Philadelphia, Apr. 26 and May 8, 1815; and James Kennerly, May 16, 1815 (NA, OIT, Supt. Lets. Sent, Bk. C). A study of these letters furnishes a view of the actual process whereby the trading factories were supplied with goods. Similar materials for other years are also found in the same source.

⁴² See Mason to Johnson, Aug. 7, 1815, *loc. cit.*, containing detailed instructions, and *id.* to Belt, same date, *loc. cit.*

⁴³ See Mason to Sibley, July 30, 1815 (NA, OIT, *op. cit.*), instructing him to be guided by the opinion of Governor Clark; and to Clark, Aug. 7, 1815, *loc. cit.*, asking him to make a decision, under all the circumstances of the case, respecting the location of the factory.

⁴⁴ See *post*, p. 74.

⁴⁵ See the Secretary of War to Clark, Mar. 25, 1815 (NA, OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. C; printed, *A.S.P., Ind. Affairs*, II, 6), saying that the President thought it wise to make gifts to the Indian chiefs and that \$20,000 in goods had been appropriated for that purpose; and the Secretary of War to Mason, Mar. 27, 1815, *ibid.*, p. 7, instructing him to forward the goods in question to Clark. The above letter was answered by Clark May 8 (not found), which in turn was answered by Mason Aug. 7, 1815 (NA, OIT, Supt. Lets. Sent, Bk. C), in which letter was discussed the treaties with the Indians and the re-establishment of the factory at Fort Osage. Respecting the treaties, see *post*, p. 68. The goods in question were purchased and transported at the same time and by the same agents as noted in the correspondence cited in n. 41, above. See, as particularly relevant, Mason to Lear, Apr. 25, 1815, to Bronaugh, Apr. 29 and May 8, 1815, and to Kennerly, May 16, 1815 (NA, OIT, *op. cit.*) See also *id.* to Clark, May 16, May 25, and Aug. 7, 1815, *loc. cit.*, all relating to the procurement and dispatch of the supplies under the care of Sibley and Johnson.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO EDWARD TIFFIN

[NA: GLO,SG,NWT, Lets. Recd., v:ALS]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 24th March 1815

SIR Yours of 12th Ins^t with plats & descriptions of seven townships in Kaskaskia district is received.⁴⁶

In my letter dated yesterday I suggested an intention to consult the President further, relative to the location of the two millions of acres between the S^t. Francis & Arkansas; but on further consideration I think proper to direct that a Standard meridian be drawn from the confluence of the Arkansas with the Mississippi & that the 2,000,000 be bounded easterly by the Mississippi and S^t Francis. Judging by Bradleys Map, the area bounded northerly by a line drawn west from the mouth of S^t Francis, westerly by the Arkansas, & easterly by the Mississippi will not amount to one Million acres, the remainder of the two million will lie north of the parallel of the mouth of the S^t Francis & between that river & the Arkansas. I foresee some difficulty arising from the fractional parts which will unavoidably be made; the Act of 10 March 1800 requires these to be thrown on the western & northern boundaries of townships. No surveyor can (for the compensation allowed) survey and lay out into sections and quarter sections a township exactly six miles square. I merely suggest this to your early consideration. Permit me to caution you against the employment of unfaithful or unskilful Surveyors. Our late returns from the Mississippi Territory are very incorrect. It is indeed a more difficult work than is imagined to survey with that correctness which the laws of the U. States contemplate.⁴⁷

I am very respectfully Sir your obed^t Serv^t

JOSIAH MEIGS

EDWARD TIFFIN Esq^r Surveyor General Chillicothe—

[*Addressed*] Edward Tiffin Esq^r Surveyor General Chillicothe
[*Postmarked*] Mar 24 General Land Office J Meigs Free

[*Endorsed*] J Meigs March 24th 1815 with directions relative to Lands between the S^t Francis & Arkansas

⁴⁶ NA (GLO, Lets. from SG, NWT).

⁴⁷ See also Meigs to Tiffin, Mar. 23, 1815 (*Terr. Papers*, III., xvii, 154–156), respecting the location of military lands.

RECORDER BATES TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., PLC (Mo.):ALS]

Office of the Recorder of Land Titles

ST LOUIS *March* 30. 1815.

SIR, I had the honor to receive by last mail your letter of 1st inst⁴⁸ covering 'An Act for the relief of the Inhabitants of the late county of New Madrid in the Missouri Territory, who suffered by Earthquakes'.—Your instructions as to the execution of this act will be strictly attended to:—Also, your orders as to the institution of suit against Dodge, Wilson & Craighead, of the 7th inst⁴⁹—which shall be obeyed without delay.—

On the general subject of lands, I beg leave to say that I have heretofore made some partial reports—but the rapid succession of new principles established in the several Acts has heretofore prevented that comprehensive Digest which I hope to transmit to you in the course of the summer or fall. It is obvious from the Laws, that a general review of the voluminous proceedings of the late board, has been indispensable—And indeed, before this laborious business was completed under Act of June 13. 1812, it became again necessary for other reasons by Act of March 3. 1813, and again by Act of 12th April 1814—In addition to all which there was much new business under 7th Sec of the Act of 13 June 1812—and some little under the Arkansas Act of 2^d August 1813.—I have been at some expence in translations—I hope to be reimbursed, if, on my final settlement of accounts, the expenditure should be deemed reasonable.⁵⁰

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, Sir, Your Obedt Servant

FREDERICK BATES

HON—JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington

[*Addressed*] Hon: Josiah Meigs Commissioner of General Land
Office Washington.—

[*Endorsed*] 30 March 1819: Fred^k Bates acknowledges receipt of laws, and instructions—Also concerning lands in general, and his expences, which he desires to be remunerated.

⁴⁸ *Ante*, p. 12.

⁴⁹ *Ante*, p. 12.

⁵⁰ Answered May (written Mar.) 22, 1815 (NA, GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6).

WILLIAM RECTOR TO EDWARD TIFFIN

[NA:GLO,SG,NWT, Lets. Recd., v:ALS]

S^t Louis MISSOURI TERRITORY April 3^d 1815

D^r SIR I wrote you by last mail that I intended by the present mail to take the liberty of addressing to you a letter on the subject of Surveying in this Territory.⁵¹ Since that time Governor Clark has furnished me with a number of Sketches of different parts of the Country, part of them were formed by the Governor from his own Surveys & travels & the balance by intelligent travellers. These papers together with the information, which I have collected from other sources will enable me to form a sketch that will (I presume) give a pretty correct Idea of the figure & extent of that part of the Country it is intended to represent—which will include all the confirmed claims of individuals and all the public Lands that will, (I suppose) be Surveyed for several years. I have therefore concluded to defer entering on the subject until I complete this sketch, which will be in a few days, when I will forward it to you by M^r Moore a Gentleman whom I shall send to your office with a return of Surveys.—I am induced to make the proposed communication to you from a belief that it may contain some information, relative to the extent & quality of the country that may be useful to the Surveyor General in forming of plans & instructions for the Surveying thereof—I therefore trust you will not think me too officious ⁵²—

Very respectfully y^r Ob^t Serv^tW^m RECTORDOCTOR EDW^d TIFFIN.

[Addressed] Edward Tiffin Esquire Surveyor General of the U. States Chillicothe Ohio.— [Postmarked] St. Louis April 3 181½

[Endorsed] S^t Louis April 3^d W^m Rector relative to Surveys

⁵¹ Mar. 27, 1815 (NA, GLO, SG, NWT, Lets. Recd., v).

⁵² In a letter from Rector to Tiffin, Mar. 6, 1815, *loc. cit.*, a considerable portion of which deals with Illinois Territory, the following is relevant to Missouri Territory:

"Since I have held the Office of Principal Deputy Surveyor of the Missouri Territory I have made considerable progress in Surveying the lands appertaining to the Villages (or Towns) of S^t Louis S^t Charles Portages Des Sioux Carondelet & S^t Genevieve. But at the time I was working at the surveys of the above villages, all the claims had not been acted on by the Recorder of Land Titles consequently I was unable to complete the Surveys. The Surveys of these Towns or villages shall be completed as soon as practicable as well as the surveys of the other Towns and Villages which I was instructed by the late Surveyor Gen^l to Survey

"I wrote several letters to the late Surveyor General on the subject of the

WILLIAM RUSSELL TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., R105:ALS]

BELL-FONTAINE *ye* 8th April 1815—

SIR, The Indians have recently killed four rangers at fort Independence (Mississippi) and last evening an express arrived at St Louis, from Coatsandason⁵³ a small Village up the Missouri, that informes us that place is besieged by a strong party of Indians and but little hopes are entertained here for its safety The place is entirely settled by french people from St Louis, and S^t Charles. I am collecting men for its relief, but fear it will fall before we can reach them—My plan for my expedition, that was stoped in consequence of the peace would have met these hostile fellows in their own way, this I deem unfortunate for this Country—I have sent fortified boats up the Illinois, Mississippi, and Missouri rivers, the object of this is a double one, to convey to them the news of peace, agreeable to my instructions from Gen^l M^cArtur, 2^d^{ly} to prevent their desending those leading streames in force to these frontiers, and have but little doubt, but they will be fired upon—My situation as commanding officer in consequence of hostilities ceasing on my part, and they carrying on the war with more rigor than ever, in this quarter, is to me extreamly gawling—I have sent up Maj^r Taylor Berry, (my deputy quarter master Gen^l in the Gunboat Gov^r Clark, to convey to the british the intelligence of peace, and expect them all to return to S^t Louis by the first of May—Should the object of the government be to garrison the uper country to keep the Indians in check, and also to keep out british traders, I should deem it proper to fix a post up the Missouri, one at, or near the rock river, a strong post Prarari du Chien, and one also at fort Harrison (Wabash). I have the honor to be your obd^t Serv^t—

W RUSSELL

Col^o 7th & district Commandant

[*Addressed*] The honb^e James Monroe, Esq^r war department, Washington. City. Mail Free

[*Endorsed*] Belle Fontaine 8^h April 1815. Col. W^m Russell relative to the hostile disposition of the Indians. &^c May 1815

Surveying to be done in this Territory. These letters I presume are on file in your Office to which I beg leave to refer you—. The claimants of lands in this Territory generally are very desirous to have their Lands Surveyed, so that they may know their boundaries & obtain from our Government titles therefor. Whenever I may receive your instructions to proceed to laying off the claims of individuals generally & that part of the Territory where the claims are situated into Townships &c, I shall exert myself to have the work executed agreeably to your instructions in a short time.”

⁵³ Côte sans Dessein, in what is now Callaway County.

WILLIAM RUSSELL TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., R103:ALS]

BELL FONTAINE, *ye* 14th April 1815.

SIR, It is with due defidencence I attempt to trouble the heads of departments, but deem it a part of my Official duty to give to you all necessary information in the bounds of my Command—Having been informed that it is the intention of the government to fix at proper sights up these leading rivers, a Chain of Garrisons, to hold the Indians in check, I have thought that, at, or near this place it would be proper to have a deposit sutably calculated for the supply of the above mentioned posts—Finding by a late law of Congress, the department of quarter master Gen^l is done away, I have thought it my duty, and beg leave to state to you, what I fear will be the result as respects a Considerable quantity of publick property at this place—Under the present regulation the Regimental quarter Master must be taken from one of the two Subalterns in a company, and it is very probable this officer cannot be at all times stationary at this, or any other post, and if he could, I conceive it will be difficult for him to do his proportion of Garrison duty &c. and attend to the receiving the Military stores that may be sent here at different times, for the supply of this and other posts, the daily Issue, and receipts, of the garrison, the care of the publick horses and oxen, the repairs of arms tools &c, and make returns of the same, all this and numerous other dutys too tedious to mention, ought to be strictly attended to, by the person who may be ordered to releave the present incumbent, other wise much Injury may result to the publick—I have been forced to make this Statement from having discovered in the store house at Bell Fontaine, 800 or 1000 stand of armes, also as many at Vincennes (Indiana) together with a large quantity of tools of various kinds, which have lain there from all appearance for many years nearly distroyed with rust, many of which we have recently cleaned, and are now fit for use. Under the present view of things, I am fully impressed with a belief, that the government would be greatly benefited by the appointment of a Military Store Keeper: whos exclusive duty it should be, to take charge of, and be accountable for all the publick property in this Command—For this appointment to fill said office, I beg leave to recommend Maj^r William Christy, the present acting assistant D Q. M. Gen^l This Gentleman is well qullified to fill that Office, and from his industry and close attention to business, I do not hesitate in saying he would

save to the publick at least one thousand dollars p^r year clear of his Sallary—

I have the honor to be your obd^t Serv^t

W RUSSELL

Col^o 7th & district Commandant

[Addressed] The hon^e William H. Crawford Esq^r Secretary War
Washington City. Mail [Postmarked] Lexington Kentucky
May 8 Free.

[Endorsed] Bell Fontaine 14th Ap^l 1815 Col. W^m Russell Speaks
of the defences for the Frontier—much property in that neigh-
bourhood belonging to the public—this a Military Store Keeper
ought to be appointed May 15

GOVERNOR CLARK TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., C246:ALS]

S^t LOUIS April 17th 1815

SIR I had the honor of receiving your letter of the 10th ulto;,⁵⁴
in which you mention your having ordered five hundred Reagular
Troops to this place as a Check to the Indians, This force I believe
will reanimate the frontier Settlers and prevent their giving way.

Since my last letter to you of the 20th ulto: ⁵⁵ eight parties of the
hostile Indians from above Rocky River have visited the frontiers
of this Territory and killed ten men. One of those parties (a few
days ago) attacked a small french Village on the Missouri in which
there was about 200 soles, they killed 4 men plundered the houses
and burnt down part of the Town, the inhabitants shut themselves
up in two small forts which they had built in the Town for security.

Those reputed incursions by the Indians has induced Col. Russell
to keep out parties of Militia in addition to the rangers & a few
reagular troops, for the Security of the frontiers. I am under
some apprehension that it will be necessary to cut off the Rocky
River Tribes before we shall be at peace.

I have by agents, through the means of some Merchandize sent
up the Missouri, detached the greater part of the Sieoux from the

⁵⁴ *Ante*, p. 13.

⁵⁵ NA (WD, SW, Lets. Recd., C231), that he had ordered out 200 militiamen
for the protection of the frontier under requisition of Colonel Russell, and
giving an account of the murder of Potawatomi Indians by Captain Moore's
rangers.

British—Some of the little Osage have received presents from the British agents, and are a little wavering but will be, most probably, turned in our favor again.

A complete reconsiliation has been effected through Mr Forsythe I. Ag^t with the Tribes of Pottowatomies of the Illinois River, for the Murder of their people by the rangers near fort Clark and their Chief, has taken my Communications on the Subject of peace, to the Rock river tribes.

We have not received a mail for three weeks owing to high waters.

I have the honor to be with the highest respect and esteem Y^r Mo. Ob^t Hⁱ Ser^t

W^m CLARK

THE HON^e JA^s MONROE Sect of War.

[*Addressed*] The Hon^{ble} James Monroe Secretary of War Washington City Mail [*Postmarked*] Cape Girardeau t. M^o 1st May 1815—Way

[*Endorsed*] St Louis 17th April 1815 Gov^r W^m Clarke The regular troops moving to that frontier will inspire the inhabitants with confidence—The Indians appear hostile have killed several persons—Col Russell keeps up a smart force—The Osage tribe will become friendly—Mr Forsyth has effected a reconcilliation with the Potwatomies may 1815

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Lets. from SG, Mo., 1813-1824:ALS]

St Louis MISSOURI TERRITORY April 17th 1815.

SIR In compliance with your request contained in your letter of the 22^d Feby⁵⁶ I herewith transmit to you a Sketch,⁵⁷ of part of this Territory together with an estimate of the probable expence of Surveying such parts of it into Townships as I suppose ought to be Surveyed immediately, and also the probable expence of subdividing the whole of these Townships into Sections and establishing corners for quarter Sections.

You will perceive from the Sketch, that in forming it I have proceeded on the presumption, that the Ranges of Townships in this Territory will be counted and numbered from the Meridian of the confluence of the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers, and the Townships from a continuation of the Base Line, that passes through the Illinois Territory—Should this plan not be eventually adopted.

⁵⁶ Not found.

⁵⁷ Not present. Cf. *post*, p. 34.

Yet it will serve for the present purpose to give an Idea of the extent of the several quarters of the Country it is intended to represent.

I will here observe, that I do not present this Sketch to you as an accurate Map of the Country. But as one that will serve to shew nearly the figure and extent thereof with the principal Rivers & water courses passing through and bounding it. That in forming this sketch I have not attempted to represent the minute meanderings of the Rivers, That there are within this tract many small, Rivers, Creeks, innumerable Brooks Rivulets &c which from my imperfect knowledge of their Geographical Situations, I have declined attempting to lay down.

Governor Clark, was so obliging as to furnish me with a great many Maps, Charts and Sketches of different parts of this Territory, some of which were formed from his own Surveys and travels particularly the Missouri River. I have formed this sketch, from these papers and others of a similar kind, which I have collected from several intelligent Gentlemen who have explored Country and from information obtained by conversing with such of the inhabitants of the different settled parts as I have met with.—Altho it is not to be expected that from such material, a correct Map could be produced yet I incline to believe that the exterior limits of this will be found by Actual Survey not very different from what they are here represented to be.

I am clearly of opinion, that all that part of the Territory wherein the confirmed claims of individuals are situated ought immediately to be laid off into Townships so as to enable the Principal Dep^y Surveyor to comply with the requisitions of the Acts of Congress relative to a General and Connected plat, and for other purposes. Within the tract of Country containing the claims of individuals there are a vast quantity of public Lands of an excellent quality possessing equal if not superior advantages to any other part of the Western Country. On which there are at present a great many settlers and the different settlements are said to be rapidly increasing in population and improvements—These people I am informed are all anxious to avail themselves of the advantage given them by the Act of Congress granting to certain settlers the right of preemption.⁵⁸ If these Lands were Surveyed into Sections &c and offered for sale, they would in my opinion produce to our Government in a short time a large sum of money.—

⁵⁸ Referring to sec. 5 of act approved Apr. 12, 1814 (3 STAT. 122), applicable only to the State of Louisiana and Missouri Territory. A similar act was approved Feb. 5, 1813 (2 STAT. 797-798), applying the principle of preemption to Illinois Territory.

There is, no doubt within this tract of country much Lands that are not desirable for settlements. But from all the information I have been able to collect on the subject it does not appear that there are many tracts of any considerable extent but, what is fit for cultivation. A few days since a Gentleman of observation who has travelled over great part of this tract of Country told me that it was his opinion, that there is not a single Township in, it but what contains some good & valuable Lands.

A Survey of this part of the Country into Townships would furnish ample information relative to the soil and other advantages possessed by each Township. The expence of Surveying into Townships comparatively speaking is small amounting to no more than one dollar p^r Section. A sale of less than two thirds of one Township at two dollars p^r acre will produe money enough to pay for laying off the Seven hundred and seventy one Townships, proposed to be Surveyed.

The unappropriated parts of such Townships as may be found to be of good quality, and advantageously situated ought in my opinion to be subdivided into Sections and corners established for quarter Sections at the same time the claims of individuals are laid off—Should this course be persued it will enable the P. D. Surveyor when he makes his return of Surveys to present each Township & fractional Township in itself complete, shewing what part thereof belongs to individuals and what will remain the property of the United States. But should the claims be first Surveyed and at some futer time the public Lands remaining in each Township be subdivided—perhaps by other Surveyors considerable difficulty trouble & expence would arise in hunting up old lines & corners traceing remeasuring & connecting them with the public Surveys. It would in this case also be necessary that the Surveyors who shall subdivide these fractional Townships, to be furnished with Copies of the first returns—and when the subdivisions of these fractional Townships should be completed the original returns would be of no use, but the whole matter contained in them would be to introduce into the 2^d return of the same Township so that if this first plan, shall be pursued it will save a great deal of trouble & will eventually be the cheapest course

It is my opinion that it will be a good plan to count & number the Ranges of Townships in this Territory from the 3^d principal Meridian and the Townships from the Base Line passing, through the Illinois Territory, as represented on the Sketch which you will herewith receive.

In order to carry this plan into operation it appears to me that the Surveyor should begin on the Easterly bank of the Mississippi

River at the termination of the line heretofore Surveyed between Townships N° 2 & 3 South of the Base Line Continue that line West (crossing the Mississippi River) until he gets Six miles West of the corner of Townships N° 2 & 2 3 & 3 South, Ranges N° 10 & 11 West. Where he should establish a corner for Townships N° 2 & 2 3 & 3 South, Ranges N° 11 & 12 West thence continue West through Ranges N° 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 & 19 West, establishing as he proceeds quarter Section, Section and Township corners. Thence South between Ranges N° 19 & 20 West, until he reaches the Mississippi or Arkansas River taking care as he proceeds to establish $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. Section & Township corners. He should then return to the corner of Townships N° 2 & 2, 3 & 3, S. Ranges N° 19 & 20 W. from thence run North (establishing corners as before) until he strikes the River Jeffreon.

I would recommend in the next place, that Township lines be run from the said Range line passing between Ranges 19 & 20 W. due East to the Mississippi River Between the following Townships. Viz

Between Townships N° 5 & 6 North of the Base Line

Between Townships N° 8 & 9 South of the Base Line

Between Townships N° 14 & 15 South of the Base Line

Between Townships N° 20 & 21 South of the Base Line

Between Townships N° 26 & 27 South of the Base Line

Between Townships N° 32 & 33 South of the Base Line

And Between Townships N° 38 & 39 South of the Base Line, and from the said Range Line due West between Townships N° 38 & 39 South to the Arkansas River, And that the line between Townships N° 2 & 3 South be continued West to the Range Line between Ranges N° 31 & 32 West.—And that the line passing between Townships N° 5 & 6 North be continued West until it shall intersect the Indian boundary Line to be drawn from a point on the bank of the Missouri River opposite to the Mouth of the Gasconode River to a point on the Jeffreon River thirty miles from its mouth.

This Indian boundary ought previously to be Surveyed & marked. The country being thus shaped off into ten tracts (which I have for distiction sake numbered and divided on the sketch with red Ink) The several Surveyors who may be employed to lay off this part of the Country into Townships may commence each on a Separate Base or Township Line. For instance I will suppose that ten Dep^y Surveyors are employed in this business To wit A. B. C &c.

A. would commence at a township corner on the E & W Line passing between T 5 & 6 N. And proceed with his Surveys North (agreeably to the plan) until he completed the Surveys of all the Townships North of that line. B. would commence on the Base or

Township line between Townships N^o 2 & 3 South. and proceed with the business North as far as the South boundary of A's District (Viz the line between T 5 & 6 N), which will serve as a line to check & bound his surveys. C. would commence in the Base or Township line between T 8 & 9 S. and work north, until he would complete the surveys of all the Townships to the South boundary of B's District, which would serve to bound & check his Surveys, and so on, until the Surveys of the Whole of these Townships should be completed as far south as the E & W Line passing between Townships N^o 38 & 39 South, from the Township corners previously established in that line. The Surveyors may run South until they reach with their Surveys the Mississippi and Arkansas Rivers.

These East & West Lines, will I conceive answer a valuable purpose. The Township corners established in them will serve for points of beginning for the several Deputy Surveyors who may be employed to lay off the Townships and as lines to check the Surveys South of them. They will also serve as permanent boundaries to the Townships Sections &c Experience has convinced me that such check lines or lines of correction are absolutely necessary in Surveying an extensive tract of Country. For lines that are intended to be Surveyed parallel to each other, we know will converge as they are run North and diverge when run South, This with other inaccuracies that will arise in Surveying a wooded & uneven Country (which error may in a short distance be very inconsiderable) would if continued very far produce in the Surveys considerable irregularity. At any rate this plan is as convenient and as cheap as any that can be adopted.

You will perceive from the Sketch of that part of the Country proposed to be Surveyed, that it embraces a Large tract, & from the estimate of the probable expence of doing the work that to subdivide the whole into Sections &c, would amount to a considerable sum—It will however be remembered that the Seven hundred and Seventy one Townships (equal to Seventeen millions, Seven hundred & Sixty three thousand eight hundred and forty acres) proposed to be Surveyed into Townships &c includes nearly the whole of the claims of individuals within this Territory. The quantity of Land that will be taken up by these claims I have no means of ascertaining as I am not in possession of a transcript of them, nor has the recorder of Land Titles made any estimate of their aggregate amount—They will however amount to a large quantity of Land, which will considerably lessen the quantity to be subdivided into Sections &c such parts of this tract of Country as may by a Survey into Townships be found to be of bad quality unfavorable

for settlements or unsaleable will not I presume be subdivided into Sections until a change of circumstances shall make it necessary or proper to do so So that at present it is impossible to tell what proportion of the estimated sum for subdividing the whole tract it may be found necessary to expend. But the expence of Surveying I conceive when compared to the immense value of the Country to be surveyed, and the probable amount of money which it will immediately or very soon after it shall be offered for sale bring into the Treasury of the United States—be no objection to the immediate execution of the Surveys—And it moreover appears to me absolutely necessary that, that part of the Country wherein the confirmed claims of individuals are situated should be immediately Surveyed (at least) into Townships so that the claims may be surveyed and connected as the Acts of Congress directs.

From the best information I have been able to obtain on this subject it appears that these claims are scattered over the whole tract from the Arkansas to the Missouri River and up that River some little distance above the Osage River That there are between the Missouri & the Little River Jeffreon a great many confirmed claims and that beyond the limits of the tract I have proposed to be Surveyed there are some few confirmed claims. And several considerable settlements on public Lands particularly on White River, Little Red River & on Spring River.

The Country North of the Missouri River as laid down on the Sketch and marked N^o 12, is I am informed by Governor Clark, and several other Gentlemen extremely fertile and admirably calculated for settlements being generally well Timbered & watered with Rivers, Creeks, Brooks Rivulets & Springs of pure water, and that it abounds with Salt Springs & minerals. There is at present at and near Boons Salt Works a short distance below the mouth of Grand River a large & flourishing settlement of respectable and enterprising people. There are also some other settlements with in that tract.

The Soc & Fox tribes of Indians it seems have set up some claim to this part of the Country But it will be seen by the proclamation of Governor Clark, (which you will herewith receive) ⁵⁹ that their pretensions are not well founded.

It is believed by several intelligent Gentlemen who are acquainted with this part of the Country, that if it was Surveyed and offered for sale a great proportion of it would immediately sell. This last

⁵⁹ Not present, but apparently referring to the proclamation of Mar. 9, 1815, *post*, p. 40.

mentioned tract and the tract laid down on the South side of the Missouri River marked N° 11 are not included in the estimate— That on the South Side N° 11. I am informed contains much good Lands and is well suited for settlements.

Should the tract proposed to be laid off into Townships &c be deemed by you too extensive to be gone into immediately it would I presume be best to curtail it by leaving out as much as you may think proper at the South end.

I have the honor to be with much respect Your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR

P S. Since writing the foregoing I have conversed with Governor Clark who informs me that between the Mississippi and St Francis Rivers, there is an extensive swamp, which will occupy several Townships—In Surveying the Country into Town [MS. torn] this swamp ought I presume to be left out of the Surveys and should other extensive tracts of bad land be found (it is possible such may exist,) they also should be excluded from the Surveys— In this way the quantity of Land proposed to be Surveyed into Townships may be considerably reduced, which would lessen in the same proportion, the expence of Surveying. Yrs &c W^m Rector

HONBL^e JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the General Land Office Washington City.

The following is an estimate of the quantity of Land proposed to be Surveyed in the Missouri Territory and of the expence of Surveying it into Townships and also of the expence of subdividing the Townships into Sections and establishing corners for quarter Sections.

Tract of Country as distinguish ^d & numbered on the Sketch with Red Ink	Supposed Number of Townships	Quantity of Land in Acres	Expence of Surveying into Townships	Expence of subdividing the Townships into Sections & establishing corners for $\frac{1}{4}$ Sections
N° 1	56	1290240 Acres	2016 dollars	10080 dollars
N° 2	130	2995200 D°	4680 D°	23400 D°
N° 3	64	1474560 D°	2304 D°	11520 D°
N° 4	96	2211840 D°	3456 D°	17280 D°
N° 5	108	2488320 D°	3888 D°	19440 D°
N° 6	90	2073600 D°	3240 D°	16200 D°
N° 7	64	1474560 D°	2304 D°	11520 D°
N° 8	44	1013760 D°	1584 D°	7920 D°
N ^{os} 9 & 10 . . .	119	2741760 D°	4284 D°	21420 D°
771 Townships 17763840 Acres 27756 dollars 138780 Dollars				

From the above estimate it appears that the tract of Country proposed to be Surveyed contains Seven hundred & Seventy one Townships equal to Seventeen million, Seven hundred & Sixty three thousand Eight hundred & forty Acres of Land That the expence of surveying the whole quantity into Townships will amount to Twenty Seven Thousand Seven hundred & fifty six dollars. That the expence of Subdividing the whole of the Townships into Sections & establishing corners for quarter Sections would amount to One hundred and Thirty eight Thousand Seven hundred and Eighty Dollars It will be remembered that this tract of Country includes nearly the whole of the claims of individuals for Land, in the Missouri Territory The quantity of which is not known, but will lessen the quantity to be Surveyed into sections &c considerably consequently the expence of Surveying into Sections &c will be proportionably lessened.⁶⁰

W^m RECTOR

[*Endorsed*] William Rector, an estimate of lands proposed to be surveyed in Missouri—Rec^d 22^d May 1815. accompanying a sketch of the country.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO RECORDER BATES

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Sent, Mil. Bk. 8]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, *April* 19th 1815.

FREDERICK BATES Eqr St Louis Missouri Territory—

SIR, Your letter of the 25th of February,⁶¹ covering sundry accounts respecting the claims of individuals for compensation under the 4th article of the treaty of the 10th of November 1808 with the Osage Indians,⁶² is received. The five thousand dollars appropriated by the act of Congress of the 3rd of March 1813⁶³ to carry into effect the 4th article of that treaty, having been carried to the surplus fund agreeably to the law establishing that fund, those accounts cannot now be paid. There can be no doubt that on application to Congress at their next session, that the necessary appropriations will be made;⁶⁴ in the mean time the parties should forward thro' you, to this department, such additional evidence to establish their claims, as they may be able to procure—

⁶⁰ Answered *post*, p. 61.

⁶¹ Not found.

⁶² 7 STAT. 107-111.

⁶³ Error for Mar. 3, 1811, 2 STAT. 660.

⁶⁴ An item of \$2,000, set apart for the above purpose, is found in the general appropriation act of Apr. 16, 1816 (3 STAT. 283).

WILLIAM RECTOR TO EDWARD TIFFIN

[NA:GLO, SG, NWT, Lets. Recd., v:ALS]

St Louis MISSOURI TERRITORY *April* 20th 1815

D^r SIR I take the liberty herewith to transmit to you A Sketch of part of the Missouri Territory,⁶⁵ which I have formed from a number of Maps Charts & sketches furnished me by Governor Clark and other intelligent Gentlemen who have explored the Country, from information obtained by conversing with such of the inhabitants of the different settlements within this tract & from my own limited observations having as yet only passed over a small part of this Territory.

From such materials it is not to be expected that a correct Map could be produced, nor do I pretend to present this Sketch to you as such, But as one that will serve to shew nearly the figure & extent of the country it is intended to represent with the principal Rivers passing through & bounding it. I have not attempted to represent the minute meanderings of the Rivers.—There is a great many small Rivers & Creeks & innumerable, Brooks rivulets &c which from my imperfect knowledge of their Geographical situations I have declined attempting to lay down

You will perceive from the sketch, that in forming it I have proceeded on the presumption, that the Ranges of Townships will be counted & numbered from the Meridian of the confluence of the Mississippi & Ohio Rivers and the Townships from the Base Line that passes through the Illinois Territory—. Should this plan not be eventually adopted by the Surveyor General yet it will serve for the present purpose to convey an Idea of the extent of the several quarters of the Country it is intended to represent.

From the best information that I have been able to collect it appears, that the confirmed, claims of individuals are scattered over the whole tract represented on the sketch by imaginary Range & Township lines, from the Arkansas River to the River Jeffreon and up the Missouri River a short distance above the mouth of the Great Osage River. Within this tract there is a vast quantity of public Lands of an excellent quality possessing equal if not superior natural advantages to any other part of the Western Country, on which there are at present a great many settlers and the different settlements are said to be rapidly increasing in population & improvements—These people I am informed are generally anxious to avail themselves of the advantage offered them by the Act of Congress granting to certain settlers the right of pre-emption in the purchase of their lands.—If these Lands were Surveyed into sections

⁶⁵ Not present, but referring to the sketch reproduced *post*, p. 100.

&c, & offered for sale they would in my opinion bring into the Treasury of the United States a large sum of Money in a Short time—There is no doubt within this tract of Country much Lands that are not desirable for settlements—But from all the information that I have been able to collect on the subject it does not appear that there are many tracts (within this part of the country) of any considerable extent but what is suitable for cultivation. There is also in different parts of this tract of Country excellent Salt Springs, large quantities of Lead Ore & other valuable minerals—I have been informed that there is a large tract, between the Mississippi and St Francis Rivers (probably amounting to several Townships) that is wholly unfit for cultivation, being an extensive swamp or pond

It appears to me to be very important in the Surveys of this Territory, That that part of it wherein the confirmed claims are situated should be Surveyed into Townships before the claims generally are laid off, and that such Townships as may be found to be of good quality and advantageously situated, be subdivided into Sections, and corners established for quarter Sections at the same the claims are laid off—Should this plan be adopted by the Surveyor General it will enable the Principal Deputy Surveyor, with much convenience to comply with The Act of Congress relative to a General & connect plat and it will also enable him when he makes a return of Surveys to present each Township & fractional Township in itself complete, shewing what part thereof belongs to individuals and what part will remain the property of the United States with an accurate connection between these Lands, And I am well satisfied that it will be the cheapest plan that can be pursued.

The Land claimants are extremely anxious to get their lands Surveyed so that they may obtain from our Government Titles therefor and know their boundaries—. Whenever I receive your instructions to proceed to Surveying these claims & the Country wherein they are situated I shall exert myself to have the whole business performed in conformity therewith as soon as possible for I am well satisfied that the prosperity of this Territory in a great measure depends on the completion of these Surveys & the public Land being offered for sale. Then it will be know who are the real proprietors of each & every spot of Land—Emigrants will have an opportunity of purchasing with a satisfactory assurance of good titles; Lands to settle themselves & families on. The liberty I have taken in addressing this letter to you will not I trust be considered as too assuming in me I confess I feel much solicitude relative to the time & manner of the surveying to be done in this Territory; And it ocured to me that I might possibly communicate to the Surveyor General some circumstances of the Country to

be Surveyed that may in some manner be useful & at any rate can be of no injury

I am D^r Sir with much respect Your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR

DOCTOR EDWARD TIFFIN S. Gen^l U States.

P. S. The country North of the Missouri River as laid down on the Sketch & marked (with Red Ink) N^o 12. I am informed by Governor Clark and several other Gentlemen who are acquainted with it is extremely fertile and admirably suited for settlements, being generally well Timbered and remarkably well watered with, Rivers creeks brooks and Springs of pure water, and that it abounds with Salt Springs Lead &c There is at present a large and flourishing settlement of respectable and enterprising people at and near to Boons Salt works a Short distance below the Mouth of Grand River, There are also some other small settlements, in that quarter. The Soc, & Fox Tribes of Indians it seems have set up some claim to this part of the Country, But their pretensions I am well informed are not well founded as the Great & Little Nations of Osage Indians were for a great length of time in possession of and had a right to it which was acknowledged by all the neighboring tribes of Indians until they ceded it to the United States by the Treaty of Fort Clark of the 10th Nov^r 1808. It is believed by several intelligent Gentlemen who are well acquainted with that part of the Country that if it was surveyed & offered for sale a great proportion of it would immediately sell W.R.

SECRETARY BATES TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Mo. Terr. Papers:ALS]

Secretary's Office of Missouri Territory

ST LOUIS 22^d April 1815.

SIR, I have the honor to transmit copies of the Executive and Legislative proceedings of this territory during the half year preceding the 1st of the present month—This communication has been delayed in order that it might be accompanied by a printed copy of the acts of the last General Assembly.⁶⁶ That volume, under a separate cover, is now forwarded.—

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, Sir, Your Obed^t Serv^t

FREDERICK BATES

THE HON: JAMES MONROE Secretary of State.

[*Endorsed*] Missouri Territory 22^d April 1811

⁶⁶ See reference to Norvell's offer to print the laws, *ante*, p. 48.

[Enclosure]

Executive Proceedings of Missouri Territory
October 1, 1814–April 1, 1815

PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOR CLARK

[December 8, 1814]

WILLIAM CLARK Governor of the territory of Missouri, commander in chief of the Militia and superintendent of Indian Affairs—
To John Washington Thompson Esquire Sheriff of the county of St. Louis Greeting

WHEREAS, I have been informed by the House of Representatives that the seat of Seth Emmons, recently elected a member of that house from the county of St Louis has become vacant by the death of the said Seth Emmons: *I do therefore* require you to cause elections to be holden, by townships, on thursday the 22^d day of December, the present month, at which time there will be chosen by the People in the mannor prescribed by the Laws, one representative to supply the vacancy aforesaid.—In testimony whereof I have caused the seal of the territory to be hereunto affixed.—

Given under my hand at St Louis this eighth day of
SEAL December, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, and in the 39th Year of the Independence of the United States

Signed WM CLARK

By the Governor

FREDERICK BATES

Secy of Missouri ter

Resolutions of the Territorial Assembly

[January 8, 1815]

Resolved by the General Assembly of the territory of Missouri that our Delegate in Congress is hereby instructed to use his best endeavours to procure a law to be passed allowing to each non commissioned officer and private of the militia of this territory who have performed a tour of duty by order of the United States a compensation by donation of Lands in such quantity as the congress of the United States shall think reasonable.—*Resolved also* that our Delegate is hereby further instructed to use his best endeavours to have a law passed allowing compensation by donation of Lands to the frontier Inhabitants of this territory who have been compelled by the enemies of the United States to abandon their plantations or homes, and who have not abandoned or removed out of the territory in such quantity as the congress of the United States shall think reasonable—*And resolved also* that our Delegate is hereby

instructed to use his best endeavours to have a law passed for the relief of the sufferers from the Earthquake in the country of New Madrid by permitting each individual whose land has been destroyed by that calamity to locate elsewhere in the Missouri territory, the same quantity of land they have been thus deprived of, and that the same may be given and confirmed to them by Act of congress.

Resolved that the Governor of this territory be requested to forward these resolutions to our Delegate in congress

Signed JAMES CALDWELL, Speaker
of the House of Representatives
W^m NEELY, President of the
Legislative council

Approved January 8th 1815

W^m CLARK.—

(A copy)

[*Endorsed*] Copies of Resolutions of the General Assembly of the territory of Missouri—Decr & Jany 1814 & 1815 April 1. 1815
Copies of Executive proceedings of Missouri territory from 1st October 1814 till 31 March 1815 April 1. 1815

Resolution of the Territorial Assembly

[January 15, 1815]

WHEREAS, a public road leading from the town of St Louis to the northern boundary of the State of Louisiana by way of the Post of Arkansas would greatly facilitate our intercourse with that state and the transportation of the mail—would shorten the route of the Exporters of produce from this territory the Illinois, and the lower countries of the Mississippi, and be of general advantage to these western parts, *Resolved*, by the General Assembly of the territory of Missouri that our Delegate in Congress is hereby required to use his best endeavours to obtain an Act of Congress for the purposes aforesaid—to authorise the appointment of five commissioners from the counties of St Louis, St^e Genevieve, Cape Girardeau, New Madrid and Arkansas to view and mark out a road from St Louis to the Post of Arkansas, and from thence the best route to the Southern boundary line of this territory, at such place and in such direction as to afford the best and most direct road to Natchez—and to grant a compensation in Land to said commissioners, and also a quantity of Land, not less than one half section to such person or persons as shall settle on such road so marked out, at the

distance of ten miles from each other, on condition of their opening and keeping the road in good repair.

(Signed) JAMES CALDWELL, Speaker of
the House of Representatives
W^m NEELY, President of the
Legislative council

Approved, *January 15. 1815*

WILLIAM CLARK Governor &^{ca}
(A copy)

Resolution of the Territorial Assembly

[*January 20, 1815*]

WHEREAS, the Militia of this territory during the present war are made subject to the Militia Laws of the United States, and the rules and Articles of War and to the discipline adopted by the United States

Therefore, be it resolved by the General Assembly of the territory of Missouri that our Delegate in congress be requested to procure at least one hundred copies of the Militia law of the United States, the rules and articles of War, and of the discipline adopted by the United States, to be forwarded to the Governor of this territory to be, by him distributed amongst the Militia Officers of this territory as he shall judge best for their information.

(Signed) JAMES CALDWELL, Speaker of
the House of Representatives
W^m NEELY, President of the
Legislative council

Approved *January 20. 1815*

W^m CLARK Gov: of
Missouri tery
(A copy)

Resolutions of the Territorial Assembly

[*January 21, 1815*]

WHEREAS, a law has been passed at the present session of the Legislature of the territory of Missouri, and approved by the Governor of the said territory erecting that part of the county of New Madrid, which lies Eastward of the river St Francis in the said territory into a separate county by the name of Lawrence, and appointed commissioners to choose a suitable place & purchase six hundred and forty acres of land as a site on which to erect public buildings and establish the permanent seat of justice for the said county of Lawrence—AND WHEREAS there are but few claims to lands in the said county of Lawrence that have been confirmed or

granted to individuals, none of which, as is stated by the Representative from that part of the country, is suitably situated or central to the Inhabitants of the said county of Lawrence as a convenient place for the permanent seat of justice therein: AND WHEREAS the Legislature of the territory of Missouri wish to cherish the large and thriving settlements of Lawrence county and promote the interests and convenience of its inhabitants in number more than sufficient to entitle them to one representative in the General Assembly and separated as they are from the seat of justice and eastern part of the county of New Madrid by large marshes so as to render intercourse impracticable except by long and circuitous routes,

Therefore resolved by the Legislative council and House of Representatives of the territory of Missouri, that the Delegate representing this territory in congress be, and he is hereby requested to use his best exertions to procure the passage of a law of congress giving to, or authorising a sale of six hundred and forty acres of the public Lands to the said county of Lawrence or commissioners & their successors on the part of said county & for its use, at such place as the commissioners appointed may choose for a site on which to lay off a town to be called Lawrence in commemoration of the brave American Naval Hero, the late captain James Lawrence and to erect the public buildings and establish the permanent Seat of Justice—To be surveyed immediately by the Principal Deputy Surveyor, or such other person as may be appointed under authority of the United States, and in such form as the commissioners aforesaid may request, not to exceed double the length of its breadth.—

Resolved also that the Governor be requested to forward a copy of the foregoing resolution to our Delegate in Congress

(Signed) JAMES CALDWELL, Speaker of
the House of Representatives
W^m NEELY, President of the
Legislative council

Approved *January* 21. 1815

WILLIAM CLARK, Governor
of Missouri Territory.

(A copy)

A Proclamation by Governor Clark

[*March* 9, 1815]

By William Clark Governor of the territory of Missouri, commander in chief of the Militia, and superintendant of Indian Affairs

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, by treaty with the great and little Osage nations of Indians entered into at Fort Clark, on the 10th day of November, one thousand eight hundred and eight, the said nations did cede and transfer to the United States (together with other lands) all that portion of territory, of which they had previously to that time been in possession, which should be found to lie northward of the Missouri River. AND WHEREAS, the said claim and possession of the great and little Osage nations, northward of the Missouri is now ascertained to have been immemorially bounded as follows to wit, beginning at a point opposite the Kanzas river, and running northwardly one hundred and forty miles; thence Eastwardly to the waters of the Ohaha river, which empties into the Mississippi, thence to a point on the left bank of the Missouri river opposite the mouth of the Gasconade, thence up the Missouri river as it meanders to the place of beginning.—The pretensions of other nations of Indians to lands lying within these limits, being of very recent date are utterly unsupported by those usages, and that possession and prescription on which the original Inhabitants of this country are accustomed to found their territorial claims.—*In exercise, therefore* of that authority with which I am invested by the Laws I do hereby declare and make known that all that portion of country northward of the Missouri river, as acquired by the Treaty of Fort Clark, the boundaries of which are set forth above is hereby annexed to and made a part of the county of St Charles, for all purposes of civil government whatsoever, the proprietary as well as sovereign rights to the same having been regularly acquired by the United States by the Treaty above mentioned. Of this annexation all Officers civil and of the militia are required to take due notice.—In testimony whereof I have caused the seal of the territory to be hereunto affixed.—Done at St Louis the ninth day of March, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifteen and of the Independence of the United States the thirty ninth—

By the Governor

(Signed) W^m CLARK.

FREDERICK BATES

Sec^y of Missouri ter^y*List of Appointments by Governor Clark*

[April 1, 1815]

Copy of the Executive Journal from 1st October 1814 till 1st April 1815.

Oct 4. Jno Hall & Edward Tanner Justices of the Peace for Moreland township in the county of New Madrid—and empowered to administer oaths of office

13. Jn^o Dodge clerk of the Superior court for Arkansas county.

29. Elisha Winsor Major 2^d Battalion of 5th Regiment

Thomas Winsor Capt 1 com^r—Batⁿ 5th Regiment

Joseph Shields Lieu^t of same same

Nov 24. Samuel Magill a Justice of the Peace for township of St Ferdinand county of St Louis—and empowered to administer Oaths of Office

Dec^r 12. William Sullivan coroner of St Louis county—vice Simpson resigned

W^m Flynn & Barns Burns Justices of the Peace for township of Cinq Hommes county of St^e Genevieve—And empowered to adm^r Oaths of Office

Henry Poston & W^m Andrews Justices of the Peace for the township of Big River in the county of St^e Genevieve—And empowered to administer Oaths of Office

John Nun Ensign of 3^d com^r 2^d Battⁿ of 6th Reg^t Zenas Priest Judge Advocate of 4th Regiment.—

18th Patrick McManis License to trade with the Indians in amety with the United States, on the river Arkansas & White River—for one year

Jan^y 10. Patrick Cassidy Surveyor of the county of Arkansas

21. David Barton, Judge of the circuit court of the northern circuit

Richard S. Thomas Judge of the Same of the Southern circuit

George Howell circuit Attorney for the Northern circuit

Charles Hempstead same for the Southern circuit.

23. Joseph Bougy & Henry Reil Justices of the Peace for township of St^e Genevieve, in the county of St^e Genevieve—& empowered to adm^r oaths of office

24 Burwell I. Thompson, William Harrison & Andrew Miller Justices of the Peace for the township of Breton, in the county of Washington and empowered to administer Oaths of Office

Jan^y 24 Thomas F. Riddick Major of 1st Battⁿ of 1st Regiment Rich^d Chitwood Major of 2^d Battⁿ of 1st Regiment Jeduthun Kendal Lt Col^o Comd^t of 9th Regiment Abner Vincent Major of 1st Battⁿ of 9th Regiment Justices of the Peace for the county of Lawrence & empowered to adm^r Oaths

James Moore for the Settlem^t of White River

William Russell for d^o of Fourche A Thomas

Richard Murphy for d^o of Spring River

Jacob Hudgins for d^o of 11 Point

George West for d^o of Strawberry River

James. Campbell Sheriff of the county of Lawrence

M. P. Le Duc Clerk of the circuit court, for the county of St Louis

Feb^y 2. Thomas F. Riddick Justice of the Peace for township & Ct^y of St Louis

9. James Higgins a Justice of the Peace for township of Labbadie ct^y of St Louis

11. W^m Christy jr Clerk of the circuit court for the county of St Charles.

14. Jn^o Brickey Clerk of the circuit court for the county of Washington

15. George J. Howell, Judge Advocate of the 1st Regiment. Sol^o Dally, a Justice of the Peace for township of Breton, ct^y of Washington

Jas Green a Justice of the Peace for township of St Charles, County of St Charles

Rob^t Green a Justice of the Peace for Byrd's Township—county of Cape Girardeau

Robert Spencer coroner of the county of St Charles

Jn^o Osborn a Justice of the Peace for township of Big Prairie County of New Madrid

Fr^s Le Sieur a Justice of the Peace for township of New Madrid ct^y of New Madrid

Mar 7. W^m Christy jr clerk of the county court of St Charles

11. Rich^d Madden Captain Arch^d Huddleston 1st Lieu^t Charles Ellis—2^d Lieu^t Roland Boyd—Ensign of 4th Comp^y 1st Battⁿ 2^d Regiment

Mar 11th William Andrews Captain James McCormack 1st Lieu^t Joseph Wines—2^d Lieu^t William Bartlett Ensign 4th Comp^y 2^d Battⁿ 2^d Regiment

13. M. P. Le Duc Clerk of the county court for County of St Louis

20. And^w Wilson a Justice of the Peace for township & county of St Charles

28. John Brickey Clerk of the county court for county of Washington

John Davis Captain Jacob H. Rambo 1st Lieu^t Peter W. Loose Ensign 3^d Comp^y 1st Battⁿ 6th Regiment

James Johnson 1st Lieu^t Benj^a Crow Ensign 2^d Comp^y 2^d Battⁿ 6th Regiment

John Baker Captain Jn^o Nun 1st Lieu^t Janum Estis Ensign 3^d Com^y 2^d Battⁿ 6 Reg^t

Secretary's Office ST LOUIS *April* 1st 1815.—

FREDERICK BATES

Table of Civil Officers

[April 1, 1815]

Table of civil Officers commissioned by the Governor of the Territory of Missouri, and in Office on the 1st April 1815.—

Territorial Officers—

William Christy Auditor of territorial accounts—

Peter Didier Treasurer—

Clerks of the Superior Court—

W^m Christy jr St Charles—

Joseph V. Garnier St. Louis—

Thomas Oliver St^e Genevieve—

Jos McFerron Cape Girardeau—

Rich^d H Waters New Madrid—

Jn^o Brickey, Washington—

Jn^o Dodge Arkansas

Circuit Courts—

David Barton Judge of the northern circuit—

George Howell Attorney—

Richard S. Thomas Judge of the Southern Circuit—

Charles Hempstead Attorney.—

COUNTY OF ST CHARLES

W^m Christy jr Clk Cir^t & Ct^y Courts

Nathl Simonds Sheriff—

Rob^t Spencer Coroner—

Henry Hight Not^y Public

Prospect K. Robbins Surveyor

Justices of the Peace

Femme Osage Christ^a Talbert Jn^o B. Callaway, Fr^s Coursolle

Portage des Sieux Eben^r Ayres Francis Lesieur

St Charles. W^m Christy jr Dan^l Colgan, Ja^s Green, And^w Wilson

Dardenne—Abiel Farronsworth James Beatty.

Upper Cuivre Jos: Cottle Samuel Gibson

Lower Cuivre Benj Allen Sam^l Watson, Ira Cottle

COUNTY OF ST LOUIS

M. P. LeDuc Clk Cir^t & Ct^y Courts

Jn^o W. Thompson Sheriff

William Sullivan coroner

M. P. LeDuc Not^y Public

George Wilson Surveyor

Justices of the Peace

Joachim Benjⁿ Johnston, James Rankin, Ja^s Mcculloch, Jed Kendal, Elias Bates.

St Louis Ch^s Gratiot Adam Brown Tho Sappington, Caleb Bowles, Tho Forsyth, Manuel A Rocques Jos Charless, Jos: V. Garnier, Thomas F Riddick.

Labbadie—W^m Dodds, Edm^d Anderson, Stephen Cole, Ja^s Higgins, Luke Decker.

Bon Homme. And^w Kinkead Gabriel Long, W^m Long.

St Ferdinand Rich^d Chitwood Tho Musick, Geo Fallis, Jn^o Allen, Stephen Hempstead sen Eben R. Hawley, Sam Magill

M. P. Leduc Reg^r Boatmen

COUNTY OF ST^e GENEVIEVE

Tho^s Oliver Clk Cir^t Court—

Henry Dodge Sheriff—

Joseph Bougy Coroner—

Thomas Oliver Not^y Public

[blank] Surveyor

Justices of the Peace

Ste Genevieve Tho^s Oliver, Mich^l Amoureux, Joseph Bougy

Platten—Peter Mccomack

St Michael's—Jn^o Callaway Joseph Moore, Ch^s L Byrd, Adam Johnson, W^m Dillon, Laken Walker, W^m McFarland.

Cinq Hommes Jos: Donnohue Hez P. Harris, Ja^s Moore jr W^m Flynn, Barn^s Burns.

COUNTY OF WASHINGTON

Jn^o Brickey clk Cir^t & Ct^y Courts

Lionel Browne Sheriff—

John Andrews Coroner—

[blank] Not^y Public

Jn^o Hawkins Surveyor

Justices of the Peace

Breton Ja^s Austin, Sol^o Dally Jn^o Brickey, Louis Lebeaume

Burwell, J. Thompson W^m Harrison—Andrew Miller

Big River—Jn^o Andrews, Geo McGahan, Henry Poston W^m Andrews.

Belle Vue. Josiah H. Bell George Ashbrook

COUNTY OF CAPE GIRARDEAU

Jos McFerron Clk Cir^t Court—

John Hays Sheriff—

David Green Coroner—
 Geo Henderson Not^y Public
 Bart^w Cousin Surveyor

Justices of the Peace

German Ben Shell—Fred: Limbaugh Radford Ellis, William Tinnon.—

Cape Girardeau Geo Henderson Jn^o Abernathie, Enoch Evans, Jn^o H Madison

Tywapity W^m Kelso, James Ritchey—

St Francis Jacob Kelly, Ezek Rubottom.

Byrd's Jn^o Ellis, Thomas Blain Robert Green

COUNTY OF NEW MADRID

Rich^d H. Waters Clk Cir^t Court

Stephen Ross Sheriff

Robert Bartlett Coroner

Geo Tennille Not^y Public

Joseph Story Surveyor

Justices of the Peace

Tywapity Tho^s Clark, W^m Gray Henry Cockran, Ja^s Lucas.

Big Prairie Tho Winsor, Jn^o B Wheeler, M. Armstrong, Jn^o Capps

Rich^d H Waters, Jos Rawlins Geo West, John Osborn.

New Madrid Rog Watson, Geo C Hartt, Sam^l Cooper, Jn^o Levalle

Frs Lesieur

Little Prairie Jn^o Walker sen

Current river W^m Russell

Moreland, Jn^o Hall, Edw^d Tanner

COUNTY OF ARKANSAS

Patrick Cassidy Clk Ct^y court

Daniel Mooney Sheriff

Lemuel Currin Coroner

[blank] Not^y Public

Patrick Cassidy Surveyor—

Justices of the Peace

Ja^s Scull,—Sam^l Miller, Zach Philips And^w Fagot, Ja^s Currin,
 Fred Notrebe Jn^o Carnehan, Jn^o Billingsley, Jn^o McIlmurray, Isaac
 Cates, H Cassidy, Jn^o King, Benj Fooy, Ro R Nixon

COUNTY OF LAWRENCE

[blank]

James Campbell Sheriff

[blank] Coroner

[blank]

[blank]

Justices of the Peace

James Moore White River
W^m Russell, Fourche A Thomas
Rich^d Murphy—Spring River
Jacob Hudgens 11 Point
Geo West—Strawberry River

TENURE OF OFFICE

Judges of the Circuit Courts—Good behaviour
Clerks of the Courts—Dur^s tem^y Gov^t unless sooner removed by
Courts
Sheriffs—two Years unless sooner removed—
Notaries Public—Good behaviour for five years
Justices of the Peace four years unless sooner removed
Others at the pleasure of the Executive.—

Secretary's Office ST LOUIS *April 1. 1815*

FREDERICK BATES

WILLIAM RUSSELL TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., R106:ALS]

ST LOUIS, *ye 24th April 1815—*

SIR, I apprized you in my last letter,^{or} that I had sent fortified boats up the Missouri, Mississippi, and Illinois; with an object to draw from these frontiers the Saviges, and also to convey to them the existing peace between the british and our government. In part it has had its effect, as the Indians, have left the Missouri, and Mississippi, near this quarter, and did actily arrive at rock river, before Maj^r Berry reached that point. The Indians fired on him and killed a ranger belonging to his Command, and shewed every disposition to be as hostile as ever—they had imbodied at rock river in considerable force no doubt to distroy the boat and crew, however from the Maj^{rs} knowledge of that hostile band, he was enabled to frustrate all their insidious designs, although artfully planed—The british boarded the Gun boat Gov^r Clark, and paid every respect due to his flag, but stated they were not able to controwl the Saviges. Several american prisoners were there in the possession of the enemy: Maj^r Berry made a demand of them, but they the british, refused untill they should receive instructions from their Commanding Officer then at Prarari du-Chein, but

^{or} *Ante*, p. 23.

stated an express should set out the next morning for that post, and also assured the Maj^r that they had no doubt but the prisoners would be sent to this place in a short time—They deny having herd of the peace between us and the british untill the arrival of the Gov^r Clark, this I cannot believe—The Maj^r having compleated the object of his mission so soon as he touched a british post, returned after making the necessary arrangements with these british officers to have the news of peace conveyed to the Saveges—The Maj^r accomplished this tour, after two days necessary delay, in 22 days,—I have but little doubt, but the Indians will for some time at least continue their depredations and this will compel me to keep on the frontiers Mounted Militia, as no other speses of troops can protect the helpless from the Tamhock, & scalping knife. I have been much abused at this place for not taking stronger measures as to the Indians, not with standing the peace. My object has been since the peace merely to act, in such way as to protect the frontier Settlements, without being to oppressive to the government but Sir, to do my duty to my Country, and grattify the whims of the people is difficult to reconcile—I am clear in the opinion, that these fellows up the Mississippi, ought to be chastized for their wanted murders in this and other Terrytorys, when they know that we are bound down by the existing treaty, and cannot act offensively, and their land sold out to defray the expenditure of the expedition: this I am led to believe would cost less, then useless rafts of Militia, during the course of this Summer, on the frontier Settlements—I have not been apprized of any troops being on their way to this place, but it is understood here that 500 is on their way destined for this place. This is accounted for, by the failure of 3 or 4 mails, occasioned by high water—I have the honor to be your obdt Servt

W RUSSELL

Col^e 7th & district Commandant

[*Addressed*] The Hon^e William H. Crawford Secretary of war Washington.

[*Endorsed*] S^t Louis 24 April 1815 Col W^m Russell relative to the boats sent to advise the Indians of the peace—They still continue hostile—a force is necessary to keep them quiet &c May 1815

JOSHUA NORVELL TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

S^t LOUIS *May* 22. 1815

D SIR By this day's mail you have the 2nd no of a newspaper which I have established in this Territory. A law passed the last session of Congress authorising in each Territory 2 public print-

ers.⁶⁸ Many have applied to me to solicit the publication of the laws of the U. S. If you think proper I should be glad to have authority.⁶⁹

With respect I have the honor to be

JOSHUA NORVELL
Editor "Western Journal"

HON. J. MONROE

WILLIAM L. LOVELY TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:OIA, Recs. of Cherokee Agency:ALS]

CHEROKEE AGENCY on the Arkansas 27th May 1815.

THE HON^e THE SECRETARY OF WAR

SIR In conformity to the Instructions I received from your office I will inform you of the sundries incidents which have occurred in my agency

Inclosed you will find the communication between his Excellency Governour Clark & myself, Together with other papers⁷⁰ by which you will perceived that nothing on my part has been wanted to keep a Friendly Intercourse with the Several Tribes of Indians Residing on these waters & white Settlers—

By a late act of the Legislature of this Territory marking out the boundaries of the County of Arkansas⁷¹ it has included that tract of land taken possession of by the Cherokees by & with the consent of the president of the United States The disturbances Which such measure were likely to produce have induce me to send a deputation to the Governour So that matters might be adjusted & I also recommend your interference—

You will also perceived how much Those Osages Commanded by Clermont are wishing to become knowing in the art of agriculture & manufacture. They are a friendly good Indians not Liking the Conduct of the other Osages Towards the whites have separated from them & now live on the verdegris a Branch of this river They are about from 500 to 600 Men, nor will They have any thing to do with The Osages's Agent Monsieur Choteau The Reasons I know not & on that account they from time to time Send Deputation to me, they always keep urging me to inform their father the president of the United States how happy they would be if he would Send a persons among them & to reside There To act as their agent—

My situation at this place is very disagreeable, owing to having no ways of Communicating With any persons Excepting when

⁶⁸ Affirmed Nov. 21, 1814 (3 STAT. 145-146).

⁶⁹ Cf. *post*, p. 76.

⁷⁰ See also *ante*, XIV, 722, n. 66.

⁷¹ Act approved Jan. 15, 1815 (LAWS MO. TERR., 1814-1815, pp. 63-71).

Deputation goes to the United States or by Indian going into the old nation—I am Sixty miles from any white Settlement surrendered on all side by Indians

When I arriv^d in this quarter The Osages & cherokees were at war The Osages having killed a cherokee Chief Cause the last indians to Take Satisfaction by Killing Twenty one Osages My interference as directed by Col^l Return J Meigs ⁷² has put an End to it, The Osages have taken satisfaction of the Powanoe Indians for the Stroke given them by the Cherokee—good understanding now prevails between them

The powanoe Indians Live on the red River They are very unfriendly Towards the Americans & the Causes are attributed To D^r John Sibley of Natchitoches, Indian agent of the Broken Tribes The reasons of their being unfriendly is that The Idea Which They have had of the power & Strength of the United States having been Intirely annihilated at the Battle of Medina where G^l Toledo the Spanish Republican Commander was Defeated by Arrodondo has never been Removed—this is only from information

You will also find a letter of some Gentlemen To whom I had given permission at the particular request of the Osages & Cherokees Indians to Work a Salt Spring near The Osage Village ⁷³ an Establishment of that Kind is indispensably necessairy To the Convenience of the inhabitants of These part I therefore recom-mand your patronage & hope that my having given them permission will meet with your approbation

All of Which is Submitted, Respectfully I have the Honour to be Y^r Most Ob^t & H^{ble} Serv^t

W^m L^s LOVELY

[Addressed] To The Honorable The Sete^r of War Washington City District of Col^a

[Endorsed] Letter Major Lovely to the Secretary of war May 1815 Salines on Arkansas river.

[Enclosures]

Governor Clark to William L. Lovely

Executive Office S^t LOUIS Sept^r 29th 1813

N^o 1 Copie

SIR I have been informed That you are acting in the Capacity of an Indians agent on the water of the Arkansas & white River & have attempted to fix Boundaries for the indians in that quarter,

⁷² U. S. agent to the Cherokee Indians.

⁷³ Letter not present. See Bernard R. Monlie to Lovely, May 15, 1815 (NA,OIA, Recs. of Cherokee Agency), expressing the desire that Government would fix the price of salt.

Including some of the White Settlements, not been inform^d officially of your appointment as Indian agent, I am unwilling to believe that you would attempt to Establish or make any Indian Boundaries or other Important arrangements relative to the land or the Indians within the bounds of this territory without my knowledge or approbation as the Superintendent of Indian affairs—I must therefore request that you will send me a Copie of y^r appointment & your Instruction from the Secretary of War Should it be a fact that you are appointed an Indian agent Within the Bounds of the Missouri Territory

With Due Respect Yr Most Ob^t Serv^t

Sign^d W^m CLARK

MAJ^r LOVELY—

Note. The letter in reply to the above no Copie was taken of it

William L. Lovely to Governor Clark

[October 1, 1813]

N^o 2 Copie

GEN^l CLARK

SIR I wrote you in reply to your first letter to me, you perceive that I was by no means neglectfull in what I conceiv^d a Duty—by my first communication to you of my appointment as ag^t of the Cherokee on the Arkansas & by my Instructions which I Sent you by Maj^r Litick you find that my first communications were to be made to the Secretairy of War & to Col^l Meigs agent of War in Tenesse, on my arrival at the post of Arkansas I soon found out all the Creolian Grimaces & false address they by no means approved of my Coming to this quarter or having any influence with the Indians, Their minds are warped in Tallowing Cashing & such like terms as the apply in their business the Tallowing, in my opinion is Destructive to Buffaloes Race which must soon be Destroy^d; The kill the Buffaloe & Leave the Carcass which might Sustain the hunting tribes of Indians. The Cherokees agree to go with These Tallowing folks to the hunting Grounds in order to Save the Meat & not let it be lost & bring it home to their familly's This is a fair & reasonable proposition to the hunters It is with the Bear also for the sake of the Oil—The Osages came to my house as a Deputation Sent from their nation with letters of peace to the Cherokee—I had previous to their arrival sent a Cherokee Chief & Eight men to the Osages for the like purpose I Directed that after circulating my talks thro' their nation they would send them to you & in future when any thing happen^d amongst them & other tribes to let you know in future By their ag^t Choteau or by their principal Chief—

Yr &c

Sign^d W^m L^s LOVELY

Governor Clark to William L. Lovely

S^t LOUIS 8 Feb^y 1814

Copie N^o 3

MAJ^r W^m L LOVELY

SIR I receiv^d your letter of the 1st of October a few weeks past by the way of New Orleans I must request you to give me by Every oppertunity such information relative to Indian Relations as may occur within your agency—

Inclosd I send you the laws passed at the last session of the General assembly of this Territory regulating county line—

With High Respect I am Y^r Most, Ob^t H, Serv^t

Sign^d W^m CLARK

William L. Lovely to Governor Clark

CHEROKEE AGENCY Ap^l 4 1814

COPIE N^o 4

SIR I had the honour to receive y^r letter of the 8th february acknowledging the receipt of mine of the 1st October. It is a misfortune attending my situation at this place Depending on chances for Communication however I shall take every oppertunity as may to give you Every information as the occur under My agency—I Refer you to M^r J, C, Littig for further Information I am apprehensive that notwithstanding appearances that it might be thought necessairy for your interferences with the Osages & the Cherokee I wrote you by a chief of the Osages & directed him to send you my letter & My talk to them Clermont The Chief has them you will please advise Mons^r Choteau to have them forwarded to you this part of the Osage Nation Complains of Choteau & his White hair^d people as the Cause of their Differences between them & Cherokee for what Reason I am not able to Inform you you will be able to form an opinion

Sign^d W^m L LOVELY

HIS EXCELLENCY G^l CLARK

Governor Clark to William L. Lovely

Executive office S^t LOUIS 15th June 1814

COPIE N^o 5

SIR it having been Represented to me that Several of our Cityzens had been kill^d by the Osages ie Alexander M^oFarland R Gelerlan on or near the Arkansas & an man kill^d on Gascounade I sent P. Choteau the United agent for that Nation To Demand the murderers—That part of the Osages on the Osage River Delivered to him Three men as the Murderers of one Man kill^d on Gascounade—

The Agent reports to me that the Arkansa Band Express an unwillingness to Give up the Murderers in their Band who kill^d the two men near the Arkansas & have Exculted in their prospect of supply's of Ammunition from your quarter—

Should you be authorised by the President to grant Licenses to trade indiscriminatedly on the Arkansas or have the power to revoke Licences or restrain the trade with Indians I must request that you will prevent any trade particularly Ammunition going to or being received by the band of Osages residing on the Arkansas—Untill the Deliver the Murderers of our Cityzens to the Civil authority to be Delt with according to Law & in Conformity With their treaty

With High Respect I am y^r Most Ob^t H^{ble} Serv^t

Sign W^m CLARK

MAJ^r W^m L LOVELY agent

William L. Lovely to Governor Clark

CHEROKEE AGENCY on the Arkansas Aug^{te} 9th 1814

COPIE N^o 6

SIR Your letter of the 15th June came to hand on the above date, I was in hopes of receiving an acknowledgment of your having received my Communications to you with a Copy of my Instructions which I sent by M^r Littick also my communications with the Osage Chief the latter has sent a Deputation of three of his people & Inform you that he has you my letter by a M^r Davis they are to receive my answer this day & return home a copy of which I send you in your letter to me informing me that it had been represented to you that several of the Cityzens had been killed by the Osage to wit Alexander M^cFarland, R Gelerlan the latter was kill^d on the Arkansas the former within Twenty miles of the pownoe nation the 17th of this month—will be two years I made a Demand of the Murderers they were willing to give them up—but the stroke they received from the Cherokees stopt them since which I have had with the Influence of the principal chiefs made a peace between the Cherokees & Clermont & his Band they are to meet in Council at the mouth of the verdegris⁷⁴ the last of this month I was of opinion that when you Examined my Instructions and appointment which I hope Littick has Delivered to you—that I should stand in no questionable Shape—(Hamlet) as Cherokee agent. I think that under the act of congress to regulate trade & Intercourse with the Indian Tribes I have authority to grant Licences I may be wrong as to my Construction of the act however I alway did do it

⁷⁴ A branch of the Arkansas, joining the latter within the present State of Oklahoma.

& it was alway Sanction^d Mosely & Lewis had Licenses previous to my arrival to trade on the water of arkansas Either from the governour or M^r Street, perhaps M^r Scull had, these are all that went to trade with the Osages they had about 200 lb powder amongst them all for this twelve months past if there has been any others amongst the Osages Trading I have no knowledge of them I shall prevent in future any trade going up this River 'till your requisition of Delivering up the Murderers is Comply^d with,—I have to remark the Horrible devastation Committed by the Hunters on the Buffaloes, Scull & Louis more & their party half french & Quapeau kill^d 500 of those usefull animals for the sake of the Talow, Littick Informed me that them fellows reported to you to my prejudice accounting for y^r first letter

Y^r Most Ob^t H^b^{le} Serv^t

Signed W^m L LOVELY

G^t CLARK Governour of the Missouri Terr^t

Governor Clark to William L. Lovely

GRAND GLAIZE Augth 21 1814

COPIE N^o 7

SIR I receiv^d y^r letter a few days ago by a M^r Harrington—the Conduct of that part of the Cherokees who have taken the horses from Harrington & others & Detaining them in opposition to Existing treaties as well as the Law of Intercourse, is an outrage to which the Law of the United States cannot Submit to you will find by the 16th Section of the Law of intercourse ⁷⁵ the mode of Redress in Common Cases of plunder, this being a singular & agravated offence Calculated to produce much disturbance

You will please make a positive demand of the horses Stolen from Harrington & others thus Detained, which were stolen from the White Settlers allowing them a reasonable time to make the Delivery, if the horses are not deliv^d to you at the time—Report to me & the nearest Regimental Commandant the Step those Cherokee men may determine to proceed—

I have heretofore had a Good Opinion of the Cherokees & Shall be Extreemly adverse to a change of that opinion Every Cherokees must know that Compulsive measure will not do, to inform what those men Claim as Justice our Laws are Explicit on all those Subjects of difference as also their treaty

I am Y^r Most Ob^t H^b^{le} Serv^t

W^m CLARK

MAJ^r W^m LOVELY

⁷⁵ Act approved Mar. 30, 1802 (2 STAT. 139-146).

William L. Lovely to Governor Clark

CHEROKEE AGENCY on the Arkansas *October 11th 1814*

COPIE N^o 8

SIR In compliance with your letter dated Grand Glaize the 21st Aug^t 1814 which I receiv^d by a M^r Harrington, I made a peramtorily Demand from the Cherokees of the horses mention therin allowing fifteen days for the delivery of them the Chiefs promise to use their utmost endeavour for procuring the same soon after I was visited by four of the principal Chiefs who said they had Concluded to go to S^t Louis for the purpose of seeing you which they have since Decline in Consequence of a report that you were not at home as the say I am apprehensive it is a scheme to gain time as they told Harrington he might go home & they would bring him his horses he accordingly departed soon after they went to the woods they did not decline going untill Harrington started they Imagined I suppose I had & should not soon have an opportunity of writing to you—

It is my opinion absolutely necessairy that there should be two Companys of troops station here, I beg therefore if the Can possibly be spared that you will send two Companys to this place or one at least as there are some whites of the Worst Character in this Country whose influence with the Indians is Dangerous to the peace of the Same

Sign^d W^m LOVELY ag^t

GOVERNOUR CLARK

[*Endorsed*] Major Lovely to Governor Clark and the Governors answer August 1814—Governor Clark to Major Lovely and answer of Lovely 1814

Governor Clark to William L. Lovely

ST LOUIS *Jan^y 25 1815*

Copie N^o 9

MAJ W^m L^s LOVELY Cherokees Ag^t on the Arkansas

SIR Y^r Letter of the 11th of October came to hand lately in which you state the conduct of the Indians to be such as I have suspected your time I fear is Disagreeable under the present intreaging Crisis, you want Support and Then of Troops which would add greatly in the support of good understanding between the Whites & indians in your quarter

If the Cherokee chief wishes to see me they will find me at the place I have a Desire to see & talk with Some of the Chiefs of the tribe, & think it probable I shall call on some of those in this territory to go to War

I know the Character of the man you mention Please to write to me by & Every opportunity, if Troops come on as I have every reason to expect I shall Send an officer Through your quarter & I think it probable that a Corps will be Station on the Arkansas this next Summer

Accept my Highest Respect y^r Most Ob^t H^{ble} Serv^t

Signed W^m CLARK

[*Endorsed*] Letters Major Lovely to Governor Clark of the Missouri Territory & Governor Clark to Major Lovely. 1815

William L. Lovely to Governor Clark

CHEROKEE AGENCY on the arkansas 27th May 1815

Copie N^o 10

TO HIS EXCELLENCY G^l CLARK

SIR Your of the 22^d Feb^y 76 I have duly received it contents observed

Here inclosed you will find a Copie of My Instruction from Col^l Return J Meigs & also a Copie of my appointment from the war departement⁷⁷ My reasons for my once more sending you these Copies are my having never receiv^d any letters from you acknowledging the receipt thereof & fear that they have not reach you—

The Deputation of the principal chiefs of the cherokees start in a few days—

You will also find Their Talk Delivered in a Council with me, you will perceive by it the principal Thing of which the Compain of to be on account of the Civil Jurisdiction Extending to the place where they had pitch upon for a Settlement, to prevent any disturbances I recommend an alteration & for which Reasons I shall write to the Secretary at War you will also find the notice I had Given the inhabitants of this Country of the temporary Line that I had establish^d for the Cherokees untill the will of Government was known My Reasons for so doing were to prevent disturbances which were likely to brake out between the Cherokees & white Settlers but a late act of the Legislature of this Territory has swallow^d the all of this Line by putting it into the County of arkansas—This begin to make the Cherokees Murmur & you will therefore if possible adjust all differences—

As to the road in Contemplation to be Establish^d between S^t Louis & Louisiana Were it immediatly to pass this place from the

⁷⁶ Not found.

⁷⁷ Neither document is present. See *post*, p. 121.

information I can procure It would shorten the route of nearly a hundred miles I hope to shortly see it Establish^d—

It does me much pleasure to find in your Letter the probability of troops being station^d in this Quarter I would recommend their being as high up the Arkansas at least as this place it would have a tendency to keep the Osages at Bye altho' from all account they are friendly & generous towards the whites that is Clermont's Village—These last mention Indians wishes to be treated as the Cherokee are wishing to improve themselves in agriculture & manufacture they further wish an agent among them for their intention is to have nothing to do with the White hair's party nor with their Ag^t Choteau ⁷⁸ the Reason I know not M^r John D Chisholm is the Bearer of this at the request of the chiefs I have given him Charge of the Deputation, I have ordered him to take a Duplicate receipt duly authenticated the amount of which you will have to satisfy having the Publick monies in my hands ⁷⁹

All of which is Submitted Respectfully y^r Ob^t Serv^t

Sig^d W^m L LOVELY

WILLIAM RUSSELL TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., R116:ALS]

ST. LOUIS ye 29th May 1815—

SIR, Since my last, I have to apprise you of another outrage Committed upon the United Stat Rangers by the Sacks, & Winnabagoes on the Mississippi. On ye 24th a party of rangers was attacked near fort Howard,⁸⁰ by about 50 Indians, that the troops from the fort under Cap^t Craig, immediately repeared at the scene of action and engaged the Indians—that Shortly after Capt Musick, Joined in the affair—and a warm skirmish ensued—The numbers were about equal; but before the affair closed a party of Indians intrenched themselves in a Sink hole, and perfectly secured themselves from the powfull exertions of our troops—At dark the rangers retired, and next morning, found five Indians killed on the ground, and appearences of many more having been killed—The action lasted a considurable time,—We lost Cap^t Craig Lieu^t Spears,

⁷⁸ See Lovely to Return J. Meigs, May 15, 1815 (NA,OIA, Recs. of Cherokee Agency), diseussing the division among the Osages, Pierre Chouteau's unfriendliness, prices, et cetera.

⁷⁹ See *A.S.P., Ind. Affairs*, II, 11, 97. See also the Cherokee Indians to Clark, May 25, 1815 (NA, *op. cit.*), complaining of the destruction of the buffalo, and discussing their trouble with the Osages.

⁸⁰ Erected during the War of 1812 near the site of Old Monroe, in what is now Lincoln Co., Mo., (*Wis. Hist. Colls.*, II, 204).

and five men killed—Four wounded and one missing—Fort Howard is within a few miles of Fort Independance,⁸¹ now 10 feet under the water of the Mississippi—A few days ago, the term for which the rangers enlisted has expired, and for the protection of the frontiers have been compeled in Missouri and Illinois, to order out Mounted Militia equal to the force of the rangers in said two Territorys—All these outrages on the part of the Saviges, will I trust give you a faint Idea of my feelings as commanding Officer in this district, as it is well understood by them that we can do nothing but to act on the definsive

I have the honor to be your obed^t Serv^t

W RUSSELL

Col^o 7th & district Commandant

[Addressed] The hon^e Secretary of war Washington City Mail
[Postmarked] W. Russell Col^o 7th

[Endorsed] S^t Louis 29th May 1815. Col W. Russell There has been a Skirmish between the Indians & some of our troops—Cap^t Craig &^c killed—June 1815 Col. Russel.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, 1st June 1815.

The Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office respectfully represents to the Secretary of the Treasury, that he believes the public interest will be greatly promoted, by surveying into Townships Six miles square, a certain portion of the Territory of Missouri, of which the Indian title has been extinguished by Treaty, and by surveying into Sections & Quarter Sections a certain number of such Townships preparatory to a sale at the Land Office at S^t Louis, of which the Register & Receiver have been appointed.

The following laws of the U. States are relative to this subject:

L. U. States

Vol. 7. page 112. Louisiana divided into two Territories.⁸²

Vol. 8, p. 15 Powers of the Surveyor General extended over the Territory of Louisiana; a principal Deputy Surveyor to be appointed, by the Secretary of the Treasury.⁸³

⁸¹ This fort was situated on the margin of the Mississippi near Cap au Gris (*Mo. Gazette and Ill. Advertiser*, Apr. 18, 1815, p. 3, col. 3).

⁸² *Terr. Papers* (Orleans), ix, 202-213; 2 STAT. 283-289.

⁸³ 2 STAT. 352-353.

Vol. 10. p. 390. Surveyor General to cause certain portions of public Lands in the Territory of Louisiana to be surveyed & divided &c.⁸⁴

Vol. 11. p. 201. Territory heretofore called Louisiana, shall hereafter be called Missouri.⁸⁵

Vol. 11 p. 216. Principal Deputy Surveyor to survey into Townships six miles square, so much of lands in the Territory of Missouri, as the President may direct.⁸⁶

[Vol. 11] p. 217. Principal Deputy Surveyor to make out a General & connected Plat of all the Surveys directed by this act to be made &c.⁸⁷

The private confirmed claims are scattered over a large extent of this Territory.

Should those claims be surveyed separately, and then connected in any other mode than by assigning their position & extent as relative to Range & Township Lines, much labor & expense will be incurred to very little purpose; because, whenever the whole country shall be surveyed, as it must ultimately be, into Townships & Sections, those connecting lines will of course vanish and be wholly useless.

It is well known to the Commissioner, that much uneasiness exists among the owners of confirmed claims, for want of knowing the metes & bounds of their Lands; they cannot, with safety, either sell them, or dispose of them by will.

Speculators take advantage of this state of uncertainty. In the present and actual State of the Territory, neither individuals, nor the U. States know their rights.

It is unnecessary to say, that there is now, as there has always been, and probably always will be, a steady and regular effort to deprive the U. States of their lands, under one plausible pretext or other—such as pre-emptions, earthquakes, Militia services, &c.

The Commissioner believes, that the best method to check the spirit of speculation, is, to order the Territory to be surveyed. It is unnecessary to observe that the territory in question is of immense value, not only, on account of its soil & its rich Lead mines, but of its position relative to the claims and possessions of Spain & Great Britain.

The present very intelligent Principal Deputy Surveyor for that Territory has transmitted to the Commissioner a map of that region

⁸⁴ 2 STAT. 665 (sec. 8).

⁸⁵ *Ante*, XIV, 552.

⁸⁶ 2 STAT. 751 (sec. 5).

⁸⁷ *Loc. cit.*

formed from the best information furnished by Governor Clarke & other intelligent Travellers.⁸⁸

A Copy of that Map is, with this, laid before the Secretary, with an estimate, by the Principal Deputy Surveyor, of the Expense of surveying the whole*

The Commissioner proposes that Nos 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 be surveyed into Townships, each six miles square, and that the Nos 1, 2, & 3 be subdivided into Sections & Quarter Sections, for sale at the Land Office at St Louis, whenever the President shall direct.

The Survey into Townships of Nos 1, 2, 3, 4,	
5. 6. 7 will equal	\$21,888
The survey into Sections & Qr Sections	
of Nos 1, 2, & 3.....	45, 000
	<hr/>
	\$66, 888

It is not probable that one fourth part of this work can be executed this year.

The existing appropriations are more than sufficient, for all the public surveying that can be possibly performed this year.⁸⁹

Which is respectfully submitted,

J.M.

HON. A. J. DALLAS Secy of the Treasury.

[Enclosure]

Explanations of the Map of the Territory of Missouri

[June 1, 1815]

1st It is proposed that the Ranges be numbered Westwardly, from the 3^d Principal Meridian, already established by the late Surveyor-General, J. Mansfield.—This third Meridian passes the confluence of the Ohio with the Mississippi.

2^d It is proposed that the present base line which has been already extended from near the Western boundary of Ohio, through the Territories of Indiana and Illinois, to the Mississippi, be continued westerly through the Territory of Missouri.

3^d The length of the line drawn Northerly from the confluence of the Arkansas and Mississippi, to the North part of the cession by the Sac and Fox tribes, (Nov. 5, 1804,) is about 372 miles.

4th The length of the line drawn Westerly, from the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi, to the West boundary of the cession by the Sacs and Foxes, (Nov^r 10, 1808,) is about 300 miles.

⁸⁸ Map not seen. Cf. *ante*, p. 26.

*For explanations of the map above alluded to, See next page—[Footnote on the MS.]

⁸⁹ See *post*, p. 80.

5th The whole territory, as represented on the map, is nearly 50,000,000 acres.

J. MEIGS.

THE HON. A. J. DALLAS, Secretary of the Treasury.—

JOSIAH MEIGS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, 1]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE *June 3^d 1815*—

WILLIAM RECTOR Esq^r Principal Deputy Surveyor, for the Territory of Missouri—

SIR, I have received your letter of April 17th ⁹⁰ with the Map of the Territory of Missouri—and an estimate of the expense of the Surveys you propose to be performed in that Territory. I approve entirely of your opinion as to the necessity of an extensive Survey, and have laid before the Secretary of the Treasury a Copy of your Map, and have recommended your general plan. In a few days I trust I shall be able to communicate directions to you, through the Surveyor General, under whose immediate authority you are by law bound to act.—

I am very respectfully &c

J. MEIGS—

THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO WILLIAM RUSSELL

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Sent, Mil. Bk. 8]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, *June 11th 1815*.

COL: RUSSELL or other officer commanding at St Louis—

SIR, Your letter of the 22nd ultimo ⁹¹ with the report of diver have been laid before the President, who approves of the course, which you have pursued, as well in the communication of the treaty of Ghent, to the British officers and the Indians, as in the continuance of the Rangers in service, until the present appearance of hostilities shall pass away.

The President will execute the stipulations of the Treaty in perfect good faith; and he hopes to accomplish a pacification by conciliatory rather, than by coercive measures. but if the Indians obstinately persist in hostilities, it is his determination to employ the military power of the Government to repel and punish aggression. Instructions have been given to Genl: Jackson on the subject; and if an immediate reinforcement of militia should be required by any emergency, which precludes an application to this department, or to Genl: Jackson, the President authorises you to

⁹⁰ *Ante*, p. 26.

⁹¹ NA (WD, SW, Lets. Recd., R 110).

obtain it. In such event, however, you will take care to make prompt and particular reports of your proceedings, to this department, for the information of the President, as well as to Gen: Jackson.⁹²

A. J. D—

THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO ANDREW JACKSON

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Sent, Mil. Bk. 8]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, June 12th 1815.

MAJOR GENERAL JACKSON

SIR, The representations, which have been made to the President, relative to the menaces of hostility by the North-West Indians, have induced him to appoint Gov: Harrison, Gen: M^cArthur, and M^r John Graham as commissioners to treat with the discontented tribes;⁹³ and that you may understand the nature and extent of the objects contemplated on the present occasion, I am directed to transmit to you, in confidence, a copy of the instructions which have been to the commissioners.⁹⁴ Altho' the scene of these transactions does not ly within your immediate command, the President relies upon your affording any information and assistance, that can facilitate the proceedings of the treaty, or contribute, generally, to the peace and safety of the country.

Inclosed you will receive copies of communications from the commissioners appointed to make overtures of peace to the hostile Indians on the river Mississippi and its waters, in pursuance of the stipulations of the 9th article of the treaty of Ghent;⁹⁵ and from Col: Russell lately in command at St Louis. The President requests your particular attention to the danger which these communications exhibit; and he is confident that you will co-operate with all the means in your power to conciliate the Indians, upon the principles of our agreement with Great Britain; but that in case of an obstinate persistance in hostilities, you will, as heretofore, manifest the competency of our arms to repel and punish aggression.

If at this time, or at any future period, an emergency should occur, in which the force under your command should be deemed

⁹² Answered *post*, p. 63.

⁹³ See *Terr. Papers* (Ind.), VIII, 340-341; *ibid.* (Mich.), X, 548, both citations containing footnotes to relevant sources.

⁹⁴ *A.S.P., Indian Affairs*, II, 13-14. See also the Secretary of War to Clark, Edwards and Chouteau, June 11, 1815 (NA, OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. C; printed, *A.S.P., op. cit.*, p. 8), saying that Colonel Miller was instructed to enforce the terms of the treaty with Great Britain, as regards the western Indians, with the use of regular troops and militia.

⁹⁵ See *ante*, p. 57, and *post*, p. 68.

inadequate, and it shall be found impracticable to make a seasonable application to this department for reinforcements, in order to resist and repel Indian incursions and hostilities, the President authorises you to submit the case at once to the Governor of any State, or territory, within your military division, and to obtain a competent auxiliary force of the militia, for the protection and security of the people and the Country. On such events, however, you will take care to make prompt and particular statements of your proceedings, for the information of the President. It seems, also, to be expedient, from the extent of your military division, that you should give standing orders, to the officers in command at stations distant from your head quarters, to exercise a sound discretion under the circumstances that have been described.

A. J. DALLAS.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO EDWARD TIFFIN

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, 1]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 16th June 1815.

SIR, I do not know whether you have already made any contracts for the surveying of two millions of acres between the river S^t Francis & the river Arkansas.

In my letter of March 23^d 1815,⁹⁶ you were informed, that as to the two millions of acres between the S^t Francis & the Arkansas I should consult further with the President.

You will therefore enter into no contract for the survey of the military bounty lands between the S^t Francis and the Arkansas, until you receive further directions, and if any contracts for the survey of that tract have been made, you will suspend their execution ⁹⁷—

I am &c.

EDWARD TIFFIN Esq^r Surveyor General Chillicothe.

DANIEL BISSELL TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., B390:ALS]

S^t LOUIS, M. T. July 2nd 1815—

SIR. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 11th Ult^o address Col^o Russell or other Officer Commanding at S^t Louis ⁹⁸—

⁹⁶ Printed, *Terr. Papers* (Ill.), xvii, 154–156.

⁹⁷ Answered *post*, p. 66. With respect to military bounty lands, see Meigs to the President, Mar. 6, 1815 (*Terr. Papers*, Mich., x, 514).

⁹⁸ *Ante*, p. 61.

Having found it Necessary to Call into Service Some Militia, from the Territories of Missouri and Illinois, I cannot explain to you my motives for so doing more satisfactory then encloseing you a Copy of my Letter to Gen^l Jackson on the subject, which I hope may meet your approbation ⁹⁹—

I have the honor to be very respectfully Sir Your Ob^t Serv^t
D^l BISSELL B^r Gen^l

THE HON^o J. A. DALLAS Sec^{ry} at War

[Addressed] The Honb^l The Secretary of War Washington City

[Endorsed] S^t Louis 2^d July 1815 Gen^l D. Bissell incloses Copy of a letter to Gen^l Jackson relative to his arrangements for the proposed Treaty with the Indians &c 1815 ¹ To be transmitted to the President. Gen^l Bissel's arrangements to be approved.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO EDWARD TIFFIN

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, r]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 6th July 1815.

SIR Your account of lands applied for by Registers from 1st Jan^y last to 28th June last; account of monies entered, a first certificate, &c, final certificate in favor of Jesse Spencer, have been received; the two latter I return, because the transfer on the first certificate wants a certificate of magistracy by the clerk of the county, & the final certificate does not describe the land as being in the U. States military tract.—In my letter dated 16th Ult^o ² I directed you to suspend the intended survey of 2,000,000 acres between the Arkansas & the S^t Francis. I have now to request you to proceed with that survey, with this express proviso, that the Deputy surveyors are to consider the risk of indian opposition as a circumstance for which the U. States are not to be responsible. The right of the nation to effect that survey is clear & indisputable, but the spirit of its humane policy forbids every act which may subject the Savages to a renewal of war, which must be injurious and ruinous to them. If your deputies are, as I doubt not they are, prudent and discreet men, I apprehend no essential inconvenience will result from their proceeding to execute their contract.

I am &c.

EDWARD TIFFIN Esq^r Surveyor General Chillicothe.

⁹⁹ Present. See Russell to the Secretary of War, July 18, 1815 (NA,WD, SW Lets. Recd., R137), stating that he had resigned his command to Bissell.

¹ Answered *post*, p. 74.

² *Ante*, p. 63.

RECORDER BATES TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd. PLC (Mo.): ALS]

Office of Recorder of Land Titles

ST LOUIS *July 6th 1815.*—

SIR, The Report which I am expected to make in the fall will require much diligence and industry. For some months past I have been employed the greater part of each day in selecting from the minutes of the late Board those claims which in my opinion, Congress intended to confirm by their Act of 12th April 1814.³ The revisals and modifications which this business has undergone during the last eight years, have rendered it tedious and difficult. The act too, is built on new ideas and unhinges the former policy, as I had understood it, in relation to the lands west of the Mississippi.—

I have wished for instructions on various points, but have been restrained from soliciting them, under the belief that the request would be improper,—as having a tendency to impair those responsibilities under which I am acting. Besides, since my work has nothing of the final character about it, I have thought that it was your determination to reserve the exercise of those discretions with which you have been invested by the laws, until the whole business shall have been submitted to you. I regret this course, as it left me in an uncertainty whether the act of April 1814 was intended as a part of a new system or to be attributed to the inadvertence or accidental liberality of congress. A communication of your views would have been a great relief to me. I should then have proceeded with alacrity, confident of your ultimate approbation. The act of 3^d of March 1807 was liberal and just, and I, as one of the Commissioners, was disposed, in the spirit of that policy which dictated its provisions, to apply with a liberal hand, the general principles which it contains to the individual cases before us. But I beg leave to say that I have much less pleasure in the subsequent discharge of my duties. With great deference, I cannot avoid hazarding the remark that a relaxation bordering on waste has superceded a Policy governed by Justice, & bounded by Principles.—Congress possibly thought, that by doing, all at once, more than Justice required, the greediness of Speculation would be glutted, and that there could be no pretence for the presentation of future Petitions on the subject. They have been already convinced of their mistake by the efforts made during the last Session—And it is evident that nothing will now satisfy one class of the People short of a general allowance of their pretensions however speculative or

³ 3 STAT. 121-123.

unwarranted by ancient usages.—I have much cause to lament my want of personal acquaintance with you.—The details of private correspondence would enlighten my judgments, and perhaps afford you informations which cannot always be collected from Official Reports.—

With great respect, I have the honor to be, Sir, Your most obedt
Servant

FREDERICK BATES

HON: JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner Gen^l Land Office

[*Addressed*] Hon: Josiah Meigs Commissioner of the General
Land Office Washington City.—

[*Endorsed*] Ans. Aug. 4, 1815.⁴ Fred. Bates July 6. 1815
File.

EDWARD TIFFIN TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Lets. from SG, NWT:ALS]

SURVEYOR GENERALS OFFICE, *July 10th 1815.*

SIR, I had delayed answering your letter of the 16th Ult.⁵ directing the Suspension of the Surveys of the Military bounty lands between the S^t Francis and Arkansas rivers in Missouri Territory, in daily expectation of the arrival of Gen. W^m Rector, the principal Deputy for the Territory of Missouri, to whom the immediate direction of the execution of those Surveys will be committed. He has written me, from time to time, since March last, that he would set out immediately for this place, to make compleat returns to this Office, of all the Surveys for which he had contracted, in the District of Kaskaskia; ⁶ and I am now assured by his brother Nelson, who is here, that the General is on his way ⁷

The Surveys of the Military bounty lands, in the Missouri Territory, have not yet been commenced.⁸ The reasons for the delay are these:—1st the knowledge of the actual hostility of the Indian tribes in that quarter, manifested in their late, repeated murders of the defenceless frontier inhabitants, from which it was evident the Surveyors could not, without too great a hazard, proceed to the execution of their duties; & 2nd the certain information, sometimes since, received, that Commissioners had been appointed to hold a treaty with those Indians, for the purpose, no doubt, of concluding hostilities, and opening the way for the public surveys

⁴ *Post*, p. 75.

⁵ *Ante*, p. 63.

⁶ Cf. Rector to Tiffin, Apr. 20 and May 7, 1815 (*Terr. Papers*, Ill., xvii, 169–170, 174–179).

⁷ See N. Rector to Tiffin, June 25, 1815, *ibid.*, p. 192–194.

⁸ See Tiffin to Meigs, July 26, 1815, *ibid.*, p. 203–204.

to go on. To these I may add, the expectation, as suggested in your letter of the 1st Ult.⁹ that you were preparing for M^r Rector, a System for the Survey of the lands in Missouri Territory. A Sufficient number of Skilful Deputies, however, have been engaged, on the recommendation of the Principal Deputy, who are ready to enter into contracts, and take the woods, so soon as the pacification of the Indian tribes in that quarter shall be effected, and your directions for that purpose received.

It would be very desirable to me, during M^r Rectors stay here, which I expect will be some weeks, to know what are your views and intentions relative to the Survey of the two million acres of Military bounty lands between the S^t Francis and the Arkansas rivers, in Missouri Territory, which you have directed to be Suspended; in order, that, before his departure, measures may be concerted, and the necessary arrangements made for their execution and completion, if it shall be so directed. I should, likewise, be glad to receive your further instructions, and know your intentions, relative to the directions formerly given, "to direct the principal Deputy Surveyor of the Territory of Missouri, to Survey into Townships and Sections, such part of the Territory as will include the principal part of the private claims."

Will you have the goodness to give me your opinion on the Act of Congress of the 28th Feb. 1806 ¹⁰ (see Land laws, page 169) whether it is the duty of the Surveyor General, or of the principal Deputy, to enter into the contracts with the Deputies, for the public surveying in that Territory?

At the request of General M^rArthur, one of the Commissioners lately appointed to treat with the Indian tribes in this quarter, I have prepared a view of the present disposition and intentions of those tribes, respecting their several Cessions of land, by treaty, to the United States; and their constructions, or pretended constructions of those treaties; and, also, a statement, shewing the interference with each other, of several of the reservations (by treaties) on the Miami river of the lake, which it may be necessary to rectify by treaty, while it is sitting. The object of this is, to throw as much light as possible, if any should be wanting, on those subjects; to call the early attention of the Commissioners to them, and to afford them some aid, if possible, in a speedy completion of the important mission committed to them.

I have the honor to be very respectfully, Sir, your Ob^t Serv^t

EDWARD TIFFIN

⁹ NA (GLO, Lets. to SG, 1). Cf. *ante*, p. 58.

¹⁰ 2 STAT. 352-353, extending the powers of the Sprveyor General to Missouri Territory.

JOSIAH MEIGS Esquire Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington

[*Addressed*] Josiah Meigs Esquire Commissioner of the General
Land Office Washington

[*Endorsed*] Chillicothe 10 July 1815 E^d Tiffin wants information
relative to Surveys Ans^d 18 July ¹¹

DANIEL BISSELL TO ANDREW JACKSON ¹²

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., B398:C]

St LOUIS M. T. July 15th 1815

SIR—The enclosed copy of a letter from the Commissioner ¹³

¹¹ *Post*, p. 70.

¹² An enclosure in Bissell to the Secretary of War, same date.

¹³ Present, and printed, *A.S.P.*, *Indian Affairs*, II, 8-9. The negotiations by Governor Edwards of Illinois Territory, Governor Clark, and Auguste Chouteau, who were appointed commissioners for the purpose, *ante*, p. 15, n. 30, resulted in a series of thirteen treaties in the summer of 1815 with the following tribes: Potawatomi of Illinois, July 18, Piankashaw, July 18, Teton (the western division of the Dakota or Sioux), July 19, Sioux of the Lakes, July 19, Sioux of St. Peter's River, July 19, Yankton (one of the Dakota divisions), July 19, Maha (Omaha), July 20, Kickapoo, Sept. 2, Great and Little Osage, Sept. 12, Sauk of the Missouri River, Sept. 13, Fox, Sept. 14, Iowa, Sept. 16, and Kansas, Oct. 28, 1815. With the exception of the last-mentioned treaty, which was signed at St. Louis, the treaties in question were concluded at Portage des Sioux, in the modern St. Charles Co., Mo. The Kansas treaty, at St. Louis, was the only one concluded without the signature of Clark. No one of the treaties involved, however, provided for a cession of land, though those with the Sauk (Sept. 13) and the Fox (Sept. 14) were confirmations by those tribes of the cessions embodied in the treaty of Nov. 3, 1804, negotiated by Gov. William Henry Harrison, of Indiana Territory. See *Terr. Papers* (Ind.), VII, 239, n. 88. The treaties as a whole, therefore, represent in the main an effort to establish a friendly footing with the Indians as a part of the general pacification after the War of 1812, and to that extent they are relevant to all western and northwestern territories. The Indians involved were made answerable to the commanding officer at Fort Clark (Peoria), on the Illinois River. The originals of the treaties are in NA (SD, Indian Treaties); they are printed, 7 STAT. 124-130; Kappler (ed.), *Indian Treaties*, II, 110-117, 119-124; *A.S.P.*, *Indian Affairs*, II, 1-5. The treaties were ratified by the Senate, Dec. 26, 1815.

Other documents pertaining to the negotiations, as found in Washington, are: the commissioners to the Secretary of War, May 15, July 16 (NA,WD, SW, Lets. Recd., C254 and C324), July 22, Sept. 18, and Oct. 18, 1815 (printed, *A.S.P.*, *op. cit.*, pp. 7, 8-11). Significant as to Indian policy are Clark to the Secretary of War, Sept. 20 and Oct. 1, 1815, and Forsyth to Clark, Sept. 22, 1815 (NA,SF, 14 Cong.; printed, *A.S.P.*, *op. cit.*, pp. 75, 77-78, 79). See also Graham to Clark, Nov. 10, 1815, instructing him to remove white intruders from Indian lands, and the Secretary of War to the commissioners, Nov. 24, 1815 (NA, OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. C; printed, *A. S. P.*, *op. cit.*, pp. 11-12).

appointed to treat with the Indians on the Mississippi &c, who are now in Council at Portage Du Souix, will advise you of the great anxiety, which is felt for the safety of the defenceless frontier of Illinois & Missouri Territories, and from the many acts of hostilities which the Indians have committed since our peace with the English, and there recent Conduct; I cannot but feel the deepest solicitude for the safety of the unprotected inhabitants, as I have no means under my contrôle of offering Protection but militia; the rangers having long since been disbanded—having advised with the two Governors, it is thought best to call out some of the militia, I have therefore this day made a requisition on each to furnish one field Officer and two Companies of mounted militia of 75 Rank and file, which I hope may meet your approbation.¹⁴—I hope this prompt way of fetching a force on the frontier, may intimidate those tribes which are so deadly hostile to our Government, but I do not expect a permanent Peace with them untill they are well chatized; as yet I have not been able to dispense with the service of some of the Officers who are not continued on the Rolls of the Army on the peace establishment; I beleive there is but one officer kept in service (L^t S Brady of Col^o Millers Command) in the two Territories which is assigned to the District—Captⁿ Phillip¹⁵ who is dropped from the Rolls, is Commanding at Fort Clark on the Illinois I understand this Gentleman to be a most valuable Officer, I presume he is personally known to you, and if it should meet your approbation, I most earnestly wish he might fill some vacancy of non acceptance of some Captain—The Quarter Masters Department in this District is the source of much embarrisment, not a single individual which belonged to it formerly, is continued, those that have been dropped were much indebted to individuals in the District which makes the public Credit bad, what little Disbursment are made now, are from my private funds, I have ordered my Aid De Camp L^t M^cGunnegle, to receive and receipt for all public property at St. Louis and Belle Fontain and to attend to the duties of Ass^t Q^r Master, this Gentleman belongs to the Rifle Regiment, and I wish he may be permitted to remain here for the present.

The Pay Master (Major Douglass) has just arrived from Kentucky and reports that he is only supplied with funds to pay arreareges to the 31st Decem^r 1814, that he has not one cent to pay

¹⁴ Missouri and Illinois territories were now in the 9th military department, southern division, and therefore under the general supervision of Major General Jackson. In 1813 they were in the 8th military department, consisting entirely of northwestern states and territories (*A.S.P., Mil. Affairs*, I, 387, 635).

¹⁵ Joseph Philips, subsequently Secretary of Illinois Territory.

the Disbanded Officer, or the men for during the War.¹⁶—I hope your instructions may be received respecting the future disposition of Col^o Miller and Command,¹⁷ who are acting at this time, as a Guard to the Commissioners, treating with the Indians at Portage Du Souix, exclusive of his Command, I have only about 120 Regulars in the District including invalids, Viz, say 60 at Fort Clark and about 60 of those belonging to Belle Fontain, apart of which are now at Portage Du Souix, and one third of that number are for during the War, leaving not more than 80 Regulars which belongs to the District, you will find herewith enclosed Communications from Governors Clark & Edwards,¹⁸ which I presume will give you every information, respecting the Prospect of treating with the Indians, and of the deadly hostile disposition which some of the Tribes feel towards the United States, the present situation of the Country, I consider rendered it my duty to forward those despatches per Express, as the mail does not proceed direct; the last brought me Letter from Nashville which had been 17 Days on the Way—

I have the honor to be with great respect Sir Your Ob^t Hum^b Serv^t

(Signed) Dⁱ BISSELL B^r Gen^l

MAJOR GEN^l A JACKSON Commanding Division of the South, Nashville T.

[*Addressed*] Major Gen^l A. Jackson Commanding the Division of the south Nashville Tennessee

[*Endorsed*] St^t Louis M. T. July 15^t 1815. Gen^l D Bissell Has called out troops for the defense of that frontier—hopes it will be Sanctioned—Aug 1815

JOSIAH MEIGS TO EDWARD TIFFIN

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, 1]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 18th July 1815.

SIR, Your letter of 10th Ins^t is before me,¹⁹ my letter of 6th Ins^t ²⁰ renewed the instructions to proceed with the survey of the Bounty

¹⁶ Cf. Sheldon to Caldwell, Mar. 28, 815 (*Terr. Papers*, III., xvii, 158), respecting method of paying troops for their services.

¹⁷ See Acting Secretary of War Graham to Jackson, July 21, 1815 (NA, WD, SW, Lets. Sent, Mil. Bk. 8), referring to the order to Miller to repair to St. Louis (see *ante*, p. 13), and to the discretionary power lodged in the major generals to make such alterations as they deemed necessary.

¹⁸ Present, dated July 11, 1815.

¹⁹ *Ante*, p. 66.

²⁰ *Ante*, p. 64.

land in Missouri territory, and my letter of 24th March last ²¹ contained instructions as to the standard line &c.—

I have nothing more to add relative to the survey of private claims & public lands connectedly: on M^r Rectors arrival his knowledge of the country will afford you much information, and enable you to determine on what should be done in relation to those surveys in Missouri territory.—

In my opinion the act of Congress of 28 Feb. 1806, places the principal deputy surveyor under the superintendence of the Surveyor General, who may at his option, make the necessary contracts, or direct his principal deputy to do so.—

M^r Rector's plan of surveys in Missouri territory has been laid before the Secretary of the Treasury, should he approve, or disapprove of it; I shall inform you forthwith.—

I am &c.

EDWARD TIFFIN Esq^r Surveyor General Chillicothe.

EDWARD TIFFIN TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Lets. from SG, NWT:ALS]

Surveyor General's Office CHILLICOTHE *July* 21st 1815

SIR I have this day rec^d yours of the 14th ins^t ²² in which you inquire after copies of contracts &c in answer to which I have to observe that since the first request for them, we have been so constantly engaged in business of so much more importance, that I could not feel justified in laying it aside to copy them, but so soon as we can find time you shall have them—

The three M^r Rectors are all here, but two of them are ill with fevers—I presume we shall be occupied a month with them constantly—and I hope soon to have your answer to my letter requesting your construction of the Act of Congress of the 28th of Feb^r 1806 ²³—as well as your final instructions respecting the quantity of Lands to be surveyed in Missouri—other than the two Million Acres for Military bounties—

The Commissioners have appointed the 20th of Augst to meet the Indian Chiefs at Detroit ²⁴—and while they are in Treaty I mean

²¹ *Ante*, p. 20.

²² Not found.

²³ 2 STAT. 352–353, extending the powers of the Surveyor General to Louisiana Territory.

