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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING

The annual report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

DECEMBER 18, 1848.

Laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
December 13, 1848.

SIR: I respectfully submit herewith a report to this department, from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, with the accompanying documents, exhibiting the operations of that branch of the public service during the past year.

Among other valuable suggestions contained in the very able report of the Commissioner, will be found a recommendation of the grant by Congress, as the local legislature of the District of Columbia, of the public lots within its limits, as also a portion of the public domain, for the establishment of a system of common schools within the District.

A system of schools here, to be really public, must present adequate accommodations for the whole number of children of suitable age within the District, and with a character of education so superior to that attainable in any other school within its limits, that all the citizens would prefer to have their children instructed at such institutions, free of all charge whatever. Such a system now exists in New England, Pennsylvania, and New York, and is being extended to other States, with new and improved modes of organization and instruction.

The system of public schools, so indispensable to the continued

success and progress of our free institutions, was first introduced into general and diffusive use by the people of this country, and especially of New England, and may be regarded as among the highest moral achievements ever accomplished by man. Such a system, from the scattered population of this District and city, not being an emporium of commerce or manufactures, possessing great intelligence, but accompanied with but little wealth, and with a comparatively small population, could not be put in operation here without the aid of Congress. Where a perfect system cannot be established, and the public schools are not the best in the place, it leads to a separation of the children of the more wealthy from those less favored by fortune, during the important period of youth and education, creating a want of sympathy, and a distinction between them, which too often continues through life. The children of all the citizens should meet on the same footing of perfect equality in the district school rooms; and no matter what might be their different fate in future life, they should all commence their career with the same fund in that treasury of knowledge which is subject neither to bankruptcy nor decay. There are assembled at this seat of government, to conduct all its important operations, our legislative, executive, and judicial functionaries; and they should be surrounded here by a population reflecting the lights of science, of knowledge, and of education. Those who visit this city from abroad, and especially the representatives of the great nations of the earth residing here, often judge of our country by what is observed by them within the limited sphere of this District, and form opinions as regards our government and people, which are communicated abroad, and if these are unfavorable, retard the happy influence of our country in extending by its example our free institutions throughout the earth. Pecuniary means only are wanting to establish here such a system, which could be abundantly supplied in the mode designated in the accompanying report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, whose enlightened and comprehensive views on this most important subject I earnestly recommend to the favorable consideration of Congress.

I am, very respectfully, &c.,

R. J. WALKER,

Secretary of the Treasury.

HON. ROBERT C. WINTHROP,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,

November 30, 1848.

SIR: As preliminary to details of the annual operations and views of the land department of the government respecting the disposal of the public lands, the recent large accessions to it suggest the propriety of some reference to its locality and area.

"The public domain," in which the general government possesses a proprietary interest, lies within the limits of twelve of the sovereign States of the American Union, to wit: Ohio, Indiana,

Illinois, Missouri, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Michigan, Arkansas, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Florida, and in the following territories, viz:

In the territory north and west of the Mississippi river, and east of the Rocky mountains, bounded on the north by the 49th degree of north latitude, east by the Mississippi river, south by the State of Iowa and Platte river, and west by the Rocky mountains; in the residue of the northwestern territory, east of the Mississippi river, and northwest of Wisconsin; in the Indian territory, east of the States of Missouri and Arkansas, and south of the Platte river, and in the territories of Oregon, Upper California, and New Mexico.

This domain, by *estimate*, covers, according to exhibit No. 1, herewith, fifteen hundred and eighty-four millions two hundred and forty-three thousand two hundred acres; of which, up to the 30th September last, about one hundred and forty-two millions twenty-six thousand and three acres had been sold or otherwise disposed of, leaving then unsold fourteen hundred and forty-two millions two hundred and seventeen thousand one hundred and ninety-seven acres.

It consists in the new, and part of the old territories, of large connected bodies of land, and in the old *land* States, and part of the old territories, of hundreds of thousands of small detached and scattered tracts or parcels, the whole being comprised within about the 25th and 49th degrees of north latitude, and about the 80th and 124th degrees of longitude, west from Greenwich.

Here, indeed, we have a magnificent estate, which cannot fail under proper management of being a rich and continued source of national revenue for generations to come, whilst under the liberal and generous policy of our government it invites, in terms almost nominal, the inhabitants of every clime, who seek citizenship in our republic, to a home for themselves and families of independence and comfort, in climates of every temperature, with soils abounding in varied wealth, agricultural and mineral, and of exhaustless fertility.

In submitting this report of the operations of this branch of the public service, for the year 1847, and the first three quarters of the year 1848, the first matter in *detail* which engages attention is:

1. THE SURVEY AND DISPOSAL OF THE PUBLIC LANDS.

Ohio.—The whole of the public lands in this State, which contains an area of 39,964 square miles, or 25,576,960 acres, have been surveyed, and the township plats returned to this office and the respective district land offices. The books, plats, field notes, &c., appertaining to the surveys therein, have been transferred to the proper authorities of the State, under acts of 12th June, 1840, and 3d March, 1845, and that part of the business of the surveyor general's office, northwest of the Ohio, relating to surveys, &c., in this State, entirely closed up. The land districts have been consolidated, from time to time, as the sales have progressed, until the number of the local land offices has been reduced to two, one of which is located at Chillicothe and the other at Defiance. All the lands

have been proclaimed and offered at public sale; and there still remain of the public lands to be disposed of in this State, as near as can be ascertained, about 875,465 acres.

Indiana.—In this State, having an area of 33,809 square miles, or 21,637,760 acres, the whole of the public lands have been surveyed, and the township plats returned to this and the district land offices. The surveys in this State having been finished, the surveyor general has been instructed to have the plats, field notes, &c., pertaining to those surveys completed, and transferred to the authorities of the State by, or before, the 30th June next, as required by the acts of 12th June, 1840, and 3d March, 1845. The surveyor general reports that he will be able to comply with those instructions; consequently, after that shall have been done, the authority of the surveyor general northwest of the Ohio will be restricted to the State of Michigan. All the public lands in this State have also been proclaimed and offered at public sale; and of those lands about 3,572,645 acres remain unsold and undisposed of.

Illinois.—The area of this State is 55,405 square miles, or 35,459,200 acres. The whole of the public lands have been surveyed, and the plats returned to the district land offices, with the exception of a few detached tracts, all of which will be completed, however, together with the plats, records, &c., connected therewith, under instructions from this office, and the latter turned over to the authorities of the State by the 30th of June next, or as soon thereafter as practicable, as required by the act of 12th June, 1840. All the lands which have been surveyed have been proclaimed and offered at public sale; and there still remain 15,693,076 acres of public lands in this State to be sold, or disposed of.

Michigan.—In this State, having an area of 56,243 square miles or 35,995,520 acres, the surveys have been executed, and plats returned to this office and the district land offices of 28,177,185 acres; and of the remainder, it is estimated that 1,478,400 acres will be surveyed, and the plats returned during the ensuing year. With the exception of about 529,000 acres in the southern peninsula, all the lands remaining to be surveyed in Michigan are in the upper peninsula. Of the public lands in this State, it is estimated that there are remaining to be sold, or disposed of, about 25,097,296 acres.

Wisconsin.—It is estimated that there is contained within the boundaries of this State an area of 53,924 square miles, or 34,511,360 acres. Of this area, 14,352,879 acres have been surveyed, and the plats returned to this and the district land offices; and of the remainder, it is estimated that 1,344,000 acres will be surveyed, and the plats returned during the next year. All the lands in this State, the plats of which were received in time, have been proclaimed and offered at public sale; and 28,863,763 acres still remain unsold and undisposed of.

Iowa.—The boundaries of this State include 50,915 square miles,

or 32,584,960 acres. Of these 14,803,386 acres have been surveyed, and the plats returned; and of the balance, 2,240,000 acres, it is expected, will be surveyed, and the plats returned in the ensuing year. Of the lands in this State which have been prepared for market, and not yet offered at public sale, the greater part are situated between Brown's and Sullivan's line, and will not, of course, be offered till the question of boundary between Missouri and Iowa, now pending before the Supreme Court of the United States, shall have been definitively settled. Of the public lands in this State, adopting Sullivan's line as the south boundary, 29,868,038 acres remain unsold and undisposed of.

Missouri.—In this State, with an area of 67,380 square miles, or 43,123,200 acres, 41,486,437 acres have been surveyed, and the plats returned to this office and to the offices of the respective land districts. Of the remainder, it is estimated that 1,200,000 acres will be surveyed, and the plats returned during the next year; and if it be determined that Sullivan's line is the northern boundary, those returns will nearly close the surveys in this State. All the disposable land which has been surveyed has been proclaimed and offered at public sale; and, adopting Sullivan's line as the northern boundary, there are 29,766,740 acres of public lands remaining unsold and undisposed of.

Arkansas.—The surveys of the whole of the public lands in this State, the area of which is 52,198 square miles, or 33,406,720 acres, have been executed, or are in process of being completed; and the plats of nearly all those lands have been returned to this and the district land offices. Under instructions from this office, the surveyor general is closing up the business of his district, and by the 30th of June next the whole of the surveys will be finished, the maps, field notes, &c., pertaining to these surveys, will be completed and turned over to the authorities of the State, as required by the act of 12th of June, 1840. All the disposable public lands in this State, the plats of which were received in time, have been proclaimed and offered at public sale; and it is expected that the next proclamation will embrace all the residue that can be brought into market. Of these lands, 27,669,207 acres remain unsold and undisposed of.

Louisiana.—The area of this State is 46,431 square miles, or 29,715,840 acres. Of these, 20,343,442 acres have been surveyed, and the plats returned to the proper land offices and to this office; and of the balance, it is expected that 336,000 acres of new lands will be surveyed, and the plats returned during the next year. Great and peculiar difficulties have surrounded the surveys in this State, and prevented their early completion. Most of those made at an early period were very defective; owing, as appears from their history, to the inadequacy of the price then paid for that service; many were fraudulent, and others, owing to the intricacy of the boundaries and the vagueness of locality, were either not surveyed, or so executed that no confidence could be reposed in them. This was peculiarly the case in the Greensburg district,

and finally led to the passage of the act of 29th August, 1842, directing a re-survey of the whole of the lands in that district. That work has been carried on as rapidly as the peculiar circumstances of the case would admit, and is now speedily drawing to a conclusion. Numerous re-surveys have also been required and executed in the other districts, and many still remain to be done. It is expected, however, that by a careful and judicious investigation, both by the surveyor general and this office, where re-surveys appear to be required, and by the adoption of a system for completing the surveys and locations of private claims in all such cases, that the difficulties and embarrassments which exist will finally and speedily be overcome. Nearly a million of acres which have been surveyed in this State have not been offered at public sale, for the reason that some of them are interfered with by private claims, and others are reported as erroneous or fraudulent surveys. These difficulties will be removed as speedily as practicable, and in all cases that will admit of it, the lands will be brought into market. Of the public lands in this State, surveyed and unsurveyed, there remain 23,677,775 acres yet to be disposed of.

Mississippi.—In this State, having an area of 47,147 square miles, or 30,174,080 acres, the whole of the public lands have been surveyed and brought into market, and the plats returned to this office and the respective district land offices. Numerous retracings and re-surveys have also been made, to locate private claims, supply lost field notes, and correct erroneous surveys. The surveyor general of this State has been instructed to finish all the surveys and re-surveys now on hand, and to complete the plats, field notes, &c., connected with the surveys, that they may be turned over to the authorities of the State, as required by the act of 12th June, 1840, by the 30th June next. He has assured this office of his determination to comply with those instructions, but at the same time suggests that this course may be prejudicial to the interests of the owners of some of the private claims which have not yet been located. The difficulties suggested in this case can easily be remedied by the passage of an act, rendered absolutely necessary by the closing of these offices, and which will be considered and explained in a subsequent part of this report. Of the public lands in this State, 11,815,040 acres remain unsold and undisposed of.

Alabama.—The lands in this State, the area of which is 50,722 square miles, or 32,462,080 acres, have all been surveyed, or are in process of completion; the plats have been returned to this office and the district land offices, and, as far as available, the lands embraced by them have been proclaimed and offered at public sale. Numerous re-surveys have been made in this State, to supply the field notes, which were unfortunately destroyed by a fire which consumed the office of the surveyor general, with many of the records. The surveyor general has been instructed to complete the business of his office, and to prepare the plats, field notes, &c., connected with the surveys, to be turned over to the authorities of the State

by the 30th June next, as required by the act of 12th June, 1840. Of the public lands in this State, 17,516,346 acres remain the property of the government, and are subject to be sold, or otherwise disposed of.

Florida.—The area of this State is 59,268 square miles, or 37,931,520 acres. Of these 15,032,052 acres have been surveyed, and the plats returned to the respective land offices, and to this office; and, during the ensuing year, it is expected that the surveys will be executed, and the plats returned, of 2,240,000 acres more. As far as practicable the lands, the surveys of which have been completed and returned, have been proclaimed and offered at public sale, and there now remain, the property of the government, and subject to be disposed of, 36,137,137 acres, including those which have not been surveyed.

In view of the numerous difficulties which have surrounded the location of private claims in this State, and to which the attention of Congress has been frequently called, that body, on the 28th June, 1848, passed an act authorizing this office to cause to be surveyed such of those private claims or grants as had been duly confirmed; said surveys to be made by such persons, and on such terms, as might be deemed most expedient and proper; the price, however, not to exceed twenty-five per cent. on the maximum price per mile heretofore allowed by the United States in other States or territories, in addition to such price.

As the regular duties of the surveyor general of Florida are very onerous, and occupy the whole of his time and attention, and as this law clearly contemplated the execution of these surveys by persons selected by this office, under a personal superintendence and direction which could not, consequently, be given by that officer, deputies of known ability and experience were selected for this service, and, with your approbation, placed under the direction of a gentleman highly recommended as every way qualified to discharge this duty. All the persons employed on this service entered into bond, with approved security, for the faithful performance of the trust reposed in them; and with instructions full and minute on all points, have departed for the field of their operations. The object of those instructions was to secure the location of those claims, as nearly as possible, in accordance with the terms of the original grant, and according to the confirmation, and to secure to the owners of those claims the lands which they had improved and occupied as their own under these grants; and, by commencing operations in the northern part of the State, locating all the grants practicable, as they advanced, and progressing south, that the whole should be finally completed as speedily and perfectly as possible. As this work has to be done under the personal direction and supervision of the superintendent, who has been required to inform himself thoroughly of the character and location of each grant, from the records of the surveyor general's office, and those of the late keepers of the archives, it is hoped that all questions in relation to those locations will forever be put at rest, and

this serious difficulty to the sale of the lands, and the settlement of the State, be finally removed. When settlers can purchase the rich and valuable lands of this State, yielding all the fruits of the tropics in the greatest abundance, and specially adapted to the cultivation of sugar, cotton, and tobacco, with a certainty that their titles will not in after times be disputed, we may look forward to a rapid disposal of those lands, and the consequent settlement of the State. The gentlemen entrusted with these duties have not, as yet, been able to make any reports of their progress, owing to the time that was required, after the appropriation was made for this service, to prepare their instructions, and start them for the field, and the additional time necessary to procure the facts and evidence which must form the basis of their operations.

By the same act, this office was authorized and directed to cause to be surveyed, as soon as practicable, the islands and keys, and other lands in south Florida, interspersed with water, which cannot conveniently be connected with the regular public surveys; the price for this service being limited to the maximum price per mile heretofore allowed for surveys by the United States in other States and territories.

On a full examination of this matter, and on conference with you, in view of the fact that these islands, keys, and lands interspersed with water would have to be surveyed at an unusual expense for vessels and other conveniences, not required in the ordinary linear surveys; that the officers of the United States coast survey possessed all these facilities, and were required by law to make all these surveys in the discharge of the duties imposed upon them, except such lines as might be necessary to divide these lands into tracts of suitable size for sale; that under these circumstances the employment of deputies to make those surveys would involve the execution of the work twice over, and consequently a double expenditure of the public money, it was deemed most expedient and economical to entrust this duty to the coast survey, more especially as Professor Bache, the gentleman having charge of that service, was willing to detail a part of his force for that duty immediately, and by every means in his power to advance the views of Congress, and of this office, in this matter. Hence this course has been taken, and the proper instructions have been issued as to the preparation of these lands for market.

From the previous statements it will be perceived that the surveys have been closed, or are in process of completion, in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Arkansas, Mississippi and Alabama; that the plats, field notes, &c. connected with the surveys, have been turned over to the authorities of the State, as directed by the act of 12th June, 1840, in the case of Ohio, and will be in all the others by the 30th June next, or as soon thereafter as practicable. In all these cases the governors of the States have been requested to make the necessary arrangements for the reception of those archives by the 30th June next, when the surveyors general have been instructed to turn them over:

It is but justice to the surveyors general to state that they have ably carried out the views of Congress and of this office, in pressing:

on the surveys of the public lands and the location of private claims, as rapidly and economically as the means placed at their disposal would permit; and further, it is believed, that in general those surveys have been executed more faithfully and correctly than in some former years. This course has already almost or entirely completed the surveys in six of the States, and is rapidly drawing to a close those in Michigan, Missouri, and Florida. As vast bodies of land in most of these States still remain undisposed of, and as sub-divisions are frequently required, sometimes retracings, to supply lines and corners which have been obliterated by time or accident, it becomes a matter of manifest necessity that the powers which have been exercised by the surveyors general should be devolved on some other officer, where the archives connected with the surveys have been turned over to the States, and the office of surveyor general shall consequently be abolished. Although the labors of the Commissioner of this office are already sufficiently arduous, still it would seem that that is the proper office to which to attach these duties, when they are no longer exercised by the surveyors general, and I would therefore respectfully recommend that the necessary legislation be had for that purpose.

Early last summer, Messrs. Owen and Jackson, the geologists appointed under the acts of 1st and 3d March, 1847, to make a geological survey and exploration of the copper regions of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Iowa, were despatched to the field of their operations, with instructions to close their explorations this year. From letters received from these gentlemen, it would appear that they have extended their observations over a large portion of the districts assigned them, and I have no doubt that the result of their labors will be highly interesting to the cause of science. They have not, however, quite completed their labors, and I would respectfully recommend that they be authorized to complete their explorations during the ensuing season. No appropriation has been asked for this service, however, as it is believed that the funds already provided are sufficient for the purpose. Should it be found, on further examination, that there is a small deficiency, it will be made the subject of a special report. The synopses of these gentlemen, as far as received, are attached to, and form part of this report.

As intimately connected with this matter, I would here recommend the establishment of a surveyor general's office for Oregon, of a commission to adjudicate and determine the private claims in California and New Mexico, and subsequently the establishment of a surveyor general's office there also; and the extension of our system of surveying over those territories, and over that of Nebraska also. The expediency and advantages of this course are set forth more fully, and in detail, under the head of private land claims.

The necessary instructions have been issued to the surveyors general of Arkansas and Missouri, to close the surveys in those States, respectively, on the line established as the boundary between them by the act of 15th February, 1848.

The evidence in this office, that the main channel of the Missis-

sippi was on the east side of Wolf island, being considered clear and conclusive, that being the broader channel, discharging more water, and being more generally used, it has been concluded, as no action has been had on the matter by Congress, to consider that island as part of Missouri; and, in justice to the claimants, to issue the patents for the entries and locations made upon it as part of the public domain, leaving the final question of title to be determined by the courts, if it should ever be disputed.

The question of the boundary between Missouri and Iowa is still pending before the Supreme Court; and in relation to those between Arkansas and Louisiana, and between Georgia and Florida, no action has yet been had by Congress. It is highly important, for the reasons heretofore given, that these questions should be speedily and finally determined—especially that between Arkansas and Louisiana, as the office of the surveyor general in the former district is about being closed.

The necessary instructions have been issued to the surveyor general of Florida to have the quarter section surveyed which was granted by the act of 25th July, 1848, for the county site of Hillsborough county, in the State of Florida. The work has been ordered by the surveyor general, and the return of the survey is expected at an early day.

2. PRIVATE LAND CLAIMS.

In my last annual communication I had the honor to advert to difficulties which existed, particularly in Florida, in locating and surveying titles of this class, on account of the data on which they were founded being often meagre and too vague to fix the precise localities, and where claimants had failed to furnish such information to the surveyors as would enable them to trace out and establish their boundaries.

Such obstacles, to a greater or less extent, are inseparable from the very nature of this numerous class of ancient titles, which, in fact, of themselves, constitute a *system*, gradually formed, under the operation of early and successive acts of Congress, which have been passed pursuant to treaty stipulations, in order to respect and carry out, in good faith, the intentions of Spain, France, and Great Britain, in regard to rights, inceptive and mature, which had originated under the laws, customs, and usages of colonies, once the territories of those transatlantic sovereignties.

These claims, of various forms and size, in the different States where the public domain lies, are scattered over the regular public land surveying system, and present to the eye the principal deviations from its simplicity and uniformity.

In their wide range, and irregular course, they serve to show the progress of the early settlements, and advance of civilization, and where still held in continued possession by the descendants or legal representatives of the original owners, whose rights have been recognized by laws of the United States. There can be but little difficulty in ascertaining, and severing from the public lands,

such private properly, which justice and national good faith require should be scrupulously respected and recognized by the United States survey and patent.

But where the possession is not continued, or other impediments exist in ascertaining the precise limits of such claims, the interest of the government, and sound policy, demand that in cases falling in this category, (which, from the designation of their general locality, are susceptible of location,) that the department be empowered by law to order the location of them according to the lines of the public surveys, and so as to include the ancient settlements, or improvements, where they can be ascertained; and, further, that, where such locations are made, they shall be held forever binding upon the claimants, unless, within one year from the date of the approval of the survey, the parties shall satisfactorily show the location to be erroneous, and in prejudice of their rights as heretofore recognized by law; in which event, it is proposed that the department be authorized to order a new final location and survey.

Besides the numerous titles which are embraced in the various reports of the boards of the United States land commissioners, and which have been recognized by act of Congress, or confirmed by decrees of court, individual cases are appearing by petition, at almost every session of Congress, seeking confirmation; and our statute books show that numerous similar cases, from time to time, have been affirmed by special enactment.

In order to quiet titles, and avoid as far as possible conflict hereafter between claimants under such ancient titles and purchasers from the United States, it is further proposed, in respect to claims unconditionally confirmed, which have been already surveyed and found to be interfered with by sales or other junior titles, that authority by law be conferred on the department to order, upon the assent of the confirmer; or his legal representatives, the area of interference to be located on other lands subject to private entry in the States in which the original claim was situated, and to carry such interfering sale, if regular in other respects, into patent. And in reference to cases which have not been heretofore actually located or surveyed, and where the claimant has failed to give such notice to the local land office as will show the location of such claim in connexion with the public surveys, any sale which may have been, or may be made by the United States prior to such notice, when given, and when not given, prior to the return of survey to the local office, shall, when regular in other respects, be carried into patent, and the confirmer or his legal representatives, allowed the area in other lands subject to private entry.

There is also a class of private claims in Louisiana, principally found in the report dated 1st January, 1821, of Daniel J. Sutton, former register of the district north of Red river, and a few in Samuel H. Harper's report of that year for the southeastern district, about forty-nine in number, and covering eighty thousand some hundred acres, which are confirmed by an act of Congress, approved 28th February, 1823, but were suspended after their con-

firmation, for the reason that the title papers on which they were founded were suspected to be fraudulent.

This matter was adverted to in reports from this office shortly after the confirmation, and subsequently, but no legislative action in the premises has since been had, and the confirmatory statute remains unrepealed. As a quarter of a century has elapsed since they were confirmed, it is reasonable to presume that the most, if not all of them, have passed into the hands of innocent purchasers who are now the claimants.

In order, therefore, to relieve this matter from its present and from future embarrassment, it is respectfully submitted for the consideration of Congress, whether it would not be proper to empower the department by law to institute an examination into those suspected cases, and where it is ascertained that a claim is in the hands of an innocent party, and it has been actually located and surveyed, and is not interfered with by any adverse claim in virtue of a sale, confirmation, or pre-emption right prior to such survey, that the department be authorized to direct the survey to be approved, and issue a relinquishment or quit claim patent to the claimant; and further, that in any of the suspected class, not yet surveyed, but susceptible of a proper location, that the department be further authorized to order a survey, which survey shall be approved, subject, however, to any regular sale, previously made to any prior location of a recognized claim, and to any pre-emption right which has been filed with the register or receiver, and which may be found regular in other respects; and that the patents in all such cases be issued with a saving clause, so that the question of title, if desired by any of the parties, may be ultimately tested by judicial investigation.

It is deemed proper to invite attention to the in-lots and out-lots of the present village of *Sault Ste. Marie*, situated in the northern frontier of the Union, on the waters between Lake Superior and Lake Huron, and to suggest that legislative action be had, with a view to the alienation on liberal terms to actual settlers, of the title of the United States to such lots as may not be required for military or other public purposes; the lines of the public surveys having been expended up to that region, and a United States land office there opened for the sale of the public lands in that part of the country.

To effect this object it is proposed that authority of law be conferred on the department to have an actual survey made of the village of *Sault Ste. Marie*, or if there be an existing accurate survey of it to have the same retraced, in connexion with the lines of the public surveys, and upon a map of the same to have first exhibited such lots or tracts as may be required by the War Department for military or other public purposes; then to direct an examination and report by the register and receiver of the claims of all actual bona fide settlers, who have built upon and improved any of the said lots, or parts of the same, discriminating between those holding under the old claims, which were acted upon by the board of commissioners, under the act of 21st February, 1823, and entered

in "Book No. 7," of the proceedings of the commissioners on claims at the Sault Ste. Marie, (State Papers, D. Green, volume four, pages 830 to 842,) and such actual settlers as are of a more recent date. Then to have an assessment of the value of such lots, at the time of settlement, and of the price that should be paid for the same; and upon the approval by the department of such survey and report, each settler who may pay _____ to the receiver, within a limited time, the amount of assessment, to be entitled to receive a patent for his lot. All the vacant lots to be exposed to the highest bidder, and those not sold to be disposed of at a reasonable minimum at private entry. The money accruing from the sale of improved lots to be applied to defray the expense of such survey, and the balance paid over to the trustees of the village for the erection of public buildings, &c. A measure like this would quiet titles, quicken the growth and improvement of the place, which may and probably will become, before many years, an important commercial point, inviting emigration to that section of country, and leading to an actual and speedy sale and settlement of the public lands in that region, and to the development of the agricultural and rich mineral resources, already known to exist in that interesting portion of our country. In connexion with this matter, it is proper to observe, that there is a large claim at the Sault Ste. Marie, for six leagues front on the river and six leagues in depth, which claim originated in 1750, in a concession by Lejonquiere, the lieutenant governor general, and Bijot, the intendant general of New France, and is represented to have been ratified by Louis XV., on the 24th June, 1751. This claim, however, at the last session, was before a committee of the Senate, who made an elaborate report against its validity.—(Senate Report No. 209, 1st session, 30th Congress.)

By a proviso in the act of Congress, approved 27th March last, entitled "an act further to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the service of the fiscal year ending the thirtieth of June, eighteen hundred and forty-eight," so much of the act of 3d March, 1825, as authorised the appointment of two keepers of the public archives in Florida was repealed from and after the 30th June, 1848; and, in the mean time, it was made the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to cause the said archives to be removed to some public office in the State of Florida, to be designated by the President, there to be safely kept. This matter having been referred to me by the acting secretary on the 4th May last, this office made a report on the 8th of that month, suggesting a plan of transfer, and proposing the surveyor general's office at St. Augustine, Florida, as the place of deposit. It having been subsequently represented to the department that the Senate had taken further action on the subject, the matter was ordered to be held in suspense, in deference to that body, and with a view to ascertain whether it was the will of Congress to modify the aforesaid provision of law or not; but, in the publication of all the laws of the last session, it appearing that no change had been made in that provision of the act, and this fact having been brought to the notice of

the Executive, the President ordered the archives to be transferred to the office of the surveyor general, as recommended in the aforesaid report from this office of the 8th May last, and instructions have been issued accordingly by this office, requiring the late keeper of the archives at St. Augustine, and the late keeper at Pensacola, to transfer, with proper schedules, all the archives in their possession respectively, to the custody of the surveyor general at St. Augustine. That seemed to be the most appropriate place to which the transfer could be made, as it is important that the archives should be within the reach, and under the control of the surveying department, because of the large number of private claims in Florida yet to be located and surveyed, and in view of the special act of Congress approved 28th June, 1848, "respecting certain surveys in the State of Florida," which expressly delegates authority to the commissioner to have the surveys of confirmed private claims made, in connexion with the surveys of the Florida keys and islands; and, in reference to which, contracts have been made, and special and detailed instructions given, which have been treated of more fully in another place in this report.

As the numerous reports which have been made at different periods and by successive boards of commissioners, commencing with the earliest legislation of Congress for the adjudication of foreign titles to land within our territorial limits, and for ancient settlement claims, necessarily exhibit only the nature and extent of the original and derivative titles, with a reference to the surveys under the former governments, or to general localities, I have contemplated the preparation of *exhibits*, which shall contain, in addition to the abstracts of titles, as presented in the adjudications of the commissioners, a reference to the confirmatory acts of Congress, or decrees of courts, and also, the designation of the surveys, when finally made, of every confirmed claim. This work has been in part ordered and undertaken, and a portion of it finished. It is proposed that it shall advance to completion as the public land and private claim surveys shall be closed up in the several States in which the public lands are situated, so that, when completely finished, the archives of our government shall contain a condensed history of every title, from its inception under the former governments to its adjudication under our own; its confirmation by act of Congress or judicial decree, and its final survey and patenting, under the authority of the United States.

The treaty of limits, westward of the Rocky mountains, concluded on the 5th August, 1846, between the United States and Great Britain, the organization of the territory by the act of Congress, approved 11th August, 1848, entitled, "An act to establish the territorial government of Oregon," and the interests of our settlers in that distant western frontier, call for further and speedy legislative and administrative action.

By the third article of that treaty, it is declared, that "in the future appropriation of the territory south of the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude, as provided in the first article of this treaty, the possessory rights of the Hudson's Bay Company, and of all British

subjects who may be already in the occupation of land, or other property lawfully acquired within the said territory, shall be respected;" and by the fourth article of the same treaty, "the farms, lands, and other property of every description, belonging to the Puget's Sound Agricultural Company, on the north side of the Columbia river, shall be confirmed to the said company," with a right on the part of our government to purchase, if the situation of those farms and lands should be considered by the United States to be of public and political importance. In the first section of the aforesaid act of 14th August, 1848, for the territorial organization, it is provided "that the title to the land, not exceeding six hundred and forty acres, now occupied as missionary stations among the Indian tribes in said territory, together with the improvements thereon, be confirmed and established in the several religious societies to which said missionary stations respectively belong," &c.; and by the 14th section of that act, all laws of the provisional territorial government making grants of land, or otherwise affecting or encumbering the titles to land, are declared to be null and void.

The obligations imposed by the treaty, and assumed by the first section of the act of 14th August, 1848, render it important and necessary for our government to establish a tribunal for the prompt adjudication of all claims under the treaty and act of Congress, in order that what is private property may be definitively and speedily ascertained; and that immediately upon the organization of a surveying department for the territory, all such claims may be regularly and properly separated, by actual survey, from the public lands. As the 14th section of the act of August, 1848, has abrogated and annulled the provisional territorial laws making grants of land, the settlers in Oregon are thrown upon the liberality of Congress, to whom alone belongs, under our government, the power of the primary disposal of the soil.

It is submitted that authority of law should be conferred for the examination and recognition of bona fide actual settlement claims, which existed before, and at the time of, the treaty of limits; and that in all cases where substantial and valuable improvements have been made, that the right to the soil should be conceded, and a liberal policy observed, not only to the old settlers, but to those who may hereafter, within a limited and prospective period, seek homes in that region, and establish and maintain such continued possession as will show that they have permanently identified themselves with the interests and future condition of the country. The importance of making provision for the examination and adjudication of titles and claims to land in our recent territorial acquisitions in New Mexico and California, will doubtless also engage the early attention of Congress.

Though the relations between a people and their former government be dissolved by a change of sovereignty, "the right of private property remains unaffected by this change."

It is not only then required of us as a matter of justice, under this acknowledged principle of universal law, to recognize and respect private property, held by valid titles under former gov-

ernments, but it is incumbent upon us to do so, under express stipulations in the eighth and ninth articles of the treaty of peace, friendship, limits, and settlement with the republic of Mexico, as ratified on the 4th July, 1848.

It is also of the highest importance to the present and future welfare of those territories that early and efficient measures be taken, by the appointment of a tribunal clothed with the necessary powers for ascertaining and adjudicating claims to lands within those territories, which may be held by bona fide titles under the governments of Mexico and Spain, and so recognized by the Mexican authorities, before military possession was taken by the United States, in order that all such as are valid and binding upon us may be confirmed, and detached from the public lands, and all such as are spurious, or illegally made, may be summarily annulled. Such a tribunal should have the power to hold its sessions at whatever places the President may deem most proper for the object contemplated; should be authorized finally to confirm and report all valid and complete titles under the Spanish and Mexican governments for small areas—say not exceeding tracts of one thousand arpens each, and to make a report for the decision of Congress upon all such grants of a larger area, and also upon such of a less area than one thousand arpens, not held under complete titles, but inchoate, where the latter may appear to be of such a meritorious character as to entitle them to favorable consideration.

It should also be authorized to examine and adjudicate all individual and municipal titles to lots, held under valid and complete grants from the authorities of Mexico, for the erection of pueblos or towns, and to confirm and finally release the title of the United States to such lots, not wanted for military or other public uses, as may have been granted to the authorities of a town by a United States military officer, acting at the time as governor, under an appointment from the President of the United States.

Such a tribunal is indispensable, in order properly to discriminate and separate the valid and meritorious titles from those which are invalid, and intrinsically destitute of merit in law and equity.

The testimony before the Military Committee of the Senate in February last shows the circumstances that, fortunately for the interests of the United States, frustrated the consummation of the immense colonization grant to MACANAMARA,* which he sought of the Mexican government, for 3,000 square leagues, between the river San Joaquin, from its source to its mouth, and the Sierra Nevada, and extending from the river Consumne on the north to the Tulares on the south, in the neighborhood of San Gabriel, and embracing the most valuable portion of the beautiful valley of San Joaquin. That testimony also shows that the Californian authorities, shortly before the United States flag was hoisted at Monterey, and military possession taken of the country, were selling and

* He proposed to give to each family he would bring "*un sitio deganado mayor*," being a square league containing 4,428 acres, and to the children of the colonists, when they married, a half *sitio*.

granting the public domain to residents, non-residents and foreigners, at very inconsiderable if not nominal prices; and further, that "nearly all the missions south of San Louis Obispo, the mission of San Raphael in Sonoma, and some of the large islands on the coast were granted," and that it was understood that "many of these grants were hastily made, without the usual legal forms and wanting the usual formalities." It is of the utmost consequence to the present and future prosperity of our new territories, and indeed to the interests of the United States, that legal provision be soon made for the summary and final annulment of such invalid claims.

The generous spirit evinced in the grant of school lands by the Oregon territorial act of August 14, 1848, will doubtless be extended by Congress to New Mexico and California, to which also, as regards donations to actual settlers, I beg leave to apply the recommendation in this report respecting Oregon.

The inhabitants there, and the emigrants now seeking homes in those remote territories, have a right to expect fostering care, and an expansive and enlarged policy towards them from our government.

There will be no surer means of contributing to their prosperity than by an early settlement of claims, the gradual extinguishment of the Indian title, to meet the advance of civilized settlements, the establishment of surveying departments, the extension over the territories of our simple and beautiful surveying system, and the opening of the United States land offices for the sale of the public domain.

The recommendations in the foregoing look to the early introduction of our whole land system, and its gradual and progressive extension over our new territories; but, as in a part of them the mineral productions of the country, which are reported to be great, will, doubtless, stimulate and hasten emigration, it is submitted whether it would not be proper for Congress, in advance of our general legislation, and at an early period, to delegate authority to the department to appoint a superintendent, with a corps of surveyors, to make a preliminary reconnaissance of the mineral precincts and to survey them off into small tracts to suit persons desirous of making mineral explorations, say in lots of ten acres each, being one-fourth of the present smallest legal sub-division; then to fix a reasonable minimum, with a right of pre-emption to the first occupant or discoverer; and, after exposure to public sale under such instructions as may be given by the department, to lay open to private entry, at the minimum, such lots as may not be disposed of at public sale.

A measure like this will create a proper relation and legal connexion between the people and their government, will afford an opportunity to individuals to obtain a legal title to the lands, and, instead of the irregularity and confusion likely to arise in the pursuit of ore, will establish system and order, and insure to every one whatever he may honestly obtain by his labor within the limits of his own lot, whilst, at the same time, the government, by the

adoption of some such policy, will doubtless eventually be well reimbursed.

3.—IN RELATION TO THE ISSUING OF GRANTS FOR INDIAN RESERVATIONS,

which belongs to the "private land claim" branch of this office, I have the honor to report, that the business is steadily progressing, and the General Land Office is prepared on demand to issue patents in all cases where the requisite evidence of elementary title has been rendered to this office.

Under the Choctaw treaty of 1830, patents are issued to the Indian residents for reserves, under the 14th article; and under the 19th article or supplement, either to the reservee, where he has not sold his interest, or to the *first* purchaser from him, when the sale has been approved.

In respect to the numerous reservations under the Creek treaty of 1832, there are some instances in which grants issued to the reservees themselves; but by far the greater portion are cases in which the reservees have sold their rights, and, under the act of Congress, it is required that the patents shall issue to the last purchaser in virtue of regular assignments.

This requirement has devolved much labor upon this office, in the examination of chains of title, not unfrequently complex and embarrassed, growing out, in many cases, of purchases made by companies from the Indians and afterwards transferred; and in others, of rights which have been the subject of controversy or of judicial inquiry and determination.

In several other treaties with Indian tribes, in which the reservations are less numerous than those above mentioned, such as the Pottawatomies, Winnebagoes, Miamies, &c., the form of patent has, of course, to be adapted to the peculiarities of such treaties.

For the more numerous reservations, under the Chickasaw treaties of 1832 and 1834, the grants issue to the reservees themselves, and purchasers from the Indians hold in virtue of such grants and of approved deeds by the President.

In regard to the Chickasaw cession, the United States, as you are aware, undertook the sale of the lands for the benefit of the Chickasaws; and in 1833, and subsequently, "regulations" on the subject were adopted and approved by the President.

Pursuant to those regulations, this office was charged with the general direction of the surveys and sale of the land, with the auditing and adjusting of the accounts of the principal surveyor and of the receiver of public moneys in the cession, and with the issuing of patents for the reserves and general sales.

The cession embraces, as heretofore reported, six millions seven hundred and eighteen thousand five hundred and eighty-six acres and twenty seven hundredths. After satisfying the reserves, which cover over a third of the cession, the residue of the land has been exposed to sale, the "land office section" excepted, including all the isolated tracts which, at the date of my last annual report, were unoffered, they having since been brought into market in the manner

then proposed. More than nine-tenths of the land which was liable to sale in the cession have been sold; leaving less than one-tenth of it now in market unsold, the most of which has graduated to the lowest rate specified in the treaty, being twelve and a half cents per acre.

There have been made out for sales in the cession, and for reserves, twenty-three thousand eight hundred patents; and semi-annual reports as to the progress of the business, up to 30th June last, have been regularly communicated from this office to the Indian office, War Department.

In the 11th article of the treaty of 1834, referring to the periods of graduation therein specified, it is provided as follows:—"But, as it may happen in the fourth and after years, that the expenses may prove greater than the receipts, it is agreed that, at any time after the third year, the Chickasaws may declare the residue of their lands abandoned to the United States; and if so, they shall be thenceforth acquitted of all and every expense on account of the sale of the same;" and in the 5th article of the supplement to that treaty, it is declared that, "whenever the President shall be of opinion that the services of any officer employed under this treaty, for the sale of lands, can be dispensed with, he will, in justice to the Chickasaws, and to save them from unnecessary expenses, discontinue the whole, or such as can be dispensed with."

Under this last stipulation, the services of all the officers at Pontotoc, Mississippi, connected with land operations at that place, which is the seat of the local office in the cession, have been dispensed with, except the register and receiver, whose compensation is fixed by the treaty, and therefore the sales and general management of the business will necessarily proceed, as at present, until either the cession is sold out, or the contingency alluded to in the aforesaid 11th article of the treaty of 1834 shall occur, or other measures shall be prescribed by further treaty stipulations, or by legislation.

4.—PROCLAMATIONS OF LAND SALES.

Since the last annual report from this office, there have been proclaimed for sale, exclusive of school lands—

In Ohio, the unsold improved Wyandot lands.

" Michigan.....	2,662,218	acres.
" Wisconsin.....	877,963	"
" Iowa.....	1,928,317	"
" Missouri.....	1,410,049	"
" Arkansas.....	937,864	"
" Louisiana.....	281,961	"
" Florida.....	1,361,369	"
Making a total of.....	9,459,741	"

The quantity now surveyed and prepared for market, but the greater part of which cannot be offered for sale at present, for the

reasons mentioned in the details and notes of exhibit, is 4,716,375 acres.

The quantity of land estimated for survey, the township plats of which are expected to be returned during the year 1849, is 9,113,400 acres; which is about the usual average quantity annually surveyed and brought into market for several years past.

Numerous sales of detached tracts have been ordered under the authority conferred on this office by the fifth section of the act of 3d August, 1846, and measures have been adopted to offer the balance of these lands at the earliest practicable period. There is a class of these detached tracts, however, over which this office has no control, and settlers, consequently, are frequently prevented from entering them, and thus securing their homes and the fruits of their industry. Reference is here made to lands which have been reserved for military and naval purposes, and which are no longer needed or useful for those purposes. Under the act of 3d March, 1819, the Secretary of War is authorized to dispose of lands which have been reserved for military purposes, and which become useless for those purposes; but no authority of law exists for the sale of those which have been reserved for naval purposes. Except where valuable improvements are situated on these lands, they will not yield more than the ordinary minimum; and hence will not justify the expense of sending a special agent to dispose of them. It is, therefore, respectfully recommended that this office be authorized to dispose of those lands in the ordinary mode, or under such regulations as may be required for the interests of the government, so that the value of the improvements shall be secured to the United States, in addition to the price of the lands.

5.—SALES OF PUBLIC LANDS, LOCATIONS OF CHOCTAW CERTIFICATES, LATE WAR WARRANTS, MEXICAN WAR BOUNTY LAND WARRANTS.

During the calendar year 1847, there have been sold of the public lands, exclusive of the erroneous entries, 2,521,305.59 acres; for which there was received in payment, cash \$3,201,284 08, in treasury notes \$20,452 01, in treasurer's receipts \$72, in military land script \$5,196 81, in forfeited land stock \$92 68, and in Choctaw certificates \$69,306 50, up to the 30th June, 1847, when they ceased to be received as money, making the gross amount of purchase money \$3,296,404 08; and during the first, second, and third quarters of the calendar year 1848, there were sold 1,448,240.51 acres, for which there was received in payment, in cash \$2,618,032 71, in treasury notes \$8,094 95, and in military land scrip \$4,540 64, making the gross amount of purchase money \$2,030,668 30.

