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Report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, 1853

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REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE,

DECEMBER 5, 1853.

REPORT

COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE

DECEMBER 2, 1922

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
November 30, 1853.

SIR: In submitting the annual report of the operations of this branch of the service, I have deemed it expedient to restrict the statements in it to the close of the third quarter of the current calendar year, except where necessary to exhibit the results of certain legislation, by facts ascertained since that time.

During that period 9,819,411 acres were surveyed, principally in Missouri, Louisiana, Michigan, Florida, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Minnesota; and of these, and others previously surveyed, 10,363,891 acres were brought into market under the President's proclamations, exclusive of the lands heretofore reserved on account of railroad grants, and which have been offered for sale subject to the double minimum.

In the fiscal year ending the 30th June last,		
there were sold for cash.....	1,083,495.21	acres.
Located with military warrants.....	6,142,360	“
Located with other certificates.....	9,426.66	“

Making a total of.....	7,235,281.87	acres
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thus disposed of.

In addition to these, there were reported, under		
swamp land grant.....	16,684,253.26	“
And for internal improvements, railroads, &c..	1,427,457.68	“

Making an aggregate of.....	25,346,992.81	acres.
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For the quarter ending 30th September, 1853,		
there were sold for cash.....	1,295,185.36	acres.
Located with bounty land warrants.....	1,148,280	“

Making a total of.....	2,443,465.36	“
Reported under swamp land grant.....	2,527,694.20	“
Railroad grants.....	70,117	“

Making an aggregate of.....	5,041,276.56	acres.
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This shows an increase, for the last fiscal year, compared with the preceding, in sales and locations, of 2,365,215 acres; and including swamp land selections, of 12,231,818 acres. The increase for the third quarter of the current calendar year, over the corresponding quarter of the previous year, of sales and locations, is 867,562 acres; and including swamp land selections, is 910,023 acres.

These statements have reference only to the lands east of the Rocky mountains; for although land districts have been established in

California and Oregon, and extensive surveys have been made there, which have added materially to the correspondence of the office, no lands have yet been reported as disposed of in those districts. This great increase in the disposal of the public domain, the cause of which will be explained in a subsequent part of this report, has produced a corresponding increase in the duties of all the divisions of this office.

Some idea may be entertained of the amount of labor performed during the past year, from the fact that there have been issued 78,414 patents of every description, including cash sales; bounty lands under acts of 1812, 1847, 1850 and 1852; for swamp lands, reservations under Indian treaties, and private land claims derived from former governments, and confirmed by Congress and the courts; some of which occupy many folio pages of closely written manuscript. For the same period, 35,395 certificates for cash sales, 6,181 declaratory statements, and 79,751 warrants were posted, and 100,618 selections for internal improvements, railroad grants, and swamp and overflowed lands, were entered in the tract-books. Besides, 361 receivers' accounts were adjusted, 292 accounts of disbursing agents, 406 of surveyors general and deputy surveyors, 253 of publishers of newspapers, 15 for locating land warrants, and 302 refunding accounts, were settled. 1,657 pieces of scrip for Virginia revolutionary claims were issued, embracing 129,669 acres, and 298 of these claims were examined.

There were 19,717 letters recorded, occupying 12,000 folio pages, equal to 24 volumes; 23,861 letters registered, occupying 3,204 pages, equal to 6 large volumes; 135 manuscript patents, occupying 301 pages; 1,610 accounts recorded, occupying 1,595 pages, over 3 large volumes. In addition to these, about 10,000 packages of monthly and quarterly returns, letters, lists, abstracts, &c., have been received, and 12,100 packages of patents, blank forms and circulars, have been packed, sealed, directed and transmitted from this office, during the past year; and the official seal has been affixed to upwards of 150,000 patents and exemplifications.

Nearly all this, as you are aware, may be considered as merely manual labor, and is exclusive of the complicated and difficult duties incident to our general operations, and which require a great deal of time, and a thorough knowledge of the land legislation of Congress, of foreign and Indian treaties, the decisions of the courts, the precedents established, and the laws, usages, and customs of the foreign governments which preceded us in sovereignty.

In connexion with this subject it is gratifying to state, that notwithstanding the extensive ramifications of our land system, and of the large amount of money collected and disbursed under it, by receivers of public moneys and surveyors general, no loss has accrued to the treasury, nor is any apprehended. All accounts of receivers of public money, in their several capacities, have been adjusted up to and including the third quarter of the current calendar year, and the sales, locations, and selections have generally been posted to the same period.

The accounts of the surveyors general, deputy surveyors, &c., have in like manner been adjusted to the latest period. The surveys have been pressed forward in the several districts with the utmost energy, so that the settlement of those districts may be promoted and the lands sold.

The Recorder's division has been actively and zealously employed in the preparation of patents, exemplifications, &c., and the same may be said of the several bounty land divisions.

The following statement exhibits the number of warrants issued under the several laws granting bounty lands, the number located, and the number outstanding, with the number of acres in each class :

Act of 1847.

Grade of warrant.	Number issued.	Acres embraced thereby.	Number located.	Acres embraced thereby.	Number outstanding.	Acres embraced thereby.
160 acres	78,795	12,607,200	73,911	11,825,760	4,884	781,440
40 acres	6,802	272,080	5,375	215,000	1,427	57,080
Total	85,597	12,879,280	79,286	12,040,760	6,311	838,520

Act of 1850.

160 acres	25,040	4,006,400	19,110	3,057,600	5,930	948,800
80 acres	53,131	4,250,480	35,562	2,844,960	17,569	1,405,520
40 acres	93,386	3,735,440	61,851	2,474,040	31,535	1,261,400
Total	171,557	11,992,320	116,523	8,376,600	55,034	3,615,720

Act of 1852.

160 acres	950	152,000	372	59,520	578	92,480
80 acres	1,088	87,040	327	26,160	761	60,880
40 acres	6,850	274,000	2,587	103,480	4,263	170,520
Total	8,888	513,040	3,286	189,160	5,602	323,880

SUMMARY.

Act of 1847....	85,597	12,879,280	79,286	12,040,760	6,311	838,520
Act of 1850....	171,557	11,992,320	116,523	8,376,600	55,034	3,615,720
Act of 1852....	8,888	513,040	3,286	189,160	5,602	323,880
Grand total...	266,042	25,384,640	199,095	20,606,520	66,947	4,778,120

The onerous and responsible duties of the chief clerk, in the superintendence and direction of the accountants, &c., and the regulation and direction of the police of the office, have been faithfully and efficiently discharged.

A just and equal division of labor has been carefully observed, and a system gradually introduced, by which the exact disposition of any case can readily be ascertained; and although the duties of each division are extremely onerous, it is believed that they can be discharged by this system without an increase of force, if each faithfully discharges his duties, and no additions thereto are made.

The delivery of patents has been retarded, to a considerable extent, by the adjustment of the swamp land grant, in which much difficulty has been experienced, owing to its great extent, the imperfections of the field-notes of the early surveys, the numerous conflicts that have arisen, and the complexity of the questions involved. These difficulties are being overcome by the regulations prescribed for the adjustment of that grant, the promptitude and energy of the governors and other officers of the several States, and the able and efficient action of the surveyors general and district land officers. That the States may obtain all the benefits contemplated by these acts as heretofore construed, the regulations require that such of the public land, at the passage of the law, as is shown by the field-notes, or proved by competent testimony, to be of the character specified in the grant, shall be certified to the States as their property. Further legislation, however, will be required to facilitate the final adjustment of this grant, and will be recommended under its appropriate head.

The arrangement of the swamp selections has also materially interfered with the adjustment of the recent railroad grants; for the reason that all lands of the class first mentioned, being embraced in a law of previous date to the other, had to be ascertained before selections could be made understandingly for the railroads.

The grant for the Central railroad through Mississippi and Alabama has been closed, and considerable progress has been made in the adjustment of those in Missouri. In Arkansas, the lands along the supposed route of the road, for which a grant was made by the act of February 9, 1850, were withdrawn from market for six months, but no progress has yet been made in the adjustment of the grant, for the reason that the route of that road has not yet been determined. Application was made by the governor of Arkansas to continue this reservation to December, 1854, when the legislature would meet, under whose direction the survey of the route of that road was placed by the act of Congress above mentioned. This, however, it was thought, could not be done with due regard to the settlement of the lands and the interests of the government; but to afford an opportunity for the action of Congress on the subject, and at the same time to facilitate settlements, a further reservation was made till March next, with the condition that it should not interfere with the rights of actual settlers.

The difficulties anticipated in my last report, in the examination and satisfaction of Virginia revolutionary land warrants, have been more than realized. The act of August 31, 1852, directing that the Secretary of the Interior "shall be satisfied, by a revision of the proofs, or by

additional testimony," that any warrant surrendered "was fairly and justly issued, in pursuance of the laws of said commonwealth," has been construed as requiring a re-examination of the evidence on which such claims were originally allowed, and the warrants issued, to ascertain whether the same had been done "in accordance with the laws of that commonwealth."

The rolls and other records of such services are very imperfect, and there are but few persons now living who can testify to facts occurring at that early day from their own personal knowledge. The services for which these claims are made must have been performed between 1775 and 1783. To be cognizant of such service, the witness should have been at least ten years old at the first of those dates. This, added to the time that has since elapsed, would make such witness now about eighty-three years old. Very few can be found, at this time, of that advanced age; and those can know comparatively but little of such services, as they were performed in many different sections of the country, on land and water. Entire reliance, moreover, cannot be placed upon the memory of witnesses of such advanced age, even where they were engaged in the service or personally interested in the transaction, as the events of early life are apt to be blended in the memory with the transactions of subsequent years. Hence, where the proof is defective upon which claims of this character were originally allowed, there is little probability at the present time of supplying the deficiency. For such *laches* the government is not responsible, and hence there is no other course under the law but to reject cases of this class, unless Congress shall direct that all these warrants shall be satisfied with scrip, except where they were obtained by fraud. Notwithstanding these difficulties, the business of this branch has been prosecuted with the most commendable zeal and diligence by the gentlemen employed on it.

The pre-emption business, and that connected with the selection and arrangement of the school and seminary lands, all of which belong to one division, have been pressed forward earnestly and diligently, and the many questions connected with these subjects, often difficult, have been promptly and satisfactorily settled.

I beg leave to invite special attention to the able reports of the surveyors general, herewith communicated. It will be perceived that each has faithfully discharged the important and onerous duties committed to his care, and that all are striving satisfactorily to close up, as early as practicable, the business of their offices.

Many of the important questions presented by the surveyor general of Illinois and Missouri involve such heavy interests, and are surrounded with so many difficulties, that it is deemed expedient to make them the subject of a future report, after they shall have been fully considered, and appropriate remedies devised.

The graphic representations by the surveyors general of Florida, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Iowa, of the soil and productions of certain portions of their districts, are peculiarly interesting, especially to persons who may wish to settle in those regions. The simple yet certain and admirable system of surveys originated at a very early period of our confederacy, with the other branches of the land system, has now

been extended nearly from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the lakes to the Gulf of Mexico. Fixed and certain in every particular, its marks and monuments can readily be traced, where existing; and when obliterated by time or accident, easily restored. The geographical position of every object over which it has been extended can be ascertained with the greatest facility and considerable accuracy, and the distances of given points, and their relative positions to each other, can readily be determined.

To the gentleman now in charge of this division of the office we are indebted for the harmony and uniformity which has existed in it for more than a quarter of a century, and his efforts now are as well directed and untiring as ever, to carry on to final consummation the work so well begun.

The Indian reservations and private land claims belong to one division of this office: of the former every case presented has been disposed of, or put in the way of final settlement.

There are still, however, a large number where parties holding deeds from the Indians have not presented them for patenting. Of the Creek cases 1,170 are of this character, and there are numerous other reservations, under treaties with the Winnebagoes, Pottawatomies, Choctaws, &c., which the office is prepared to dispose of on presentation.

About 160,000 acres of the lands in the Chickasaw cession of 1832 remain unsold, which, however, are being rapidly entered, and, with the "land office section," will in due time be disposed of under the treaty and existing laws. The impolicy of making reservations in fee, in the Indian treaties, has been long since ascertained, and the practice, to a great extent, abandoned. It is highly important that the outstanding cases should be disposed of at an early day, as every year's delay has a tendency to increase the difficulties, if any, that surround them, and may finally lead to much harassing litigation. To obviate difficulties, and to close up this business as far as the government is concerned, I would suggest that provision be made by law for patents to issue, in all cases, in the names of the reservees, with the proviso that the title, with the sanction of the President, should inure to their heirs or assignees, leaving to the courts to determine the validity of contested titles.

Numerous and complicated questions are constantly arising in the private land claim bureau of this office, with reference to the rights of parties, and the correct location of their claims. The records in many cases are so voluminous as to require days, and even weeks, simply to read them. To select and array the facts from such records, and to apply them to the acts of Congress, with reference also to the laws and usages of the governments with whom they originated, requires sound judgment, great care, and a thorough knowledge of every matter connected with the business. These cases are daily becoming more important, from the great increase in the value of the property affected by them. The natural tendency of this increase of value is, to cause the claimants to look more closely to the location, extent, and boundaries of their claims, and to strive to obtain all the land to which they may conceive themselves entitled under them. At the early period when many of those claims were first surveyed and located, the land was

comparatively valueless, and hence but little care and caution was then exercised in these particulars.

Numerous efforts have been made by the present holders of private and grants to alter or amend the original surveys; but, in view of the unsettling of titles, and the confusion and litigation that would thereby be induced, such alterations have not been sanctioned by this office, except in the clearest cases of error or illegality. The acquiescence by the proprietors in old original locations, and their failure to object thereto for years, while the surrounding lands were purchased and passed from hand to hand, in good faith, in my opinion estopped claimants from seeking change of locality, and their heirs or vendees can have no higher right. Hence such applications have been refused; and I am happy to say this principle has received your sanction. The necessity for a specific limitation, in cases of this kind, is daily increasing, and as legislative interposition would settle the matter, so far as executive action is concerned, it seems expedient it should be had; and if any valid confirmed claims exist which have not been, or cannot be located, because of the vagueness of the calls, or that the land has been previously disposed of, provision could be made for locating elsewhere a like quantity of public land, subject to private entry, in satisfaction thereof. Unceasing application and diligence has enabled the gentleman in charge of this branch of the office to keep the business of it nearly up to date, notwithstanding the complexity of the questions involved, and the onerous character of the duties.

When the action of this office shall be required on the claims in California, Oregon, New Mexico, Utah, and the Territory of Washington, &c., the business of this bureau will be much more onerous, consequent on its great increase. The report of 1st July last from the California commissioners, accompanied by a statement of the 27th June last from their secretary, shows that there were at that time before the board for decision, as per docket..... 812 cases.
 The number then decided and all confirmed..... 72 "
 The number not then decided..... 740 "
 The number on which the evidence was then closed and ready for hearing..... 9 "
 The number in which no evidence was taken, up to that date was..... 279 "
 The number in which evidence was taken, but not closed, as per register of witnesses..... 452 "

and that in no case which was then decided, was the record perfected; that in four cases the transcripts required by law were transmitted to the Attorney General; and in one case such transcripts had been filed with the clerk of the district court for the northern district of California.

The 14th section of the act of Congress of 3d March, 1851, to ascertain and settle the private land claims in the State of California, declares that the provisions of that act "shall not extend to any town lot, farm lot, or pasture lot, held under a grant from any corporation or town to which lands may have been granted for the establishment of a town by the Spanish or Mexican government, or the lawful authorities thereof, nor to any city, or town, or village lot, which city, town, or village existed on the 7th day of July, eighteen hundred and forty-six; but the claim for the same shall be presented by the corporate authori-

ties of the said town; or where the land on which the said city, town, or village was originally granted to an individual, the claim shall be presented by or in the name of such individual, and the fact of the existence of the said city, town, or village, on the said 7th of July, eighteen hundred and forty-six, being duly proved, shall be *prima facie* evidence of a grant to such corporation, or to the individual under whom the said lot-holders claim; and where any city, town, or village shall be in existence at the time of passing this act, the claim for the land embraced within the limits of the same may be made by the corporate authority of the said city, town, or village."

Under this provision, eleven claims have been filed, to wit:

No. 237, Sonora; No. 280, San Francisco; No. 286, San José; No. 422, Los Angeles; No. 543, Santa Barbara; No. 589, San Diego; No. 633, Sacramento; No. 639, Sonora; No. 714, Monterey; No. 738, San Luis Obispo; No. 793, Sacramento.

This last report does not furnish data by which to ascertain the aggregate area of land covered by the claims confirmed and those rejected.

In view of the great amount of business before these commissioners, and the mass of clerical labor required to bring the records down to the 1st July last, and to keep pace with the future disposition of the cases, those commissioners, with your approbation, were authorized to employ the necessary extra temporary force for that purpose, the work to be done on the most economical terms, either by the piece or otherwise.

The surveys have been prosecuted in this State as rapidly as the condition of the private land claims, &c., would permit, as will appear from the able and lucid report of the surveyor general. That officer suggests the propriety of having those claims located, as fast as they are approved by the commissioners, that the land claimed as private property may be severed from the public domain, and the latter be surveyed and prepared for market. This course, heretofore determined upon, is most judicious, because if any of the claims thus located shall hereafter be declared invalid, the cost of extending the lines of the public surveys through them will be trifling, while the contrary policy would have a tendency to induce expense, litigation and delay.

The office of the surveyor general of California has been fully organized, under the act of 3d March last—all the necessary instructions, with the seal of office, having been prepared and transmitted. Some incongruities were found to exist between the provisions of this act and the general appropriation law of the same date, in relation to the price per mile for certain surveys. These were reconciled as far as possible, the two laws on this subject being regarded as *in pari materia*, and so construed. Those rates are all considered by the surveyor general as too low, in view of the high price of living, and the difficulties in executing the work on account of the peculiar topographical features of the country, and the delay and uncertainty incident to the location of the Spanish and Mexican titles.

Under the fifth section of the above-mentioned act, authorizing the division of the State into two or three land districts, it was deemed indispensably necessary to establish two, at least, in view of the extent of the settlements from north to south, and that was done; the boundary between them being the nearest surveyed parallel to the 36th

degree of north latitude. The office for the northern district was located at Benicia, and that for the southern at Los Angeles; and in view of the fact that the usual allowances of fees, &c., to those officers, were prohibited by that law, except in pre-emption cases, and that the rents of their offices would absorb about the whole amount of their compensation, it was found indispensably necessary to allow them the sum they should actually pay for office rent, in addition to their salaries, upon the production of evidence that such amount was reasonable, and in accordance with the ordinary charges for rent in the towns in which their offices are located. The allowance thus made in these cases from necessity, should, however, in my opinion, be extended to all the district land officers; and they should be required to hold their offices in safe and secure buildings, that the valuable archives belonging thereto may be preserved against all risk.

The report of the surveyor general of Oregon and Washington Territories has not been received, but is expected in time to be communicated at, or shortly after, the commencement of the session of Congress. Nearly two millions of acres in these Territories have been surveyed, and the plats returned to this office, and it is believed that all the means at the disposal of the surveyor general have been judiciously applied to the surveys in that district. A seal was provided and sent to that officer as required by the act of 3d March last; and full instructions under the act of 14th February last were also transmitted. The modifications made by this act, of the provisions of the law of 27th September, 1850, cannot fail to have a beneficial effect in the settlement of that Territory. The extension of time to 1st December, 1855, in which persons emigrating to and settling in those Territories shall be entitled to donation, will no doubt induce many to seek homes in that region, especially in view of the glowing accounts we have of the richness of the soil, the salubrity and mildness of the climate, and the valuable timber and minerals found there. No sales have yet been reported as having been made in that region; owing, most probably, to the fact that the former surveyor general did not enter into bond as receiver till shortly before his successor was appointed. The law, as you are aware, limits the sales to actual settlers, who wish to secure a fee simple title to their homes before the completion of the four years' continued occupancy required to entitle them to the land settled upon as a donation. This provision is judicious, as in virtue of it all settlement claims will be adjusted, or in process of adjustment, before the lands are thrown open to general entry, and conflicts will be avoided. Further legislation would seem to be required in relation to the second proviso to the first section of the act of 14th August, 1848, "to establish the Territorial government of Oregon." That proviso directs "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."

This has been construed by this office as donating to each missionary station six hundred and forty acres, but no provision is made for issu-

ing patents, nor any designation of the person or persons to whom the title shall inure, where the societies have not been incorporated.

The operations of this office have been materially facilitated, and great relief extended to purchasers and locators of the public lands, by the acts of the last session of Congress authorizing certain soldiers of the late war with Great Britain to surrender the bounty lands drawn by them, and to locate others in lieu thereof; extending the pre-emption privilege in certain cases; authorizing the correction of errors of location of bounty land warrants; and to revive and continue for a limited time the provisions of the act respecting suspended entries of public land. Full instructions have been prepared and issued under these laws, and I have no doubt the files of Congress will thereby be relieved from numerous individual applications for relief. Further legislation is required, however, to carry out successfully and properly the provisions of several existing laws.

By the act of 27th July, 1842, (Statutes at Large, vol. 5, page 497,) the time for the issue and location of warrants "for military services in the late war with Great Britain," was limited to five years from and after the passage of that act. That time was further extended for five years by the act of June 26, 1848, (Statutes at Large, vol. 9, page 240.) This time expired on the 26th June last, and, consequently, since that period, warrants of this character cannot be located, though many are outstanding; nor can any be issued, though meritorious claims of this character exist. No possible reason can be urged why this class of claims should not be placed upon the same basis with those under the act of 1850; and it is recommended that the provisions of that law and of the act of 22d March, 1852, "to make land warrants assignable," &c., should be extended to them. In connexion with this subject, I renew the recommendation made in my last report, that all warrants for military services, and all patents thereon, be issued in the name of the person who rendered the service; and that the title inure to the benefit of the heirs, assignees, or devisees, as the case may be. Such a measure would relieve a great many cases where the claimant died before warrants issued, leaving neither widow nor minor children, to whom alone, under the law, warrants could issue in such cases.

For the reasons given in my former report, it is again recommended that all persons who rendered military service in any war in which the United States have been engaged since seventeen hundred and ninety, without reference to length of service, be allowed an amount of land which, with that previously granted, would be equal to the quantity of a quarter-section, or one hundred and sixty acres. Nothing could be more just to many who have rendered valuable services to their country, and cheerfully and bravely perilled their lives in its defence, and nothing would probably extend more timely and wide-spread relief to a most meritorious class of our citizens.

The titles to the lots in the town of Sault Ste. Marie have not yet been finally acted upon. The business of that land district was so confused and involved, that it was found indispensably necessary to send a special agent, with all the returns of sales and locations, to revise its records and put them in order. He was also directed to examine into the condition of the titles to the town, for which instructions

had been issued long previous, and in relation to which nothing had then been heard. He discharged those duties promptly and efficiently, and in a much shorter space of time than was expected; and finding complaints that full notice had not been given to all concerned of the action on the town lots, he recommended that the evidence relative thereto be returned for that purpose, which was done. The whole subject, it is expected, will be closed next summer. It is specially recommended that a fire-proof building be authorized for the protection of the archives of this district.

Numerous illegal subdivisions have been made by some of the land officers in the northwest, and the lands have been sold in accordance with them. It would be much easier to confirm these sales and subdivisions, than to unsettle the titles by declaring them void. Legislation to that effect is therefore suggested.

Some of the relief laws authorize the closing and patenting of all entries below specified prices, where a certain amount had been paid. Many cases inconsistent with these laws, and not provided for by them, were closed and patented under them; and, for similar reasons to the foregoing, the same course is recommended.

There is a subject to which I would specially and earnestly call the attention of Congress. It is the passage of an act similar in its provisions to that now existing in relation to the clerks and others in this office, and expressly interdicting any register, receiver, surveyor general, deputy surveyor, or any other officer who may, in any manner, be connected with the disposal or survey of the public lands, from making any purchase thereof, directly or indirectly, under the penalty, upon conviction, of dismissal from office, and fine.