²⁴ See *Terr. Papers* (Mich.), x, 567–568, 572–573, and index.

to avail myself of the opportunity to have the Lands Surveyed on each side of the road laid out by Gen^l Beall & others ²⁵

with great respect I am Your ob^t Serv^t

EDWARD TIFFIN

HONBLE J MEIGS Esq^r Washington

[*Addressed*] The Honorable Josiah Meigs Esquire Commissioner Gen^l Land Office Washington [*Postmarked*] Chillicothe Ohio. July. 24 Free

[*Endorsed*] Chillicothe 21 July 1815 E^d Tiffin will send copies of contracts for surveys Ans^d 2^d Aug^t

INSTRUCTIONS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Lets. from SG, NWT:C]

Rec^d with letter of July 26, 1815 ²⁶

Instructions for General Rector principal Deputy Surveyor for the Territory of Missouri

1st You are required to have Surveyed two Million Acres of Land between the Rivers S^t Francis & Arkansas, which have been appropriated by an Act of Congress for Military bounties—(to which I refer you)—The Annexed plan, on which these rivers are laid down with the lands lying between them in Ranges and townships will shew you the mode in which it is intended to have these Surveys executed ²⁷—

1st Let a Standard line be accurately run from the confluence of the Arkansas with the Mississippi due North according to the true meridian so far, that a base line run due West from the mouth of the River S^t Francis to the Mississippi will intersect it as laid down on the plan—

2^d Lay off the Lands South of this base or East & West line into Ranges & Townships of Six miles square by runing the North and South lines according to the true meridian and the East & west lines at right angles as near as may be, down to the Rivers Mississippi and Arkansas, and number them both Ranges & Townships as exhibited on the plan—

3^d Let these townships be subdivided as has been here to fore

²⁵ See *ibid.*, pp. 558–562.

²⁶ Printed, *Terr. Papers* (Ill.), xvii, p. 203–204.

²⁷ Not present.

practiced into Sections, establishing corners for quarter sections, and marking the lines, and Range, Township, sections & quarter sections corners in the usual mode—

4th Furnish every Surveyor you employ with one of the depositions enclosed, and see that both himself, his chain and axemen are duly sworn before they proceed to work & return a copy of such Oaths to this Office—

5th Furnish every Surveyor with a plan of the whole Military district and a copy of the Instructions enclosed,²⁸ that each Man may be able to comprehend the plan how the Surveys are to be executed and know how to attend to his compass & chain, to mark his corners accurately, and make his returns in a proper manner

6th When work is done & returned to your Office you are to examine and see that it is done agreeable to Law & the instructions given and return it certified to the Office of the Surveyor General to wit—a copy of the field notes of every township or fractional Township, and two setts of plats & descriptions laid down on paper of a uniform size with an Inch space on the margin, so that all plats when finished may be bound in a book

7th You are furnished with a copy of a form of contract, so that you may enter into contracts with the Deputies, observing always to have duplicates signed, one of which is to be returned to this Office when entered into—

8th All the Surveys contracted for to be done in the Michigan & Illinois Territories have been at 250 Cents per mile, It is therefore expected you will be able to get the Military Lands done in Missouri at the same rate, but if as you suggested this should be impracticable, you are authorized to give 300 per mile, but only in case of necessity—being satisfied you will guard the interests of the United States from imposition, in as much as by doing so you are advancing your own interests—

9th When any Deputy Surveyor has finished his contract, made his returns to your Office and it is certified & returned to this Office, the accounts will be paid off in such manner as may be most convenient to the claimant & the regulations of the Treasury department—

Signed E T

To W R Principal Deputy &c &c

[*Endorsed*] Instructions to Gen^l Rector &c &c

²⁸ Present.

GEORGE GRAHAM TO DANIEL BISSELL

[NA: WD, SW, Lets. Sent, Mil. Bk. 8]

From George Graham, Chief Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, *August 1st 1815.*BRIG^r GEN^l DANIEL BISSELL, St Louis.

SIR, In the absence of the acting Secretary of War, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2^d of July,²⁹ covering one of that date to general Jackson; and to inform you, that the measures you have taken for calling out a portion of the militia of the territories of Illinois and Missouri, are approved.

I have the honor to be, &c.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO EDWARD TIFFIN

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, 1]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 2nd Augst 1815.—

SIR, Your letter of 21st Ult^o has been received; ³⁰ my letter of 18th Ult^o ³¹ stated that I had nothing more to add relative to the survey of private claims, and public lands (connectedly) in the territory of Missouri. As the Rectors are now with you, information can be had which will enable you to decide upon what part of the territory ought to be surveyed, which decision when made you will communicate to me that I may ascertain from the Secretary of the Treasury whether funds will be provided to defray the expence.—I will thank you to inform me what progress has been made in surveying Harrison's purchase.³²

When the tract two miles wide is surveyed it will be adviseable to lay off into quarter sections the reservations (made by the Greenville treaty) on the Miami & at Sandusky.³³—

I am &c.

EDWARD TIFFIN Esq^r Surveyor General Chillicothe.

GEORGE GRAHAM TO GOVERNOR CLARK

[NA:OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. C]

From George Graham, Chief Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR 4. *August 1815.*

HIS EXCELLENCY GOV. CLARK. St. Louis.

SIR, Mr. Sibley will have communicated to you his instructions from General Mason,³⁴ relative to the selection of a proper position for the Osage factory. Should you deem the establishment of a

²⁹ *Ante*, p. 63.³⁰ NA:GLO, Lets. from SG, NWT.³¹ *Ante*, p. 70.³² In Indiana Territory; cf. *Terr. Papers* (Ind.), VIII, 345.³³ Answered Aug. 9, 1815, *ibid.*, pp. 345–346.³⁴ July 30, 1815 (NA, OIT, Supt. Lets. Sent, Bk. C).

military post necessary for the protection of the factory, you will apply to the Officer commanding at St. Louis, to whom the necessary Orders have been given on the subject. It would be desirable that you should consult with him on the subject of the position for the establishment.

GEORGE GRAHAM TO DANIEL BISSELL

[NA: OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. C]

From George Graham, Chief Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR 4. *August* 1815.

BRIG. GENERAL DAN¹ BISSELL or officer at St. Louis.

SIR, I enclose for your information a Copy of a letter from General Mason,³⁵ Superintendant General, of Indian trade, on the subject of establishing a Scite for the Osage factory and for the military post that may be deemed necessary for the protection of that factory; and have to request that whenever Governor Clarke shall have determined, which of the two points contemplated, is the most proper for the establishment of the factory, you will then form a military post sufficient for its protection.³⁶ On these occasions when other labor cannot be obtained, it has been usual for the Soldiers to erect the Houses necessary for the accomodation of the factory, as well as those for their own accomodation and defence, and an allowance in addition to their pay has been made them. Whatever additional allowance on this account that may have heretofore been authorised, will again be granted them.³⁷

JOSIAH MEIGS TO RECORDER BATES

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 4th *August* 1815.

SIR, I regret that the difficulties of executing your commission and making your report during the next autumn are so great as

³⁵ To Graham, July 31, 1815 (NA, OIT, Supt. Lets. Sent, Bk. C), enclosing letter of instructions for G. C. Sibley, U. S. Factor on the Missouri, and discussing the re-establishment of Fort Osage.

³⁶ See Graham to Mason, Aug. 3, 1815 (NA, OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. C), saying that no order had yet been issued to re-establish the post in question, but that Governor Clark and the commanding officer at St. Louis would be written to immediately, which accounts for the two letters of Aug. 4, printed above.

³⁷ Concerning instructions to the above effect, see Mason to the Secretary of War, Aug. 7, 1815, to Graham, Mar. 12, 1816; and Bronaugh (for Mason) to Sibley, Mar. 26, 1816 (NA, OIT, Supt. Lets. Sent, Bk. C). Mason resigned as Superintendent of Indian Trade Mar. 23, 1816 (Mason to the President, Mar. 23, 1816, *loc. cit.*). He was succeeded by Thomas L. McKenney.

you represent them.³⁸ In any case where a great public interest is concerned it is to be expected that private interest will be active and vigilant.

If the act of April 12, 1814,³⁹ "unhinges the former policy" it is not in our power to deviate from its provisions.—Your long residence in the Missouri territory has given you great advantages for forming correct opinions on the business committed to you, and you have been wholly correct in proceeding without asking instructions from this office; for whether the act of April 12. 1814, "was intended as a part of a new System, or to be attributed to the inadvertance or accidental liberality of Congress" we are not competent to decide. I think that the conduct of the Government generally in relation to the public lands has not been parsimonious,—it has indeed been very liberal, and I hope not wasteful.—Its intentions have always been good and just, and if mistakes have been made, they must be attributed to the defect of information for which they must greatly depend on the delegates or representatives of the People. If by the efforts made during the last Session "Congress was convinced of their mistake" we may confidently expect that they will, in future, seek for more authentic information.

If by private correspondence I could expect to enlighten your judgment I should chearfully adopt such correspondence, but I apprehend that I need more illumination on this subject than you.—I therefore shall be gratified with such correspondence.

I am &c.

FREDERICK BATES Esq^r Recorder of Land Titles Territory of Missouri.

EDWARD HEMPSTEAD TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

St LOUIS *August 5. 1815.*

SIR/ Under the late act of Congress for that purpose Joshua Norvell the printer of the Western Journal at this place, wishes to be authorized to publish the laws of the United States in his paper.

In support of his wishes, I take the liberty of observing, that his paper has a pretty general circulation is better conducted than most country papers in this part of the world, and that his political principles are unquestionably Republican.⁴⁰—

I am very respectfully Y^r ob. Ser

E. HEMPSTEAD

HON JAMES MONROE

³⁸ See *ante*, p. 65.

³⁹ 3 STAT. 121–123.

⁴⁰ See *ante*, p. 48.

RECORDER BATES TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., PLC (Mo.):ALS]

Office of the Recorder of Land Titles

ST LOUIS August 26th 1815.—

SIR, I confess the justice of the reproofs contained in your letter of the 4th ins^t—Accept, I pray you, my Apologies.—On reflection, I am sensible that there is a freedom of remark in my letter which ought not to have been indulged.—I was not, at the time, aware of the indecorum, and am sorry that in one of these censurable expressions, I have been understood in a sense very different from what I intended.—I could not but know that the Act of Congress then alluded to, was a Law to the Land Department:—Yet perhaps that act may be fairly susceptible of different constructions—

Previously to the passage of the late acts, when this office could only confirm in cases of ‘actual inhabitation and cultivation’—‘ten years’ possession’ &^{ca} many points were conceded in our investigations. If the claimant had cultivated three crops he was entitled by the spanish usages, to a Patent, and it was not consistent with the then policy of our Government, as understood by the Board, to require proof of the Registry of the Concession:—Nor was it then the practice, very rigidly to scrutinize the competency of the Lieu^t Governor to grant orders of survey.—The substantial justice of the case was the guide,—and the claim was made to rest, rather on the acts of the party, than on the acts of the Government. But now, when the Acts of the provincial Officers are made the only, or at least, sufficient evidences of title, without any pretended merit in the Claimant himself, a more rigid rule of interpretation, might perhaps, without injustice, be instituted.—

When I spoke of ‘Accidental liberality’ I meant to intimate that if a new policy had not been deliberately adopted, the old system could be yet in a great degree restored, by constructions founded on principles which are believed to be incontestible.—I have however, in the absence of instructions, obeyed the new impulses, as they seemed to be given in the Laws, and taken the denominations of the late Board as definitions:—For instance, what they have reported to the Government as ‘Concessions’ ‘Orders of survey’ &^{ca} I have considered as Papers of that Class.

Until my work be reviewed by you, it seems to me that it would be improper to issue orders of survey, as provided by the 3^d Sec. of the last Act—An equal hazard will also attend the issue of certificates in cases of the New Madrid Lands damaged by Earth-quakes. I have recorded the testimony as to the material injury, and deferred for a time the issue of the certificates.—The recent purchasers are not satisfied that the business should be transacted

in the names of the original claimants—Yet these latter are the persons for whose relief the law was intended, and I cannot consent, without your orders, or concurrence, to substitute other names. A Deed of conveyance or a power of Attorney has nevertheless been deemed sufficient authority for the present holder to attend to the business as an Agent.—I have employed Mr. Barth^w Cousin of Cape Girardeau, as a clerk and translator of foreign languages. He is an accomplished Pensman,—and with his aid I shall be able to complete the whole work by the 1st of November—And unless forbidden shall myself be the bearer of it. In the present state of the business I should hope that no inconvenience could arise from the shutting up of the Office for a few months—And perhaps, as the Reports will be in Abstract, some explanations might be desirable.—Even some alterations might be made, before its final presentation to you, if it should be found to contain principles against which you have permanent objections.—

With great respect, I am, Sir, Your obedt Servant

FREDERICK BATES

HON: JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner Gen^l Land Office

[*Addressed*] Hon Josiah Meigs Commissioner of General Land Office Washington

[*Endorsed*] St Louis 26 Aug^t 1815 F Bates ans^d 17th Sep^r ^a

DANIEL BISSELL TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., B438:ALS]

ST. LOUIS M. T. August 27th 1815

SIR—A General Order Issued from the Adjutant and Inspector Generals Office of the 20th Feb^r 1815 last, directs the Commanding Officer at this place to imploy Col^o M^cNair to make out and certify the muster Rolls of the Militia of Missouri Territory called into service of the U.S. by Gen^l Howard. In obedience to which order I have ingaged Col^o M^cNair to attend those musters and as no other person has the same knowledge he has generally of the Militia that has been Called into the field, and to the end that justice may be done, I have thought proper not to restrict him to Militia Called out by Gen^l Howard, but have ordered him to Muster &c all Militia of this Territory called into service by him, and since his death, that have not been mustered—This Muster will be absolutely necessary to enable the Pay Master to pay them, as well as to

^a *Post*, p. 82, under date of Sept. 18.

do justice to the Individual as no regular muster have been made of the militia in this Territory, I beleive, during that Period, and the Militia of the Territory of Illinois I presume are in the same situation, and will be absolutely necessary that some experienced and judicious person should be ordered to make a like muster of them, to enable the U S. to settle the account &c⁴²

I have the honor to be Sir Your Ob^t Serv^t

D^l BISSELL B^r Gen^l

THE HONORABLE THE SEC^{ty} WAR Washington City

[*Endorsed*] S^t Louis M. T. Aug^t 27 1815. Gen^l Dan^l Bissell relative to the muster of the Militia of the Missouri Territory by Col. M^cNair—Sep^r 1815

EDWARD TIFFIN TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Lets. from SG, NWT: ALS]

SURVEYOR GENERALS OFFICE August 29th 1815

SIR In your Letter of the 23d of March last,⁴³ you directed me to “instruct the principal Deputy Surveyor of the Territory of Missouri to survey into townships & Sections such part of that Territory as will include the principal part of the private claims—for you add there is reason to fear that unless this be done with all convenient speed the public interest will greatly suffer”—and in your letter of the 2^d August,⁴⁴ you observe, that after consultation with Gen^l Rector the principal Deputy and haveing decided upon what part ought to be now surveyed you request me to inform you thereof in order that you may ascertain from the Secretary of the Treasury whether funds will be provided to defray the expence &c In compliance therefore with those requests I now inform you that in addition to the two Million Acres of Land directed to be surveyed for Military bounties, I have directed General Rector to lay off a number of Ranges agreeable to a plan of the surveys furnished him—and to run the exterior boundaries of about 200 Townships in order to acquire a knowledge of the character of the Country and such as contain good lands to subdivide and lay down all the private claims in each township—the private claims in that Territory are scattered over an immense extent of Country, and will require

⁴² See also *id.* to *id.*, Aug. 26, 1815 (NA, WD, SW, Lets. Recd., B439), asking that funds be forwarded to cover necessary expenses, including a reimbursement on account of money spent out of his own private account in the public interest.

⁴³ Printed, *Terr. Papers* (Ill.), xvii, 154–156.

⁴⁴ *Ante*, p. 74.

a great deal of surveying in order to embrace them—and our experience of the mode in which the Kaskaskia business has been done & the immense trouble it has & will occasion ought to admonish us in starting aright in Missouri, so that every Township which may be surveyed may exhibit both the private claims and the public lands lying in it with their connection, both mutually progressive together.

with great respect I am your ob^t serv^t

EDWARD TIFFIN

HONORABLE J MEIGS—Commissioner G L Office Washington

[*Addressed*] Josiah Meigs Esquire Commissioner of the General Land Office Washington City [*Postmarked*] Chillicothe, Ohio. Aug. 30 Free

[*Endorsed*] Chillicothe 29 Aug^t 1815 E^d Tiffin has ordered a survey of 200 townships in Missouri Territ^y Ans^d 13 Sep^t ⁴⁵

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

GEN L OFFICE 7th Sep^t 1815

SIR I have the honor to enclose with this, a copy of my letter relative to a survey of the Territory of Missouri.⁴⁵ As a Register & Receiver have been appointed for the Land Office at S^t Louis, it seems proper that surveys should be made of some part of the public Lands in that district, that they may be offered for sale whenever the President shall direct.

The Surveyor General, in his letter of the 29th of August informs me that he has ordered the principal deputy Surveyor for the territory of Missouri to run the exterior boundaries of about two hundred townships—this will enable us to have a connected Map of some part of the private claims, & to ascertain the locality, quantity &c of that part which belongs to the U States.

The Surveyor General was not authorized to order this survey: the expence will be about ten thousand dollars, yet I believe the public interest will be promoted by it, & should it meet your approbation I shall approve of his conduct.⁴⁷

I have &c

HON^{ble} ALEX^r J DALLAS Sec^y of the Treasury Philadelphia.

⁴⁵ *Terr. Papers (Ill.)*, xvii, 215.

⁴⁶ Apparently that of June 1, 1815, *ante*, p. 58.

⁴⁷ Answered *post*, p. 82.

EDWARD HEMPSTEAD TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., H:ALS]

SAINT LOUIS *September 10, 1815.*

SIR Under the law of the last Session of Congress for the relief of the Sufferers by Earthquake in New Madrid,⁴⁸ claimants consider themselves authorized to locate their claims in any Shape, or form, in several places by virtue of one claim, and the location and survey to be made immediately.—Many pretend that a claim of Six Hundred and forty acres of land, can be divided, subdivided and located on several tracts of land, unconnected with each other, and that the claimant has a right to direct the manner and form of his survey either in a square, or in any other shape he pleases.

The law directs the survey to be made by the Principal Deputy Surveyor, or under his direction, but does not point out the particular manner or time of performing it: Whether it shall be done immediately or after a survey of the public lands takes place. Whether the claimants shall be obliged to limit their surveys by sectional or fractional lines, or survey them in any shape.—Whether a claim can be divided and subdivided, and located in several places must I presume in a great measure depend on the construction given to the Law by your department. Many disappointments, much mischief and difficulty will be avoided by an early attention to this subject; of which many are prepared, and preparing to take advantage, and indeed it is said that locations have already been made.

In making this communication, it is not my intention to interfere with the duties; nor to criminate the conduct of others. I have neither private interest to promote, nor personal feelings to gratify.—My aim is not to injure individuals but to do them & the public justice.—Those interested may think otherwise, and therefore unless there should be necessity for it, all the benefits that can result to the public may be had, without using my name.

I am very respectfully Sir Yr ob Ser

EDWARD HEMPSTEAD

HON JOSIAH MEIGS

[*Addressed*] Hon Josiah Meigs Commissioner Gen^l Land office Washington City Free

[*Endorsed*] 1815 E^d Hempstead claimants want to locate in a new manner Ans^d 6 Octo^r ⁴⁹

⁴⁸ Approved Feb. 17, 1815 (3 STAT. 211-212).

⁴⁹ *Post*, p. 89.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO RECORDER BATES

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

GEN^l L OFFICE 18th Sept^r 1815

SIR Yours of August 26⁵⁰ was received yesterday—I can discover nothing of the nature of “reproof” in my letter of August 4,⁵¹ nor of “indecorum” in yours of July 6.⁵²—

Great confidence has been justly reposed in you, & tho’ as you observe your “work” has nothing of the final character” yet it is very probable that it will be, finally, approved.

I approve of your refusal to issue certificates to any other than the original Claimants who are contemplated in the act of February 17, 1815.⁵³ Should you be the bearer of your work to this City, it will give me pleasure to have an opportunity of conversing with you.

I am &c

F. BATES Esq^r S^t Louis

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., Treasury:LS]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT Sept^r 22^d 1815.

SIR, The survey of the exterior lines of about two hundred townships in the Missouri Territory, which has been directed to be made by the Surveyor General, as stated in your letter of the 7th instant,⁵⁴ may proceed; but the President directs, that if any hostile sentiments are manifested by the Indians on account of this measure, it is to be suspended until further instructions shall be given respecting it.

I am very respectfully, Sir, Your Obed^t Serv^t

A. J. DALLAS.

THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE

[Addressed] The Commissioner of the General Land Office

[Endorsed] Treas^r 22^d Septem^r 1815 Secret^r of Treasury
Surveys in Missouri may proceed—if Indians are not hostile.

⁵⁰ *Ante*, p. 77.

⁵¹ *Ante*, p. 75.

⁵² *Ante*, p. 65.

⁵³ 3 STAT. 211–212.

⁵⁴ *Ante*, p. 80.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO EDWARD TIFFIN

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, 1]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 27th *Septem*^r 1815

SIR Enclosed you have a copy of a letter (dated 22^d ins^t relative to surveys in the territory of Missouri) which I this day received from the Secretary of the Treasury.

Be pleased to transmit as soon as practicable a copy at large of your contract with the principal deputy surveyor of the territory of Missouri, together with a sketch of the exterior lines of the two hundred townships mentioned in the contract. No subdivision of townships is to be made until further orders, nor must the survey of the exterior lines proceed if any sentiment hostile to it are manifested by the Indians.⁵⁵

I am &c

EDW TIFFIN Esq^r S^r Gen^l Chillicothe

JOSIAH MEIGS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

G^l L OFFICE 27 *Sep*^r 1815

SIR The contract made with you by the Surveyor General for the survey of the exterior bounds of about two hundred townships in the Missouri territory, although not authorized by me, has been so far approved, as you will see by the enclosed copy of a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury—If the Indians do not oppose you—let the survey of the exterior bounds of the townships proceed—and of the exterior bounds only. You are not to subdivide townships, until you receive further directions from me through the Surveyor General.

I am &c

W^m RECTOR Esq^r prin^l dep^y Surveyor for the T^y of Missouri now at Chillicothe.

SECRETARY BATES TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA,SD, Mo. Terr. Papers:ALS]

Secretary's Office ST LOUIS *Oct* 1. 1815

SIR, I have the honor to enclose a copy of the Executive Journal for the half year commencing 1st of April and ending 30th of September last.—

Also, a table of the civil Officers in commission on the present day.—

The business in which I have been employed in the Land Depart-

⁵⁵ Answered *post*, p. 86.

ment, seems to me to require my personal attendance in the city—I have mentioned the subject to Governor Clark who has no objections—I therefore greatly hope that the absence which I contemplate from this territory, during the coming winter, will not be disagreeable to you.—

With great respect, I have the honor to be, Sir, Your mo obt
Servant

FREDERICK BATES

THE HON^{ble} JAMES MONROE Secretary of Dep^t of State

[Addressed] The Hon^{ble} James Monroe Secretary of State
Washington City

[Endorsed] Missouri Territory

[Enclosure]

*Executive Proceedings of Missouri Territory April 1, 1815—
September 30, 1815*

Copy of the Executive Journal of the territory of Missouri, from the
1st April till the 30th of September 1815.—

James Allcorn, Gray Bynam & James Barns, Justices of the Peace
for the Settlement of Boone's Lick, county of St Charles—& to
adm^r Oaths of Office

Andrew Wilson coroner of the county of S^t Charles, vice Spencer
Thomas Oliver clerk of the circuit court for county of S^{te}
Genevieve

Joseph McFerron clerk of the circuit court for county of Cape
Girardeau

Richard H. Waters clerk of the circuit court for county of New
Madrid

Joseph McFerron clerk of the county court of Cape Girardeau
Richard H Waters clerk of the county court of New Madrid

Jn^o. W. Thompson 1st Lt Joshua Norvell 2^d Lt Charles Stuart 3^d Lt
St Louis, independ^t com^y of Artillery.—

John Ferry county Surveyor, for the county of St Charles.

James Russel, Justice of the Peace Byrd township, ct^y Cape
Girardeau

Tho^s. Nuberry, Justice of the Peace, German township ct^y Cape
Girardeau

James Ravenscraft Major 2^d Battⁿ of 4th Regiment—

Andrew M. Ramsay Capt Andrew Robertson 1st L^t William Delford
Ensign 3^d com^y 1st Battⁿ 5th Regiment

Philip Ross 1st L^t James Scott 2^d L^t Michael Awls Ensign 1st Com^y
1st Battⁿ 5th Regiment

Michael Awls Adjutant, Rob^t D. Dawson Surgeon, R^d H. Waters J.
Adv. 5 Reg^t

Louis de Mun clerk of the county court of Lawrence
 Nath^l Robbins Cap^t Philip Jackson 1st L^t Hiram West 2^d L^t James
 Creswell Ensign 3^d Com^y 2^d Battⁿ 8th Reg^t
 Joseph Haden 2^d L^t Zach. Jones Ensign 1st com^y 2^d Batt 8th Reg^t
 Robert McWilliams Ensign 2^d com^y 1st Battⁿ 8th Reg^t
 Michael Amoureux, a Justice of the Peace for township of St^e
 Genevieve county of St^e Genevieve—4 years unless sooner re-
 moved—
 Joseph Brazeau & Henry Delaurier, a License to trade with the
 Mahas Panis, Ricaras, Yankton & Teton Sioux for one year—
 Landreville Security
 John W. Thompson Brigade Inspector of 2^d Brigade
 Daniel Dunklin Sheriff of the county of Washington
 Frazirs Dervin, a Licence to trade with the Poncas, Panis, Mahas
 & Sioux, on the Missouri, for one year
 Manuel Lisa & com^y a Licence to trade with the Pancas, Ottos,
 Mahas & other Indians on the Missouri for one year.—
 Lafleur & La Jeunesse, a Licence to trade with the several tribes
 of Indians on the Missouri, for one year.—
 George Jackson Capt 1st Com^y of Boone's Lick Battalion
 John Munro Adjutant of Same
 David Mc Quitty Pay Master of Same
 Benj^a Cooper Judge Advocate of Same
 Berthold & Chouteau a License to trade with the Ottos, Mahas &
 Panis
 Francis Le Clerc a Licence to trade on head waters of Arkansas
 River
 Joseph Philibert a Licence to trade on Platte & Arkansas Rivers
 John Landers a Justice of the Peace township St Francis, ct^y Cape
 Girardeau
 Aug^{te} P. Chouteau & J. De Mun a License to trade on Platte &
 Arkansas Rivers
 Lisa & Hunt a Licence to trade on the Missouri for one year
 John H. Mifflin a Justice of the Peace for German township county
 of Cape Girardeau
 Nathaniel Simonds Sheriff of the county of St Charles—for two
 years unless sooner removed
 John W. Thompson Sheriff of ct^y of St Louis—Same tenure
 Henry Dodge Sheriff of the county of Ste Genevieve—for two years
 unless sooner removed.—
 John Hays Sheriff of the county of Cape Girardeau Same tenure
 Stephen Ross Sheriff of the county of N. Madrid—Same tenure

Secretary's Office, ST LOUIS Oct 1st 1815.

FREDERICK BATES Sec^y

NOTE May 4th A Writ of Election issued to the county of Ste Genevieve to supply the vacancy in the House of Representatives of the territory occasioned by the resignation of R. S. Thomas

Same to county of Washington to supply vacancies occasioned by death of P. McGuire & resigⁿ of Nich^s Wilson

Same to county of N Madrid to supply vacancy occasioned by resignation of H. H Smith.—

F. BATES Sec^y

[Endorsed] Missouri Territory Journal 1st ap^r to 1st Sep^r 1815.

EDWARD TIFFIN TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Lets. from SG, NWT:ALS]

Surveyor Generals Office CHILLICOTHE October 4th 1815

SIR By last nights mail I rec^d yours of the 27th ultimo,⁵⁸ enclosing a copy of the note addressed to you by the Secretary of the Treasury relative to the surveys to be executed in the Territory of Missouri—I shall immediately write to Gen^l Rector the principal Deputy, and see that the wishes of the Secretary and yourself be complied with relative thereto, with which I am well pleased—

In answer to the request “to transmit a copy at large of your contract with the principal Deputy Surveyor &^c &” I have to observe, that the Act of Congress of the 28th of February 1806⁵⁷ which provides for the appointment of a principal Deputy Surveyor for the Territory of Missouri, makes it “his duty to execute or cause to be executed by the other deputies, such surveys as may hereafter be authorized by Law” &^c & to which I formerly called your attention and was happy to find we thought alike on its construction—In consequence of which I issued to him precise and specific Instructions relative to the Surveys you directed to be executed in the Territory—with all the necessary forms—in which it was enjoined upon him so soon as he entered into any contracts to forward copies here in order to be copied & forwarded to your Office

From materials furnished by Governor Clark and other intelligent gentlemen who had explored that country Gen^l Rector formed a Sketch of the Country, and on very deliberate consultation a plan of the surveys which ought sooner or later to be executed therein. so soon as we get through this very troublesome business of the Kaskaskia district which occupies our attention I will have Copies of it and every other necessary paper made out and forwarded to you—and with which I doubt not you will be well pleased—

With great respect I am Your ob^t serv^t

EDWARD TIFFIN

THE HONORABLE JOSIAH MEIGS Esq^r Com^r G L Office

⁵⁸ *Ante*, p. 83.

⁵⁷ 2 STAT. 352-353.

[*Addressed*] The Honorable Josiah Meigs Esquire Com^r Gen^l
Land Office Washington [*Postmarked*] Chillicothe Ohio Oct. 6
Free

[*Endorsed*] Chillicothe 4 Octo^r 1815 E Tiffin relative to Contracts
for surveys made by principal deputy surveyors. Ack^d 13 Octo^r ⁵⁸

MEMORIAL OF THE GRAND JURY OF ARKANSAS COUNTY

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., M107:C]

[October 4, 1815]

To the Hon^e Rufus Easton Member of Congress,—

We the subscribers members composing the Grand Jury, in and for the County of Arkansas, in the territory of Missouri, beg leave to represent through you, to the proper departments of government, that we have seen the distribution of the Military force of the U. States on the Peace establishment,⁵⁹ and the stations of the different Corps composing the same, and that we regret very much, that one company, at least, has not been assigned for this County, the withdrawing of the regular troops heretofore quartered in this County, has deprived the people thereof, of their most effectual means of defence, and left them at the mercy of those merciless savages of the Country, who are yet hostile to our Citizens and Government; we therefore most earnestly pray that one Company of regular troops be stationed in this County—

That the people of this County labor under great inconvenience & expense for the want of a Post-office or offices in this County, we feel confident that such will be established, if properly represented by you, who we conceive to be perfectly acquainted with the Geography and population of this County—That although Congress have been liberal towards settlers on public lands, in giving them the right of pre-emption, yet the people of this County will not derive those advantages and benefits as contemplated unless an additional Land-Office is established in this territory, for this County, as well as a Registers office for the purpose of receiving the notices & Proofs of claims of land derived from the Spanish government, the distance from this to St^t Louis is so very great, and the necessary expenses of the journey would put it out of the power of a great majority of the people to make their entries. That the people of this County suffer great injury from the Arkansas & Chactaw tribe of Indians, who are daily in the habit of killing their cattle, hogs and stealing horses, & committing personal abuse on the Inhabitants, and unless the growing evil can soon be checked, the situation of stockholders in the county will be deplorable, as

⁵⁸ NA (GLO:Lets. to SG, I).

⁵⁹ Published in the *National Intelligence*.

well as the safety of the inhabitants—We therefore pray that an Agent may again be appointed for the Arkansas Indians as we are satisfied he could check such unwarrantable & savage acts.—

It is our most earnest wish that you will make use of all your influence and every exertion in your power to obtain the wishes of your very humble serv^{ts}

Done in the Grand Jury room this 4th Oct^r 1815

John Bevil
John Pyeatt
Ch^s Refeld
Harold Stillwell
Syvanus Phillips, (Foreman)
Ja. Bean
Joseph Hutsell
Geo Cook
Jno Dudley
Eli J Lewis
Curtis Wilborn

Edmund Hogan
D. Mooney
Silas Pledger
Geo Rankin
Jacob Pyeatt
Jno Hampton
W^m Strong
Jos. Stillwell
Richm^t Peeler
John Millmury^{59a}
P. Cassidy

[*Endorsed*] 4 October 1815. Memorial of the Grand Jury of the County of Arkansas in the Missouri Territory—requesting that a Company of regular troops may be stationed in that County April 1816.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO RECORDER BATES

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

6th October 1815

SIR An enquiry has been made at this Office whether claimants of Land, under the act of 17 feb; last “for the relief of the Inhabitants of the late County of New Madrid ” &c, may locate a claim in different places.

The act describes two classes of claimants, 1st those who claim less than 160 acres & who may locate 160 acres. 2nd Those who claim more, but who may not locate more than 640 Acres.

There is not any thing in the act that authorizes the Idea that any certificate you may issue can (legally) be located in different places; but as that Idea appears to be entertained, it will be necessary, that the certificates expressly state that the location of each individual claimant be made in one tract. You will not issue any patent certificates for locations which may have been made contrary to this regulation, because patents will not be granted upon such certificates.

I am &c

FREDERICK BATES Esq^r Recorder of Land titles S^t Louis.

^{59a} McIlmurray?

JOSIAH MEIGS TO EDWARD HEMPSTEAD

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

6th October 1815

SIR Your favor of 10th Ins^t ⁶⁰ has been received, & I tender you my thanks for the information it contains; in consequence thereof I have written to the recorder of S^t Louis (without naming you) that when he issues certificates to claimants under the act you mentioned, the certificates must state that each must be located in one tract: under this regulation no mischief can arise from the locations being made previous to the general survey being made.

I am &c

EDWARD HEMPSTEAD Esq^r S^t Louis.

SURVEYING CONTRACT OF JOSEPH C. BROWN

[NA:GLO, Lets. from SG, Mo., 1813-1824:DS]

[October 9, 1815]

Articles of agreement had made and concluded upon this ninth day of October in the year of our Lord One Thousand eight hundred & fifteen between William Rector, Principal Deputy surveyor of the Territory of Missouri Acting under the directions of the Surveyor General of the United States of the one part and Joseph C. Brown of the other part, Witnesseth that the Said Joseph C. Brown for and in consideration of the conditions terms provisions and covenants hereinafter expressed And According to the true intent and meaning thereof doth hereby covenant and agree with the said William Rector in his capacity aforesaid; that he the said Joseph C. Brown will faithfully and accurately do and perform the following Surveying in the Territory of Missouri agreeably to the laws of the United States & the instructions given him by the Said William Rector which are hereunto annexed and such further instructions as S^d Rector may hereafter give that is to say he the Said Joseph C. Brown will survey a Base Line due west, from the mouth of the S^t Francis river to the Arkansas River; on the completion of the Survey of the said Base Line in manner aforesaid the said J. C. Brown covenants any agrees to forward to the office of the Principal Deputy Surveyor the field notes made thereof. He the said J. C. Brown will then proceed to lay off and survey the exterior boundaries of all the townships and fractional Townships that are in ranges N^o 1 & 2 East of the Fifth Principal Meridian, and which are south of the Base line on the completion of the surveys of the said Townships and fractional Townships in manner aforesaid, the said J. C. Brown Covenants and agrees to forward to the office of the Principal Deputy Surveyor the field notes made thereof and he the said Joseph. C. Brown will then proceed to subdivide into sec-

⁶⁰ Error for ultimo; *ante*, p. 81.

tions and establish corners for quarter sections, the following six Townships that is to say Townships N° 1. 2. 3. 4. 5 & 6 South of the Base Line of range N° 3 West of the fifth principal Meridian, And that he will also lay out and Survey all the confirmed claims of individuals for land that may fall or lye within the Townships above mentioned that are to be subdivided (if any there be) and lay said surveys of claims down connectedly on the plats of the Townships agreeably to such instructions as may be given him by the said William Rector and the said Joseph C. Brown covenants & agrees that if in the course of performing the surveys above mentioned any corner shall fall (wheather of Township Section or quarter Section) within Any Prairie where bearing trees within any reasonable distance cannot be found then and in that case he will erect a mound of earth or sod as the marks of such corners and will firmly place therein posts of the usual size. The Mounds to be at least two feet six inches high and two feet six inches diameter at the Base, & the said Joseph C. Brown further covenants and agrees that he will make out three neat and Accurate Plats and descriptions of the aforesaid Base Line and of the exterior limits of the Townships to be surveyed in N° 1 & 2. East the plats of which shall be laid down by a scale of five miles or four hundred chains to an inch. According to their true length & position and connectedly, and also that he will make out three neat and accurate plats and descriptions of each of the aforesaid Townships which he shall subdivide into sections & as aforesaid with all the lines thereof according to their true length & position and that he will complete the whole of the Surveys and plats and descriptions aforesaid and make returns thereof within six months, from the date hereof on penalty of forfeiture and paying to the United States the sum of two Thousand dollars, if default be made in any of the foregoing conditions And the said William Rector covenants and agrees that on the completion of the work in Manner aforesaid there shall be paid to the said Joseph C. Brown on account of the United States as a full compensation for the whole expence of surveying & making the plats and descriptions as aforesaid three dollars per mile for every mile & part of a mile actually run and marked (random lines and offsets not included—provided no member of Congress have any part in the contract—

In testimony whereof the parties to this indenture have interchangeably set their hands and Seals the day & year aforesaid

W^m RECTOR P.D. Surveyor of the
Territory of Missouri (SEAL)
JOSEPH C BROWN

Signed Sealed & delivered in Presence of
William L. May Th^s Rector
(a Copy)

[*Endorsed*] W^m Rector P D Surveyor Territory of Missouri & Joseph C Brown Agreem^t ⁶¹

"Ten additional contracts for 1815 for surveying in Missouri are present in the same file as the above and are identical in language except for the area designated for survey. The first between William Rector and Byrd and Charles Lockhart, dated Oct. 12, 1815, contains the following designations: ". . . the exterior boundary lines of all the Townships, & fractional Townships that may be south of the Base line and between the range line that will pass between ranges N° 2 & 3 east of the Fifth Principal Meridian & east to the Mississippi river". After they have forwarded their field notes they will then ". . . proceed to subdivide into sections and establish corners for quarter sections all the Townships & fractional Townships that may be in range N° 3 East of the fifth principal Meridian which are south of the base line". This completed ". . . they will proceed to lay out & survey the exterior Boundary lines of. . . Townships N° 1. 2. 3. 4 & 5 North of the Base line from the fifth Principal Meridian East to the Mississippi River".

The second, with Daniel and John C. Sullivan, dated Oct. 17, 1815, provides for surveying ". . . the exterior boundary lines of all the Townships, and fractional Townps that may be South of the Base line and North of the Arkansas River in Ranges N° 1. 2. 3. 4. 5 & 6 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian"; also ". . . the exterior boundary lines of the following Townships and Fractional Townships viz, N° 6. 7. 8. 9. 10 & 11 North of the Base line from the Fifth Principal Meridian, East to the Mississippi River". But they are not to meander either the Mississippi or the Arkansas rivers.

In the third, dated Oct. 25, 1815, William L. May and Nelson Rector are assigned ". . . all the Township & fractional Townships that are south of the Base line in ranges N° 1 & 2 East of the fifth Principal Meridian". They are instructed to subdivide each of the townships into sections, establishing corners for quarter sections, if they find that the exterior boundary lines have been run. Otherwise ". . . they shall lay out and survey the exterior boundary lines of the aforesaid Townships as well as subdivide them into section &".

Similarly, in the fourth, dated Oct. 25, 1815, Angus L. Langham is assigned ". . . Townships N° 1. 2. 3. 4 & 5 South of the Base Line of Ranges N° 6 & 7 West of the Fifth Principal meridian, making in the whole ten Townships. The exterior boundary lines of which said Townships it is presumed will be surveyed before the said Angus L Langham shall commence his operations, on the ground, in which case the said Angus L Langham is to subdivide each of the said Townships into Sections and establish corners for quarter Sections". If the boundaries have not been run, he is to survey them before beginning the subdivisions.

The fifth with Stephen Rector, dated Oct. 27, 1815, designates the following tract: ". . . Townships N° 1. 2. 3. 4 & 5 South of the Base line of Ranges N° 1 & 2 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian". This tract is to be subdivided into sections with corners for quarter sections with the same provision in regard to boundary lines as the preceding.

Likewise, in the sixth, dated Nov. 1, 1815, Thomas Cox is instructed to subdivide into sections and establish corners for quarter sections the following tract; ". . . all the Townships and fractional Townships that are in Ranges N° 1 & 2 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, and between the East

ROBERT WASH TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., W364:ALS]

St LOUIS Oct. 21st 1815.

SIR. The inclosed Bill of Exchange in favour of Mathew Kerr or Order, for nine hundred & twelve dollars, has been drawn on account of services rendered the Commissioners; (as will be seen by their Certificate herewith forwarded). The precise compensation provided by the Government for such services, was never made

& West line, which shall pass between Townships N° 5 & 6 South of the Base Line and the Arkansas River and all the Townships and fractional Townships that are in Range N° 3 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian and between the East & West line which shall pass between Townships N° 6 & 7 South of the Base line and the Arkansas River". He is also instructed to survey the boundary lines if they are not complete.

The seventh, made with Elias Rector and Gabriel Field, dated Nov. 4, 1815, designates: ". . . all the Townships and fractional Townships that are South of the Base line to the Arkansas River in Ranges N° 4. 5 & 8 West of the Fifth principal Meridian". This tract is to be subdivided into sections and corners for quarter sections established with the provision for boundary lines as in the foregoing.

In the eighth, dated Nov. 7, 1815, Stephen Hempstead is assigned six hundred miles surveying: ". . . the exterior boundary lines of all the Townships and fractional Townships, that are South of the Base Line to the Arkansas River, and West of the Range Line passing between Ranges N° 8 & 9 West of the Fifth principal Meridian, to the Arkansas River And also to subdivide into Sections and establish corners for quarter Sections as many of the said Townships and fractional Townships as shall (including the exterior boundary lines of Townships) amounts to Six hundred miles Surveying". And if this does not complete his six hundred miles he is to subdivide the next or as many Ranges of townships west as will complete the assignment.

The ninth, with Henry Elliott, dated Nov. 17, 1815, designates: ". . . all the Townships and fractional Townships that are East of the Range Line passing between Ranges N° 3 & 4 East of the Fifth principal Meridian and South of the Base Line to the Mississippi River". If this does not total six hundred miles surveying he is to complete the assignment from the following: ". . . Townships immediately North of the Base Line in Ranges N° 4 & 5 East of the Fifth Principal meridian".

And in the tenth, dated Dec. 2, 1815, William Russell agrees to survey ". . . all the Lands reported for confirmation or Grant to individuals by the late Board of Commissioners of Land claims and by the Recorder of Land titles for the Territory of Missouri and which Lands are situated within the tract of Country to be laid off and Surveyed for Military bounties between the St Francis and Arkansas Rivers". He further agrees to survey ". . . all the Lands of the United States that may remain or be within the Townships and Fractional Townships which may not be subdivided by the aforesaid Deputy Surveyors on account of the presumption that one third part of such Townships and fractional Townships are taken up or occupied by the confirmed claims of individuals". And finally he agrees ". . . that he will connect the Surveys of individuals with the Sectional Lines and corners in such manner as from the Field Notes that it may be known with certainty, the precise situation on the Plats of Townships of each Survey of an individual".

known to the Commissioners;—with their advice however, I have ventured to draw for six dollars per day,⁶² up to the date of their Certificate. Services rendered & expences incurred since that date, will render necessary on their part, another settlement with the Government; By which time it is believed, that such information will have been received from your Department, as to enable them to act with precision on the subject.

I have the honor to be Sir, most respectfully Your Obed^t Hum^{b^{le}} Serv^t

R: WASH Sec^{try} to the Commission

THE HONB^{le} W^m H. CRAWFORD Secretary of War

[Addressed] The Honb^{le} W^m H. Crawford Secretary of War
Washington [Postmarked] St. Louis Oct. 23 Free

[Endorsed] S^t Louis Oct 21st 1815 R. Wash Esq^r relative to the draft in favor of Matthew Kerr for \$912 being for that sum due him as Secretary to Gov^r Clarke & Com^{rs} Dec 1815

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO J. AUSTIN

[NA:PO, P. M. Letter Book T]

November 1. 1815.

J. AUSTIN Esqr. Mine au Burton M^o T.

SIR I have received yours of the 25th of September⁶³ M^r McArthur is regularly paid for such routes as he carries the mail on in conformity with his proposal—he has had regular pay for transporting the mail on the route that your letter refers to.⁶⁴

R. J. MEIGS

ALEXANDER MCNAIR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

St Louis November 11th 1815 MISSOURI TERRITORY

TO THE HONORABLE JAMES MONROE Secretary of State—

DEAR SIR An Idea now prevailing in this Territory that at the next session of Congress a view will be taken of the United States

⁶² Compensation was fixed by the United States at \$5 a day. See Wash to the Secretary of War, Dec. 15, 1815, Jan. 27 and Mar. 11, 1816 (NA, WD, SW, Lets. Recd., W8, W55 and W78), relative to the same matter. See also Auguste Chouteau to the Secretary of War, Oct. 16, 1815, and Feb. 16, 1816 (*ibid.*, C406 and C71), also concerning compensation as one of the commissioners.

⁶³ Not found.

⁶⁴ See also the Postmaster General to Cooper, Apr. 29, 1816 (*Terr. Papers*, Ill., xvii, 328), relative to the carriage of mail between Harrisonville, Illinois Territory, and Herculanum and Mine à Burton.

lead mines in this Territory and some plan adopted to make them more profitable to the Government In such case I presume an Agent will be appointed

Permit me to mention to your Excellency the name of Colonel William H. Ashley of this Territory who from his long experience in Mining and lead bususness and his knowledge of those who have generally been engaged in mining I think well qualified to discharge the duties of United States agent for the Mines

Colonel Ashley is a man of honor and integrity and as such I name him to my friend and Goverment, the Co¹ has taken a verry active part in the defence of this Territory during the late War, as a gentleman an Officer and a soldier none stood higher with our late and worthy friend General Howard.

Ever wishing you health and happiness I have the Honor to be your friend & Hb¹ S^t

A M^cNAIR

[*Endorsed*] W^m H. Ashley. 1815.

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO ROBERT SIMPSON

[NA:PO, P.M. Letter Book T]

Novem^r 13. 1815

ROBERT SIMPSON Esqr. P. M. St. Louis M^o T.

SIR I have received your letter of the 22nd Ult^o ^{es}—Mr M^cArthur agreeably to the Books of this office appears to have been paid up to January next,—in the next payment that we send him we shall endeavour to send drafts—and we shall have occasion to draw on you for such money as may be in your hands belonging to this office

R. J. MEIGS

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO JOHN MCARTHUR

[NA:PO, P.M. Letter Book T]

14 Novem^r 1815

M^r JOHN M^cARTHUR St Genevieve M^o T.

SIR Your subcontractors complain, that they are not duly paid—and urge payment from this office—we have already paid you for three quarters of the current year and to enable you to meet your engagements the currents quarters pay will be forwarded immediately—by our books you were indebted for a balance on your former contract—but on examination the error was discovered, and is now corrected

R. J. MEIGS

^{es} Not found.

JUDGE STUART TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

S^t LOUIS Nov^r 27th 1815

SIR—I have been informed that the Government have it in contemplation to appoint a surveyor for this Territory who will hold his office independent of the Surveyor General of the United States—In that event, I take the liberty of recommending to your attention General William Rector as a gentleman in all respects qualified to discharge the duties of that office—Gen^l Rector is the present Deputy Surveyor for this district; he also acted in that capacity for many years in the Illinois Territory with much credit to himself—In short I have known him intimately for six years past, & in all that time have never heard imputed to him an unworthy or dishonorable action, either in his private, or official capacity; but on the contrary he is by all considered a gentleman of the most incorruptible integrity

I am very respectfully your very Hb^{le} Se^{rt}ALEX^a STUARTHON^{le} JA^s MONROE[Endorsed] W^m Rector. 1815.

GOVERNOR CLARK TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., C10:LS]

S^t LOUIS December 11th 1815

SIR, As you may not have been made acquainted with the perils and difficulties under which this Territory laboured for the two last years, The great exertions made by the British to engage all the Indians in war against us, and the steps taken to counteract the British Influence which was begining to spread amongst the numerous tribes of the Missouri—I beg leave to observe that after useing such Military means as was under my Controal which in its effect did not sufficiently check that Influence, which threatened every part of the scattered population of this Territory with a distructive warfare—

I adopted the only expedient in my power calculated to check the British Influence and the extention of British warfare, which was to set some of the large Tribes of the Missouri, nearest our southern Frontiers, at War against the Tribes of the Mississippi who were our most distructive Enemies ^{65a}—

To effect this I furnished suitable merchandize to Pr^e Chouteau Esq^r the Osage agent and sent him to that nation, he succeeded in sending a party to war with good effect—Manuel Lisa Esq^r a span-

^{65a} See also *ante*, XIV, 671–675.

ish Gentleman of property, in this place and some influence amongst the Indians of the Missouri, a man of good sence and great persevereance, I appointed a Sub agent, furnished him with some Merchandize, and sent him to the Sioux, Mahaws and Pawnies he succeeded to my expectations and has produced valuable changes in the dispositions of those Tribes as per his report inclosed ⁶⁶—

M^r Manuels ⁶⁷ account for expenditures, which is also inclosed, ⁶⁸ I must beg leave to refer to you for your approval or disapproval

This account is for presents made to the Sioux returned from war, and provisions to sick Indians on their return from the Treaty several of whom died on their return—

I have the Honor to be Your Ob^t Hb^l Serv^t

W^m CLARK

THE HONB^{le} WILLIAM H. CRAWFORD Secretary of War

[Addressed] The Honb^{le} Secretary of War

[Endorsed] St Louis 11 Dec^r 1815. Gov^r W^m Clarke relative to the measures taken for preserving the quiet of the Territory against Indian hostilities mentions the Services of M^r Choutou & Lesa &c &c—Jany 1816

DELEGATE EASTON TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., E7:ALS]

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES December 21st 1815

SIR, The Secretary of the Missouri Territory having taken the proof and adjusted the claims of several individuals of that Territory who have claims on the Government for horses and other property stolen by the Indians—

I have been solicited by the claimants among whom are David Logan and Francis Clark to obtain payment on their behalf—It has been along time since the damage was done and I have been informed that the only reason why they could not be paid was that the monies appropriated to that object had been expended and that a new appropriation is requisite—Will you be so good as to state whether measures will be taken by the department of war to satisfy those claims

I have the honor to be very respectfully Sir your Obed^t Servant

RUFUS EASTON

THE HONORABLE THE SECRETARY OF WAR,

⁶⁶ Present.

⁶⁷ Manuel Lisa.

⁶⁸ Not present.

[*Endorsed*] House of Representatives 21 Dec^r 1815 Hon: Rufus Easton relative to the claims of several individuals of the Missouri Territory Jany 1816

RESOLUTION OF THE TERRITORIAL ASSEMBLY

[NA:HF, 14 Cong., 1 sess.:C ⁶⁹]

[December 25, 1815]

WHEREAS a law has been passed at the last session of the General assembly of the Territory of Missouri erecting that part of the County of New Madrid which lies westward of the River St Francis in the said territory into a separate County by the name of Laurence, and appointing Commissioners to choose a suitable place and purchase six hundred and forty acres of land as a scite on which to erect the public buildings and establish the permanent seat of Justice for the said County of Laurence,⁷⁰ AND WHEREAS, but few Claims to land in the said County have been Confirmed or granted to individuals none of which as is stated to this General Assembly, and believed to be true, are suitably situated or Central to the inhabitants of the said County as a Convenient place for the permanent seat of Justice therein, AND WHEREAS the General Assembly of the territory of Missouri wish to Cherish the large and thriving settlements of Laurence County and promote the interest and welfare of its inhabitants, in number more than sufficient to entitle them to two Representatives to the General Assembly as is proven by the last Census laid before this legislature—Therefore

Resolved by the General Assembly of the Territory of Missouri That Congress is hereby Respectfully requested to pass a law granting to the said County of Laurence or to Lewis De Mun, William Robinson William Hix Sen^r David Magness Sollomon Hewitt Andrew Creswell and Isaac Kelly the Commissioners of said County and their successors on the part of said County and for its use, six Hundred and forty acres of the public lands, at such a place as the Commissioners appointed may Choose for a scite on which to lay off a town to be Called Laurence in Commemoration of the american naval hero the late Captain James Laurence, and to erect the public Buildings and establish the permanent seat of Justice, to be surveyed immediately by the deputy Surveyor General, or such other person as may be appointed under the Authority of the United States and in such form as the Commissioners aforesaid may request, not to exceed double the lenth of its Breadth,

Resolved also that the Governor be requested to transmit a Copy

⁶⁹ A copy is also found as an enclosure in the Executive Journal, Oct. 1, 1815–Sept. 30, 1816. See *post*, p. 187.

⁷⁰ Jan. 15, 1815 (Mo. TERR. LAWS, 1814–1815, pp. 63–71).

hereof to our Delegate in Congress, and that he is hereby required to use his endeavors to have this memorial and resolution Carried into effect

JAMES CALDWELL Speaker of the
house of Representatives
WILLIAM NEELY President of the
Legislative Council

approved Dec^r 25th 1815

[*Endorsed*] Resolutions of The Legislature of the Missouri Territory Jany. 17. 1816 Ref^a to the Committee on the public Lands ²¹ Dec^r 30.—1816 Ref^a to the Committee on the public Lands Jan^y—17—1817 Report made—prayer denied Dec^r 18. 1817 Ref^a to the Committee on the Public Lands. Scott M. 30. Pub Lands Easton 2. 1^a

GOVERNOR CLARK TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., C:ALS]

MISSOURI TERRITORY S^t Louis *December* 28th 1815

SIR Under a presumption that the Present Congress will pass a Law placing the Lead Mines within this Territory, under the Superintendence of an Agent, or Agents; Col. William H. Ashley has applied to me to Recommend him for that appointment.—Col. Ashley Commands one of the Militia Regiments in this Territory, and resides at or near the Mine au Briton, he is a man highly respected, and as well calculated for such an agency (as respects his Capacity & integrity) as any man that I am acquainted with in that part of the Territory

I have the honor to be Your Mo Ob^t H Sert

W^m CLARK

JOSIAH MEIGS Esquire Com Gen. Land office—

[*Addressed*] Josiah Meigs Esquire Com: Gen. of the Land Office Washington City [*Postmarked*] Louisville Ky 17th Jan^y 1816 Free

[*Endorsed*] S^t Louis 28th Dec^r 1815 Gov^r Clarke recommends as Agent for Lead mines Col: Ashley.

MARIE PIERRE LEDUC TO SECRETARY BATES

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., L48:ALS]

S^t LOUIS *December* 30th 1815

DEAR SIR, The unhealthy situation of Major Peter Chouteau offers me an opportunity to communicate with you and at his request in-

²¹ *Annals*, 14 Cong., 1 sess., 688.

form you that the delay occasioned by the disease of his son Peter together with his present state of health will prevent his going to Washington City this present Session, he being sick with a violent cold, and a Sciatick—and at this time such a quantity of Snow that travelling appears almost impracticable.

Major Chouteau desires me to acquaint you that his main object would have been to represent the impossibility of his residing at the Osage village (as contemplated by Government that the Indian Agents Should remain with the nation under their agencies). The osages are not stationary, Hunger compels them to follow the Herds of Buffaloes and other animals for subsistence some time at the distance of Six hundred Miles, from whence they return about the time of Planting & gathering corn, Should the agent be at the village when they are gone he certainly would run the risk of being killed or at least plundered by other tribes who very often in the summer destroy the cabbins & crops of the osages.

It is the opinion of Major Chouteau, that the interest of the General Government as well as for the better management of these Indians, that the agent should go and visit them twice a year to wit, in April and august, as those Indians return from their wintering Hunts about the middle of March to Plant corn, leave their village in the first part of May and return again towards the end of July and abandon it some time in September, after gathering their corn.

From this Statement, Should any inquiry be made you will be prepare to answer with regard to this agency and satisfy the enquirers about the Situation of the osages and as what relates the duties of Major Chouteau.

General William Rector has recovered and is now at the head of Business.

Accept the best wishes of Major Chouteau & Lady.

As nothing worthy of your notice happened here since my first, this being the second I shall close it and Subscribe myself very respectfully Your most affectionate Serv^t

M. P. LEDUC

FREDERICK BATES, Esq^r

[Addressed] Frederick Bates Esq^r Washington, City [Post-marked] St Louis Jan. 1 37½

[Endorsed] St. Louis, Decem^r 30. 1816. M. P. Leduc to Fred. Bates—Represents the impossibility of Major Chouteau's, Ind Ag^t residing at the Osage villages—The osages not stationary—Suggests it is the interest of the government as well as for the better management of these Indians, that the agent visit them twice a year &c. Rec^d May—1816

EDWARD TIFFIN TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Lets. from SG, Mo., 1818-1824:ALS]

Surveyor Generals Office CHILLICOTHE *January 1st 1816*

SIR Mr. Rector the principal deputy Surveyor for the Territory of Missouri having forwarded to me copies of the contracts he had entered into for surveying the Military Lands between the S^t Francis and the Arkansas rivers,⁷² I have after making a record of them in this Office now forwarded them to you, with a plan of the district and the work assigned to each Surveyor designated thereon. He has also forwarded a list of private claims furnished him by M^r Bates Recorder of Land titles amounting to the number of 143 claims, all of which are stated to lye in the County of Arkansas, and most of them within the Military district, but I have thought it unnecessary to trouble you with a copy of them as yet—

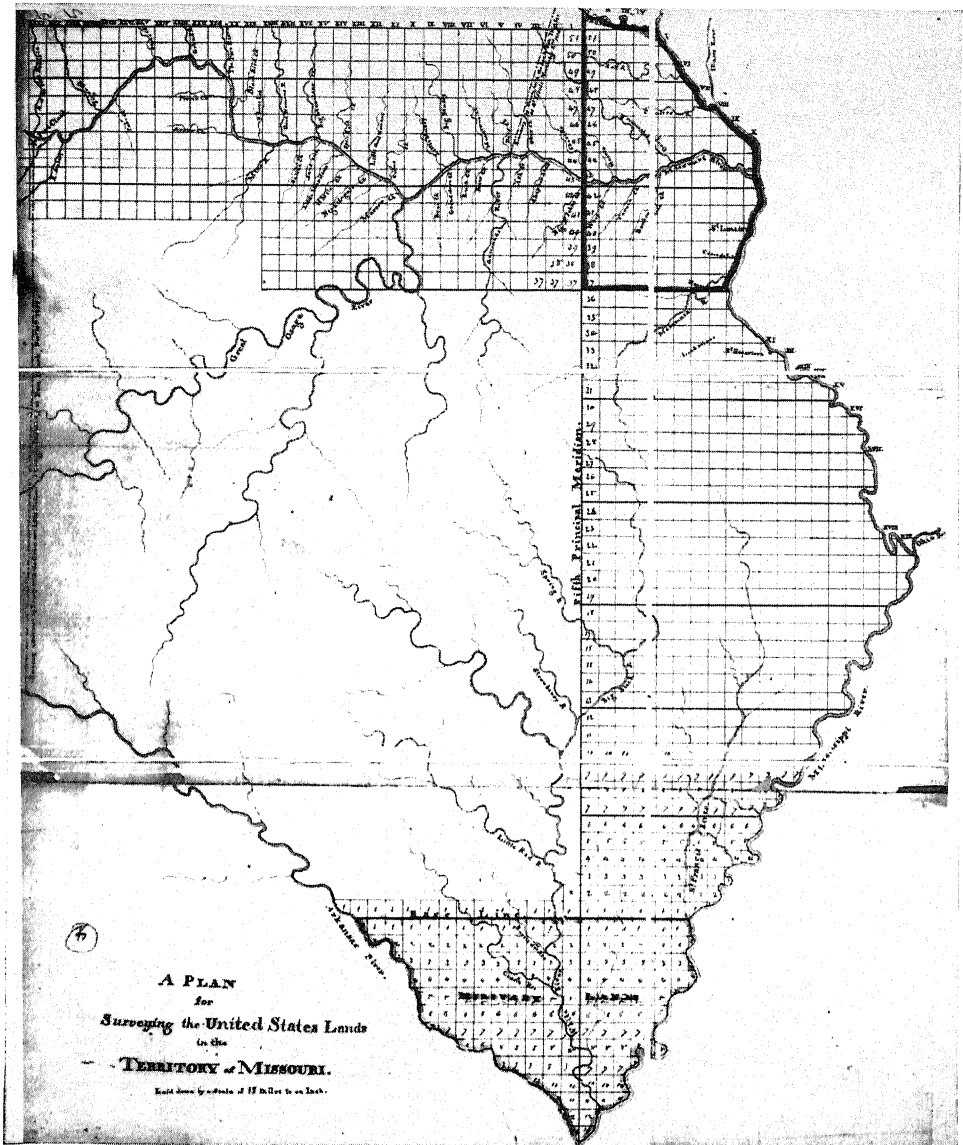
I also herewith forward a plan for surveying the Lands of the United States in the Territory of Missouri.⁷³ The Sketch of the country General Rector stated to me was made from materials furnished by Governor Clark and a number of intelligent persons who possessed the best means of information which so extensive a country and one so little exposed could furnish. It is stated that the private claims (which are very numerous) lay scattered through all that part laid off in the plan into townships, and which indeed will not still embrace the whole—and that the Inhabitants are becoming restless to get their titles.

General Rector states that he has no apprehensions that the Indians will in the least interfere with the Surveyors—and I have taken much pains to ascertain that those Indians who migrated some time ago across the Mississippi river to Missouri under an understanding (I think) with Col^o R J Meigs & the agents of the Government in that quarter—will not be interfered with in this plan as they are settled considerably West of the 5th principal Meridian and North of the base line from the mouth of the S^t Francis to the Arkansas river. He, General Rector is quite anxious so soon as the Military Lands are surveyed to be permitted to proceed with the other public surveys—

I also herewith forward my Account current with the United States up to the 1st of January 1816 which you will please direct to be handed to M^r Harrison Auditor of the Treasury, altho the Comptroller of the Treasury directed me early last year to send my Acc^t Current at the close of any quarter, yet I shall in future for-

⁷² *Ante*, p. 89.

⁷³ See *ante*, p. 26.



Enclosed to Meigs by Tiffin in his letter of January 1, 1816. The original drawing has been reduced, making the scale no longer true.

ward it at the close of every quarter—and as we have good reason to expect to receive returns of the large contract from Mr Harris in General Harrison last purchase as well as a large proportion of the Military Lands soon—I will thank you to request the Secretary of the Treasury to open credits for me at some of the Land Offices in this Country that I may be able to meet the demands which will be pretty extensive and crowd fast upon one another.

with great respect I am Your ob^t serv^t

EDWARD TIFFIN

THE HONORABLE JOSIAH MEIGS Com^r G L Office Washington

[*Addressed*] The Honorable Josiah Meigs Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office Washington

[*Endorsed*] Chillicothe 1 Jan. 1816 E^d Tiffin with copies of contracts of mil^y surveys in Missouri, & plan of survey^s in that territ^y—Rector wishes to proceed with surveys in it—wants a credit ans^d ⁷⁴

REPORT OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS

[NA:HF, 14 Cong., 1 sess.:AD]

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OF THE UNITED STATES.

January 4th 1816.

On motion of Mr Easton,

Resolved, That the Committee on the Public Lands be instructed to enquire into the expediency of providing by law for the establishment of a Land Office for the sale of the Public Lands, at the town of Arkansas in the County of Arkansas and a land office at the town of Jackson in the County of Cape Girardeau, in the territory of Missouri ⁷⁵—

Attest. S. BURCH for the Ck.

The Committee on the public lands to whom the above resolution was referred have had the same under consideration and report that a land office is already established in the territory, and and that it is inexpedient to add to the number till the Surveys are in a greater state of forwardness than they are at present—They recommend the following Resolution—

Resolved that it is inexpedient at this time to establish a land office for the sale of public lands at the town of Arkansas in the Territory of Missouri or at the town of Jackson in the county of cape Girardeaux in the same Territory

⁷⁴ *Post*, p. 103.

⁷⁵ *House Journal*, 14 Cong., 1 sess., p. 122.

[*Endorsed*] Report of the Committee on the Public Lands to which was referred a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 4th of Jan^y 1816—Directing them to enquire into the expediency of Establishing Land offices in the County of Arkansas, & at the town of Jackson in the County of Cape Girardeau.—March 21, 1816 Read, & the resolution therein contained, Concurred in by the House ⁷⁶

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

12th Jan^y 1816.

SIR I had the honor of receiving, this day, your reference of a letter from Rufus Easton, relative to Boon's Lick Settlement on the Missouri.⁷⁷—

I do not perceive that the writer of the letter has any specific object in view, on which he can receive information from this office; for whether the Osage Indian Nation, had, on the 31st of August, 1809, a right to cede territory including Boon's Lick Settlement, is a question, on which, certainly I have not the means of deciding.—

I have the honor &c.

HON. ALEX^r J. DALLAS Secret^y of the Treasury.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

12th Jan^y 1816.

SIR, On the 22^d Sept^r last you authorised the surveying of the exterior lines of about two hundred townships in the territory of Missouri; ⁷⁸ as a Register and Receiver have been appointed for the district of S^t Louis, ⁷⁹ I presume it was the intention of Government to have some lands prepared for sale at that place, and I therefore suggest the propriety of preparing for sale, about 105 townships in the vicinity of S^t Louis, the expence of doing which will be about 22,000 dollars—

I have the honor &c.

HON. ALEX^r J. DALLAS Secretary of the Treasury.

⁷⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 519.

⁷⁷ Not found.

⁷⁸ *Ante*, p. 82.

⁷⁹ *Ante*, pp. 17, 18.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO EDWARD TIFFIN

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, 1]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 12th Jan^y 1816.

SIR, Your letter of 1st Ins^t and its enclosures have been received; your accounts have been sent to the Auditor.

You say "Gen^l Rector is quite anxious so soon as the Military lands are surveyed to be permitted to proceed with the other public surveys."

On the 27th Sept^r last I sent you a copy of a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury to me,⁸⁰ authorizing the survey of the exterior lines of about two hundred townships in Missouri territory, and I have submitted to him the propriety of preparing for sale at S^t Louis the lands in the vicinity of that place, say about 105 townships, when I am apprized of his determination it shall be communicated to you.—

I am &c.

EDWARD TIFFIN Esq. Surveyor General Chillicothe.

Be pleased to say how much of your last credit is unexpended, what additional credit you wish to have and how soon and where?

When do you expect the Military lands in Missouri & Illinois territories will be surveyed and ready for patenting? How soon will Harrison's purchase be ready for sale?⁸¹ J. M.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO EDWARD TIFFIN

[NA:GLO,SG,NWT, Lets. Recd., VI:ALS]

S^t Louis TERRITORY OF MISSOURI Jan^y 15th 1816

D^r SIR By the last mail I forwarded to you the Field Notes and Plat of the Fifth Principal Meridian from the confluence of the Mississippi and Arkansas Rivers to the Missouri River which measured Three hundred and seventeen miles 32 chains & 76 Links, and struck the Missouri River about thirty six miles West of this place. By refering to the field notes you will discover that great part of the Country over which this line passes from the Mouth of the Arkansas to the intersection of the Base Line is generally covered with water from three to fifteen feet deep. At the time M^r Robbins Surveyed that part of the Line the waters were uncommonly low little or no rain having fallen for a long time before. He was therefore able to get the line through that low part of the Country without much difficulty on account of water. I this morn-

⁸⁰ *Ante*, p. 83.

⁸¹ Answered Feb. 1, 1816 (NA, GLO, Lets. from SG, NWT).

ing received information from several of the Deputy Surveyors who are working in that quarter that the waters had risen & about the 20th of December covered a large portion of the Country South of the Base Line, and was then rising and that in consequence thereof it would be impossible for them to perform the whole of the work they had contracted to do.—It does not seem necessary that the overflown Lands, should be surveyed as it is not of the description secured by Law to the Soldiers nor would it shortly if ever sell. Knowing that you are desirous to have the Surveys of the Military Lands Completed as soon as possible I feel much solicitude on the subject and hope you will forward to me as soon as convenient instructions how I am to act in the business. Perhaps it would be a good plan to lay off into Townships a tract of Country sufficiently large (North of the Base Line between the S^t Francis and Arkansas Rivers,) to include as much good Land as will make up the proper quantity for military bounties. In that case such Townships as should be found to contain a large portion of Land unfit for cultivation need not at present be subdivided into Sections &c. Any plan that you may think proper to lay down for my government, I shall exert myself to execute as soon as possible and should I get your instructions soon I hope yet to be able to complete the Surveys of the whole of the Military bounty Lands before the hot weather sets in

M^r Brown who Surveyed the Base Line informs me that the whole length of that Line from the Mouth of the S^t Francis River to the Arkansas River is 84½ miles, From the 5th principal meridian to the Mouth of S^t Francis some chains more than 26 miles from the Meridian to the Arkansas some chains more than 58 miles, Nelson Rector died at the mouth of the S^t Francis River on the 17th of November—M^r May who in partnership with him contracted to subdivide, Ranges N^o 1 & 2 East of the Meridian, is now working in those Ranges & will I understand be able to Survey, all the Land South of the Base line that is not inundated—By the next mail I shall forward to you the contracts for the Surveying of the balance of the 200 Townships⁸²

A part of the unfinished business in the Illinois Territory has lately been done—and the balance of it will be completed as soon as practicable, in haste

I am D^r Sir with much respect Your ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR

EDWARD TIFFIN Esquire Surveyor General of the U. States

⁸² *Post*, p. 109.

[Addressed] Edward Tiffin Esquire Surveyor General of the United States Chillicothe State of Ohio Mail [Postmarked] St Louis Jan. 15 37½

[Endorsed] St Louis Gen^l Rector rec^d Feb^y 4th 1816 relative to Surveying Military bounties Ans^d same day ⁸³

GOVERNOR CLARK TO THE PRESIDENT

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., C54:ALS]

MISSOURI TERRITORY St LOUIS *January 22nd 1816*

SIR By the request of the Legislative Council and house of Representatives of this Territory—I have the honor to enclose you their Resolution; “Concerning the Indian Lands Claimed in the County of St Gennevieve and Cape Gerridou”.—

From the partial reference to the Recorder Books at this place, it would appear that the Showonees and Delawars, by virtue of a permission from the Baron Carondelet (gov^r general) dated at New-orleans the 4th of January 1793, are authorised to Settle on any of the vacant Lands on right bank of the River Mississippi, between the Rivers Missouri & Arkansaw. Conditioned that as soon as they should abandon their Settlements the lands they had taken possession of pursuant to the said promission, should be considered vacant—I am not informed the further proceedings as respects their claim or permission to settle.

I have the Honor to be with the highest respect Your Mo Ob^t H^e Sert

W^m CLARK

Mr MADISON President of the U. States

[Addressed] Mr Madison President of the U S

[Endorsed] St Louis 22^d January 1816 Gov^r W^m Clarke Enclosing a resolution of the Legislature of the Missouri Territory relative to the claim of Indians at Genevieve & Cape Gerredou—Feb^y 1816.

[Enclosures]

Resolutions of the Territorial Assembly

[January 22, 1816]

To the Honourable the Senate and house of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

WHEREAS it appears to the General Assembly of the Territory of Missouri that great and frequent Inconveniences have arisen be-

⁸³ Not found.

tween some of the White inhabitants of the Counties of S^t Genevieve and Cape Girardeau and the Shawanese and Delaware Indians residing therein and it is apprehended that greater and more serious Consequences may flow from the proclamation which has been resently Issued by his Excellency the Governor of this Territory⁸⁴ Owing to the nature, extent and unsettled State of the Indian Claim, which it is confidently believed originated only from a permission to Settle and hunt which was given to them when they Emigrated to this Country about Twenty eight years ago, Though they are permitted to claim a Tract of Country Bounded on the Mississippi from a few Miles above the Town of Cape Girardeau in the same County, and runing up the river to the mouth of the Cape Cinq Hommes Creek in the County of S^t Genevieve nearly Forty Miles, Thence extending back from the Mississippi, Westwardly to a Creek called white water about Twenty miles in breadth at the upper End but not so much at the lower End, And it having been generally understood from the Officers Commanding the said Counties or districts under the former Government that those Scattered parts of Indian Tribes were not Expected to hold much Lands If any, Permission was some times given by those Spanish Officers to white people to settle at the distance of three four or five Miles from some of their Villages then four or five in number, Those White people thus settled have almost in every instance had their Claims granted or Confirmed by the Board of Commissioners, And nevertheless the Indians claim all the Tract above discribed although there have been a great many tracts of land within the same granted and Confirmed to Individuals; People emigrating to the Country believing from the above stated permissions having been given by the former Officers, and the said land since Confirmed that the greater part of the above discribed indian claims must be public Land—and many persons have been induced to Settle thereon, some of whom have made considerable Improvements and are now required by his Excellency's Proclamation to remove therefrom without Delay;—This Tract Claimed by those Indians includes a Considerable portion of the richest and most fertile part of the Counties aforesaid and is entirely Surrounded with flourishing Settlements of White people and if the Indian Claim Should prove Invalid, or be curtailed, so that the residue could Speedily be disposed of by the General Government it would much contribute to the population of that part of the Country and secure tranquility to the neighbouring Inhabitants.—

Resolved therefore by the General Assembly of the Territory

⁸⁴ *Post*, p. 191.

aforesaid that Congress be and they are hereby respectfully requested to make such disposition of the above Stated Indian Claim as they in their wisdom may deem reasonable and Just, By giving those Indians lands some where Else in the unsettled parts of the Territory; Many of them having already removed, so that several of their old Villages are evacuated, or by determining on what quantity they shall be intitled to, and causing the same to be Speedily Surveyed which it is believed would give General Satisfaction, And at the same time that the people may not be Compelled to leave their Improvements untill the Indian Claim in those parts be finally Settled.

Resolved also that the Governor be and is hereby respectfully requested to cause one Copy hereof to be transmitted to the President of the United States one to the Honourable the Speaker of the house of representatives of the United States, And one to our deligate in Congress who is hereby respectfully requested to use his best endeavours to have the same carried into effect.⁸⁵

JAMES CALDWELL Speaker of the
house of Representatives
W^m NEELY President of the
Legislative Council.

A Copy App^d Jan^y 22nd 1816

W^m CLARK

[*Endorsed*] Resolutions in relation to the Shawnee & Delaware Indians and the lands on which they and certain inhabitants are Settled.⁸⁶—Easton F. 16. Pub Lands Resolution of the Gen^l Assembly of the Territory of Missouri (Decision on Indian Claims) Feb^y 16, 1816 Ref^d to the Committee on the Public Lands ⁸⁷ Jan^y 9th 1817 Ref^d to the Secretary of War. Scott, T. 9. Sec. War

Order of the House of Representatives

In the House of Representatives of the United States

January 9th 1817

On motion of M^r Scott,⁸⁸

⁸⁵ See similar resolution, *post*, p. 234.

⁸⁶ This memorial was presented to the House of Representatives, Feb. 14, 1816 (*House Journal*, 14 Cong., 1 sess., p. 341). It was referred to the Secretary of State by an order of the House of Representatives, Feb. 15, 1816, *ibid.*, p. 348. A copy of the order and a copy of the memorial are in NA (SD, Mo. Terr. Papers).

⁸⁷ *House Journal*, 14 Cong., 1 sess., p. 352.

⁸⁸ John Scott served as Delegate from Missouri Territory in the first session of the Fourteenth Congress only until Jan. 13, 1817, see *post*, p. 236 n.

Ordered that the resolutions of the General Assembly of the Territory of Missouri,—Approved January 22^d 1816.—be referred to the Secretary of War.—

Attest.

S. BURCH Prin: Clk
for THOMAS DOUGHERTY C H. R

[*Endorsed*] House of Representatives Jan^y 9th 1817 Ordered that the Memorial of the Legislature of Missouri be referred to the Sec^y of War Jan^y 1817

RESOLUTIONS OF THE TERRITORIAL ASSEMBLY

[NA:SF, 15 Cong., 1 sess.:C]

[January 22, 1816]

To the Honorable the Senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.

The General Assembly of the Territory of Missouri respectfully represents that the Proclamation of the president of the United States of the twelfth day of december in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifteen⁹⁰ ordering settlers one the public Lands to remove therefrom on or before the tenth day of March next, (if carried into effect) deeply involve the Interest and Welfare of a considerable portion of the Inhabitants of this Territory by taking from them their dwellings which altho' they do not hold under the sanction of Law they had reason to believe from the indulgence which has been almost uniformly given by Congress not only by their acquittance in such settlements but by extending to them the right of pre'emption they would be permitted quietly to occupy untill the public Lands should be surveyed and offered for sale, The said General assembly further represents that those persons who are settled on public lands in this Territory are generally peaceable and inoffensive Citizens who pretend to no claim to the land on which they have settled nor claim any preference to purchase the same nor have they settled thereon with any views of permanancy but only to wait till the public land shall be put into market, And whereas in the opinion of this General Assembly The Interests of the United States would not be materially affected by a suspension of the operation of said proclamation untill the public Lands in this Territory are offered for sale, as far as respects this territory and such a suspension would greatly benefit a number of the inhabitants of this Territory who are agreculturest depending solely upon the produce of their farms for the support of themselves

⁹⁰ Richardson (comp.), *Messages and Papers*, I, 572-573.

and their families and would comport with the Justice and Liberality of the General Government⁹¹

Resolved therefore by this General Assembly that Congress is hereby respectfully requested to take the premises into consideration and provide such relief as in their Wisdom and Justice they may deem proper.

Resolved also that his excellency the Governor be and he is hereby requested as soon as may be, to transmit a Copy hereof to our delegate in Congress from this Territory—

JAMES CALDWELL Speaker of the
house of representatives

JN^o RICE JONES President

protempore of the Legislative Council—

Ap^d Jan^y 22nd 1816

A Copy W^m CLARK

[*Endorsed*] Missouri Territory Resolutions respecting Settlers on the public land by the General Assembly—Feb^y 16. 1816—Ref^a to Com. Whole on Bill N^o 81—Relating to Settlers on the Lands of the United States⁹² Jany—9—1817 Ref^a to the Committee on the public Lands.—Dec^r 18. 1817 Ref^a to the Committee on the Public Lands⁹³—Scott. G. 9. Pub. lands Easton E. 16 Com Whole on bill on the subject.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO EDWARD TIFFIN

[NA:GLO, SG, NWT, Lets. Recd., vi:ALS]

S^t Louis TERRITORY OF MISSOURI Jan^y 27th 1816

D^r SIR You will herewith receive the contracts that I have entered into with Taylor Berry, Elias Barcroft and William Clarkson j^r All of whom have gone to the woods to do the work.

The tract lying East of the Fifth principal Meridian to the Mississippi River & between the Missouri River & the line to pass East from the 5th Principal Meridian between Townships N^o 39 & 40 North of the Base Line; I have reserved for myself to lay off into Townships,—I shall set out tomorrow to commence the work.

I wrote you on the 14th Ins^t ⁹⁴ that I had received information, from Several of the Deputy Surveyors who had contracted to lay off the Military bounty Lands between the S^t Francis & Arkansas

⁹¹ Cf. *Terr. Papers* (Miss.), vi, 641–647, 668, 702 747–748, 757–759; *ibid.* (Ind.), viii, 373–375, 382–384, 389–393, 395; *ibid.* (Mich.), x, 619; *ibid.* (Ill.), xvii, 280, 289.

⁹² *House Journal*, 14 Cong., 1 sess., p. 352.

⁹³ *Ibid.*, 15 Cong., 1 sess., p. 60.

⁹⁴ *Ante*, p. 104, under date of Jan. 15.

Rivers, that great part of their Districts was so overflowed that it was not practicable for them to proceed with the Surveys.—Subsequent information which I have received from other Dep^y Surveyors confirms their report.—Perhaps it would be well to give me discretionary power so far as to select the most eligible part of the Country between the S^t Francis and Arkansas Rivers to make up the Two Million of acres. I hope soon to receive your instructions on this Subject. Most of the Deputy Surveyors who contracted to work South of the Base Line, will I presume be able to do a part of the Surveying—. please to instruct me whether I am to receive and settle for such work. These men have been very unfortunate in their contracts, and no doubt will stand in need of their fees for that part of the work they may be able to perform

I have the honor to be with much respect Your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR P. D. Surveyor
of the Territory of Missouri

EDWARD TIFFIN Esquire Surveyor General of the United States

ALEXANDER MCNAIR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., M98:ALS]

SAINT LOUIS *January 27th 1816*

SIR I have observed a proclamation of the President of the United States dated the 12th December last, respecting intruders on the public lands, although no particular notice of instructions have been received by me as Marshal of the Territory, yet as the proclamation is general, I have considered it my duty to make this statement

If the proclamation is intended to be enforced in this Territory, there are insurmountable difficulties to prevent its execution at this time, and will continue until the land office is opened. The Act of Congress passed the 3rd of March 1807⁹⁵ has a provision that nothing in that act contained, shall be construed to effect the right, title or claim of any person to lands in the Territory's of Orleans or Louisiana, before the boards of Commissioners, established by the Act entitled an Act for ascertaining & adjusting the titles and claims to land in the Territory of Orleans and the District of Louisiana shall have made their reports, & the decision of Congress been had thereon; the reports have its true been made, but Congress have not decided on those reports, and it is, therefore, obvious that every Claimant within that provision, is protected; by the act of Congress entitled an Act, for the final adjustment of land titles in

⁹⁵ 2 STAT. 440-442.

the State of Louisiana and Territory of Missouri passed the 12th April 1814 ⁹⁶—

Every person and the legal representatives of every person who has actually inhabited and cultivated a tract of land in the Territory of Missouri not rightfully claimed by any other person, and who shall not have removed from said Territory, is entitled to the right of preemption in the purchase thereof. The law has made no provision for any office to be opened, where the preemption claims are to be established and allowed, but left it, as in other cases until the sales of the public lands takes place, which cannot be until the survey of the public lands; so, that under existing circumstances it is impossible to know, first, those who claim lands under the first provisions, and secondly, those claiming by right of preemption, neither of whom it is presumed are to be disturbed—

I give this information not because I am unwilling to discharge the duties of the Office, the Government has confided to me, with Zeal and energy, but that without special instructions to govern me, I cannot determine, who are, or who are not intruders on the Public lands in this Territory.

I have been frank in this communication, because from my Knowledge of your character was convinced, you would approve of it.

With sentiments of great Esteem I have the honor to be Your friend

A M^cNAIR

THE HON^{ble} JAMES MONROE Sec^{ry} of State

[Addressed] The Hon^{ble} James Monroe Secretary of State Washington City

[Endorsed] St Louis 27th January 1816. A. M^cNair Esq relative to the Presidents proclamation for the removal of intruders on public Lands April 1816. Secry of war—

ALEXANDER McNAIR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, St. Louis, Reg. and Rec. Lets.:ALS]

SAINT LOUIS Jan^y 27th 1816

HON SIR, I have taken the liberty of writing to the Secretary of State on the subject of the Presidents Proclamation dated the 12th Dec^r last,⁹⁷ respecting intruders on Public land, a copy of which, I take the liberty to enclose you ⁹⁸—

⁹⁶ 3 STAT. 121-123.

⁹⁷ *Supra.*

⁹⁸ Present.

From the current of population which is directed to this Territory, the Government will soon see the necessity of their lands being in the market, [MS. torn] from a long delay much trouble may result, as at this time it is my opinion, justified by the statements of many, that five Militia men of this Territory would not march against the intruders on public lands—

Much feeling has been excited on this subject, as those who may be found on public lands are the persons who have borne the storm of the Indian War, being on the frontier—

Could the public lands in the upper part of this Territory, say, that part lying in the forks of the Missouri & Mississippi Rivers, be brought into market by the first of July next, there would be such a settlement soon formed that in case of another war with Great Britain or any other Power, whose influence is great with Indians, I say could such a settlement be encouraged it would have such an effect on the Indians in that Quarter, that the Government in time must benefit therefrom, as Indians are generally governed by the appearance of strength ⁹⁹—

With high consideration I have the honor to be Your Very Hble Servt

A M^cNAIR

JOSIAH MEIGS Esqr Commiss^r Land Office

[Addressed] Josiah Meigs Esq^r Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office—Washington City

[Endorsed] S^t Louis 22 Jany 1816 Alex^r M^cNair Land in forks of Missouri & Mississippi ought to be surveyed Sent copies to Sec^y Treasury 1. Mar 1816 ¹

DELEGATE EASTON TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Printing and Distribution of Laws:ALS]

House of Representatives WASHINGTON CITY Jan^y 29th 1816

SIR, The object of the present enquiry is not to take away the public printing at S^t Louis from M^r Charless who executes it well and to public satisfaction—But a law passed last year as I understand authorising two printers to publish the laws ² and M^r Joshua Norvell of S^t Louis who prints the Western journal requests me to

⁹⁹ Acknowledged Mar. 1, 1816 (NA, GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6).

¹ Post, p. 120. See also circular by the Secretary of War to commanding officers, including Gen. Thomas A. Smith, of Missouri Territory, Jan. 27, 1816 (*Terr. Papers*, Mich., x, 619), instructing them to remove intruders by force of arms.

² Approved Nov. 21, 1814 (3 STAT. 145–146).

ask whether it is the wish of the department of State to employ the two Gazettes at that place to print the United States laws and other public printing

I am most respectfully Sir your obed^t Serv^t

RUFUS EASTON

THE HONORABLE JAMES MUNROE Secretary of State

[*Addressed*] The Honorable James Munroe Secretary of State

[*Endorsed*] Rufus Easton wishes two papers app^d for that Territory to print the laws

THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO GOVERNOR CLARK

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Sent, Mil. Bk. 8]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, 5th February, 1816.

WILL^m CLARK governor of the Missouri territory, St Louis.

SIR, Your letter of the 25th December, 1815,³ has been received in the ordinary course of the mail.

The difficulties and embarrassments which you appeared to feel, at that time, must have, in a great measure, ceased upon the receipt of the President's proclamation, herewith inclosed.⁴ From this proclamation, you will perceive distinctly the views of the government.

Intruders upon the Indian lands and upon the public lands, are to be treated in the same manner. As you have at your command, the military power of the territory, the President expects the most prompt and perfect execution of the proclamation.—Orders have been issued to the military commanders to furnish the necessary aid, where it shall be required.

In relation to the territories, however, it is not expected that the aid of the regular force will be necessary. The President confidently expects from the governors of the territories, the most rigid execution of the laws for protecting the public lands from the intrusion of lawless adventurers.

The premature occupancy of the public lands can be viewed only as an invasion of the sovereign rights of the United States, and must be repressed by the most prompt and energetic measures.

This duty is specially confided to the governors of territories, within their respective jurisdictions; and it is expected, that neither

³ Not found.

⁴ Not present. The reference is to the proclamation of Dec. 12, 1815, printed in Richardson (comp.), *Messages and Papers*, I, 572-573. Cf. Edwards to the Secretary of State, Mar. 3, 1816 (*Terr. Papers*, III, xvii, 308-310).

favor nor affection will be permitted to shield the guilty from the penalties of the law.

From this view of the subject, all your embarrassments are removed, because the intruder upon the Indian and public land is placed upon the same footing.

I have the honor to be, &c.

W^m H: CRAWFORD

RESOLUTIONS OF THE TERRITORIAL ASSEMBLY

[NA:HF, 14 Cong., 2 sess.:C]

[Referred *February* 10, 1816]

WHEREAS it has been represented to the present General Assembly that the Recorder of Land Titles within this territory has leased to one individual the greater part of the Lead Mines in the public lands in the County of Washington which in the opinion of the General Assembly is greatly detrimental to the working of said Lead Mines, and very injurious to the inhabitants of this territory:—*Resolved* therefore, by the General Assembly of the territory of Missouri that our Delegate in Congress be requested to use his best endeavours to procure the passage of an act of Congress authorising the appointment of an Officer to reside at or near the Mine au Breton with authority to grant permanent Leases, or Leases for a term of years of Lead Mines and mineral Land, not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres to any one individual upon such principles as may be deemed proper by Congress—The Officer thus to be appointed to receive the rents and profits which may be reserved for the use of the United States.

Resolved also that the Governor of this territory be, and he is hereby requested to forward this resolution to the Delegate representing this territory in congress.

JAMES CALDWELL, Speaker of the
House of Representatives

W^m NEELY, President of the Legis-
lative Council

Truly copied from the original on file in the Secretary's Office

FREDERICK BATES Sec^y of Missouri Territory

[*Endorsed*] Legislature of Missouri Territory, Resolution concerning the lead mines February 10th 1816—Ref^a to the Committee on the Public Lands.—Dec^r 23—1816—Ref^a to the Committee on the Public Lands.—Dec^r 18^h 1817 Ref^a to the Committee on the public Lands ⁵—Scott I. 23. pub. Lands Easton M. 10. pub Lands

⁵ *House Journal*, 14 Cong., 1 sess., p. 310; *Annals*, 14 Cong., 1 sess., 486.

RECOMMENDATION OF CHARLES LUCAS AS UNITED
STATES ATTORNEY

[NA:SD, Applications:DS]

[February 13, 1816]

The undersigned having been informed that the office of attorney for the United States for the Missouri Territory has lately become vacant by the resignation of John Scott Esquire, beg leave to recommend Charles Lucas Esquire of the town of St Louis Attorney and Counsellor at Law as a suitable person to be appointed and well qualified to discharge the duties of that office—

Dated the 13th day of February 1816

RUFUS EASTON

A LACOCK

A. LYLE

FREDERICK BATES of

JONATHAN JENNINGS

St. Louis

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

RICHARD M. JOHNSON TO THE PRESIDENT

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

HOUSE OF REP 13th Feb 1816

SIR, Altho not acquainted personally with Charles Lucas Esq of St Louis, from information obtained from honorable sources I have no doubt he would give satisfaction to the people & to the Gov^t if appointed to fill the office of att^o for the U States in the Ter. of Missouri

with sentiments of sincere respect your ob Ser^t

RH. M: JOHNSON

JAMES MADISON Esq President of the U States

[Endorsed] Lucas C. recommended. 1816

THE GOVERNOR OF ILLINOIS TERRITORY TO THE
SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

St Louis MISSOURI TERTY February 17, 1816

SIR Understanding that it is probable an office of principal surveyor for this Territory to be independent of that of surveyor gen^l will be created by Congress. I beg leave should that event happen most respectfully to recommend Gen^l William Rector for that appointment.

This gentleman is now the principal deputy Surveyor at this place, and has been engaged in surveying public land ever since

the year 1805. during the last seven years, I have been in such habits of intimacy with him as to have had the best opportunity of knowing him well, and I feel Compelled by a sense of justice to afford him the testimony of my approbation of his conduct both as an officer and a gentleman—

Master of his profession both in theory & practice, his diligence and attention cannot be surpassed by any one and hence I believe there has never been a single complaint against him relative to his public duties, whilst his amiable and honorable conduct in private life has commanded the universal respect and esteem of every gentleman in this or the adjoining Territory who has had an opportunity of being acquainted with him—

I have the honor to be Very respectfully Sir Y^r Mo Obd^t S^t
NINIAN EDWARDS

THE HONBLE JAMES MONROE Secy of State

[Endorsed] William Rector 1816

GOVERNOR CLARK TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., C63:ALS]

S^t LOUIS *February* 18th 1816

SIR I had the honor of receiving by the Mail your letter of the 21st of December ⁶ and 3rd of January ⁷—Strict enquirey have been made by me for American prisoners which might have been taken by Indians dureing the late war—I have not been informed of any, except those who have been delivered up to me—and ware taken from this and the adjoining Territory.

Every exertion shall be made to find out, and precure, from the more distant tribes, any American prisoner who may be amongst them—The return of the Voyagers in the Spring will afford a Favourable oppertunity of makeing further enquiries,—and at that time I shall be enabled to send to the more distant tribes within our bounds ⁸—

I have (on a visit) a Winnibago Chief who was with the British & Indian Army, in the actions about Detroit, and has laterly been with maney of the tribes both within the Territories of the U. S—, and the British upper Canada, who informs me that he has not herd

⁶ NA (OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. C), acknowledging letter of Dec. 9, 1815 (not found), with advice of a draft of the War Department, and stating that compensation of the Indian commissioners was \$8 a day.

⁷ A circular letter to Cass, Edwards, and Clark, *loc. cit.*

⁸ See *Terr. Papers* (Mich.), x, 620.

of, nor does he believe that any tribe within his knowledge has an american prisoner.⁹

I have the honor to be Y^r Mo Ob St

W^m CLARK

THE HON^{ble} SEC^{ty} OF WAR

[*Endorsed*] St Louis 18 February 1816. Gov^r William Clarke Has rec^d letters of the 21st Dec^r & 3^d January—will make every possible exertion to ascertain whether the Indians in that neighbourhood have any American prisoners &c March 1816.

DELEGATE EASTON TO THE POSTMASTER GENERAL

[NA:HF, 14 Cong., 1 sess.:ALS]

WASHINGTON CITY *February 23rd 1816*

THE HONORABLE RETURN J. MEIGS Post Master General

SIR, It will greatly accommodate the citizens of St Louis and of the territory of Missouri generally if a mail route can be established on a direct route from Dayton—Hamilton or Cincinnati in Ohio to Vincennes in Indiana thence direct to the town of St Louis.—I am unacquainted with the distance through the Indiana Territory but conclude it is from 160 to 180 miles.—From Vincennes to St Louis is precisely 151 miles as the road was formerly run out—I herewith present to you a map and sketch of the Post roads in Missouri as the House of Representatives and Legislative Council of that territory have in their memorial^{9a} requested they may be established to wit from St Charles by Isaac Murphys to St Johns settlement is about 50 or 60 miles thence to Fort Cooper in Boons lick settlement now erected into a County by the name of Howard to the County town of that County will be about 120 or 130 miles—From St. Genevieve to St. Michael is about 45 miles thence by Bettis' Ferry and the county towns of the County of Lawrence to the County town of the County of Arkansas is upwards of three hundred miles, thence to Washita in the State of Louisiana is more than 100 miles on a direct line—

From St Genevieve the county town of the County of St. Genevieve to Potosi the County town of the County of Washington is about 40 to 45 miles thence by way of Herculanum to St Louis is from 60 to 65 miles—

⁹ See Indian commissioners (Clark, Edwards, and Chouteau) to the Secretary of War, Feb. 19, 1816 (NA, WD, SW, Lets. Recd., C64), reporting that a messenger had been sent to the Sauk Indians, relative to terms for an accommodation, and giving a general view of Indian affairs.

^{9a} NA (HF, 14 Cong., 1 sess.), having virtually the same content.

By reason of the Lead mines; there is considerable intercourse—and commerce carried on between St Genevieve—Herculaneum, St Louis and the Mines with which those towns are particularly connected—a weekly post route therefore between these places seems to be indispensably necessary inasmuch as there is a considerable correspondence carried on between those places New Orleans, Nashville, Louisville, Lexington, Pittsburgh, Washington city, Baltimore and Philadelphia.—

The mail between St Genevieve Cape Girardeau and the County town of the county of New Madrid is now carried only once in two weeks, it would be desirable that the mails on that route should be carried weekly and the petition specially requests that it should be carried weekly between St Genevieve and Cape Girardeau—

I take the liberty to insist on behalf of the people of the Missouri territory that the Post Master General cause a mail to be carried from the nearest Post Office on the established post roads to the court house of every county in that territory according to the provisions of the 3rd Section of the act of Congress of April 18th 1814 ¹⁰ unless the above Post roads can be established by law; at the same time I beg leave to state that I do not entertain a doubt of a disposition on the part of the Post Master General to extend to every part of this union the benefits and privileges for which the establishment of the Post office department was originally designed to wit to facilitate communication, promote intercourse and to distribute information among our citizens in every part of this extensive republic; and that a state of peace does not require that the department should have exclusively for its object the source of revenue to be derived therefrom.—

I have the honor to be, very respectfully Sir, Your obedt servant
RUFUS EASTON

[Addressed] The Honorable Return J. Meigs Post Master General Washington city Mr. Easton

DELEGATE EASTON TO THE WAR DEPARTMENT

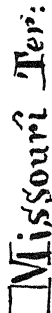
[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., E16:ALS]

[February 27, 1816]

SIR, I request copies of Governor Howards Letters of Jan^y 13th 1812 & March 19th ¹¹ of the same year with the enclosures and also copies of any other letters written by him relating to the north

¹⁰ 3 STAT. 132-133.

¹¹ Both printed, *ante*, XIV, 505, 531.



Western frontier in that year—for the purpose of exhibiting them to the Committee to whom has been referred the memorial of the general assembly of the Missouri territory on behalf of the frontier inhabitants ¹²—

Respectfully

R. EASTON
Chairman of the Committee

Feb^y 27th 1816

THE HON^{ble} THE DEPARTMENT OF WAR

[*Endorsed*] February 27th 1816 Honble R. Easton requesting copies of letters from Gov^r Howard to the Secretary of war Feby 1816.

PETITION TO CONGRESS BY SECRETARY BATES

[NA:HF, 14 Cong., 2 sess.:C]

[*February, 1816*]

To the Honorable, The Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled—The Petition of the undersigned Recorder of Land Titles, and commissioner of Land Claims for the territory of Missouri, respectfully represents,

That your Petitioner having been employed for some years past in the adjustment of the claims to lands in the said territory, has lately been the bearer to the General Land Office of his report on that subject—that the said report is necessarily voluminous from the number of claims, and the variety of classes of claims which it embraces—and greatly complex from the successive legislative provisions which have been made as to them since the year 1805 ¹³—These two considerations seemed to render it proper that the undersigned should be the bearer of the report in order to make personal explanations both as to fact and principle involved in so important a work.—Your Petitioner asks that, for this service (altogether distinct from his Official duties) he may be compensated in the usual manner—

With great respect

FREDERICK BATES

WASHINGTON CITY Feb^y 1816.—

[*Endorsed*] Petition of Frederick Bates Feby 21—1816 Ref^d to the Committee on the public Lands March 14. 1816 Bill reported—N^o 128 Easton H. 21. pub lands ¹⁴

¹² Cf. *ante*, p. 105.

¹³ Report of claims granted or rejected, signed by Bates Feb. 2, 1816, is printed, A.S.P., *Pub. Lands*, III, 813-865.

¹⁴ *House Journal*, 14 Cong., 1 sess., pp. 377, 487.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

1st March 1816.

SIR, On the 12th Jan^y last I took the liberty of recommending that a part of the territory of Missouri should be surveyed and prepared for sale,¹⁵ the enclosed copies of letters from the Register of the Land-office at St Louis to the Secretary of State,¹⁶ and to me,¹⁷ shew the necessity of that measure.—

Since the act of 3^d March 1807¹⁸ (mentioned in the letter to the Secretary of state) the acts of 13 June 1812,¹⁹ 2^d Aug^t 1813,²⁰ and 12th April 1814,²¹ have confirmed the claims of many persons, whose claims had been rejected by the Commissioners, and have confirmed the claims reported by the Recorder, subject however to the approval of the commissioner of the General Land-office.—It now remains for the Recorder to furnish the Surveyors with data, from which to survey the private claims, and to issue certificates of confirmation; upon which certificates the parties will be entitled to ask for patents—

If the survey of private claims, and of public lands are executed at the same time, as was done in the Mississippi territory, the expence will be much less, and the surveys much more accurate, than if the private surveys are first made, and then the public lands interspersed among those claims surveyed²²—

I have the honor &c.

HON. ALEX^r J. DALLAS Secretary of the Treasury.

 JOHN MASON TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., M61:ALS]

INDIAN OFFICE March 2^d 1816

SIR I have the honor to return enclosed the letter of Col^o Meigs of the 17th Ulto transmitted me a few days agoe from the Department of War on the Subject of establishing a Factory on the Arkansa for the accomodation of that part of the Cherokee tribe of indians who have migrated to that quarter, having first retained a Copy for the use of this office—

¹⁵ *Ante*, p. 102.

¹⁶ *Ante*, p. 110.

¹⁷ *Ante*, p. 111.

¹⁸ 2 STAT. 440-442.

¹⁹ 2 STAT. 748-752.

²⁰ 3 STAT. 86-87.

²¹ 3 STAT. 121-123.

²² Answered *post*, p. 123.

By reference to my letter of the 12 Sept^r 1812 to the Secretary of War²³ in reply to some Enquiries he was then pleased to make of me as to the policy of placing on the Arkansa a public Factory for this purpose—it will be seen that I was then of opinion that one ought to be so located, and that the Dardanelle Rock would be best position; I am still of the same opinion, and will at any time that you may determine it a ~~proper~~ correct measure and think proper to order the requisite guard to be stationed there—do all that may depend on this office, toward the establishment of the Factory—should the present system of public trade be continued by Congress

Very respectfully I have the honor to be Sir Your Mo: obt Sert
J. MASON

THE HONBLE WILLIAM H. CRAWFORD Secretary of War

[*Endorsed*] Genl. Mason's letter on the Subject of the Arkansaw factory. Indian Office March 2^d 1816. Genl John Mason, On the subject of Establishing a factory on the Arkansaw returns the letter of Col Meigs on that subject & March 1816.

[Enclosure:ALS]

Return J. Meigs to the Secretary of War

CITY OF WASHINGTON 17th February 1816.

SIR, The Cherokees have during during the Presidencies of Mr Jefferson & of Mr Madison been emigrating to the River Arkansas in small parties by permission of the Government, the first object was only for hunting; but the numbers increasing an exchange of land with the Cherokee nation was contemplated, by the Government for their whole Country, but their numbers being not large enough to induce an exchange, the majority being still in their old country the emigrants remain insulated.²⁴ The number of the emigrants as they have stated to me amount to 2600 including men, women, & children. They may perhaps have stated their numbers to great; but they may be safely stated at 2000. One fourth of these may at least be considered as good hunters & good warriors, & may be relied on by the Government as a force at any time at the

²³ NA (OIT, Supt. Lets. Sent, Bk. C). See also *id.* to Gen. William Clark, Aug. 31, 1812, *loc. cit.*, stating that an agent of the War Department has recommended that a factory be placed on the Arkansas River at a place called Dardanelle Rock, about 300 miles above the present post and in a high, pleasant country abounding in grain, surrounded by friendly Cherokee and not far from the Osage towns on the upper Arkansas. Mason, at the solicitation of the War Department, requests Clark to transmit to him such useful relevant information as may be ascertained from the Osages.

²⁴ See *Terr. Papers* (Miss.), VI, 192, containing citations, and Abel, "Indian Consolidation" (*Annual Rept., A.H.A.*, 1906), I, 235-438.

service of the United States provided they are recognized by Government as their friends. The majority of their nation remaining in their ancient possessions conceive that they have control over their national funds & refuse to let the emigrants have any part of their Annuity. By order of Government I once sent to them a small part of the Annuity, only 750\$. & to effect this I had considerable difficulty.

Major Lovely my Assistant Agent has for several years past been stationed by direction of Government with the emigrants on that river about 400 miles above its mouth. I correspond with him & presume that he corresponds with the War Department. he requests me also to write—he complains that that part of the Cherokees from their situation are in a great measure without the advantage of the fostering aid of Government. The men are hunters, the women have not lost their love of spinning and weaving Cotton Cloth, and altho, the men make great hunts. they cannot dispose of their Peltry &c but at great disadvantage. The travelling traders impose on them excessively in the price of goods. Ammunition & Blankets are of the first necessity, for these they pay two or three prices of their value.—

Major Lovely on behalf of his charge earnestly requests that a Factory may be established there. One of the Principal chiefs is now waiting at Highwassee for my return, hoping that something may be done for them. They would be pleased with presents of merchandize: but in general these presents are of no advantage, & only represses their industry in pursuit of the proper means to support themselves. a trading house would have a contrary effect, it would promote their industry. I do not think I am mistaken when I state it as my opinion that there is not a place in the United States where a Factory might be placed with greater prospect of advantage to the Government than high up that long fine river for navigation with a number of navigable branches an almost immense quantity of the finest furs & peltry would centre at the Factory. I think I have my information from good sources, that proper merchandize to the amount of 15,000 or 20,000\$ might be disposed of annually there to great advantage, to insure a clear profit of at least 50 p^r Cent. I must repeat it that it is benevolence & charity misapplied to give presents under an idea of checking the avidity of private traders. If the goods are charged with the p^r cent I contemplate the Indians will be supplied 100 p^r cent lower than they now give on that river. The productions of the chase I have been informed have been always of more value at New Orleans than in the eastern ports.—

If a Factory could be placed high up the Arkansas the Cherokees there & the remnants of tribes in that quarter would have a home, a rallying point, they will feel that they are not forgotten by the Government, it would attach them by the strongest ties & their attachment may be worth preserving, in such case they may be relied on as a permanent force on the frontier. & if a small Military post could be placed there it would not only secure the safety of the Goods but would make the Arm of government highly respectable on that advanced frontier, for it is undoubtedly true that an inconsiderable number of Indians by hostility and disperation can put the United States to the expense of millions to reduce them; and notwithstanding they are sure to be reduced & punished, they at the last expect to be pardoned & again taken by the hand.

The remnants of tribes in that quarter, the Choctaws, Chickasaws, Delawares, the remains of the old Arkansas tribe, & Shawanoes—the last have addressed me—all these would I am informed be glad to be added to the Agency of Major Lovely. they now give him much trouble & some expense & yet he has no official control over them. They are exposed to be misled by emissaries & such there has always been adjoining the English Indian territory.

I have expressed myself freely on several points. I do it with deference, and, have the honor to be with great respect your Ob^t Servant

RETURN J MEIGS.

THE HON^{ble} WILLIAM H. CRAWFORD Secretary of War.

[*Endorsed*] Referred to Gen^l Mason

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., Treasury:ALS]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT 4. *March* 1816.

SIR Your letter of the 1. of March instant,²⁵ has been submitted to the President, who authorises me to signify to you his approbation of the Survey and sale of a part of the Territory of Missouri, as heretofore proposed by you.

I am, very respectfully, Sir, Y^r mo— obed Sev.

A. J. DALLAS.

JOSIAH MEIGS Esqr Commissioner of the General Land Office

[*Addressed*] Josiah Meigs Esquire Commissioner of the General Land-Office

²⁵ *Ante*, p. 120.

[*Endorsed*] 4th March 1816 Secret^y of Treasury authorizes survey of 100 townships in Missouri to be prepared for sale [as advised in letter of 1 Mar;] ²⁶ 6 Mar: instructed the Survey^r Gen^l

JOSIAH MEIGS TO EDWARD TIFFIN

[NA:GLO, SG, NWT, Lets. Recd., vi:ALS]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 6th March 1816

SIR The President of the United States has directed that about one hundred townships shall be surveyed & prepared for sale in the territy of Missouri, in the vicinity of S^t Louis; this survey is in addition to the surveys into townships heretofore directed. The Register at S^t Louis has suggested that the Lands between the Mississippi and the Missouri rivers (ceded by the Sac & Fox tribes 3^d Novem^r 1804) ²⁷ should first be brought into Market. You will therefore give directions for the survey of that tract, & when you have ascertained the number of townships containd in it, give directions for surveying the remainder of the hundred townships in some other part of the Territory, in the vicinity of S^t Louis. Private claims on the Lands covered by these surveys must be surveyed at the same time with the public Lands, & a connected plat or plats of the whole transmitted to this office & to the Land Office at S^t Louis.