There have been located with "Choctaw certificates," distinct from the ordinary sales for cash, from the 1st of July to the 31st December, 1847, 55,903.79 acres, and during the first, second, and third quarters of 1848, 42,083.44 acres, and in October, 1848, as far as the returns have been received at this office, 3,216.78 acres.

There have been located with bounty land warrants, under the act of May 6, 1812, for services rendered in the late war with Great Britain, during the calendar year 1847, 37,440 acres, and for the first three quarters of the year 1848, 3,840 acres.

The number of outstanding "*certificates of location*" issued upon warrants of this class, under the above recited act, which have not as yet been returned as located, is 137, embracing 21,920 acres, being for 160 acres each.

The act of July 27, 1842, entitled "An act to provide for satisfying claims for bounty lands, for military services in the late war with Great Britain, and for other purposes," which had expired by its own limitation, has been again revived by the act of June 26, 1848, and the time for issuing this class of warrants extended to the 26th of June, 1853.

With Mexican war bounty land warrants, under the 9th section of the act of February 11, 1847, during the year 1847, 250,320 acres, and for the first three quarters of the year 1848, 1,525,200 acres.

Making the whole amount of the public lands disposed of, by *sales* and *locations*, for the periods aforesaid, 5,887,550.11 acres.

According to a statement from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, dated November 30, 1848, 3,832 Choctaw certificates have been issued under the act of Congress of August 23, 1842, calling for 700,240 acres and transmitted for delivery to the claimants; of which, according to the latest returns, 1,843 certificates appear to have been delivered. Of the amount thus issued and delivered, 1,559 certificates, calling for 279,140 acres, have, according to the latest returns to this office, been absorbed in the location of 277,376.14 acres of lands in the *four* States of Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, and Arkansas, in which only they are by law receivable, leaving 421,100 acres yet to be located.

The first Mexican war warrant issued from the Pension Office, a branch of the War Department, under the 9th section of the act of Congress of the 11th of February, 1847, for 160 acres of land, is dated the 19th of March, 1847, and was registered in this office March 20, 1847. The first warrant, for 40 acres, bears date the 7th of April, 1847, and was registered April 8, 1847.

Since that time, and up to November 30, 1848, warrants have been issued for 160 acres each, to the number of 39,825, for 6,372,000 acres of land; and for 40 acres each, to the number of 3,349, for 133,960 acres; making the whole number of Mexican war warrants issued up to the 30th of November, 1848, 43,174, embracing 6,505,960 acres of land.

Of this number 10,793 warrants for 160 acres each, and 1,216 warrants for 40 acres each, calling in the aggregate for 1,775,520 acres, have been located upon lands, and returned to this office by the local land officers for patents.

It will be seen by the statement of the Adjutant General, dated April 5, 1848, which was communicated in a report made to Senate of the United States by the Secretary of War on the 8th of the same month, that the strength of the regular army at the com-

mencement of hostilities with Mexico, in April, 1846, was 7,244 men; that since the 18th May, 1846, 29,000 men have been recruited; of which 23,556 were sent to Mexico, making the old army and recruits together amount to 36,244, besides a battalion of marines composed of 350 men. There were other recruits after that time not mentioned in this statement, which General Jones (the adjutant general) estimates at about 5,000 or 6,000; making altogether of the regular army, as nearly as can be ascertained, 40,000 men. Of this number 35,000 were probably entitled to "land warrants."

According to the same statement, the volunteer force enrolled under the act of May 13, 1846, and the 5th section of the act of March 3, 1847, amounted to 56,926 officers and men. General Jones thinks that a sufficient number of recruits may be added, which became necessary from time to time to keep up the whole number authorized by the act of Congress to 50,000 men, to make the entire number of volunteers equal to about 60,000 men. Of this number 55,000 were probably entitled to land warrants; making the whole number of regulars and volunteers entitled to bounty lands about 90,000 men.

The number of warrants issued by the Commissioner of Pensions, and registered in the office, up to the 30th of November, 1848, amounts, as before stated, to 43,174. Now if this estimate should prove to be correct, that 90,000 were originally entitled to bounty lands, 46,826 warrants still remain to be issued.

It is understood that the average number of warrants issued by the Commissioner of Pensions, per day, is from 150 to 200. At this rate it will take about 268 working days to complete the number still to be issued, if all who are entitled should apply, (a supposition by no means probable,) which would make the time still required for this service about ten months.

I think it not improbable, however, judging from our past experience in respect to the "*late war warrants*," that from *ten to fifteen* thousand (embracing the cases of foreigners who were killed or died in the service without relatives in this country, and of heirs, who are frequently ignorant of their rights,) will not be applied for within the ensuing year, and very many, doubtless, will never be called for at all.

The estimated receipts of cash on account of the sales of the public lands for the fiscal year ending the 30th of June, 1849, are stated at \$2,834,700, and for the fiscal year ending the 30th of June, 1850, \$2,407,500, provided the usual quantity of fresh lands are surveyed and brought into market, according to the existing practice of the government.

This supposed falling off in the receipts, as compared with the last year or two, is accounted for by the fact that very large amounts of the public lands are now being located with Mexican war warrants instead of money; and so it must be, in a more or less degree, from year to year, until these warrants are all absorbed by locations, and thus withdrawn from competition in the market.

From the best data that can be obtained, it is estimated that

15,000 warrants, covering 2,400,000 acres, will be located during the balance of the current fiscal year, and 25,000 warrants, embracing 4,000,000 acres, for the year ending 30th of June, 1850. These, added to the estimated amount of cash sales, it will be perceived, will make the estimated aggregates of lands disposed of in each year nearly double the usual average, with proper allowance for increase of population, and the increase of locations consequent upon the reduced price of these warrants.

The compensation allowed to the district land officers for their services in the location of these warrants, by the act of 17th May, 1848, has been found to be wholly inadequate, and many just complaints have been made on this subject. The labor and trouble devolved on those officers in receiving, noting, registering, and returning those warrants, is much greater than in receiving, noting, &c., an application for an ordinary private entry. I would, therefore, respectfully recommend that the act of 17th May, 1848, above mentioned, be so amended as to authorize those officers to charge the same per centage for the location of those warrants that they are now allowed by law on cash entries, retaining the provision, however, that they shall not be permitted to make any charge in cases where the warrant is located by, and for the use of, the volunteer or soldier to whom such warrant may have issued.

The experience had, since my incumbency of the office I now hold, has convinced me that a new arrangement of the duties of this office was absolutely necessary, to secure a prompt, efficient, and regular discharge of the public business. On several occasions, when gentlemen having charge of special branches of business were absent from sickness, or for relaxation, necessary alike to the health of the officer and the true interests of the government, their duties had to remain unexecuted till their return. Moreover, it sometimes happened that different branches of the same business were discharged by different individuals, and hence arose a risk of discordant views and conflicting decisions. To obviate these evils, on full consideration, I concluded to place the whole of the accounting business, including the book-keeping and miscellaneous correspondence connected therewith, under the charge of four of the most experienced and competent clerks, giving to each a first assistant, who could discharge his duties in case of sickness or absence, and such further assistance as the magnitude of his duties required. The transmission of patents, with all the correspondence connected therewith, was placed under the charge of the recorder. By this means, the miscellaneous bureau has been abolished, the force of the office concentrated, and, although the new system has not been long enough in operation to decide finally on its merits, I have no doubt that its results will be highly satisfactory, and will materially advance the public business, and promote the best interests of the office.

Under the act of 9th May, 1848, relative to the selections for the Wabash and Erie canal in Indiana, and entitled "an act in addition to an act therein mentioned," the necessary instructions have

been issued, to enable the trustees of that work to complete the selections authorized by that act.

To carry out the provisions of the second and third sections of the act of 29th May, 1848, "for the admission of Wisconsin into the Union," lists have been prepared of all the sales made within the limits of the grant for the Milwaukie and Rock River canal, showing those at the increased minimum fixed by the act of 18th June, 1838. These lists have been sent to the land officers at Milwaukie, with instructions to compare them with their records, and to check any errors or omissions that may be found in them. When these lists are returned thus corrected, the lands in the even-numbered sections, belonging to the government, will be brought into market at the ordinary minimum, as required by the act of 29th May, 1848, above mentioned. Under the same act, the land officers were required to ascertain and report the present owners of the lands within the limits of this grant, which were purchased at the increased minimum fixed by the act of 18th June, 1838, that the certificates for the difference between the minimum of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, and the price paid for those lands, may be issued to the present holders of them, as required by the third section of the act of 1848.

Diagrams have also been prepared of the grants made by the act of 8th August, 1846, to Wisconsin, on her admission into the Union, for the improvements of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers, and for connecting the same by a canal. This act is manifestly deficient in this, that it grants to the State a *quantity* of land equal to one-half of three sections in width on each side of Fox river, the lakes through which it passes, and the canal above mentioned, but makes no provision as to character or locality of the lands that shall be selected to supply deficiencies caused by sales and donations in the odd-numbered sections within that grant, which were made before that act went into operation. In the correspondence with the governor on this subject, he has been authorized to make selections to supply those deficiencies, and the land officers have been instructed to reserve all lands so selected till the final action of Congress has been had on the subject.

The act of 16th June, 1848, "to attach a portion of the north-western land district in Louisiana to the district north of Red river, in Louisiana," has been executed, and the plats and records of the lands thus separated have been transmitted from the former to the latter office.

Under the act of 1st July, 1848, "for the relief of the bona fide settlers, under the acts for the armed occupation and settlement of a part of the Territory of Florida," an agent was appointed to repair to Florida, and to obtain the evidence required by that act. Instructions, full and minute in every particular, were prepared for this agent, with records in which all the cases that had arisen under the armed occupation acts were entered in numerical order, with a full history of each, so far as was shown by the records of this office; and a blank column left for the decisions of the agent. The returns of his operations, as far as received, have been highly

satisfactory; and there is every reason to believe that this long pending and harrassing matter will soon be finally disposed of.

6. STATE SELECTIONS.

The following statement shows the quantity of land to which each of the new States was entitled, under the 8th section of the act of Congress, of September 4, 1841; the number of acres selected and located by each, and approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, up to November 30, 1848; the number selected and located, but not finally acted upon for the want of township plats, and other causes; and the residue not as yet selected and finally located, to which each of said States is entitled respectively.

Statement.

Names of States.	Number of acres to which each State was entitled.	Number of acres selected by the States, and approved by the Secretary of the Treasury.	Number of acres selected, but suspended for further examination.	Number of acres to which each State is yet entitled, including the suspended locations.
Arkansas	500,000.00	490,869.46	3,838.72	9,130.54
Missouri	500,000.00	498,997.62	None.	1,002.38
Louisiana	500,000.00	245,371.38	96,445.56	254,628.62
Illinois	209,085.50	209,060.05	None.	25.45
Michigan	500,000.00	492,914.07	None.	7,085.03
Alabama	97,469.17	None.	None.	97,469.17
Florida	499,990.09	None.	262,571.42	499,990.00
Iowa	500,000.00	5,866.39	7,361.57	494,133.61
Mississippi	500,000.00	478,643.20	None.	21,356.80
Wisconsin	360,364.01	None.	21,102.72	360,364.01
Total in acres	4,166,908.68	2,421,722.17	391,319.99	1,745,186.51

Showing that the aggregate amount to which said States were originally entitled, under the act referred to, was 4,166,908.68 acres; the quantity already selected, located, and approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, 2,421,722.17 acres; the quantity selected, but the locations of which have been suspended for further examination, 391,319.99 acres; and the quantity to which said States are yet entitled, on the 30th of November, 1848, 1,745,186.51 acres, including the cases of location held up for further examination, and which have not been approved by the Secretary of the Treasury.

It may not be improper to remark in connexion with this subject, that by an act of Congress, passed on the 11th of August, 1848, the State of Alabama is authorized to locate the quantity of land to which that State is yet entitled, in legal sub-divisions of not less than *forty* acres each, with the privilege of selling the same when thus located, for the use of schools within the townships of said State, at such prices as the legislature may direct. The other

States are required by the act of September 4, 1841, to locate "in parcels conformably to sectional divisions and sub-divisions, of not less than 320 acres in any one location."

7. SUSPENDED ENTRIES.

Prior to the expiration of the act of 3d of August, 1846, in relation to suspended entries of land in this office, it was discovered that other and pressing duties would have to be neglected, or they would prevent a due examination, within the time limited by the act, of many cases of pre-emption and private entry, which ought justly and properly to be confirmed under its provisions. To avoid this evil, I recommended to the appropriate committees of Congress at the last session an extension of said law for a year; which recommendation was approved, and led to the passage of the act of 17th of July, 1848, extending the provisions of the act of the 3d of August, 1846, to the 3d of August, 1849; within which period, it is believed, all the cases in which the claimants are *equitably* entitled to relief will be disposed of.

In my last annual report, I stated all the cases which had been examined and confirmed up to that date. Since then, the following additional cases have been adjudicated favorably to the claimants, to wit:

In Mississippi.....	5 pre-emption entries.....embracing about..	560 acres.
In Louisiana.....	32 .....do.....do.....do.....	4,160 do
	9 back concessions and private entries....do.....	1,920 do
In Missouri.....	159 pre-emption entries.....do.....	20,640 do
	14 private.....do.....do.....do.....	1,120 do
In Arkansas.....	12 pre-emption...do.....do.....do.....	1,520 do
	9 private.....do.....do.....do.....	1,760 do
In Wisconsin.....	2 pre-emption...do.....do.....do.....	160 do
	558 private.....do.....do.....do.....	46,800 do
In Florida.....	6 pre-emption...do.....do.....do.....	480 do
In Indiana.....	1 .....do.....do.....do.....do.....	80 do
Total—confirmed	807 pre-emption and private entries.....embracing....	79,200 do
rejected..	2 entries, in part in Wisconsin.....do.....	160 do

As soon as the remaining cases shall have been adjudicated by the board, a full report will be made to Congress of the whole number of entries confirmed and rejected by the board, under the provisions of the acts aforesaid, in conformity with the 2d and 3d sections of the first recited act of August 3, 1846.

In the meantime, patents will be issued to the claimants as heretofore, as fast as the confirmations are made, and the several cases are thereby released from suspension.

8. THE NUMBER OF PATENTS ENGROSSED, RECORDED, TRANSMITTED, &c.

1. The number of cash system patents, engrossed, recorded, and transmitted to patentees, on account of the ordinary sales of the public lands, for cash, from the 1st of January, 1847, to the 30th of September, 1848, is.... 134,500

2. The number of patents engrossed, recorded and transmitted, for private land claims, Indian reservations, and Chickasaw Indian sales, from the 1st of January, 1847, to the 30th of September, 1848, is.....	1,622
3. The number of patents engrossed, recorded, and transmitted upon located bounty land warrants, for services rendered in the late war with Great Britain, from the 1st January, 1847, to the 30th September, 1848, is.....	257
4. The number of Virginia military patents, engrossed, recorded and transmitted, on entries and surveys made, in the Virginia military reservation in the State of Ohio, from the 1st January, 1847, to the 30th September, 1848, is.....	375
5. The number of patents engrossed, recorded and transmitted, on locations made with Mexican war bounty land warrants, from the 4th day of December, 1847, to the 30th day of September, 1848, is.....	5,002

Making the total number of patents engrossed, recorded and transmitted to the patentees, by the General Land Office, during the calendar year 1847, and first, second and third quarters of the year 1848..... 141,756

1. The number of copies, or exemplifications of cash system patents, furnished to applicants during the year 1847, and for the first, second and third quarters of 1848, is.....	457
2. The number of copies, or exemplifications of late war with Great Britain bounty land patents, for the same periods, is.....	400
3. The number of copies, or exemplifications of Virginia military patents, for the same periods, is.....	300
4. The number of copies, or exemplifications of private land claims, Indian reservations, and Chickasaw Indian sales patents for the same periods, is.....	256

Making the total number of copies of patents furnished to applicants during the year 1847, and for the first, second and third quarters of the year 1848..... 1,413

Unremitted attention has been given to this important branch of the operations of this office, with the view of bringing up all the patents, of the various classes mentioned, to the latest practicable date; and much credit is due to the gentlemen entrusted with this service, for the extraordinary number, as compared with former years, which have been written and transmitted for the last, and first three quarters of the present year.

Great labor and particularity are often necessary, in preparing the forms of the patents for the private land claim and Indian reservation cases, and much time is consumed in writing them, after the forms are made out and corrected—it being not unfre-

quently the case that the writing of a single patent will require the constant employment of a good clerk for a whole day. The Virginia military patents also require much time in writing them, on account of the numerous courses and distances in many of the surveys, and much care is necessary to avoid mistakes, which might render them valueless in the hands of the patentees, after they are written.

To avoid all possible errors, however, as far as may be practicable, all the patents of every description are rigidly examined, and compared with the certificates of purchase, certificates of location, or other data upon which they are predicated, by boards of competent examiners, before they are given out to the patentees or transmitted to the local land offices for delivery.

9.—BOUNTY LAND DISTRICTS IN THE STATE OF OHIO—BOUNTY LAND SCRIP, &c.

I mentioned in my last annual report that there were *three* military districts in the State of Ohio, to wit: 1st, the United States military district; 2d, the Canadian and Nova Scotia refugee district; and, 3d, the Virginia military district. These districts were originally carved out of the "Northwestern Territory," and set apart and reserved by the United States and the State of Virginia, for the satisfaction of claims to "bounty lands," for services rendered during the revolutionary war.

1. The United States military district contained originally 2,514,867.58 acres, and was set apart to satisfy the claims of such officers and soldiers only as had served on continental establishments during the war. Of this quantity, 1,301,326.38 acres were located with bounty land warrants, and 127,626.50 acres appropriated for common schools in the district, and otherwise granted to persons properly entitled thereto, leaving 1,085,914.70 acres unlocated, prior to the 3d of July, 1832.

The unlocated portions of this district were restored to the mass of the public domain, and made subject to private entry, as other public lands, by the act of July 3, 1832; of which there have been sold, up to December 31, 1847, 1,069,204.56 acres, leaving still a vacant remnant of 16,710.14 acres, subject to sale at "*private entry*." The same act provided for the satisfaction of all the outstanding unlocated claims upon this district, in a species of *scrip*, usually called "*revolutionary military land scrip*;" which was made receivable in the entry and payment of other public lands, for the number of acres expressed upon the face of the scrip.

The time for issuing warrants for these unsatisfied claims was extended, by the act of July 13, 1832, to the 1st of January, 1835; and by the act of January 27, 1835, to the 1st day of January, 1842.

The act of 27th January, 1835, was subsequently revived and continued in force by the act of July 27, 1842, for the term of five years from and after the date of the last mentioned act.

The time for issuing this class of warrants expired on the 27th of July, 1847. The second section of the last recited act provided

that, in all cases which were not finally disposed of within the time thus limited, should be, therefore, forever barred from the benefit of all claim to bounty land, for services performed, within the spirit and meaning of the foregoing recited acts.

The two acts of January 27, 1835, have been again revived by the act of the 26th of June, 1848, and continued in force for *five* years from the passage of said act, by which the time for issuing this class of warrants has been extended to June 26, 1853.

2. *The Canadian and Nova Scotia refugee land district.*—By the act of February 18, 1801, fractional townships of the 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, and 22d ranges of townships adjoining the southern boundary of the first mentioned district, containing 97,930.17 acres, were ordered to be sub-divided into half sections, of 320 acres each, and set apart to satisfy the grants made to the refugees from the British Provinces of Canada and Nova Scotia, of which 63,462 acres were located with Canadian warrants, leaving 44,468.17 acres unlocated, prior to the 29th of April, 1816.

The unlocated portions of this district were re-attached to the public domain, and made a part of the Chillicothe land district, by the act of Congress of April 29, 1816; and, having been shortly afterwards proclaimed for sale at public auction, subsequently became subject to sale at "private entry," as other public lands; since when, and up to the 31st of December, 1847, 43,386.17 acres have been sold, leaving a small remnant of 1,082 acres still vacant and unsold.

3. The Virginia military district lies between the Sciota and Little Miami rivers, and contained originally upwards of 4,000,000 of acres. This district was reserved by the State of Virginia, in her deed of cession of 1784, for the purpose of satisfying the "bounty land" claims of her own officers and soldiers, on continental establishment, for services rendered during the revolutionary war. The good lands in this district have been long since absorbed by the locations of the more early claimants; and a large number of warrants of this class appear still to be unsatisfied. The quantity of land still remaining vacant in this district is estimated at about 175,000 acres; the greater part of which is represented to be of very inferior quality, and much of it as entirely unfit for cultivation.

The first act passed by Congress, on the 30th of May, 1830, for the relief of the officers and soldiers of the Virginia State line and navy of the revolution, provided for a relinquishment of their claims to bounties in lands, and for the issuing of certificates of scrip, in satisfaction of them, for certain nominal sums, equal to the minimum price of the public lands, for such number of acres as the claimants were entitled to. These certificates of scrip were made receivable in payment for any lands subject to sale at "private entry" in the States of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois; the time of issuing them limited to the 1st of January, 1835; and the quantity of land thus to be located restricted to 260,000 acres.

By the seventh section of the same act, the like provision was made for the unsatisfied warrants of the Virginia line of troops, on

continental establishment, and the quantity of land limited to 50,000 acres, which was in addition to the 260,000 acres authorized to be located for the benefit of her State line troops and navy, by the fifth section of the act. This amount of scrip having proved to be insufficient for the satisfaction of these classes of warrants, another act was passed on the 13th July, 1832, authorizing an additional issue of *scrip* for 300,000, embracing as well the Virginia line of troops on continental establishment as her State line and navy, so far as the warrants of either remained unsatisfied.

This last mentioned appropriation being also exhausted, another act was passed on the 2d of March, 1833, providing for the issue of an additional amount of scrip for 200,000 acres of land for the same uses, with the additional privilege that this class of scrip should be receivable in payment for any of the public lands subject to private entry, without restriction as to the State or territory in which they might be situated.

A large number of these warrants being still unsatisfied, Congress again, by the second section of the act of 3d of March, 1835, making "appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of the government for the year 1835," authorized a further issue of scrip for 650,000 acres of land, in addition to the amounts heretofore appropriated by the acts of 1830, 1832 and 1833, with the provision that such certificates of scrip should be receivable in payment for any of the public lands subject to sale at "private entry."

This section of the law, which seems to have been intended to put an end to any further applications to Congress on account of these unsatisfied claims, provided "that no scrip should be issued under it, until the 1st day of September, 1835, and that in the mean time these land warrants should be received in the general land office until that day; and that if the amount thus filed should exceed in quantity the 650,000 acres of land appropriated by the act, that the commissioner of the general land office should *apportion* the said amount of land among the warrants which might then be on file in his office, *in full satisfaction thereof.*"

This is the last law which has been passed in reference to this class of claims. The claimants have, nevertheless, continued to file their warrants in this office, from time to time, notwithstanding the expiration of the period limited by the act, in the hope or expectation that some further provision would yet be made by Congress for their final and complete satisfaction, at some future period, in "*scrip.*"

The number of warrants of this description issued by the authority of the State of Virginia, and now on file in this office, is 330, consisting of Virginia continental, State line, and navy warrants, embracing in the whole 201,000 acres.

Whether a further issue of "*scrip,*" to satisfy these claims, is required by justice, or not, under all the circumstances, is now again respectfully submitted for the consideration of Congress.

The number of patents issued upon surveys of lands in this district, during the year 1847, and for the first three-quarters of the year 1848, is 375, embracing 33,275 acres; and the number of sur-

veys now on file in this office, and not *patented*, is 73, calling for 5,201 acres of land.

10.—LEAD MINERAL LANDS.

Under the act of July 11, 1846, the whole of the reserved lands in the States of Illinois, Arkansas, Wisconsin and Iowa, supposed to contain mines of "*lead ore*," have been offered for sale, at public auction, and but a very small proportion sold as "mineral lands." The portions still remaining unsold have become subject to "private entry," at the ordinary minimum of \$1 25 per acre; and the leasing system has been entirely abandoned, as unprofitable to the government, and injurious to the settlement and improvement of the country.

Of the 556 entries in the Mineral Point district, Wisconsin, which had been heretofore suspended on account of alleged frauds, and which were investigated and reported upon by General Samuel Leech, under instructions from this office, dated April 12, 1847, 540 cases have been confirmed under the provisions of the act of August 3, 1846, leaving sixteen only for future adjustment; most of which will probably be rejected for want of sufficient testimony to show an equitable interest on the part of the present claimants.

In the adjudication of these cases, a liberal policy has been uniformly adopted by the board, where there were no conflicting claims on the part of third persons, to make it necessary to pursue a more rigid course of examination.

11.—COPPER MINERAL LANDS.

The sales of the mineral lands in the Lake Superior district in Michigan, and in the Chippewa district in Wisconsin, have fallen far short of what had been anticipated. In the former district, there have been sold 2,016 07 acres, at the minimum of five dollars per acre; and 6,464.81 acres under leases, at the minimum of two dollars and fifty cents per acre, making a total of 8,480.88 acres, amounting to \$26,242 37. In the latter district, no sales have been made of mineral lands.

There is no doubt that there are many valuable mines of copper in these districts, but it is evident, from the reports of the geologist, that there are also numerous deposits of mineral that are not worth working. The experience of the past, with reference to the mineral regions of Wisconsin, Iowa, and Missouri, is certainly conclusive as to the inexpediency of continuing the leasing system, or increasing the minimum price of these mineral lands; and it would seem to be but reasonable that we should be guided by that experience, in reference to the mineral lands now under consideration. Admitting that valuable mines may be discovered, and that the persons working them can procure the lands embracing them for five dollars per acre, it is manifest that that price is no equivalent for such mines. But where persons are deceived by indications, and purchase lands containing valueless deposits at the

same price, it is equally apparent that they have suffered injustice. Moreover, by fixing the minimum of these lands at a high rate, the settlement of the country is retarded, and by compelling lessees to enter large bodies of these lands to secure their mines, the whole country is thrown into the hands of a few capitalists, instead of being apportioned out in small tracts among actual settlers and agriculturists. By these means, the hardy pioneers are shut out of the country, and consequently the actual wealth of it cannot be explored and developed.

If every facility was given to the purchase and settlement of these regions, the miners could cultivate the soil while they were seeking for mineral wealth; and the farmers would reap a rich reward for their labors in the advanced price they would get in that inhospitable region for the products of their farms. More mines would be discovered and worked, and the consequent increase in the quantity of the metal produced would decrease the price of it, and thus the whole community would be benefitted. I would, therefore, respectfully recommend that the price of these lands be reduced to the ordinary minimum, and that they be thrown open to pre-emption, reserving, however, to the owners of leases which have not expired the right to enter all the lands covered by those leases at the reduced minimum.

The report of the mineral agent is very full and satisfactory, and shows that several of the mines which have been worked have proved to be valuable investments. This agency has not only supported itself, but has yielded an actual revenue to the government, over and above all expenses, of nearly seven thousand dollars, in the space of about two years. As the sales progress, the business of the agency of course decreases, and as it is expected that most of the lands which have been surveyed will be brought into market next summer, I would respectfully recommend that that agency be closed after the 30th of June next, and the remaining duties, if any, be devolved upon the land officers at Sault Ste. Marie, with a reasonable compensation for the additional duty.

12.—PRE-EMPTION RIGHTS.

I beg leave most respectfully to refer to the recommendation in my last annual report, for the extension of the pre-emption privilege to all actual settlers on the public lands, whether surveyed or not, to which the Indian title has been extinguished. This meritorious class of our citizens is entitled to special consideration, as it is chiefly through their instrumentality that the fruitful regions of the west have been opened up to the enterprise and industry of the millions who now people them. When we compare the prosperity of those young and flourishing States with their condition thirty or forty years ago, and remember that it was chiefly by means of the labor, the sufferings, and toil of the hardy pioneers and their descendants that the wilderness has been transformed into fruitful fields, and cities and towns built up where the beasts of the forest were wont to range, it is certainly but small compen-

sation that they should be permitted to purchase their homes and farms at the price fixed by the government, without competing with the greedy speculator for the fruits of their own labor. Certainly the government cannot desire to increase its revenues by the pitance that might be obtained at public sale for the improvements of such settlers, and as those improvements alone enhance the value of such lands, it is a matter of strict justice and equity, that every settler should be permitted to purchase his lands at the maximum that they would yield if they were not improved. I would therefore recommend that the pre-emption laws be so amended, and that provision be made to prevent the injustice now frequently suffered by settlers, under the act of 4th September, 1841, who may not have filed their declarations within the time prescribed by that act, and consequently lose their improvements by pre-emption rights acquired by subsequent settlers. And also to require the settler upon lands subject to "*private entry*," with the view of procuring the right of pre-emption under the 15th section of the act, to file with the register of the proper local land office, in lieu of the declaratory statement now required by law, and within the time limited by that act, an affidavit that he has actually made a settlement upon the land claimed, by a personal residence thereon, that it is his intention to purchase the same from the United States in good faith, and that such settlement and claim are made for his own benefit, and not for the use, or in trust for another,—the said affidavit to be accompanied by the corroborating testimony of two credible witnesses, who shall also state in their affidavits, the number composing the claimant's family, the nature and extent of his improvement upon the land, and that he continued to reside thereon.

This precaution has become necessary, from experience in numerous cases, to prevent fraudulent declarations and pretended settlements, with a view to speculation only, where there is no apparent intention to purchase the land from the government.

13. SCHOOL LANDS.

It has been the policy of Congress to promote educational purposes, by a grant of the sixteenth section to every township, for the support of schools; and where that section is interfered with, either in whole or in part, by private confirmed claims, donations or Indian reserves, legal provision has further been made, entitling such township, or fractional township, to a selection, for the use of schools, of other lands in the same district; the quantity thus allowed to each, to depend upon the area of the township, in the ratios specified in the act of Congress, approved May 20, 1826, entitled "An act to appropriate lands for the support of schools in certain townships, and fractional townships, not before provided for." This laudable purpose of our national legislature has, however, often been defeated, or has proved ineffective, in consequence of the *sixteenth* section frequently falling, as in the alluvial parts of Louisiana, upon "irreclaimable sea marsh," and in other in-

stances upon lands unfit for cultivation, and sometimes entirely valueless. As existing legislation makes no provision for cases of this category, I recommend that Congress provide for the same, by giving authority of law to the proper State officers to select other public lands in lieu of worthless school sections; the new selection to be subject to the approval of the department, and the terms of the enactment to be such that upon the approval being given to the new selection, the original tract shall *ipso facto* revert to the government.

This subject is adverted to in resolutions of the legislatures of Louisiana and Florida, and also in a memorial of the State of Louisiana, which were presented at the last session, and are found in Senate miscellaneous documents Nos. 42, 43, 72, 1st session 30th Congress.

The legislature of Louisiana, in view of existing legal limitations as to the sale and disposal of the school lands, have asked of Congress authority of law to the State to make a common school fund of all the school lands to which Louisiana is entitled, to be expended as the authorities of the State may direct, without reference to the particular townships in which the lands may be situated.

In consideration of the provisions in the constitution of the State of Louisiana in respect to the establishment of free schools throughout the State, as referred to in the memorial, and for the reasons appearing in that memorial, I recommend that authority of law be conferred accordingly upon the legislature of the State.

This office decided in 1846, that the State of Florida was not entitled, under existing laws, to school lands, in lieu of what would have been the sixteenth sections within the limits of the two confirmed claims, known as the "Forbes purchase" and "Arredondo grant," the aggregate areas of which amount to 1,716,935 acres.

This matter is adverted to in the Florida resolutions, and authority of law is asked of Congress for the location of an equivalent on other lands, which I recommend, but with the limitation that the selection be confined to that State.

Indeed, I would respectfully invite the consideration of Congress to the propriety of an enlargement of the school donation, by an additional appropriation for each township, as there can be but one opinion as to the importance of liberally promoting general education over our wide spread republic, whose institutions rest upon the intelligence and virtue of the people. In this respect, I beg leave to suggest that the seat of the general government, the capital of the country, has heretofore been overlooked.

Congress is the constitutional legislature of the District, and to that body the citizens of this District naturally look for the extension of that liberality which has been so generally manifested elsewhere in regard to the school system.

Notwithstanding the heavy taxation to which the citizens are subject, for improving and beautifying the streets and thoroughfares of the cities of the district, and with a very limited revenue they have endeavoured, with a spirit worthy of the highest commendation, to

secure to the rising generation the blessings of an enlarged and general system of education. Such endeavors, I am sure, will find favor with Congress, by whom special and liberal grants have heretofore been made for benevolent purposes, in *all* of the new, and some of the old States.

I therefore earnestly recommend that a liberal grant of land be made to this district, in addition to all the vacant lots in the city and county of Washington, which belong to the government, that a fund may be created, the income from which will be sufficient to sustain, on a permanent basis, the common school system in this district.

14. GRADUATION AND REDUCTION OF THE PRICE OF THE PUBLIC LANDS; DONATIONS OF SWAMP LANDS, &c.

The subject of graduating and reducing the price of the public lands, has been so often presented and fully considered, that I deem it unnecessary to do more than refer to previous reports in regard to this measure.

The expediency of making a liberal disposition of the swamp lands to the States in which they lie, has also been presented and considered. These lands are of no value to the government in their present condition, and are fruitful sources of disease and death in the neighborhoods in which they are located. It cannot be expected that the States will incur the expense of draining these lands, when they have no interest in them, although they may render their immediate neighborhoods unhealthy. It is, therefore, respectfully suggested that these lands shall be granted to the States in which they are situated, on condition that the proceeds be applied as far as necessary in reclaiming them, and the balance to form a fund for general purposes of education, and such works of internal improvement, as may be best calculated to promote the peculiar interests of such States.

I would also suggest, in all cases where the quantity of the public lands in any State is reduced below one million of acres, that they be ceded to the States in which they lie. By this means the land system will be more speedily closed up in the several States, and the expense of sustaining it dispensed with, after the sales shall have ceased to be profitable to the government in the way of revenue.

It but is just to remark, in conclusion, that in conducting the details of business of this *now* extensive and important branch of the Treasury Department of the government for the past and present year, I have been aided by intelligence and talent of no ordinary character; and in presenting these results of our official labors through you to Congress, a sense of duty demands of me the pleasing task of bearing testimony to the exemplary deportment of the gentlemen employed in this office, and to the ability and zeal with which each, as a general rule, has faithfully performed his duty.

For detailed tabular statements of the facts set forth in this re-

port, I beg leave to refer to the accompanying exhibits, marked Nos. A to N, inclusive.

All which is most respectfully submitted.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,
RICHARD M. YOUNG,
Commissioner.

Hon. R. J. WALKER,
Secretary of the Treasury.

P. S.—The report of the surveyor general of Louisiana has not yet been received. The map of the State of Michigan, to accompany the report of the surveyor general of that State, will be submitted hereafter.

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SCHEDULE OF ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS.

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- E.—Number of military land warrants located under act of 11th of February, 1847.
- F.—Statement of the recorder of the General Land Office, showing the progress of business under his immediate supervision.
- G.—Exhibit of the quantity of public lands advertised for sale in the year 1848; the quantity for which the plats of survey have been returned to the General Land Office, &c.
- H.—Synopsis of public lands advertised for sale since the 30th of November, 1847, (date of last annual report,) showing the quantity under proclamation, exclusive of school lands.
- I.—Estimate of appropriations required for the office of Commissioner of the General Land Office for the fiscal year ending 30th of June, 1850.
- K.—Estimate of appropriations for the surveying department for the fiscal year ending 30th of June, 1850.
- L.—Estimate of appropriations required for surveying the public lands for the same period.
- M.—Annual reports of surveyors general, and accompanying documents.
- N.—Mineral reports.

Statement of public lands sold, of cash, Treasurer's receipts, treasury notes, stock, &c., received therefor; of incidental expenses thereon, and of payments into the treasury on account thereof, in the year 1847.

LAND OFFICES AND STATES.	Lands sold after deducting erroneous entries.		Amount received in cash, Treasurer's receipts, and treasury notes.		
	Acres.	Purchase money.	Cash.	Treasurer's receipts.	Treasury notes.
OHIO.					
Chillicothe.....	63,472.30	\$82,676 33	\$82,551 33	.....	.....
Upper Sandusky	41,076.13	111,429.45	111,124 95	.....	\$100 00
Total	104,548.43	194,105 78	193,676 28	.....	100 00
INDIANA.					
Jeffersonville.....	33,879.89	42,372 48	42,372 48	.....	.....
Vincennes	37,590.65	46,996 92	46,996 92	.....	.....
Indianapolis.....	26,215.78	47,045 45	47,045 45	.....	.....
Crawfordsville	22,443.71	28,060 16	27,910 16	.....	150 00
Fort Wayne	52,299.51	94,856 23	94,706 23	.....	.....
Winamac.....	54,957.97	88,494 88	88,494 88	.....	.....
Total	227,387.51	347,826 12	347,526 12	.....	150 00
ILLINOIS.					
Shawneetown.....	28,650.08	35,881 47	35,831 47	.....	50 00
Kaskaskia	15,419.70	19,274 52	19,174 52	.....	100 00
Edwardsville.....	13,330.29	16,662 90	16,662 90	.....	.....
Vandalia	13,149.67	16,437 08	16,387 08	.....	50 00
Palestine	24,272.23	30,340 35	30,340 35	.....	.....
Springfield.....	20,592.78	25,740 96	25,490 96	.....	250 00
Danville.....	15,653.06	19,567 49	19,567 19	.....	.....

Quincy	13,515.02	16,921 59	16,396 59		300 00
Dixon	247,990.06	313,768 98	312,468 98		50 00
Chicago.....	113,982.53	142,478 16	139,731 35		
Total	506,555.42	637,073 20	632,051 39		800 00
MISSOURI.					
St. Louis.....	38,905.16	49,633 68	48,283 68		350 00
Fayette	34,199.67	42,749 33	41,649 33		1,100 00
Palmyra.....	19,488.07	24,360 21	24,360 21		
Jackson.....	28,107.97	35,135 00	34,982 00		153 00
Clinton.....	29,805.61	37,259 96	36,296 47		963 49
Springfield.....	47,082.91	58,853 63	58,253 63		600 00
Plattsburg	42,675.79	53,344 89	48,591 89		4,753 00
Total	240,265.18	300,336 70	292,417 21		7,919 49
ALABAMA.					
St. Stephens	5,024.58	6,425 39	5,453 39	\$72 00	900 00
Cahaba	26,349.43	32,936 82	30,934 16		310 59
Huntsville	20,191.30	25,269 49	25,269 49		
Tuscaloosa.....	16,701.87	20,878 53	20,479 09		200 00
Sparta.....	25,412.94	31,766 08	29,566 08		
Bemopblis.....	1,614.14	2,017 68	2,017 68		
Montgomery.....	15,576.35	19,470 52	19,470 52		
Lebanon.....	37,855.20	47,315 30	47,315 30		
Total	148,725.81	186,079 81	180,505 71	72 00	1,410 59
MISSISSIPPI.					
Washington.....	3,303.79	4,129 75	4,129 75		
Augusta.....	9,917.67	12,396 88	6,843 13		
Jackson.....	5,538.35	6,925 41	1,560 87		
Grenada.....	6,580.34	8,125 38	5,225 38		
Columbus	63,768.14	79,990 58	71,717 40		
Total	89,028.29	111,568 00	89,476 53		

A—Continued.

LAND OFFICES AND STATES.	Lands sold after deducting erroneous entries.		Amount received in cash, Treasurer's receipts, and treasury notes.		
	Acres.	Purchase money.	Cash.	Treasurer's receipts.	Treasury notes.
LOUISIANA.					
New Orleans.....	20,512.04	\$25,640 06	\$8,639 33	.....	\$50 00
Opelousas.....	21,532.34	26,915 40	24,041 15	.....	1,200 00
Ouachita.....	24,012.41	30,015 50	17,963 83	.....	2,951 77
Greensburg.....	No sales.	.....	.....	.....	.....
Natchitoches.....	44,948.23	56,241 13	56,241 33	.....	.....
Total.....	111,005.02	138,812 09	106,885 44	.....	4,201 77
MICHIGAN.					
Detroit.....	11,127.11	14,238 89	14,225 71	.....	.....
Kalamazoo.....	10,049.19	12,562 23	12,562 23	.....	.....
Genesee.....	3,717.50	5,462 77	5,462 77	.....	.....
Tonia.....	37,372.33	46,715 51	46,715 51	.....	.....
Total.....	62,266.13	78,979 40	78,966 22	.....	.....
ARKANSAS.					
Batesville.....	9,646.33	12,058 17	11,558 17	.....	.....
Little Rock.....	11,800.21	14,750 25	10,300 25	.....	350 00
Washington.....	7,859.51	9,824 48	8,474 48	.....	1,350 00
Fayetteville.....	5,509.87	6,887 37	6,287 37	.....	.....
Helena.....	30,808.04	38,510 13	33,110 13	.....	600 00
Johnson C. H.....	6,468.52	8,085 49	7,585 49	.....	.....
Champagnole.....	27,903.96	34,880 94	29,275 42	.....	606 88
Total.....	99,996.44	124,996 83	106,591 31	.....	2,906 88

FLORIDA.					
Tallahassee.....	17,740.75	23,358 63	21,799 79	.....	1,558 841
St. Augustine.....	1,203.06	1,503 83	1,503 83	.....	.....
Newnansville.....	7,931.03	9,913 78	9,913 78	.....	.....
Total	26,874.84	34,776 24	33,217 40	.....	1,558 84
IOWA.					
Dubuque.....	133,419.17	167,901 39	167,901 39	.....	.....
Fairfield.....	93,298.47	116,696 20	116,696 20	.....	.....
Iowa City.....	44,896.61	58,668 75	58,417 65	.....	251 10
Total	271,614.25	343,266 34	343,015 24	.....	251 14
WISCONSIN.					
Mineral Point.....	117,490.46	149,437 29	147,883 95	.....	1,153 34
Green Bay.....	290,993.74	363,849 50	363,774 50	.....	.....
Milwaukee.....	224,554.07	285,296 78	285,296 78	.....	.....
Total	633,038.27	798,583 57	796,955 23	.....	1,153 34

A—Continued.