The reservations for naval timber have not heretofore been profitable to the government, for the reason that the laws require selections to be made by the President. It is recommended that an act be passed *ipso facto* reserving all lands upon which such timber is found growing; and that collectors of ports be prohibited, under proper penalties, from granting clearances to vessels having cargoes of such timber, except on satisfactory evidence of the locality from whence it was cut, and that the land was private property.

The muniments of titles under the credit system, that existed prior to 1820, are fast going to decay, and are constantly subject to loss or destruction. These should all be recorded in books to be provided for the purpose, as the want of them might, and probably would, lead to endless litigation, and to the loss, by many individuals, of their lands. They are in fact the landed history of a past generation, which could not be replaced by memory or tradition; consequently should be placed where they would be imperishable. It is, therefore, recommended that this office be authorized to do so, whenever the pressure of other duties will permit.

The attention of Congress is invited to the imperfect condition of some of the records, in this office, of Virginia military patents issued prior to 1834, for lands in Ohio, and the mode of remedying the evil heretofore proposed is again suggested; also to the propriety of prescribing, by legislation, suitable measures for ascertaining and settling the claims in Oregon and Washington Territories, under the treaty

with Great Britain of 15th August, 1846. The settlements in these Territories are rapidly extending, and, in view of the donations made to the settlers therein, it is indispensably necessary that the claims under that treaty should be finally disposed of, to prevent conflict of titles and harassing litigation.

The numerous, and in some cases extensive reservations, which are no longer required for the purposes for which they were originally made, materially affect the settlement and sale of the public lands in several localities. There is no provision of law for the disposal of lands covered by such reservations, except the act of 1819, which authorizes the Secretary of War to sell abandoned military reservations. The recommendation is therefore renewed, that this office be authorized to bring such lands into market, where not improved, under the laws now regulating the sale of the public lands; and to dispose of those on which improvements have been made, under such regulations as shall be approved by the President.

The labor and difficulties experienced in adjusting the swamp-land grant, especially where lands of that character have been disposed of since the passage of the act of September 28, 1850, induce me to renew the recommendation heretofore made, that authority be given, where such lands have been purchased for cash, to pay over the purchase-money to the State, on a relinquishment by the governor, or other officer appointed by the legislature for the purpose, of all the right of the State in and to such lands; and where those lands have been located by warrants or scrip, to permit the State to select a like amount elsewhere: and that in either case the title to the original purchaser or locator pass by the United States patent. In connexion with this subject, I would also suggest that provision be made that the formal certificates of this office, under its seal, to the States, that lists of lands selected under the act of 4th September, 1841, the above-mentioned swamp-land act, or for schools, seminaries, &c., have been approved by the Executive, shall convey the fee to those States respectively, subject to any valid interfering rights. Such has been the uniform construction of this office; but as doubts have been suggested on the subject, it is deemed expedient and necessary to have such legislative action as shall place that question at rest.

The extension, by the act of 3d March last, of the pre-emption privilege to the alternate reserved sections along the lines of railroads, and to lands previously reserved on account of claims under French, Spanish, or other grants, which have been or hereafter shall be declared invalid by the Supreme Court of the United States, has enabled many of the settlers on such lands to secure their homes. An amendment should be made to this act, however, to exclude from its provisions all such lands as may be needed for public uses. A further extension, however, of the general pre-emption law, would seem to be necessary to render even-handed justice to all. By the sixth section of the act of 3d March last, the unsurveyed lands in California, with certain exceptions, and on specified conditions, were made subject to pre-emption. There is no reason of policy or propriety why this provision, with similar limitations and conditions, should not be extended to all the land States. Too much cannot be said of the energy and enterprise of this class of our

people. They are the pioneers of civilization and Christianity. They have pressed forward from the Alleghanies to the Pacific, opening roads, bridging the streams, felling the forests, and cultivating the prairies. Before them the wild beasts of the forest have passed away, and, like a bulwark, they have stood in front of their less daring and adventurous fellow-citizens, who have followed on and peopled the countries thus opened up for them. It is, then, but a small gratuity for such services that they shall be permitted to purchase their homes at the government price, without competing with speculators for the fruits of their own toil, hardships, and privations. It is therefore earnestly recommended that this extension be accorded to them.

The expediency and propriety of early action for the extension of the land system over the Territories of New Mexico, Utah, &c., is suggested and recommended. The population of those Territories is constantly increasing, and no doubt many settlers are improving lands belonging to the government, without the possibility of obtaining titles for them under existing legislation. To relieve this state of things, and to secure bona fide holders in their possessions, without which their energies will be checked and the prosperity of the Territories prevented, it is suggested that proper surveying districts be established and a commission instituted, to ascertain and report to Congress the present condition of the titles therein; that a surveyor general be appointed for each of those districts, with authority to survey and locate such of the claims therein as the commissioners shall deem valid, and that he be authorized to have the residue of the lands surveyed according to existing laws, or on such plan as shall appear best adapted to the topography of the country, to be approved of, however, by the Secretary of the Interior before adoption. The nature and extent of the tenures by which the Pueblo or civilized Indians of New Mexico hold their lands, seem to be but little understood, and hence legislation on the subject, without sufficient information, might lead to confusion and conflict of an endless and harassing nature. In these regions, as well as in all our Pacific possessions, it is recommended that the mineral lands be thrown open to the enterprise and industry of all our citizens, and those who have declared their intention to become such, upon the payment of a per-centage or seignorage for coining the precious metals.

From the foregoing statements it must be apparent that the business of this office has increased to a great extent, probably not less than thirty per cent. The re-organization in July last nominally increased, but really reduced its force; while the railroad, swamp, and pre-emption grants, the Virginia revolutionary claims, and the establishment of land offices in Oregon and California, have materially added to its current duties. To meet these increased responsibilities with a reduced force, has required great and unceasing efforts and unwearied diligence. Most of the gentlemen in the office, with a spirit of emulation entitled to the highest commendation, have labored indefatigably to perform all the labor devolved on them by this state of things, and that, too, under the discouragement of reduced salaries, and the want of suitable and sufficient accommodations. The crowded and uncomfortable condition of our rooms, and the impossibility of laboring in some of them in cloudy weather without artificial light, has already

been brought to your attention; and the proper remedy will be applied as soon as you can make arrangements for that purpose. An advance of salaries, however, requires the interposition of the legislature.

In consequence of the great influx of the precious metals, their consequent reduction in value, and the corresponding increase in the price of every article of domestic consumption, the cost of living has materially advanced. In every other branch of industry the compensation has kept pace with this advance, while the salaries of many of the employes of the government have been materially reduced, especially those at low salaries, who are employed on the simpler duties of the office. Some of these have been reduced from twelve hundred to nine hundred dollars per annum, while others who received still less have had the twenty per cent. previously allowed stricken from their salaries.

The principal clerks of this office, by the act of 1836, are required to be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. Their compensation, however, has never been commensurate with the difficult and onerous duties performed by them, nor sufficient for the talents and ability required to discharge those duties. They have not at any time had the benefits of the percentage extended to others, nor any increase of salary from 1836, when the law was passed organizing those divisions, to the present time, though their duties have become much more burdensome and complicated. Nor has any provision been made, since that time, for the labor and trouble of settling the five per cent. accounts of the several States, for which an allowance had always been previously made.

The impolicy of inadequate or insufficient compensation in any employment must be apparent. A classification that might do justice to other offices would not suit this, for the reason, as heretofore reported, that the duties are more diversified, and many of them require a high and peculiar order of talent.

It is therefore respectfully recommended that the salaries of the clerks be arranged with reference to their duties, and that such increase be made in their compensation as will do justice to all, and that a proportionate increase be extended to the messengers, assistant messengers, packers, watchmen, and laborers. The industry, integrity, and intelligence indispensably necessary to an efficient discharge of the duties of these subordinate officers, have not been fully appreciated. It is earnestly hoped, however, that a liberal provision will be made for them also.

I beg leave to advert to a recommendation heretofore made, of a grant of land for educational purposes in this District. Here, under the fostering care of the government, model schools could be founded, for imparting instruction in literature, mechanics and agriculture, and civil institutions established, on the plan of the Military and Naval academies, in which improvements in every branch of the arts could be tested and brought successfully into use; and where, in fact, youths from all parts of the country could be prepared to act as instructors in these useful and important branches, and thus disseminate throughout the land the benefits of scientific education.

A thorough knowledge of agricultural chemistry, especially when combined with geology, mineralogy, and metallurgy, would enable the

farmers and planters of our country to develop the whole wealth of their respective regions, frequently at inconsiderable expense, causing barren lands to produce abundant crops, and withdrawing from their secret recesses in the bosom of the earth, the mineral treasures deposited therein.

The citizens of the District look to Congress for that assistance, in these particulars, which others receive from the legislatures of the States; and the means of disseminating science and useful information, thus established here, would advance the best interests of the country at large, and materially aid in perpetuating the blessings of civil and religious liberty.

The great increase in sales and locations of land for the last fiscal year, and in the third quarter of the current calendar year, mentioned in a former part of this report, has occurred in those States where railroads have been projected and grants made for them, or where such works are in contemplation, or by the proposed construction of the Sault Ste. Marie canal. As evidence of this fact, I would state that the lands withdrawn from sale in Illinois, to enable that State to select those granted to her by the act of 20th September, 1850, were again brought into market in July, August, and September, 1852, deducting, of course, the 2,595,053 $\frac{1}{10}$ acres selected by her under that grant.

During the fiscal year ending the 30th of June last, in	
that State there were sold for cash.....	298,861 acres.
Located with land warrants.....	2,509,120 "
Total.....	2,807,981 acres,

Being about one and a quarter million more than all the lands sold (excluding the locations of warrants) during the preceding fiscal year, in all the land States and Territory. This increase would no doubt have been greater if the main body of these lands had been in market in the beginning of the last fiscal year, which was not the fact. The following statement of the amount of sales for cash, along the route of this road in the several districts in Illinois, from the time these lands were thus brought into market in 1852, to the 30th of September, 1853, more strongly evinces the effect that road has had upon the sale of these lands:

District.	No. of acres sold at the double minimum.	No. of acres sold above the ordinary minimum, and above and below the double minimum.	Average No. of years that these lands were in market, at the minimum of \$1 25 per acre, from the time originally offered to 1850, when they were withdrawn from the market.
Chicago	28,400	2,000	13
Dixon	21,480	160	9
Danville	125,240	40,360	19
Vandalia	69,520	320	23
Palestine	7,920	720	23
Shawneetown	3,680	200	34
Kaskaskia	27,840	-----	34
Springfield	-----	4,560	20
Total	284,080	48,320	
	48,320		
Aggregate	332,400		

In Missouri, the lands along the supposed routes of the several railroads for which grants were made by the act of 10th June, 1852, were withdrawn from market on the following day. As those roads had not then been located, these reservations were made more extensive than the lateral lines mentioned in the act, to enable the State to select the best route for each. The excess outside the fifteen-mile limits, ascertained after the survey of the roads, was restored to market on the 5th July, 1853, and hence could only affect the sales for the third quarter of that year. The following statement shows the amount of land sold during that quarter, and in the corresponding quarter of the three preceding years, in each district :

	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.
	<i>3d quarter.</i>	<i>3d quarter.</i>	<i>3d quarter.</i>	<i>3d quarter.</i>
St. Louis	4,958.68	18,022.54	1,903.73	*41,308.67
Palmyra	5,253.28	17,672.89	709.92	34,469.65
Fayette	3,786.09	9,178.04	89.52	28,765.76½
Clinton	10,730.20	17,311.04	none.	104,627.93
Jackson	5,546.01	9,468.58	5,879.48	16,858.62
Springfield	4,848.71	15,218.05	13.36	53,891.43
Plattsburg	9,750.04	17,593.90	994.07	15,035.23
Milan	3,375.47	6,883.14	2,050.39	†23,882.16

* No sales in August, 1853, there being no register.

† No sales in July, 1853.

Here, although the lands sold were fifteen miles or more from the route of the road, the increase has been very great; and I have no doubt, when the alternate sections within six miles, and those between the six and fifteen mile limits, are brought into market, their increase will be equal to that of Illinois.

In Mississippi the sales have been very limited for several years. On the 20th September, 1850, the lands in Augusta and Columbus districts, along the proposed route of the Central railroad from Chicago, in Illinois, to Mobile, in Alabama, were withdrawn from market, and were not again thrown open to entry until the 26th September, 1853, for the Augusta district, and 19th September, 1853, for the Columbus district. In the former district there were but five days left in that month for sales to be made, and in the latter twelve days. The September return being the last received from those districts, I have caused a comparison to be made between sales for that month in 1853, and for the same month in the four preceding years, and the result is as follows, to wit:

Augusta, September, 1849.....	424.95 acres.
Augusta, September, 1850.....	311.47 "
Augusta, September, 1851.....	40.65 "
Augusta, September, 1852.....	2.48 "
Augusta, September, 1853.....	19,530.47 "

These 19,530 acres, at \$1 25 per acre, would amount to \$24,413 09; but the actual amount received was \$34,056 78, making an increase over the ordinary minimum of \$9,643 69.

In the Columbus district this comparison is as follows, to wit:

	Cash sales.	Warrants located.	Total acres.
September, 1849.....	\$1,722 58	636.65	2,359.23
September, 1850.....	1,907 69	359.31	2,267.00
September, 1851.....	611 90	632.60	1,244.50
September, 1852.....	834 74	2,316.51	3,151.25
September, 1853.....	16,664 04	5,840.69	22,504.73

In the Sault Ste. Marie district, in Michigan, the entries for the second and third quarters of 1852 amount to 40,689.65 acres; and, for the second and third quarters of 1853, to 89,073.81 acres.

This great and extraordinary increase in the amount of lands disposed of in these several sections of the country, remote from each other, can only be accounted for by the improvements referred to: in fact, so great is the increase in the value of lands, that land warrants and land scrip are nearly up to the par or face value. If, then, no other reason existed for such grants, this one, on the score of sound economy, would be sufficient. Many of these lands, however, have been in market long

enough for the interest to amount to much more than the principal; and during all this period the States were deprived of the right and benefit of taxation. The lands donated for the construction of these improvements, and those thus entered, must of necessity be cultivated, to enable the holders to pay the taxes, and from this legitimate source of revenue great pecuniary benefit will be derived by the States. This cultivation, as a matter of course, will increase the amount of grain and stock in the country; and with these increased facilities for sending those products to market, will reduce the price of living, and thus benefit the whole community. They will also reduce the price of transportation for the manufactures and imports of the seaboard, and so reduce the price of those articles to the settler, and proportionally increase the quantity used, and of course the profit to the manufacturer and importer. The mail facilities furnished by these lines of intercommunication will be of great advantage to the government and the entire community; and in case of war, if hostilities were brought to our own borders, the advantages furnished by them for transporting men and military stores are almost inappreciable. Another and very great benefit derived from these improvements, is the amount of capital and labor carried into the hearts of the several States by their construction. Hundreds of thousands of laborers can find constant employment on them, and each, by a very small amount of labor, can secure the blessings of a "homestead," without feeling degraded by having it conferred on him as a gratuity, even if it were constitutional thus to benefit a few at the expense of the many, or compatible with the pledges heretofore given in relation to the public lands.

It is not my purpose at this time to discuss the principles of the "homestead" measure, my views on that subject having been fully presented in a communication of the 18th June, 1852, to the chairman of the Committee on Public Lands of the Senate, in answer to a call from him; but it must be obvious that the friends of that measure can in this way accomplish all that is desired by it, without any of its objectionable features.

To grants of this character for railroads, canals, &c., not one tangible or substantial objection can be presented. The increased value given to the lands enables the government to get double price, and a ready sale for those retained, and hence the grant costs them nothing. The same reason removes all difficulty in relation to the pledge given by the United States, at the cession of these lands, that they should be considered a common fund, for the use and benefit of all the States, and renders them more available towards meeting the obligation imposed on them by the act of 28th January, 1847, that the proceeds should be set apart for the payment of the public debt created by that act. Let these railroads and canals be completed, and the husbandman will no longer have reason to complain that his grain remains ungarnered from year to year because there is no mode of sending it to market; it will all be eagerly sought after, and with his surplus stock will be sent abroad over the land, to feed thousands of his less fortunate fellow-beings, while he will thus be made to rejoice in the prosperity secured by his honest toil and industry, saying nothing of the advantages to the business and finance of the country.

Moreover, these means of intercommunication, like iron bands, will unite the whole country together by a community of interest and feeling, and, like the arteries of the human system, will disseminate to every part the benefits of home production, and of the Eastern, Pacific, and Atlantic trade, when the great California railroad shall have been completed.

The recommendation heretofore made is therefore renewed, that liberal grants for all such objects be made, under suitable restrictions.

From the annexed statement E, which exhibits the present condition of the public lands, it will be seen that many millions of acres are now subject to entry, presenting to the settler every variety of soil and climate, rich in inexhaustible fertility and the valuable timber it bears, and in many sections containing mines of the precious metals, and of copper, iron, and coal.

As a matter that may be interesting, I have appended a table, marked F, prepared in 1850, with great care and from the most reliable data, giving the cost of the public domain, of extinguishing the Indian title, and of surveying, selling, and managing the lands, with the average actual cost of each per acre.

Respectfully submitted, by your obedient servant,
JOHN WILSON, *Commissioner.*

Hon. ROBERT McCLELLAND,
Secretary Department of the Interior.

SCHEDULE OF ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS.

- A. Statement of public lands sold, of cash, &c., received therefor, of incidental expenses thereon, in the first half of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1853.
- B. Similar statement for last of the fiscal year, as above.
- C. Exhibit of the public lands advertised in the year 1853; 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 1854.
- D. Synopsis of public lands advertised for sale since November 29, 1852, (date of last report,) showing the quantity under proclamation, exclusive of school lands.
- E. Statement of the areas of the several land States and Territories, showing the amount un disposed of, &c., on June 30, 1853.
- F. Statement showing the cost, &c., of the public domain.
- G. Estimate of appropriations required for the General Land Office for fiscal year ending June 30, 1855.
- H. Estimate of appropriations required for the offices of the several surveyors general for fiscal year ending June 30, 1855.
- I. Estimates of appropriations required for surveying the public lands in the several States and Territories during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1853.
- K. Reports of the several surveyors general of public lands, excepting California and Oregon.

A.

Statement of public lands sold; of cash, Treasurer's receipts, &c., received therefor; of incidental expenses thereon; and of payments into the treasury on account thereof, in the first half of the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1852, and ending June 30, 1853.

LAND OFFICES, AND STATES.	Gross amount of lands sold in first half of fiscal year.		Amount received in cash and Treasurer's receipts.		Amount received in forfeited land stock and military scrip.		Am't of incidental expenses.	Am't paid into the treasury during the first half of the fiscal year.
	Acres.	Purchase money.	Cash.	Treasurer's receipts.	Forfeited land stock.	Military land scrip.		
OHIO.								
Chillicothe	1,209.50	\$1,568 23	\$1,568 23	.....	.....	.....	\$902 60	\$2,169 47
Defiance	3,682.57	28,811 65	28,811 65	.....	.....	.....	1,381 04	27,785 35
Total.....	4,892.07	30,379 88	30,379 88	.....	.....	.....	2,283 64	29,954 82
INDIANA.								
Jeffersonville	1,884.20	2,374 22	2,374 22	.....	.....	.....	632 11	2,374 22
Vincennes	2,751.18	3,439 12	3,439 12	.....	.....	.....	602 71	4,485 38
Indianapolis	635.10	2,508 83	2,508 83	.....	.....	.....	575 52	1,929 73
Crawfordsville	2,834.56	3,543 20	3,543 20	.....	.....	.....	592 35	4,565 17
Winamac	2,979.49	3,724 35	3,724 35	.....	.....	.....	704 46	3,576 30
Total.....	11,084.53	15,589 72	15,589 72	.....	.....	.....	3,107 15	16,930 80

ILLINOIS.								
Shawneetown.....	11,729.72	16,506.33	16,506.33			1,310.85	16,139.00	
Kaskaskia.....	16,585.62	33,018.45	33,018.45			1,527.08	30,000.00	
Edwardsville.....	1,513.94	1,908.46	1,908.46			642.97	1,869.80	
Vandalia.....	38,691.82	141,460.46	141,220.46	\$240.00		4,075.05	138,911.66	
Palestine.....	13,213.38	20,399.14	20,399.14			1,330.50	19,580.79	
Springfield.....	1,542.41	3,698.99	3,573.99		\$125.00	847.03	7,861.33	
Danville.....	26,277.73	119,889.59	119,889.59			2,229.64	110,633.69	
Quincy.....	1,770.60	2,213.26	2,213.26			698.25	3,634.34	
Dixon.....	6,255.32	24,674.01	24,324.01		350.00	1,186.96	18,860.26	
Chicago.....	6,728.69	22,550.08	22,550.08			1,652.74	22,550.08	
Total.....	124,309.23	386,318.77	385,603.77		240.00	475.00	15,501.07	370,040.95
MISSOURI.								
St. Louis.....	2,937.76	3,672.39	3,672.39			3,642.72	4,607.11	
Fayette.....	293.63	367.10	367.10			562.31	2,291.10	
Palmyra.....	1,991.02	2,488.90	2,488.90			623.23	4,487.58	
Jackson.....	12,950.80	16,188.50	16,188.50			968.87	18,225.00	
Clinton.....	No sales					755.74	13,410.87	
Springfield.....	258.63	323.29	323.29			538.06	3,585.60	
Plattsburg.....	2,389.09	2,986.36	2,986.36			713.77	4,400.00	
Milan.....	4,310.54	5,398.18	5,398.18			865.70	6,605.50	
Total.....	25,131.52	31,424.72	31,424.72			8,670.45	57,612.76	
ALABAMA.								
St. Stephen's.....	3,575.86	4,473.82	4,473.82			544.70	1,415.19	
Cahaba.....	4,409.29	5,511.61	5,511.61			693.37	6,997.46	
Huntsville.....	8,605.11	10,756.38	10,756.38			922.98	15,466.46	

A—Continued.