If the Lands between the Mississippi & Missouri rivers have been surveyed into townships under the directions heretofore given, they may now be subdivided for Sale, & an additional survey into townships may be made in some other part of the Territory, for the purpose of ascertaining the character of the country, and ascertaining private claims—Thus all the directions of the President on this subject will be obeyed viz^t to survey into townships, two hundred townships, [to survey] into sections, one hundred townships.²⁸

I am very respectfully Sir your obed^t Serv^t

JOSIAH MEIGS

EDWARD TIFFIN Esq^r Survey^r Gen^l Chillicothe.

[*Endorsed*] J Meigs March 6th 1816 directs 100 Townships of Land to be prepared for Sale at S^t Louis &^c—

²⁶ Bracketed portion added in pencil.

²⁷ See *ante*, XIII, 76–77.

²⁸ See Meigs to Tiffin, Mar. 23, 1815 (NA, GLO, Lets. to SG, 1), containing the following relevant paragraph:

“You will direct the principal Surveyor of the Territory of Missouri, to survey into townships and sections such part of that territory as will include the principal part of the private claims, for there is reason to fear that unless this be done with all convenient speed the public interest will greatly suffer.”

The remainder of the letter concerns land matters in other territories.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THOMAS B. ROBERTSON ²⁹

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

11th March 1816.

SIR, I have had the honor of receiving your note dated March 8. 1816 ³⁰ requiring information "whether the public interest would be promoted by the appointment of a Surveyor of the lands of the U. States for the territories of Illinois and Missouri" on which I beg leave to observe, that, considering,

1st The great extent of the yet unsurveyed public lands in those territories—

2^d The convenience and advantage of a person being present, vested with powers to make contracts with deputy surveyors, and to superintend their faithful execution.

3^d The great distance (566 miles) of S^t Louis, the present residence of the Principal Deputy Surveyor, from Chilicothe, the residence of the Surveyor General.—

For these considerations, I think, that the public interest will be promoted by the appointment of a Surveyor of the public lands for the territories of Illinois & Missouri.

I have the honor &c.

THE HON THO^s B. ROBERTSON Chairman Comm^{ee} pub. Lands.

EDWARD HEMPSTEAD TO EDWARD TIFFIN

[NA:GLO, SG, NWT, Lets. Recd., vi:ALS]

S^t LOUIS March 11. 1816.

D^r SIR. Many reports concerning the unfair Speculations of certain individuals in this Country of what is called "the New Madrid Claims" being in circulation, some of them may reach you.—In justice to one officially connected with, To wit William Rector, I now trouble you with a line.—Many persons of respectability from that quarter and others uniformly concur in Stating, that the conduct of Gen^l Rector towards those from whom he purchased has been unexceptionable—always Stating to them the full extent of the liberality of Congress to them—and Shewing them the Law—and from every thing I have been able to learn he has acted with uprightness and integrity in these purchases.—indeed such is his general Character and Conduct since I have known him.—

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you my best wishes

²⁹ A Representative in Congress from Louisiana.

³⁰ Not found.

for your Welfare & happiness, and the assurances of my esteem & regard.

D^r Sir very respectfully &c

E HEMPSTEAD

GEN^l E. TIFFIN—

[*Addressed*] Gen^l Edward Tiffin Chillicothe Ohio Mail paid
[*Postmarked*] St Louis Mar. 11 Paid 37½

[*Endorsed*] E. Hempstead March 11th 1816 concerning reports
prejudicial to W^m Rector

DELEGATE EASTON TO THE SECRETARY OF THE
TREASURY

[NA:HF, 14 Cong., 1 sess.: ALS]

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES *March 23rd 1816*

SIR, You will greatly oblige me as well as my constituents if you can spare time to answer the letter of the Chairman of the Committee on the public lands in relation to the lead mines in the Missouri Territory as soon as may be within your power—

I am very respectfully Sir, your most obed Serv^t

RUFUS EASTON

THE HONORABLE ALEXANDER J. DALLAS Secretary of the
Treasury—

[*Addressed*] The Honorable Alexander J. Dallas Secretary of the
Treasury

[*Endorsed*] M^r Easton

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY TO THOMAS B.
ROBERTSON

[NA:HF, 14 Cong., 1 sess.:LS]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT *March 27th 1816.*

SIR I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23d inst ³¹ inclosing the Bill "Concerning the Lead Mines in the Counties of Washington and S^t Genevieve, in the territory of Missouri"; and enquiring whether any legislative provisions in relation to the Mines be now necessary? And whether the interests of the U. States will be promoted by passing an Act, according to the provisions of the Bill?

The information possessed by this Department, relative to the Lead Mines, is very imperfect. It is evident, however, that the subject will require legislative attention, and I take the liberty to

³¹ Not found.

recommend, that it be referred for a report to be made at the next session of Congress. The delay will not be injurious to the public; and it will afford the necessary opportunity, for enquiry and examination.

I have the honor to be very respectfully Sir Your mo. obd^t Serv^t

A. J. DALLAS

THE HONBLE THOMAS B ROBERTSON

WILLIAM RECTOR TO EDWARD TIFFIN

[NA:GLO, Lets. from SG, NWT:ALS ³²]

S^t Louis TERRITORY OF MISSOURI *April 1st 1816*

SIR You will herewith receive the returns of the Surveys made by Major Langham. His letter of this date addressed to me which I send with this will serve to shew why he did not complete the Surveys which he had contracted to perform.³³

From the report of Major Langham and other Deputy Surveyors I find that a very large proportion of the Lands south of the Base Line as well as some that lies north of that Line between the S^t Francis and Arkansas Rivers is inundated and wholly unfit for cultivation.

Since I received your instructions to extend the Surveys North of the Base Line I have seen Fifteen Surveyors who have applied for Surveying each of whom appeared anxious to embark in the business But none of them except one man was willing to go to that Country to work before September next. All the Surveyors & others who have been in that Country and with whom I have conversed say that it would be impracticable to Survey between the S^t Francis and Arkansas in the Summer time on account of heat of the weather. The vast number of musquetoe, flies & other insects, & reptiles, that would greatly annoy both men & horses. And in the heat of Summer, much of the water becomes putrid which they would be obliged to drink.

Under these circumstances it will be impossible to get the Surveys of the Military Lands completed before next fall nor am I at present able to say what portion thereof will be done. As soon as the Surveyors shall make their returns to my Office I will forward to you a connected plat Shewing the quantity Surveyed, the quality of the Lands in that part of the Country &c &c.

I have done everything that was practicable for to have been done

³² An enclosure in Tiffin to Meigs, Apr. 27, 1816, pertaining principally to land matters in other States and Territories.

³³ Not present.

towards completing these Surveys and if the Country had consisted of dry Land instead of swamps marshes & overflown grounds I am well satisfied that the whole of the work would have been completed & the returns made to the Surveyor Generals Office some time this summer Nothing shall be wanting on my part to have this business completed as soon as it can be done

I am Sir with the highest respect your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR

EDWARD TIFFIN Esquire Surveyor General of the United States Chillicothe Ohio.—

[*Addressed*] Edward Tiffin Esquire Surveyor General of the United States Chillicothe Ohio.

[*Endorsed*] Gen^l Rector, S^t Louis April 1^t 1816 stating the difficulties of Surveying between the rivers of S^t Francis & Arkansas

ALEXANDER MCNAIR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Resignations:ALS]

Saint Louis MISSOURI TERRITORY *April 12th 1816*

HONOR'D SIR Having been informed that the Deputy Surveyor General of this Territory had received instructions to survey and prepare Public lands for sale, from which information I presume my duties as Register of the land Office will soon commence, and holding at present the appointment of Marshall for this Territory which appointment I beg leave to resign; at the same time ask the indulgence to mention the name of Henry Dodge Esq^r of this Territory, residing in Saint Genevieve, as a proper person to fill the appointment of Marshall

Gen^l Dodge was the first person who received the appointment of Marshall in this Territory, and without my knowledge, in 1813 sent his resignation to the Delegate from this Territory,³⁴ to be presented provided the appointment of Marshall could be procured for me, the motive which produced Gen. Dodge's resignation, I am well satisfied was, his knowledge of the many sacrifices which I made, from my exertions to save the frontier in the commencement of the war, his believing my zeal for my country lead me to a greater extent than my circumstances would justify, having a large family to support, and from the noblest of hearts his resignation was dictated, to serve a fellow Soldier, as no man in our country has been more active in its defence than Gen^l Dodge, I hope I will be pardoned in asking for the appointment of Marshall for my generous friend, who I know as a man of honor and a friend to his Government. Should it please his Excellency the President to appoint

³⁴ The resignation was dated Mar. 12, 1814, *ante*, xiv, 743.

Gen Dodge Marshall of this Territory, I know it will meet the approbation of every good man in this Country, and place me under additional obligations to my Government, the Executive of which I feel gratefull to, for their attention to me.

I will continue to perform the duties of Marshall until notified of the appointment of another

I have the Honor to be Sir your ob^t Hble Ser^t

A M^cNAIR

THE HON^{ble} JAMES MONROE Secretary of State

[Addressed] The Hon^{ble} James Monroe Secretary of State Washington City [Postmarked] St Louis Apr. 15 Free

[Endorsed] 12 April 1816. A. M^cNair resigns as Marshal in Missouri Terr^y & recommends Henry Dodge as his successor. Mr M^cNair

THOMAS L. MCKENNEY ³⁵ TO GOVERNOR CLARK

[NA:OIT, Supt. Lets. Sent, Bk. D]

Indian office GEO: TOWN 22 Ap^l 1816

HIS EXCELLENCY GOV: CLARK

SIR I have the honor to inform your Excellency that pursuant to an order from the War Department, I am proceeding with all possible despatch to forward to you the annuities due for the years 1815 & 16 to the Foxes & Sacs tribes of Indians—those due to the Great Osage, and little Osage tribes,³⁶ I have thought could be more directly and promptly furnished by an order on the U.S. agency at Fort Osage, which I have this day issued to Geo: C Sibley Esquire, agent for the U S. at that place³⁷—I am also engaged in procuring presents for the same tribes to the amount of \$20,000 by order of the War Department—with the proportions of this amount which may be due to the Great & Little Osage tribes, I respectfully ask the favor of you to furnish M^r Sibley; to whom I have written and who will wait your orders in this particular³⁸—

I am &^c &^c

T. L. M^cK

³⁵ See Mason to Bronaugh, Apr. 7, 1816 (NA, OIT, Supt. Lets. Sent, Bk. C), advising of the acceptance by the President of his resignation, and of the appointment of McKenney as his successor.

³⁶ See the Secretary of War to Clark, Apr. 19, 1816 (NA, OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. C), to the above effect.

³⁷ NA (OIT, Supt. Lets. Sent, Bk. D). See also McKenney to Clark, Apr. 27, 1816, and to Sibley, same date, *loc. cit.*, referring to the above letter and stating that he had decided to send all presents directly to Clark and the Osage annuities to Sibley.

³⁸ See McKenney to Clark, July 31, 1816, *loc. cit.*, enclosing invoices for annuity goods to the amount of \$2,000 for the Sauk and Fox Indians, and for merchandise amounting to \$20,000 for presents for Indians within Clark's agency.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO EDWARD TIFFIN

[NA:GLO, SG, NWT, Lets. Recd., vi:ALS]

St Louis TERRITORY OF MISSOURI *April 22^d 1816*

SIR You will herewith receive, P K Robbin's accts & receipts in the form prescribed by the S. Gen^l.—And also the contracts that I have entered into with Stephen Rector & James M Duncan

The District to be laid off into Townships &c by Stephen Rector, was reserved for and promised to Prospect K Robbins as soon as he should finish Surveying the 5th Principal Meridian But some time after Mr Robbins made his return of the Meridian Line, He informed me that he would not undertake this job as the work was some distance from his residence (he live in St Charles) and the high prices he should be obliged to pay to his hands and for supplies of every kind, would put it out of his power to make as much money by the business as would compensate him for his labour. Stephen Rector you will see from his Contract heretofore forwarded to your Office had undertaken to subdivide ten Townships immediately South of the Base Line in Ranges N^{os} 1 & 2 West of the 5th principal meridian, But was unable on account of that Districts being generally inundated to Survey more than one Township, when he returned home with his company & Surveying equipage & readily undertook his present job and immediately after commenced the work & has I understand made considerable progress in the business. Mr Duncan was the only Surveyor out of a great many applicants for work, who was willing to undertake to do any Surveying between the St Francis and Arkansas Rivers before next fall.

I am Sir with much respect your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR, P.D.S.

EDWARD TIFFIN Esquire S. Gen^l of the United States

[*Addressed*] Edward Tiffin Esquire Surveyor General of the United States Chillicothe Ohio.—

WILLIAM RECTOR TO EDWARD TIFFIN

[NA:GLO, SG, NWT, Lets. Recd., vi:ALS]

St Louis TERRITORY OF MISSOURI *April 29th 1816*

SIR You will herewith receive the Contracts which I have in conformity with your instructions of the 14th of March,³⁹ entered into with Prospect K Robbins and Daniel & John C. Sullivan for laying off and Surveying the exterior boundaries of about Eighty Townships, North of the Missouri River and adjoining to the District which Taylor Berry is now engaged in Surveying. See the sketch herewith forwarded ³⁹

³⁹ Not found.

Under the instructions, which I have received, I do not consider myself authorised to subdivide any Townships West of the line agreed on between General Harrison and the Sac & Fox tribes of Indians To-wit from the Mouth of the Gasconade river to a point on the Jeffreon, thirty miles from its mouth, nor can I venture to subdivide many Townships East of that line until I obtain a transcript of the claims in that part of the Country. For I am induced to beleive from such information as I have been able to collect on the subject that there are many claims scattered over almost every part of the Country as far West as the Gasconade, and some much higher up the Missouri River, which must be Surveyed and returned with the Surveys of the public Lands.

That tract of Country to be laid off into Townships by M^r Robbins & the M^r Sullivans, is represented by many intelligent men who have passed over it, to be a part of the largest, rich and desirable tract of Country that is in the Missouri Territory or perhaps in the Western Country which is now rapidly settling by emigrants from different parts of the United States, but mostly from the States of Kentucky & Tennessee. It is the opinion of Governor Clark. The Register & Receiver of the Land Office, and all other intelligent men here with whom I have conversed on the subject that a very large proportion of that tract of Country would, immediately sell if offered for sale

I have learned that some doubts were entertained by some persons, whether the Indian Title to that part of the Country has been extinguished. I have also been assured by Governor Clark, (who is the agent of the General Government for Indian affairs in this Territory) that no tribe of Indians, whatever have any right to any part of this Country and that no tribe would attempt to oppose the Surveying or settling of the same.

The legislature of this Territory at their last Session laid off a new County called Howard,⁴⁰ to begin at the mouth of Ceder creek on the North side of the Missouri river a short distance above the mouth of the Great Osage River from thence and from the mouth of the Osage River to extend up the Missouri River on both sides (So as to include a large tract of Country on the North side of the River) as far West as the Osage boundary line which County has been organised. I mention these circumstances to shew that no doubts exist in the mind of the Governor of this Territory & Agent of Indian affairs, or in the minds of the members of the Legislature of this Territory that the Indian title has been extinguished.

Should it be deemed expedient to prepare these Townships or any part of them for sale, The Surveys can soon be made as there are but few private claims in that quarter of the Country

⁴⁰ Approved Jan. 23, 1816 (Mo. TERR. LAWS, 1815-1816, pp. 81-90).

The Country East of the Gasconade on the north of the Missouri river, shall be Surveyed into sections &c, as soon after I get a Transcrip of the claims as the work can be done. M^r Bates the Recorder of Land Titles, is expected at home some time next month. I hope he will be able to furnish me with the Transcript soon after his arrival—It will then require some time for me to select, for each Deputy Surveyor the claims that may fall within his District.

I am Sir with the greatest respect y^r ob^t Servt

W^m RECTOR P.D.S

EDWARD TIFFIN, Esquire, Surveyor Gen^l of U. States

P S. Taylor Berry by his contract undertook to lay off into Townships &c part of Ranges N^{os} 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6 & 7 W. After he had Surveyed for some time he informed me that he would not have as much work in his District as was expected and requested the privilege to extend his Surveys to the Line between Ranges N^{os} 8 & 9 W which he was instructed to do. For the Several Districts to be laid off into Townships in this quarter, see the Sketch. W: Rector

[Addressed] Edward Tiffin Esquire Surveyor General of the United States Chillicothe Ohio.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO EDWARD TIFFIN

[NA:GLO, SG, NWT, Lets. Recd., vi:ALS]

S^t Louis TERRITORY OF MISSOURI *May* 1st 1816

SIR You will herewith receive the contract that I have this day entered into with Joseph C Brown for laying off the exterior boundaries of about Twenty Townships. (For the situation of these Townships see the sketch forwarded by the last mail) M^r Brown lately returned from his tour of Surveying in the Military tract between the S^t Francis & Arkansas rivers. He was so fortunate as to be able to do the greater part of the work he contracted to perform & has made out his returns, but is unwilling to forward them by mail as he thinks he ought not to pay the postage. He has left his returns with me, with a request that I will forward them to the Surveyor Generals Office by the first safe private conveyance.

It would be a great convenience to Deputy Surveyors to be paid for their work at the time they make their returns to my Office. It is at this time very expensive to carry on the Surveying business. But few of the Deputies, have a sufficient capital in cash to defray the expenses of a tour of Surveying. Some of them therefore find

it very difficult to raise a sufficient sum to pay off their hands &c
I am Sir with much respect Your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR, P.D.S.

EDWARD TIFFIN Esquire Surveyor General of the U. States.

[Addressed] Edward Tiffin Esquire Surveyor General of the
United States Chillicothe Ohio.—Mail [Postmarked] St Louis
May 6 25

JOHN G. HEATH TO THE PRESIDENT

[NA:SD, Misc. Letters:ALS]

BOONS LICK Ye 1st May 1816. M. Ty

M^r MADISON I the case of your appointing Benjamin Cooper a member of the legislative council of this Territory, I feel myself much injured by you not because you commissioned Cooper; But of the manner in which it was done. Myself and Cooper were nominated, I was first in nomination, at the Special request of a large majority of Both branches of the Territorial legislature I consented to it. the house of Rep^s expected you would commission as usual, "the first in nomination" I am well aware that you was induced to tack this disgrace upon me at the request of my enemies, in doing of which you have rendered yourself contemptible in the opinion of a very numerous body of honest men in this Territory—by suffering yourself to be thus imposed upon, and acting from exparte Testimony, and that from my Enemies. I am also very willing to believe you was imposed upon in this affair by men in high offices at Saint Louis, for I think it not conscistent with you former Character that you would appoint a man to fill such office who can neither read nor write, a very Ignorant old man, in his dotage (being about 70), that M^r C is precisely that man is notorious and incontrovertable. All of which was well known to the Gentlemen interfering in his behalf. If it had been with pure desire to do good that Gentlemen had done this I would be silent; But I too well know 'twas to injure me was the whole. nor did they care to stoop to any means to Effect it, not even the disgrace of the chief magistrate of the U. S. In order therefore to do myself Justice by spreading the affair before the public, and giving you an oppertunity of forming your opinion upon full Testimony, I request the Special favour of M^r Madison to forward me perfect copies of all the petitions recommendation letters and Evidence forwarded to him on this affair. I suppose them to be matters of

a public nature, as nothing of such concern can be transacted secretly agreeably to the principles of our government.—

I do not want the Commission nor any thing but Justice from your hands. which I conceive I have I right to demand, altho I am an Obscure slandered individual. Conscious of no offence against my accusers and Slanderers, but that of having faithfully discharged my duty (to the best of my ability) as a member of the legisture, and thereby thwarted and defeated the designs of what is called in our gazettes the Juntó which design &c I thought unrighteous, my constituents thank me for my candour, and exertions, and I am yet conscious of having done right. tho Sorry to have given offence in doing it: This Sir is the root of the whole difference notorious to many. let certain men vary as they may.

It is a hard matter to bear up under the oppresion of such powerful opponents Especially when their baseness is sactioned by the Superior of the united states, and that too without even an opportunity of opposing it. were the men whom induced you to injure me of more importance than the house of Rep^s of the Missouri Territory? which do you suppose would in all reasonable probabillty have the fairest chance to know and Judge of my character and capacity, the few men of Saint Louis my avowed Enemies and the few ingnorant creatures they influenced to petition, Or the whole bulk of a county my neighbours Colleagues, and the whole representation of the Territory? as I have been denied the Opportunity to answer heretofore I trust your Justice will induce you to grant my request.

Your with respect & Esteem.

JOHN G HEATH

[Addressed] James Madison President of U States Washington City Mail [Postmarked] St Louis May 13. Free

[Endorsed] Mr. Heath

GOVERNOR CLARK TO WILLIAM L. LOVELY

[NA:OIA, Recs. of Cherokee Agency:C]

St LOUIS May 2nd 1816

SIR Your letter by the deputation of Cherokee Chiefs was delivered to me by M^r Chisholm with its inclosures ⁴¹ The subject complained of by the Cherokee deputation has met with my due attention and a full representation has been made by the Commissioners at this place assembled to treat with the Indians of the Mississippi and its waters to the President of the United States and such other arrangements about to be made as the enclosed Copy

⁴¹ Not seen.

of a Talk delivered by me to the Cherokee Chiefs ⁴² will more fully explain you will receive also enclosed a printed copy of the Law of Indian intercourse a Law of this Territory respecting Spiritous Liquors and a proclamation all of which I must request you to inforce to the extent of your Authority. In conformity to your wishes and the intents of the general Government I have applied for a Milatary post on the Arkansas which I believe will be established and be so located as to be usefull to the Indian intercourse. In a few days I shall send two officers (Col^o Musick & L^t Parker) to the Country below and up the Arkansas for the purpose of warning the Settlers to move from those lands & those Gentleman will take your Agency in their rout returning.⁴³ It would give me pleasure to see a more direct Communication opened between this place and your Agency and will most certainly encourage such a measure we have some expectations of a road being opened in that direction and the extension of the mail—I must request you to send me the names of the white men who were killed by the Osages the time and place the act may have been Committed Maj^r Chouteau will set out in three days to make a demand of the Murderers of those men and to act in Conformity with the arrangement made with the Cherokee Chiefs—It will be important to procure all the testimony possible to enable us to have those Murderers of the white men you mention in your Communications lately received An exact statement of property taken by the Osages the Value & an oath may be necessary to enable a stopage of Anuities ⁴⁴

With high respect Yr Ob^t Humble Servant

WILLIAM CLARK

MAJ^r LOVELY

[Endorsed] Governor Clarks Letter

JOSIAH MEIGS TO RECORDER BATES AND REGISTER WAILES

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 13th May, 1816

SIR Herewith you will receive a copy of an act of Congress passed 29th Ult^o entitled "An Act for the confirmation of certain claims to land in the Western district of the state of Louisiana, &

⁴² Wash to the Cherokee Chiefs, Apr. 29, 1816 (NA, OIA, Recs. of Cherokee Agency), stating that their grievances would be referred to the President, particularly those concerning the Osages.

⁴³ See *post*, p. 177.

⁴⁴ See Chouteau, agent for the Osages, to Lovely, May 1, 1816 (NA, OIA, Recs. of Cherokee Agency), desiring a peace council.

in the Territory of Missouri,⁴⁵ to which act you please to pay due attention.

When you have commenced to issue patent certificates, you will please to transmit to this office, monthly a list of such certificates issued by you; the certificates must describe the land, agreeably to the description of the Surv^r General on his general Map.⁴⁶

I am &c

FREDERICK BATES Esq^r Recorder of Land titles St Louis

LEVIN WAILES Register Land Office Opelousas

POST ROUTE ADVERTISEMENT

[PO: Proposals for Mail Contracts, 1816-1823]

[May 20, 1816]

IN MISSOURI

63. From St. Louis, by Potosi, and Laurence c. h. to Arkansa, once in four weeks.

Leave St. Louis every fourth Saturday, commencing on the first Saturday in November, and arrive at Arkansa in ten days, on Monday at 6 *p. m.* Leave Arkansa the next Wednesday at 6 *a. m.* and arrive at St. Louis in ten days, on Friday by 6 *p. m.*

64. From St. Charles, by Murphy's in St. John's Settlement and Fort Cooper, to Howard c. h. once in two weeks.

Leave St. Charles every Saturday at 2 *p. m.* and arrive at Howard c. h. [blank]

Leave Howard c. h. every [blank] and arrive at St. Charles the next [blank] ⁴⁷

THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO THE INDIAN COMMISSIONERS

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., C-Misc.:D ⁴⁸]

WAR DEPARTMENT 27th May 1816

GENTLEMEN, Your communication of the 29th ult.⁴⁹ has been rec^d and submitted to the President.

The Conduct of the Cherokees in referring their dispute with the Osages to the decision of the Officers of the United States, deserves and has received the decided approbation of the President.

⁴⁵ 3 STAT. 328-329.

⁴⁶ See *post*, p. 228.

⁴⁷ See *post*, p. 365.

⁴⁸ Printed also in *A.S.P., Ind. Affairs*, II, 97-98.

⁴⁹ Not found.

Under all the circumstances of the case, the course which you have adopted seems to be judicious, and such as will most probably produce the desired effect.

If you have not already adopted measures necessary for convening the Chiefs of those tribes as well as of the Quapaws, it is deemed expedient that steps should be promptly taken to effect that object.

If the Quapaws have claims to the lands Ceded to the United States and it should appear that their Claim is well founded, it should be admitted, or an equivalent given for it, either by the payment of a gross sum, by an annuity for a term of years, or in Perpetuity. Perhaps an annuity for a certain number of years will be the most eligible mode.

Whilst negotiating with the Osage tribe, provision should be made for running the lines of the cession made by them to the United States

If it is thought expedient as you have intimated to change the boundaries of that treaty, it will be necessary to explain to this department without delay the nature and effect of the change contemplated, and the reasons which are supposed to require it.

It is deemed by the President inexpedient to obtain cessions of land from the Indians which are not required for settlement. Experience has proved the extreme difficulty of preventing persons from making settlements upon the most remote points of every Cession, before the land is offered for Sale, by which the whole frontier is rendered utterly inadequate to its protection, against Indian warfare.

The adjustment of the Cherokee claim to the settlements they have made under the permission given them by Mr Jefferson will necessarily occupy your attention. It is difficult to give precise instructions upon this Subject. In deciding upon it, you must keep in view the fact that the Cherokee nation refuses to make any cession of their lands in consideration of the Settlements which have been assigned to their countrymen—This may have proceeded in some degree from a knowledge that no lands had been specifically assigned to the Cherokee Emigrants by the United States. In any arrangement of this kind, there ought to be an express provision that the assignment should not be binding upon the United States, unless the Same extent of Country should be ceded by the Cherokees who have not emigrated, or at least an extent of country equal to what the emigrants would be entitled to, upon an equal partition of their lands according to their relative numbers.

In arranging the various interests which will have to be considered in the negotiations which you are authorized to enter into

with the Osage Quapaws & Cherokees, the President has implicit confidence in your discretion and in your Zeal for the public service ⁵⁰

I have the honor to be your most ob^t & very humbl Serv^t

W^m H CRAWFORD

WILLIAM CLARK NINIAN EDWARDS & AUG^t CHOUTEAU Esq^{rs} St. Louis, Missouri territory.

[*Endorsed*] From W^m H. Crawford, Sec'y of War, to William Clark, Ninian Edwards, & Augustus Chouteau. St Louis, Missouri terr'y May 27th 1816. Indian Book. Recorded, Vol: 3. pages 363, 364.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Lets. from SG, Mo., 1816-1822:ALS]

St Louis ⁵¹ MISSOURI TERRITORY June 3^d 1816

SIR I had the honor to receive by the last mail your letters of advice and instruction of the 10th & 11th Ult^o ⁵² together with the Commission of Surveyor of the Territories of Illinois & Missouri, which the President of the United States has been pleased to give me. And also three Acts of Congress relative to the Lands of these Territories.

In compliance with your instructions I have this day taken an Oath before the Honbl^e Alexander Stuart, one of the United States Judges for this Territory to support the Constitution of the United States, and faithfully to discharge the duties of my Office, which is inscribed on my Commission I shall, with as little delay as possible make the necessary arrangements to carry into execution your orders.

I have written by this mail to Edward Tiffin Esquire Surveyor General of the United States, requesting him to forward to me as early as convenient a statement of the Accompts of the Deputy Surveyors of these Territories and such papers relative to the situation of the Surveying business in the Illinois as will enable me to proceed with the business of that Territory.

I have retained in my office accurate copies of all the Field notes Plats & Descriptions of the Surveys that have been made in the Missouri Territory under my superintendence as Principal Deputy

⁵⁰ Answered *post*, p. 151.

⁵¹ See endorsement.

⁵² Both printed, *Terr. Papers* (Ill.), xvii, 332-335, 336-337. See also Meigs to Tiffin, May 11, 1816, *ibid.*, pp. 335-336, notifying him of the new establishment.

Surveyor, and which have been forwarded to the Surveyor Generals Office, And also Copies of the Accompts of the Deputy Surveyors, and their Receipts for the amount of their fees which acct^s & Rect^s were (in conformity with the instructions of the Surveyor General) made out and signed by the Deputy Surveyors to whom the money was due, and certified by the Principal Deputy Surveyor to be correct. The Surveyor General in a letter dated the 23^d of February, last ⁵³ informed me that no money would be paid to any Dep^y Surveyor in the Territory until their acct^s &c. were authenticated in the above manner. so that I am at present fully apprised of the situation of the business of this Territory both as it respects the Surveys that have been made and the monies that have been paid by the Surveyor General of the U. States to Deputy Surveyors.

Several of the Deputy Surveyors have lately returned from the woods and are now making out the necessary returns of their Surveys, others are still at work. Most of them will I presume return their Surveys to my Office within six or eight weeks from this time. It would be a great convenience to these Dep^y Surveyors (& would promote the public good) for them to get their fees as soon as their work shall be examined & received into my Office. I therefore beg leave to suggest the expediency of immediately placing funds sufficient to meet these demands at the disposal of the Surveyor of these Territories.

The Deputy Surveyors fees for the Surveys of this Territory that will probably be presented at this Office before I shall have it in my power to forward to you an estimate of the sum that will be necessary to defray the expense of Surveying in both Territories for the present year, and can receive authority from you to make the payments; will amount to about Fifteen thousand dollars. Kaskaskia & Shawneetown will be the most convenient places for the Deputy Surveyors to get their money at—say an equal sum at each place.

I am Sir with much Respect your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR

THE HONBL^e JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the General Land Office Washington City

[*Addressed*] The Honbl^e Josiah Meigs Commissioner of the General Land Office Washington City

[*Endorsed*] Kaskaskia 3^d June 1816. W^m Rector wants a credit for \$15000

⁵³ Not found.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO EDWARD TIFFIN

[NA:GLO, SG, NWT, Lets. Recd., VI:ALS]

St Louis MISSOURI TERRITORY *June 3^d 1816*

D^r SIR I received by the last mail a letter from the Honbl^e Josiah Meigs Commissioner of the General Land Office, covering a Commission which the President of the United States has (in conformity with the Act of Congress of the 29th April 1816 ⁵⁴) been pleased to give me of Surveyor of the Territories of Illinois & Missouri. Which letter contained instructions to me on several points and from which the following is an extract

"As some contracts for Surveying in the Territories of Illinois and Missouri have been made by M^r Tiffin, and perhaps monies paid on account of them, you will correspond with him on the Subject of those contracts being finally settled by him or by you, and relative to the transfer from his Office to yours, of the Records which relate to the Territories of Illinois & Missouri, agreeably to the Act authorising the Appointment of a Surveyor General for those Territories

"After you have in conjunction with M^r Tiffin determined whether any and what part of the contracts already made are to be paid for in your Office; you will furnish me with an estimate of the amount of monies that will be necessary to defray the expense of Surveys in the two Territories during the present year, and where it will be most convenient for you to have a credit for the said monies.

It seems from the above extract that it is immaterial whether the Surveys yet to be returned by Deputy Surveyors of these Territories be received & paid for by the Surveyor General of the United States, or by the Surveyor of Illinois & Missouri. I will here remark that I know it would be a great convenience to the Deputy Surveyors of this Territory to get their fees at the time they return their Surveys to my Office. The tenor of their contracts seemed to justify an expectation that as soon as they finished their Contracts, they would receive their fees at this place.

As the Surveys of the Illinois Territory must eventually come into this office it would perhaps be a good and convenient plan for the Deputy Surveyors of that Territory to make their returns directly to me, of this however you are better able to determine, and will please as soon as convenient inform me, of the course that will be pursued in the business.

⁵⁴ 3 STAT. 325-326

I have written by this mail to the Commissioner of the General Land Office ⁵⁵ informing him that you had informed me in your letter of the 23^d of Feb^y last that no money could be paid by you to any Dep^y Surveyor of this Territory before you received the Surveys into your Office with Acct^s & receipts signed by the person to whom the money was due & certified by the Principal Deputy Surveyor to be correct & from that circumstance I considered myself now fully informed relative to the situation of the business of this Territory both as it respects the Surveying done and the money paid to Dep^y Surveyors by the S. General of the United States, And suggested to him the expediency of placing at my disposal a sufficient sum to pay a part of the Surveyors of this Territory who have yet to make their returns to my office I have supposed that fifteen thousand dollars will be a sufficient sum to meet the demands until I can send an estimate for both Territories, and receive authority & further means to pay the Deputies, And have pointed out Kaskaskia & Shawneetown as the most convenient places for Deputy Surveyors to be paid at.

With regard to the Records and papers that are now in your Office and which the Act of Congress directs shall be transfered to the Office of the Surveyor of the Territories of Illinois & Missouri It appears to me important that these papers should be had in this Office as soon as they can conveniently be got here. Perhaps some safe oppertunity may soon offer to send them by water. I must rely on your devising some plan of sending them to me at this place. It is necessary in order that I may be able to go on with the Surveys of the Illinois Territory that the Surveyor General furnish me with a Sketch of that Country shewing what part has been Surveyed & what part contracted for, that has not been Surveyed &c and also the probable amount of money that it will take to pay for the Surveys of that Territory for the present year. These and such other papers as you may deem necessary for me to have immediately you will please to send by mail. The commissioner of the General Land Office in his letter refered me to you for the form of a Bill to be drawn on the receiver of a Land office, will you please to send me such a form.⁵⁶

I am D^r Sir with the highest respect & Esteem your ob^t Serv^t
W^m RECTOR

EDWARD TIFFIN Esquire Surveyor General of the U State
Chillicothe Ohio.

⁵⁵ *Supra.*

⁵⁶ See also Rector to Meigs, June 10, 1816 (*Terr. Papers*, Ill., xvii, 350-351)

[Endorsed] Gen^l W. Rector June 3^d 1816 S^t Louis respecting papers &c &c for his Office

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Lets. from SG, Mo., 1816-1822:ALS]

Surveyors Office, for the Territories of Illinois
& Missouri S^t LOUIS *June 15th 1816*

SIR It will I presume be my duty to have all the surveys, both of the Lands of the United States & the claims of Individuals that have been surveyed and that may hereafter be Surveyed in these Territories, recorded in substantial well bound books. Such books cannot be procured in this Country. Will you please to inform me what the size and quality of the record books should be and where I can procure them. I had all the field notes that I forwarded to the Office of the Surveyor General of the United States recorded in my Office and retained copies of the Plats & Descriptions of the Townships &c The Books in which these Field notes are recorded are of an inferior quality, but were the best I could procure; I was not instructed on this subject but thought it indispensably necessary to retain in my Office complete copies of all the Surveys so as to be able to comply with the Laws of the United States relative to a general connected plat &c. Please to advise me whether I shall be allowed by Government for Stationary and for Postage and in what way I am to be reimbursed for my expenditures. My postage during the time I held the Office of P. D. Surveyor was considerable, and will hereafter I presume be greater.

I will thank you to inform me in what way I am to be paid my fees of twenty five cents per mile on the Surveys of the Lands of the United States. Shall I retain a sufficient sum, of the credits I may have with the Receivers of the Land Offices, and introduce it into my General account for Surveying.

The business of my Office is very extensive and much of it complicated and difficult. I shall therefore have occasion, frequently to trouble you for instructions on different points as they present themselves, until the business is generally got into operation and a System for my government formed; For I view it to be of the utmost importance in the business that, it be rightly commenced & systematically pursued until the whole business shall be completed.

I have two able & indefatigable Clerks; with whose assistance I shall be able to get on with the business. It is my determination not at any period, to get behind hand with the business of my office.

I am Sir with great respect your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR

THE HONBL^e JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office
Washington City.

[*Endorsed*] S^t Louis 15 June 1816 W^m Rector wants books to record Surveys in—about his compensation Stationary &c Ans^d
10 July 1816 ⁵⁷

⁵⁷ *Post*, p. 155.

PART TWELVE

Papers Relating to the Second Administration of
Governor Clark

1816-1820

PART TWELVE

COMMISSION OF GOVERNOR CLARK ¹

[NA:SD, Misc. Temp. Comms., C]

[June 16, 1816]

JAMES MADISON, President of the United States of America,
To all who shall see these presents, Greeting:

Know Ye, That reposing special Trust and Confidence in the Patriotism, Integrity and Abilities of WILLIAM CLARK, of the Missouri Territory, I do appoint him Governor in and over the said Territory; and do authorize and empower him to execute and fulfil the duties of that Office according to law; and to Have and to Hold the said Office with all the powers, privileges and emoluments to the same of right appertaining until the end of the next Session of the Senate of the United States, and no longer, unless the President of the United States for the time being should be pleased sooner to revoke and determine this Commission.

In Testimony whereof, I have caused these Letters to
[L. S.] be made patent, and the Seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at the City of Washington the Sixteenth day of June A. D. 1816; and of the Independence of the United States the Fortieth.

JAMES MADISON,

By the President,
JA^s MONROE Sec^y of State.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822: ALS]

Surveyors Office for the Territories of Illinois
& Missouri S^t LOUIS June 17th 1816

SIR I beg leave to refer you to the Act of Congress of the 17th day of February 1815, Entitled An Act for the relief of the inhabitants of the late County of New Madrid, who suffered by Earthquakes,² And to ask for instructions to govern me in the discharge of my duty under that Law. The first Section of which Act provides that the persons for whose benefit the Law was passed may

¹ A recess appointment.

² 3 STAT. 211-212.

locate their respective quantities of Land, on any of the public Lands in this Territory, the Sale of which is authorised by law (except Lead mines & Salt springs). What lands must I consider of that description? Is it all the unappropriated Lands on which the Indian Title is extinguished?

The 2^d Section of said Act makes it the duty of the Principal Deputy Surveyor (now Surveyor of Illinois & Missouri) to Survey or cause locations to be Surveyed. In what form shall the Surveys be made? Shall the claimants have a right to give the lines including their locations any direction they please provided the Survey shall be in form of a square or parrallelogram not more than twice the length of its width, and where a Survey shall be bounded by appropriated lands or navigable steams to be as nearly in that form as the ground will admit of?

What am I to consider as such a location as will Justify me in sending out a Surveyor to Survey the same? Will it be necessary for the claimants to file with me the Certificate of the Recorder of Land Titles certifying that they have right under the law to locate a certain quantity of Land and at the Same time to file their notice or entry in writing describing the Lands they apply for?

Should two or more claimants apply at the same time for the same tract of Land, in what way must it be determined who shall have the preference?

Shall public notice be given in one or more Newspapers at what time the Office Shall be opened for the receipt of entries?

It appears to me to be important in this business that I should have your instructions on the foregoing points and hope when convenient you will forward them to me; as well as on such other points as you may think proper.

I am Sir, with much respect your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR

THE HONBL^e JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the General Land Office Washington City—

[*Endorsed*] S^t Louis June 17th 1816 W^m Rector wants instructions relative to sufferers by earthquakes Ans^d 9 July ³

ALEXANDER MCNAIR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Reg. and Rec. Lets., St. Louis:ALS]

Registers Office, SAINT LOUIS Missouri Terr. 20th June 1816

SIR—Your circular to persons authorised to grant permissions to remain on public Lands, dated Genl Land Office 30th April 1816 ⁴

³ *Post*, p. 153, under date of July 10, 1816.

⁴ Printed, *Terr. Papers* (Ind.), VIII, 415-417.

with the Law and forms has been received, also the Law enclosed by you 13th May ⁵ concerning preemptions Rights.⁶

It would Oblige me much, could you furnish me with the Laws relating to the Land settlers in this Territory as well as Laws relating to My Office, Neither of which can I procure in this Country.

With great Respect Sir I am Your Ob^t Sevt

A McNAIR

JOSIAH MEIGS Esqr Commissioner Gen^l Land Office Washington City

[Addressed] Josiah Meigs Esq. Commissioner, General Land Office Washington C^{ty} [Postmarked] St Louis June 24 Free

[Endorsed] S^t Louis 20 June 1816 Alex^r M^cNair wants Land Laws—Ans^d 26 July ⁷ & requested M^r Bates to lend his copies ⁸

NOTICE OF OPENING OF ST. LOUIS REGISTER'S OFFICE

[NA:GLO, Reg. and Rec. Lets., St. Louis:Printed]

Registers Office, SAINT LOUIS,
Missouri Territory. *June* 1816.

By virtue of an act of Congress, passed the 25th March 1816,⁹ and from instructions received from the General Land Office, directing that any person or persons, who before the first day of 1816 had taken possession of, or made a settlement on the lands of the United States, and do actually reside thereon, may, by application to the proper Register, Recorder, Marshal or their deputies, obtain permission (on certain conditions) to reside on said lands.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Registers Office at St. Louis is open to receive applications and grant permissions to applicants of the county of Saint Louis, and to such applicants of the Territory as may make application to said office, but for the general convenience of settlers I have appointed [blank] Deputy for the county of [blank] with authority to receive applications and grant permissions to applicants who reside in said county.

All applications must be made in duplicate, and state the tract of

⁵ NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6). See similar letter to Bates, same date. *ante*, p. 135.

⁶ Approved Apr. 29, 1816 (3 STAT. 330-331).

⁷ NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6), saying that forms and instructions were being prepared for the register and receiver; and that no copy of the land laws was available since the whole edition had been burned by the British.

⁸ *Post*, p. 161.

⁹ 3 STAT. 260-261.

land applied for, (not exceeding three hundred and twenty acres) and if not surveyed, the water courses on which the land lies, the date of the improvement, and by whom made.

No permission will be granted for any lands unless the applicant signs a declaration, that he has no claim therefor.

A. M'NAIR, Register. Land Office, at St. Louis.

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:TD, Pub. Lands Let. Bk., 1801-1833]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT 29th June 1816.

THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE

SIR. By a resolution of the House of Representatives passed the 17, day of April last "The Secretary of the Treasury is directed to procure all the information he may be enabled to obtain in relation to the lead mines of the United States in the counties of Washington and St. Genevieve in the Mississippi Territory and to report the same at the next Session of Congress".¹⁰ I am therefore, to request that you will institute the proper enquiries upon the subject of the Resolution through the proper officers and agents connected with the General Land Office. The objects of the enquiries may be comprised of the following view:

1. The situation of the lead mines: their extent; their product of the general character of the ore; their value.
2. The nature of the adjacent countries the proximity of towns and Settlements the facilities of land and water transportation.
3. The State of the title generally; the grants and leases of the mines and neighbouring lands; the intrusion either permanent or transitory; the improvements.
4. The terms on which grants or leases may be made most advantageously to the public; the reservations that should be made; the extent to be leased and the limitation of the demise, the improvements to be made in buildings works fences, the timber to be preserved.

It is very desirable that you should enclose the enquiry to all the Lead mines and Salines belonging to the United States and that a

¹⁰ A resolution of the House of Representatives, Apr. 17, 1816 (*House Journal*, 14 Cong., 1 sess., p. 669), requested the Secretary of the Treasury to procure all the information possible respecting lead mines in Missouri Territory and to report the same at the next session of Congress. This was broadened by the Secretary of the Treasury to include also salt works and salt springs, as noted above, and his circular letter went not only to surveyors but also to district land officers and to superintendents of salt works. Cf. *post*, p. 198, and *A.S.P., Pub. Lands*, III, 272-273.

detailed and comprehensive report should be furnished as expeditiously as is compatible with accuracy.¹¹

I am respectfully Sir Yr Mo Obedt Servt

A. J. DALLAS

INDEX COMMISSIONERS TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., C250:LS¹²]

ST LOUIS *June* 30th 1816.

SIR. We have the honor to inform you that we are now endeavouring by all means in our power, to effectuate the objects authorized by your instructions of the 27th Ult.¹³ in relation to the Cherokees and Osages.

The principal cause of hostility between those Tribes is, that the latter Suppose the former to have settled upon their lands; which indeed would appear to be the case, if any published Map that we have seen, is to be relied upon. This is however, generally thought to be a matter of considerable doubt and uncertainty; and General Rector (the public Surveyor for this & the Illinois Territory), judging from lines which he has heretofore caused to be run, entertains a different opinion. It is evident therefore, that no satisfactory adjustment can take place, 'till the fact in controversy can be ascertained by running the line of the Osage purchase, from the Missouri to the Arkansaw.—For this purpose we have made application to Gen^l Rector who has promised to have the line run as soon as the Osages can be notified to attend, agreeably to the Treaty between them and the United States. He however, having no instructions upon the subject, and knowing that, that line could not be run for the price usually allowed for surveying, would not undertake it, without our previously agreeing to be eventually responsible for all necessary expenses and an adequate compensation to the Gentleman to be employed. We therefore hope, that such instructions and authority may be given to him, as has been usual heretofore in similar cases.

Our former suggestion, that an alteration in the line of the Osage cession might be expedient, was made under the impression that the settlements of the Cherokees might be found to be on the Osage lands; and as their improvements are considerable and

¹¹ The language of this letter was embodied in instructions to Tiffin, July 3, 1816 (NA, GLO, SG, NWT, Lets. Recd., VI), and to Bates, same date (NA, GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6).

¹² Printed also in *A.S.P., Ind. Affairs*, II, 98.

¹³ *Ante*, p. 138.

really valuable, and have been made upon land pointed out to them by a public Agent of the Government, we thought it would be Just to make such a purchase, (if it should be found to be necessary) as would include their settlements; but if this measure, (supposing those Indians to be actually on the land of the Osages) should not be deemed advisable by the President, it will then be a question for his consideration, whether good faith does not require that the Government (with whose apparent approbation they settled) should take immediate measures for their removal from the lands of the Osages—and in that event, whether some compensation ought not to be made them for the losses they would thereby sustain?

The Quapaws are said to claim the lands on the south side of the Arkansas, including a part of the Cherokee settlements, and a large settlement of white people on the Ouachata and have the same dispute with the Cherokees on that side, which the Osages are supposed to have on the north side.

As your letter seems to forbid any purchases of Indian lands from the Indians which are not required for settlement, we should be happy to receive the Presidents instructions upon the above mentioned cases as early as possible.

Referring to your letter of the 7th Ult.¹⁴ we beg leave, respectfully to suggest it as our opinion, that you are mistaken in supposing that any part of the Illinois purchase, lies within the Indiana Territory; and that the quantity of land contained in that cession, “which lies north of the northern line of the state of Ohio extended westwardly to the Mississippi river”, will fall greatly short of your expectations: As will appear by Governor Edward’s Map which we understand has been transmitted to you, and which we think more correct than any other that has been made of that Country. We have thought it our duty to make these suggestions from a belief that our instructions in part have been predicated upon a misapprehension, of which it is best at all events, that you should be informed.

We shall however, use our best endeavours to execute the Presidents wishes upon this subject.

We have the honor to be most respectfully Sir, your Obed^t Humb^le Serv^{ts}

W^m CLARK
NINIAN EDWARDS
AUG^{to} CHOUTEAU

¹⁴ NA (OIA, Lets. Sent, Bk. C). See *Terr. Papers*, (III.), xvii, 335, n. 24.

[*Endorsed*] Gov^r Edwds. Map—Illinois cession—in letter of the 7th May S^t Louis, 30 June 1816 Gov^r W^m Clark, Gov^r N. Edward and Aug^t Chouteau, Esq^r Are endeavouring to effect the objects authorized by their instruction of 27 ult^o in relation to the Cherokees & Osages—Suggests the propriety of employing a Surveyor to run the line of the Osage purchase from the Missouri to the Arkansaw, about which there is considerable uncertainty, and to which is imputed the hostility between the tribes. The Quapaws have the same dispute with the Cherokees, supposing they have settled within their lines.—They state that no part of the Illinois purchase lies within the Indiana Territory. Rec^d Sep^t 1816.¹⁵

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:TD, Lets. from GLO, Bk. 4]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 9th *July* 1816.

SIR. William Rector Surveyor of the Territories of Missouri & Illinois advises that he has received from the Surveyor General (Mr Tiffin) an account of contracts made by him for Surveys in the Said Territories. Those contracts when executed must be paid by Mr Rector who estimates that he will want before the 1st Oct^r

You have given him a Credit of	\$48.000
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He requires a further credit of	15.000.
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at Shawneetown Kaskaskia or Vincennes	33.000
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So much less will be required this year by Surveyor General Tiffin

I am &c.

HON A J DALLAS Secretary of the Treasury

JOSIAH MEIGS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, II]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 10th *July* 1816.

WILLIAM RECTOR Esq^{re} Surveyor S^t Louis,

SIR Your letters of 10th ¹⁶ & 17th Ult^o ¹⁷ are before me; your estimate of the amount of money (\$48,000) that will be necessary to defray the expence of surveys till the 1st of Octo^r next, shall be laid before the Secretary of the Treasury—he has already given

¹⁵ Answered *post*, p. 173.

¹⁶ NA (GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd. 1816-1822), embodying estimates for surveys.

¹⁷ *Ante*, p. 147.

you a credit for \$15,000 with the Receiver at Shawneetown, as you were advised on the 29th Ult^o ¹⁸

The act of 17th February 1815 for the relief of the inhabitants of the late county of New Madrid,¹⁹ is so worded, that I find much difficulty in answering your questions, & in reconciling the different parts of the act with each other.

Thus much of the act is clear, that the Recorder of Land titles for the Territory of Missouri is by the second section made the judge of the claims for relief under the act, & he is to issue a certificate to such claimants as are in his opinion entitled to relief.

The first sect^a authorizes the locations to be made "on any of the public lands of the said Territory the sale of which is authorized by Law." "the locations not to include a salt spring or lead mine." The act of 3^d March 1811,²⁰ sect^a 8, directs that certain Lands in the Territory shall be surveyed, sect^a 9 directs that a Land office shall be established, & section 10 directs that the Lands so surveyed shall be offered for sale; the tract of Land which has been directed to be surveyed for the purpose of being offered for sale at S^t Louis, appears, therefore to be the tract upon which the Locations are to be made.

The second sect^a of the act for the relief of the inhabitants of New Madrid makes it the duty of the Surveyor to survey the locations made by those who obtain certificates from the recorder, but is silent as to the form of the surveys, those words however are in this section, "& upon such certificate being issued, and the location made on the application of the claimants, by the principal deputy Surveyor, or under his direction, whose duty it shall be to cause a survey thereof to be made &c, &c," & I think may be fairly construed to leave the form of the survey to the discretion of the Surveyor.

If none of the claimants have applied to locate nor should locate their claims prior to the survey of the Lands to be sold at S^t Louis, they must afterwards locate according to sectional lines.

Should two claimants apply at the same time for the same tract, they must draw lots for the preference. If the recorder had deem'd it necessary that public notice should be given that he would on a certain day receive evidences of claims, he would have given that notice, none is necessary from you, because it is your duty to survey the Locations when the recorder's certificate is presented to you

The third section is still more carelessly written; by it, the re-

¹⁸ NA (GLO, Lets. to SG, II).

¹⁹ 3 STAT. 211-212.

²⁰ 2 STAT. 662-666.

order is required to give the party a certificate that he is entitled to a patent, which certificate shall be filed with the said Recorder within twelve months, (for what purpose Heaven Knows) & the recorder thereupon shall issue a certificate in favor of the party.

Your letter of 15th Ult^o has also been received,²¹ in reply to which the books of records of surveys transmitted to this office by Surv^r Gen^l Mansfield are 21½ inches by 16½ inches on the back, very strongly bound, the plats of Townships 12 Inches square, on good thick paper—On opening the books, the plats appear on the right hand page & the descriptions on the left hand page—I presume such books may be made at Cincinnati, if they cannot be had there advise me thereof, that they may be procured here. Stationary & postage you will charge in your quarterly accounts, taking duplicate receipts from the persons to whom you pay money for these expences, & transmitting with your accounts one of each receipts.

The law establishing your office entitles you to receive from Individuals for recording their surveys, twenty five cents p^r mile, but there is no such provision for recording the public surveys, neither is there any provision for Clerk hire, this must have been an oversight, for the other Surveyors Gen^l are allowed Clerk hire, & their Salaries are higher than yours—this oversight will doubtless be remedied next session of Congress.

I am &c

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY TO JOHN
CALDWELL

[NA:TD, Pub. Lands Let. Bk., 1801-1833]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT 17th July 1816

JOHN CALDWELL Esqr. Receiver of Public Monies

SIR The Commissioner of the General Land Office having requested that the Credit given to Mr Rector in my former letter might be extended to Forty Eight Thousand dollars you will be pleased to reserve that amount in your hands for the Object in question and pay Mr Rector Cash for his bills drawn on this department from time to time not exceeding in the whole the said sum of Forty Eight Thousand dollars the bills are to be endorsed to the Treasurer of the United States and forwarded to my Office with the monthly account in which the payment shall have been charged

Signed A J DALLAS

²¹ *Ante*, p. 142.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

18th July 1816

SIR, I return herewith the papers which you referred to me, relative to the application of Aug^s de Mun for a lease of a saline in the Territory of Missouri,²² & beg leave to report.

That in my opinion, the Governor of the Territory, or the Register of the Land Office at S^t Louis, may be authorized to lease the said saline, for a term not exceeding three years, on such terms as they may deem reasonable, not less than an annual rent equal to the Interest of the purchase money of the land (at two dollars p^r acre) which the Lessee may require to establish the works and supply them with fuel: the lease to be subject to the approval of the President of the United States. This opinion is founded on the following considerations.

1st That although the rent is trifling, the establishment of Salt works will be an accommodation & advantage to the citizens of that Country.

2^d That should the saline, on trial, be found of great value to the Lessees, the United States will at the expiration of three years, obtain a rent proportionate to the value of the establishment.²³

I have &c

HON^{ble} A J DALLAS Secretary of the Treasury.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822:ALS]

Surveyors Office for the Territories of Illinois
& Missouri S^t LOUIS July 22^d 1816

SIR Governors Clark & Edwards two of the United States commissioners appointed to treat with the Indians of the Mississippi, and its waters about a fortnight ago, called on me, and informed me that they had received instructions from Government, to take immediate measures to have the Osage boundary line,²⁴ run, and established from the Missouri to the Arkansas as soon as practicable, and requested me to send a Surveyor to run that line.²⁵ I told them that I had not received any instructions from you on the subject, or authority to draw money to pay for Surveys—but that I would appoint Surveyors to run that line, provided they would

²² *Post*, p. 161.

²³ Answered *post*, p. 161.

²⁴ Referring to the boundary described in the Osage treaty of Nov. 10, 1808 (7 STAT. 107-111).

²⁵ See *ante*, pp. 136, 151.

advance a sufficient sum of money to purchase the necessary outfit, without which no Deputy Surveyor would undertake the job. Soon after this conversation I received a note from Robert Wash Esq^r their Secretary, a Copy of which you will herewith receive marked N^o 1 To which I replied (see a Copy of my note marked N^o 2)—Immediately after which I was informed that the Commissioners were willing to advance the sum required. On which I appointed Joseph C. Brown as principal and Archibald Gamble, as assistant Surveyor to run that line; and gave to M^r Brown, what I considered to be the necessary instructions, a copy of which you will see marked N^o 3.—Mess^{rs} Brown & Gamble have procured the necessary Supplies, and will set out for Fort Clark tomorrow morning. These Gentlemen are in every respect well qualified to do this business—M^r Brown having had much experience in surveying public lands, and each of them, are hardy, enterprising, & respectable. I was induced to appoint an assistant Surveyor, from a belief that it was prudent, and good policy to do so, for much expence must necessarily be incurred by our government in getting the commissions and supplies to the place of beginning, and it appeared to me, to be very unsafe to depend on the health of one man, particularly at this warm season of the year.

I trust Sir, the course I have taken in this business, will meet your approbation; perhaps I ought to have waited for your instructions, but from the importance of the business, as represented to me by the Commissioners I considered it my duty to act without waiting for Special instructions

You will perceive from my instructions to M^r Brown that I did not enter into any special agreement as to what his, or M^r Gambles compensation should be, they were entirely willing to rely on Government for their compensation: The undertaking is certainly a very arduous one, expecially at this season of the year; will you please to inform me, whether I am, on the return of the survey of the line being made to my office, to pay the Surveyors for their Services, & furnish them with money to pay off their hands; and if so, what compensation I am to allow them per day

Viewing it as important that the Indian boundary lines north of the Missouri should be immediately surveyed, and established, I addressed a note to the Commissioners a Copy of which you will herewith receive marked N^o 4. Since the date of that note, I have had several conversations with them on the Subject: They think with me that these lines ought immediately to be surveyed; and will I presume send Commissioners on the part of the United States, and notify the Indians to send their Commissioners; but the necessary arrangements cannot be made to commence the run-

ning of those lines in less than two or three weeks: By the next mail I will write you on this Subject

I am with much respect Sir your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR.

THE HONBL^e JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office

[*Endorsed*] S^t Louis 22^d July 1816 W^m Rector relative to Osage boundary lines. Submitted to Sec^y of Treasury—received his answer dated 28 Aug^t Wrote M^r Rector 29th ²⁶

[Enclosures]

Robert Wash to William Rector

S^t LOUIS July 8th 1816

SIR. It is the wish of the Commissioners, that you would (in pursuance of the understanding they have heretofore had with you on that subject) make arrangements to commence the running of the line of the Osage purchase, from the Missouri to the Arkansas, by the first day of August next; or as soon thereafter, as you may find it convenient. At which time the Osages will have received a notification to send forward Commissioners in compliance with the treaty between them and the United States

Your Ob^t Serv^t

(Signed) R. WASH Sec^y to the Commissioners

[*Endorsed*] N^o 1

William Rector to the Indian Commissioners

S^t LOUIS July 10th 1816

GENTLEMEN I have received a note from Robert Wash Esq^r (your secretary) informing me that it is your wish, that I cause the survey of the Osage boundary line, from the Missouri to the Arkansas, to be commenced, about the 1st of August. I have engaged a Surveyor, who is now in readiness to commence making the necessary arrangements, preparatory to surveying that line; and who will be at Fort Clark prepared to commence the survey on the 1st day of August next, or soon thereafter, provided he is furnished with a sufficient, sum of money to purchase supplies to enable him to do that work;

As I have not yet received instructions; on the subject or authority to draw money to pay for surveys, it must rest with you to furnish the necessary sum; One thousand dollars, I presume will be sufficient for that object

I am gentlemen with much respect Your Ob^t Serv^t

W. R

²⁶ *Post*, p. 172.

GOV^r CLARK GOV^r EDWARDS & COLO. CHOUTEAU Commissioners
to treat with Indians &c.

[*Endorsed*] N^o 2

William Rector to Joseph C. Brown

Surveyor's office for the Territories of Illinois
& MISSOURI S^t LOUIS July 13th 1816

SIR The United States Commissioners appointed to treat with the Indians of the Mississippi, and its waters, have called on me to survey the Osage boundary line, from the Missouri to the Arkansas, and have fixed on the 1st day of August next to commence the survey at Fort Clark; at which time, the commissioners, on the part of the United States, and those on the Great and Little Osages; will be at that place, in order to agree on, and establish that line, agreeably to the Treaty of the 10th November 1808; I do hereby appoint you as principal surveyor, and Archabald Gamble, as assistant surveyor, to survey the said boundary line; You will herewith receive one thousand dollars of the United States money, advanced by the commissioners, for the purpose of purchasing the necessary supplies to enable you to survey the said line. You will please, (as the agent of the United States) purchase a sufficient number of pack horses, camp equipage, and other necessary supplies, and will keep an account of every article you may purchase, and the money you may expend in this business, and will when you return from your tour, sell for cash, the United States property that you may have on hand, and will render an account to this office, of the whole business. You will employ a sufficient number of men to go with you on this tour, as chain carriers, markers, pack horse-men & hunters, and will engage to pay them, on account of the United States for their services; not exceeding one dollar, per day, from the time they enter into service, until you discharge them. It is important that you be at Fort Clark, in readiness to commence the work, on the 1st day of August next, or verry soon thereafter. After you arrive at Fort Clark, and before you commence the survey, you will ascertain the variation of the needle, or compass, and will survey that line agreeably to the True Meridian—should the weather permit, you will make frequent observations, for the variation of the needle and will regulate your compass to the true meridian according to the results of your several observations.

You will be careful to cause the line to be very plainly marked in the manner that the lines of the surveys of the United States are generally marked, and will at the distance of every mile cause posts to be set and bearing trees taken, and the number of miles, that such posts may stand south of the beginning, marked on one or

more trees near such corners ; where bearing trees cannot be found, near to the end of a mile ; you will cause mounds of earth or sod to be raised, to perpetuate the mile points ; The mounds must be at least three feet high, and three feet in diameter at the base. You will please at the end of every mile, describe the quality of the lands, timber &c, and to note in your field book, every object that is worthy of observation, which you have been instructed to note in surveying the lands of the United States.

You will as soon as practicable, after you shall have completed the survey ; make two plats thereof, which you will return together with your field notes into this office.

You will please on your way home note the quality of the land, timber &c or the character of the several parts of the Country over which you may pass ; in a book to be kept for that purpose.

I do not consider myself authorized, to enter into any special engagement, as to what compensation you and M^r Gamble shall receive for your services ; but have no doubt, but what you will receive a just reward for the services you may render.

Sign^d W^m RECTOR Surveyor of the
Lands of the United States
in the Territories of Illinois
& Missouri—

JOSEPH C BROWN Deputy Surveyor A Copy

[*Endorsed*] N^o 3.—

William Rector to the Indian Commissioners

St LOUIS July 12th 1816

GENTLEMEN I have been instructed to survey and prepare for sale, about one hundred Townships of the United States, lands North of the Missouri River, and to survey for military bounties Five hundred Thousand acres in the same quarter.²⁷

In making these surveys, we must not interfere with any Indian Lands ; it is therefore important that the Osage boundary lines, (North of the Missouri River) be ascertained and surveyed as soon as practicable.

Perhaps it may be consistent with the views of the commissioners, to make such arrangements, as will enable me to send out surveyors to commence the Survey of these lines, at Fort Clark ; at the same time M^r Brown shall leave that place on the South line

W R &c—

GOV^r CLARK GOV^r EDWARDS & COLO CHOUTEAU Commiss

[*Endorsed*] N^o 4

²⁷ Tiffin to Rector, Mar. 14, 1816 (not found) ; see *ante*, pp. 124, 130.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO RECORDER BATES

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, 26th *July*, 1816.

SIR, A Resolution of Congress passed on the 27th of April last,²⁸ requires that there shall be prepared a list of the names of all the officers in the Service of the United States, exhibiting the amount of their compensation, and the state or county where they were born.

You will be pleased to furnish me with this information so far as relates to yourself.

I will thank you to permit Mr M^cNair to take copies of the manuscript copies of acts of Congress sent to you, and to let him have the use of your volume of Land laws.

I am, &^{ca}

FREDERICK BATES, Esq^r Recorder of Land titles St. Louis.

 THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., Treasury:ALS]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT. 29. *July* 1816.

SIR Your letter of the 18^h inst.²⁹ relative to Mr Mun's application for a lease of a Saline in the Territory of Missouri, has been submitted to the President; and your suggestions upon the subject have been approved. You will be pleased, therefore to take the proper steps for carrying them into effect.

I am, very respectfully, Sir, Y^r mo. obed Serv.

A. J. DALLAS

THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE

[*Endorsed*] 29 July 1816 Sec^y Treasury authorizes a Lease of a Salt Spring to De Mun Notified Register at St Louis 2^d Aug^t 1816 ³⁰

[Enclosures:ALS]

*Augustus de Mun to the Secretary of the Treasury*St LOUIS Missouri Territory *June* 17th 1816.

SIR, Having discovered an appearance of a Salt Lick on Black River, in the County of Lawrence, in this Territory, convenient to an extensive settlement, (in which I reside), that is subjected to great difficulties and inconveniences in procuring Salt, and the Said

²⁸ *Senate Journal*, 14 Cong., 1 sess., p. 614.

²⁹ *Ante*, p. 156.

³⁰ *Post*, p. 165.

lick being on the lands of the U. S. I beg leave through you to make application to the President for a lease of the same, being willing to give what (considering that the experiment of the value of the lick is yet to be made) it is reasonably worth; for which purpose I shall at all times, be prepared to enter into such obligations and give such security as may be required.

If the President should be inclined to gratify me in this application, I will thank you to notify Govern^r Clark of it as soon as practicable.

I have the honor to be with the highest respect, Your most humble most obedient Servant

AUGUSTUS DE MUN

THE HON^{ble} ALEXANDER J. DALLAS Secret^y of the Treasury
Washington City

Governor Clark to the Secretary of the Treasury

Missouri Territory S^t LOUIS June 17th 1816

SIR M^r August De Mun a Gent^{man} of the first respectability, wishes to Lease a Salt Lick, situated on the public lands on the waters of Black River, which is well situated to supply a populous part of this Territory—And I have no doubt of M^r De Muns making Such exertions as will procure a Sufficiency of Salt to supply a great portion of the Settlements in that quarter.

I have the honor to be Your Mo Ob^t H Sev^t

W^m CLARK

THE HON^{ble} SECTY OF THE TREASURY

[Addressed] The Hon^{ble} The Secretary of the Treasury of the U.S. Washington City

The Governor of Illinois Territory to the Secretary of the Treasury

S^t LOUIS Missouri Territory June 17. 1816

SIR Auguste De Mun Esqr having discovered the appearance of a salt lick on Black river near his mills, where a considerable settlement suffers greatly for the want of salt, is desirous, more I believe from motives of public good, than individual gain, to make some experiments upon the lick, for which purpose he intends to make an application for a lease of it from the President of the United States—He is willing to give whatever rent ought in justice to be required of him, but does not think that more ought to be demanded of him than is now given for the saline on Muddy river in the Illinois Territory—as the experiments that he must make, owing to the remoteness of the situation from the antient settlements of the country, will be attended with much more costs and

risque—My object however, in taking the liberty of addressing this letter to you at his request is merely to state that if the experiment should succeed, it will be the means of accomodating a large portion of the population of this Territory and cannot fail to be advantageous to the interest of the U. S. in many respects.

Mr De Mun is a gentleman of real merit, high standing, and great respectability in this country. My acquaintance with him authorises me to state, that the most implicit confidence may be placed in his honor; and that he is incapable of any but honorable views

I have the honor to be With the highest esteem & respect Sir Y^r
M^o Obd^t S^t

NINIAN EDWARDS

THE HON'BLE ALEXANDER J DALLAS, Secy of the Treasury Washington City

[Addressed] The Hon'ble Alexander J Dallas Sec. of the Treasury Washington City.

[Endorsed] St Louis, Gov. Edward. Mr Mun's discovery of a Salt-Lick. Referred to the Commissioner of the General Land-Office, to consider and report. A. J. Dallas 15 July 1816.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822:ALS]

Surveyors Office for the Territories of Illinois
& Missouri St LOUIS July 29th 1816

SIR I received by the last mail your letters of the 2nd ³¹ & 3rd Inst³² The first advising me that the Receiver of public monies, at Shawneetown was instructed to give me a credit for Fifteen Thousand dollars to be drawn as wanted for the payment of Surveyors. The fees due to Deputy Surveyors for Surveys already returned to my office amounts to a much larger sum. On the 10th of last month, I forwarded to you an estimate of the monies that will probably be wanted to pay for Surveys at this Office before the first of October next (48000 dollars including the 15000 dollars)³³

Your 2^d letter relative to the Lead Mines & Salt Springs of these Territories shall be particularly attended to. It will require some time for me to collect the information you want on this subject. I

³¹ Rector doubtless refers to the letter of June 29, mentioned in Meigs to Rector, July 10, 1816, *ante*, p. 153. No letter of July 2 has been found.

³² A circular to surveyors and land officers relative to collecting data on mineral lands (NA, GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6). See *ante*, p. 151, n. 11.

³³ NA (GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822). Cf. letter of same date, *Terr. Papers* (Ill.), xvii, 350-351.

have instructed several Deputy Surveyors who are now engaged in Surveying, to collect specimens of all substances that have the appearance of mineral, to wrap each specimen in paper & make such marks on them & notes in a Book to be kept for the purpose as will enable them to point out the spot from which it was got, with remarks on the appearance of the place and the adjacent Country &c. In this way I calculate on collecting much information, relative to the minerals of these Territories, which may be useful to our Government

I am with much respect Sir Your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR

HONB^le JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the General Land Office

[*Addressed*] The Honbl^e Josiah Meigs Commissioner of the General Land Office Washington City [*Postmarked*] St Louis Aug 5 Free

[*Endorsed*] St Louis 29 July 1816 William Rector has directed his deputies to collect specimens of Minerals—de credit with Receivers Ans^d 26 Aug^t ³⁴

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY TO JOHN
CALDWELL

[NA:TD, Pub. Lands Let. Bk., 1801-1833]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT *July* 1816

JOHN CALDWELL Receiver of Public Monies

SIR The Commissioner of the General Land Office having requested that a Credit might be lodged with you in favor of Mr William Rector Surveyor of the Public Lands in the territories of Illinois and Missouri for Fifteen Thousand dollars you will be pleased to reserve that amount in your hands for the object in question and pay Mr Rector Cash for his bills drawn on this Department from time to time not exceeding in the whole the sum above mentioned.

The bills are to be endorsed to the Treasurer of the U. States and Forwarded to my Office with the monthly account in which the Payment shall have been charged—

Signed A. J. DALLAS

³⁴ NA (GLO, Lets. to SG, II), advising Rector that on June 23 his credit at Shawneetown had been extended to \$48,000, and calling attention to the directive to deputies to collect information concerning salt springs and mineral lands.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO ALEXANDER MCNAIR

[NA: GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

2^d August 1816

SIR Mr Augustus De Mun, in a letter dated S^t Louis 17th June 1816, addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury,³⁵ states that he has discovered a salt lick on Black river in the County of Lawrence, & applies for a lease thereof; in consequence of that application, the President of the U States has directed, that you shall grant a Lease for three years of the said Salt Lick to M^r De Mun, on such terms as you think reasonable, the annual rent not being less than the Interest of the purchase money of the Land (at two Doll^s p^r Acre) which may be necessary to include the lick & furnish fuel for the manufactory; should this salt lick prove valuable, it is probable that at the expiration of the first lease it will be leased to the highest bidder, therefore you will provide in the lease to M^r De Mun, that at the expiration thereof, the Kettles shall be valued by disinterested persons, & the value of them paid by the second lessee. The Receiver of Public Monies will receive the rent as it becomes due—In drawing the Lease you will make it subject to the approval or disapproval of the President, & transmit it to this Office

I am

ALEXANDER MCNAIR Esq^r Register Land Office S^t Louis.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO GOVERNOR CLARK

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 2^d August 1816

SIR Your letter to the Secretary of the Treasury, dated 17th June last,³⁶ was duly received, & the Register of the Land Office at S^t Louis has been directed to grant to M^r De Mun a lease for three years of the salt lick discovered by him on Black River.

I have &c

HIS EXCELLANCY W^m CLARK S^t Louis

³⁵ *Ante*, p. 161. De Mun also applied for the lease of a saline in Illinois Territory on the same date (NA, TD, Lets. to GLO, 1809-1820).

³⁶ *Ante*, p. 162.

JOHN SCOTT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Resignations:ALS]

STE GENEVIEVE Augt 3^d 1816

JAMES MONROE Esq

SIR I hereby transmit to you my resignation as district attorney of the United States for the Territory of Missouri—My other avocations and pretensions requiring that I should do so—And permit me to recommend as my successor in office Charles S Hempstead Esq of Ste Genevieve in this Territory—He is a Gentleman of respectability and standing at the Barr.

Your obt Ser^t

JOHN SCOTT—

[*Addressed*] James Monroe Esquire Secty of State U S Washington City Mail [*Postmarked*] St. Genevieve Missouri Nov 13 Free

[*Endorsed*] 3. Aug^t 1816. John Scott resigns as District Attorney in Missouri Territory resignⁿ of office of district attorney for Missouri

ROBERT WASH TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., W177:ALS]

St LOUIS August 5th 1816.

SIR. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd Ult.³⁷ on the subject of the draught which I drew on you, for my compensation as Secretary to the Commissioners, appointed to treat with the Indians of the Mississipi & its waters; and I beg leave in answer thereto, respectfully to submit a few observations, explanatory of the motives which induced me to render the Account heretofore transmitted; & which I hope, will be sufficient to satisfy you, that either the Commissioners have imposed upon me arduous duties which could not have been contemplated by my appointment, or, that according to the ideas suggested in your letter (strictly taken) it would be impossible that I could receive any thing like an adequate compensation for my services and loss of time.

It is possible, that so much of my account as charges for compensation from the 31st of October, to the 26th of January may not be deemed correct, because the Commissioners have not, (as I am informed,) made any charge for services rendered during that period. My situation is however, very different from theirs, as I have thought; and I was induced to make the charge, from the cir-

³⁷ NA (OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. C).

cumstances of my personal presence being necessary to act when ordered to do so; from having been required during that time, to attend to the settlement of Accounts previously incurred, (to which the Acc^t Gen^l of your department can testify); and from having in the mean time, been called upon to discharge certain services (such as writing & transcribing letters & communications to yourself and different Indian Agents—More especially, after the receipt of your letter to the Commissioners of the 24th of Nov^r last; which was received on the 15th of December, and was considered as reviving and continuing their duties—But, whatever may be your opinion as to my claim for compensation during that period of time, from the circumstances I have mentioned, I should suppose, there could be no doubt of my right to compensation from the 26th of January last when the Commissioners all met, and recommenced their duties.

Your letter of Nov^r 24th ³⁸ and an intimation contained in the Presidents address to Congress,³⁹ which could have applied to no other Commissioners than those to whom I have been secretary, (their having invited according to instructions several Tribes of Indians who had failed to attend, and some of whom had sent in their excuses with promises of future compliance;—thereby leaving considerable part of the views & objects of the Government unaccomplished) all conspired, to produce the impression, that when the Commissioners recommenced their duties, they were to be governed by the instructions they had previously received, of which those to the Commissioners who met at Detroit, made a part, by the reference that was made to them, in the letter of the Honb^{le} A. J. Dallas of the 11th of June 1815.⁴⁰—These instructions all taken together, besides the Treaties that they authorized, rendered it necessary for the Commissioners to keep themselves constantly well informed of the disposition of the Indians; to afford all useful explanations to them; and to receive the visits of those who were friendly, in such a manner as to show them, that their conduct was properly appreciated by the Government—these things were performed, with not a little labour & loss of time on my part, I assure you Sir; and never has this Country witnessed a period when the performance of such duties could have been more important than during the present year; for never have the Indians, particularly those of the Illinois river & west of Lake Michigan, betrayed a stronger predisposition to hostilities. On several occasions they

³⁸ *Loc. cit.*

³⁹ Dec. 5, 1815 (Richardson, comp., *Messages and Papers*, I, 562-569).

⁴⁰ See *Terr. Papers* (Mich.), x, 548-549.

have sent war talks to different tribes, and endeavoured to effect a combination strong enough to make a furious & bloody attack upon the frontiers—Even since the Sacs treated, they collected their whole force, waylaid the banks of the Mississippi, and were prevented by an accidental circumstance only, from attacking our troops as they were ascending that river. Subsequently thereto, they had also collected from different Tribes a war party for similar purposes; and at this very time, there are appearances of hostile purposes among them, not easily to be understood.—The duties of the Commissioners as above mentioned, commenced the 26th of January; from which period 'till some time in March, Governor Edwards was necessarily detained here without once going home; and indeed, such has been the nature of their duties, that he has not, for about four months, returned to his home & family, though he has several times, got ready to do so.—Either deputations from some Tribe or other, or arrangements for employing and sending expresses into the Indian Country, have almost constantly engaged their attention. Indians from various Tribes, and some of them very distant ones, have attended, who were not competent to treat; but to whom the Commissioners in order to fulfil the views of the Government, have given presents & Certificates of their being taken under the protection of the President of the United States.—

On the first meeting of the Commissioners, they had considerable difficulty in engaging men to send to the Sacs.⁴¹ Unavoidable delays & disappointments took place, (one in particular, resulting from Capt Phillip's who was engaged for that purpose, getting accidentally wounded. Expresses had also to be sent to several Tribes, to carry answers to Talks received from them—and among the rest, to the Winnebagoes from whom a deputation arrived at this place in Feb^y last.

It has been difficult in many instances, to procure suitable expresses, & the sending of them to the Indian Country from this quarter, is necessarily liable to many disappointments.—A very serious one took place lately in the case of two men sent under your instructions to the Osages—One of them was taken extremely ill; his life in such danger, that the other had to stay with & attend upon him; & finally, they returned back without accomplishing the object of their mission, after a lapse of time nearly sufficient for that purpose.—Many Councils have been held, though but few Treaties have been made. Delays have frequently intervened from the want of punctuality in the Indians in coming according to their appointments; and at this very time, the Commissioners are, and have been for some time past, waiting for the Indians of

⁴¹ See *ante*, p. 117, n. 9.

Illinois river, whose arrival has been daily expected. These occurrences are beyond the control of any human foresight or precaution.—I mention these things Sir, to present you with a general idea of the difficulties & delays that attend the discharge of their duties. It has been made mine, constantly to attend at this place; to hire all boats, horses & expresses; to settle & pay off their accounts; to superintend all preparations for the reception of the Indians; to give a daily attention to them when present, (which has been almost constantly the case); to issue every order for their rations; to see that those rations are of the proper quality & faithfully delivered; to purchase when necessary, & distribute all the presents; to take charge of the public goods and keep an account of the distribution of them; to copy all dispatches & to keep the accounts of the Commissioners & a Journal of their proceedings, as well as to discharge the ordinary duties of Secretary in council.—And it is a fact, that my duties have been the most laborious, when not actually engaged in making treaties; And they have been particularly so lately, since the Commissioners have been engaged in making preparations for running the lines of the Osage purchase.

These things will explain to you satisfactorily, I hope Sir, the motives that induced me to draw the draught; And while I feel a confident assurance that your Honor will duly appreciate them, I would beg you to excuse the free and full manner in which they have been communicated.⁴²

I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration & respect Sir. Your Obedt Servt

R: WASH

[Endorsed] St Louis August 5th 1816. R. Wash Esqr Has recd letter 2^d Ult^o—gives an explanation of the a/c rendered for Services as Secretary to Com^s to treat with the Indians &c Sep^r 1816.

⁴² With respect to the negotiations of 1816, which concerned both Missouri and Illinois territories, see the Secretary of War to the commissioners, May 7, May 27, Aug. 13, and Sept. 17, 1816 (NA, OIA, Lets. Sent, Bk. C, printed, *A.S.P., Ind. Affairs*, II, 97–98, 98–99); and the commissioners to the Secretary of War, Jan. 12 (C110), Feb. 19 (C64), May 13 (C137), June 17 (C192), June 30 (C250), July 15 (C210), Sept. 9 (E50), and Sept. 16 (E51), 1816 (NA, WD, SW, Lets. Recd., under parenthetical numbers). The letters of June 17 and July 15 are printed, *Terr. Papers* (Ill.), XVII, 352, 362, and that of June 30 is printed, *A.S.P., op. cit.*, p. 98. The only one of the several treaties concluded at St. Louis which concerned Missouri Territory was the Sioux treaty of June 1, 1816. The original of this treaty is in NA (OIA, Lets. Recd.), under its date. It is printed in *A.S.P., op. cit.*, pp. 94–95; 7 STAT. 143–144. No land cessions were involved; the treaty was merely a confirmation of previous transactions and a declaration of the restoration of relations which existed prior to the War of 1812.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Reed., 1816-1822:ALS]

Surveyors Office for the Territories of
Illinois & Missouri Aug^t 12th 1816

SIR, In my letter of the 22nd Ult^o ⁴³ I informed you that I had applied to the Commissioners Appointed to Treat with the Indians of the Mississippi & its waters to Co-operate with me in Surveying & establishing the Indian boundary lines North of the Missouri River.

These Gentlemen thought with me, that those lines ought immediately to be surveyed, But did not Consider themselves absolutely authorized to appoint a Commissioner on the part of the United States to agree on, and fix said lines. They however instructed Major Chouteau Indian Agent to notify the Indians concerned in that quarter of the Country, to attend at Fort Clark for the purpose of agreeing on, and establishing those boundary lines, and directed him to act as Commissioner on the part of the United States.

As I had received instructions from Surveyor General Tiffin before his powers ceased in this Territory to Survey the Indian boundary line North of the Missouri River ⁴⁴ & as I viewed it important that these lines should be immediately established. I thought it adviseable not to wait for more special instructions on the subject. I therefore appointed Cap^t John C Sullivan as Principal & Sam^l K. Caldwell as Assistant to Survey said lines—

They have set out in order to do the work, and I presume will meet with no difficulty in accomplishing it ⁴⁵—

I am with much respect Sir Your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR

HONBL^e JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office
Washington City.—

[*Addressed*] The Honbl^e Josiah Meigs Commissioner of the
Gen^l Land Office Washington City [*Postmarked*] St Louis Aug
17 Free

[*Endorsed*] St Louis 12 Aug^t 1816 W Rector has sent Deputies
with M^r Chouteau to survey boundary north of Missouri river

⁴³ *Ante*, p. 156.

⁴⁴ Not found.

⁴⁵ Answered *post*, p. 172.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

16th August 1816.

HON: A J DALLAS Secretary of the Treasury

SIR I have the honor to transmit herewith a letter dated 22^d Ult^o from the Surveyor General of the territories of Illinois & Missouri,⁴⁶ & accompanying papers, relative to the Surveys of the Osage boundary lines, & request you will be pleased to say whether the Surveyor General is to pay the expences of said surveys, or whether the department which directed them to be made is to pay for them.⁴⁷

I have &c

ALEXANDER McNAIR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Reg. and Rec. Lets., St. Louis:ALS]

Registers Office, S^t LOUIS, 16th August, 1816.

SIR. Your letter of the 3^d July,⁴⁸ relating to Lead Mines and Salt Springs in this Territory has been received—The earliest attention shall be given to its Contents, but some time will elaps before I can procure that information relating to Lead Mines, & Salines, as will justify me in making such a report as should be laid before Congress for any decision.

The many Lead Mines, & Salines, which have been discovered in this Territory I view of great importance to the General Government, to have a correct view taken of them and from the distance many of them are situated from this place on the Missouri & Mississippi Rivers, and their Waters—without visting them, I could only report from information. The Lead Mines & Salines, which have been worked in the Neighboring settlement, correct information can be procured.

The Lead Mines on the Mississippi, which are at this time in possession of the Indians, and in a small degree worked by them, I view of greater importance to the Government, than any Mines yet discovered, were we in possession of them. Should it be thought advisable for me to visit those mines this fall, and procure a correct view of them I will without loss of time, Comply with such instructions as I may receive on that subject.

I am very Respectfully Sir your Ob^t Serv^t

A McNAIR

THE HONB^l JOSIAH MEIGS Com^r Genl. Land. Office

⁴⁶ *Ante*, p. 156.

⁴⁷ See *post*, p. 172.

⁴⁸ NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6), a circular soliciting information concerning lead mines and salt springs.

[*Addressed*] The Honb^l Josiah Meigs, Com^{sr} Genl: Land Office.
Washington City [*Postmarked*] St Louis Aug 19 Free

[*Endorsed*] St Louis 16 Aug^t 1816 Alex^r McNair Ans^d 21 Sep^r
1816⁴⁹

JOSIAH MEIGS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, II]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 29th Aug^t 1816

W^m RECTOR Esq^r Surveyor St Louis

SIR Your letter of 22 Ult^o ⁵⁰ (relative to the expence that would be incurred in running the Osage boundary line at the request of Governors Clarke & Edwards) was duly received & submitted to the Secretary of the Treasury; his reply states "that no official communication has been received from the Department of War or the President on the subject, & that if the Survey has been authorized by either, the expence must be defrayed out of the proper appropriation whenever it is escertained."

I therefore presume that it will be necessary that Governors Clarke & Edwards should write to the proper authority to furnish them with funds to defray the expence of running the said boundary line.

I am &c

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 3^d Sept^r 1816.

HON: A J DALLAS Secretary of the Treasury

SIR In reply to your letter of 29th Ult^o, ⁵¹ I beg leave to observe, that should the Pres- authorize the leasing of all or any of the Lead Lead Mines for which proposals have been made, the produce arising from them for three years, would ascertain the value of Mineral lands, more perfectly than any information that can be expected

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*, Bk. 7, a brief acknowledgment.

⁵⁰ *Ante*, p. 156.

⁵¹ NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., Treas., and TD, Lets. from GLO, Bk. 4), acknowledging a letter of Aug. 26, 1816 (NA, GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7), relative to the leasing of lead mines; transmitting a letter from the land officers at Kaskaskia, Aug. 7, 1816, printed, *Terr. Papers* (Ill.), xvii, 370-373, and stating that those officers had recommended Edward Humphrey as agent for the collection of lead-mine rents but that Governor Clark had recommended Colonel Ashley; also advising that Congress was making an inquiry concerning lead mines and was asking for data thereon. See also Meigs to the Secretary of the Treasury, Dec. 19, 1816 (*A.S.P., Pub. Lands*, III, 269), covering documents embodying the information in question, which are also printed *ibid.*, pp. 269-274.

from the Land Officers. It appears to me that the proposals are for certain quantities of Land, to be laid off, to be searched for lead ore, each proposer taking his tract where he thinks there is the best prospect of finding Ore; although Congress instituted an enquiry to obtain information, they did not take from the executive the authority to grant Leases in the interim, & my opinion is that those leases, stimulating the Lessees to search for Lead Ore will render the mineral Lands productive to the U States, in a shorter time than any other mode of procedure.

I have &c

THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO THE INDIAN COMMISSIONERS

[NA:OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. C]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR 17th Septem^r 1816.

GEN^l W^m CLARK, GOV N. EDWARDS & AUG. CHOUTEAU, Esq^r Comm^{rs} &c. &c. S^t Louis.

GENTLEMEN, Your letter of the 30th of June last ⁵² has been received and submitted to the consideration of the President.

It is expedient in every point of view that the line of the Osage purchase should be run and marked from the Missouri to the Arkansaw, you are hereby authorized to engage to pay such extra expense for running that line, as shall appear to you to be reasonable and just, limiting the same by a maximum which shall not be exceeded, in any event. The importance of accomplishing this service without delay renders it necessary that your engagements should be definitive, without consulting the department upon the maximum to be determined. Oeconomy ought to be strictly adhered to, which is too frequently departed from in every transaction in which the government is concerned.

Upon the subject of an eventual cession from the Osages, ⁵³ or

⁵² *Ante*, p. 151.

⁵³ The effort to remove the Osages from the immediate picture and to satisfy the demands of the Arkansas Cherokee led to the unofficial negotiations of William L. Lovely, Cherokee agent, with the Osages held at the mouth of the Verdigris River in June and July, 1816. On July 9 the Osage chiefs agreed to relinquish all claims between the Verdigris on the west and the Cherokee line on the east; in return for which cession Lovely promised that the U. S. Government would pay all claims against the Osages for their depredations. These terms were substantially the same as those agreed upon in the formal treaty of Sept. 25, 1818 (see Clark to the Secretary of War, October 1818, *post*, p. 454). The tract in question was subsequently known as "Lovely's Purchase". See *ante*, xiv, 719-722, and index to present volume under William L. Lovely and Osage Indians. See also index to a forthcoming volume of this series on Arkansas Territory under the same designations. Correspondence relative to the "Purchase" was printed contemporaneously in H. R. (War Dept.), Doc. No. 263, 20 Cong., 1 sess.

Quapaws becoming necessary to secure the Cherokee emigrants in their possessions, no precise instructions can be given. Those settlements were made upon an understanding which has never been fulfilled, or even acknowledged, by the Cherokee nation since that period. On the contrary, when urged upon that point last winter, they rejected the idea of exchange of lands in consideration for those upon which their emigrant brethren had settled, and said that they should be compelled to return and live with the nation. They even refused to consider them as entitled to any part of the annuities payable to the Cherokees.

This subject has been referred to the commissioners now holding a treaty in the Chickasaw nation with the four Southern tribes. Should the condition upon which the settlements upon the Arkansas was founded be recognized by the nation, it will then become the duty of the United States to provide permanently for those emigrants, by securing them in the peaceable enjoyment of their possessions. Should the nation however persevere in the sentiments by which their deputation was animated last winter, all obligation on the part of the United States is extinguished. To their own nation they must look for indemnity for any losses which they may sustain in consequence of their emigration. The United States cannot be bound, if the conditions on the other part are violated. The result of the pending negotiation will remove all doubt on the subject, either by releasing us from all obligation, or by defining the extent of the duties imposed upon us in relation to the settlers upon the Arkansas.

It is very probable that the Illinois cession may not extend Eastwardly as far as the Indiana line, but it is so laid down in our maps. It is highly probably that Governor Edwards' map of the Illinois territory, may be more correct than those in our possession, especially in the delineation of the lower part of the river of that name; but there is reason to believe that even that map does not afford materials sufficiently accurate, to form any conclusive opinion upon, as to the extent of the cession, either Eastwardly or Northwardly. If that cession can be extended to the Southern, or Western, margin of Lake Michigan, by relinquishing our title to that which lies North of the Northern line of Ohio, reserving certain military sites, there can be no doubt of the utility of such an exchange. The views of the President on this subject, have undergone no change. If Governor Edwards' map is accurate as to the mouth of Fox river, there will be but little probability of extending the cession to the shores of the Michigan, in consideration of the relinquishment of our title to the Northern extremity of the Illinois purchase. If this should be found impracticable, any ex-

change which will tend to render our acquisitions in that quarter more compact, and at the same time bring us nearer the lake shore, will be acceptable to the President.

The determination to purchase land only when demanded for settlement, will form the settled policy of the government. Experience has sufficiently proven that our population will spread over any cession, however extensive, before it can be brought into the market, and before there is any regular and steady demand for settlement, thereby increasing the difficulty of protection, embarrassing the government by broils with the natives, and rendering the execution of the laws regulating intercourse with the Indian tribes utterly impracticable.

I have the honor to be, &c. &c.

W^m H. CRAWFORD.

GOVERNOR CLARK TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., C283:ALS]

Missouri Territory St LOUIS Sept^r 28th 1816

SIR I have been informed within a few days past, that the Indian Agents at Mackanack & Green Bay have given Licences to a number of British Traders to take and vend their goods to the Indians on the upper parts of the Mississippi within this Territory—Prusemeing that the measure is authorised by the governm^t with a view of having the Indians of that quarter supplied; no steps will be taken by me in opposition to those measures, which proceed from the most humane motifs. However, the Information which I have received would justify an oppinion, that the Views of the Government have not been fully attended to by the Agent at Mackanack, who it is said, has not been attentive to the Characters of those he gave Licenses to; (for which a charge of \$50 each have been received)—but as I have not been made officially acquainted with his instructions, will not prosume an oppinion upon the legality of his Conduct ⁵⁴—

Under the impression that British Traders were to be excluded, several Americans from this and the adjoining Territory embarked in the Trade of the upper Mississippi, Their Capital aded to that furnished by M^r Aster to the British Traders, will without doubt more than amply furnish the Tribes of the Mississippi—

Some apprehension may be entertained from the influence of the old British Traders, which if they are contrary to the honourable and pacific principals of our Gov^t may produce disorder among those Tribes; indeed, some of their Chiefs have already began to

⁵⁴ See *Terr. Papers* (Mich.), x, 654-655, 667-668.

speak with a lofty tone—bosting that “the Americans dare not exclude the British Traders”. I fear the Chiefs who adhered to Great Britain during the War, will rise in the estimation of the Indians—and those who were friendly to the American Gov^t will sink in the same proportion, it is probable that the English Traders & Indian Chiefs late in the Service of the British will league together—and the Warriours and young men, will naturally attach themselves to those Chiefs who can Command the most traders—amongst those Tribes who have had British traders only—It is in Vain that our Trades tell them, that the Traders come among them, but by the Special permission of the President; the most of them judge from the narrow Circle of their views, and will not believe it.

As those Traders have been in the habit to Speaking and acting as they please, they will most probably tell the Indians as they have done before, “we promised to Come among you again, we Come you see as formerly—we will Come as long as we think proper—and the Americans cannot hinder us—They talk big, promis much, but can do nothing”—This is the language those Traders use to the Indians when among them.

For the purpose of explaining to the Tribes of Sioux of the S^t Peters and about Lake Pepin the real objects and views of our Government as also to learn the Conduct of the Traders in that quarter, I have Appointed M^r Benjamin oFallon a special Ind^a Agent without promising him any fixed Compensation—This young Gentleman a native of Kentucky who has been recomended to you by gentlemen of high respectability in this Territory which recommendation was inclosed in my letter to you of the 25th of August ⁵⁵

I have the honor to be Your mo ob^t H^e S^t

W^m CLARK

THE HONB¹⁶ WILLIAM H. CRAWFORD Sec^{ry} of War

[Endorsed] S^t Louis 28th Sep 1816. Gov. W^m Clarke relative to granting licences to British traders—The Agent at Mackinaw has rec^d \$50 for licenses &c &c requests advice on the subject Oct 1816.⁵⁶

⁵⁵ Not found.

⁵⁶ Answered by Graham Oct. 29, 1816 (NA, OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. C), discussing instructions of the Secretary of War to Indian superintendents and agents, May 10, 1816, *loc. cit.*, relative to the execution of the act approved Apr. 29, 1816, for the control of trade (3 STAT. 332–333), and instructing that evidence be gathered regarding the sum said to have been paid by traders for licenses.

GOVERNOR CLARK TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., C287:ALS]

Missouri Territory Ex^e Office S^t LOUIS Sept^r 30th 1816

SIR In my letter of the 26th of May ⁵⁷ I mentioned that I had sent men to warn the settlers on Indian Lands south of the Arkansas river and high up that River to remove from those lands, to which the Indian title had not been extinguished, as my proclamation on that subject not having produced the desired effect—Those men have returned and made a report, a Copy of which is inclosed ⁵⁸—I have sence received a Petition from the Settlers in that portion of this Territory—situated between the Arkansas River and the line of Louisiana State, a Copy of which I also take the liberty to inclose to you; in that tract of Country about Two hundred Families have settled, and have 300 men able to bear arms—The reputation of those Settlers are peaceable, honest & industrious, having erected two water, and six horse Mills possessing many well improved Farms on the Wauchataw River and its waters, which are navigable for large boats to the Mississippi; which is the easiest and most practicable rout for a military force to get to them.—Situating as the regular Force in this quarter are at this time, will render it impracticable to dispossess those settlers before the next Spring

As this Tract of Country between the Arkansas and Louisiana Line would connect the Settlements of this Territory with the States of Louisiana, covering a Country which the Indians set but little value, I beg leave to Suggest the expediency of their title being extinguished—by extending the line of the Osage purchase to Red River and down that river, which will as I am informed, include all the Settlements N E of Red River, and which contains about half of the population of the County of Arkansas. The inclosed Sketch or Map ⁵⁹ will afford you a better view of the country, and extent of population, than can be shewn in a letter.

To prevent Settlements extending up the Arkansas as well as to detect illicit Trade, a Military post is essential on that river, at or near the line of the Osage purchase; without such a post it will almost be impossible for me to Control the Traders and Bands of Indians residing high up that River, and the extension of the Settlements of White emigrants above the boundry line—At this time there are three Settlements made on the Osage lands above where the line will strike the Arkansas, one about 300 miles, one 126 & one 100 miles above the Cherikée Towns.

⁵⁷ Not found.⁵⁸ Cf. *ante*, p. 134.⁵⁹ Not present.

The imigration to this Territory (principally to the Missouri River & Mississippi above this) has been for the last six months very considerable, and very rapidly increasing—and as I am informed composed of respectable & welthy men anxious to procure some of the public Lands—

I have the honor to be With high respect Your Mo obd^t H¹ Sert
W^m CLARK

THE HONB¹^e WILLIAM H. CRAWFORD Sect^y of War

[Addressed] The Honb¹^e William H. Crawford Sec^y of War

[Endorsed] S^t Louis Sept 30th 1816. Gov W^m Clark relative to the removal of intruders off the lands between the Arkansaw & Louisiana line—recom^{ds} a purchase of that land—Encloses documents on that subject Nov 1816.

[Enclosures]

Statement of the Former Spanish Commandant

ARKANSAS June 5th 1816

In pursuance of the request in writing of Governor William Clark dated May 4th 1816 ^{oo} I have for the four last days, devoted my attention to enquiries of the most ancient and respectable inhabitants of this place and neighbourhood relative to the extent of the Quapaw Indians claim to lands &° as well as relative to the dispositions & heretofore deportment of those indians and relative to any private claims of lands south or south west of the Arkansas River

From the best most ancient most respectable and most to be relied on information to be obtained on these subjects it appears to be the general and unanimous assertion, without contradiction, that the first white establishment made on the Arkansas river were about 30 or 40 miles by water below the present post or Village of Arkansas. That at that time and from the first remembrance of white people in this Country there was no known western boundary to the Quapaws claim, That they occupied both sides of Arkansas river above where the white establishment were and suffered no other indians to approach or make any settlement near them. Between 35 or 40 years ago the established white settlements mostly overflowed by high waters, which was then represented by the commandant of the place to the Government in answer to which the commandant was requested to make an establishment either at point Chicho on the Mississipi about 50 or 60 miles by water below the mouth of Arkansas or at such place

^{oo} Not seen.

as he might think most fit up the Arkansas river. In consequence of which request the present post or Village of Arkansas was selected as the most proper & suitable place for the white settlements &c at that time & when the present post of Arkansas was established the Quapaws were requested by the commandant and consented to remove entirely to the southward side of the Arkansas river about the present Village of Arkansas that they should have no claims, settlements or occupancies eastward of where the white settlements were then established on either side of the Arkansas river, the then established white settlements being at the present village of Arkansas. The Quapaws accordingly removed entirely to the southward side of the Arkansas above the present village they having previously in part resided below and made the settlements & villages where they yet reside. In the years 1795 & 1796 the Delewares first and afterwards the Cherokees made application to the Quapaws for leave to occupy a tract of country above them on the Arkansas river and hunt thereon, when in Council the Quapaws refused to permit either the Cherokees or delewares to settle or hunt any where on Arkansas river above them—and stated that the white people might settle on Arkansas river below them, or that they would even move higher up to give room for white settlers below but that neither whites or Indians should settle or hunt above them This was represented by the commandant of Arkansas to the Governor of Orleans—In answer to which the Governor instructed the command^r at Arkansas to give the Cherokees liberty to settle or hunt on the river S^t Francis & the delewares to settle or hunt on white river,

When the Osage Indians first came to the Arkansa river one of the principal chiefs visited the Commandant of Arkansa and obtained leave to settle hunt & occupy the Country on Arkansas above the Canadien river, and though the Quapaws did not consent to their settling there: since they the Osages have been established there the Canadian fork or Canadian river has been by both nations considered & held as the boundary between them The Quapaws & Osages and soon after the Osages had established themselves where they now reside on Arkansas about 1812 or 1813 the Governor at New Orleans sent a medal to each of two of the principal chiefs No Nation of Indians are said to be more friendly honest or well disposed towards white people than the Quapaws. The Cadoes has no known claims or right of claim known to any of the people here bordering on or towards the Arkansas river.—

As to private claims of lands south of Arkansas I have heard of none except those on record in the recorders office at S^t Louis the most important of which is a grant or concession said to have

been given by the Barron De Carondelait about the year 1795 to Don Carlos De Villemont for about fourteen thousand arpens of land situate at Point Chico on the Mississippi, on which it is said about ten families now reside and have resided for about ten years past as tenants and lessees of the said Don Carlos Devillemont.—

[*Endorsed*] Information given by the late Spanish Commandant of Arkansas

David Musick and William Parker to Governor Clark

S^t LOUIS Missouri Territory August 1st 1816—

SIR Agreeable to your excellency's order of the 4th May last directing us to proceed by way of the Mississippi to the post of Arkansa and leave at each County seat the laws of the Territory with which we were charged, was strictly attended to, also that part of your Order respecting the Citizens which are settled south and south west of the Arkansa River and which we were directed to visit and notify to abandon that tract of Country Agreeable to your proclamation of the 4th Dec^r 1815 ⁶¹ was punctually attended to, we likewise endeavoured to give you a Correct an idea of the face of the Country, disposition of the inhabitants &c &c as possible

Arrive at the Post of Arkansas the 1st June, 1816 at which place we were obliged to remain to procure Horses they being hard to obtain at this place untill the 4th in the evening when we with difficulty supplied ourselves but unfortunately one of them strayed before morning and detained us untill the 9th at which time we bid adieu to the post and directed our course to the Quapaws Village seen the Principal Chief and Communicated the Contents of your letter addressed to Judge Bullet,⁶² to them that Gentleman being absent, the Chief appeared much pleased with the purport, and promised that he would attend with others, and would pay you a visit in two months and one half from that time, which would make it some time in the present month

The land on this river is extremely rich, producing timber of various specous and of verry luxurant Growth but the greater part of the fine land is subject to inundation from even moderate rises of the river, the Country after you have the low or bottom ground of the Arkansa to the hot Springs is verry broken and rocky producing little else but pine which grows to great perfection it is about 200 miles from the post of Arkansa to those curious and useful springs there are no settlements immediately at this place the first is on the bank of the Washataw river about ten miles dis-

⁶¹ *Post*, p. 191.

⁶² Not found.

tance of about thirteen families and who are the entire support of the many sick who attend those Valuable waters for their health, The Washataw is a beautiful stream of clear water about 80 or 100 yards wide and navigable for any sized Keel as high up as the saline which is now worked a distance of 400 miles from whence it empties it self into the Red River from the Washata to the Fouch Cadeau the next small river is about 30 Miles, here also is the next settlement, the Country between those two rivers is mountainous, rocky and barren, but after you cross the Caddeau you are presented with a delightful farming Country abundantly watered by clear healthy streams, The Ozan was the next settlement in our route and distant about 50 miles from the Caddeau, Mount Parairie is considered the same as the Ozan though 15 miles apart this was the farthest settlement we visited it is said there are a few families settled as high up as the [blank] point on the Red River a distance of a hundred and fifty miles from the Mount Prairie, but our horses being much fatigued and having nothing to feed them with depending entirely upon the woods for sustenance, and having an opportunity to send the necessary information to that place we turned about and retrograded to the hot Springs called on our way back at the Wolf Creek Settlement and apprised the people of our business this was the last settlement in this quarter there are from the best information we could receive about two hundred and twelve or thirteen families in this tract of Country

The improvements fine farms elegantly Cultivated fields luxuriant Crops of Corn and numerous heads of cattle horses hogs &c that are to be met with in this quarter are strong proofs to the traveller of the exertions & persevering industry of the inhabitants, notwithstanding our business was to them of the most gauling nature, we were treated with the utmost respect, and hospitality neither were they noisy or abusive, as was expected against Government on the contrary they behaved with much decency and shewed a perfect willingness to comply with the severe mandate of their Country.

From the hot springs we directed our Course to the Cherokee Village, and thence to the Poto one hundred and twenty five miles, there are only three families reside here, the road from the Cherokee Village to the Poto leads through an elegant Valley of from eight to twelve miles in width 2nd rate land, the Prairie are very beautiful to the view not knowing that the frog Bayou was on the east side of the Arkansas and being informed that there was no person settled at it we returned to the Dardonelle where we met with an old hunter, who told us the frog bayou was east of the river and that above it a few miles several families had set-

tled there was fortunately for us a boat to assend the river in a few days, we gave a few copies of your proclamation with a Copy of our instructions to a M^r Mosley who promised they should be attended to, having performed all we were instructed to, we turned our backs on the Arkansas and pursued the Road leading to the little Red River, white River Strawberry and to the place from whence we set off in May the land from the Arkansas to the Maramec is generally very stoney and broken and the climate sickly

We are with much respect Sir your Ob^t Servant

DAVID MUSICK
W^m PARKER

GOV^r WILL^m CLARK Missouri Territory

[*Endorsed*] A Copy of Col. Musick & L^t Parkers report Those men were Sent to the Settlements on Indⁿ Lands to warn them to remove &c &c

Petition of Inhabitants of Missouri Territory

[*No date*]

HIS EXCELLENCY WILLIAM CLARK Governor of the Missouri Territory,

We the undersigned your humble petitioners beg leave to lay before your excellency for consideration those serious grievances caused by a late order issued for the removal of all the inhabitants south and southwest of the River Arkansa in which boundary we are included We have been annexed to the County of Arkansa and by its officers assessed, and with pleasure paid those taxes imposed on us by our Government, as believing it one step towards cimenting us to the enlightend free people of our Territory, and doing away all possible right of refusing us any of the free previledges enjoyed by those people of our Territory, we have further Commissions given by your excellencys own hand to Civil Majestrates of our settlements militia officers &c all of which we considered as placing us under the protection and subjecting us to the will of the executive authority of this Territory in all cases but removal, we further beg to recommend to your excellencys consideration those many hardships difficulties and privations we must necessarily have encountered in maintaining a settlement in such a wilderness Country as this, we emmigrated to this country about four years ago, and took every means to obtain correct information relative to the nature of Indian Claims to this country and was informed as we supposed from the most authentic source that we were a considerable distance within the boundaries of the United States, under those considerations we quietly and industriously pur-

sued our occupations of husbandry and many times were almost ready to sink from our pursuits under those many oppressions to which we were exposed from our situation, but viewing the fertility of the soil the luxurancy of the productions its many advantages attending a Cultivation of the various metallic substances and salines entombed in the bowels of the earth all Conspiring to prompt us to energy we firmly stood our ground and with pleasure anticipated its approach of better times; but to our serious disappointment chagreen and injury we are ordered to remove without delay and leave our present beautiful prospects of a Crop consisting principally of Corn Cotton and Tobacco which from their present luxuriant appearance, promises handsomely to reward us for those toils and labours bestowed for the purpose of rearing them to perfection, we therefore humbly hope that your excellency will seriously consider those grievances and extend to us that benevolence for which you are so much reputed, and shield us from that Calamitous order for at least a Sufficient time to harvest and secure our Crops, fit them for and transport them to market, and then if we must we will resign ourselves to our fate and forsake our Country which is only endeared to us by the many hardships we have sumounted in its healthful clime

To this petition 214 Names are signed—and delivered by their agent James Cummins Esquire ^{es}

[*Endorsed*] a Copy of a Petition from the Settlers of Waushataw & South of Arkansaw River to which the Indian title, not extinguished

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822:ALS]

Surveyor's office for the Territories of Illinois
& Missouri St LOUIS Sep^t 30th 1816

SIR Enclosed you will receive the public notices given by the Recorder of Land Titles & myself, to the claimants of New Madrid lands that has been materially injured by earth quakes—you will preceive from M^r Bate'ss notice that it had been contemplated to get the whole of the certificates, for the injured lands in readiness to deliver at the same time; But M^r Bates found that it was a business which was not susceptible of that previous and general arrangement; That there would be much to do, after the Claimants should demand their certificates, viz examining title papers, taking conveyances to the United States, for the injured lands &c—This

^{es} No names are appended to the copy from which the above text is taken.

being the case he could but issue those certificates, as they might from time to time be applied for, and he accordingly gave public notice of the time at which he would be prepared to commence issuing and delivering said Certificates; Finding it was necessary that the Recorder of land titles should take the course he has done, and that most of the claimants were absent and at a distance from this place and would not in all probability receive notice in time for them to make application for their certificates as early as those purchasers of such claims, who live in S^t Louis and its neighbourhood, it appeared to me, to be my duty to give public notice at what time I should be prepared to receive notices of location, so that those persons (the original claimants) for whose benefit the law was passed, might have an opportunity to avail themselves of all the rights & advantages, which the inhabitants of this neighbourhood, who have become purchasers of this description of Claims can have.