LAND OFFICES AND STATES.	Amount received in forfeited land stock, military scrip, and Choctaw certificates.			Amount of incidental expenses.	Amount paid into the treasury during the year.
	Forfeited land stock.	Military land scrip.	Choctaw certificates.		
OHIO.					
Chillicothe.....		\$125 00		\$3,774 79	\$77,835 28
Upper Sandusky.....	\$79 50	125 00		4,069 14	108,599 20
Total	79 50	250 00		7,843 93	186,434 48
INDIANA.					
Jeffersonville.....				3,184 44	40,258 16
Vincennes.....				2,574 52	46,195 00
Indianapolis.....				2,921 26	40,494 63
Crawfordsville.....				2,000 48	29,506 35
Fort Wayne.....		150 00		3,246 38	77,360 95
Winamac.....				4,009 85	81,966 61
Total		150 00		17,936 93	315,781 70
ILLINOIS.					
Shawneetown.....				2,130 52	31,293 80
Kaskaskia.....				1,606 32	20,800 00
Edwardsville.....				1,416 10	16,100 00
Vandalia.....				1,488 00	19,632 00
Palestine.....				1,914 17	28,680 00
Springfield.....				1,949 41	26,012 09
Danville.....				1,794 43	21,232 93

Quincy	225 00	1,657 80	16,788 85
Dixon	1,250 00	9,274 66	304,242 95
Chicago	2,746 81	7,322 03	145,182 56
Total	4,221 81	30,553 44	630,015 18
MISSOURI.			
St. Louis		6,117 76	43,015 18
Fayette		2,597 44	50,870 47
Palmyra		1,654 79	24,758 46
Jackson		1,968 83	36,857 15
Clinton		2,421 41	53,847 15
Springfield		3,862 46	81,291 76
Plattsburg		3,859 73	66,413 59
Total		22,482 42	357,053 76
ALABAMA.			
St. Stephen's		1,122 22	1,731 03
Cahaba	\$1,692 07	1,931 05	32,110 59
Huntsville		1,501 37	40,746 50
Tuscaloosa	199 44	1,494 47	14,870 40
Sparta	2,200 00	1,816 47	26,116 96
Demopolis		1,048 24	1,701 48
Montgomery		1,667 42	21,226 74
Lebanon		3,659 14	51,099 86
Total	4,091 51	14,240 38	189,603 56
MISSISSIPPI.			
Washington		1,515 80	4,413 92
Augusta		5,553 75	8,233 33
Jackson		1,257 32	1,760 72
Grenada	100 00	1,309 99	5,979 69
Columbus		8,273 18	67,575 45
Total	100 00	21,991 47	87,963 11

A—Continued.

LAND OFFICES AND STATES.	Amount received in forfeited land stock, military scrip, and Choctaw certificates.			Amount of incidental expenses.	Amount paid into the treasury during the year.
	Forfeited land stock.	Military land scrip.	Choctaw certificates.		
LOUISIANA.					
New Orleans.....			\$16,950 73	\$4,644 61	\$1,480 00
Opelousas.....			1,674 25	1,918 20	29,031 40
Ouachita.....			9,099 90	2,001 31	31,331 44
Greensburg.....				907 42	
Nachitoches.....				2,297 14	41,151 14
Total.....			27,724 88	11,768 68	102,993 98
MICHIGAN.					
Detroit.....	\$13 18			1,650 65	12,575 11
Kalamazoo.....				1,440 04	9,700 00
Genesee.....				1,114 15	4,395 71
Ionia.....				2,511 17	44,511 15
Total.....	13 18			6,716 01	71,181 97
ARKANSAS.					
Batesville.....			500 00	1,585 33	9,023 62
Little Rock.....			4,100 00	1,919 90	9,227 28
Washington.....				1,169 78	1,750 00
Fayetteville.....			600 00	1,620 13	6,330 40
Helena.....			4,800 00	2,625 80	43,475 90
Johnson C. H.....			500 00	1,389 27	8,867 78
Champagnole.....			4,998 64	2,602 50	37,075 25
Total.....			15,498 64	12,912 66	115,750 23

FLORIDA.

Tallahassee.....			2,051 07	18,747 42
St. Augustine.....			1,509 96	.....
Newnansville.....			1,410 43	9,074 32
Total.....			4,971 46	27,821 74

IOWA.

Dubuque.....			6,685 57	164,602 00
Fairfield.....			5,446 46	136,823 94
Iowa city.....			3,331 85	52,992 59
Total.....			15,463 88	354,423 53

WISCONSIN.

Mineral Point.....		400 00	5,594 04	157,623 23
Green Bay.....		75 00	10,373 75	368,913 10
Milwaukee.....			5,521 20	282,219 40
Total.....		475 00	23,488 99	808,755 73

A—Continued.

RECAPITULATION.

STATES.	Lands sold after deducting erroneous entries.		Amount received in cash, Treasurer's receipts, and treasury notes.		
	Acres.	Purchase money.	Cash.	Treasurer's receipts:	Treasury notes.
Ohio	104,548.43	\$194,105 78	\$193,676 28	.....	\$100 00
Indiana.....	227,387.51	347,826 12	347,526 12	.....	150 00
Illinois.....	506,555.42	637,073 20	632,051 39	.....	800 00
Missouri.....	240,265.18	300,336 70	292,417 21	.....	7,919 49
Alabama.....	148,725.81	186,079 81	180,505 71	\$72 00	1,410 59
Mississippi.....	89,028.29	111,568 00	89,476 53	.....	.....
Louisiana.....	111,005.02	138,812 09	106,885 44	.....	4,201 77
Michigan.....	62,266.13	78,979 40	78,966 22	.....	.....
Arkansas.....	99,996.44	124,996 83	106,591 31	.....	2,906 88
Florida.....	26,874.84	34,776 24	33,217 40	.....	1,558 84
Iowa.....	271,614.25	343,266 34	343,015 24	.....	251 10
Wisconsin.....	633,038.27	798,583 57	796,955 23	.....	1,153 34
Grand total.....	2,521,305.59	3,296,404 08	3,201,284 08	72 00	20,452 01

A.—Recapitulation—Continued.

STATES.	Amount received in forfeited land stock, military scrip, and Choctaw certificates.			Amount of incidental expenses.	Amount paid into the treasury during the year.
	Forfeited land stock.	Military land scrip.	Choctaw certificates.		
Ohio.....	\$79 50	\$250 00	.....	\$7,843 93	\$186,434 48
Indiana .....	.....	150 00	.....	17,936 93	315,781 70
Illinois .....	.....	4,221 81	.....	30,553 44	630,015 18
Missouri.....	.....	.....	.....	22,482 42	357,053 76
Alabama.....	.....	.....	\$4,091 51	14,240 38	189,603 56
Mississippi.....	.....	100 00	21,991 47	8,833 14	87,963 11
Louisiana.....	.....	.....	27,724 88	11,768 68	102,993 98
Michigan.....	13 18	.....	.....	6,716 01	71,181 97
Arkansas.....	.....	.....	15,498 64	12,812 66	115,750 23
Florida.....	.....	.....	.....	4,971 46	27,821 74
Iowa.....	.....	.....	.....	15,468 89	354,423 53
Wisconsin.....	.....	475 00	.....	23,488 99	808,755 73
Grand total.....	92 68	5,196 81	69,306 50	177,211 92	3,247,778 97

B.

Statement of public lands sold ; of cash, Treasurer's receipts, treasury notes, stock, &c., received therefor ; of incidental expenses thereon ; and of payments into the treasury on account thereof, during the first and second quarters of the year 1848.

LAND OFFICES AND STATES.	Lands sold after deducting erroneous entries.		Amount received in cash, Treasurer's receipts, and treasury notes.		
	Acres.	Purchase money.	Cash.	Treasurer's receipts.	Treasury notes.
OHIO.					
Chillicothe.....	28,176.61	\$37,801 91	\$37,801 91	.....	.....
Upper Sandusky.....	7,906.64	16,357 55	16,357 55	.....	.....
Total.....	36,083.25	54,159 46	54,159 46	.....	.....
INDIANA.					
Jeffersonville.....	14,615.64	18,306 80	18,306 80	.....	.....
Vincennes.....	19,848.57	24,810 74	24,810 74	.....	.....
Indianapolis.....	57,930.74	113,782 74	113,324 64	.....	\$458 10
Crawfordsville.....	5,570.20	6,962 78	6,962 78	.....	.....
Fort Wayne.....	92,540.69	181,804 39	181,676 69	.....	52 70
Winamac.....	80,178.20	149,868 00	149,868 00	.....	.....
Total.....	270,684 04	495,535 45	494,899 55	.....	510 80
ILLINOIS.					
Shawneetown.....	16,570.73	20,713 40	20,613 40	.....	.....
Kaskaskia.....	9,455.84	11,819 82	11,819 82	.....	.....
Edwardsville.....	4,910.38	6,138 02	6,138 02	.....	.....
Vandalia.....	4,882.53	6,103 48	6,103 48	.....	.....

Palestine.....	12,128.34	15,160 46	15,160 46	.....	.....
Springfield.....	10,279.29	12,849 11	12,824 11	.....	.....
Danville.....	11,919.04	14,898 84	14,898 84	.....	.....
Quincy.....	6,285.69	7,857 24	7,857 24	.....	.....
Dixon.....	51,321.63	64,276 92	63,543 09
Chicago.....	30,646.50	38,308 07	38,308 07

Total.....	158,309.97	198,125 36	197,266 53
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MISSOURI.

St. Louis.....	22,016.91	27,521 26	27,521 26
Fayette.....	14,658.50	18,332 46	18,332 46
Fallmyra.....	5,809.08	7,261 45	7,261 45	.....	.....
Jackson.....	18,288.31	22,860 41	22,610 41	.....	\$250 00
Clinton.....	12,621.19	15,800 17	15,695 74	.....	204 43
Springfield.....	23,503.55	29,379 56	29,379 56	.....	.....
Plattsburg.....	16,323.42	20,404 36	20,404 36

Total.....	113,220.96	141,559 67	141,105 24	454 43
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ALABAMA.

St. Stephens.....	1,792.58	2,240 74	2,240 74
Cahaba.....	5,470.93	7,866 90	7,866 90
Huntsville.....	7,209.69	9,014 74	9,014 74
Tuscaloosa.....	6,205.05	7,756 82	7,756 82	.....	.....
Sparta.....	6,487.70	8,109 63	8,109 63	.....	.....
Demopolis.....	1,067.94	1,334 94	1,334 94	.....	.....
Montgomery.....	4,797.89	6,053 15	6,058 15
Lebanon.....	15,431.21	19,289 00	19,289 00

Total.....	48,462.99	61,670 92	61,670 92
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MISSISSIPPI.

Washington.....	1,627.42	2,034 30	2,034 30
Augusta.....	2,369.17	2,961 17	2,961 17
Jackson.....	1,214.87	1,519 58	1,519 58	.....	.....
Grenada.....	1,131.33	1,414 83	1,414 83
Columbus.....	7,406.76	9,258 55	9,258 55

Total.....	13,749.55	17,188 43	17,188 43
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B—Continued.

LAND OFFICES AND STATES.	Land sold after deducting erroneous entries.		Amount received in cash, Treasurer's receipts, and treasury notes.		
	Acres.	Purchase money.	Cash.	Treasurer's receipts.	Treasury notes.
LOUISIANA.					
New Orleans	9,296.84	\$11,632 57	\$9,293 41		\$257 35
Opelousas	19,983.88	25,018 64	23,750 40		1,268 24
Onachita	14,399.14	18,372 94	18,372 94		
Greensburg		(No sale.)			
Natchitoches	47,167.77	60,010 97	55,927 95		4,083 02
Total	90,847.63	115,035 12	107,344 70		5,608 61
MICHIGAN.					
Detroit	5,081.70	6,412 12	6,412 12		
Kalamazoo	5,560.66	7,007 48	7,007 48		
Genesee	1,885.53	3,838 00	3,838 00		
Ionia	15,565.40	19,456 79	19,456 79		
Sault Ste. Marie	5,689.03	13,350 73	13,350 73		
Total	33,782.32	50,065 12	50,065 12		
ARKANSAS.					
Batesville	7,904.83	9,881 03	9,881 03		
Little Rock	3,982.21	4,977 76	4,977 76		
Washington	10,594.52	13,243 22	13,243 22		
Fayetteville	5,768.21	7,210 27	7,210 27		
Helena	9,887.65	12,359 62	12,154 24		205 38
Clarksville	4,102.33	5,127 92	5,127 92		

Champagnole	16,136.62	20,171 41	20,171 41	.....	.....
Total	58,376.37	72,971 23	72,765 85	.....	205 38
FLORIDA.					
Tallahassee	8,033.53	11,050 28	10,384 55	.....	665 73
St. Augustine	502.84	628 55	628 55	.....	.....
Newnansville	3,739.56	4,674 47	4,674 47	.....	.....
Total	12,275.93	16,353 30	15,687 57	.....	665 73
IOWA.					
Dubuque	30,932.59	38,668 00	38,568 00	.....	100 00
Fairfield	36,932.44	46,253 13	46,103 13	.....	150 00
Iowa city	29,852.79	37,315 98	37,315 98	.....	.....
Total	97,717.82	122,237 11	121,987 11	.....	250 00
WISCONSIN.					
Mineral Point	33,194.66	41,493 33	41,043 33	.....	.....
Green Bay	56,115.21	70,144 55	70,144 55	.....	.....
Milwaukee	32,653.70	40,817 29	40,817 29	.....	.....
Total	121,963.57	152,455 17	152,005 17	.....	.....

B—Continued.

LAND OFFICES AND STATES.	Amount received in forfeited land stock and military scrip.		Amount of incidental expenses.	Amount paid into the treasury during the 1st and 2d quarters of the year.
	Forfeited land stock.	Military land scrip.		
OHIO.				
Chillicothe			\$1,759 42	\$36,240 20
Upper Sandusky.....			1,004 66	19,697 99
Total			2,764 08	55,938 19
INDIANA.				
Jeffersonville			1,721 69	16,379 45
Vincennes			1,204 30	19,151 40
Indianapolis			3,494 69	115,257 70
Crawfordsville			745 85	8,157 63
Fort Wayne.....		\$125 00	5,139 67	190,261 59
Winamac			5,021 65	144,900 00
Total		125 00	17,327 85	494,107 77
ILLINOIS.				
Shawneetown.....		100 00	1,182 09	21,950 55
Kaskaskia			849 12	10,000 00
Edwardsville.....			652 27	5,000 00
Vandalia			650 73	5,000 00

Palastina			835 31	17,214 00
Springfield		25 00	973 51	15,000 00
Danville			840 14	10,000 00
Quincy			1,173 53	8,133 69
Dixon		733 83	2,706 89	70,853 00
Chicago			1,642 88	33,632 02
Total		858 83	11,506 47	196,833 26
MISSOURI.				
St. Louis			3,585 89	24,355 81
Fayette			1,049 62	13,806 03
Palmyra			740 63	6,323 00
Jackson			1,155 35	23,617 85
Clinton			680 12	232 63
Springfield			1,933 89	29,465 00
Plattsburg			1,350 44	20,000 05
Total			10,495 94	117,800 32
ALABAMA.				
St. Stephen's			784 54	5,300 00
Cahaba			685 89	11,471 42
Huntsville			1,082 34	20,252 09
Fuscaloosa			857 61	11,160 38
Sparta			708 62	8,000 00
Demopolis			609 23	1,500 00
Montgomery			698 88	1,025 00
Lebanon			1,532 83	16,000 00
Total			6,959 94	74,708 91
MISSISSIPPI.				
Washington			795 00	3,507 70
Angusta			612 12	371 67
Jackson			856 42	
Grenada			402 27	801 02
Columbus			1,012 01	11,788 64
Total			3,677 82	16,469 03

B—Continued.

LAND OFFICES AND STATES.	Amount received in forfeited land stock and military scrip.		Amount of incidental expenses.	Amount paid into the treasury during the 1st and 2d quarters of the year.
	Forfeited land stock.	Military land scrip.		
LOUISIANA.				
New Orleans.....		\$2,081 81	\$1,423 44	\$9,762 35
Opelousas.....			1,278 43	22,324 02
Quachita.....			1,391 26	30,643 86
Greensburg.....			665 41	
Natchitoches.....			2,699 19	72,741 58
Total.....		2,081 81	7,457 73	135,471 81
MICHIGAN.				
Detroit.....			1,002 54	5,409 65
Kalamazoo.....			755 69	6,550 00
Genesee.....			647 53	3,150 00
Ionia.....			1,201 63	18,001 69
Sault Ste. Marie.....			703 50	
Total.....			4,310 89	33,111 34
ARKANSAS.				
Batesville.....			818 92	8,936 00
Little Rock.....			913 20	4,000 00
Washington.....			830 35	12,350 00
Fayetteville.....			899 89	5,678 00
Helena.....			1,268 91	9,955 38
Clarksville.....			710 73	5,906 62

Champagnole.....			1,258 84	21,025 23
Total.....			6,700 84	67,851 23
FLORIDA.				
Tallahassee.....			1,019 16	14,227 41
St. Augustine.....			696 05	612 00
Newnansville.....			773 61	2,459 87
Total.....			2,488 82	17,299 28
IOWA.				
Dubuque.....			1,727 54	45,216 12
Fairfield.....			1,772 52	40,932 15
Iowa city.....			1,782 89	37,145 07
Total.....			5,282 95	123,293 34
WISCONSIN.				
Mineral Point.....		450 00	1,490 34	27,169 85
Green Bay.....			1,754 65	57,921 98
Milwaukee.....			1,128 33	101,336 16
Total.....		450 00	4,373 32	186,427 99

B—Continued.

RECAPITULATION.

STATES.	Land sold after deducting erroneous entries.		Amount received in cash, Treasurer's receipts, and treasury notes.		
	Acres.	Purchase money.	Cash.	Treasurer's receipts.	Treasury notes.
Ohio	36,083.25	\$54,159 46	\$54,159 46		
Indiana	270,684.04	495,535 45	494,899 65		\$510 80
Illinois	158,399.97	198,125 36	197,266 53		
Missouri	113,220.96	141,559 67	141,105 24		454 43
Alabama	48,462.99	61,670 92	61,670 92		
Mississippi	13,749.55	17,188 43	17,188 43		
Louisiana	90,847.63	115,035 12	107,344 70		5,608 61
Michigan	33,782.32	50,065 12	50,065 12		
Arkansas	58,376.37	72,971 23	72,765 85		205 38
Florida	42,275.93	16,353 30	15,687 57		665 73
Iowa	97,717.82	122,237 11	121,987 11		250 00
Wisconsin	121,963.57	152,455 17	152,005 17		
Grand total.....	1,955,564.40	1,497,356 34	1,486,145 75		7,694 95

B.—Recapitulation—Continued.

STATES.	Amount received in forfeited land stock and military scrip.		Amount of incidental expenses.	Amount paid into the treasury during the 1st and 2d quarters of the year.
	Forfeited land stock.	Military land scrip.		
Ohio			\$2,764 08	\$55,938 19
Indiana		\$125 00	17,327 85	494,107 77
Illinois		858 83	11,506 47	196,833 26
Missouri			10,495 94	117,800 32
Alabama			6,959 94	74,708 91
Mississippi			3,677 82	16,469 03
Louisiana		2,081 81	7,457 73	135,471 81
Michigan			4,310 89	33,111 34
Arkansas			6,700 84	67,851 23
Florida			2,488 82	17,299 28
Iowa			5,282 95	123,293 34
Wisconsin		450 00	4,373 32	186,427 99
Grand total.....		3,515 64	83,346 65	1,519,312 47

C.

Statement of public lands sold ; of cash, Treasurer's receipts, treasury notes, stock, &c., received therefor ; of incidental expenses thereon ; and of payments into the treasury on account thereof, in the third quarter of the year 1848.

LAND OFFICES AND STATES.	Lands sold after deducting erroneous entries.		Amount received in cash, Treasurer's receipts, and treasury notes.		
	Acres.	Purchase money.	Cash.	Treasurer's receipts.	Treasury notes.
OHIO.					
Chillicothe.....	7,003.18	\$10,493 78	\$10,493 78	.....	.....
Defiance.....	8,775.41	16,679 32	16,379 32	.....	\$300 00
Total.....	15,778.59	27,173 10	26,873 10	.....	300 00
INDIANA.					
Jeffersonville.....	3,236.12	4,045 15	4,045 15	.....	.....
Vincennes.....	9,056.90	11,333 68	11,333 68	.....	.....
Indianapolis.....	12,509.23	23,687 70	23,687 70	.....	.....
Indianapolis.....	1,983.70	2,479 61	2,479 61	.....	.....
Crawfordsville.....	12,791.95	23,625 58	23,625 58	.....	.....
Fort Wayne.....	11,528.42	18,348 00	18,348 00	.....	.....
Winamac.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	51,106.32	83,519 72	83,519 72	.....	.....
ILLINOIS.					
Shawneetown.....	4,959.24	6,199 05	6,199 05	.....	.....
Kaskaskia.....	5,286.13	6,607 61	6,607 61	.....	.....
Edwardsville.....	3,193.95	3,992 45	3,742 45	.....	.....
Vandalia.....	2,762.07	3,452 59	3,452 59	.....	.....

Palestine	6,174.03	7,721 54	7,471 54	.....
Springfield.....	2,603 56	3,254 45	3,254 45	.....
Danville.....	5,864.05	7,330 05	7,280 05	.....
Quincy	5,354.97	6,693 71	6,693 71	.....
Dixon.....	17,905.14	22,385 32	22,260 32	.....
Chicago.....	11,994.00	15,010 66	14,835 66	50 00
Total	66,097.14	82,647 43	81,797 43	50 00
MISSOURI.				
St. Louis.....	8,323.41	10,404 89	10,404 89	.....
Fayette.....	7,198.81	8,998 51	8,998 51	.....
Palmyra.....	4,031.01	5,038 78	5,038 78	.....
Jackson.....	21,329.83	26,662 28	26,662 28	.....
Clinton.....	6,297.31	7,871 64	7,871 64	.....
Springfield.....	4,597.96	5,747 41	5,747 41	.....
Plattsburg	7,654.93	9,600 31	9,600 31	.....
Total	59,433.26	74,323 82	74,323 82	.....
ALABAMA.				
St. Stephen's.....	3,846.76	4,836 62	4,836 62	.....
Cahaba	1,312.11	1,640 25	1,640 25	.....
Huntsville	4,312.55	5,390 80	5,390 80	.....
Tuscaloosa.....	1,923.60	2,410 89	2,410 89	.....
Sparta.....	1,678.17	2,097 71	2,097 71	.....
Demopolis.....	314.98	393 72	393 72	.....
Montgomery.....	1,638.75	2,048 45	2,048 45	.....
Lebanon.....	.....	.....	.....	No returns.
Total	15,031.92	18,818 44	18,818 44	.....
MISSISSIPPI.				
Washington.....	733.98	917 47	917 47	.....
Augusta.....	1,311.08	1,645 34	1,645 34	.....
Jackson.....	246.77	308 47	308 47	.....
Grenada.....	2,222.18	2,786 46	2,786 46	.....
Columbus.....	98.43	123 06	123 06	.....
Total	4,612.44	5,780 80	5,780 80	.....

LAND OFFICES AND STATES.	Lands sold after deducting erroneous entries.		Amount received in cash, Treasurer's receipts, and treasury notes.		
	Acres.	Purchase money.	Cash.	Treasurer's receipts.	Treasury notes.
LOUISIANA.					
New Orleans.....	997.14	\$1,246 44	\$1,246 44		
Opelousas.....	3,837.81	4,797 25	4,797 25		
Quachita.....	7,084.66	8,858 97	8,858 97		
Greensburg.....	No sales.				
Natchitoches.....	11,890.71	14,863 61	14,863 61		
Total.....	23,810.32	29,766 27	29,766 27		
MICHIGAN.					
Detroit.....	2,402.96	3,003 69	3,003 69		
Kalamazoo.....	2,795.47	3,494 33	3,494 33		
Genesee.....	1,125.26	1,973 11	1,973 11		
Ionia.....	8,563.58	10,704 47	10,704 47		
Sault Ste. Marie.....	9,236.87	20,041 99	20,041 99		
Total.....	24,124.14	39,217 59	39,217 59		
ARKANSAS.					
Batesville.....	6,990.15	8,737 68	8,737 68		
Little Rock.....	1,874.33	2,342 90	2,342 90		
Washington.....	2,141.39	2,676 75	2,676 75		
Fayetteville.....	856.51	1,070 44	1,070 44		
Helena.....	2,292.19	2,865 25	2,865 25		
Clarksville.....	745.52	931 90	931 90		

Champagnole	4,063.59	5,079 48	5,079 48	.....
Total	18,963.68	23,704 40	23,704 40	.....
FLORIDA.				
Tallahassee.....	1,807.55	2,259 43	2,259 43	.....
St. Augustine	No sales.	.....	.....	.....
Newnansville	471.81	589 77	589 77	.....
Total	2,279.36	2,849 20	2,849 20	.....
IOWA.				
Dubuque	8,004.00	10,005 00	10,005 00	.....
Fairfield	10,118.43	12,648 04	12,648 04	.....
Iowa City.....	7,109.50	9,095 08	9,045 08	\$50 00
Total	25,231.93	31,748 12	31,698 12	50 00
WISCONSIN.				
Mineral Point.....	12,634.05	15,792 56	15,567 56	.....
Green Bay.....	27,061.23	39,826 52	39,826 52	.....
Milwaukee.....	37,701.99	47,131 82	47,131 82	.....
St. Croix.....	8,809.74	11,012 17	11,012 17	.....
Total	86,207.01	113,763 07	113,538 07	.....

C—Continued.

LAND OFFICES AND STATES.	Amount received in forfeited land stock and military scrip.		Amount of incidental expenses.	Amount paid into the treasury during the third quarter of the year.
	Forfeited land stock.	Military land scrip.		
OHIO.				
Chillicothe.....			\$611 73	\$10,729 44
Defiance.....			1,292 67	12,618 86
Total.....			1,904 40	23,348 30
INDIANA.				
Jeffersonville.....			635 68	3,300 00
Vincennes.....			697 18	11,338 81
Indianapolis.....			764 12	16,571 07
Crawfordsville.....			297 13	324 25
Fort Wayne.....			743 91	17,082 19
Winamac.....			1,783 50	18,000 00
Total.....			4,921 52	66,616 32
ILLINOIS.				
Shawneetown.....			425 31	5,505 00
Kaskaskia.....			421 38	5,000 00
Edwardsville.....		\$250 00	343 87	4,291 24
Vandalia.....			294 23	
Palestine.....		250 00	485 30	6,075 00
Springfield.....			285 39	100 00
Danville.....		50 00	505 78	9,583 66

Quincy		471 38	10,064 21
Dixon	125 00	946 61	23,518 17
Chicago	125 00	991 15	13,841 73
Total	800 00	5,170 40	77,969 01

MISSOURI.

St. Louis		2,942 62	7,908 65
Fayette		552 69	12,041 97
Palmyra		568 49	5,063 89
Jackson		997 20	18,330 56
Clinton		738 76	20,321 79
Springfield		315 52	1,337 96
Plattsburg		411 44	.....
Total		6,526 72	65,004 82

ALABAMA.

St. Stephen's		476 07	.....
Cshaba		270 10	.....
Huntsville		321 44	633 40
Tuscaloosa		304 90	915 18
Sparta		416 46	5,702 20
Demopolis		297 81	.....
Montgomery		273 53	136 90
Lebanon .....		.....	7,500 00
Total		2,360 31	14,887 68

MISSISSIPPI.

Washington		261 78	.....
Augusta		270 56	.....
Jackson		265 91
Grenada		327 40	101 06
Columbus
Total		1,125 65	101 06

C—Continued.

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LAND OFFICES AND STATES.	Amount received in forfeited land stock and military scrip.		Amount of incidental expenses.	Amount paid into the treasury during the third quarter of the year.
	Forfeited land stock.	Military land scrip.		
LOUISIANA.				
New Orleans.....			\$265 50	\$1,000 00
Opelousas.....			300 98	.....
Ouachita.....			358 56	1,243 87
Greensburg.....			125 00	.....
Nachitoches.....			729 39	11,050 00
Total.....			1,779 43	13,293 87
MICHIGAN.				
Detroit.....			793 88	2,209 81
Kalamazoo.....			375 77	3,211 72
Genesee.....			311 74	1,500 00
Ionia.....			588 15	8,000 00
Sault Ste. Marie.....			2,098 02	26,000 00
Total.....			4,167 56	40,921 53
ARKANSAS.				
Batesville.....			571 95	10,545 87
Little Rock.....			338 91	.....
Washington.....			469 57	11,449 07
Fayetteville.....			270 66	543 76
Helena.....			358 23	100 00
Clarksville.....			277 05

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Champagnole.....			145 66	
Total.....			2,432 03	22,638 70
FLORIDA.				
Tallahassee.....			384 30	2,153 73
St. Augustine.....			252 63	
St. Newnansville.....			350 99	2,600 00
Total.....			987 92	4,753 73
IOWA.				
Dubuque.....			420 59	5,233 75
Fairfield.....			923 55	25,034 70
Iowa city.....			635 76	10,000 00
Total.....			1,979 89	40,268 45
WISCONSIN.				
Mineral Point.....		\$225 00	728 69	17,749 82
Green Bay.....			1,649 84	45,253 26
Milwaukee.....			1,501 66	49,897 85
St. Croix.....			1,146 77	
Total.....		225 00	5,027 06	112,905 93

Ex. Doc. No. 12.

REGISTRATION
G-CORPORATION

C—Continued.

RECAPITULATION.

STATES.	Lands sold after deducting erroneous entries.		Amount received in cash, Treasurer's receipts, and treasury notes.		
	Acres.	Purchase money.	Cash.	Treasurer's receipts.	Treasury notes.
Ohio	\$15,778 59	\$27,173 10	\$26,873 10		\$300 00
Indiana	51,106 32	83,519 72	83,519 72		
Illinois	66,097 14	82,647 43	81,797 43		50 00
Missouri	59,433 26	74,323 82	74,323 82		
Alabama	15,031 92	18,818 44	18,818 44		
Mississippi	4,612 44	5,780 80	5,780 80		
Louisiana	23,810 32	29,766 27	29,766 27		
Michigan	24,124 14	39,217 59	39,217 59		
Arkansas	18,963 68	23,704 40	23,704 40		
Florida	2,279 36	2,849 20	2,849 20		
Iowa	25,231 93	31,748 12	31,698 12		50 00
Wisconsin	86,207 01	113,763 07	113,538 07		
Grand total	392,676 11	533,311 96	531,886 96		400 00

EX. Doc. No. 12.

C—Recapitulation—Continued.

STATES.	Amount received in forfeited land stock and military scrip.		Amount of incidental expenses.	Amount paid into the treasury during the third quarter of the year.
	Forfeited land stock.	Military land scrip.		
Ohio.....			\$1,904 40	\$23,348 30
Indiana.....			4,921 52	66,616 32
Illinois.....		\$800 00	5,170 40	77,969 01
Missouri.....			6,526 72	65,004 82
Alabama.....			2,360 31	14,887 68
Mississippi.....			1,125 65	101 06
Louisiana.....			1,779 43	13,293 87
Michigan.....			4,167 56	40,921 53
Arkansas.....			2,432 03	22,638 70
Florida.....			987 92	4,753 73
Iowa.....			1,979 89	40,268 45
Wisconsin.....		225 00	5,027 06	112,905 93
Grand total.....		1,025 00	38,382 89	482,709 40

EX. Doc. No. 12.

D.

Statement showing the number of Choctaw certificates relinquished to the United States, for lands in the State, of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas; the quantity of acres covered by such relinquishment, &c. so far as the returns to the 31st October, 1848, have been received at this office.

States and districts.	Account of certificates surrendered to the U. States under instructions issued prior to the 7th June, '47, in payment for lands entered by holders thereof.			Account of certificates located, according to the returns received to the 31st October, 1848, under the instructions of the 7th June, 1847.							Aggregate No. of certificates surrendered and located.	Aggregate quantity of acres in the certificates surrendered and located in all the States in which they were receivable to the 31st October, 1848.	Aggregate of the actual quantity of acres for which said certificates were surrendered and upon which located, to the 31st October, 1848.		
	No. of certificates surrendered.	Quantity of acres in the certificates surrendered.	The actual quantity of acres for which said certificate's were surrendered.	No. of certificates located.	No. of entries based thereon.	Quantity of acres in the certificates located.	Quantity of acres located with them.	Aggregate No. of certificates located.	Aggregate No. of entries based thereon.	Aggregate quantity of acres in the certificates located.				Aggregate quantity of acres located with said certificates.	
ALABAMA.															
Cahaba	7	1,360	1,353.65	13	13	2,400	2,398.12								
Sparta.....	14	1,920	1,920.00	21	22	3,840	3,839.40								
Tuscaloosa.....	1	160	159.82												
	22	3,440	3,433.47	34	35	6,240	6,237.52	34	35	6,240	6,237.52	56	9,680	9,670.99	
MISSISSIPPI.															
Grenada	261	52,960	52,069.16	45	50	7,840	7,820.12								
Columbus.....	71	11,120	11,078.61	57	57	10,160	10,073.60								

Washington.....	2	240	240.00	2	1	480	480.00							
Augusta.....	121	18,480	18,392.43	19	41	3,360	3,354.88							
Jackson.....	59	8,400	8,313.02	20	23	2,720	2,698.55							
	514	91,200	90,093.22	143	172	24,560	24,427.15	143	172	24,560	24,427.15	657	115,760	114,520.37
LOUISIANA.														
Ouachita.....	47	11,440	11,436.50	87	84	16,480	16,365.91							
Natchitoches.....	1	80	80.00	4	4	400	399.91							
New Orleans.....	254	45,280	45,219.03	1	1	320	319.60							
Opelousas.....	3	640	640.00	5	4	960	960.00							
	305	57,440	57,375.53	97	93	18,160	18,045.42	97	93	18,160	18,045.42	402	75,600	75,420.95
ARKANSAS.														
Batesville.....	3	400	400.00	8	8	880	880.00							
Champagnole.....	95	16,040	15,989.91	141	212	30,940	30,939.00							
Clarksville.....	8	880	880.00	2	2	160	160.00							
Fayetteville.....	3	480	480.00	14	14	2,000	2,000.00							
Helena.....	19	3,840	3,840.00	76	78	12,080	11,800.07							
Little Rock.....	24	3,280	3,280.00	42	42	5,520	5,514.85							
Washington.....	2	400	400.00	7	7	1,200	1,200.00							
	154	25,320	25,269.91	290	360	52,780	52,493.92	290	363	52,780	52,493.92	444	78,100	77,763.83
	995	177,400	176,172.13	.....	.....	.....	.....	564	663	101,740	101,204.01	1559	279,140	277,376.14

NOTE.—This table shows the actual returns of Choctaw certificates located to 1st November, 1848. In the exhibits for 1846 and the first half of the year 1847, those cases were excluded where the certificates had not been received in this office, or, having been received, were suspended from the receiver's credit.

E.

Number of military bounty land warrants located under act of February 11, 1847, up to September, 1848, inclusive.

States.	Number, of 160 acres each.	Number, of 40 acres each.	Total amount located.
Ohio.....	201	8	32,480
Indiana.....	808	26	130,320
Illinois.....	2,980	284	488,160
Missouri.....	937	26	150,960
Alabama.....	40	78	9,520
Mississippi.....	62	5	10,120
Louisiana.....	256	151	47,000
Michigan.....	87	.....	13,920
Arkansas.....	286	9	46,120
Wisconsin.....	3,534	597	589,320
Iowa.....	1,602	32	257,600
Florida.....	.....	.....	.....
	10,793	1,216	1,775,520

F.

RECORDER'S BUREAU OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
Washington city, November 29, 1848.

SIR: In obedience to your instructions of the 15th instant, requesting a "statement of the number of certificates of purchase received in this office to be patented during the calendar year 1847, and the same for the first three quarters of the year 1848, together with the number of patents engrossed, recorded, signed, sealed, and transmitted during the same periods, distinguishing cash payments and Choctaw location patents, if distinguishable," I have the honor to report:

That, during the calendar year 1847, there were seventy-one thousand five hundred (71,500) certificates of purchase received in this office to be patented.

During the same year the same number of patents (71,500) were engrossed and recorded, and in the same period fifty thousand (50,000) patents were signed, sealed, and transmitted.

That, during the first three quarters of the calendar year 1848, sixty-three thousand (63,000) certificates of purchase were received in this office to be patented.

During the same period the same number, (63,000) patents, were engrossed and recorded.

During the same period, (the three first quarters of 1848,) eighty-four thousand five hundred (84,500) patents were signed, sealed, and transmitted.

Up to this period no patents have issued from this office founded on Choctaw certificates of location, for lands located since they ceased to be received as *cash* under your instructions, at the end of the second quarter of the year 1847. Up to that time patents, whether the lands were paid for in cash or such certificates, were issued in the ordinary form, without discrimination. Patents hereafter to be issued for lands located upon such certificates, since the end of the second quarter of 1847, will be issued in a special form, subject to your approval. The issuance of such will soon be commenced.

The number of exemplified copies of patents made out and transmitted from this office during the year 1847, and the first three quarters of the year 1848, have been four hundred and fifty-seven (457.)

In the amount of transmissions of patents, as above stated, is not included the bounty land patents, and such special patents and titles as issue regularly from the other branches of the land office, not constituting any portion of the duties of this bureau, except the signature of the recorder; which is necessary to all descriptions of patents.

The accumulation of written and untransmitted patents in the year 1847 was occasioned by the inability of the President's secretary, with the most unremitted endeavors on his part, owing to the pressure and temporary increase of his other duties, to sign the

patents as rapidly as they were engrossed and recorded. Besides, the increased clerical force which you were enabled to assign to this office in the latter part of 1847, and in the earlier part of the present year, enabled this office to have a greater amount of engrossing and recording done in the same period than had, perhaps, ever before been performed. As soon, however, as Congress made provision for the appointment of an assistant secretary to sign land titles for the President, the whole accumulation of patents were completed and transmitted with the utmost despatch of which the business was susceptible, in the first three quarters of the present year.

Although it does not fall precisely within the words of your instructions first above referred to, yet I deem it not improper in this place to remark, that when this office first came under my charge, as the successor of an afflicted man, who had been rendered physically unable to discharge its duties by visitation of God, I found in the office a large number of patents, numbering not less than fifty-three thousand, (53,000,) signed by the President, awaiting the recorder's signature, for transmission. The current demands for the delivery of patents specially called for, as well as great numbers for common transmission, had, in the mean time, been signed by the principal clerk of private land claims, who, by law, acts as recorder *ad interim*. The weighty and pressing demands of that gentleman's duties, pertaining to his own desk, had rendered it impossible for him to sign even the current patents without neglecting his other duties or devoting nearly his whole time to it out of office hours, which he had often done. These patents, thus accumulated, with all accruing patents, were signed and transmitted with all the despatch which the nature of the service, and the diminution of the force of the office, which took place on the first day of July, 1845, according to the 6th section of the act of Congress of the 3d March, 1845, would permit.

In the meantime, I found on examination, that for some cause, most probably for want of clerical force, that a large number of volumes of records, averaging five hundred pages each, had accumulated in the office, to which no indexes had been made. Many of these volumes extending back, contained the operations of recording and engrossing of patents for many previous years. The necessity for indexes was becoming every day more pressing and apparent. Under this state of things, although the regular force of the office was materially diminished, I have omitted no opportunity since of which I could avail myself, without neglecting more pressing duties, to apply a portion of the force of the office to the service of making indexes to these former records. I have not been able, however, for want of force, to make this work, which had apparently been long overlooked, the permanent work of any one or more clerks. I have, however, had complete indexes made to about five hundred and eighty (580) volumes, and whenever I have any disposable force the work shall be resumed. Two hundred and sixty-five (265) volumes remain to be indexed.

In connexion with this subject it is proper to state that in reduc-

ing to uniform system the various complicated duties belonging to this office, and especially as connected with the assignment of new duties prescribed to the recorder under your late regulation, the new set of books required to be kept in this office, containing a registry of all its operations, showing every material fact arranged in columns connected with each patent, and the entry and purchase of each tract of land, the immediate necessity of full and particular indexes to future volumes of records will be in a great degree obviated. But indexes to all former volumes are, and must continue to be indispensable, and ought to be prepared as early as more pressing business will permit.

In regard to the new books of which I have spoken, I feel it my duty to remark that, in my judgment, founded on some years' experience, I think no greater or more essential improvement in the regulations of this office could have been devised. I feel confident that future experience will verify the truth of these observations. The whole operations of this office as connected with the other branches of the service will hereafter be systematic and uniform. No effort will be pretermitted by this office to carry these new regulations and the new assignment of duties into full effect.

This brief report, being a general expose of the operations of this office for nearly two years, I beg leave to add in justice to the clerks who have been employed under my supervision, that they have at all times and under every change of their particular individual duties, been generally attentive, punctual, diligent, and capable in the several branches of service assigned to them. They have given me their hearty co-operation in endeavoring to bring up all arrears of business which had sometimes accumulated for want of an adequate force; and in adopting and carrying out the reforms in the details of service which you have prescribed, and in the propriety and utility of which I have fully concurred. The weekly and monthly returns from this bureau, in which I have specified the services performed by each clerk, and noted the rare and few, real, or apparent omissions, may be appealed to as verifying the truth and justice of these remarks.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

While I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

S. H. LAUGHLIN, *Recorder, &c.*

Honorable R. M. YOUNG, *Commissioner, &c.*

G.

Exhibit of the quantities of the public land (being exclusive of the sixteenth or school sections) in each State and Territory advertised for sale in the year 1848; the quantities, the plats of survey of which have been returned to the General Land Office; the quantities prepared for market not yet advertised, and the probable quantities which will be prepared in 1849.

States and Territories.	Quantities advertised for sale during the year 1848.	Quantities, the plats of survey of which have been returned to the General Land Office.		Quantities prepared for market and not yet advertised for sale.	Estimated quantities, the plats of survey of which are expected to be returned in the year 1849.
		Prior to the Commissioner's last annual report.	Since the Commissioner's last annual report.		
	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
Ohio.....	The unsold	improved Wy	and dot lands..		
Indiana.....		1,070		1,070	
Michigan.....	2,662,218	2,453,481	466,784	a 258,047	1,478,400
Illinois.....		31,514	115	31,629	
Wisconsin.....	877,963		1,844,293	966,330	1,344,000
Iowa.....	1,928,317	737,036	1,947,539	b 756,258	2,240,000
Missouri.....	1,410,049	182,300	1,603,851	c 376,102	1,200,000
Arkansas.....	937,864	581,417	931,393	d 574,946	275,000
Louisiana.....	281,961	932,981	344,380	e 995,400	336,000
Mississippi.....			661	f 661	
Alabama.....		89,825	705	g 90,530	
Florida.....	1,361,369	163,230	1,858,541	h 665,402	2,240,000
Total.....	9,459,741	5,177,854	8,998,262	4,716,375	9,113,400

a Consists of small detached tracts.

b Part situated in the disputed territory..... *Acres.* 598,866

c Situated in the copper region and Clamorgan grant..... 186,690

d Situated in the Clamorgan grant, and De Bastrop claim..... 533,938

e Situated in the Dauterieve and De Bastrop claims..... 447,256

Suspended surveys..... 449,545

Greensburg district..... 57,034

f Islands.

g South of the 31st degree of latitude—surveys incomplete.

h Part suspended surveys..... 158,913

H. August 2—H

Synopsis of the public lands advertised for sale since the 30th day of November, 1847, (the date of the Commissioner's last annual report,) showing the quantity under proclamation, exclusive of school lands.