LAND OFFICES, AND STATES.	Gross amount of lands sold in first half of fiscal year.		Amount received in cash and Treasurer's receipts.		Amount received in forfeited land stock and military scrip.		Am't of incidental expenses.	Am't paid into the treasury during the first half of the fiscal year.
	Acres.	Purchase money.	Cash.	Treasurer's receipts.	Forfeited land stock.	Military land scrip.		
ALABAMA—continued.								
Tuscaloosa	10,883.13	\$13,614 23	\$13,614 23	.....	.....	.....	\$1,144 86	\$13,735 49
Sparta	18,981.15	23,726 44	23,726 44	.....	.....	.....	1,220 25	21,765 86
Demopolis	1,763.65	2,204 56	2,204 56	.....	.....	.....	527 19	515 00
Montgomery	3,102.56	3,879 75	3,879 75	.....	.....	.....	550 11	1,133 62
Lebanon	3,715.77	4,644 71	4,644 71	.....	.....	.....	608 38	1,400 00
Total	55,036.52	68,811 50	68,811 50	.....	.....	.....	6,211 84	62,429 08
MISSISSIPPI.								
Washington	15,545.02	19,437 51	19,437 51	.....	.....	.....	1,513 44	16,350 86
Augusta	1,272.90	1,591 13	1,591 13	.....	.....	.....	542 21	29 72
Jackson	2,505.20	3,131 49	3,131 49	.....	.....	.....	567 73	1,258 60
Grenada	3,929.98	4,912 47	4,912 47	.....	.....	.....	545 51	536 20
Columbus	4,717.76	5,897 20	5,897 20	.....	.....	.....	566 63	767 55
Total	27,970.86	34,969 80	34,969 80	.....	.....	.....	3,735 52	18,942 93

LOUISIANA.						
New Orleans	661.00	826 24	826 24		341 41	1 256 82
Opelousas.....	4,469.81	5,587 27	5,587 27		634 14	
Monroe.....	13,500.17	16,875 21	16,875 21		691 30	1,509 70
Greensburg.....					540 20	
Natchitoches	8,915.69	11,205 11	11,205 11		1,052 34	11,000 00
Total.....	27,546.67	34,493 83	34,493 83		3,259 39	13,766 52
MICHIGAN.						
Detroit.....	721.12	1,337 11	1,337 11		834 74	1,389 76
Kalamazoo.....	2,910.46	3,638 07	3,638 07		684 41	2,563 68
Genesee.....	7,461.92	13,179 75	13,179 75		897 68	14,462 09
Ironia.....	3,201.41	4,376 76	4,376 76		673 74	2,756 60
Sault te. Marie.....	3,189.57	3,986 98	3,986 98		733 19	3,696 48
Total.....	17,484.48	26,518 67	26,518 67		3,823 75	24,868 61
ARKANSAS.						
Batesville.....	3,566.53	4,458 16	4,458 16		647 16	4,119 50
Little Rock.....	1,494.32	1,867 91	1,867 91		554 21	1,867 91
Washington.....	4,475.68	5,594 72	5,594 72		614 41	5,848 00
Fayetteville.....	5,080.78	6,350 97	6,350 97		1,036 38	4,782 82
Helena.....	1,544.08	1,930 09	1,930 09		285 57	
Clarksville.....	2,705.47	3,381 83	3,381 83		515 28	330 68
Champagnole.....	2,477.13	3,096 41	3,096 41		530 95	
Total.....	21,343.99	26,680 09	26,686 09		4,183 96	16,948 91

LAND OFFICES, AND STATES.	Gross amount of lands sold in first half of fiscal year.		Amount received in cash and Treasurer's receipts.		Amount received in forfeited land stock and military scrip.		Amount of incidental expenses.	Am't paid into the treasury during the first half of the fiscal year.
	Acres.	Purchase money.	Cash.	Treasurer's receipts.	Forfeited land stock.	Military land scrip.		
FLORIDA.								
Tallahassee.....	1,395.26	\$1,744 07	\$1,744 07	.....	.....	.....	\$534 88	\$1,744 05
St. Augustine.....	376.35	470 43	470 43	.....	.....	.....	506 56	186 06
Newnansville.....	4,803.38	6,004 21	6,004 21	.....	.....	.....	675 30	3,733 46
Total.....	6,574.99	8,218 71	8,218 71	.....	.....	.....	1,716 74	5,663 57
IOWA.								
Du Buque.....	2,864.70	3,581 00	3,581 00	.....	.....	.....	575 48	3,509 15
Fairfield.....	2,611.61	3,264 52	3,264 52	.....	.....	.....	737 75	2,771 82
Iowa City.....	4,273.94	5,360 66	5,360 66	.....	.....	.....	820 71	7,299 83
Chariton.....	No operations.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fort Des Moines.....	No operations.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kanesville.....	No operations.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	9,750.25	12,206 18	12,206 18	.....	.....	.....	2,133 94	13,580 80
WISCONSIN.								
Mineral Point.....	9,316.50	11,735 96	11,635 96	.....	\$100 00	.....	1,367 36	10,322 68

Menasha.....	8,905.55	11,147.64	10,900.14	.....	*150.00	\$97.50	1,547.51	12,094.58
Milwaukee.....	2,705.05	3,381.60	3,381.60	.....	.....	.....	614.71	4,230.85
Willow River.....	858.53	1,073.16	1,073.16	.....	.....	.....	601.32	733.87
Stevens's Point.....	None.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
La Crosse.....	None.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	21,785.63	27,338.36	26,990.86	.....	†250.00	97.50	4,130.90	27,381.98
MINNESOTA TERRITORY.								
Stillwater.....	1,506.05	1,882.55	1,882.55	.....	.....	.....	910.63	1,411.34
Sauk Rapids.....	None.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	1,506.05	1,882.55	1,882.55	.....	.....	.....	910.63	1,411.34

* This amount in Wisconsin refunding certificates.

† Includes \$150 in Wisconsin refunding certificates.

RECAPITULATION.

STATES.	Gross amount of lands sold in first half of fiscal year.		Amount received in cash and Treasurer's receipts.		Amount received in forfeited land stock and military scrip.		Amount of incidental expenses.	Am't paid into the treasury during the first half of the fiscal year.
	Acres.	Purchase money.	Cash.	Treasurer's receipts.	Forfeited land stock.	Military land scrip.		
Ohio.....	4,892.07	\$30,379 88	\$30,379 88	.....	.....	.....	\$2,283 64	\$29,954 82
Indiana.....	11,084.53	15,589 72	15,589 72	.....	.....	.....	3,107 15	16,930 80
Illinois.....	124,309.23	336,318 77	385,603 77	.....	\$240 00	\$475 00	15,501 07	\$70,040 95
Missouri.....	25,131.52	31,424 72	31,424 72	.....	.....	.....	8,670 45	57,612 76
Alabama.....	55,036.52	68,811 50	68,811 50	.....	.....	.....	6,211 84	62,429 08
Mississippi.....	27,970.86	34,969 80	34,969 80	.....	.....	.....	3,735 52	18,942 93
Louisiana.....	27,546.67	34,493 83	34,493 83	.....	.....	.....	3,259 39	13,766 52
Michigan.....	17,484.48	26,518 67	26,518 67	.....	.....	.....	3,823 76	24,868 61
Arkansas.....	21,343.99	26,680 09	26,680 09	.....	.....	.....	4,183 96	16,948 91
Florida.....	6,574.99	8,218 71	8,218 71	.....	.....	.....	1,716 74	5,663 57
Iowa.....	9,750.25	12,206 18	12,206 18	.....	.....	.....	2,133 94	13,580 80
Wisconsin.....	21,785.63	27,338 36	26,990 86	.....	*250 00	97 50	4,130 90	27,381 98
Minnesota Territory.....	1,506.05	1,882 55	1,882 55	.....	.....	.....	910 63	1,411 34
Grand total.....	354,416.79	704,832 78	703,770 28	.....	*490 00	572 50	59,668 99	659,533 07

* Includes \$150 in Wisconsin refunding certificates.

B.

Statement of public lands sold; of cash, Treasurer's receipts, &c., received therefor; of incidental expenses thereon; and of payments into the treasury on account thereof, in the last half of the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1852, and ending June 30, 1853.

LAND OFFICES, AND STATES.	Gross amount of lands sold in last half of fiscal year.		Amount received in cash and Treasurer's receipts.		Amount received in forfeited land stock and military scrip.		Am't of incidental expenses.	Amount paid into the treasury during the last half of the fiscal year.
	Acres.	Purchase money.	Cash.	Treasurer's receipts.	Forfeited land stock.	Military land scrip.		
OHIO.								
Chillicothe.....	3,921.95	\$4,906 96	\$4,906 96				\$428 80	\$4,809 11
Defiance.....	4,534.04	25,749 33	25,749 33				1,289 72	28,431 89
Total.....	8,455.99	30,656 29	30,656 29				1,718 52	33,241 00
INDIANA.								
Jeffersonville.....	2,655.43	3,319 29	3,319 29				548 65	3,319 29
Vincennes.....	6,245.25	7,806 60	7,806 60				693 69	8,505 36
Indianapolis.....	1,050.69	1,569 35	1,569 35				652 02	2,225 11
Crawfordsville.....	2,378.65	2,973 31	2,973 31				792 03	405 00
Winamac.....	3,754.33	4,705 71	4,705 71				640 26	1,896 71
Total.....	16,084.35	20,374 26	20,374 26				3,326 65	16,351 47

LAND OFFICES, AND STATES.	Gross amount of lands sold in last half of fiscal year.		Amount received in cash and Treasurer's receipts.		Amount received in forfeited land stock and military scrip.		Amount of incidental expenses.	Amount paid into the treasury during the last half of the fiscal year.
	Acres.	Purchase money.	Cash.	Treasurer's receipts.	Forfeited land stock.	Military land scrip.		
ILLINOIS.								
Shawneetown.....	32,132.89	\$41,606 74	\$41,606 74	.....	.....	.....	\$1,659 74	\$42,608 69
Kaskaskia.....	22,695.04	42,244 01	42,244 01	.....	.....	.....	1,564 01	42,253 82
Edwardsville.....	4,780.37	5,975 49	5,975 49	.....	.....	.....	638 98	3,276 91
Vandalia.....	20,871.86	82,734 05	82,501 52	.....	\$232 53	.....	685 22	80,974 46
Palestine.....	17,615.93	25,786 01	25,786 01	.....	.....	.....	1,344 34	29,126 60
Springfield.....	5,532.77	6,916 05	6,916 05	.....	.....	.....	737 83	2,635 53
Danville.....	37,303.82	103,617 23	97,529 43	.....	.....	\$6,087 80	1,635 21	85,673 82
Quincy.....	4,714.31	5,892 90	5,892 90	.....	.....	.....	677 47	5,572 62
Dixon.....	19,682.31	35,609 94	32,305 28	\$400 00	80 00	2,824 66	1,096 80	37,170 49
Chicago.....	9,216.86	20,388 27	20,388 27	.....	.....	.....	1,134 22	20,388 27
Total.....	174,552.16	370 770 69	361,145 70	400 00	312 53	8,912 46	11,173 82	349,681 21
MISSOURI.								
St. Louis.....	11,706.74	14,633 54	14,633 54	.....	.....	.....	3,998 18	13,863 55
Fayette.....	1,205.47	1,506 85	1,506 85	.....	.....	.....	622 38	1,541 64
Palmyra.....	13,835.56	17,294 53	17,294 53	.....	.....	.....	609 69	16,577 51
Jackson.....	41,392.50	51,740 46	51,740 46	.....	.....	.....	1,706 55	51,238 26
Clinton.....	No sales.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	500 00	.....
Springfield.....	121.64	152 05	152 05	.....	.....	.....	508 15	354 00
Plattsburg.....	4,876.80	6,096 40	6,096 40	.....	.....	.....	656 16	6,058 26

Milan	8,544.49	10,681 24	10,681 24	.....	.....	.....	1,266 17	15,210 92
Total.....	81,683.20	102,105 07	102,105 07	.....	.....	.....	9,867 28	104,844 14
ALABAMA.								
St. Stephen's.....	5,037.67	6,297 09	6,297 09	.....	.....	.....	462 39	8,050 00
Cahaba	2,861.61	3,577 01	3,577 01	.....	.....	.....	594 39	6,583 11
Huntsville	10,598.60	13,264 20	13,264 20	.....	.....	.....	726 69	13,092 27
Tuscaloosa	8,710.15	10,887 69	10,887 69	.....	.....	.....	1,081 20	10,885 00
Sparta	18,603.11	23,253 79	23,253 79	.....	.....	.....	1,100 16	22,098 88
Demopolis	1,437.39	1,796 73	1,796 73	.....	.....	.....	521 01	555 00
Montgomery	3,108.16	3,885 07	3,885 07	.....	.....	.....	727 39	6,393 97
Lebanon	6,544.40	8,180 49	8,180 49	.....	.....	.....	485 39	5,000 00
Total.....	56,901.09	71,142 07	71,142 07	.....	.....	.....	5,698 62	72,658 23
MISSISSIPPI.								
Washington	24,714.68	30,893 35	30,893 35	.....	.....	.....	1,567 42	32,408 22
Augusta	6,541.85	8,205 19	8,205 19	.....	.....	.....	570 13	5,981 98
Jackson	3,378.68	4,223 35	4,223 35	.....	.....	.....	441 34	6,002 57
Grenada.....	651.50	814 37	814 37	.....	.....	.....	741 06	5,000 00
Columbus	6,172.90	7,716 12	7,716 12	.....	.....	.....	725 94	7,786 35
Total.....	41,459.61	51,852 38	51,852 38	.....	.....	.....	4,045 89	57,179 12
LOUISIANA.								
New Orleans	731.18	913 97	913 97	.....	.....	.....	94 78	692 72
Opelousas	12,272.51	15,340 36	15,340 36	.....	.....	.....	444 52	15,370 24

LAND OFFICE, AND STATES.	Gross amount of lands sold in last half of fiscal year.		Amount received in cash and Treasurer's receipts.		Amount received in forfeited land stock and military scrip.		Amount of incidental expenses.	Amount paid into the treasury during the last half of the fiscal year.
	Acres.	Purchase money.	Cash.	Treasurer's receipts.	Forfeited land stock.	Military land scrip.		
LOUISIANA—continued.								
Monroe	12,896.69	\$16,120 85	\$16,120 85	.....	.....	.....	\$1,048 74	\$20,000 00
Greensburg	21,056.22	26,364 14	26,364 14	.....	.....	.....	1,477 13	24,637 49
Natchitoches	3,950.30	4,937 85	4,937 85	.....	.....	.....	877 28	13,208 58
Total.....	50,906.90	63,677 17	63,677 17	.....	.....	.....	3,942 45	73,909 03
MICHIGAN.								
Detroit.....	5,533.25	7,222 28	7,222 28	.....	.....	.....	894 06	6,748 28
Kalamazoo.....	5,633.34	7,041 66	7,041 66	.....	.....	.....	816 60	3,847 47
Genesee.....	15,738.70	22,188 32	22,188 32	.....	.....	.....	1,186 58	19,334 21
Ionia.....	9,822.51	12,278 13	12,278 13	.....	.....	.....	1,287 28	10,585 83
Saut Ste. Marie.....	28,329.67	47,912 44	47,912 44	.....	.....	.....	1,661 76	40,299 36
Total.....	65,057.47	96,642 83	96,642 83	.....	.....	.....	5,846 28	80,815 15
ARKANSAS.								
Hatesville.....	18,335.47	22,963 33	22,863 33	.....	.....	\$100 00	1,394 26	20,892 00

Little Rock.....	10,691.74	13,364 66	13,364 66	.....	.....	809 28	9,067 28
Washington.....	12,183.71	15,229 74	15,229 74	.....	.....	731 86	12,322 22
Fayetteville.....	22,833.94	28,542 45	28,542 45	.....	.....	1,509 08	27,230 60
Helena.....	275.01	343 76	343 76	.....	.....	335 16	269 07
Clarksville.....	3,828.99	4,786 25	4,786 25	.....	.....	684 48	8,296 46
Champagnole.....	7,068.48	8,835 60	8,835 60	.....	.....	743 36	8,205 76
Total.....	75,217.34	94,065 79	93,965 79	.....	100 00	6,207 48	86,233 39
FLORIDA.							
Tallahassee.....	3,937.16	4,994 56	4,994 56	.....	.....	743 36	4,994 57
St. Augustine.....	2,112.09	2,640 12	2,640 12	.....	.....	612 74	288 00
Newnansville.....	8,496.77	10,620 94	10,620 94	.....	.....	853 56	7,506 91
Total.....	14,546.02	18,255 62	18,255 62	.....	.....	2,209 66	12,789 48
IOWA.							
Dubuque.....	24,571.49	30,714 43	30,714 43	.....	.....	1,337 69	34,600 47
Fairfield.....	5,531.62	6,914 51	6,068 68	.....	845 83	1,033 22	3,250 00
Iowa City.....	23,408.70	29,260 87	29,260 87	.....	.....	1,269 33	28,179 48
Chariton.....	8,932.97	11,169 97	10,969 97	.....	200 00	1,259 47	3,355 98
Fort Des Moines.....	16,649.29	20,811 59	20,811 59	.....	.....	1,371 66	5,000 00
Kanesville.....	33,132.83	41,416 01	41,416 01	.....	.....	2,804 11	12,000 00
Total.....	112,226.90	140,287 38	139,241 55	.....	1,045 83	9,075 48	86,385 93
WISCONSIN.							
Mineral Point.....	10,783.51	13,479 39	13,329 39	.....	\$150 00	950 67	14,019 75

B—Continued.

LAND OFFICES, AND STATES.	Gross amount of lands sold in last half of fiscal year.		Amount received in cash and Treasurer's receipts.		Amount received in forfeited land stock and military scrip.		Am't of incidental expenses.	Amount paid into the treasury during the last half of the fiscal year.
	Acres.	Purchase money.	Cash.	Treasurer's receipts.	Forfeited land stock.	Military land scrip.		
WISCONSIN—continued.								
Menasha	3,307.58	\$4,134.63	\$3,934.63	.....	\$200.00	.....	\$601.00	\$2,557.69
Milwaukee	7,084.90	8,862.63	8,762.63	.....	100.00	.....	845.10	10,209.77
Willow River	3,648.07	4,560.09	4,560.09	.....	.....	.....	532.86	4,533.44
Stevens's Point .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
La Crosse	3,610.23	4,512.79	4,512.79	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	28,434.29	35,549.53	35,099.53	.....	* 450.00	.....	2,929.63	31,320.65
MINNESOTA TERRITORY.								
Stillwater	3,553.10	4,441.38	4,441.38	.....	.....	.....	407.92	2,093.12
Sauk Rapids .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	3,553.10	4,441.38	4,441.38	.....	.....	.....	407.92	2,093.12

* This amount in Wisconsin refunding certificates.

RECAPITULATION.

STATES.	Gross amount of lands sold in last half of fiscal year.		Amount received in cash and Treasurer's receipts.		Amount received in forfeited land stock and military scrip.		Am't of incidental expenses.	Amount paid into the treasury during the last half of the fiscal year.
	Acres.	Purchase money.	Cash.	Treasurer's receipts.	Forfeited land stock.	Military land scrip.		
Ohio	8,455.99	\$30,656 29	\$30,656 29	.....	.....	.....	\$1,718 52	\$33,241-00
Indiana	16,084.35	20,374 26	20,374 26	.....	.....	.....	3,326 65	16,351 47
Illinois	174,552.16	370,770 69	361,145 70	\$400 00	\$312 53	\$8,912 46	11,173 82	349,681 21
Missouri	81,683.20	112,105 07	102,105 07	.....	.....	.....	9,867 28	104,844 14
Alabama	56,901.09	71,142 07	71,142 07	.....	.....	.....	5,698 62	72,658 23
Mississippi	41,459.61	51,852 38	51,852 38	.....	.....	.....	4,045 89	57,179 12
Louisiana	50,906.90	63,677 17	63,677 17	.....	.....	.....	3,942 45	73,909 03
Michigan	65,057.47	96,642 83	96,642 83	.....	.....	.....	5,846 28	80,815 15
Arkansas	75,217.34	94,065 79	93,965 79	.....	.....	100 00	6,207 48	86,283 39
Florida	14,546.02	18,255 62	18,255 62	.....	.....	.....	2,209 66	12,789 48
Iowa	112,226.90	140,287 38	139,241 55	.....	.....	1,045 83	9,075 48	86,385 93
Wisconsin	28,434.29	35,549 53	35,099 53	.....	* 450 00	.....	2,929 63	31,320 65
Minnesota Territory	3,553.10	4,441 38	4,441 38	.....	.....	.....	407 92	2,093 12
Grand total.....	729,078.42	1,099,820 46	1,088,599 64	400 00	† 762 53	10,058 29	66,449 68	1,007,551 92

* This amount in Wisconsin refunding certificates.

† Includes \$450 in Wisconsin refunding certificates.

C.—*Exhibit of the quantities of public land (exclusive of the sixteenth or school sections) advertised for sale in the year 1853; the quantities, the plats of survey of which have been returned to the General Land Office; the quantities prepared for market and not yet advertised, and the probable quantities which will be prepared in 1854.*

STATES OR TERRITORY.	Quantities advertised for sale in the year 1853.	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 1854.
		Prior to the last annual report.	Since the last annual report.		
Ohio.....	Acres. none.	Acres. none.	Acres. none.	Acres. none.	Acres. none.
Indiana.....	none.	1,958	none.	<i>a</i> 1,958	none.
Michigan.....	2,760,907	2,707,421	1,160,740	1,107,254	500,000
Illinois.....	none.	7,499	none.	<i>b</i> 7,499	none.
Wisconsin.....	3,397,563	409,229	3,636,154	647,820	2,000,000
Iowa.....	4,556,628	4,228,908	2,695,757	2,368,037	2,000,000
Minnesota Territory.....	none.	151,440	124,888	276,328	3,000,000
Missouri.....	none.	132,553	130,742	<i>c</i> 263,295	40,000
Arkansas.....	none.	730,293	2,425	<i>d</i> 732,718	none.
Louisiana.....	none.	1,274,115	375,097	<i>f</i> 1,649,212	none.
Mississippi.....	Reserved U. S. sections in railroad grant.	90,530	none.	<i>g</i> 90,530	none.
Alabama.....		3,103	none.	<i>h</i> 3,103	none.
Florida.....	none.	919,005	359,440	<i>i</i> 1,278,445	500,000
Total.....	10,715,098	10,656,054	8,485,243	8,426,199	8,040,000

a Sundry small islands.
b Detached tracts.
c A part cut by Clamorgan grant.

d A part in Clamorgan and De Bastrop grants.
f A part in De Bastrop and Dauterive grants.
g Islands.

h Detached tracts.
i Live oak lands 190,200 acres; and within Indian limits 411,138 acres.

D.

Synopsis of the public lands advertised for sale since the 29th of November, 1852, (the date of the Commissioner's last annual report,) showing the quantity under proclamation, exclusive of school lands.

State or Territory, and land district.	Date of sale.	Number.	Date of proclamation.	Quantity originally proclaimed.	Postponed.		Under proclamation.
					Till when.	Quantity.	
WISCONSIN.							
Willow River	May 2, 1853	487	Feb. 1, 1853	<i>Acres.</i> 811, 273	July 4, 1853	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i> 811, 273
La Crosse	May 16, 1853	487	.....do.....	496, 068	July 11, 1853	.....	496, 068
Stevens's Point.....	May 9, 1853	487	.....do.....	268, 193	July 18, 1853	.....	268, 193
Menasha	May 23, 1853	487	.....do.....	42, 473	July 25, 1853	.....	42, 473
Willow River	Oct. 3, 1853	493	June 21, 1853	633, 345	.....	.....	633, 345
Menasha	Oct. 10, 1853	493	.....do.....	357, 547	.....	.....	357, 547
La Crosse	Oct. 17, 1853	493	.....do.....	378, 835	.....	.....	378, 835
Stevens's Point.....	Oct. 24, 1853	493	.....do.....	404, 880	.....	.....	404, 880
Mineral Point.....	Jan. 2, 1854	} 493	.....do.....	*4, 949	.....	.....	*4, 949
	Oct. 3, 1853						
Total.....				3, 397, 563			3, 397, 563
IOWA.							
Kanesville	June 6, 1853	488	Feb. 1, 1853	} 2, 806, 537	.....	.....	2, 806, 537
Kanesville	June 20, 1853	488	.....do.....				
Kanesville	July 11, 1853	488	.....do.....				
Chariton	July 20, 1853	488	.....do.....	433, 616	.....	.....	433, 616

* Part lead mineral.

State or Territory, and land district.	Date of sale.	Number.	Date of proclamation.	Quantity originally proclaimed.	Postponed.		Under proclamation.
					Till when.	Quantity.	
<i>IOWA—continued.</i>							
Dubuque	June 27, 1853	488	Feb. 1, 1853	<i>Acres.</i> 93,230	.....	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i> 93,230
Fort Des Moines	June 13, 1853	488	.....do.....	} 1,223,245	.....	.....	1,223,245
Fort Des Moines	July 11, 1853	488	.....do.....		.....	.....	.....
Total .....	.....	.....	.....	4,556,628	.....	.....	4,556,628
<i>MICHIGAN.</i>							
Sault Ste. Marie	Aug. 22, 1853	491	May 18, 1853	} 2,718,379	.....	.....	2,718,379
Sault Ste. Marie	Sept. 5, 1853	491	.....do.....		.....	.....	.....
Sault Ste. Marie	Sept. 19, 1853	491	.....do.....		.....	.....	.....
Genesee	Aug. 2, 1853	491do.....		42,528	.....	.....	42,528
Total .....	.....	.....	.....	2,760,907	.....	.....	2,760,907
Alabama and Mississippi .....	.....	492	May 23, 1853	Reserve sections	in the Mobile and	Ohio railroad grant.	.....
Aggregate .....	.....	.....	.....	10,715,098	.....	.....	10,715,098

RECAPITULATION.