From your instructions contained in your letter of 10th July ⁶⁴ last, I do not consider myself authorized to take notice of any locations that may be attempted to be made out of the limits of the tract that has been directed to be surveyed for the purpose of being offered for sale at S^t Louis, that tract, as I understand the instructions which I have rec^d is embraced by the boundaries mentioned in the public notice, that I have given, some of the claimants, particularly Co^l Rufus Easton, contend that they have a right under the act of congress, to locate any of the public lands in the Territory, on which the Indian title has been extinguished. M^r Easton a few days since called at my office and offered me some papers which he said were certificates for Lands which he held in lieu of injured Lands in the county of New Madrid, and notices of locations. I enquired of him whether he had seen the notice that I had given, of the time at which I should be prepared to receive such notices, he answered that he had; But that he considered, that the law gave him a right to make his location, as soon as he produced the recorders certificate, & that he would avail himself of that right. After which on the same day, he sent a young man to my office who tendered the said papers (that is the young man told me they were the same) I did not receive or examine them.

No other person has yet applied to me to take notice of their locations, nor do I believe any person will, except those who may be influenced to do so by M^r Easton or by his example, until the time at which I have notified the claimants, I shall be ready to receive notices of their locations, to wit the 22nd next month, by which time all the claimants may be in readiness to avail themselves of the

⁶⁴ *Ante*, p. 153.

rights given by the act of congress. M^r Easton observed, to me that one of the locations which he tendered was not within, the limits of the tract pointed out by my notice. Will you please to instruct me how I am to act in this business. Shall M^r Eastons tender of locations give him a preference over other claimants who may tender their locations for the same land on the 22nd of October, or shall he & others who may tender locations, that are not within the tract which I have designated; have a right to demand of me a survey of said locations—

I will only remark that if M^r Eastons view of the matter, or rather his course should prevail the purchasers, of this description of Lands who live in S^t Louis, or who are now here (and there are several of them who have purchased as I understand largely) will have a very important advantage over those claimants who are absent, to wit, first Choice of the country ⁶⁵

I am with much respect Sir your ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR

THE HONBL^e JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office Washington City

[Enclosures]

Newspaper clipping

Office of the Recorder of Land Titles.

ST. LOUIS, *Sept 8th*, 1816.

In cases proven last year, I shall be prepared in the course of two weeks, to deliver certificates of the right of new location for lands damaged by earth quakes in the late county of New Madrid.

A particular day, as was at first intended, cannot be assigned for a delivery of the whole; for in some cases of material injury, the reliefs, under the present constructions of the act, will not be accepted—and in others the claims may not be so represented as to enable me to deliver the certificates.—Much labour will therefore be unavoidable at the time of the delivery—in making the entries—in giving progressive numbers to the papers, and *order* generally to a business which is found not to be susceptible of *previous system*.

FREDERICK BATES

Newspaper clipping

SURVEYOR'S OFFICE, For the Territories of Illinois
& Missouri, ST. LOUIS, *Sept. 13*, 1816.

WHEREAS the Act of the Congress of the United States, of the 17th day of February 1815, provides that any person or persons

⁶⁵ Answered, *post*, p. 198.

owning lands in the late county of New Madrid, in the Missouri territory, which have been materially injured by earth-quakes, shall have the right to locate certain quantities of public lands which they may hold in lieu of such injured lands. And whereas the said act of Congress makes it the duty of the undersigned to cause the locations of such lands to be surveyed. Therefore, NOTICE is hereby given, that the office of the undersigned will be open to receive notices of such locations, on the 22d day of October next, in order that arrangements may be made to survey the same, provided such locations shall be made in conformity with the said act of Congress, and within the following bounds and limits, viz.

Beginning in the fifth principal meridian, at the corner of townships No. 39 and 39, 40 and 40 north of the base line, thence east to the Mississippi river, thence up that river, with the meanders thereof to the corner of fractional townships No. 52 and 53 of range—No 2 east, thence west to the line between ranges—No. 18 and 19, thence south to the corner of townships No. 42 and 43, thence east to the line between ranges No 12 and 13, thence south to the corner of townships No. 39 and 40, thence east to the place of beginning.

WM. RECTOR, Surveyor of the
Lands of the United States, in the
Territories of Illinois & Missouri.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

GEN^l LAND OFFICE 7th October 1816

HON: A. J. DALLAS Secretary of the Treasury.

SIR I have the honor to transmit herewith a letter from the Recorder of Land titles at S^t Louis, relative to an act passed by the Gen^l Assembly of the Terri^y of Missouri, imposing upon him certain duties,⁶⁶ & I wait for your instructions upon the subject.

I am &c

SECRETARY BATES TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Mo. Terr. Papers:ALS]

Secretary's Office ST LOUIS October 12th 1816

SIR, I had the honor to receive a circular, by last mail, from the Department of State, under the Resolution of 27th of April last.⁶⁷—

⁶⁶ Approved Dec. 22, 1816 (MO. TERR. LAWS, 1815-1816, pp. 3-4).

⁶⁷ *House Journal*, 14 Cong., 1 sess., p. 738.

Salary as Secretary of Missouri Territory One thousand dollars.—I was born in the county of Goochland, in the State of Virginia.

very respectfully

FREDERICK BATES

HONBLE JAMES MONROE Sec^y of State.—

[*Addressed*] Honorable James Monroe Secretary Dept of State Washington City

[*Endorsed*] Fredk Bates Register

SECRETARY BATES TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Mo. Terr. Papers:ALS]

Secretary's Office of Missouri Territory

ST LOUIS 12th Oct 1816

Sir, I have the honor to transmit Extracts of the Executive Journal from 1st October 1815 till 30th of September last—Also, Copies of the Proclamation of the Governor, during the same period.—

A printed copy of the Acts of the last session of the General Assembly shall be forwarded by next mail.^{es} In the mean time, as a part of the Legislative proceedings, I enclose Copies of two Resolutions of the Assembly, which are supposed to have been communicated, long since, to the Government, through other channels.—

I have the honor to be, very respectfully Sir, your most obedt servant

FREDERICK BATES

THE HONORABLE JAMES MONROE Secretary of Dep^t of State

[*Addressed*] The Honorable James Monroe Secretary of the Dep^t of State Washington City

[*Endorsed*] Missouri Returns.

[Enclosure]

*Executive Proceedings of Missouri Territory October 1, 1815–
September 30, 1816*

Extracts from the Executive Journal of Missouri Territory from the first day of October 1815 till 30th day of September 1816 inclusively—

^{es} Neither acts nor covering letter found.

1815

Oct 3^d Robert Wash Circuit Attorney for the northern circuit

4th David McQuitty a Justice of the Peace, township of Bonne Femme in the County of St. Charles—and to admr oaths of office

22^d James Beatty, a Justice of the Peace for same township

22^d David Marks Adjutant of the 2^d Regiment—

31 George Dameron a Justice of the Peace for the township of Tywapity in the county of New Madrid & to admr oaths.—

Nov 1. John E. Allen a Justice of the Peace for the township of St. Ferdinand in the County of St Louis—& to admr oaths.—

Decr 18. Thomas D. Stephenson a Justice of the Peace for Dardenne township in the County of St. Charles.

George H. Scripps a Justice of the Peace for the township of Cape Girardeau in the County of Cape Girardeau

Louis Labeaume a Justice of the Peace for the township of Richwoods in the county of Washington.

1816

Jan^y 10. John Horehine a Justice of the Peace for the township of Richwoods in the county of Washington—

18th John Brickey Notary Public for the County of Washington

25th Tho^s Neal, Thomas Stewart, John Askin, John Byrd Justices of the Peace for Byrd township in the County of Cape Girardeau

27. John Burns coroner for St^e Genevieve County Henry Elliott a Justice of the Peace for the township of Ste Genevieve in the County of Ste Genevieve William Hix sen a Justice of the Peace for the township of Columbia, in the county of Lawrence

Feb^y 9th Joseph V. Garnier Clerk of the Superior Court for Northern Circuit

Joseph McFerron Clerk of the Superior Court for Southern Circuit

12th John Barret a Justice of Peace for Saline township C^y of St^e Genevieve

Henry Tucker a Justice of the Peace for Saline township C^y St^e Genevieve

20. Caleb Bowles a Justice of the Peace for Joachim—C^y St. Louis

Grannum Estus 2^d Lt. Kowrin Ally—Ensign 3^d Com^y 2^d Battⁿ [blank] Reg^t

March 1. George Jackson a Justice of the Peace for Howard County Gray Bynum clerk of the Circuit Court for Howard County

Jacob Rambo Capt Jesse Hargrave 1st Lt Peter W. Loose 2^d Lt John Trimble Ensign 3^d com^y 1st Battⁿ 6th Reg^t

Moses Ferguson Ensign 1st Battⁿ of 9th Reg^t

1816

Thomas F. Riddick Lt Col^o. comd^t of the 1st Reg^t

Rene Paul Major of 1st Battⁿ of 1st Regiment

James Musick Major 2^d Battⁿ of 1st Regiment

Henry Battn Capt 3^d com^y 1st Battⁿ of 1st Regiment

Barnabas Harris Capt 1st com^y 2^d Battⁿ of 1st Regiment

James Allcorn a Justice of the Peace for Howard County.

David McQuitty & Stephen Cole same for same

Nicholas Burckhartt Sheriff of Howard county for 2 years.

John Munro—a Justice of the Peace for Howard County and Coroner of the said county.—also appt^d to adm^r oaths.

March 14. Jeremiah Connor a Justice of the Peace for the township of St Louis, county of St Louis

Josiah Brady Capt of 1st com^y 1st Battⁿ of 1st Reg^t

24th Josiah Bright 1st Lieu^t Aristides Michau 2^d Lieut 2^d com^y 1st Batt 1st Reg^t

26th William Looney a Justice of the Peace for Union township in the county of Lawrence

Alex^r Hodge a Justice of the Peace for Spring River township in the county of Lawrence

Michel Tesson 1st Lt 1st com^y 1st Bat 1st Reg^t

Gabriel S. Chouteau 2 Lt 1st com^y 1st Bat 1st Reg^t

Francis Chouteau 3^d Lt 1st com^y 1st Bat 1st Reg^t

Daniel B. Moore a Justice of the Peace for Bon Homme township in the county of St Louis.—

April 5. Prior Quarles Surgeon's Mate of the 1st Regiment

25 James Morray Coroner of Lawrence county—resigned

William Harris Pay Master of the 8th Regiment

John Brickley a Justice of the Peace for Breton township in the county of Washington

William Looney a Justice of the Peace for Union township C^y of Lawrence

Alexr. Hodge—same—same for Spring river—same

George Gill—same—same for White river—same

William Moore—same—same for Christian—same

Micajah Harris—same—same for Current river same

Benjamin Emmons a Justice of the Peace for the township of Lower Cuivre in the county of St. Charles.

May 1st Absalom Link 1st Lieu^t John Howdershalt Ensign 1st Com^y 2^d Battⁿ 1st Reg^t

Micajah Harris Capt Yelverton Yaton 1st Lt 4 com^y 1st Battⁿ 8th Reg^t

William Robertson 1st Lt 3^d com^y 1st Battⁿ [blank] Reg^t

William Ingram 2^d Lt. 2^d com^y 1st Battⁿ 8th Reg^t

1816

Daniel Williams 1st Lt 2^d Com^y 2^d Batt. 8th Reg^tThomas Fulcher 2^d Lt 1st com^y 2^d Batt 8th Reg^t7th William Burchard, a Justice of the Peace for Labbadie township in the county of St Louis18th George Davis 2^d Lt 2^d com^y 1st Battⁿ 6th Reg^tLouis Aubuchon Ensign of 2^d com^y 1st Battⁿ 6th Reg^tRichard Todd 1st Lt of 3^d com^y 1st Batt of 6th RegimentAlpheus Huff 2^d Lt 3^d com^y 1st Battⁿ 6th RegimentCarter Palmer—Ensign of 3^d com^y 1st Battⁿ 6 Reg^tWilliam Isham—quarter Master of the 2^d Reg^t

June 12—William Drury a Justice of the Peace for Femme Osage township in the county of St Charles—

15th Benjamin Davis a Justice of the Peace for the township of Cinq Hommes in the county of Ste GenevieveJuly 22. W^m Christy jr Appointed by the Judges & commissioned Clerk of the Superior Court of the terr^y for Crim^l offences in C^y of St Charles

23. Urh J. Devore Sheriff of the County of St Charles

Aug. 1. Geo C. Sibley Justice of the Peace for the several townships in the county of St Louis

23^d George Jackson Surveyor for the county of HowardSep^r 20. James Rankin Surveyor for the county of St Louis—

Licences for Indian Trade—

1815

Oct. 4. William Rogers with the Otos, Panis & Mahas—

15 Louis & Joseph Beaudoin with the Otos, Panis & Mahas Antoine Janis with the Osages & return by Arkansas.

Nov. 11. Bazile Proulx, with Osages & friendly Sacs & Foxes on Missouri

1816

Feb^y 24. Manuel Lisa—on Missouri with Aricaras, Mandanes &^{ca}

Mar. 12. Gabriel S. Chouteau with Sacs & Foxes on Osage River.—

22^d Gilbert D. Taylor with Shoshonees and others—Ap^l 24. John Cleves Symmes with the Foxes & Sieux—May 3^d Thomas McNair with the Foxes & Sieux—30. Joshua Palen—with Sacs & Foxes on Mississippi (west)June 12. John Campbell & c^o with same—(west)Benjamin Mun with same same—(west)13 Julius De Mun & Peter Chouteau jr with Arapahos, Haytons &^c

1816

July 16. Louis Bessonnet & Ignace Chenier with Panis, Pankas & Sioux

19. Berthold & Chouteau with Otos, Panis, Mahas, Pankas & Sioux

" Latournea & La Jeunesse with Panis, Mahas, Pankas & Sioux

20 Godair, Leberge & c^o with Sioux & Aricaras

Aug. 10. Francois Devoin with Otos, Panis, Mahas, Pankas & Sioux

14 Benjamin OFallon with Sioux & others West of Mississippi

17 Gabriel S. & Fr^s Chouteau with Osages, Kansas & Panis

Paul L. Chouteau with Great & Little Osages

19 Fernon, Connolly & Smith with Indians on Mississippi—west.

21. Francis Turcot with same same same

26 Evariste Maury with the Indians of the Missouri—

28 B. & I. Pratte & Fr^s Valle with same same

Lisa & Hunt with same same same

Sep^r 2 Tramble & Hays with Indians on river St Peters

4 Jeannot & Provost with Indians on the Missouri

6 Dennis Julien with the Sacs, Foxes & Ayouas—Missouri

John P. Cabanné with Ayouas, Sacs, Foxes & Sioux—Mississippi

18th Francis M. Benoit with Sacs & Foxes on the Mississippi

Secretary's Office ST LOUIS Oct 1st 1816

FREDERICK BATES

Copies of Proclamations issued by the Governor of Missouri Territory

[December 4, 1815]

By His Excellency WILLIAM CLARK Governor of the territory of Missouri, Commander in chief of the militia thereof and Superintendent of Indian Affairs

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS white persons emigrating from the settlements of this territory as well as from the neighbouring territories and States, and elsewhere, have, at various times intruded upon the Indian Lands, and made settlements there in violation of the laws, and in total disregard of those admonitions which have been frequently given by the Executive authority of this territory. These practices can be no longer permitted—Our government, founded in justice will effectually extend its protection to the Native inhabi-

tants within its limits—and if misunderstandings occasionally arise, it is greatly desirable that the original aggression should not have proceeded from ourselves:—Instructed therefore, on this subject by the President of the United States, I do hereby require that all white persons who have intruded and are settled upon the lands of the Indians within this territory, depart therefrom without delay—Should they neglect this last and peaceful warning the military power will be called upon to compel their removal.—*In testimony whereof* I have caused the Seal of the territory to be hereunto affixed.—Given under my hand at St Louis the fourth day of December One thousand, eight hundred and fifteen and in the fortieth year of the Independence of the United States.

(SEAL)

(Signed) WILLIAM CLARK

By His Excellency's Command

FREDERICK BATES Sec^y

of Missouri Territory.

By WILLIAM CLARK Governor of the territory of Missouri, commander in chief of the Militia thereof and Superintendent of Indian Affairs therein—

A PROCLAMATION

[January 23, 1816]

WHEREAS it is certified to me by the Jailer of the county of St Louis that a certain William Henderson, committed to the jail of the said county charged with the crime of murder, has broken jail and made his escape therefrom—AND WHEREAS by a law of the territory aforesaid entitled 'an Act authorising the Governor to offer a reward for apprehending criminals in certain cases'⁹⁹ The Governor is authorised when any person charged with murder shall break prison, escape or flee from justice to offer a reward for the apprehension of such criminal: *Now therefore*, in pursuance of the Authority in me vested by said Act, I have thought proper to offer and do hereby offer a reward of one hundred dollars, for apprehending and delivering the said William Henderson into the custody of the Sheriff of the said County of St. Louis—And do require all Sheriffs or Justices of the Peace and other Officers to be aiding in apprehending and securing the said fugitive, so that he may be brought to justice.—In testimony whereof I have caused the Seal of the territory to be hereunto affixed.—Given under my hand 23^d Jan^y. 1816—

(SEAL)

(Signed) WILLIAM CLARK

⁹⁹ Approved June 25, 1807 (LA. TERR. LAWS, pp. 60–61, printed by Joseph Charles, 1808). The text was omitted from the 1842 compilation of MO. TERR. LAWS.

By WILLIAM CLARK Governor of the territory of Missouri, commander in chief of the Militia, and Superintendent of Indian Affairs—A *Proclamation*.

[March 26, 1816]

WHEREAS, in and by the fifth section of an act of this territory entitled 'An Act altering the times and places of holding the Superior and circuit Courts of this territory and for other purposes' ⁷⁰ it is among other things enacted that upon information given by the Sheriff of any county to the Governor that said Sheriff hath committed to his custody any person charged with a capital Offence whereupon it shall be the duty of the Governor to issue his proclamation for the purpose of notifying the Judges of the Superior Court thereof: AND WHEREAS the Sheriff of the county of St. Charles hath given information to me in writing that Isadore Heunae is now in his Custody, committed to the jail of the said county upon the charge of having on the 19th instant murdered a coloured girl by the name of Celeste: *Now therefore* in pursuance of the directions of the said Act, I do issue this proclamation that all officers concerned may have information thereof, and that the requisitions in the said act contained may be complied with. In testimony whereof I have caused the seal of the territory to be hereunto affixed Given under my hand at St Louis this 26th day of March, one thousand eight hundred and sixteen, and in the fortieth year of the Independence of the United States.—

(Signed) W^m CLARK.

By WILLIAM CLARK Governor of the territory of Missouri, Commander in chief of the Militia thereof and Superintendent of Indian Affairs—A *Proclamation*

[April 3, 1816]

WHEREAS at the Superior court of the said territory now sitting, John O'Donald and James Willoughby have been convicted of robbery, and sentenced to pay a fine of one hundred and fifty dollars and one cent to the territory of Missouri one third thereof to go to Joseph Boring from whom the property was taken and also to be whipped on their naked backs each one stripe as appears of record to me certified—AND WHEREAS it is made known to me by Alexander Stuart and J. B. C Lucas Esquires two of the Judges of the said Court that the Offence committed by the said O'Donald and Willoughby before the passage of the act concerning crimes, was a trespass, and it being also made known to me by the statement of all the bar practicing in said Court that the case does not merit the punishment declared by law and recommending the said De-

⁷⁰ Approved Jan. 21, 1816 (Mo. TERR. LAWS, 1815-1816, pp. 48-60).

fendants for pardon—Therefore in consideration of the premises and by virtue of the power in me vested by law, I do hereby fully and entirely grant pardon to the said John O'Donald and James Willoughby of the said crime of which they have been thus convicted saving that part of said fine going to the said Joseph Boring, and do require the sheriff of the county of St Louis & all others whom it shall or may concern to take notice hereof and govern themselves accordingly—*In testimony whereof* I have caused the Seal of the territory to be hereunto affixed—Given under my hand at St Louis this third day of April, in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the fortieth—

(SEAL)

Signed W. CLARK

By WILLIAM CLARK Governor of the territory of Missouri, Commander in Chief of the Militia and Superintendent of Indian Affairs—*A Proclamation*

[June 4, 1816]

WHEREAS in and by the fifth Section of an act of the territory entitled 'An act altering the times and places of holding the Superior and circuit courts of this territory and for other purposes' it is among other things enacted that upon information given by the Sheriff of any County to the Governor that said Sheriff hath committed to his custody any person charged with a capital Offence, whereupon it shall be the duty of the Governor to issue his Proclamation for the purpose of notifying the Judges of the Superior court thereof:—AND WHEREAS the Sheriff of the county of Cape Girardeau hath given information to me in writing that William Barker and Ralph Davis are now in his custody, committed to the Jail of the said county upon a charge of having on the [blank] day of last month murdered a man of Dickert or Deckard—Now therefore, in pursuance of the directions of the said act I do issue this Proclamation that all Officers concerned may have information thereof and that the requisitions of the said act may be complied with. *In testimony thereof* I have caused the seal of the territory to be hereunto affixed.—Given under my hand at St Louis the 4th day of June, One thousand eight hundred and sixteen & of the Independence of the United States the fortieth.—

(SEAL)

(Signed) W^m CLARK.

By WILLIAM CLARK Governor of the territory of Missouri, Commander in chief of the Militia thereof and Superintendent of Indian Affairs *A Proclamation*

[September 19, 1816]

The return of Election for a Delegate from this territory to the Congress of the United States made to me from all the counties

(and now in my possession) having been cast up and arranged as directed by the 15th Sec of the Act of the General Assembly entitled 'An Act to regulate Elections'⁷¹ I find the results to be as follow to wit—for John Scott, One thousand eight hundred & sixteen; for Rufus Easton, one thousand eight hundred and one—and scattering votes in different counties thirty one: I do therefore, as enjoined by the act above recited declare and make known that John Scott has been and is duly elected as the Delegate to represent this territory in the House of Representatives of the United States.—In testimony whereof I have caused the Seal of the territory to be hereunto affixed—Given under my hand at St Louis the nineteenth day of September in the year of Our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and sixteen and of the Independence of the United States the forty first

(SEAL)

(Signed) W^m CLARK—

By the Governor

FREDERICK BATES

Sec^y Missouri ter^y

The foregoing are Copies from the files

Secretary's Office ST LOUIS Oct 1st 1816

FREDERICK BATES SEC^y

Memorial to Congress by the Territorial Assembly

[January 25, 1816]

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, The Memorial of the General Assembly of the territory of Missouri, respectfully sheweth, that the frontier Inhabitants of this territory during the present savage war have suffered innumerable hardships and a loss of property to a vast amount, which in the Opinion of your Memorialist, entitle them to the consideration of the General Government That when hostilities were commenced by the Indians in the winter of 1812 the said Inhabitants did, at the request and advice of Governor Howard erect forts along an extensive frontier for the protection of the same and did actually occupy said forts & furnish the same with arms and ammunition at their own expence and without any pay or reward from government performed garrison duty and assisted almost as much towards protecting the frontier as they could have done, had they been in the service of the United States as Militia, and in no instance during the bloody struggle have the said Inhabitants abandoned their forts, except when advised so to do by the Commanding Officer in this territory.—Your Me-

⁷¹ Approved Jan. 4, 1814 (ACTS GEN. ASSEMBLY, MO. TERR., 1813-1814, pp. 16-19; MO. TERR. LAWS, I, 296-302).

morialists feel they should be wanting in their duty, if they neglected to represent to the General Government the sufferings of so meritorious part of the community, occasioned by a Savage host let loose upon them and stimulated to murder and plunder by the Emissaries of Britain. It is too painful to your memorialists to recapitulate the murderous scenes and bloody tragedies that have been acted on our frontiers—suffice it to say that among the sufferers, there are many widows and orphan children whose solace and support have fallen victims to savage cruelty—Your Memorialists feel a confidence that the general government, altho' they could not afford prompt and complete protection to our frontier Inhabitants will remunerate them in part for the services they have rendered and the losses they have sustained—They do not ask the General Government to make the sufferers rich, but as a great part of those who have suffered came into the Country since it was ceded to the United States, hold no lands in the same, a compensation in lands would therefore be most acceptable; And they, in confidence believe that could your honorable body be as well acquainted with their losses and the services they have rendered, by helping to protect the frontier as your memorialists are, that a quarter of a section of land to each sufferer would not be thought an unreasonable compensation—*Therefore, Resolved* by the General Assembly of the territory of Missouri, that our Delegate in Congress is hereby instructed to lay this memorial before the Congress of the United States, and also to use his best endeavours to have the same carried into effect, in such manner as Congress in their wisdom may order and direct.—*Resolved*, that his Excellency the Governor of this territory is hereby requested to forward this memorial directed to our Delegate in Congress.⁷²

(Signed) JAMES CALDWELL Speaker of
the House of Representatives.
JN^o R. JONES, President, pro
tempore of the Legislative
Council

Approved *Jany* 25th 1816

(Signed) WILLIAM CLARK,
Governor of Missouri terr^y.

The foregoing are Copies from the files.—Secretary's Office
ST LOUIS Oct. 1. 1816 ⁷³

FREDERICK BATES Sec^y

⁷² Presented to the House by Delegate Easton, Feb. 19, 1816 (*Annals*, 14 Cong., 1 sess., 1014).

⁷³ There is also present with the above a second legislative resolution, dated Dec. 25, 1815, embodying endorsements, which is printed *ante*, p. 97, from another source.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO GOVERNOR CLARK

[NA:OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. C]

WAR DEPARTMENT, 21st October, 1816.GOV^r WILLIAM CLARK, Missouri Territory, S^t Louis.

SIR, Inconveniences having resulted from extending the superintendence of the governors of our territories to Indians residing in other territories, the President has directed me to inform you, that your superintendence of the Indians must be confined to the Indian tribes residing within the Missouri territory.⁷⁴

Governor Edwards has expressed an opinion unfavorable to the integrity and conduct of Mr. Blondeau,⁷⁵ and has referred the department to the Commissioners with whom he has lately acted, for the correctness of that opinion. I will thank you for the communication of your opinion upon this delicate subject.

It has been represented to the department, that Mr Forsyth still considers himself Indian agent at Peoria. This is wholly inadmissible: Mr Graham resides there as agent. Mr Forsyth can be of no service at Peoria, if there was no agent there, as long as he resides at S^t Louis. Indian agents must reside among those with whose management they are charged.⁷⁶

Should your opinion be coincident with Governor Edwards' as to Mr B. Mr Forsyth may take his place, but he must reside in the Indian country.

I have the honor &c.

W^m H. CRAWFORD.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, II]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 22^d October 1816.WILLIAM RECTOR, Esq^r Surveyor Gen^l S^t Louis.

SIR, I have to request you will inform me what progress has been made in surveying the different tracts of land appropriated for military bounties, & when, in your opinion, the surveys will be completed & the lands be ready for distribution.

I am &c.

⁷⁴ See Governor Edwards of Illinois Territory to the Secretary of War, Sept. 24, 1816, and the Secretary of War to Edwards, Oct. 21, 1816 (*Terr. Papers*, III., xvii, 399, 417-418).

⁷⁵ See Edwards to the Secretary of War, Sept. 24 and Nov. 18, 1816, *ibid.*, pp. 398, 430.

⁷⁶ See Edwards to the Secretary of War, Sept. 24, 1816, *ibid.*, p. 398. See also the Acting Secretary of War to Edwards, Mar. 26, 1817 (NA, OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D; printed, Edwards, *Hist. Ill.*, pp. 543-544), and *post*, p. 255. Cf. Boilvin to the Secretary of War, Oct. 17, 1809, *ante*, xiv, 330.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, II]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, 24th Octo^r 1816W^m RECTOR Survey^r Gen^l S^t Louis

SIR I have your letter of 30th Ult^o ⁷⁷ & have informed the Secretary of the Treasury, that there is not money enough to pay your bills at Shawneetown, & that the Receiver at Kaskaskia has eight or ten thousand dollars: the Secretary will I presume place that at your disposal.

I also have your letter of same date relative to locations of claims by sufferers in the county of New Madrid ⁷⁸—those claimants can locate only in that tract the sale of which is authorized by Law, to wit, the tract which the President has directed to be prepared for sale.

As you have given notice that you would be ready to receive certificates on the 22^d October, all who presented them on that day, should decide by lot the priority of Location.

I am &c

ALEXANDER MCNAIR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Reg. and Rec. Lets., St. Louis:ALS]

Registers Office SAINT LOUIS Missouri

Territory October 24th 1816

HONrd SIR, In compliance with your circular of the 3rd July last ⁷⁹ on the subject of information in relation to Lead Mines & Salines belonging to the United States—I can only venture to communicate such information as I have obtained from others, first, on the subject of Lead Mines, there is a large tract of country situated about Sixty Miles South of Saint Louis & about Forty West of the Mississippi River in which Mine a Burton lies which is a private claim in this tract of country, many Lead mines have been discovered on public Lands this is the tract of Country which so much lead has been Imported from into the markets of the Interior of the United States, The General productoin of ore is from Sixty five to Seventy p^r Cent, this country is generally fertile and the adjacent country except on the West which is for some distance broken, There is good farms under cultivation within this Mineral tract and good settlement adjacent to it except on its west, the Town of Patosa the Seat of Justice for Washington County is Situated on the place called Mine a Burton this tract of Country is generally well timbered the transportation from those mines to the Mississippi River is by land but the Country well situated for good

⁷⁷ NA (GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816–1822).

⁷⁸ *Ante*, p. 183.

⁷⁹ NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 6). Cf. *ante*, p. 150.

Roads—There has been Lead ore found on the Merrimac River which puts in to the Mississippi about twenty five miles below Saint Louis, There has been Lead ore found on a small River called the Burbies about fifteen Miles South of the Missouri and about Seventy Miles above Saint Louis, There has been Lead ore found up Groves River which puts in the Osage River which puts in to the Missouri River about one hundred & Sixty Miles above Saint Louis, There has been Lead Ore found on Indian Potato Creek which puts into the Osage River—The Lead Mines on the Mississippi River about four hundred & Fifty Miles above Saint Louis is said to be the best mines but a part of them is to be claimed by the representatives of a French man by the name of Debuike, There has been Lead Ore found oposite to the Prarie Du Chain which is about Sixty miles above the last mentioned mines from the first mentioned tract of Mineral Country to the last is about a North course and supposed to be the same vain of mineral, as Lead ore has been found in many places in the same direction The terms on which grants or leases may be made most advantagiously to the public, or the reservations that should be made my Information on that Subject will not Justify my giving an oppinion but would suggest the propriety of Leasing Mineral Land in small tracts and not more than one tract to an applicant And that the Lessee should be bound to work the same or his contract after a given term to be considered as forfeited, in this way the public cannot be imposed upon, by the Speculators, who under other circumstances might lease all the mineral Land and work but parts and monopolize that commodity in one mans hands—And I think as an encouragement to men to discover Lead Mines that the public should give to the person who may make the discovery the preference of the first lease of such discovery and in such cases not more than one tract at any time—

On the subject of salines belonging to the United States my information is founded as on Lead Mines—

There has been many salt springs found on and near the Missouri River from One hundred & fifty to two hundred and fifty miles above Saint Louis, the waters of those springs is said to be as strong as the United States saline on the Ohio there has been salt springs found on & near the Mississippi River above Saint Louis from one hundred & twenty to two hundred miles the Streangth of the waters I cannot say the first mentioned Salt Springs is found in and near that rich country called Boons Settlements on the Missouri River from the great number of salt springs found in that County should the Government reserve them all with the proper proportion of timbered Land, in such cases but a very small proportion of that Rich country would be offered for sale here. I would suggest the propriety of selecting such springs as may be found from situation & streangth of water most valuable reserving

to their use such tracts of timbered Land as may be thought proper & prohibiting the working of salt waters which may be on lands offered for sale without permission from the United States—

In leasing Salt Springs speculators ought to be guarded against as a monopoly in salt would injure the citizens and could not Benefit the Government—In communicating on the subject of Lead Mines & salt springs I feel some degree of diffidence finding I am not in possession of such Information as from my office my Government would expect from me, but I hope the situation of my office being as yet closed will be taken as an apology having no public data from which I could obtain information but flatter myself at a future period if called on will be better able to give information of Public Property ⁸⁰—

I have the Honour to be your very Obt Serv^t

A McNAIR

JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the Gen^l Land office Washington City.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, II]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE Nov^r 2^d 1816

W^m RECTOR Esq^e Surveyor &c S^t Louis

SIR In reply to your letter of 10th Ult^o ⁸¹ it is unnecessary to transmit to this office plats of townships till they are complete, exhibiting public Lands & private claims. Apprehending that the soldiers who have received their Land Warrants will be clamorous for their patents, I was desirous of preparing tickets for the Lottery, from complete plats of townships so fast as they arrived, so that the drawing might commence on the receipt of the connected plat.

I am &c

JOSIAH MEIGS TO MOSES AUSTIN

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE. 4th November 1816

MOSES AUSTIN Esq^{re} Mine à Burton M T^y

SIR Your letters of Octo^r 7, & 10, ⁸² accompanied with highly valuable information relative to the Lead Mines in the Counties of

⁸⁰ Answered *post*, p. 205. Cf. *ante*, XIII, 73 n. The above letter is summarized in *A.S.P., Pub. Lands*, III, 271. See also similar report on lead mines by Bates, Nov. 20, 1816, *ibid.*, pp. 703-704.

⁸¹ *Terr. Papers* (III.), XVII, 410.

⁸² Not found.

St Genevieve St Louis & Washington in the Territory of Missouri, have been reserved; for which I beg you to accept my sincere thanks.

I am &c

INDIAN COMMISSIONERS TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:OIA,SW, Lets. Recd.:LS]

St LOUIS *Novem^{br} 4th 1816*

SIR. We have the honor to state to you that agreeably to arrangements mentioned in our letter of the 30th June last,⁸³ Mr Brown as principal Surveyor and Mr Gamble as his Assistant, were engaged by us to run the Osage boundary line from the Missouri to the Arkansaw river; for which purpose they departed from this place in the month of July last, but have not yet returned. And the Cherokees and Quapaws who arrived a few days past state that previous to their leaving their villages, they heard a report that those Gentlemen had been attacked and murdered by the Osages. What credit is to be attached to this report, a few days will probably decide. We are however fearful that some accident has happened, as we otherwise cannot account for their not having arrived before this time.

While making arrangements for running the Osage line south of the Missouri, Gen^r Rector the public Surveyor for this and Illinois Territory made application to us to have the Northern boundary also run; alledging that he had previous to his late appointment been instructed by the Surveyor Gen^r to run it; and that it was absolutely necessary to enable him to discharge the duties assigned him that that boundary should be ascertained. We however did not feel ourselves fully authorized to comply with his request, notwithstanding in your letter of the 27th of May last⁸⁴ you stated that "whilst negotiating with the Osage Tribe provision should be made for running the *lines* of the cession made by them to the United States". Gen^r Rector however, finally concluded to have the Northern boundary run upon his own responsibility, provided we would undertake to notify those Indians and procure their attendance according to the Treaty with them; to which we readily agreed, as it required nothing more than we should have been obliged to do for the purpose of running the southern line.⁸⁵

Maj^r Chouteau was employed by us, to assemble the Indians at Fire Prairie and to attend on the part of the United States for the purpose of superintending the running of the lines or agreeing

⁸³ *Ante*, p. 151; cf. *ante*, p. 156, printed, A.S.P., *Indian Affairs*, II, 98.

⁸⁴ Printed *ibid.*, pp. 97-98.

⁸⁵ See *ante*, p. 156, and enclosures.

with the Indians in the direction they should take. The Indians attended, and the Northern boundary has been run with their approbation—A Plat of which, with an Account of all the expences thereof is herewith transmitted. It however appears from Gen^l Rector's correspondence with the Treasury Department,⁸⁶ that payment for those services cannot be made without the sanction of your or the President's authority, and we have been applied to, to settle the account and to draw on you for the amount, which we should readily do (as we are satisfied of the Justice & reasonableness of the account) if we had not some doubts of our authority to do so. Gen^l Rector's correspondence above mentioned which has been submitted to our inspection, shews the necessity for running those lines. On every account we are convinced it was highly important that they should be run—and the time for running them seemed to be most opportune, as it saved the expence (always considerable) of assembling the Indians at two different times for the same purpose, which the Treaty would have rendered indispensably necessary.—We therefore most respectfully beg leave to recommend the account for payment which is all that we think ourselves at present authorized to do.⁸⁷

We have the honor to be most respectfully Sir your Obd^t Humb^l
Serv^{ts}

W^m CLARK
NINIAN EDWARDS
AUG^{te} CHOUTEAU

THE HONB^l WILLIAM H CRAWFORD Secretary of War

P. S. Contrary to our expectation the Plat could not be finished in time for this Mail, but that shall be forwarded together with the vouchers to support the enclosed Acc^t by the next.—

INDIAN COMMISSIONERS TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:OIA,SW, Lets. Recd.:LS]

S^t LOUIS Nov^{er} the 11th 1816.

SIR, We have the honor of forwarding herewith enclosed, M^r Sullivan's Plat of the Northern boundary line of the Osage purchase, together with the Vouchers in support of his Account of expences incurred in running the same, which was forwarded with our communication of the 4th Instant.

⁸⁶ Not seen.

⁸⁷ See Clark, Edwards, and Chouteau to the Secretary of War, Dec. 7, 1817 (NA, WD, SW, Lets. Recd., C284), relative further to the Osage boundary, with enclosed speeches of Indians.

We have the pleasure to acquaint you also that since the date of that Communication M^r Brown and his Assistant M^r Gamble, have returned in good health.

The delay (which induced us to fear that the report of their having been murdered by the Osages was but too true) arose from the circumstance of their having lost a number of their pack horses; so that they were reduced to the necessity of packing & travelling all on foot from the Arkansas, by a circuitous route of at least six hundred miles.

The Plat of the line run by M^r Brown together with the Account of expences incurred in performing that labour, shall be forwarded to your Department without delay.

We have the honor to be very respectfully Sir your Obed^t Humb^l Serv^{ts}

W^m CLARK
NINIAN EDWARDS
AUG^{te} CHOUTEAU

THE HONB^{le} W^m H. CRAWFORD Secretary of War

[Endorsed] St Louis Nov 11th 1816 Gov^{rs} W^m Clarke & N^a Edwards & Col A. Chouteau Enclosing M^r Sullivans plat of the Northern boundry line of the Osage Indians & vouchers in support of this claim—Dec^r 1816

PRYOR QUARLES TO AN UNIDENTIFIED PERSON

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

SAINT LOUIS, (Missouri Territory) Nov^r 11th 1816

DEAR GENERAL, You see, by the date of my letter, to what an immense distance, time and a variety of circumstances have separated us, since we last met in Norfolk. This disposition to ramble, is I beleive stronger in the American character, than that of any other nation: but for my own part, (although I very much admire the country I now reside in) I must confess, that if all things suited, I should wish to end my days in the old Dominion.

This territory, which is now so strongly attracting the attention of Virginia Emigrants, is decidedly one of the finest portions of the world, that I have seen; and to the man of Capital, now offers a certain prospect of wealth, & compleat independence. Nor is the state of society such, as is generally met with in newly settled countries; it is polished beyond any thing, that I could have expected.

I was agreeably surprised some time since, at seeing our old friend Munroe, make his appearance here. The prospect however

did not suit him, & he left us, with I beleive, no very favorable impressions—You would perhaps be surprised at finding in St Louis so many of your old acquaintances, Among the number are Ro: Wash, and your former, “pro tem.” adjutant, Peter Ferguson. The latter is just about making an establishment here, and no doubt will do well. My, principal motive for addressing you, is to solicit your interest in favor of a young Lawyer, a friend of mine, who is I think eminently qualified to fill the office he desires. The gentleman I allude to is Cap^t Henry S. Geyer, late of the state of Maryland and who served in the U. S. army during the war, with credit to himself & the service. He now resides here; and as Mr. John Scott, has vacated the office of U. S. District Attorney, for this Territory the Capt is anxious to succeed him. He is a young man talents, integrity, industry and the purest honor; and his political principles are purely republican, although he is from the hot bed of Federalism. As the gentlemans pecuniary resources are limited, the appointment, would in my opinion act as a prop to genius in obscurity; and if you feel disposed upon my recommendation, & enquiring into the former standing of the young man at the War office, to use your influence with the Executive on this occasion, you will very much oblige your sincere friend

P. QUARLES

P. S. My best respects to Genl Parker P. Q.

[Endorsed] Geyer H. S. recondmd :

ROBERT A. HEATH AND JOHN G. HEATH TO THE
SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Misc. Letters:LS]

SAINT CHARLES 12th November 1816.

SIR, Having made a discovery of a Lead Mine, or mineral of lead, in the county of Howard Missouri territory, on the South Side of the Missouri River, in the first principal Ripple of the Salt fork, as it is called, of the Lamine river, being about one half mile from the mouth of said Salt fork of Lamine river; and Wishing to obtain a lease of said mine, According to the provisions of an act of Congress in such cases made and provided, we heretofore made an Application to Frederick Bates Esquire Secretary of the Missouri territory, and being, by him, informed that he was not invested with the requisite authority to enable him to grant a lease of said premises, we are therefore induced to make an application for said Lease to your department. This discovery being in a country covered with extensive prararies, with but small groves of timber skirting the water courses aforesaid, should we obtain the

lease now solicited, it will be indispensably necessary should the mineral discovery prove worth working, that a reservation of timber be made up and down the said Salt fork and Lamine River, sufficient to carry on the operation of smelting without which the mineral, if good, will be rendered useless.

Reference may be had to Frederick Bates Esqr, and Colonel Rufus Easton for a guarantee of our capability of performing the necessary obligatory stipulations which said lease, if granted us, may contain.

With sentiments of high consideration and Esteem, Yours &
ROBT A. and JOHN G. HEATH

HONORABLE JAMES MONROE

[Addressed] Honorable James Monroe Secretary of State Washington City [Postmarked] Saint Charles Mo T. 12th Nov. 1816. Free.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO ALEXANDER MCNAIR

[NA:GLO, Lets. Recd., PLC (Mo.):ALS]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 18th *Novem^r* 1816

ALEX^r M^cNAIR Esq^{re} Register S^t Louis

SIR Your letters of 20th & 26th Ult^o ⁸⁹ have been received, in reply, as Congress will meet at an early day, I think it inexpedient to lease the Salines you mention, until they (Congress) have acted upon the information relative to Salines & Lead mines, which has been collected in pursuance of a resolution of the last Session.

I am

RECORDER BATES TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Lets. Recd., PLC (Mo.):ALS]

ST LOUIS *November* 24. 1816—

SIR, I beg you to pardon the liberty I take, in transmitting to you two letters, the one from Col^o Ashley—and the other from Major Berry late of the Army, as to the Agency of Lead-Mines.—

These gentlemen speak of conversations with me—when, in fact the subject has afforded matter of very general conversation.

Col^o Ashley is perhaps mistaken as to the terms in which I professed for him my friendly regards for I could scarcely have promised the exertion of that influence, which I knew very well I did not possess.—

⁸⁸ Not found; abstracted in *A.S.P., Pub. Lands*, III, 271.

⁸⁹ Possibly an error for Oct. 24, printed *ante*, p. 198.

He is however, a most worthy man—whose prosperity I should rejoice to promote were it in my power.

With great respect, I have the honor to be Sir, Your most obedt
Servant

FREDERICK BATES

THE HONORABLE JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of General Land
Office

[*Addressed*] The Honorable Josiah Meigs Commissioner of General Land Office Washington City

[*Endorsed*] St Louis 24 Nov 1816 F Bates names Candidates for Agency to Lead Mines ⁹⁰

[Enclosures:ALS]

William H. Ashley to Recorder Bates

WASHINGTON COUNTY Nov^r 17th 1816

Mr F. BATES

SIR when you was last at the mines you was pleased to say, That you would use your influence in my favour to Obtain the appointment of agent of the lead mines in this county; as There was nothing done in the business at the last Session of Congress I Think it probable They will take it into consideration at their next Session, if sir you can fell yourself Justified in recommending me as quallified to fill the appointment, you may be assured that every exertion shall be used by me (in case I receive it) to give general satisfaction

Yours very Respectfully

W. H. ASHLEY

[*Addressed*] Frederick Bates Esq^r St Louis politeness Mr Browne

Taylor Berry to Recorder Bates

ST LOUIS Nov^r 24th 1816

SIR The friendly intimation you were good enough to give me of the probability of the Goverments making some general arrangements as to their salt springs lead mines &c and that there would probably be an appointment of an agent to superintend that particular branch of the Governmental interest, has induced me to take the liberty of soliciting the favor of you to name, or recommend, me to the head of the land department for the appointment, Having no claims upon you to justify such a request, farther than the common ties of friendship, I have every reason to believe you will and ought to consider this request of mine a very unreasonable

⁹⁰ Acknowledged *post*, p. 222.

one & an act of considerable temerity. My friends who possess a small share of the confidence of the Government have no immediate knowledge of this Country or the nature of the office to be created, and however much they may be disposed to render me a service in procureing the appointment it is a natural consequence that they cannot have the same influence of yourself possessing as you do a perfect knowledge of the subject and the nature and duties appertaining to the appointment

I am with much respect and esteem Your. Ob^t Servant

TAYLOR BERRY

FREDERICK BATES Esqr Present

[*Addressed*] Frederick Bates Esqr Present

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822:LS]

Surveyors Office for the Territories of
Illinois & Missouri, ST. LOUIS Nov^r 25th 1816—

SIR, You will herewith receive Index Maps of that part of these Territories⁹¹ within which our Surveys have been confined, exhibiting the lands that have been surveyed and returned to this Office.—The land that Deputy Surveyors have contracted to lay off into Townships, and the Townships &c which they have engaged to subdivide into Sections and establish Corners for quarter Sections all of which will readily be seen by refering to the explanatory notes on said Maps.—The tracts of Country where I have been instructed to lay off the Military bounty lands, are found to contain a considerable portion of land that is unfit for Cultivation, Therefore in order that the whole quantity of tillable lands promised by law to the late Army should be got in readiness, I conceived it my duty to have as much surveyed, as would Contain the proper quantity of lands “fit for cultivation” exclusive of the lands that are not fit for Cultivation. This being the case, I have Contracted with Deputy Surveyors (as will be seen by refering to the Maps) to lay off and subdivide, in the Illinois Territory about 5368000 Acres, and between the St. Francis and Arkansas Rivers about 3134000 Acres,—Before I made contracts for the Surveying of so large a quantity of land for Military bounties, I collected much information from different sources relative to the character & quality of the tracts of Country where I was instructed to lay off the Military bounty lands, and employed

⁹¹ Only the index to the survey of the bounty lands in Illinois Territory is present.

persons in whose judgment I could confide, to explore those tracts, and report to me their quality, from all which I was fully satisfied, that in order to get Two Millions of Acres "fit for Cultivation" between the St Francis & Arkansas, it was necessary to Survey at least the quantity I have contracted for, and further, in some parts of that tract to Authorize the Deputy Surveyors to lay off double & in others treble the number of Townships that they were to subdivide, so that they might after the exterior boundaries were surveyed, select from, and subdivide those Townships that should be found to contain the greatest proportion of land, fit for cultivation. You will perceive from the Map, that the lands which we have surveyed, and are now engaged in surveying, between the St Francis & Arkansas, are almost in separate & detached tracts, account to you for which, I will observe that last year the Surveyor General of the United States, instructed me to lay off the Two Millions of Acres immediately in the forks of those Rivers & extend North for quantity, In pursuance with those instructions, I sent out Surveyors to do the work, when they got to the ground they found a very large portion of that part of the Country so inundated, that it was impracticable to proceed with the business, and nine tenths of the land unfit for Cultivation, Some of these Surveyors returned without doing any work, others laid off parts of their Districts, and a few Completed their Contracts.—As soon as I was apprized of the situation & quality of that part of the Country, I informed the Surveyor General thereof, who immediately thereafter instructed me to extend the Surveys so far North of, and adjoining to the Base line, as to include at least Two Millions of Acres of land fit for Cultivation, on which I applied to more than Twenty persons, who had applied for Surveying; But the Season was so far advanced and the Character of the Country for Surveying so bad, that I could get but one man to go down, He soon after returned without being able to subdivide a single Township I then took measures to ascertain what part of the Country between the St Francis & Arkansas was most suitable for Cultivation, and found that the largest body of land, a considerable portion of which is fit for Cultivation, is that tract which I have contracted with Deputy Surveyors to lay off & subdivide— And I find that in that tract there is a large portion of poor broken lands, not such as is secured by Law to the Soldiers.— There is however, on and near to the water Courses, excellent lands, on which there is at present nearly Three hundred families settled. Out of the Quantity that I have made arrangements to have surveyed I presume 2000000 Acres fit for cultivation may be selected—

The Military tract in the Illinois Territory is of a much better quality. I have learned from the Surveyors whom I sent to Survey the Fourth Principal Meridian, and the Two Standard lines from the Mississippi to the Illinois Rivers, from other Deputy Surveyors who have passed over a part of that tract, and from Rangers & Hunters, that a large portion of it consists of good soil that lies well for Cultivation and that part of it is extremely well watered with Springs, Brooks Mill-Streams &c, But that much of it is destitute of timber ⁹²

The quantity that I have made arrangements to Survey will, I am convinced contain 3500000 Acres of that description of land promised to the Soldiers—This will be an excelant farming Country, the lands being admirably calculated for the production of Wheat & other grains &c, it is advantageously situated with respect to Navigation, and is in the vicinity of, if it does not include rich & extensive Lead Mines.—Some parts of it is also well timbered, and no doubt will be very healthy and on the whole I conceive it to be very suitable for the purpose for which it is intended.—

You will perceive that I have made Contracts to have a large quantity of lands on both sides of the Missouri River, and on & near the Mississippi, laid off into Townships & a Considerable part of it subdivided into Sections &c—That part of the Country that lies East of the 5th Principal Meridian Contains a vast number of Confirmed Claims of individuals, and there are many Confirmed Claims West of that line, particularly, on & near to the Missouri River.—The public land in this part of the Country could not therefore be got ready for sale in a short time, for I have not until very lately obtained a transcript of any of the Claims (except in & about Villages) and now have only those that are North of the Missouri River.—Mr Bates the Recorder is now engaged in making out a Complete transcript of the claims, and as he is very indefatigable I expect soon to be in possession of the transcript, when I will as soon as practicable take measures to have the Claims laid out & the public lands ascertained agreeably to law—

The Country West of the Meridian line & up the Missouri River as far as the Indian boundary lines, and as far North & South of that River as we have extended the Surveys is generally of an excellant quality and is now rappidly settling by people from different parts of the United States, many of whom are Men of respectability, property & enterprize.—I am satisfied that if those lands are brought into Market the next Spring or Summer a great

⁹² See Rector to Meigs, Oct. 10, 1816 (*Terr. Papers*, Ill., xvii, 410–412), which contains information pertinent to both territories.

proportion of it will immediately sell, and much of it at a good price. I do believe it will be good policy to bring these lands into market as soon as they can be got ready.—The Current of Emigration is so much directed to that quarter, that Settlements will be formed notwithstanding the law forbids settlements on public lands. And there is so many precedents of Pre-emption rights, Donations &c. that these folks who are now improperly settling on the lands of the United States will become very numerous & Clamorous for the same favors from Government that others have received under similar Circumstances, and the sale of these lands, will, immediately produce to the U. S. a large Sum of Money.—

I have made such arrangements, as will I confidently anticipate ensure the Completion of the Surveys of all the Military bounty lands, & the other Surveys that have been Contracted for, by the first of May next.—The plats and Descriptions, and Connected plats can be got ready and transmitted to the General Land Office & to the Registers of the Land Offices here, at furthest some time in June—In the mean time I will forward to the General Land Office Plats & Descriptions of those Townships & fractional Townships that I know to be Complete, as fast as I receive them.—

The great press of business that I have had in my Office during the present fall has put it out of my power (without neglecting business that appeared to me to be of more importance) to forward to you my Accounts &c. I will however by the next Mail do so, and will send you an estimate of the sum that will be necessary to pay for the surveys that have been Contracted for—

I am Sir with much respect your Ob^t Servt

W^m RECTOR

THE HONBL^e JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office Washington City.

[*Endorsed*] S^t Louis 25 Nov 1816 W^m Rector with index Maps & information relative to face of the Country. Acknow^d 2 Jan^r 1817 ⁹³

RECORDER BATES AND WILLIAM RECTOR TO
JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Lets. Recd., PLC(Mo.):LS]

ST. LOUIS Missouri Territory Nov^r 25th 1816

SIR, We ask leave to address you on the subject of considerable importance to the Towns and Villages of the Territory of Missouri—It was the expectation, that the Act of Congress of 13. June

⁹³ NA (GLO, Lets. to SG, n).

1812,⁹⁴ sufficiently liberal in its provisions as to property of this Class, would have forever quieted the pretensions of those, who might probably have been expected to avail themselves of the 1st Sec of that Act—But it is a fact known to every man of business in this Country that much of the title intended by Government thus to be Confirmed, has thro' the ignorance or negligence of the owners, never been entered at the Recorders Office. Some of these people relied upon the Law, as being in itself a Confirmation not requiring a judicial application of the general principle to the particular cases—Others relied on the notoriety of their ownership transmitted perhaps from their fathers—or given to them by the supreme head of the late provincial Government.—

We earnestly recommend to you, that some step may be taken previously to the Survey of the towns, for the settlement of Claims of this description. We fear that it would reflect a reproach on the justice of our Country, if while Government is patient in the consideration of frontier pretensions to forest lands, it should hastily avail itself of the simplicity and ignorance of French & Spanish Villagers to wrest from them a patrimonial inheritance which they were preparing to transmit to their Children. We know very well that this is not the design of Government; But the business must necessarily take that Course unless prevented by your humane interposition

We are with much Respect Sir, your Ob^t Serv^{ts}

W^m RECTOR
FREDERICK BATES

THE HONBL^e JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office

[*Addressed*] The Hble Josiah Meigs Commissioner of the General Land Office—Washington City

[*Endorsed*] S^t Louis 25 Nov^r 1816 Recorder & Surveyor General relative to Ancient Settlers Sent copies to the two Land Committees 21 dec^r Ans^d 23^d dec^r ⁹⁵

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822:ALS]

Surveyors Office for the Territories of
ILLINOIS & MISSOURI, Dec^r 8th 1816

SIR/ On the 25th Ult^o I forwarded to your Office Index Maps of that part of these Territories within which our Surveys have been

⁹⁴ 2 STAT. 748-752.

⁹⁵ NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7), a brief acknowledgment.

mostly Confined the last year & to which they are intended to be Confined the present season, exhibiting the lands that have been Surveyed, and returned to this Office.—

The land that I have employed Deputy Surveyors to lay off into Townships, and the Townships that Deputy Surveyors have Contracted to subdivide into Sections & quarter Sections from which Maps and my statement accompanying them it will be seen that I have made arrangements to have the following surveying done Viz—

1st Between the Mississippi & Illinois Rivers in the Illinois Territory about 5368000 Acres—

2^d Between the St Francis & Arkansas in the Missouri Territory about 3134000 Acres—

3^d The exterior boundary lines of about 440 Townships in the Missouri Territory exclusive of the lands between the St Francis & Arkansas Rivers

4th The Subdivision into Sections & quarter Sections of about 240 of the last mentioned Townships—equal to 5529600 Acres

The expense of doing the Surveying abovementioned will Amount to about the following sums

1 st 536800 Acres between the Miss ⁱ & Illinois rivers—	\$50600-00
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2 ^d 3134000 do between St Francis & Arkansas including the exterior boundaries of some Townships not to be subdivided	31248-00
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3 ^d Laying off the exterior boundaries of 440 Townships	15840-00
--	----------

4 Subdividing 240 of the last mentioned Townships—	43200-00
--	----------

\$140888-00

In addition to the above Sum there has been paid & must be paid for Surveying in the Illinois Territory, under Contracts made by Deputy Surveyors with the Surveyor Gen ^l	\$2800-00
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For Surveying the lands in and adjacent to Villages in the Missouri Territory about—	3000-00
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For Surveying Confirmed Claims of individuals which are (agreeably to Law) to be Surveyed at the expense of the U. S	3000-00
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\$149,688-00

Amounting in the whole to—

\$149688-00

The foregoing estimate includes all the lands that have been Surveyed in the Illinois & Missouri Territories, the last and present year, as well as all that I have made arrangements to have Surveyed the present season—

Of the expenses above mentioned, Surveyor General Tiffin, has paid about (I have not the Accts & know not the precise Sum) \$5000-00

My Credits with the Receiver of Public Monies at Shawneetown & Kaskaskia, are—
 at Shawneetown 48000-00
 at Kaskaskia— 10000-00

Amounts to— \$63000-00

Which Sum deducted from the abovementioned Sum of \$149688-00 leaves \$86688-00

To which must be added my Salary, fees, Clerk hire & other necessary expenses of my Office ⁹⁶—

From the foregoing Statement it appears that the sum that will be necessary to defray the expense of the Surveys in these Territories, from the present time to the first day of July next, will Amount to about Ninety Thousand Dollars, in addition to the Sums for which I have credit with the Receivers of Public Monies at Shawneetown & Kaskaskia—

The Land Offices at Kaskaskia, Shawneetown, Jeffersonville and Vincennes will be the most convenient places for the Deputy Surveyors to receive their fees at.—

I am with much respect Sir your Ob^t Servant

W^m RECTOR

THE HONBLE. JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office Washington City

[Addressed] The Honbl^e Josiah Meigs Commissioner of the Gen^l L. Office Washington City

[Endorsed] 8 Decem^r 1816 W^m Rector estimate of expences of surveying Acknow^d 2^d Jan^y ⁹⁷ Informed Sec^y Treas^y 8 Jan^y 1817 ⁹⁸

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822:ALS]

Surveyor's Office for the Territories of Illinois
 and Missouri—S^t LOUIS, Decem^r 9th 1816.

SIR, In a letter, that I addressed to You on the 15th of June last,⁹⁹ I requested You to inform me in what way I was to be paid my fees

⁹⁶ The sum was actually \$90,000, exclusive of the amount already to Rector's credit at Shawneetown and Kaskaskia, according to Rector to Meigs, May 12, 1817, *post*, p. 267.

⁹⁷ NA (GLO, Lets. to SG, II).

⁹⁸ NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7).

⁹⁹ NA (GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822).

of twenty five Cents per mile on the Surveys of the Lands of the United States. In reply to which enquiry you in your Letter of the 10th July,¹ observe as follows, viz^t

“The Law establishing your office entitles you to receive from Individuals for recording their Surveys, twenty five Cents per mile, but there is no such provision for recording the public Surveys, neither is there any provision for Clerk hire; this must have been an oversight, for the others Surveyors-General are allowed Clerk hire, and their Salaries are higher than Yours; This Oversight will doubtless be remedied next Session of Congress”.

Untill I received Your letter above mentioned I did not doubt but under the act of Congress I was entitled to twenty five Cents p^r Mile on the Surveys of the Lands of the United States as well as on the Surveys of individuals, and such was the Opinion of my predecessor in Office.

The Act of Congress fixing the Compensation of the Principal Deputy Surveyor of the Missouri Territory ² is certainly vague and of doubtful construction; but after reading the Law, and comparing the compensation with the duties required of the principal Deputy-Surveyor, I could not doubt but that the intention of Congress was that he should receive the same fees p^r mile from the United States as is provided shall be paid by Individuals. Because it is evidently impossible that the compensation allowed by said Law (exclusive of the 25 Cents p^r Mile on public Surveys) could be made to defray the necessary expenses of my Office, without giving me any compensation for my Services, or allowing any thing for Clerk hire. By the necessary expenses I mean Office rent, fuel, Stationary, Postage, &c. and I cannot believe that the Congress of the United States would impose arduous and highly responsible duties on any of its Officers, without defraying the Necessary expense attending the execution of the duties of Such Office and allowing the Officer a just & reasonable compensation for his Services—under these impressions I have cheerfully pursued and fulfilled the duties of my Office with full confidence that I shall eventually be indemnified for my expenses and receive a just & reasonable compensation for my Services. But in order to Support myself and defray the expenses incident to my Office, I have been compelled to sell some property at a low rate in order to raise funds for that purpose.

The duties of my Office are certainly very extensive, numerous and complicated—The following are a part of the causes of extraor-

¹ *Ante*, p. 153.

² 2 STAT. 353 (Sec. 4).

dinary trouble in my office, duties similar to which I believe no Surveyor General has had to perform

1st The great Number of confirmed Claims of Individuals that are scattered over a large portion of the Country, which in the confirmations by the Board of Commissioners & Recorder of Land Titles are generally vaguely described and frequently interfere with each other, which makes it necessary in a great Many cases for me to give special instructions to the Deputy Surveyors, in addition to the general instructions for laying off public Lands and the Instructions for laying off Private Claims and connecting them with the Sectional lines & Corners, furnishing the Deputy Surveyors before they go out to make these Surveys with Plats and Descriptions &c. of the Claims—and after these claims are Surveyed and presented at my office, it is immensely laborious & tedious to examine them so, as to ascertain that they contain the just quantity of Land and have been correctly Surveyed, and to Calculate the quantity of Public Lands in the adjacent fractional Sections; for very many of the Surveys of the Claims are extremely irregular in their form.—These Surveys are then to be recorded, copies furnished to the Recorder of Land Titles in addition to the usual returns to be made to the general Land Office, &c.

2nd The Numerous and perplexing applications by persons owning Lands and others wishing to acquire Lands, for information concerning particular Tracts and particular Sections of the Country, who do not want Copies of the Surveys, but Merely to see the Surveys on record and examine them, and it is a fact that I have not since I have held the office received from individuals for Copies of Surveys &c. in all two Dollars—

Congress when fixing the compensation of the Surveyor of these Territories, no doubt Supposed that the fees allowed for Copies of Surveys &c, would amount to a considerable Sum, But if applications were made for copies of all the Surveys in my Office at the same time, the fees allowed by Law would not more than pay the Clerk for copying them.

It is absolutely necessary that my office should be kept in S^t Louis, so that I may have access to the Office of the Recorder of Land Titles, where it will be necessary for me to get information concerning claims of Individuals almost every day—S^t Louis is a very expensive place to live in, I am now and have been paying \$23—p^r month for Office rent & have no more room than is necessary to transact my business in. I find it necessary to keep three clerks each of whom pays \$20 p^r Month for diet. Two of these clerks are eminently qualified to assist me in the arduous duties of my Office, their compensation therefore should be equal to the important Services they render.

I have made the foregoing Statement to give you some idea of the arduous duties of my Office, and the great expense that must necessarily attend the execution of those duties, and rest satisfied, Sir, that you will have the goodness to have suitable and immediate provision made for my relief.

You will herewith receive my Account against the United States for my fees of the Surveys of the United States up to the last of September. If this account can be admitted, I shall be extremely glad to be informed thereof as soon as practicable, as my funds are really low.—If you should deem it inadmissible, I hope Sir, you will procure the passage of a Law in my favour as soon as practicable—Should it be deemed expedient to change the Nature of my Compensation, that is, instead of fees on public Surveys, to a certain Salary, it will be just that a Salary equivalent to the Services I have had to perform be allowed, from the time I entered on the duties of the Office, with Clerk hire &c. from the same time.

Fearing that the Index-Maps and My Letter above alluded to may not reach you, I have enclosed a Copy of that Letter.

I am with much respect Sir Your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR

THE HONBL^e JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office Washington City—

[*Endorsed*] 9th Dec^r 1816 W^m Rector relative to his Salary & fees Ackn^d ³ & sent a copy to the Secret^y of the Treas^y 2^d Jan^y 1816.⁴

HENRY CLAY TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., C:ALS]

[*December 11, 1816*]

Dr SIR Will you have the goodness to inform me if the pleasure of the president has been signified as to the period when a Land office will be opened in the Missouri territory? and if not whether you have any data on which you can form an opinion as to the period?

Yrs.

H. CLAY

11 Dec^r 1816.

MR. MEIGS Comm^r &c &c &c

[*Addressed*] Mr. Meigs Comm^r of the General Land Office

[*Endorsed*] Answ^d 14 dec^r 1816 ⁵ 14 dec^r 1816 M^r Clay enquires when a land office is to be opened in Missouri Territory Ans^d 14th

³ Jan. 2, 1817 (NA, GLO, Lets. to SG, II).

⁴ *Post*, p. 224.

⁵ *Post*, p. 219.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO DELEGATE SCOTT

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE *December 11th 1816.*

HON JOHN SCOTT House of Repres^s

SIR I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 10 Inst,^s in consequence of which I shall write this day to the recorder of Land titles in the Missouri Territory, requiring him to inform me what progress he has made in executing the duties imposed upon him by the following acts of Congress, viz^t

1812 June 13 sect ⁿ	4 ⁷
1813 Mar: 3	" 5 ⁸
1814 Ap ^l 12	" 3 ⁹
1815 Feb: 17	" 3 ¹⁰
1816 Ap ^l 29	" 3 ¹¹

I shall also direct him (if he has not yet done it) to give all necessary information to claimants through the Medium of the news Papers.

I am &c

JOSIAH MEIGS TO RECORDER BATES

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

Decem^r 11th 1816.

FRED^k BATES Esq^{re} Recorder of Land titles S^t Louis

SIR It has been represented to this office that the claimants of Land in Missouri Territory whose claims have been confirmed, are kept in ignorance of the fate of their claims. If not already done you will be pleased to give all necessary information to claimants through the medium of the Newspapers, & inform me what progress you have made in executing the duties imposed upon you by the acts of Congress passed

13 June 1812 section 4
3 March 1813 section 5
12 April 1814 section 3
17 Feb: 1815 section 3
29 Ap ^l 1816 section 3. ¹²

I am &c

* This letter is indexed in NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., S) as on p. 265, but the pages between 264 and 269 are missing.

⁷ 2 STAT. 750-751.

¹⁰ 3 STAT. 212.

⁸ 2 STAT. 814-815.

¹¹ 3 STAT. 326.

⁹ 3 STAT. 122.

¹² Answered *post*, p. 228.

DELEGATE SCOTT TO THE PRESIDENT

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

WASHINGTON *Dec* 11th 1816

HIS EXECLY JAMES MADISON

SIR I beg leave to call your attention to two Vacancies in the Missouri Territory, the appointments to fill which rests with the President—The one is the office of Marshall for the Territory, to fill this place permit me to name General Henry Dodge Esq^r as a Gentleman of the first standing, and promptitude of character well Calculated to discharge any duties that may devolve on him.

The other is the place of District Attorney for the United States in that Territory, this place was made vacant by my own Resignation when a Candidate for Congress—This Vacancy would be well filled by the appointment of Charles S. Hempstead Esq^r a Gentleman of the Barr, of tallents, and strict Integrity.—I do not wish the Executive to Consider me officious—But as he cannot be expected to know persons so far removed from him, and as I feel a deep Interest as a Citizen of that Territory that those places should be well filled. I have therefore taken the Liberty as their representative, to recommend them to notice

I have the honour to be with high Consideration & Esteem yr
Obt Ser^t

JOHN SCOTT—

[*Endorsed*] Henry DodgeCHRISTOPHER McPHERSON TO THE SECRETARY
OF STATE

[NA:SD, Misc. Letters:ALS]

WASHINGTON CITY *Friday the 13th of Dec* 1816

THE HONORABLE JAMES MONROE Esquire Secretary of State

RESPECTED SIR, I beg leave for your perusal of the four inclosed introductory papers,¹³ which shew my Character—

The object of my visit from Richmond to this City, is to endeavour to purchase from Government a territory of Country on the Missouri & Mississippi Rivers, reaching to a lake for the Free people of Colour in this happy Union—very many in Virginia & North Carolina are ready to sell their property in order to remove thither immediately—and the thing would doubtless become general.—We want three to Six hundred miles square or thereabouts as low as possible with as long Credit as may be suitable. And we wish to march without Gun or sword, under the protection of the

¹³ Present but not sufficiently relevant to reproduce.

General Government—say perhaps in the ratio of one soldier to ten persons.—I pray you Sir, to be so good as embrace the earliest opportunity of doing me the favour of a conference on this subject.—

I have the honor to be Sir, With great respect & Esteem Your Most obedient & very Hble Servant

CHRIST^r M^cPERSON

[*Addressed*] The Honorable James Monroe Esquire Secretary of State Washington City

[*Endorsed*] Memorial of C M^cPherson C. M. M^cPherson 13 Dec^r 1816.

N B I put up at the Washington Hotel—C M^cP ¹⁴

JOSIAH MEIGS TO HENRY CLAY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE. 14^r Decem^r 1816.

HON. M^r CLAY, Speaker of the house of Reprs.

DEAR SIR, If it is contemplated to establish another Land Office in the Missouri Territory, that fact has not come to my knowledge.¹⁵

The Office at S^t Louis is not yet in operation, because the surveys of the lands to be sold there, are not yet completed. Instructions have not been given for surveying any lands in that territory, except those intended for sale at S^t Louis, & those appropriated for military bounties; therefore I conceive the establishment of another office at present unnecessary in that territory.

Most respectfully &c.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

GEN^l LAND OFFICE 16 Dec^r 1816

HON^{ble} W^m H CRAWFORD Secretary of the Treasury

SIR Frederick Bates, Recorder of Land titles at St Louis, who was heretofore authorized to Lease certain Lead Mines in the Missouri Territory, advises, under date of 14th Ult^o,¹⁶ "that the total amount of Lead mineral raised or received by Amable Partenay under contract ending 30th Sept^r last, appears from his ac-

¹⁴ This line appears on the back of the letter.

¹⁵ *Ante*, p. 216.

¹⁶ Not found.

counts to be 463,477 pounds which at \$3.50 amounts to \$1622.00" which money is at the disposal of the Treasury Department.

This is I believe the first revenue arising from Lead Mines, & it may be well at this early period, to adopt some plan, for having such revenues regularly accounted for; permit me therefore respectfully to suggest, that when Leases are granted, the agent through whom they are granted, shall transmit a copy of the Leases to a Receiver of Public Monies in the state or Territory in which the Land is situate, to which Receiver the Agent shall pay over the rents which he receives. That the Receiver of Public Monies shall report in his monthly accounts to this office, all Leases thus transmitted to him, & report in his monthly accounts to this office & to the Treasury Department, all monies received for rent, accounting for the same in his quarterly accounts by debiting his Cash account & crediting an account to be opened in his books under the title of "Rents of Mineral Lands" or "Rents of Lead Mines" the balance of which account to be carried to the credit of the U States periodically.

Should this plan be approved, Mr Bates may be instructed to send a copy of the Lease in question to the Receiver of Public Monies & pay to him the rent received.

I have &c.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822:ALS]

S^t LOUIS Dec^r 16th 1816

DEAR SIR I understand that there is a probability, that there will be, one or more additional Land offices established in this Territory. In that event I ask leave to recommend Elias Barcroft Esquire of this place as a Gentleman well qualified to fill the office of Register or Receiver of a Land Office

Mr Barcroft is a Gentleman of undoubted integrity, is eminently qualified to discharge the duties of such an office, has long been an inhabitant of this Country and is in every way worthy of the confidence and patronage of our Government

I am with great respect D^r Sir your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR

THE HONBL^e JOSIAH MEIGS—Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office Washington City.—

[Addressed] The Honbl^e Josiah Meigs Esquire Commissioner of the General Land Office Washington City [Postmarked] Kas-kaskia December 26th Free

[Endorsed] S^t Louis 16 dec^r 1816 W^m Rector recommends Mr Barcroft as Land Officer

JOSIAH MEIGS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, II]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 18th *December* 1816.

W^m RECTOR Esq^{re} Survey^r &c S^t Louis

SIR Reports are in Circulation here, that the Lands appropriated in the Vicinity of the River Arkansas, for Military bounties, are not fit for Cultivation; I wish you to give me (by the next Mail) all the information you can relative to that tract of Country, whether that information be derived from the returns or letters of your deputies or from other sources deserving of credit.¹⁷

I am &c.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES ON
PUBLIC LANDS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

21 *December* 1816

HON. CHAIRMEN OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS in the Senate & House

SIRS I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a letter dated 25 Ult^o from the Recorder of Land titles at S^t Louis & the Surveyor General of Missouri T^y relative to ancient settlers in that Territory, who, through their simplicity or ignorance have failed to avail themselves of the benefit of the Acts of Congress for their relief.¹⁸

I have &c

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE *December* 27th 1816.

HON: SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

SIR Herewith I transmit supplementary information relative to Lead Mines & Salt springs, which was received this day from F Bates recorder of Land titles in Missouri Territory Viz^t

A. His letter to this Office.¹⁹

B. A Letter from J R Jones to F Bates.²⁰

C. A List of Private claims (in the Missouri Territory) to mineral lands & salines.²¹

I am &c

¹⁷ Answered, *post*, p. 228.

¹⁸ *Ante*, p. 210.

¹⁹ Nov. 20, 1816; printed, *A.S.P., Pub. Lands*, III, 703-704.

²⁰ Nov. 6, 1816; printed *ibid.*, pp. 700-703.

²¹ Nov. 20, 1816; printed *ibid.*, pp. 704-705.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO RECORDER BATES

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 27 *Decem^r* 1816FRED^k BATES Esq^r Recorder Land Titles S^t Louis

SIR Your letters of 10th,²² 20th ²³ & 24 Ult^o ²⁴ have been received, & your report relative to Lead Mines & Salines has been transmitted to the Secretary of the Treasury.

I am &c

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:TD, Lets. from GLO, Bk. 4]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 30th *December* 1816.HON W^m H. CRAWFORD Secretary of the Treasury

SIR The resolution of the Senate of 27th inst requesting information concerning the progress made in Surveying military bounty lands has been received; ²⁵ in consequence thereof I state that the Surveyor of the Territories of Illinois & Missouri in a letter dated 25th Ult^o ²⁶ informed me that he confidently anticipates the Completion of the Surveys of all the Military bounty lands in May next; he did not state the progress already made in Surveying the Several tracts

I have &c.

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO JOSEPH CHARLESS

[NA:PO, P.M. Letter Book U]

December 31. 1816

JOS. CHARLES St. Louis M. T.

SIR, I am favoured with yours of the 9th. inst.²⁷ prompt and effectual measures shall be taken to prevent the repetition of failures of the mail in your section of the Country.

R. J. MEIGS

²² Printed, Marshall (ed.), *Bates Papers*, II, 302-304.

²³ See *supra*.

²⁴ *Ante*, p. 206.

²⁵ *Annals*, 14 Cong., 2 sess., 41.

²⁶ *Ante*, p. 207.

²⁷ Not found.

RUFUS EASTON TO THE PRESIDENT

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

WASHINGTON *December 31st 1816*

SIR, I take the liberty to recommend Doc^r Thomas Neale of the town of Jackson in the Territory of Missouri for the office of Marshall for that Territory—Doc^r Neale is a man of respectable talents of good character and well qualified in every respect to discharge the duties of that office—he resides near the center of population of the territory—

I am with great respect Sir, your most obed^t Ser^t

RUFUS EASTON

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES—

[*Endorsed*] Thomas Neale

RUFUS EASTON TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

WASHINGTON CITY *Decem^r 31st 1816*

SIR, Enclosed you will receive recommendations for Charles Lucas Esq^r as United States Attorney for the Territory of Missouri²⁸ and of Doctor Thomas Neale as Marshall of that territory—These appointments will give satisfaction to the people and aid the republican cause in that territory—We are to go into a state Government in about two years—if the national legislature will give us a state with a population of 60, thousand—

With great respect and regard I have the honor to be Sir, your obed^t Serv^t

RUFUS EASTON

THE HON^{'BLE} JAMES MUNROE

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO ROBERT SIMPSON

[NA:PO, P. M. Letter Book U]

GENERAL POST OFFICE *January 1, 1817*

ROBT. SIMPSON P. M. St. Louis M. Ty—

SIR, I have yours of the 8th. Ult^o.²⁹ a bond and contract were some weeks ago sent to St. Charles to be executed by James Williams for the transport of the mail between that office and Howard c. h. we are not informed whether that route is or is not in operation—we trust that it is,—If Portmanteaus for that route be

²⁸ Enclosures not present; see *infra*, also see *ante*, p. 115.

²⁹ Not found.

wanting you will furnish for a/c of this office.—Should Mr. McArthur fail in the due delivery of the Kaskaskia mail at your office, you will in that case send your mail to that place by express, and bring your mail from thence—on the occurrence of such event you will promptly advise this office of the course taken.—And the expense incurred that we may place the expense to the proper a/c

R. J. MEIGS

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 2nd Jan^y 1817.

SIR, I have the honor to enclose a copy of a letter dated 9th Ult^o ³⁰ from the Surveyor of the territories of Illinois and Missouri by which you will perceive that he and I differ in construing the act (of 29th Ap^l 1816) ³¹ to provide for the appointm^t of a surveyor in those territories; he considers himself entitled to 25 Cents per mile upon public surveys, I consider him entitled to those fees only upon private surveys

Why his salary was fixed at \$1000, and no provision made for clerk hire, whilst the Surveyor NW of Ohio river, and the Surveyor South of Tennessee have \$2000, & a provision for Clerk hire I cannot say, neither can I persuade myself that it was the intention of the Legislature to establish a new mode of compensating a Surveyor which would give him one twelfth of the compensation of All his deputies, their chain carriers, and axe men &c.—In my opinion his salary & provision for Clerk hire, should be the same that the other surveyors herein mentioned, receive, and to be payable from the time he entered on the duties of his Office

I am &c.

HON. W^m H CRAWFORD Secret^y of the Treasury.

RESOLUTION OF THE TERRITORIAL ASSEMBLY

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., H20:DS]

[January 2, 1817]

Resolution to Congress respecting the Claim of the Quapaw Indians in the County of Arkansas.

Whereas it is represented to the Legislative Council and house of Representatives of the Territory of Missouri, That there is a Section of Country situated in the Southern extremity of said

³⁰ *Ante*, p. 213.

³¹ 3 STAT. 325–326.

Territory included by a line commencing at the mouth of the Arkansas river thence up said river to the mouth of the Canadian river a distance of about six hundred miles thence to red river about three hundred Miles thence down red river to the thirty third degree of Latitude, thence along said parallel of Latitude to the Mississippi river thence up said river to the Mouth of the Arkansas river the place of beginning, embracing about two thousand square miles—And Numerous white inhabitants; All which tract of Country it is also represented to the said Legislative Council and house of Representatives is claimed by the remnant of the Quapaw Tribe of Indians about one hundred and Sixty in number and in consequence of their pretentions to it as proprietors, the settlers have been ordered off by the Executive of this Territory in Compliance with the instructions of the president of the United States as to intruders on Indian lands and it is believed that the said claim of the Quapaw Tribe has no foundation in equity or Justice to the extent described in as much as that they never pretended to claim more than about fifty Miles Square until within about two years.

Be it Therefore Resolved by the Legislative Counsel and house of Representatives of the Territory of Missouri aforesaid. That Congress be and they are hereby respectfully requested to appoint some person or persons with suitable powers to investigate the title of the said Quapaw Tribe of Indians to the said tract of Country and after having ascertained the Situation and extent of their claim to obtain from them by purchase or exchange such parts of it as interferes most with the settlement and improvement of that part of the Country And Congress are also respectfully requested to Allow such persons as may have settled within the said Indian claim, the same priveledges as to preemption and the other provisions in favour of land Claimants that they would have been entitled to had they settled on the land of the United States and to give such settlers as may fall within that part of the said Claim which may be confirmed to the said Quapaw Tribe and remain in their possession who were settled in time for a preemption right the privilege of locating such preemption right on any of the public lands in the Territory. *And be it further Resolved* that the Speaker of the House of Representatives be requested to forward on this Resolution to our delegate in Congress who is hereby requested to use his best Endeavours to have the same carried into effect.

January 2. 1817.

EDWARD HEMPSTEAD Speaker of
the House of Representatives
WILLIAM NEELEY President of the
Legislative Council

[*Endorsed*] Resolution of Legislature Missouri Territory.—
(Extinguishment Quapaw Indian Title) February 1—1817 Ref^d
to the Secretary of War Pope G. 1. Sec. War

[Enclosure]

Order of the House of Representatives

In the House of Representatives of the United States
February 1st 1817.—

On motion of Mr Pope

Ordered, that the resolution of the Legislature of the Territory of Missouri bearing date the 2^d January 1817, relating to lands claimed by the remnant of the Quapaw tribe of Indians,—be referred to the Secretary of War.

Attest.

THO. DOUGHERTY C H R

[*Endorsed*] Feby 1, 1817 Ho: Representatives refers memorial of the state of Missouri relative to the lands claimed by the Quapaw Tribe.

AUGUSTE CHOUTEAU TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., C:ALS]

[January 4, 1817]

SIR—Although by circumstances I find myself in the necessity to present to you a petition to obtain the redress of a decision of Mr F^k Bates the recorder of Land titles of our Territory, nevertheless in that case I am directed by his own advices, and according to his opinion I forward to you my petition,³² with a full confidence that thought unknown and unrecommended to you, You will take into consideration the unjust loss which I should suffer by the decision of M: Bates. I believe entirely useless to particularise minutely my situation and my demand, as the annexed papers will give you a sufficient knowledge of the facts and will induces you, I hope, to grant to me a just and favorable decision.

I am with the greatest confidence & respect Sir Your mo. ob^t
Servant

AUG^{te} CHOUTEAU

S^t LOUIS *January the 4th 1817*

Mr JOS^{ab} MEIGS Comm^{er} of the & Washington City

[*Endorsed*] 4th Janu^r 1817 Aug^e Chouteau claim for a lot in S^t
Louis Ans^d 30 Jan^r ³³

³² Not present.

³³ NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7), advising that no authority was lodged in the office of the Commissioner of the General Land Office to diminish or enlarge the decisions of officers appointed by law to decide upon land claims.

SECRETARY BATES TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Lets. Recd., PLC (Mo.):ALS]

Office of the Recorder of Land Titles

ST LOUIS Jan^y 6th 1817.—

SIR, I have the honor to enclose a copy of an act of the General Assembly of Missouri Territory, repealing the 13th Sec of their Act of 24th Jn^y 1816 ³⁴

With great respect, I have the honor to be, Sir, Your obedt Servant

FREDERICK BATES

HONORABLE JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of Gen^l Land Office—

[Endorsed] S^t Louis 6 Jan 1817 F Bates—The law subjecting him to penalties is repealed

[Enclosure]

An Act of the Missouri Territorial Assembly

Copy

[January 6, 1817]

An Act to repeal the thirteenth Section of an Act entitled An Act supplementary to an Act entitled An Act for levying and collecting the territorial and county taxes.—

§ 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the territory of Missouri, that the thirteenth section of an Act entitled 'An Act supplementary to an Act entitled an Act providing for the levying and collecting the territorial and county taxes', approved on the twenty fourth of January one thousand eight hundred and sixteen be and the same is hereby repealed:—And all fines, forfeitures and penalties which may have been incurred by the Recorder of Land Titles for the territory of Missouri, under the provisions of the said thirteenth Section of the said recited Act, be and the same are hereby remitted in as full and ample a manner as if such Act had never passed

§ 2nd—This Act shall be in force and take effect from and after the passage thereof

(Signed) EDWARD HEMPSTEAD Speaker of
the House of Representatives
BENJAMIN EMMONS, President
pro tempore of the Legislative Council

Approved January 6th 1817.—

(Signed) WILLIAM CLARK, Governor of the Missouri Territory

³⁴ Mo. TERR. LAWS, 1815-1816, pp. 128-135.

Copied from the original on file in the Secretary's Office Jan^y 6. 1817. Frederick Bates Sec^y Missouri Territory.—

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822:ALS]

Surveyors Office St LOUIS Jan^y 12th 1817

SIR I rec^d your letter of the 18th Ult^o by the last mail ³⁵ in which you mention that reports are in circulation at Washington that the Lands appropriated in the vicinity of the Arkansas River for military bounties are not fit for cultivation, and in which letter you call for all the information I can give relative to that tract of Country In reply to which I beg leave to refer you to the letters I wrote you on that subject dated the 25th ³⁶ Nov^r & 30th Dec^r last ³⁷ Since the date of the last, I have received no additional information concerning that part of the Country As it is possible my letters above mentioned may have miscarried I herein enclose a copy of my last letter on the subject ³⁸

I have the honor to be with much respect Your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR

THE HONBL^e JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office Washington City [*Postmarked*] St. Louis Jan 12 Free

[*Endorsed*] St Louis 12 Jan^y 1817 W Rector with informaⁿ relative to lands in Missouri T^y Ans^d 20 feb ³⁹

RECORDER BATES TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Lets. Recd., PLC (Mo.):ALS]

Office of Recorder of Land Titles—

ST LOUIS Jan^y 12th 1817.—

SIR, I had the honor to receive by yesterday's mail, your letter of 11th ult^o ⁴⁰—In reply to the demand as to the progress made in executing the duties imposed upon me by the Acts of Congress from 13th June 1812 ⁴¹ till 29th April 1816,⁴² I have the honor to state, that under the 4th Sec of the first Act, descriptions of the town property, and of the Out Lots appertaining to the several villages were

³⁵ *Ante*, p. 221.

³⁶ *Ante*, p. 207.

³⁷ Printed, *Terr. Papers* (III.), XVII, 460-461.

³⁸ Enclosure present.

³⁹ NA (GLO, Lets. to SG, II).

⁴⁰ *Ante*, p. 217.

⁴¹ 2 STAT. 748-752.

⁴² 3 STAT. 326.

given for survey to Gen^l Rector. Before it was possible to discharge all my duties under this first Act, the Office was again opened for the receipt of evidence, by Act of 3^d March 1813 ⁴³—By this Act former grants were enlarged, and such new business created as to require a minute and laborious inspection of all the previous minutes and proceedings of the Commissioners. In quick succession, the Act of 2^d August 1813 ⁴⁴ gave farther time to claimants of Arkansas Lands, and so divided the time and attentions of this Office as to occasion much unavoidable delay. In the following April that Act was passed which, in several respects, seemed, by a wide extension of principle, to supercede the provisions of former laws. I beg, with great deference, to ask what, if I had given descriptions under the former laws, would now have been the consequence? Obviously, a 2^d and a 3^d Survey of some of the Settlements.—The Books contained (and do now contain) in many cases, several disposals of the same claims, adverse or in favour according to the times when and the principles upon which those decisions were entered up. I determined to consolidate the work and to give, in one embodied Report, all the Confirmations, Grants and Extensions which had been made in this Office since the business had been confided to me. I had the honor to present it to you last winter, and the sanction which it then received I deemed a sufficient justification of any previous delay in giving descriptions to the Surveyor's Office. Since my return I have laboured incessantly in the discharge of my Official duties. Gen^l Rector has been supplied with minute descriptions (courses and distances) of the confirmed Lands of the Counties of St Charles and Arkansas—long since—The others are in forwardness.—I have been unable to obtain any assistance in this minute and laborious work, which has been very much interrupted by the necessity of devoting a great proportion of my time to the Act of Congress of 17th Feb^r 1815 ⁴⁵ for the relief of the sufferers by Earthquakes in the county of New Madrid.—There have been 234 cases of removal up to this day amounting to about 82,695 Acres. This calculation proceeds on the idea that every owner of less than 160 Acres, will locate that quantity, which it is at his discretion to do, by the law. No returns of survey have yet been received at this Office. No Patent Certificates have issued. When that work commences, I shall, if then in Office, make to you the monthly reports required by your letter of 13th of May last.⁴⁶—

⁴³ 2 STAT. 812-815.

⁴⁴ 3 STAT. 86-87.

⁴⁵ 3 STAT. 211-212.

⁴⁶ *Ante*, p. 136.

It has been represented to you that the claimants whose lands have been confirmed are kept in ignorance of their fate. Sir, I have submitted to the drudgery of a slave in giving verbal information as to the situation of claims both confirmed and unconfirmed—And except as to particular claims deemed fraudulent, I firmly believe that no honest man in this territory will deliberately say that I have refused to satisfy his reasonable enquiries. It seems to have been expected that I should heretofore have published this information in the News Papers. I pray you Sir, upon what grounds could this have been expected?—Your Order creates the duty for the time to come—but pardon me the liberty of saying that I have been heretofore unacquainted with the principle which imposed the obligation, or the fund out of which the expences were to be defrayed. I have not been permitted to draw for contingent expences since the year 1812. Besides, I had believed that it was the determination of government to give no Official assurances of title, in the present stage of the business, except those prescribed by law preparatory to the issue of the Patent—for it may happen, that notwithstanding the confirmation, a Patent may never issue. In a frontier business of this kind it is impossible to detect in an abstract investigation all those frauds which will be attempted on the Public It is only in the Surveying Department that many illicit practices can be brought to light—for instance, the pretended Actual Settler, has shewn by false testimony that he was entitled to a Grant The order of survey issues, and official notice thereof is given in the News Papers. On this Government assurance the fraudulent claimant sells his land, and is heard of no more. When Gen^l Rector comes to survey on the water course where it is said to lie, the neighbours know nothing of the improvement—such a man never was in their settlement—they perhaps never heard his name—Gen^l Rector of course returns no Survey, and the innocent purchaser on official information loses his money.—

I have presumed to say thus much in vindication of myself from retrospective censure, and have the fullest confidence that your candour and justice will not disapprove the freedom with which an Officer, conscious of an honest diligent and faithful discharge of his duties, repels an imputation which he conceives to be unmerited.—I respectfully ask that some little time may be taken for the consideration of this subject.—

With all deference and respect, I have the honor to be, Sir, Your most obedt Servant.

FREDERICK BATES

HONORABLE JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office

[*Addressed*] Honorable Josiah Meigs Commissioner of General Land Office Washington City

[*Endorsed*] St Louis 12 Jan^r 1817 F Bates asserts the correctness of his conduct as Recorder, & the propriety of not publishing decisions on claims Ans^d 20th feb ⁴⁷

ALEXANDER McNAIR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Reg. and Rec. Lets., St. Louis:ALS]

Receivers Office SAINT LOUIS Missouri
Territory *January* 13th 48 1817

HONrd SIR, On the subject of the Lands declared to be injured in the county of New Madrid by the Earthquakes many places is still inhabited by the former owners the Land being but little Injured, Permit me to state that a further Speculation may be attempted off the Government to Obtain the New Madrid Lands at an under value

I have the honour to be your Ob^t Serv^t

A McNAIR

THE HON^l JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office Washington City—

[*Addressed*] Hon^l Josiah Meigs commissioner of the Gen^l Land office Washington City [*Postmarked*] St. Louis Jan 12 Free

[*Endorsed*] St Louis 13 Jan^r 1817 Alex^r M^cNair a new speculation on Earthquakes Ans^d 20 feb ⁴⁹ New Madrid Lands

ALEXANDER McNAIR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Reg. and Rec. Lets. St. Louis:ALS]

Registers Office SAINT LOUIS Missouri
Territory, *January* 13th 1817

HONrd SIR, I have been informed that the Legislature of this Territory has sent forward a resolution praying for other Land offices to be oppened—Any statements from me on this subject might be considered from motives of interest therefore will leave the state of readiness of Land for sale which is better known to you than to me as an argument that one office at present is able to do the business—Should the Government think it advisable to order that office to be opened for any given time in the frontier Settlements to re-

⁴⁷ *Post*, p. 249.

⁴⁸ See postmark.

⁴⁹ NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7), a mere acknowledgment.

ceive the preemption Rights or for the sale of such Lands offered for sale in said Settlements, it will give me pleasure in attending as Register at any point ordered and view it better that the officers should attend in such Settlement than the Setler come to them with his witnesses perhaps at the expence of more than he could bear.

I have the Honour to be Your very ob^t Serv^t

A McNAIR

THE HON^l JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the Gen^l Land office Washington City

[Addressed] Hon^l Josiah Meigs Commissioner of the Gen^l Land office Washington City [Postmarked] St Louis Jan 12 Free

[Endorsed] S^t Louis 13 Jan^y 1817 A M^cNair on the establishm^t of new Land Offices Ans^d 20 feb^y ⁵⁰

ALEXANDER McNAIR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Reg. and Rec. Lets., St. Louis:ALS]

Register's Office SAINT LOUIS
Missouri Territory 20th Jan^y 1817

HON^d SIR, You will receive Enclosed a copy of the Register received at this office of permissions granted to remain on Land of the United States in the county of Arkansas, this Register was only a few days since received at this Office ⁵¹—

I have the honour To be your friend &c.

A M^cNAIR

THE HON^l JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner Gen^l Land office Washington City

[Endorsed] S^t Louis 20 Jan^y 1817 A M^cNair—List of permissions to settle

COMMISSION OF GOVERNOR CLARK

[NA:SD, Misc. Perm. Comms., D]

[January 21, 1817]

JAMES MADISON, President of the United States of America.

To all who shall see these presents—Greeting:

Know Ye, That reposing special Trust and Confidence in the Patriotism, Integrity and Abilities of WILLIAM CLARK, of the Mis-

⁵⁰ *Loc. cit.*, a mere acknowledgment.

⁵¹ Present; Daniel Wright is the only applicant.

souri Territory, I have nominated, and by and with the advice and Consent of the Senate do appoint him Governor in and over the said Missouri Territory; ⁵² and do authorize and empower him to execute and fulfil the duties of that Office according to law; and to Have and to Hold the said Office, with all the powers, privileges and Emoluments to the same of right appertaining for the term of three years from the day of the date hereof, unless the President of the United States for the time being should be pleased sooner to revoke and determine this Commission.

In Testimony whereof, I have caused these Letters to be (L S) made patent and the Seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at the City of Washington the Twenty first day of January A. D. 1817; and of the Independence of the United States the Forty first.

JAMES MADISON

By the President,
JA^s MONROE,
Sec^y of State.

COMMISSION OF JUDGE BENT

[NA:SD, Misc. Perm. Comms., D]

[January 21, 1817]

JAMES MADISON, President of the United States of America.

To all who shall see these presents, Greeting:

Know Ye, That reposing special Trust and Confidence in the Wisdom, Uprightness and Learning of SILAS BENT, of the Missouri Territory, I have nominated and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate do appoint him one of the Judges in and over the Missouri Territory; ⁵³ and do authorize and empower him to execute and fulfil the duties of that Office according to the Constitution and laws of the United States; and to Have and to Hold the said Office, with all the powers privileges and Emoluments to the same of right appertaining unto him the said Silas Bent for the term of four years from and after the eighteenth day of February next, he to reside within the said Territory.

In Testimony whereof, I have caused these Letters to be (L. S) made patent and the Seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at the City of Wash-

⁵² Nominated Jan. 16 and confirmed Jan. 21, 1817 (*Senate, Exec Journal*, III, 70, 72).

⁵³ Nominated Jan. 16 and confirmed Jan. 21, 1817 *ibid.*, pp. 71, 72.

ington the Twenty first day of January A. D. 1817; and of the Independence of the United States the Forty first.

JAMES MADISON

By the President,
JA^s MONROE
Sec^y of State.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, II]

GENERAL L OFFICE 23^d January 1817.

W^m RECTOR Esq^{re} Surveyor &c S^t Louis

SIR Your letter of 30th Ult^o ⁵⁴ informs me that the tract of Country between the Illinois & Mississippi Rivers appropriated for military bounties is generally good, & that although the Lands between the S^t Francis & Arkansas do not afford large bodies of cultivable land, yet the quantity appropriated for bounties will be surveyed & the surveys transmitted to this office before the 1st July next: I am more desirous to have those lands prepared for distribution, than to have other Lands prepared for sale, because I have in consequence of your letters expressed my belief that the bounty lands would be ready for distribution the ensuing summer: this opinion will be conveyed through the Union by members of Congress who have made enquiries, & a failure in transmitting the surveys to this office will produce much disappointment to Claimants.

I am &c.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE TERRITORIAL ASSEMBLY

[NA:WD,SW, Lets. Recd., H-Misc.:DS]

[Referred January 24, 1817]

Resolutions Concerning the Indian title in the Counties of St. Genevieve and Cape Gerardeau ⁵⁵

Whereas the Prosperity and population of the Counties of St. Genevieve and Cape Gerardeau has been greatly retarded and much inconvenience has occurred to many of the inhabitants thereof, from the nature and uncertain quantity of land claimed by the Shawanese And Delaware Indians which it is represented to the Legislative Counsel and House of Representatives of the

⁵⁴ Printed, *Terr. Papers* (Ill.), xvii, 460-461.

⁵⁵ See similar resolution, *ante*, p. 108.

Territory of Missouri is a Special location between the Cape Cinq Hommes Creek and Cape Gerardeau and between the Mississippi and White Water about forty Miles in length and about twenty Miles in breadth and which includes a large portition of the best land in both Counties And Whereas Many of the inhabitants of the aforesaid Counties have obtained grants from the Spanish Government Within those limits and permission was frequently given by the Officers of the Spanish Government who commanded those Districts till as late as the year one thousand eight hundred and three to settle within the said limits and in some instances at the distance of only four or five Miles from the Indian Villages which claims have generally been Confirmed by the board of Commissioners for the Adjustment of land titles and by the recorder of land titles in this Territory by which it appears that those grants were obtained not only in perfect ignorance of the Indian claim, but from the very Officers who best knew the Situation of that Claim and who it is presumed would not have granted indian lands to individuals or have given permission to any person to settle thereon which Operates to the great injury of many families. *Resolved* therefore by the Legislative Counsel and House of Representatives of the Territory of Missouri that the Congress of the United States be and they are hereby respectfully requested to adopt Such measures as they in their Wisdom may deem expedient to ascertain as soon as may be, if any and what quantity of land those Indians are entitled to and if it should appear that they are entitled to all the lands within the aforesaid limits or to any part thereof which has been granted to any individual that Steps may be taken to obtain the aforesaid title from those indians by an exchange of other lands in some more remote part of the Territory which is better adapted to indian persuits and if this Object cannot be effected, that all such persons as hold claims by grants confirmation or otherwise within the limits now Claimed by those Indians; may have the privilege of Locating their Claims on any of the public lands of this Territory and be Allowed as much more land in addition thereto as will Compensate such Claimants for their improvements and that such persons as would have been intituled to preemption rights if their Settlements had been made on public lands May have the previledge of Locating said preemption rights elsewhere if the said claim should be considered as Indian land. *Resolved* by the Legislative Counsel and House of Representatives of this Territory that the Speaker of the house of representatives be requested to forward the foregoing resolution to the delegate in Congress from this Territory who is hereby re-

quested to use his best endeavour to have the Same carried into effect.⁵⁶

EDWARD HEMPSTEAD Speaker of
the House of Representatives
WILLIAM NEELY President of the
Legislative Council

[*Endorsed*] Memorial of the Legislative of Missouri Territory
(Extinguishment of Indian titles) January 24, 1817. Ref^d to the
Secretary of War. Pope K. 24. Sec^r War

JOHN SCOTT TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., S:ALS]

WASHINGTON *January 27th 1817*

DEAR SIR Being no longer Considered the legal Representative
of the Territory of Missouri,⁵⁷ I really feel embarrassed in taking

⁵⁶ The resolution was transmitted by the Clerk of the House on Jan. 24, 1817, as ordered.

⁵⁷ Scott sat as Delegate until Jan. 13, 1817; he had been seated on Dec. 2, 1816, but on Dec. 6 Rufus Easton petitioned the House, through Richard M. Johnson, of Kentucky, to be admitted in place of Scott, which petition was referred to the Committee on Elections (*Annals*, 14 Cong. 2 sess., 230, 244). There were two reports by this Committee. The first one, which is detailed and embodies a lengthy statement by Easton, was submitted on Dec. 31; it recommended the seating of Easton, *ibid.*, 395-402. On Jan. 2, 1817, Easton was allowed the privilege of a seat at the bar of the House in support of his petition, *ibid.*, 406; and on Jan. 4 there occurred a lengthy debate on the report, which was recommitted, the yeas and nays being recorded, *ibid.*, 415-419. On Jan. 10 the Committee reported a second time, recommending that the Committee be discharged from further investigation of the contest, *ibid.*, 452-454, and on Jan. 13 the House declared the seat vacant on the ground that the election had been illegally conducted, *ibid.*, 472-473. This second report is also printed in *A.S.P., Misc. II*, 414-415. The following extract from the second report is of interest:

"If the House concur with the committee in this opinion, it follows that no evidence has been submitted by either party, enabling the committee to investigate the qualifications of the electors.

"The committee are further of opinion that evidence cannot be procured in season to enable the committee to investigate the qualifications of the electors during the present Congress. From Howard county on the north, to Arkansas on the south, as the roads run, is about eight hundred miles; the settlements extend west of the Mississippi from fifty to one hundred and seventy miles; the Territory is divided into nine counties and about fifty townships.

"In addition to the difficulties arising from the extent of territory, the law of Missouri prescribes no mode of taking evidence in cases of contested elections for Delegate to Congress; nor is there any territorial authority to compel the attendance of witnesses for that purpose."

the liberty to write you on its Concerns—But if I am not officially entitled to represent its grievances, yet as a Citizen who in heart feels deeply Interested for its aggregate and Individual welfare, I desire permission to name to you a subject of no small Concern, not only to its Towns and Villages, But to many poor, though highly meritorious Citizens—I rejoice that there is such an evident disposition on the part of the Government to discountenance that Spirit of encroachment and Speculation, which Capitallists too often are disposed to indulge in, without regard to any principle, or to the rights of the weak and the feeble—

The law approved the 17th February 1815, Entitled “An Act for the relief of the Inhabitants of the late County of New Madrid in the Missouri Territory who Suffered by Earthquakes”⁵⁸ was no doubt intended by the Government, and under Certain regulations and restrictions would have been highly beneficial to that unfortunate people—Had that law at the time of its enactment Contained a provision making rights accruing under it unalienable for a limited time, Untill the people had became acquainted with the value of those rights—Or had a Certain Part of the Territory been designated within the limits of which rights derived under that law should have been Located, many of the evils that now call loud for a remedy would have been evaded, But unfortunately the law had not that Cast of forethought calculated to protect its benevolent intentions from the encroachments incident to Speculative Construction, which never fails to take advantage of Liberal provisions, and to insist upon the spirit of the Statute as embracing cases that never was intended—

That act authorizes the Location of those floating claims “on any of the Public lands in that Territory the sale of which is authorised by law”, Under this provision I am Informed that purchasers of those claims have made locations on the following description of Lands—

First, on Town or Village lots, out lots, Common field lots, and commons, in, adjoining and appertaining to the towns and Villages of that Territory—The act of the 13th of June 1812⁵⁹ secured to Individuals, and to the towns, and Villages this description of property, and also contains a provision Appropriating for the use of Schools &c such lots, and Commons as are included in the surveys, and not rightfully owned, or Claimed by private persons, or held as Commons—

Secondly, a location has been made of a singular character on an alluvion formed by the recession of the Mississippi River between

⁵⁸ 3 STAT. 211-212.

⁵⁹ 2 STAT. 748-752.

the town of Ste Louis and the low water mark—I have little hesitation in Saying that from the general doctrine of alluvion this Sand bar, or Batture, or piece of land so made belongs to the Town as a Common, or a part of their Commons, And if an individual is permitted to Locate a claim thereon, the Town must inevitably be precluded from free access to the River, and the advantages that it would derive from being on the borders of a Navigable stream will be evaded by individual Cupidity

Thirdly, On rights, titles, and claims, that have been filed with Either of the boards of Commissioners for that Territory, or with the Recorder of Land titles Acting as such, but which have not been Confirmed—I trust that Government will again at a proper time give to those people whose claims are thus rejected another opportunity to perfect their titles, and I even indulge the hope that provisions will be made to embrace claims that have never been notified, or filed with the Commissioners or recorder—At all events Lands thus situated are not yet made disposeable by law, and Consequently not Subject to be located—And if I am permitted to reason Analogously those lands could not be sold or located upon, Untill Congress should provide for this disposition, see the Act of the 28th of February 1809⁶⁰ for the disposal of Certain tracts of land in the Mississippi Territory very similarly situated to those lands in question

Fourthly, by the act of the 12th April 1814⁶¹ the right of Preemption is Secured to all Settlers prior to that date in the Missouri Territory—But no office has yet been opened, or any means pointed out to enable the Preemptor to give notice of his right, or to produce his proof, or to make his entry, and on Claims thus situated I am informed Locations have been made, here a right secured by act of Congress is trampled upon by the Speculator, and that too before any opportunity has been given to the Preemptor to give any evidence of his intentions to avail himself of the Privileges of that act, or by his neglect to enter his claim to Authorise, the Presumption that he does not intend so to do—

My object in placing this State of things before you is to Solicit, not only a denial, or at least a Suspension of the issuing of the Patents on locations thus shamefully made, But to prohibit any future locations of a similar Character, And also to call your attention to the Propriety of immediately pointing out the mode by which the Preemptor may give notice of, and make due entry of his claim—The act of the 12th April 1814 giving the right of Preemption in the Missouri Territory, refers for the details to the

⁶⁰ 2 STAT. 526–527.