State or Territory and land district.	Dates of proclamations.	Dates of sales.	Quantity.
MICHIGAN.			<i>Acres.</i>
Sault Ste. Marie.....	Jan. 27, 1848	July 31, 1848	} 1,257,331
Do.....	do.....	Aug. 14, 1848	
Do.....	do.....	July 3, 1848	} 1,201,285
Do.....	do.....	July 17, 1848	
Do.....	July 8, 1848	Oct. 16, 1848	155,123
Ionia.....	do.....	Oct. 3, 1848	48,479
			2,662,218
WISCONSIN.			
Falls of St. Croix River.....	May 8, 1848	Aug. 14, 1848	} 717,224
Do.....	do.....	Aug. 28, 1848	
Green Bay.....	do.....	Aug. 21, 1848	160,739
			877,963
MISSOURI.			
Jackson.....	June 19, 1848	Sept. 25, 1848	468,288
Springfield.....	do.....	Oct. 2, 1848	941,761
			1,410,049
IOWA.			
Iowa City.....	do.....	Sept. 25, 1848	} 1,121,734
Do.....	do.....	Oct. 16, 1848	
Fairfield.....	do.....	Oct. 2, 1848	} 781,996
Do.....	do.....	Oct. 30, 1848	
Dubuque.....	do.....	Sept. 25, 1848	24,587
			1,928,317
FLORIDA.			
Newnansville.....	July 3, 1848	Oct. 9, 1848	599,897
St. Augustine.....	do.....	Oct. 16, 1848	521,730
Tallahassee.....	do.....	Oct. 23, 1848	239,742
			1,361,369
ARKANSAS.			
Fayetteville.....	do.....	Oct. 9, 1848	271,282
Batesville.....	do.....	Oct. 16, 1848	286,330
Little Rock.....	do.....	Oct. 3, 1848	150,446
Helena.....	do.....	Oct. 9, 1848	117,465
Washington.....	do.....	Oct. 9, 1848	66,493
Johnson C. H.....	do.....	Oct. 16, 1848	45,848
			937,864

H—Synopsis—Continued.

State or Territory and land district.	Dates of procla- mations.	Dates of sales.	Quantity.
LOUISIANA.			<i>Acres.</i>
Opelousas.....	July 7, 1848	Oct. 16, 1848	177,026
Ouachita.....	do.....	Oct. 23, 1848	104,935
			281,961
OHIO.			
Defiance.....	Sept. 23, 1848	Nov. 6, 1848	}
Total.....			9,459,741

RECAPITULATION.

	Acres.
Michigan.....	2,662,218
Wisconsin.....	877,963
Missouri.....	1,410,049
Iowa.....	1,928,317
Florida.....	1,361,369
Arkansas.....	937,864
Louisiana.....	281,961
Ohio.....	Wyandot lands.
Total.....	9,459,741

I.

Estimate of appropriations required for the office of the Commissioner of the General Land Office for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1850.

For compensation of the Commissioner and the Recorder, draughtsman and assistant draughtsman, clerks, messengers, and packers in said office, (including eight additional clerks provided for by the act of August 12, 1848, whose services are still required, acts 1st session, 30th Congress, page 139).....	\$92,150 00
For compensation of assistant messenger, at the rate of \$1 75 per day, per act of June 17, 1844, (acts 1st session 28th Congress page 77).....	638 75
	92,788 75

Contingent expenses.

For tract books, records of cash system, Mexican war, and Choctaw patents, parchments for same, records of correspondence, stationery, including blank books and blank forms for the district land offices, advertising land sales, binding plats, field notes, &c., office furniture and repairs of same, laborers, and other miscellaneous items.....	31,017 50
To cover deficiency in appropriation for the year ending June 30, 1849, for parchment, the increase required to satisfy military locations being much greater than was estimated.....	4,000 00
	35,017 50

K.

Estimate of appropriations for the surveying department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1850.

Object of appropriation.	Amount.	Total.
<i>For salaries of surveyors general and their clerks, in addition to the balances of former appropriations, to wit:</i>		
1. For compensation of surveyors general northwest of the Ohio, per 10th section of the act of 18th May, 1796, (Laws U. S., vol. 2, p. 537).....	\$2,000 00	
2. For clerks in his office, per 1st section of the act of 9th May, 1836, (Laws U. S., vol. 9, p. 331).....	6,300 00	\$3,300 00
3. For compensation of the surveyor general of Illinois and Missouri, per 1st section of the act of April 3, 1818, (Laws U. S., vol. 6, pages 226 and 267).....	2,000 00	
4. For clerks in his office, per 1st section of the act of May 9, 1836, (Laws U. S., vol. 9, p. 331).....	3,820 00	5,820 00
5. For compensation of the surveyor general of Louisiana, per 5th section of the act of March 3, 1831, (Laws U. S., vol. 8, p. 500).....	2,000 00	
6. For clerks in his office, per 1st section of the act of May 9, 1836, (Laws U. S., vol. 9, p. 331).....	2,500 00	4,500 00
7. For compensation of the surveyor general of Florida, per 7th section of the act of March 3, 1833, (Laws U. S., vol. 7, p. 149).....	2,000 00	
8. For clerks in his office, per 1st section of the act of May 9, 1836, (Laws U. S., vol. 9, p. 331).....	3,500 00	5,500 00
9. For compensation of the surveyor general of Wisconsin and Iowa, per act of August 8, 1846, (acts 1st session, 29th Congress, p. 118).....	2,000 00	
10. For clerks in his office, per same act.....	6,300 00	8,300 00

Congress at the last session struck out of the bill making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1849, the salaries of the surveyors general of Alabama, Mississippi, and Arkansas, and of the clerks in their offices, with the distinct understanding that those offices should be closed under the act of June 12, 1840, (United States Statutes at Large, vol. 5, page 384.) The necessary instructions for closing those offices have accordingly been given, and therefore no estimates are submitted for them.

L.

Estimate of appropriations required for surveying the public lands for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1850.

Object of appropriation.	Amount.
<i>For surveying the public lands, &c., in addition to the unexpended balance of former appropriations, to wit:</i>	
For surveying the public lands, including incidental expenses, to be apportioned to the several districts according to the exigencies of the public service; the part to be applied to the surveys of the mineral regions of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Iowa, and in the location of private claims in Florida, to be disbursed at augmented rates.....	\$115,000 00
For surveys in the southern part of Missouri, east of the meridian, at five dollars per mile, on account of the difficulties in executing surveys in that section of the State, owing to lakes, swamps, marshes, &c.....	4,000 00
For the correction of erroneous and defective surveys, in small and detached portions, in Illinois and Missouri, at a rate not exceeding six dollars per mile.....	1,200 00
For completing surveys of the towns and villages in Missouri, named in the acts of 1812 and 1824, including office work.....	2,000 00
For completing certain surveys in Arkansas, at increased rates, in consequence of the peculiar difficulties attending the execution of them ...	850 00
For compensation to surveyor general of Florida for extra services for three years, as explained in his report.....	2,000 00
For clerks in the offices of the surveyor general, to be apportioned to them according to the exigencies of the public service, and, if necessary, to be employed in transcribing field notes of surveys for the purpose of preserving them at the seat of government.....	22,500 00

The United States geologists were instructed to complete their labors this season, hence no estimate is submitted for that service.

The rents received by the mineral agents in the Lake Superior district, in Michigan, from leases which have not yet expired, are sufficient to support the agency at that point, and hence no appropriation is required for them.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
November 9, 1848.

RICHARD M. YOUNG, *Commissioner.*

M.

REPORTS

OF

THE SURVEYORS GENERAL, &c.,

ACCOMPANYING

*The annual report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office.*REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF OHIO, INDIANA, AND
MICHIGAN.SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Detroit, November 24, 1848.

SIR: The progress and condition of the surveys of the public lands, and the office work connected therewith, in this district, since the date of my last annual report, together with a statement of my accounts for the same period, and my estimates of appropriations deemed necessary for the fiscal year ending on the 30th of June, 1850, may be seen by reference to the tabular statements hereunto annexed, marked A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, and M, and the accompanying diagrams of Indiana and Michigan, herewith enclosed. Some general remarks, in addition thereto, will be sufficient for the purposes of this report.

In Ohio.

All the surveys and records of surveys have been completed, and accounts have been rendered therefor, so that this office has nothing more to do in that State.

In Indiana.

Abner E. Van Ness, deputy surveyor, has nearly completed the survey of all unsurveyed islands that are of sufficient size and value to pay, at the rate of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, fifty per cent. over and above his charge, at the rate of five dollars per mile, for surveying them. His instructions permit him also to survey, and return his field notes of, such smaller islands as any person or persons may desire to have surveyed, provided no charge be made therefor against the United States; it being supposed that

such small islands will sell for nearly or quite enough to pay the additional expense of office work that their survey will occasion. His full returns, which are expected within a few days, will complete the field work of the surveys of public lands in that State. The office work, connected with those surveys, is also nearly completed.

Records have been made of the field notes of the fifty-four townships, and of the plats of the one hundred and fifty-eight townships that remained to be recorded at the date of the last annual report, and one of the clerks of this office has been employed, during the greater part of the last year, in supplying defects found in the old records of maps and field notes, and in indexing, arranging and preparing the unbound records of surveys in that State for the binder.

The only office work, connected with those surveys, that remains now to be done, is the recording of the field notes of the survey of the islands before referred to, and the transcribing of those notes, and also the field notes of the twenty-eight townships and fractional townships in the Miami reservation, for preservation at the seat of the general government.

This work will be done, the records of field notes, in forty-four volumes, transcripts in six volumes, and the records of township plats in four volumes, will be bound, and twenty-five volumes of old records that are worm eaten will be re-bound, and all the records, maps, field notes and papers of every description, pertaining to the surveys in Indiana, will be ready for delivery to the Secretary of State of that State, or such other officer as may be appointed to receive them, on or before the 30th of June next, as directed in your instructions of the 29th of September last.

In Michigan.

All the contracts that were unfinished, at the date of the last annual report, have since been completed, and the surveys made under them have been returned to and examined and approved by this office, with the exception of one township embraced in the contract of S. W. Higgins, and the entire contract made with John Mullett, on the 26th of June, 1847, for surveying the exterior township boundaries of all that portion of northern Michigan which lies south of the fourth correction line, and west of range twenty-three west. This contract was entered into with Mr. Mullett, on account of his long experience of a quarter of a century in similar service, during which he has probably surveyed a greater number of miles than any other man now living, but the swamps embraced in it were found, on trial, to be so numerous, extensive and difficult to get through, that his health and physical power proved to be unequal to the task. For this reason, and in order still to have the benefit of his supervision and responsibility, Henry Floyd, a young man who had been with him, and came well recommended as a surveyor, was appointed one of my deputies, and authorized to go on under the contract above mentioned and complete it, re-

ceiving therefor the compensation that Mr. Mullett was to receive from the United States, as stated in my letter to you of the 4th of September, 1847.

In accordance with this arrangement, eighteen townships and fractional townships were returned by Mr. Floyd as surveyed, and his field notes thereof looked so well that they were approved, and an account for the work done by him, amounting to \$891 18, was transmitted to you on the 30th of December last. The remainder of the townships embraced in the contract were laid off by him last spring, and his field notes thereof were returned soon after. But, previous to this, a contract, dated the 22d of April last, was entered into with John Mullett for sub-dividing fifteen of the townships and fractional townships that had been returned by Floyd, and paid for as above stated. This was done, at Mr. Mullett's request, in order that, being responsible for the correctness of Floyd's work, he might have an opportunity to test it before it should all be paid for, and that such test might be applied by him, to his entire satisfaction, while engaged in the performance of such work as his health and strength would enable him to do, and such as it was supposed the public interest required should be done, for the accommodation of the lumbermen, and other settlers along the shore of Green Bay, and on the Menomonic river from its mouth northward. The account for Mr. Floyd's last work was, therefore, suspended until the character of his former work could thus be ascertained. The result has shown that his returns were, in many respects, false and fraudulent, and that his work was so erroneously done that no reliance could be placed on it; in consequence of which, most of it has been done over again by James H. Mullett, who has just returned from the field, and is expected to hand in his notes within a few days. The amount already paid under this contract will be deducted from the amount then due on it, so that no loss will be sustained by the government.

The re-survey of the exterior boundaries of private claims on the river Raisin, will be the subject of a special report.

The survey of the unsurveyed islands in the Kalamazoo river, on account of the ill health and final death of Amos C. Roberts, the deputy who was to survey them, has not yet been commenced.

Two contracts were made last spring, one dated the 30th of March and the other the 29th of April, for examining and re-surveying, if found necessary, certain old surveys in the vicinity of the Maskego and Manistee rivers, in southern Michigan, that were believed to be more or less erroneous and fraudulent. The extent of such re-surveys was not, however, to exceed in all five hundred and ninety-five miles, so that the cost thereof, at the prices named in the contracts, should be somewhat less than the amount of the unexpended balance of the appropriation of the 10th of August, 1846, for the correction of erroneous and defective surveys in this State.

Field notes of the re-survey of four townships, which were originally surveyed by John P. Allard, under his contract, dated the 16th of July, 1838, and of part of a township originally surveyed

by John Brink, under his contract, dated the 18th of February, 1839, have been returned, examined, and approved under the first named contracts. From these returns, and the testimony of the men who assisted the surveyors in making the re-surveys which they describe, it appears that Allard's field notes of his survey of those townships are almost wholly fictitious and fraudulent, and that Brink's are, to some considerable extent, of the same character.

Mr. Allard had three contracts for sub-dividing in this portion of Michigan, dated the 28th of July, 1837, 16th of July, 1838, and the 26th of January, 1839, embracing in all thirty-two entire townships, the surveys of which, as returned by him, and approved at this office, are probably all of the character above described.

Mr. Brink had two contracts, one dated the 18th of February, 1839, for the sub-division of about twelve townships, lying on the Manistee river, and the other dated the 13th of December, 1839, for the sub-division of twelve townships, lying on the head waters of the Maskego river, making together about twenty-four townships, the survey and returns of which are probably similar in character to the work of his above mentioned.

There are other surveys in this portion of the State that are strongly suspected, but enough is not known at present to justify the expression of any positive opinion against them. The diagram marked L, accompanying this report, shows the names of all contractors who sub-divided in southern Michigan, north of the Grand, Chippewa, and Tetibawasse rivers, together with the dates of their contracts and the location and boundaries of their respective districts.

The surveys of Mr. Allard, above mentioned, embrace a large tract of very good country, and ought to be corrected, if erroneous, before any sales are made therein. I have, therefore, made an estimate of ten thousand dollars for this purpose, which will be found in the accompanying statement K, added to the estimates for the coming year, which were sent you with my letter of the 28th of September last. The maximum price of the work, therein stated, is as low as experience will allow.

In northern Michigan seventy five townships and fractional townships have been sub-divided during the past season, in addition to those embraced in the unfinished contracts of last year. Twenty-one of these embrace the principal portion of the iron district southeast of Keewenaw bay, in which between fifteen and twenty hills and cliffs of iron ore, from thirty to two hundred and fifty feet in height, and in some places of great extent, have been discovered by the surveyors. These bodies of ore are in the midst of a dense forest, which will afford an abundant supply of excellent wood for making charcoal to work them, and some of them are near by good water power for driving the necessary machinery.

Dr. Jackson, geological surveyor of the mineral lands of Michigan, will doubtless give a full and accurate description of them in his report.

Nothing worthy of particular note is known to have been found

by the surveyors in the other townships sub-divided this year, excepting perhaps two hills or ridges of limestone, on and near the line between sections 13 and 14, and 23 and 24, in township 51 north, of range 35 west, which is interesting because it is supposed to be the only limestone yet found in place in the vicinity of the copper mines of this State, where it is much needed as a flux in smelting.

Both the limestone and hills of iron ore above mentioned are represented in their proper places on the township plats; and those plats, as now made in this office, give far more full and accurate information than any that were made previous to the year 1845. They do not, however, show the information obtained by means of the geological survey now in progress, as they should and would do if that survey were carried on in connexion with the linear surveys, as was intended by its projector, the late Dr. Houghton; and they are, therefore, not as valuable to the purchasers of the public lands as I had hoped to be able to make them.

The economical and efficient plan which the doctor devised for the connexion of those surveys was, in consequence of his death, only very partially carried into effect. But notwithstanding this, a considerable amount of valuable material for making up a complete geological description of the whole mining district in Michigan, south of Lake Superior, was from time to time collected by the deputy surveyors, who had had more or less experience under him, which, after being partially revised by Bela Hubbard, esquire, was turned over to Dr. Jackson, in whose hands, it is gratifying to know, it will not be lost.

Some errors were doubtless committed in describing particular rocks and minerals, for the surveyors do not pretend to be accomplished geologists; but the wonder in regard to the geological part of the surveys made by them is not that it is not more perfect, but that it is as perfect as it is—especially when the fact is considered that it cost the government literally almost nothing.

To show some of the results arrived at by means of information thus procured, I beg leave to quote the language of William A. Burt, esquire, inventor of the solar compass, from a report made by him on the topography and geology of a district south of Lake Superior, of which he and his sons surveyed the township lines, under a contract dated the 27th of April, 1847. It is as follows, viz.:

“In conclusion, I may be permitted to state, that I have been engaged in the surveys of township lines in the northern peninsula of Michigan, between the fourth correction line and Lake Superior, from their commencement to their completion, and have examined the various rock formations in more than hundred four townships embraced in this tract of country, so far as these surveys have afforded opportunity to do so.”

“The result has disclosed, among other things, the interesting and important facts, that the Keewenaw Point range of trap is the true copper-bearing range, where this metal abounds more than in any other range of rocks south of Lake Superior; and that the beds,

or rather ledges and hills of magnetic iron ore, are most frequently found between ranges twenty-five and thirty-three west, and between a line running west and another running south 57° west from Little Presque Isle, on the coast of Lake Superior, in township 48 north, of range 25 west. The areas thus defined are undoubtedly the most metalliferous portions of the mineral region south of Lake Superior."

"It may now be worthy of inquiry whether the small additional allowance for a 'survey, with reference to mines and minerals,' over and above a fair compensation for the linear surveys, could have been applied in any other way with so much advantage to the public interest as has resulted, and will result, from this application of it, even if the ascertainment of the boundaries of the iron and copper districts had been the only valuable information thereby obtained."

The principal object in view in making appropriations for surveying in the mineral region of Michigan, "with reference to mines and minerals" was, doubtless, to ascertain in what rocks, and within what limits, the rich mineral deposits that were supposed to exist in that region were to be found, so that miners and other persons, disposed to engage in the business of mining, might know where to look for veins and beds containing the ores or metals sought for, and not spend their time uselessly in wandering over the country to seek for them where they do not exist. Having ascertained these facts, the government would, of course, have the means of knowing what tracts should be sold as mineral, and what as farming lands.

This object was, to a great extent, accomplished in a quiet, unpretending, economical manner, by the deputies of this office, as the foregoing extract, from a report made by one of their number, sufficiently shows.

The geological portion of their work would undoubtedly have been more full and perfect than it is, if Doctor Houghton had lived to superintend it, and give them the benefit of his counsel and direction; or if they could have had the advantage of acting under the advice and direction of Doctor Jackson.

But still the result of their labor shows, beyond all doubt, that great advantages, in point of efficiency and economy of expenditure, will be gained by a connexion of the geological with the linear surveys in all the unsurveyed mining districts of the United States—the geological surveys being under the direction of an able exploring geologist, and the linear surveys under the proper surveyor general—the surveyors being, at the same time, the deputies or assistants of both, under such an arrangement as to prevent conflicting orders between them.

A statement of some of the benefits, and an estimate of the expense of a geological survey carried on in this manner, was made in the annual report from this office, dated November 10, 1845.

As the linear survey of all those portions of northern Michigan which are likely to be occupied by settlers within the next few years is now finished, it is proposed, after contracting for the sub-

division of the remaining portion of the iron district, to go on next year with the sub-division of the other unsurveyed townships of the State, beginning with the lowest number of township and range, and progressing northward and westward, in regular order, as far as the appropriation will permit, with a view to the completion of the surveys and records of the district, and the abolishment of this office as soon as practicable.

It will be seen, by the annexed statement marked M, that the whole expense of the surveys yet to be made in Michigan, and of the work yet to be done in this office, including all salaries and incidental expenses, is estimated at one hundred and fifty-three thousand one hundred and twenty-four dollars; consequently, if the usual appropriations shall be continued, in accordance with the estimates herewith presented for the next fiscal year, all the surveys of the district, and the maps and records of surveys and field notes in this office, will be completed, so that the office may be abolished within less than four years from this date.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LUCIUS LYON,
Surveyor General.

HON. RICHARD M. YOUNG,
Commissioner of the General Land Office.

A.

Statement of surveys returned and in progress under contracts that were unfinished on the 5th of November, 1847, the date of the last annual report.

Names of contractors.	Character of the surveys.	Date of contract.	No. of townships returned.	Miles returned.	Amount of account transmitted.	Remarks.
William A. Burt and Austin Burt.. .. .	Township lines.....	April 27, 1847.....	70	<i>m. chs. lks.</i> 798 49 82	\$6,388 98	Surveys all finished.
Orson Lyon.....	Re-surveys.....	April 14, 1847.....	8	565 14 43	2,825 89	....do.....do.
William Ives.....	Sub-divisions and township lines.....	April 23, 1847.....	19	760 30 16	3,213 44	....do.....do.
Orange Risdon.....	.....do.....	April 29, 1847.....	17	402 46 29	1,610 30	....do.....do.
S. W. Higgins.....	Sub-divisions.....	May 5, 1847.....	4	260 56 08	1,303 50	All finished except township N. 49, range 39
John Mullett.....	Township lines.....	June 26, 1847.....	17	137 08 41	891 18	W. ; in relation contract is cancelled. ....do.....do.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Detroit, November 24, 1848.*

LUCIUS LYON, *Surveyor General.*

B.

Statement of surveys contracted for since No

Names of contractors.	Date of contract and character of surveys.	Time allowed.	District embraced in contract.	
			Townships.	Range.
A. Merryweather	Feb. 23, 1848, sub-divisions.	Jan. 1, 1849	38 N.....	18, 19, 20, 21, W.....
			39 N.....	17, 18, 19, 20, 21, W...
			40 N.....	16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, W.
			41 N.....	18, 19, W.....
Orson Lyon	March 30, 1848, examining and correcting erroneous and defective surveys.	Nov. 1, 1848	<i>Michigan.</i>	
			21 N.....	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, W.
			22 N.....	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, W.
			23 N.....	8, 9, 10, W.....
			24 N.....	8, 9, 10, W.....
			25 N.....	8, 9, 10, W.....
			26 N.....	8, 9, 10, W.....
			11, 12, 13, 14, 15, N. 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, N.	7 W..... 8 W.....
John Mullett	April 22, 1848, sub-divisions.	Nov. 1, 1848	<i>Michigan.</i>	
			35, N.....	24 W.....
			33, 34, 35, N.	25 W.....
			32, 33, 34, 35, N.	26 W.....
			31, 32, 33, 34, 35, N. 32, 33, N.....	27 W..... 28 W.....
Orange Risdon ..	April 29, 1848, examining and correcting erroneous and defective surveys.	Oct. 1, 1848	<i>Michigan.</i>	
			19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, N.	11 and 12 W.....
			20, 21, 22, 23, 24, N.	13 and 14 W.....
			20, 21, 22, 23, 24, N.	15 and 16 W.....
			20, 21, and 23, N.	17 W.....
			20 N.....	18 W.....
S. W. Higgins ..	Sub-divisions.— No contract made. Bond to be executed when work is approved.	.....	<i>Michigan.</i>	
			49 N.....	40 W.....
			50 N..... 51 N.....	35, 36, 37, W..... 34, 35, 36, W.....

B.

November 5, 1847, and of progress made therein.

Estimated miles in contract.	Price per mile.	Notes of townships returned.	Miles returned.	Amount of account transmitted.	Remarks.
			<i>Ms. chs. lks.</i>		
} 625	\$4 00	{ 37 N., R. 19 W.....	} 297 28 64	\$1,189 42	Deputy still in the field.
		{ 38 N., R. 19, 20, W....			
		{ 39 N., R. 20, 21, W....			
		{ 40 N., R. 20, 21, W....			
} 450	5 50 21 N., R. 11 W.....	} 120 33 85	662 32	Deputy still in the field.
		..... 22 N., R. 11, W.....		
} 600	4 00	}	Field work done. Notes not all returned.
				
} 145	5 00 21 N., R. 12 W.....	} 119 69 66	599 35	Contract completed.
		..... 22 N., R. 12 W.....		
}	5 00	{ 49 N., R. 40 W.....	}	Work done and returns made.
		{ 50 N., R. 35, 36, 37, W.			
		{ 51 N., R. 34, 35, 36, W.			

Names of contractors.	Date of contract and character of surveys.	Time allowed.	District embraced in contract.	
			Townships.	Range.
			<i>Michigan.</i>	
John Burt.....	Sub-divisions.— No contract. Bond to be executed when work is approved.	.....	44 N..... 47 N.....	29 and 30 W..... 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, W...
			<i>Michigan.</i>	
Austin Burt.....	.....do.....	.....	48 N..... 50 N.....	42, 43, 44, 45, 46, W... 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, W.
			<i>Michigan.</i>	
Wells Burt.....	.....do.....	.....	45 N..... 48 N.....	29 and 30, W..... 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, W...
			<i>Michigan.</i>	
William Burt.....	.....do.....	.....	47 N..... 49 N.....	43, 44, 45, W..... 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, W...
			<i>Michigan.</i>	
Harvey Mellon.....	.....do.....	.....	43 N..... 46 N.....	29 and 30 W..... 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, W...
			<i>Michigan.</i>	
William Ives.....	.....do.....	.....	46 N..... 47 N..... 48 N..... 49 N.....	47 W..... 47 W..... 47, 48, 49, W..... 47, 48, W.....
			<i>Indiana.</i>	
Abner E. Van Ness.	June 6, 1848. For surveying all unsurveyed islands in the Tippecanoe and other rivers, in the State of Indiana.	.....	

tinued.

Estimated miles in contract.	Price per mile.	Notes of townships returned.	Miles returned.	Amount of account transmitted.	Remarks.
			<i>Ms. chs. lks.</i>		
.....	\$6 00	.....	.....	.....	Field work done. Notes daily expected.
.....	5 00	.....	.....	.....	do.....
.....	6 00	.....	.....	.....	do.....
.....	5 00	.....	.....	.....	do.....
.....	6 00	.....	.....	.....	do.....
.....	5 00	.....	.....	.....	do.....
.....	5 00	.....	25 77 74	\$129 86	Notes of 39 islands, within the limits of 19 townships, returned. Surveyor still in the field.

Names of contractors.	Date of contract and character of surveys.	Time allowed.	District embraced in contract.	
			Townships.	Range.
John H. Mullett .	Special instructions, May 2, 1848; sub-division of Keechee-aun-dang-e-nink reserve.	.....	5 N..... 6 N.....	4 E..... 4 E.....

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Detroit, November 24, 1848.

tinued.

Estimated miles in contract.	Price per mile.	Notes of townships returned.	Miles returned.	Amount of account transmitted.	Remarks.
			<i>Ms. chs. lks.</i>		
}.....	3 00	.....	16 69 14	\$50 59	Completed.

LUCIUS LYON,
Surveyor General.

Statement of township plats and descriptive notes made and on hand, or sent to the proper offices, since the 5th day of November, 1847.

Township.	Range.	Land district.	Number of plats made.			When sent to Commissioner.	When sent to register.	Number of plats sent to register.	Number of descriptive notes made.	
			Office.	Commissioner.	Register.				Office.	Register.
65.....north.....	34 west....	Lake Superior....	1	1	1	Dec. 4, 1847	May 9, 1848	1	.....	.....
41.....do.....	21. do.....	do.....do.....	1	1	1	Dec, 30, 1847	July 19, 1848	1	.....	.....
41.....do.....	22. do.....	do.....do.....	1	1	1	do.....	do.....	1	.....	.....
41.....do.....	23. do.....	do.....do.....	1	1	1	do.....	do.....	1	.....	.....
16.....do.....	8. do.....	Grand river.....	1	1	1	Feb. 24, 1848	do.....	.....	.....	.....
17 and 18.....do.....	8. do.....	do.....do.....	2	2	2	do.....	do.....	.....	.....	.....
17.....do.....	7. do.....	do.....do.....	1	1	1	do.....	do.....	.....	.....	.....
21 and 22.....do.....	13. do.....	do.....do.....	2	2	2	March 25, 1848	Sept. 4, 1848	2	2	2
21 and 22.....do.....	14. do.....	do.....do.....	2	2	2	do.....	do.....	2	2	2
21 and 22.....do.....	15. do.....	do.....do.....	2	2	2	do.....	do.....	2	2	2
21 and 22.....do.....	16. do.....	do.....do.....	2	2	2	Aug. 11, 1848	do.....	2	2	2
21 and 22.....do.....	17. do.....	do.....do.....	2	2	2	March 25, 1848	do.....	2	2	2
30, 31, and 32.....do.....	15. do.....	Lake Superior....	3	3	3	do.....	May 9, 1848	3	3	3
31 and 32.....do.....	14. do.....	do.....do.....	2	2	2	do.....	do.....	2	2	2
34 and 35.....do.....	13. do.....	do.....do.....	2	2	2	do.....	do.....	2	2	2
49.....do.....	41. do.....	do.....do.....	1	1	1	March 23, 1848	July 19, 1848	1	.....	.....
50.....do.....	38. do.....	do.....do.....	1	1	1	do.....	do.....	1	.....	.....
50.....do.....	39. do.....	do.....do.....	1	1	1	do.....	do.....	1	.....	.....
50.....do.....	40. do.....	do.....do.....	1	1	1	do.....	do.....	1	.....	.....

63	do	37. do	do	1	1	1	April 13, 1848	do	1		
64	do	36. do	do	1	1	1	do	do	1		
65 and 66	do	35. do	do	2	2	2	do	do	2		
67	do	32. do	do	1	1	1	July 17, 1848	do	1		
66 and 67	do	33. do	do	2	2	2	do	do	2		
66 and 67	do	34. do	do	2	2	2	do	do	2		
63 and 65	do	36. do	do	2	2	2	do	do	2		
18	do	6. do	Grand river	1	1	1	Aug. 14, 1848				
18	do	7. do	do	1	1	1	do				
37 and 38	do	19. do	Lake Superior	2	2	2	Sept. 21, 1848				
38 and 40	do	20. do	do	2	2	2	do				
40	do	21. do	do	1	1	1	do				
65 and 66	do	37. do	do	2	2	2	Nov. 6, 1848				
63 and 64	do	38. do	do	2	2	2	do				
63 and 64	do	39. do	do	2	2	2	do				
21 and 22	do	11. do	Grand river	2	2	2	Nov. 2, 1848				
21 and 22	do	12. do	do	2	2	2	do				
39 and 41	do	20. do	Lake Superior	2	2	2	Aug. 11, 1848	Sept. 4, 1848	1		
42	do	20. do	do	1	1	1	April 8, 1848	do	1		
39	do	21. do	do	1	1	1	Aug. 11, 1848				
42	do	21. do	do	1	1	1	April 8, 1848	July 19, 1848	1		
17	do	6. do	Grand river	1	1	1	March 24, 1848				
15	do	6. do	do	1	1	1	Nov. 30, 1847				
				64	64	64			39	17	17
Diagrams containing 39 islands in the Tippecanoe and other rivers, in the State of Indiana				19	19	• 19					

C—Continued.

The following descriptive notes, in addition to the 17 contained in the above statement, have also been made, viz :

Townships.	Range.	Number of descriptive notes made.	
		Office.	Register.
Total descriptive notes brought	from page 95.....	17	17
41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, and 48 north.....	1 east, mer. Mich..	8	8
41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48..... do.....	2.....do.....	8	8
41, 42, 43, and 44..... do.....	3.....do.....	4	4
41, 42, 43..... do.....	4.....do.....	3	3
41, 42, 43..... do.....	5.....do.....	3	3
41, 42, 43..... do.....	6.....do.....	3	3
41, 42, 43..... do.....	7.....do.....	3	3
41 and 42..... do.....	8.....do.....	2	2
41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, and 47..... do.....	1 west, mer. Mich.	7	7
41, 42, 43, 44..... do.....	2.....do.....	4	4
40, 41, 42, 43, 44..... do.....	3.....do.....	5	5
40, 41, 42, 43..... do.....	4.....do.....	4	4
41, 42, 48..... do.....	5.....do.....	3	3
42, 43, 44..... do.....	6.....do.....	3	3
42, 43, 44..... do.....	7.....do.....	3	3
42, 43, 44..... do.....	8.....do.....	3	3
37, 38, 39..... do.....	10.....do.....	3	3
37, 38, 41..... do.....	11.....do.....	3	3
41..... do.....	12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 west, Mich...	5	5
18, 19, and 20..... do.....	1 east, mer. Mich.,	3	3
17, 18, 19, and 20..... do.....	2.....do.....	4	4
16, 17, 18, 19, 20..... do.....	3.....do.....	5	5
Total descriptive notes.....	.....	106	106

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Detroit, November 24, 1848.

LUCIUS LYON,
Surveyor General.

D.

List of township plats recorded since November 5, 1847.

Townships.	Range.	State.	Number of plats.
23, 29, 30, and 31, north	R. 1, east 2d meridian..	Indiana	4
21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31, north	do 2.....do.....	do.....	11
21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31, north.....	do 3.....do.....	do.....	11
21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31 north.....	do 4.....do.....	do.....	11
21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31, north.....	do 5.....do.....	do.....	11
21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, north	do 6.....do.....	do.....	16
21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, north.....	do 7.....do.....	do.....	18
29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, north.....	do 8.....do.....	do.....	11
29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, north.....	do 9.....do.....	do.....	10
29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, north	do 10.....do.....	do.....	10
29, 20, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, north.....	do 11.....do.....	do.....	10
29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, north.....	do 12.....do.....	do.....	10
31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, north.....	do 13.....do.....	do.....	8
32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, north.....	do 14.....do.....	do.....	7
32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, north.....	do 15.....do.....	do.....	7
*10, 11, 12, 13, north.....	do 11.....do.....	do.....	4
*13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18, north.....	do 12.....do.....	do.....	6
*18, 19, 20 and 21, north.....	do 13.....do.....	do.....	4
*21, 22, north.....	do 14.....do.....	do.....	2
*22, north.....	do 15.....do.....	do.....	1
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, north.....	do 1 principal meridian.	Michigan..	10
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, north.....	do 2.....do.....	do.....	10
11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19, north.....	do 13.....do.....	do.....	9
11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, north..	do 14.....do.....	do.....	9
11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, north.....	do 15.....do.....	do.....	8
11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, north.....	do 16.....do.....	do.....	6
Total number of plats..	.....	.....	223

*Old records corrected and completed.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
 Detroit, November 24, 1848.

LUCIUS LYON, Surveyor General.

E.

Statement of field notes recorded since November 5, 1847.

State.	Range.	Townships north.	Pages.
Indiana.....	No. 7 W	1, 2, 3, 4.....	316
do.....	2 E.....	25, 26, 27, 28.....	
do.....	3 do.....	21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28.....	144
do.....	9 do.....	35, 36, 37, 38.....	
do.....	4 do.....	21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28.....	933
do.....	5 do.....	21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28.....	
do.....	6 do.....	21, 22, 23, 24.....	508
do.....	6 do.....	25, 26, 27, 28.....	
do.....	7 do.....	21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28.....	206
Michigan....	7 E.....	9, 10.....	
do.....	1 do.....	11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20..	834
do.....	2 do.....	11, 12.....	
do.....	2 do.....	13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20.....	936
do.....	3 do.....	11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20..	
do.....	4 do.....	11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17.....	47
		Boundary line between Michigan and Wisconsin	
		Boundary lines of Indian reserves and State lines in Indiana.....	285
		Geological reports, &c.....	52½
			4,261½

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
 Detroit, November 24, 1848.

LUCIUS LYON, Surveyor General.

F.

List of township plats transmitted to Registers of district offices since the 5th of November, 1847, the date of the last annual report.

Townships north.	Range.	No. of plats sent.	Where sent.	When sent.
41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46 and 47.....	1 W.....	7	Register's office at Sault Ste. Marie.....	May 9, 1848.
41, 42, 43, 44.....	2 do.....	4	do.....	do
41, 42, 43, 44.....	3 do.....	4	do.....	do
40, 41, 42 and 43.....	4 do.....	4	do.....	do
40, 41, 42, 43.....	5 do.....	4	do.....	do
42, 43 and 44.....	6 do.....	3	do.....	do
42, 43, 44.....	7 do.....	3	do.....	do
42, 43, 44.....	8 do.....	3	do.....	do
37, 38 and 39.....	10 do.....	3	do.....	do
37, 38 and 41.....	11 do.....	3	do.....	do
41.....	12 do.....	1	do.....	do
34, 35 and 41.....	13 do.....	3	do.....	do
31, 32 and 41.....	14 do.....	3	do.....	do
30, 31, 32 and 41.....	15 do.....	4	do.....	do
41.....	16 do.....	1	do.....	do
44, 46, 47 and 48.....	18 do.....	4	do.....	do
44, 45, 46, 47 and 48.....	19 do.....	5	do.....	do
44, 45, 46, 47 and 48.....	20 do.....	5	do.....	do
38 and 39.....	22 do.....	2	do.....	do
37, 38, 39 and 41.....	23 do.....	4	do.....	do
46 and 47.....	24 do.....	2	do.....	do
46, 47, 48, 49 and 50.....	25 do.....	5	do.....	do
51, 52, 58 and 59.....	27 do.....	4	do.....	do
51, 52, 58 and 59.....	28 do.....	4	do.....	do
46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51 and 58.....	26 do.....	7	do.....	do
51, 52, 53, 57, 58 and 59.....	29 do.....	6	do.....	do
51, 52, 53, 56, 57, 58 and 59.....	30 do.....	7	do.....	do
51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57 and 58.....	31 do.....	8	do.....	do

F—Continued.

Townships north.	Range.	No. of plats sent.	Where sent.	When sent.
51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56 and 58.....	32 W.....	7	Register's office at Sault Ste. Marie.....	May 9, 1848.
51, 53, 54, 55, 56 and 57.....	33 do.....	6	.....do.....	.....do
53, 54, 55, 56 and 65.....	34 do.....	5	.....do.....	.....do
52, 53, 54, 55 and 56.....	35 do.....	5	.....do.....	.....do
52, 53, 54 and 55.....	36 do.....	4	.....do.....	.....do
51, 52, 53 and 54.....	37 do.....	4	.....do.....	.....do
51, 52 and 53.....	38 do.....	3	.....do.....	.....do
51, 52 and 53.....	39 do.....	3	.....do.....	.....do
51 and 52.....	40 do.....	2	.....do.....	.....do
51.....	41, 42, 43, 44 W.....	4	.....do.....	.....do
41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47 and 48.....	1 E.....	8	.....do.....	.....do
41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47 and 48.....	2 do.....	8	.....do.....	.....do
41, 42, 43, 44 and 45.....	3 do.....	5	.....do.....	.....do
41, 42 and 43.....	4 do.....	3	.....do.....	.....do
41, 42 and 43.....	5 do.....	3	.....do.....	.....do
41, 42 and 43.....	6 do.....	3	.....do.....	.....do
41, 42 and 43.....	7 do.....	3	.....do.....	.....do
41, 42.....	8 do.....	2	.....do.....	.....do
45.....	18 W.....	1	.....do.....	July 19, 1848.
41 and 42.....	21 do.....	2	.....do.....	.....do
40 and 41.....	22 do.....	2	.....do.....	.....do
40.....	23 do.....	1	.....do.....	.....do
67.....	32 do.....	1	.....do.....	.....do
66 and 67.....	33 do.....	2	.....do.....	.....do
66 and 67.....	34 do.....	2	.....do.....	.....do
65 and 66.....	35 do.....	2	.....do.....	.....do
63, 64 and 65.....	36 do.....	3	.....do.....	.....do
63.....	37 do.....	1	.....do.....	.....do
50.....	38 do.....	1	.....do.....	.....do
50.....	40 do.....	1	.....do.....	.....do
49.....	41 do.....	1	.....do.....	.....do
41 and 42.....	20 do.....	2	.....do.....	Sept. 4, 1848.

21 and 22.....	13 do.....	2	Register at Ionia.....	do
21 and 22.....	14 do.....	2	do.....	do
21 and 22.....	15 do.....	2	do.....	do
21 and 22.....	16 do.....	2	do.....	do
21 and 22.....	17 do.....	2	do.....	do
Total number of plats sent.....		223		

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
 Detroit, November 24, 1848.

LUCIUS LYON, *Surveyor General.*

G.

United States in account current with Lucius Lyon, Surveyor General northwest of the Ohio.

DR.

SALARY ACCOUNT.

CR.

<i>Disbursements.</i>			<i>Receipts.</i>	
Paid salaries of surveyor general and clerks, 4th quarter 1847	\$2,050 37		By balance in hands of the surveyor general, brought forward from the third quarter of 1847.....	\$55 31
Do.....do.....do..... 1st quarter 1848	2,083 39	Dec. 16, 1847	By treasury draft No. 8171, on treasury warrant No. 1671, for.....	2,075 00
Do.....do.....do..... 2d quarter 1848	2,146 55	Mar. 30, 1848	By treasury draft No. 9007, on treasury warrant No. 2651	2,075 00
Do.....do.....do..... 3d quarter 1848	2,340 74	June 21, 1848	By treasury draft No. 9797, on treasury warrant No. 3895.....	2,075 00
		Sept. 26, 1848	By treasury draft No. 803, on treasury warrant No. 5305	2,325 00
			Amount to balance.....	15 74
	8,621 05			\$8,621 05
Sept. 30, 1848. Balance due surveyor general on the above account.....	15 74			

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Detroit, November 24, 1848.

LUCIUS LYON, Surveyor General.

H.

General statement of receipts and disbursements by the Surveyor General of the States of Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan, for the year ending 30th September, 1848.

Dr.

ON ACCOUNT OF SURVEYS.

Cr.

<i>Disbursements.</i>		<i>Receipts.</i>		
Cash expended 4th quarter 1847.....	\$981 11		Balance of account of third quarter of 1847, brought forward.....	\$957 66
Do..... 1st quarter 1848.....	169 50	Feb. 8, 1848	By treasury draft No. 5809, on treasury war- rant No. 2035.....	435 00
Do..... 2d quarter 1848.....	429 52	July 26, 1848	By treasury draft No. 158, on treasury war- rant No. 4387	107 14
Do..... 3d quarter 1848.....	148 46	Sept. 1, 1848	By cash received for plat of private claims at Mackinaw	5 00
Amount to balance.....	79 88	.....do.....	By cash of George W. Jones, surveyor gen- eral, for blank township plats	78 67
		Sept. 26, 1848	By treasury draft No. 800, on treasury war- rant No. 5303.....	225 00
				1,808 47
	1,808 47			
		Sept. 30, 1848	United States— By this balance in hands of surveyor general	79 88

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Detroit, November 24, 1848.