States.	Quantity originally proclaimed.	Quantity postponed.	Quantity under proclamation.
	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
Wisconsin	3,397,563	.....	3,397,563
Iowa	4,556,628	.....	4,556,628
Michigan	2,760,907	.....	2,760,907
Alabama and Mississippi	Reserve sections in	the Mobile and Ohio	railroad grant.
Aggregate	10,715,098	.....	10,715,098

E.—Statement showing the areas of the several land States and Territories, the amount of land disposed of by sale and otherwise, and the amount unsold and undisposed of on the 30th June, 1853.

States and Territories.	Areas of land States and Territories, exclusive of water.		Surveyed up to June 30, 1853.	Unsurveyed June 30, 1853.	Offered for sale up to June 30, 1853.	Sold up to June 30, 1853.	Donations and grants for schools, universities, &c.	Grants for deaf and dumb asylums.	Grants for internal improvements.	Grants for individuals and companies.
	Sq. miles.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Ohio	39,964	*25,576,960	16,770,984	.....	16,770,984	12,660,205.71	727,528	.....	1,243,001.77	32,141.24
Indiana	33,809	*21,637,760	21,487,760	.....	21,485,802	15,988,071.25	673,357	.....	1,609,861.61	843.44
Illinois	55,410	35,462,389	35,462,389	.....	35,454,262	16,307,192.47	1,001,795	.....	500,000.00	954.64
Missouri	65,037	41,623,680	41,450,589	173,091	41,186,654	10,973,537.25	1,222,179	.....	500,000.00	.....
Alabama	†50,043	†32,027,490	31,993,813	33,677	31,903,283	11,774,545.38	925,814	21,949.46	500,000.00	1,981.53
Mississippi	†37,337	†23,895,680	23,895,680	.....	23,892,577	†9,939,144.14	860,624	.....	500,000.00	15,965.31
Louisiana	41,346	26,461,440	22,791,338	3,670,102	19,231,161	3,615,109.49	832,124	.....	500,000.00	8,412.98
Michigan	56,243	35,995,520	34,861,075	1,134,445	31,354,803	9,455,449.13	1,113,477	.....	1,250,000.00	4,080.00
Arkansas	52,198	33,406,720	33,276,171	130,549	32,618,409	3,425,547.07	932,540	2,097.43	500,000.00	139,366.25
Florida	59,268	37,931,520	23,036,462	14,895,058	18,876,615	1,056,536.65	954,583	20,924.22	500,000.00	52,114.00
Iowa	50,914	32,584,960	25,670,859	6,914,101	21,439,698	2,932,020.66	951,224	.....	†1,385,078.22	18,226.86
Wisconsin	53,924	34,511,360	22,337,402	12,173,958	20,733,849	5,045,242.56	1,004,728	.....	929,736.00	5,705.82
California	188,981	120,947,840	.....	120,947,840	.....	.....	6,765,404	.....	500,000.00	.....
Minnesota Territory	141,839	90,776,960	1,222,288	89,554,672	1,330,707	24,754.59	5,089,244	.....	§340,000.00	.....
Oregon Territory	341,463	218,536,320	1,945,777	216,591,543	.....	.....	12,186,987	.....	.....	.....
New Mexico Territory	210,744	134,876,160	.....	134,876,160	.....	.....	7,493,120	.....	.....	.....
Utah Territory	187,923	120,270,720	.....	120,270,720	.....	.....	6,631,707	.....	.....	.....
Northwest Territory	528,725	338,384,000	.....	338,384,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Nebraska Territory	136,700	87,488,000	.....	87,488,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Indian Territory	187,171	119,789,440	.....	119,789,440	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	2,519,039	1,612,184,919	336,202,587	1,267,026,356	316,278,804	103,197,356.35	49,416,435	||44,971.11	10,757,677.60	279,792.07

* Includes reserves under deeds of cession.

† Exclusive of Chickasaw cession.

‡ Includes the estimated quantity of 560,000 acres of the Des Moines river grant, situated in this State, between the Raccoon fork and source of said river.

§ Is the estimated quantity of 340,000 acres of the Des Moines river grant, situate in this Territory, as above.

|| Not finally closed.

E—Continued.

States and Territories.	Grants for seats of government and public buildings.	Grants for military services.	Reserved for salines.	Reserved for benefit of Indians.	Reserved for companies, individuals, and corporations.	Confirmed private claims.	Swamp lands granted to States.	Railroad grants.	Total unsold and unappropriated, of offered and unoffered lands, June 30, 1853.
	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
Ohio		1,771,283.96	24,216	16,330.73	8,805,976.00	26,459.80	*25,640.71		244,196.08
Indiana	2,560	1,200,656.61	23,040	126,220.71	149,102.00	329,880.53	*1,286,827.44		246,339.41
Illinois	2,560	8,745,930.68	121,629	48,989.69		183,901.61	†1,833,412.94	2,595,053	4,115,969.97
Missouri	2,560	2,131,963.20	46,080	22,587.61		1,362,455.10	*2,178,716.43	460,800	22,722,801.41
Alabama	1,620	740,084.95	23,040	2,542,378.82		213,386.65	*2,595.51	230,400	15,049,693.70
Mississippi	1,280	155,383.21		277,612.04		688,083.25	*1,824,812.11	549,120	9,083,655.94
Louisiana		507,470.30				2,092,903.91	*9,771,275.51		9,134,143.81
Michigan	13,200	946,803.59	46,080	109,300.83		126,711.25	*6,788,124.72		16,142,293.48
Arkansas	10,600	1,627,433.05	46,080			118,451.12	*8,690,016.75	2,189,200	15,725,388.33
Florida	6,240	272,519.81		227.49	305.75	3,739,789.00	*2,065,605.49		29,262,674.59
Iowa	3,840	4,284,173.30	46,080	119,183.34			*71,958.05		22,773,175.57
Wisconsin	6,400	2,360,937.17	46,080	137,894.27		36,880.99	†1,259,269.00		23,678,486.19
California							No estimate or report.		113,682,436.00
Minnesota Territory		97,360.00							85,225,601.00
Oregon Territory									206,349,333.00
New Mexico Territory									127,383,040.00
Utah Territory									113,589,013.00
Northwest Territory									338,384,000.00
Nebraska Territory									87,428,000.00
Indian Territory									119,789,440.00
Total	50,860	24,841,979.83	422,325	3,400,725.53	8,955,383.75	8,923,903.21	35,798,254.66	6,024,573	1,360,070,681.89

* Reported by State authorities.

† Estimated.

F.

Statement of the area of the public lands, and the cost of purchase, extinguishing the Indian title, &c.

	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
Ohio, whole surface.....		25,576,960	
Deduct Virginia military.....	3,709,848		
Deduct Connecticut reserve.....	3,666,921		
Deduct Indian reserves, and lands to be sold for their benefit.....	289,721		
		<u>7,666,490</u>	17,910,470
Indiana, whole surface.....		21,637,760	
Deduct Clark's grant.....	150,000		
Deduct private claims and Indian reservations in fee.....	306,101		
		<u>456,101</u>	21,181,659
Illinois, whole surface.....		35,459,200	
Deduct private claims and Indian reservation in fee.....		237,891	
		<u>35,221,309</u>	35,221,309
Michigan, whole surface.....		35,995,520	
Deduct private claims, Indian reservation in fee, and lands to be sold for their benefit.....		280,284	
		<u>35,715,236</u>	35,715,236
Wisconsin, whole surface.....		34,511,360	
Deduct Indian reservation, private claims, Oneidas' lands, &c.....		174,775	
		<u>34,336,585</u>	34,336,585
Iowa, whole surface.....		32,584,960	
Deduct Indian reservation in fee, and private claims.....		6,400	
		<u>32,578,560</u>	32,578,560
Missouri, whole surface.....		43,123,200	
Deduct private claims.....		1,362,455	
		<u>41,760,745</u>	41,760,745
Arkansas, whole surface.....		33,406,720	
Deduct private claims.....		118,451	
		<u>33,288,269</u>	33,288,269
Louisiana, whole surface.....		29,715,840	
Deduct private claims.....		2,584,833	
		<u>27,131,007</u>	27,131,007
Mississippi, whole surface.....		30,174,080	
Deduct Indian reservation in fee, Chickasaw lands, and private claims.....		7,366,040	
		<u>22,808,040</u>	22,808,040
Alabama, whole surface.....		32,462,080	
Deduct Indian reservation in fee, Chickasaw lands, and private claims.....		2,755,765	
		<u>29,706,315</u>	29,706,315
Florida, whole surface.....		37,931,520	
Deduct private claims.....		1,939,789	
		<u>35,991,731</u>	35,991,731
Minnesota, whole surface.....		53,120,000	
Tennessee.....		3,353,824	
		<u>424,103,750</u>	424,103,750

Cost of the above.

Amount paid to France for Louisiana, in stock and money.....	\$15,000,000 00
Amount paid interest on said stock up to the time redeemable.....	8,529,353 43
Amount paid to Spain for the Floridas.....	5,000,000 00
Amount paid interest on stock given to Spain.....	1,489,768 66
Amount paid to Georgia in arms and money (for Alabama and Mississippi north of 31°).....	1,250,000 00

Amount paid for Yazoo claims under Georgia (for ditto)	\$4,282,151 12
Amount paid for extinguishing Indian title (the amount given in lands having been deducted in ascertaining the areas of the States) to January 1, 1850	35,589,566 00
Total	71,140,839 21

Interest paid on stock, not being a fair charge against the lands, no interest being allowed on the proceeds of these lands, it is deducted, viz:	
On stock for Louisiana	\$8,529,353 43
Florida	1,489,768 66
	<hr/>
	10,019,122 09
Total	61,121,717 12

Making an average cost, on this basis, of 14.41 cents per acre.

The whole amount of lands surveyed to January 1, 1849, per answer to Corwin's call, is	<i>Acres.</i> 304,376,348.03
Deduct Chickasaw lands in Mississippi, erroneously included	6,283,996.78
Amount	298,092,351.25
Add amount surveyed from January 1, 1849, to January, 1850	9,396,275.77
Aggregate	307,488,627.02
Aggregate cost of surveying, including salaries of surveyor general and clerks, and expenses attending the surveys	\$6,369,838 07

Making the average cost of surveying 2.07 cents per acre.

The cost of selling and managing the public domain per previous statement	\$6,341,398 59
The cost of selling and managing the public domain from June 30, 1845, to January 1, 1850	1,124,925 60
Aggregate	7,466,324 19

The whole amount of land sold to January 1, 1849, per answer to Corwin's call, was	<i>Acres.</i> 100,209,656.46
Deduct amount in Chickasaw cessions, erroneously included	3,717,650.29
Amount	96,492,006.17
Add amounts of grants, donations, military bounties, &c., all requiring to be managed by this office, (per same document)	39,227,054.48
Add, also, amount sold and disposed of in 1849, 4th quarter estimated	4,668,776.55
Total sold and managed	140,387,837.20

Making the average cost of selling and managing 5.32 cents per acre.

SUMMARY.

	<i>Per acre.</i>
Average cost of purchase and extinguishing Indian title....	14.41 cents.
Average cost of surveying	2.07 "
Average cost of selling and managing	5.32 "
Total average cost per acre	21.80 cents.

Aggregate amount received from the sale of public lands to January 1, 1849, per answer to Corwin's call	\$136,772,077 32
Deduct amount received from sale of Chickasaw lands, per same document, as these lands are not included in statements relative to public lands	3,176,059 44
	<hr/>
	133,596,017 88

Deduct, also, cost of purchasing the public domain..	\$61, 121, 717 12
Deduct cost of surveying the public domain.....	6, 369, 838 07
Deduct cost of selling and managing the public domain	7, 466, 324 19
	\$74, 957, 879 38
Add amount of purchase money received in 1849, 4th quarter partly estimated.....	58, 638, 138 50
	1, 743, 075 29
Aggregate actual net receipt from public lands over and above every cost. If to this be added the value, at \$1 25 per acre, of the lands granted for military services in the revolutionary, late, and Mexican wars, (4th quarter 1849 estimated,) it would be 11,814,425.83 acres—at \$1 25 per acre	60, 381, 213 79
	14, 768, 032 29
It would make the aggregate receipts.....	75, 149, 246 08
And if to this be added the value, at \$1 25 per acre, of the lands donated for schools, universities, asylums, and internal improvements, individuals and companies, seats of government and salines, 21,827,433.69 acres, at \$1 25.....	27, 234, 292 11
Making the aggregate	102, 433, 538 19
It will thus be perceived that the whole amount of public lands over which the land system has been extended, excluding, of course, those in Oregon, California, and New Mexico, is.....	<i>Acres.</i> 424, 103, 705
Of which there were surveyed to January 1, 1850.....	307, 488, 627
Leaving unsurveyed on that day the quantity of.....	116, 615, 123
Of the whole amount of public lands above mentioned.....	424, 103, 750
There were sold, or disposed of, as already shown.....	140, 387, 837
Leaving a balance unsold and undisposed of, of.....	283, 715, 713
Of which there are still unsurveyed, as above shown.....	116, 615, 123
Making the aggregate of surveyed lands unsold and unappropriated.....	167, 100, 590
The surveyed lands remaining unsold and unappropriated will involve no further cost to the government, except the charge for selling and managing—that is, 167, 100, 590 acres, at 5.32 cents per acre.....	\$8, 889, 751 39
Those which remain unsurveyed will involve the costs of surveying, selling, and managing—that is, 5.32 cents and 2.07 each—116,615,123 acres, at 7.39 cents.....	8, 617, 857 59
Making the total cost to government for surveying and managing the unsold lands	17, 507, 608 98
These unsold lands, amounting, as above stated, to 283,715,713 acres, at \$1 25.....	354, 644, 641 25
Making the net profit to the government from these lands equal to.....	337, 137, 032 27
To which add the net cash profit from the lands sold.....	60, 381, 213 79
And it will make an aggregate net profit from the lands of.....	397, 518, 246 06
If to this amount be added the value, at \$1 25 per acre, of the lands disposed of in military bounties.....	14, 768, 032 29
And the value, at the same rate, of those granted and donated.....	27, 234, 292 11
It will make the aggregate of.....	439, 570, 570 46

which the government has derived, or will derive, from the public lands, if the present system is perpetuated.

G.

Estimate of appropriations required for the office of the Commissioner of the General Land Office for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1855, in addition to the balances of former appropriations.

Object of appropriation.	Amount.
For compensation of the Commissioner, Recorder, three principal clerks, draughtsman and assistant draughtsman, messengers, assistant messengers, and packers, authorized by act of July 4, 1836, (Little & Brown, vol. 5, p. 107,) the compensation of the assistant messengers and packers increased by act of 30th September, 1850, to \$500 each, (Little & Brown, vol. 9, p. 527).	\$17,000
For compensation of chief clerk, and clerks in the four classes, authorized by the 3d section of the act of March 3, 1853, including the sum of \$200 allowed to the disbursing clerk by said act, in addition to his regular salary, (Little & Brown, 2d session 32d Congress, p. 211.)	126,100
For compensation of principal clerk of private land claims as superintendent of Chickasaw fund, authorized by act of March 3, 1851, (Little & Brown, vol. 9, p. 616)	250
<i>Contingent expenses.</i>	
For compensation of six laborers, at \$500 per annum each, act September 30, 1850, (Little & Brown, vol. 9, p. 527.)	3,000
For cash system and military patents, under laws prior to September 28, 1850; patent and other records, tract-books, and blank books, for this and the district land offices; binding plats, field-notes, &c.; stationery, office furniture, and repairs of same, and miscellaneous items	23,525
<i>Contingent expenses in addition, under swamp land act of September 28, 1850; military bounty acts of September 28, 1850, and March 22, 1852; and the act of August 31, 1852, "for the satisfaction of Virginia land warrants."</i>	
For parchment, patent records, letter and other records, binding abstracts and lists, engraving scrip, &c.	20,000

H.

Estimate of appropriations for the surveying department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1855.

Object of appropriation.	Amount.	Total.
For salaries of surveyors general and their clerks, in addition to the balances of former appropriations, viz:		
1. For compensation of the surveyor general northwest of the Ohio, per 10th section of the act of May 18, 1796, (Statutes at Large, vol. 1, page 464.).....	\$2,000	
2. For clerks in his office, per 1st section of the act of May 9, 1836, (Statutes at Large, vol. 5, page 26.).....	6,300	\$8,300
3. For compensation of the surveyor general of Illinois and Missouri, per 1st section of the act of April 3, 1818, (Statutes at Large, vol. 3, page 412.).....	2,000	
4. For clerks in his office, per 1st section of the act of May 9, 1836, (Statutes at Large, vol. 5, page 26.).....	3,820	5,820
5. For compensation of the surveyor general of Louisiana, per 5th section of the act of March 3, 1831, (Statutes at Large, vol. 4, page 492.).....	2,000	
6. For clerks in his office, per 1st section of the act of May 9, 1836, (Statutes at Large, vol. 5, page 26.).....	2,500	4,500
7. For compensation of the surveyor general of Florida, per 7th section of the act of March 2, 1833, (Statutes at Large, vol. 4, page 619.)..	2,000	
8. For clerks in his office, per 1st section of the act of May 9, 1836, (Statutes at Large, vol. 5, page 26.).....	3,500	5,500
9. For compensation of the surveyor general of Wisconsin and Iowa, per act of August 8, 1846, acts 1st session 29th Congress, (Statutes at Large, vol. 9, page 79.).....	2,000	
10. For clerks in his office, per same act.....	6,300	8,300
11. For compensation of surveyor general of Arkansas, per act of August 8, 1846, acts 1st session 29th Congress, (Statutes at Large, vol. 9, page 79.).....	2,000	
12. For clerks in his office, per same act.....	6,300	8,300
13. For compensation of the surveyor general of Oregon, per 11th section act of March 3, 1853, (Statutes at Large, page 244.).....	3,500	
14. For clerks in his office, per act of September 27, 1850, (Statutes at Large, page 111.).....	4,000	7,500
15. For compensation of the surveyor general of California, per 1st section of the act of March 3, 1851, (Statutes at Large, page 617.)....	4,500	
16. For clerks in his office, per act of March 3, 1853, (Statutes at Large, page 189.).....	14,000	18,500
17. For compensation of clerks in the offices of the surveyors general, (including those in California and Oregon,) to be apportioned to them according to the exigencies of the public service, and to be employed in transcribing field-notes of surveys for the purpose of preserving them at the seat of government.....		40,000
18. For salary of the recorder of land titles in Missouri, per act of March 2, 1805, (Statutes at Large, vol. 2, page 326,) paid prior to July 1, 1849, out of the surveying fund.....		500
Making an aggregate of.....		107,220

I.

Estimate of appropriations for the surveying department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1855.

Object of appropriation.	Amount.
1. For surveying public lands, &c., (exclusive of California and Oregon,) including island surveys in the interior, and all other special and difficult surveys demanding augmented rates, to be applied and apportioned to the several districts according to the exigencies of the public service, including expenses of selecting swamp lands, and the compensation and expenses to surveyor to locate private land claims in Louisiana, in addition to the unexpended balances of all former items of appropriation for same objects..	\$110,000
2. For continuing the examinations and corrections of old, imperfect, and defective surveys in the lower peninsula of Michigan, north of the third correction parallel, and east and west of the meridian, being forty-eight townships, at a rate not exceeding six dollars per mile.....	20,160
3. For the correction of erroneous and defective lines of the public and private surveys in Illinois and Missouri, at a rate not exceeding six dollars per mile.....	3,500
4. For preparing the unfinished records of public and private surveys, to be transferred to the State authorities, under provisions of the act of June 12, 1840, in those districts where the surveys are about being completed.	15,000
5. For resurveys and examinations of the surveys of the public lands in those States where the offices of the surveyors general have been, or shall be, closed, under the acts of June 12, 1840, and January 22, 1853, including \$2,000 for the salary of the clerk detailed to this special service in the General Land Office.....	5,000
6. For continuing the survey of the keys on the Florida coast, under the act of June 28, 1848.....	20,000
7. For continuing the survey of the islands off the coast of California, under the act of August 31, 1852.....	30,000
8. For office rent for the surveyor general of Oregon, fuel, books, stationery, and other incidental expenses.....	3,000
9. For surveying standard, parallel, and meridian lines over coast mountains, and along the coast, an estimated distance of 250 miles.....	5,000
10. For surveying township and subdivision lines, estimated at 4,920 miles, in Oregon Territory, at a rate not exceeding \$12 per mile, and including office work	65,490
11. For surveying township and subdivision lines, estimated at 4,920 miles, in Washington Territory, at a rate not exceeding \$12 per mile, and including office work	65,490
Aggregate, exclusive of California.....	342,640

NOTE.—Exclusive of the estimate for surveying in California, which will be presented, in connexion with the annual report of the surveyor general of that State, when in readiness for submission.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, November, 1853.

K.

ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE SURVEYORS GENERAL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF MICHIGAN.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Detroit, October 28, 1853.

SIR : In accordance with instructions issued from your office on the 28th July last, I have prepared, and herewith transmit, my annual report, in triplicate, with the accompanying papers marked A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, & I, which will serve to exhibit, in detail, the progress and condition of the office and field work in this district, since the date of the last annual report.

FIELD WORK.

As no estimates for the further prosecution of field-work in this district, for the past season, were made by my predecessor, excepting for the examination of surveys, little has been done more than to make such examinations, and to complete the unfinished contracts of the previous year.

In the upper peninsula seven townships were left unsurveyed, which have been re-contracted and surveyed the present season, the notes of which have not yet been received, but are daily expected. These surveys complete all the original surveys in this peninsula.

The sum of \$5,000 having been appropriated for the examination and correction of original surveys in the northern peninsula, I appointed for that service George H. Cannon, esq., a deputy who has ever been found to be energetic, capable and honest in the discharge of the duties with which he has been intrusted by this office. The district assigned to Mr. Cannon extended from range one to eighteen west. He was instructed to make such examinations, in each contract, of the original surveys within these limits, as would enable him to report upon the general accuracy and character of the work. He was more particularly instructed, however, to first direct his attention to the examination and correction of a district contracted for survey in 1851, by William Hemmingway. Mr. Hemmingway made his returns to the office in the usual form; but in the platting and inspection of his field-notes, defects were found of such a character, that explanations were required of him in reference to them; which not proving to be satisfactory, it was thought to be judicious to suspend his account, until the accuracy of his survey could be tested upon the ground. Orange Risdon, esq., one of the oldest and most experienced deputies of this office, was accordingly instructed to repair to the district for that pur-

pose. Mr. Risdon reached the field, and began and prosecuted, for a few days, his work, when, having the misfortune to lose the needle to his compass, he was compelled to relinquish it, the season being too far advanced to admit of his supplying his loss, and of returning to the field. Enough was elicited from Mr. Risdon's report, however, to more strongly confirm the suspicions that had been entertained of the imperfect, defective and fraudulent character of Mr. Hemmingway's survey. Under such circumstances it was thought proper to instruct Mr. Cannon to make a careful examination of the whole work, and if any portion should be found to be fraudulent to such an extent as to require a new or re-survey, to make such re-survey; but where found to be only defective in part, to supply such defects: in short, to do what might be necessary to render the whole survey perfect and complete. Mr. Cannon has just returned from the field, with the notes of the re-survey and correction of four of the townships. After completing the survey of four towns, the work was of such a complex and undecided character, that he considered it advisable to consult with this office before proceeding further. In the townships re-surveyed and corrected, portions of the lines were found to be run and established; other lines were run, but seemed never to have been corrected; while other portions of the survey were found to be entirely fraudulent, no lines ever having been run. In the corrections and re-survey, whenever the original lines were, in the main, found to be sufficiently accurate to be evident that their adoption would not be a source of difficulty hereafter, they were adopted, with such corrections as were necessary; it being thought best to avoid, as far as practicable, a multiplicity of marks and lines upon the ground, which might hereafter tend to produce annoyance and confusion. Examinations in the remaining townships in this district were made, to a sufficient extent to show that a re-survey and correction will be necessary; and Mr. Cannon will be instructed to again repair to the field as early in the spring as practicable, for that purpose, and to make the additional examinations that he has this season been compelled to omit. So much time was consumed in making the examinations in this district, that but little time was found in which to inspect other surveys. Partial examinations were made, however, in a district surveyed by Francis Coleman, and one surveyed by George E. Adair, in both of which the work was found to be very fairly done. In the lower peninsula ten townships, that were included in last season's contracts for re-survey, were left unfinished. These townships were re-contracted, and nine of them have been completed, and the field-notes of seven townships returned. It is expected that the survey of the remaining township, together with the field-notes not yet received, will be returned in a few weeks.