⁶¹ 3 STAT. 121–123.

act of the 5th of February 1813⁶² providing for Preemptions in the Illinois Territory, and by this latter act all notices of the right of Preemption are to be given at least two weeks before the Public Sales Commences, And as I believe much land will be ready for sale by the first of July next, there is Certainly no time to Loose If it is intended that the people shall realize the Priviledges provided for them by the law giving the right of Preemption—I shall also Cause to be Laid before Congress resolutions on some of those points, and in the mean time Permit me in the name of the Towns, and people of my Territory to Solicit your official interference in discountenancing, and keeping down that lawless spirit of speculation calculated to ruin its Villages, and oppress the Poor by subjecting him and his family to be divien from that little spot that he has enriched by the sweat of his brow, and which constituted his only hopes for an honest livelihood, or reducing him to the necessity to become the tenant of some Lordly Speculator, and loose the Character of a freeman, in being obliged to obey his beck and call—

An Answer from you as to the measures you shall see proper to adopt, would confer a singular favour and be thankfully received

by your obdt Sevt

JOHN SCOTT—

[*Endorsed*] 27 Jan^y 1817 John Scott Esq^r relative to Missouri Territory Ans^d 30th

JOSEPH MEIGS TO JOHN SCOTT

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 30th *January* 1817.

JOHN SCOTT Esq^{re} Missouri Territory Wⁿ City

SIR Your favor of 27th Inst has been received the subject of it had previously occupied my attention. The act for the relief of the sufferers by earthquake in the County of New Madrid gives them a right to locate their claims "on any of the public Lands in the territory of Missouri, the sale of which is authorized by Law." The Law has authorized the President to cause to be surveyed & offered for sale such parts of the public Lands in the Territory as he should direct.—The President has directed a certain portion to be surveyed & prepared for Sale, & this portion alone I consider open for the locations of the New Madrid Claimants—When the Law for their relief was passed, there was no Law granting pre-emption rights in the territory, consequently the Madrid claimants take precedence of pre-emption claims—the pre-emption claimants

⁶² 2 STAT. 797-798.

will no doubt murmur that they are ousted by the Madrid claimants, but it must be recollected that the pre-emption claimants has settled on public Lands, (if not contrary to Law,) at least without any right so to do, & that it is to the benevolence of the Government they owe their pre-emption claims, which benevolence had been previously exercised towards the sufferers by Earthquakes: That Speculators have availed themselves of the benevolence intended to benefit the sufferers, is a circumstance that I do regret, but I cannot remedy the evil; I can however, & will, confine them in their locations, to Lands "authorized by Law" & those lands do not embrace (in my opinion) the Alluvians, Village & town Commons, mentioned by you.

I cannot agree with you in the Idea that a door should be opened for more claims, I think the Gov^t have been liberal, very liberal, both in time & conditions. When the surveys of the Lands intended for sale are completed, a proclamation of the President, will, as usual I presume, fix the time for the public Sales, & give sufficient time for the settlers entitled to pre-emptions to make their entries.

I am &c

JOHN SCOTT TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., S:ALS]

WASHINGTON *February* 3^d 1817

HONBLE JOSIAH MEIGS

SIR, your favour of the 30th Ult^o in Answer to mine of the 27th ⁶³ I have duly received—It is with diffidence I suggest that from the Multiplicity of business you have to attend to, and the great variety of laws you have to refer to, that you have mistaken the dates of the laws granting preemption in the Missouri Territory, and the Law for the relief of the New Madrid Sufferers. The law giving the right of Preemption passed the 12th of April 1814, and the law for the relief of the New Madrid sufferers passed the 17th February 1815 about ten months after the right of Preemption had been given and secured—It was this that I complained of, that a right subsequently created should be permitted to defeat a prior right both originating in the same motives, and from the same Authority—I believe the rule of Construction of Statutes is, that where there are two, or more laws relative to any subject they are to be so construed if possible as that both may be carried into effect, and Certainly there is land sufficient to satisfy the New Madrid Claim-

⁶³ *Ante*, p. 236.

ants without their interfering with the rights of Preemption—
If Priority of law is to give priority of right, the Preemptor is
to be preferred, and protected from the intrusions of the New
Madrid Claimant—By referring to the two laws you will find it
as I have stated, and Consequently I trust you will act in this, as
you have determined to do in the other Cases I had the honour to
submit to your Consideration—

I would be thankful to you, if you would let me know in a note
if you agree with the Ideas here suggested.

I have the honour to be with high Consideration and respect yr
Obt Serv^t

JOHN SCOTT—

HONBL JOSIAH MEIGS Comiss Gl L^d office W. Cty—

[Addressed] Honble Josiah Meigs—Commissr Gn^l Land office
Washington—

[Endorsed] 3 feb^y 1817 John Scott of Missouri about Claims
there Ans^d 4th ⁶⁴

EDWARD HEMPSTEAD TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Lets. Recd., PLC (Mo.):ALS]

S^t LOUIS *February 3, 1817.*

HON JOSIAH MEIGS

SIR, Agreeably to the request of the Legislature of the Territory
of Missouri, I have the Honor to transmit the Petition & Resolution
Enclosed—

With great respect & esteem I have the Honor to be Sir yr ob ser
E HEMPSTEAD

[Endorsed] S^t Louis 3^d feb; 1817 Ed Hempstead, Speaker &
resolution of Assembly relative to Commons of Carondelet Ans^d
11 March ⁶⁵ & wrote to Recorder at S^t Louis.⁶⁶

[Enclosures:DS]

Resolution of the Territorial Assembly

Resolution Respecting Carondelet

MISSOURI TERRITORY Sct

[January, 1817]

In General Assembly January one thousand Eight hundred and
Seventeen, Whereas it appears to this General Assembly that the

⁶⁴ *Post*, p. 245.

⁶⁵ *Post*, p. 252.

⁶⁶ Mar. 11, 1817 (NA, GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7).

accompanying petition of the Inhabitants of the Village of Carondelet is reasonable and that their Welfare and even their existence depends on their holding their said Commons. *Therefore Resolved* by the General Assembly of the Territory of Missouri that the said petition be forwarded by the Speaker of the House of Representatives to the Commissioner of the General Land Office of the United States.

EDWARD HEMPSTEAD Speaker of
the House of Representatives
WILLIAM NEELY President of
the Legislative Council

[*Endorsed*] Resolution respecting Carondelet

Petition of Inhabitants of Carondelet

[January 8, 1817]

*To the Honourable, The Council & House of Representatives of
Missouri Territory*

We the undersigned petitioners, The inhabitants of the village of Carondelet in Said Territory—Humbly Sheweth That we have been for upward of Thirty years in peaceable possession of a Certain Quantity of Land as Commons for & Adjoining our said village of Carondelet, which Commons always was & still is the only Support of ourselves & our families being our only Dependance for Building our houses, Fencing our Cornfields, our Firewood & Pasture for our Stock—and which Commons we believed to have been Confirmed by an Act of Congress respecting the Towns Villages & Commons of This Territory passed on the [blank] Eighteen hundred and [blank]. But as it appears that the said Act is not Considered, as establishing our right, by certain persons who have located or threaten to Locate New Madrid Claims on our Said Commons—We Therefore Humbly request, that your Honourable Body may be pleased to address the Congress of the United States on this Subject, to the end that that Honourable Body may take such measures to avert the Total ruin of ourselves & our posterity, as in their wisdom they may think proper and your Petitioners As in duty bound will ever pray.⁶⁷

CARONDELET 8th Jan^y 1817

⁶⁷ This or a similar petition was presented to the House of Representatives by Delegate Scott, Dec. 14, 1818; it was referred on the same date (*House Journal*, 15 Cong., 2 sess., pp. 89–90). The text is not present in the House files. On Dec. 21, 1818, Scott presented a petition by the inhabitants of St. Charles praying a grant of title to the commons attached to that town, and on Dec. 30, 1818, he presented a similar petition from the inhabitants of Ste. Genevieve, *ibid.*, pp. 118, 144. The texts of these petitions have not been found.

F^{cois} Bouché
 Sa x marque
 Ant^{ne} x Barada pere
 Sa marque
 Ant^{ne} x Barada fils
 Sa marque
 Pr^e x Clermont
 Sa marque
 Jacques x Brunet
 Sa marque
 Louis x Denoyé
 Sa marque
 Amable x Chartran fils
 Sa marque
 Ch^{les} x Vallé fils
 Sa marque
 yacinte x Pizon
 Sa marque
 Nicolas Gais
 Pr^e x Laperché
 Sa marque
 Julien x Choquet pere
 Sa marque
 Louis x Menard pere
 Sa marque
 Treget x Delor
 Sa marque
 Gaberiel Constant pere
 F^{cois} x Fournié pere
 Sa marque
 Jⁿ B^{te} x Bouvet
 Sa marque
 Amable x Chartran pere
 Sa marque
 Jⁿ x Denoyé
 Sa marque
 Ch^{les} x Vachard
 Sa marque
 Paul x Rober
 Sa marque
 inri x Choquet fils
 Sa marque
 Gabriel x unau
 Sa marque
 L^s x Constant
 Sa marque
 Paul x Porneuf pere
 Sa marque
 Benoit x Marechal
 Sa marque
 Leone x Marechal
 Sa marque

Jacque x Maillor
 Sa marque
 Pitre x Souths fils
 Sa marque
 Leon x Constant
 Sa marque
 augustin x Bourbonné
 Sa marque
 L^s x Menard
 Sa marque
 Jⁿ B^{te} x Menard
 Sa marque
 inri x Roy
 Sa marque
 F^{cois} x Gotier
 Sa marque
 L^s x Vallé
 Sa marque
 L^s x Courtois
 Sa marque
 Ambroise x Constant
 Sa marque
 Ch^{les} x Rober
 Sa marque
 Augte x Gamache fils
 Sa marque
 Ant^{ne} x Choquet
 Sa marque
 F^{cois} x Laimé
 Sa marque
 Pr^e x Champion
 Sa marque
 Augte x Gamache
 Sa marque
 George x Souths
 Sa marque
 Ant^{ne} x Luissier
 Sa marque
 Gabriel x Constant fils
 Sa marque
 Alexis x Marie fils
 Sa marque
 Pr^e x Marie fils
 Sa marque
 Alexis Marie
 J^h x Yong
 Sa marque
 F^{cois} x Roy pere
 Sa marque
 Ant^{ne} x Douval
 Sa marque
 F^{cois} x Denoyé
 Sa marque
 J^h x Gotier
 Sa marque

TERRITORY OF MISSOURI St Louis County Ss.

Personally appeared before me Joseph Charless a justice of the Peace for the county aforesaid Gregoire Sarpy who being duly

sworn According to law Made oath that he was present when the above Signatures were taken and that the said sinatures are for the purposes mentioned in the aforewritten petition

G^{re} SARPY

Sworn to & Subscribed before me this 10th day of January 1817
Joseph Charless j. P.

[*Endorsed*] Petition of the Inhabitants of the village of Carondelet

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THOMAS B. ROBERTSON

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

GENERAL. L. OFFICE 4th February 1817.

HON: M^r ROBERTSON House of Rep^s

SIR, I take leave to call your attention to two acts of Congress which seem to me to want an Act to explain & reconcile them.

The act of 12 Ap^l 1814 entitled "An Act for the final adjustment of Land titles in the State of Louisiana & territory of Missouri," sectⁿ 5th, secures to certain persons the right of pre-emption agreeably to the provisions of an act passed february 5—1813,"one of those provisions requires the claimant to designate the quarter Section which he claims this requirement cannot be complied with in Missouri Territory till the Lands are surveyed & prepared for sale.

The act of 17 feb: 1815 entitled "an Act for the relief of the inhabitants of the late county of New Madrid &C", authorizes them to locate claims for their losses "on any public Lands of the said territory the sale of which is authorized by Law," & the second secⁿ authorizes surveys to be made for those claimants.

What Lands are authorized by Law to be sold? the President is authorized to direct such Lands as he shall think proper, to be surveyed & offered for sale, he has directed some to be surveyed, the surveys are not completed, he has not directed any to be sold.

If the Madrid claimants may locate where they please, they may deprive the pre-emptioners of the rights previously secured by Law to them. If the Madrid claimants cannot locate till the pre-emptioners have entered their claims, the provision for surveying Madrid claims is nugatory, because the lands will then be surveyed & prepared for sale.

I understand that some Madrid claimants have obtained certificates & located them where improvements have been made by

settlers entitled to pre-emption, those claimants may apply for patents before the pre-emptioner can enter his claim, he not knowing what will be the number of the $\frac{1}{4}$ sec^a he has improved.

The last section of the Act of 17 feb: 1815 requires the Recorder to give the party a certificate, requires the party to file that certificate with the Recorder, & requires the Recorder to give another certificate; wherefore I know not.

An Act to direct me in issuing patents under these Acts is very desirable.

I am &c—

JOSIAH MEIGS TO JOHN SCOTT

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 71

G.L.O. 4 February 1817.

JOHN SCOTT Esq^{re} of M T^y Washington City

SIR I thank you for your letter of 3^d Ins^t ^{es} it has led me to correct an error I had made relative to the date of the Act for the Relief of the Sufferers by Earthquakes—On my memorandum of dates I had that act “17 feb: 1814”, instead of 1815, this date corrected, the pre-emp^a rights secured by the Act of 12th April 1814, will take precedence of the claimants under the first mentioned Act; such however is my opinion, & I shall communicate it to the Recorder of Land titles, the Surveyor, & the Register at S^t Louis: this construction of those laws will prevent the sufferers by Earthquakes from locating till the Lands in Missouri Territory are prepared for sale & the pre-emptioners have entered their claims, for they cannot be entered before the lands are prepared because they are required to enter them in the same manner as pre-emptions in Illinois Territory; ie designating the quarter sections. I am not perfectly satisfied with this construction, because it seems to conflict with that part of the act for the relief of the Sufferers by Earthquakes which directs surveys to be made for them; if they were to wait till the lands were prepared for sale, why direct surveys to be made. An Act explanatory of the act first mentioned, & reconciling its provisions with the Act of 12th Ap^l 1814 would be very satisfactory to me.

I am &c

I have addressed a letter to the Chairman of the Comm^{ee} on public Lands (of the House of Represen^s) pointing out the utility of an explanatory act.

^{es} *Ante*, p. 241.

JOHN SCOTT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Misc. Letters:ALS]

WASHINGTON *February 5th 1817*

HONBLE JAMES MONROE.

SIR I am requested by John M^cKnight and Thomas M^cKnight both Citizens of the United States and now resident at Ste Louis in the Missouri Territory, and men of the first respectability to Lay before you their wishes, and ask your official interference in behalf of their Brother Robert M^cKnight and some others whose names I do not know, the Case is this—

In the spring of 1812 Robert M^cKnight, and some three or four more gentlemen started from Ste Louis to Sante fie in the Spanish dominion, I believe their object was to see if they could open a trade with some part of the Mexican province of Spain—On Arriving there they were arrested, and have been ever since Continued in Confinement, if it would be possible for you to procure their release you will promote the cause of humanity, and confer on them, and their respectable relations an obligation of lasting gratitude—There is in your office I am informed a petition filed by Mr Edward Hempstead formerly the deligate from the Missouri Territory. Stating the further particulars of the Case, and the Names of all the suffering⁶⁹

It would be extremely gratifying to the friends of those unfortunate men, If by any communication you should see proper to make to me, I should be enabled to assure them that the Government would at least make an effort for their Liberation—

I have the honor to be with High Consideration yr Obt Sevt

JOHN SCOTT—

HONBL JAS MONROE Secretary of State

[*Addressed*] Honble James Monroe Secretay of State Washington

THOMAS L. MCKENNEY TO THOMAS B. ROBERTSON

[NA:OIT, Supt. Lets. Sent, Bk. D]

Office of In: Trade GEO:TOWN 16 *Feb*: 1817

HON. T. B. ROBERTSON

SIR In reply to your letter without date,⁷⁰ enclosing one from John Jamison, I have the honor to state, that Indian agents, as

⁶⁹ Not identified.⁷⁰ Not found.

contra-distinguished from Factors, are not filled by, or through this office. the latter are appointed by the President, on nomination of the Sup^t Indian trade.

The information you desire respecting a vacancy of the agency in the Missouri Territory, can be furnished, no doubt, on application to the War Department—If I had the means to save you the trouble of this reference, It would afford me pleasure to exercise them.

Respectfully Sir &c &c

T. L. M^cK

P.S. I enclose M^r Jamison's letter.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822:ALS]

Surveyors Office for the Territories of Illinois &
Missouri St LOUIS Feb^y 17th ⁷¹ 1817

SIR I have rec^d your letter of the 23^d Ult^o in which you point out the necessity, that the Surveys of the Military bounty Lands should be forwarded to the General Land Office as soon as possible.

I have lately heard from most of the Deputy Surveyors who are engaged in laying off these Lands; They are generally going on very well with the business. I still think that I shall be able to forward to the Gen^l Office the whole of these Surveys between the present time and the 1st of July next—

I hope soon to receive authority from you to draw on the Receivers of the Land Offices for money to pay for Surveys. A considerable sum will soon be wanting for that purpose

I am very respectfully Sir your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR.

HONBLE J: MEIGS Commissioner of the Gen^l L Office Washington City

[*Addressed*] The Honbl^e Josiah Meigs Commissioner of the General Land Office Washington City [*Postmarked*] St. Louis Feb. 17 Free

[*Endorsed*] St. Louis 21^t feb. 1817 W^m Rector wants a further credit. Surveys go on well Ans^d 20 Mar ⁷² & wrote to Secret^y ⁷³

⁷¹ Cf. endorsement.

⁷² *Post*, p. 255.

⁷³ NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7). See *post*, p. 255.

COMMISSION OF CHARLES LUCAS AS UNITED STATES
ATTORNEY

[NA:SD, Misc. Perm. Comms., D]

[February 19, 1817]

JAMES MADISON, President of the United States of America.

To all who shall see these presents, Greeting:

Know Ye, That reposing special Trust and Confidence in the Integrity Ability and Learning of CHARLES LUCAS of the Missouri Territory, I have nominated and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate do appoint him Attorney of the United States in and for the said Missouri Territory; ⁷⁴ and do authorize and empower him to execute and fulfil the duties of that Office according to Law; and to Have and to Hold the same, together with all the powers, privileges and emoluments thereto of right appertaining unto him the said Charles Lucas during the pleasure of the President of the United States for the time being.

In Testimony whereof, I have caused these Letters to (L. S.) be made patent and the Seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at the City of Washington the nineteenth day of February A. D. 1817; and of the Independence of the United States of America the Forty first.⁷⁵

JAMES MADISON.

By the President,
JA^s MONROE,
Sec^y of State.

PETITION TO CONGRESS BY JESSE BEAN

[NA:SF, 14 Cong., 2 sess.:ALS]

[Referred February 19, 1817]

To the honorable the Senate, and House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled:

The Memorial of Jesse Bean, a native of the United States, and resident in the Missouri Territory respectfully represents to your honorable bodies, that he has lately discovered on the water of [blank] river or near the same, within the limits, as he is informed, of the said Missouri Territory, a silver mine, which he beleives to be rich and valuable, that being a Blacksmith by trade, and having occasionally, worked in Silver, on a limited scale, he is enabled, in some degree, to judge of the quality of the metal. He further begs leave to propose to your honorable Bodies, that if Congress will

⁷⁴ Nominated Jan. 29, 1817, and confirmed Feb. 19, 1817 (*Senate Exec. Journal*, III, 74, 78).

⁷⁵ See *post*, p. 270.

grant to him, his heirs or Assigns the privilege of working Bullion from said mine, and enjoying all the profits and emoluments thereunto appertaining; for the term of five Years, he will disclose to your honorable bodies the place where the same is situated. He begs leave, further to represent to your honorable bodies, that he is far advanced in years, and by the ordinary course of Nature, cannot much longer survive the infirmities of age, and its attendant diseases, and therefore he wishes the privilege prayed for granted in such a manner that his heirs &c may enjoy the benefit of the same

And your Memorialist will ever pray &c

JESSE BEAN

[*Endorsed*] 14 Cong 2 Sess Petition of Jesse Bean, praying the privileged of working for five years a silver mine in the Missouri Territory. 1817 Feb^y 19 read & refd to Comee on pub. lands.⁷⁶

JOSIAH MEIGS TO RECORDER BATES

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

20th February 1817

FREDERICK BATES Esq^{re} Recorder of Land Titles S^t Louis

SIR, Your letter of 12th Ult^o has been received,⁷⁷ & shews satisfactorily the propriety of your conduct in giving no information (relative to decisions under the various acts of Congress concerning private claims) further than was required by claimants who applied for it.

In my letter of 11th December,⁷⁸ last requesting you "to give all necessary information to claimants through the medium of the Newspapers," my object was to notify the fair, honest claimants whose claims were confirmed, of their situation, & thus save them from becoming the prey of Men who made it their business to acquire early information for purposes of speculation: the expences of such notification will assuredly be admitted to your credit, being authorized by this Office.

I am &c

DELEGATE EASTON TO THE ACTING SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., E13:ALS]

WASHINGTON CITY Feb^y 24th 1817

SIR, I have been requested by James Cummins Esq^r the agent of the inhabitants who have settled south and south west of the

⁷⁶ *Annals*, 14 Cong., 2 sess., 133.

⁷⁷ *Ante*, p. 228.

⁷⁸ *Ante*, p. 217.

River Arkansas in the Territory of Missouri to ask for the result of their application to be quietted in their possessions—

A copy of the petitions of those inhabitants will be found on file in your office⁷⁹ together with the application of the Governor of that territory in their behalf that the Commissioners for treating with the Indians should be permitted to extinguish the Indian Title to all that part of the territory which lies east of a line to be drawn due south from the point where the osage line strikes the River Arkansas to the State of Louisiana; and to know whether the Government will authorise the Commissioners to treat for that portion of the territory and whether those inhabitants will be permitted to remain on the lands which they have improved untill it shall be ascertained whether they are on Indian Lands or Lands belonging to the United States.—And also to be informed whether any military force will be stationed in that quarter⁸⁰—

I am very respectfully, Sir Your obed^t Serv^t

RUFUS EASTON

HONBLE GEORGE GRAHAM acting Secretary of war.

[*Addressed*] The Honorable George Graham Acting Secretary of War

[*Endorsed*] Washington 24 feby 1817. Honble Rufus Easton, relative to the petition of the inhabitants South of the Arkansas to be confirmed in their possession of those Lands &c &c Feby 1817

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO ROBERT SIMPSON

[NA:PO, P.M. Letter Book U]

GENERAL POST OFFICE 27th Feb. 1817.

ROBERT SIMPSON Esq^r P. M. St Louis Missou. Terry.

SIR. Although the arrangement may be improved by persuing the course pointed out in your letter of the 8th Ult.⁸¹ yet to accomplish that object it will be necessary for Congress to alter the Law, establishing the route aforesaid.⁸²

R. J. MEIGS

⁷⁹ *Ante*, p. 177.

⁸⁰ Answered, Feb. 27, 1817 (NA, SW, Lets. Sent, Mil. Bk. 9).

⁸¹ Not found.

⁸² See act approved Apr. 28, 1810 (2 STAT. 584), which established a post road from Ste. Genevieve, by Mine à Burton and St. Louis, to St. Charles. The route from St. Louis to St. Charles was discontinued by an act approved Apr. 20, 1818 (3 STAT. 456-457), and another one substituted between these two places by way of Florissant, which is probably the alteration suggested above. See also the Postmaster General to Morrison, postmaster at Kaskaskia, Illinois Territory, Feb. 18, 1817 (TERR. Papers, Ill., xvii, 481), relative to facilitating the transportation of the mails from his office to Ste. Genevieve and St. Louis.

WILLIAM McCLELLAN TO RETURN J. MEIGS

[NA:OIA, Lets. Recd., Cherokee Agency:ALS]

KINGSTON *Feb^y 27th 1817*

DEAR COL^o I have been informed that Maj^r Lovely is dead. If the information is correct, & there are an Agent to be appointed for the Chrokee's on White River, I will take it as a great favor, if you will be so good to use your influence with the War Department to procure me the appointment. I request the favor of you to inform me what Salary would be allowed to the Agent in that Country—

My respects to M^{rs} Meigs.I am Respectfully Your Ob^t Serv^tW^m M^cCLELLANCOL^o RETURN J. MEIGS

[Addressed] Col^o Return J. Meigs Agent Heighwassee [*Post-marked*] Knoxville Ten 12 March 1817 10^{ct}

[Endorsed] Lieu^t M^cClellans letter wants the A. Agency

STEPHEN RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., R:ALS]

ST. LOUIS Missouri Territory 10th *March 1817*

SIR, I take the liberty of inclosing to you a letter from Frederick Bates Esquire Recorder of Land Titles for the Territory of Missouri to me,⁸³ in answer to a demand made by me for a Certificate of a floating Claim as particularly specified and explained in said letter ⁸⁴—Hoping that if you should think that I am justly entitled to the Certificate for said Claim and you should deem it consistent with your duty to do so, that you will authorize the recorder to issue the same—An answer from you on this subject will confer a particular favor on your Humble Servant

STEPHEN RECTOR

JOSIAH MEIGS Esquire Com^r of the Gen^l L. Office

[Endorsed] S^t Louis 10 March 1817 Stephen Rector relative to a claim for a Certificate Ans^d 15 Ap^l ⁸⁵

⁸³ Not present.⁸⁴ Not found.

⁸⁵ NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7), advising that he could not interfere in the case mentioned, but declaring that Bates was bound to issue certificates in conformity to the reports of the commissioners, and that the General Land Office would then issue patents in agreement with said certificates and reports.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO EDWARD HEMPSTEAD

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

11 *Mar.*: 1817.EDWARD HEMPSTEAD Esq^r S^t Louis

SIR I have received your letter of 3^d Ult^o ⁸⁶ with the resolution of the General Assembly of the Territory of Missouri; relative to the commons of the Village of Carondolet. On the 21st of December last,⁸⁷ I received from Messrs Rector & Bates a letter recommending that measures should be taken for the settlement of claims to town & Village lots, of which letter I sent Copies to the Land Committees of Congress, but the subject was not (I beleive) acted on by Congress.

I can only say, that in my opinion, the new madrid claims ought not to be permitted to be located on the Commons of the Village of Carondolet, & that I will transmit that opinion to the Recorder of Land titles at S^t Louis this day.⁸⁸

I am &c

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822:ALS]

Surveyors Office for the Territories of Illinois

& Missouri S^t LOUIS *March* 16th 1817

SIR I received by the last mail from Washington your letter of the 7th Feb^y ⁸⁹ in which was enclosed a Patent for a tract of Land to Silas Bent And in which you instructed me, that in case I can give the tract its proper situation on the connected plat, And find the patent to agree with the records of my Office to deliver it to M^r Bent.

I have examined the records that I received from P D Surveyor Bent and find a Survey for 56 A 2 R, 20 P, recorded in the name of Silas Bent But it is not stated in this Survey under whom or in right of whom Judge Bent claims the same. This want of agreement in the Patent and Survey, alone would have been sufficient to induce me to return the Patent to you, But in addition to this the patent is for 46 A, 2 R, 20 P and the Survey for 56 A, 2 R, 20 P,

⁸⁶ *Ante*, p. 241.⁸⁷ Not found, but acknowledged Dec. 23, 1816 (NA, GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7).⁸⁸ *Loc. cit.*⁸⁹ NA (GLO, Lets. to SG, II), relative to the application of John Scott for a patent for Silas Bent along the Mississippi River.

Therefore in compliance with your instructions I herewith send you the Patent.

I am clearly of opinion that Patents ought not to be issued on Surveys that have not been connected with the Surveys of the public Lands, Because if Surveys should be promiscuously made through the Country without being connected with the public Surveys there is no doubt but many interferences between the Surveys would take place, which would be very injurious to the claimants, and troublesome and expensive to the Government as the owners of the Conflicting Surveys would no doubt greatly pester the Government for relief.

There were but few Surveys made under the direction of Judge Bent none of which were connected with public Surveys for at that time there were no public Surveys to Connect with All of which Surveys must yet be connected with Sectional lines and corners, so that I may be able to form a General Connect Plat to ascertain the adjacent Public Lands; To make these connections will be nearly as troublesome as to resurvey the tracts.

All the Surveys of individuals that have been & will be made under my directions will be particularly connected with the public Surveys, and connected Plats of each Township, and a General connected plat, as well as a Plat & description of each Survey of individuals returned to the General Land Office by which it will readily be seen the particular spot occupied by each claim and the form and Content of the adjoining fractional Sections

I have made arrangements, to Survey all the Confirmed claims that lies between the Mississippi River and the Fifth principal meridian from the East & West line passing between Townships N° 33 & 34 N° of the Base line as far North as there are any confirmed claims on the Mississippi or its waters (see Index map) and also all the confirmed claims on the Missouri River & its waters west of the 5th P¹ Md^a and those confirmed claims that are within the Military tract in the County of Arkansas, which together embraces a very large majority of the confirmed claims of this Territory, the whole of which claims I calculate to have Surveyed & properly connected, within one year from this time so that the claimants of these Lands may be gratified by geting Patents for their respective claims in a reasonable time, without our departing from the course that should be pursued in Surveying them & the adjacent public Lands.

Many applications have been made to me by owners of New Madrid claims to locate their claims out of the limits of the tract of Country within which (before I commenced receiving notices of locations) I gave public notice that I considered myself

authorized to receive locations I have declined receiving locations beyond those limits. Perhaps it may be well to permit locations to be made any where within the tract of Country that has been laid off into Townships, Will you please to instruct me on this subject.

Much has been said here as well as at Washington, concerning the locations that have been made (or exhibited) by virtue of New Madrid claims on Town & Village, commons, commonfield Lands &c. I never did for a moment believe that those Lands could be located & held by virtue of New Madrid claims. Because I considered that these lands were otherwise disposed of by the Act of Congress of June 13th 1812 ⁹⁰ But after mature reflection on that subject I considered it to be my duty to receive any notice of a location within the tract of Country where locations could be made, that was accompanied by the Recorders Certificate Because the Act of Congress concerning these claims gives to the claimants the right to make their locations and makes it my duty to cause them to be Surveyed, provided they do not include a lead mine or Salt spring. If the claimants of these Lands interfere with Lands that belong to other individuals, or lands which the Laws of the United States reserve from Sale they do so, at their own risk and responsibility for the selection of lands is their own business and not mine, Nor could I, at this stage of the business, or, before the confirmed claims of a particular part of the Country are Surveyed and a connect plat thereof formed tell, what Lands are subject to be located by New Madrid claims.

I do not intend to put it in the power of any of the Claimants of New Madrid lands to apply for Patents until complete connected plats of the Townships in which their locations are made can be deposited in the General Land Office by which it will be seen how far they may have transcended the privilege given to them by the Act of Congress, unless I may be instructed by you to furnish Surveys &c. Whenever demanded by the claimants—please to instruct me on the subject.

I herewith transmit to you a Copy of the instructions with which each Deputy Surveyor is furnished ⁹¹

I am with great respect Sir Your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR

HONBL^e JOSIAH MEIGS—Commissioner of the Gen^l L. Office
Washington City

[*Endorsed*] St Louis 16th Mar 1817 W^m Rector—de Brents
patent—Madrid claims

⁹⁰ 2 STAT. 748-752.

⁹¹ Not present.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, II]

G L O 20th *March* 1817.

W^m RECTOR Esq^{re} Survey^r S^t Louis

SIR I learn with pleasure, (by your letter of 17th Ult^o ⁹²) that you expect to transmit the Surveys of military bounty Land at the time you estimated.

I have requested the Secretary to give you a further credit of Twenty thousand dollars with a Receiver of public monies; when you, in future, ask for a further credit, be pleased to name the sum that will be necessary.

I am &c.

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:TD, Pub. Lands Let. Bk., 1801-1833]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT *March* 22^d 1817.

THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

SIR In consequence of your letter of the 20th inst.⁹³ a credit of Twenty Thousand Dollars has been given on Nathaniel Ewing, Receiver of Public Monies at Vincennes in favor of Wm Rector Surveyor General of the Illinois and Missouri Territories.

I am very respectfully Sir Your Obt. Servt.

WM H CRAWFORD

THE ACTING SECRETARY OF WAR TO GOVERNOR CLARK

[NA:OIA,SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, 26th *March*, 1817.

Gov^r W^m CLARK, St Louis.

SIR, All the Indian agents within the Illinois territory, except the one at Green Bay, having been placed under the superintendence of the Governor of that territory, in pursuance of the letter of Mr. Crawford dated the 21st day of October, 1816,⁹⁴ your superintendency will, therefore, be necessarily confined to the agencies within the Missouri territory. You will take the necessary measures for causing those agents to make their reports, and render their accounts, thro' you, to this department. All bills (except for their own pay) drawn by them on this department, must receive your

⁹² *Ante*, p. 247.

⁹³ NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7), presenting Rector's request for a further credit of \$20,000 with the receiver at Vincennes.

⁹⁴ *Ante*, p. 197. See similar letter, same date, *Terr. Papers* (Ill.), xvii, 417-418.

sanction before they can be paid; and as all accounts in relation to Indian affairs are, in pursuance of a late law, to be settled at the Treasury by the 5th Auditor, it becomes necessary that the agents should, at the expiration of each quarter, draw for the expenses during the quarter; the amount to be included, as far as practicable, in the same bill, accompanied by a letter of advice, and a particular account of the expenditures; which expenditures should receive your approbation.

The state of the appropriation for the Indian department, requires the most strict and rigorous oeconomy in the expenditures; those for rations and presents, have very much exceeded the amount, which the appropriations of the present year will admit, and will, therefore, require very considerable reductions. The regulations prescribed by this department on the 7th day of May, 1816,⁹⁵ in relation to the issues of rations to Indians, should be strictly adhered to; and you should cause a report of the amount of issues of rations, at each post within the territory, to be made to you. The whole amount of the expenditure for the Indian department within the Missouri territory, including rations, presents, contingencies, salaries of agents &c. must be limited to twenty five thousand dollars per annum; and you will apportion this sum among the several agencies, in such manner as you may think proper.

Mr. McKenney will be instructed to forward to you six thousand dollars worth of goods, as presents. He will, also, forward the amount of annuities payable to the Indians in the Missouri territory. Those for the Sacs and Foxes will, for the present year, be sent to St Louis, as it is uncertain in which of the territories, the greater part of those tribes reside.⁹⁶ Governor Edwards and yourself will agree on the point where they are, in future, to be delivered, and advise this department thereof.

The orders of this department, dated the 21st of October, 1816, requiring the agents to reside within their respective agencies,⁹⁷ must be strictly enforced. It is observed, that Mr. Forsyth, who

⁹⁵ NA (OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. C), addressed to Governors Cass, Posey, Edwards, and Clark, and to Indian agents, stating that new checks were rendered necessary to guard against the extraordinary issue of rations to Indians at military posts and at Indian agencies. Cf. *Terr. Papers* (Mich.), x, 633. See also the Secretary of War to Indian agents, Oct. 4, 1816 (NA, *op. cit.*), warning against a too liberal policy of gifts of supplies to Indians, and requesting information for action by Congress.

⁹⁶ See McKenney to Clark, June 10, 1817 (NA, OIT, Supt. Lets. Sent, Bk. D), enclosing invoices of merchandise in the amount and for the purposes mentioned.

⁹⁷ Printed, *Terr. Papers* (Ill.), xvii, 417-418.

was ordered to report to Gov^r Edwards,⁹⁸ is still at S^t Louis. If you have any occasion for his services within your territory, you can employ him; if not, discharge him.

Mr. O'Fallon appears to have been placed on the register, as Indian Agent by mistake, as he never received any appointment, as such, from this department;⁹⁹ it was intended to have employed him, had the additional appropriation of fifty thousand dollars asked for, on account of the Indian department, been made; if, however, his services are considered necessary, and you find that you can pay his salary from the amount allotted for the expenditure of the Indian department within the Missouri Territory, you are at liberty to do so.¹

I have the honor &c.

GEORGE GRAHAM, A.S.W.

THOMAS L. MCKENNEY TO GEORGE C. SIBLEY

[NA:OIT, Supt. Lets. Sent, Bk. D]

Office of Ind^a Trade GEO TOWN *March 26, 1817*

GEORGE C. SIBLEY Esq^r U S F Osage

D^r SIR, It seems that the amount of Merchandise delivered by you to the great and little Osages is two thousand Dollars, instead of Three Thousand Dollars being the amount due them, for the years 1815 & 16—That is, two annuities to the Great Osages, each for \$1000—and two to the little Osages; each for \$500.—

Will you have the goodness to inform me as early as possible, of the cause of the difference.

Respectfully &c

T. L. M^cK S.I.T.

See the treaty concluded 10 Nov. 1808. art 5.

JOHN JAMISON TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD,SW, Lets. Recd., J83:ALS]

Indian Agency Natchitoches 31st *March 1817*

SIR, Hordes of hunters and licentious traders have entered the Indian Villages and camps on red River above this place, who bids defiance to the laws of the United States, of which the Indians have frequently complained, and it is impossible to restrain them by the ordinary course—I have therefore found it necessary to call on the Commanding officer of this Post, for a force Sufficient to

⁹⁸ June 17, 1815, printed *ibid.*, p. 189.

⁹⁹ Benjamin O'Fallon's appointment to the post in question occurred Mar. 8, 1819, *post*, p. 520.

¹ Answered, *post*, p. 260.

expel these intruders. In a day or two we shall leave this place with a Detachment, and may proceed as far as Pecan point, and I hope we shall be able to teach some of those intruders what sort of respect ought to be paid to the laws of our Country—It became necessary to purchase two horses; one for my Interpreter, and one to pack, and I have drawn for the Amount (\$100) but in my letter of advice, I could not be sufficiently explicit, because it would discover our plan and perhaps defeat our object—No objections (I hope) therefore will be made, and the Bill will be duly honored. The disaffection of the Caddo chief (mentioned in my last) I believe has arose from the Want of protection, and the course I am about to take will convince him, that the Government will try to remedy the evils he has long complained of. and perhaps restore confidence

I have the honor To be respectfully Your Ob^t Sev^t

JOHN JAMISON Indian Agent

THE HON^l THE SEC^y OF WAR

[*Endorsed*] Natchitoches 31 March 1817. John Jamison Advises that there is a horde of Traders on Red River which he is about to expel—Hopes to satisfy the Caddo chief—Has drawn for \$100. May 1817.²

JOSIAH MEIGS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, II]

G L O 15 Ap^l 1817.

W^m RECTOR Esq^r S^t Louis,

SIR Your two letters of 9th Ult^o ³ one of 16th ⁴ twenty four township plats & descriptions, & Silas Bent's patent have been received. I find that the patent was erroneously filled up forty six A^s 2 R 20 P^s— The Certificate is for 56.2.20 but the word fifty is so written, that it looks like forty. The deliverery of the Patent is suspended till you furnish a description of it by lot township & Range.

Your letter of 12th January, & plats & descriptions were duly received,⁵ & the receipt was acknowledged on the 22nd feb^r ⁶

I am gratified by learning that the surveys in General are going on satisfactorily to you, & that both bounty lands private claims, & Lands for market, will be surveyed within a year.

² See *post*, p. 300.

³ Both in NA (GLO, Mo SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822), relating to the Illinois military lands; one is printed, *Terr. Papers* (Ill.), xvii, 489.

⁴ *Ante*, p. 252.

⁵ Printed, *Terr. Papers* (Ill.), xvii, 468-469.

⁶ NA (GLO, Lets. to SG, II).

If the Madrid claimants, urge their locations prematurely, they will be nothing nearer obtaining their patents. Their pretensions to locate on town & Village Commons, commonfield Lands &c are futile, those lands have been confirmed to the proprietors, & you should not permit any locations upon them. I approve of your determination not to furnish the Madrid claimants with any documents to enable them to apply for patents until you have clearly ascertained that their locations do not interfere with prior claims.

They are "authorized to locate on any of the public Lands of the said Territory, the sale of which is authorized by Law," certainly lands confirmed to other persons are not of that description, nor do I think that Lands which the President has not directed to be prepared for sale, can with propriety be considered of that description.

On the 25 Ult^o ⁷ I informed you that a Credit of \$20.000 was opened for you at Vincennes, keep me advised of the sum you will probably want, & the times when wanted.

I am &c

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO GOVERNOR CLARK

[NA:PO, P. M. Letter Book U]

10 May 1817

HIS EXCELLENCY WILLIAM CLARK St. Louis Missou. Terry.

SIR. I have received your letter of the 14th Ult.^s and the petition there inclosed from Atakapes, the subject therein referred to, shall be immediately attended too, the mails to your Territory have now become regular.

R. J. MEIGS Jr

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

10th May 1817.

HON: W^m H CRAWFORD Secretary of the Treasury

SIR, I have the honor to transmit herewith a letter from Fred^k Bates Recorder of Land Titles at S^t Louis,⁹ with a Copy of an Act of the Legislature of Missouri Territory relative to Schools;¹⁰ it appears by the letter that the Treasury depar^t directed him to

⁷ NA (GLO, Lets. to SG, II).

⁹ Not found.

¹⁰ Mar. 10, 1817 (not found).

¹⁰ Approved Jan. 30, 1817 (Mo. TERR. LAWS, 1816-1817, pp. 70-72). Cf. *post*, p. 546.

communicate any acts of the Legislature that might seem to interfere with the authority of the Federal Government.

I am &c.

GOVERNOR CLARK TO THE ACTING SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD,SW, Lets. Recd., C237:ALS]

Missouri Territory S^t LOUIS May 15th 1817

SIR Your letter of the 26th of March I had the honor of receiving¹¹—As relates to the Subject of Indian Agents and Confining my Superintendence to the Territory, I must beg leave to refer you to my letters of the 28th of December¹² & 20th of April last,¹³ and the letter herewith inclosed from Gov^r Edwards;¹⁴ by which you will see that the Indian tribes above the ~~Ousquansen~~ ~~River~~ Socks and within this Territory is left without an Agent.—

To keep up a friendly intercourse &c with the Seoux and other Tribes within that Section of the Country being very important, (particularly at this time)—I have under the authority of your letter of the 26 of March, employed M^r Benjamin oFallon as an Indian Agent for those Tribes, and must request you to Commission him—M^r oFallon being a nephew, raised by myself; I shall say nothing more in his favor than nearly state that the appointment is a good one—

The result of an understanding between Gov^r Edwards and myself is, that the Sock & Fox Tribes shall remain under the Superintendence of the Governor of this Territory; Those Tribes having Sold all their lands East of the Mississippi to the United States, policy seems to dictate to us that, they should be drawn from those lands into the Country they claim.—

Those arrangements of the Indians and their agents produce no demunition of expence in this Territory; as relates Indian relations, and the allowance of \$25,000 to cover the expenditures for the Indian Department within the Missouri Territory (as mentioned in your letter) will not, in my oppinion be Sufficient; as it is necessary to raise the pay of Some of the officers (particularly interpreters) to enable me to get Such as can be depended upon, and other necessary expences have increased since the late war, however, I shall use every economey in those expenditures with a view of reducing them within the limit.

¹¹ *Ante*, p. 255.

¹² Not found.

¹³ Not found.

¹⁴ May 2, 1817; present.

Your letter of the 1st of April,¹⁵ I had the honor of receiving by yesterdays mail in which you 'Request, that Such precautionary measures be taken as may be deemed necessary to prevent, if possible, the meditated hostilities between the Cherokees and Osage; and that the Osage be induced to make Satisfaction for the murders with which they are charged.'

Mr Reubin Lewis the Agent for the Cherokees of the Arkansaw Shall receive the necessary instructions for carrying into effect the views of the Government, as relates to that part of the Cherokee Nation, as far as practicable.—

The Osage agent is at this time at their village and has been ordered to demand of that Tribe the murderers of our Citizens, and the restoration of property taken from the late Major Loveley and other Settlers of this Territory—and as the Osage leave their Villages about this time for their long hunt, it will be impossible for me to effect any arrangement with them untill they return¹⁶

Permit me to observe that the Bands of the great Osage are distant near 200 miles from each other, and are more vicious than they formerly ware—They have killed our Citizens and frequently whip, and plunder them, Those who Commit those outrages keep out of the way of punishment by passing from one band to another, and their Cheifs have not power to deliver them up, in Conformity with their Treaty. The War which the Cherokees & Osage are now engaged in (and which it will not be in my power to stop for some time) may produce (at this time) a favourable effect.—

The Tribes of the upper Mississippi & towards the Lakes have been endustriously imployd in effect'g an understanding with all the Neighbouring Tribes, and the Osage have been invited to enter into the General league.—

Experience has proved to me that a General peace amongst the Indian Tribes is a Signal for difculties with the whites.—& As a pacific Check on the vicious bands I found it was absolutely necessary to inculcate the most friendly intercourse with the large bands of the Missouri, keeping them and the Tribes imediately in our Settlements from a familiar intercourse with the other Tribes who Cannot be relyed upon, even in times of peace.—

¹⁵ NA (OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D), enclosing a copy of a letter from Meigs, the Cherokee agent, and instructing that measures be taken to avert hostilities between the Cherokee and Osage Indians by inducing the Osages to make satisfaction for the murders committed by members of that nation.

¹⁶ See McKenney to Sibley, Sept. 24, 1817 (NA, OIT, Supt. Lets. Sent, Bk. D), advising that there were notices in the public papers of the excitement of the Cherokee against the Osage, and wishing to know the probable effect on the Osage trading house.

Mr Benjamin O'Fallon has just returned from the Seoux of the Upper Mississippi and has favoured me with the enclosed report which I beg leave to refer to you ¹⁷

I have the Honor to be Your Mo Ob^t H^l Sert

WM CLARK

THE HON^{ble} GEO. GRAHAM Esq^r Acting Sect^r of War

[Addressed] The Hon^{ble} Secretary of War

[Endorsed] St Louis May 15th 1817. Gov^r W^m Clarke In relation to an Agent to the Osage Indians—the establishment of a post &c Sep^r 1817.

[Enclosure: ALS]

Benjamin O'Fallon to Governor Clark

St LOUIS May 10th 1817

SIR, In conformity with your request of the 22^d Sept^r ¹⁸ to keep a strict watch over British Traders of the upper Mississippi and the Conduct, disposition, and Situation of the Indians in that quarter, Which I received after my arrival on the Chipewyan River—I beg leave to make the following report—

On reaching Prairie du Chein my surprise and disappointment was in the extreme, in meeting with numerous British Traders (equipped with Licences under the authority of my Government) whose Conduct during the late Indian War, was the most unprincipald the most inhumane, and disgracefull to Civilised man. Suspicious Characters, the very men that had been instrumental in the destruction of maney of the women and Children of our frontiers, I found were licensed Traders and ready to take a dishonorable part, in distressing and Checking the progress of the American enterprise. They Spared no pains in their power, in throwing every obstacle in my way, they endeavoured to monopolize the Interpreters by offering those they had no employment for, extravagant wages, to remain at their homes, provided they rendered the American Trader no assistance.—Being aware of my hopeless situation, and determined not to yield in the smalest degree, I had recourse to Maj^r Morgan—who with the hand of a soldierly American placed me on such a footing as to authorise the prosicution of my voyage

¹⁷ Answered July 11, 1817 (NA, OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D), that in the absence of the President a commission could not be issued to O'Fallon but that the latter could act in the meantime; and advising that of the total estimate of \$300,000 submitted for Indian agents throughout the country, Congress had granted but \$200,000 and therefore there must be a limit to the number of agents.

¹⁸ Not found.

On reaching the first Suix village, situated on the Ioway river, I was received and treated with such apparent coolness and disrespect, by the Leaf (or Wabashah) Chief of the village and British favourite as to induce me to believe that the prosecution of my voyage would be attended with danger and difficulty.—After addressing him as become an American, I gave him a pipe of Tobacco and proceeded on—

On reaching the head of Lake Pippin, at which place a Smaller village is situated, in Charge of the Red Wing or Tatungamaneé Father to him that visited some of the U—States and heads of department, I was received and treated with such apparant friendship and respect, as to induce me (after every assurance of a continuation of the same) to make an establishment on the Chipe-
wyan River, at which place I wintered after having sent my Clerk with a suitable equipment into the S^t Peters for the purpose of wintering with and near several Band of Souixs at and near the entrance of that river.

It did not require a long time to discover that the Souixs had not been fully represented to the American Commissioners, as some of the principal Cheifs and most influential men had been taken to Fort Drummond by Dickson of the British Ind^a Department—

In all of my Counsils (tho a Trader) I spoke in behalf of my government and with that candour and independence, I thought best calculated to forward its views. I flater myself that I have made a favourable and desernable impression on the minds of some of the less corrupted—Be assured that I complied strictly with your request by keeping a watchfull eye over the feelings of the Indians, disposition and conduct of the faithless Mackanack Traders—From appearances and Indian reports the Mackanack Traders left no means untried in endeavouring to make the minds of the Indians more corrupt, distroy the little influence the Americans had acquired over some few, & have me the only American in that Country distroy'd.

No doubt exists in my mind but that the 45 Chipewyans (who visited me during the winter) between whom and the Souixs I effected a peace were sent by some of the vilanious British Traders of the North west, to massacre, or rob me: they during a stay of three days shewed every disposition to commit murder or robbery which (I am induced to believe) was prevented by the unexpected arrival of the Souixs—

On the first of March I received a letter from a M^r Aitken of Sandy Lake enclosing one from a M^r William Morrison Agent for the South West Company at that place to the officer Commanding the U. States Troops on the Mississipi, Stating that the said Mor-

rison had been plundered by the British of all of the Property entrusted to his Charge, and that timely relief was expected—In about ten days after forwarding the letter, I was informed by the Souixs that the 45 Chipewyans before mentioned had killed all of the Americans on Sandy Lake, about twelve in number—The British are making vast exertions to have a good understanding between the Souixs & Chipewyans for the purpose of enabling the former to trade with the British Company through the chanel of the S^t Louis & Red River independent of our government The greater portion of the Souixs of the upper Mississippi together with all Indians I have seen to the North West, are under British influence, and without proper measures are taken by our Government to destroy it, the most serious consequences may result to the American traders who may push their enterprise into those distant parts of the Territory; and this important nation more suited than any others to act as a check to the other smaler Tribes, may alternately be induced to act in opposition to the views of the government, who in right should have a claim on their friendship and services

The Souixs are one of the most numerous of the Indⁿ Tribes, scatered over an immense extent of country, which is but little more than sand, gravel, flints and stone, wood scarce and of an unthrifty groath.

An Indian Agent to properly represent and forward the views of Government, must be a man of the most daring persevering and enterprising character—

As the most influential Cheifs of that immense and scatered nation, the Souixs of the upper Mississippi have never as yet visited the U. States, I think it of the highest importance that a few of those should visit the President together with some of the most populous States and Citys to enable them to see the wealth and Population which they can not be induced to believe is equal to what they have seen in Canada—Be assured that the experience I have acquired by having to Surmount difficulties, induces me to believe that it will be a vain struggle to attempt the change of the treacherious savage, so long as unprincipald British Traders are permitted to trade within our Territory. If it was understood that the British Traders would not be permitted to trade within our Territory, it is my opinion that American Traders would supply their places, as it does not require the Capital to supply the Tribes of the upper Mississippi, which it has been erroneously stated, Thirty five thousand Dollars will be quite sufficient (independent of the trade of Praire du Chein) for the consumption of all from Prarie du Chein to the head of the S^t Peters—The Souixs have seven

principal Bands, and it will be necessary that each Band be furnished with a Trader for the present, tho several of those Bands, (say three) would be convenient to the mouth of St Peters and might be induced to Trade there after a year or two—

Be assured that an Agent to properly represent and foward the views of government, must be an American in both Blood & Principle—

The Tame and Humbled maner in which some of our Indⁿ Agents have been in the habit of addressing the Indians, only tend to disgrace themselves and government in the eye of the Savage, and check the progress of a reformation—

On passing Rock Iseland (on my return) I was informed by the officer Commanding that post, that the Sacks, Foxes, Winnebagoes, twelve Osages and some few of the most of the neighbouring Tribes, had assembled at the Sack Village near the entrance of Rock river, Counsiling for the purpose of having a good understanding between all of the red Skins, and as I do believe to enable them to decide on some important meassure—Below that place I met with several British Traders who had been with that treacherious nation the Sacks, but could get no disclosures from them—From the best information I have been enabled to obtain, I find that the Traders who are Frenchmen, pass themselves for Canadian English, by which means they meet with that success, which those who are known to be Americans are strangers to—I can sorely express my feelings when I become acquainted with the maney vilanious deceptions those men have practiced upon my Countrymen

I consider it of the highest importance that the American Traders should be made acquainted with the decissions of the government on the subject of the admission of British Traders into the Indian Country, as it is not to be presumed that the American Traders would be willing to enter into competition with the British Traders of the upper Mississippi—I must obseve that I saw Dickson of the British Indⁿ Dep^t at Prarie du Chein, as I passed down—From appearances the Ind^{na} devoted to him, he sais that he has from the President of the U. States a permission to visit the different Indian Tribes and Counsil with them, his conduct since in the Indⁿ Country has been somewhat suspicious, and it is certain that an unfavourable revolution has taken place with the Indians Generally.

I have the honor to be very respectfully Y^r Mo Ob^t Hb^l Servt
BENJ^a O'FALLON

GOV^r WILLIAM CLARK

P. S. It may not be amiss to observe that the same Duncan Graham who conducted the Sack War, received a passport from

the Agent at Mackanack to go by the way of the Mississippi (passing through the Souix tribes) to the British Companies on the Red river—The objects of this man and party, can be best judged by yourself Y^{rs} &^{ca} B. O'F.

[*Endorsed*] M^r oFallons report

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO ROBERT SIMPSON

[NA:PO, P. M. Letter Book U]

16th May 1817

R SIMPSON Esq^r P. M. St. Louis Missou.

SIR, I have yours of the 8th Ult.¹⁰ the delays or failures of the eastern mail are I trust before this remedied. Congress has not reestablished a post route from Vincennes to St. Louis. I cannot send a mail thereon without their authority, the Arkansa rider is represented to be indolent and negligent, please to so inform him, new appointments for that route are forwarded.

R. J. MEIGS Jr.

GOVERNOR CLARK TO WILLIAM BOWYER

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

Missouri Territory S^t LOUIS May 17th 1817

DEAR SIR Permit me to introduce to you my friend Major Robert Wash a young Gentleman of fine talents, He intends visiting several of the Seaport Towns, and will take your place in his Rout, any Services you may have in your power to render him will be received with pleasure by him and confer an obligation on—

Your Most Ob. H^l Ser^t

W^m CLARK

WILLIAM BOWYER Esq^r Baltimore

[*Endorsed*] Robert Wash

GOVERNOR CLARK TO THE PRESIDENT

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

Missouri Territory SAINT LOUIS May 19th 1817

DEAR SIR I beg leave to introduce to your acquaintance my friend Maj^r Robert Wash who is on a visit to Several of the Seaport Towns and will take the City of Washington in his Rout. Major Wash has every amiable qualification to endear him to society, He

¹⁰ Not found.

has practiced as attorney at Law for Several years in this Territory with Credit to himself and satisfaction to his Clients.

Maj^r Wash acted as Secretary to the Commissioners for treating with the indians of the Mississippi, He is well acquainted with this Territory & it's resources ²⁰—

I have the honour to be very sincerely Your Most ob H Ser^t
W^m CLARK

Mr MONROE

[Endorsed] Wash R. recomd 1817.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo., SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822:ALS]

Surveyors Office S^t LOUIS May 19th 1817

SIR Knowing the uncertainty of the mail from Washington to this place: I am induced herewith to transmit a Copy (in Substance) of a letter that I addressed to you by the last mail.

Within a week past several of the Deputy Surveyors after completing the Surveys they had undertaken to perform have returned to this neighborhood & are now engaged in making out their returns. I still am of opinion that I shall be able to transmit to the General Land Office before the first of July next Plats & Descriptions of all the military bounty Lands, as well as a large quantity of Lands for Sale.

I am with much respect Sir Your Ob^t Servt
W^m RECTOR.

THE HONBL^e JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office Washington City

[Addressed] The Honbl^e Josiah Meigs Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office Washington City Free

[Endorsed] 19 May 1817 W^m Rector will return surveyors plats by 1 July

[Enclosure]

William Rector to Josiah Meigs

Surveyors office ST LOUIS May 12 1817—

SIR I recd by the last mail your letter of the 25th March ²¹ in which you inform me that the Secretary of the Treasury has given me a credit of Twenty Thousand dollars with Natha^l Ewing Re-

²⁰ A similar letter, dated May 20, 1817, was carried by Wash from Governor Edwards, of Illinois Territory (NA, SD, Applications). He was also recommended by John Scott in a letter to the Secretary of State, Feb. 2, 1818, *loc. cit.*

²¹ NA (GLO, Lets. to SG, II).

ceiver of public monies at Vincennes—I also rec^d by the same mail your letter of the 15th April ²² in which you instruct me to keep you advised of the sums that will probably be wanted to pay for Surveys and the times when wanted—I beg leave to refer you to my letter of the 8th Decr.²³ giving you an account of the Lands that I had made arrangements to Survey between that time and the first of July next—with an estimate of the expence of doing the work—by which it will be seen, that it was then supposed that the sum of ninety Thousand dollars (exclusive of the sums for which I then had credit at Shawneetown & Kaskaskia) would be required to pay for those Surveys before the first of July I now find that the whole of the deputy Surveyors (except a few between the St Francis & Arkansas Rivers whose Districts consisted of Swamps & Marshes & rugged poor stony hills that are not worth surveying) will complete their contracts Consiquently nearly the whole of the ninety Thousand dollars will immediately be wanting to pay for the Surveys. In my letter of the 8th of Decr. I mentioned Kaskaskia Shawneetown Jeffersonville and Vincennes as the most convenient places for deputy Surveyors to receive their fees at But not knowing what sums of public money was in the possession of the several receivers I did not mention what sums I would like to have credit for at each of those Land offices—In my letter of the 23^d Dec.²⁴ in reply to yours of the 22 Nov^r ²⁵ I asked for a credit of 15000\$ at Edwardsville for the purpose of paying for the surveys of private claims & the adjacent public lands, which would probably be surveyed during the present year—The sales of lands has been greater at Edwardsville than I antisipated at the date of my letter; as that place is very convenient to my office I should like to have a credit for as large a sum as the Receiver will be able to pay, I understand that he is now in possession of more than Twenty Thousand dollars of public money. Kaskaskia and Shawneetown are the next most convenient Land offices after which Jeffersonville The Twenty Thousand dollars to be got at Vincennes will not near pay for the Surveys that have been and will in the course of the present week be presented at this office for payment I shall divide the money amongst them & they must wait for their respective balances untill I am furnished with the means of paying them

I am with much respect Sir

W^m RECTOR

THE HONBL^e J. MEIGS

²² *Ante*, p. 258.

²³ *Ante*, p. 211.

²⁴ Printed, *Terr. Papers* (III.), xvii, 457.

²⁵ NA (GLO, Lets. to SG, II).

PRYOR QUARLES TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., R:ALS]

RICHMOND Va May 21st 1817

SIR Having made some purchases of land, in the Territory of Missouri; I beg the liberty of submitting a few questions, to which your attention is respectfully solicited.

Will the patents for land, held under compleat Spanish grants, be issued in the name of the original claimant from the Spanish Government; or will they issue to the present owner, he making it appear, that he is the rightfull owner by a clear chain of conveyance?

Will New Madrid claims, located on incompleat Spanish Grants, unconfirmed at this time, by the United States Government, be valid?

By giving me information on these points (by letter directed to this place) you will very much oblige your obt Svt

PRYOR QUARLES

HONBLE MR MEIGS Gen^l Land office

[Addressed] The Hon^{ble} J. Meigs Commissioner Gen^l Land office Washington City [Postmarked] Rich^d Va May 21 12

[Endorsed] 21 May 1817 Pryor Quarles wants informatⁿ de Missouri claims Ans^d 24th 28

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO A. RITCHEY

[NA:PO, P. M. Letter Book U]

24th May 1817

A RITCHEY Esq^r P. M. Davidson or Laurence C. H. Missou Tery.

SIR, I have yours of the 19th Ult.²⁷ to better accommodate Arkansas with the mail, I sometime since authorised the departure of the mail from Mine ou Burton instead of S^t Louis, I cannot send that mail from S^t Genevieve without the authority of Congress. We have no spare maps of the United States in the office.

R. J. MEIGS J.

C. H. PRICE TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., P:ALS]

ST MICHAEL Missouri Territory May 24 1817—

DEAR SIR Travelling thro this territory, and observing great irregularity in the obtaining of Land Claims by getting what they

²⁶ NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7), referring him to Frederick Bates.

²⁷ Not found.

call the getting their Lands confirmed I wish to know whether there is law now in force whereby a resident under the old Spanish government or others can hold or have right to two or more Sections of land by having made one improvement or bought one made under the Spanish Government as there are several very valuable Sections here that have been confirmed in that manner If there is such a law they of right hold their lands if not should they be trifled away or rather should individuals be allowed the privilege of possessing themselves of our best lands by no right at all If I have been rightly informed I should suppose that there have been lands confirmed to the amount of several thousand dollars to which the holders have no more right than the Prince Regent of England. These things are trifling to believe but small defects sometimes deserve attention I positively know that one man has lands Confirmed worth six thousand dollars by buying two small improvements made under the Spanish Government and the land on which the improvements were made is not now worth two dollars pr Acre at most I have here simply stated what I know to be a fact and am able to support what ever may be said to the contrary, Yours &c

C H PRICE

JOSIAH MEIGS

[*Endorsed*] 24 May 1817 C H Price de holders of Land in Missouri Ans^d 15 July ²⁸

CHARLES LUCAS TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Misc. Letters:ALS]

S^t LOUIS *May* 25th 1817

SIR. I have had the honor to receive enclosed to me by the Department of State of the United States, a Commission from the late president as attorney of the United States for the Territory of Missouri ²⁹

This appointment I accept,

I have the honor to be Sir, with great Respect Your most ob^t Serv^t

CHARLES LUCAS

THE HON^{ble} THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE U. S.

²⁸ NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7), informing him that any person may legally hold several tracts of confirmed land.

²⁹ See *ante*, p. 248.

POST ROUTE ADVERTISEMENT³⁰

[PO: Proposals for Mail Contracts, 1808-1818]

[May 26, 1817]

IN ILLINOIS AND MISSOURI.

185. From Shawnoetown by United States Saline, Jordon's, Great Muddy River, Little Muddy River, Coxe's, on Beaucoup River, and Kaskaskia to St. Genevieve once a week, 120 miles.

Leave Shawanoetown every Saturday at 2 *p.m.* and arrive at St. Genevieve the next Tuesday by 6 *p.m.* Leave St. Genevieve every Wednesday at 6 *a.m.* and arrive at Shawanoetown on Saturday by 10 *a.m.*

186. From Smithland, K. by Fort Massac and Tywappety to Cape Girardot once a week, 73 miles.

Leave Smithland every Saturday at 6 *a.m.* and arrive at Cape Girardot on Sunday by 3 *p.m.* Leave Cape Girardot every Thursday at 6 *a.m.* and arrive at Smithland on Friday by 6 *p.m.*

187. From Kaskaskia by Prairie du Rocher, St. Philip, Harrisonville, Herculaneum, Cahokia and St. Louis to St. Charles once a week, 84 miles.

Leave Kaskaskia every Wednesday at 6 *a.m.* arrive at Herculaneum by 5 *p.m.* arrive at Cahokia on Thursday by 2 *p.m.* and arrive at St. Charles on Friday by 10 *a.m.* Leave St. Charles every Sunday at 3 *p.m.* arrive at Herculaneum on Tuesday by 6 *a.m.* and arrive at Kaskaskia on Tuesday by 6 *p.m.*

188. From St. Charles by Missouri Crossings, St. Johns, Price's, Bibbs and Big Bonne Femme to Howard c.h. once in two weeks, 173 miles.

Leave St. Charles every other Monday at 6 *a.m.* and arrive at Howard c.h. on Saturday by 6 *p.m.* Leave Howard c.h. on Tuesday at 6 *a.m.* and arrive at St. Charles on Friday by 6 *p.m.*

189. From St. Louis by Herculaneum, Potosi, St. Michaels, Doct. Betie's, Ballinger's, Currans, Laurens c.h. Cadrons on Arkansaw, Daniels, on Big Rock, to Arkansas Post Office once a week, 546 miles.

Leave St. Louis the first Friday in each Calender month, and arrive at Arkansas Post-Office, in 15 days, on Friday by 4 *p.m.*

³⁰ Unless otherwise stated in particular instances, the routes described in this advertisement were covered by a blanket authorization to the Postmaster General in section 3 of an act approved Apr. 18, 1814 (3 STAT. 132), to take steps to accommodate any settled community deemed necessary until such time as provision should be made by law.

Leave Arkansas Post-Office the next day Saturday at 6 a.m. and arrive at St. Louis in 15 days, on Saturday by 6 p.m.

190. From Cahokia by Madison c.h. St. Clair and Clinton Hill to Cahokia once a week, 50 miles. 25.³¹

Leave Cahokia every Thursday at 3 p.m. and arrive at Clinton Hill on Friday by noon. Leave Clinton Hill every Friday at 1 p.m. and arrive at Cahokia by 6 p.m.

191. From Herculanum by Mine au Burton to St. Genevieve once a week, 80 miles.

Leave Herculanum every Tuesday at 6 a.m. and arrive at St. Genevieve on Wednesday by 6 p.m. Leave St. Genevieve every Thursday at 6 a.m. and arrive at Herculanum on Friday by 6 p.m.

192. From St. Genevieve by Big Shawanoe, Little Shawanoe, Cape Girardot and Winchester to New Madrid once a week, 115 miles.

Leave St. Genevieve every Wednesday at 6 a.m. and arrive at New Madrid on Friday by 6 p.m. Leave New Madrid every Saturday at 8 a.m. and arrive at St. Genevieve on Monday by 6 p.m.

193. From Kaskasia by Johnson c.h. Big Bay Settlement and Ferguson's Ferry to Salem,³² once in two weeks, 129 miles.

Leave Kaskaskia every other Wednesday at 6 a.m. and arrive at Salem on Saturday by 6 p.m. Leave Salem on Sunday at 6 a.m. and arrive at Kaskaskia on Tuesday by 6 p.m.

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO DAVID LOGAN

[NA:PO, P.M. Letter Book U]

28 May 1817

DAVID LOGAN Esq^r P. M. St Francis Missou Ty.

SIR, Yours of the 22^d is received.³³ I will thank you to tell the Arkansa mail carrier, that if he does not call at all established offices on his route whether they are or are not inserted in his contract, that I shall require his dismissal.

R. J. MEIGS Jr.

³¹ Authorized by an act approved Apr. 18, 1814 (3 STAT. 132).

³² In Livingston County, Ky. See act approved Mar. 1, 1815 (3 STAT. 222).

³³ Not found.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, II]

G L O 29 May 1817.

W^m RECTOR Esq^{re} Surveyor &c S^t Louis

SIR Your two letters of 5th Ins^t ³⁴ & your accounts for two quarters (ending 31 March last) have been received; the accounts have been sent to the Auditor. On the 25th March I advised you that the Secretary of the Treasury had given you a Credit with the Receiver of Public Monies at Vincennes for twenty thousand dollars, ³⁵ & on the 15th of April that advice was repeated, ³⁶ & the receipt of 24 township plats was acknowledged: those letters do not appear to have reached you on the 5th Ins^t

If you give early notice of the sums that you will want, & the times when wanted, there will be no necessity for your resorting to your own funds to pay for Surveys, or to make advances to Surveyors.

I have no authority to permit you to make any charges but what are allowed by law, & if any other should be made, they would be rejected by the accounting officers of the Treasury Department.

On the 2nd of January ³⁷ I informed you that your letter of 9th December ³⁸ (relative to your Compensation) had been laid before the Secretary of the Treasury—I presume he sent to Congress, & I believe the want of time alone prevented your Compensation being encreased by law.

The books for recording surveys were deposited some time ago in the Indian Office here, to be forwarded to the Military Agent at Pittsburgh, to be by him transmitted to you.

I am &c.

SECRETARY BATES TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Mo. Terr. Papers: ADS]

Office of the Secretary of tery of Missouri,

ST LOUIS June 1. 1817.—

SIR, I have the honor to enclose a copy of the Acts of the General Assembly passed during the last session: ³⁹ Also an abbrevi-

³⁴ Both in NA (GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822). The first is a reply to Meigs by Rector, Feb. 20, 1817 (NA, GLO, Lets. to SG, II), and discusses the safest routes for sending returns, the failure of the bill for his relief, and charges for surveying public lands. The second is a routine letter enclosing accounts for the past year and relating in general to finances.

³⁵ NA (GLO, Lets. to SG, II).

³⁶ *Ante*, p. 213.

³⁷ *Ante*, p. 258.

³⁸ Not present.

³⁹ NA (GLO, Lets. to SG, II).

ated extract from the Executive Journal, of the appointments made by the Governor, during the six months preceding the 1st of April last.—The lateness of this communication is occasioned by the delay in the publication of the Laws.⁴⁰—

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, Sir, Your obedt Servant

FREDERICK BATES

THE HONORABLE THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
Washington City.

[Addressed] The Honorable The Secretary of the Department of State. Washington City—

[Endorsed] Frederick Bates Sec^y of the Missouri T. June 1. 1817.

[Enclosure]

*Executive Proceedings of Missouri Territory October 1, 1816—
March 31, 1817*

Appointment by the Governor of the territory of Missouri from 1st October 1816 to 31st March 1817.—

Civil

William Garner, Surveyor of the county of Cape Girardeau
Gray Bynum, Notary Public—Howard County.—

James Rankin a Justice of the Peace for township of Joachim—
St Louis County

Stephen Hempstead sen, Richard Chitwood, Thomas Musick, Justices of the Peace for township of St Ferdinand, in the County of St Louis.—

Joseph V. Garnier, Thomas Sappington, Justices of the Peace for the township of St Louis, in the County of St Louis

Jed^a Kendal, a Justice of the Peace for Joachim township—St Louis county—

William Long, And^m Kinkead, Justices of the Peace, Bon Homme township—St Louis county

Daniel Colgan, a Justice of the Peace for St Charles township—St Charles county.—

Ebenezer Ayres, a Justice of the Peace for Portage des Sioux township—St Charles County.

Geo C. Sibley, a Justice of the Peace for the several townships in Howard county.—

⁴⁰ Acknowledged post, p. 288.

W^m Kelso a Justice of the Peace for township of Tywapity—
County of Cape Girardeau
Jesse McDonnell, a Justice of the Peace for township of Labbadie,
C^y of St Louis
Geo Henderson, Jn^o Abernathie, Enoch Evans, Justices of the
Peace for the township of Cape Girardeau, county of Cape
Girardeau
Robert G. Watson, a justice of the Peace for the township of New
Madrid and Big Prairie, county of New Madrid.—
Enoch Liggett a Justice of the Peace township of Big Prairie,
county of New Madrid
Thomas Oliver, a Justice of the Peace township of Ste Genevieve,
County of Ste Genevieve
Joseph Cottle, a Justice of the Peace, township of Upper Cuivre,
County of St Charles
John Callaway, a Justice of the Peace, township of Femme Osage,
C^y St Charles
Henry S. Geyer, Circuit Att^y for Northern cir^t vice Robert Wash
resigned
John Callaway, a Justice of the Peace, St Michael township—
County of Ste Genevieve
Joseph Moore, a Justice of the Peace for same—same
Samuel Cooper—a Justice of the Peace for township and county
of New Madrid
Reuben Lewis, to adm^r Oaths of Office to Geo C. Sibley a Justice
of the Peace
John Baptiste Janis, Coroner for Ste Genevieve county
W^m Hicks, a Justice of the Peace for Current township—c^y of
Lawrence
W^m Looney, a Justice of the Peace, Columbia township—c^y of
Lawrence
Fergus Morrison, a Justice of the Peace, Lebanon township—c^y
of Lawrence
Richard Searcy Notary Public—for the terr^y to reside in c^y of
Lawrence
John Geren, coroner of the county of Lawrence
Joshua Norvell, Prosecuting Att^y for Arkansas County
Richard Searcy Clerk of the circuit court for Lawrence county
Edward Cero, a Justice of the Peace, township of Tywapity—c^y
New Madrid
Jesse Evans, a Justice of the Peace township of Cote Sans Dessein,
c^y St Charles
Joseph Hertick, a Justice of the Peace, township & c^y of Ste
Genevieve

John Osborn, a Justice of the Peace, township & c^y of New Madrid
 W^m McFarlane, a Justice of the Peace, Lamine township—c^y of
 Howard
 Anderson Woods, a Justice of the Peace, Minotaur township—c^y
 of Howard
 Jesse McDonnell, a Justice of the Peace, township of Labbadie—
 c^y of St Louis
 Benjⁿ Sharp, a Justice of the Peace—Femme Osage township—c^y
 of St Charles
 John Adams, a Justice of the Peace, Bonne Femme—c^y of Howard.
 George Burckhartt, a Justice of the Peace, same—c^y same
 Benjⁿ Cooper jr—a Justice of the Peace, Charleton township—c^y
 same
 W^m Craig, a Justice of the Peace, township of Upper Cuivre, county
 of St Charles
 Hugh McDermid, a Justice of the Peace, township of Femme
 Osage—c^y of St Charles
 Charles Patton, a Justice of the Peace, township of Richwoods—
 County of Washington
 James Campbell, Sheriff of the county of Lawrence

Militia Appointments

John Walker—Captain Robert Boyd 1st Lieu^t Joseph Westbrook
 2^d Lieu^t of 2^d com^y 2 Battⁿ 5th Reg^t 1st Brigade
 Philip Ross—Captain Hartwell Baldwin 1st Lieu^t Sam^l Lesel 2^d
 Lieu^t Tho^s Hignight Ensign of [blank] Com^y 1st Battⁿ 5th Reg^t
 Nathaniel Cook, Colonel command^t of 2^d Regiment
 John Donohue L^t Col^o of 2^d Regiment
 Henry Poston—Major of 2^d Battⁿ 2^d Regiment
 Wm Shaw—Cap^t John Burnham 1st Lieu^t 3^d Com^y 2^d Battⁿ 2^d
 Reg^t
 Benjamin Cooper, colonel command^t of 10th Regiment
 John Murphy—cap^t 2^d com^y 2^d Battⁿ of 2^d Regiment
 John Haynes—2^d Lieu^t 3^d com^y 2^d Battⁿ of 2^d Regiment.
 William H. Ashley col^o command^t Jacob Pettitt—Lt Col^o of 6th
 Regiment
 Thomas F. Riddick Col^o command^t Rene Paul Lt Col^o of 1st
 Regiment
 Peter Journey Col^o commandant of 3^d Regiment
 Jeduthun Kendall col^o command^t Abner Vansant Lt Colonel—of
 9th Regiment
 Stephen Byrd Colonel command^t George F. Bollinger Lt Colonel—
 of 4th Regiment

Stephen Ross colonel command^t Joseph Hunter Lt. colonel—of
5th Regiment

Anthony Haden col^o. command^t Daniel Mooney Lt colonel—of 7th
Regiment

Louis De Mun Col^o. command^t John Hines Lt Colonel—of 8th
Regiment

Robert Bean Major of 2^d Batt: of 8th Reg^t

Joseph Aubuchon capt 2^d com^y 2^d Battalion of 1st Reg^t

John Burk 1st Lt of 2^d com^y 2^d Batt^a of 1st Reg^t

David Burk 2^d Lt of 2^d com^y 2^d Batt^a of 1st Reg^t

Newton Piggott Ensign of 4th com^y 2^d Batt^a 1st Reg^t

John Allin Major [blank] Battalion of 1st Regiment

Lt Josiah Bright Adjutant of 1st Regiment

Lt Michael Tesson Pay Master of 1st Regiment—

Capt Guyol de Guiran quarter Master Joseph V Garnier Judge
Advocate—of 1st Regiment

John Collet—2^d Lieu^t of 2^d com^y of 1st Batt^a of 1st Reg^t

Joseph Rochblave Ensign of 2^d Com^y of 1st Batt^a of 1st Reg^t

Thomas McKnight Captain Alexander Papin 1st Lieutenant

Francis Chouteau 2^d Lieutenant Moses D Bates Ensign—3^d
com^y 1st Batt^a 1st Reg^t

Ephraim Town Ensign 1st Com^y 1st Battalion of 1st Regiment—

Secretary's Office ST LOUIS *April* 1st 1817

FREDERICK BATES

[*Endorsed*] Recd in M^r Bates' letter of June 1. 1817.

Table of civil Officers commissioned by the Governor of the terri-
tory of Missouri, and in Office on 1st April 1817.—

William Christy Auditor of territorial Accounts—

Peter Didier Treasurer

Clerks of the Superior Court—

Joseph V. Garnier Clerk of Northern Circuit—

Joseph McFerron Clerk of Southern Circuit—

John Dodge of Arkansas—

Joshua Norvell Prosecut^r Att^y for Arkansas.

Officers of the C^y Circuits—

David Barton Judge of Northern Circuit—

Henry S. Geyer Attorney.—

Richard S. Thomas Judge of the Southern Circuit—

Charles Hempstead Attorney—

COUNTY OF HOWARD

Gray Bynum Clk C^t Court—

Nich^s Burckhartt Shf: Geo Munro Coroner

Gray Bynum Not^r Pub^e Geo Jackson Surveyor

Justices of the Peace

George Jackson—Ja^s Allcorn, David McQuitty,—Stephen Cole—
John Munro—James Beatty—George C. Sibley,—William Mc-
Farlane—Anderson Woods—Gray Bynum—James Barns—
John Adams—George Burckhartt—Benjamin Cooper jr—Daniel B. Moore

COUNTY OF ST CHARLES

W^m Christy jr Clk Cir^t C^t and C^r C^t & of Sup^r Court for Cap^l Crim: offences.—

Ur^h Devore Shf:—Andr^w Wilson Coroner

Henry Hight Not^r Public—Jn^o Ferry Surveyor

Justices of the Peace

Femme Osage township. John B. Callaway—John Drury—Benj^a Sharp—Hugh M^oDermid

Portage des Sioux. Eben: Ayres—Fr^s Lesieur.

St Charles. Dan^l Colgan—Ja^s Green—And^w Wilson

Dardenne—Thomas D. Stephenson.

Upper Cuivre. Joseph Cottle—W^m Craig

Lower cuivre—Ira Cottle—Benj^a Emmons.

Sans Dessein—Jesse Evans.

COUNTY OF ST LOUIS

Mary P. LeDuc Clk. of C^t & C^r Court

Jn^o W. Thompson Sheriff—W^m Sullivan coroner

M. P. LeDuc Not Pub^e—Ja^s Rankin Surveyor

Justices of the Peace

Joachim township—James Rankin—Jeduthun Kendal—Elias Bates—Caleb Bowles—

St Louis,—Jn^o Sappington—Jere Connor—Manual A Rocques—Joseph Charless—Jos V Garnier Thomas F. Riddick

Labbadie—Ja^s Kegans—John Burchard Jesse McDonnell

Bon Homme—And^w Kinkead—Gab^l Long—W^m Long—

St Ferdinand—Rich^d Chitwood—Tho^s Musick—Jn^o E. Allin—Stephen Hempstead Sen—Sam^l Magill

Register of Boatmen—Mary P. LeDuc.—

COUNTY OF ST^e GENEVIEVE

Thomas Oliver Clerk of C^t Court.
H Dodge Sheriff—Jn^o B. Janis Coroner
Thomas Oliver Notary Public

Justices of the Peace

St^e Genevieve—Tho^s Oliver—Mich^l Amoureux—Jos: Bougy—
Henry Elliot—Joseph Hertick
Platten—Peter McComack—
St Michael—Jn^o Callaway—Joseph Moore Ch^s L. Byrd—Adam
Johnson—W^m Dillon Laken Walker.
St Come. Hez P. Harris—Ja^s Moore jr—W^m Flynn Ran^s Burns—
Benj^a Davis—Amos Byrd
Saline—John Barret—Henry Tucker
St Fr^s—David F. Marks—William Shaw.—

COUNTY OF WASHINGTON

John Brickey Clk of C^t & c^v Courts
Dan^l Dunklin Shf:—Jn^o Andrews Coroner.
Jn^o Brickey Not^y Pub. Jn^o Hawkins Surveyor

Justices of the Peace

Breton—Ja^s Austin—Sol^o Dally—Jn^o Brickey—Burwell J. Thomp-
son—W^m Harrison—And^w Miller
Big river—Jn^o Andrews—Geo McGahan—Henry Poston—William
Andrews—
Bellevue—Josiah H Bell—George Ashbrook
Richwoods—Louis Labeaume—Charles Patton—

COUNTY OF CAPE GIRARDEAU

Joseph McFerron Clk of C^t & c^v Courts
John Hays Shf:—David Green Coroner—
Geo Henderson Not^y Pub^o W^m Garner Surveyor

Justices of the Peace

German—Benj^a Shell—Radford Ellis—W^m Tinnon—Tho^s Nu-
berry—Jn^o H Mifflin—
Cape Girardeau—Geo Henderson—Jn^o Abernathie—Enoch
Evans—John H Madison—Geo H Scripps—Joseph Lewis—
Tywapity—William Kelso

St Francis—Jacob Kelly—Ezek Rubottom—John Sanders—
Byrd's—Jn^o Ellis—Tho Blain—Rob^t Green—Ja^s Russell—Tho^s
 Neal—Thomas Stewart—John Askin—John Byrd—

COUNTY OF NEW MADRID

Richard H Waters Clk of c^t & c^v Courts
 Stephen Ross Shf:—Robert Bartlett Coroner
 Geo Tennille Not^y Pub: Jos: Story Surveyor.

Justices of the Peace

Tywapity—Henry Cockran—James Lucas—George Dameron—
 Edward Cero—
Big Prairie—M. Armstrong—John Capps—Rich^d H Waters—Jos
 Rawlins—Geo West—Enoch Liggate—Mark H. Stallcup.
New Madrid—Ro^b Watson—Sam^l Cooper—Fr^s LeSieur—Robert
 D Dawson
Current River—William Russell—
Moreland—John Hall—Edward Tanner

COUNTY OF LAWRENCE

Lewis De Mun Clk of c^v Court Richard Searcy Clk c^t Court
 Ja^s Campbell Shf. Jn^o Gereu Coroner
 Rich^d Searcy Not^y Pub^e

Justices of the Peace

James Moore—George Gill—William Russell—Richard Murphy—
 Alex^r Hodge—Jacob Hudgens—George West—Fergus Morri-
 son—William Moore—Micajah Harris—William Hix—

COUNTY OF ARKANSAS

Patrick Cassidy Clk of c^v Court.—
 Dan^l Mooney Shf:—Lemuel Currin Coroner
 Patrick Cassidy Surveyor

Justices of the Peace

James Scull—Samuel Miller—Zach Philips Andrew Fagot—James
 Currin—Fred Notrebee John Carnehan—John Billingsley—
 Isaac Cates—Sam^l Gates—John McIlmurray—Wright Daniel
 John Dodge.—

TENURE OF OFFICE

Judges of the Circuit Courts—During good behaviour
 Clerks of courts—Dur^s tem^y Gov^t of ter^y unless removed by Court

Sheriffs—two Years, unless sooner removed by the Governor
Notaries Public—Good behaviour for five Years—
Justices of the Peace, for four Years, unless sooner removed by
Governor

Secretary's Office of the territory of Missouri
ST LOUIS *April 1st 1817*
FREDERICK BATES

[*Endorsed*] Extract from the Executive proceedings of the
Missouri T. Recd in M^r Bates' letter of June 1. 1817.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, II]

G L O *June 3^d 1817.*

WILL^m RECTOR Esq^{re} Survey^r Gen^l of Missouri & Illinois

SIR As it is earnestly wished by many that sales of Public
Lands at the Land Office at S^t Louis may commence at an early day,
I have to request that you will make returns to the Regis^r at that
Office, of Plats and Descriptions of 30 or 40 Townships, more or
less, as soon as possible.

You will please to inform me immediately what number of, &
what Townships can be thus prepared for sale, & of the time when,
that a Proclamation may issue for that purpose.⁴¹
I am &c.

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., Treasury:ALS]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT 4th *June 1817*

SIR, In conformity with the request contained in your letter of
the 2nd instant,⁴² I now enclose to you letters to the undermentioned
Receivers of Public Monies, directing them to pay to M^r Rector,
Cash for his bills on this Department to the several amounts fol-
lowing, viz^t

The Receiver at Edwardsville to furnish	D ^{rs} 15.000:—
The Receiver at Shawneetown " " . . "	15.000:—
The Receiver at Kaskaskia " " . . "	20.000:—
	<hr/> D ^{rs} 50.000:—

⁴¹ Answered *post*, p. 288.

⁴² NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7), transmitting a letter from Rector
containing request for an immediate credit of \$70,000 with the receivers at
Edwardsville, Kaskaskia or Shawneetown, and Jeffersonville.

I have also directed the Treasurer to remit to M^r Rector at S^t Louis, a draft on Jonathan Smith Cashier of the Bank of the United States, and payable at the Bank of Vincennes for Twenty thousand dollars, which with the credits above mentioned completes the sum requir'd by your letter for the use of M^r Rector.

I am, very respectfully, Sir Your mo: Obed^t Serv^t

W^m H CRAWFORD

THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND-OFFICE

[*Endorsed*] 4th June 1817 Sec^y of Treasury gives M^r Rector credits for \$50.000 & a bill for 20.000 Notified M^r Rector 5 June ⁴³

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO ROMAIN DUFRESNE

[NA:PO, P. M. Letter Book U]

10th June 1817

M^r ROMAIN DUFRESNE St. Louis Missou.

SIR, Yours of the 17th Ult.⁴⁴ is received, if you will forward authority from John M^cArthur to pay you, we will do so, if he has funds in this office, we cannot make payments for his account without his authority, on the first of next month there will be due him \$168. if he carries his contract into effect.

R. J. MEIGS Jr.

ALEXANDER MCNAIR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Reg. and Rec. Lets., St. Louis:LS]

Registers Office S^t LOUIS June 16th 1817.

HON^d SIR, The right of pre-emption has become a subject of great importance in this Territory—Daily applications are made at this Office for the entry of preemption claims; but having received no orders from that department on the subject of receiving pre-emption rights; I have in all cases declined acting on them—The Pre-emptioners in that part of the Territory, the survey of which has been ordered I presume generally know the state of the surveys of their claims—

General Rector informs me, that in a very short time, he will be able to furnish this Office with such plats of survey as to enable the Pre-emptioner to enter his claim—Permit me to state that I am

⁴⁴ NA (GLO, Lets. to SG, II). See also *id.* to *id.*, July 14, 1817, *loc. cit.*, acknowledging Rector to Meigs, June 16, 1817 (NA, GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822), with plats of townships in Illinois and Missouri Territory, and referring again to the Treasury's action in furnishing the additional funds.

⁴⁵ Not found.

satisfied by the first of September; I can receive from General Rector such plats of survey, as would justify the opening of the Office for preemption rights by that time, if it would meet the approbation of that Department—In case of the Office being opened, I will suggest the propriety of ordering the Office to be held ten, or fifteen days in Howard County; which County includes Boons Lick Settlement.

The reason of my suggesting this, is, that Boons Lick Settlement is about two hundred miles up the Missouri river; that the settlers generally hold their claims by right of Preemption; that many of the settlers if compell'd to come to this place with their witnesses to prove the right of Preemption, would expend the amount, which would if the Office was opened for a few days in their settlement, make their first payments—whereas it would be in comparison but trifling, for the Register and Receiver to travel to their settlement.

Pardon me in mentioning the subject of the sales of Public Lands in this Territory—I will venture to say, that in no part of the United States, the Sale of which has been more anxiously wished for, than that part of the Territory, the survey of which has been ordered—Could the Presidents Proclamation issue for the sales of Public Lands to commence the first of November next, I feel justifiable in stating, from information rec^d from General Rector; that previous to that date this Office will be furnished with a plat of Survey—but should that Department require a General Plat of Survey to be received at that Office before the Proclamation issues; I fear, from the great distance & uncertainty of the Mail, that the Sale will not commence this fall—

Much good would result from the Public Lands in this Territory being soon brought into market—It would much benefit this country; it would help to enrich the Public treasury; it would prevent Settlers on Public Land which has been a great source of trouble to the Government; it would give such a population to this country, that it would be able to defend itself against any enemy which could invade it—In fact all it wants to be the first country in the western world, is, its Lands to be in market.

I fear I too often trouble you with communications; I am sorry to say I know they cannot be interesting to men of Literature; but flatter myself I know to whom I write, and am satisfied my statement will receive that attention which the subject merits—

I wish it may be in your power to furnish me with the Land Laws—

I have the honor to be Sir, Your M^o Ob^t S [MS. torn]

A McNAIR

JOSIAH MEIGS Esq^r. Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City—

[*Addressed*] Josiah Meigs Esq^r Commissioner Gen^l Land Office
Washington City. [*Postmarked*] St. Louis Jun 16 Free

[*Endorsed*] St^t Louis 16th June 1817 A M^cNair de preemption-
ers—Wants public sales in Nov^r Ans^d 14 July ⁴⁵

DAVID WOODS TO THE PRESIDENT

[NA:SD, Misc. Letters:ALS]

MISSOURI TERRITORY Howard County [*June 22, 1817*]

HIS EXCELLENCY JAMES MUNROE President of the U. S.

HON^{ble} SIR It is a liberty which I hope you will not censure, to mention to you a subject which I think highly important to the nation and espacially to the Western Countries. You have no doubt often heard of the large quantities of Common Salt that have been found in a native State in This Territory But perhaps you have never had a circumstantial account of the quantity, the situation, and public advantage that might be derived from it. I have taken considerable care to obtain all the information I could from hunters & traders on whose Veracity I could depend, and find the salt nearest to the Settlements of this Terr^y is a plain on the south side of the Arkansas River and 500 miles from its mouth and about 24 miles from the Cansas (Or as we are used to call it the Caw) River. This plain appears to be formed by a creek about the Size of a common mill stream which runs through it; The water of which seems to be supersaturated with salt. This creek Issues from a small Bluff and in its subterranean course has no doubt traversed some large Beds of Mineral Salt and from its source to its Confluence with Arkansas River passes over an extensive plain of dry sand where not one Vegetable appears for 3 or 4 miles distance from the salt The Solar heat has probably incrustated salt upon the Margin of the water so as to constrict the channel and Occasion it to overflow on the sand when the evaporation would go on more largely and thus the plain of Salt has been formed; It is from 15 to 20 miles long & from 1 to 2 miles wide; At those places where the water has retained the Original channel it is 18 Inches and 2 feet thick But in respect of thickness we may suppose there is much irrregularity. This Salt is much less soluble than salt made in the common way of evaporation by fire; and being Situated in a Country where it seldom rains it undergoes Very little alteration

⁴⁵ *Post*, p. 291.

from the changes in the seasons; and the Caw Indians and others who have Visited it at different times say it is always to be found in the same abundance. It is not formed in granulations as cristals But in a Concrete state and is almost as hard as Rock; It is remarkable for its whiteness and purity and possesses the antiseptic quality in a much higher degree than the salt made at our salt springs. About 30 miles south or S. West is to be found what is called the salt mountain But Mr. Sibley speaks of it as being a Vast plain of Salt 40 miles Over and from the quantities of salgem and salt of Variagated colours we may conclude a great deal of it is has been formed in the way before described. But from the mounts of pure Salt now and then discoverable I suspect the existance of an immense bed of mineral Salt; such as the salt mines of Wieliczka in Poland I am inclined to this Opinion from the innumerable quantity of salt springs to be found in all parts of this country and as we approach nearer to those beds of salt the water is impregnated the more strongly with the saline mater and towards the latter end of summer the Arkansas River itself becomes brackish.

The plain first described is abundantly sufficient to supply all the western countries with salt for a number of years and is most conveniently situated for transporting the Salt down the Missouri River It is not more than 24 miles from the Caw River which to this place affords navigation for Vessels of 20 or 30 tons burden, The portage is over a level country and although the Arkansas River would be to pass It would be but Very little Obstruction to the portage for at this place the Arkansas spreads over a large superficies and almost disappears in the Sand, and continues so for 150 miles this renders the transportation of the salt by the way of Arkansas less practicable This plain is claimed exclusively by a small tribe of Indians called Caws living 80 leagues from the mouth of the Caw River and 30 leagues below the Salt plain They have often expressed a desire to cede all the country between where they live and the mouth of the Caw River to the U. S. This country is represented to be not inferior to any Country on the Missouri and as they appear to have no Notion of making any commercial use of their salt would for a trifling annuity cede it likewise, with as much land as would be useful in transporting it to water Carriage. By what tribe of Indians the other plain or salt mountain as it is called is claimed I can not tell nor do I know what difficulties would attend the purchase. But if those Mines and deposits of Salt which promise to be inexhaustable were in the possession of our Government from their contiguity to Navigable water they might at a Very small expence be rendered immanently beneficial to the western Countries and a source of large Revenue to the Nation

when we consider the difference between transporting our Salt from those plains and making it from wells and springs we will readily see the propriety of timously attempting the purchase. The salt from the plains I suppose might be delivered at the mouth of Ohio River for 25 Cts p^r Bushel and at none of the work is it worth less than 100 cts and at some 200. How easy would it be to turn the excess of this differance to the advantage of the Nation and the Beef and pork which makes so large a part of the exports of the Western Countries could then be pickled at home and made fit for foreign markets and sea stores which can not be done with the salt now in use. And the western Countries is not the only market which might be found for this salt for the Navigable waters of the Rivers Arkansas & Del Norte are not so distant that the portage would prevent a most profitable trade in this article with the Spanish provinces of S^{ta}. Fee Taxis and others in new Spain If once a regular commercial intercourse was established between the U. S. and those provinces. I have been honored with a letter from Gov^r Clark in answer to one addressed to him on this subject and he thinks it highly proper that a Company be sent to those salt plains to ascertain their true situation and Connection of the Navigable water courses in those parts The commandant of the Company should be authorised to open a treaty with the different tribes of Indians claiming the salt and prepare the way for the goverment to take possession of it. I live in a settlement on the Missouri River well known by the name of Boon's licks settlement it is about 150 miles from the mouth of the River and Consist of between 500 & 1000 families from this place to the Salt plain I suppose is not more than 300 or 350 miles so that a Company of a few men to set off from this place or Fort Osage would in a short time satisfactorily explore the country. By early adopting some such measures as these enterprising and designing men would be prevented from attempting a monopoly of this Very useful article If your Excellency thinks proper to send out an exploring company and will do me the honor to give me notice in time I will make one of the company and direct the letter to Fort Hempstead post office and permit me to subscribe myself your most Obedient humble servant

DAVID WOODS

June 22nd 1817

[Addressed] His Excellency Ja^s Munroe P. U. S. Washington City District of Columbia [Postmarked] Howard C. H. M. T. June 27 Free

[Endorsed] David Wood to the President. Salt—Missouri

GOVERNOR CLARK TO THE ACTING SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., C236:ALS]

S^t LOUIS *June 29th 1817*

SIR This will be handed to you by M^r Boilvin the U. S. Indian Agent at Prarie de Chien—He has unsettled accounts in the Indian Department, and is going on (as he informs me) to Washington City to Settle those Accounts—

M^r Boilvin will have it in his power to inform you of the unfriendly disposition of the Indians of the Mississippi and account for the probable Causes of their Conduct.

I have the honor to be Your Mo. Ob^t H Ser^t

W^m CLARK

THE HON^{ble} GEORGE GRAHAM Acting Sec^{ry} of War

[*Endorsed*] S^t Louis 29th June 1817. Govr W^m Clarke In relation to the unfriendly disposition of the Indians, of which Mr. Boilvin will Communicate.—Oct 1817.

GOVERNOR CLARK TO THE PRESIDENT

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

Missouri Territory S^t LOUIS *July 2nd 1817*

SIR I beg leave to introduce to you M^r Duff Green a gentleman of fine talents and bids fair to make a Shining Character in both Civil and Military life—his acquaintance with the Country for some distance up the Missouri, having resided on that river for some time, will enable him to give the most correct information of the Country and the progressive Settlements. M^r Green has also a full Knowledge of of the Causes of party Spirit in this Territory, to whom I beg leave to refer you, in the event of your wishing to be informed on that Subject ⁴⁶

I have the Honor to be With True respect your Mo Ob^t H Ser^t

W^m CLARK

THE PRESIDENT

[*Endorsed*] Duff Green recd 1817 Gov^r & Gen^l On "Lewis & Clarkes Expedition", with M. Lewis. Duff Green

⁴⁶ In the same file is a similar letter of introduction from William P. Duval, of Kentucky, dated July 19, 1817.

THE ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE TO SECRETARY
BATES

[NA:SD, Dom. Letters, XVII:C]

5 July, 1817.

FREDERICK BATES, Secretary of the Missouri Territory, St. Louis.

SIR, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st of last month ⁴⁷ enclosing a copy of the acts of the General Assembly of the Missouri Territory during its last session and an extract from the Executive Journal of that Territory, containing a list of Executive appointments for the six months preceding the 1st of April, last.

—R. R.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822:LS]

Surveyors Office for the Territories of Illinois &
(Duplicate) Missouri St LOUIS July 7th 1817—

SIR I have received your letter of the 3^d of ult^o ⁴⁸ in which you inform me that it is desirable that the Sales of the public Lands in the District of St Louis should take place at an early day and in which you instruct me to return Plats & Descriptions of 30 or 40 Townships more or less to the Register of the Land office as soon as possible, and to inform you how many & what Townships can be so prepared for Sale and at what time so, that a proclamation may issue for that purpose

The enclosed Sketch exhibits all that tract of Country West of the 5th Principal Meridian that I have made arrangements to have laid off into Townships & Subdivided into Sections & Corners established for quarter Sections amounting to about two hundred & Seventy five Townships equal to 6,336,000 acres (which includes the 500,000 acres for Military bounties and a few confirmed claims of individuals) Nearly the whole of the Surveys both of public Lands & private claims within that tract has been executed in the field; the returns of a considerable part of these Surveys have been received in this office and I confidently believe that I shall be able to, & will furnish the Register of the Land Office with Plats & Descriptions of nearly if not all these Townships within 30 days from this date From the time at which the Register will receive the Plats & Descriptions of Townships to the first monday in November will I conceive be enough time for those persons who are entitled to the right of preemption within that tract to avail them-

⁴⁷ *Ante*, p. 273.

⁴⁸ *Ante*, p. 281.

selves of the privileges given to them by law and in which time a connected plat can be furnished for the Registers office so that I suppose the 1st monday in November next will be the proper time for the sales to commence—I was informed by your letter of the 10th of May 1816 ⁴⁹ as well as by the Act of Congress which you forwarded to me with that letter that five hundred Thousand acres of Land North of the Missouri River part of the Lands we were then surveying would be applied for military bounties. But the particular part to be so appropriated was not pointed out to me I beg leave to observe that it is my opinion that the Twenty eight Townships marked thus X at the North West part of the tract represented by the Sketch be reserved for that purpose My reason for recommending that part of the Country for Military bounty lands is that it would interfere less with the present settlements than it would were the tract to extend to one of the great Rivers; the Lands too are generally of good quality at any rate equal to what is promised by law to the Soldiers bout should it be determined that this Military tract be bounded either by the Missouri or Mississippi I would recommend that it be at the upper part of the tract on the Missouri or that it be taken from the Northern part of the tract on the Mississippi and in the latter case not to extend further South than the East & West line passing between Townships N^o 52. & 53 North of the Base line, the exterior boundaries of the whole tract represented by the Sketch may be described as follows (Viz). Beginning on the fifth Principal Meridian at the corner of Townships N^o 41 & 42 North of the Base line—

Thence North to the Mississippi River thence up that River to the East & West line passing between Townships N^o 56 & 57. Thence West to the line between Ranges N^o 6 & 7 West. Thence South to the line between Townships N^o 55 & 56 N Thence West to the line between Ranges N^o 8 & 9 W Thence South to the line between Townships N^o 54. & 55 Thence West to the line between Ranges N^o 11 & 12 W—Thence North to the line between Townships N^o 55 & 56 N

Thence West to the line between Ranges N^o 12 & 13 W

Thence North to the line between Townships N^o 56 & 57 N

Thence West to the line between Ranges N^o 16. & 17 W

Thence North to the line between Townships N^o 57. & 58 N

Thence West to the line between Ranges—N^o 19 & 20 W

Thence North to the line between Townships—N^o 58 & 59 N

Thence West to the line between Ranges—N^o 22 & 23 W

Thence South to the line between Townships N^o 55 & 56 N

Thence West to the line between Ranges—N^o 23 & 24 W

⁴⁹ Printed, *Terr. Papers* (Ill.), xvii, 332–335.

Thence South to the Missouri River—

Thence down that River to the line between Ranges N° 22 & 23 W

Thence South (crossing the River) to the line between Townships N° 47 & 48 N

Thence East to the line between Ranges—N° 19 & 20 W

Thence South to the line between Townships—N° 45 & 46 N

Thence East to the line between Ranges—N° 14 & 15 W

Thence South to the line between Townships—N° 43 & 44 N

Thence East to the line between Ranges N° 12 & 13 W

Thence South to the line between Townships N° 42 & 43 N

Thence East to the line between Ranges N° 8 & 9 W

Thence North to the line between Townships N° 43 & 44 N

Thence East to the line between Ranges N° 6 & 7 W

Thence South to the line between Townships N° 42 & 43 N

Thence East to the line between Ranges—N° 4 & 5 W

Thence South to the line between Townships N° 41. & 42 N

Thence East to the place of beginning—

The above described Tract of country contains nearly all the settlements on the Missouri & Mississippi (except those that are situated East of the 5th principal meridian and South of the country represented by the Sketch) —The prospect of a Speedy sale of these Lands is hily gratifying to the inhabitants generally of this Territory as well as to very many who are now inhabitants of Kentucky Tennessee and other States, who wish to locate themselves & families in it, the fertility of the Soil and heathiness of the climate and other natural advantages which that part of the Country possesses has attracted the attention of vast numbers of people particularly in the Western States so much so that a great many would not wait for the sales but have settled on public Lands notwithstanding the law forbids such Settlements. Soon after these Lands shall be offered for sale I do believe that; that part of the Country will be well settled by people of respectability industry and enterprise which will not only be greatly beneficial to this section of the union but will in my opinion be an advantage to the government or nation generally for the Sales of the Lands will bring in to the Treasury a large sum of money in a short time. Men Settled on their own soil are I am fully convinced better citezens in every respect than they would be had they only a temporary residence They feel their independence in reality that their interests are identified with that of the country & that they can enjoy unmolested the improvements they make, They are therefore more Patriotic inteligent indous-trious & I believe more Honest & Virtuous I am therefore with others much pleased at the prospect of a sale of these Lands

I am with the highest respect Sir you Ob Serv.

W^m RECTOR

THE HONBL^e JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office
Washington

[*Endorsed*] 7th July 1817 W^m Rector, duplic^e De half million
A^s north of Missouri

THE ACTING SECRETARY OF WAR TO GOVERNOR CLARK

[NA:OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, 11. *July*, 1817.

HIS EXCELLENCY WILLIAM CLARK S^t Louis.

SIR, Enclosed herewith you will receive an appointment of
Reuben Lewis, Esq^r as assistant agent of Indian affairs at Arkan-
sas, which you will be so good as to forward to him. I have &c.

GEORGE GRAHAM.—

[Enclosure]

The Acting Secretary of War to Reuben Lewis

[*July* 11, 1817]

REUBEN LEWIS, Esq^r

SIR, You are hereby, with the approbation of the President of
the United States, appointed assistant agent of Indian affairs at
Arkansas, with the Compensation of eleven hundred dollars p^r an-
num. Your compensation will commence from the time you com-
menced acting as Assistant agent of Indian affairs at Arkansas.

In discharging the duties of this appointment, you will be gov-
erned by such instructions as you may receive from this depart-
ment, or from the governor of the Missouri Territory.

You will be pleased to communicate to this department, your
acceptance or non-acceptance of this appointment.

Given under my hand and the seal of the War office this 11th
day of July, 1817.

GEORGE GRAHAM.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO ALEXANDER MCNAIR

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

G L O *July* 14th 1817.

ALEX^r M^cNAIR Regis^r S^t Louis

SIR, Your letter of 16th Ult^o is before me, ⁵⁰ as the volume of
land laws is not yet published I transmit herewith extracts from
Laws relative to pre-emptioners viz^t

⁵⁰ *Ante*, p. 284.

The act of 5th feb^y 1813;⁵¹ The 5th section of the Act of 12th April 1814⁵² & the Act of 29th Ap^l 1816;⁵³ By these you will perceive that pre-emptioners may make entries until two weeks preceeding the public Sales: as the proclamation will issue 2 or 3 months previous to the Sales, there will be time sufficient to receive notices & entries. In my opinion notices should not be invited before you receive the general plat; after you have it; you can ascertain whether any of the notices are for land previously covered by private claims, & when entries are made you can enter them on the Map & so prevent such lands from being offered at public sale. I see no objection to your accommodating the inhabitants of Howard County by visiting a few weeks that country before the sale, & receiving testimony in support of their pre-emption claims, if you choose to take that trouble.

The President is now absent, but if he were here I should not recommend issuing a proclamation for public Sales till the Surveyor General assures me that general plats will be furnished to this office, & to yours at some certain time; although I am desirous, as you are to have the public sales at an early period.

I am very respectfully

MEMORIAL OF EDWARD N. MATTHEWS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., M:DS]

[July 17, 1817]

To the Honorable Josiah Meigs, Commissioner of the General Land office—

The Memorial of Edward N. Matthews of the County of New Madrid in the Territory of Missouri, Respectfully sheweth. That William Lanes, late of the said County deceased, was the grantee of a tract of Six hundred & forty acres of Land in the County of New Madrid, as a Settler under the act of Congress: That anterior to the final adjudication and confirmation of his settlement-right, and long before the tenth day of November 1812, the said Lanes sold & conveyed one half of his claim to a certain Joshua Humphreys.—That another tract of six hundred and forty acres of land in the County of New Madrid, was confirmed to the said William Lanes, who claimed the same by a derivative title under one Peter O'Neal the original settler; all of which appears from the Books in the office of the Recorder of land Titles of Missouri Territory, and from his reports filed in the General Land office at Washing-

⁵¹ 2 STAT. 797-798, relating to right of preemption in Illinois Territory.

⁵² 3 STAT. 122-123.