LUCIUS LYON, Surveyor General.

Ex. Doc. No. 12.

103

I.

Estimate of appropriations required for the payment of the salaries of the Surveyor General of Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan, and the clerks in his office, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1850.

For compensation of surveyor general, per 10th section of the act of May 18, 1796.	\$2,000
Compensation of clerks, per 1st section of the act of May 9, 1836.....	6,300
	<hr/>
	8,300
	<hr/>

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
 Detroit, November 24, 1848.

LUCIUS LYON, Surveyor General.

K.

Estimate of appropriations required for surveying the public lands, and for incidental expenses, in the district composed of the States of Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan, for the year ending on the 30th of June, 1850.

For subdividing into sections, twenty-three townships in the southern peninsula of Michigan, averaging (say) 70 miles each—making 1,610 miles, at \$4 per mile..	\$6,440
For subdividing into sections, forty townships in the northern peninsula of Michigan, averaging (say) 70 miles each—making 2,800 miles, at a rate not exceeding \$6 per mile	16,800
For the correction of erroneous and defective surveys in southern Michigan, at a rate not exceeding \$6 per mile.....	10,000
For stationery, binding, printing, and postage	350
For office rent and fuel	400
For wages of laborer to make fires, take care of office, &c.....	120
	<hr/>
	34,110
	<hr/>

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
 Detroit, November 24, 1848.

LUCIUS LYON, Surveyor General.

M.

Estimate of the amount and cost of surveys, and office work yet to be done, in Indiana and Michigan, preparatory to abolishing the office of surveyor general at Detroit.

Number of townships.	Description of work to be done.	Cost per township.	Amount.
300	To be subdivided, averaging (say) 65 miles each, at \$5 per mile	\$325 00	\$97,500
50	To be resurveyed, averaging (say) 65 miles each, at \$6 per mile	390 00	19,500
400	Original—Commissioner's and Register's plats to be made...	14 00	5,600
1,386	Plats to be recorded	3 50	4,851
690	Field notes to be recorded, at 7 cents per 100 words.....	9 00	6,210
560	Transcripts	9 00	5,040
480	Descriptive notes	3 00	1,440
	For supplying deficiencies in records, revising, indexing, and preparing same for binder		1,500
	For salary for surveyor general, say 4 years, at \$2,000		8,000
	For incidental expenses of office, say 4 years, at \$370		3,480
			153,121

NOTE.—The above estimate of the expense of records, transcripts, and descriptive notes, includes those for the 50 townships of resurveys.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
 Detroit, November 24, 1848.

LUCIUS LYON, Surveyor General.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF WISCONSIN AND
IOWA.

—

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Dubuque, October 18, 1848.

SIR: At the date of my last annual report, all surveys out of the appropriation for 1846, except one district upon Menomonie river, in Wisconsin, and the re-survey of five townships in Iowa, the field work of both of which was then nearly completed, had been fully and finally disposed of. On the 7th of December last, the closing returns out of this appropriation were transmitted to your office.

At the same date there had been put under contract, out of the appropriation of 3d of March, 1847, twenty-four contracts of subdividing, equal to eight thousand seven hundred and fifty-four miles, under the three dollars per mile maximum, and eleven contracts, embracing two hundred and seventy-seven miles of standard lines, eleven hundred and seventy-nine miles of township lines, and two thousand four hundred and ninety-two miles of subdividing in the mineral region of Wisconsin, under the maximum of four dollars and fifty cents per mile. There was subsequently contracted for, out of the same appropriation, three districts, equal to thirteen hundred and forty-one miles, under the three dollars maximum, and two districts of subdividing, equal to six hundred and seventy miles, under the maximum of four dollars and fifty cents, making an aggregate, under the three dollars maximum, of ten thousand and ninety-five miles of subdividing, seven thousand eight hundred and sixty-six in Iowa and two thousand two hundred and twenty-nine in Wisconsin; and, under the four dollars and fifty cents maximum, of two hundred and seventy-seven miles of standard lines, eleven hundred and seventy-nine miles of township lines, and three thousand one hundred and sixty-two miles of subdividing; the closing returns of which I had the honor to report to your office on the 9th of August last.

The progress of the above surveys, in the so called mineral portion of Wisconsin, encountered unexpected and embarrassing delay from the peculiarly difficult and almost impassable character of the country. In most instances the surveying parties were forced to carry upon their backs all their provisions and camp equipage, not only over their entire work, but also over the country intervening the same, and the nearest depot accessible either by means of a pack-horse or canoe. The country here alluded to lies north of the third correction line, and west of the fourth principal meridian. The surface generally is an alternation from small lakes and ponds to cranberry marshes and tamarack swamps. Along the streams, however, there is almost invariably a narrow border of drift, elevated above the general level of the country and timbered by white or

yellow pine. The same region is characterized by up'lifts of trap rock, extremely precipitous and difficult of passage, and in the vicinity of which the agency of the "needle" is entirely lost by the sudden and extreme changes of magnetic attraction. Had the country been as well known before as after the return of these surveys, the time actually occupied in their execution would have been considered the shortest in which they could possibly have been performed. Unfortunately, however, the time in which the several deputies contracted to execute this work became the basis for determining the time for opening the land office in the Chippewa district, and the extension of contract time which necessarily ensued, operated in delay which was wholly unavoidable on the part either of this office or the deputies engaged.

Agreeably to your instructions of the 28th of June last, received on the 12th of the following July, I immediately contracted for surveys of the following denomination and locality, to the amount of thirty thousand dollars.

The fourth correction parallel from the fourth principal meridian to the Mississippi river, the establishment of which was indispensable to the survey of the copper lands on the south shore of Lake Superior, and of the country actually embracing the greater and better portion of the St. Croix river pinery.

Two districts of township lines, covering the whole country not heretofore run into townships, situated west of the fourth principal meridian, and between the second and third correction lines, in Wisconsin. Embraced by this district, are two tracts, one upon Rush river, and the other adjacent to the falls of Chippewa river, and its main tributaries, which had been made the subject of recommendation for immediate survey by the geological corps, United States, for Wisconsin; to accomplish which, without endangering the regularity and harmony of the surveys, it became necessary to survey into townships the entire country situated as aforesaid.

The subdivision of forty townships situated in the mineral region of Wisconsin, upon Black and St. Croix rivers, all of which were assigned at the instance of the said corps, and the majority of which are known to embrace a large amount of valuable pine timber.

Two districts of township lines, comprising the eastern half of the neutral ground, a district in the northern portion of the State of Iowa, ceded to the United States by treaty with the Winnebago Indians, dated October 13, 1846; also the sub-division into sections, conformably to your communication of the 7th of July last, of the township embracing the Turkey river sub-agency improvements, the survey of which has already been returned, and the plat thereof transmitted to you.

Two districts of township lines in the Pottawatomie purchase, Iowa, so disposed as to determine the character of that entire purchase, the present amount of settlement thereon, and its inducements and adaptation to settlement.

In my instructions, accompanying the respective contracts above named, the several deputies were required to make advance returns,

in order that the office work might go on interruptedly forward. These instructions have already been complied with in some instances, and would have been in all, had not the surveys in every quarter been arrested by most unusual floods, caused by six weeks of nearly incessant rain.

Agreeably to your instructions of September 1st, 1848, which I had the honor to receive on the 25th of the same month, I was advised that, in addition to the thirty thousand dollars placed at my disposal on the 28th of June last, ten thousand dollars more had been apportioned to my district. This amount, I regret to say, is inadequate to the actual and pressing exigencies of the service, and is ten thousand dollars less than I had thought myself at liberty to expect. The vast interest which the government has involved alone in the immediate survey of the Wisconsin lands, which are timbered by pine, as set forth in my last annual report, and based upon correct data—the fact that those lands are yearly depreciating in value to an amount equal to the whole cost of surveying them—had induced me to expect a very liberal appropriation. And I beg leave here to reiterate the fact, important in every point of view, that these lands are possessed of an unproductive and uncultivable soil, and that, stripped of the valuable pine timber growing upon them—sufficient in its original state to insure the sale of not less than five millions of acres—they will be unsaleable at any price. My last report also urged the just claims of the so called neutral ground to immediate survey. The description of this country, then given, is fully sustained by the reports of the deputies upon township lines. There is already a settlement in nearly every township of that district, though it has only been three months open to settlement. The deficiency in the supposed amount of my apportionment, has operated principally to diminish the amount of surveying had in contemplation for this part of my district, and, in connexion with the urgent necessity for a prompt survey of the “pine lands” of Wisconsin, forms a very strong argument in favor of a larger apportionment for the next fiscal year.

A moiety of my whole apportionment having been assigned to Wisconsin, prior to the reception of your instructions last above named, I determined to apply the balance, with the single exception of the sub-division of five townships upon Rush river, in Wisconsin, to the sub-division of the mineral and agricultural lands of the “neutral ground.” Advance returns of township lines, now progressing in this district, have enabled me to commence the sub-division of the same, which will be carried steadily and rapidly forward, as far as the means placed at my disposal will permit.

Out of the respective appropriations of 3d of March, 1847, and 12th of August, 1848, no surveys have been put under contract east of the fourth principal meridian in Wisconsin, because of the uncertainty respecting the western boundary of the lands owned and occupied by the Menomonic Indians; nor can there be with any degree of propriety, in the part demanding earliest survey, until that boundary is determined, or until the Menomonic title is extinguished. A strong argument in favor of an early treaty of cession with these

Indians, is the fact, that the large and numerous lumbering establishments upon the Wisconsin river, erected upon lands ceded to the United States by treaty of September 3, 1848, are almost wholly supplied from unceded land; a fact that will not operate in the smallest degree to diminish their value in the eyes of their present occupants; but which will, eventually, be the means of defeating the sale and settlement of a large district, originally of great value.

The several deputies upon township lines have been required to submit a report upon the particular character of each district, setting forth the progress and amount of settlement, as well as the inducements thereto, within each township. These reports are designed to supercede the necessity of discretionary contracts of subdividing, by possessing this office of information upon which an unhesitating decision can be made as to the townships which should be immediately sub-divided. A similar report has been required of the deputies upon township lines in Wisconsin; although by the terms of your instructions, of April 22, 1848, (still in force,) the recommendations of the geological corps, United States, for that State, are to be, and have been, regarded as tantamount to information received through other sources.

The amount apportioned to this office out of the appropriation for compensation of clerks to be apportioned, &c., is quite sufficient, it is believed, to complete the recording and transcribing of field notes and descriptive lists, and, with what leisure the regular clerks may have from the current duties of the office, to make considerable progress in the recording of township plats. It gives me great pleasure to be able to contemplate the completion of delayed work in this office, which, under insufficient provision for clerk hire, necessarily increased through the first seven years of its existence, and eventually embarrassed all its transactions.

The records of field notes and descriptive lists, as far as completed, have recently been thoroughly arranged, and are now being permanently bound in volumes of suitable size for reference.

I have been unable to communicate with Dr. Owen, geologist, United States, for Wisconsin, upon the subject of the locality of the surveys to be executed next season, but presume his recommendations of last year, which can only be partially executed out of the appropriation for this, and which were the result of a most thorough and untiring reconnaissance, will, in no probability, be materially changed or added to by his present examinations. Any communication, however, which he may hereafter be pleased to make upon this subject, will receive prompt attention, and be carried into effect as soon as practicable.

The survey of township lines upon Chippewa, Menomonie, L'Eau Gallé and Rush rivers, will afford specific information respecting the most eligible points for survey in the vicinity of those streams; while the survey of the fourth correction line, in connexion with data now had upon that subject, will determine with great certainty the position of the St. Croix river "pinery." This information, upon which the most perfect reliance can be placed, will enable

the surveys of next season to effect with certainty the objects had in view by the surveys of the past and present season, and render them the means of bringing into market a highly valuable class of lands.

The localities in the State of Iowa, except the remainder of the "neutral ground," which should be surveyed at the earliest day possible, cannot be safely designated until after the full return of the township lines now under progress.

The transactions of my office during the past year, that can be summarily stated, are mainly the following:

1. The field notes of the survey of eighteen hundred and sixty miles of township lines, and of the subdivision of one hundred and eighty-six townships and fractional townships, equivalent to eleven thousand four hundred and four miles have been received, and, after a thorough and critical examination, approved.

2. The field notes of the traverse of eleven hundred and forty-nine miles of lakes and rivers, generally of the most involved and intricate character, have been platted, the area of the adjoining fractional lots calculated, and the traverse itself entered upon the original and copied upon the commissioner's plat.

3. One hundred and eighty-six township plats, upon a scale of two inches to a mile, have been constructed from field notes, computed and colored; two copies of each of which have been made, one for the General Land Office, and another for the proper district land office, making an aggregate of five hundred and fifty-eight plats of this description.

4. One hundred and seventy-four diagrams have been prepared to accompany my instructions to deputies, and field notes, amounting to more than six hundred thousand words, transcribed for the same purpose.

5. Twenty-two triplicate contracts have been executed; one of each of which has been transmitted to your office, accompanied by a copy of my special instructions to the respective deputies, and a diagram of each district.

6. There has been made one hundred and sixty-four index diagrams, to preface the records and transcripts of original field notes.

7. Lists descriptive of all the corners in ninety-one townships have been prepared, and copies thereof transmitted to the proper district land offices; making, in all, one hundred and eighty-two lists.

8. The original field notes of eighty-three townships have been recorded, thoroughly examined, and placed on file in this office.

9. Transcripts, for preservation at the seat of government, of the original field notes of eighty-one townships have been made, examined, and transmitted to you.

10. Within the year there has been furnished Dr. D. D. Owen, geologist, United States, for Wisconsin, exclusive of a connected township diagram of the surveys in that State, sixty township plats, upon a scale of one mile to the inch, accurately descriptive of the topography, as indicated upon the township plats returned to your office, and colored in the same manner. For the same purpose the

respective deputies upon surveys in the mineral region of Wisconsin were furnished with blank diagrams, to be filled up as fast as their surveys progressed, and delivered to any member of the geological corps whenever requested. It has been the constant aim of this office to facilitate, by every means in its power, the important examinations of Dr. Owen; to accomplish which no exertion has been spared, and all information important to him, whether requested or not, has been fully and promptly communicated.

11. The correspondence of the office has increased until it now forms the most considerable branch of its current duties, and, although every species of business is carried forward with the utmost dispatch consistent with accuracy, "office hours" continuing through the entire day and even night, when the business is urgent; its correspondence, particularly, is never postponed, even for a single mail.

The following papers accompany and form a portion of this report:

A. Triplicate map of Wisconsin, accurately descriptive of the prominent topography in that State, and forming a complete history and comprehensive view of the condition of the surveys, both in the field and office, up to this date.

B. Triplicate map of Iowa, embracing data pertaining to the surveys therein, of the same character and to the same extent as stated upon the map of Wisconsin.

C. Tabular history of those surveys out of the appropriation of 10th of August, 1846, that were not closed at the date of my last annual report.

D. Complete tabular history of all the surveys out of the appropriation of 3d of March, 1847.

E. Tabular statement of the surveys already contracted for out of the appropriation of 12th of August, 1848.

F. Presents a summary of my salary and disbursements accounts current, for the fourth quarter of 1847, and for the first, second, and third quarters of 1848.

G. Estimate for appropriations for the fiscal year ending June, 30, 1850.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. W. JONES,,
Surveyor General.

Hon. RICHARD M. YOUNG,
*Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington city, D. C.*

C.

Statement of that portion of the surveys contracted for out of the appropriation of August 10, 1846, that were not closed at the date of my last annual report.

Date of contract.	Style of work.	Name of contractor.	State or Territory.	Field notes returned.	Account of Dept. with plats transferred to General Land Office.	Total number of miles.			Amount of contract.
						Miles.	Chains.	Links.	
Dec. 8, 1846	Township lines and subdivision..	A. G. Ellis.....	Wisconsin.....	Aug. 25, 1847	Nov. 23, 1847	580	28	07	\$2,321 40
May 14, 1847	Resurvey of Vandever's work..	George Wilson.....	Iowa.....	Oct. 25, 1847	Dec. 7, 1847	349	23	54	1,012 96

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Dubuque*, October 18, 1848.

GEO. W. JONES, *Surveyor General*.

D.

Statement of surveys contracted for out of the appropriation of 3d of March, 1847.

Date of contract.	Style of work.	Name of contractor.	State or territory.	Field notes returned.	Account of deputy with plats transferred to General Land Office.	Total number of miles.			Amount of contract.
						Miles.	Chains.	Links.	
1847									
May 21	Sub-division.....	M. G. Karrick.....	Iowa.....	July 8, 1847	July 26, 1847	359	31	19	\$1,024 86
21	do.....	John Ball.....	do.....	11, 1847	Aug. 3, 1847	357	42	47	1,018 96
20	Town lines.....	James E. Freeman.....	Wisconsin.....	Oct. 24, 1847	Oct. 29, 1847	341	53	56	2,050 01
22	do.....	James M. Marsh.....	do.....	Nov. 1, 1847	Nov. 6, 1847	621	49	39	3,729 70
22	Base lines.....	H. A. Wiltse.....	do.....	Aug. 20, 1847	Aug. 24, 1847	276	59	23	2,204 76
27	Sub-division.....	M. M. Hayden.....	Iowa.....	July 15, 1847	Aug. 6, 1847	299	47	11	853 82
29	do.....	Joseph Green.....	do.....	Aug. 12, 1847	30, 1847	357	73	74	1,020 08
31	do.....	H. Wakdo.....	do.....	8, 1847	17, 1847	358	01	34	1,020 34
31	do.....	Thomas Hurley.....	do.....	8, 1847	24, 1847	362	52	75	1,033 57
June 1	do.....	Jesse Williams.....	do.....	Dec. 30, 1847	Feb. 23, 1848	417	41	30	1,189 92
3	do.....	Lewis A. Thomas.....	do.....	Aug. 10, 1847	Sept. 17, 1847	302	00	59	860 69
3	do.....	John Parker.....	do.....	8, 1847	13, 1847	356	14	19	1,015 10
12	do.....	John D. Evans.....	do.....	Dec. 10, 1847	Jan. 29, 1848	360	54	36	1,027 93
14	do.....	Joseph Moorehead.....	do.....	Oct. 12, 1847	Dec. 10, 1847	397	55	16	1,133 41
14	do.....	Noah Phelps.....	Wisconsin.....	June 25, 1848	July 31, 1848	359	08	02	987 52
15	do.....	A. McMichael.....	Iowa.....	Dec. 17, 1847	Feb. 10, 1848	359	11	12	1,023 54
16	do.....	J. D. Turner.....	Wisconsin.....	Feb. 10, 1848	June 23, 1848	410	12	49	1,127 93
16	do.....	John W. Webber.....	Iowa.....	10, 1848	Feb. 25, 1848	361	01	13	1,028 89
22	do.....	Cyrus Woodworth.....	Wisconsin.....	28, 1848	June 7, 1848	397	75	58	1,094 34
28	do.....	Samuel Jacobs.....	Iowa.....	Oct. 12, 1847	Dec. 9, 1847	373	55	29	1,065 01
August 5	Re-survey.....	S. S. Carpenter.....	do.....	Nov. 22, 1847	15, 1847	241	03	99	699 04
15	Sub-division.....	D. A. Spaulding.....	Wisconsin.....	April 10, 1848	May 8, 1848	145	53	92	400 60
15	do.....	do.....	do.....	July 1, 1848	Aug. 2, 1848	489	77	59	1,347 41
19	do.....	S. W. Durham.....	Iowa.....	Dec. 10, 1847	Feb. 18, 1848	455	22	75	1,297 56

D.—Statement of surveys contracted for—Continued.

Date of contract.	Style of work.	Names of contractor.	State or territory.	Field notes returned.	Account of deputy with plats transferred to General Land Office.	Total number of miles.			Amount of contract.
						Miles.	Chains.	Links.	
1847									
August 26	Sub-division.....	William Bonnefield....	Iowa.....	Dec. 15, 1847	Mar. 22, 1848	359	58	67	\$1,025 24
27	Town lines.....	J. E. Witcher.....	Wisconsin.....	Feb. 27, 1848	1, 1848	216	02	98	1,296 22
30	Sub-division.....	John Dunn.....	do.....	Nov. 20, 1847	Jan. 14, 1848	328	40	59	1,231 90
31	do.....	Al L. Gregoir.....	Iowa.....	Nov. 5, 1847	Nov. 24, 1847	359	65	28	1,025 47
September 1	do.....	M. O'Brien.....	do.....	Dec. 4, 1847	Jan. 13, 1848	359	31	29	1,024 26
3	do.....	J. N. Higbee.....	Wisconsin.....	Jan. 22, 1848	Mar. 15, 1848	746	03	85	2,797 68
6	do.....	Henry Maddin.....	do.....	March 7, 1848	April 18, 1848	384	51	84	1,442 43
8	do.....	J. P. Cathcart.....	do.....	9, 1848	June 17, 1848	427	22	37	1,175 02
10	do.....	A. J. Hewett.....	do.....	15, 1848	April 8, 1848	342	41	22	1,284 43
11	do.....	J. J. Selman.....	Iowa.....	Jan. 22, 1848	June 8, 1848	361	05	72	1,029 05
20	do.....	H. B. Welsh.....	Wisconsin.....	Dec. 28, 1847	Feb. 17, 1848	243	71	16	914 58
20	do.....	do.....	do.....	May 18, 1848	May 20, 1848	60	01	35	225 06
22	do.....	A. C. Dodge.....	Iowa.....	Dec. 29, 1847	Jan. 22, 1848	360	72	83	1,028 59
24	do.....	John T. Haight.....	Wisconsin.....	March 6, 1848	June 1, 1848	388	66	48	1,458 11
October 14	do.....	J. E. Freeman.....	do.....	Dec. 2, 1847	Jan. 15, 1848	345	08	15	1,380 40
16	do.....	James Davis.....	Iowa.....	Jan. 22, 1848	May 20, 1848	344	42	66	981 92
1848.									
April 22	do.....	James D. Jenkins.....	Wisconsin.....	July 2, 1848	Aug. 9, 1848	324	44	34	1,217 07

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, DUBUQUE, October 18, 1848.

GEO. W. JONES, Surveyor General.

Statement of surveys contracted for on the 18th day of October 1848

E.

Statement of surveys contracted for out of the appropriation of 12th of August, 1848.

Date of contract.	Style of work.	Name of contractor.	State or Territory.	Field notes returned.	Account of deputy, with plats transferred to General Land Office.	Total No. of miles.			Amount of contract.	Remarks.
						Miles.	chs.	lks.		
July 15, 1848	Town. lines..	Jas. E. Freeman.	Wisconsin..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
July 18, 1848	Subdivision...	Wm. A Jones	do.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
do.....	Town. lines..	Geo. Ord Karrick	do.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
July 26, 1848	Town. lines, & subdivision.	Guy H. Carleton	Iowa.....	Oct. 13, 1848	Oct. 18, 1848	300 18 29	\$1,116 05	.....	.....	Subdivision, and a portion of town. lines.
July 27, 1848	Town. lines..	John Ball.....	do.....	Oct. 5, 1848	Oct. 7, 1848	348 42 88	1,394 14	.....	.....	A portion of town. lines.
July 28, 1848	Base line ...	Theodore Conkey.	Wisconsin..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
July 31, 1848	Subdivision...	Joseph Latsban	do.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Aug. 1, 1848	Town. & base lines.	Jas. M. Marsh ...	Iowa.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Aug. 18, 1848	Town. lines..	Andrew Luck.....	do.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Aug. 23, 1848	Subdivision...	Henry Maddin...	Wisconsin..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Aug. 29, 1848	.....do.....	Levi P. Drake.....	do.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sept. 25, 1848	.....do.....	A Anderson.....	do.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Oct. 14, 1848	.....do.....	John Parker.....	Iowa.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Oct. 16, 1848	.....do.....	Hugh Trenor.....	do.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
do.....	.....do.....	Wm. H. Merritt...	do.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
do.....	.....do.....	John Fitzpatrick.	do.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Dubuque, October 18, 1841.

GEO. W. JONES, Surveyor General.

F.

DR. *The United States in account current with Geo. W. Jones, surveyor general.—Disbursement account.* CR.

1847. Dec. 31	To this amount due surveyor general from 3d quarter of 1847 amount disbursed during 4th quarter of 1847 balance due the United States, and carried to credit of 1st quarter of 1848.....	\$204 91 207 88 387 21	1847. Dec. 15	By treasury draft No. 8038, on treasury warrant No. 7555.....	\$800 00
		800 00			800 00
1848. Mar. 31	To amount disbursed during 1st quarter of 1848..... balance due the United States, and carried to credit 2d quarter 1848	155 94 231 27 387 21	1848. Mar. 31	By this amount, due the United States from 4th quarter of 1847	387 21
		387 21			387 21
June 30	To amount disbursed during 2d quarter of 1848.....	546 51	June 30	By this amount due the United States, from 1st quarter of 1848	231 27
		546 51	30	this amount due surveyor general, and charged in 3d quarter of 1848.....	315 24
					546 51
Sept. 30	To this amount, due surveyor general from 2d quarter of 1848..... this amount, disbursed during 3d quarter of 1848 this amount, due the United States, and carried to credit 4th quarter of 1848.....	315 24 311 77 172 99	July 5	By treasury draft No. 9885, on treasury warrant No. 4107.....	300 00
		800 00	Aug. 22	By treasury draft No. 264, on Treasury warrant No. 4565.....	500 00
					800 00
			1848. Sept. 30	By balance due the United States, and carried to credit 4th quarter 1848.....	172 99

GEO. W. JONES, Surveyor General.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Dubuque, October 18, 1848.*

F—Continued.

DR. *The United States in account current with Geo. W. Jones, surveyor general.—Salary account.* CR.

1847. Dec. 31	To amount due surveyor general, and his clerks, for services rendered during the 4th quarter of 1847, ending this date.....	\$2,492 13	1847. Dec. 31	By this amount, unexpended of treasury draft No 7331..	\$22 28
	balance to credit of United States, for 1st quarter of 1848.....	30 15	29	treasury draft No. 8139, on treas'y warrant No. 1632	2,500 00
		2,522 28			2,522 28
1848. Mar. 31	To amount due surveyor general, and his clerks, for services rendered during the 1st quarter of 1848, ending this date	2,684 73	1848. Mar. 31	By this amount due U. States, from 4th quarter of 1847 .	30 15
		2,684 73	31	treasury draft No. 8887, on treas'y warrant No. 2451	2,625 00
				this amount due surveyor general, and charged in 2d quarter 1848.	29 58
					2,684 73
June 30	To this amount, due surveyor general from 1st quarter of 1848.....	29 58	June 30	By treasury draft No. 9805, on treas'y warrant No. 3901	2,825 00
30	amount due surveyor general, and his clerks, for services rendered during the 2d quarter of 1848, ending this date	2,802 32		this amount due surveyor general, and charged in 3d quarter of 1848	6 90
		2,831 90			2,831 90
Sept. 30	To this amount due surveyor general, from 2d quarter of 1848	6 90	Sept. 30	By treasury draft No. 802, on treasury warrant No. 5304	2,875 00
	amount due the 3d quarter of 1848, ending this date	2,634 21			
	this amount due United States, and carried to credit 4th quarter 1848.....	233 89			
		2,875 00			2,875 00
			1848. Sept. 30	By balance due United States, and carried to credit of 4th quarter 1848.....	233 89

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Dubuque, October 13, 1848.*

GEO. W. JONES, *Surveyor General.*

EX. Doc. No 12.

8117

G.

Estimate of appropriations for continuing the public surveys during the year ending June 30, 1850.

For surveying in that part of the mineral region of Wisconsin where all lines must be established by the agency of the sun, and where all supplies are to be carried upon men's backs, both to and upon the survey, at a rate not exceeding six dollars per mile.....	\$15,000 00
For surveying in those parts of the mineral region of Wisconsin, where all lines must be established by the agency of the sun, but which are more accessible on account of their proximity to navigable water, and where pack horses can sometimes be used, at a rate not exceeding four and a-half dollars per mile.....	12,000 00
For surveying the agricultural lands of Iowa, where the magnetic needle can be relied upon to some extent, and where pack horses and wagons can be used to transport supplies at three dollars per mile.....	28,000 00
For incidental expenses.....	3,000 00
	<u>\$58,000 00</u>

Estimate for appropriation for salary of surveyor general, regular clerks, and for compensation of extra clerks for the year ending June 30, 1850.

For salary of surveyor general, and clerks in his office, as per act of 10th August, 1846.....	\$8,300 00
For compensation to clerks for recording plats, recording and transcribing field notes, and making out lists descriptive of corners.....	6,000 00
	<u>\$14,300 00</u>

GEO. W. JONES,
Surveyor General.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Dubuque, October 18, 1848.

REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF ILLINOIS AND MISSOURI.

SURVEYOR'S OFFICE,
St. Louis, October 20, 1848.

SIR: In compliance with the instructions contained in your letter of the 1st of September last, I submit the following report on the operations of this office since the 30th October, 1847, the date of my last annual report. It is accompanied by statements A, B, C, D, E, F; diagram G, of the State of Illinois, and diagram H, of the State of Missouri.

I.—*Receipts and expenditures of public funds.*

The receipts and expenditures during the year ending 30th September, 1848, under the several appropriations made for this office, are described in statement A, exclusive of the payments made by the Treasury Department directly to deputies, in pursuance of the decision of the 20th September, 1844. The balance due the government on the 1st of October is \$2,078 61. You will remark that the disbursements for incidental expenses exceed by \$308 21 the apportionment made for the fiscal year for that object. This is owing to the cost of binding 117 volumes of field notes, and other books and plats, that had accumulated since 1844, and also to the payment of \$253 made to the Secretary of State of the State of Missouri, for a certified copy of the field notes and diagrams of the survey of the line between Arkansas and Missouri, which was run under the authority of the respective legislatures of the two States, and which Congress, by act of 18th February, 1848, "approved and confirmed as the boundary between those States, and between the surveying and land districts bordering thereon."

II.—*Public surveys in Missouri at \$3 per mile.*

Statement B, from No. 1 to 13, represents the contracts that were let out under the general appropriation of 3d March, 1847. They have all been executed and completed to the satisfaction of this office, and the plats of the surveys and accounts of the deputies disposed of according to the instructions from your office, with the exception, however, of contract No. 11, of John M. Richardson, who relinquished it on the 2d of February, on account of his appointment by the War Department to the Osage Indian agency.

The aggregate of accounts adjusted for the surveys included in the twelve contracts perfected, and chargeable to the appropriation of 3d March, 1847, amounts—with the addition of \$295 53, the excess of expenditures under the previous appropriation of 1846—to

\$11,394 62; leaving \$1,105 33 unexpended of the said appropriation of 1847.

Contracts Nos. 14 to 19, are those entered into under the \$10,000 allowed for public surveys in this district for the year 1848-9, out of the general appropriation of 12th August, 1848. They embrace all the unsurveyed lands in Missouri, south of the Missouri river and west of the meridian. When I let the work out, I knew from the public prints that Congress had adopted the line lately surveyed between Missouri and Arkansas as the boundary between those States, and between the surveying and land districts bordering on it; but I had no knowledge of the details of the act. I, however, directed the deputies, whose field of operations reaches the south boundary of Missouri, to close their lines on and connect them with the new State boundary, at the customary price of three dollars per mile. I hope, from the fact of having been instructed as early as the 28th of June to contract for this work, and the act having been officially received at this office only a few days ago, that in due time I will be instructed to extend to the deputies, in the settlement of their accounts, the benefit of the clause of the act which allows six dollars per mile for the lines connecting the public surveys with the State line. It is also desirable that I should receive early instructions to close the public surveys along the whole new line, while the deputies are engaged in the execution of their present contracts, and near the field of the intended operations.

III.—*Surveys in the southeastern part of the State of Missouri, east of the meridian, at \$5 per mile, under the appropriations of \$4,500, of 3d March, 1847, and \$4,000, of 12th August, 1848.*

The contracts under this head are embraced in statement C. Nos. 1 to 4, are those which have been completed, and the plats and accounts disposed of, since the 30th of October, 1847. No. 5, on account of Mr. Hughes's death, was not completed; the unfinished part has been let out to Isaac S. Baker. No. 10, contracts Nos. 6 to 11, are for new surveys under the unexpended balances of former appropriations, and the late appropriation of 12th August, 1848. The six deputies are now in the field, and I expect early returns from them. Statement C shows that there is the sum of \$6,129 14 disposable for the surveys now in process of execution under this head.

IV.—*Surveys under the appropriation of \$1,200, of the 3d of March, 1845, for the survey of erroneous and defective lines.*

Work of this description has been executed to wit: In Missouri, by Aaron Snider, in township 30 north, range 12 east; by L. M. Eiler, in township 41, ranges 5 and 6, and township 40, range 6 east; by D. A. Spaulding, in townships 50, 51 and 53, range 1 west, and townships 51, 52 and 53, range 1 east; and by G. B. Green, in township 44, range 1 west. In Illinois, by George M. Richards,

in townships 5 and 6 south, range 4 west of 4th meridian; by Salomon Parker, seventeen islands in Rock river; and by D. A. Spaulding, one island in the Mississippi river. All this work has been paid for, and the plats sent to the proper officers. The balance in my hands of the appropriation is but \$74 06. In addition to the above, there are in the office the field notes of 100 miles of surveys of this description, made by D. A. Spaulding, in townships 11, 12 and 13 north, range 5 west of 4th principal meridian, in Illinois. The plats of this work are in the hands of the draftsman.

The above work by Mr. Spaulding, in Missouri, was ordered under your instructions of the 6th April, 1847, for the purpose of putting in proper order the surveys by James Reed in the townships mentioned. I hope that this business, which has caused so much trouble since 1841, is now satisfactorily adjusted.

V.—*Transmission of the plats of townships and parts of townships recently surveyed in Missouri.*

The number of these plats, as shown by statement D, is seventy; the same number of copies were sent to the General Land Office. Also, fifty copies were transmitted to the register at Springfield, and twenty, the balance, to the register at Jackson. They contain an aggregate of 1,420,546 acres, including the sixteenth sections reserved for schools, but exclusive of the bed of meandered rivers.

VI.—*Copies of field notes of public surveys for transmission to the seat of government.*

There have been copied during the year the field notes of 171 exterior lines of townships, and those of the subdivision of 157 townships—all in Missouri. They are contained in thirty-five volumes, which are examined, and so soon as the necessary certificates are made thereto, will be ready for transmission to the General Land Office.

VII.—*Surveys of private claims confirmed in Missouri by the act of 4th July, 1836.*

Three surveys were executed—five plats were constructed, embracing six surveyed claims. The plats and descriptions of twenty-two surveys were made out and recorded. Twenty-one certificates of new locations, for valid interferences with surveys of those claims, were issued, and the plats and captions of five surveys wholly interfered with were made out and recorded. The work on these surveys advances as rapidly as returns come in from the department of the diagrams, sent from this office to have noted thereon the valid interferences.

VIII.—*Surveys of towns and villages in Missouri.*

Statement E shows the office work on those surveys. In addition thereto, it was found necessary to make a complete investiga-

tion of the record of the lots and out-lots granted or confirmed in and near St. Charles. Mr. Joseph C. Brown, under his contract of 1843, had left unsurveyed, for want of the proper data, a considerable number of those confirmed lots; and in this state of things, without such investigation, I could not safely make the assignments to the schools of that village, lest I should designate as school tracts lots confirmed to individuals.

When the examination was terminated, Isaac Woods was sent to St. Charles to complete the surveys of that village, and place in proper order, according to your instructions, the lines of the Common, which, ever since its resurvey in 1844, has been the cause of great trouble and vexation to the settlers around it and to this office. His field notes are returned; and, I expect, will enable the Surveyor General soon to set this matter at rest, to the satisfaction of all lawful claimants and the government.

In my report to you of the 9th June last I stated, for the same reasons which had guided me in relation to the St. Charles lots, my views of the necessity for a similar examination of the records of the lots in the other towns and villages, except those of Sainte Genevieve and New Bourbon, an examination of which I had already caused to be made.

IX.—*Miscellaneous.*

There were made out two hundred and twenty-three descriptive lists of townships in Illinois, and one hundred and two of townships in Missouri; one hundred and eleven lists were transmitted to the register at Palmyra.

The letters, reports and statements amount to four hundred and seventy-one. They are recorded on three hundred and one pages of folio post paper. Of subdivision plats, two hundred and eighty-seven were sent to your office and two hundred and sixty-one to registers. Also, twenty-one new plats of old townships were furnished to the registers and ten to the General Land Office.

X.—*Estimates of funds wanted for the operations of the office during the fiscal year 1849-'50.*

Item No. 1 is for closing the surveys in the north part of the State of Missouri, in the event, as is expected, of the Supreme Court of the United States deciding the question of boundary between Missouri and Iowa at the next December term, and of the decision being in favor of Missouri.

No. 2, for surveys in the southeast of Missouri. There still remains a large tract unsurveyed in townships 16 to 25, principally in ranges 10, 11 and 12, which is not embraced in the contracts of statement C, and is supposed to contain enough of saleable land to justify the expense of surveying it.

No. 3 is asked for to enable this office to have resurveyed those townships, the surveys of which were erroneously reported by deputies in early times, and in which settlers cannot find the boun-

daries of their tracts. Of this description is the township let out to D. A. Spaulding, (No. 19 of statement B.) The item, however, can be dispensed with if the surveyor general is allowed to contract for this work, under the balances of the appropriations of 3d March, 1847, and 12th August, 1848, which will remain unexpended when the surveys in the south part of Missouri, west of the meridian are completed.

No. 4 is wanted for work of frequent occurrence, which would not be reasonably compensated for at three dollars per mile, or paid by the Treasury Department directly to the deputies, on account of its being in small and detached portions.

No. 5 is needed towards the completion of the surveys of towns and villages in Missouri. There was no appropriation made at the last session of Congress for this object, and the funds now available of past appropriations will be insufficient for the service during the year 1849-'50.

Nos. 6 and 7.—These two items are provided for by law, and require no explanation.

No. 8.—This item is needed to supply the acknowledged deficiency of Nos. 6 and 7.

No. 9.—Although for some years past Congress made no special appropriation for the copying of field notes to be preserved at the seat of government, still I thought it proper to give it a separate item in my statement of estimates, and hope that you will recommend to Congress the allotment of the sum asked for, in order that this branch of the service may go on, until all the field notes of the public surveys in Missouri are transcribed for the archives of the general government, it being my expectation to complete for the General Land Office the transcript of the notes of the Illinois surveys, before the 30th of June, 1849.

No. 10.—As to this item, I can only repeat, from the report of last year, that it is very desirable that some means be furnished this office to begin this work, and thus save from entire uselessness such of the notes of the early surveys of this district as have become nearly illegible.

No. 11 is wanted for contingent expenses.

Before closing this report, I deem it proper to lay before you some observations on the subject matter of your letter of the 29th ultimo.

In that communication, you state that the surveys in Illinois have been completed, with the exception of some re-surveys, and probably a few detached tracts, and instruct me to proceed to have all of them finished, and the records, &c., pertaining to the surveys in that State prepared to be delivered to the Secretary of State, or such other officer as may be authorized to receive them on or before the 30th day of June, 1849, as required by the first section of the act of Congress approved June 12, 1840, entitled "an act for the discontinuance of the office of surveyor general in the several districts as soon as the surveys therein can be completed," &c.

As a preliminary step to the carrying out these instructions, I have caused an examination to be made of the files of the office,

which appertain to the Illinois surveys, and present a brief statement of the result and of the condition of the several divisions of the work.

A.—Surveys. There remains to be done—

1. The re-survey of township 12 north, range 2 east, 4th principal meridian, let out to D. A. Spaulding on the 10th instant, (No. 19, of statement B.)

2. The survey of a few islands in the Kankakee river, to be done by Jeddiah Woolley, under instructions of 29th May last.

3. The re-survey of section 12, township 22 north, range 3 east, and section 5, township 22 north, range 4 east, 4th meridian; instructions will be issued to the surveyor of Whitesides county to execute this work.

4. Some detached surveying entrusted to D. A. Spaulding, under instructions issued at different times to Robert C. Brent and Geo. B. Sargent, who failed to perform the work.

Besides the above, demands for re-surveys may be addressed to this office, which it will be both just and expedient to grant.

B.—The plats and descriptions, and the record thereof, are to be made of about forty of the private Indian grants or reservations, by the treaties at Camp Tippecanoe, of 20th October, 1832—Prairie du Chien, of 29th July, 1829—and Chicago, of 26th September, 1833. I will put a clerk to this work so as to have it completed early in the next spring.

C.—There remain about fifty descriptive lists of townships to be prepared. They are in the hands of the clerk engaged in this business.

D.—The field notes of sixty-six volumes remain to be copied for transmission to the General Land Office. They will probably form forty volumes of copies, containing three hundred pages each.

In your letter of the 1st ultimo, informing me of the appropriation by Congress of \$5,820 of the 12th of August, for the salary of the surveyor general and the salaries of his clerks, and the apportionment of \$5,000 to this district, out of the appropriation of same day, for extra clerks in the offices of the surveyors general for the year 1848-'49, you direct me to use these sums as follows: "This appropriation and apportionment will enable you to pay the regular salaries of your clerks, and employ an additional force to keep up the operations of your office, and make descriptive lists for registers, but will not enable you to have the field notes of the public surveys copied, or the old field notes recorded. The latter work you will of course intermit till an appropriation can be obtained, unless the amount provided for your office should be more than is necessary for the service above mentioned; in which case the balance might be applied to recording old field notes."

I would have obeyed the instructions by discontinuing the copying of field notes for the General Land Office, and applying one or two of the copyists to the recording of old field notes; but, as a matter of course, your subsequent letter, of the 29th September, requiring the transfer of the Illinois surveys, &c., to that State, altered the case in relation to the sixty-six volumes of field notes

which are not yet copied. In the absence of special instructions from you on the subject, I have thought that they were implied by necessity, and that the sixty-six volumes must be transcribed before the transfer of the Illinois surveys to the State authorities, in order to complete the record kept in the archives of the national government. According to this apprehension of the matter, I set three clerks to the business, who I expect will be able to terminate the forty volumes of copies within the time allowed; and I hope that you will approve of this deviation from your instructions of the first of September, because of the urgency of the labor ordered in those of the 29th, by which I considered the former in a measure superseded.

E.—Sub division of fractional and anomalous sections, under the act of 5th April, 1832.