An experienced deputy was instructed, early last winter, to survey the unsurveyed islands in Saginaw bay. It was supposed that by undertaking this work in the winter season, some advantage would be derived by being able to reach the islands, and to connect them with the surveys upon the main land, by chaining upon the ice. There was no time, however, during the winter, that the ice was sufficiently strong to allow of such a survey. The work was consequently not com-

menced until spring, when it was undertaken, and completed within a few weeks. The plats of these islands have not yet been made, but I expect soon to be able to have them made out and forwarded to your office. Some of the islands are reported to be very valuable, and will, when offered for sale, undoubtedly bring a high price.

As the survey of unsurveyed islands in this State has recently been the subject of some correspondence with your office, it is not thought to be important to allude particularly to them in this report, it not being presumed that the course proposed by me to be adopted in their survey will be generally applicable to other districts.

An inspector of surveys was appointed for the purpose of making examinations of the original surveys in several districts situated north of the third correction line, and west of the meridian. The returns made to this office, as the result of such examinations, show that the surveys in all of the districts examined are, to some extent, defective, and in two of them—one surveyed by James H. Mullett, and the other by John Hodgson—so much so, that an entire re-survey will be necessary.

The district surveyed by James H. Mullett west of the meridian, and the districts surveyed by H. Brevoort, S. Sibley, and John Hodgson, north of the third correction line, and east of the meridian, in all estimated at forty-eight full townships, are now embraced in my estimates for re-surveys the coming season. The last three districts have also been examined to a sufficient extent to show the defective and fraudulent character of the old surveys.

The examinations in the four districts embraced in my present estimate represent, that in many of the townships no lines have ever been run. They also serve to show, as all examinations of defective survey in this State have ever done, that the field-notes of the original surveys are no index to the true and real character and value of the country of which they purport to give a faithful description. Instances are numerous where valuable agricultural and pine lands are found to exist, in place of what has been reported as dense, and, in some cases, impassable swamp or nearly worthless lands. This fact alone renders it a matter of importance to the government to take such steps as will enable the lumberman and the agriculturist to become not only better acquainted with the character and resources of the country, but to also afford them an opportunity to purchase, and to determine the position and location of their lands. Where valuable lands and timber have been represented as worthless swamps, it is only necessary for the government to make known the true character and value of such lands, and to offer the needed facilities for determining their location, to be amply repaid for all the expense they will incur in such a work, by the increased sales that they will thereby be enabled to make.

At no period within the history of this State, since the great land speculations of 1836, has there been such a demand for the public lands as at the present time. Large tracts of lands, in townships that have heretofore been re-surveyed, have been purchased, that in many instances could not have been, had the re-surveys not been made.

Some portions of the districts now estimated for re-survey are

becoming settled, and in one of the districts a considerable amount of land has been purchased. The settlers and purchasers have, from time to time, represented to this office that in many cases the public surveys could not be found, and that they were unable to identify and determine the location and boundaries of the lands they had purchased, and that the amount of sales by the government was seriously affected by the absence of, and worthless character of, the surveys. There are two districts, embracing seventeen townships, situated in the lower peninsula, not included in my present estimates, that it is known will require to be re-surveyed. There is also a district of eighteen townships, situated immediately south of the third correction line, and west of the meridian, that, it is feared, an examination will also show should be re-surveyed. It is in contemplation to make an examination of this district, with a view to ascertain the true character of the work. These districts, when re-surveyed, with perhaps a correctional survey in two or three others, will complete the re-surveys, so far as it is now known to be necessary to make them, in the lower peninsula.

In the upper peninsula the examinations of the surveys have been limited. It is believed, however, that nearly all the surveys made by S. W. Higgins are, in some respects, defective; but it is not thought that a re-survey will be required in more than one district. This district is situated near, and includes Grand island, and embraces about twelve full townships, several of which have been examined by two different deputies, both of whom report the work defective and fraudulent. It is important that a re-survey of this district should be made. It borders upon one of the best and most extensive natural inland harbors known upon the western lakes; and it is believed that there will, within a few years, be a good demand for lumbering and agricultural lands within it.

It is not supposed that there are other fraudulent surveys in the upper peninsula than those that have been mentioned; but a further prosecution of the examinations that have been commenced will best determine the question.

Agreeable to instructions from your office, dated October 14, 1852, a deputy surveyor was furnished with proper instructions and papers, and despatched to Sault St. Marie for the purpose of making a survey of the private land claims at that place, returns of which have been made to this office.

OFFICE WORK.

The accompanying statements will show the progress of the regular office work for the past year. Much miscellaneous work has been done, however, of which it may be proper to give a brief account. Copies of fifty-seven township plats have been furnished for the use of the deputies connected with this office, together with the necessary field-notes. A map of the private land claims at Sault St. Marie, and a copy of the field-notes of the claims, have been made. Eighty-two diagrams of portions of townships have been furnished the land offices. All of the plats and official papers belonging to the land office at Sault St. Marie have been properly arranged and prepared for the

binder. About two hundred and fifty official letters have been written and recorded.

Much time is also consumed in giving information, and exhibiting to persons who visit the office the original notes of the surveys of the public lands and the private claims. Owing to the increased value of, and the unusual demand for lands, the applications at this office for such information are constantly increasing.

It was expected that a considerable amount of the records and transcripts of field-notes which have been made would be ready for the binder before this, but the rejection of Mr. Hemmingway's survey, and the known defects in the surveys near Grand island, have prevented the work from being arranged in its proper order of townships and ranges. The corrections and re-surveys in Mr. Hemmingway's district will be completed early next season, which will admit of the arranging and binding of the work as far west as the Grand island district, or range eighteen, should none of the surveys in which it is intended to have examinations made next season be found defective.

In your letter of 28th July, I am requested to indicate the probable time when (consistently with the public interest,) the surveys and archives in this district will be in a condition to be surrendered to the authorities of the State of Michigan, in virtue of an act of Congress, approved June 12, 1840.

If such re-surveys, corrections, and examinations are made, as it is now believed the interest of the government and the public require, prior to the abolishment of this office, not less than five years will be required to perfect and complete the field and office work of this district. If no more field work should be undertaken, three years will probably be required to properly complete the office work in this office.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
LEANDER CHAPMAN,
Surveyor General.

JOHN WILSON, Esq.,
Commissioner General Land Office, Washington, D. C.

A.

Statement showing the condition of surveys and resurveys unfinished at the date of the last annual report, under instructions and contracts heretofore issued.

Name of deputy.	Date of contract and instructions.	Townships.	Character of surveys.	Remarks.
A. Millerd.....	Instructions, May, 1852.	43, 44, 45, 46, 47, and 48 north, range 22 west, and 43 north, range 23 west.	Subdivisions of upper peninsula.	Township 43 north, range 23 west, erroneously reported completed in last report. Surveys completed—see statement B.
M. M. Hall.....	Instructions, May, 1852.	43, 44, and 45 north, ranges 25 and 26 west, and 42 north, range 26 west.	Subdivisions of upper peninsula.	Township 44 north, range 26 west, erroneously reported completed in last report. Surveys completed—see statement B.
A. Merryweather ...	Instructions, May, 1852.	48 and 49 north, ranges 34 and 35 west.	Subdivisions of upper peninsula.	Surveys completed by F. Coleman—see statement B.
A. B. Wood.....	Instructions, May, 1852.	49 and 50 north, ranges 27, 28, and 29 west.	Subdivisions of upper peninsula.	Township 49 north, range 27 west, contracted anew. Surveys completed—see statement B.
W. L. Coffinberry..	Contract, April 22, 1852.	21 and 22 north, ranges 6, 7, and 8 west.	Resurveys	Townships 21 and 22 north, range 6 west, and township 22 north, range 7 west, returned. Contract extended for survey of balance; no return received; deputy still in the field.
T. Whelpley.....	Contract, April 30, 1852.	23 and 24 north, ranges 6 and 8 west; 23, 24, and 25 north, range 7 west.	Resurveys	Townships 23 and 24 north, range 6 west; townships 23 and 25 north, range 7 west; and township 24 north, range 8 west, contracted anew. Surveys completed and returns received—see statement B.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Detroit, October 28, 1853.

LEANDER CHAPMAN, Surveyor General.

B.

Statement of surveys made the present season under instructions and contracts heretofore issued, and under instructions issued the present season.

Name of deputy.	Date of contract and instructions.	Townships.	Character of survey.	Remarks.
Martin M. Hall	Instructions, April, 1853.	43 north, range 23 west; 44 north, range 26 west; and 49 north, range 27 west.	Subdivisions of upper peninsula.	Surveys completed: no returns received.
Francis Coleman.....	Contract, June 3, 1853.	48 and 49 north, ranges 34 and 35 west.....	Subdivisions of upper peninsula.	Surveys completed and returned.
Thomas Whelpley....	Contract, Mar. 25, 1853.	23 and 24 north, range 6 west; 23 and 25 north, range 7 west; and 24 north, range 8 west.	Resurveys	Surveys completed and returned.
W. L. Coffinberry....	Contract extended, Jan. 6, 1853.	21 north, ranges 7 and 8 west, and 22 north, ranges 6, 7, and 8 west.	Resurveys	Surveys probably completed; two townships returned.
George H. Cannon ...	Instructions, May 23, 1853.	46, 47, and 48 north, range 10 west, and 48 north, range 11 west.	Correctional surveys..	Surveys completed and returned; original surveys made by W. Hemmingway rejected; included in statement A of report of 1851.
George H. Cannon ...	Instructions, January 18, 1853.	Islands in Saginaw bay	Subdivision of islands.	Surveys completed and returned.
A. S. Wadsworth.....	Instructions, Aug. 13, 1851.	28 north, range 9 west	Resurvey of lower peninsula.	Completed and returned.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Detroit, October 28, 1853.

LEANDER CHAPMAN, *Surveyor General.*

C.

Statement of original plats made, and of copies transmitted to the General Land Office, since November 12, 1852, with date of transmission.

Township.	Range.	Land district.	Number of copies.			When sent to Commissioner.
			Original.	Commissioner.	Total.	
42 north	26 west	Lake Superior ..	1	1	2	Nov. 15, 1852
44 north.....	24 west	do	1	1	2	do
26 and 27 north.....	2 west	Saginaw	2	2	4	Nov. 20, 1852
25 and 26 north.....	4 west	Grand River	2	2	4	do
45 north.....	41 west	Lake Superior ..	1	1	2	Nov. 22, 1852
44 and 45 north.....	43 west	do	2	2	4	do
24 north.....	2 and 3 west ..	Saginaw & Grand River	2	2	4	Nov. 23, 1852
25 and 26 north.....	6 west	Grand River	2	2	4	Dec. 3, 1852
26 north.....	9 west	do	1	1	2	do
36 north.....	26 and 27 west ..	Lake Superior ..	2	2	4	Dec. 11, 1852
40 north.....	25, 26 and 27 west ..	do	3	3	6	Dec. 17, 1852
39 north.....	26 and 27 west ..	do	2	2	4	do
38 north.....	27 west	do	1	1	2	do
50 north.....	30 west	do	1	1	2	Dec. 22, 1852
49 north.....	31 west	do	1	1	2	do
47 and 48 north.....	32 west	do	2	2	4	do
27 north.....	11 west	Grand River	1	1	2	Dec. 23, 1852
49 north.....	15 west	Lake Superior ..	1	1	2	Dec. 24, 1852
21 north.....	6 west	Grand River	1	1	2	Jan. 15, 1853
44, 45, 46 and 47 north.....	37 west	Lake Superior ..	4	4	8	Jan. 22, 1853
23 north.....	3 west	Grand River	1	1	2	Jan. 25, 1853
22 north.....	4 west	do	1	1	2	do
21 north.....	5 west	do	1	1	2	do
47 and 48 north.....	36 west	Lake Superior ..	2	2	4	Jan. 27, 1853
26 north.....	8 west	Grand River	1	1	2	Jan. 31, 1853
22, 23, 25, 26 & 27 north.....	1 west	Saginaw	5	5	10	Feb. 9 and 10, 1853.
22 and 25 north.....	2 west	do	2	2	4	Feb. 9 and 10, 1853.
30 north.....	8 and 12 west ..	Grand River	2	2	4	Mar. 4, 1853
50 north.....	27 and 28 west ..	Lake Superior ..	2	2	4	Mar. 7, 1853
25, 26 and 27 north.....	3 west	Grand River	3	3	6	Mar. 29, 1853
24 and 27 north.....	4 west	do	2	2	4	do
24 north.....	7 west	do	1	1	2	April 11, 1853
23 north.....	8 west	do	1	1	2	do
28 north.....	9 west	do	1	1	2	April 12, 1853
30 north.....	11 west	do	1	1	2	do
41 and 42 north.....	25 west	Lake Superior ..	2	2	4	April 23, 1853
42 north.....	23 west	do	1	1	2	do
46 north.....	32 west	do	1	1	2	June 1, 1853
46, 47 and 48 north.....	33 west	do	3	3	6	do
43 and 45 north.....	24 west	do	2	2	4	June 10, 1853
25 and 26 north.....	5 west	Grand River	2	2	4	June 23, 1853
13, 14, 15 and 24 north.....	1 west	Saginaw	4	4	8	June 28 & 30 1853.
23 north.....	2 west	do	1	1	2	June 28, 1853
38 and 39 north.....	24 and 25 west ..	Lake Superior ..	2	2	4	July 16, 1853
22, 23, 24 and 25 north.....	10 west	Grand River	4	4	8	Aug. 18, 1853

Township.	Range.	Land district.	Number of copies.			When sent to Commission'r.
			Original.	Commissioner.	Total.	
36 and 49 north.....	28 west	Lake Superior...	2	2	4	Aug. 18 & Oct. 10, 1853.
49 and 50 north.....	29 west	do.....	2	2	4	Aug. 18, 1853
43 north.....	25 and 26 west ..	do.....	2	2	4	Aug. 20, 1853
49 north.....	30 west	do.....	1	1	2	Sept. 1, 1853
50 north.....	31 west	do.....	1	1	2	do
49 north.....	32 west	do.....	1	1	2	do
50 north.....	36 and 37 west ..	do.....	2	2	4	Sept. 2, 1853
24 and 27 north.....	5 west	Grand River	2	2	4	Sept. 9, 1853
27 north.....	6 west	do.....	1	1	2	do
44 and 47 north.....	23 west	Lake Superior...	2	2	4	Sept. 17, 1853
44 and 45 north.....	22 west	do.....	2	2	4	Sept. 21, 1853
16 and 17 north.....	1 west	Saginaw	2	2	4	Sept. 24, 1853
13 north.....	2 west	do.....	1	1	2	do
37 north.....	26 west	Lake Superior...	1	1	2	Oct. 10, 1853
26 north.....	10 west	Grand River	1	1	2	Not sent.
44 north.....	41 west	Lake Superior...	1	1	2	do
22 north.....	5 west	Grand River	1	1	2	do
41 and 42 north.....	24 west	Lake Superior...	2	2	4	do
41 and 44 north.....	26 west	do.....	2	2	4	do
49 north.....	33 west	do.....	1	1	2	do
46 and 47 north.....	34 west	do.....	2	2	4	do
47 north.....	35 west	do.....	1	1	2	do
42, 43, 46, 47 & 48 north	22 west	do.....	5	5	10	do
		Total	119	119	238	

LEANDER CHAPMAN,
Surveyor General.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Detroit, October 23, 1853.

D.

Statement of plats made and sent to the land offices in this district since November 12, 1852, with date of transmission.

Townships.	Ranges.	Land district.	No. of copies.	When sent.
				1853.
22, 23, 25, 26, and 27 north.....	1 west.....	Saginaw.....	5	May 3
11, 12, 22, 24, 25, and 26 north.....	2 west.....	do.....	6	do..
23, 24, and 26 north.....	3 west.....	Grand River..	3	do..
22, 25, and 26 north.....	4 west.....	do.....	3	do..
21 north.....	5 west.....	do.....	1	do..
21, 25, and 26, north.....	6 west.....	do.....	3	do..
24 north.....	7 west.....	do.....	1	do..
26 and 30 north.....	8 west.....	do.....	2	do..
26 north.....	9 west.....	do.....	1	do..
27 north.....	10 west.....	do.....	1	do..
30 north.....	12 west.....	do.....	1	do..
46 and 50 north.....	12 west.....	Lake Superior.	2	May 3
47 and 49 north.....	13 west.....	do.....	2	do..
47, 48, and 49 north.....	14 west.....	do.....	3	do..
47, 48, and 49 north.....	15 west.....	do.....	3	do..
44 north.....	24 west.....	do.....	1	do..
36 and 39 north.....	26 west.....	do.....	2	do..
36, 40, and 50 north.....	27 west.....	do.....	3	do..
43 north.....	33 west.....	do.....	1	do..
42, 43, 44, and 45 north.....	34 west.....	do.....	4	do..
42 north.....	35 west.....	do.....	1	do..
43, 44, 45, 47, and 48 north.....	36 west.....	do.....	5	do..
44 and 45 north.....	37 west.....	do.....	2	do..
44, 45, and 47 north.....	38 west.....	do.....	3	do..
44, 45, and 47 north.....	39 west.....	do.....	3	do..
45 and 46 north.....	40 west.....	do.....	2	do..
46 north.....	41 west.....	do.....	1	do..
44 and 45 north.....	42 west.....	do.....	2	do..
46 north.....	43 west.....	do.....	1	do..
45 north.....	44, 45, and 46 west.....	do.....	3	do..
8, 9, and 10 north.....	2 west.....	Grand River..	3	May 25
46 north.....	11 west.....	Lake Superior.	1	August 2
47 north.....	12 west.....	do.....	1	do..
48 and 50 north.....	13 west.....	do.....	2	do..
42 north.....	23 west.....	do.....	1	do..
45 north.....	24 west.....	do.....	1	do..
41 and 42 north.....	25 west.....	do.....	2	do..
42 north.....	26 west.....	do.....	1	do..
50 north.....	28 west.....	do.....	1	do..
50 north.....	30 west.....	do.....	1	do..
47 north.....	32 west.....	do.....	1	do..
41 and 42 north.....	33 west.....	do.....	2	do..
45 north.....	35 west.....	do.....	1	do..
42 north.....	36 west.....	do.....	1	do..
46 and 47 north.....	37 west.....	do.....	2	do..
43 north.....	39 west.....	do.....	1	do..
44 north.....	40 west.....	do.....	1	do..
45 north.....	41 west.....	do.....	1	do..
13 north.....	2 west.....	Saginaw.....	1	Not sent.
25 and 27 north.....	3 west.....	Grand River..	2	do..
24 and 27 north.....	4 west.....	do.....	2	do..
26 north.....	7 west.....	do.....	1	do..
23 north.....	8 west.....	do.....	1	do..
north.....	9 west.....	do.....	1	do..

D—Continued.

Townships	Ranges.	Land district.	No. of copies.	When sent.
30 north.....	11 west.....	Grand River..	1	1853.
31 north.....	12 west.....	do.....	1	do...
29 north.....	13 west.....	do.....	1	do...
40 north.....	24, 25, and 26 west..	Lake Superior.	3	do...
38 and 39 north.....	27 west.....	do.....	2	do...
49 north.....	31 west.....	do.....	1	do...
46 and 48 north.....	32 west.....	do.....	2	do...
48 north.....	33 west.....	do.....	1	do...
44 and 45 north.....	43 west.....	do.....	2	do...
			117	

LEANDER CHAPMAN,
Surveyor General.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Detroit, October 28, 1853.

E.

List of townships the field-notes of which have been recorded or transcribed since November 12, 1852.

Townships.	Range.	Situation.	Pages.	Remarks.
42 north.....	18 west...	} Upper peninsula..	695	Records.
49 and 50 north.....	12 west...			
47, 48, 49, and 50 north.....	13 west...			
47, 48, and 49 north.....	14 west...			
47, 48, and 49 north.....	15 west...			
46 north.....	43 west...	} Upper peninsula...	480	Records.
41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, and 48 north.....	30 west...			
38 north.....	1 and 2 east.	} Lower peninsula..	272	Records.
31, 32, and 33 north.....	3 east...			
41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, and 47 north..	1 west...	} Upper peninsula..	382	Transcripts.
41, 42, and 43 north.....	2 west...			
16 and 17 north.....	7 west...	} Lower peninsula.		
46, 47, and 48 north.....	27 west...			
41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, and 48 north.....	29 west...	} Upper peninsula..	963	Transcripts.
41 north.....	30 west...			
44, 45, 46, 47, and 48 north.....	31 west...	} Upper peninsula..	581	Transcripts.
42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, and 48 north..	30 west...			
41, 42, and 43 north.....	31 west...	} Upper peninsula..	310	Transcripts.
44, 45, 46, and 47 north.....	2 west...			
40, 41, 42, 43, 44, and 45 north....	3 west...	} Lower peninsula..	246	Transcripts— (re-surveys.)
21 north.....	9 and 10 west.			
21 and 22 north.....	11 and 12 west.	} Upper peninsula..	871	Transcripts.
46 and 47 north.....	4 west...			
41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 50, and 51 north.....	5 west...	} Upper peninsula..	1,021	Transcripts.
42, 43, and 44 north.....	6 west...			
49 and 50 north.....	8 west...	} Upper peninsula..	1,021	Transcripts.
43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, and 50 north.....	9 west...			
46 and 47 north.....	3 west...	} Upper peninsula..	1,021	Transcripts.
40, 41, 42, 43, 44, and 45 north....	4 west...			
45, 46, 47, and 48 north.....	6 west...	} Upper peninsula..	1,021	Transcripts.
47, 48, 49, and 50 north.....	7 west...			
42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, and 48 north..	8 west...	} Lower peninsula..	196	Transcripts.
42, 43, 44, and 45 north.....	10 west...			
18 north.....	7 west...	} Lower peninsula..	196	Transcripts.
16, 17, and 18 north.....	8 west...			
49, 50, and 51 north.....	6 west...	} Upper peninsula..	1,710	Transcripts
42, 43, 44, 45, and 46 north.....	7 west...			
41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, and 50 north.....	12 west...	} Upper peninsula..	1,710	Transcripts
41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, and 50 north.....	13 west...			
41, 42, 43, and 44 north.....	14 west...	} Upper peninsula..		
41, 42, 43, 44, 45, and 46 north....	11 west...			
Aggregate number of pages.....			7,727	
To which add making and copying lists of swamp lands granted to the State by act of April 28, 1850.....			689	
Making total number of pages.....			8,416	

F.

List of descriptive notes made since November 12, 1852, the date of the last annual report.

Townships.	Ranges.	Land districts.	No. of copies.
31, 32, and 33 N.....	1, 2, and 3 E....	Saginaw.....	9
31, 32, 33, and 34 N.....	1 and 2 W.....	do.....	8
31 and 32 N.....	3 W.....	Grand River.....	2
31 and 32 N.....	4 W.....	do.....	2
31 and 32 N.....	5 W.....	do.....	2
			23

LEANDER CHAPMAN,
Surveyor General

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Detroit, October 26, 1853.