⁵³ 3 STAT. 328-329.

ton.—That both of the aforementioned tracts of land have been materially injured by Earthquakes and come within the remedy of the Act of Congress entitled “an act for the relief of the inhabitants of the late County of New Madrid in the Missouri Territory who suffered by Earthquakes” That your memorialist in his own right, and as the agent and attorney in fact of his nephews and neices, the Children & heirs at law of the said William Lanes deceased, requested the Recorder of land Titles to issue and deliver to him a certificate of New location, for and in lieu of the tract of six hundred and forty acres of land Confirmed to the said William Lanes under Peter O’Neal, tendering to him a good & legal deed of relinquishment of the said tract to the United States; but that the Recorder was unwilling to take upon himself the responsibility of issuing the Certificate, contrary as he believed, to the sound construction of the law, or to his instructions received from the land department; because Theodore Hunt, who represents the interest of the above named Joshua Humphreys, had filed in his office a demand of a certificate, in the nature of a Caveat, for one half of the tract granted to the said Lanes in his own name.—

Under these Circumstances, Your memorialist, looking confidently to the justice of the government, and urged by the necessity of his private affairs, has actually relinquished to the United States the entire tract of six hundred and forty acres, and has received from the Recorder of Land Titles a Certificate for three hundred and Twenty; thereby depriving himself of the power of demanding a legal right, not doubting however, that justice will be extended to him as soon as the peculiar hardship of his case is seen and understood.

It is the invariable practice in the Recorder’s office, to issue Certificates for parts of claims in no case whatever, unless the entire interest in the injured land is represented and relinquished: The demand of Theodore Hunt is for part of a tract, and no representation of the whole is pretended—It is impossible then for the Recorder, consistently with the principles adopted by himself or prescribed by his superiors, to issue a Certificate on such a demand. And Shall it be said that a demand nugatory in itself, can operate as a bar to the legal & regular Claims of your memorialist, or throw him within the limitation of the act of Congress? But your memorialist is advised and does verily believe that by a Construction of the act at once liberal and correct neither he nor the said Theodore Hunt would be limited in their present demands. For if Certificates were issued to actual sufferers & not to nominal Claimants the ends of the law would be answered, justice would be done to every individual, and the munificent bounty of the legislature would be fully accomplished. Your memorialist has heard

but one reason for adopting such a plan—The difficulty that every ministerial federal officer must encounter in weighing the validity and effect of deeds and transfers. But if it can be shewn, under the present System, 1st That the same difficulties are felt—2^d That the acknowledged rights of individuals are withheld, 3^d That the plain intention of the law is frustrated, surely there will be no reason for persevering in a course which operates so injuriously to many, who are in the situation of your Memorialist—As to the first point Under the orders of the department, the Recorder, before he issues his certificate, is bound to receive conveyances of the injured land: These conveyances must be made by the present holder (for the original claimant has no interest to convey): And the Recorder in doing this necessarily inspects and decides upon the Chain of title produced by the applicant. These decisions are not and cannot be final, but they are necessary; for if all business depending upon them be suspended, the people of this Country whose entire property rests on Inchoate titles, to be completed by the Federal Government, must despair of their consummation. As to the second point. If I have a clear & undeniable title to a tract of land, acquired from an individual before the Earthquakes, and that individual having another injured tract, obtains a certificate before I apply for one, he thereby throws me within the restrictive clause of the statute, and absolutely bars my right. And stronger is the case, where a man owns part of a tract, and his part only is injured: A thousand reasons may concur to render the owners of the other part unwilling to exchange with the Government; and the man thus reduced to poverty by the Awful dispensation of providence is, by the forced construction of a liberal statute, rendered unable to avail himself of the beneficent intentions of his Government. As to the third point—The intention of the law (in the very words of the title) is to relieve those “who suffered by earthquakes”, and not to bestow a mere gratuity on those who were once the owners of the soil. And your memorialist is advised that there is nothing in the act to restrain the generality of the words in the title and the text, as to the Character of the individual claiming relief, or his privity to the primitive title. And your memorialist has always believed that but two things were necessary to entitle him to relief—Ownership and injury.—If the act of 17th February 1815,⁵⁴ had passed fifty years after the evil it intended to remedy, it is hardly possible to believe that such a construction would prevail, as to force upon the owner of injured land the embarrassing difficulty of obtaining his certificate and making his location in the name of the original Claimant, and then

⁵⁴ 3 STAT. 211-212, relating to earthquake sufferers.

of maintaining his right to the new domain by a long and intricate Chain of dependent conveyances; which after all could only amount to an equitable claim but not a legal title.

To you Sir, your memorialist looks with Confidence for relief: He knows that it is only necessary to set forth the facts that constitute the grievance, in order to ensure the application of an immediate remedy—He therefore prays that you will be pleased to forward such instructions as may be necessary to induce the Recorder of Land Title of the Territory of Missouri to issue and deliver your memorialist a certificate of new location for three hundred and twenty acres of land, which together with the one already received will make the quantity of Six hundred and forty Acres, to which your memorialist is justly entitled under the above mentioned act of Congress.

ST. LOUIS *July* 17th 1815 ⁵⁵

EDWARD N. MATTHEWS
by his agent & Attorney
E, BATES

Office of the Recorder of Land Titles ST. LOUIS *July* 17. 1817.—

The facts contained in the foregoing memorial, are believed, as far as they concern this Office to be correctly stated.—

FREDERICK BATES

[*Addressed*] Honorable Josiah Meigs Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office Washington City [*Postmarked*] St Louis July 22 Free

[*Endorsed*] St Louis 17 July 1817 Edw^d N Matthew's petition to Comm^r G^l L^d Office.

THOMAS L. MCKENNEY TO GEORGE C. SIBLEY

[NA:OIT, Supt. Lets. Sent, Bk. D]

Office of Indian Trade GEO:TOWN *July* 18 1817

G. C. SIBLEY Esq^r U.S.F.

SIR, You will on receipt of this, proceed with as little delay as possible, to furnish the Annuities due to the Great Osage, and Little Osage tribes of Indians, for the present year. viz \$1500 in such articles of Merchandise as are usually distributed to them, and at their cost prices. You will be carefull to observe the usual forms of Invoices, receipts &c, and on their being prepared you will forward them to this office—

Add to your Invoices, as usual, sixteen p cent for transportation.

Respectfully &c.

T. L. M^cK.

⁵⁵ Note conflicting dates.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO HENRY LEAVENWORTH

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

G L O 19th July 1817.

COL: H LEAVINGWORTH Sacketts Harbour

SIR I reply to your letter of 9th Inst,⁵⁶ that the discharges of Soldiers should be sent to the department of War, which Depart^t will transmit to the Soldiers or their Agents, notifications that their Warrants will be lodged in this office.

In two months the bounty land in Illinois Territory will be ready for distribution, the bounty land in Missouri Territory in less perhaps than six months.

To obtain a patent, the Soldier, must send the notification to this office, & say where he wishes to locate, in Illinois or Missouri; an Agent must do the same, & produce a power of Attorney, of form similar to the enclosed.

I am &c.

GOVERNOR CLARK TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., C:ALS]

Missouri Territory S^t LOUIS July 25th 1817

SIR I have the honor to inclose to you a resolution of a Board of Trustees incorporated by the General Assembly of this Territory, at their last Session—"for the purpose of regulating Schools in the Town of S^t Louis, with power to take, hold, lease &c for the use of Schools, all the lands and other property which hath been, or may be given by Congress to the Said Town for the Support of Schools"—

To give you Some idea of those pretended claims, I must Observe, that the Claims for Preemption rights will be made by men in possession of some of the Old Spanish buildings—Others who have either extended their inclosures upon public lots, or erected temporary buildings, Such as Barns, Slaughter houses &c on the public Lands.—

I have the Honor to be your Mo. Ob^t H^e Ser^t

W^m CLARK

The HONB^l JOS. MEAGUS

I must beg the favor of you to Send the inclosed letter to the post master gen^l—

[Addressed] The Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Dept^t Washington City

[Endorsed] S^t Louis 25 July 1817 Gov^r Clark with resolutⁿ of Trustees of Schools Ans^d 26 Aug^t ⁵⁷

⁵⁶ Not found.

⁵⁷ Post, p. 300.

[Enclosure]

*Resolution of the Board of School Trustees*S^t LOUIS Monday July 21st 1817—

At a Meeting of the Board of Trustees for Superintending Schools in the Town of S^t Louis, the Same being convened by the Chairman

Were Present—His Excellency William Clark Chairman Auguste Chouteau Thomas H. Benton William C. Carr & Jean P Cabanné Trustees—

Resolved, unanimously, that the Chairman of this Board immediately communicate to the Commissioner of the General land office, at Washington City, that Several persons pretend to claim preemption rights within the limits of the corporation of S^t Louis, under a law of Congress of the 5th day of the month of february 1813—,⁵⁸ and by that means to appropriate to themselves a part of the public land in Said Town reserved by Act of Congress of date of June 13th 1812 ⁵⁹ for the use of Schools and Military purposes, which pretentions being considered wholly unfounded, and only calculated to embarrass the Trustees with law Suits; and there upon to pray the Said Commissioner of the land office, to instruct the Register and Receiver of this land office of this District to receive no application for preemption rights within the limits of the corporation of the Said Town of S^t Louis—

Extract from the Records of the Proceedings of the Board

J. V. GARNIER Sec^y—

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

G L O Aug^t 4th 1817

HON: W^m H CRAWFORD Sec^y of the Treasury.

SIR, I transmit herewith a sketch of the Lands surveyed in the Missouri Territory lately received from Surveyor General Rector, & a letter from him recommending certain parts of those lands to be appropriated for military bounties, agreeably to the act of 29th Ap^l 1816 ⁶⁰ viz^t five hundred thousand acres north of the River Missouri.

The Lands in the three first ranges west of the 5th principal meridian & lying between the Rivers Mississippi & Missouri form a compact body well marked by natural boundaries, & containing probably 1½ a million of Acres of land fit for cultivation; so far as

⁵⁸ 2 STAT. 797-798, but pertaining entirely to Illinois Territory.

⁵⁹ 2 STAT. 748-752.

⁶⁰ 3 STAT. 332.

relates to natural boundaries this tract is more like the other tracts of bounty Land, viz^t between the rivers Arkansa & S^t Francis & between the rivers Mississippi & Illinois, than any of the three tracts recommended by the Surveyor General; on the other hand those three ranges are more valuable than the tracts mentioned by him, being nearer to established settlements, & consequently if bro^t into market would sell more readily than lands farther west or north: I will thank you to designate the half million Acres north of Missouri River that shall be appropriated for Military bounties. The continual application (personally & by letters) for patents for military bounty lands, induces me at this time to submit to you the enclosed advertisement relative to the commencing the distribution of them. Last winter the Survey^r General was sanguine in the expectation that he could furnish me with all the Surveys before the 1st of June 1817; in consequence, my answers to Members of Congress & others enquiring when Patents would issue, was "the latter end of August."

About 10.000 Warrants have issued from the War Depart^t, about 8.000 lottery tickets have been prepared from the surveys already received, & I am in daily expectation of more surveys, so that the wheel will meet all demands for Illinois Lands, & those who choose lands in Missouri will learn from the advertisement that they must wait a few months longer.—

I anticipate such a demand for patents for three or four months that I apprehend it will be necessary for the Clerks of this office to write the patents & record them in extra hours, & this will expedite them more than employing 2 or 3 clerks for that purpose: whether they can be paid out of the fund appropriated for patents, printing &c, is respectfully submitted to you.

I have &c.

The 4th Sectⁿ of the act of 16th Ap^l 1816⁶¹ directs 2 millions of Acres to be survey^d for bounties, are they to be located in Missouri Territory?

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., Treasury:ALS]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT 16th August 1817

SIR Your letter of the 4th inst inclosing the communication of the Surveyor of the public lands in the Illinois and Missouri Territorys, has been rec^d

The selection of the military lands between the Mississippi and

⁶¹ 3 STAT. 287.

Missouri rivers can be made only by the President. The decision therefore of that question is necessarily postponed until his return to the city.⁶²

Was the power vested in the treasury department, I should not be disposed to exercise it upon the information presented in this communication of the Surveyor, as the description of the tract of country in writing does not correspond with its delineation on the map, if I comprehend either.

I return you the sketch of the notice which you have Submitted, under the impression that the return of the President will be in time for that object.

If he should reach the city before me, I would suggest the propriety of Substituting the first monday in October to the expressions used in the draft of the notice.

On the subject of extra allowance to the clerks for services rendered in issuing patents out of office hours, I can only refer you to the circular letter of my Predecessor of the 10th of March 1815⁶³ which forbids the allowance of extra compensation which entirely coincides with my ideas of Propriety, especially where the extra service arises from the current business of the office, & which is temporary in its nature. The persons employed in the public offices ought so far to imitate the example of prudent individuals in the management of their private affairs, by making temporary exertions to meet temporary pressess of business, so as to prevent its accumulation from such causes.

I have the honor to be your most ob^t & humble Sev^t

W^m H CRAWFORD

JOSIAH MEIGS Esq^r Commissioner of the Genl land office.

[Endorsed] 16 Aug^t 1817 Secretary of the Treasury—President must designate bounty Land in Missouri. Lottery cannot commence till he returns

JOSIAH MEIGS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, II]

G L O August 18th 1817

W^m RECTOR Esq^r Survey^r S^t Louis

SIR; Your letters of 25th July⁶⁴ one of them with 29 Plats,⁶⁵ the other stating that \$15.000⁶⁶ will be wanted for surveys of Individ-

⁶² See *post*, p. 323.

⁶³ Not seen.

⁶⁴ Under date of July 21 in NA (GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822).

⁶⁵ In the military reserve, Illinois Territory.

⁶⁶ A second request for this amount of request was made on Aug. 4, 1817 (NA, GLO, *op. cit.*).

uals & the adjacent public Lands E of the 5 M L, have been received. I presume this sum was provided in the Credit I advised you of 3^d June,⁶⁷ viz^t \$70.000 of which \$15.000 was at Edwards⁶⁸ if not advise me thereof.⁶⁹

I am &c.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO GOVERNOR CLARK

[NA: GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

26th [August, 1817⁷⁰]

HIS EXCELL^y W^m CLARK GOV^r Mis^t Terr^y S^t Louis

SIR, Your letter of 25th Ult^o ⁷¹ & a resolution of the board of Trustees for superinten^d Schools in the town of S^t Louis have been received. It is not necessary to instruct the Reg^r not to grant certifi^s of Pre-empⁿ under the act 5th february 1813 ⁷² which may embrace Lands appropriated for Schools by an Act of 13th June 1812,⁷³ because the former act relates solely to Lands in Ill^s T^y ⁷⁴

I have &c.

GOVERNOR CLARK TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., C286:LS]

Missouri Territory ST. LOUIS Aug. 28. 1817.

SIR I had the honor of receiving Your letters of the 11th ⁷⁵ & 12th of July ⁷⁶ by the last mail—Mr Benjamin O. Fallon has been employed as Agent for the Seoux and other tribes of the upper Mississippi within this Territory and ordered to visit the Bands from

⁶⁷ June 5, 1817, *loc. cit.*

⁶⁸ Edwardsville (Ill.), land office.

⁶⁹ Acknowledged Sept. 15, 1817 (NA, GLO, *op. cit.*). Cf. *ante*, p. 281.

⁷⁰ The page on which this letter is entered bears the year 1816 on the first entry. This is probably a clerk's error as the pages immediately preceding and following it are for the year 1817.

⁷¹ *Ante*, p. 296.

⁷² 2 STAT. 797-798.

⁷³ 2 STAT. 748-752 (see sec. 2).

⁷⁴ Answered *post*, p. 312.

⁷⁵ *Ante*, p. 291.

⁷⁶ NA (OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D), enclosing a copy of a letter from Meigs, Cherokee agent, relative to the situation of the widow of Major Lovely, and requesting that Meigs be instructed to comply with the request of Mrs. Lovely as far as compatible with the public interest.

Prairie De Chein, to some distance up the River St Peters, with an appropriate talk, to be by him delivered to them and instructions to do away the unfavourable impressions which those Tribes have received, and explain to them the just and honorable policy of our Government towards all Indians within their limits—To produce a favourable impression of the dignity of the Government, as well as to give an importance, to the duties of the Agent, I have requested the Commanding Officer to lent a detachment of Troops from Prairie De Chein—The Cherokee Agent has been instructed to consult the comfort and convenience of the Widow of the late Maj^r Lovely, and I have no doubt, but her situation will be made as agreeable as it is in his power Consistenly with the public interest—

To stop the War existing between the Cherokees and Osage in compliance with Your letter of the 1st of April,⁷⁷ will be effected with much difficulty and delay, as the Osage have persisted in their Outrages, and the Cherokees appear determined to take revenge (as You will see by the enclosed address)

The plans of the Mississippi Tribes have been diverted laterly, by the Seoux of the Missouri killing one of their Chiefs and several of their Men, the Socks are about to retaliate

Situated as I am, and as I have been, it could not be expected, that the numerous, fierce, and vitious Tribes of this Territory, could be managed well, with the means placed under my Controul, if I had discouraged this species of Warfare—

It must be admitted, that the encourageing of War among the Indian Tribes, is cruel, but the stituation of this Country has been such, that I found myself compelled to promote a War amongst the Indians, as will be seen, by reference to my letters in the War Department of the 20th of Aug⁷⁸ & 18th Septem^r 1814⁷⁹ & 11th of Dec^r 1815⁸⁰ I will not presume to question the policy, but, at this time I think our best course will be, not to interfere in the Seioux & Fox War.

I certainly shall indeavour to confine the expenditure of the Indian Department for this Territory, within the limits prescribed, tho I believe it almost impossible to perform the duties which might

⁷⁷ *Loc. cit.* Cf. *ante*, p. 260.

⁷⁸ *Ante*, XIV, 786.

⁷⁹ *Ante*, XIV, 787.

⁸⁰ *Ante*, p. 95.

reasonably be expected of me, from long habit of manageing this discription of people, without exceeding the Amt of said limit

Manuel Liza Esquire, the Agent for the Missouri Tribes, has resigned, and no man capable of dischargeing the duties of Agent for those important Tribes can procured for the Salary which I could venture to allow

I have the honor to be Your Most Obt H^e Servt

WM CLARK

[Addressed] The Honb^{le} The Secretary of War

[Endorsed] St Louis 28 Aug 1817. Gov William Clarke In relation to the war about to be commenced between the Osage & Cherokee Indians &c &c Nov 1817

[Enclosures]

John Jamison to the Secretary of War

Indian Agency NATCHITOCHES 10th May 1817.

SIR, In mine of the 31^t March last,⁸¹ I informed you of an intended excursion up Red River to enforce the laws, which many persons hitherto disregarded.

On the evening of the 2nd of April, Brevet Maj^r Riddle with a Detachment myself and my Interpreter accompanying them, left the cantonment near this place, passing through Bayou Pierre Settlement, to the Caddo Village, and from thence the nearest rout to Na Nat, So, Ho Village (Pecan Point)

Here we found near a dozen of Families on the lands claimed by the Caddos, and of which they had heretofore so much complained—These families were immediately removed to the North side of Red River, and several unlicensed traders arrested, and their goods and merchantdize seized. After hiring guides and sending our horses by land, the remainder of the party descended the river, passing the Cherokee, Delaware, and Conchatte Villages, at the last named several traders were arrested and others made their Escape.

I explained to the several tribes the nature of our visit, which had for its object, to enforce the laws which were made for their protection and the preservation of peace & harmony between the

⁸¹ *Ante*, p. 257.

white & red people, that many evils followed an indiscriminate intercourse,—among others, was the introduction of Spirituous Liquors, which went to the destruction of life and property

They expressed their satisfaction by the kind civilities we received in return

We then descended through the great raft near one hundred and fifty miles in length, and were agreeably disappointed by finding that the difficulty in passing it had been greatly magnified, the greater part of it was much easier navigated than many other parts of the River, and with the labour of one company of men for a month, the whole could be made a good navigation during the Winter and Spring Months—Four Keel Boats have already passed up this winter, (one of which was upwards of Twenty tons burthen), and one has come down

I have taken the course and distance of the river from Na Nat So ho, to the outlet of the raft below the Conchatte Village, a distance of more than three hundred miles, and made some general remarks on the Country claimed by the Caddos, as also that thro which red River passes, and as soon as they are corrected I will forward a Copy to the War Department, for the present suffice to say that the Country Generally will claim rank of any part of the U S. I have seen

The Caddos, Chactaws Cherokees Conchattes and all other tribes in this quarter, are at War with the Osages, the Caddos and Chactaws have lately had severe skirmishing, in which ten of the Osages have been killed, four wounded, & one made prisoner—On the part of the several tribes in this quarter, they are anxious for peace, but cannot obtain it in good faith, and they are extremely anxious that Government should effect one for them and guarantee it. Humanity as well as the preservation of our own citizens, (many of whom fall a prey to their cruelties) compels me to say, the subject merits your serious attention—Should a proposition for peace come from Governor Clark, and at the same time another from this quarter, I think it quite probable a peace could be effected from which much good might result

I have the Honour To be very respectfully Your ob^t Se^{vt}

JOHN JAMISON Indian Agent

THE HON^e THE SEC^{'TY} OF WAR Washington City

Cherokee Indians to Governor Clark

CHEROKEE VILLAGE July 11, 1817

THE GOV^r OF MISSOURI TERRITORY

SIR It is our duty to inform you of our Conduct, towards the Osages; we made peace with them several times, knowing it to be the wish of the President of the U. States, our great father; but they will not be at peace with us; for nine years and more we have been trying to make friends all to no purpose; it appears that the more friendly we talk to them, the more they impose on us; now we are prepared, we will meet our Enemies; we lay down with our Arms at our sides; we wish you to pity us, for the Osages are deaf to all we can say or do; to raise our Crops for the support of our families has been our wish, but it has not been in our power; it is not we that are in the wrong it is the Osages; they have stolen all our best horses, and have reduced us to work with our naked hands. with the few horses we have left, we intend to go to the Osages and hunt for those horses taken; we are going to do mischief; we are but a few Cherokees; our father knows us well, and we therefore beg that he will not scold us; the Osages have also insulted the whites; we are vexed and have become deaf to their talks. Please to inform the President of all this; tell him that we promised not to spill Blood if we could help it, but that at this time the rivers are red with the Blood of the Cherokees; we hope that the President our father will take our case into Consideration, for he well knows we are not the aggressors; Since our last talk to you, we have lost two of our young men, killed by the Osages, we have never attempted to take any revenge whatever, until now, this is all we have to say for the present, intending to inform you of all occurrences hereafter.

Your Children

TALANTUSKEY

TICKATOKA

THE BOLD

SHANANNANI

HUMMING BIRD

KATIKOC

JOHN McLAMORE

TRANSLATE

JOHN BAGS

Indian Tribes in Missouri Territory

[August 24, 1817]

A List of Indian Tribes under the Superintendence of the Governor of Missouri Territory as Computed the 24th of August 1817,—

	Where situated	Names of Tribes	Total number of Indians as Esti- mated	Agents' names who have in charge the Tribes
In & about the white settlements	The Arkansaw	Cherokees	6000	Reuben Lewis Es- quire
	Apple river & near Missis- sippi Swamps.	Shawonies Deleways	1200 600	Col. Peter Menard [do.]
	S ^t Francis & White river.	Piankashaws . . Peorias	200 60	[do.] [do.]
	Arkansaw river & on the Mis- souri.	Quapaws Ottoes, Missouri .	700	No Agent since Mr Manuel Lisa re- signed Stephen Julien employed as Interpreter with the Ioways
	Arkansaw river & on the Mis- souri.	Panise 3 Tribes .		
	Missouri	Mahas	9500	[do.]
	Missouri	Poncaries		[do.]
	Missouri	Sioux	9500	[do.]
	Missouri	Chians	2000	[do.]
	Missouri	Ricaries	3000	[do.]
Near the White Settlements	Missouri	Mandans & Mini- taries.	4200	[do.]
	Missouri	Roving Bands . .	20,000	[do.]
	Lemoin	Ioways & mixed .	1200	[do.]
	Kanzaws	Kansas	1600	George C. Sibley U. S. Factor
	Osage river & Arkansaw.	Big & Little Osage	6000	Peter Chouteau Esquire
	Mississippi . . .	Sacks	3000	Thomas Forsyth Esquire
		Foxes	1500	[do.]
		Sioux & Mixed Tribes.	8500	Benjamin oFallon Esquire
		Total . . .	78760	

Note, The Tribes on the Illinois River, about Chicago Millwackie, Green bay
Prairie du Chien East of the Mississippi may be computed at about 8350 Soles

CHARLES LUCAS TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Misc. Letters:ALS]

S^t LOUIS (Missouri) Sep^t 13th 1817.

SIR. Agreeably to the request of the Department of State to
all Public officers to communicate information to enable that de-

partment to publish a Register of all officers &c, I state, I am a native of Alleghany County, in the State of Pennsylvania. That the salary allowed by law to the Attorney of the United States for the Territory of Missouri is \$250. per anum, besides, the usual fees prescribed by the Territorial laws, to attornies in the highest courts—and also a per diem of five Dollars for every days attendance on the Public business.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect & consideration
Your very obed^t Servant

CHARLES LUCAS

Att^o U. S. for Missouri Territory

THE HON^{ble} SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE U. S.

[Addressed] The Honorable The Secretary of State of the U. S.
Washington City [Postmarked] S^t Louis Sept 16 Free

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822:C]

ST LOUIS Sept^r 15th 1817.

DEAR SIR I have received your letter of the 16th August ⁸² in which you request me to forward you a sketch of the Missouri Territory with its civil divisions &c—I will with much pleasure form for your use such a Sketch, from the best materials that can be collected here; it shall be from actual survey as far as our surveys extend: I expect to forward the sketch in a fortnight from this time

I find from your letter that you had not positively determined on a sale of Public Lands in the Missouri Territory the present season, and as the Presidents proclamation for that object has not yet reached this place, I suppose no sale will take place this fall; I have used every exertion to have the plats &c got ready for the Register of the Land Office in time, and if a sale does take place, all the necessary papers will be ready by the first monday of November I returned a few days ago from a tour of a fortnight, that I took up the Missouri River as the mouth of the great Osage river, my principal object in taking that tour, was for exercise, having for a long time before been very closely confined to the Office, which produced bad health, as I anticipated, the tour had the effect to restore me to good health. The country over which I passed

⁸² Not found.

is very interesting, altho there is a large proportion of broken lands that is not of very good quality, yet there is a sufficient quantity of the richest & best kind of Lands covered excellent timber & beautiffully situated for cultivation, for extensive settlements, and the greater part of what in this country is called broken poor is admirably calculated to produce small grain, Timothy, clover &c in great abundance. Further west the country is more generally of good quality. The people I met with are generally anxious for the Public Sales, many of whom are Settled on Public Lands and are living in small cabins or camps waiting for the sales, so that they may purchase the lands & make better improvements, If a sale of those Lands does not take place this fall, I hope it will not be put off longer than till next spring, as I am convinced that a large quantity of Lands will sell and some of it at a high price which will bring considerable sums to the Treasury of the United States, and will be a great accommodation to a large number of enterprising and valuable citizens, who have and will settle in that part of the country. I beg leave to suggest that it would be an advantage to the United States & a convenience to purchasers of Lands, to cause public notice to be given of the Sales, several months before they shall take place; the information will be generally diffused through the country, and will give to persons disposed to purchase an opportunity to be prepared to make their payments

I do think that it will be an advantage to the U States, to create a land office, for the sale of the Lands of Howard County and for that office to be fixed in a central part of the District. It certainly will be a great convenience to purchasers; I have at different times forwarded to the General Land Office, Plats & Descriptions of the whole of the Military Bounty Land in Illinois Territory & shall in a short time send you a connected plat of the whole. It is not in my power at this time nor can I for several months send you any part of the Military bounty Lands between the S^t Francis & arkansas Rivers, for want of the surveys of individuals within that tract. The surveyors who undertook to lay off those claims have not yet completed their work, as soon after I receive those surveys as possible I will send on the plats Descriptions &c I shall in a short time commence forwarding to the General Land Office the surveys of the Lands in this Territory intended for sale as well as of the Military bounty Lands. I wrote you on the 21 July that 15000\$ in addition to the sums for which I have credit would be wanting to pay for the surveys of individuals & the adjacent public

Lands East of the 5th principal Meridian. That sum is actually wanting as a part of the surveys have already returned to my office and I have not funds to pay for them ⁸³

I am with great respect & esteem D^r Sir your obedient Serv^t
W^m RECTOR

[*Endorsed*] 15 Sept^r 1817 W^m Rector advises early public Sales & the establishment of another office Sent original to Sec^y Treas^y 18 Octo^r ⁸⁴

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., M338:ALS]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 26th Septem^r 1817

SIR I transmit herewith a letter from Governor Clark to the President of the U States & a resolution of the Board of Trustees for superintending Schools in St Louis; ⁸⁵ those papers were sent to this office by the Department of State, & as they relate to reservations to be made for military purposes, I transmit them to you. ⁸⁶

I am very respectfully Sir your obed^t Serv^t

JOSIAH MEIGS

GEO GRAHAM ESQ^r Acting Sec^y of War

[*Endorsed*] General Land Office 26 Sep^r 1817. Josiah Meigs Esq^r Enclosing a letter from Gov. Clark relative to reservations &c—Sep^r 1817

[Enclosure:ALS]

Governor Clark to the President

Missouri Territory SAINT LOUIS June 20th 1817

SIR. I have the honour to inclose you a resolution of a Board of Trustees which has been incorporated by the General assembly of this Territory, at their last Sessession—for the purpose of regulating Schools in the Town of Saint Louis; with power to take, hold, lease &c, for the use of Schools; all the Lands, and other property, which hath been, or may be given by Congress to said Town for the Support of Schools—

By an Act of Congress approved the 13th of June 1812 ⁸⁷ (page 215) the Vacant lots in and about this Town, which the President may not think proper to reserve for Military purposes, are re-

⁸³ Answered Oct. 18, 1817 (*Terr. Papers*, Ill., xvii, 539).

⁸⁴ *Post*, p. 320.

⁸⁵ Cf. *ante*, p. 296.

⁸⁶ See *post*, p. 544.

⁸⁷ 2 STAT. 748-752.

served for the support of Schools &c and as the Trustees do not think themselves authorised to take possession of any of the Vacant Lots, untill the Selection is made for Military purposes—

In behalf of the Board of Trustees, I request respectfully that you will cause such of those Vacant lots designated as you may think proper to select for military purposes.

I have the honor to be with the highest respect & veneration
Your Most Ob^t H^l Sert

W^m CLARK C.B.T.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE U. STATES

[*Addressed*] The President of the United States Washington
City P^r Mail. [*Postmarked*] St Louis Jun 23 Free

[*Endorsed*] June 20 1817 Gov^r Clark. S^t Louis Schools—

[Enclosure]

Resolution of the St. Louis School Trustees

[June 11, 1817]

At a Meeting of the Board of Trustees for Superintending Schools in the Town of S^t Louis, the Same being convened by the Chairman, at the office of his Excellency the Governor, on Wednesday June 11th 1817—

Present—William Clark Chairman of the Board—Auguste Chouteau Thomas H Benton William C Carr & Bernard Pratte
Members J V Garnier Sec^y—

The following resolution was introduced and carried unanimously—

Resolved That his Excellency Governor Clark, Chairman of the board, inform the President of the United States, by letter, that the Legislature of the Missouri Territory, has incorporated a Board of Trustees to take charge of the property given for the use of Schools in the Town of S^t Louis,^{ss} and the principal part being given by a law of Congress passed 13th june 1812 with the exception of so much as the President of the United States might select for military purposes, which reservation has not as yet been made— And to pray the President of the United States to designate, as soon as possible, what part of the said land, he will reserve, if any, for the said Military purposes, that the Trustees may be at liberty to take possession of the remainder and apply it according to the liberal intentions of the Congress—

(Signed) W^m CLARK Chmⁿ

^{ss} Approved Jan. 30, 1817 (Mo. TERR. LAWS, 1816-1817, pp. 70-72).

A true Transcript from the Records of the Board—J. V. Garnier
Sec^r—

[*Endorsed*] enclosed in Gov^r Clark's letter of June 20. 1817.

HENRY S. GEYER ⁸⁹ TO PETER LITTLE ⁹⁰

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

ST LOUIS 29th Sep^r 1817

DEAR COL Believing that you will at all times be disposed to promote the success of the "deranged" Officers of the late army, and more especially those of your own regiment, I am emboldened once more to apply for your friendly assistance in procuring for me the appointment of United States' District Attorney for the Territory of Missouri, which has again become vacant by the death of M^r Lucas, who was appointed last winter. Should you be inclined to favor my pretensions, I would respectfully solicit an early nomination to the President, as there will doubtless be many applications, and probably (as the office is not deemed of much importance) the earliest will be most effectual—more especially as appointments to inferior offices are often made on the first application, to avoid importunities—

While I bear in grateful recollection the friendly disposition toward me already manifested by you, my future study shall be to deserve it

I am D^r Col Sincerely yours

H. S. GEYER

COL. P. LITTLE—

[*Endorsed*] Geyer H. S. applies.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, II]

G L O 3^d Octo^r 1817.

W^m RECTOR Esq^{re} Survey^r Gen^l S^t Louis

SIR, Your letter of 8th Ult^o is before me ⁹¹—I do not know by what authority you & M^r Langham located 640 Acres on the place

⁸⁹ Compiler of *Digest of the Laws of Missouri Territory* (St. Louis, 1818).

⁹⁰ Formerly colonel, 38th U. S. Infantry; honorably discharged June 15, 1815 (Heitman, *Hist. Reg. U. S. Army*, I, 635).

⁹¹ NA (GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822), enclosing Langham to Rector, Sept. 7, 1817 (present), asking whether the location made by Langham for himself and Rector is valid, and explaining the survey of section 16 north of the Missouri River which had been completed.

you mention, but I presume the location was made agreeably to Law, & if so, you are in my opinion entitled to your location.

It appears to me that the sections south of the Missouri river should have been numbered in the same manner as they would have been if the River had not intervened, then N^o 36 would be in the S E corner of the township as usual, but as they have been numbered, the duplicate section numbers in the townships on the River must be distinguished as north & south of the River.

I am &c.

ROBERT SIMPSON TO [THE SECRETARY OF STATE]

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

S^t LOUIS October 5. 1817

D^r SIR Will you do me the favour to present the enclosed letter to the President—It is a recommendation for Cap^t Geyer, of whom I last mail wrote you, for U. S. Attorney—The signatures are such as I selected as men standing high in public estimation and known at Washington—Gen^l Rector, Surveyor Gen^l—Col Hammond, receiver of Public monies and well known at headquarters—M^r Bates, is the secretary of the Territory—The judges of the Gen^l Court are all absent—perhaps it would be convenient for you to see Gen^l. Vanness and R Brent Esq^r and if not convenient for you, one of those Gentlemen (who have been written to on the subject) would present the letter—There are some important suits depending and require immediate attention—The hoped the President will fill the immediately—you will oblige me by an early attention to this subject, and excuse the liberty as well as trouble I am giving you

Very respectfully Y^r H S^t

R SIMPSON

[Enclosure]

Samuel Hammond and others to the President

[October 5, 1817]

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The undersigned recommend Henry S Geyer Esquire Attorney & Counsellor at law as well qualified in every respect for the office of United States Attorney for the Territory of Missouri—M^r Geyer entered the United States Army as a Subaltern officer in the late war and served in different corps to the end thereof prior to which time he was promoted to a captain in the 38th Regiment Infantry He is about twenty seven years of age, of good moral character and respectable talents as a counsellor at law.

ST LOUIS October 5, 1817.

S HAMMOND
FREDERICK BATES

R. EASTON
W^m RECTOR.

GOVERNOR CLARK TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., C:ALS]

Missouri Territory SAINT LOUIS *October 6th 1817*

SIR I have the honor of receiving your letter of the 26th of August,⁹² in answer to a Resolution of the Board of Trustees for the Supporting of Schools in the Town of S^t Louis,⁹³—in which it is stated, that “It is not necessary to instruct to Register not to grant Certificates of preemption under the Act 5th of Feb^y 1813 which may embrace lands appropriated for Schools, by the Act of 13th of June 1812, because the former Act relates solely to Land’s in Illinois Territory”

Permit me to observe, that the Board of Trustees had intended to refer also, to the 5th Section of an Act “for the final adjustment of Land titles in the State of Louisiana & Territory of Missouri” passed the 12th of April 1814.⁹⁴—And the “Act concerning preemption rights given in the purchase of Lands to Certain Settlers in the State of Louisiana and in the Territory of Missouri & Illinois” passed 29th April 1816.⁹⁵—

The Trustees are sollicitious on this Subject, as some of the most valuable lots are held by persons who have been in possession of the old Spanish Fort & Buildings—and now claim the right of preemption.

I have the honor to be your Most ob^t H^l Sevant

W^m CLARK C.B.T.

[*Addressed*] The Hon^{ble} Josiah Meigs Commissioner of the General Land Office Washington City—[*Postmarked*] St Louis Oct 7 Gov^r Clarke Free

[*Endorsed*] 6 October 1817 Gov^r Clarke de pre-emption claims to School lands Ans^d Nov^r 3^d 96

WILLOUGHBY MORGAN TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., M120:ALS]

FORT CRAWFORD (Lé Prairie du Chien 12th *October 1817*

SIR. I have the honor to represent to you that in the fall of 1817, certain Indian traders, by the names of Farnham and Darling, American Cytizens, arrived at Fort Armstrong, where I then

⁹² *Ante*, p. 300.

⁹³ *Ante*, p. 297.

⁹⁴ 3 STAT. 122–123.

⁹⁵ 3 STAT. 330–331.

⁹⁶ *Post*, p. 321.

commanded, with a passport from L^t Col. Chambers, com^d this post, authorising them to proceed to S^t Louis, with their boats and crews, in order to obtain a license from Governor Clarke, to trade with Indians; but directing them not to trade, or even hold any conversation with the Indians during their passage further than was absolutely necessary, to provide for their indispensable wants—At the same time I received a letter from Col Chambers, ordering me to compel these persons, to act conformable to the directions of their passports, as far as practicable.

After having exhibited their passports, they declared it to be their intention, to proceed about three miles below the Fort, and open a trade with the Indians—deeming the license of M^r Putuff,⁹⁷ which they had in possession a sufficient warrant for this purpose. I replied if they persisted in this intention, it would be my duty, under the orders I had received, to apprehend them, and turn them over to the civil authority. They rejoined that they had made this declaration, in order, if they were apprehended, they might be apprehended, before they had commenced a trade with the Indians; and had given out credits, to the amount of three or four thousand Dollars—They were, therefore, put under a military escort, and sent to St Louis to be dealt with in the manner pointed out by the law.

For this act suit has been brought against me, by Samuel Crooks and Co, (of whom Farnham and Darling appear to have been agents) and in order that I may not be ultimately the sufferer, it has ocured to me that I should apprise you, of the circumstances under which the arrest was made, and the grounds on which I proceeded.

It was impossible for me at that time, to ascertain whether M^r Putuff had any authority to grant licenses, to American Cytizens; and if I had been left to pursue the dictates of my own judgment, I should have felt myself bound to have respected his official declaration contained in the licenses that he had been vested with the power he had took upon himself to exercise. But I presumed that my Superior Officer had already pronounced the license to be invalid; I felt myself bound to execute his order, and there was no way of carrying it into execution, but by apprehending those persons and sending them, under a military escort, and placing them in the hands, of the Civil authority—

From the examination I have given the law since the suit was instituted, I am inclined to believe that a decision favourable to us

⁹⁷ William H. Puthuff, Indian agent at Michilimackinac, within the superintendency of the Governor of Michigan Territory.

may be expected (for suit has been brought against Colonel Chambers as well as myself) but the law is vague and obscure, and it is impossible to say what interpretation it may receive.

If Mr Putuff had a right to grant licenses to American Cytizens, he must have derived this right from the President; for it will appear from the 7th Sec of the law passed in the year 1802,⁸⁸ that no person can trade with the Indians, without a licence from a Superintendant of a Department, or such other person, as the President shall authorise for this purpose—I understand that the Governors of the Territories, are considered *ex officio*, superintendants of Departments—perhaps made so by law—and that the law when it speaks of a Superintendant of a Department, has a reference to the Governors of the Territories. But admitting that an Indian Agent can be considered as a Superintendant of a Department; the Indian Agent at Machinac could scarcely be considered as a Superintendant, of a Department on the Mississippi; or in other words of the Missouri Territory in which Farnham and Darling, intended to trade with the Indians. If therefore, Mr Putuff had any authority to grant licenses to American Cytizens it must have given to him Immediately by the President, and I have been informed, that it has been satisfactorily ascertained, that no such authority had been entrusted to him. It is therefore clear, that Mr Farnham and Darling, had no sufficient authority to trade with the Indians at the time of their apprehension at Fort Armstrong

The next question is whether those person could be seized before they had actually commenced a trade with the Indians? This will depend upon the interpretation which is given to the 8th Sec. of the law before mentioned. The first part of this section speaks of an attempt of trade with the Indians; but is rendered obscure when it speaks of the forfeitures and penalties—"shall forfeit the goods offered for sale or found in his possession" Indeed from a view, of the whole of this section, it might be doubted, whether any offense were committed, unless it could be made appear, that an attempt had been made, to reside at some Indian town, or hunting Camp, or unless it could be shewn, that the goods were offered for sale, or found in possession, at some place of this description. Now any person may trade forever in the Indian Country without residing, at either an Indian Town or hunting Camp, or attempting to reside at such places—It does appear to me, that this section is too obscure for a penal statute—But if an attempt to trade with the Indians, be the Offense intended to be prohibited by this statute,

⁸⁸ 2 STAT. 142.

surely Mr Farnham and Darling had violated the law, before their apprehension; for if the coming into the Indian Country, with a large quantity of merchandize, calculated for the Indian trade, coupled with an open avowal of their intentions, be not an attempt within the statute, I am at a loss to conceive, what can amount to such an attempt as is contemplated by the law.

Considering these persons as infractors of the Indian laws, or the laws regulating trade and intercourse with the Indians, the next question is, whether they could be seized, by the military force—and conveyed to the civil authority?

By the 16th section of the law before alluded to, the military are authorized, to apprehend any person, found beyond the boundary line, between the Indians and the United States, violating any of the provisions or regulations of said act—I think it will appear, from an examination of treaties between the Gov^t and Indians, that the Indian title is not extinguished, on the East side of the Mississippi, farther than its eastern bank—at least as high up as Fort Armstrong (Rock Island)—It follows, therefore, that Mess^{rs} Farnham and Darling were apprehended, in the Indian Country; for Fort Armstrong is situated on an Island in the Mississippi—Besides their apprehension, was in fact, at Fort Crawford or this place; for their being permitted to descend with a military escort, was an indulgence extended to them, as I understand, under their pledge, that they would not attempt, to trade with the Indians, untill they had obtained a license from the Governor of the Missouri Territory—

But let this suit terminate as it may, I justify myself under the orders of a Superior Officer—and if I cannot offer this as a plea, before a court of Justice certainly it will not be ineffectual, when addressed to my Government; It will not permit me to suffer, in consequence of the discharge of my duty, or in consequence of the obscurity or uncertainty of its laws—

It is proper to state that Col Chambers, ordered these persons, to St Louis in consequence of the application of the Indian agent at this place—who adjudged the licenses of these men insufficient—And who had invincible objections to their two Interpreters St Johns and Lagonthre—who it was generally believed, were active in inciting, the Indians to wage War upon our frontiers, during the late War, in order that they with others, of the same stamp, might monopolise the fur trade on the Mississippi—to the exclusion of the Americans—

It is also proper to state, that Mr Walsh the attorney for the United States has undertaken the defense of the suits commenced

against us by Samuel Crook & Co—to whom I have addressed a statement, of the facts or circumstances under which Mess^{rs} Farnham and Darling were seized—As the Officers on this frontier are ordered to execute the Indian laws, it may not be improper to mention, that there appears to me, to be an obscurity or uncertainty, in the first section of the law of 1802 before mentioned, when it speaks as to the application of the provisions, of the law, to any extension or variation that may be, made in said boundary line between the U States and said Indian tribes; whereas no Indian tribes are previously named; and I believe that the extension or variation of our boundary lines, have been frequently made in consequence of treaties with other tribes than those actually alluded to in the law—

I do not meddle with the policy or efficacy of our Indian laws; But I could wish as I have been ordered to execute them, they were more clear and intelligible.

As the subject of this letter concerns myself I have supposed it out of the General rule with respect to military or official correspondence and I have therefore addressed it directly to yourself⁸⁰

I have the honor to be very respect^{ly} Yo Ob S^t

W MORGAN Major R R

P S. I had not the Indian laws at the time Mess^{rs} Farnham and Darling were apprehended. I acted solely under my orders, which I could not disobey, unless they were manifestly wrong—or unlawfull.

The Indian Agents on the Michigan yet grant licenses to American Cytizens, which they cannot do, according to my view of the law, unless the authority be derived immediately from the President—but I have not molested them in consequence of the vagness of the Indian laws—and under the supposition that this circumstance had not been adverted to W Morgan Mj^r R. R.

[*Addressed*] The Hon^{ble} Joseph Calhoun Secretary at War Washington City [*Postmarked*] St. Louis Nov 16 on Service. Post Office S^t Louis

[*Endorsed*] Fort Crawford 12 Dec 1818 Maj^r W. Morgan, In relation to a Suit brought ag^t him for arresting Indian Traders who were acting under the license of Majr Puthuff Ind Agent Dec^r 1818¹

⁸⁰ Other documents covering the subject of this letter are printed in *Wis. Hist. Soc. Colls.*, XIX, 477–486. See also the Secretary of War to Clark, Mar. 3, 1819, *post*, p. 520.

¹ See *infra*.

STATEMENT OF RUSSEL FARNHAM ²

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., A9:ADS]

[October 16, 1817]

TERRITORY OF MISSOURI County of S^t Louis ss:

I Joseph V Garnier a Notary Public, in and for The County of S^t Louis, duly commissioned—

At the Request of Russel Farnham a Citizen of the United States and an Indian Trader, Stating upon his oath that on the nineteenth day of August last, he did obtain from the Indian Agent at Michilimakinac, a licence to trade with the Indian Tribes, on the waters of the Mississippi, below Prairie du Chien, which said licence to me exhibited is in the words and figures Following—towit—

“Indian Agency office Michilimakinac 19th August 1817

“Whereas the American Fur Company by Ramsey Crooks their representative, has this day made application for a license in favor of Russel Farnham, a Citizen of the United States as Principal and Joseph Laperche as clerk, to trade with Indian Tribes on the Waters of the Mississippi, below Prairie du Chien—

“Now Therefor (by Special power vested in me by the President of the United States, and by Special instructions from his Excellency the Governor of the Territory of Michigan) I do hereby authorise, empower and licence the aforesaid Russel Farnham, with Joseph Farnham ^{2a} his clerk and Francois Bourdeau, Pierre Gosselin, J B Nadeau, Joseph Lozau and Pierre Brausseau his Boat men, to trade with any Indian or tribe of Indians within Indian Territory, on the waters of the Mississippi below Prairie du Chien, in any article of goods, wares or merchandize, not prohibited by the laws of the United States—regulating trade and intercourse with Indian Tribes, or instructions of the President, for and during the term of one Year from the date of these Presents, not taking or Suffering to be taken by any concerned with him in trade, directly or indirectly, ardent Spirits into any Indian Country in which he maybe engaged in Trade—

“Given under my hand at Michilimackinac this Nineteenth day of August one thousand eight hundred and Seventeen

W^m Hen^y Puthoff In Ag^t
Michilimakinac”

That in Pursuance of the Said license, he proceeded with his Boats, boats' hands and goods, amounting according to Invoice at Michilimakinac, to about Seven thousand nine hundred and

² Enclosed in Astor to the Secretary of War, Jan. 9, 1818 (NA, WD, SW, Lets. Recd., A9).
^{2a} Laperche?

twenty seven dollars and eighty cents, current money of the United States, into the Indian Country, for the purposes of Indian Trade. That on his way down the Mississippi, at Prairie du chien, he was stopped by Col Thos^s Chambers of the United States rifle regiment, commanding that Post, and by him ordered to proceed to S^t Louis, which order from the Said Col Tho^s Chambers is in the words following to wit—"Fort Crawford, 18th September 1817—The Bearers Mess^{rs} Farnham & Darling are permitted to visit S^t Louis with their respective Boats and crews for the purpose of procuring a license from Governor Clark, to Trade on the river Demoyne—They are positively ordered to make report at all the Military posts situated between this and S^t Louis, and to General Smith commanding 6th Military department, previous to arriving at S^t Louis—during this passage they are positively prohibited from holding any intercourse or even converse with any Indians, save what may be absolutely indispensable to procure immediate wants, or to land, deposit or dispose of any kind of goods or merchandizes or make any unnecessary halts or delays—Tho^s Chamber Col Commandant"

That Protesting against the illegality of these proceedings, he proceeded on his journey, as far down as fort Armstrong, where he was again detained by Major Willoughby Morgan of the Rifle Regiment aforesaid, to whom, upon being questioned as to his intentions, he exhibited his license to trade among the Indians, which Said license is the same which he had previously exhibited to Col Chambers, and is copied above, and by virtue of which, he stated to Said Major Morgan, he intended to trade among the Indians—That upon his Statement, the Said Major Morgan declared to him, that he thought it his duty to arrest him and his hands and to take his boats and goods into his Custody to be sent to S^t Louis, upon an order to that effect, issued to him by Col Chambers, and which he shewed to the Said Russel Farnham—That accordingly he was sent down with his boats, boats' hands and Cargoes, his crews consisting of three clerks and ten hands, to S^t Louis, under a Strong guard of a Serjeant and eight or nine Privates, under the Command of Lieutenant Blair—and that on their arrival at S^t Louis, they were left on the Beach

Wherefore, In order to provide for and guard against all losses, damages and costs which may have accrued, or which may hereafter accrue to the Said Russel Farnham by reason of the arrests

* Error for Talbot.

and detentions aforesaid by the Said Col Tho^s Chambers and Major Willoughby Morgan at the respective posts or Forts aforementioned and of being deprived and prevented from trading and holding intercourse with the different tribes of Indians within the limits prescribed by his said license so granted as aforesaid, The Said Russel Farnham doth hereby Protest against the proceedings of the said Chambers and Willoughby Morgan, and all others concerned, as oppressive in thus arresting and detaining him the Said Russel Farnham in his legal pursuits and avocations—

Signed RUSSEL FARNHAM—

And I The Said Notary at the request as aforesaid Have and Do Solemnly protest against the Said Thomas Chambers and Willoughby Morgan and the order or orders emanating from them or either of them for the arrest and detention of him the Said Russel Farnham, his Boats, Boats' hands and Cargoes, and all losses, damages and costs which have or may hereafter accrue To him in Consequence thereof; and against the illegality and oppression of Such proceedings—

Thus Done and Protested at the Town of S^t Louis this Sixteenth day of October in the Year of our lord one thousand eight hundred and Seventeen

In Testimony Whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and [L. S.] affixed my Seal, having as Yet, no notarial Seal, the day and Year last aforesaid—

J. V. GARNIER N^y P
S^t Louis County—

TERRITORY OF MISSOURI ss:

I William Clark Governor of the Territory of Missouri, do hereby certify that Joseph V Garnier, with whom the foregoing protest was at the time of entering the same and now is a notary public in and for the county of S^t Louis aforesaid duly commissioned and that due faith and credit is and ought to be given to his official acts as such

In Testimony Whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and [L. S.] caused the Seal of the Territory to be annexed to the same at S^t Louis this 18th day of October in the Year 1817—& Indpence of the U States the 42nd

W^m CLARK

By the Governor
FREDERICK BATES
Sec^y of Missouri ter^y

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

G. L. O. 18th Oct^r 1817.—HON. W^m H. CRAWFORD Sec^y of the Treasury—

SIR I have the honor to transmit herewith a letter dated 15th Sept^r last from M^r Rector (Surv^r Gen^l)⁴ relative to early public sales of lands in Missouri Territory & to the establishment of another land office in the said Territory.—

I am &c.

THE ACTING SECRETARY OF WAR TO THOMAS A. SMITH

[NA:WD, Lets. Sent, Mil. Bk. 9]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, *October 27th 1817.*

GEN^l T: SMITH, or the officer, Command^g the 9th Military departm^t S^t Louis, Missouri territory.

SIR, I inclose you a newspaper printed at S^t Louis, and forwarded to the President of the United States, in which a portion of the military stationed at that place, is charged with an improper interference in the election which took place for a member of Congress in August last. I have, therefore, to request, that you would institute a Court of Enquiry for the purpose of ascertaining how far there has been an improper interference in the election of a member of Congress for the territory of Missouri; and that the Editor of the inclosed paper may have notice of the same, and be called upon to give his testimony.⁵

I have the honor to be, &c.

GEO:GRAHAM.

GOVERNOR CLARK TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

Missouri Territory S^t LOUIS *October 27th 1817*

SIR The place of prosecuting Attorney for this Territory having become vacant by the Death of Ch^s Lucas Esquire—I beg leave to Recommend the appointment of Robert Wash Esquire the United States Attorney for the Missouri Territory⁶

With Sentiments of high respect I have the honor to be your Mo. Ob. H. Sev^t

W^m CLARKTHE HON^{ble} THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[Endorsed] Wash R., recommended.

⁴ *Ante*, p. 308.⁵ *Cf. post*, p. 341.⁶ *See post*, p. 358.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO GOVERNOR CLARK

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

G.L.O. 3^d Nov^r 1817.

HIS EXCELLENCY GOV^r CLARK Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Schools, S^t Louis.

SIR, Your letter of 6th Ult^o ⁷ has been received; the act of 13th June 1812 reserves for the use of Schools the commons of towns and villages not rightfully claimed by individuals.—The act of 12th Ap^l 1814 gives a right of preemption to lands not rightfully claimed by others; the board of trustees claim for the use of schools the lands appropriated for their use, and I have therefore directed the regis^r not to issue preemption certificates for such lands.

I am &c.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO ALEXANDER MCNAIR

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

G.L.O. Nov^r 4th 1817

ALEXANDER MCNAIR Esq^r Register S^t Louis.—

SIR, Governor Clark (as Chairman of the Board of Trustees for schools) in his letter of 25th July^s and 6th Ult^o ⁹ informs me that probably, applications for preemptions to lands reserved for schools will be made to you;—the act of 13th June 1812, reserves for the use of schools certain commons of towns and villages. Certificates of Preemption Right to those lands must not issue, because they are rightfully claimed by the trustees for the purposes for which they were previously reserved; and the act of April 1814 grants pre-emptions only for lands not claimed by others.—

I am &c.

THOMAS L. MCKENNEY TO THE TERRITORIAL GOVERNORS

[NA:OIT, Supt. Lets. Sent, Bk. D]

(Circular) Office of Indian trade GEO:TOWN Nov^r 4 1817
To GOV^r CASS CLARK EDWARDS

SIR I have had transmitted to me copies of a “general circular” issued by the Baptist Board of foreign missions for the U States”—with a request to forward one of them to you.—

In complying with the request of this benevolent body, whose purpose to renovate the condition of our Brethren of the forests and to convey amongst them in addition to the lessons which shall improve them in the arts and in domestic life, those nobler views

^r Ante, p. 312.

^s Ante, p. 296.

⁹ Ante, p. 312.

which relate to futurity I do nothing more than what I conceive to be my duty—not a duty which devolves upon me by reason of my official tenure, but a duty which arises out of my conviction that we all, as Americans, owe the Aborigines a debt, which cannot be more acceptably, or justly cancelled, than by the promotion of those means which tend to Civilize and Christianize them. And what means are more likely than those which are used by men who go amongst them as Messengers of peace & goodwill? without one mercenary consideration, or desire for gain, but only to impress upon them the superior excellencies of the civilised over the Savage state; and of the excellent consequences which follow a life of virtue, in the future world.

In asking you to correspond with the Board, on those parts of the Circular which relate to the information they ask, I do no more, I am sure than put it in your power to do a service no less acceptable to your own feelings—than it will prove beneficial to the views of the board

Direct to W^m Staughton D. D. & corresponding Sec^y of the Board.
Accept the assurance of high regards

T.L.McK. S.I.T.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

G.L.O. 11th Nov^r 1817.—

HON W^m H. CRAWFORD Secretary of the Treasury

SIR, This day Surveys of thirty six townships in Missouri territory (north of the Missouri river) were received from M^r Rector Surveyor General.

Those townships contain about 829.000 acres of which 500,000 may be set apart for Military bounties.—Not any surveys have been received of lands in Missouri appropriated for Military bounties between the rivers S^t Francis and Arkansas; probably that tract will not be prepared for distribution in less than six months—Must the lottery for the lands north of Missouri river be prepared forthwith, or the preparation be postponed for the purpose of throwing all the Missouri bounty lands into one wheel—Whilst I am on this subject, permit me to remind you of my letter dated 4th of August,¹⁰ relative to bounty lands in Missouri Territory, to which letter you replied that a decision must necessarily be postponed till the return of the President¹¹

I have the honor &c.

¹⁰ *Ante*, p. 297.

¹¹ *Ante*, p. 298.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, II]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 11th Nov^r 1817.

W^m RECTOR Esq^r Surveyor Gen^l &c.

SIR, Your letter of 13th Ult^o with thirty six plats &c of townships north of Missouri river have been received,¹² also a connected plat of the Bounty lands in Illinois Territory. When may the surveys of the Bounty lands between the rivers S^t Francis and Arkansas be expected to be completed?

I am &c.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 7]

G.L.O. 15th Nov^r 1817—

HON W^m H CRAWFORD Secretary of the Treasury

SIR, I have Honor to transmit herewith the papers relative to Bounty lands in Missouri territory which were heretofore submitted by you to the President, also a connected Map of the lands recommended by surveyor Gen^l Rector and his general index map of the surveys to be made in that territory

I have the honor &c.

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., Treasury:ALS]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT 21st Nov^r 1817

SIR I have the honor to return you the Connected plat of lands proposed by Mr Rector to be set apart for the military bounties required by law on the North Side of the Missouri River, and request that the range immediately South of this connected plat, from the Eastern limit of township sixteen to the Western limit of township twenty three be Surveyed & returned to your office with as little delay as practicable.

The President has decided that the said range of townships, with the two immediately north of it within the Eastern & Western limits assigned to the said range constitute the military tract North of the Missouri, including so much of township twenty one in Range fifty six north, as may be required to comprehend five hundred thousand acres of cultivable land, exclusive of such part

¹² NA (GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822), transmitting returns of townships in the Missouri and Illinois military reserves, with an explanation of the difficulties from floods and Indians.

of range fifty three north as may be found to lie South of the Missouri river.

When these returns are made you will establish another wheel and proceed with the lottery as in the case of the Illinois military lands.

I return you also the general Sketch of the public lands which accompanied the connected plat of Mr Rector

I have the honor to be your Most ob^t & very humble Serv^t

W^m H CRAWFORD

JOSIAH MEIGS Esq^r Comm^r Genl Land office

[*Endorsed*] 21 Nov^r 1817 Sec^r Treasury with Presidents directions what shall be the milit^y bounty Lands north of Missouri river—Sent Instructions to M^r Rector 22^d Nov^r

JOSIAH MEIGS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, 11]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 22nd Nov^r 1817.—

W^m RECTOR Esq^r Surveyor Gen^l &c S^t Louis.—

SIR, The President of the United States has directed that the tract of land for Military Bounties (north of Missouri river) shall comprise townships fifty three, fifty four and fifty five in ranges sixteen to twenty three both inclusive, with the exception of such lands within the said limits as may be south of the Missouri river.—You will please therefore to cause to be surveyed a tier of townships to be numbered fifty three, South of the tier numbered fifty four in your plat of the said Military district, excluding lands south of Missouri river: this survey you will have executed immediately, and the plats transmitted to this office without delay. On receipt of this please to say how soon the plats may be expected.¹³

I am &c.

RUFUS EASTON TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., E:ALS]

S^t LOUIS Decem^r 7th 1817

D^r SIR, Captain Amos Wheeler will deliver to you a petition and caveat on my behalf which I now send under cover to him addressed to the President and the Commissioner of the General

¹³ Answered by Barcroft, *post*, p. 329. Cf. Meigs to the Secretary of the Treasury, Dec. 13, 1817 (*Terr. Papers*, III., xvii, 551).

Land Office ¹⁴—As the petition and caveat contains so full a statement it will be unnecessary for me to write at length on the subject—I will barely remark that if the lead mine in question shall be granted to any person—you will I think discover that it belongs to the representatives of James Bruff and your petitioner ¹⁵—and altho' it cost us considerable money 12 years ago—which if it had been laid out otherwise might have been of some benefit to our families which you will discover by the deeds of conveyance—I would prefer to loose my claim than to see such a fraud as I conceive this to be practiced on the Government or myself—I think I shall be able to shew that both the Deputy surveyor and the delegate of the Territory are or were interested in the grant of 640 acres—indeed the deputy surveyor M^r Henry Elliott within whose district the claim falls, told me last Spring that he had bargained with Jo. Girrard Junior for one half of the claim—that another person was ready to dispose of his half and proposed to sell the claim to me—but that the deed would be made direct from the said Girrard Junior to the purchaser—

I am willing to make affidavit of this statement made to me by M^r Elliott and therefore request that a special order may be issued to the Surveyor of the public lands of this territory for the claim of 640 acres to be surveyed to include the improvement of the said Joseph Girrard Junior by some disinterested person, when it will be found to include the mine a joe—That the delegate was or is interested I have from the information of others—and therefore do not state it as a fact—but I believe it to be true that he told certain persons that he was so interested—and believe him to be the person to whom M^r Elliott alluded—

Yours very respectfully

RUFUS EASTON

THE HONORABLE JOSIAH MEIGGS

[Addressed] The Honorable Josiah Meigs Commissioner of Gen^l Land office Washington City.—

[Endorsed] 7 Decem^r 1818 Rufus Easton de claim to a Lead Mine ¹⁶

¹⁴ Not seen.

¹⁵ The Easton-Bruff claim to the Mine à Joe, in Ste. Genevieve County, had not been recommended for confirmation, according to the report of Recorder Bates to Meigs, Nov. 20, 1816 (*A.S.P., Pub. Lands*, III, 704). Other entries respecting this claim are found *ibid.*, pp. 672-673, 689, 699.

¹⁶ No reply found.

DELEGATE SCOTT TO THE PRESIDENT

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

WASHINGTON CITY Decr. 15th 1817

HIS EXCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE U. STATES

SIR, Permit me the liberty to name to you that there is a Vacancy in the Territory of Missouri in the office of "District Attorney for the United States" The late Incumbent being dead—As the Representative of that Territory I beg leave to name for your Consideration Robert Wash Esqr who I believe is personally known to you,—It gives me pleasure to state that he is a Gentleman of the first Talents, Integrity, and respectability, and well qualified to fill that office should you think proper to Confer it on him

With the Highest respect & Consideration I have the honour to be yours obediently

JOHN SCOTT—

[Endorsed] Robert Wash

 PETITION TO CONGRESS BY INHABITANTS OF
ST. CHARLES COUNTY

[NA:HF, 15 Cong., 1 sess.:DS]

[Referred December 22, 1817]

To the Honorable the speaker of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States now assembled—

Your memorialists Citizens of the Missouri Territory and of Saint Charles County Humbly sheweth that they inhabit a rich fertile soil on the waters of the Missouri and haveing subdued and expelled from this productive soil the Savage and Barbarous Foe and peace haveing honorably and happily returned to our Free and Enlightened Country Our attention is naturally turned to those pursuits which are calculated to ensure and preserve those blessings which the divine and overruling Providence has so graciously and bountifully bestowed upon us the most happy and free people in the civilised world—

Your memorialists are very certain that there is nothing better calculated to attain those valuable blessings than a liberal distribution of education among our riseing generation—

Your memorialists being men of families and young men who now feel the want of a liberal education humbly pray that you will take this matter into your deliberate consideration—They further pray that you will pass a Law to Establish an Academy in the Town of Marthasville in the County of Saint Charles in the Territory of Missouri which shall be call'd and known by the "Ben-

jamin Rush Academy in which shall be taught the Languages usually taught in Academies and Seminaries of Learning in the United States and the arts and sciences and that Benjamin Sharp John Young Hugh M'Dermed Gabriel Greathouse and John Wyatt Esquires be appointed Trustees thereof—

They also pray that all the sixteenth Sections which have been set apart and appointed for the use of Public schools and Seminaries of Learning by your Honourable Body lying within the following Boundary shall be appropriated and vested in the hands of said Trustees and their successors in Office for the use and benefit of the said Academy viz: beginning on the Missouri River at the Junction of the Femme Osage with the said River thence on a straight line to Howells Horse Mill thence to the Pond Fort in the said County of Saint Charles thence along the light horse or Boons Lick road to Camp branch at Pritchards Farm thence to Jacob Quicks on the said Missouri River thence down the said River to the Beginning—Your memorialists also further pray that the aforesaid Trustees may be authorized and impowered to sell one moiety of the said Sixteenth Sections set apart as aforesaid for the purpose of erecting a suitable building for the aforesaid Academy provided however that the aforesaid land shall not be sold for a less sum than two Dollars per Acre and if any surplus there be of the proceeds of said land after building said house to be laid out in Globes Maps and Charts and Philosophical apparatus for the use and benefit of the said academy Your memorialists are sufficiently aware that some objections may be made to this memorial on account of the infantile state of the Country which may prevent the sale of the aforesaid land or in Consequence thereof it may not be so productive but when your Honorable Body recollects that the present inhabitants defended this country from the ruthless savage with their Blood and Treasure it will be hard very hard indeed should the lands appropriated as aforesaid be reserved for the benefit of future emigration or for future generations alone—

Your memorialists cannot for a moment draw such an illiberal conclusion—And that all those matters may be granted is their humble prayer as in duty bound they will ever pray—

Haile Talbot
Andrew Faust
William Ramsey Jr
James Rutherford
H. B. Lane
Daniel Gossin
Jinkin Williams
John P. Scott

William T. Lamme
Thos Edmonds
Joseph Moody
Nathanel Tague
Joseph Johnston
Frazer Ward
Geo: Aery
Isaac Bledsoe

Jacob Groom
Huston Reynold
John Rumsy
Joseph Martin
Benj: Sharp
Mordcai Morgan
Sam^l Morris
Absalom Hays

Andrew M^cWilliams
William Ramsey
Benjamin James.
Anthony Wyatt
John Davis
Joseph le Baron
John Young
Tho^s Talbot

On the Event of a failure in the forgoing you will please try for a Township in the boundary described in the petition—

[*Endorsed*] Missouri Petition of the Inhabitants of Marthasville, Ste Charles County, praying for the Establishment of an Academy, and to vest the 16th Sections reserved for the use of Schools in trustees with power to sell a part to Erect the Necessary Building, &c—Dec^r 22—1817 Ref^d to the Committee on Public Lands Jany—7—1818 Report made—pet rejected ¹⁷ Scott N^o 1.22. pub l^{ds}

DELEGATE SCOTT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Misc. Letters:ALS]

WASHINGTON CITY Dec^r 29th 1817

HONBLE J Q. ADAMS

SIR. In 1811 or 1812 Robert M^cKnight Benjamin Shrive—James Baird—Alfred Allen—Michael M^cDonnough, William Mines—Samuel Chambers—Peter Baum—Thomas Cook and one [blank] Miers as their interpreter, and probably some others whose names I do not know, all Citizens of the United States, and Missouri Territory, went up the Missouri River, and from thence into the Spanish Provinces; they were arrested and Imprisoned by the Authorities of that Country at San-te-fee, and from then, till now have been detained from returning to their families, and their homes

Last Winter I laid this Subject before the Secretary of State,¹⁸ and he procured from the Spanish minister something like an order (the Minister not feeling authored to give more) for their release (triplicates) one was stated to have been sent directly to the Vice-roy, another was said to have been sent on for the Royal Signature, and the third was given to me, with a view of having it sent directly on from Ste Louis, by some Gentlemen who were expected to go shortly through, but who did not go—The paper thus obtained did not amount to passport to protect any person who

¹⁷ *House Journal*, 15 Cong., 1 sess., pp. 73, 115.

¹⁸ *Ante*, p. 246.

would bear the same, and the consequence was no person would venture to be the bearer of it, when they also run the risk of being immured with those they went to relieve; And it is presumed from the delay, either that the orders have never reached the Vice-roy, or have been disregarded—I understood that even if the copy of the order destined directly to reach the Vice-roy did arrive, that it did not amount to positive orders for their release, but recommended it, and that they should be furnished with the means of returning home, and should this fail, the one sent for the Royal Signature at all events would procure their release—

I hope you will take up this Subject, and if an order for their discharge can be obtained, together with a passport, they have friends, (and some of them brothers) at Ste Louis who would go or Send Instantly to their assistance—

If deemed proper by you, I should be glad to know the result as early as possible

I have the Honor to be with the Highest Consideration and respect Yr Obt Sert

JOHN SCOTT—

[*Addressed*] Honble John Q Adams—Secty of State of U States. Washington—

[*Endorsed*] Scott. John 29. Dec^r 1817. Prisoners

ELIAS BARCROFT TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822:ALS]

Surveyors Office for the Territories of Illinois &
Missouri, 29th Dec^r 1817—

SIR, Your letter of the 22nd Ult.¹⁹ was received by the last Mail, in which you state that the President of the United States, has directed, that the tract of Land for Military bounties, shall Comprize Townships fifty three, fifty four, & fifty five, of Ranges Sixteen, to Twenty three inclusive, with the exception of such lands within the said limits as may be south of the Missouri River—and require that a tier of Townships to be numbered fifty three, South of the tier numbered fifty four, of said district, shall be Surveyed immediately, and the Plats transmitted to your office without delay.—

The tier of Townships numbered fifty three, above described, have already been surveyed and the field Notes returned to this office, and the Plats and descriptions thereof nearly in a state of

¹⁹ *Ante*, p. 324.

readiness and will be compleated and transmitted to your office by next mail, The plats & descriptions of the balance of said tract have been heretofore forwarded ²⁰—

I am very respectfully Sir, your ob^t Serv^r

for William Rector Surveyor &c

ELIAS BARCROFT—

J. MEIGS Esq^r Com^r Gen^l L. O Washington

[Addressed] Josiah Meigs Esquire Commissioner of the Gen^l
L Office Washington City [Postmarked] St Louis Jan Free

[Endorsed] S^t Louis 29 dec^r 1817 Northern bounty tract of
Missouri is nearly ready.

PETITION TO CONGRESS FROM INHABITANTS OF THE TERRITORY

[NA:HF, 15 Cong., 1 sess.:DS]

[1817]

*To the honourable the Senate and House of Representatives of the
United States in Congress assembled,*

We the undersigned inhabitants of the Counties of Cape-Girardeau, New-Madrid, Lawrence, and Arkansas, in the Territory of Missouri, beg leave to represent to your honourable body, that by the present establishment of the mails, the Letters from the Counties of Cape-Girardeau and New-Madrid directed to the Counties of Lawrence and Arkansas are sent by the way of St. Louis, a distance of three hundred miles out of their direct route; and those from the counties of Arkansas and Lawrence directed to the Counties of Cape-Girardeau and New-Madrid are also sent by the way of St. Louis, the same distance out of the direct route; that there is considerable intercourse between the above named counties; and that the Inhabitants of said counties suffer great inconvenience from the present arrangement of the mails. For remedy whereof, we humbly pray that a mail route may be established directly from the town of Cape-Girardeau, by Jackson, Bettes' Ferry on the St. Francis, and Lawrence Court-House, to the Post of Arkansas; and that all the Letters from the South and East directed to the above named counties may be sent by the way of Cape-Girardeau.

MISSOURI TERRITORY, 1817.

²⁰ See also Barcroft (for Rector) to Meigs, Jan. 3, 1818 (NA, GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822), sending lists of plats and descriptions (present) of eight townships and fractional townships designated as a part of the military bounty lands north of the Missouri River.

John Davis, J.P.
 Tho: Neale, J.P.
 Jason Chamberlain.
 Joseph Mcferran.
 John Hays
 James Evans
 Samuel S. Hall
 Jn° Abernethie J.P.
 Rob^t Green j p
 Rich^d S. Thomas

Judge of the
 Southern Circuit

Johnson Ranney
 Edward H Matthews
 William Welch
 George Takesley
 Joseph Linkom
 Hiram Berry
 George Henderson
 Nathan M^cCarty
 William Kelso
 David Green
 Nathan Vanhorn
 Abraham Byrd
 Jo^s Seawell

P. Master Jackson

John B Wheeler J—P—
 Morris Young
 Victor Lorimier
 Morgan Byrne
 Tho^s Phillips
 Matteo Bogliolo
 John Sheppard
 Rich^d H. Waters
 James Brady
 John Osborn
 Moses Shelby
 Stephen Ross
 Rob. G. Watson
 Joseph Hunter
 J A Hopkins
 Enoch Ligget
 Jos^h Story
 Aaron F Speer
 J Ravenscroft
 Tho Fletcher
 Jesse Tiffing
 J Winchester
 Robert M^cCay
 Philip Ross
 Andrew P Gillaspie
 Charles G. Ellis

Joseph Teawks
 D. F. Steinbeck
 Ulysses Munn
 J Frizel
 J. Thorne
 Jacob Garrett
 Elijah Bettes
 John Davidson
 Micajah Harriss J P
 Willis Wilson
 Rich^d Searcy
 Clk of Lawrence
 Circuit Court
 A^m Ritchey
 P. M. at Lawrence
 Court House
 David Leister
 James Campbell
 Sheriff of the
 County of Lawrence
 Joseph Hardin
 Benedict White
 George Ruddell
 Sam Roane
 Eli Hillhouse
 John Cammark
 W^m Harris
 William Robinson
 Morgan Magness
 Joseph Hardin Sen^r
 William Moore J.P—
 William Willson
 Josiah Pearce
 George Morgan
 John J Maxwell
 Silas Cornwell
 Alexander Hodge
 Hiram West
 William Russel
 William Hix J.P.
 Abner Gray
 P Boyd
 Eward M^cDonald
 Jeremiah Ragsdell
 A S Walker
 John Giles
 John Vangilder
 Levi Wolverton
 Thomas Millis
 Wilson Able
 Ezra L. Millard
 W^m Grimes

Abner Hathaway
 John Waters
 Geo. Bullitt
 Henry Eckhart
 Staples Chamberlain
 S Beardin

Cha^s Mothershed
 John Brown
 T Tuttle
 David Holley
 Joseph Hawks

[*Endorsed*] Petition to Congress, for a Post-Route. Missouri
 N^o 1 Inha^{bts} of Cape Girardeau New Madrid, Lawrence &c Jan⁷—
 10—1818 Ref^a to the Committee on the Post-Office & Post-road ²¹
 N^o 1 Ingham J. 10. post off

JOSIAH MEIGS TO RECORDER BATES

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8]

G. L. O. 19th Jan. 1818.

FREDERICK BATES Esq^r Recorder, S^t Louis—

SIR, A memorial signed by David Coulter and Theodore Hunt was received this day.²² It states that they have located two New Madrid claims of 640 acres each, near one of the forty arpent lots in the common field of the town of S^t Louis.

The memorialists request that a patent may not issue for these lands to A. Chouteau, who, is (as they say) about taking some measures to effect that purpose; and they object to his having a patent, because his claim was rejected by the commissioners, and because he has already had claims to the amount of more than a league square confirmed to him.

I will thank you for any information you possess on this subject.²³
 I am &c.

JOSEPH CHARLESS TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Misc. Letters:ALS]

ST LOUIS—Missouri Ter. Jan. 24th 1818—

THE HONORABLE THE SECRETARY OF STATE—

SIR, Two characters of this Territory, now at Washington City, had declared before they left this place, that the Missouri Gazette should no longer publish the laws of the United States—

These characters are my personal enemies, implacably intent on injuring me, because I differed in opinion with them at our last

²¹ *House Journal*, 15 Cong., 1 sess., p. 129. Cf. act approved Apr. 20, 1818 (3 STAT. 456).

²² Not found.

²³ Answered *post*, p. 356.

election for Delegate—However, they cannot deny that I have for the last ten years, in this place, published the laws of the U. States as well as all other public acts of the government promptly—That the Gazette Office—the first printing establishment in this Territory, has a circulation beyond the paper patronized by the successful party, of only seven months standing—That the Gazette has always sustained a republican character and that my opponent is of a different political character.

For any information on the subject, I would beg leave to refer you to John B. C. Lucas Esq. one of the judges of this Territory, now at Washington City, or to the Honorable Josiah Meigs commissioner of the Gen. land Office—or to Col. Johnston of Kentucky.

I have the honor to be, with great Respect Your obedient Servant,

JOSEPH CHARLESS

[*Addressed*] The Honorable The Secretary of State, Washington City. [*Postmarked*] St. Louis Jan 25 Free

DELEGATE SCOTT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Printing and Distribution of Laws:ALS]

WASHINGTON CITY *January 26 1818*

HONBL^e J Q ADAMS

SIR, The Territory of Missouri is Very extensive, there are but two presses in it at this time, the one is conducted by Joseph Charless, the other by Sergeant Hall; those who take one Paper, do not take the other, Charless has the Public printing and is publisher of the laws of the U. States, If consistant with the rules of your department I wish that Sergeant Hall could also have the Public Printing, he has desired me to apply in his behalf, I think the Measure would be useful to the people, as well as Beneficial to him, he is a good Editor, and his paper circulates to a distance, Should the proposition meet your approbation I would be thankful to receive a notice of your determination on the Subject—

I have the honor to be with Esteem and Consideration yr. Ob^t Sev^t

JOHN SCOTT—

[*Addressed*] Honble John Q. Adams—Secty of State of U States Washington

[*Endorsed*] 26 Jany. 1818. M^r Scott recommends M^r Hall as Publisher of the laws in Missouri Territory.²⁴

²⁴ Answered *post*, p. 338.

PETITION TO CONGRESS BY ROBERT READ

[NA:HF, 15 Cong., 1 sess.:DS]

[Referred January 27, 1818]

To the Honble Congress of the U. S. The memorial of [blank]

Your memorialist is one of those who under the provisions of an Act of Congress passed for the relief of such of the Inhabitants of the County of New-Madrid in the Territory of Missouri as were injured by the Earthquakes in the years 1811 & 1812. and in Conformity to the Regulations of the land office has located lands in that Territory. He has made a location in the County of St Charles on the north side of the Missouri River, and near the Village of Cote Sans Dessein. From some circumstances which have recently come to his knowlege, he is apprehensive that he is in danger of losing the benefit of the said location, unless, by the timely caution of those interested, this Office be put on its guard against a fraud, which he has reason to believe will be attempted against them.

It appears that in the latter part of the year 1800 a certain Baptiste Du Choquet obtained from the Lieutenant Governor of Upper Louisiana a gratuitous Concession of 4000 Arpents, to be laid off on the left Bank of the Missouri River opposite the Mouth of Osage River. It seems that the benefit of this concession was afterwards assigned to Pierre Chouteau. The Claim founded on it was rejected by the Board of Commissioners who sate for the purpose of adjusting Land Claims in the said Territory, and was not comprehended in the Report heretofore made by the Recorder of Land Titles, of such Claims as in his opinion ought to be confirmed. It would seem that, having never been surveyed, and calling for no boundaries or Land-marks by which its locality could be precisely ascertained, it was not deemed special enough to come within the provisions of the Laws passed for the benefit of such persons as might claim Lands in the Territory of Missouri in virtue of imperfect titles, and therefore not worthy to take precedence of the claims of those who might fairly and honestly and in conformity to Law have acquired an interest in the Land which might be covered by it. How reasonable these objections were will appear from the following Statement.

Some time in the Course of the present year the Recorder of Land Titles for the Missouri Territory reported the above mentioned claim to the Surveyor General for survey, describing it as a special Location opposite the mouth of Osage River. That intelligent Officer aware of the difficulty of adapting a general Rule to cases of that description, determined to assume one, difficult indeed but certain and uniform in its application, to wit; to fix the centre of the southern Boundary of the tract at a point opposite the centre

of the Mouth of the Osage, and lay off the required quantity in a square on a straight line connecting the extremities of that Boundary. He had given orders accordingly, and his deputies were proceeding to carry his directions into effect, when he received an explanatory mandate from the Recorder of Land Titles directing that the Land should be so laid off as to include the Prairie of Cote Sans Dessein. Your Memorialist begs leave to refer to the petition of Du Choquet, and the Concession founded thereon, in neither of which is any thing said of this Prairie, but the position of the grant is distinctly and solely referred to the Mouth of Osage River. Your memorialist and others aware of this grant, and not wishing to invalidate it on the one hand nor to be injured by it on the other, had made their locations in such a way as not to interfere with it if it should ever be confirmed. They have nevertheless located and partly improved a tract of Country not less than two miles and an half or three miles below the Mouth of the Osage, which has consequently acquired a sufficient value to excite the Cupidity of Pierre Chouteau. Your Memorialist begs leave to awaken your attention to the means by which the Recorder of Land Titles was induced to believe that the Claim was to be so located as to embrace the Prairie of Cote Sans Dessein. He has reason to believe that it was chiefly brought about by the recent declarations of Du Choquet that he meant to ask, and of De Lassus the late Lieutenant Governor that he intended to grant that spot. Whether such intentions so expressed can afford that specific designation which the Law requires, or furnish a standard of locality of which all persons must take notice at their peril are questions too plain for discussion. Your Memorialist would be glad however to have an opportunity of asking M. De Lassus whether he was ever at the place of which he speaks or knows the Prairie of Cote Sans Dessein from any other Prairie in the Territory. Until some other than an exparte examination can be had he will presume that he would answer truly and in the negative. At the same time he has no doubt that it was and is in the mind of M. DeLassus (and the records of your office will show the fact,) to grant to Pierre Chouteau every thing that he might think fit to ask at the expence of the Government. The power of giving effect to such intentions he has already enjoyed too long for the prosperity of the Country or the honor of the human race.

Your Memorialist is advised that M. Chouteau has another pretext for locating the Grant to Du Choquet so as to embrace the Prairie and Village of Cote Sans Dessein. It is this, "that the Mouth of the Osage River in the year 1800. was opposite to that spot." On this point he begs leave to refer to the accompanying certificates, which, if not conclusive, will at least provoke enquiry,

the result of which he cannot doubt. The Surveyor General of the Territory now at Washington, is perfectly acquainted with the spot, and it is believed that his statements will shew that the mouth of Osage is nearly three miles above the Village of Cote Sans Dessein. That it has undergone no essential change can be proved by the testimony of all who have been in the habit of navigating the River.

If Mr Chouteau is entitled to claim any thing in virtue of the concession to Du Choquet, it is because that concession is rendered capable of a specific location by reference to a sensible object of a fixed and permanent nature. It is therefore humbly submitted that M. Chouteau ought not to be received to say that the mouth of the Osage River is an object to be ascertained by any thing but actual inspection, that its locality is a point that can admit of doubt, that, like the intention of M. DeLassus, it is to be ascertained by such interpretation as M. Chouteau may please to suggest, and not to be fixed by the testimony of those who know it best, or that it is fluctuating and uncertain so as that a location made by reference to it today can be no notice to those who may wish to make a contiguous location tomorrow.

M. Chouteau's Claim depends on the negative of all the propositions for which he contends when he seeks to locate it on the Village of Cote sans Dessein. If the mouth of the Osage River be any where but at the place described in the annexed affidavits, then it is not an object of sense to be ascertained by inspection, and of such notoriety as that others might be obliged to take notice of it at their peril; and if it has moved three miles in the course of seventeen years it is not such a fixed & permanent object as to be receivable as a land mark by which that claim shall be ascertained and the rights of others affected.

On the whole matter therefore your memorialist prays that no patent may issue to Pierre Chouteau in virtue of a Concession to Baptiste du Choquet of 4000 arpents of Land on the left bank of the Missouri opposite the mouth of Osage River without due Caution in ascertaining that the Land described in such patent is the same land described in the said Concession & no other.

ROB^t READ

[*Endorsed*] Robert Reed Jany. 27—1818 Ref^a to the Committee on Private Land Claims ²⁵—Nov—19—1818 Ref^a to the Committee on private Land Claims.²⁶—Nov. 30—1818 Report against.—to lie ²⁷ Johnson Ky. I. 19. private L^a Cs Johnson K—P—L^a Claims

²⁵ *House Journal*, 15 Cong., 1 sess., p. 185.

²⁶ *Ibid.*, 2 sess., p. 21.

²⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 48.

[Enclosures:DS]

Certificate of Daniel M. Boone

[October 20, 1817]

I Certify that in the month of December one thousand Eight hundred and one or January one thousand Eight hundred and two I came down the Grandsaw or Osage River by water to Its mouth and I believe that the mouth of Said river is now within one hundred yards or less of the Same place that it was in the years above spoken of, and that the mouth of the Said osage or Grandsaw River is now and was in the years above spoken of Imediately above the hed of a large Isleand which lays opesite the Village of Cotesandesan and the waters of the Missouri and Said Osage river came together two or two and a half miles above the Village of Coat-sandesaw, and ever Since My first acquaintance with the mouth of Said River there has been a Sufficiency of water passing down South of Said Isleand to carry Boates Given under my hand 20th day of October 1817

DANIEL M. BOONE

Sworn to and Subscribed to before me a Justice of the peace in the county of St Charles Territory of Missouri this 20th day of Oct^r 1817

JOHN B. CALLAWAY J.P.

William Clark Governor of the Territory of Missouri, To all whom it may concern: Be it known that John B. Callaway was on 20th Ult^a a Justice of the Peace within and for the county of St Charles, territory of Missouri, regularly commissioned. In testimony whereof I have caused the seal of the Territory to be hereunto affixed.

Given under my hand at St Louis the 13th day of November A D 1817 and of the independence of the United States the forty second ²⁸

By the Governor

FREDERICK BATES

Sec^y of Missouri ter^y

²⁸ Also enclosed are certificates and depositions to the same effect from the following men: Nathan Boone, sworn before John B. Callaway, Oct. 20, 1817; Joseph Morine, sworn before Jesse Evans, June 30, 1818; Joseph C. Brown, sworn before N. B. Tucker, Nov. 11, 1817; John Baptist Graza, sworn before Andrew Wilson, Oct. 28, 1817; Jean Baptiste Deau, sworn before Andrew Wilson, Oct. 24, 1817; and Simone Coursal, sworn before Charles Phillips, Oct. 22, 1817. All are certified by Governor Clark and countersigned by Secretary Bates.

[*Endorsed*] Daniel M Boone Certificate To Mouth of the Osage river

Deposition of Peter Charlevoo

[June 30, 1818]

TERRITORY OF MISSOURI County of St Charles

this Day personally came before me the undersigned a justice of the peace Peter Charlevoo and made oath that he has been acquainted with the Confluence of the Osage with the Missouri for twenty years past and that it was then at the same place that it now is a small Distance above the upper end of an Island Which Divides the waters of the Missouri about two and a half or three miles above the lower end of the Cote sans dessien one part of which Runs on the north and the other—on the South Side of the Island and he further Sayeth that he has been at the entrance of the Osage into the Missouri at Sundry times Since and has never Discovered any Change in it of Consequence—

Given under my hand this 30th day of *june* 1818—

PETER ^{his} X CHARLEVOO
mark

JESSE EVANS, a Justice of the peace

William Clark Governor of the territory of Missouri, To all whom it may concern Be it known that Jesse Evans was on 30th day of June last a Justice of the Peace within & for the county of St Charles in the territory of Missouri regularly commissioned. In testimony whereof I have caused the seal of the territory to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at St Louis the
[L.S.] 22^d July A.D 1818 & of the Independence of the U States the forty third—

W^m CLARK

By the Governor

FREDERICK BATES

Sec^y of Missouri

[*Endorsed*] Charlevoos Deposition

THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO DELEGATE SCOTT

[NA:SD, Dom. Letters, xvii:C]

28 Jan^y 1818.

JOHN SCOTT.

SIR, According to your representations & request, under date of the 26th instant,²⁰ I have the pleasure to inform you that Mr. Sergeant Hall, of the Missouri Territory, has been appointed to

²⁰ *Ante*, p. 333.

publish the acts of the first session of the fifteenth Congress, in the newspaper which it is understood he publishes at St. Louis, and the name of which I will thank you to communicate to this Dep^t

A letter has been this day addressed to Mr. Hall prescribing the mode of publication & informing him of the rate of compensation which he will receive for it.

—J.Q.A.

DELEGATE SCOTT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Misc. Letters:ALS]

WASHINGTON CITY *January 30th 1818*

HONBLE JNO Q ADAMS

SIR, I have had the Honor to receive your favour of the 28^h Inst^t Stating that Sergeant Hall had been appointed to Publish the Acts of Congress &^c The paper he Edits is Entitled, "Emigrant and General Advertiser"

I have the Honor to be very respectfully Yr Obt Sert

JOHN SCOTT—

[*Addressed*] Honble Jno Q. Adams Secty of State of U States
Washington

DELEGATE SCOTT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Misc. Letters:ALS]

WASHINGTON CITY *January 31st 1818*

HONBLE JNO Q ADAMS

SIR With this letter you will receive a Copy of a statement made by Mess^{rs} Augustus P. Choteau, and Julius Demun of Ste Louis in the Missouri Territory to Governor Clark, with an affidavit Signed by Several in support of the facts stated; you will also receive bundles, A, B, C, & D, as exhibits of the Amount of goods laid in by them for this Voyage, and receipts of actual payments and expenditures for Wages &^c ³⁰ and others will probably be procured—As their statement is a better Elucidation of their Causes of complaint than I could make, I shall not attempt to give any other—Permit me however to hope that you will deem it proper to take immediate steps to redress the injuries Sustained by those Gentlemen, and to remunerate their Loss—I should be obliged to you for an early intimation of the result—

I have the Honor to be with High Consideration & regard your
Obt Servt

JOHN SCOTT—

³⁰ Enclosures not present.

[*Addressed*] Honble John Q Adams—Secty of State of U States Washington

[*Endorsed*] Scott Jn Jan 31. 1818.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8]

G. L. O. *Feb.* 2nd 1818.

HON. W^m H. CRAWFORD Sec^y of the Treasury—

SIR, I enclose with this a Letter from the Surveyor General of Missouri and Illinois.³¹—His Ideas of the true meaning of the law of Feb^y 28. 1806,³² are, I think, such, that it would be improper to make a decision without the approbation of the Head of the Department.—The Surveyor General wishes an early decision, that if it should not accord with his views of the subject it may be laid before Congress

I have the honor &c.

DELEGATE SCOTT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

WASHINGTON CITY *February* 2^d 1818

HONBLE JNO. Q. ADAMS

SIR Some time ago I called the attention of the President to the necessity of appointing a District Attorney for the United States in the Territory of Missouri, and Recommended Robert Wash Esq^r of St Louis as a proper person to fill the place—It did not occur to me at the moment that the application ought to have been made to you as properly belonging to your department—The former incumbent is dead, The Court comes on early in the Spring, March and April, the United States have some suits of importance there for the rent of Lead mines, and other business relating to bonds given by Distillers, and some growing out of the Violation of the laws regulating trade and intercourse with Indians &c and it will be necessary that the Appointment should be made early that the commission may reach there in time for Court—

The Commission of Alexander Stuart Esq^r one of the Judges of the Superior Court expires about the Middle of this month, and if not Improper, or inconsistent with the regulations of your department to anticipate an appointment, I would suggest the propriety of an appointment being immediately made that the Commission may reach the Territory in time for the first Superior

³¹ Not identified.

³² 2 STAT. 352-353, extending the powers of the Surveyor General to Louisiana Territory.

Court in March—I hope that Judge Stuart will be continued, he is a good Lawyer, an honest Judge, is Settled there, the people know him, and has given General Satisfaction

I have the honor to be Most respectfully yr Obt Ser^t:

JOHN SCOTT—

[*Endorsed*] Wash R. recd.

DELEGATE SCOTT TO THE PRESIDENT

[NA:SD, Misc. Letters:ALS]

WASHINGTON CITY *Februry* 4th 1818

THE PRESIDENT OF THE U STATES

SIR, Fearing from a letter written by you to General Smith,³³ that some improper impressions may have been made on your mind in relation to the morals and conduct of the People of Missouri Territory, I now by request Inclose to you a statement made by Several Gentlemen of the first respectability, some of whom are personally known to you, This I beg of you to read, and hope it will Satisfy you that the misrepresentation and Callumnies heaped on the character of that people, have originated in disappointment, and been unmerited,

I have the honor to be most respectfully yr obt Sev^t

JOHN SCOTT—

[*Addressed*] President of United States Washington—

[*Endorsed*] Scott John to the P. feb 4. 1818. Missouri Ter: relating to the conduct of the military in the late election—filed—Conduct of the Military in a late election.

[Enclosures:ADS]

A Statement of Several Citizens Relative to the Recent Election held in the Territory

[*December 26, 1817*]

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE U. STATES.

SIR, We have understood that you have been informed, by means of a newspaper printed in this town, that the military of this district interferred with, and influenced, the late election for delegate to Congress held in St. Louis on the first monday in Aug. last.

We are citizens of St. Louis, and were at the election, and have a right to know in what manner the election was conducted. We can, therefore, declare to you, Sir, that no such influence was

³³ Not found. Cf. *ante*, p. 320.

exercised, or attempted to be exercised, that no bodies of soldiery were upon the ground, nor any thing like military force, except four or five solitary officers, a pair or two of colors, and the musicians of a recruiting party, which was marched off early in the day.

We deem it due to the Military to declare that the article alluded to in Mr. Charles's Gazette, headed, "Military Election,"³⁴ was a contemptible calumny, and that the public and private conduct of Gen. Smith, the commanding officer of the district, entitles him to the esteem and confidence of all good citizens.

We are, Sir, with great respect your obedient servants.

B G FARRAR

A. L. LANGHAM

THO. HEMPSTEAD

THOS. H. RIDDICK

CHRISTIAN WITT

W CHRISTY

D. V. WALKER

St. LOUIS, Dec. 26th 1817.

Statement of William C. Carr to the President

[February 4, 1818]

In addition to the foregoing statement which I personally know to be correct, I can state that I was present early in the day of the election when application was made to Cap^t O'Fallon to permit the Recruiting party to parade with their Musick &c before the door of the house in which the election was held This was peremptorily refused by the Captain observing that it might be alledged as having some influence on the election—This took place early in the day—

WILL: C. CARR

[Addressed] The President of the U. States.

[Endorsed] Recd in Jn Scotts letter to the President Dated feb 4. 1818.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8]

G. L. O. 6th Feb. 1818

HON. W^m H. CRAWFORD Sec^y of the Treasury.—

SIR, A lottery wheel with two compartments has been prepared for the bounty lands in Missouri territory: I wish to know whether the tickets for the lands north of Missouri river are to be

³⁴ In the *Missouri Gazette* (LC), issue dated Aug. 9, 1817. This article accused the military, abetted by Governor Clark and his nephew, O'Fallon, of influencing the election by holding a recruiting rendezvous with full display and martial music, in the neighborhood of the polls.

kept separate from the tickets, for the lands in the vicinity of the rivers Arkansas and S^t Francis.—Whether they are kept separate or mixed, the wheel will answer, and if they are mixed, no confusion, or inconvenience will arise, both surveys being founded upon the same principal meridian line and base line.

North of Missouri river there are about haff a million of acres—On the S^t Francis & Arkansas about two millions—I suppose the Illinois tickets will meet all demands till the lottery for the Missouri territory can be prepared.—

I have the honor &c.

GOVERNOR CLARK TO THE PRESIDENT

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

WASHINGTON CITY 6th Feb^y 1818

SIR The Bill establishing additional Land Offices in the Territory of Missouri having passed both houses of Congress; in the event of it's receiving your approbation,³⁵ I am authorised by George Bullett Esquire: now acting as additional Judge in Arkansas, for the Territory of Missouri, to Solicit an exchange of that place for the Office of Receiver of Public Monies in the Land Office Contemplated at Cape Gerardeau in the Said Territory—Judge Bullett wishes this exchange on account of the health of his familey; and to enable him to Settle more imediately in the neighbourhood of his relations & friends,

I can say that Judge Bullett is quite capable and Strictly honest. I have the honor to be Your Most Ob^t H^l Serv^t

W^m CLARK

THE PRESIDENT

[*Addressed*] His Excele^y The President of the United States

[*Endorsed*] 6. Feb^y 1818. Governor Clark recommends George Bullett as Receiver of Public Monies at Cape Gerardeau Gov^r Clark Judge Bullitt—to be examined—

DELEGATE SCOTT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Misc. Letters:ALS]

WASHINGTON CITY Feb^y 6—1818

HONBLE. JOHN Q ADAMS

SIR The inclosed evidence I have received since I had the honour

³⁵ Approved Feb. 17, 1818 (3 STAT. 406-407).

to forward you the Documents of Messrs Choteau and Demun,³⁶ with a request that they be added to them

I have the honor to be respectfully yr Obt Sert

JOHN SCOTT—

[*Addressed*] Honble John Q. Adams Secty of State U States Washington

[*Endorsed*] Scott John, feb^y 6. 1818. Recd 7th The papers not recd by D B.³⁷

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO DELEGATE SCOTT

[NA:PO, P. M. Letter Book X]

7th. Feb. 1818.

HONL. JOHN SCOTT M. H. Represt.

SIR. I have the honour to observe in reply to you letter of the 5th instant.³⁸ that appreciating the growing importance of the Territory of Illinois, and of the territory which you represent, that I have made arrangements for transporting two weekly mails to St Louis in Missou. the additional mail will take place about the first of May next.³⁹

R. J. MEIGS J.

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:SF, 15 Cong., 1 sess.:ALS]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT 12th February 1818.

SIR, On the subject of your letter of yesterday,⁴⁰ I beg leave to observe, that in my opinion, there can be no doubt, but that the compensation heretofore allowed to you, has been inadequate to the services performed; and that relief can only be obtained by an application to Congress.

I am very respectfully Sir Your Mo: obed Sr^t

W^m H CRAWFORD

WILLIAM RECTOR Esq^r Surveyor of the Lands in the Illinois & Missouri Territories

[*Addressed*] William Rector Esquire Surveyor of public Lands in the Missouri & Illinois Territories—Washington City

[*Endorsed*] The Secretary of the Treasury—Feb^y 12th 1818

³⁶ Not present.

³⁷ Daniel Brent.

³⁸ Not found.

³⁹ See the Postmaster General to McDonough, Dec. 22, 1817 (*Terr. Papers*, Ill., xvii, 553), relative to terms for a second weekly mail between Kaskaskia and St. Louis.

⁴⁰ Not found.

PETITION TO CONGRESS BY WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA: HF, 15 Cong., 1 sess.: DS]

[February 12, 1818]

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the
[MS. torn]

The Petition of the subscriber respectfully sheweth [MS. torn] was on the 14th day of September 1813 appointed and Commissioned a Principal Deputy Surveyor of the Missouri Territory; ⁴¹ that he performed the duties of said office until the 29th day of April 1816 at which time he was appointed to the Office he now holds (Surveyor of the Lands of the United States in the Territories of Illinois and Missouri ⁴²) and that at the time he received the first mentioned appointment, and during the whole time he has acted under said appointments, until this day he believed that he was entitled to, and would receive twenty five cents pr mile on the surveys of the Lands of the United States and have [MS. torn] be surveyed under his direction and superintendence, as a compensation for his services, and to indemnify him for his expenditures in the discharge of the duties of his Office—But on presenting his accounts for settlement, he was notified by the Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury that the Laws on the subject would not justify the payment of the fees which he supposed himself entitled to—Your Petitioner further represents that the business of his Office from the time he entered on the duties of Principal Deputy Surveyor has been and continues to be very laborious, complicated, and highly responsible—more so it is beleived than any Surveyor General of the United States has had to perform at any time—

The following are the causes of extraordinary trouble and expense in transacting the business of your Petitioners Office—

1st The great quantity of public Lands that have been surveyed for Military bounties, and for sale—

2nd The great number of confirmed claims of individuals that are scattered over a large portion of the Country; which claims in the transcript of Confirmation are generally vaguely described, and frequently interfere with each other so as to render it absolutely necessary for your Petitioner in many cases to give special instructions to the Deputy Surveyors, in addition to the general instructions for laying off public Lands, and private Claims—to furnish them with Copies of confirmations, plats and discriptions of the original Surveys where they have been made under Spanish authority, and connected plats as far as it has been practicable to form them from the Spanish Surveys on record, with which each Deputy has been furnished before he entered on his duties—

⁴¹ See Meigs to Tiffin, Sept. 18, 1813 (*Terr. Papers*, III., XVI, 365–366).

⁴² Commission transmitted May 10, 1816, *ibid.*, XVII, 332.

3rd After these Claims and the adjoining public Lands are surveyed and presented at your Petitioners Office, it is Immencely laborious and tedious to examine them, so as to ascertain that they contain the just quantity of Land, and have been correctly surveyed; and to Calculate the contents of the adjoining fractional sections; for many of the Surveys of Claims, are extremely irregular in their form—

4th After these Surveys are examined, approved, and certified, they are to be recorded, and copies of each furnished to the Recorder of Land Titles at St Louis, one to be transmitted to the General Land Office and One to be kept on file in your Petitioners office

[5th. MS. torn] Plats and discriptions of each Township, and general con [MS. torn] be formed; one for the Register of the Land Office [MS. torn] District the Land may be situated; One to be transmitted to the General Land Office, & one to be kept on file in the Surveyors Office—The plats and discriptions of each Township, and the field notes of the surveys are, and must all be recorded—

6th The numerous and perplexing applications by persons owning Lands and others wishing to acquire Land, for information concerning particular tracts and particular parts of the Country; most of whom do not want Copies of the Surveys, but merely to see, and examine them [MS. torn] encroachment on the time, And gives additional work to your Petitioner without affording him any compensation for the same, And if application were made for copies of the whole of the Surveys that are on record at the same time; The fees allowed by law would not more than pay a Clerk for Copying them; And it is a fact that your Petitioner has not received in all, one hundred dollars for Copies of Surveys, and fees for recording Surveys of individuals, since he entered on the duties of his Office—

7th It is absolutely necessary that your petitioner's office should be kept in the Town of St. Louis, as it is necessary for him to get information concerning the claims of individuals, from the Books and papers in the recorders Office, almost every day—St Louis is an expensive place to live in—House rent and fuel being very high, and boarding is now from five to nine dollars per week—

8th The great quantity of business that your Petitioner has had to have done in his office, made it necessary for him to keep some times four, and some times six Clerks employed; for whose services he has paid out of his own funds, with full Confidence that he would be remunerated for his expenditures and compensated for his services—

And your Petitioner respectfully prays, that the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives do pass a law authorizing the proper accounting officer, to pay to your Petitioner, such further sum as will make his Compensation from the time he entered on the duties of the Office of Principal Deputy Surveyor equal to the sum which the Surveyor General is entitled to receive for the same time, for his salary; together with the just allowance for his expenditures for Clerk hire for the same time, and also that provision be made for his salary, and for Clerk hire in future

W^m RECTOR.

12th Feby 1818

[*Endorsed*] William Rector, Petition, and Letter of M^r Meigs, &c praying additional Compensation for former services, and an Increase of Compensation in future &c &c Feby 18—1818 Ref^d to the Committee of Ways and Means.⁴³—Scott F. 18. Ways & means

[Enclosures:ALS “]

Josiah Meigs to William Rector

GENERAL LAND OFFICE Feb. 16. 1818—

SIR, I have read the Petition which you are about to present to Congress for compensation for your Services as Principal Deputy Surveyor for Missouri—and as Surveyor General for Missouri & Illinois—

Your labours in those Offices have been far greater and attended with much greater difficulties than those of any Individual who has hitherto been employed in the Surveying of the Public Lands of the United States, and I do not hesitate in saying, that, in Justice and Equity, your Compensation should be equal to Two Thousand Dollars a Year from the date of your Commission as Principal Deputy Surveyor, with an allowance of Two Thousand Dollars a Year during that period for Clerk hire, and that Your Salary Should, hereafter, be Two Thousand Dollars a Year, with a grant of Two Thousand Dollars a year for Clerk hire.

Having been for several years past intimately acquainted with the Nature of the Services which you have performed, I deem myself competent to form a tolerably correct opinion on the subject—

I have the honour to be very respectfully Yours

JOSIAH MEIGS

⁴³ *House Journal*, 15 Cong., 1 sess., p. 254. A similar petition presented to the Senate by Morrow, on Feb. 18, 1818, was referred to the Committee on Public Lands (*Annals*, 15 Cong., 1 sess., 210).

⁴⁴ ALS duplicates of both these letters are in NA (HF).

W^m RECTOR Esquire Surveyor General of Missouri & Illinois—
 [Addressed] W^m Rector, Esquire Surveyor General of Missouri
 & Illinois—

Josiah Meigs to William Rector

GEN. LAND-OFFICE Feb. 19. 1818—

SIR In my letter of the 16th of this month, addressed to you, relative to your compensation for services as principal Deputy Surveyor for Missouri, and as Surveyor General for Illinois and Missouri, I omitted to mention the Subject of fees for the Surveys of claims of Individuals, and for copies of such Surveys, as provided for in the Act of Feb. 28. 1806. Section 4.⁴⁵

I am of opinion that you ought to have the fees in such cases, on account of the great number of claims of that description, and the great trouble and difficulty attending the Execution of such Surveys.

I am, very respectfully Yours

JOSIAH MEIGS

W^m RECTOR Esq^r, S. General of Missouri & Illinois

[Endorsed] J Miegs, Commisser of Land office to William Rector Letter Filed 20.—feby. 1818 with pet. &c of W^m Rector Ways & Means Scott H. 20. Referred to Committee of Ways & Means, to whom was referred the Petition of William Rector, praying for additional pay for former services, and an increase of salary &c

JOHN B. COLVIN ⁴⁶ TO DAVID MARCHAND

[NA:SD, Dom. Letters, xvii:C]

18 Feb. 1818.

DAVID MARCHAND.

SIR, The account of M^r Charless, of St. Louis, in the Missouri Territory, duly certified, and the written authority under which you are to receive the amount thereof, have been sent to the office of the fifth auditor for the Treasury Dep^t I fear however, that payment will be necessarily delayed until Congress have enacted the law making appropriations for objects of the civil list expenditure for the current year. The letter of M^r Charless to M^r Snowden, & that of M^r Drum to you, are herewith returned.⁴⁷

J. B. COLVIN.

⁴⁵ 2 STAT. 352-353.

⁴⁶ Clerk in the Department of State.

⁴⁷ These documents have not been seen.