By the circular of the 14th March, 1843, from the General Land Office to registers, these officers were required to furnish the surveyor general with lists of such sections as require sub-division, in order to complete the plats in their respective offices. From the files, it appears that, in pursuance of the circular, the registers at Danville, Dixon, Quincy, Edwardsville, and Chicago, made out schedules of sub-divisions needed in their districts, and that no lists were furnished by the registers at Vandalia, Palestine, Shawneetown, Kaskaskia, and Springfield. All the sub-divisions asked for have been sent to your office and the registers.

The following is a condensed statement of the townships which seem to require sub-divisions, chiefly in the north and west tiers of quarter sections, viz:

In the Danville district	117	townships.
Palestine "	116	"
Vandalia "	128	"
Shawneetown district	156	"
Kaskaskia "	101	"
Springfield "	128	"
Chicago "	17	"
	—	
Making a total of	763	"
	==	

Of this aggregate, a certain number may perhaps not require sub-divisions as the land may have been sold therein by whole quarter sections, or patented according to the sub-divisions made by registers. These facts I have not the means to ascertain from the plats of this office. I would respectfully beg leave to suggest the propriety of issuing instructions to the registers of the above seven land offices, where it would seem sub-division plats are still needed, pressing upon them the necessity of making a complete and thorough investigation of the matter, and of forwarding early to this office lists of the tracts to be sub-divided, with all the requisite data, in order that plats thereof may be made out, in con-

formity to law and instructions, before the transfer of the documents is made. See diagram G, of Illinois.

F.—*Miscellaneous records.*

Inasmuch as the letters and statements relative to the surveys in both States are recorded promiscuously on the same books, it will, in my opinion, become necessary, before the transfer, to make a selection of those relating exclusively to Illinois, which have an important bearing on her surveys, and may be hereafter wanted for references and explanations, and to have an authenticated record made thereof, to be handed over with the other documents.

G.—*Plats of townships to be recorded, as required by the 1st section of the act of 18th May, 1796, providing for the sale of the lands of the United States in the territory northwest of Ohio, &c.*

The number of township plats in Illinois is 1,813.

They may be divided into two categories:

1. Of those made and returned by the deputy surveyors, which are used as originals. They are contained in volumes 1 to 24 of "Illinois Plats." The aggregate is 1,429 plats; of these, 316 were constructed anew in this office, which leaves 1,113 old plats furnished by deputies, and considered as not being recorded.

2. The plats made and protracted by the draughtsmen of the office, 384 in number, which, with the 316 plats mentioned in the foregoing paragraph, show a total of 700 plats accounted as recorded. They are embraced in volumes 25 to 35 of "Illinois Plats."

The record of the plats, under the act aforesaid, appears to be as follows: 1st. In one volume, 7 plats of townships north of the base line and east of the 4th meridian. These seven plats have been fairly copied in volume 35, and are consequently useless. 2d. In another volume, 73 plats of townships south of the base line and east of the 3d meridian. Of these, 29 have been properly constructed, and are spread in volume 35, leaving 44 plats, which I have classed with the plats to be recorded, because the actual record thereof is in an unwieldy book, on coarse paper, not on successive pages, made in a rude manner, and defective in many instances, as no distances are given on the interior lines, nor any sub-divisions shown on the anomalous sections on the north and west tiers, and the fractions bordering on navigable streams. Neither are the plats authenticated. The labor to put in proper order those isolated 44 plats would be considerable, without remedying their other defects; and even then the record thereof would not harmonize with that of the other plats.

The 1,113 plats of the first category should, by all means, be properly recorded, according law. As already stated, they were furnished by the deputies, and, consequently, were of no expense to the United States. They delineate the earliest surveys of the district, and on that account are bare of all the improvements that

practice and experience have introduced in the drawing of plats of public surveys. In many particulars they are defective, at variance with the field notes, roughly drawn, much disfigured by alterations and erasures, and nearly unintelligible from their long use and the paleness of the ink. This is their general character; but it is proper to state, that the condition of the plats in the Edwardsville district, north of the base line and west of the third meridian, in which there are many private claims, is still worse. When a certified copy of any of them is needed, it has to be constructed from the field notes. The plats of the Kaskaskia district, which embrace the greatest number of private surveys, are among the recorded plats.

The plats of the second class having been prepared in this office, are complete, and answer all the purposes of recorded plats. I would therefore consider a copy of them unnecessary. See diagram C., of Illinois.

H.—*Record of the field notes of the public surveys.*

But few of the field notes have been recorded in what may be termed permanent record books; and these few are not authenticated; nor do they bear any evidence of having been collated with the minutes. I can hardly consider them as records of this office.

The field notes of the public surveys of Illinois are bound in 483 volumes, which, like the plats, may be divided into two classes:

1. The field notes of early surveys, from about the year 1804 to about 1828. During this period, field notes were kept in a very loose way. They show the same defects which I have pointed out in the plats of the first class. They are on bad and soiled paper, and exhibit, in their essentials, a great degree of disorder, by the omission of the mention of ranges and meridians, the disconnexion of the lines of meanders with the field notes of the subdivision lines to which they belong, and of the resurvey of many of their lines with the notes of the former surveys. They are, for the most part, mere memorandums, hurriedly taken down in the open field along the lines which they describe. Of the 483 volumes, about 320 are of this description, the record of which I deem indispensable.

2. The field notes contained in the 163 remaining volumes of the surveys executed since 1828. About this year, it appears that the present method of keeping field notes began to obtain, as the returns from that time are nearly similar to those of the latest surveys. The general instructions for surveying the public lands were more definite and comprehensive than in former times, and their regulations more strictly enforced. The deputies were required to use the best ink and paper, to write their notes without abbreviations, and give a proper description of the lines run. Their returns were carefully examined, and only approved and paid for when they conformed to the formula of the instructions; or a fair copy was furnished by the deputy, according to the terms of his contract, and substituted in lieu of his defective minutes. Under

these circumstances, the volumes of the second class, in my opinion, are sufficiently adequate to the purposes of permanent record, and the expense of copying them anew may be dispensed with.

In relation to this record, permit me to make some extracts from the report of the surveyor general of Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan, for the years 1844, '5, '6, and '7.

In the report of 1844, the surveyor general, speaking of the estimates for clerk hire, states, that "if the present appropriation is continued, *the records of all the maps and field notes of surveys*, in Ohio and Indiana, can be completed and may then, with the originals, *be transferred to those States respectively*, under the act of June 12, 1840."

The report of 1845, shows, that during the preceding year, the field notes of 200 townships had been recorded, making 14 volumes of 500 pages each. In the exhibit H., the surveyor general estimates the expense of bringing up the arrearages of this business in Indiana and Michigan, at \$6,531.

The surveyor general, in his report of 1846, stated that in Ohio, the books, *records*, field notes, maps, &c., were delivered to the executive of that State, except a small amount of *recording*, &c. Also, that the field notes of 282 townships had been recorded during the year.

The report of 1847 points out that the small *amount of recording*, stated in the report of 1846 as being left undone in Ohio, after the transfer of the books, records, &c., to that State, was made out at the expense of the United States. (See item "Ohio.") Also, this report of 1847 mentions the recording during the year of the field notes of 213 townships.

I also find, from the reports of other surveyors general, that field notes were recorded in the office at Dubuque in the years 1845, '6 and '7. In the Mississippi office, in 1844, '5 and '7. In the Arkansas office, in 1845 and '6; and in the Alabama office, in 1844 and '6.

Now, the act of 12th June, 1840, directs, "that it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to take all necessary measures for the completion of surveys in the several districts, for which surveyors general have been, or may be appointed, at the earliest periods compatible with the purposes contemplated by law; and, whenever the surveys and *records* of any such district or State shall be completed, the surveyor general thereof shall be required to deliver over to the secretary of State of the respective States, including such surveys, or such officer as may be authorized to receive them, all the field notes, maps, *records* and other papers appertaining to land titles within the same; and the office of surveyor general in every such district shall, thereafter, cease and be discontinued."

Then it is evident that the act contemplates, not only the completion of the surveys, but, also, that of the *records*, before the delivery thereof to the States. In the only State in which such transfer has been made, that of Ohio, this provision of the act relative to the completion of records was fully carried out, and

the whole benefit thereof awarded to that State by the general government.

Believing that Illinois is entitled to the same consideration, and to all the benefits contemplated by the act of Congress that were extended to Ohio, in the completion of the records, before the transfer to her authorities, and that a contrary procedure would be unjust and injurious, by throwing upon her a mass of documents, which cannot remain in their present condition, but will, as has been represented, require before long to be transcribed and put in proper order at the expense of the State, I would, therefore, most respectfully recommend, in view of the unfinished state of the office work relating to the surveys and records of Illinois, which I have briefly detailed in this report, that your instructions of the 29th September, directing the transfer, be modified, and an appropriation of \$5,000 or \$6,000 asked for, to be applied towards the completion of the work still behind; and that its justice, as well as its necessity, be urged upon Congress; reminding our legislature of the insufficiency of the regular appropriations made for clerk hire in this district, and of the constant and persevering efforts of all the surveyors general during the last eighteen years, to have them increased, so as to be adequate to the wants of this office, and that the failure of their endeavors (although aided to a certain extent by extra allowances made by your office) is the only cause of the arrears of office work to the extent described.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

F. R. CONWAY,

*Surveyor of the public lands in the
States of Illinois and Missouri.*

To RICHARD M. YOUNG, Esq.,
*Commissioner of the General Land Office,
City of Washington.*

STATEMENT A.

[Accompanying report of October 20, 1848.]

General statement of receipts and disbursements for surveying the public lands and private land claims in the States of Illinois and Missouri, and for the salary of the Surveyor General for the same district and his clerks during the year ending on the 30th of September, 1848, (exclusive of the surveying paid out to deputies by the Treasury Department in conformity with the decision of the General Land Office of the 20th of September, 1844,) and showing also the balance of funds in the hands of said Surveyor General on the 1st of October, 1848.

I.—General appropriation of March 3, 1843.

The balance due the United States on the 1st of October, 1847, was \$506.42; and there has been during the year 1847-'8 no expenditure under this fund \$506 42

II.—Special appropriation of March 3, 1843 and June 17, 1844, for detached surveys in Illinois and Missouri.

The balance on the 1st of October, 1847, was \$20 34; and there has been no expenditure during the year 1847-'8 under this head..... 20 34

III.—Appropriation of \$17,500 of March 3, 1837, for surveying the private claims confirmed in Missouri by the act of July 4, 1836.

Balance due the United States on the 1st of October, 1847..... \$280 66
Cash received from the Treasurer in the 4th quarter of 1847.... 1,000 00

1,280 66

Expended during the 4th quarter of 1847..... \$152 26
Expended during the 1st quarter of 1848..... 9 23
Do.....2d.....do..... 295 20
Do.....3d.....do..... 189 48

646 17

Balance due the United States on the 1st October, 1848..... 634 49

IV.—Appropriation of \$2,000 of August 10, 1846, for the surveys of towns and villages in Missouri named in the act of May 26, 1824.

Balance due the United States on the 1st October, 1847..... \$1,278 19

Expended during the 4th quarter of 1847..... \$160 39

Expended during the 1st quarter of 1848..... 173 77

Do.....2d.....do..... 355 73

Do.....3d.....do..... 180 74

870 63

Balance due the United States on 1st October, 1848..... 407 56

V.—Appropriation of \$1,200 of March 3, 1845, for the correction of erroneous and defective surveys in Illinois and Missouri.

Balance due the United States on 1st October, 1847..... \$150 51

Cash received from the Treasurer in the 4th quarter of 1847..... 600 00

750 51

Expended during the 4th quarter of 1847.....	\$436 47	
Expended during the 1st quarter of 1848.....	173 71	
Do.....3d.....do.....do.....	66 27	
		<u>\$676 45</u>

Balance due the United States on 1st October, 1848..... \$74 06

VI.—*Apportionments by the Commissioner of the General Land Office for the incidental expenses of this office, to wit: Of August 31, 1846, of \$1,200 during the year 1846-'7, and \$1,000 of April 27, 1847, for the year 1847-'8.*

Balance due the United States on 1st October, 1847.....	\$175 24
Cash received from the Treasurer in the 4th quarter, 1847.....	600 00
Do.....do.....do.....3d....do....1848.....	800 00
	<u>1,575 24</u>

Expended during the 4th quarter, 1847.....	\$257 02
Do.....1st....do....1848.....	191 43
Do.....2d....do....do.....	205 00
Do.....3d....do....do.....	654 76
	<u>1,308 21</u>

Balance due the United States on 1st October, 1848..... 267 03

VII.—*Appropriations of March 3, 1847, and August 12, 1848, for compensation to the Surveyor General and his clerks for the years 1847-'8 and 1848-'9.*

Cash received from the Treasurer in the 4th quarter of 1847.....	\$2,455 00
Cash received from the Treasurer in the 1st quarter of 1848.....	2,455 00
Cash received from the Treasurer in the 2d quarter of 1848.....	2,792 17
Cash received from the Treasurer in the 3d quarter of 1848.....	2,870 00
	<u>10,572 17</u>

Expended as follows :

Paid other funds, balance due by this on 1st October, 1847.....	\$56 27
Paid on salary accounts in 4th quarter, 1847.....	2,487 23
Do.....do.....1st....do....1848.....	2,703 67
Do.....do.....2d....do....do.....	2,423 30
Do.....do.....3d....do....do.....	2,732 99
	<u>10,403 46</u>

Balance due the United States on 1st October, 1848..... 168 71

Aggregate balance..... 2,078 61

SURVEYOR'S OFFICE, ST. LOUIS,
October 20, 1848.

F. R. CONWAY,
Surveyor of the public lands in the States of Illinois and Missouri.

STATEMENT B.

[Accompanying report of October 20, 1848.]

Statement showing the condition of the contracts for surveying the public lands in the district of Illinois and Missouri, under the general appropriation made by Congress on the 3d of March, 1847, which were not closed on the 30th October, 1847, the date of the last annual report for said district; and the contracts entered into under the general appropriation of August 12, 1848.

Numbers.	Dates of contracts.	Contractors.	Time allowed—months.	Estimated amt of miles.	Price per mile.	Estimated amount.	Amount of surveys returned.	Amount of accounts adjusted at the General Land Office.	Remarks on the condition of the work.
Appropriation of \$12,500 of Mar. 3, 1847.									
							<i>Mls. chs. lks.</i>		
1	Sept. 4, 1847	John Lampton.....	5	300	\$3	\$900	408 14 48	\$1,224 54	} Surveys returned, examined, and approved; plats and accounts disposed of.
2	Sept. 9, 1847	William Shields.....	6	600	3	1,800	609 58 69	1,829 20	
3	Sept. 13, 1847	John P. Jackson.....	5	240	3	720	242 05 36	726 20	
4	.....do.....	James Jackson, jr....	5	300	3	900	302 32 81	907 23
5	.....do.....	Ambrose W. Burton....	5	300	3	900	302 74 45	908 79
6	.....do.....	Henry T. Fort.....	5	240	3	720	241 60 20	725 25
7	Sept. 15, 1847	Isaac S. Baker.....	5	240	3	720	226 78 47	680 94	
8	Oct. 8, 1847	George W. Harrison....	5	300	3	900	299 32 27	828 20	
9	.....do.....	Howard Chism.....	5	240	3	720	240 16 60	720 62
10	.....do.....	Van Tromp Chilton..	6	250	3	750	247 20 70	741 77
11do.....	John M. Richardson..	6	240	3	720	Contract relinquished February 29, 1848.

12	.....do.....	Lycurgus Shepard...	6	260	3	780	257	32	38	772	21	} Surveys returned, examined, and approved; plats and accounts disposed of.
13	Oct. 23, 1847	James Oakey.....	5	300	3	900	321	29	95	964	12	
							3,699	56	45	11,099	07	
	To which add	the excess of expenditures over the appropriation of Aug., 1846.								295	55	
		Total of expenditures.....								11,394	62	or \$1,105 38 less than the \$12,500 appropriated.
						Appropriation of \$10,000 of Aug. 12, 1848.						
14	Sept. 7, 1848	Charles R. Thomas..	5	600	3	\$1,800	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	} Contracts let out for surveys in Missouri under the instructions of the Commissioner dated June 28, 1848.
15	Sept. 8, 1848	William C. Shields..	5	360	3	1,080	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
16	Sept. 22, 1848	John J. Lowry, jr....	5	400	3	1,200	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
17	.....do.....	John Lampton.....	5	410	3	1,230	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
18	Sept. 25, 1848	Ambrose W. Burton..	5	400	3	1,200	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
19	Oct. 10, 1848	D. A. Spaulding....	3	80	3	240	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	For the re-survey of township 12 north, range 2 east, 4th principal meridian, Illinois, under the authority of the Commissioner's letter of June 30, 1848.

SURVEYOR'S OFFICE, St. Louis, October 20, 1848.

F. R. CONWAY,
Surveyor of the public lands in Illinois and Missouri.

STATEMENT C.

[Accompanying report of October 20, 1848.]

Showing the condition of the contracts which were not closed on the 30th October, 1847, the date of the last annual report from this office, and the contracts let out since that date under the appropriation of \$4,500 of the 3d March, 1847, and that of \$1,000 of 12th August, 1848, for surveys in the southeastern part of the State of Missouri, east of the meridian, at \$5 per mile, on account of the difficulties in executing surveys in that section of the State, owing to lakes, swamps, &c.

No.	Dates of contracts.	Contractors.	Time allowed.	Estimated amount of miles.	Price per mile.	Estimated amount of dollars.	Amount of surveys returned.	Amount of accounts adjusted at the G. L. Office.	Remarks on the condition of the work, &c.
			<i>Mos.</i>				<i>Mis. chs. lks.</i>		
1	Sept. 1, 1847	Daniel G. Saunders ...	5	240	\$5	1,200	223 05 32	\$1,115 33	Surveys returned, examined, and approved; plats and accounts disposed of.
2	Sept. 1, 1847	William Jabine	5	200	5	1,000	137 21 03	686 31	
3	Sept. 6, 1847	L. M. Eiler	5	220	5	1,100	219 64 69	1,099 04	
4	Sept. 7, 1847	Isaac Woods	5	270	5	1,350	171 45 46	857 84	
5	Nov. 10, 1847	William Hughes.....	4	.....	5	.....	47 14 68	234 91
									Owing to Mr. Hughes's demise, these surveys in town. 25, r. 13 and 14, and town. 26, r. 14, were not completed. The unfinished work is included in Mr. Baker's contract, No. 10.
6	Aug. 30, 1848	George B. Green	5	214	5	1,070	Contracts entered into under the instructions of the Commissioner of 28th June, 1848.
7	Sept. 4, 1848	Daniel G. Saunders....	5	264	5	1,320	.....	.....
8	Sept. 7, 1848	L. M. Eiler	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	210	5	1,050	.....	.....
9	Sept. 9, 1848	William Jabine.....	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	202	5	1,050	.....	.....
10	Sept. 12, 1848	Isaac S. Baker.....	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	200	5	1,000	.....	.....
11	Sept. 15, 1848	Isaac Woods	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	200	5	1,000	.....	.....
								3,994 43	

STATEMENT C—Continued.

REMARKS TO PRECEDING PAGE.

There has been appropriated for these surveys, to wit :

On 10th August, 1846.....	\$4,150 00
On 3d March, 1847.....	4,500 00
On 12th August, 1848.....	4,000 00
Total.....	12,650 00

Expended—as per report of 30th October, 1847.....	\$2,526 43
as per this report.....	3,994 43
Leaving for the surveys contracted for.....	6,129 14
	12,650 00

SURVEYOR'S OFFICE, St. Louis, October 20, 1848.

F. R. CONWAY,
Surveyor of the public lands in the States of Illinois and Missouri.

PRINTED BY G. W. BROWN, ST. LOUIS, MO.

1846	10th Aug	4150	00	11	11
1847	3d Mar	4500	00	11	11
1848	12th Aug	4000	00	11	11
	Total	12650	00		
1847	30th Oct	2526	43	21	21
	as per this report	3994	43	21	21
	Leaving for the surveys contracted for	6129	14	21	21
		12650	00		

STATEMENT D.

[Accompanying report of October 20, 1848.]

Statement showing the plats of townships in Missouri, sent to the General Land Office and the several land offices since the 30th of October, 1847, the date of the last annual report from this office; and, also, showing the number of acres of public lands contained in each township.

Township.	Range.	Number of acres.	Date of transmission to the Commissioner and registers.	Remarks.
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North of base line and west of the fifth meridian.

SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT.

22	11	22,840.24	June 13, 1848	
23	11	22,897.88	.....do.	
24	11	23,370.76	.....do.	
27	11	22,962.73	April 25, 1848	
28	11	22,968.82	.....do.	
29	11	28,704.01	.....do.	
22	12	23,116.36	May 26, 1848	
23	12	22,936.33	June 13, 1848	
24	12	23,374.01	.....do.	
25	12	23,193.18	May 30, 1848	
26	12	23,091.40	.....do.	
27	12	23,081.28	.....do.	
28	12	23,000.75	.....do.	
29	12	23,348.95	April 25, 1848	
22	13	23,123.86	May 26, 1848	
23	13	22,943.60	.....do.	
24	13	24,037.20	.....do.	
25	13	23,100.88	April 4, 1848	
26	13	23,162.35	.....do.	
27	13	22,968.89	.....do.	
28	13	22,924.62	.....do.	
29	13	27,738.48	.....do.	
22	14	23,127.77	Feb. 16, 1848	
23	14	22,986.72	.....do.	
24	14	24,171.42	May 26, 1848	
22	15	22,956.30	April 18, 1848	
23	15	23,029.34	Feb. 16, 1848	
24	15	24,515.01	.....do.	
22	16	23,098.94	April 18, 1848	
23	16	23,000.31	.....do.	
24	16	24,512.15	.....do.	
22	17	23,103.11	May 15, 1848	
23	17	23,073.08	.....do.	
24	17	25,008.67	.....do.	
27	17	23,120.27	April 13, 1848	
22	18	23,164.40	May 15, 1848	
23	18	22,958.00	.....do.	
26	18	23,253.86	April 13, 1848	
22	19	12,366.28	Aug. 15, 1848	Exclusive of bed of river.
23	21	22,163.12	.....do.	.....do.....do.

STATEMENT D—Continued.

Township.	Range.	Number of acres.	Date of transmission to the Commissioner and registers.	Remarks.
SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT—Continued.				
24	21	22,012.73	Aug. 15, 1848	
23	22	22,700.73	.....do.	
25	26	23,348.03	April 13, 1848	
22	27	22,917.93	.....do.	
22	29	23,016.62	.....do.	
22	30	23,224.93	.....do.	
22	31	23,044.09	.....do.	
22	32	23,012.01	.....do.	
23	32	22,973.65	.....do.....	Exclusive of the bed of river.
22	33	22,996.21	.....do.	
Total in Springfield.		1,162,722.16		

JACKSON DISTRICT.

27	9	22,797.50	April 29, 1848	
29	9	29,034.08	April 4, 1848	
27	10	22,839.54	April 29, 1848	
28	10	22,671.03	.....do.	
29	10	28,444.05	.....do.	
		125,786.20	Aggregate west	of the meridian, in the Jackson dist.

East of meridian; surveys at \$5 per mile.

24	8	22,621.55	March 27, 1848	Exclusive of the bed of river.
25	8	22,546.35	.....do.....	Exclusive of the bed of river and other bodies of water meandered.
26	8	.....	.....do.....	Sections 1, 2, 11, 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, and 36.
16	9	4,359.10	April 3, 1848	
17	9	14,285.76	.....do.	
18	9	18,050.72	.....do.....	Exclusive of the bed of river and shore.
19	9	.....	.....do.....	Section 36, and south of "cut off;" fr. sections 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35.
21	9	.....	Jan. 22, 1848	Sections 1, 12, 13, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 34, 35, and 36.
18	10	115.00	.....do.	
19	10	4,770.78	.....do.....	Exclusive of bed of spreads of Chillitacaux river.
21	10	15,060.71	.....do.	
22	10	15,283.10	.....do.	
18	12	.....	April 21, 1848	S. 1/4 of sections 13 and 14; sections 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 34, 35, and 36.

STATEMENT D—Continued.

Township.	Range.	Number of acres.	Date of transmission to the Commissioner and registers.	Remarks.
JACKSON DISTRICT—Continued.				
19	12	.....	April 21, 1848	Sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, and 36.
19	13	14,915.53	.....do.....	Exclusive of beds of meandered lakes.
		132,038.60		

RECAPITULATION.

In the Springfield district, 50 plats, containing	1,162,722.16 acres.
In the Jackson district, 20..do.....do.....	257,824.80..do.
Total.....	70
Copies.....	140
	210 plats.
	1,420,546.96..do.

SURVEYOR'S OFFICE, St Louis, October 20, 1848.

F. R. CONWAY,
Surveyor of the public lands in the States of Illinois and Missouri.

STATEMENT E.

[Accompanying report of 20th October, 1848.]

Statement showing the progress of office work since the 30th October, 1847, on surveys of the towns and villages in Missouri, named in the acts of 13th June, 1812, and 26th May, 1824, to wit:

There was made out—1. *Plats.*

- 1 connected plat of the village of Portage des Sioux.
- 2....do....plats of the Barrierè des Noyers fields, St. Louis.
- 1....do....plat of the town of St. Charles.
- 1....do....do.of the lower Prairie field lots of St. Charles.
- 1....do....do.of the Cul de Sac and Prairie Haute fields of St. Charles.

2. Plats and descriptions of individual and school lots.

In village of Portage des Sioux..71 originals—122 originals recorded.	
....Do.....Carondelet.....27.....do.....26.....do.	
In town of St. Louis.....19.....do.....21.....do.	
In village of Ste. Genevieve.....1.....do.....00.....do.	
Total.....118.....do.....169.....do.	

SURVEYOR'S OFFICE,
St. Louis, October 20, 1848.

F. R. CONWAY,
Surveyor of the public lands in the States of Illinois and Missouri.

STATEMENT F.

[Accompanying report of 20th October, 1848.]

SURVEYOR'S OFFICE,
St. Louis, September 28, 1848.

SIR: In compliance with your instructions of the 1st instant, I herewith transmit estimates of the appropriations necessary for this office and district during the fiscal year ending the 30th June, 1850, viz:

Item No. 1. For closing the surveys in the north part of the State of Missouri	\$10,000 00
Item No. 2. For surveys in the southern part of Missouri, east of the meridian, at \$5 per mile, on account of the difficulties in executing surveys in this section of the State, owing to lakes, swamps, marshes, &c.....	4,000 00
Item No. 3. For retracing the exterior and interior lines of certain townships surveyed in early times, and which it may become absolutely necessary to re-survey on account of their defectiveness, or the erroneous reports of the deputies who ran them out, say 333 miles, at \$3 per miles.....	1,000 00
Item No. 4. For the correction of erroneous and defective surveys (in small and detached portions) in Illinois and Missouri, at a rate not exceeding \$6 per mile.....	1,200 00
Item No. 5. For completing surveys of the towns and villages in Missouri, named in the acts of 1812 and 1824, including office work.....	2,000 00
Item No. 6. Salary of surveyor general.....	2,000 00
Item No. 7. Salary of clerks, as per act of 9th May, 1836.....	3,820 00
Item No. 8. Pay of additional clerks to keep up the operations of the office..	4,000 00
Item No. 9. For copying field notes to be preserved at the seat of government	3,500 00
Item No. 10. For the record of old field notes to be kept in the surveyor general's office	2,000 00
Item No. 11. For incidental expenses.....	1,000 00
Total.....	<u>34,520 00</u>

I am, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

F. R. CONWAY, Surveyor General.

To RICHARD M. YOUNG, Esq.,
Commissioner of the General Land Office, city of Washington.

No. 58.

REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF FLORIDA.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
St. Augustine, October 2, 1848.

SIR: I have the honor to submit my annual reports, accompanied by triplicate maps, marked A, delineating the surveys in the State of Florida, already made, in progress, and those contemplated the ensuing season, with table of references to each, advising that the maps transmitted by the department, under date 1st ultimo, came too late, and proved to be on a scale entirely too large to meet the instructions given this office, and the manuscript maps now sent, were made out with corresponding labor to those sent with last report. The tabular statements also accompany, marked B, C, D, and E, explanatory of the field labor and fiscal situation of this office.

The final closure of the business relations of this office with the assistant-surveyor of private land claims, will be fully rendered in a separate communication, (No. 59,) and the work returned by him has been retarded in the protracting of the diagrams to be attached to the respective town plats for distribution, by other work having precedence as being received before it, and the draughtsman clerk having necessarily employed his time for the protraction of the maps of this report. The appropriation and apportionment to this office, of which you recently advised, will enable me to give in future important aid to that branch of duty in this office sought for in my last annual report.

The surveys of public lands, authorized to be contracted for under the recent appropriation, you will find delineated on the maps sent, and it is believed will not embrace any private claims; your attention is particularly called to their localities. One contract under a petition of the citizens of Columbia county, others on information derived from personal observation of some of my deputies, and the importance of obtaining (with the hope of a dry fall and winter) the delineation of the mouth of the Suwannee river; and lastly, one or two contracts to close up disconnected surveys, thus forming altogether, a general survey of Florida, except that portion lying on the Atlantic, far south, where some private claims may belong, and being a region so far removed from habitation as not at present even inquired after, and that lying north of the everglades, represented as sterile, except a portion within the limits temporarily assigned to the few Indians remaining, and who, from the reports and observations of some of my deputies, violate their limits, coming far north of this boundary, and commit theft on their property in camp. These sections I have avoided, earnestly hoping and desiring that Congress may finally determine to put the subject of private land claims to rest, by having them surveyed at once, or pass an act to have them *located on the public surveys already made*, agreeably to the subdivisions of the public land as near as practicable to the locality contemplated in the grants,

grounded upon the fact well established, of the claimants failing on due notice from time to time, and year after year, places in the hands of the keeper of the archives, and published severally in the newspapers, to have their claims surveyed by the deputies deputed to the several districts, as defined by the diagrams sent to the keeper of the archives, and which evidence exists in the accounts of the surveyor general as vouchers for payment of such publications from time, and in consequence, the land was, under instructions of Geo. Graham, esq., former Commissioner of the General Land Office, surveyed as public domain. This manner of location may be effected and patented at small cost, and of speedy accomplishment, and thus prevent a growing evil upon the prosperity of Florida and her citizens, superinduce emigration, affording justice to the government without injury to individual interests, and relieve this office from a pressure and responsibility becoming daily more onerous. I solicit your serious examination of this subject, and concurrence if approved.

The surveys of the scrap lands in the western district, bounded by Suwannee, as surveyed by Sloan and Whitner, (returned to the department,) those embodied in the contract of Irvin, not yet received at this office, but daily expected, and which has proved a dreadful tour of duty, and in conjunction with the contracts of Jones and Westcott, of the present year, will, I think, close all necessity for future surveys in that district, as what may not thus be effected may be deemed as totally impracticable.

Believing that general improvements, (with the concurrence of State sovereignties, tending to the sales of the public domain within the district committed to my charge, as forming a legitimate and proper subject for my annual report, and having the prosperity of the State of Florida associated with the deep interests of the general government at heart, I claim your indulgence for submitting another subject for the consideration of the treasury and executive departments leading to action by Congress, in addition to that in my last report, touching the draining and ultimate survey of the everglades on the peninsula of Florida. The necessary limits of a report of this character precludes my entering into other than generalities, leaving to the general government and the general assembly of the State of Florida (to whom I shall submit a copy of this part of my report) the minute details of the separate interests of each sovereignty, if the subject shall be viewed by them respectively, *as it is by me, of vital importance to both*, as well in a national as commercial character, and tending to diffuse great prosperity to the so much neglected interests of agriculture, held by me as the vertebra of national strength, and from which science and handicraft derive their daily support. The subject contemplated is the erection of a railroad of permanent character, uniting the Gulf of Mexico with the river St. John's, having for its object the transportation, on its ways, steamboats constructed for this purpose, with their entire lading; thus preventing transshipments, at all times expensive and irksome, giving a safe channel for the commerce of the south and west with the north and east, strengthening our bond of union, preventing innumerable shipwrecks on the

southern coasts, affording the facility of transporting troops, provisions, and munitions in time of war, and the United States mails, affording great advantages to the travelling public, and tending to extensive sales of the public domain. The distance necessary to effect this great object is overcome in seventy-two miles through a rich region of country, affording every facility in best of timber, and showing upon its whole extent, from Wacassa bay in the Gulf of Mexico to Lake George in the St. John's river, no obstructions of any moment to the building of the road at small cost. With a view to brevity, and yet fully exemplify, I attach a diagram, affording important delineations, derived from actual surveys. If the United States and the State of Florida should harmoniously unite in the accomplishment of this, to me all important work, it may prevent stock-jobbing calamities from inundating Florida, and I shall deem its completion as the eastern point of a *commercial vista*, passing through the Gulf of Mexico, through which the Pacific ocean may be seen without extravagant speculation.

From a deep sense of justice to myself, I desire in closing this report to call your attention to the following facts developed by your files, as well from the correspondence of your predecessors with this office before, as after my reappointment in the fall of 1845, now three years since, and more particularly *that* from me during the period of my present incumbency. In 1842 I delivered the office in perfect order to my successor appointed by the late President, Mr. Tyler, and again received it under the appointment of the now President on the 2d October, 1845, subsequently appointed by the President and Senate in January, 1846. In less than four years it had become a state of great confusion in all its branches. To execute the required surveys, much beyond those of my predecessor, with all his arrearages to make up, and bring order out of chaos, required labors of me personally, without regard to office hours, and oft times night and day, even to the present, and having in all that time seen my family but twice in short periods. Order has been restored. Confusion stands confounded, as fully evidenced by this report, and the documents accompanying.

The labor to effect this reorganization not being required of me either by law or instructions out of office hours, was performed in furtherance of the public interests to a great amount, and *has not been remunerated*. I therefore solicit your recommendation (after examining the subject) for an appropriation by Congress of the small sum of two thousand dollars for my extra services for those three years labor, deemed by me a small equivalent for the arduous and perplexing duties performed. I seek this justice conscientiously. In the future my labors will be legitimate.

Desiring your serious and approving consideration of the matters generally forming this report:

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

ROBERT BUTLER,
Surveyor General

RICHARD M. YOUNG, Esq.,
Commissioner General Land Office.

B.

Statement of contracts for surveying in the State of Florida, which have been surveyed and returned to the office of the surveyor general, in the year ending September 30, 1848.

Date of contract.	Names of contractors.	Time allowed.	Price per mile.	Miles returned.	Amount of contract.	Remarks.
		<i>Months.</i>		<i>Mls. chs. fcs.</i>		
Feb. 22, 1846	James M. Sloan	6	\$1 00	493 03 54	\$1,972 17	Work completed, and returned to the General Land Office.
April 2, 1846	Geo. Watson, jr.	6	4 00	634 50 11	2,538 50	This is a re-survey of the Templeman contract; part of the work has been returned to the General Land Office; the remainder is now in preparation for transmission.
Jan. 30, 1847	J. R. Richard	7	4 00	536 54 64	2,146 73	Work completed, and returned to the General Land Office.
Mar. 27, 1847	A. H. Jones	6	4 00	647 16 11	2,588 80	do do do
July 19, 1847	John Jackson	8	4 00	651 34 94	2,605 74	do do do
July 28, 1847	Benjamin F. Whitner, jr.	8	4 00	581 67 33	2,326 67	do do do
Aug. 7, 1847	S. J. PERRY	8	4 00	(About 570)	2,280 00	Work just returned to this office, and not prepared; the miles and amount are estimated, account not made out.
Sept. 27, 1847	R. W. Morris	6	4 00	516 51 94	2,066 59	Work completed, and returned to the General Land Office.
Sept. 30, 1847	F. R. Loring	6	4 00	528 75 99	2,115 80	do do
Sept. 30, 1847	A. H. Jones	6	4 00	491 56 86	1,966 84	do do
Oct. 25, 1847	John Westcott	6	4 00	547 52 26	2,190 61	do do
Mar. 27, 1848	A. H. McCormick	6	4 00	544 51 12	2,178 55	Work just returned to this office, not prepared.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, St. Augustine, September 30, 1848.

ROBERT BUTLER, Surveyor General.

EX. Doc. No. 12.

C.

Statement of such contracts as are progressing and shortly expected to be returned to the office of the Surveyor General, and those contracts which have been recently let for the ensuing year.

Date of contract.	Contractors' name.	Time allowed.	No. of miles.	Price per mile.	Amount of contract.	Remarks.
March 27, 1846	Michael Garrison.....	6 months...	325	\$1 00	\$1,300	Reported to be nearly completed ; delay has been occasioned by bad country, sickness, &c., &c.
May 29, 1847	John M. Irwin.....	do.....	600	4 00	2,400	do.....do.....do.....do.....do.....do
April 19, 1848	John Jackson.....	do.....	600	4 00	2,400	Expected to be soon returned.
September 14, 1848	A. H. McCormick.....	do.....	550	4 00	2,200	
September 18, 1848	F. R. Loring.....	do.....	550	4 00	2,200	
do.....do.....	J. M. Gould.....	do.....	600	4 00	2,400	
do.....do.....	A. H. Jones.....	8 months...	600	4 00	2,400	
do.....do.....	C. C. Tracey.....	7 months...	600	4 00	2,400	
September 27, 1848	G. Watson, jr.....	do.....	600	4 00	2,400	
	B. F. Whitner, jr.....	do.....	600	4 00	2,400	Contract to be executed in a few days ; deputy ordered to the office for the purpose.
	Henry Wells.....	do.....	600	4 00	2,400	do.....do.....do.....do.....do.....do
	John Jackson.....	do.....	500	4 00	2,000	do.....do.....do.....do.....do.....do
	John M. Irwin.....	do.....	550	4 00	2,200	do.....do.....do.....do.....do.....do
	John Westcott.....	do.....	500	4 00	2,000	do.....do.....do.....do.....do.....do

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, ST. AUGUSTINE, September 30, 1848.

ROBERT BUTLER, Surveyor General.

D.

Estimate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1848.

For the survey of the public lands..... \$15,000 00
 From such Congressional action as may be had under the suggestions contained
 in my annual report, relative to the private land claims in Florida, such ap-
 propriation as the nature of the action may require.
 An appropriation solicited for extra services performed in three years, of ardu-
 ous duty, as fully explained in report..... 2,000 00

Salaries.

Salary of surveyor general..... 2,000 00
 For clerks in his office, as now by law appropriated 3,500 00

Contingencies.

For contingent expenses of surveyor general's office, in addition to what may
 remain unexpended of this year's appropriation to this office..... 500 00
 For compensation to contingent draughtsman, clerk, and the copyist field note
 clerks, in addition to what may remain unexpended of the appropriation for
 these purposes, of the present year, having also reference to the probable ac-
 tion of Congress on the private land claims of Florida, and the early com-
 pletion of the work of the present and ensuing fiscal years, this amount.... 1,800 00

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
St. Augustine, October 2, 1848.

ROBERT BUTLER,
Surveyor General.

N.

MINERAL REPORTS.

UNITED STATES AGENCY,
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, Sep'r 30, 1848.

SIR: I herewith transmit my annual report, in compliance with instructions of 16th April, 1847, of the mining operations in the Lake Superior and Chippewa land districts to this date, (30th September, 1848;) also, my account with the United States, made up to same date, as well as an estimate of the expenses of the mineral agency for the next year.

You will observe the receipts are much greater than expenses. I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. R. McNAIR,
Agent United States Mineral Lands.

UNITED STATES MINERAL AGENCY,
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, Sep'r 30, 1848.

SIR: In compliance with instructions from the Secretary of the Treasury, dated April 16, 1847, I have the honor to report the operations under the management and control of the United States mineral agent, for the year ending this day.

1. That reference to my annual report, September 30, 1847, will exhibit a detailed account of the granting of permits, leases, and of the mining operations on the mineral lands within the Lake Superior land district, Michigan, and the Chippewa land district, Wisconsin, whilst these lands were under the direction of the War Department; and also, a synopsis of operations under the acts of Congress, 1st and 3d March, 1847, transferring the management and control of the mineral lands to the Treasury Department.

2. *Amount of ore and native copper raised in the Lake Superior mineral district from commencement of mining, subject to pay rent.*

Amount reported to Sept. 30, 1847..	10,271,513 lbs.	
“ “ “ 1848..	1,420,661 “	
		11,692,174 lbs.
Rent has been paid on.....	8,597,102 “	
Rent to be paid on.....	1,695,072 “	
Not considered of any value.....	1,400,000 “	
		11,692,174 “

Rents paid on copper ore and metal, from commencement of mining in Lake Superior mineral district.

Received by War Department, in 1846, (ord- nance office,)	\$541 36	
Received by agent of War Department, in 1846	115 54	
		<u>\$656 90</u>
Received by Treasury Department from lease No. 2, paid to assistant treasurer, Boston.....		<u>\$198 82</u>
Received by agent of Treasury Department, to 30th September, 1847	\$2,442 16	
Received by agent of Treasury Department, to 30th September, 1848.....	8,285 92	
		<u>\$10,728 08</u>
Expenses from 16th April, 1847, to 30th September, 1848, for salary, mineral agent and assistant, includ- ing contingent expenses for accounts rendered.....		3,956 00
		<u>6,772 08</u>
Leaving a balance to be accounted for of.....		<u>6,772 08</u>

3. The anticipated receipts for rent, as stated in my last annual report, has not been realized, from the fact of the lands coming into market much sooner than was expected, and your instructions not to charge rent on mineral dug from the mines after the close of navigation, November 15, 1847, on locations purchased before 31st July last, the day the sales of mineral lands commenced. Had it been otherwise, the amount then stated would have been received. The Pittsburg and Boston Mining Company, owners of Cliff mine, lease No. 5, as yet the most productive in the district, availed themselves of those instructions, and purchased in June, being released from a large amount of rent. This company have within the last ten months, taken out of their mine 1,750 tons rich ore and native copper, and by the close of navigation will have, shipped this year 900 tons in masses of native copper and ore prepared by stamping and washing, producing 80 per cent., worth, at the present price of copper, \$250,000. Several other mineral tracts have been purchased under the act of Congress, approved March 1, 1847, and there can be no doubt from the continued favorable developments in the mineral region, but that sales will be greatly increased for the next year, and that the sales of agricultural lands will be increased in proportion, the mining operations creating a market for all the products of the farmer.

4. There are several valuable locations within townships offered for sale, containing mines and being worked, which produce rich mineral, but the leases of which not expiring prior to the public sales, the companies have declined entering them until the next offering of the lands. All the mineral raised by these, as well as others that will be included in the next sales, is chargeable with

rent up to the time they purchase, in accordance with their leases and the act of Congress; and the amount that may be collected, by proper attention, will far exceed expenses.

The iron district.

5. Within the Lake Superior mineral district, commencing at Carp river, emptying into Lake Superior, 150 miles above the Sault Ste. Marie, is an iron region, extending many miles south which surpasses in quantity and riches, and in facilities for working, any hitherto discovered in the known world. Fuel is abundant, and transportation to a market by the lakes may be made cheap. One establishment of furnaces are in successful operation, and the iron manufactured of superior quality.