100	100	100	100
101	101	101	101
102	102	102	102
103	103	103	103
104	104	104	104
105	105	105	105
106	106	106	106
107	107	107	107
108	108	108	108
109	109	109	109
110	110	110	110
111	111	111	111
112	112	112	112
113	113	113	113
114	114	114	114
115	115	115	115
116	116	116	116
117	117	117	117
118	118	118	118
119	119	119	119
120	120	120	120
121	121	121	121
122	122	122	122
123	123	123	123
124	124	124	124
125	125	125	125
126	126	126	126
127	127	127	127
128	128	128	128
129	129	129	129
130	130	130	130
131	131	131	131
132	132	132	132
133	133	133	133
134	134	134	134
135	135	135	135
136	136	136	136
137	137	137	137
138	138	138	138
139	139	139	139
140	140	140	140
141	141	141	141
142	142	142	142
143	143	143	143
144	144	144	144
145	145	145	145
146	146	146	146
147	147	147	147
148	148	148	148
149	149	149	149
150	150	150	150
151	151	151	151
152	152	152	152
153	153	153	153
154	154	154	154
155	155	155	155
156	156	156	156
157	157	157	157
158	158	158	158
159	159	159	159
160	160	160	160
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162	162	162	162
163	163	163	163
164	164	164	164
165	165	165	165
166	166	166	166
167	167	167	167
168	168	168	168
169	169	169	169
170	170	170	170
171	171	171	171
172	172	172	172
173	173	173	173
174	174	174	174
175	175	175	175
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178	178	178	178
179	179	179	179
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181	181	181	181
182	182	182	182
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184	184	184	184
185	185	185	185
186	186	186	186
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189	189	189	189
190	190	190	190
191	191	191	191
192	192	192	192
193	193	193	193
194	194	194	194
195	195	195	195
196	196	196	196
197	197	197	197
198	198	198	198
199	199	199	199
200	200	200	200

G.

The United States in account with *Leander Chapman*, surveyor general northwest of the Ohio.

Dr.	SALARY ACCOUNT.		Cr.		
1852. Dec. 31	To amount paid surveyor general and clerks for the 4th quarter, 1852.....	\$2,452 92	1852. Oct. 6 Dec. 30	By balance of account for 3d quarter, 1852..... By treasury draft (in part) No. 4429 on treasury Interior warrant No. 5050, for	\$136 14 2,375 00
1853. April 1	To amount paid surveyor general and clerks for the 1st quarter, 1853.....	2,433 22	1853. Mar. 29	By treasury draft (in part) No. 4907 on treasury Interior warrant No. 5495, for.....	2,375 00
July 1	To amount paid surveyor general and clerks for the 2d quarter, 1853.....	2,544 97	June 30	By treasury draft No. 5333 on treasury Interior warrant No. 5917, for	2,565 11
Sept. 30	To amount paid surveyor general and clerks for the 3d quarter, 1853.....	2,432 67	Sept. 29	By treasury draft (in part) No. 5707 on treasury Interior warrant No. 6304, for.....	2,475 00
	To amount to balance.....	62 47			
		9,926 25			9,926 25
				By balance in the hands of the surveyor general.....	62 47

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Detroit, October 28, 1853.

LEANDER CHAPMAN, Surveyor General.

H.

The United States in account with Leander Chapman, surveyor general northwest of the Ohio.

DR. DISBURSEMENT ACCOUNT. CR.

1852.						
Dec. 31	To amount of disbursements for the 4th quarter, 1852	\$201 56		1852.		
1853.				Oct. 6	By balance of account for 3d quarter, 1852.....	\$73 24
April 1	To amount of disbursements for the 1st quarter, 1853.	247 50		Dec. 30	By treasury draft (in part) No. 4429 on treasury Interior warrant No. 5050, for.....	300 00
July 1	To amount of disbursements for the 2d quarter, 1853.	331 49		1853.		
	To amount retained by Charles Noble, late surveyor general, by direction of Commissioner.....	102 89		Mar. 29	By treasury draft (in part) No. 4907 on treasury Interior warrant No. 5495, for.....	300 00
Oct. 1	To amount of disbursements for the 3d quarter, 1853.	250 26		June 30	By treasury draft No. 5319 on treasury Interior warrant No. 5904, for.....	400 00
	To amount to balance,	239 54		Sept. 29	By treasury draft (in part) No. 5707 on treasury Interior warrant No. 6304, for.....	300 00
		1,373 24				1,373 24
					By balance in the hands of the surveyor general.....	239 54

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Detroit, October 28, 1853.*

LEANDER CHAPMAN, *Surveyor General.*

I.

Estimate of appropriations required for the payment of the salary of the surveyor general northwest of the Ohio, and for the salaries of the clerks in his office, for the fiscal year ending on the 30th June, 1855, to wit :

For compensation of surveyor general, per 10th section of the act of 18th May, 1796.....	\$2,000 00
For compensation of clerks in his office, per 1st section of the act of 9th May, 1836.....	6,300 00
For compensation of clerks to be employed in transcribing field-notes for preservation at the seat of government	1,350 00
	9,650 00

Estimate of appropriations required for continuing the re-surveys in the lower peninsula of Michigan for the fiscal year ending on the 30th June, 1855, to wit :

For the re-survey of thirty-six townships north of the third correction line and east of the meridian, and twelve townships north of the third correction line and west of the meridian—in all, forty-eight townships, averaging seventy miles each, at a rate not exceeding \$6 per mile.....	20,160 00
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Estimate of appropriations required for the survey of such unsurveyed islands in Michigan as it may be desirable for the government to have surveyed prior to the abolishment of the surveyor general's office.....

1,200 00

Estimate of appropriations required to defray the incidental expenses of the surveyor general's office at Detroit, for the fiscal year ending on the 30th June, 1855, to wit :

For stationery, binding, printing, and postage	500 00
For office rent and fuel	575 00
For services of messenger	120 00

1,195 00

LEANDER CHAPMAN,
Surveyor General.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Detroit, October 28, 1853.

REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL FOR ILLINOIS AND MISSOURI.

OFFICE OF SURVEYOR GENERAL FOR ILLINOIS AND MISSOURI,
St. Louis, October 28, 1853.

SIR: In compliance with your instructions of the 28th July last, I have prepared, and now have the honor to submit, the following report of the operations of this office since the 30th of October, 1852, the date of the last annual report from the surveyor general:

I.—RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF PUBLIC FUNDS.

The accompanying statement A exhibits, in detail, under the several appropriations made directly by Congress for the district, and the special apportionments allowed to it by your office, the financial operations of this office. The balance due the United States on the first of October, 1852, and the funds since received, amount to \$30,206 86. The expenditures up to the first of October, 1853, were \$28,653 75; leaving, at the latter date, a balance in favor of the United States of \$1,613 11. Recent payments have further reduced that balance to \$1,349 93, which is my present indebtedness to the government.

II.—SURVEYS OF PUBLIC LANDS IN ILLINOIS AND MISSOURI, AND RE-SURVEYS OF DEFECTIVE OR INCOMPLETE LINES.

The contracts of Messrs. Clark, Dunn, and Shields, for the survey of township 67 north, ranges 18 to 43 west, and the connections with the boundary line between the States of Missouri and Iowa, have been closed by the payment of the accounts of those deputies, and the transmission of the plats to your office and that of the register.

In the last annual report it was stated that the public surveys, from range 18 west eastward to the Des Moines river, were not connected with the new State line, run in the year 1850, under the decree of the Supreme Court of the United States; and the propriety of making those connections was suggested by the surveyor general for the following reasons, viz: 1st. The old mile-points established by Sullivan, in 1816, had not all been found by the deputy surveyors who connected the public surveys with the Indian line between that year and 1850. 2d. Such mile-points as had been reset by these deputies were not all, as well as Sullivan's, found in retracing the line in 1850; and, 3d. In this retracing, the new mile-points are set gradually westward from the old ones, as the line progresses east, because the new line is 11.80 chains longer than Sullivan's. This being the case, it is evident that the public surveys east of range 18 west are not connected with the State line; and nothing having been received relative to this subject during the past year, I again respectfully call your attention to it, and recommend that instructions directing me to have these connections completed be forwarded at an early day, so that the whole of the public surveys along the State line may be made to harmonize therewith.

A deputy was sent, last year, to connect the surveys in township 16 north, ranges 9, 10, 11, and 12 east of the 5th principal meridian, with the State line between Missouri and Arkansas, in pursuance of the instructions of the 14th of September, 1852; but he failed to execute the work intrusted to him. Since that time, the greater portion of the land

in those townships has been assigned to the State of Missouri, under the act of the 28th of September, 1850, donating swamp lands, &c. ; but, in my opinion, this fact should not prevent the completion of the connections suggested, even if the only result should be the furnishing of the materials for an accurate map of the State. I will, therefore, take measures to have this business attended to, unless otherwise instructed.

The re-survey of township 14 north, range 2 east of the 4th principal meridian, was executed by Aaron Snider, under instructions from this office, dated the 14th of October, 1852 ; and the re-survey of township 15 north, range 4 east of the 3d principal meridian, was executed by Isaac S. Baker, under like instructions, dated the 27th of the same month ; both being in conformity to the Commissioner's letter of the 19th of August, 1852. This work has been returned to this office, and approved.

On the first of September last, Aaron Snider, deputy surveyor, was detached to run the interior lines of township 24 north, range 16 east of the 5th principal meridian, which was still undivided. He is now in the field, and his returns are daily expected.

Under instructions, dated the 2d of September last, deputy surveyor Joseph Burnap regulated the lines of township 47 north, range 7 east of the 5th principal meridian. The work is returned, has been approved, and will be disposed of in a few days.

On the 7th of the same month I instructed F. W. Rohland, deputy surveyor, to retrace certain lines in township 47 north, ranges 1 and 2 east of the 5th principal meridian, which were defective, in not closing with the adjoining surveys. This work is not yet returned.

It having been reported that a large island in the Missouri, and belonging to this State, lying in townships 58 and 59 north, range 36 west, had not been surveyed, I had the lines of the public surveys extended through it by Levi Thatcher, deputy surveyor, and the business was disposed of by transmitting, on the 23d of September last, authenticated plats. It is called "Nodoway island."

And, finally, on the 15th of this month, an order for the re-survey of so much of the lines of townships 4 north, range 1 west, and 4 north, range 5 east of the 4th principal meridian, in Illinois, as are defective, was issued to Isaac S. Baker, under the authority given by your letters of the 19th of August and the 7th of September, 1852. The deputy is now in the field, and has been required to pursue strictly the instructions issued from your office for the guidance of the surveyor general in the re-survey and retracing of lines long established, and within which lands have been sold for a considerable period of time.

III.—SURVEYS OF PRIVATE LAND CLAIMS IN MISSOURI CONFIRMED BY THE ACT OF THE 4TH OF JULY, 1836.

During the year one claim was surveyed and paid for ; nine certificates of re-location, for valid interferences with lands previously disposed of, were issued ; twelve certificates of re-location were delivered to the claimants, or their legal representatives or agents ; four surveys were platted, described, and recorded ; and five statements, relative to

surveys—altogether included within former legal lines—were entered on the record.

Owing to the progression of this branch of the service towards completion, I made, in view of its final close, a complete investigation of all the claims confirmed by the first section of the act of the 4th of July, 1836, which are not yet decided, for the purpose of ascertaining—

1. The tracts the locations of which are plainly fixed by a former Spanish survey, or the survey of a settlement-right, under the act of 1805, and which, therefore, may now be retraced.

2. The tracts the location of which may now be clearly determined, but which are altogether within the lines of lands granted or sold by the government previous to the 4th of July, 1836.

3. The confirmed claims, which have indefinite locations, or are without location at all, because they had been conceded at large on the vacant lands of the “Royal domain of Spain,” which the surveyor general is forbidden to survey, under the opinion of the Attorney General of the United States, and the instructions from your office.

The claims under the first head will be surveyed, if it can be done justly, and after a due consideration of the time now elapsed since the confirmations of 1836, during which period innocent purchasers may have come into possession of lands within the lines of said claims, and improved them, with the praiseworthy intention of making them their permanent homes, and the inheritance of their children. Strict law, certainly, imposes the obligation to execute surveys in these cases; but the owners of the claims have been guilty of such *laches*, that, prior to their execution, they should be held to the most rigid proof. In regard to such of them as have been reserved by the registers, under the acts of 1811 and 1818, there can be no hesitation; in other cases, I will, unless otherwise instructed, act in accordance with the sentiments now expressed.

For the tracts under the second head, certificates of re-location will be issued to the claimants for the quantity confirmed upon their application, or the application of their legal representatives, or authorized agents. A brief statement of each claim embraced in the third class has been prepared, showing its character, and referring to the opinions and instructions precluding its survey. A copy of these statements, in the form of a pamphlet, will be transmitted for your consideration, and for the purpose of facilitating proceedings in the premises, if my information be correct that further legislation in regard to claims of this character is to be urged upon Congress during the coming session. I will also cause to be prepared and transmitted, in pursuance of the instructions of the 1st of November, 1848, an exhibit of all the claims confirmed by the act of 1836. There are yet remaining in the office thirty-eight certificates of relocation, which will be delivered to the claimants on application. As they seem, thus far, to be unaware of the existence of these certificates, I will endeavor to devise a judicious and safe method of bringing the fact to their knowledge; otherwise their rights may be sacrificed by the cupidity of speculators.

IV.—FIELD-NOTES OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SURVEYS.

Three volumes, containing the field-notes of the recent public surveys in both States, have been transcribed, and as soon as the returns are approved of, the few operations now in progress in this branch of the service,*——. They are copied for the purpose of having them transmitted to your office.

The transcript of the field-notes of private surveys in Missouri is completed, and two volumes of those of the Illinois private claims remain to be copied. When this is done, the volumes for both States will be forwarded.

V.—TOWNS AND VILLAGES.

1. *Surveys of out-boundary lines.*—By the act of the 13th of June, 1812, it is enacted, that the “rights, titles, and claims to town or village lots, out-lots, common-field lots, and commons, in, adjoining, and belonging to the several towns or villages of Portage des Sioux, St. Charles, St. Louis, St. Ferdinand, Village a Robert, Carondelet, Ste. Genevieve, New Madrid, New Bourbon, Little Prairie, and Arkansas, in the Territory of Missouri, which lots have been inhabited, cultivated, or possessed prior to the 20th day of December, 1803, shall be, and the same are hereby, confirmed to the inhabitants of the respective towns or villages, according to their several right or rights in common thereto;” and it is further provided that “it shall be the duty of the principal deputy surveyor for the said Territory, as soon as may be, to survey or cause to be surveyed and marked, (where the same has not already been done according to law,) the out-boundary lines of the said several towns or villages, so as to include the out-lots, common-field lots, and commons, thereto respectively belonging.”

It is certain that at the time of the passage of this act, there had been no survey of the out-boundaries of any of the towns or villages named in it; nor have I been able to find any prior law which authorized such surveys. I cannot, therefore, imagine why the words, “where the same has not already been done according to law,” were inserted, unless upon the mistaken supposition that these surveys had been theretofore authorized. It is greatly to be regretted that the deputy surveyor did not then proceed to execute these surveys in obedience to a legal requisition so imperative. The evidence was then clearer, and more accessible, than it has been at any subsequent period; and if the work had been then completed, it would have saved an infinite amount of difficulty and expense, and relieved the towns of obstacles to progress and improvement, which have hung like mill-stones about their necks up to the present time.

There is no positive and indisputable evidence in this office that the out-boundary lines of any of the towns mentioned in the act of 1812 have been surveyed, in pursuance of said act. In respect to all of them, except St. Louis and Carondelet, it has never been claimed by any one that they have been. There are in this office the field-notes of a survey of the

* Here, an accidental omission in the original.

commons of Carondelet, executed under the orders of Elias Rector, the then deputy surveyor. There is no date affixed to them; but I think it has been satisfactorily proved that the survey was made soon after the passage of, and in pursuance of the act of 1812. The surveyor general found the field-notes in this office prior to 1817. (*See a letter of Surveyor General Milburn to the Commissioner, of the 10th of April, 1840.*) On the 10th of February, 1834, Surveyor General Langham employed Joseph C. Brown to retrace the lines of this survey, and re-establish the corners. Whilst engaged in this work, the villagers solicited Mr. Brown to obtain authority to run the lines of the common-field also. In compliance with their request, he addressed a note to the surveyor general, asking authority to do so. The language of this note proves that there had been a prior survey. It is further proved by the fact that the surveyor general gave the authority requested, and informed Mr. Brown that the work would be paid for on the same terms that the previous retracing of the lines of the commons had been contracted for. Although the field-notes of this prior survey of the common-field have been lost, I believe it will be understood by our older citizens that they once existed; that the surveys of the commons and common-fields were executed under the orders of Rector, soon after the passage of the act of 1812; and that they were intended to have been made in pursuance of that act. In the field-notes returned by Brown, objects are alluded to as having been landmarks in a former survey. I believe that these lost notes were in this office in 1834; that Brown was furnished with a copy of them; and that they have since been lost, or destroyed. There is a plat of the survey of the commons approved by Surveyor General Langham; yet, although the survey of the common-field was made immediately thereafter, there is no plat of it approved by Mr. Langham. It is laid down, however, on the township plat of that period, and the individual surveys which have been made in it recognise its lines; and the surveys of those private claims were approved by Surveyor General Milburn on the 15th of December, 1840. On the 10th of April, 1850, a plat of this survey was placed of record by Surveyor General Clark, and he certifies that Brown was paid for making the survey—a fact which strongly indicates that it was approved by Langham. In view of all these facts—and many others might be adduced if space would allow of such a discussion—it is my opinion that the out-boundary lines of the village of Carondelet have been surveyed in conformity to law, and I will therefore act in accordance with this opinion, unless otherwise instructed.

There has never been an *actual survey* of the out-boundaries of St. Louis. Its corporate limits were definitely adjusted, for the first time, by a decree of the court of common pleas, in the year 1809. All the out-lots, common-field lots, and commons, were surveyed prior to the year 1836. I find on the files of this office, under date of the 15th of September, 1835, a contract made by Surveyor General Langham with Joseph C. Brown, for the survey of all the town lots, out-lots, and common-field lots, which were confirmed. This contract further stipulates for the “survey of the out-boundaries of the town, and of the several common-fields, *either in separate parcels or in one general survey, according as he may be instructed by said Langham.*” No other sub-

sequent instructions were given by Mr. Langham. Mr. Brown proceeded and executed a portion only of the surveys contracted for. No attempt was made to execute one general survey of out-boundaries. The surveys made were so separated by intermediate spaces, that they could not have been connected by this office, so as to form one continuous out-boundary line. The subject seems to have slumbered from that time until the year 1838. Then the board of directors for the public schools, organized in pursuance of an act of the general assembly, began to evince a proper interest in the reservation made for the benefit of education by the act of 1812. I find on file in this office a memorandum, in the handwriting of William Milburn, the surveyor general, and signed by him, under date of the 29th of April of that year, purporting to be a "designation of the out-boundary lines of the town of St. Louis, so as to enclose the out-lots, common-field lots, and commons, thereto belonging, according to the views of the board of school commissioners," &c. I infer, from this paper, that the board had called upon the surveyor general to have the out-boundary surveyed, and that this memorandum was made by him, to be taken into consideration prior to any definitive action on the subject. The line, as indicated by this memorandum, would have included the St. Louis common, the Barrier de Noyer, Cul de Sac, Grand Prairie, and St. Louis common-fields. It would also have included some other lots, exterior to their lines, which were claimed as out-lots. Mr. Milburn, it seems, was not inclined to act in haste, for I find nothing further on the files until the year 1840. On the 12th of August, of that year, he appointed Joseph C. Brown, a deputy, "to survey the north boundary of the town of St. Louis, as it stood incorporated on the 13th of June, 1812, and to connect it with the west boundary of the St. Louis common-field; and also to survey so much of the northwestern boundary of said town, as it stood incorporated at the time aforesaid, as may be necessary to enable him to connect with the north boundary of the St. Louis common." This survey was executed by said Brown on the succeeding day; and the field-notes were certified by him, and filed in this office, where they are still preserved. They have not been formally recorded and approved, over the signature of the surveyor general, as was the usual practice at that period. Nevertheless, they seem to have been acted upon by him. The next and the last thing I find of record, is a "PLAT and description of the survey of the OUT-BOUNDARY LINES of the TOWN (now city) of St. LOUIS, in the Territory (now STATE) of MISSOURI, as it stood incorporated on the 13th of June, 1812, including the out-lots, common-field lots, of the common-field of St. Louis, and the COMMONS thereto belonging, made in pursuance of the first section of the ACT OF CONGRESS approved the 13th of June, 1812, entitled "An act making further provision for the settlement of claims to land in the Territory of Missouri." The words above underscored for capitals are written on the face of the plat, in larger letters than the remainder of the caption. This plat was "examined and approved," on the 8th of December, 1840, by Mr. Milburn, and is so certified on its face, over his signature. The out-boundary, as indicated on this plat, includes the incorporated limits of the town as they were fixed in 1812, the St. Louis common-

field, and the St. Louis common. It excludes the Barrier de Noyer, the Cul de Sac, and the Grand Prairie common-fields.

The act of Congress seems to contemplate the survey of one continuous out-boundary line. The surveys of the Carondelet common-field, and commons, as I have shown, were but parts of one general survey, which distinguished these tracts from each other. It is true that Mr. Langham had authorized Brown to survey the out-boundary, either in one general survey, or in parts; but the latter failed to execute the work in either form. The only other survey executed, prior to the draughting of this plat, was the one connecting the corporation line with the St. Louis common-field, and the St. Louis common. There is nothing in this office indicating, nor have I any other means of ascertaining, for what reasons the surveyor general "examined and approved" a plat purporting to be "*the survey of the out-boundary lines*" made "*in pursuance*" of the act of Congress, when, as I have shown, no actual survey had been made, either continuously or in connected portions. Nor can I perceive for what reasons the line, as fixed by the plat, excludes the Barrier de Noyer, the Cul de Sac, and the Grand Prairie common-fields. They seem to me to be clearly within the purview of the act. I make no doubt, however, that he acted from such considerations as were satisfactory to his mind at the time. The structure of the caption of this plat is singular in another respect. It purports to be a survey of the out-boundaries of the town *as it stood incorporated* in 1812, and these incorporated boundaries are so surveyed as to include the out-lots, &c. By reference to the copy of it, transmitted to your office a short time since, you will find that the only portion of the line of the incorporation which forms a part of the supposed out-boundary survey is the portion connecting with the lines of the St. Louis common-field, and the commons, as retraced by Brown in 1840.

I have stated the facts as I have found them of record, or on the files in this office. I am already informed by a committee of the board of public schools that it is in contemplation to make an application to annul the plat as certified in 1840, and have the out-boundary line so run as to include the several common-fields excluded by it, and such other out-lots as are within the purview of the act of 1812. The question, at this time, presents an aspect very different from that presented originally. The fact that such a plat is of record, and so certified;—the lapse of time;—the change in the ownership of property;—and many other considerations, may be found to bear strongly against a new and continuous survey. It seems to me, therefore, that it would be an injudicious and imprudent step for me to prejudge such a question at this time. The value of the property involved in the issue is immense; intense interest is manifested by those claiming it; and I could not, if I desired, form and express an opinion, without a thorough examination of legal authorities, as well as a more mature consideration of the facts I have now stated.

It is very desirable that the out-boundaries of the other towns and villages named in the act should be definitely fixed by survey. Some of them are greatly in need of the vacant lots, for the support of schools. St. Charles has grown to be a city of respectable size; and Ste. Genevieve has become a commercial point of importance. The citizens of

the latter town have made numerous personal applications to me upon the subject, and I should, ere now, have had the survey executed, but for the difficulty of finding a competent deputy to perform the duty. The same difficulty presents itself in respect to the other towns. Since the passage of the act of 1812, nearly three-quarters of a mile in width, in front of the village of Ste. Genevieve, has been washed away by the river. This renders the survey more difficult than it will be for any other of the towns. The act requiring these surveys is imperative, and the duty is not dispensed with by the lapse of time. I shall, therefore, take measures, as early as practicable, to find competent surveyors, and have this work accurately executed.