COMMISSION OF JUDGE BULLITT

[NA: SD, Misc. Perm. Comms., D]

[February 19, 1818]

JAMES MONROE President of the United States of America;
To all who shall see these Presents Greeting:

Know Ye, That reposing special Trust and Confidence in the Wisdom Uprightness and Learning of GEORGE BULLITT of the Missouri Territory, and in pursuance of "an Act of the Congress of the United States, passed on the 27th day of January 1814, entitled an act for the appointment of an Additional Judge for the Missouri Territory, and for other purposes",⁴⁸ I have nominated and by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate do appoint him the additional Judge for the said Territory,⁴⁹ to reside at or near the Village of Arkansaw; and do Authorize and empower him to execute and fulfil the duties of that Office according to Law; and to Have and to Hold the said Office with all the Powers, privileges and Emoluments to the same of right appertaining, for the term of four Years, from the ninth day of the date hereof, unless the President of the United States for the time being, should be pleased sooner to revoke this Commission.

In Testimony whereof, I have caused these Letters
 (SEAL) to be made patent, and the Seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at the City of Washington the nineteenth day of February A.D. 1818; and of the Independence of the United States of America the Forty second.

JAMES MONROE

By the President,

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, Secretary of State.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO THE SECRETARY OF THE
 TREASURY

[NA: SF, 15 Cong., 1 sess.:ALS]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT Feb^y 20th 1818

SIR I understand from M^r Morrow (Chairman of the Committee to whom my petition has been refered) that application has been made to The Honbl^e The Secretary of the Treasury for information relative to that subject

⁴⁸ 3 STAT. 95-96.

⁴⁹ Nominated Feb. 7 and confirmed Feb. 19, 1818 (*Senate, Exec. Journal*, III, 122, 124).

I beg leave to request that you call on the Commissioner of the General Land Office under whose immediate instructions I have acted & to whose office my returns have been made) for information as it respects the extent of the business which I have performed and must yet perform, and the peculiar difficulties attending the execution of that business

I have the honor to be with much respect Sir Your Ob^t Serv^t
W^m RECTOR.

THE HONBL^e W^m H CRAWFORD Secretary of the Treasury

[Addressed] The Honbl^e W^m H CRAWFORD Secretary of the Treasury.

[Endorsed] Referred to Mr Meigs for a statement of the emoluments of Gen^l Rector, and also for his opinion whether the compensation which he now receives would be more than he ought to have rec^d whilst he was Principal deputy Surveyor—or what compensation would be reasonable? ⁵⁰ W H C

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY TO JEREMIAH MORROW

[NA: SF, 15 Cong., 1 sess.: ALS]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT 23^d Feb^y 1818

SIR. In answer to your letter of the 20th inst ⁵¹ I have the honor to submit for consideration the enclosed letter from the Commissioner of the general land office. Not having seen the petition of General Rector, I had supposed that relief had been asked only for the time that he had acted as Principal Deputy Surveyor.

The commissioner of the general land office has in his letter embraced not only that period, but the time that he has acted as Surveyor of the Illinois & Missouri Territories. In making provision for Clerk hire for the past, the sum actually paid for that object should be the measure of your liberality.

It is not presumed that General Rector has expended any thing like the amount recommended, & there does not appear to be any propriety in paying him more than has been expended. The recommendation in favor of his being allowed twenty five cents a mile for every boundary line affected by private land claims, appears to me to be inexpedient.

If General Rector is paid as high a salary as other Surveyors, and ample provision is made as proposed by the Commissioner, for

⁵⁰ In Crawford's hand.

⁵¹ Not found.

Clerk hire, it is not reasonable that he should receive any allowance of that kind.

I have the honor to be Your most obt & very humble Serv^t

W^m H CRAWFORD

THE HONB^e JEREMIAH MORROW C C of Public lands

[Enclosure:ALS]

Josiah Meigs to the Secretary of the Treasury

GENERAL LAND-OFFICE *February 23, 1818*

SIR, I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your reference to me, of a Letter from the honourable J Morrow, Chairman of the Committee of the Senate on Public Lands:—and of a Letter from William Rector, Esquire Surveyor General of Missouri and Illinois.

Considering the peculiar difficulties which General Rector has been compelled to encounter, and the very great extent of the Surveys executed by him, I think it reasonable that he should be allowed a Salary equal to Two Thousand Dollars from the date of his Commission as Principal Deputy Surveyor, with an allowance of Two Thousand Dollars a year for Clerk hire, and that his Salary should hereafter be Two Thousand Dollars a year, with Two Thousand Dollars a Year for Clerk hire.⁵²

General Rector has surveyed, in the Territories of Missouri & Illinois, more than Nineteen Millions of acres, including Military Bounty Lands. He has had employed, at one time, from Sixty to Eighty Deputy Surveyors.

He has also surveyed a very great number of Private Claims, which, as they interfere with the General Rectangular System of the United States, are attended with peculiar difficulties; and a great number of Private Claims are yet to be surveyed:—For such Surveys, I think he ought to be authorised to receive at the rate of Twenty-five Cents for every mile of boundary line, and Twenty-five Cents for a certified Copy of any plat of such Survey in his Office.

I conceive it to be a duty to state further, that General Rector has executed the orders of the Government with distinguished promptitude and accuracy—

I have the honour to be, very respectfully, Yours,

JOSIAH MEIGS.

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

[*Addressed*] The Secretary of the Treasury.

⁵² See act approved Apr. 3, 1818 (3 STAT. 412), allowing additional salary and clerk hire to the Surveyor General for Illinois and Missouri territories in line with the above suggestion. Cf. *post*, p. 363.

DELEGATE SCOTT TO JUDGE LUCAS

[NA:SD, Misc. Letters:ALS]

WASHINGTON CITY *February 23^d 1818*

JOHN B C LUCAS Esqr

SIR As the Public agent of the Missouri Territory I have thought it my duty to call your attention to the following facts—

First that the superior Court for that Territory sits on the fourth Monday of march next—

Second, that there is but one Judge now in the Territory, the time of Judge Stuart has expired, and no reappointment has been made, although I called the attention of the Government to the Necessity of so doing as early as the Second of February⁵³

Third the Consequence will be, that there will be no Superior Court this spring in the Territory, the evils, and inconveniences of which you know as well as I do.

Supposing you might be under the impression that Judge Stuart had been reappointed, and that a Court would be held notwithstanding your absence, I have deemed it my duty to state the facts to you, leaving you to act as your Judgment and sense of duty shall dictate

yr obt Sevt

JOHN SCOTT—

[Addressed] John B C Lucas Esqr Now at Washington

[Endorsed] Scott John to J. B. C. Lucas feb^y 23. 1818. Deposited by Mr Lucas.

PETITION TO CONGRESS BY INHABITANTS OF
ST. FERDINAND

[NA:HF, 15 Cong., 1 sess.:DS]

[Referred *February 24, 1818*]

We the Undersigned Inhabitants of the Township of St. Ferdinand, County of St. Louis, in the Territory of Missouri, Respectfully Request:

THAT a Post Office, be located in this place. The Town is known by the name of Florissant; the Township contains a population of eleven hundred souls, and a large amount of business is annually transacted here. We have no Post Office nearer than that at St. Louis, a distance of 15 miles, and sustain very great inconvenience, for want of one. We therefore trust, that the reasonableness of our petition will be acknowledged and its object granted.

S. HALL, Printer.

⁵³ Ante, p. 340.

SUBSCRIBERS NAMES

Rob^t Brotherton
 Dennis Carrico
 W^m Parker
 James Coryell
 James Voshall
 John Strain
 W^m Patterson Jun^r
 Thomas Welch
 Edward Herrimand
 C. James
 W. R. M^cAdams
 Thomas Ward
 Peyton Jamison
 Eusiba^s Hubbard June
 W^m Young
 W^m Twitty
 Albert G. Twitty
 W^m Mason
 Robert Scott
 Isau Miles
 Duritt Hubbard
 Jaret Barker
 Bar B Harris
 Elisha Patterson
 M Dunand
 Collin
 John E Allin
 Jno Buck
 Mosias Jones
 S. Magill
 Pierre Saint Ons
 Alt Payant
 Christopher Jones
 Tyree H jones
 Pascal Dubriel
 Aug^{te} A Chouteau
 Bonaventure Marrior
 Charles Marichal
 Frederic Hieatt
 Henry F. Gass
 M. OConnell
 W^m H. Robinson
 Fenton Filson ^{53a}
 John Greene
 Joseph Menard
 John B. Lorain
 Alexander Palmer
 P James

J S Dozer
 Ch^s A. Lewis
 A Stewart
 Joseph M^cClurg J^r
 owin wingfield
 John Patterson
 E. Hubbard Senr
 W^m Patterson
 John Patterson
 John C Sullivan
 Harlen Bonham
 Benjamin Allen
 Francois Rappieux
 James B. Beatty
 David Burk
 Tyree Martin
 Peter Bowler
 Jn^o B. Creelys Sr
 Charles Letour
 Randolp Nolan
 James Richardson
 Robert Jeffries
 John Humes
 James Chambors
 Charles Mercier
 Francois Lourain
 Francois Teisson
 George Smith
 James Smith
 William Smith
 Levi Smith
 J. H. Scott
 Richard Lanham
 Moses Hieutt
 John Seelye
 Noel Bouche
 Robert Jeffries Jun^r
 Squire Sappington
 David Diggs
 Joseph Carns ^{53a}
 Rus^t Twitty
 James Cochram
 W^m M^ckinney
 John R Twitty
 Henry Scroggins
 Anderson Boles
 Robert Craig
 Edward Hegan
 Thomas Wittinston
 William Miller

^{53a} Reading uncertain.

Antoine Tyson
 Ja^s Sullivan
 David Musick
 David G Martin
 W^m Richardson
 John Brown
 Lewis Martin
 G Dewitt
 David Twitney
 Hugh Fraynum
 Henry Sappington
 Abraham Niell
 Eusibus
 Francois Creelis
 John Mussey
 John Buzan
 James M^cAlister
 Joseph H James
 W^m M^cMillin
 Jonathan Martin
 John Whiteside
 W^m R Laughlin
 Jacob Houselight
 Benjamin M^cCoy
 C, T, Hildebrand
 John Howdishell
 J. A. Martin
 Larkin Dotey
 Tho^s Denton
 James Hunter
 T. C Trustee
 Nathaniel Peoples
 Wm Martin
 David Martin
 Richard Lundy
 Peter Hunter
 Thomas Baber
 Lewis Musick
 William Nevill
 John Henderson
 David Thomas

William Thomson
 David English
 Andrew Hunter
 John Foster
 William Hunter
 William Thomas
 Alexander Douglass
 William Douglass
 Ephraim Hunter
 David M, Martin
 Thomas Whiteside
 Adam Martin
 John Doty
 Joseph Doty
 Robert M^cMillin
 Robert H Martin
 Peter Ellis
 Peter Pyant
 Mishal Fortee
 James Neel
 Valentine Neel
 Payton Neel
 William Miller
 Ja^s M^cCoy
 Joel L Musick
 David Musick
 John Clark
 John Baker
 James S. Douglass
 James Watt
 David Diggs
 Abraham Ellis
 G. Manard
 W lynes
 F Sappington
 R Lanham
 Jo^s Lynes
 T Jones
 Ch^r Jones
 S Jones
 Thomas Witherington

[Endorsed] Missouri Petition of the Inhabitants of Ste Ferdinand Township in Ste Louis County, praying the Establishment of a Post office at Florisant, being 180 Signers &c Feby 24.—1818 Ref^d to the Committee on the post office &c ⁵⁴ Scott N^o 11. 24 Post offices & Post roads estab. S^t Louis to Florisant

⁵⁴ *House Journal*, 15 Cong., 1 sess., p. 266. See act approved Apr. 20, 1818 (3 STAT. 453-457).

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., Treasury:ALS]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT 27th Feb^y 1818

SIR In reply to so much of your letter of the 25th inst.⁵⁵ as relates to the quarter Sections intersected by Grand river, in the Military lands North of the Missouri I am instructed by the President to direct that they be included in the lottery upon the Presumption that they are more valuable than many other tracts which will be drawn by the persons entitled to military bounties.

The remaining subject presented in your letter may be considered as suspended for further consideration.

I have the honor to be Your mo^t obt Serv^t

W^m H CRAWFORD

JOSIAH MEIGS Esq^r Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office

[Addressed] The Commissioner of the General Land Office
Treasury Department

[Endorsed] 27 Febru^y 1818 Sec^y of Treasury Q^r Sections in Missouri bounty Lands are to be put in lotter though river runs through—List of Locations for the Governm^t of Illinois to be postpond.

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO DELEGATE SCOTT

[NA:PO, P. M. Letter Book X]

2^d March 1818.

HONL. JOHN SCOTT M. H. Representatives

SIR, I have the honour to observe in reply to your letter of the 27th. Ult.⁵⁶ and to the petition there inclosed that the annually expence incurred by this office in sending a mail once in two weeks to howard county in your Territory is \$750—to send that mail weekly would require double that sum, our post office receipts for said mail route cannot exceed \$150. per ann. while the receipts and expenditure are so disproportionate, it will not be proper to increase the expence, but I pray you to be assured and to assure the petitioners that it will give me pleasure to send a weekly mail to the county of Howard, as soon as the post office receipts in that county, and of the offices connected with that route will warrant that measure.

R. J. MEIGS J.

⁵⁵ NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8), a general letter of inquiry, and enclosing plat of land north of the Missouri River together with plats of several other townships.

⁵⁶ Not found.

DELEGATE SCOTT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Misc. Letters:ALS]

WASHINGTON CITY *March 5th 1818*

HONBLE JOHN Q ADAMS

SIR In the nomination made by the President to the Senate of Alexander Stuart as one of the Judges of the Missouri Territory, there has Evidently been a mistake, the nomination is about thus "for two years from the date of his Commission which has expired" It is not even for two years from the expiration of his old commission, but from the date of that Commission—Nor can a nomination be made by the President for two years, the Judges of that Territory are to be appointed for four years as you can see by the 10th Section of the act of the 4th June 1812 providing for the Government of the Territory of Missouri ⁵⁷—I hope these mistakes will be early corrected as the Senate cannot act on the nomination till it is done—

I would further, and again suggest the Necessity of appointing a district attorney of the United States for the Missouri Territory, and renew my recommendation for Robert Wash to fill the place
Most respectfully yr Obt Sevt

JOHN SCOTT—

[Addressed] Honble John Q Adams Department of State

[Endorsed] Scott John March 5. 1818 Recd next day.

RECORDER BATES TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Lets. Recd., PLC (Mo.):ALS]

Office of the Recorder of Land Titles.

ST LOUIS *March 6. 1818*

SIR, I had the honor to receive by last mail, your letter of 19th Jan^y ⁵⁸ requiring information as to certain allegations of David Coalter & Theodore Hunt in opposition to a claim of Auguste Chouteau.

It is probable that those persons allude to the claim of said Chouteau rejected by the late board of Commissioners on 8th June 1810, and to be found in their report in your Office P. 199.

The facts, of record, in this case, appear to be A Petition or Requet dated 5th Jan^y 1800, a warrant or order of survey of same date by Carlos D. Delassus L^t Gov:—A Survey of 1281 Arpens at Beaver-Ponds, near St. Louis, on 5th March 1801—And a record

⁵⁷ *Ante*, XIV, 552.⁵⁸ *Ante*, p. 332.

of the plat thereof by Antoine Soulard Spanish Surveyor 10th April 1801.—

I should have selected this claim for confirmation under the Act of April 12. 1814, as most clearly embraced by the provisions of that Act if said Chouteau had not been limited to the league square near Loutre Island in the county of St Charles transferred by him to Daniel Clark.—The facts in this latter case are, a warrant of Survey regularly executed before 10th March 1804, and may be collected by reference to the commissioners' Report, in the General Land Office P. 283 :—Thus limited however, the claim of 1281 Arps stands yet on the rejection of the late Board.—I have not interfered with it—and am utterly ignorant of any measures taken, in order to procure a Patent. Probably not here—At Washington perhaps—

I am altogether at a loss to conjecture on what informations, or on what principles gratuitously assumed, Mess^{rs} Coalter & Hunt have founded their assurance to you that Col^o Chouteau has already had more than a league square confirmed to him.—They are supposed to mean, of course, under the Act of April 1814 ⁵⁹—for the limitations of that Act, cannot I suppose, diminish or in any wise derogate from the rights vested by confirmations under former laws.—I am unaware of such Excess Permit me to suggest too, that the quantity claimed may not in some instances be found— & when more be found, the Party may possibly be entitled to selection.—The principle has, I believe, been already assented to, that the investigation still continues, practically, in the Surveying Department. The business will again pass in review, stript of its excrescences—It will be again taken up in this Office, on the return of the Surveys, where, if there be not virtue and intelligence to correct errors, the case will not be altogether hopeless; for it must also pass through the General Land Office, where all claims will be reduced to strict conformity with Law & principle, previously to the issue of a Patent.—

I have the honor to be, with very sincere respect Sir, Your Obedt Servant

FREDERICK BATES

HONBLE: JOSIAH MEIGS Com^r Gen^l Land Office—

[Addressed] Hon: Josiah Meigs Commissioner Gen^l L. Office
Washington [Postmarked] St. Louis Mar 8 Free

[Endorsed] 6th March 1818 Fred^k Bates de conflicting claims
Coalter & Hunt with that of Aug^t Chouteau

⁵⁹ Approved Apr. 12, 1814 (8 STAT. 121-123).

COMMISSION OF JUDGE STUART

[NA:SD, Misc. Perm. Comms., D]

[March 6, 1818]

JAMES MONROE, President of the United States of America.

To all who shall see these Presents, Greeting:

Know Ye, That reposing special Trust and Confidence in the Wisdom, Uprightness and Learning of ALEXANDER STUART of Missouri Territory, I have nominated, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate do appoint him one of the Judges in and over the Missouri Territory; ⁶⁰ and do authorize and empower him to execute and fulfil the duties of that Office according to the Constitution and laws of the United States; and to Have and to Hold the said Office with all the powers, privileges and emoluments to the same of right appertaining unto him the said Alexander Stuart for the term of four years from the ninth day of February last, he to reside in the said Territory.

In Testimony whereof, I have caused these Letters to (L. S.) be made patent and, the Seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at the City of Washington the Sixth day of March A. D. 1818; and of the Independence of the United States of America, the Forty Second.

JAMES MONROE.

By the President,

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS

Secretary of State

COMMISSION OF ROBERT WASH AS UNITED STATES
ATTORNEY

[NA:SD, Misc. Perm. Comms., D]

[March 6, 1818]

JAMES MONROE, President of the United States of America,

To all who shall see these presents Greetings:

Know Ye, That reposing special Trust and Confidence in the Integrity Ability and Learning of ROBERT WASH of the Missouri Territory, I have nominated and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, do appoint him Attorney of the United States in and for the said Missouri Territory; ⁶¹ and do authorize and empower him to execute and fulfil the duties of that Office accord-

⁶⁰ Nominated Feb. 26, 1818, for a term of two years. The nomination was withdrawn Mar. 6 in favor of one for a term of four years; confirmation followed the same day (*Senate Exec. Journal*, III, 125, 126).

⁶¹ Nominated and confirmed Mar. 6, 1818, *ibid.*, p. 126.

ing to law ; and to Have and to Hold the same together with all the powers, privileges and emoluments, thereto of right appertaining unto him the said Robert Wash, during the pleasure of the President of the United States for the time being.

In Testimony whereof, I have caused these Letters to (L. S.) be made patent, and the Seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at the City of Washington the Sixth day of March A. D. 1818; and of the Independence of the United States of America the Forty Second.⁶²

JAMES MONROE.

By the President
JOHN QUINCY ADAMS
Secretary of State.

PETITION TO CONGRESS BY INHABITANTS OF
STE. GENEVIEVE COUNTY

[NA:HF, 15 Cong., 1 sess.:DS]

[Referred March 10, 1818]

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.—

The Petition of of the undersigned Inhabitants of the Southern part of the County of St Genevieve in the Territory of Missouri Respectfully Sheweth—

That your Petitioners (who are numerous) labour under great inconvenience and indeed are allmost entirely deprived of any benefit from The Mail as at presant established and regulated in this section of the Territory That all Letters from any of the Eastern States and directed to S^t Michael in Said Territory have after ariveing at Kaskaskia in the Illinois Territory and only Forty miles from St Michael to pass By Harrisonville St Louis and Potosi a distance at least of one Hundred and Sixty Miles before they reach their place of destination That the mail from St Louis to St Michael is caried but once a month which frequently causes a delay of time in communications from one to the other of the two last mentioned places of the most Serious inconvenience—

Your Petitioners further state that it is but Seldom they receive communications from the Eastward before a Sufficiency of time has elapsed over and above the ordinary time of conveying Letters by mail in allmost every other part of the Western country for answers to have reached the Persons by whom the Letters were written—

⁶² See *ante*, p. 320.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that you will take into consideration their Situation and Establish by Law a post route from St Genevieve to the Town St Micheal in Said County and that the Mail be caried once a Week or grant them such other relief as you in your wisdom may think meet and just. And your Petitioners will ever pray &c

Merrill Ransom
A Bird
Jn^o Robinson
R B. Griffith
J Robinson
W^m Sims
B. Gooch
John Barnes
Jonnathan Hembey
John Callaway
Moses Bates
Saml Campbell
Robert Crawford
Peter Callaway
Thomas Crawford
John Smith
Thos Thorson
John Burdett
W^m Shaw
W^m Bennett
Thos Craddock
Jacob Stephens
Gabriel J. Stephens
William Stephens
G. W. Callaway
W^m Edgar

Thomas Griggs
Thompson Crawford
Amos Justice
William Brown
Robt C Crawford
Thomas Cooper
John Pinkerton
Joseph Lubby
Moses Baird
x Jonathan Isem
Jas Moore
John Matthews
William Henderson
John Pettit
Robert St cleer
John Thomas
John Farrar
Alex Auger
Ja^s Holman
James Pettit
C T Gorn Jr
Joseph Bennett
E. H Bennett
W^m Isam
Nat Cook

[*Endorsed*] Petition of Inhabitants of Ste Michael in Missouri Territory praying the Establishment of a Post route from Ste Genevieve direct to Ste Michael March 10—1818 Ref^d to the Committee on the Post office & Post-roads ^{es} Scott T. 10. com P, o, & P roads N^o 2

THOMAS L. MCKENNEY TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:OIT, Supt. Lets. Sent, Bk. E]

INDIAN OFFICE 17th March 1818

HONB^l JOHN C. CALHOUN

SIR I beg leave in reference to our conversation yesterday to present you with the following remarks on the subject which that conversation embraced.

^{es} *House Journal*, 15 Cong., 1 sess., p. 317. See act approved Apr. 20, 1818 (3 STAT. 456).

First—Respecting the Arkansas Factory the most suitable point for its location; the capital necessary for its support; the capacity of this office to provide it, and the period at which I could organize it.—

The places hitherto contemplated without reference to the late treaty with the Cherokees but with a view to extend the U. S. policy towards our Indians, and which were thought best on the Dardanelle Rock, and at the junction of the Verdigris River with the Arkansa—But wherever the military post is ordered, (provided it be on the River) the factory ought to be located.

The capital for an establishment in the midst of such vast resources for trade; and at so remote a point from the centre of supplies, ought to be large. I mentioned to you that \$20,000, I thought would do, in thinking this matter over, I am confirmed in that opinion—less ought not to be commenced with—nor ought a beginning to be made except upon a scale suited to the magnitude of the prospects; as well as to the impressions which it is desirable to make on the confidence of the Indians—It ought to satisfy them of its ability to serve them most amply.—Coupled with this idea is another which more properly belongs to the next point I propose to remark upon—it is that which applies to the suitability of the merchandise. It ought in any respect to conform to their wants, and tastes. The stock ought to be new, and perfect.—

This office has no funds to spare, or but few that could be applied to the support of this factory. If the establishment at Ft Mitchell be broken up, on reference to the description of goods on hand there, I find them not suited (except a few of them) to the contemplated post on Arkansas—it would injure the new organization there to throw old goods and unsuitable goods out of a worn out establishment into it.—I must look to the Government therefore for the means to establish the factory on the Arkansa—or at least for \$10,000. for the rest I will endeavour to provide so as to throw a \$20,000 stock into the trade—by such goods as are transferrable, and by some money, which however it will be difficult, in justice to the other factories, to spare.—With respect to a discontinuance of other posts, there are none that, (in my opinion) ought to be broken up with the exception already taken. That at the Chickasaw Bluffs might be advantageously changed, and especially under the petition of the Chickasaws to be permitted to manage their own trade.—I recommend that this factory be transferred to a little above the mouth of the Arkansas, where we have had a post, and at which suitable buildings yet remain. That factory was discontinued on a/c of the war—Deer & Cow Skins being received at it almost exclusively, and these being articles of exportation, and not

in demand in America but with reference to a foreign trade, its operations were made profitless therefore by the war. But it was a good and valuable establishment previously; and would be so again.—

I recommend this change for the following reasons;

1st Because the place is a better one for a profitable business.—

2^d It will provide a necessary depot for the main factory above—at which to lodge the goods in the fall for a February conveyance up the Arkansas.—

3^d The Chickasaw Bluffs are exceedingly unhealthy and ought on that account to be abandoned.—

4th The Chickasaws desire to manage their own trade.—

But for the 3^d reason assigned, this factory, agents and all, could be transferred to the upper waters, but the difficulties attending the navigation of the Arkansas, except at stated periods, and the uncertainty of the arrival of supplies to meet those favorable periods, fully warrant in my opinion, the establishment of a depot, at or near its mouth, under a suitable agency, even tho' no business were done. But as houses are up; and as its capacity to support a good trade has been proved, it had as well & better constitute the two fold connexion of a depot & factory—the expences for one equallizing the expences for both.

And now Sir, as to the time at which those emigrant Indians can realize the provision in the treaty, which promises them a factory.—

In turning this matter, and with all my solicitude to promote the object, & facilitate it, I am decidedly of opinion that nothing but the preliminary arrangements can be made, such as buildings &c, before April next, twelve month. And for the single reason of the difficulty of the navigation.—

The Arkansa is 2.173 miles long, from its source to where it empties into the Mississippi—The whole length may be navigated by Boats suitably made, for the purpose, provided they embark on the 1st of February—as then the waters are abundant.—But after this month the waters are nearly dry for 1500 miles up it. the sands of which the bed of which this river is made, similar to parts of the Rio del norte absorb what has been afforded during the winter I mean that which remains after the surface is levelled by the Stream.—So far as my agency is concerned I could have the goods at the mouth of the Arkansa with certainty by June. But they would be useless there as well as exposed, I could have the buildings prepared by the same period, and these might be gone on

with at any time; and in fact to commence them early might serve as evidence to the Indians of the good faith of the Government.— On this account it would be well to go to work upon the buildings this summer, and foreward the merchandize next fall, so as for it to arrive at the depot which may be constituted by that time, from whence they can be furthered in february following.—

We have in operation at this time Eight factories located as follows.—

1st Fort Mitchell—in Georgia—useless—

2^d On the Tombigby—Mississippi Territory—good—

3^d Fort Osage on Missouri—Ter: good.

4—Prarie du Chien—on Mississippi. N. W. Ter: good

5—Sulphur Fork on Red River Louisiana—now organizing

6—Chicago, Michigan Ter: an excellent place but almost ruined by the British traders—will soon be good.

7—Green Bay—of Lake Michigan—same as the last.

8—Chickasaw Bluffs.—

It may not be out of place to remark that I have contemplated an establishment at Council Bluffs on the Missouri and the River S^t Peters, near S^t Anthonys falls, in the erection of which the policy of the Government would be promoted, & the trade fund essentially benefited.—

I am &c &c &c

T. L. M^cK

WILLIAM RECTOR TO THOMAS B. ROBERTSON

[NA:SF, 15 Cong., 1 sess.:ALS]

WASHINGTON CITY *March* 19th 1818

SIR When I entered on the duties of the Office of Principal Deputy Surveyor of the Missouri Territory; I did not doubt but what I was entitled to receive 25 cents p^r mile, on the Surveys of the public Lands, and a Salary of 500\$ p^r Annum: And such I still believe was the entention of Congress at the passage of the Law creating that office. For subsequent Laws creating Officers of the same kind, & whose duties are less extensive, complicated, & expensive, gives expressly to those Officers 25 cents p^r mile on the Surveys of the public Lands, & 500\$ p^r annum.

When the Office I now hold was created the salary part of my Compensation was raised to 1000\$ p^r ann^m Because the additional duties which this Office brought with it was very extensive and extremely difficult to accomplish. A vast quantity of Surveys

within the Illinois Territory, was transferred from the Surveyor General's to my Office, embracing the Districts of Shawneetown, Kaskaskia, and Edwardsville; a large portion of the Surveys within the two last mentioned Districts was in an unfinished state; Those Districts contain a great many confirmed claims of individuals, many of the Surveys are extremely irregular in their form, which with the navigable streams, that bound, & pass through that part of the Country, made the formation of connected plats, and the calculation of the contents of the fractional quarter Sections extremely laborious & troublesome; all of which it became necessary to do in as short a time as possible, so that I was under the necessity of employing six clerks to aid me in this & the other business of my Office—But a very small part of the Surveys of the Public Lands, and none of the Surveys of individuals in the Illinois Territory, was recorded in the office of the Surveyor General. But was transferred to my office as I before observed in an unfinished state; a part of which have been; and the residue must yet be recorded in my office. I now have five clerks engaged at that & other business in my office.

The Bill which the Senate has passed for my relief does not contemplate that I shall receive any fees on the Surveys that were executed in the Illinois Territory under the superintendence of the Surveyor General of the United States. The compensation allowed me by this Bill after deducting my actual expenditures for clerk hire, is really very moderate, considering the immense Labour & great responsibility I have had to encounter

In consequence of the fees I claimed being so long withheld I was compelled to sell much of my property at a very low rate to raise funds with which, to defray the expences incident to my office. The property which I sold for that particular object, would at this day, sell for more money than all I have received, and all that the Bill from the Senate contemplates paying to me. The Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office has I believe stated to the Honb^l. Chairman of the Committee of Public Lands (in the Senate) the extent of the Surveys which have been & are now making under my superintendence ⁶⁴

I have the honor to be with much respect Sir Your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR.

THE HONBL^e THOMAS B. ROBERTSON Chairman of the Committee of Public Lands—

[Addressed] To/ The Honrb^l. Thomas B. Robertzon Chairman of the Committee of Public Lands

⁶⁴ Cf. *ante*, p. 350.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO MOSES BROADWELL

[NA:SD, Dom. Letters, xvii:C]

20 March, 1818.

MOSES BROADWELL, Cincinnati, Ohio.

SIR, I duly rec'd your letter of the 9th of Feb^y,⁶⁵ giving information that a settlement is about to be formed by a company in the neighborhood of Lake Pepin on the Mississippi, and requesting to be notified of the opinion of this Govern^t on the propriety of the proposed settlement, and of the title upon which it is founded. I lose no time in signifying to you that the proposed plan is entirely disapproved of, and that the title referred to is not recognized or admitted by this Government.

—J.Q.A.

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO ELIAS A. ELLIOTT

[NA:PO, P. M. Letter Book X]

March 20. 1818.

ELIAS A. ELLIOTT Esq. P. M. St. Genevieve Missou Ty.

SIR. Will you be good enough to inform me who carries the mail between your office & New Madrid, the route was assigned to John M^cArthur, who has not that we can learn executed the contract & bond for said route, and it is well ascertained the if the route is carried by him, it is badly done indeed. I wish you to employ a carrier for said route, if such a measure be necessary, may I have your immediate reply.

R J. MEIGS.

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO ROBERT SIMPSON

[NA:PO, P. M. Letter Book X]

March 25. 1818.

ROBERT SIMPSON Esq. P. M. St. Louis Missou.

SIR. I will thank you to ascertain from the Arkansa mail carrier, for what sum he will carry the mail once in two, instead of once in four weeks, let me hear of the result, the name of the carrier, and his Character as soon as practicable.⁶⁶

R. J. MEIGS J.

⁶⁵ NA (SD, Misc. Let.). The claim under which this settlement was to be made was from "a certain Jonathan who derives his Grant from his Britanic Majesty previous to the Revolution."

⁶⁶ See *ante*, p. 136.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822:ALS]

WASHINGTON CITY 25th March 1818

SIR, You will herewith receive my account current with the United States, from the 17th April to the 30th September 1817—During that time I paid other sums to several Deputy Surveyors in advance, in part for Surveying which they had contracted to do for the United States in the Missouri Territory—And which surveying they had partly executed; but as the surveys were not completed and returned to my office, vouchers, such as would be admissible at the Treasury Department in the settlement of my accounts could not then be obtained—The amount paid as appears from vouchers N^o 66 to 124 inclusive, and the sums paid in advance to Deputy Surveyors, together, amount to the whole sum, for which I have drawn on the Treasury of the United States, except a Bill for \$10.000, which on the 28th January 1818 I drew in favor of Shadrach Bond Receiver of Public Monies at Kaskaskia, which Bill I forwarded to my Chief Clerk, for the purpose of paying for surveys as they might be presented at my office.

That sum will be exausted, I presume by the time I reach home—It is therefore necessary that a further sum of about twenty three thousand dollars be provided to pay for the surveys which I put in operation, and which were partly executed, in the Missouri Territory before I left home: of which I apprized you on the 23^d January—The expense of laying off, and subdividing the 30 Townships North of And adjoining the Lands now selling at Edwardsville, will amount to \$6480—That sum will soon be wanting, as I calculate to have the surveys executed in a short time—

It will be most convenient to draw money to pay for surveys at Kaskaskia and Edwardsville

I have the honor to be with much respect Sir Your Ob^t Sev^t

W^m RECTOR

THE HON^{rs} JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the General Land Office

[Addressed] The Honbl^e Josiah Meigs Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office Washington City

[Endorsed] W^m Rector 25th Mar 1818 Wants a credit for \$30.000 notified Sec^y of the Treasury 26th March

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822:AL]

WASHINGTON CITY *March* 26. 1818

SIR A Bill has passed the Senate & House of Representatives allowing me twenty five cents per mile on the Surveys of the Lands of the United States which have been executed in the Illinois & Missouri Territories under my superintendence from the time I entered on the duties of Principal Deputy Surveyor, to the passage of the law.

I wish to obtain these fees as soon as practicable I am anxious to set out for home in order to attend to the duties of my office. My pecuniary situation makes it important that I should receive at this place the whole or nearly the whole of these fees which will amount to upwards of Fifteen thousand dollars. I have with me vouchers only for a part of these fees Towit for about twelve thousand dollars. Soon after my return home I shall be able to forward all the necessary vouchers. Will you please to point out to me the Course I am to pursue in order to obtain these fees, and at the same time, let me know whether I can draw for Fifteen thousand dollars [the page is cut here]

[*Addressed*] The Honrb^e Josiah Meigs Commissioner of the General Land Office Present.

[*Endorsed*] W^m Rector 26th March 1818 Wants paym^t of his Acco^t of fees. Ans^d 26 March ⁶⁷

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822:C]

WASHINGTON CITY *March* 28. 1818

SIR There is at this time a considerable quantity of public Land ready for sale in the District of S^t Louis and Howard County in the Missouri Territory to wit

In the District of S^t Louis west of the 5th principal meridian line,
North of the Missouri River about 100 Townships
to 2304000 Acres

South of Ditto about 34
Townships to 806400 d^o 3110400 Acrs

In the District of Howard County
North of the Missouri River about 73 Townships
to 1681920 Acres

South Ditto 41 Ditto
to 944640 d^o 2626506 Acr:

Together 5736960 Acr:

⁶⁷ NA (GLO, Lets. to SG, II).

I have understood that it is not the intention of our Government to offer the whole of these Lands (in the respective Districts) for sale at the same time, should this be the case I beg leave to recommend that the Lands North of the Missouri River be first brought into Market, because in that part of the Country there are a great many settlers on public Lands and to which emigration seems principally directed.

Should this quantity north of the River be deemed to large to be offered for sale at the same time, I would recommend that the east part of the District of S^t Louis, and the west part of the district of Howard County be first offered.

I beg leave further to recommend that the Presidents proclamation for the sale of these Lands be issued several months before the sales take place, because I am convinced that such notice will be an advantage to the United States and a convenience to many individuals who may wish to become purchasers of Lands. Timely notice of the sales will put it in the power of individuals who want to purchase to command their funds, and to acquire the necessary information concerning the Lands—which will produce a greater competition at the sales consequently the Lands will bring a better price.

The first Monday in September would I think be a good time for the sales to commence at S^t Louis, and about the middle of October at Howard County.

The sketch which you will herewith receive shews the Situation of the Lands above alluded to.⁶⁸

I have the honor to be with much Respect Sir Your ob^t Servt
(signed) W^m RECTOR

THE HONB^{le} JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the Gen^l L^d Office
Washington City.

[*Endorsed*] 28 March 1818 W^m Rector advises Sales in Howards C^o & at S^t Louis Sent original to Sec^y Treas^y 30 March ⁶⁹

SERGEANT HALL TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Misc. Letters:ALS]

SAINT LOUIS, *March* 29. 1818

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, Esq

SIR, By the mail of March 13, I received your letter, appointing me United States' printer, for this territory, dated Dec. 1, 1817.⁷⁰

⁶⁸ Not present.

⁶⁹ *Post*, p. 369.

⁷⁰ Not found.

The length of time which has elapsed since its date made me doubtful of the propriety of inserting some of the laws; but as my instructions were general, and I conceived that the impositions practised in the post office department, were not unknown at the City, I have commenced the publication. I find it difficult also, in some cases, to ascertain the number of insertions intended. Such laws as have no mark, I presume may be inserted at least three times.

I trust Sir, that my apparent want of respect in answering your letter several weeks after its receipt, will be excused, when I inform you that, in common with the rest of the citizens of this territory, I have not the least confidence in the mail. Whether this ever reach its destination, I think extremely doubtful.

I am, Sir, with great respect, your Serv't

S. HALL

[*Addressed*] Hon'ble John Quincy Adams, Secretary of State, Washington City Free

[*Endorsed*] Hall Sergeant March 29. 1918. recd Ap: 22.⁷¹

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8]

G. L. O. 30th March 1818

HON. W^m H. CRAWFORD Sec^y of the Treasury.—

SIR, I have the honor to transmit herewith a letter from Mr Rector, dated 28th Ins^t recommending public sales of lands in the district of St Louis Howard County; ⁷² also a map of Missouri territory.—So soon as I receive your instructions on this subject, I will prepare proclamations for sales in Alabama, Michigan, and Missouri.—

I have the honor &c.

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., Treasury:ALS]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT 31 March 1818.

SIR For the reasons stated in General Rector's letter to you of the 28th instant,⁷³ I beg leave to recommend the following arrangement for the sale of the public lands in the Missouri Territory—

⁷¹ Answered *post*, p. 383.

⁷² *Ante*, p. 367. See also Meigs to the Secretary of the Treasury, Mar. 26, 1818 (NA, GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8), stating Rector's request for credit of \$23,000 for surveys in Missouri Territory.

⁷³ *Ante*, p. 367.

First—That Sales take place in the District of St^t Louis, on the first Monday in August, October, & December of the present year; and on the first monday in February & April 1819,—each sale to embrace Twenty five Townships.

Second—That sales take place in Howard County, on the first Monday in September & November of the present year, and on the first monday in January, March, & May 1819

I will just observe, that it will be proper to commence making sales in each District at the point recommended by General Rector.⁷⁴

I am very respectfully Sir Your Obed^t St.

W^m H CRAWFORD

THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GEN^l LAND-OFFICE

[*Endorsed*] 31 March 1818 Sec^y of Treas^y wants proclamation for St^t Louis & Howard Co Sent 3^d Ap^l 31 March 1818 The Secretary of the Treasury Enclosing letter from Rector and recommends Sales to take place at periods specified by him, in St Louis—and Howard C^o Districts.

SECRETARY BATES TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Mo. Terr. Papers:ALS]

Secretary's Office of Missouri Territory

ST LOUIS *April 1st 1818*

SIR, As required by the 3^d sec of the 'Act providing for the government of the territory of Missouri' ⁷⁵ I have the honor to enclose reports of the Executive Proceedings, during the last six months.—

The Legislature has not been in session during this time. Particular forms have not been heretofore prescribed for these reports: Should I be honored with your orders, or intimations, it is superfluous to say that I should have great pleasure in conforming myself to them, most minutely.—

With every consideration of respect, I have the honor to be, Sir, Your most obedt servant

FREDERICK BATES

THE HON^{ble} JOHN Q ADAMS Secretary Dep^t of State.—

[*Addressed*] The Hon^{ble} John Q Adams Secretary of the Dep^t of State Washington—

[*Endorsed*] Secy Office Missouri T^y Bates Frederick Ap: 1. 1818. Recd 28.

⁷⁴ See proclamation, *post*, p. 385.

⁷⁵ *Ante*, XIV, 552.

[Enclosure]

*Executive Proceedings of Missouri Territory October 1, 1817—
March 31, 1818*

Missouri

Copy of the Executive Journal of appointments, civil and of the militia, for the U. S. territory of Missouri,—from 1st October 1817—until 31 March 1818—

Oct 2. Michel Tesson Capt Gl S. Cerre 1st Lt Ephraim Town 2^d Lt Andrew Drips Ensign—1st Com^y 1st Bat 1st Reg^t

Moses D. Bates 2^d Lt Andrew Bouis Ensign 3^d Com^y 1st Bat 1st Reg^t

Zenas Priest a Justice of the Peace, Byrd township—C^y Cape Girardeau

John Reed Capt Philip Rochblave 1st Lt Daniel Farrow 2^d Lt J. A. Michau Ensign 2^d Com^y 1st Bat 1st Reg^t John S Russell vice Michau declined to accept

Oct 15. James Berry Capt 1st Com^y 3^d Bat 1st Reg^t Alexander Kinkead Ensign 3^d Com^y 3^d Bat 1st Reg^t Nath^l Hutchison Coroner of Howard County.

1817

Oct 20. John Laughlin Capt, Abel Ogle 1st Lt, William Anderson Ensign of 1st Com^y 1st Bat 10th Reg^t.—

Thomas Miller Capt, James Cooley 1st Lt, Tho Massie 2^d Lt Wade H Whitney Ensign of 2^d Com^y 1st Bat 10 Reg^t.—

James Lillard Capt, Jesse Cox jr 1st Lt—W^m Norris 2^d Lt Solomon Cox Ensign of 3^d Com^y 1st Bat of 10th Reg^t

John Rooker Capt Edw^d Burleson 1st Lt, Jacob McBride 2^d Lt Alex^r Brady Ensign of 4th Com^y 1st Bat 10 Reg^t

Joseph Fowler Capt, Stephen Fields 1st Lt W^m Paully Ensign of 5th Com^y attached to 1st Bat of 10 Reg^t

28th Matthew Caldwell a Justice of the Peace, township of Labadie, C^y of St Louis

James Garner a Justice of the Peace for Christian township c^y Lawrence

George Tompkins, Judge Advocate of the 10th Reg^t.—

John J. Lowry Surgeon of 10th Reg^t

Cha^s Canole Capt W^m Todd 1st Lt, Ja^s Fowler 2^d Lt David Todd Ensign of 1st com^y 2^d Bat of 10 Reg^t.—

Alfred R. Head Capt Marcus Arnold 1st Lt Jn^o. McGill 2^d Lt, Sam^l Copher Ensign of 2^d com^y 2^d Bat of 10th Reg^t

Daniel Munroe Capt, Amos Barnes 1st Lt Henry Weaden 2^d Lt, Hugh Morrison Ensign of 3^d com^y 2^d Bat 10 Reg^t.—

1817

Tyre Harris Capt Joel Hern 1st Lt John Stephenson 2^d Lt Thomas Berry Ensign of 4th com^y 2^d Bat of 10 Regt

Mike Box Capt, W^m Bowlen 1st Lt Stephen Cole jr 2^d Lt, James Savage Ensign of 5th com^y 2^d Bat of 10th Regt.

30. Ezekiel Rubottom a Justice of the Peace, township of St. Francis c^y Cape Girardeau

Nov 10. Duff Green colonel of 10th Regiment

Matthew Caldwell 1st Lt Mitchell Hatton 2^d Lt Mordecai Bell Ensign of [blank] com^y 2^d Bat 9th Regt:—

James Austin a Justice of the Peace, township of Breton C^y of Washington

20. Hewes Scull, Sheriff of the County of Arkansas

Eli J. Lewis Coroner of the County of Arkansas

Gov Clark left the territory for the City 25th Nov—after which the following appointments were made by the Sec^y exercising the Government

Dec 14. Nath^l Beverley Tucker, Judge of the circuit courts, for Northern Circuit vice. David Barton resigned—

Tyre Harris a Justice of the Peace for township of Minotaur c^y Howard

Bradford Lawless a Justice of the Peace for d^o Bonne Femme c^y Howard

1818

Jan^y 5. Jacob Garrett a Justice of the Peace, for township St Francis c^y Cape Girardeau

22^d David Boggs Coroner of Howard County

Thomas Morgan 2^d Lt, John Rodney Ensign 2^d com^y 2^d Bat 4 Regt

Rich^d Sessums Coroner of c^y New Madrid—vice Bartlett dec^d—

Feb 3. Jacob Ish a Justice of the Peace, township La Mine, c^y of Howard

James Zeveley a Justice of the Peace, township Charlatan c^y of Howard

11th W^m Martin Capt, Jehdiada Martin 1st Lt, Robert Musick Ensign of 1st com^y 2^d Battalion of 1st Regiment

15th Abraham Stewart a Justice of the Peace township St Ferdinand c^y of St Louis

16. Peter Ferguson & Moses D Bates Justices of the Peace township & c^y of St Louis

19. Nicholas S. Burckhardt Sheriff of the County of Howard

23. Bethel Allen, a Justice of the Peace, township Femme Osage c^y St Charles.

Mar 11. Rich^d Sessums a Justice of the Peace, township Big Prairie—c^y New Madrid

1818

26 Aug: Storrs a Justice of the Peace, township Bonne Femme
c^y of Howard

28 Joseph McFerron, Notary Public, for county of Cape Girar-
deau

Secretary's Office of Missouri Territory

ST LOUIS April 1st 1818

FREDERICK BATES

Table of civil Officers commissioned by the Governor of the ter-
ritory of Missouri, and remaining in Office on the first day of
April 1818—

Territorial Officers—

William Christy Auditor of Accounts—Peter Didier Treasurer—
Clerks of Superior Courts—Joseph V Garnier of North^a Cir-
cuit—Joseph McFerron S. Circ^{ts} Jn^o Dodge Arkansas

Officers of County Circuits—

Nath^l Beverley Tucker Judge of Northern Circuit—

Henry S Geyer—C^t Attorney—

Rich^d S. Thomas Judge of South^a Circuit.—

John Cook Attorney.—

Joshua Norvell Pros^s Att^y for Ark^s

COUNTY OF HOWARD

Gray Bynum Clerk Circ^t Court

Nic S. Burckhartt Shf: David Boggs Coroner

Justices of the Peace

George Jackson—James Allcorn—David McQuitty—Stephen
Cole—Jn^o Munro, Ja^s Beatty, Geo C. Sibley—William McFarlane,
Anderson Woods—Gray Bynum, Ja^s Barns, Jn^o Adams Geo
Burckhartt, Josh^a H Burckhartt Benj^a Cooper jr, Jos: Sears,
Dan^l B Moore Tyre Harris, Bradford Lawless, Jacob Ish,—
James Zevely, Aug Storrs.

Notary Public Gray Bynum George Jackson Surveyor

COUNTY OF S^t CHARLES

W^m Christy jr Clk of c^t & c^y Courts

Ur^h J Devore Shf: And^w Wilson Coroner

Justices of the Peace

Township of Femme Osage Bethel Allen—Jn° K. Callaway Jn° Drury Benj^a Sharp—Hugh McDermid

Township of Portage des Sioux Ebenezer Ayres—Francis LeSieur—

Township of St Charles Dan¹ Colgan, Ja^s Green, And^w Wilson Charles Philips

Township of Dardenne Biel Farnsworth—Tho^s D. Stephenson

Townships of the 2 Cuivres Jos Cottle, Jn° Bryson, W^m Craig—Enoch Maston, Ira Cottle, Benj Emmons

Township of Sans Dessein Jesse Evans—Jesse F. Roiston—Notary Public Henry Hight—John Ferry Surveyor

COUNTY OF ST LOUIS

Mary P. LeDuc clk c^t & c^y Courts

Jn° W. Thompson Shf W^m Sullivan Coroner

Justices of the Peace

Joachim. James Rankin, Jed: Kendal Elias Bates—Caleb Bowles—

St Louis. Jos V. Garnier, Tho^s f Riddick, F M Guyol Tho Sappington, Jer^h Connor, Peter Ferguson Moses D Bates.

Labbadie Matt^w Caldwell—James Higgins Jn° Burchard—Jesse McDonnell—

Bon Homme W^m Long, Gabriel Long—Andrew Kinhead—Stephen Lanham—

St Ferdinand Rich^d Chitwood, Tho Musick Jn° El Allen, Step Hempsted sen Sam¹ Magill Nath¹ B. Tucker—Abraham Stewart—

Meramec—William Spencer

M P. LeDuc Reg^r of Boatman for the County

Not^s pub^c M P. LeDuc, Jos V Garnier, Jn° W Honey

James Rankin Surveyor

COUNTY OF ST° GENEVIEVE

Tho^s Oliver Clk C^t & C^y Courts—

Henry Dodge Shf: Jn° B. Janis Coroner

Justices of the Peace

Township of St° Genevieve Thomas Oliver, Michael Amoureux—Jos Bogy, Henry Elliot—Jos Hertick

Township of Platen Peter McComack—

Township of St Michael Jn° Callaway—Jos Moore, Ch^s L. Byrd—
Adam Johnson, W^m Dillon, Laken Walker

Township of Cinq Hommes Hezekiah P. Harris—James Moore
jr—William Flynn—Amos Byrd—Barnabas Burns—Benjamin
Davis

Township of Saline. Jn° Barret—H. Tucker

Township St Francis—David F. Marks William Shaw and Laken
Walker.

Notary Public Thomas Oliver [blank] Surveyor

COUNTY OF WASHINGTON

John Brickey Clk C^t & C^y Courts

Dan^l Dunklin Shf: Jn° Andrews Coroner

Justices of the Peace

Breton township James Austin, John Brickey, Burwell J. Thomp-
son.—William Harrison—And^v Miller

Township of Big river John Andrews, George McGahan Henry
Poston—and William Andrews—

Township of Belle Vue Josiah H Bell—Geo Ashbrook—Joseph
McCormick—and Barnard Rogan—

Township of Rich Woods Louis Labeaume—Charles Patton

Notary Public John Brickey—John Hawkins Surveyor—

COUNTY OF CAPE GIRARDEAU

Joseph Mcferron Clk C^t & C^y Courts

Jn° Hays Shf—David Green Coroner—

Justices of the Peace

German township Ben Shell—Jn° B. Wheeler, Radford Ellis W^m
Tinnon—Tho Newberry—Jn° H Mifflin

Township of Cape Girardeau Jn° Henderson—Jn° Abernethie,
Enoch Evans Jn° H Madison, Geo H. Scripps, Jos: Lewis

Township of Tywapity—William Kelso

Township of St Francis—Geo Kelly Ezekiel Rubottom, Jn° Sand-
ers, Jacob Garret

Byrds Jn° Ellis, Tho Blain, Ro Green, Ja^s Russel Tho Neal, Tho
Stewart, Jn° Askin, Zenas Priest

Not^y Pub^c Geo Henderson—Jos McFerron

William Garner Surveyor—

COUNTY OF NEW MADRID

Rich^d H Waters Clerk C^t & C^y Courts

Stephen Ross Shf:—R^d Sessums Coroner

Justices of the Peace

Township of Tywapity Henry Cockran—Ja^s Lucas, Geo Dameron
Edw^d Cero
Township of Big prairie Rich^d Sessums, M. Armstrong, Jn^o
Capps, Jos: Rawlins, Geo West, Jn^o Osborn, Enoch Liggate—
Township of New Madrid Ro^b Watson, Sam^l Cooper, Francis
Lesieur Jn^o Osborn, Rob^t Dawson, Jos: Mitchell—
Township of Current river W^m Russell—
Moreland Jn^o Hall. Edw^d Tanner.—
Notary Public George Tennille—
Joseph Story Surveyor—

COUNTY OF LAWRENCE

Lewis De Mun Clk C^y Court. R^d Searcy Clk C^t Court
Ja^s Campbell Shf: Jos Harden Coroner

Justices of the Peace

James Moore—Geo Gill—W^m Russell Richard Murphy—Alex^r
Hodge—Jacob Hudgins—Geo West—R^d Searcy William Robin-
son—James Garner Fergus Morrison—William Looney W^m
Moore, Micajah Harris—W^m Hix
Notary Public Richard Searcy—[blank] Surveyor—

COUNTY OF ARKANSAS

Patrick Cassidy Clerk C^y Court
Hewes Scull Shf: Eli L. Lewis Coroner

Justices of the Peace.—

Ja^s Scull—Sam Miller, Zach Philips And^w Fagot, Ja^s Currin, John
Dodge Frederick Notrebee, Jn^o Carnahan—John Billingsby,
Isaac Cates, Sam^l Gates—John McIlmurray, Reuben Lewis—
and Wright Daniel—
Notary Public—John Dodge
Patrick Cassidy—Surveyor—

TENURE OF OFFICE

Judges of Circuit Court 'Good behaviour'
Clerks of Courts 'dur^s tem^y gov^t of ter^y unless sooner removed by
Court'
Sheriffs 'two years unless sooner removed'
Notaries Pub^c 'Good behaviour for five years'
Justices of the peace 'four years unless sooner removed'

Note, extra. Free white males in te^y Missouri—enum^d commen^s
Aug last

County of Howard—	3386—6	Reps in Gen ^l Assembly,	One in Council
County of St Louis—	4725—9	d° — d°	, One in Council
County of St Charles—	2866—5	d° — d°	, One in Council
County of St° Genevieve	2205—4	d° — d°	, One in Council
County of Washington	1245—2	d° — d°	, One in Council
County of Cape Girardeau	2593—5	d° — d°	, One in Council
County of N Madrid	669—1	d° — d°	, One in Council
County of Lawrence	1529—3	d° — d°	, One in Council
From Arkansas—No late Return—	1	d° — d°	, One in Council

free White Males 19,218—36 Rep^s in Gen^l Ass^y— 9 in Leg Council

The southern population of the territory is not, as will be observed, included in the above abstract, owing to the want of returns from the county of Arkansas. Besides which, since the taking of the enumeration, there has been an unexampled arrival of new colonists. Frederick Bates

Secretary's Office of Missouri Territory
ST LOUIS April 1st 1818
FREDERICK BATES

A Proclamation by Governor Clark

[October 4, 1817]

Copy of the only Proclamation issued by the Governor, during the half Year commencing 1st October 1817 and ending 31 March 1818.—

By William Clark

Governor of the territory of Missouri, commander in chief of the Militia and superintendant of Indian Affairs—A
PROCLAMATION—

In discharge of the duties enjoined on the executive by the fifth section of the Act of the General Assembly, entitled 'An Act altering the times and places for holding the superior and circuit courts of this territory and for other purposes' I do hereby make known to all whom it may concern that I have received information from the Sheriff of the county of St Louis, dated this day, that he has, in his custody confined in the county jail, one William Sharp, committed by warrant of the Hon Silas Bent, one of the Superior Judges of the territory, dated yesterday the 3^d ins^t on a charge of having murdered William Smith, in the town of St Louis, on the 28th of the last month. In testimony whereof I have caused the seal of the territory to be hereunto affixed.—

Given under my hand at St Louis the fourth day
 [SEAL] of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand
 eight hundred and seventeen and of the Independence
 of the United States the forty second.

(signed) W^m CLARK

By the Governor

FREDERICK BATES

Sec^y of Missouri ter^y

List of Licenses to trade with the Indians

[April 1, 1818]

Licences for Indian Trade issued to Citizens of the U. S. and none
 others by the Governor of the Territory of Missouri, during the
 last session of Equipment, viz^t fr 18th Aug: to this time

1817

- Aug* 18. Francis Bouthillier with the Sioux
 Same—with Sacs & Foxes
 Cabanne & Com^r with the Indians of upper Missouri
 22—Feron & Connolly with the Sacs & Foxes
 23. Chouteau & Rivar with the Gr & little Osages
Sep^r 4. Francis Chouteau with the Kansas & little Osages
 5th Joseph Graveline with the little Osages
 19. Joseph Collin—with Indians on waters of Mississippi
 23. Hugh Glenn—with Cherokees and Osages
 “ Joseph Robidoux & C^o with Indians of Missouri
 30. Cyrus Curtis—with Indians on Missouri & its waters
Oct^o 6. Joseph & Francis Robidoux with the Gr & little Osages
 10. Denis Julien—with the Indians on waters of Missouri
 11. Russel Farnham & Dan^l Darling with Sacs & Foxes & Iowas
 25. Francis Turcot—with Sacs & Foxes
 29. Joshua Palen—with Sacs and Foxes.—

1817

- Nov* 29. Paulet & Hebert, on Mississippi & its waters within ter^y of
 Missouri—

- Dec^r* 2^d—Simon Vanorsdal—with Indians on Mississippi—

1818

- Jany* 8th Fr^s & Jos: Robidoux with the Indians on Platte & Missouri
 Rivers.—

Secretary's Office of Missouri Territory

ST LOUIS April 1st 1818

FREDERICK BATES

[Endorsed] Civil & Militia Appointm^{ts} Licences for Indian Trade
 A Proclamation—Reed in Fredk Bates' letter of Ap: 1. 1818

THOMAS FORSYTH TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., F14:ALS]

GEORGETOWN 2nd April 1818

SIR It is Customary for the Sakie Indians for which Nation I am Sub-agent, to arrive at their Villages from their Winters hunt in the month of May, they then plant their corn and in June leave their Villages for a hunting excursion, and return the latter end of July or beginning of August, at a time their corn is in roasting ears, where they remain untill the first or 15th of September, when they again leave their villages and dont return untill may following, owing to the great distance they have to go to hunt during the interval between September and May, its being early enough to plant their Corn, therefore including the time they are on their Summer hunting excursion they are not more than four or five months at most at home at their Villages, and any business can as well be done with them by visiting them at their Villages in May and September as to live continually in the wild woods a distance of two or three hundred miles from the frontiers—

The Chiefs of that nation have informed me, that they intend to build a new Village up the Ihowai River, a distance of 60 or Eighty miles West of the Mississippi, It is therefore impossible for any Agent (without he is a perfect Indian) to take his family and live at or near their Village, they must and will get Spirituous Liquors, and an Agent will then be in danger of being Murdered in their drunken frolicks, they may go to War with another Nation of Indians, in that case an Agent and his family is sure of being destroyed, by visiting them in May and September every thing can be done that is requisite, without me risking myself and family in the middle of a wilderness and putting the public to the expence of buildings many more presents than are allowed and other expences not now known—

I have the honor to be your Most Obed^t Serv^t

THOMAS FORSYTH

THE HONORABLE J. C. CALHOUN Secretary at War Washington City

[Addressed] The Honorable J. C. Calhoun Secretary at War Washington City

[Endorsed] George Town 2^d April 1818. Thomas Forsyth, In relation the Agency & where he shall reside April 1818 Furnish a copy of this letter to Gov^r Clark; & refer it to his decision as

the Secretary at War cannot judge of the propriety without a full knowledge of all of the circumstances.⁷⁶

THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO DELEGATE SCOTT

[NA:SD, Dom. Letters, xvii:C]

18 April 1818.

JOHN SCOTT, Delegate from Missouri Terr.

SIR, The papers relating to M'Knight, Baird, and others, having been called for by a Resolution of the House of Representatives,⁷⁷ have been laid before them.⁷⁸ It is hoped this will answer the object proposed in your note of yesterday respecting them. The President has not thought proper to comply with the requests of Lord Selkirk. I enclose herewith copies of my note to the Spanish Minister, & his answer, relating to the case of Choteau, Demun & their Company.⁷⁹

—J.Q.A.

THOMAS A. SMITH TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., S126:LS]

BELLE FONTAINE 18th April 1818,

THE HON^{ble} J. C. CALHOUN, Secretary of War, Washington City,

SIR, I have the honor to inclose you the Copy of several communications from Cap^t Ballard, Commandant of Fort Edwards, transmitted through me, to the Executive of this Territory, to whom they were submitted, together with the reply of the Secretary of the Territory relative to them. The duty I owe to myself and the officers under my Command, compels me to lay the subject before you for your Consideration.

The course pursued by the Executive in relation to this affair, will compell me to countermand an order I had given sometime since, to seize all persons found violating the intercourse Law with the Indians, and leave that duty solely for the management of the Indian Agents, untill I receive your special instructions on the subject.

I have the honor to be, Sir, with high consideration Your Ob^t Serv^t

T A SMITH Brig^r Gen^l U S A

⁷⁶ It was so done; see the Secretary of War to Clark, Apr. 3, 1818 (NA, OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D).

⁷⁷ The papers in question were called for, Mar. 10, 1818 (*House Journal*, 15 Cong., 1 sess., p. 319).

⁷⁸ Monroe submitted the papers to the House on Apr. 15, 1818, *ibid.*, p. 471.

⁷⁹ Not seen.

[Addressed] The Hon^{ble} J. C. Calhoun, Secretary of War, Washington City. (D C)

[Endorsed] Belle Fontaine 18, Ap^l 1818. Gen^l Tho^s A Smith. Encloses communications on the subject of Violations of the intercourse law with the Indians—The conduct of the Executive of the Terr^y is such as to compel him to countermand all orders on the subject, & leave it solely to the agents—Rec^d May 1818.⁸⁰

[Enclosures]

James H. Ballard to Thomas A. Smith

FORT EDWARDS April 3^d 1818.

GENERAL, I send by Serg^t Porter and four privates Maj John Campbell and Elisha Moore as Violators of the law relative to Indian trading, also La Fleur and paschal Foster as evidences. The Serg^t and men will also be evidences in this case to prove that M^r Moore sold goods to Indians and that he was in the employ of Maj Campbell and also that V M Campbell (whom I shall send down as soon as possible) was similarly situated. The Circumstances relative to their trading illicitly, have been communicated to me by various persons and have also been observed by myself, I shall also send Joshua Pahlen and some others who have been formally informed against so soon as I can get them possession. The evidences in these several cases, I believe to be very ample when collected, or I should not have proceeded against them. Maj Campbell appears to be greatly exasperated against me for this proceeding and pretends to think it personal although no sort of Collision ever occurred between us of duty on my part, and violation of Laws on his, however I trust that even his large and confident talk may not be regarded, or at least not until some kind of enquiry is made, for I can conceive from his remarks upon various persons that he can invent much—

I am General with great respect &c

Signed, JAMES H BALLARD Cap^t Com^s

BRIG GEN^l SMITH U S. Army—

A True Extract, Ch^s Pentland Lieut & Adj Rifle Reg^t

James H. Ballard to Governor Clark

FORT EDWARDS I.T. April 3^d 1818.

HIS EXCELLENCY GOVERNOR CLARK,

SIR, In the performance of a public duty, I am under the necessity of Communicating to the Civil Authority information

⁸⁰ Answered post, p. 393.

relative to some Violations of the U. S. laws respecting Indian trading.—

Major John Campbell, has had in his employ B. Vasques, V. M. Campbell, Elisha Moore, Louis Pettette, Jean B. Quillory, Antoine Quillory Jun^r Michel Chapue, Joseph Desnord, Paschal Fortin, Babtist Laflur, Pierre Clairmont, S^t Germain Babtist Fistio, Bourdion, all of whom have under his direction traded with the Indians or been employed in that service Contrary to Law—in the Territories of Illinois & Missouri in the years 1817 and 1818, at various places to wit, at Flint Hill, Fort Armstrong, Fort Edwards, on the Desmoint, at the Two Rivers, Bay Charles, and at the Mouth of the little Mackoquita, and at other places which the Hands, witnesses &c will prove—the goods at this place will remain under a guard untill I know the pleasure of your Excellency—

Serg^t Porter, privates M^cDonald, Burrill & Wood all of Cap^t Ramsey's Company U. S. Reg^t of Riflemen are witnesses, there is abundant evidence of various Violations of the laws, by these men when they can be collected, and I presume enough is sent at this time for present purposes, I am myself an eye witness of Indian trading by M^r Moore who is in the employ of Maj. Campbell

Major Campbell is much disposed to have this duty which I feel bound to perform, considered as personal, but I am Constrained to say, that nothing can be more erroneous than such belief

I cannot suppose that your Excellency ever Sanctioned by Verbal permission the employing of hands or traders otherwise than in the manner which is expressed in the Statue although Maj Campbell has assured me that you did, I communicate this through my commanding officer General Smith, and I, have the honor to be with Respect & Sentiments of Great Consideration your Excellency's most Obedient And Very Humble Servant

(Signed) JAMES H. BALLARD

Captain R. R^t Com^s Post

HIS EXCELLENCY W^m CLARK Governor M^o Ter^y

A True Copy Ch^s Pentland Lieut & Adj Rifle Reg^t

Thomas A. Smith to Secretary Bates

BELLE FONTAINE 7th April 1818.

SIR, I have the honor to inclose you a communication from the Commandant at Fort Edwards with deposition of Le Guthrie, Major Campbell will be in S^t Louis this evening or tomorrow. If any legal measures are deemed necessary, it will rest with your excellency to direct it

I have the Honor to be, with high respect Your Excellency's Ob^t Serv^t

(Sign^d), T. A. SMITH Brig. Gen^l U.S.A

FREDERICK BATES Esq^r Secretary Missouri Territory. S^t Louis.

A True Copy Ch^s Pentland Lieut & Adj Rifle Reg^t

Secretary Bates to Thomas A. Smith

Missouri Territory Secretary's Office

S^t LOUIS April 9th 1818.

SIR, I had the honor to receive your letter of the 7th, on the absence of Governor Clark, and submitted it without delay to the Circuit Attorney,

The Governor has since arrived and instructs me to communicate to you the result of Judge Bents examination of the Charges exhibited against M^r John Campbell as an Indian trader, I cannot better perform that duty than by transcribing a part of the report made to this office by M^r Barton the Circuit Attorney—

"Judge Bent declines acting in the case, on the Ground that there is no legal evidence before him—and also that it does not appear that the offence is within the jurisdiction of this court, inasmuch as it may have been committed, (for anything that appears) within the jurisdiction of the Courts of Illinois Territory"

In obedience to the further order of Governor Clark, not yet refreshed from the fatigues of his journey, I have the honor to return the communications from the Commandant of Fort Edwards,

I have the Honor to be Sir, Your Ob^t Servant

FREDERICK BATES.

BRIGADIER GEN^l SMITH United States Army Belle Fontaine,

A True Copy Ch^s Pentland Lieut & Adj Rifle Reg^t

[Endorsed] S^t Louis 9 Apl 1818. Fred^d Bates Esq^r Secy of Missouri T^y In relation to the charges ag^t John Campbell Indⁿ Trader May 1818.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO SERGEANT HALL

[NA:SD, Dom. Letters, xvii:C]

22 April 1818.

SERGEANT HALL, Printer St. Louis, Missouri Ter^y

SIR, Your letter of the 29th of last month has been duly rec^d.⁸¹ It is only required of the Editors of Public Prints, selected to promulgate the laws of the U. S., to publish them once in their

⁸¹ Ante, p. 369.

respective papers, & they are paid accordingly at the rate specified in the circular letter to which you refer from this Dep^t, of the first of December.

If there be any misconduct in the Post Master at St. Louis known to you, as you intimate there is, in the management of his office, it would be proper that the specific charges should be laid before the Post Master General, who is at the head of the Post Office establishment of the U. S.

—J.Q.A.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO GOVERNOR CLARK

[NA:OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, 22^d April, 1818.

HIS EXCELLENCY W^m CLARKE S^t Louis.

SIR, I have the honor to enclose to you copies of two acts of Congress, passed at the late session, directing the manner of appointing Indian agents &c. and regulating their salaries,⁸² together with a list of the agents &c. who have been appointed under said acts.⁸³

I also enclose to you letters of appointment, accompanied by blank bonds, for all the agents within your superintendency, which you will be pleased to forward to them.

Benjamin O'Fallon and Peter Chouteau, who stand on the old list as agents within the Missouri Territory, you will observe, have been excluded by the new arrangement, of which you will please to notify them, and direct them to deliver over all public property, monies, books and papers in their possession to the Indian agent nearest to them.

The salaries of subagents have been fixed at five hundred dollars p^r annum, of which you will be pleased to inform all those within your superintendency, and that it is expected they will continue to perform the duties heretofore assigned them.

You will please report the names of all subagents under your superintendents, and where employed.⁸⁴

I have &c.

J. C. CALHOUN.

⁸² Approved respectively Apr. 16, 1818, and Apr. 20, 1818 (3 STAT. 428, 461).

⁸³ See the Secretary of War to the President, Apr. 18, 1818 (NA, WD, Lets. to Pres., 1), submitting a list of nominations in the Indian Department and in the Superintendency of Indian trade; included in the list were Thomas Forsyth as Indian agent for Missouri Territory, George C. Sibley as factor to the Osage Trading House, and Michael Ely as assistant factor to the same.

⁸⁴ Answered May 24, 1818 (NA, WD, SW, Lets. Recd., C153).

JOSIAH MEIGS TO GALES AND SEATON

[NA: GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8]

G. L. O. 29th April 1818.—MESS^{rs} GALES AND SEATON, Printers, Washington City—

SIR, Please to publish the enclosed proclamation of public sales of lands in Missouri territory, once a week till April next, commencing on the first of next month.—

I am, &c.

=====

PROCLAMATION OF LAND SALES AT ST. LOUIS AND
FRANKLIN⁸⁵

[NA:GLO, Record of Proclamations, Bk. 1]

N^o 22 *Dated 30 April 1818*—Sales at S^t LOUIS & FRANKLIN
BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Whereas by an Act of Congress passed on the 17th of February 1818 entitled “An Act making provision for the establishment Land Offices in the Territory of Missouri”⁸⁶ the President of the United States is authorized to direct the public lands which have been Surveyed in the Said Territory to be offered for Sale.

Therefore, I, James Monroe, President of the United States do hereby declare and make known that public sales for the disposal (agreeably to Law) of certain lands in the Territory of Missouri, shall be held as follows Viz^t

At Saint Louis in the Said Territory on the first Monday in August, October, December, February and April next and three weeks after each of the said days for the sale of Lands in the Land District of S^t Louis. Thirty townships shall be offered at each sale, commencing with the most eastern ranges West of the fifth principal meridian Line, and proceeding westerly.

At the seat of Justice for Howard County in the said Terr^y on the first Monday in September* and November next and three weeks after each of the said days, for the sale of Lands in the Land district of Howard County. Thirty townships shall be offered at each sale—The first to be in a square form and to include the seat of Justice of the said County as nearly in the centre as the situation of the surveys will admit, and the second immediately East of the first and in the same form, excepting from Sale in each district the Lands which have been or may be reserved by law for other purposes.

⁸⁵ Enclosed to Rector by Meigs, May 1, 1818 (NA, GLO, Lets. to SG, II).

⁸⁶ 3 STAT. 406-407.

*No Sales, see Proclamation N^o 29 [Footnote on the MS.]. See *post*, p. 459.

Given under my hand at the City of Washington the 30th day of April 1818.

(Signed) JAMES MONROE

By the President

(Signed) JOSIAH MEIGS

Comm^r of the General Land Office.

Printers of Newspapers who are authorized to publish the Laws of the U. S. will insert the above once a week till April next and send their bills to the General Land Office for payment ⁸⁷

[*Marginal note*] For the Townships embraced in this Proclamation, see letter from Register at St Louis (in the bound Volume of letters) bearing date 12th April 1822; & diagram in M^r Steiger's possession—presumed to have been furnished by M^r Rector, Surveyor General—Sept 9th 1845.

JUDGE LUCAS TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Printing and Distribution of Laws:ALS]

PITTSBURGH *May 3* 1st 1818.

SIR, having been informed that certain Statements have been made for the purpose of deterring you from having the Laws of the united States published in the Missouri gazette;—from a sense of Justice due to the printer of that paper, and to the publick; I beg leave to inform you from My own knowledge and on my own responsibility, that the Missouri gazette is the first paper, that has been printed in the territory of Missouri, that it allways had and Now has a much greater circulation, than the other paper published at St. Louis; that it is conducted and printed by the same person who first commenced the publication of the same; that the laws of the united States and of the territory have been heretofore published in the Missouri gazette.

it is understood that Number of persons of whom governor Clark is said to be one and John Scott delegate another; have been much incensed against the editor of the Missouri gazette, for having published a part of the enormities, committed by several Military characters and others at the last Election at St Louis for delegate in congress;—although I cannot state any particulars about the transactions of that day from my personal knowledge, (for I did not com Near the place of election Neither this year Nor last year) yet as I reside at St Louis, I could Not avoid hearing Much about it which has afforded me a moral evidence that the editor has been perfectly

⁸⁷ The draft of the above proclamation was submitted by Meigs to the Secretary of the Treasury Apr. 3, 1818 (NA, GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8).

Justifyable in his statement on that Subject;—a Letter which I have Just now received from the post Master of St Louis Leaves No possible doubt on the extent of the Mischief, the following is extracted from it

ST. LOUIS *March* 8. 1818.

“Since you left here verdicts have been obtained against Capt John O’fallen & Lt. Smith and Ben ofallen, for assaults on citizens on the Election ground, those gentlemen will have to pay about one thousand dollars for their sport on that Memorable day”—Capt John ofallen and Lt. Smith are both officers in the army, they were not inhabitants of the territory and had No right to vote, the two ofallens are nepviews of governor Clark and were his wards a few years ago, they were living at his house at the time of the affray, these circumstances may explain the reason why governor Clark and M^r Scott, whose interests are intimately connected together have united in their endeavours to deprive, if they can, M^r Charless of the Benefits arising from the publication of the Laws of the united States:—it has been repeatedly stated to Me and Never contradicted, that whilst governor Clark gave in his ballot at the last Election, (which was in the Morning,) he pronounced loud, that he voted for John Scott. This viva voce vote was superfluous Nay inadmissible in law—and cannot have been intended for any other purpose but to let the Multitude know certainly that he was in M^r Scott’s party—to deject his opponents and increase the audacity of his friends

I am Sir with respect your Most humble & obt. Svt.

JOHN B. C. LUCAS

HON^{ble} JOHN QUINCY ADAMS

[*Addressed*] Hon^{ble} John Quincy Adams—Secretary of State, City of Washington [*Postmarked*] Pitts^s P May 4 Free

[*Endorsed*] Lucas—John B. C. May 1. 1818 Recd the 13th. printing the Laws at S^t Louis.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO RECORDER BATES

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 2 *May* 1818

FREDERICK BATES Esq^r Recorder of Land Titles S^t Louis.

SIR, Herewith you have a copy of an act of congress passed the 9th Ult^o entitled “An Act limiting the time for claims being produced for lands authorized to be granted to the inhabitants of New Madrid.”⁸⁸ This act authorizes the reception of claims till the 1st of January next, but as several public sales will take place previ-

⁸⁸ 3 STAT. 417.

ous to that day, you must not issue any patent certificates to those claimants after the commencement of such sales, unless the claimant produces a certificate from the Register of the Land Office to shew that the land has not been sold. Should you issue any patent certificates to those claimants previous to the Public sales, you will furnish the Register of the Land Office for the District in which the lands lie, with a list of the tracts for which you have issued Patent certificates, that he may reserve them from Sale.⁸⁹

I am &c

DELEGATE SCOTT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE
TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., Treasury:ALS]

WASHINGTON CITY *May* 5th 1818

HONBLE WILLIAM H CRAWFORD

SIR The presidents proclamation having issued for the sale of a part of the Public Lands in Missouri Territory ⁹⁰ in Conformity to the act establishing additional Land offices therein passed this Session, I wish to call your attention to the propriety of some directions being given to protect private claims from sale that have been heretofore filed with the Commissioners, and Recorder of Land titles for that Territory, at Least until after next session of Congress—The act Establishing those land offices, and putting the Lands in Markett, refers to the 10th Section of the act of the 3^d March 1811 ⁹¹ (which you will find in the 4 Vol of Laws of U States page 356) and by that law thus referred to “Untill after the decision of Congress thereon no tract of land shall be offered for sale the the claim to which has been in due time, and according to law presented to the Recorder of Land titles in the district of Louisiana and filed in his office for the purpose of being investigated by the Commissioners appointed for ascertaining the rights of persons claiming Lands in the Territory of Louisiana”—Congress have never acted on any but Confirmed Claims,—In fact I believe there are other claims that have never been filed, that ought also to be protected and reserved from sale, but as they do not fall within the law, you will probably not feel disposed, or authorised to interfere to protect them from sale—But the propriety of giving directions to the Register and Receiver in relation to the claims in ques-

⁸⁹ Acknowledged June 4, 1818 (NA, GLO, Lets. Recd., PLC, Mo.).

⁹⁰ *Ante*, p. 385.

⁹¹ 2 STAT. 665.

tion, and which have been filed, will I trust be considered as a matter of Course, and of right, I know the fact will be difficult to ascertain, and can probably be only done by Laying the Books of the Commissioner and Recorder acting as Commissioner open to the Register and Receiver, or by ordering the Recorder to make an abstract of claims filed, and not acted on, or confirmed, and to hand the same to the Register and Receiver, or by authorising the party claiming his lands as exempt from sale to call on the Recorder for a Certificate of the fact, to be presented to the Register and Receiver, and in either case the Recorder ought to be compensated, for the trouble will be great, and even Laying the Books open to the Register and Receiver for inspection would not do in any district but that of St Louis, because the Land officers are so remote from the Books of the Commissioners and Recorder—Or suppose the Party himself claiming the exemption from sale, was authorised to give (say on oath or affirmation) to the Register and Receiver a notice in writing, stating the nature and extent of his claim, and where situated, and that notice of the same has been regularly given according to law, &c and permit this act of the party to amount to sufficient evidence to suspend the sale, as no injury could result to the United States in the end, other than the mere delay in selling a small quantity of Land—I have however merely suggested these crude Ideas for your consideration, without venturing to suggest any particular mode of protecting the claims, having pointed out the necessity of your Interference, you are doubtless better able than I am to apply the remedy

Most respectfully yr obt Set

JOHN SCOTT

The reservation of private claims will doubtless produce fractions in the regular surveys,—Would it not be well to reserve the fractions thus produced also from sale, till the private claims were finally acted on by Congress? for if you now sell those fractions, and the private claims should ultimately be rejected, they will also form fractions, but if all was reserved, they would then form parts of the regular Surveys, and be sold as such—on the other hand should the private claims be confirmed, the Value of these fractions will probably be increased, as the holder of the confirmed private claims may be more desirous of purchasing them John Scott

[Addressed] Honble William H Crawford Treasury Department

[Endorsed] 5 May 1818 Hon John Scott to the Sec^y of the Treasury de unconfirmed claims in Missouri he wants to have reserved

Wrote to Sec^y 11 May ⁹² Referred to the Commissioner of the Genl land office who will report his opinion upon the most eligible mode of procedure—He will also state whether the means in his possession will not enable him to give the receiver and register of Howard county the necessary information for the protection of the Claims which have been filed. W H C

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:TD, Pub. Lands Let. Bk., 1801-1833]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT 8th May 1818

JOSIAH MEIGS Esquire Commr of the General L. Office

SIR. It is desirable to ascertain without delay the geographical position of the place at which the courts of Justice are held in Howard County Missouri Territory ⁹³

I have the honor to be your Most Obt & very humble Servt

WM H CRAWFORD.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO GOVERNOR CLARK

[NA:OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, 8th May, 1818.

Gov^r W^m CLARK St Louis—Missouri Ter^y

SIR, The Arkansaw delegation expressed a desire, that the Shawnees and Delawares at Cape Girardeau, might be permitted to change their present residence and join them on the Arkansaw. The President informed the delegation, that you would be instructed to ascertain their views; and if they were willing, to propose a change of territory with them. You will, therefore, as soon as practicable, consult with them on this subject, and if they are willing for an exchange, to ascertain on what terms; which you will report to this department. As the country on the Arkansaw is said to be very desirable, it is probable that an exchange may be made on favorable terms. Should the treaty with the Quapaws succeed, the exchange might be made for lands acquired from them.

The President desires that the hostilities between the Cherokees and Osages should cease; and he informed the Arkansaw delegation while here, that you would be instructed to adjust the differ-

⁹² *Post*, p. 391.

⁹³ Answered May 9, 1818 (NA, GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8), that Rector had been written to some days before for the information in question, but that Meigs had learned from the Territorial Delegate that the place was Franklin and that it was situated on the Missouri River.

ence between the two nations. As this is a subject of considerable importance, you will give it immediate attention, and take such measures for the adjustment of their difference as you may judge best.

The Cherokees are anxious to have an outlet to the West to the game country, and it seems fair that the Osages, who hold the country West of their settlement, and have been beaten in the contest, should either make a concession of such portion of their country as might give the outlet, or at least to grant them an undisturbed passage to and from their hunting grounds. You will, as far as practicable, and consistent with justice, make the arrangement favorable to the Cherokees; as the President is anxious to hold out every inducement to the Cherokees, and the other Southern nations of Indians, to emigrate to the West of the Mississippi.⁹⁴

I have the honor &c.

J. C. CALHOUN.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 11 *May* 1818

HON: W^m H CRAWFORD Sec^y of the Treasury

SIR, I beg leave to report on the letter of M^r Scott dated 5th Ins^t ⁹⁵ which you referred to me, That Congress having confirmed the private claims on which the Land Commissioners & the Recorder of Land Titles in Missouri Territory reported favourably,⁹⁶ I have considered the other claims as invalid, & subject to Sale, if this construction is correct, the Recorder may be directed to furnish the Registers with a list of confirmed claims, & this list will I apprehend be corroborated by the general plats to be furnished to the Registers, which plats will exhibit the confirmed private claims. The Surv^r General has been directed to furnish those Plats. I am of opinion that if the unconfirmed claims are reserved from Sale, the hopes of the claimants (now extinct) will be revived, & much unnecessary trouble ensue, probably applications to Congress to re-establish a board of Commiss^{rs} although many years have already been spent in investigating those claims & in revising those investigations.

I have &c

⁹⁴ Answered *post*, p. 454.

⁹⁵ *Ante*, p. 388.

⁹⁶ Acts approved Apr. 12, 1814, and Apr. 29, 1816 (3 STAT. 121-123, 328-329, sec. 2). The lists of confirmations and rejections by the land commissioners and the recorder of land titles are found in *A.S.P., Pub. Lands*, II, 463-729, III, 314-370.

GOVERNOR CLARK TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., C136:ALS]

Missouri Territory St LOUIS May 11th 1818

SIR I had the Honor of receiving by the last mail a letter from you under date 27th of March,⁹⁷ incloseing a Copy of a Letter addressed to Governor Cass of the 25th on the Subject of Indian Traders.⁹⁸

As no communications has been received from you on the Subject of our Indian relations within this Territory, since my return; and as it is important that an Agent be sent among the numerous Tribes of the Missouri River, as soon as possible to check the excesses and disorder, which I am informed has been practiced among those tribes during the last fall & Winter, and to prevent their continuance—I beg leave to recommend the appointment of an Agent for the Indian Tribes of that River, with as extensive powers as the President may think proper to give; to enable him to detect illicit Trade (such as the sale of ardent Spirits) to Seize and Send down Traders Trading without licence; and such Characters as are misleading and Corrupting the Indians; with an Authority to Call on the Military to assist in the execution of those duties—it is also important that Similar powers be given to the agents of the Mississippi, Arkansas & Osage—Mr Benja^a oFallon is better Calculated to perform the duties of an Agent on the Missouri than any other Agent we have, but as his Services on the Mississippi is very important at this time—Mr George H. Kinnerly is better Calculated for this service than any other man, of my acquaintance; he possesses Energy, vigour, and has acquired some fame for his gallantry as an officer in several actions with the Mississippi Tribes—he has some experience also in Indian negotiation—

Permit me to Observe that I believe it important that the Officers commanding at the out posts, in the Indian Country should be invested with authority to counsel, explain and Satisfy the deputations of Such Tribes as may visit the posts when such officers may Command, and be permitted to make Small presents & give provisions in the absence of the agent—This measure would appear necessary, as the Agent will visit a number of Tribes Situated Several hundred miles apart, and cannot remain long at any one post.

I beg leave to Suggest the idea of the Agents for the Several Tribes on the Missouri & Mississippi being furnish with (each) a few regular Troops to act as Boat Men under their Controal, Such a Measure would be reduceing the necessary expensiters,

⁹⁷ NA (OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D).

⁹⁸ Printed, *Terr. Papers* (Mich.), x, 738-739.

and produce a favourable affect among the Indians; as Soldiers are more respected by the Indians on those rivers than Common Trader or Citizen.

Please to favor me with the result of your deturmonation on those points⁹⁹

I have the Honor to be with the highest respect your Mo. Ob^t Hⁱ Sert

W^m CLARK

THE HON^{ble} JOHN C CALHOUN Sect^y of War

[*Endorsed*] S^tLouis May 11th 1818. Gov^r W^m Clarke, Recommends the Establishment of An Indian Agency up the Missouri River—& that George H. Kinnerly be app^t agent &c add the pay the pay of an interpreter, and let Mr Kinnerly be sent out—June 1818.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO THOMAS A. SMITH

[NA:OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, 13th May, 1818.

B^r GEN^l THOMAS A. SMITH, Belle fontaine, Missouri Terr^y

SIR, I have received your letter of the 18th ultimo,¹ and have referred the subject to the governor of the territory for a full report. Until further orders from this department, you will continue in force the order to which you allude;—"to seize all persons found violating the intercourse law with the Indians."

I have the honor to be &c.

J. C. CALHOUN.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO GOVERNOR CLARK

[NA:OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, 13th May 1818.

Gov. W^m CLARK. S^t Louis.—

SIR, I have the honor of transmitting herewith a copy of a letter from Gen^l Tho^s A. Smith, commanding 9th military department.²

Gen^l Smith accompanied his letter by one from M^r Bates, including an extract from the decision of Judge Bent, in relation to the case mentioned in his letter. It appears by an examination of this decision, that the Judge not only did not think the testimony sufficient, but that his jurisdiction did not extend to the case. Upon an examination of the law it would appear to me, that jurisdiction is given to any Judge of a neighboring state or territory; and Cap^t

⁹⁹ Answered *post*, p. 401.

¹ *Ante*, p. 380.

² *Ante*, p. 380.

Balard expressly states, that he is capable of furnishing positive proof of the fact, of Cap^t Campbell's selling spirits contrary to the laws regulating Indian intercourse. In order that a correct opinion may be formed in this case, your Excellency will be pleased to report all the circumstances attending it, as early as practicable.³

I have the honor &c.

J. C. CALHOUN.

THOMAS A. SMITH TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Reed., S139:ALS]

BELLE FONTAINE, M^o T. May 16th 1818,

SIR, I have the honor to acknowledge the recp^t of your favour of the 16th of March,⁴ every exertion shall be made to push the Detachment as far up the Missouri this season as practicable. I have made requisitions for Ordnance Stores, and required of the Contractors to have in readiness for the movement one hundred and fifty thousand Rations. I must however express my fears that the great tardiness which has been manifested in our Military movements for several Years, will be experienced on this occasion, as well in regard to the arrival of the Troops, as of the Supplies absolutely necessary for the service.

The Detachment will not be able to do more the ensuing Season, than to reach the place of destination and erect Huts to shelter them during the Winter, Experience shews that the Prairies of this Country requires great labour to prepare them for Cultivation, which with the great difficulty of Sending Draft Horses and Oxen to a point so remote and through such numerous tribes of Indians, will I fear prevent the Detachment from cultivating as much ground as will be necessary to raise grain, to subsist them sooner than the fourth Year, I will impress strongly on the minds of the Officers employed on this service the absolute necessity of using every possible means within their power to provide for the wants of the troops without relying on the Contractor longer than is unavoidable.

From an examination of Lewis & Clarks Map, I am strongly impressed with the importance of making a military establishment,

³ Answered *post*, p. 416.

⁴ NA (WD, SW, Lets. Sent, Mil. Bk. 10), printed, Jameson (ed.), "Corr. Calhoun", *A.H.A. Rept.*, 1899, II, 134-136), containing the original instructions relative to the Yellowstone expedition. See also documents pertinent to the same expedition in *A.S.P., Mil. Affairs*, II, 31-34, 68-69, 324-325, which references include a lengthy explanatory letter from the Secretary of War to the chairman of the House Committee on Military Affairs, Dec. 29, 1819, and papers relating to the provisioning of the troops. See *post*, p. 402.

at or near the Mouth of the River La' Platt, and at the Mandan Village, the latter will be absolutely necessary in the event of any opposition from the English traders to Cover and protect the supplies which will be essential to the preservation of the Detachment for Several Years—I will communicate my Ideas fully, so soon as I obtain the information necessary to a correct view of the Subject.

I have the honor to enclose herewith extracts from two letters rec^d from Lt. Col. Chambers, I have since been unofficially informed that the Detachment sent to the river St Peters succeeded in apprehending Col^o Dickson and that he is now a Prisoner at Fort Crawford—Should this information be correct, he will be sent to this place by the first boat which descends the river, to be prosecuted for a violation of the intercourse law, I have no doubt the Judiciary will make the same decision in his case, they did in the case of Maj Campbell, and the Officer apprehending him be subjected to a civil prosecution for a faithful discharge of his official duty.

The number of officers allowed to a company are insufficient for the service that the Riflemen have to perform, after taking from the subalterns the officers necessary in the Staff, together with casualties over which I have no controul, I have scarcely in a single instance been able to assign more than one officer to a company, the greater part of whose time is necessarily employed in keeping the Company records and documents in order. A scarcity of Officers would be a serious inconvenience at Posts, so remote, as those contemplated to be established on the Missouri and in the event of hostilities might be the cause of the loss of these Posts. If a supernumary Officer to each company is appointed from the Military academy, it will add greatly to the efficiency of the Regiment, and enable the Commandants of Posts to detach parties under competent officers to explore the country and acquire such information as will be important in a military point of view, For service on the Missouri, Young Gentlemen of the first promise can be had, they view the objects as of the first importance, and as honorable as any in which they can be employed in time of peace.

It may not be amiss to advise you that the expence of procuring Boats and Quarter Masters Stores together with such articles of Husbandry as will be necessary for the expedition, will make the disbursements very considerable, The Quarter Master will be required to prepare an estimate so soon as the extent of the purchases he will have to make, can be known, You may rest assured, however that a due regard shall be paid to the public interest in making the outfit.

I have the honor to be Sir with great respect Your Ob^t Serv^t

T A SMITH B.G.U.S.A.

THE HONBLE. J. C. CALHOUN. Secretary of War Washington City.

[*Endorsed*] Belle Fontain M. T. 16 May 1818. Genl Tho^s A. Smith, In relation to the expedition to the Yellow Stone River—The arrest of Col Dickson for the violation of the Intercourse laws June 1818.

[Enclosures]

Talbot Chambers to Thomas A. Smith

[April 1, 1818]

Extract of a letter from Lieut. Col^o T. Chambers, dated Fort Crawford 1st April 1818, to Brig. Gen^l Thomas A Smith,

"On the 10th of this month, I will have in readiness to assend the Mississippi, fifty men, in two fortified boats, completely equiped for active service, (with the exception of Rifles, which I am sorry to add are so much worn, that they cannot be depended on, although I have selected them from the whole command) under the Command of Lieutenant Armstrong, who will have orders to comply with the requisitions of the Indian Agent, M^r O'Fallon—But I must here confess that I feel some apprehensions, as to the result of this trip—as it is authentically reported that the Indians, are more hostile in their disposition, and have given greater manifestations during the last winter, than ever known before, this I persume is owing to the machinations of Lord Selkirk, and his agent Col Dickson, and if so, fifty men will make a diminutive figure among such a numerous band of Indians as Dickson will have collected for the purpose of preventing his being apprehended and brought a Prisoner to this place, this measure Lieut. Armstrong must effect (Should he fall in with Dickson) at all hazards—

A True Extract Ch^s Pentland Lt & Adj Rifle Reg^t

Talbot Chambers to Thomas A. Smith

[April 25, 1818]

Extract of a letter from L^t Col. T. Chambers. Dated at Fort Crawford 25th April 1818, To Gen^l T. A. Smith,

"I have received two letters from Dickson, asking for a passport to visit this Post which I do not conceive proper to grant—but I think that he will presume, on his art and effrontory, and make the attempt, he has allready attempted to bribe me, with a large boat load of cariosities, which he says, is now on the river for me—it will afford me the highest Satisfaction If Lieut Armstrong should fall in with him"

A True Extract Ch^s Pentland Lt & Adj Rifle Regt.

CHRISTOPHER VANDEVENTER TO GOVERNOR CLARK

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Sent, Mil. Bk. 10]

From Christopher Vandeventer, Chief Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, *May 30th 1818.*

HIS EXC^y WILLIAM CLARK, Gov^r of Missouri territory, S^t Louis.

SIR, Your Excellency's letter of the 19th ult^o addressed to the President of the United States,⁵ respecting the indication of the reservation of lands in S^t Louis, for military purposes, has been referred to this department.

In the absence of the Secretary of War, I have the honor of acquainting your Excellency, that the Chief Engineer has been ordered to cause the lands required for military purposes in S^t Louis, to be set apart as early as practicable.

I have the honor to be, &c.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822:ALS]

Surveyors Office for the Territories of Illinois
& Missouri S^t LOUIS *May 30, 1818*

SIR The last mail brought me your letter of the 1st Ins^t (with a Copy of the Proclamation of the President of the United States relative to the sales of United States lands in the Missouri Territory⁶) in which you enquire whether the seat of Justice for Howard County has been established In reply to which I inform you that the seat of Justice has been established for that County at the Town of Franklin which is situated on the North Bank of the Missouri river in fractional Township N^o 48 North of the Base line, of Range N^o 16 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian.

In conformity with your instructions contained in your letter I will immediately after I furnish the Registers of the Land Offices with Plats & Descriptions of the Townships and Connected Plats of their respective Districts transmit to the General Land Office one set, or Copy of the whole. A part of the Townships that will be offered at the first sales at this place contains a considerable number of confirmed claims which has made it extremely tedious and troublesome to prepare the plats &c. But I have now got the business in such a state of forwardness as to be able to furnish the Registers with all the necessary papers in due time. By the next

⁵ Not found.

⁶ *Ante*, p. 385.

mail I will send you a sketch of the Townships that will be prepared, for the several sales mentioned in the Presidents Proclamation

I am with much respect Sir Your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR.

THE HONBL^e JOSIAH MEIGS Comm^r G. L. Office Washington City
 [Addressed] The Honbl^e Josiah Meigs Commissioner of the
 Gen^l Land Office Washington City. District of Columbia [Post-
 marked] St. Louis May 29 Free

[Endorsed] St Louis 30 May 1818 Wm Rector has received
 proclamation for Sales &c.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822: ALS]

Surveyors Office for the Territories of Illinois
 & Missouri, S^t LOUIS *June 5, 1818.*

SIR I have received your letter of the 4th Ult^e instructing me to furnish the General Land Office with Monthly Accounts of the expenditures of this office ⁷

At the end of the present month I will forward to you all my Accounts up to that date, And will afterwards in compliance with your instructions transmit monthly accounts.

The Surveys of the Military bounty Lands between the S^t Francis and Arkansas rivers are not yet complete, Every part of the field work except the Surveys of ten or fifteen confirmed claims has long since been done, The Deputy Surveyors who undertook to Survey the whole of the Confirmed claims in that District; about the middle of last month, presented their Surveys at this Office. But as the whole of the claims were not Surveyed and laid down on the Plats of Townships I declined to receive them, because in that imperfect state no use could be made of any part of the Surveys. I represented to these Surveyors the necessity of the whole work being compld, and the great injury that must be experienced unless they fulfilled their Contract immediately and declined making any further payment of fees, until the whole shall be done, and futher told them unless they immediately would go and complete their work that I would institute a suit against them for damages agreeably to the written contract. On which they immediately set

⁷ NA (GLO, Lets. to SG, II), a circular letter to surveyors containing instructions from the Secretary of the Treasury respecting monthly accounts of expenditures.

out in order do the balance of the work—They complain that they have experienced numerous & very serious difficulties in executing these Surveys on account of ponds swamps &c. They are now apprised that no part of their Survey will be received until the whole is completed, I confidently expect to be able to transmit to the General Land office Plats & Descriptions and a Connected plat of the Whole District on or before the first day of September next.

I am now very busily engaged in getting all the necessary papers ready for the Registers of the Land Offices of St Louis & Howard County which can & will be done in due time.

Six Deputy Surveyors have been for about a fortnight past and are now engaged in laying off & subdividing thirty Townships North of, and adjoining to the Lands now selling at Edwardsville viz Townships N^o 6. 7. 8. 9 & 10 North of the Base line of Ranges N^o 1. 2. 3. 4. 5 & 6 West of the 3^d Principal Meridian,^s I expect to be able to furnish the Register of the Land Office and to transmit to the Gen^l Land Office Plats & Descriptions of these 30 Townships some time in September next

I am with great respect Sir Your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR

THE HONBL^e JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office Washington City

[*Addressed*] The Honbl^e Josiah Meigs Commissioner of the General Land Office Washington City District of Columbia [*Post-marked*] St. Louis June 7 Free

[*Endorsed*] St Louis 5 June 1818 W^m Rector surveys not yet completed

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., Treasury: C]

(COPY)

TREASURY DEPARTMENT June 10th 1818.

THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GEN^l LAND OFFICE

SIR. You are requested to instruct the Recorder of Land Titles in the Missouri Territory, to furnish to the Receiver & Register of the land district of St Louis a descriptive list of the land claims which have been presented and registered under the different acts of Congress for confirming the rights of individuals to lands which have not been confirmed, and that are situate within the said land district, with as little delay as practicable, also a list of the same

^s In Illinois Territory. See the Secretary of the Treasury to Meigs, Mar. 18, 1818, *Terr. Papers* (Ill.), XVII, 575.

kind to the Receiver and Register of the District of Howard County of all the land claims within the said district, which in like manner have not been confirmed. For this service he will be entitled to a reasonable compensation.

You are also requested to direct the Registers and Receivers of those districts respectively, to withhold from sale all such lands until otherwise directed. It may be proper however to advise those officers that this Act is not to be considered in any manner countenancing the idea, that such claims are considered equitable, or that their being withheld from sale at this time ought to excite an expectation, that they will ultimately receive the sanction of Congress.

They are withheld from sale, because the land claims have been during the latter end of the late Session of Congress, referred to the Secretary of the Treasury with directions to report to the next session.

The Receiver and Register should be instructed to make the subject of these observations known for the purpose of preventing speculation in these land claims.

I am &c.

W^m H. C.

[*Endorsed*] 1818 June 10th Copy of a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, respecting unconfirmed claims in the Territory of Missouri directing them to be reserved from sale.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO RECORDER BATES

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8]

June 11. 1818.

FREDERICK BATES Esq^r Recorder Land Titles S^t Louis

SIR, Enclosed you have a Copy of a letter dated 10 Ins^t from the Secretary of the Treasury to this office; in conformity with the said letter, you will please to furnish (speedily) the Registers of the Land offices at S^t Louis & in Howard County with descriptive lists of the Land Claims presented to your office, which have not been confirmed by Congress.⁹

I am &c

⁹ See *post*, p. 421. See also Meigs to the Secretary of the Treasury, Mar. 27, 1819 (NA, GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 9), saying that instructions were sent to the land offices in St. Louis and in Howard County to withhold from sale land claims within their respective districts. A letter similar to the above was sent to Register McNair, of the St. Louis land office, on the same date, *ibid.*, Bk. 8.

RECORDER BATES TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Lets. Recd., PLC (Mo.): ALS]

Office of the Recorder of Land titles

ST LOUIS *June* 21. 1818.

SIR, Permit me to ask your attention to the proviso contained in the 10 Sec of the Act of 3^d March 1811.¹⁰—It would seem that it was intended to exempt from sale those lands, the claims to which had been regularly entered, and against which, decisions had not been made by Congress.—I feel much anxiety on this subject—Am not favored with your instructions—And the law has not prescribed the mode in which the Superintendants of Sales shall be supplied with information as to lands thus situated.—For me to give designations, in application to particular grounds will be impossible—for I have no connected Plat: I shall however proceed with my preparations,—And do the best which circumstances allow to execute the orders which you may think proper to give.—

I beg leave to enquire whether I am not entitled to compensation for descriptions of confirmed lands heretofore supplied to General Rector.—

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, Sir, Your obedt Servant
FREDERICK BATES

HON^{ble} JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner Gen^l Land Office

[*Addressed*] The Hon^{ble} Josiah Meigs Commissioner of Gen^l Land Office Washington Free

[*Endorsed*] 21 June 1818 F Bates wants Instructions about tracts to be reserved from Sale Ans^d 21st July¹¹

CHRISTOPHER VANDEVENTER TO GOVERNOR CLARK

[NA:OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, *June* 23^d 1818.

HIS EXCELLENCY, W^m CLARK, S^t Louis, Missouri Territory.

SIR, Your Excellency's letter of the 11th ulto¹² has been submitted to the President of the United States, who directs me to inform you that he approves of sending an agent, without delay, among the Indian tribes of the Missouri river, with full instructions to accomplish all the objects stated in your communication. You are

¹⁰ 2 STAT. 665.

¹¹ NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8), advising that the instructions requested would be found in the copy of the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury to Meigs, June 10, 1818, *ante*, p. 399, which was transmitted to Bates on June 11, *ante*, p. 400.

¹² *Ante*, p. 392.

authorized to employ Benjamin O'Fallon for this service. His compensation will be that of subagent, and the usual salary of an Interpreter, joined. On the same conditions, you are authorized to employ George H. Kennerly, Esq^r as agent, to the tribes on the Mississippi. If you can engage the services of these gentlemen on these terms, you will designate their duties, and furnish such instructions as you may deem requisite to accomplish the objects of their missions.

So soon as the Secretary of War returns to Washington, letters of appointment to these gentlemen will be forwarded to you;—and the other parts of your letter will be answered.

I have &c.

C. VAN DE VENTER, C.C.

CHRISTOPHER VANDEVENTER TO THOMAS A. SMITH

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Sent, Mil. Bk. 10]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, 24: *June*, 1818.

B^r. GEN^l THO^s A. SMITH, S^t Louis. Missouri Ter^y

SIR, I am directed by the President of the United States to transmit to you the enclosed letter, addressed to this Department by Gen^l James Johnson,¹³ and to inform you that you will decide upon his proposition, to use steam boats, in transporting the supplies to the mouth of yellow stone river. You are too well acquainted with the views of the government to require the suggestion, that oeconomy and despatch are principally to be considered, in making up your decision on Gen^l Johnson's application. If the Steam boats be spacious, the comfort and convenience of the troops will unquestionably be promoted on the march by their aid.¹⁴

I have &c.

C. VAN DE VENTER, C.C.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816–1822: ALS]

Surveyors Office for the Territories of Illinois
& Missouri S^t LOUIS *June* 24, 1818.

SIR, The 10th Section of the Act of Congress of the 3^d March 1811.¹⁵ seems to exempt from Sale, all Lands for which claims have been filed with the Recorder of Land Titles, in due time and according to Law, and which has not been decided against by Congress.

Understanding that there are some claims of this description I called on the Recorder of Land Titles, and asked for a List & de-

¹³ Not found.

¹⁴ See *post*, p. 414.

¹⁵ 2 STAT. 665.

scriptions of them with a view to notify the claimants of such tracts as may be situated within the bounds of the tracts which the Presidents Proclamation¹⁶ directs shall be offered at public sale so that they might if they were willing to incur the expense, go on the ground with Deputy Surveyors duly authorised & instructed and connect some one corner of each of such unconfirmed claims with a sectional corner; by which means I could lay down and represent such claims on the connected Plat. But Mr Bates not having been instructed on the subject did not consider himself authorised to furnish such a list & descriptions. But has I understand written to you asking for instructions, and will in the mean time employ himself in making out such a list to be delivered to me in case he should be instructed so to do.

I do not consider myself authorised to incur any expense in surveying or connecting these unconfirmed claims with the Surveys of the Lands of the United States. Without such Survey or connection it will be wholly impossible for me to give those claims locality, perhaps the claimants may be willing to pay for Surveying or connecting their claims with the surveys of the public Lands. Will you please to instruct me how I am to act relative to these unconfirmed claims.

I am with great respect Sir your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR.

THE HONBL^e JOSIAH MEIGS Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office Washington City.

[*Addressed*] The Honbl^e Josiah Meigs Commissioner of the General Land Office Washington City District of Columbia [*Post-marked*] St. Louis July 6 Free

[*Endorsed*] St^t Louis 24th June 1818 W^m Rector de claims to be reserved from Sale Ans^d 1st Aug^t 17

SAMUEL HAMMOND TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Reg. and Rec. Lets., St. Louis: ALS]

St^t LOUIS 25th June 1818

SIR—Your letter to the Register & Receiver for the District of St^t Louis, of May the 1st Came to hand the first week in June,¹⁸ it found me Confined to my bed where I had been for nine weeks with a severe inflamitory Complaint, from which I am but Just now rise-

¹⁶ *Ante*, p. 385.

¹⁷ *Post*, p. 422.

¹⁸ NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8), enclosing proclamation of land sales by the President.

ing—I am reduced to a mere Wreck of Skin & bone, but I hope, with good assistance, that I shall be able to Perform my Public duties for a time—tho at my time of life I may expect to gain Strength Slowly—. I received your letter also of the 16 April ¹⁹ with a volume of the Laws relative to the public Lands, it Came to hand two weeks later than that of the 1st of May; I am yet without a Copy of the Law passed the last Session of Congress upon the same subject—Defining the bounds of the different Land districts in this territory,²⁰ & to which (I presume) the president alludes in his proclamation directing sales here, I have never seen even a newspaper Copy of that Law as it was finally Passed—and I consider it absolutely necessary for me to have it Prior to our Sales; The time allowed to Preemption Claimants within the limits of the first thirty Townships to be sold, has been unavoidably short—too much so (I fear) for them to be generally informed in time to save themselves—it is all however that Could be extended to them, keeping within the Pale of the laws by which we are to be governed; I feel some embarrassment growing out of the Proviso in the 10th Section of the law of the 3^d of March 1811 ²¹ to which I beg lieve to refer—by which it will be seen that we are prohibited from offering for sale any tract of land the Claim to which has been in due time & presented for record & Now there is, within the limits of Our first intended sales many tracts in this situation & of which we Cannot be officially informed in due time for us to notice them in these sales—Please advise me upon this subject as early as possible

I Shall find it Verry Difficult to Obtain the necessary books in time, if to be accomplished at all at this Place; we have a book binder but he has not the proper materials, I may however procure such as may do for the present and we can have a Supply by the second sales of a proper discription, but this will be an additional expence; Sales in Our district (I expect) will not be Verry extensive at the present the Country to be imbraced in Our first sales has much hilly & Broken land and but little of a different discription, except Confirmed tracts & Tracts claimed by individuals & of Record, and if the law proposed by our Delg^t last session had passed ²² the sales would have been small indeed in this quarter,

¹⁹ *Loc. cit.*

²⁰ Approved Feb. 17, 1818 (3 STAT. 406–407), establishing additional land offices in Missouri Territory.