Chippewa land district, Wisconsin.

6. The geological survey of Doctor Owen, when completed, will no doubt give much useful information in reference to the mineralogical value of this country. As yet, but little is known of the value of the mines discovered, as they have not been worked. From information received from explorers and others, no doubt exists of extensive mines of copper, lead, and other valuable ores within this district.

Public reservations:

7. It may not be considered inappropriate to the duties connected with this agency, to represent such views in regard to the general interests of the government, and settlers on the public lands in this district, as I esteem of importance. Many of the extensive reserves, it is believed, may be brought into market to advantage, and their sale made to contribute materially to the settlement of the surrounding country, as well as induce a profit on sales of mineral lands, saving and reserving sufficient for light-houses, military, or other public purposes, for which they may probably be required. The harbors at several points, if improved by the general government, and especially at this time, a small appropriation for that of Eagle harbor, and of the one at the mouth of the Ontonogon, would aid materially in the disposition of both mineral and agricultural lands. The clearing of slight obstructions at Eagle harbor, with a beacon light, and the extending of a pier from the main land, west of the mouth of the Ontonogon, to prevent the filling up and damming the current of the river with sand, with also a beacon light, would be all that is now actually required at these two points.

Private land claims.

8. The growing population of Mackinac and the Sault Ste. Marie, with the constantly increasing difficulties arising from private land

claims, render it desirable that the settlement of those claims should be no longer deferred. The public interest is suffering, private rights are invaded, and the settlement of the country is being retarded, by ceaseless litigation and the clashing of individual interests.

Ship canal around the Falls of Sault Ste. Marie.

9. There cannot be a question but that the building of a ship canal around the falls of the Sault Ste. Marie would at once be the means of increasing the sale of the millions of acres of land in this wilderness country, cause the establishment of numerous additional copper companies, iron companies, smelting works, foundries, machine factories, mills, &c.; bring into profitable uses unlimited and rich fisheries, and afford boundless prosperity to thousands of agriculturalists, mechanics, miners, mariners, and fishermen, who will otherwise employ their capital and their energies in less profitable pursuits. And, in addition to these advantages, the increased business of the lakes and the Atlantic cities, by one unbroken chain of navigation, as well as the peopleing the Chippewa district of Wisconsin, and the opening up an avenue to the Minnesota country, are matters worthy of serious consideration.

Roads.

10. I cannot refrain from commending to your consideration the advantages to be derived from the opening of a road from Green bay, Wisconsin, via L'Ance, to the mouth of the Ontonogon, Lake Superior, and a collateral branch to Eagle river. The navigation of Lake Superior is suspended six months out of the twelve; for which period of time mariners and others are deprived of any means of ingress or egress other than an Indian trail, to be travelled only on snow-shoes, a distance of more than two hundred miles, through an uninhabited country. Such a road would be of incalculable benefit, and its creation would be the means of disposing of the lands not only upon the route, but throughout this vast and richly promising mineral, agricultural, and manufacturing country.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. R. McNAIR,
Agent U. S. Mineral Lands.

HON. RICHARD M. YOUNG,
Commissioner General Land Office.

DR.

The United States to Dunning R. McNair.

CR.

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1848.			1848.		
Aug. 21	To John Farmer's geological map of the mineral region of the southern shore of Lake Superior, including Isle Royale, for use of agency	\$2 00	June 30	By balance due the United States, per account rendered, including this day.....	\$2,432 76
Sept. 30	To D. R. McNair, salary as agent United States mineral lands in Lake Superior land district, Michigan, and Chippewa land district, in Wisconsin, 3 months from 30th June, including this day, at \$125 per month.....	375 00	Aug. 2	By rent received from Minnesota Mining Company, (lease No. 78,) on 1,604 pounds native copper, shipped this day	13 14
	To General E. J. Roberts, salary as assistant United States mineral agent for Lake Superior and Chippewa land districts, from June 30, including this day, 3 months, at \$100 per month, (per voucher No. 1).....	300 00	5	By rent received from Wm. W. Parks, agent of the American Exploring, Manufacturing, and Mining Company, on 140 pounds copper ore from two locations, 10 cents and 45 cents.	55
	To L. M. Dickers, postage account for two quarters, ending September 30, 1848, (voucher No. 2).....	5 68		By rent received from Eagle Harbor Mining Company, (lease No. 3,) by Andrew Harris, in November, 1847, on 6,374 pounds copper ore, (omitted in account of 30th June).....	7 26
	To Charles Durell, for services attending office, hauling and sawing wood, 3½ months, (voucher No. 3).....	35 00	14	By rent received from Copper Falls Company, (lease No. 9,) on shipments, in 1846 and 1847, of 60,039 lbs. native copper.	383 63
	To balance due the United States, September 30, 2848.....	6,772 02	18	By rent received from Copper Falls Company, (lease No. 9,) on shipments, in 1848, of 19,995 pounds, and all ore and metal remaining at mine on the 1st July, 1848, estimated to be 359,196 pounds.....	352 93
		7,489 70	Sept. 13	By rent received Pirtsburg and Boston Mining Company, (lease No. 5,) on 6,320,915 pounds copper ore and metal remaining at Cliff mine at close of navigation, November 13, 1847, on which per centage was estimated by mineral agent and company's agents. This closed the account of rents with this company, as the location was purchased June 13, 1848. Amount received.....	4,262 98
			30	By rents received from Minnesota Mining Company, (lease No. 78,) on shipment of 4,500 pounds native copper.....	36 45
				Balance due the United States	6,772 02

Ex. Doc. No. 12.

I do hereby certify the above account to be a correct statement of the receipts and expenditures of this mineral land agency, from 30th June, including 30th September, 1848. Balance due the United States, six thousand seven hundred and seventy-two dollars and two cents.

D. R. McNAIR, Agent U. S. Mineral Lands.

UNITED STATES MINERAL AGENCY, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, September 30, 1848.

UNITED STATES MINERAL AGENCY,
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, September 30, 1848.

SIR: In accordance with instructions of the 16th April, 1847, the following estimate is made of the amount that may be required to pay the expenses of the mineral agency for the Lake Superior land district in the State of Michigan, and the Chippewa land district in Wisconsin, from the 30th September, 1848, to 30th September, 1849, to wit:

Salary of principal agent United States mineral land, embracing the two districts.....	\$1,500 00
Salary of assistant agent for same.....	1,200 00
Mileage or travelling expenses.....	300 00
One laboring man.....	300 00
Contingent expenses, including first stationery, printing, &c.....	100 00
	\$3,400 00

There remains unexpended the greater part of the money appropriated to the mineral agency, out of the money transferred from the War to the Treasury Department, April, 1847. Also, the appropriation of last Congress, together with the balance of rents received and remaining in my possession; consequently, no further appropriation by Congress will be required.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 D. R. McNAIR,
Agent U. S. mineral lands.

Hon. RICHARD M. YOUNG,
Commissioner General Land Office.

Dr.

The United States to E. J. Roberts.

Cr.

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1848. Sept. 30	To salary as assistant agent United States mineral lands, Lake Superior and Chippewa land districts, from 30th June to 30th September, 1848, (three months,) at \$100 per month.....	\$300 00	1848. Sept. 30	By cash from D. R. McNair, agent United States mineral agent,.....	\$300 00
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Received from Colonel D. R. McNair, agent United States mineral lands, three hundred dollars for the foregoing account, including September 30, 1848.

E. J. ROBERTS.

UNITED STATES MINERAL AGENCY, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, September 30, 1848.

Voucher No. 2.—Received from D. R. McNair, agent of mineral lands, five dollars and sixty-eight cents, postage for 2 quarters ending September 30, 1848.

LEWIS M. DICKERS, Postmaster.

SAULT STE. MARIE, Michigan, September 30, 1848.

Voucher No. 3.—Received from D. R. McNair, agent United States mineral lands, thirty-five dollars, for my services attending mineral agency office, sawing and hauling wood for three and a half months.

C. DURELL.

UNITED STATES MINERAL AGENCY, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, September 30, 1848.

EX. Doc. No. 12.

BOSTON, *November 16, 1848.*

SIR: I have the honor of forwarding the synopses of the reports of my assistants, Messrs. J. D. Whitney and L. W. Foster, embracing an account of their labors in the districts assigned them for geological and mineralogical exploration during the past summer.

It gives me pleasure to be able to state that their researches have been made with fidelity, and that their report will prove valuable to the country and interesting to science.

The synopses are general accounts of the districts, which will be minutely described in the detailed reports, which are now in progress, and which will be completed during the coming winter. I forward them, in conformity with my instructions, to enable the department to designate what are mineral lands.

The geological map of Kewenaw point, which I forwarded you from Copper Harbor last September, will give you all the information desired respecting the limits of the mineral lands in the district which has engaged most of my personal attention; that district I shall describe in full detail in my report.

The geological map of Isle Royale will be completed and forwarded as soon as the township plats are received from the surveyor general's office. The interior of the island has been fully explored by my sub-agents, Messrs. McIntire and Dickinson, and the coast has been surveyed by me, aided by my assistant, Mr. Foster. The geology is now ascertained, and can be put on the map the moment it is ready. It will be necessary to visit the island again next summer to complete the exploration of the copper veins, and to fix the longitude of a few points of importance. I would call your attention to the important discovery of an inexhaustible supply of the purest iron ores in the district crossed by my assistant, Mr. Foster, and my surveyor, Mr. Hill. That region should be more fully explored; for it is obviously very rich in metals, and has been crossed only twice by my parties, but in such situations that their sections show a most complicated and interesting series of rocks and ores.

We have a long and laborious task before us in working up the numerous observations collected during the two past seasons, and in completing the analysis of many ores and interesting minerals collected during the past summer. All the information we have obtained will be reported to you so soon as it can be prepared in a satisfactory manner.

The two chronometers purchased of W. Bond & Son by the government for our use have been deposited with him for safe keeping during the winter, and their rates will be ascertained again with care. They proved valuable to the survey.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, your obedient servant,
CHARLES T. JACKSON.

Honorable RICHARD M. YOUNG,
Commissioner of the General Land Office.

To. Dr. C. T. JACKSON,

U. S. geologist for the Chippewa land district in Michigan.

SIR: In accordance with your instructions, I have, during the past summer, continued the geological exploration of the district between the Ontonogon and Montreal rivers, on which I was employed during the first year of the survey; I have also continued my examination eastward from the Ontonogon towards Portage Lake, thus extending my observations over the greater portion of the district lying south and west of Portage lake, and extending to the boundary between Michigan and Wisconsin. In the field-work of the past season I have been efficiently assisted by Dr. W. Gibbs, sub-agent, and during a small part of the season, by Messrs. McIntyre and Dickinson, assistant sub-agents. Mr. C. A. Joy was employed as an assistant in the astronomical observations, as also in the observations with the station barometer.

The survey of the township lines had been continued during the season of 1847 over the whole of the district south of the fifth connexion line. At the commencement of the past season, however, but a comparatively small portion of this extensive district had been subdivided. The townships north of the fifth correction line were all finished except five lying southeast of the trap range towards the Aulse, and in our examinations we have had the benefit of the township plats and section lines to guide us. The five townships omitted, were nearly completed during the past summer. South of the correction line we had only four plats of work executed last year. Several parties, however, were at work during the last summer at different points between the Ontonogon and Montreal rivers, so that a large part of the trap range and the country north to the lake shore is now completed. The extensive region beyond the trap range south, to the boundary line is, for the present, at least, utterly valueless, since the broken and swampy nature of the ground, the high northern latitude, and the want of natural facilities of communication, combine to render it peculiarly forbidding to the settler. For the present, indeed, little land will be taken up over any part of this district, except at the mouth of the Ontonogon, and for a few miles up that stream, and at a few points on the trap range, for a few miles east and west of the main branch of that river.

In pursuance of our instructions, however, we have noted the comparative value of the country for agricultural as well as mineral purposes, and have taken a few specimens of soil for analysis. North of the trap, on the Sandstone, the country rises gradually towards the south, and is much of it low and swampy. Near the trap range, there are numerous thick beds of clay, and most of the roads are almost impassable. On the trap the soil is a strong, clayey loam, though thin, and while new, will produce good crops of such plants as will endure the northerly climate, which may be compared with that of the northern part of Maine and New Hampshire. Indian corn, however, will not ripen, though oats, buckwheat, barley and perhaps wheat might be raised in abundance, and

potatoes and those vegetables usually raised in kitchen gardens, thrive in a most extraordinary manner.

To aid us in acquiring a knowledge of the extent and thickness of the rock formations, as well as to fix the heights of the principal elevations, we have kept up a series of barometrical observations on the lake shore, while corresponding ones have been taken at as many points as possible on the trap range and the Porcupine mountains. The highest point of the latter is nearly 1,400 feet above the lake; the most elevated points of the trap range of the Ontonogon are from six to seven hundred feet above the lake.

In obedience to your instructions we have, with one of the chronometers furnished by the department and an excellent eight inch sextant, made numerous observations along the lake shore, for the determination of the latitude and longitude of the principal points. These, as well as the barometrical observations, will be calculated and tabulated and handed in with the detailed report.

Our labors, however, during the past season have been especially directed towards the determination of the limits of the rock formations, so as to be able to furnish a geological map of the district, and to the exploration of them with sufficient minuteness to be able to say what portions of them should, under the present law, be sold as mineral land and what as agricultural. From data obtained by us, combined with those furnished by the linear surveyors, we shall be able to furnish a geological map of the district comprised between Portage lake and the Montreal river. This is already commenced, and as soon as copies of the township plats which have been executed during the last summer shall have been received, it will be completed and handed in with the report on the same. Such is the character of the surface of the country, the underlying rocks being over so large a portion of it, covered by deep soil and detritus, thickly wooded or covered by swamps, filled with a tangled growth, that it will hardly be expected that we shall be able to furnish a perfectly accurate diagram of the limits of the rocks, especially after so short a time has been spent upon it. Still we trust that enough has been done to satisfy the demands of science, and that our views of the proper limits and value of the mineral land will be found to have been based upon accurate observations.

The geological features of the district between Portage lake and the Ontonogon are similar to those of that region beyond the Ontonogon to the westward, generally indicated by me in my synopsis of last year. The trap range of Kewenaw point crosses Portage lake in township 55, ranges 33 and 34 having there a breadth of about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Its course, which at the extremity of the point is nearly east and west, gradually bends to the southward, and conforming nearly to the shape of the coast, it gradually recedes from it till at the point where it crosses the Ontonogon; the distance from the lake to its northern limit is nearly .11 miles. Thence it continues along the course of the west branch of the Octonogon to Agogetic lake, where its distance from Lake Superior is about 14 miles. From this point westward the ranges are less regular. The system of the Porcupine mountains, commencing in township 50,

range 42, extends along the lake shore to the southern boundary of township 50 range 41, where it seems to unite with the Octonogon range, and two tolerably distinct ridges may be traced along nearly to the Montreal river. The most considerable elevations are on the border of the range, and between the ridges there are belts of swampy ground, where no rock can be found in place.

The occurrence of native copper, sometimes associated with silver, throughout the whole extent of the trap range in this district, is the matter of the most particular interest connected with them. That this metal should be found at so many points, over so large an extent of country, and occasionally in masses of such unprecedented size, is a fact which has not its parallel elsewhere; copper occurs at so many points that it would be almost impossible to specify them all. In general, it may be said that, from Portage lake to the Montreal river, we have rarely searched with care at any point where the trap has been exposed over any considerable extent of surface, without finding a few specks or stains of that metal. In general, all the copper of this region occurs in the metallic form. The few exceptions seem to have resulted from atmospheric agencies; the copper, being near the surface of the ground, having become encrusted with, or converted into red oxide or green carbonate. A few thin strings of yellow and gray sulphuret may occasionally be met with even in the trap rocks, but never in any considerable quantity. In the sandstone, the grey sulphuret is the only form of copper which has been found in any considerable quantity in this district.

The mode of occurrence in this metal is in many respects similar to the deposits of the same on Kewenaw point, but the most promising and important localities in this district, are, in some respects, quite unlike those on the Point, which have been mined with the greatest promise of success. I will briefly hint at four different methods of occurrence of the copper in one district, leaving a particular description of localities to the detailed report.

1. Native copper accompanies the zeolitic minerals which so frequently occur in the amygdaloidal trap, sometimes filling the amygdaloidal cavities of the rock itself, or scattered through it irregularly in strings and bunches, which, however, do not form true continuous veins. The trap near Black and Presque Isle rivers contains great quantities of lanmonite scattered through the rock, and accompanied by metallic copper. The quantity of this metal, however, is, in all the localities which we have seen of this kind, very minute; and as there are no regular veins, no chance of profitable mining can be expected at any such locality.

2. In and near the Porcupine mountains copper has been found, and occasionally in masses of considerable size, in beds of chlorite, green earth and clayey matter, occurring at the junction of the trap and sandstone, and dipping with those rocks. Attempts have been made to mine at several such localities, but the quantity of copper obtained has been by far too small to inspire any hopes of success. They have all been abandoned, and ought never to be resumed. At the Union river mine, township 51, range 43, south

28, a bed of amygdaloidal chlorite, between the trap and sandstone, has been thoroughly tested and deservedly abandoned. Near the surface a considerable quantity of copper, in crystalline masses and in thin films, coating the surface of the calcareous spar, amygdules was obtained; but the quantity, which was not at any time sufficient for working, evidently diminished in descending, which seems to have been the case with all the other deposits of this kind.

3. Throughout the whole extent of this district, but especially near Abogebic lake, copper occurs, disseminated in fine particles in massive epidote or epidote rock, which is found in very numerous localities. The epidote sometimes appears to traverse the trap in a definite direction, in masses of considerable length and thickness, assuming somewhat the appearance of regular veins. Such, however, they are not, since they have no definite dip or direction; nor are they separated from the trap by any fixed walls or selvages, but, on the contrary, they pass into it by a gradual change in the nature of the rock. So extensive are the masses of epidote in some parts of the Porcupine mountains, that it may be considered as a proper rock, and it might be quarried there in unlimited quantity. The epidote rock is often amygdaloidal in its structure, like the trap. Metallic copper accompanies the epidote, if not invariably, at least very frequently, though in general only a few minute specks and grains will be found over a large extent of the rock.

4. The principal deposits of copper in this district are in what are called by those working them, "east and west veins;" these merit especial attention, since the quantity of metal which they have furnished is much more considerable than that obtained from any other kind of deposits of this metal in the trap between Portage lake and the Montreal. The trap here, as elsewhere, is divided into beds or parallel plates of generally from four to six feet in thickness. These divisions or joints may sometimes be traced along for a considerable distance, following the course of the range, and dipping generally to the north, at a high angle, generally from 30 to 45 degrees. Sometimes, when the rock is exposed, a number of such joints may be seen in succession, one above the other. The surfaces of the two masses of rock are sometimes in contact with each other, without any other appearance than a mere seam or crack in the rock, the surfaces, however, being coated with argillaceous matter, hardened and grooved or highly polished, (slicken-sides.) Often, however, a band of quartz, and calcareous spar, associated with massive and radiated epidote, will be found, extending along for a considerable distance, at the joint, now diminishing to a thread, and then widening out to a foot or more. The epidote will often be found, sometimes on one side and sometimes on the other of the joint, tolerably pure near it, and gradually passing into trap at a little distance from it. Connected with the quartz and epidote occurs the metallic copper in fine grains, plates and masses, of all sizes up to several tons in weight. Mining operations have been commenced at several points on localities of this nature, and a considerable quantity of metal has been raised. Several companies had discontinued their operations before

we had visited their works, and the shafts having become filled with water, we had no other means of forming an opinion of their real value, than from the rock and metal thrown out and left exposed on the surface. One or two companies are still engaged in mining, and it is understood that two or three others intend to test their localities during the coming winter. In this case, a probable estimate of their value may, perhaps, be made by the next season; they differ so much from any other known veins or deposits of copper, that the most experienced miner ought not to give a decided opinion with regard to them, based on anything else, except the actual results of working. Should they be found to enrich in descending, they may prove profitable, otherwise, they will all, probably, be abandoned. The quantity of copper in this district, taken together, must be large, and from the occurrence of masses of so large a size as have been found loose on the surface and in the rock, it seems not unreasonable to suppose that some deposits of value may be found.

In considering what portion of the trap range ought, under the present law, to be offered for sale as mineral land, I have endeavored to ascertain when there was a probability of mining operations being carried on with some hope of success, since the mere occurrence of native copper in the rock, I do not, in all cases, consider as sufficient to make it worth while to offer the land as mineral land.

The following tracts include, in my opinion, all that portion of the trap range on which it would be advisable to carry on mining operations. From Portage lake to T. 52, R. 37, the protrusions of trap are comparatively of little elevation, the greater part of the country underlaid by trap being a rolling, heavily timbered district, or covered by small lakes and swamps, while the mineral indications are extremely unflattering. So, too, I have not thought the mineral indications sufficiently favorable west of T. 49, R. 41, to allow of any part of the trap range or of the Porcupine mountains to be offered as mineral land.

Sections designated as mineral lands.

- T. 52, R. 37. Sections 36, 35, 34, south $\frac{1}{2}$.
 T. 51, R. 37. Sections 1 NW. $\frac{1}{4}$; 2, 3, 4, W. $\frac{1}{2}$.
 " " 11 except SE. $\frac{1}{4}$; 10, 9, E. $\frac{1}{2}$.
 " " 15 except SE. $\frac{1}{4}$; 16, 22, NW. $\frac{1}{4}$.
 " " 21, 20 except NW. $\frac{1}{4}$; 28, W. $\frac{1}{2}$.
 " " 29, 30, 32, 31.
 T. 51, R. 38. Sections 36, 35.
 T. 50, R. 38. Section 6.
 T. 50, R. 39. Sections 1, 2 except NW. $\frac{1}{4}$; 12.
 " 11, 10, 9 except NW. $\frac{1}{4}$.
 " 14 except SE. $\frac{1}{4}$; 15, 16, 17, 18.
 " 22 except SE. $\frac{1}{4}$; 21, 20, 19.
 " 28, N. $\frac{1}{2}$; 29, 30, 31, except SE. $\frac{1}{4}$.

T. 50, R. 40. 25, S. $\frac{1}{2}$; 26, S. $\frac{1}{2}$; 36, 35, 34, 33, 32, 31.
 T. 49, R. 40. Sections 1 N. $\frac{1}{2}$; 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, N. $\frac{1}{2}$.
 T. 49, R. 41. 1, 2, 3, SE. $\frac{1}{4}$; 12, 11, 10, 9, 8, E. $\frac{1}{2}$.

In my detailed report, I shall speak particularly of each deposit of copper of importance, and shall describe, minutely, their relation to true veins.

The subdivision of the townships near the Aulse, and north of the fifth correction line, has, during the past season, brought to light a very considerable deposit of fossiliferous limestone, on T. 51, R. 35, sections 13, 14, 23, 24. Its position in the geological series will be carefully studied from the fossils which have been obtained, and it is to be hoped that some light will be thrown on the age of sandstone, which surrounds and seems to have been deposited upon it. I have thus indicated the principal points which, in the detailed report will be described in full, with such drawings and sections as may be needed for their illustration.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. WHITNEY,
Assistant Geologist.

MOUTH OF THE MENOMONIE RIVER,
 Tuesday, September 28, 1848.

DEAR SIR: Agreeably to your instructions, I embrace the earliest opportunity to communicate to you a synopsis of my observations since I left you at L'Ance, Lake Superior. Our party consisted of myself, Mr. Hill as surveyor, and four voyageurs. We procured one canoe at L'Ance, which was carried by Agindos, assisted by another voyageur, first to the head water of the Mi-chi-ga-mig, a distance of about 22 miles, over elevations 1,200 feet above Lake Superior, through tangled cedar swamps and meadows, knee deep in water, and finally launched; it has in the progress of our journey been conveyed over twenty-three portages, and now floats in the waters of Lake Michigan, as sound almost as when taken from Lake Superior. We arrived here yesterday with our stock of provisions nearly exhausted, and had it not been for the game we killed by the way, we should have been completely destitute. The weather has been bad, and for days in succession our clothes were wet. The reduced state of our provisions compelled us to push on, yet we neglected no opportunity of minutely examining the rocks which presented themselves, and we trust that we shall be able to present a faithful section of their order of superposition, and a sufficiently correct profile of the country for all practical purposes, although the weather was so fluctuating that many of our barometrical observations were worthless. I shall embrace the earliest opportunity to proceed to Green Bay and thence to Boston. At present I can give you only a general outline of our observations, since our barometrical observations are not calculated, and our notes of the geology and topography of the region traversed remain to be platted; nor

have I examined the specimens collected with sufficient care to describe their mineral characters, some of which I wish to have subjected to rigid assays.

In our route from Copper Harbor to L'Ance we examined more minutely than we had hitherto done the alternations of the trap and sandstone. At Bete-du-Gris Bay, where the Bohemian range approaches the lake, we found that the trap, instead of being forced through the layer of sandstone, as observed in the northern slope of Keewenaw point, was protruded through a fissure in the sandstone, tilting it up and causing an anticlinal axis. The bearing of the stratified rocks here is found to be northeast, and the dip 76' to the southeast. A few miles further south the rock becomes nearly horizontal, and between that point and L'Ance it acquires a series of gentle undulations, so that little importance was attached to any of our observations, as to its bearing and inclination. As we approached L'Ance its dip to the northwest becomes perceptible, until it is seen overlaying the slates unconformably. These slates present a series of short folded axis, apparently having been subjected to one upheaval prior and another subsequent to the deposition of the sandstone. They present different characters at different points, passing from talcose into argillaceous, then into hornblende schist, and finally into hornblende, in which all traces of stratification disappear. About 15 miles southeast of L'Ance we found the granite protruding through these schists, and running in a succession of ridges east and west, rising higher and higher, until it attains an elevation of about 1,200 feet above the level of Lake Superior. This was the highest point on our route between the two great lakes; on either side the dip of the rocks was found to be reversed. This was the second anticlinal axis observed.

In township 48, ranges 30 and 31, we came to a chain of lakes which lie in one of the longitudinal valleys, on the southern boundary of the granite forming the principal source of the Mi-chi-ga-mig, the river we proposed descending to its junction with the Menomonie. Here we observed the order of succession in the strata, and they were found to consist—1st. beds of quartz and feldspar, the former predominating; 2d. hornblende, exhibiting lines of stratification; 3d. specular oxide of iron, associated with talcose and argillaceous schists. From the mode in which this iron occurs, there can be no doubt of its being a continuation of that of Dead river, and for richness and extent it surpassed all of my previous conceptions. These beds will be found to occupy a district not less than 50 miles in width, whilst their western limit has not been determined. I will not at this time stop to describe all of the localities where it has been observed. The most remarkable bed which we saw occurs on the left bank of the Mi-chi-ga mig river, probably on section 1, township 46, range 30. The hill, which attains an elevation of 173 feet above the level of the river, is made up of a mass of nearly pure specular oxide of iron; for 34 feet in height it is covered by soil, so as effectually to conceal it; it then rises a perpendicular cliff to the height of 113 feet. We walked across this

hill for a hundred feet, until we came to the soil covered by a heavy growth of timber, without seeing its width. We scrambled along the base of the cliff at least a quarter of a mile, without seeing its beginning or its end. About 40 feet from the escarpment of the iron hill we observed a metamorphic rock, composed of rounded particles of quartz and feldspar, with masses of ore intermingled like the pebbles of the conglomerate. When we visited the rain was descending in torrents, and the position of the sun in the heavens was a matter of conjecture. A compass was of no avail in determining the bearing, but when we reached the river we took an observation, and inferred that it was east and west. The dip was ascertained to be 85° inland. The lowest point where the iron was observed similarly associated was in township 40, range 30, about two miles east of twin falls, on the Menomonie, and forty miles south of the locality described. This bed in places is exposed 100 feet in thickness, and can be traced for a mile and a quarter on the surface. Proceeding southerly, we next came to hornblende, destitute of stratification and indicating our proximity to an igneous rock. On section 5, township 45, range 30, we found another range of granite, bearing nearly east and west, and occupying a width of eight miles, succeeded by the hornblende schists, which had been observed on the other side of the ridge. After passing these we came to a limestone, varying in color from a gray to a flesh color, and beautifully marked by small seams or veins. It had all the compactness necessary to constitute a good marble. It was first observed on section 27, township 44, range 31, and was found to continue for more than a mile in width. It dipped south, being south of the second anticlinal axis. Occurring, as this limestone does, within the limits of the iron district, it will be invaluable as a flux in the smelting of the ores, aside from its value as an ornamental stone.

In township 42, range 31, we found another granite ridge, parallel to the one last described, flanked on either side by mica slate, succeeded by hornblende slate, and then by talcose slates, similar to those before described. Such seems to be the order of succession in all of the upheavals observed. We have reason to believe that a repetition of the limestone above described occurs not far from where the Mus-Ros river enters the Menomonie, but the evidences on which that belief is founded will be given in the detailed report.

The lower stratified rocks continue to the head of Sandy Portage. Associated with them are veins, or perhaps more properly seams of quartz, from some of which we procured copper pyrites; but none of these seams contained this ore in sufficient quantities to justify mining operations. Specimens of the vein stones were procured in order to test them for their rarer metals.

At Sandy Portage we met with a class of rocks differing altogether in lithological character from any hitherto observed on Lake Superior. They belong to the older plutonic rocks, older than the traps of Kewenaw point. They appear under the forms of porphyry, basalt, clinkstone and sienite. It would be difficult to de-

termine from hand specimens whether the last two forms belonged to the hypogene or plutonic rocks. From the point last indicated this class of rocks extends nearly to the first rapids, above the big bend in the Menomonie river. They must have first protuded among the slates, and then denuded before the deposition of the sandstone, for we find the slates intercalated among these igneous rocks with a vertical inclination, whilst the sandstone is seen resting horizontally, or nearly so, upon them. This sandstone was first observed opposite Chippewa island. The greatest amount of dip that I could obtain was 3° the southeast. As we descend the river we find it gradually disappearing, and all traces of it are lost before arriving at the Grand Rapids. It is made up of alternating layers of white and red bands, and the adhesion between the particles is so slight that it opposes little resistance to the action of the elements. This sandstone I am disposed to regard as belonging to the oldest palaeozoic rocks, and as the equivalent of the sandstone on the northern slope of the upper peninsula. It occupies a space of about twenty miles in width. Resting conformably on this sandstone is a light gray limestone, containing occasionally geodes lined with cupitals of dog tooth spar and quartz. Fossils are sparingly distributed through it; in fact, the only evidences of organic remains observed were the stems or vertebral columns of a small encrinite. This rock, I predict, if exposed over a considerable area, will be found to contain lead. It was first observed at the head of the Grand Rapids, and continues thence to Green Bay, distant in a direct line about 15 miles. This is the most recent rock observed on the line of our proposed section. Aside from the superficial deposits, after striking the floetz or horizontal rocks, our examinations were attended with much difficulty. The country occupied by them appears to have been thoroughly abraded, and then covered with the mingled fragments of almost every rock found on the northern peninsula, to the depth in many places of a hundred feet. If we had had some apparatus, with which we could have sounded the stream and brought up portions of its bed, we could have assigned the boundaries of these rocks more satisfactorily. We have collected specimens of the rocks, illustrative of the geology of the region traversed; also samples of the soil, to test its agricultural capacity. In this respect we have been compelled to limit our collections, since they had to be packed over long portages, on the backs of men, already worn down by toil and privation.

The Mi-chi-ga-mig and Menomonie abound in rapids and cascades, many of which are extremely picturesque, and the country which they traverse is studded with heavy groves of pine. Large quantities of logs are annually rafted down the Menomonie, and sawed into lumber at the mouth of the river. Such is a brief synopsis of our observations. I shall proceed immediately, agreeably to your instructions, to make a detailed report on the geology of the region described, accompanied by a section showing the order of superposition of the rocks; and should you deem it desirable, I am prepared to extend it to the granite ridges on the Canada side, from observations made previous to my connexion with the survey. I

have, also, some facts in my possession with regard to mines and minerals of Kewenaw point, which I will incorporate into my detailed report, if not inconsistent with your views.

I have collected some facts with regard to the phenomena of the sudden rise and fall in the waters of the lake, which I will also lay before you.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

L. W. FOSTER,
Assistant Geologist.

Dr. C. T. JACKSON,
U. S. Geologist for the
Lake Superior land district.

Hon. GEORGE M. DALLAS,
Vice President of the United States,
and President of the Senate.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the report of the Surveyor General of Louisiana, which has just been received and respectfully request that it may be communicated to Congress and printed as part of the annual report of this office. On examining this report it is perceived that an appropriation is asked for at augmented rates, of \$23,850, for the territory of Oregon and Nevada; surveys in Louisiana, exclusive of the Greysboro district, to supply lost field notes, &c. A separate line was asked for this service in the estimate from the office for the reason, that I was not apprised of the expediency or necessity for it, till the receipt of this report. Being satisfied, however, of the propriety of the measure, I respectfully recommend that the Committee of Ways and Means be requested to insert in their general appropriation bill, for the collection of customs and duties on surveys, the portion of private claims, &c. in Louisiana, exclusive of the Greysboro district, at augmented rates, \$23,850.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

RICHARD M. YOUNG,
Surveyor General of Louisiana.

Hon. R. J. WALLACE,
Secretary of the Treasury.

REPORT ON THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF LOUISIANA.

Surveyor General's Office,
New Orleans, La., December 7, 1818.

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the report of the Surveyor General of Louisiana, which has just been received and respectfully request that it may be communicated to Congress and printed as part of the annual report of this office.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
December 23, 1848.

SIR: I have the honor herewith to submit a communication from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, under the date of the 20th instant, enclosing the annual report of the Surveyor General of Louisiana, and accompanying papers, and requesting that the same may be communicated to Congress, and printed as part of the annual report of that office.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
R. J. WALKER,
Secretary of the Treasury.

HON. GEORGE M. DALLAS,
*Vice President of the United States,
and President of the Senate.*

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
December 20, 1848.

SIR: I have the honor to submit, herewith, the annual report of the surveyor general of Louisiana, which has just been received; and respectfully request that it may be communicated to Congress, and printed as part of the annual report of this office.

On examining this report, it is perceived that an appropriation is asked for, at augmented rates, of \$23,685, for the retracing of erroneous and fraudulent surveys in Louisiana, exclusive of the Greensburg district, to supply lost field notes, &c. No appropriation was asked for this service in the estimates from this office, for the reason, that I was not apprised of the expediency or necessity for it, till the receipt of this report. Being satisfied, however, of the propriety of the measure, I respectfully recommend that the Committee of Ways and Means be requested to insert an item in the general appropriation bill, "For the correction of erroneous and defective surveys, the location of private claims, &c., in Louisiana, exclusive of the Greensburg district, at augmented rates, \$23,685."

With great respect, your obedient servant,
RICHARD M. YOUNG,
Commissioner.

HON. R. J. WALKER,
Secretary of the Treasury.

REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF LOUISIANA.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Donaldsonville, La., December 7, 1848.

SIR: Enclosed herewith I have the honor to transmit, in triplicate, the following documents, showing the present condition and the operations of this office since my last annual report, viz.:

- A—Statement of liabilities under contracts and instructions.
- B—Estimate of proposed surveys during the year ending 30th June, 1850.
- C—Estimate of funds required for the service of the year ending 30th June, 1850.
- D—Statement showing the condition of the appropriations for the Greensburg District.
- E—Tabular statement of contracts.
- F—Statement of surveys returned to the general and local land offices since November 22, 1847.
- G—List of persons employed in this office.
- H—List of deputy surveyors.
- I—Triplicate maps of Louisiana.

I am aware that I am considerably behind my time in the transmission of my report and estimates, but the delay has been, to a certain extent, occasioned by causes beyond my control. I was desirous, previous to making this report, of causing a thorough examination, by an experienced accountant, of all the accounts certified by me since taking charge of this office, so that in referring to the condition of the appropriations the exact balances could be stated. I could not at once find a suitable person to undertake the work; and when I did, it proved a much longer operation than I had anticipated. The object in view is, however, I believe, fully effected, and the present statements show the exact financial condition of the affairs of the office.

Should my report not arrive in season to be embodied with the annual report from the General Land Office, may I hope that it can be sent in to Congress in an extra form?

A reference to the statement of surveys returned will show an increase of work disposed of, on the amount of last year, of upwards of fifty per cent., without any corresponding increase of clerk hire.

I have seen no occasion to change the views heretofore expressed in regard to the policy to be pursued in correcting the surveys executed in this State under the system of principal deputy surveyors; in fact, the result of every field as well as office examination, has fully convinced me that little short of an entire re-survey of all the defective townships will enable the government finally to quiet and dispose of the titles to lands, held either under the former government of the country, or purchased from the United States.

Much embarrassment and frequent delays occur in the examination of corrective surveys, with regard to the validity and location of private claims, from the want of the evidence on which they were confirmed; this may be partially remedied by your instructions of the 5th October last, authorizing the procuring transcripts of evidence from the local offices; but I would respectfully suggest, as this office is called upon to decide in all cases, (except those of confictions,) that it should be made keeper of the records, and that a law be proposed to Congress requiring the transfer of

all records and documents relating to private land claims to the office of the surveyor general.

These records, as I am credibly informed, with the exception of those in the New Orleans office, consist principally of bundles of papers, without order or classification; and I have no doubt their transfer to this office would not only tend to their preservation, but would expedite in a very considerable degree the public business.

In cases of conflict, it could be made the duty of the surveyor general to send the register and receiver complete transcripts of the evidence in each case.

The tabular statement of contracts shows a considerable amount of surveys returned to this office not disposed of; much of this is in a state of forwardness, and will be shortly sent up.

The surveys under contract are actively progressing in all sections of the State, and, so far as I can learn, are giving satisfaction to the citizens.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. T. LANDRY,

Surveyor General, Louisiana.

RICHARD M. YOUNG, Esq.,

Commissioner General Land Office, Washington city.

A.

Statement showing the liabilities of the Surveyor General's office at Donaldsonville, Louisiana, for surveys under contracts and instructions in the four other districts.

District and description of surveys.	Number of miles.	Price per mile.	General appropriations.	Augmented rates.	Surveyors' names.	Date of contracts or instructions.	Remarks.
<i>Southwestern.</i>							
Townships 10 and 11 s, r 3 and 4 e.	437½	\$8	.....	\$3,500 00	Walsh & Campbell..	Oct. 7, 1842	\$2,026 21 paid in the 1st quarter of 1844. Field notes of township 10 south, range 4 east, returned, not yet completely examined.
Township 3 s, r 3 e; t 5 and 6 s, r 4 e.	570	8	.....	4,560 00	H. O. Terrell.....	Nov. 20, 1840	Account for township 5 south, range 4 east, for \$1,514 18 sent General Land Office, December 28, 1846. Terrell admits the receipt of \$1,180 on this contract.
Township 14 s, r 4 and 5 e; t 15 s, r 3 e.	<i>m. c. lks.</i> 27 35 83	8	.....	219 58	John Boyd.....	Mar. 31, 1846	Fractional surveys; work prepared for return.
Townships 2 and 3 n, r 1 e; t 2 n, r 1 w.	250	8	.....	2,000 00	A. G. Phelps.....	Mar. 25, 1847	Surveys returned and examined; maps to be prepared.
<i>Southwestern, northwestern, north of Red river.</i>							
Township 3 n, r 2 w; t 5 n, r 3 w; t 6 n, r 3 w; t 4 n, r 4 w; t 5 n, r 4 w.	1 50	8	.....	1,200 00	A. G. Phelps.....	Jan. 28, 1848	Townships 5 and 6, range 3 west, in the southwest district, returned; not examined.

A.—Statement showing the liabilities of the Surveyor General's Office at Donaldsonville—Continued.

District and description of surveys.	Number of miles.	Price per mile.	General appropriations.	Augmented rates.	Surveyors' names.	Date of contracts or instructions.	Remarks.
<i>Southwestern.</i>							
Township 12 s, r 6 e.....	60	\$8	.....	\$480 00	John Boyd.....	Mar. 1, 1848	Surveys returned and examined; maps to be prepared.
Township 7 s, r 2, 3, and 4 e; t 8 s, r 2, 3, and 4 e.	485	8	.....	3,880 00	A. L. Fields.....	Mar. 11, 1848	
<i>Northwestern.</i>							
Survey of the Grappa reservation on Red river.	m. c. lks. 74 75 97	6	.....	449 68	George W. Morse...	Aug. 27 and Nov. 22, 1841	Surveys in progress.
Unapproved field-notes in township 16 n, r 12 w; t 17 and 18 n, r 13 w; t 15 n, r 12 and 13 w; t 17 n, r 14 w.	31	6	.....	186 00	Terrell & Kelley....	Nov. 20, 1837	
Township 9 n, r 7 w.....	125	8	.....	1,000 00	George W. Morse...	Feb. 14, 1848	Surveys in progress.
Townships 7 and 8 n, r 6 w; t 10 n, r 8 w.	325	4&8	\$200 00	2,200 00	George S. Walmsley.	May 30, 1843	Surveys in progress.
<i>North of Red river.</i>							
Townships 14 and 15 n, r 3 e; t 12, 13, 14, and 15 n, r 4 e; t 12 and 13 n, r 5 e.	510	6	.....	3,060 00	Henry Washington..	Dec. 15, 1847	Surveys in progress.
Township 16 n, r 3 e; t 17 n, r 4 e.	153	8	.....	1,224 00	W. J. McCulloh....	Jan. 7, 1848	Surveys in progress.
Townships 21 and 22 n, r 11 e; t	346	4&8	480 00	1,356 00	Aaron Vandorn.....	Feb. 15, 1843	Surveys in progress.

23 n, r 12 e; t 16 and 17 n, r 8 e.

Southeastern.

Fractional surveys in township 8, r 1 e, and t 9, r 2 e.	10	6	60 00	E. D. Richardson...	Oct. 5, 1841	Diagrams to be prepared and sent up.
Township 9 s, r 13 e; t 11 and 12 s, r 15 e, west of the Mississippi river; and 12 townships east of the Mississippi.	1,000	8	8,000 00	Richardson & Powell	Oct. 3, 1842	Town 9 south; range 13 east, and townships 11 and 12 south, range 15 east, require corrections, which a surveyor is now engaged in making; the remainder for the most part cannot be sent up until the results of a field examination in regard to discrepancies with former surveys is known.
Township 5, r 9 e; t 5, r 10 e; t 5, r 11 e; and parts of t 4 and 6, r 10 e.	405	58.8	3,000 00	Andrew Crawford...	Oct. 28, 1842	Surveys returned and examined; maps to be prepared.
Township 11, r 8 e, east of the Mississippi.	50	8	400 00	Samuel Perin, jr...	Dec. 4, 1845	Map prepared for return; waiting further instructions.
Township 14 s, r 14 e.....	25	8	200 00	J. Claxton Taylor...	Dec. 31, 1846, Jan. 23, 1847, and Feb. 16, 1848.	Surveys returned and examined; diagram to be prepared.
Townships 12 and 13 s, r 19 e.....	140	6	840 00	Samuel Perin, jr...	July 17, 1848	Surveys in progress.
Township 16 s, r 13 e.....	25	8	200 00	J. K. Gourdain.....	Oct. 12, 1848	
			680 00			
Less amount paid as above to Walsh & Campbell and H. O. Terrell.....			3,206 21			
Total liabilities.....			680 00			34,809 05

A.—Statement showing the liabilities of the Surveyor General's office at Donaldsonville—Continued.