2. *Assignments of school lands.*—The act of 1812 reserved, for the support of schools, all the vacant lots, out-lots, and common-field lots, in the villages therein mentioned; and, for the purpose of ascertaining within what limits the lots reserved were, the surveyor general was required to run the out-boundary lines of the towns. It also provided that the whole quantity reserved should not exceed one-twentieth of the quantity of land embraced within said out-boundary lines; but it failed to provide any method of distinguishing the vacant lots from those of private claimants, or any method of assigning the school lands, and rendering them available for the purposes of education. To remedy these defects, the act of the 26th of May, 1824, was enacted. The first section of that act made it *the duty* of those who owned or claimed lots, out-lots, and common-field lots, and whose claims had been confirmed by the act of 1812, on the ground that they had been inhabited, cultivated, or possessed, prior to the 20th of December, 1803, to proceed, within eighteen months, to identify said lots, by proving the fact of inhabitation, cultivation, or possession, and the boundaries and extent of their claims, before the recorder of land titles, so as to enable the surveyor general to distinguish the private from the vacant lots. It was also provided, that, at the expiration of said time, the recorder of land titles should furnish the surveyor general with a list of all the lots so proved up, and that the latter should thereupon proceed to survey, designate, and set apart to the towns and villages, so many of the remaining vacant lots as had not been previously reserved for military purposes, and not exceeding in quantity one-twentieth of all included within the out-boundary. The act seems to have proceeded upon the supposition that the surveyor general had performed the duty of surveying the out-boundaries, as enjoined upon him by the act of 1812.

Under these acts a number of perplexing legal questions arose relative to claims for school lands; and many of them were the fruits of the neglect of the surveyor general, in failing to fulfil the duties imposed upon him, and which were imperative in character. Nothing was done until he had been solicited, for years together; and when he did act, the first duty prescribed by the act, and upon the performance of which all its beneficial provisions depended, was evaded—I mean the out-boundary surveys; and the attempt was made to execute the details of the law without its performance. The consequences have been such as might have been anticipated. The advance in the value of property,—the rapid increase in population,—the numerous changes in ownership,—the construction of valuable improvements,—and other

auxiliary causes, have multiplied, indefinitely, 'embarrassments which might have been avoided by a prompt discharge of official duty. In the absence of out-boundary surveys, and of a decisive disposition to execute them, the Commissioner of the General Land Office, anxious to give to the cause of education the benefits designed by the acts of Congress, and believing that there was no danger of exceeding the quantity specified, instructed the surveyor general to proceed, upon application, to survey and set apart the vacant lots within the *corporate* limits of the towns, provided the quantity set apart should not exceed one-twentieth of the quantity embraced in those limits. This was a very beneficial temporary expedient for this city, but it left the questions relative to out-lots and common-field lots unsettled. Nevertheless, some of my predecessors, and, I believe, a majority of them, have not hesitated to make assignments of school land outside of the corporate limits of the towns and villages; assigning, as their reason therefor, that, in their opinion, there was no danger of exceeding the quantity specified by the acts of Congress. In this course I cannot concur. By the instructions of your office, I am required to make assignments *within* the corporate limits of such towns as were incorporated in 1812; and I am required by the law, and the instructions, before making assignments *outside* of corporate limits, or to towns which had none in 1812, to survey the out-boundary lines. I shall proceed to perform my duty, in conformity to these views, with as much energy and despatch as is practicable.

During the last year, only one application has been made for the survey, designation, and setting apart of school land. It was filed on the 3d of May, 1852, by Evans Casselberry, esq., as attorney-in-fact for the city of Carondelet, and for Louisa Franklin and Constance Shultz, the parties to whom the city council had deeded the land prayed to be set apart. It was for a tract in the common-field of that town, lying between survey No. 119 and survey No. 122. My predecessor, Mr. Clark, transmitted the application, the evidence, and the arguments, to you, on the 10th of December, 1852, and requested your decision thereupon. The case was returned by you, by letter, under date of the 12th of April, 1853, with instructions to give further notice, and receive more evidence, and then render a *decision* upon its merits, and transmit the result, and the reasons therefor, to your office. Your instructions were strictly pursued by my immediate predecessor and myself, and I rendered the required decision, and transmitted it to you on the 12th of August, 1853. The decision was, that the lot in question was a vacant lot, within the purview of the acts of 1812 and 1824; and, as such, should be surveyed, designated, and set apart, in conformity to law. By a communication dated the 8th of September following, you confirmed my decision, and gave me instructions how to proceed in executing it; and by another communication, of the 11th instant, you gave me further, and final, instructions. I have taken steps to have your instructions pursued, and will, as soon as practicable, have the lot designated and set apart in the usual form.

3. *Commons and common-fields.*—The commons of St. Louis were first surveyed by Mackey, in 1806. He acted under authority which had been derived from the Spanish government. Another survey was made by Joseph C. Brown, under instructions issued in the month of Novem-

ber of the year 1832. His field-notes are dated the 8th of May, 1833, and the plat and description the 13th of the same month and year. The lines fixed by this survey are the lines now recognised by this office in all its plats.

Under a contract dated the 31st of March, 1817, Brown surveyed the exterior lines of the common-field of St. Louis, the exterior lines of a portion of the Grand Prairie common-field, and the exterior lines of the Prairie des Noyers common-field. Under the same contract he also surveyed a few of the individual lots in the Cul de Sac, and in the south part of the Prairie des Noyers common-field.

Under instructions dated the 18th of September, 1826, Rene Paul surveyed the individual and vacant lots in the common-field of St. Louis, which adjoined the town. This survey was executed in September and October of that year.

Under a contract dated the 15th of September, 1835, Brown surveyed the lots within the town of St. Louis; the lots in the northern part of the Grand Prairie; those in the northern part of the Prairie des Noyers; and a portion of the lots in the Cul de Sac common-field; the remainder having been surveyed under the contract of 1817 before mentioned.

Under instructions dated the 9th of May, 1846, William Cozzens surveyed the southern portion of the Grand Prairie lots. His field-notes were returned on the 28th of December, 1850. To this survey many objections were filed by parties interested. Previous to a final approval or disapproval of it, the surveyor general deemed it prudent to collect the evidence *pro* and *con*, and transmit the whole case to you for instructions. Since my accession to office, you have returned the field-notes and all the documents to this office, with instructions to give notice, and take further evidence, in relation to each and all of the individual lots which are embraced in the survey, and which have been confirmed; and approve or disapprove of the survey made of each claim. In obedience to your instructions, I immediately published the notice, and fixed the 1st of November as the last day for receiving evidence. I shall now fix, by public notice, another period, within which arguments of counsel may be filed; at the expiration of which time I shall proceed to investigate the matter as early as practicable, and approve or disapprove each of the surveys, as instructed by you.

In the surveys of the commons and common-fields, I make no doubt that the lines are somewhat erroneous. Indeed there is but little doubt that the one called the "Cul de Sac" has been altogether misplaced. It should have been located upon the western portion of the Chouteau mill tract. But, as the lines are fixed, all those who could show valid claims in any of these fields have been provided for, save such as claim within the space covered by the surveys of Cozzens. When they are provided for by the approval of these, or the execution of new surveys, substantial justice will have been done to the original claimants. There will then be some unconfirmed claims, and a small piece of ground between the Cul de Sac and the Grand Prairie field, to be adjudicated upon between the government, the schools, and the claimants. Upon the whole, I am of opinion that any important change in the outlines of these commons and common-fields would work more injury, at this

late day, than can have been produced by any original error which may have occurred in their location. I give no opinion relative to amendments of individual surveys. Each of these must stand upon its own bottom, and be amended, or not, according to the facts of the particular case, and the legal and equitable principles applicable to them.

The circumstances attending the survey of the common, and the outlines of the common-field, of Carondelet, have already been stated and commented upon in this report. Under instructions dated the 15th of March, 1839, (subsequent to the incorporation of the town,) Joseph C. Brown surveyed the town lots, and the individual lots, in the common-field. The surveys were executed during the summer of that year.

Under an order from the old board of commissioners, Silas Bent surveyed the common-field of St. Ferdinand. His notes were dated in January, 1810.

Under the contract of March 31st, 1817, before alluded to, Joseph C. Brown surveyed, during the month of January, 1818, the commons of St. Ferdinand.

Under instructions dated the 5th of December, 1837, the town lots of St. Ferdinand were surveyed by Frederick Hyatt; and, under a contract dated the 6th of April, 1843, Brown retraced and made corrections of the lines run by Hyatt.

The commons of the village of Marais des Liards were surveyed by Joseph C. Brown in 1818, in pursuance of his contract of March, 1817.

The village lots were also surveyed by him in 1843, under a contract dated in April of that year.

There is no common belonging to the villages of Ste. Genevieve and New Bourbon. The common-fields have been thrice surveyed: first, by Brown, in 1840, under instructions of the 3d of September of that year; second, by William Milburn, in 1842, under instructions of the 10th of December of that year; and third, by Brown, in 1846 and 1847, under instructions of the 9th of December, 1846.

There are no commons or common-fields belonging to New Madrid. The town lots, and the only out-lots claimed, were surveyed by Brown in May, 1845, under his contract of the 6th of April, 1843.

All the lands within the purview of the acts of Congress, formerly claimed by the village of Little Prairie, have been washed away by the river. No survey was ever made of them.

Mine a Breton never owned any commons or common-fields. The town and out-lots were surveyed, first, by Samuel Cole, in 1835, under instructions dated in June of that year; and second, by Mason Frissel, under instructions of the 30th of October, 1837, and the 15th of September, 1846.

The town lots, commons, and a large portion of the common-field lots, of Portage des Sioux, were surveyed by Brown in 1845, under a contract of the 26th of April, 1843. The remainder of the common-fields, and some connecting lines, were surveyed by Burnap, recently, under instructions of the 23d of December last.

The common of St. Charles was originally surveyed by James

Mackey, a deputy of Antoine Soulard, in February, 1804, under a decree of the Lieut. Governor Delassus, of the 26th of February, 1801.

The exterior lines of the town of St. Charles, and of the several common-fields, were surveyed by Joseph Evans, under a contract of the 2d of January, 1817. With the exception of some field lots, which were confirmed by the old board, and located by him, he made no other surveys of the St. Charles lands. The land outside of the town and common-fields was by him subdivided and laid out into sections and fractional sections.

Thomas W. Cunningham, under instructions of the 21st of December, 1837, surveyed the common of St. Charles, pursuant to the confirmation thereof, made on the 13th of June, 1812, by retracing Mackey's lines. Mr. Cunningham then discovered that Evans had committed an error by locating some of his lines too far southeast, causing thereby the common-field to interfere with the lands of the common.

Under a contract of the 26th of April, 1843, Brown surveyed, during the autumn of 1844 and the spring of 1845, the individual town lots and common-field lots of St. Charles; made some alterations in Cunningham's lines of the common; and re-established, as he supposed, Evans's subdivision lines of the St. Charles lands.

Isaac Woods, under instructions of the 10th and 11th of August, 1848, executed, so far as was then possible, a complete correctional survey of the St. Charles lands. It having been discovered that Brown's subdivision lines varied considerably from those established by Evans, Woods was instructed to restore them, which he did as nearly as practicable. In doing so, he curtailed the depth of a large number of lots in the northeast part of the common-field, at their north-west ends. This occasioned renewed complaints. On the 12th of March, 1851, instructions were given to Arnold Krekel to have the lines of Brown again restored, in order to restore the lost ground to these curtailed tracts. Mr. Krekel failed to perform the task; and other instructions, to the same effect, were given to F. Mosberger and J. Indest, on the 9th of July, 1852, who repaired to the ground and re-established said lines and corners. The surveys, as they now stand, my predecessor has recommended shall be treated as a finality; and I cannot, at present, perceive any valid reason for differing with him in opinion.

4. *Surveys of individual lots in towns and villages of Missouri.*—One lot in the Cul de Sac of St. Louis was surveyed, and the survey recorded and approved. The plats and descriptions of the surveys of ten lots in St. Louis and five lots in St. Charles have been recorded; also the surveys of the lots in the village and common-field of the Portage des Sioux, which had been but partially made, were completed during the year, and properly connected with the public and private surveys of township 48 north, ranges 5 and 6 east. The examinations of the old records and archives, which are necessary to fix with certainty the locality of the lots in St. Louis, embrace, during the year, eleven blocks, from No. 34 to No. 44 inclusive. This work would have progressed more rapidly, but for the fact that the clerk engaged upon it is often detached, to perform duties equally important. In the reorganization which it is my purpose to make of the office, with a view to a more

efficient division of its labor, this branch of the service will receive the attention it deserves.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.

There have been made for the use of registers, to replace worn-out plats in their offices, one hundred and fifteen plats of townships and fractional townships; and copies of portions of thirty of them were prepared for your office. One hundred and forty-eight descriptive lists were made for registers. There were platted, described, and recorded sixty-five surveys of the Missouri general series. The accounts of the second, third, and fourth quarters of the year 1852, and first quarter of 1853, were recorded. A copy of the register of the private surveys in Missouri (general series) was made, the old one having become unserviceable from long and constant use. Two sets (both in triplicate) of the inventory of the office were made, in consequence of the changes which occurred in the surveyor-generalship. An elaborate report on the Nicolle and adjacent claims, in township 33 north, ranges 6 and 7 east, was, under instructions from your office, prepared and transmitted for your consideration. The correspondence of the office was very extensive, and covers about seven hundred and thirty pages of large letter paper. Those of your letters which contain instructions likely to be applicable in future were transferred to a separate volume, and, together with several ones of your predecessors, form a connexion with the instructions published in two octavo volumes in 1838. To all this must be added a considerable amount of current and daily work, of which no accurate statement can be given.

VII.—ESTIMATE OF THE FUNDS REQUIRED FOR THE OPERATIONS OF THE OFFICE DURING THE YEAR WHICH WILL END ON THE 30TH OF JUNE, 1855.

Accompanying statement B is a copy of my letter to you on the 22d of September, in compliance with your instructions of the 28th of July last, requiring the estimates of surveying public lands in this district, and also for the salaries of myself and clerks for the fiscal year ending 30th of June, 1855. Those estimates, which are classified under seven heads, present an aggregate of \$24,620. They have been submitted with a due regard to economy and the necessities of the service, and on that account I hope that their allowance by Congress will be recommended by you. Permit me to call your special attention to the fifth item, of \$1,500, for the completion of surveys of towns and villages in Missouri, named in the acts of 13th of June, 1812, and 26th of May, 1824. Last year a like amount was asked for, but refused, because it was thought that the balance remaining unexpended of former appropriations would be sufficient for the services of the current year. The sum now requested will be absolutely needed, in view of the contemplated general survey of the out-boundaries of said towns and villages, as a necessary preliminary step in carrying out the provisions of the acts referred to, relating to the donation of vacant lots in aid of education.

VIII.—SWAMP LANDS DONATED BY THE ACT OF 28TH SEPTEMBER, 1850.

It is deeply to be regretted that a system other than the one fixed upon had not been adopted, to carry out the provisions of the act of Congress donating the swamp and inundated lands in the States of Illinois and Missouri to those States, to enable them to provide for their reclamation. Had the land offices been closed, and had the surveyor general been empowered to employ competent agents to make the selections, I hazard little in saying that, if he had been a man of energy and decision of character, (as I believe he was,) the whole process might have been completed within the ensuing six months, and completed, too, without engendering conflicts of title, and a multitude of neighborhood quarrels. Even if the land offices had not been closed, a surveyor general with decided force of will could have then completed the work without comparative difficulty. I certainly found the work in a worse condition, when I came into the office, than if nothing whatever had been done; and yet, by a determined effort, I have finally closed it within less than six months from the day I took it in hand; and I feel a perfect assurance that the result is more equitable, accurate, and satisfactory, than it could have been under any arrangement I could have adopted involving further delay.

The two radical errors of the system as originally devised were, the failure to close the land offices, and calling upon the State authorities to furnish evidence of the locality and character of the lands donated by the act. These were further aggravated by a series of misconceptions and unskilful instructions. The general instructions of your predecessor to the surveyor general, under date of the 21st day of November, 1851, were enclosed by him to the Executives of the States; and from them the Executives drew instructions to the local or county agents. They were so wanting in clearness and perspicuity, that they were misapprehended in several material particulars; and, consequently, the local agents received instructions which greatly misled them. In three respects, especially, did this misapprehension operate fatally. It was inferred from the Commissioner's letter that, if the greater part of any legal subdivision, from forty-acre lots up to tracts of six hundred and forty acres, and even to whole townships, was swamp or inundated land, the whole of such legal subdivision came within the purview of the act; whereas the only legal subdivision contemplated was forty-acre lots. The local agents were induced to believe that their own affidavit, or that of any other one citizen, was sufficient to establish the character of the lands selected; and, lastly, a large number of the agents were permitted by the indefiniteness of the instructions to believe that bottom lands, which were inundated once in three or five years, were liable to be taken, and that high flat prairies, on which the water after a rain settled in puddles, were also subject to be reported. I point out these errors, because they were rendered abundantly manifest to me by a personal examination of all the reports of the local agents, and because they have resulted in the production of a myriad of conflicts of title between those who have entered lands, both prior and subsequent to the passage of the act, and the government or those who have or may purchase the title derived from the swamp act; for

it must not be overlooked, in this connexion, that the legislatures of the States have given the swamp lands to the counties, and that the latter have in many instances provided for their sale, without waiting to learn whether any of the lands selected by the State agents will be struck from the lists at this office or at yours.

I have not alluded to these errors in consequence of a wanton desire to cast censure on those who have preceded us in office, but because I foresee that serious dissatisfaction will be felt by the people of both States, and I am unwilling to be made responsible for a condition of things which I had no agency in producing, and which I could not, by possibility, have averted. For, whatever of evil has grown out of the system originally adopted for the selection of these lands, our predecessors under a former administration are fairly responsible, and I desire, for the sake of my own character, to preserve the facts, and place them of record in an official form.

After a careful examination of the returns of the local agents for the State of Missouri, I determined to return such of them as were found erroneous, with instructions for amendment. At the same time I addressed a letter to the governor, explaining the character of the errors, pointing out how they might be corrected, and requesting him to give instructions to the agents. The request was promptly complied with, and the reports, as amended, were received in due time. The board of directors of the Hannibal and St. Joseph railroad having represented to me, that, in consequence of the advance in value of the lands along the line of it, there was reason to believe that many tracts had been selected which were dry and fit for cultivation, I despatched an agent with instructions, and it is believed that his reports enabled this office to rectify the evil. In other parts of the State very little interest has been manifested, and from a number of the counties no reports have been made; consequently a rigid comparison with the field-notes, plats, &c., enabled me to correct substantially, the errors in the reports of the agents.

Reports had been received from nearly every county in the State of Illinois when I entered upon the duties of this office. The spirit of speculation, excited by the numerous railroads in progress or in contemplation, and the rapid advance in the value of real property, it was easy to perceive, had exercised a decisive influence in stimulating the agents to select every tract which could be supposed to be subject to the law. They were also misled by the instructions I have already commented upon. Consequently, a very slight comparison with the field-notes sufficed to prove that large quantities had been erroneously selected. I immediately determined, as a measure of economy, as well as with a view of saving time, to despatch agents into each district, furnished with plats, and instructions to ascertain, as far as practicable, the erroneous selections. Their reports were all received in due time, and acted upon at this office.

The accompanying statement C exhibits the number of acres assigned by this office to the State of Missouri, in each land district. The aggregate quantity is.....	Acres. 2,765,971.57
The accompanying statement D shows the number of acres assigned by this office to the State of Illinois, in each land district. The aggregate quantity is.....	2,370,635.28
Showing an aggregate in both States of.....	<u>5,136,606.85</u>
There was struck off from the lists of the State agents, in consequence of the reports of the agents deputed, by this office, to examine their selections, as follows, viz:	
In Illinois.....	220,410
In Missouri.....	2,500
Aggregate.....	<u>222,910</u>
And by this office, from the comparison of the lists of the State agents with the field-notes, plats, and other evidences on file, or of record, as follows, viz:	
In Illinois.....	533,780
In Missouri.....	372,385
Aggregate.....	<u>906,165</u>

This, with the above, gives a grand total of 1,129,075 acres; which, at the minimum price of \$1 25 per acre, will be a saving of \$1,411,343 75 to the United States.

IX.—RECORDS OF LAND TITLES TO BE TRANSFERRED TO THE STATES OF ILLINOIS AND MISSOURI, UNDER THE ACT OF 12TH JUNE, 1840.

There have been recorded, during the year, the field-notes of eight hundred and ninety-nine exterior lines of townships; those of the subdivisions of five hundred and one townships; and two hundred and ninety-eight plats of townships, of Missouri surveys.

In the instruction of the 28th of July last I am requested, in this report, "to indicate the probable time when the public surveys in your" (this) "district will be in condition to be surrendered to the authorities of the States of Illinois and Missouri, (consistently with the public interests;) in virtue of the provisions of the act of Congress approved June the 12th, 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, for abolishing land offices under certain circumstances, and for other purposes.'"

In reply to the inquiry as regards Missouri, I will state, that, taking into consideration the large amount of work yet to be done, under our

land laws, at large, and the records to be completed, to give effect to the above-mentioned act, I am of opinion that the records and other muniments of title can hardly be surrendered to the State authorities before the beginning of the year 1857, unless much larger appropriations are made, and greater forced employed.

The records of the field-notes and the plats of the surveys in Missouri are about half done. There yet remains to be completed, besides the work mentioned in other parts of this report, the following work, viz:

1. Surveys of the erroneous and defective lines which are detected in recording the plats of the old surveys, and which require operations on the ground, in order to construct properly the plats of those townships to which the erroneous lines belong. A considerable amount of this description of work is still needed.

2. The platting and describing of the surveys of individual lots in the towns and villages of Missouri. The localities which are not yet completed are—St. Louis, St. Charles, Ste. Genevieve, New Madrid, Portage des Sioux, Carondelet, and St. Ferdinand. In St. Louis and St. Charles this work will be very difficult, because of the confusion and uncertainty now prevailing relative to the proper locations of many of the tracts.

3. The platting and describing of the surveys of claims confirmed by the acts of 1805, 1807, 1814, and 1816, as well as those under the New Madrid act of 1815, which have not yet been returned to the recorder of land titles, for their ultimate disposition by patents.

4. The exhibits of all the private claims in Missouri prescribed by the instructions of the 1st day of November, 1848.

5. The examination of, and certificates to, a large number of township plats in Missouri, already bound in volumes, but which still need the authentication of the surveyor general.

These are the chief heads of business still remaining unfinished in this State. I have made no mention of a number of minor items of work, which the limits of this report preclude me from enumerating.

As regards Illinois, the records may, if required by you, be placed in a condition to be delivered to the State authorities within twelve or eighteen months. All the field-notes of the public and private surveys have been recorded, with the exception of about two hundred townships in the northern part of the State, which, having been laid off and subdivided at a comparatively recent period, were supposed to be plain enough. I would respectfully suggest the propriety of transcribing those field-notes, in order that Illinois may have a full and complete record of her land titles, such as the United States have given to other States, and as Missouri will receive. The cost, which I estimate at \$3,000, is inconsiderable; and I earnestly hope you will concur in this view, and instruct me accordingly.

Whilst on the topic of the final closing of this office, permit me to allude to a subject intimately connected with it. At an early day the office of the recorder of land titles is to be closed, too, and its archives will probably pass to this State, with those of the surveyor general. Those archives which are certainly our most important muniments of title, contain the books left in their languages by the French and Spanish governors of Upper Louisiana. They should be not only recorded, in

order to save the originals, but such as are in foreign languages should be accurately translated, before they are delivered to the State authorities. An appropriation of \$1,200 was made in 1852 for that purpose, but it will be insufficient. I am informed by the present recorder that it will require at least \$5,000 to have the work accurately and reliably done. This is a trifling sacrifice of means, in view of the solid benefits to be anticipated from its completion. It is a matter in which the people of this city, especially, feel a deep interest.

In conclusion, sir, permit me to call your attention to another subject, now agitating the public mind, and which may, ere long, require official action at your hands;—I mean the organization of Nebraska Territory. Should it be the pleasure of Congress to organize it at its coming session, I respectfully suggest to you the propriety of having it attached, for purposes of survey, to this land district. I have received numerous letters on this subject, from citizens of this State, and some also from the State of Illinois, calling my attention to its importance, and requesting me to make this suggestion to you. I have no hesitation in saying to you that, in my opinion, this office could enter into more efficient and reliable arrangements for the survey of that Territory, when organized, than could be consummated by a surveyor general stationed on the western border.