²¹ 2 STAT. 665.

²² Probably referring to the bill to suspend the sale of certain lands in the territory, which passed the House but was postponed in the Senate (*House Journal*, 15 Cong., 1 sess., pp. 479, 481, 488, 500). Delegate Scott also pressed proposals to grant as a common to St. Louis all the land between the town and the low-water mark and to prohibit the location of any floating claims in the territory, *ibid.*, pp. 380–381.

Sales in the uper District will be Considerable—I have not yet received the Secretary of the Treasurys Instructions as to what Bank paper I may receive, if I am not informed before the Sales I shall be governed by the instructions given to the receivers at Edwardsville & Kaskaskia to that point which are of Course Circular to that date

I am Verry respectfully Your Ob: Serv^t

S HAMMOND

[*Endorsed*] S^t Louis 25 June 1818 S. Hammond Answerd 25 July ²³

JOSIAH MEIGS TO CHARLES CARROLL

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 1st July 1818

CH^s CARROLL Esq^r Regi^r of Howard C^o L^d District

Williamsb^e Ontario C^y N York

SIR I have the pleasure to transmit a Commission, by which you will perceive that the President has appointed you Register of the Land office for the district of Howard County in the Territory of Missouri.²⁴ You will please to qualify your self by taking an Oath to support the constitution of the U States & by executing a bond with One or more sufficient sureties in the Sum of Ten thousand Dollars. The form of the Oath & Bond will (with this) be given to your Son, [blank] Forms & instructions for executing the duties of your office will be sent to Howard County (Franklin) by Col Wadsworth who declined accepting the appointment.

I am &c

GOVERNOR CLARK TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., C177: ALS]

Missouri Territory SAINT LOUIS July 1st 1818

SIR Samuel Solomon the U. S. old Interpreter & Translator at this place having resigned, I have employed John Ruland esq^r to Supply his place; with a promis of the appointment of Sub: Agent. The compinsation which has been allowed not being sufficient to enable me to employ a man Capable of performing the duties required, induce me to adopt this measure.

²³ *Post*, p. 421.

²⁴ A recess appointment; nominated Nov. 27 and confirmed Dec. 4, 1818 (*Senate, Exec. Journal*, III, 143, 152). His permanent commission was forwarded by Meigs, Feb. 5, 1819 (NA, GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8). See Meigs to Carroll, July 21 and July 27, 1818, *loc. cit.*, relative to supplies for his office.

I shall meet with more difficulty in bringing about a peace between the Osage & Cherikees than was expected, owing to other tribes having joined both sides. The Osage having no principal agent at this time I shall be obliged to employ a Man or two & sent with Interpreter's to the several Bands of that nation for a Deputation of their Chiefs to meet a Cherokee deputation at this place—

Mr Forsythe the Indian Agent is on a visit to the Socks Foxes & Ioways of the Mississippi, on his return I shall send him to meet the Mississippi Sioux, and pass the Traders from Michigan Territory into the bounds of this Tet^v from Prairie de Chien.—

Inclosed I have the honor of transmitting to you a Report of Benjamin oFallon esq^r the late Agent for the Sioux, Foxes & Chipeways of the upper Mississippi. Mr oFallon has been Sent by the Commissioners appointed to Treat with the Quapaws, for a deputation of that Tribes to meet them in Council at this place, he will return in about three weeks most probably ²⁵—

I have the honor to be with Sentiments of high respect Your Most Ob^t H^l Servt

W^m CLARK

THE HONB^{le} JOHN C. CALHOUN Sect^y of War

[Endorsed] St Louis 1st July 1818—Gov W^m Clarke, Has employed John Rutland as Interpreter—The difficulty of making peace between the Osage & Cherokee Ind^{ns} &c Encloses Mr OFallons report July 1818.²⁶

²⁵ See the Secretary of War to Clark and Chouteau, May 8, 1818 (NA, OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D; printed, *A.S.P., Ind. Affairs*, II, 174), giving full powers to treat with the Quapaw and to offer such terms as in their opinion would be most advantageous to the United States. An overall credit of \$3,000 was extended to the commissioners for the purpose indicated. The treaty was concluded at St. Louis, Aug. 24, 1818, and was transmitted to the Secretary of War under cover of a letter dated Sept. 6, 1816, printed *ibid.*, p. 177. The original is in NA (SD, Ind. treaties), and is printed 7 STAT. 176-178; *A.S.P., op. cit.*, pp. 165-166; Kappler (ed.), *Ind. Treaties*, II, 160-161. The treaty was proclaimed by the President, Jan. 5, 1819. The area ceded to the United States is exemplified in Royce, *Ind. Land Cessions*, maps 5, 21, and 28, cession designation 94. The cessions comprised the region south of the Arkansas River in the present State of Arkansas (then a part of Missouri Territory), and portions of Louisiana and Oklahoma.

See also Clark and Chouteau to the Secretary of War, July 9, 1818 (*A.S.P., op. cit.*, p. 176), referring to the negotiations with four Pawnee tribes, and transmitting texts of treaties concluded June 18, June 19, June 20, and June 22, respectively. These treaties are printed, 7 STAT. 172-176; *A.S.P., op. cit.*, pp. 171-172; Kappler (ed.), *op. cit.*, pp. 156-159. No land cessions were involved.

²⁶ Answered July 28, 1818 (NA, OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D), confirming the appointment of Rutland and enclosing his commission (copy present), also expressing the opinion that Missouri Territory needed more Indian agents but that Congress had decreed otherwise for the current year.

[Enclosure]

*Benjamin O'Fallon to Governor Clark*SAINT LOUIS May 20th 1818.

SIR, Conformably to your wishes I have visited and counceled with the Six bands of Sioux that reside between this place and the little rapids of the S^t Peters.—My voyage was performed, and my business with the Indians completed within thirty five days—An expedition that excited the admiration of the Commandant of Fort Crawford, who has in every instance exerted himself to promote the views of the government in relation to Indian affairs.

On the 11th of April last I set out from the Prairie du Chien with two fortified keel-Boats manned by fifty U. S. Riflemen commanded by L^t Armstrong.—On the evening of the 13th we reached the Prairie of the Mont tre Trumpelo where I met the White Dog, second chief of the Lafie Band, and eleven lodges of Sioux, all of whom appeared glad to see me;—I gave them a few pipes of tobacco and invited them to meet me in council at their Chiefs village in Salt prairie, situate about two miles above—On my way to this place I passed about fifteen canoes of Falsavaines, descending from the Black Buffaloe & Chipewyan rivers, on which the have been in the habit of hunting for several years past.—These indians appeared highly displeased with the Sioux of the Lake, on account of their having threatened to debar them and the Winebagoes from hunting on those rivers.—The necessities of the Winnebagoes will urge them to War with these Sioux rather than tamely submit to an exclusion from a country in which the have been permitted to hunt for several years past, their own at present being almost destitute of game; and to transfer them to one better able to relieve their wants have inclined them to form an alliance with some tribes of the upper Mississippi. On passing the prairie a la Cross I saw some of the leading characters of the Band of Winebagoes that reside near Bead River, to whom I gave some tobacco.—They also complained of the threats of the Sioux to dispossess them of the lands on which they live. On arriving at the Village the indians formed on the beach and fired a Salute for each boat which was returned by our Swivels and small arms—On the morning of the 15th the White Dog having arrived, in order to assemble the indians in Council, a signal was given by the discharge of our swivels, which brought the old chief Lafie, accompanied by about seventeen of his most influential men—on shaking hands, about ten of them discovered a disposition not to follow the friendly example of their chief, but to remain in the war—on asking the cause of this reserve, the Chief immediately observed that “there were a few who had not yet become reconciled to the Big Knives—View them with

indifference, they are dogs who shall change or be driven from my Village"—upon which one of them prompted by a guilty conscience asked if I had heard of his having improperly treated the Whites,—that he had taken two guns from a trader, but had returned them.—to which I replied "I have been informed of your conduct, the trader is satisfied, or you would now be my prisoner"—he begged to be forgiven. I forgave him. The Chief complained much of the persons who had been permitted to cut pine timber on the Chippewyan river, he stated that they had brought with them goods with which were purchased the "Credits" due his regular traders, corrupted his people and caused them to be scattered over the country like wolves to avoid being seen by the generous trader from whom they had obtained indulgencies.—After addressing them as my inclosed speeches will shew, listening to, and answering what they had to say, in which I was much gratified with their assurance of satisfaction, and apparently sincere acknowledgments for my advice, and the presents.—I proceeded on.—In my route I met an inexperienced American indian trader,—he complained much of the dishonorable manner in which he was treated by the Mackinac traders, to which he attributed his very poor returns.—It is only the daring, persevering, and managing American that can maintain a competition with these artfull and experienced french & British traders—They must possess by nature, what the most of these last do not, or they will prove too [incomplete]

On the 20th I reached the Village of the red Wing—or Walking Buffaloe, situate about six miles above the head of Sala Peppin,—as he wastes with time, so wastes his band: it is much reduced within the last twelve months. I counilled with him and his few adherents consisting of no more than about twenty men both old and young, and gave them a few presents, of which they stood in much need.—This old chief has seen better days,—in his Youth he was the most prominent limb of his Nation, he is now left almost alone to die,—of all the indians of my acquaintance, the red Wing is most the White man's friend.—proceeding on, I met with all the traders of the S^t Peters descending from their wintering ground—they stated that Col^o Dickson, (formerly of the British Indian Department) was above, and the little Raven (Chief of one of the largest bands of Sioux on the Mississippi) having quarrelled with the Yanktons (part of his Nation,) had come to the determination to suffer no Americans to ascend the S^t Peters the ensuing autumn, to be revenged upon the Yanktons, he was determined to punish the traders. I told the traders to be under no apprehensions.—On the following day came across Col^o Dickson a few miles above the S^t Croix river,—he appeared much alarmed at first, owing I sup-

pose, to our formidable appearance, but on discovering we were rational beings he became more composed. On being informed that he possessed no Authority to pass within the limits of my Agency, I told him to consider himself my prisoner.—On the morning of the 22nd I caused him to be forwarded under a guard, to the Commandant at Fort Crawford, and reached the Village of the little Raven, same evening.—Was saluted after the Savage custom with a discharge of balls, which was returned with our Swivels & small arms. The Indians having hoisted no flag, I sent my interpreter on Shore to ascertain the reason, and to inform them of my intention on my return to council with them.—On return of the interpreter I was informed the principal Chief had not returned from the St Peters, up which he had gone accompanied by forty me to guard the property of Dickson, of which the Yanktons wished to dispossess him.—The grand partizan (then controlling the Band) stated that Eight friendly Chippewyans, who resided near the heads of the St Croix, had just arrived and gave notice of the approach of about Two hundred of their nation, who were making a descent from the North, and that the neighboring bands of Sioux were preparing to give them a warm reception.—On the morning of the 24th I reached the Black raven and Peneshans bands fifteen and Seventeen miles up the St Peters river.—as they lived within two miles of each other, I selected a spot, on which I requested them both to assemble the following day.—proceeded on, and reached the village of the Six, situate on the North-eastern side of the St Peters, thirty six miles above it's mouth. Opposite this village is one of the handsomest prairies I had ever seen. This Six is one of the most daring ferocious and savage looking fellows I have ever seen. I counselled with him and his men, same day—his band consists of about One hundred & thirty six desperadoes.—On closing my speech, the chief rose and addressed me as follows.—“American Chief! the chipewyans are coming upon us, we are not women, we must defend ourselves (with gloom and melancholy he continued) The Big Knives have tied our hands, the American Chief whose place you have taken, told us we must not fight, but act as dutiful children, or incur the displeasure of the big Knives.—We are no children.—we are men, and had we such arms as your Soldiers, who are standing before us we would be Valued as men.—The Big Knives did wish to tie us like dogs under the hatchet of our enemies.—There was a time when we did awe the Chipewyans within their proper limits but were unfortunately ordered to make peace, We did so—they presumed upon our obedience,—they are coming upon us—look around and imagine that you hear the cries of our women and children,—what must be the feeling of a bridled

soldier—the most of our young men have disposed of their Arms and ammunition, We have but little more than the gifts of nature to defend ourselves with.—We will not submit. I then replied; Sioux, “those American Chiefs who concilled with you at Prairie du Chien have done—I come by order of the great American Chief to supply their place—I have come to open your Eyes and Ears, and enable you to pursue that road which will lead you to happiness. I have come to advise, to instruct you—Sioux! Open your Ears, listen and remember what I am now about to tell you. The great American Chief, in obedience to the will of the Great Spirit, wishes to stop the effusion of human blood, to restore peace and happiness to all the people of the earth; he wishes you to keep in peace with all nations, both white and red skins. In wishing you to remain at peace he wishes you to support the dignity of your nation. Act as becomes Sioux—Act as men—be always last in war.—Should you be wronged, weigh well the strength of your enemies’ arms and that of your own—be mindfull of your wives and children, and what you may possibly lose or gain—raise not the tomahawk but in a good cause—the great Spirit will then espouse your cause—he will Strengthen your arms. (Sioux) the Chippewyans who thirst for your blood, live without my country—I cannot restrain them, if they come upon you, make them drink your balls” Springing up, he throws off his blanket, tears of his leggins and concludes by saying “American Chief my heart feels glad, look around and see the glistening countenances of my warriors—The Sun, the Heavens and the Earth look gay.—We will follow your advice—will leave a few of our soldiers to guard the women and children, and meet them in the plains man to man—We will fight them—and those of my people who have no arms, shall fight them with what nature has given them.—Yes, we will scratch them with our tow and finger nails and we will knaw them with our teeth. The object of the expedition being accomplished, I after finishing my business with this band, got under way on our return, and reached the place appointed for the rendevous of the two Villages.—They soon arrived, and, having but little to say (mostly professions of friendship), I was not long detained, gave them some presents—proceeded on, and reached the junction of the two rivers, from which I crossed by land to the falls of S^t Anthony.—On a general view of the local situation of this place and likewise taking into consideration the dangerous obstructions which present themselves in ascending the rivers, and navigating Lake Pepin, in the event of boisterous winds, I am sensible that it would occur to every military character, that the establishment of a post at any of these points would not only be ineffectual in consequence of the want of proper site, but, that the

sustaining the command, in consequence of the difficulties above mentioned, would be impracticable—and the more so, as it would no doubt tend to provoke immediate hostilities on the part of the indians, which would become very formidable, as a combination of the Sioux and Chippewyans would be immediately formed, who would be enabled to intercept all supplies by availing themselves of the local advantages of the river, and eventually compel the Fort to surrender—in fact there is no effectual mode by which the indians can be compelled to observe propriety of conduct, but by sending every season, formidable detachments in light fortified boats, which would at once impress them with an Idea of the means in our possession of punishing any deprivations they might commit on our traders, and leave a conviction that even their women, and children would not be safe in such an event—this would likewise be the most economical mode of keeping them in order, independent of the advantage of familiarizing them to the American Manners, and consequently of fixing their attachments. I returned to the Boats, got under way, and reached the village of the Little Raven—The discharge of our Swivels announced my arrival and readiness to receive them in Council—the Grand Partizan and about Eighty of his warriors being present, unaccompanied by a flag, I gave him one, addressing him as follows—“Grand Partizan! take that flag, the flag of my Mighty Nation, and on the return of your chief give it to him and tell him if his arm still ackes with strength, to count the number of Stars upon it and believe that each star represents more American Soldiers than he ever saw in his life—tell him to look around at his contemptible few, and if his arm still feels strong, to plant his soldiers at the Entrance of the S^t Peters, and do that which he has threatened to do, shut out our traders from the trade of that river—Sioux, I have come to tell you we have done submitting—our feelings can no longer be restrained—you have frowned upon ours, and smiled upon the traders of other nations, but I am unwilling to reproach you for what has past, because I was not your chief—Sioux, from this day you must date your change, or this river’s surface will be covered with our boats, & the land with troops who will chase you, as you do the deer of your plains. We will not stop there—we will plant our big guns at the junction of those two rivers—the noise of which will frighten away the game of your land—think but for a moment Sioux, and you will regain your proper senses—reflect well, and you will conform to my wishes—the wishes of the great Spirit, and be happy—Tell your Chief he must visit me on his return from S^t Louis, and satisfy me he intends to change, or you Soldiers may make room for him, he shall set among you, and the most deserving man of your band

shall supply his place. The Grand Partizan then rose, apparently in a tremor, and replied, "American Chief! there is not one American heart amongst us—when we last counselled with the Big Knives, they told us they were masters of this land, they told us, the red coats had been excluded from the trade of our country—did they not come? they did—as they did lye in one instance, what right have we to believe them in the other—American Chief! you say you do not reproach us for what has past, you are generous—we see for the first time your flag triumphantly waving over our land, we see the arms of your troops glistening before us—yes; and we see you here, with your own mouth to disclose to our people that you are masters of all around—we believe you, and what can we say more, than that we must submit—we will submit.—I have listened with attention to all your advice—I will recount it to my chief, and the rest of my people—our chief shall visit, and satisfy you that he intends to change"

On the Close of the Council, I gave them a few presents, together with a little whisky.—they appeared much pleased.—I embarked and reached Fort Crawford on the 28th instant where I remained a few days—after which I set out in Company with Col^o Dickson, reached this place on the 15th May, and delivered him over to the Civil Authority the following morning. I do not remember to have heard a Sioux speak of Dickson, during the whole expedition, but of d Reyville (who was in the employ of the said Dickson,) they complained much, they stated that he had been in the habit of speaking ill of the Americans, and corrupting their young men.—Not being enabled to secure this imprudent man, and hearing he intended to visit Prairie du Chien, I requested Col^o Chambers to secure him on his arrival and keep him in irons, untill he should hear from the Superintendent or myself on the subject. The indians appeared much surprised and pleased with the appearance of the troops, which was not an unexpected circumstance, as the appearance of the boats, their order of movement, and the uniformity and discipline of the detachment, reflected the highest credit on L^t Armstrong the immediate commandant.

On descending from Prairie du Chien I found almost the whole of the Fox Nation concentrated at Labukes mines, they say for the purpose of defending themselves against the Sioux of the plains, from whom they were expecting an attack.—it is not the case—they are under no apprehensions from the Sioux, but to the contrary, they do (in my opinion) wish to form a combination of Falsavoine, Sacks and Ioways for the purpose of carrying on an offensive war against the Sioux of the Plains, and perhaps the Winnebagoes of the Ouisconsin and rock Rivers. I am in hopes

(on their account alone) that they will not succeed; the Foxes are not a dangerous people, they are almost strangers to the art of War, the material of which they are made would suit better the Agriculturist than the Warrior. Keep Spiritous liquors from the Foxes, and they can be easily civilized. On passing their village, they saluted me with much unanimity.

On passing Rock River, the countenances of the Sacks shewed much displeasure, on Account (I imagine of Dickson's being my prisoner I viewed the cool reserve with indifference, with Contempt—they offered me their hands.

I have the satisfaction to State, that the Indian Treders whom I have suffered to trade within my Agency have conducted with much decorum.—It is to be hoped other Indian Agents can with truth say the same.²⁷

I am Sir, very respectfully—Your Most ob^t Hble servt

(Signed) BENJA O'FALLON U. S. Agent.

HIS EXCELLENCY WILLIAM CLARK Superintendent of Indian Affairs Missouri Territory.

[Endorsed] M^r oFallons Report

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Recd., Treasury: ALS]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT 7th July 1818

SIR I will thank you to state to me with as little delay as practicable,

1st The amount of lands granted by Congress to Actual Settlers, founded exclusively upon the principles of settlement.

2^d The quantity confirmed by the board of Commissioners under the act of 1807, founded upon French or Spanish grants or orders of Survey.

3. The amount of claims entered of record, reported against by the s^d board under the act aforesaid.

4. The quantity confirmed by Congress on the report of the recorder of land titles under the act of 1814²⁸

5. The amount of land claims entered on record under the act of 1812

6. The total amount which has been entered at any time, since the year 1805.

The number of claims, and the amount of land granted, or con-

²⁷ Cf. "Journal of Stephen H. Long's Voyage to the Falls of St. Anthony" in 1817, *Minn. Hist. Colls.*, II, 9-83.

²⁸ The first four numbers are enclosed in a brace with "Missouri" written beside it.

firmed or entered, with the number of Claimants under the different heads, will be Sufficient.

The same statements for Louisiana in the different land districts, with the exception of the fourth, is requested for the state of Louisiana.

I have the honor to be your most obt. Serv^t

W^m H CRAWFORD

JOSIAH MEIGS Esq^r Comm^r G.L.O.

[*Addressed*] Josiah Meigs Esquire Commissioner of the General Land Office Treasury Department

[*Endorsed*] 7th July 1818 Sec^y Treas^y wants abstract of Claims confirmed &c by Com^{rs} in Louisiana & Missouri. Sent 22^d Aug^t 29

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 11 *July* 1818.

HON: W^m H CRAWFORD Secretary of the Treasury

SIR, I have the honor to transmit herewith a letter from Surv^r Gen^l Rector, dated 9 Ult^o 30 & a sketch of the lands which are & soon will be ready for sale in Missouri Territory Please to return those documents when you have done with them.

The Statements relative to Lands confirmed &c in Louisiana & Missouri for which you gave orders, are preparing, & will be transmitted to you next week.

I am &c

THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO THOMAS A. SMITH

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Sent, Mil. Bk. 10]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, 14th *July*, 1818.

B^r GEN^l THO^s A. SMITH. Bellefontaine, Missouri Ter^y

SIR, I have just read your letter of the 16th of May last.³¹ Full confidence is placed in you to efficiently organize the detachment for the Yellow Stone river, and to conduct it in the most economical manner.

I regret that the corps is limited in officers. It is impossible to assign the cadets of the military Academy to the Rifle Corps, until they can be promoted by the rules of that institution. The vacancies which now exist in the corps, shall be filled immediately; and I

³⁰ *Post*, p. 425.

³¹ Not found.

³² *Ante*, p. 394.

would recommend assigning the necessary number of Officers to the detachment from his officers nearest your Head Quarters.³²

I have &c. &c.

J. C. CALHOUN.

POST ROUTE ADVERTISEMENT

[PO:Proposals for Contracts, 1808-1818]

[*July* 15 1818]

IN MISSOURI

100. From St. Genevieve, by Potosi and Franklin, to Chariton, once in 4 weeks.

Leave St. Genevieve the second Wednesday in November, and each succeeding fourth Wednesday at 6 *a m* arrive at Chariton on Thursday by 6 *p m*, in nine days. Leave Chariton the next Friday, and every succeeding fourth Friday, at 6 *a m* and arrive at St. Genevieve on Saturday, in nine days.

101. From St. Genevieve to St. Michael's, once a week.

Leave St. Genevieve every Wednesday at 6 *a m* arrive at St. Michael's same day by 6 *p m*. Leave St. Michael's every Thursday at 6 *a m* arrive at St. Genevieve the same day by 6 *p m*.

102. From Jackson to Betts' Ferry, once a week.

Leave Jackson every Friday at 6 *a m* arrive at Betts' Ferry the same day by 11 *a m*. Leave there at 1 *p m* and return to Jackson the same day by 6 *p m*.³³

PROCLAMATION OF LAND SALE AT FRANKLIN

[NA:GLO, Record of Proclamations, Bk. 1]

N^o 27 *Dated 17 July 1818.* Sales at FRANKLIN MISSOURI
BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

Whereas by an Act of Congress passed on the 17th of February 1818, entitled "An Act making provision for the establishment of additional Land Offices in the Territory of Missouri"³⁴ the President of the United States is authorized to direct the public Lands which have been surveyed in the said Territory to be offered for Sale;

Therefore, I James Monroe, President of the United States, do hereby declare and make known, that public Sales for the disposal

³² See *post*, p. 471.

³³ See act approved Apr. 20, 1818 (3 STAT. 456), authorizing the establishment of the three routes mentioned. The same act authorized the establishment of post roads from Franklin to Chariton, and from St. Louis, by Florissant, to St. Charles.

³⁴ 3 STAT. 406-407.

(agreeably to Law) of Certain lands in the Territory of Missouri, shall be held at Franklin in said Territory—Viz^t

On the first monday in January next for the Sale of

Townships N^o 46 to 52 inclusive & frac¹ town^p 53 in Range 19

48 to 52 & frac¹ town^p 53 in Range 20

48 to 52 " " " " " 21, 22, 23—

On the first Monday in March next, for the sale of

townships 48 to 55 inclusive in Ranges 24 & 25

48 to 50 " " " 26 & 27

On the first Monday in May next, for the sale of

Townships 51 to 54 inclusive in Ranges 11 & 12

51 to 56 " " " 13

53 to 56 " " " 14 & 15.

excepting such lands as have been or may be reserved by Law for the use of Schools and for other purposes Each sale shall Continue as long as may be necessary to offer the Lands for Sale and no longer, and the lands shall be offered in regular numerical order³⁵

Given under my hand at the City of Washington this Seventeenth day of July 1818.

(Signed) JAMES MONROE

By the President

(Signed) JOSIAH MEIGS

Commissioner of the General Land Office

Printers who are authorized to publish the laws of the United States will publish the above once a week till the 1st of May next & send their bills to the General Land Office for payment.

GOVERNOR CLARK TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Recd., C212: ALS]

Missouri Territory S^t LOUIS *July* 18th 1818

SIR On the Subject of your Communication of the 13th of May last,³⁶ I have ascertained thro the atty Gen^l the following facts—. The only evidence before Judge Bent, was an Affidavit taken and sworn to before Cap^t Ballard of the U. S. Army. This evidence the Judge Conceived to be illegal—But taking it as legal, & the facts deposed to, as established, it proved the Offence to have been committed within the Known & acknowledged civil Jurisdiction of the Illinois Territory & on that Ground the Judge decided he had no jurisdiction.

³⁵ The proclamation was sent to Carroll and Smith on July 31, 1818, under a brief covering letter from Meigs (NA, GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8).

³⁶ *Ante*, p. 393.

If the offence had been committed in the Indian country without the civil & Judicial limits of any state or Territory, the Judge (it seems) would have taken Cognizance of the Charge, upon the assurance of the Military, that proper legal evidence could and would be produced.—M^r Campbells bond however, has been forfeited, and will be delivered to the District Attorney to be sued. In this way at least, he may be reached by our Courts. When the Subject was agitated before Judge Bent—there was no district attorney in Commission and for that reason his Bond was not then put in Suit.

I have the Honor to be Your Mo. Ob. H^l. Ser^t

W^m CLARK

THE HON^{ble} JOHN C CALHOUN Sec^{ry} of War

[Addressed] The Hon^{ble} John C. Calhoun Sec^{ry} of War Washington City

[Endorsed] St Louis 18 July 1818. Gov^r William Clarke, In relation to the Case of M^r Campbell whose bond has been forfeited & delivered to the Dist: Atty for prosecution &c &c Aug 1818.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, II ⁸⁷]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 20 July 1818

W^m RECTOR Esq^{re} Survey^r Gen^l St Louis

SIR The Secretary of the Treasury is desirous of having lands prepared for sale in the County of Arkansas; you will therefore please to cause to be surveyed about 60 townships, & subdivided as usual—if this quantity of saleable Lands cannot be found in one body, the subdivided townships may be connected by surveying the intermediate lands into townships only.⁸⁸

I am &c.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822: ALS]

Surveyors Office for the Territories of Illinois
& Missouri St LOUIS July 20. 1818

SIR: You will herewith receive a statement of my Account with the United States up to the 30th Ult^o with part of the vouchers for my expenditures, To wit from N^o 125 to 151. The balance of the

⁸⁷ Printed also in A.S.P., *Pub. Lands*, III, 618.

⁸⁸ Answered *post*, p. 427. A further answer was sent on Nov. 9, 1818 (NA, GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822), which has been printed, A.S.P., *op. cit.*, p. 620.

vouchers for this Acc^t To wit from N^o 66 to 124, I last Spring let with M^r Harrison First Auditor of the Treasury.

In future my Acc^ts shall be regularly forwarded every month ag^y to instructions which I lately received from you.

The balance against me will decrease as I can procure vouchers of the Deputy Surveyors to whom I have paid in advance, advancing money to Deputy Surveyors has greatly facilitated the completion of the large quantity of Surveying which we have had to do, But is really attended with much trouble & some risk, I am now however satisfied that I shall not eventually lose any sums which I have advanced.

I have furnished the Register of the Land Office with, Plats Descriptions &c of the 30 Townships to be offered at public sale in Aug^t next and have in readiness for the Register at Franklin, Plats &c of the 30 Townships to be offered [Ms. torn] And shall be able to prepare all the necessary papers in due time for the subsequent sales.

The Deputy Surveyors employed to lay off & Survey the confirmed claims of individuals in the County of Arkansas have not yet returned from that Country, I have recently been informed that they have nearly completed the work & will soon make a complete return of the whole soon after which I will transmit to the General Land Office Plats & Descriptions of the Townships and a connected plat of the whole;

The six Deputy Surveyors whom I employed to lay off and subdivide 30 Townships North of and adjoining the District of Edwardsville have I understand got nearly through their work in the field. I expect to be able to furnish the Register of that Land Office with plats & Descriptions &c of those 30 Townships in the course of 4 or 5 Weeks.

You will perceive from the Sketch that I some time since forwarded to you ³⁹ that the quantity of Lands surveyed last winter & spring up the Missouri as far West on the South Side of the River as the Osage boundary line is greater than was anticipated; A further sum of about twelve thousand dollars will be necessary to pay for the Surveys that are now under operation and the 30 additional Towns to be Surveyed North of the District of Edwardsville in the Illinois Territory. It will be most convenient for me to have a credit at the Bank of Missouri in this Town where the Receivers of public monies are instructed to make their deposits

I have the honor to be with great respect Sir Your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR

³⁹ Not found.

THE HON^{ble} JOSIAH MEIGS Comm^r of the Gen^l Land Office
Washington City

[Addressed] The Hon^{ble} Josiah Meigs Commissioner of the
Gen^l Land Office Washington City

[Endorsed] S^t Louis 20th July 1818 W^m Rector Ans^d 13
Aug^t ⁴⁰

SAMUEL HAMMOND TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Reg. and Rec. Lets., St. Louis: ALS]

S^t LOUIS 20th July 1818 Receivers Office

D^r SIR: Since the date of my last letter to you ⁴¹ I received a Copy of the Law of the last Session of Congress Defineing the Boundaries of this District and Establishing other Districts in our Territory, as it has been published in the National Register, upon the Credit of that paper and Other documents furnished me by M^r Rector princip^l Surveyor here. I commenced upon my duties as Receiver, so far as relates to the Claims of Preemptioners, & the necessary preparatory measures for our first Public Sales,—much feeling had been excited by Our Declining to notice that Clause of the Law of 1811. refered to in my last letter to you, Since that time the Register received your letter upon that subject inclosing the Secretary of the Treasurys letter of 10th ult^o ⁴² the effervescence of the former notice, that “we could not act upon that Law,” has Subsided a little—M^r Bates has furnished us with a list of the Claims required & a supplement thereto, Since he received his instructions to do so,⁴³ which was One weak later than the Receipt of Our letters from you, those two lists you will see

⁴⁰ NA (GLO, Lets. to SG, II), advising that Rector's quarterly accounts were to be forwarded four times a year, with vouchers, and his monthly accounts were to show how he was supplied with funds; also inquiring when he would need the additional \$12,000 mentioned in his letter. Meigs's letter of Aug. 13 was answered by Rector, Sept. 14, 1818 (NA, GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822), saying that the sum mentioned in his letter of July 20 was now wanting; that he had had to advance money to deputies to buy supplies of food, etc., at high prices and for cash only. In the same letter Rector pointed out that the deputy who subdivided T. 54 N, R 20 W. (military bounty), had done it incorrectly; that he sent another to correct the errors, who also made an incorrect survey; and that a third deputy had just returned with new field notes which appeared to be correct. See *id.* to *id.*, Sept. 19, 1818, *loc. cit.*, transmitting plat of the township in question and explaining the reason for the disagreement between the various deputies.

⁴¹ *Ante*, p. 403.

⁴² *Ante*, p. 399.

⁴³ *Ante*, p. 400.

published in Our Newspapers which I have directed to be sent you & by which you will perceive that those Claims only amount to about one & a half Millions of acres or Arps in the Counties of St Louis & St Charles this I believe is about One third or perhaps a little more than One third of the Claims within those Limits which are yet unprovided for by Law.

We have got through with the preemption Claims upon the thirty Town Ships first ordered for Sale, they were not numerous, and were not very difficult to decide upon, being mostly Verry Clearly within the pale of the Law & but few interfering Claims—yet there was some embarrassing Circumstances upon some of them, & having no particular instruction upon that branch of Our business we were Obligated to act upon Our Own Judgment & Responsibility—there were some Claims where Old Established farms fell upon the 16th Sections which were Excluded from Sale, there were Others falling within the Limits of Lands Claimed & not confirmed, as Represented by the Recorders Schedule & some upon Claims Confirmed & layed Down upon the Township plats before us—but which it is Contended are not located correctly—in all those Cases we have received the Notices of preemption Claims & the Testimony in Support of them, but declined the Receipts of the purchase money & of course the Certificates of Entry—believing that the stay of sale ordered by the Treasury department, would not impose the right to preemption if the Claim of the individuals w^h Caused the delay should eventually fail of Confirmation—this is at any rate an equitable Construction & I hope may be considered correct, if other ways we are to expect further instructions—

There are but Verry few of the Claims contained upon Mr Bates's Schedule that can be presented to us So Identified before our first sales as to enable us to Act upon them, & this Circumstance will add, not a little, to the disadvantage of Government, by exciting doubts upon the minds of the persons intending to be purchasers—the Register will write you upon the Subject & will, he says, Cover you a Copy of an Opinion taken from the U S: attorney here to which I will refer, I feel at some loss to know precisely the manner in which I am to dispose of Our Stationary Accounts, I shall for the present take the Same Course persued by the Officers at Kaskaskia and Edwardsville, as also, the Salary & percentage allowed to the Receiver & Register and the Superintendents of the public Sales their Clerks & Cryers—

I have Rec^d Mr Crawfords instructions,⁴⁴ also, since I wrote

⁴⁴ A circular to all receivers, June 18, 1818, printed, *Terr. Papers* (Ill.), xvii, 591.

you on the subject of the bills of the Banks to be rec^d & the deposits

I have the Honor to be Verry Respectfully Your mo Ob: Serv^t
S HAMMOND

THE HONB¹^e JOSIAH MEIGS Esq^r Commissioner Gen^l Land Office—

[*Addressed*] The Honb¹^e Josiah Meigs Esquire Washington City Col^a Dis^t

[*Endorsed*] S^t Louis 20 July 1818 S Hammond with a list of claims for land ⁴⁵—Sent it to Sec^y of Treasury 22^d Aug^t ⁴⁶

JOSIAH MEIGS TO SAMUEL HAMMOND

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE *July* 25 1818

SAMUEL HAMMOND Esq^{re} Receiver S^t Louis.

SIR, Your letter of 25 Ult^o has been rec^d ⁴⁷ The want of the Law you mention, will be removed by the Laws of last Session sent (to all Registers) yesterday. You can have the use of M^r M^cNair's Copy. The Recorder of Land titles & the surveyor General have been furnished with such instructions as will place in your hands the Documents necessary to enable you & the Register to reserve from sale, claims not yet confirmed by Congress.

As M^r Rector was of opinion he could get large books at S^t Louis for plats of Surveys, I had no doubt you could also get the Books necessary for your office, & as there is a book binder there, doubtless paper may be procured by him.

If you do not receive Instructions from the Treasury relative to the bank paper you are to receive, you will follow the Instructions in the Circular mentioned by you.

I am &c

EDWARD JONES TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:TD, Pub. Lands Let. Bk., 1801-1833]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT *July* 29th 1818.

THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GEN^l LAND OFFICE

SIR I have the honor to inform you that Charles Carroll Esq. of Gennessee Ontario County in the State of New York accepts

⁴⁵ Enclosures not present.

⁴⁶ *Post*, p. 425.

⁴⁷ *Ante*, p. 403.

of his appointment of Register for lands in Howard County Missouri Territory and has transmitted the usual Bond in such cases. He will set out for that Section of the County, the moment he shall have received the necessary instructions from you

I am very respectfully Sir Your Obed. Servt.

EDWARD JONES Ch. Clerk

ALEXANDER MCNAIR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Reg. and Rec. Lets., St. Louis: ALS]

Registers Office S^t LOUIS 31st July 1818.

SIR Enclosed you will receive the return of Lands applied for and entered by right of preemption during the present month, lying within the thirty Townships to be offered for sale in August.⁴⁸

I am very Respectfully Sir Your Ob^t Serv^t

A M^cNAIR

JOSIAH MEIGS Esq^r Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Office Washington

[Addressed] Josiah Meigs Esqr Com. General Land Office Washington [Postmarked] Registers Office, S^t Louis A M^cNair

[Endorsed] S^t Louis 31 July 1818 Regis^r with acco^t of Pre-
emptions Acc^t returned in Dec^r for correction ⁴⁹

JOSIAH MEIGS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, II]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE Aug^t 1st 1818

W^m RECTOR Esq^r Survey^r S^t Louis

SIR, Your letter of 24 June has been received ⁵⁰—On the 11th June the Recorder of land titles was directed to furnish the Registers with lists of claims undecided by Congress for the purpose of reserving them from sale ⁵¹—We supposed that the reservations might be made without further surveys, that the claimants would be content with a reservation of right angled tracts equal to their claims & in the vicinity of them, no provision was made for surveying those reservations.

I am &c.

⁴⁸ Enclosures not present.

⁴⁹ See *post*, p. 470.

⁵⁰ *Ante*, p. 402.

⁵¹ *Ante*, p. 400.

THOMAS A. SMITH TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Reg. and Rec. Lets., Franklin: ALS]

BELLE FONTAINE August 1st 1818

SIR The subject of pre-emption rights in this country offers many questions, for the consideration of the Registers & Receivers, the decision of which are highly important, as well to the United States, as to the individuals concerned. A subject so important to the country and to its inhabitants, becomes one of delicacy to the officers, who must act as I now believe, without instructions to direct, or precedents to govern their conduct. In this situation, I address myself to your department, as the one from which it is most probable that instructions can be derived, and must solicit them, so far as you are officially competent to give.

I subjoin some questions which have suggested themselves, even before entering on the duties of my office.⁵² They direct to points on which I wish to be satisfied—they evidence their own importance, and the necessity that there should be established some uniform criterion for their decision in the several land offices in the same Territory

At what period did the Preemptionner acquire his right? At any time previous to the 12th April 1814 (the date of the law) or previous to the time mentioned in the law of the 5th Feb^r 1813 (made for the Illinois) referred to in the law of 12th April 1814?

What is "habitation & cultivation"? Is residence on land in a camp habitation?—Is belting of trees—grubbing undergrowth—or fencing woodland cultivation?

(It is the custom of Setlers in the Western Country who arrive in the Summer, autumn, or winter previous, to progress in their improvements, no further than to belt & grub the trees—they never plough at that time)

⁵² Smith was nominated receiver for the Franklin (Howard County) land office Apr. 17 and confirmed Apr. 20, 1818 (*Senate, Exec. Journal*, III, 135, 140). This is the same Thomas A. Smith who had previously served on the frontier as Brigadier General in the U. S. Army. He was a native of Essex County, Va., and was a brother of John Smith T. whose name frequently appears in the index of the volume preceding the present one. See Houck, *Hist. Mo.*, III, 183-184. See also Meigs to Smith, Feb. 3, 1819 (NA, GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8), acknowledging Smith to Meigs, Dec. 1, 1818, with bond, oath, and letter to the Secretary of the Treasury, and giving instructions respecting charging commissions on land sales, salary, and the treatment of warrants in favor of Lewis and Clark's companions. Earlier correspondence concerning bond and oath are *id.* to *id.*, Aug. 25 and Aug. 28, 1818, *loc. cit.* See also Smith to Meigs, July 30, 1818 (NA, GLO, Reg. and Rec. Lets., Franklin), acknowledging the appointment, and stating that although the papers had just reached him he had heard of the action and had gone ahead with his preparations to assume the office.

If the above is not to be considered as cultivation, what description of arable, or ploughed land will be; and how much?—Will he who arrives too late to raise corn, but who has cultivated a garden or truck-patch be entitled to preemption?

Will the person (suppose a Trader with the Indians) who some years ago inhabited & cultivated, and afterwards abandoned his dwelling & improvement, without leaving the Territory, be entitled to preemption? ⁵⁴

Will the Person who inhabited & cultivated more than one place, be entitled to pre-emption at each? ⁵⁴

A Person entitled to the right of pre-emption by the law, extended his improvements previous to the survey of the country—A survey of the country made one, two or three years after throws his new improvement into another quarter section, than the one on which he resided at the passage of the law ⁵⁵—

Will the person thus circumstanced be entitled to a pre-emption for both quarters, ⁵⁴ or to as much as will secure all his improvement made subsequent to the passage of the law, and prior to the Survey? ⁵⁴

I have the honor to be, with great respect Your Ob^t Servant
T A SMITH

JOSIAH MEIGS Esq^r Commissioner of the Gen^l Land Washington City

[Endorsed] 1st Aug^t 1818 T A Smith Receiv^r at Howards County Queries de preempt^{ns} Ans^d 8 Sep^r ⁵⁶ Received Sept 8 1818 J M—

THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO GOVERNOR CLARK

[NA:WD, SW, Lets. Sent, Mil. Bk. 10]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, 17th Aug^t 1818.

HIS EXCELL^y W^m CLARK, S^t Louis.

SIR, Your letter to the President of the 19th April, ⁵⁷ inclosing the resolutions of the Board of Trustees for superintending public schools in S^t Louis, has been referred to this Department with instructions, to cause to be designated the public lots in S^t Louis, which may be required for military purposes. Major S. H. Long, of the Topographical Engineers, will be charged with this duty upon his return to Missouri.

I have &c.

J. C. C.

⁵⁴ "No!" [Interlineation on the MS.]

⁵⁵ "He cannot have more than ¼ Section—" [Interlineation on the MS.]

⁵⁶ *Post*, p. 432.

⁵⁷ Not found.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE *Aug^t 22^d 1818*

HON^{ble} W. H. CRAWFORD Sec^y of the Treasury

SIR, I have the honor to transmit herewith, agreeably to your request,⁵⁸ an estimate of the amo^t of lands claimed in Louisiana & Missouri, shewing the amo^t granted under Patents &c of the former Governments—under settlement claims, and the amo^t of claims rejected, also a printed list of claims in Missouri, which have not been confirmed, published by the Recorder of Land Titles at S^t Louis.

I am &c

HENRY CARROLL TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Reg. and Rec. Lets., Franklin: ALS]

S^t LOUIS, Missouri, 22^d *Aug. 1818.*

SIR I left Washington on the 12th July, and arrived here on the 20th inst. The distance from Washington to Boon's Lick is upwards of 1200 miles, and a journey of at least six weeks. My journey therefore has been performed, certainly, with proper dispatch, and with no other interruption than the unavoidable delay of three days at Pittsburgh & Wheeling, and one day in Kentucky to provide a horse to proceed on. No want of due diligence then can attach to me in making the journey. My arrangements to enter upon it were completed, and I set out for Missouri, in one week subsequent to the issuing of the Commission to Charles Carroll,⁵⁹ from the State Department, under which instructions from the Secretary of the Treasury authorize me to act. The Commission was issued, I believe, on the 6th July. I have given the foregoing dates and facts, not to vindicate myself—blame will not be understood to apply to me—but to shew the readiness with which I undertook, and the steadiness with which I had kept in view the trust confided to me. But though my arrival will precede the period at which the public sales are directed to be opened for Howard Land District, by more than a fortnight, it is yet determined not to be in time for adjusting the claims of pre-emption which the Act of Congress of 5th February 1813 on the subject, requires to be decided on by the Register and Receiver "at least two weeks before the public Sales". The pre-emption claims in the S^t Louis Land District took more than a

⁵⁸ *Ante*, p. 413.

⁵⁹ Decius Wadsworth, of Connecticut, had been nominated as register Apr. 17 and confirmed Apr. 20, 1818 (*Senate, Exec. Journal*, III, 135, 140).

fortnight to adjust; and those in the Howard District are ascertained to be double or treble in number, and many of them very complicated. The necessity under the construction given to the above recited Act of Congress by the District Attorney, the Surveyor General and the intelligent citizens, of adjusting the claims of pre-emptions two weeks before the public sales, would have required that every hour should be allotted to this object, which has elapsed since Colonel Wadsworth declined, about the last of the Month of June, to proceed to discharge the duties of his appointment. The time left by this event, before the commencement of the public Sales for the appointment of a successor, was barely sufficient to enable him to repair with great exertion to his post, by performing a journey of six weeks, and to arrive two weeks before the Sales in the District, at which time it is determined by the expounders of the Law on the subject, his hands are tied.

I am, Sir, with high respect y^r Mo. Ob^t Serv^t

H. CARROLL

[Addressed] Josiah Meigs Esquire Commissioner of the General Land Office Washington City [Postmarked] St Louis Aug 24 Free

[Endorsed] Franklin 22^d Aug^t Cha^s Carroll Sales are postponed Ans^d 17 Sep^r ^{oo}

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822: ALS]

Surveyors Office for the Territories of Illinois
& Missouri S^t LOUIS Aug^t 24. 1818

SIR Immediately after the arrival here of the Proclamation of the President of the United States directing certain lands to be offered at public sale at Franklin, in the Months of January, March and April next, Two locations (made by virtue of New Madrid earth quake Certificates) were presented at this Office for Fractional Sections on the Missouri River within the Tract which was reserved for military bounties, Having been under the impression and still beleiving that these fractional Sections although they cannot be applied for Military bounties cannot be subject to be located by New Madrid claims, I declined to receive or Re-

^{oo} NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8), advising that plans for the first public-land sale at Franklin had been postponed for lack of time to prepare lists of preemption claims within the district but that such plans would be prepared later.

cord those locations and shall continue to decline to receive & record all others of the same nature unless I may be instructed by you to act otherwise, I will observe that some of these Frac¹ Sec^s are considered to be very valuable occupying the margin of the River consisting of first rate Land and some eligible scites for Towns &c. I did suppose that such of those Lands as may not be applied for Military bounties, would be directed (as other Lands) by the President of the U. States to be sold at public sale—please to instruct me how to act in this business

I have the honor to be with much respect your Ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR.

THE HONBL^e J. MEIGS Comm^r Gen^l L. Office

[Addressed] The Honbl^e Josiah Meigs Commissioner of the Gen^l L. Office Washington City [Postmarked] St. Louis Aug 24 Free

[Endorsed] St^t Louis 24 Aug 1818 W^m Rector refused to permit locations of Madrid Claims in Milit^y tract Approv^d 16 Sep^r ⁶¹

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA: GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822: ALS ⁶²]

Surveyors office for the Territories of Illinois
& Missouri St^t LOUIS Aug^t 24. 1818—

SIR I received by last mail your letter, of 20 Ult^o,⁶³ in which you directed me, to cause to be laid off and subdivided into Sections &c, about Sixty Townships of land in the County of Arkansas; since I received that letter I have sent out, to engage a sufficient number of, the most experienced judicious, & enterprising Deputy Surveyors, four of whom, I shall start as soon as practicable, to survey some standard lines; through, different parts of the country; to explore the lands, to select the best and most salable parts; and to lay off and survey the exterior boundaries of the whole of the sixty Townships; as soon as I am apprised that these surveyors have made the necessary progress, in this preliminary business, I will send a sufficient number of subdividing surveyors, to do the whole work in a short time; so that I calculate to have the sixty Townships ready for market by the early part of next spring.

The whole of the field work of the 30 Townships in the district of Edwardsville, has been completed; I have received plats and

⁶¹ Post, p. 434.

⁶² The first paragraph of this letter is printed in *A.S.P., Pub. Lands*, III, 619.

⁶³ Ante, p. 417.

descriptions of about half those Townships, and expect to receive the returns of the balance in a short time; these thirty Townships will certainly be ready to be offered at public sale by the first monday in December next; but as there will at that time be a sale of public lands at this place, I have supposed, that these lands would not then be offered; as public sales on both sides of the Mississippi, at the same time would no doubt have the effect to lessen the price of the lands in both Territories; These 30 Townships consists of the following to wit, N^{os} 6. 7. 8. 9 & 10 North of the Base line of Ranges N^{os} 1. 2. 3. 4. 5 & 6 West of the 3rd principal Meridian; The other thirty Townships, which I have been directed, to have Surveyed, in the District of Edwardsville, shall be Completed, in time to be offered at public sale next spring. Much solicitude is expressed, that some lands North of, and adjoining the lands now selling at Shawneetown should be prepared for sale; The policy of gratifying the wishes of the people, on that subject I do not pretend to judg of, I have no doubt however, but that much of the lands would soon sell The first public sales of United States lands at this place ended on saturday last, more of these lands, than I had expected, were sold, and at a better price, a considerable part of that tract is more broken & poor than the lands which have been surveyed generally are, and much of the best lands are taken up by confirmed Claims of individuals, and was reserved from sale on account of the existence of unconfirmed Claims, and great pains were taken by some individuals, to make the people believe, that much of the lands which was offered for sale, was the property of individuals and that purchases, would at some future day be ousted by the rightful owners, claiming under spanish grants (or pretended grants), it is unfortunate that these unconfirmed claims have not long since been put at rest; as they now stand they certainly are a great injury to this Country, and also operate injuries to the interest of the United States; you have I presume seen the list of unconfirmed claims furnished by the recorder of land titles, to the registers & receivers of the land offices of S^t Louis and Howard County, which in these two Districts alone amounts to a large quantity of land, and are intended to cover the most fertile and valuable parts of what I consider public property; there are I understand several individuals who claim many large tracts of land, for which they have not exhibited their notices to the Recorder of Land Titles, it is the opinion of several inteligent & honest men here, that even if Congress should confirm all the claims, that are now known to exist, that the business would by no means be at an end; but that claims for as much more Land would soon be set up, I hope Congress will, at this next

session dispose of these Claims, as they ought to be disposed of; the longer this business remains unsettled, the more clamorous will the claimants be, because they are I presume, dividing & subdividing their interest or claims, and thereby increasing their numbers and influence, which will enable them to make the more noise. In consequence of the register of the land office for the district of Howard County, not having got on in time to adjust the preemption rights (two weeks before the time at which the public sales were to have commenced) no sales can take place in Sept^r which is much to be regretted, as a considerable number of people from a distance came with the intention of purchasing lands at that sale, and there are a great number of people settled on these lands, who are extremely anxious to purchase; it is thought here that these lands cannot now be sold, until they are again directed to be offered at public Sale, by the president of the United States, This may be done in January next, without interfering with other sales of public lands, for there will be time enough in that month, to offer all the lands directed by the presidents proclamation to be offered, and the 30 Townships which ought to have been sold in September, Towit Townships 47. 48. 49. 50. 51 & 52 North of the Base line of Ranges N^o 14. 15. 16. 17 & 18 West of the 5th principal Meridian

I wrote to you some time ago, that a Further sum of Twelve Thousand dollars,⁶⁴ is now wanting to by for Surveys, in these Territories

I am with much respect &c Sir Your ob^t Serv^t

W^m RECTOR

THE HONBL^e JOSIAH MEIGS Comm^r of the Gen^l L. Office Washington City

[Endorsed] 24 Aug^t 1818 W^m Rector on Sund^y subjects Sent copy to Sec^y 17 Sep^r ⁶⁵

HENRY CARROLL TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Reg. and Rec. Lets., Franklin: ALS]

FRANKLIN, Missouri Territory, 3^d September 1818—

D^r SIR I cannot lose the opportunity which the mail gives this place once in a fortnight, to request that you will expound the Acts of Congress relating to rights of Pre-emption, and in particular that of 5th February, 1813.⁶⁶ The subject is important to

⁶⁴ *Ante*, p. 417.

⁶⁵ *Post*, p. 435.

⁶⁶ 2 STAT. 797-798.

the interests of the Government, as well as to individuals, who urge claims to many of the choice Tracts in this Land District, supposed to be worth several hundred thousand dollars, or half a million. The words "inhabit" and "cultivate", it will be useful to have distinctly interpreted, in the spirit & intention of the Act, also whether the Act of 12th April, 1814,⁶⁷ is restricted in its operation to the time of the passage of the Act to which it refers. Many persons, at the time Hunters, put together some cabin-logs, and cultivated for their sustenance a patch of corn. These make no small part of the claimants.

I expect soon the arrival of my Father, who is now enabled, by the favourable health of his family, to come on. He will be here in time to act upon the pre-emption claims in the Tract to be sold in November.

In reading the law, you will discover that the adjustment of the pre-emption rights must precede "the commencement of the public sales at least two weeks." The Tract, to have been offered at public sale in September embraced a preliminary work of one or two months; and had I been on the spot when the Commission was made out, or when Col. Wadsworth made known his intention not to accept his appointment, time enough for the purpose might have been barely left. My arrival at St Louis was on the 20th Ult. 18 days before the time at which the sales were directed. It was too late to settle the pre-emption rights. I had received no instruction from which this difficulty could have been foreseen. The instructions had been forwarded to Col. Wadsworth at Pittsburg, and were afterwards directed to be sent on to Franklin—But tho' I had received earlier information on this subject, it will be seen that the two months indeed less, intervening from the date of the Commission to my Father, & my authority to act until his arrival, did not allow time to make a journey of more than 1200 miles, one of six weeks, afterwards to perform the task of deciding upon numerous and complex claims, another affair of at least several weeks, if not a month or two, and still to leave a blank of a fortnight before the Sales, when the Act of Congress requires that the preemption rights shall be settled.

I am, dear Sir, with highest respect Y^r mo. Ob^t Serv^t

H. CARROLL

HON^{ble} W^m H. CRAWFORD.

[Addressed] Hon^{ble} W^m H. Crawford Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D. C. [Postmarked] Franklin Mo. Sept. 4 Free

⁶⁷ 3 STAT. 121-123.

[*Endorsed*] Referred to the Commissioner of the G L O. who will give the necessary instructions W H C Franklin 3^d Sep^r 1818
H Carroll wants instructions relative to pre-emptions Ans^d 9
Octo^r ⁶⁸

THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO GOVERNORS AND INDIAN
AGENTS

[NA: OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, 5th Septem^r 1818.

CIRCULAR TO Governors, Cass, Edwards, and Clark. and to David
B. Mitchell, John M^cKee, Return J. Meigs, Reuben Lewis, Henry
Sherburne, & John Jamison, Indian Agents.

SIR, The 5th Auditor of the Treasury Department, has been
charged to adjust the claims which Indians may have, under exist-
ing treaties, or the 4th section of the act "to regulate trade and
intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the
frontiers," passed 30th March, 1802;⁶⁹ and similar claims on the
part of our citizens, embraced by the 14th Section of the same act,
or any existing treaty with the Indian tribes.

In case of injury to our citizens, after making the demand for
a redress of the injury, as pointed out by the act, you will, if it
is not redressed in the time specified, forward the claim properly
testified, stating the time, place, and circumstance of the injury
complained of, to the 5th Auditor for his examination—Your opin-
ion on the truth of the Claim, and the amount of damage, will
accompany your report.

In case of injury done to the Indians you will make a similar
report, accompanied with your opinion, to this Departm^t and to the
District Attorney where the person who has done the injury
resides; so that proper legal steps may be taken against the wrong
doer, in order to make the reparation at his expense, and not at
the expense of the public, which should, if possible, be avoided.
No payment, except thro' the order of this Department, will be
allowed.

I observe that, in most of the applications made for reparation
of injury, no care is taken to comply with the requisitions of the
act; but it is hoped, that, in future, they will be made more regular;
as none will be admitted but such as the law or treaties provide

⁶⁹ NA (GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8), enclosing copy of letter to Receiver
Smith, Sept. 8, 1818, *infra*, as a reply.

⁷⁰ 2 STAT. 139-146.

for, and in which the provisions of the act have been complied with.⁷⁰

I have &c.

J.C.C.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THOMAS A. SMITH

[NA: GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE *Septem^r 8th 1818.*

THOMAS A SMITH Esqr^e Receiver Franklin

SIR, I reply to your letter of 1st Ult^r ⁷¹ (received this day) that the Act of 26th March 1804 ⁷² prohibited settlements on public Lands under heavy penalties—that notwithstanding settlements were made, & the Act of 28th March 1816 ⁷³ provided that the settlers might remain upon their settlements on their signing a declaration that they had no claim—Under these two laws every settler is an intruder with or without permission & destitute of any claim to his settlement.

Let us now enquire whence arose pre-emption rights, & wherefore they were created.

Many families having, contrary to law settled upon public Lands & having made improvements, & cultivated for the support of their families, the Act of 5th feb: 1813 ⁷⁴ was humanely passed to secure to them their improvements in Illinois Territory. The Act of 12 Ap^l 1814 ⁷⁵ extended the same benefits to the Settlers in Missouri but I conceive no person has a pre-emption right who has settled since the Act of 5 feb: 1813—that only one pre-emption right is vested in any one person, & that if the improvements of any Individual fall upon two or more quarter sections, he can only be permitted to select one of them.

The Settlements were made in defiance of law, & though humane provisions have been made for those Intruders, yet every one of them cannot retain his improvements, because the laws bound the pre-emption rights by Sectional lines.

⁷⁰ See Clark to the Secretary of War, Feb. 2, 1818 (NA, WD, SW, Lets. Recd., C127), reporting on claims of individuals for property destroyed by Indians in Missouri Territory; and the Secretary of War to Clark, Sept. 5, 1818 (NA, OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D), stating that claims for horses taken in the Indian country had been examined by the fifth auditor, who reported that they were not of such a description as provided for by the law.

⁷¹ *Ante*, p. 423.

⁷² Printed, *Terr. Papers* (Ind.), VII, 173–184, but it is an erroneous citation. The act approved Mar. 3, 1807 (2 STAT. 445–446), was undoubtedly the one Meigs intended to cite.

⁷³ 3 STAT. 260–261, date Mar. 25, 1816.

⁷⁴ 2 STAT. 797–798.

⁷⁵ 3 STAT. 121–123.

The second section of the act of 5th feb: 1813 makes the Reg^r & Rec^r the Judges whether those who deliver notices of claims to pre-emption rights are entitled to them under the provisions of the Law & I have given my opinion on this subject merely because you requested it.

I am &c.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO REUBEN LEWIS

[NA: OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, 9th Sep^t 1818.

REUBEN LEWIS Indian Agent, Arkansaw.

SIR, I have the honor to enclose you a Commission to act as Commissioner, to run the line of the land given by the U. States to the Cherokee nation in Exchange for the land ceded to the U. S. by the treaty of the 8th of July, 1817,⁷⁶ as designated by the fifth article of said treaty, a copy of which is enclosed. You will cause the line to be distinctly marked.

Your compensation will be at the rate of \$8 per day, during the time you are actually engaged in ascertaining & surveying said line. To aid you in the performance of this duty, you are authorized to employ a skilful surveyor, who will be allowed \$5 per day, and as many chain-men & axe-men as may be necessary, who will be allowed \$2 per day in full for their services.⁷⁷

So soon as the survey is completed, you will make a report of it, accompanied by a plat, to this Department.⁷⁸

I have &c.

J.C.C.

[Enclosure]

Commission of Reuben Lewis

[September 7, 1818]

JAMES MONROE, President of the United States of America.

To all who shall see these presents, Greetings:

Know ye, that reposing special trust and Confidence in the integrity, ability and diligence of REUBEN LEWIS, Indian Agent on the

⁷⁶ 7 STAT. 156-160.

⁷⁷ See the Secretary of War to Captain Bradford, at Belle Point, Sept. 9, 1818 (NA, OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D), advising of the above appointment and instructing that all persons be removed from the lands in question, by force if necessary, except Mrs. Lovely who was to be permitted to retain her residence for life.

⁷⁸ Answered Oct. 20, 1818 (NA, WD, SW, Lets. Recd., L9), accepting the commission, enclosing bond, and describing affairs within his agency. Other relevant documents will be found in a forthcoming volume of this series on Arkansas Territory. Consult index to that volume under Cherokee Indians and Reuben Lewis.

Arkansaw, I do appoint him Commissioner under the treaty concluded with the Cherokee nation of Indians, on the 8th day of July, in the year of our Lord, 1817, to run the line of the land given by the U. States to the Cherokee nation, in exchange for the land ceded by the said nation to the U. States, by the 1st and 2^d Articles of said treaty; and do authorize and empower him to execute the duties of that office agreeably to the 5th Article of said treaty: To have and to hold the said office of Commissioner, and to exercise all the rights and privileges appertaining thereto, during the pleasure of the President of the U. States for the time being.⁷⁹

Given under my hand at the City of Washington this 7th day of Septem^r A. D. 1818, and of the Independence of the U. States of America the 43^d

JAMES MONROE.

By the President,
J. C. CALHOUN,
Secretary of War.—

JOSIAH MEIGS TO WILLIAM RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Lets. to SG, II]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE 16 *Sept^r* 1818

WILLIAM RECTOR Esq^{re} Survey^r Gen^l S^t Louis

SIR Your two letters of 24th Aug^t have been received,⁸⁰ I approve of your refusing New Madrid Claims to be located in the Military Bounty Tract—that tract is appropriated for bounties, & Congress may if they please, permit Soldiers to locate on fractions, though it is most probable that the fractions & the lands marked unfit for cultivation will be attached to Howard County District for sale.

Your letter relative to the unconfirmed claims in Missouri T^r to the postponement of the Public Sales in Howard County in consequence of the late arrival of the Register, to the survey of lands north of Shawneetown &c shall be laid before the Secretary of the Treasury—at present he is absent from the seat of Government. A Credit of \$12,000 has been given to you with the Receiver at Shawneetown⁸¹

I am &c

⁷⁹ Lewis resigned effective Dec. 31, 1819. See the Secretary of War to Lewis, Jan. 19, 1820 (NA, OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D).

⁸⁰ *Ante*, pp. 426, 427.

⁸¹ See Meigs to the Secretary of the Treasury, Sept. 16, 1818 (NA, GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8), informing him of Rector's application for the sum in question.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE *September* 17. 1818

HON^{ble} W H CRAWFORD Secretary Treasury

SIR, I have the honor to transmit herewith a Copy of a letter from Surveyor General Rector, dated 24 Ult^o ⁸² relative to the unconfirmed claims in Missouri Territory, to the postponement of the first public Sales in Howard County, & to the survey of more lands in Illinois Territory; also a Copy of a letter dated Kaskaskia 26 Aug^t from Nath^l Pope & others, ⁸³ urging the survey of more Lands in Illinois & Missouri Territories

I have &c

WILLIAM RECTOR TO THOMAS RECTOR

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1813-1824:C]

Surveyors Office for the Territories of Illinois
& Missouri S^t LOUIS *Sept^r* 26th 1818

SIR In order to do the Surveying, which you have by your Contract of this day undertaken to perform in the County of Arkansas in the Missouri Territory. You will repair to the little rock on on the Arkansas river from where you will Survey or Cause to be Surveyed the Quawpaw Indian Boundary line due South Agreeably to the True Meridian untill you intersect the Saline Creek or the Washataw river this line must be Accurately Surveyed and plainly marked and at the End of every mile A post must be Set and bearing trees taken on one of which the number of miles run and the letters U S must be plainly marked—

At the Same time you will send one of the deputy Surveyors to the point on the East Bank of the Arkansas river to which Joseph C Brown extended the Base line West from the mouth of the S^t Francis river which point is ten Chains and Eighty five links West of the post corner of Sections N^o 32 & 33 T 1 N R 10 W

Sec 31 T 1 N 10 W	Sec 32 T 1 N 10 W	R 10 W	Sec 33 T 1 N 10 W	R 10 W	Sec 34 T 1 N R 10 W	Sec 35 T 1 N R 10 W	Sec 36 T 1 N R 10 W
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Base line Run due West from the mouth of S^t Francis

from where Said deputy Surveyor must continue the Base line due West and at 29 Chains and 15 links establish a quarter Section Corner. At 69 Chains and 15 links Establish a corner for Sections N^o 31 & 32 T 1 N R 10 W from where continue West along the South Side of Section N^o 31 at 40 chains establish a quarter Section corner at

⁸² *Ante*, p. 427.

⁸³ Printed, *Terr. Papers* (Ill.), xvii, 601.

80 Chains Establish the corner of Townships N^o 1 & 1 North of the Base line of Ranges N^o 10 & 11 West of the 5th principal meridian Continue the Base line West Establishing as you proceed $\frac{1}{4}$ Section, Section & Township Corners untill you arrive at, and Establish the first Township corner West of the Quawpaw Indian Boundary line Above Mentioned, from which Township one deputy Surveyor must Survey the Range line North establishing as he proceeds $\frac{1}{4}$ Section & Section corners for the Range West of that line and the Several Township Corners untill he Arrives at and Establishes a corner for Townships N^o 10 & 11 North of the Base line. Another deputy Surveyor Should at the same time Start from the Same Township Corner and Survey the range line South establishing as he proceeds the necessary $\frac{1}{4}$ Section, Section and Township corners untill he arrives at and establishes a corner for Townships N^o 15 & 16 South of the Base line and another deputy surveyor Should at the Same time Continue the Base line due West establishing as he proceeds the necessary corners as far West as the mountains provided the distance does not exceed one hundred and twenty miles

After the above mentioned business Shall be done you will Cause the three Standard lines marked on the plat (to wit) One between Townships N^o 5 & 6 South of the Base line one between Townships N^o 10 & 11 South and one between Townships N^o 15 & 16 South, to be Surveyed due West any distance you may find it proper not exceeding one hundred and twenty miles and from the Same Township corners you will Cause said Standard lines to be Surveyed due East to Indian boundary line where they may come to Indian Lands before they reach the Mississippi and where they do not come to Indian Lands, then they must be extended to the Mississippi River You will recollect in Surveying the Standard lines and also the Base lines $\frac{1}{4}$ Section, Section, & Township corners must be established for the Townships North of those lines and not South of them Except at the Range line that is to be extended North & South from the Township corner in the Base line—It is of the utmost importance that all those lines be accurately Surveyed, truly and correctly measured, plainly and correctly marked for on the accuracy of those lines must depend the accuracy of the subsequent Surveys—

When this Shall be done you will collect all the information you can from the report of the Several deputy Surveyors who may have been employed in Surveying those lines and from Other Sources on which you can rely relative to the quality of the Lands &c in the Several parts of the Country through which the lines above mentioned may pass You will then Select the best and most Saleably

parts of the Country taking into view the fertility of the soil and other Natural Advantages which would render it eligible for good and extensive Settlements. You will then cause Such Lands So Selected to be laid off into Townships in One or more places but at no one Place less than Twenty Townships in a body nor in the whole more than one hundred Townships. But there must be at least Eighty Townships laid off and if there Should be many Townships consisting mostly of lands unfit for Settlements and Cultivation then and in that case the Whole number of one hundred Townships must be laid off So that a Sufficient number of Townships that is Suitable for Settlements may be Subdivided and the worst part of the Townships remain not Subdivided. You will cause Twenty of the Townships which you have laid off to be Subdivided in Conformity with your Contract—

I shall employ about Seven deputy Surveyors Each to Subdivide from Eight to ten of the Townships that you are to lay off and Shall refer them to you for instructions where to commence their work and what Townships they are to Subdivide and Shall instruct them to call on you for that purpose on and after the first day of December next at the little Rock on the Arkansas River or at the mouth of the Quadrant Creek Commonly called the Cadron Settlement. You will therefore perceive the necessity of your being at one of those places at the time above mentioned and untill all the deputy Surveyors whom I may Send to that country are put in possession by you of their necessary instructions and papers to enable them to proceed With and Complete their surveys provided they reach your office in a reasonable time after the first of December Should your business require you at any time to absent yourself from your office you will leave instructions where and how you may be found and at what time you will return to your office

I presume you will find a good body of land on the north side of the Arkansas on and near the Quadrant Creek where I understand there is at present an extensive Settlement. Should this be the case you will cause some Townships to be laid off embracing those good Lands in order to keep the Subdividing Surveyors employed untill you get the whole of the Townships laid off, when you will assign to each the ballance of the number of the Townships he may have contracted with me to Subdivide, but in Case you do not find a Sufficient Quantity of such land as ought to be Surveyed to keep the Surveyors employed as above mentioned then you will lay off a sufficient number of Townships on the nearest good lands south of the arkansas river as soon as practicable—

Before you extend the Surveys far north of the arkansas river you will Survey or cause the Cherokee Indian Boundary line to be

Surveyed from the mouth of Point remove or Budwells old place on the north Side of the arkansas to Strike Chataunga mountain or the first hill above Shields Ferry this line must be accurately Surveyed and plainly marked, mile posts set and numbered and marked as directed to be done on the Quapaw Indian boundary line

Should the lands adjoining to the westerly part of the Cherokee boundary line be of a good quality and fit for Settlements it will be well to extend the Township lines to and Connect them with it and cause the fractional Townships to be Subdivided you must connect the lines and corners of the Surveys of the public Lands with the line and mile posts which you are to Survey for the Quapaw boundary—

I deem it unnecessary to go into minute and particular instructions for you are so thoroughly Acquainted with the nature of the business and the necessity of having the whole done in a correct and intelligent manner that I willingly submit it to your management—the great object in extending the Base and Standard lines so far west is to ascertain the quality of that part of the country. You will therefore I hope take every means that may be in your power to collect accurate information relative to as much of the Southern part of the Missouri Territory as practicable which will be verry useful to our Government. You will please to inform me from time to time as opportunities may offer what progress you may have made in your Surveys and at what time I may expect to receive your returns

I am Verry respectfully Sir, Your Ob^t Serv^t

signed W^m RECTOR

P.S. Since writing the foregoing it has Occured to me that it may be impracticable to extend the Standard line the whole length above directed on account of extensive Swamps or other impassible places, in that case you will vary the plan in such manner as to be able to extend the lines the same distance both East and west of the first Range line West of the Quapaw boundary line but between different Townships—But the out lines of the plan above laid down must not be départed from further than may be absolutely necessary W R

The foregoing is a true Copy of the instructions which I have this day received from William Rector Surveyor of the Lands of the United States in the Territories of Illinois and Missouri. Which Said instructions are refered to and made a part of my Contract with Said Rector of this date September 26th 1818 signed Tho^s Rector.

ROBERT WASH TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Resignations:ALS]

St LOUIS *Sep^t 26th 1818.*

SIR. Having been elected a member of our Territorial Legislature, I am compelled to resign the Commission of District Attorney, which you did me the honor to forward of the 6th of March last.⁸⁴—And to explain what might seem fickle, permit me to say, my name was given to the public as a Candidate, before the receipt of my Commission.

I have the honor to be most respectfully Your Obed^t Humb^l Serv^t
R: WASH

THE HONBLE JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

[*Addressed*] The Honb^l John Quincy Adams Secretary of State Washington City. [*Postmarked*] St. Louis Oct 10 Free

[*Endorsed*] Wash Rob^t Sep^r 26 1818 Recd Nov^r 14, resigns as District Attorney of Missouri

DELEGATE SCOTT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

[NA:SD, Applications:ALS]

WASHINGTON CITY *October 14th 1818*

HONBLE JOHN Q. ADAMS

SIR If I am rightly informed in the office, on the third of October, Instant, the Term of Service of John B C. Lucas as one of the Judges of the Superior Court for the Territory of Missouri expired, and I trust he will not be re-appointed—It is almost needless for me to State to you the character, and Temper of this man, and that he is in every respect unfit for that important office—Pennsylvania can give you ample testimony on this Subject—So Violent are his antipathies and resentments, and so odious is he to the people, that he not only rides abroad, but even walks the Streets of St Louis among his Neighbours Loaded down with arms; two Pistols, a Dirk, and Sword-cane is his usual equipage—But it does not stop here, he ascends the Seat of Justice armed and accoutred, I have myself, and many others have seen his arms gleaming from the Bench, where he was placed to administer Justice, and to decide on the rights, and lives of his fellow Citizens; add to this, he is Constantly embroiled in Political and private disputes, and as a common scribbler in the Newspapers is usually engaged in attacking and defending—He is well informed on General Subjects, and a tolerable Civilian, but as a Common-law Lawyer he is not quali-

⁸⁴ *Ante*, p. 358.

fied to preside on the Bench—He is shrewd, Cunning, Immoral, artfull, designing, malicious, revengful, unforgiving and Wicked in the extreme—His passions Lord it over his reason, and his Judgment, and not a few of those whose rights he has had, and now has to decide on, I am well convinced, and not without reason, most Conscientiously believe that he would sacrifice them to his private feelings of Malice, or revenge—I believe next to doing Justice, the Public Satisfaction is to be consulted, and I know that he does not give Public Satisfaction, nor is the Public Satisfied with him, I speak within bounds when I say that nine tenths of the People of the Territory wish to get clear of him, and would willingly exchange him for any other man you would see proper to send them—A Prayer and remonstrance was spoken of against him, but it was not Carried into effect, for fear, that should they not succeed it would make him more bitter if possible—I have in your absence Ventured to name to the President, William C. Carr Esq^r as worthy of the place, him or any other good man; But I beg you in the Name of the People of the Territory, for the sake of Public Justice, Public quiet, and Public Satisfaction, not to have M^r Lucas re-appointed—I intreat you to lay this letter before the President, The world may see it, for it contains nothing but facts of which I am not ashamed, and in, and for, the statement of which I know I will be supported I have the Honor to be Most respectfully yr Obt. Serv^t

JOHN SCOTT—

[Addressed] Honble John Q. Adams Department of State

[Endorsed] John B. C. Lucas, October 14. 1818 Recd the 16th. remonstrates against the re-appointment of Judge Lucas.

HENRY CARROLL TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Reg. and Rec. Lets., Franklin:ALS]

FRANKLIN Missouri Territory 15th October 1818.

SIR, It becomes proper to refer to you in anticipation of difficulties, which will encompass this Land Office, in order that every solution may be timely furnished. On the mode of proceeding and construction which shall be adopted, will depend the holding or losing for the Treasury of the United States of at least 80.000 or 100.000 acres of Land, which will probably average \$10 per acre.

In the first place does the right of preemption attach, at all, to this Land District, was it a part of Missouri Territory at the time the right of preemption was granted to "Missouri Territory," if it was Does the Act of Congress apply here?—The Osages could only convey the Country held and rightfully claimed by them. In fact

the treaty concluded with the Osages in November 1808 granting and confirming was not deemed a sufficient transfer of the land in question to the United States, in as much as a Treaty was afterwards held with them, in September 1815, by which the same land was granted and confirmed by them to the United States. Nor was it until the same year that the proclamation of the Governor of Missouri Territory issued, whereby this Country was annexed to, and made part of the County of St. Charles, for the purpose of civil government, of which this was the dawn.⁸⁵ Yet had civil government been spread over Missouri Territory bounded by the very Country in question; which being out of its pale at the time is not entitled to the benefit of an act of the government intended for the Territory of Missouri, defined there & before by such lines as had invariably excluded it from any participation in measures governing Missouri Territory anterior to the proclamation of 9th March 1815. In the winter of 1813-14 application was made to Governor Howard by the people, who had pushed into this quarter for magistrates and civil officers, accompanied by an offer to pay taxes &c; all which was refused, on the ground of their being on Indian land without the limits of Missouri Territory, and over which consequently the Territorial authority, under the Government of the United States could not have cognizance as prayed. Protection against the Indians was also asked by them and denied to them because they were without the limits and protection of the Territorial Government; at the same time they were advised to retire behind Cedar river, the then boundary of Missouri Territory on the west as it is now of this Land District on the east, should they expect to be considered Citizens of it. The enclosed paper marked A⁸⁶ will shew the Western boundary of St. Charles the Westernmost County of the Territory, after the preemption acts of February 1813⁸⁷ and April 1814⁸⁸ passed. The proviso it contains strikingly supports the Idea that Howard County was Indian Country, not embraced in the Missouri Territory, at the time referred to by the right of preemption claimed in Missouri Territory, and therefore an exception to the Act of Congress granting the right. It never was or could be considered embraced within the Territorial limits of Missouri, until annexed to it by the proclamation above cited, one or two years subsequent to the period at which the right of preemption holds; that is, as the Act of February 1813,

⁸⁵ *Ante*, p. 40.

⁸⁶ Not present.

⁸⁷ Approved Feb. 5, 1813 (2 STAT. 797-798), but applying wholly to Illinois Territory.

⁸⁸ Approved Apr. 12, 1814 (3 STAT. 121-123).

or that of April 1814, shall be construed to determine that period. Howard was erected a County under the name it bears and civil Jurisdiction extended to it only in the beginning of 1816, as will be seen by the paper marked B ⁸⁹—It is not necessary to raise the question whether the government could or could not grant land to which the Indian title had not been extinguished, since the grantee would risque the event of the Indian claim, by yielding to it, if not previously extinguished. For the solution of the present enquiry it would seem enough that Howard County did not constitute a part of the Missouri Territory, where the laws giving the right of preemption to the Territory, were enacted; but was long after formally annexed by the proclamation of the Governor. It is not necessary to look up any title, acknowledged or dormant in the United States, whether by purchase or conquest, or a claim unsupported by either, from the tribe having a qualified property over the soil. It would seem enough for our purpose to know that the government never made or intended making, under a law specifying “the Territory of Missouri,” any disposal or pledge of this tract of country, without antecedent notice or or reference to it, directly or indirectly, in any legislative shape whatever; much less as an acknowledged portion of the Territory when the legislative gratuity was conferred; into neither of which therefore can it tacitly slide, whether the proprietary equally with the sovereign right to it were or were not exercised by the United States at the time. The law confers in certain cases the right of preemption on persons residing in the “Territory of Missouri”—the then “Territory of Missouri”, within certain described boundaries—not any region which might thereafter fall, by adoption, within the “Territory of Missouri”. Now the Country west of Cedar River, otherwise Howard County, whether owned or not at the passage of the law by the United States, could not be a component part of the Territory of Missouri for which an Act of Congress had been passed, until attached to it in some way, which was an event subsequent. Upon the whole, it will be of use to know whether we may suppose the property of the United States to have been impliedly granted away by them, without having been previously asserted or recognized; further whether the circumstance of its being ever so well asserted may, unaccompanied by jurisdiction in a single instance have any effect, in bringing under the cover of a legislative bounty to Missouri Territory, a region (if you shall so decide) out of Missouri Territory, until joined to it at the date of the proclamation of the Governor of the Territory—a year or two after the legislative provision can apply.

⁸⁹ Not present.

This enquiry is preliminary to any other. The motive for further examination on this head may immediately cease with the decision that this Country did not make a part of Missouri Territory, on which the Acts of February 1813 or April 1814 could operate. Under no other latitude of construction will the right of preemption reach this Land District. But if it be determined that preemptions do hold, it becomes very essential to ascertain other points, some rather complex, pertaining to them.

Does the Act of April 1814, in adopting "the same restrictions conditions, provisions and regulations in every respect, as is directed by the Act of February 5th 1813, giving the right of preemption to certain settlers in the Illinois Territory," restrict its operation to the period of the act recited. Taking the reason and spirit of both acts, I cannot discover that Congress designed to confer on the Inhabitants of Missouri larger favours than on those of Illinois, by allowing them a year longer; which would be to multiply the favour manifold, by providing for the greatly increased numbers by emigration from February 1813 to April 1814—an increase at least five if not ten times the number first comprised.

The Act of April 1814 mentions "legal representatives" is this term confined to heirs at law? is cognizance to be had by the land officers of assignment or transfer of any kind. They might be often sadly put to it to detect fraudulent conveyances probably not their right province. Court is a fitter tribunal.

The words "actually inhabited and cultivated" require a commentary. Are seeding and gathering, either or both, necessary to make cultivation;—is sowing among the trees as they stand, sufficient without clearing—also any minimum quality of clearing, closing, seeding and gathering;—is barking trees, or deadening, enough without felling or removing them. Are garden seeds put into an open patch, the vegetables gathered in a few weeks, the spot then abandoned, enough without grain—or do the words "actually inhabit and cultivate" presuppose a given time, a season, or year? The kind of dwelling may also deserve attention—do round logs, unhewn, rolled over one another without cement, pinning, closing or covering in; or the still inferior order of backwoods architecture; or does lying out under the open sky, without the parade of a hut, fulfill the intent of the Act—Is the hunters State, under any of these cases, to be considered; or that of a rover who has not moved his family which he imagined before or after gathering his handfull of corn nubbins, melons, or sweet potatoes—also can A prove for B, and B for A?

Under all these shades claims will be alledged. But questions of real magnitude arise under the last act on this subject, that of 24th

February 1816. Intended as supplemental, it has made "confusion worse confounded." The fundamental principle of all these acts, their Spirit collected from the general context and the known meaning of Congress, is repugnant to a longer allowance than 160 acres to an individual. This last act, intended to make up the deficiency where the settler is on a fractional Section, or fractional quarter Section, has received the construction that he is entitled under the words, "one or more adjoining fractional quarter sections," to as many fractional quarter Sections as may "adjoin"—often three and four—and at the rate of 159 acres fractional, he may obtain as much as 639 acres—Did the law design such a conclusion? Under the 2^d Section, a construction at least plausible allows an Individual an almost indefinite number of quarter Sections. The construction given is this. Two being on the same quarter Section, one may, under Circumstances stated, get the four quarters of the Section, and according the last clause, as many quarter Sections besides, as his improvement, cunningly Spread out may reach. This is a strange medley, and requires being set right. The main feature and tenor of the acts of Congress is to restrict to 160 acres—Lastly how much land to be reserved with salt springs, of which the number is great?

The enumeration which I have now closed—and your own reflection will supply its defectiveness—will be strenuously backed by a hard-swearing system, springing from communion of interest over Lands, in extent and value as have been fairly stated. In most cases free use of the Land has been had for three years, & its productiveness has repaid them with three prices for every article, from the newer emigrant throngs. Intruders on public lands are, by law, liable to a fine of 1000 dollars & heavy penalties; besides; the measure remunerates them for the violation by giving them the identical land intruded upon, at one fifth or one tenth of what they would be glad to pay for it—The greater number of claims, and the greater value of the Land in this District making it important to the interests of the Treasury that this Subject be looked into—an attention the more necessary, on the part of government, from the course pursued already in the Land Office at St Louis, where we are continually reminded, none of the above points have been negatived.

The Subject, which has filled these pages, is not exhausted and may be resumed—

I have the honor, Sir to be, With Sentiments of high respect,
Your Obedient Servant

H. CARROLL

JOSIAH MEIGS Esq'

[Addressed] Josiah Meigs Esq. Commissioner of Gen^l Land Office Washington City [Postmarked] Franklin Mo Oct 15 Free

[Endorsed] 13 Octo^r 1818 H Carroll de claims to preempt^a— Sent to Sec^y Treas^y returned by him 27 Nov^r with his instruct^s Sent them to Land Officers in Missouri same day 27th ⁹⁰

PETITION TO CONGRESS BY JUDGE LUCAS AND
CLEMENT B. PENROSE

[NA:HF, 15 Cong., 2 sess.:DS]

[October 22, 1818]

To the Honorable the Senate and house of representatives of the united States in Congress assembled.

The Petition of the underwritten formerly Commissioners for the District of Louisiana under the act of congress entitled “an act for ascertaining and adjusting the Titles and Claims to Land within the territory of Orleans & the district of Louisiana,”⁹¹ humbly represent, that they entered upon the duties of their respective offices on the 1st day of december 1805,⁹² that som time in october following the recorder who was ex officio Commissioner absented himself from the territory; in consequence of this absence and of other embarassments your petitioners were of opinion that they could not proceed upon the Business of the Board, and immediately informed the Secretary of the Treasury of the absence of the recorder and of their consequent determination, which met with his approbation.—Your petitioners remained in that State of suspension until the 1st day of July 1807 being always ready and prepared to receive the Instructions of the president.—an Act of congress was passed on the 3^d March 1807 ⁹³ by which a board of revision was established and the time for delivering Notices of Claims was extended to the first of July 1808;—the principles of the former act were thereby Materially Changed, and the testimony taken before was not in Many cases sufficiently full and specifick to Meet the New order of things, your petitioners together with the recorder were then constituted a New Board to revise and correct all what had been done by the former Board agreeably to the New principles and the Instructions of the president in cases where they could apply; the Commissioners were allowed respectively by the act of the 2^d of March 1805 a sum of \$2000 for their services:—

⁹⁰ *Post*, p. 463.

⁹¹ 2 STAT. 324–329; *Terr. Papers* (Orleans), IX, 408–414.

⁹² See *ante*, XIII, index, under Land Commissioners.

⁹³ *Ante*, XIV, 102–106.

by the act of the 3^d of march 1807 they were allowed at the rate of \$2000 per annum from the first of July 1807 provided that no more than eighteen months be thus allowed, your Petitioners at the expiration of the first eighteen months of their services as a board of revision were very far from having Closed their Business; thus Construing the last recited proviso as it ought to be that is to say as a caution against remissness and unnecessary procrastination, and being conscious that they had Not been remiss in their endeavours to have the Business ended, they Most confidently depended on the Justice of congress and continued their Services expecting that at the Next Session to wit december 1809 a provision would be made for compensating them; they were however disappointed, and when they Might have thought of informing the Secretary of the Treasury that the neglect they were experiencing indused them to resign or at least to discontinue their services, your petitioners received through the recorder a letter from the Secretary of the treasury a certified copy where of is hereto subjoined ⁹⁴ by which they were invited to continue their public duties and trust for future remuneration, your petitioners accordingly continued.—to their utter astonishment a law was passed on the third of march 1811—⁹⁵ nearly one year after varying their compensation in mode and quantity, not only in future but also for the time past, and thus impairing a right to compensation all ready acquired, nevertheless your petitioners being conscious that they had not deserved such a treatment, and trusting that on a fair statement of their case the honorable congress would at all times be willing to redress their grievances; being also persuaded that if they left the Business of the Board in an unfinished state and consequently perplexing for persons not trained and acquainted with its proper course from the Commencement, the interest of the united States Might be Materially injured, they therefore continued their services Notwithstanding all the discouragement presented to them and Closed their Business som time in January 1812—as appears from the date of their report.⁹⁶—your petitioners beg leave to offer a few remarks in support of their Claims, in the first place taking into view the act of the 2^d of march 1807 it appears that \$2000 were expressly intended to be the yearly compensation for the services of the respective Commissioners, and that the proviso of the 9th section of the last recited act was only to operate as a check against remissness or undue procrastination; Neither the honorable con-

⁹⁴ May 5, 1810 (present); printed *ante*, XIV, 404–405, from another source.

⁹⁵ 2 STAT. 662–666.

⁹⁶ Jan. 20, 1812, printed *A.S.P., Pub. Lands*, II, 463–484.

gress Nor your petitioners did or could know the number of Claims that would be entered on record Nor ascertain the Necessary delays to afford a large Number of Claimants dispersed over a vast extent of country, a full opportunity to produce their oral evidence; Neither could they know the difficulty arising from the intricacy of cases or for want of regularity on the part of the Spanish officers in the manner of disposing of land in upper Louisiana, where a spanish fiscal or law Character Never had set his foot, or from want of public documents that Might have been expected; or from the ignorance of a great Many Claimants, who moreover were utterly strangers to the Language used in the united States, and lastly from the reluctance of another Class of Claimants to submit their Claims to officers who acted under a law extreamly unpopular, Notwithstanding repeated advertisements from the Board to Claimants to bring in their testimony or be foreclosed.—it may safely be said that no one could have told whether Such business could have been transacted in one year or four or five more; and from what has been just observed, the commissioners were intended to be compensated by law at the rate of \$2000 per annum, the check intended by the proviso ought not to com into operation but in case the honorable Congress would be satisfied that your petitioners have been lacking of reasonable diligence or industry;—to meet or rebut any Charges that the length of time consumed in transacting these business more than the knowledge of the difficulties and extent of the labour Might have induced superficial observers to make,—your petitioners beg leave to bring into view, in addition to all the circumstances before stated, that by perusing som parts of the report an estimate of the quantity of the written evidence originally in spanish or french and the oral evidence may be made as well as the Number of Claims reported and the explanatory remarks both in the registry and report; that the board has frequently, and specially the two first years, been at loss upon Many questions of law and fact, and under the necessity of applying for information, waiting and postponing occasionally to decide, although allways continuing to receive testimony when offered; it ought also to be considered that every further extension of time for delivering notices and entering Claims at the recorder's office operates and actually is an extension of labour beyond that which had been originally under taken.—your petitioners beg leave to observe that the Clerk, of the Board at which they acted as commissioners, has on petition been allowed by an act of 1812 a full compensation at the rate of the yearly salaries fixed by the act of the 3d march 1807, from the commencement of his services to the close of the Business; they also observe

that by an act of the 29th april 1816⁹⁷ intituled an act for settling the compensation of the commissioners Clerk and translator of the Board for land Claims in the eastern and western districts of the territory of orleans now State of Louisiana, the said commissioners have been allowed respectively at the rate of two thousand dollars per annum during the time they were actually employed in the discharge of their duties;—the case of your petitioners being perfectly similar and having the same equity in it your petitioners therefore pray that the proper accounting officer of the treasury be directed by law to revise settle & adjust their accounts for the compensation of the services aforesaid as land Commissioners at the rate of two thousand dollars per annum from the commencement of their respective services and during the same and to the end of the same deducting from the said allowance what ever sum or sums each of them may have received, and your petitioners will pray &c—

ST LOUIS Missouri territory
october 22d 1818.

JOHN B. C. LUCAS
CLEMENT B PENROSE

[Endorsed] Jn^o B. C. Lucas & Clem^t P. Penrose Dec^r 17. 1819
Ref^d to the Committee on the Pub. Lands⁹⁸ R. Moore.⁹⁹ R. Moore.
5 17. pub L^{ds}

MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS FROM THE MISSOURI BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

[NA:HF, 15 Cong., 2 sess.:DS]

[October 24, 1818]

Memorial, From the Missouri Baptist Association in the Territory of Missouri to the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled.*

Your memorialists, being very sensibly affected, with the deplorable condition, of the various Savage tribes within the limits of the United States, and feeling an ardent desire to see their condition bettered, and them civilized and instructed in the English language,

⁹⁷ 3 STAT. 324.

⁹⁸ *House Journal*, 16 Cong., 1 sess., p. 49. See act approved June 30, 1834 (6 STAT. 594), for the relief of Penrose, then deceased. Apparently similar action was not taken respecting Lucas. See petitions from Penrose, March 1812, *ante*, xiv, 540–541, and Nov. 24, 1820, *post*, p. 675.

⁹⁹ Robert Moore.

*Met at Femme Osage S^t Charles County Oct. 24th 1818—[Footnote on the MS.].

and, finding that there are many and great impediments, which lie in the way of the accomplishment of this desirable object—impediments, some, at least, of which must be removed by the interposition of Government, or remain to be continual clogs upon all the exertions, which may be made by Societies formed for the benevolent purpose of dispelling the wretchedness and gloom, which brood upon these people, and for reforming their condition—have been induced to present a petition to your Honourable Body, praying Congress to adopt such regulations, respecting the Indians, as shall appear best calculated to promote their welfare, and civilization, and give them confidence in our government and its citizens, and an attachment to our manners.

Your Memorialists beg leave, in a particular manner, to call the attention of Congress, to the case of the Indian Traders. These are, generally speaking, men who have no principle but *gain*; and being at a distance from the restraints of civilized manners, they give full scope to their corrupt propensities. For gratifying these, they defraud the Indians of their property, corrupt their morals, debauch their manners, and consequently, increase the wretchedness of those already miserable people, and prejudice their minds against our Government, our citizens, and our manners, and lead them to have the most contemptible ideas of our civilization, and religion.—Your petitioners therefore request, that Congress would establish such regulations, as they may deem best calculated, to secure to the Indians a supply of such articles as they need, by fair and honourable trade, and effectually, to prevent this base and corrupting intercourse, being continued among them. Your petitioners further pray, that Congress would make such provisions and appropriations, for educating the Indians, males and females, in the English language, and instructing them in the useful arts and manners of civilized life, as the importance of the case demands.

Your Memorialists humbly conceive, that, in presenting this petition to Congress, they ask for what will tend ultimately to promote the interest, as well as the honour and peace of our country, and for what will have more effect, than forts and armies, towards promoting the security and welfare of the frontier settlements.

May the living God, the Lord of heaven and earth, bless you; as individuals and as a Body, and direct all your measures to the promotion of the peace and prosperity of our beloved country.

By order of the Ass^o

JAMES E. WELCH Moderator

F R MUSICK Clerk

[*Endorsed*] Baptist association of Missouri Dec^r 16—1818 Ref^d to the Committee on Indian Affairs ¹—M^r Johnson, K. Baptist associateion Missouri territory Civilization of the indians within our Boundary Johnson Ky. 2 16. Indian Aff.

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO DELEGATE SCOTT

[NA:PO, P. M. Letter Book X]

26th Oct 1818

HONB^{le} JOHN SCOTT now at W City

SIR I have the honour to observe in reply to your letter of the 23^d instant ² that I shall send the mail once a week between S^t Genevieve & Potosi and once in two weeks between Potosi and Chariton—The mail will go once in two weeks between, to Franklin & Chariton by S^t Louis and once in two weeks by S^t Genevieve and in those ways, Franklin & Chariton will have a weekly mail

R J MEIGS j

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO WILLIAM HARRISON

[NA:PO, P. M. Letter Book X]

26th Oct 1818

M^r WILLIAM HARRISON Mine au Burton Mo Ty

SIR I wish you to transport the mail once a week between S^t Genevieve & Potosi, and once in two weeks between Potosi & Chariton—we shall double your pay for transporting the mail once in two instead of once in four weeks and add thereto one hundred and fifty dollars for carrying the mail between S^t Genevieve and Chariton—making your annual pay \$1050. I pray you to begin by the 1st of December next.

R J MEIGS j

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO DELEGATE SCOTT

[NA:PO, P. M. Letter Book X]

Oct 30, 1818—

HONBL^e JOHN SCOTT W City

SIR In reply to your letter of the 27th inst ³ I have the honour to observe that the reasons you have urged in support of your request for sending a weekly between St Louis & Howard County are so well founded that I have this day given instruction to the

¹ *House Journal*, 15 Cong., 2 sess., p. 104.

² Not found.

³ Not found.

carrier of the mail on that route to transport the mail once each week on and after the first of next January

R J MEIGS jr

PETITION TO CONGRESS BY INHABITANTS OF
CARONDELET

[NA:HF, 15 Cong., 1 sess.: DS]

[October 30, 1818]

To the Honorable The Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress Assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned, Heads of Families & Inhabitants of the Village of Carondelet in Missouri Territory, respectfully Sheweth,

That, considering the present distressing condition of the people of this Territory, in General, owing to the Non-confirmation of the Greater part of their land claims, on which others are intruding daily, some with recent claims & others without any Claim, Both destroying the timber which is scarce in most places here, & which once destroyed leaves the land of no value, And considering that they themselves, are from the same causes exposed to the like misfortune & final ruin, particularly, from the encroachment of, what is called New Madrid Claims, which certain persons bought located & surveyed in their Commons, in every direction, & even on the Skirts of their village—which being a farming Village cannot exist without said Commons, on which is their whole dependence for Fenceing their Fields, Building timber, inclosing their lots, & fuel, as also range & provender for their Stock throughout the whole year.—They Beg leave to represent to your Honorable body that though their said Commons with those of other villages were confirmed by act of Congress of 13th June 1812, the Quantity is not Specified, Consequently that confirmation is not respected, in the least, by their Opponents

That their said Commons including their Village &c. Contains about 6000 arpens according to the survey made under the Spanish Government (though not recorded) & lately resurveyed by One of the U States's surveyors

That this Six Thousand Arpens are mostly a naked barren containing only some Groves of wood dispersed over its surface, & does not amount to more than Eleven or Twelve arpens for each person in said village & that, not more than three persons of their number owns one arpent of Land anywhere else—That the peaceable possession of Said Commons decended to them from their forefathers who settled said village & used said Commons at the risk

of their Lives & the Expense of their Blood and at an early Period when none could settle in safety on separate farms owing to the depredations of the then numerous Tribes of Indians Inhabiting this Country—That though (owing to their neglect) they did not procure a formal Title to said Commons, their right to it was tacitly acknowledged & allowed by the former Government who in fact gave to them a Concession for it, & though the manner of wording that Concession is rather obscure, those who knows their situation understands its meaning—even by right of Prescription, it was considered as their rightful property, of which, should they now be deprived; them & their Families must Perish having no other resource left, as their lots & fields would be totally useless without the Commons—They know that at this day a Considerable number of persons of high standing & influence are averse to their Claim as well as to that of the ancient inhabitants in general, but this opposition does not deter them from appealing to the Fountain of Justice; believing that though that Justice has been long delayed, it still exists in its full vigor & will soon be extended to them & their fellow sufferers, By your Honorable Body whose Paternal Protection they Solicit with full confidence that you will not throw them out on the world & expose them & their little ones to misery & want.

Under this pleasing impression they make this their last appeal to you, Fathers of your Country, that you may be pleased to grant to them such relief as in your wisdom & goodness you may think proper.—And Your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever Pray

CARONDELET 30th Oct^r Year of Grace 1818

Alexis Marié
Jean Paulet
Nicolas Gais
Jean Daniel Levy
George ^{his} x Shultz
Antoine ^{mark} x Motié
Francois x Lemay
Amable x Chartrant Sen^r
Eneas x Bucher
Louis x Valle
Henrie Choquette
Louis x Menard Sen^r
J. B^{te} x Lambert
Jaque x Mayot
Charles Robert
Michel Tesson
Traget Delore
Madame x Widow Marichal
Eneas Tayon
Benoit x Marichal

Joseph x Denoyer
Francois x Gautier
Louis x Goulard
Paul x Portneuf
Peirre x Chennete
Pierre x Villerie
Hycinthe x Pigeon
Louis x Menard Jun^r
Pascal x Mallet
Antoine Choquette
Pierre x Mallet
Gabriel x Huno
Louis x Denoyer
Thomas x Chartrant
Louis x Moitie
Jⁿ B^{te} Mayez
Charles x Vallé
Charles Marie x Matez
Johan Eugene Leitensdorfer
Francois x Roy
Ant^e Dorval

Bap ^{te} x Marechal	Dominique x Portneuf
Jacque x Bruné	Aug ^{te} Gamache Jun ^r
Peter x Shultz	J ^s x Champeaux
Abraham x Barrie	Louis x Tolivette
Joseph x Lemay	Louis x Guion
Peter House	Hebert x Dessommette
Aug ^{te} x Bourboné	Antoin Barada Jun ^r
Charles x Mayville	Peter Barada
Francois x Bucher	Lewis Barada
Bapt ^e x Menard	Henrie Roy
Joseph x Menard	John Balley
Auguste x Gamache	Julian Mercié
Pierre x Marié	John Shultz
Gabriel x Constant Jun ^r	Abr ^m haas
Francois x Turnié	Gabriel Constant
Leon x Constant	M ^{rs} Widow x Buchanan
Francois x Denoyer	Laben x Marié
Paul x Robert Sen ^r	Ant ^e x Barada Sen ^r
Ant ^e x Robert	Mad ^m Widow x Delore
Augustin x Dubé	Geo ^e Buchannan
Paul x Robert Jun ^r	

[*Endorsed*] Missouri Petition of Inhabitants of Carondelette praying the Confirmation and designation of their Common & to prevent intrusions and waste of timber, also to prevent the Land being taken under New Madrid Locations Dec^r 14.—1818 Ref^a to Com. Whole House on Bill for adjusting land claims in Louisiana & Missouri Scott—T. 14 Com who on bill on subject.⁴

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO URIAH J. DEVORE

[NA:PO, P. M. Letter Book X]

30 Oct. 1818

URIAH J DEVERE S^t Charles Missou

SIR I wish you from the first of January next to transport the mail now confided to you once each week instead of once in two weeks for so doing your pay shall be doubled—a rigid observance of your contract is indispensable—the mail must be punctually carried at all hazards

R J MEIGS j

⁴*House Journal*, 15 Cong., 2 sess., pp. 89–90. See the Secretary of the Treasury to Speaker Clay, Dec. 7, 1818 (*A.S.P., Pub. Lands*, III, 392–393), embodying a reply to a resolution of the House, Apr. 16, 1818, instructing Secretary Crawford to report a plan for the final adjustment and settlement of land claims in the State of Louisiana and Missouri Territory. This letter contains a review of the land claims question under various laws, and enclosed with it is a draft of a proposed bill, *ibid.*, pp. 393–394. Cf. with act as approved Mar. 3, 1819 (3 STAT. 517).

GOVERNOR CLARK TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

[NA:OIA, SW, Lets. Recd.:LS¹]St LOUIS *October 1818.*

SIR, In compliance with the wishes of Government, as expressed in your letter of the 8th of May,⁶ I have with much difficulty succeeded in bringing about a peace between the Osages and Cherokees.

As it was thought by both parties that no treaty they could make would be considered as reciprocally binding upon them, unless it should be ratified and confirmed in my presence, I invited both Tribes to send a deputation of Eight or ten of their principal Men to meet in council at this place. The Osage Chiefs, and considerable men (to the number of about Sixty) arrived Early last month, and have waited the Coming of the Cherokees, which was not untill last week.

Their conferences resulted in a Solemn treaty, a Copy of which I have the honor herewith to forward.⁷

Finding the Osages willing to pay for the property which they have taken, to a very considerable amount from the Citizens of this Territory; and knowing the views of the Government on the Subject of indian emigration to the West of the Mississippi, finding too that it was the intention of the cherokees to demand of the Osages the Country West of their Settlements, on the Arkansas, which the Osages were determined not to cede to them, and believing the Shawnees may be induced to Exchange their lands in Cape Girardeau for lands on the Arkansaw & White River, I thought it advisable to enter into a treaty by which the Osages have ceded to the United States, the country North of Arkansas from their old boundary line, to the three forks, with a width of Sixty Miles, which will include a large body of very fine land.—The Treaty is likewise herewith enclosed.⁸

The Osages have determined to unite themselves in One Village, and have requested M^r Peter Chouteau may be reappointed their

¹ Printed also in *A.S.P., Ind. Affairs*, II, 179.

⁶ *Ante*, p. 390.

⁷ Not present.

⁸ The Osage treaty was concluded at St. Louis by Clark on Sept. 25, 1818. The original MS. text is in NA (SD, Indian treaties), and is printed, 7 STAT. 183-184; *A.S.P., op. cit.*, pp. 167-168; Kappler (ed.), *Indian Treaties*, II, 167-168. It was proclaimed by the President, Jan. 7, 1819. The territory ceded, lying within the present States of Arkansas and Oklahoma, is exemplified in Royce, *Indian Land Cessions*, maps 5 and 21, cession designation 97.

Agent.—Mr Chouteau has certainly more influence with that nation, than any other person, and if the Agency should be reestablished (which I would strongly recommend) it would perhaps be well to gratify their wishes.—They complain of the mode in which they have received their Annuities from the Factor at Fort Osage, and desire that they may for the future be delivered to them unopened at their Village on the Osage River. The request is certainly a reasonable one, and if they unite themselves into one Village, (which I have advised from a wish to bring them more under the eye and Superintendence of the Agent and the control of the Government) it perhaps be well to remove their blacksmith to the spot they select for their village, which will tend to unite them, as much as any other indulgence that could be extended.

Mr O'Fallon the Agent for the Missouri Tribes has been instructed to sound them on the Subject of ceding a portion of their lands (in conformity with the wishes of the government communicated in a letter received from Major Vanderverter of the 29th June 1818.⁹—On this subject I have written to Gov^r Cass ¹⁰ who is authorised to treat with the Indians of Ohio, and Michigan, and have informed him of the late treaty with the Quawpas from whom a Cession has been obtained of near Thirty Million of Acres.¹¹ This together with the cession now made by the Osages, places an immense Country at the disposal of the United States.

It is the wish of the indians that the lines of the late cession, as also those of the Cherokee lands on the Arkansaw, may be run, and marked as soon as possible, and the Whites moved off, and prevented from settling upon the lands sett apart for them.

The Osage deputation left this yesterday, and the Cherokees will follow in a few days—both parties apparently much pleased with the arrangements that have been entered into.

Enclosed I send you a communication from the Shawnees and Delawares who reside within our Settlements near the Mississippi, by which you will be apprised of their wishes in regard to an Exchange of Country &c.¹²

I have the honor to be with the highest respect, Your ob^t Servt.

W^m CLARK

THE HONB^l JOHN C. CALHOUN Sect^{ry} of War

⁹ NA (OIA, SW, Lets. Sent, Bk. D).

¹⁰ Not found.

¹¹ See *ante*, p. 406.

¹² Not present.

JOSIAH MEIGS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

[NA:GLO, Misc. Lets. Sent, Bk. 8]

GENERAL LAND OFFICE *November 5 1818.*HON: W H CRAWFORD Sec^y of the Treasury

SIR, In preparing the Tickets for the Lottery for Mili^y bounty Lands north of the River Missouri, there is found to be about 2,100 Tickets, equal to 326,000 Acres—The tract selected by the President for Bounties, contains 552,000 Acres & the deficiency of Tickets has arisen partly from throwing out the lots that are reported as unfit for Cultivation, but chiefly from the irregularity of the Surveys which have made the lots either too large or too small. Hitherto lots have not been put into the Lottery that have a greater deficiency or excess than 5 Acres. Should a further selection of Bounties be necessary, you will please to mark the Selection on the enclosed Map.

I am &c.

J M.

WILLIAM RECTOR TO JOSIAH MEIGS

[NA:GLO, Mo. SG, Lets. Recd., 1816-1822: LS]

Surveyors office for the Territories of Illinois
& Missouri S^t LOUIS *Nov^r 9th 1818*

SIR The following is an estimate of the Surveying to be done, and which is believed ought to be done in these Territories from the present time to the end of the year 1819 and the expence of doing the business

First in the County of Arkansas in the Missouri Territory	
Base and Standard lines	say 600 miles
Indian boundary lines	say 150 miles
Exterior boundary lines of 100 Townships . .	1200 D ^o
Subdivisional Sectional lines of 80 Townships .	4800 do
	<hr/> 6750 miles

Second—About 47 townships to be laid off and Subdivided North of the Missouri River East of and adjoining the Osage boundary line See the Sketch	3384 miles
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Third About 30 Townships above the present Surveys on the Mississippi River See the Sketch (Missouri Territory)	2160 miles
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Fourth—About 20 Townships in the County of Cape Girardeau so as to embrace the ballance of the Confirmed Claims	1440 miles
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