Condition of appropriations.	At \$4 per mile.	Augmented rates.
Balance to the credit of this office under all appropriations other than those for the Greensburg district, June 26, 1847	\$11,108 93	\$36,403 11
Apportionment under act of March 3, 1847, for the survey of the public lands, per Commissioner's letter of April 26, 1847.....	9,000 00	
Appropriation, per act of 12th August, 1848, for the location of private claims and correction of surveys, exclusive of the Greensburg district.....		14,230 00
	20,108 93	70,633 11
Amount of surveyors' accounts certified and sent to the General Land Office for settlement, and sent surveyor general on his requisition, since June 26, 1847.....	1,082 00	36,211 97
	19,026 93	34,421 14
From this sum deduct the amount of liabilities as above, at \$4 per mile, \$680.....	680 00	
And the balance should be carried (if practicable) to the credit of the appropriations for surveys, at augmented rates.....		18,346 93
	680 00	52,768 07
Deduct amount of liabilities, as above.....	680 00	38,809 05
Balance for future contracts.....		13,959 02

Apportionments from the general appropriations for the survey of the public lands for the incidental expenses of the Surveyor General's office.

Balance, as per Commissioner's statement of June 26, 1847.....	\$1,517 50
Apportionment for incidental expenses under act of 12th August, 1844, per Commissioner's letter of September 1, 1848.....	1,032 00
	2,549 50
Amount sent surveyor general on his requisitions, since June 26, 1847.....	1,132 23
Balance for the incidental expenses of the current year.....	1,417 27

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Donaldsonville, Louisiana, December 6, 1848.

P. T. LANDRY,
Surveyor General, Louisiana.

Estimates for proposed surveys in the district of Louisiana for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1850.

Land districts and proposed surveys.	Number of miles.	Price per mile.	Augmented rates.	Remarks.
North of Red river.				
Township 1 n, r 3 e.....	75	\$8	\$600 00	Partially surveyed heretofore; no field notes, however, in the office. Re-surveys of McFarland's fraudulent returns.
Township 18 n, r 3 e, 120 miles; t 19 n, r 3 e, 90 miles; t 20 n, r 3 e, 85 miles; t 18 n, r 4 e, 100 miles; t 19 n, r 4 e, 100 miles; t 20 n, r 4 e, 100 miles.	595	8	4,760 00	
Northwestern.				
Township 21 n, r 13 w.....	66	6	396 00	Corrective surveys and location of private claims.
Township 6 n, r 6 w, 20 miles; t 11 n, r 9 w, 40 miles.	60	8	480 00	
Southwestern.				
Township 15 s, r 11 and 12 e, north of Grand lake.	40	8	320 00	Original surveys.
Townships 3, 4, and 5 s, r 12 w; t 4, 5, and 6 s, r 13 w.	150	8	1,200 00	Do.
Township 2 s, r 1 e, 70 miles; t 3 s, r 1 e, 100 miles; t 4 s, r 1 e, 70 miles; t 5 s, r 1 e, 75 miles; t 6 s, r 1 e, 80 miles; t 7 s, r 1 e, 75 miles; t 8 s, r 1 e, 75 miles; t 9 s, r 1 e, 75 miles; t 2 s, r 2 e, 80 miles; t 3, 4, and 5 s, r 2 e, 80 miles each; t 1 s, r 3 e, 25 miles; t 2 s, r 3 e, 60 miles; t 4 s, r 3 e, 150 miles; t 5 s, r 3 e, 175 miles.	1,350	8	10,800 00	Re-surveys of old defective work, amounting, in most instances, to an entire re-survey.
Township 1 n, r 7 e, 70 miles, meanders of Bayou de Glaizes, 146 miles.	216	8	1,728 00	Ordered by commissioner's instructions of 27th January and June 10, 1848.
Township 14 s, r 8 e.....	25	8	200 00	Detached portions of land neglected in former surveys.

B.—Continued.

Land districts and proposed surveys.	Number of miles.	Price per mile.	Augmented rates.	Remarks.
<i>Southeastern, west of Mississippi river.</i>				
Township 3 s, r 8 e.....	60	\$8	\$480 00	Location of claims not heretofore surveyed, and correction of old surveys.
Township 15 s, r 13 e.....	35	8	280 00	Traverse of streams to define the limits of land districts.
Township 12 s, r 20 e, 20 miles; t 13 s, r 20 e, 20 miles; t 6 s, r 9 e, 70 miles.	180	8	1,440 00	No field notes on file: these surveys required to replace them.
Township 14, r 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22; t 15 and 16 s, r 20 and 21; t 16 s, r 18 e; t 18 s, r 16 e.	660	8	5,280 00	Original surveys of back lands near the Mississippi and Bayou Lafourche.
Townships 13 and 14 s, r 23, 24, and 25 e....	200	8	1,600 00	Correction of old surveys and location of claims.
Township 20 s, r 18 e.....	100	8	800 00	Re-surveys. See surveyor general's letter of September 18, 1847.
<i>Southeastern, east of Mississippi river.</i>				
Township 11 s, r 2 e.....	10	8	80 00	Location of claims and correction of old surveys.
Township 12 s, r 4 e, 80 miles; t 11 s, r 5 e, 30 miles; t 12 s, r 5 e, 30 miles.	140	8	1,120 00	No field notes. Surveys necessary to replace them.
Township 12 s, r 8 e, 20 miles; t 11 s, r 9 e, 20 miles; t 12 s, r 9 e, 40 miles; t 12 s, r 10 e, 60 miles.	140	8	1,120 00	New surveys, correction of old surveys, and location of claims not heretofore surveyed.
Township 12 s, r 11 e.....	120	8	960 00	(The New Orleans township.) Complete survey required.
Townships 15 and 16, r 13 e; t 16 and 17, r 14 e; t 17 and 18, r 15 e; t 18 and 19, r 16 e; t 19, r 17 e.	500	8	4,000 00	Re-survey, if found necessary after a field examination.
Balance as per statement A.....			37,644 00 13,959 00	
Amount required to be appropriated....			23,685 00	

C.

Estimate of funds required to be appropriated for surveys in Louisiana, compensation of surveyor general, clerks, and contingent expenses of surveyor general's office, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1850.

	Amount.	Augmented rates.	Totals.
For proposed surveys in the four other districts, per statement B.....		\$23,685 00	\$23,685 00
<i>Compensation of surveyor general and clerks.</i>			
Salary of surveyor general.....	\$2,000 00		
Salaries of regular clerks.....	2,600 00		
Salaries of clerks to be employed in the current business of the office, examining, calculating, and protracting surveyors' returns, abstract of private land claims, and in classifying and preparing documents in reference to proposed re-surveys, required to be sent up previous to contracting therefor.....	4,700 00		
Salary of draughtsman, to examine and reprotract old work, and to prepare instructions for the correction of same, when necessary.....	1,500 00		
Salary of draughtsman, to be employed in copying maps and diagrams, for transmission to the general and local offices.....	1,200 00		12,000 00
<i>For contingent expenses.</i>			
Rent of rooms for surveyor general's office.....	400 00		
Stationery, furniture, and postage.....	500 00		
Fuel.....	36 00		
Servant's hire.....	96 00		1,032 00
Total appropriations required.....			36,897 00

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Donaldsonville, Louisiana, December 6, 1848.

P. T. LANDRY,
Surveyor General.

D.

Statement showing the condition of the surveys, and appropriations therefor, in the Greensburg district, La.

Liabilities of the Surveyor General's Office, for surveys now under contract.

Date of contracts.	Surveyors' names.	Contents of contracts.	Estimated number of miles.	Price per mile.	Total amount.	Remarks.
Dec. 23, 1844	Walsh & Bates.....	Township 2, r 1 e, 35 miles; t 3, r 1, e, 15 miles; t 4, r 1 e, 15 miles; t 5, r 1 e, 26 miles; t 3, r 1 w, 20 miles; t 4, r 1 w, 30 miles; t 5, r 1 w, 25 miles; t 2, r 2 w, 20 miles; t 3, r 2 w, 16 miles; t 2, r 3 w, 50 miles.	252	\$6	\$1,512 00	
		Township 2, r 4 w, 29 miles; t 2, r 5 w, 65 miles; t 3, r 3 w, 30 miles; t 3, r 4 w, 40 miles; t 4, r 2 w, 53 miles; t 5, r 2 w, 25 miles.	242	8	1,936 00	The surveys in this contract have not yet been returned to this office. The surveyors have been allowed until December 23, 1848, to complete their returns.
Jan. 20, 1845	A. G. Thorn.....	Township 2, r 3 e.....	50	6	300 00	Notes returned, but not yet fully examined.
Aug. 1, 1845	Silas Taylor.....	Township 4, r 12 e, 70 miles; t 5, r 12 e, 35 miles; t 5, r 13 e, 60 miles.	165	8	1,320 00	Townships 4 and 5, range 12 east, returned, but not yet finally examined. Time extended until January 1, 1849.
Dec. 1, 1846	J. C. Taylor.....	Township 7, r 1 e, 50 miles; t 8, r 1 e, 45 miles; t 7, r 2 e, 65 miles; t 8, r 8 e, 40 miles; t 9, r 8 e, 10 miles; t 8, r 9 e, 60 miles; t 9, r 9 e, 20 miles; t 7, r 1 w, 90 miles; t 8, r 1 w, 30 miles.	410	8	3,280 00	Time for completing these townships has been extended to March 1, 1849.
Oct. 25, 1847	Silas Taylor.....	Township 1, r 8 e, 40 miles; t 1, r 9 e, 60 miles; t 1, r 11 e, 20 miles; t 1, r 12 e, 30 miles; t 1, r 13 e, 30 miles; t 1, r 14 e, 100 miles.	200	8	2,240 00	Time for completing these townships has been extended to December 25, 1848.

Nov. 8, 1847	Joseph Troskolawski.	Township 1 r 3 e, 20 miles; t 1, r 5 e, 90 miles; t 1, r 6 e, 50 miles; t 1, r 7 e, 90 miles.	250	8	2,000 00	Township 1, ranges 5 and 6 east, returned, but not finally examined. Time for completing these townships has been extended until January 1, 1849.
Nov. 17, 1847	C. J. Cabell.....	Township 2, r 5 e, 90 miles; t 2, r 6 e, 50 miles; t 2, r 7 e, 80 miles; t 3, r 7 e, 80 miles.	300	8	2,400 00		Field notes all returned, but have not yet been finally examined.
					14,988 00	
The amounts in Walsh & Bates's contract are taken from the original estimates; but they should be doubled—therefore add:.....					3,448 00	
Total amount of liabilities.....					18,433 00	

APPROPRIATIONS.

Appropriation of June 17, 1844	\$33,480 00	
Do March 3, 1845.....	11,650 00	
Do August 10, 1846.....	20,400 00	
	<u>\$65,530 00</u>	
Expenditures under all the above appropriations, viz:		
Surveyors' accounts sent up and settled.....	24,925 18	
Accounts of Williams, Brent, Vanzandt, Troskolawski, Burr, and Connelly, sent up; which do not appear to have been disposed of	2,069 26	
Surveyor general's requisitions	5,240 80	
	<u>32,235 24</u>	
Available balance to this date.....	33,294 76	
Deduct amount of liabilities, as above.....	18,433 00	
Available balance for future contracts.....	<u>14,861 76</u>	

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Donaldsonville, La., December 6, 1848.

P. T. LANDRY, Surveyor General.

E.—Tabular statement of surveying contracts in the district of Louisiana.

Date.	Contractors.	Districts.	Expiration of contracts.	Estimated number of miles.	Price per mile.	Amounts of contracts.	Amount paid.	Remarks.
Nov. 20, 1840	H. O. Terrell.....	Southwestern.....	May 20, 1841	187½	\$5	\$1,500	\$1,180 00	Field examination had, and surveys of t 3 s, r 3 e; t 5 and 6 s, r 4 e, reported correct in the field; further surveys required in t 6 s, r 4 e. Account for t 5 s, r 4 e, amounting to \$1,514 17, sent up.
Nov. 23, 1840	John H. Dickerson..	.....do.....	July 1, 1841	125	8	1,500	4,132 00	Field notes returned, but require much correction. Dickerson refuses to do it. See accounts in 1st quarter 1843, and 1st quarter 1844, for \$3,385 42. Dickerson admits the receipt of \$4,132.
Oct. 3, 1842	Richardson & Powell	Southeastern	July 1, 1846	625 276	8 4	5,000 1,104	14,958 60 2,026 21	Contract cancelled.
Oct. 7, 1842	Walsh & Campbell..	Southwestern.....	July 31, 1843	423	8	3,384	.....	Contract cancelled, with the exception of t 10 and 11 s, r 3 and 4 e; t 10 s, r 4 e, only returned. See voucher No. 2, 1st quarter 1844; augmented rates for amount advanced.
Oct. 28, 1842	Andrew Crawford ..	Southeastern	Jan. 1, 1843	190	5 & 8	1,380	.....	Returns examined and found correct; maps to be made.
Dec. 23, 1844	Walsh & Bates.....	Greensburg.....	Aug. 1, 1845	252 242	6 8	3,448	.....	No returns whatever. Contractors allowed to 23d December, 1848, to complete them.
Jan. 20, 1845	A. G. Thorn .....	.....do.....	Jan. 1, 1845	416½	6	2,500	1,999 80	Notes all returned; t 2, r 3 e, not yet finally examined.
Aug. 1, 1845	Silas Taylor.....	.....do.....	Aug. 1, 1846	345	8	2,760	2,985 58	Notes all returned except t 5, r 13 e; t 4, 6, and 7, r 11 e, completed and sent up; t 4 and 5, r 12 e, not yet finally examined. Time extended to 1st January, 1849.

Dec. 1, 1846	J. C. Taylor.....	.....do.....	Dec. 1, 1847	.....	7 & 8	3,833	2,481 67	Townships 4 and 7, r 8 e, t 4, r 9 e, t 7 and 8, r 10 e, completed and sent up. Township 7, r 1 and 2 e, t 3, r 1 e, t 7 and 8, r 1 w, t 8 and 9, r 8 e, t 8 and 9, r 9 e, not returned. Time extended to 1st March, 1849.
Oct. 25, 1847	Silas Taylor.....	.....do.....	July 1, 1848	230	8	2,240	.....	Surveys not yet returned. Time extended to the 25th December, 1848.
Nov. 8, 1847	Joseph Trokolawski.....	.....do.....	July 1, 1848	330	8	2,800	.....	Township 1, r 4 e, completed and sent up. Township 1, r 5 and 6 e, returned, not finally examined. Township 1, r 3 e, and t 1, r 7 e, not yet returned. Time extended to the 1st January, 1849.
Nov. 17, 1847	C. J. Cabell.....	.....do.....	Aug. 1, 1848	450	8	3,600	1,618 61	Returns complete. Township 3, r 5 and 6 e, sent up. Township 2, r 5 and 6 e, t 2 and 3, r 7 e, not yet finally examined.
Dec. 15, 1847	Henry Washington..	North of Red river	Dec. 15, 1848	600	6	3,600	563 39	Township 15 n, r 2 e, and t 13 n, r 3 e, complete and sent up. The balance of the contract not yet returned. Time extended six months, from 1st December, 1848.
Jan. 7, 1848	W. J. McCalloh ....	.....do.....	Jan. 1, 1849	360	6	2,160	1,661 12	Townships 16 and 17 n, r 2 e, and t 16 n, r 4 e, complete and sent up, for the balance of the contract. Time extended to 1st July, 1849.
Jan. 28, 1848	A. G. Phelps.....	Parts in SW., NW. and north of Red river.	July 1, 1848	150	8	1,200	.....	Township 5 n, r 3 w, returned not examined. Time extended to 1st December, 1848.
Feb. 14, 1848	George W. Morse...	Northwestern.....	July 1, 1848	125	8	1,000	.....	Surveys reported as completed in the field, but no returns.
Feb. 15, 1848	Aaron Vandorn	North of Red river	Dec. 1, 1848	{ 120	4 }	3,024	778 55	Township 19 n, r 10 e, t 20 n, r 11 e, complete and sent up. Township 21 n, r 11 e, returned.
Mar. 1, 1848	John Boyd.....	Southwestern	July 1, 1848	{ 424	6 }			
Mar. 11, 1848	A. L. Fields.....	.....do.....	Dec. 1, 1848	60	8	480	.....	Returns complete; map to prepare.
May 30, 1848	G. S. Wallisley.....	Northwestern.....	Jan. 1, 1849	{ 485	8 }	3,880	.....
July 17, 1848	Samuel Perin, jr....	Southeastern.....	Jan. 1, 1849	{ 50	4 }	2,200	.....
				{ 275	8 }			
				140	6	840		

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Donaldsonville, Louisiana, December 6, 1848.

P. T. LANDRY, Surveyor General, La.

Tabular statement of surveys returned to the General Land Office and to the local land offices since Nov. 22, 1847.

General Land Office.		Registers' offices.		District.	Remarks.
Township.	Range.	Township.	Range.		
3.....	2 east.....	3.....	2 east.....	Greensburg.....	Correctional surveys.
2.....	4. do.....	3.....	4. do.....	do.....	do
4.....	8. do.....	4.....	8. do.....	do.....	do
7.....	8. do.....	7.....	8. do.....	do.....	do
4.....	9. do.....	4.....	9. do.....	do.....	do
4.....	11. do.....	4.....	11. do.....	do.....	do
4.....	4. do.....	4.....	4. do.....	do.....	do
2.....	2. do.....	2.....	2. do.....	do.....	do
6.....	11. do.....	6.....	11. do.....	do.....	do
3.....	6. do.....	3.....	6. do.....	do.....	do
3.....	5. do.....	3.....	5. do.....	do.....	do
7.....	11. do.....	7.....	11. do.....	do.....	do
1.....	4. do.....	1.....	4. do.....	do.....	do
22 diagrams.....		1 diagram.....		do.....	do
		52 separate plats.....			Private claims.
12 south.....	13 east.....	12 south.....	13 east.....	Southeastern.....	East of the Mississippi.
14. do.....	18. do.....	14. do.....	18. do.....	do.....	do
15. do.....	18. do.....	15. do.....	18. do.....	do.....	do
11. do.....	19. do.....	11. do.....	19. do.....	do.....	do
15. do.....	19. do.....	15. do.....	19. do.....	do.....	do
10. do.....	20. do.....	10. do.....	20. do.....	do.....	do
11. do.....	20. do.....	11. do.....	20. do.....	do.....	do
12. do.....	19. do.....	12. do.....	19. do.....	do.....	do
13. do.....	19. do.....	13. do.....	19. do.....	do.....	do
14. do.....	19. do.....	14. do.....	19. do.....	do.....	do
14. do.....	20. do.....	14. do.....	20. do.....	do.....	do
12. do.....	20. do.....	12. do.....	20. do.....	do.....	do
12. do.....	21. do.....	12. do.....	21. do.....	do.....	do

13. do	20. do	13. do	20. do	do
12. do	7. do	12. do	7. do	do
11. do	7. do	11. do	7. do	do
16. do	16. do	16. do	16. do	do
16. do	15. do	16. do	15. do	do
15. do	17. do	15. do	17. do	do
16. do	17. do	16. do	17. do	do
16. do	18. do	16. do	18. do	do
15. do	16. do	15. do	16. do	do
15. do	15. do	15. do	15. do	do
17. do	16. do	17. do	16. do	do
17. do	17. do	17. do	17. do	do
18. do	17. do	18. do	17. do	do
18. do	18. do	18. do	18. do	do
10 diagrams		11 diagrams		
1 north	2 east	3 separate plats		
1. do	3. do	1 north	2 east	Southwestern
10 south	9. do	1. do	3. do	do
12. do	3. do	10 south	9. do	do
12. do	4. do	12. do	3. do	do
13. do	3. do	13. do	4. do	do
14. do	3. do	14. do	3. do	do
13. do	6. do	13. do	3. do	do
13. do	7. do	14. do	6. do	do
14. do	7. do	13. do	7. do	do
15. do	9. do	14. do	7. do	do
3 diagrams		15. do	9. do	do
18 north	11 east	3 diagrams		
18. do	10. do	14 separate plats		
17. do	11. do	18 north	11 east	North of Red river
17. do	10. do	18. do	10. do	do
19. do	11. do	17. do	11. do	do
20. do	11. do	17. do	10. do	do
19. do	10. do	19. do	11. do	do
13. do	3. do	19. do	10. do	do
15. do	2. do	13. do	3. do	do
16. do	2. do	15. do	2. do	do
16. do	4. do	16. do	2. do	do
17. do	2. do	16. do	4. do	do
		17. do	2. do	do

Location of claims and subdivisions.
Private claims.
Correctional surveys.
do
Original surveys.
Correctional surveys.
do
do
do
Fractional.
do
do
do
Location of claims.
Private claims.
Original surveys.
do
do
do
do
do
do
Resurveys of fraudulent work.
do
do
do
do

F.--Tabular statement of surveys returned—Continued.

General Land Office.		Registers' offices.		District.	Remarks.	
Township.	Range.	Township.	Range.			
6 diagrams.....		6 diagrams.....			Subdivisions.	
10 north.....	7 west.....	3 separate plats.....			Double concessions.	
6. do.....	5. do.....	10 north.....	7 west.....	Northwestern.....	Correctional surveys.	
7. do.....	7. do.....	6. do.....	5. do.....	do.....	do	
6. do.....	4. do.....	7. do.....	7. do.....	do.....	do	
8. do.....	7. do.....	6. do.....	4. do.....	do.....	do	
5 diagrams.....		8. do.....	7. do.....	do.....	do	
		3 diagrams.....			Locations of claims and subdivisions.	
RECAPITULATION.						
Maps sent up.		Diagrams sent up:		Total maps.	Total diagrams.	Separate plats.
To General Land Office.	To Registers' offices.	To General Land Office.	To Registers' offices.			
68	68	46	24	136	70	72

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Donaldsonville, La., December 6, 1848.

P. T. LANDRY, Surveyor General, La.

List of persons employed in the surveyor general's office at Donaldsonville, Louisiana.

Names.	Place of birth.	Capacity employed.	Compensation.
Pierre T. Landry.....	Iberville, Louisiana.....	Surveyor general.....	\$2,000 per annum.
Augustus W. Warren.....	Worcester county, Mass.....	Chief clerk.....	1,600....do.
K. A. L. Rosemond Landry.....	Ascension, Louisiana.....	Recording clerk.....	1,000....do.
Leon J. Frénaux.....	Paris, France.....	Clerk.....	800....do.
J. B. Felix Gaudet.....	St. James, Louisiana.....	Dranghtman.....	1,200....do.
William Sevey.....	Lincoln county, Maine.....	do.....	By the piece.
Aimé Bercegeay.....	Gand, Belgium.....	do.....	do.
John A. De Rassy.....	New York.....	Clerk.....	\$1,200 per annum.
Robert W. Boyd.....	County of Antrim, Ireland.....	Principal clerk, Greensburg district...	\$5 per day while actually employed.
P. E. Commandeur.....	Lyons, France.....	Clerk.....	By the piece.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Donaldsonville, La., December 6, 1848.

P. T. LANDRY, Surveyor General, La.

H.

List of persons commissioned by Pierre T. Landry, surveyor general, as deputy surveyors for the district of Louisiana.

Names.	Date of oath.	Residence.	How employed.
R. W. Boyd.....	June 2, 1845	Donaldsonville, La.....	Principal clerk, Greensburg district.
Henry Waller.....	do.....	Baton Rouge, La.....	Private surveys.
A. W. Warren.....	do.....	Donaldsonville, La.....	Chief clerk, surveyor general's office.
Silas Taylor.....	do.....	do.....	Contract in the Greensburg district.
E. B. Richardson.....	June 4, 1845	do.....	Has left the State.
J. B. Grinage.....	June 7, 1845	Thibodeaux, La.....	Private surveys.
Thomas Mullen.....	do.....	Waterloo.....	do.
George W. Morse.....	June 16, 1845	Natchitoches, La.....	Under contract in the northwestern district.
C. F. Berens.....	do.....	New Orleans.....	Private surveys.
G. W. Farmer.....	do.....	Quachita, La.....	do.
R. C. Brent.....	June 28, 1845	Donaldsonville.....	do.
James H. Whittey.....	July 2, 1845	Livingston parish.....	do.
Theodore Gillespie.....	Aug. 4, 1845	do.....	do.
Andrew Crawford.....	Aug. 6, 1845	Point Coupee.....	Under contract in the southeastern district.
Thomas H. Weightman.....	Aug. 9, 1845	Thibodeaux.....	Private surveys.
J. Clayton Taylor.....	do.....	Donaldsonville.....	Under contract in the Greensburg district.
Nathaniel Fulsom.....	Aug. 19, 1845	East Feliciana.....	Private surveys.
A. L. Fields.....	Sept. 24, 1845	Franklin, La.....	Under contract in the southwestern district.
W. B. H. Healey.....	do.....	Rapides.....	Private surveys.
A. S. Phelps.....	Oct. 2, 1845	Jefferson parish.....	do.
G. S. Walmstey.....	Oct. 13, 1845	Natchitoches.....	Under contract in the northwestern district.
Henry Curtis.....	Oct. 14, 1845	Morehouse, La.....	Private surveys.
Abner B. Miner.....	Nov. 17, 1845	New Iberia.....	do.
Simeon Roberts.....	Nov. 18, 1845	East Baton Rouge.....	do.
Stephen Roberts.....	Nov. 26, 1845	do.....	do.
Samuel Perin, jr.....	Nov. 24, 1845	St. John the Baptist.....	Contract in the southeastern district.
John G. Berry.....	Jan. 12, 1846	Vicksburg, Miss.....	Deceased.
James P. Terrell.....	Jan. 24, 1846	Plaquemine, La.....	Private surveys.
John Campbell.....	Feb. 4, 1846	Vermillionville, La.....	Contract in the southwestern district.

Joseph Troskolawski.....	Feb. 28, 1846	Baton Rouge.....	Contract in the Greensburg district.
W. T. Farmer.....	June 8, 1846	Onachita.....	Private surveys.
John McDonald.....	July 2, 1846	Opelousas.....	do.
Vincent Kirkland.....	July 11, 1846	West Baton Rouge.....	do.
Albert G. Phelps.....	Feb. 14, 1846	Calcasin.....	Contract in the southwestern district.
William Aey, jr.....	July 21, 1846	Vermillion.....	Private surveys.
E. Allon d'Hémécourt.....	July 30, 1846	New Orléans.....	do.
Aaron Vandorn.....	do.....	Carrol, La.....	Contract in the district north of Red river.
Pierre L. Commandeur.....	Sept. 26, 1846	Donaldsonville.....	Employed as a clerk in the office.
S. M. Hyams.....	Jan. 26, 1847	Natchitoches.....	Private surveys.
G. F. Connely.....	May 4, 1847	Terre Bonne.....	do.
J. Kleber Gourdain.....	July 10, 1847	Donaldsonville.....	Instructions in the southeastern district.
Charles G. Cabell.....	Nov. 16, 1847	Ascension, La.....	Contract in the Greensburg district.
Wilson C. Robert.....	Nov. 19, 1847	Avoyelles.....	Contract in the southwestern district.
Henry Washington.....	Dec. 22, 1847	Donaldsonville.....	Contract in the district north of Red river.
W. J. McCulloh.....	Jan. 7, 1848	do.....	do.....do.....do.
James McCaulay.....	Feb. 24, 1848	Opelousas.....	Private surveys.
Thomas P. Hall.....	April 8, 1848	De Soto.....	do.
M. Harrison.....	Nov. 16, 1848	New Orleans.....	do.
S. C. Hepburn.....	Dec. 4, 1848	Donaldsonville.....	Contract in the Greensburg district.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Donaldsonville, La., December 6, 1848.

P. T. LANDRY, Surveyor General, La.

APPENDIX.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
January 19, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor herewith to submit a communication from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, under date of the 17th instant, enclosing a synopsis of the report of Dr. C. T. Jackson, on the geological survey made by him of the mineral lands in Michigan, and respectfully request that the synopsis may be printed with the commissioner's annual report.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. J. WALKER,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Hon. R. C. WINTHROP,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
January 17, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor to communicate the synopsis of the report of Dr. C. T. Jackson, on the geological survey made by him of the mineral lands in Michigan, and respectfully request that it may be communicated to Congress, and printed with the annual report from this office, if such be the pleasure of that body. This report, though dated on the 27th November last, was received at this office this day, and hence was not communicated earlier.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

RICHARD M. YOUNG,
Commissioner.

Hon. R. J. WALKER,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Synopsis of Doctor C. T. Jackson's report of the progress of the geological survey of the mineral lands of the United States in Michigan, November 22, 1848.

Boston, November 22, 1848.

SIR: I have the honor of transmitting to you a brief synopsis of the labors performed by my assistants and myself, in the geological and mineralogical survey of the mineral lands of the United States in Michigan, in accordance with your letter of instructions.

I have already forwarded to your department the geological map of Keweenaw Point, on which the limits of the mineral land and all the features of the country are fully portrayed, and on which the position of all the mines, whether wrought or abandoned, are designated by characteristic signs, which are explained in tablets. The nature of the rocks is shown by conventional colors, and the heights of all the hills are marked on the map in figures.

I have also forwarded to the Commissioner of the General Land Office the synopsis of the reports of Messrs. Whitney and Foster, my assistants, and would commend them to your attention, as containing much valuable information.

The detailed reports are now in progress, and will be sent to you sometime during the winter. With those reports you will receive a full series of good illustrative drawings, sections and plans of mines, and a series of geological profiles, which have been drawn from careful measurements; a series of astronomical observations for the purpose of determining the latitude and longitude of places will also be forwarded so soon as they shall have been recalculated.

A large collection of rocks, minerals and metals has been made, and most of the boxes have arrived in Boston, and will be carefully examined; and the minerals, after analysis, will be forwarded to your department whenever you may so order.

I have great satisfaction in stating that, during the past summer, much new and valuable information has been obtained concerning the mineral lands of the United States in Michigan; and it is gratifying to be able to state that the few energetic efforts which have been made in mining have been crowned with success; and that one of the companies contemplates declaring a dividend to the stockholders.

It is unfortunate that so many of those who early engaged in mining adventures on Lake Superior were so little acquainted with the nature of enterprises of that kind, and looked for profitable returns before the ground could be fairly opened, and that in consequence they were disappointed, and hence, in some instances, have abandoned mines which will, in all probability, be opened hereafter and profitably wrought. Those locations which were taken merely for speculative purposes, without any judicious

efforts to explore them, have been very properly abandoned; but even some of those locations may hereafter be worthy of more minute and careful exploration. In the course of improvements taking place in the wilderness, new veins of metals and ores are discovered; and within the district which we have designated as mineral lands, there will doubtless be found many valuable mines when the dense forest and deep foliage on the surface shall have been removed, and the plough opens the soil, and building operations lay-bare the rocks, which are generally not far removed from the surface in those districts.

New developments of the agricultural capabilities of the soil are taking place; and already the country so recently reclaimed furnishes, from its own soil, a large proportion of the food required by the inhabitants. The forests, abounding in good timber, are beginning to supply the saw mills, which are erected wherever mining or settlements produce a demand for boards, plank, joist, and shingles; and it cannot be long before there will be an increase of settlers on the newly acquired lands. It happens that the mineral lands are those where trap rocks prevail, and where it is the most liable to disintegration; and those districts are, also, the best for agriculture where the soil is of trappean origin. Thus we observe that the trees most characteristic of good rich soil grow mostly on the trap ranges and near their borders; while the soil on the sandstone rocks is generally poor and sandy, and is covered with a different class of forest trees. This is most remarkably the case on Keweenaw Point, inasmuch that the woodmen and surveyors have noticed it, and have formed opinions, often well grounded, as to the nature of the subjacent rocks.

By the researches of my assistants, the extent of a valuable iron ore district has been discovered, and inexhaustible supplies of the best iron ores have been ascertained; while, at the same time, those gentlemen have denoted the occurrence of ample supplies of limestone required for working the iron ores, and of an abundance of excellent hard wood for the manufacture of charcoal for fuel. I beg leave to refer you to the report of my assistant, J. W. Foster, esq., and to the synopsis of Dr. John Locke's report last year, in which two reports you will find the two different sections of the iron range exposed; and it is fairly to be inferred that a series of hills of iron ore occur between the Dead and Menomonie rivers. A more extended survey of that very important and complicated district is still required, and will be completed during the next summer.

In the district comprised between the Ontanagon river and Portage lake, important disclosures of promising copper mines have been made; and, during the past summer, numerous mining parties have settled upon the upper waters of the Ontanagon, and have opened mines which will, by next summer, be sufficiently proved to be reported upon. The character of the copper veins on the Ontanagon is different from that of Keweenaw Point, the veins being differently situated, and running parallel with the course of the trappean dykes, or, as the miners say, "with the country;" hence, it is

yet uncertain how they may ultimately prove as to continuity and depth. But little has yet been done there in the way of regular mining, and some time must elapse before the veins can be proved. Some of them appear to improve much as they are penetrated, and the dip of the veins augment so that they look more and more promising. The Porcupine mountain mines have been wholly abandoned, after fruitless and expensive search for well defined veins. The rock contains much disseminated copper in its metallic state; but no wide and well characterized veins have been discovered. The rocks are hard metamorphic sandstones fused almost into jasper, and hard epidote beds occur containing a little copper. I beg leave to refer you to the report of my assistant, J. D. Whitney, esq., for details of the mineral character of that district. Isle Royale was partially explored by me and my party last year, and the whole coast was thoroughly examined; a section was surveyed across the island, and all the statistics that could then be obtained were collected. During the past summer, I have caused the interior of the island to be explored by two of my sub agents, Messrs. George J. Dickenson and James McIntire, who have explored each township on the island, and traced the limits of all the rocks which could be discovered. Owing to the unsettled state of that district, much inconvenience was suffered in making their explorations; but still enough has been ascertained for the completion of a geological map of the island so soon as the township plats and sub-divisions are returned to the surveyor general and copies are transmitted to me. There will still be explorations of the copper veins made, for only very superficial excavations have thus far been attempted. It will be necessary to carry canoes into the inland lakes, in order to explore the abrupt precipitous cliffs which project into them, and are of the mineral bearing class.

A small party will complete the survey of that island the next season. Considerable masses of pure copper have been extracted from the rocks, and several regular veins have been opened which require more extended examinations.

The magnetic observations which I was requested to have made over my district have been, by your consent and approval, assigned to Dr. John Lock, who is also, as I understand, to extend them over Dr. Owen's district in Wisconsin. This arrangement was recommended by me, and was, I believe, concurred in by Dr. Owen. The geological and mineralogical surveys are thus rendered more manageable, and are less incumbered with instruments and delayed by other kinds of observations.

I learn that Dr. Lock did not enter upon his labors in the magnetic survey during the past summer, probably owing to the lateness of the passage of the appropriation bill, and other engagements. In order not to complicate our accounts, it will be well to set apart a specific sum to be devoted to the magnetic survey of the two land districts, so that we may know how much we have to expend on the geological and mineralogical surveys. During the past summer we have had with us the two chronometers which the government authorized me to purchase, and by means of them and two ex-

cellent sextants, the latitudes and longitudes of many important points have been accurately determined by Mr. Whitney and myself.

In order to make a greater number of observations, and to employ the right time, it will be useful to furnish me with a good altitude and *azimuth* instrument, or a 6-inch *Kater's circle*, so that a series of observations on the stars might be taken. We have found it very difficult to measure the altitude of stars with a sextant and artificial horizon in the evening atmosphere on the coast of Lake Superior, and stars only of high altitudes can be employed on account of the remarkable refraction which so affects stars of low altitude as to vitiate the observations. Already we have a vast number of uncalculated observations to work up, and many to recalculate before reporting them, they will furnish a most valuable contribution to the geography of the country.

Our barometrical observations during the last year's survey have been very accurate, and the results cannot fail to inspire engineers with confidence in good barometers. All the tubes were selected and fitted by me, and two excellent station barometers were kept at different points on the lake coast, and carefully observed during all measurements inland. The due point was ascertained in all possible cases, and all the experiments were made with well proved instruments which were repeatedly compared with those at our first station. We have measured the heights of all the mountains and the depths of all the river valleys wherever we have been, and a series of very instructive sections have been drawn from the results of barometrical measurements and geological researches. I have descended into every mine repeatedly, exploring every vein, and measuring the thickness, dip, and course of the lode, and have collected specimens of every ore and accompanying mineral. The temperature of the mines at various depths has been carefully measured by good thermometers, and some important geological results have been arrived at. Already two or three of the Lake Superior copper mines have attained a sufficient depth to indicate an approach towards the heated interior of the globe, and the results of thermometric experiments will be continued as the mines penetrate to greater depths.

The extraordinary phenomenon of regular veins of solid metallic copper in the Lake Superior mines has justly excited the admiration of miners and geologists in all parts of the world. A short time since the copper rock brought from the Ontanagon river and which now lies near the government offices in Washington, was looked upon as one of the wonders of the world, but now it would be regarded as a small mass at the lake mines. Solid pieces of copper of 50 and even 80 tons weight, have been taken from the veins of the Boston and Pittsburg, and Copper Falls Company's mines; and the miners are now cutting up masses $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick, which were taken out of the vein 236 feet from the surface. Native silver occurs with most of the native copper at the above mentioned veins, and the pieces now saved at the stamping mills will add no small value to the proceeds of the mines.

The Boston and Pittsburg Company have sent from their mine on Eagle river, during this year, about 900 tons of metallic copper, much of which is in masses of from 2000 to 3000 lbs. each. The copper is cut up by means of chisels, and is reduced to a manageable weight for transportation. The metal is drawn on carts or sleds about three miles to the mouth of Eagle river, where it is shipped for the Sault Ste. Marie, and from thence, after being carted one mile to the navigable waters below the falls, it is shipped to Buffalo or to some port in Ohio. The cost of delivery of the copper in Boston, Baltimore, or Pittsburg, is estimated at \$15 per ton.

The Copper Falls mine is about four miles east of Eagle river, and is wrought to a considerable depth. It has furnished a large supply of copper and silver; but there has not been so extensive an opening of the ground made yet as at the Boston and Pittsburg company's mines.

The other mines have been only partially opened, and are not yet in a condition to send much metal to market. The North-west company own a very valuable mine a few miles from Eagle Harbor, which promises to prove rich and profitable. The Lake Superior company have, for a time, suspended operations, but, it is understood, will soon renew them, the company having purchased their location, or a portion of it.

I have mentioned a few of the working mines, as examples of the mining operations going on, on Keweenaw Point. Other mines will be opened before long, and those on the Ontonagon river and on Isle Royale will soon be sufficiently proved to decide whether they can be worked to advantage or not. I shall have the honor of laying before you more detailed accounts in my report, which I shall make during the winter.

I will now give you an account of the organization of my corps of assistants for the survey made during the past summer.

The two assistants appointed by me were—Mr. Josiah D. Whitney, of Northampton, Massachusetts; Mr. John W. Foster, of Zanesville, Ohio.

Mr. Samuel W. Hill, of Michigan, was appointed surveyor, and Dr. Walcott Gibbs, of New York, was appointed sub-agent.

The assistant sub-agents were—Mr. George J. Dickenson, of Boston, Massachusetts; Mr. James McIntire, of Bangor, Maine; Mr. George O. Barnes, of Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Mr. C. A. Joy, of New York, was appointed clerk and chronometer keeper; and Mr. A. W. Thayer, of Cambridge, Massachusetts, chronometer keeper. He also had charge of the astronomical and barometrical calculations.

Mr. Joseph S. Kendall, of Boston, was employed as observer of stationary barometer at Copper Harbor, and had charge of the instruments left there. Mr. William Schlatter was employed as draughtsman.

The first party, conducted by me, consisted of Mr. J. W. Foster,

assistant geologist; Mr. S. W. Hill, surveyor; Mr. G. O. Barnes, assistant sub-agent; Mr. A. W. Thayer, chronometer keeper, &c.

This party surveyed Keweenaw Point, and collected minerals for the geological maps, and for the sections and plans of that district.

The second party consisted of Mr. J. D. Whitney, assistant geologist; Dr. Walter Gibbs, sub-agent; Mr. C. A. Joy, chronometer keeper, &c.

This party surveyed the country between the Montreal river and Portage lake, on Keweenaw Point, and prepared a geological map of their district, &c.

The third party consisted of two assistant sub-agents—Mr. George J. Dickenson and Mr. James McIntire.

This party explored the interior of Isle Royale, and marked out the outlines of the geology, and made a series of geological profiles across the island, illustrating its geology and topography.

The fourth party was taken from the first, by detaching from it Mr. J. W. Foster and Mr. S. W. Hill, who were sent to explore the country along the Menomonie river, from the head of Keweenaw bay to the Little Bay du Noquet. The synopsis by Mr. Foster I have sent you.

When Messrs. Dickenson and McIntire returned from Isle Royale, they were associated with Mr. Whitney's party in the survey of Keweenaw Point, above the portage, where a very interesting deposit of fossiliferous limestone has been discovered, which will probably give a clue to the geological age of the red sandstone of Keweenaw Point.

The whole of the Point Keweenaw is now surveyed with sufficient accuracy to limit the lines of mineral land. The whole district around the head of Keweenaw bay for six miles, or even more, inland, is not mineral land, and may be sold for agricultural use. The two missionary establishments—the Catholic and Methodist—are situated near the head of the bay, on sandstone strata; and since they are not on mineral land they are entitled to buy it at agricultural prices.

The map I had the honor to send you last September will give you an accurate outline of the mineral lands on Keweenaw Point. All that is painted yellow on the map is sandstone, and may be sold at once as agricultural land. That colored green is mineral land, but some of it is not suitable for mining. I shall point out those locations which should be reserved in my detailed report.

The iron district is very valuable, and, if thoroughly explored, will be made available in the market. It is understood that iron ores are not reserved; but still their occurrence should be made known, since the immediate sale of the land, at any prices, depends mostly on the occurrence of valuable ores.

I propose to complete the outline of the geology of the mineral lands next summer, and shall need for the purpose about six thousand dollars, in addition to the balance of the unexpended appropriation for this year. The work remaining unfinished, being im-

portant to a proper view of the mineral value of the land district,
I trust the government will be willing to complete it.

With high consideration, I have the honor to be, your obedient
servant,

CHARLES T. JACKSON,
*U. S. Geologist for the Chippeway Land District
in Michigan.*

Hon. R. J. WALKER,
Secretary of the Treasury