I have the honor to be, with high respect, your obedient servant,
JNO. LOUGHBOROUGH,
Surveyor General of Illinois and Missouri.

HON. JOHN WILSON,
Commissioner General Land Office, Washington, D. C.

A.

General statement of receipts and disbursements for the salary of the surveyor general for the district of Illinois and Missouri, and the salaries of his clerks, during the year ending September 30, 1853; and for payment of surveys of public lands and private land claims in Illinois and Missouri; and showing, also, the balance of public funds in the hands of the surveyor general.

A.—Appropriation of \$5,820 of the 31st of August, 1852, and same amount on the 3d of March, 1853, for compensation to the surveyor general and his clerks.

Cash received from the United States Treasurer during 4th quarter 1852.....	\$1,455 00	
Cash received from the United States Treasurer during 1st quarter 1853.....	1,455 00	
Cash received from the United States Treasurer during 2d quarter 1853.....	1,455 00	
		\$4,365 00
Expended during 4th quarter 1852.....	1,455 00	
Expended during 1st quarter 1853.....	1,455 00	
Expended during 2d quarter 1853.....	1,455 00	
		<u>4,365 00</u>

For the 3d quarter 1853, the account under this head (A) has been blended with that under head B, in compliance with the Commissioner's instruction of the 30th of August, 1853.—(See C of this statement.)

B.—Apportionments of \$4,000 made 2d of September, 1852, and \$4,000 under the 31st of May, 1853, for compensation to extra clerks, out of the appropriation of 31st of August, 1852, and 3d of March, 1853, for surveying the public lands.

Cash received during the 4th quarter 1852.....	\$1,800 00	
Cash received during the 1st quarter 1853.....	1,000 00	
Cash received during the 2d quarter 1853.....	1,800 00	
		\$3,800 00
Balance due the surveyor general 1st of October, 1852.....	199 47	
Expended during the 4th quarter 1852.....	1,012 25	
Expended during the 1st quarter 1853.....	1,486 59	
Expended during the 2d quarter 1853.....	768 16	
		<u>3,466 47</u>
Balance due the United States on the 1st of July, 1853.....		<u>333 53</u>

C.—Account under A and B above, during the 3d quarter 1853.

Balance due the United States on 1st of July, 1853.....	\$333 53	
Cash received during the quarter.....	2,455 00	
		\$2,788 53
Expended during the quarter.....	2,173 89	
		<u>\$614 64</u>

D.—Apportionments of \$9,500 made on the 2d of September, 1852, and \$9,500 made on the 31st of May, 1853, for recording land titles and meeting the incidental expenses of the surveyor general's office, out of the appropriations of 31st of August, 1852, and 3d of March, 1853, for surveying the public lands.

Balance due the United States on 1st of October, 1852.....	\$717 74	
Cash received during the 4th quarter 1852.....	2,375 00	
Cash received during the 1st quarter 1853.....	2,500 00	
Cash received during the 2d quarter 1853.....	3,625 00	
Cash received during the 3d quarter 1853.....	2,375 00	
		<u>\$11,592 74</u>
Amount carried forward.....	11,592 74	614 64

Amount brought forward.....	\$11,592 74	\$614 64
Expended during the 4th quarter 1852.....	\$3,317 65	
Expended during the 1st quarter 1853.....	2,862 08	
Expended during the 2d quarter 1853.....	2,144 06	
Expended during the 3d quarter 1853.....	2,588 58	
	<u>10,912 37</u>	

Balance due the United States on 1st of October, 1853..... 680 37

E.—Appropriation for the surveys of towns and villages in Missouri, named in the act of 13th of June, 1812, and 26th of May, 1824.

Balance due the United States on 1st of October, 1852...	\$579 55	
Cash received during the 1st quarter 1853.....	1,000 00	\$1,579 55
Expended during the 4th quarter 1852.....	245 86	
Expended during the 1st quarter 1853.....	74 28	
Expended during the 2d quarter 1853.....	260 66	
Expended during the 3d quarter 1853.....	38 75	
	<u>619 55</u>	

Balance due the United States on 1st of October, 1853..... 960 00

F.—Appropriation of \$17,500 of 3d of March, 1837, for completing surveys, &c., in Missouri, and surveys of private claims in Missouri, confirmed by the act of 4th of July, 1836.

Balance due the United States on 1st of October, 1852.....	\$1,162 86	
Expended during the 4th quarter 1852.....	\$28 63	
Expended during the 2d quarter 1853.....	20 65	
Expended during the 3d quarter 1853.....	79 60	
	<u>128 88</u>	

Balance due the United States on 1st of October, 1853..... 1,033 98

G.—Appropriation for the survey of erroneous and defective lines of the public and private surveys in Illinois and Missouri, at a rate not exceeding \$6 per mile.

Balance due the United States on 1st of October, 1852....	\$1,078 83	
Cash received in the 4th quarter 1852.....	500 00	
Cash received in the 2d quarter 1853.....	1,200 00	\$2,788 83
Expended during the 4th quarter 1852.....	1,237 88	
Expended during the 2d quarter 1853.....	653 12	
	<u>1,891 00</u>	

Balance due the United States on 1st of October, 1853..... 867 83

H.—Appropriation of \$1,694 47 of 31st of August, 1852, for additional compensation to certain deputy surveyors in Illinois and Missouri, of \$1 per mile on surveys executed by them.

Cash received from the United States Treasurer.....	\$448 47	
Expended during the 2d quarter 1853.....	443 59	

Balance due the United States on 1st of October, 1853..... 4 88

4,181 70

I.—Apportionments of \$3,000 made the 2d of September, 1852, and \$5,000 on the 31st of May, 1853, out of the appropriation of \$6,000 of the 31st of August, 1852, and that of \$14,000 of the 3d of March, 1853, for carrying into effect the act of 28th of September, 1850, granting swamp lands, &c.

Cash received during the 1st quarter 1853.....	\$1,000 00	
Cash received during the 2d quarter 1853.....	962 00	
Cash received during the 3d quarter 1853.....	122 41	
	<u>\$2,084 41</u>	

Amount carried forward..... 2,04 41 4,181 70

Amount brought forward.....		\$2,084 41	\$4,181 70
Expended during the 1st quarter 1853.....	\$489 00		
Expended during the 2d quarter 1853.....	827 93		
Expended during the 3d quarter 1853.....	3,336 07		
		<u>4,653 00</u>	
Balance due the surveyor general on 1st of October, 1853.....			<u>2,568 59</u>
Aggregate balance due the United States on the 1st of October, 1853.....			1,613 11
Paid since			<u>263 18</u>
Leaving an actual balance on this day of.....			<u><u>1,349 93</u></u>

JNO. LOUGHBOROUGH,
Surveyor General.

OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL,
St. Louis, October 29, 1853.

B.

OFFICE OF SURVEYOR GENERAL FOR ILLINOIS AND MISSOURI,
St. Louis, September 22, 1853.

SIR: In compliance with your instructions of the 28th of July last, I herewith submit the estimate of the funds required for the services of this district and office during the fiscal year 1854-'55, as follows, viz:

1. For the salary of the surveyor general.....	\$2,000 00
2. For salaries of clerks, as per act of May 9, 1836.....	3,820 00
3. For salary of additional clerks, to supply the deficiency of the regular appropriation under the 2d head.....	4,800 00
4. For the correction of erroneous and defective lines of the public and private surveys in Missouri, at \$6 per mile, including office-work.....	2,000 00
5. For completing the surveys of towns and villages, in Missouri, named in the acts of June 13, 1812, and May 26, 1824.....	1,500 00
6. For the incidental expenses of the office, binding of books, &c.....	2,500 00
7. For preparing the unfinished records of land titles in the States of Illinois and Missouri, pursuant to the act of the 12th June, 1840.....	8,000 00
Total.....	<u><u>24,620 00</u></u>

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

JNO. LOUGHBOROUGH,
Surveyor General.

HON. JOHN WILSON,
Commissioner General Land Office, Washington, D. C.

C.

Statement showing, in each land district in the State of Missouri, the number of acres of land returned by the surveyor general for Illinois and Missouri, to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, under the act of Congress of September 28, 1850, donating swamp and overflowed lands, &c.

Districts.	Acres.
Springfield	34, 974. 46
Saint Louis	11, 063. 14
Jackson	1, 848, 237. 80
Palmyra	63, 241. 94
Fayette	67, 996. 66
Plattsburg	312, 145. 46
Milan	197, 413. 04
Clinton	230, 899. 07
Total	2, 765, 971. 75

JNO. LOUGHBOROUGH,
Surveyor General.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
St. Louis, October 29, 1853.

D.

Statement showing in each land district in the State of Illinois the number of acres of land returned by the surveyor general for Illinois and Missouri to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, under the act of Congress of September 28, 1850, donating swamp and overflowed lands, &c.

Districts.	Acres.
Quincy	146, 816. 66
Shawneetown	508, 769. 46
Danville	476, 301. 01
Kaskaskia	113, 639. 15
Vandalia	215, 490. 73
Palestine	153, 558. 89
Chicago	124, 556. 47
Edwardsville	104, 477. 02
Dixon	369, 762. 63
Springfield	157, 263. 26
Total	2, 370, 635. 28

JNO. LOUGHBOROUGH,
Surveyor General.

OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL,
St. Louis, October 29, 1853.

REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF ARKANSAS.

SURVEYOR'S OFFICE, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS,

October 12, 1853.

SIR: I have the honor of submitting the following, with the accompanying diagram, marked A, and exhibits A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, and K, as a report of the condition of this office, and the progress made in the business thereof, since the date of last annual report:

FIELD WORK.

Statement A shows the condition of contracts not closed at the date of last annual report.

No. 1. R. W. Mecklin's contract of 1st October, 1844. This contract, it was supposed for several years, was not completed, but, in moving the office last May, the field-notes of the two fractional townships supposed to be unfinished, viz: fractional townships 1 and 2 north, range 33 west, were found.

No account being on file in this office for this work, and no claim set up, it will not be certified for payment until such is the case.

No. 2. Of the 324 miles $2\frac{8}{100}$ chains surveyed by C. Crosby, under his contract of 7th December, 1850, 205 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles were found, upon examination by Mr. Garretson, to be incorrect, and were re-surveyed by him, leaving 118 miles $56\frac{7}{100}$ chains correctly executed. The work found to have been correct amounts to \$485 13—part being at \$4 and part \$6 per mile—which deducted from the amount paid him as per voucher No. 2, third quarter 1851, shows a balance against him and his securities of \$114 96, which balance will, no doubt, be paid without suit.

No. 3 is John W. Garretson's contract of 22d October, 1851, which has been completed, except a few miles, that will be surveyed the present fall. The number of miles returned under this contract, but not yet paid for, because not all examined and approved, is 75. As soon as the part that remains to be surveyed is finished, the final account under this contract will be certified for adjustment.

No. 4. David F. Shall's contract of 30th March, 1852. Surveys all completed and contract closed; Mr. Shall having surveyed four townships, and Mr. P. B. Starbuck two, under his contract of the 9th December, 1852, the accounts for which have been adjusted at the department.

No. 5. John W. Garretson's contract of 9th April, 1852: embraces the townships originally in C. Crosby's contract of 7th December, 1850, as well what he had surveyed and been paid for, as that which remained to be executed under that contract; all of which have been surveyed, plats made, and payment adjusted at the department; and it also embraces 26 other townships of old surveys, containing fragments of lines requiring correction and re-survey, with the privilege allowed of re-surveying and correcting the whole of such townships if found necessary.

Mr. Garretson's examination of Mr. Crosby's surveys was complete

and thorough—every part of them was gone over; for examining the correct part of which he got no pay, and, in fact, makes no charge. Mr. G. deserves great credit for the manner in which he has acquitted himself of this job.

Of the 26 other townships, (being all old work,) he has re-surveyed and made corrections in 15, in nearly all of which he found the old work so fraudulent, defective, or erroneous, as to require the entire retracement of each township. The consequence is, that it has taken a much longer time to complete the contract than was allowed; it, therefore, has been extended. The total number of miles already surveyed under this contract amounts to 1,421, of which 600 $\frac{1}{2}$ have been paid for; leaving 821 miles returned yet to be paid for, about 600 miles of which have been examined and approved, and the plats made. As soon as the remaining 221 miles are examined and approved, the account, with the plats, will be forwarded for payment.

It is supposed, judging by what has been done, that the other 11 townships, mentioned in this contract, will also require to be entirely retraced and re-surveyed throughout. To complete these will take Mr. Garretson until next spring. He is now in the field prosecuting his surveys with his usual untiring industry.

Statement B shows the completion of contracts entered into since the date of the last annual report.

No. 1 is Paul B. Starbuck's contract of 9th December, 1852, which, doubtless, will all be completed within his contract term, there being only three townships to return, two of which are already, probably, surveyed, and the other progressing.

No. 2, D. W. Lowe's contract of 9th March, 1853. There remain two townships to be returned under this contract, which will probably be done within the time allowed, as the deputy is at work.

Nos. 3 and 4 are contracts recently entered into with Mr. G. McPherson on the 5th July, 1853, and the Messrs. Martin on the 28th September, 1853, for retracing and re-surveying; four townships in the former, and 16 in the latter contract.

No. 5 is special instructions to James M. Danley, of the 25th December, 1852, to survey an island in the Arkansas river, which has been completed and payment adjusted at the department.

A recapitulation of exhibits A and B presents these facts: that of the 83 townships now under contract for retracement and re-survey, 19 have been completed and paid for; 27 have been completed, but the returns thereof not all examined and approved; leaving 37 to be executed and returned.

There are 70 townships in the State, heretofore estimated for, yet to be put under contract for retracement and re-survey, on account of fraud and errors, and obliteration of corners; in addition to which there are nine others, (see exhibit I) that, for the same causes, will require re-survey.

In letting this work, care will be observed to procure the services of good and faithful surveyors; and it will be my endeavor to keep the number now in the field constantly employed until all those townships are completed; to pay for which it is believed that existing appropriations will be amply sufficient. When other townships are properly re-

ported as being in a condition rendering a retracement and re-survey necessary, estimates therefor will be prepared in due season and forwarded to your office.

In this connexion, I deem it my duty to report the condition of the surveys executed by Charles H. Pelham, esq., who, for many years, enjoyed the confidence of the several surveyors general of this district, as a faithful, skilful, and honest deputy, and has had the benefit of large and lucrative contracts, at various times, during the last twenty-five or thirty years. In contracts of John W. Garretson and David W. Lowe, esqs., deputy surveyors, were included fragments of incomplete or erroneous surveys in, or adjacent to, townships surveyed and returned by Charles H. Pelham, deputy surveyor, both of which gentlemen report the fact that most of the work executed by Pelham, as far as coming under their observation, was erroneous; and in some instances his returns are shown, by examinations on the ground, to have been false, and in others fraudulent.

David W. Lowe, esq., under instructions from this office, examined fractional township 22 north, range 6 east, (west of Black river,) executed and returned by Pelham in 1845, and found that not a corner had been established, or a line blazed, nor was there any trace of a survey in any part of the fractional township. The same state of facts was found by John W. Garretson, deputy surveyor, to exist in part of township 12 north, range 5 west, north of White river. Mr. G. examined and re-surveyed said township, under contract of 9th of April, 1852. Pelham, in his field-notes of township 12 north, range 4 west, reports the corners for fractional sections on the north side of White river, due north of those on the south side of the river.

Mr. Garretson finds, in his resurvey, that they are from fifteen to twenty-three chains east. Mr. Pelham reports the east boundary of township 12 north, range 4 west, as a straight line. Mr. Garretson finds, where the line crosses White river, an offset of more than twenty chains, and on the north side of the river, near to it, he finds no trace of a line.

A similar false return was made by Pelham in his correction of the survey of township 19 north, range 20 west, executed originally by Isaac Murphy, deputy surveyor. Pelham, in notes of south boundary of township 19 north, range 20 west, represents the south side of section 31 as near 80 chains; Murphy found the western tier of sections in township 19 north, range 20 west, only about 70 chains wide. Subsequently, Mr. Pelham was charged with the duty of correcting Murphy's work, and in his notes reports the western tier of sections wide enough to agree with the south boundary run by himself, and that Mr. Murphy had established no corners on the range line. Pelham's notes not being satisfactory, David W. Lowe, deputy surveyor, was directed to examine the error in question and reported that the south boundary, as run by Pelham, was only about 70 chains, and that the western tier of sections of township 19 north, range 20 west, agreed therewith; and that he found, on personal examination, the corners of both Pelham and Murphy on the range line, at the same point, and bearing-trees of both deputies standing and agreeing in all particulars with their field-notes returned.

The extent of the fraudulent and erroneous work returned by Mr. Pelham cannot be conjectured, but must be very considerable, as he has been the recipient of heavy contracts from this office during its existence, and previously, from the surveyor's office at St. Louis; nor does it appear that such frauds have been perpetrated at any particular date, but at various times, whilst he enjoyed the confidence of the surveyors general, as the errors and frauds herein specified are in his returns dated from 1825 to 1848, a portion of which were examined and approved at St. Louis before the United States surveyor's office was established here.

It is to be regretted that the returns of surveyors have not been acted upon of late with that degree of promptness usually practised by this office. This is attributable to the tedious and all-engrossing nature of the business growing out of the swamp land grant, which, aside from the labor imposed by it, of preparing the diagrams and lists, has superinduced upon the office a semi-official correspondence, which requires much time and labor to attend to. It must not be understood by this that the regular routine of business has been neglected: on the contrary, that has always been kept up.

OFFICE WORK.

Plats.

C is a list of plats re-calculated and re-constructed from the original field-notes, to supply the place of defaced and unauthenticated plats now on file in this and the register's offices—in all 30 plats. D is a list of plats made from the field-notes of the recent re-surveys, numbering 80 copies.

Thus, according to C and D, it will be seen that 110 plats have been constructed in this office since the date of the last annual report.

Transcripts of field-notes.

E is a list of 12 subdivisions of townships and 21 boundaries, the field-notes of which have been transcribed for transmission to the General Land Office since 30th October, 1852.

F is a list of townships and boundaries, the field-notes of which have been transcribed for transmission to the General Land Office, but have not yet been sent.

Record of field-notes.

Diagram A shows that 354 townships and 73 boundaries have been recorded, and all compared, for use and preservation at this office, since the 30th of October, 1852. The utmost pains are taken to make this a perfect record. No interlineations, and as few erasures as possible, are allowed.

Descriptive lists.

H is a list of descriptions of townships, showing that 21 have been made from the field-notes of retracement and re-survey, and 75 re-

copied, of the 300 reported by my predecessor, in his annual report for the year 1849, as unfit for use.

In addition to what may be gathered in the foregoing, as to the amount of labor performed by the clerical force of this office during the last year, much of their time and attention has been bestowed as follows: To the preparation of sketches, and copies of field-notes, for deputies about to take the field; drawing contracts and instructions to surveyors; examining, protracting and calculating re-traced and re-surveyed townships, upon which there is much more labor than in cases of original surveys; re-calculating township plats for re-construction; making diagrams of townships for the selection of swamp lands, and preparing and copying lists of the same for the use of this office and the general and local land offices; recording letters received at and sent from this office; making out accounts; and constructing subdivisional diagrams.

SWAMP LANDS.

This subject has occupied my most serious and deliberate attention, from the very commencement of my term of office; and, from the spirit and tenor of the written instructions and published opinions of the department upon the swamp land act, it seems that very liberal and enlarged views were entertained in regard to that act. I was particularly struck with the principles promulged in the last annual report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, in regard to the Louisiana swamp lands. In that State, not only whole districts of country were recommended to be confirmed, as coming within the grant made to her under act of Congress of 3d March, 1849, but likewise all the balance of the public lands within her borders; and the reasons given for this recommendation I thought were just and unanswerable, and would apply with almost equal force to the swamp and overflowed land regions of this State. It is a well known fact, that the main and almost only cause that has heretofore operated to retard and prevent the settlement and improvement of the lands in this State is the fact of their low, wet, swampy, overflowed, and consequently unhealthy character. This State is behind all her sisters of the same age in population and wealth; and here is the cause.

Thus regarding the matter, and falling into the enlarged views apparently entertained by the department, and believing that the good of the State is the good of the nation, I was induced, in my communication to you of the 11th April last, to recommend the confirmation to this State of her selections of land under the act of 28th September, 1850; which recommendation I now renew. I know that in many cases these selections are contradicted or controverted by the field-notes; but in a great many more the field-notes are entirely silent, or so vague and ambiguous on this point as to be tantamount to no description at all. Suppose the field-notes do controvert the State selections: that should not be final, for the State authorities refused to accept them as the basis in selecting—as it appears did also the States of Missouri and Illinois, the law not ruling them down to that or any other mode of making selections; and, even were this not the case, it

is a fact that is almost everywhere admitted, throughout the correspondence on this subject between this and the General Land Office, that the field-notes are not the best evidence; for, as the Commissioner in his last annual report very correctly remarks, the "lands were surveyed in the driest seasons, or when the ground was frozen, and hence the field-notes do not indicate all that were of the character embraced by the grant."

The great mass of the lands selected by the State agents lies in the "bottoms," or valleys, of the Mississippi, St. Francis, White, Arkansas, Saline, Ouachita, Little Missouri, Little, and Red rivers, as designated by the shaded lines on the accompanying diagram of the State. These regions are almost as notoriously swampy and overflowed as Louisiana; and the evidence produced by the State that they are such is just the kind as that required of them by the surveyor general, and exactly according to the forms prescribed by him. With what propriety, then, I could impeach their credibility, without counter testimony of a more positive character than is presented by the field-notes, I cannot determine.

By reference to exhibit G, it will be seen that the total quantity of lands selected as swamp and overflowed, in the State of Arkansas, by her agents, and sustained as such by the field-notes, including additional selections by the field-notes, is.....	Acres. 6,593,625.32
Deduct lands included in the above, which had been disposed of by the United States prior to 28th September, 1850, estimated at.....	1,307,110.00
Leaves total amount of unobjectionable selections.....	5,286,515.32
Add lands selected as swamp by the State, but not sustained as such under the rules adopted by this office to govern selections by the field-notes.....	2,448,292.99
You have total claimed by the State, under the grant, up to this date.....	<u>7,734,808.31</u>

All the lands in the State that, *according to the field-notes*, are unequivocally of the character embraced by the grant, were reported by my predecessor for confirmation. The State agents, acting independently of those selections, have also gone almost entirely over the whole of the swamp and overflowed regions of the State, and when they complete their explorations and examinations, and make their returns, the business of the grant, as far as the action of this office is concerned, will cease.

It may not be improper to add, here, that this grant has accomplished up to this time as much good, probably, as its most sanguine advocates at first expected. Already much the greater part of the Mississippi river has been leveed, as well as considerable portions of both banks of the Arkansas, between its mouth and Pine Bluffs. From Little Rock down, along the north bank of the latter river, a contract has been let for the construction of forty-two miles of levee.

On Red river, large contracts, I am informed, are about to be en-

tered into for leveeing its banks and excavating cut-offs. According to the report of the State engineer, these cut-offs, when made, will shorten the river ninety-two miles, and will consequently, by increasing the velocity of the current, diminish the danger of overflow.

The levees on the Mississippi and Arkansas rivers, as far as I can learn, are from five to ten feet high. The rule is—and so all contracts are drawn—that for every foot *in height* there shall be *seven feet base and one at top*. A levee, therefore, *ten feet high*, will have *seventy feet base*, and be *ten feet wide on top*.

Besides the contracts for leveeing the rivers, other contracts have been let, and others, again, applied for, to ditch and drain portions of the flat wet lands of the State, and for straightening, clearing out, and dredging a few of its bayous. Thus it will be observed that the State has commenced this most laudable enterprise of the reclamation of her lands with spirit and energy, and certainly, in my humble opinion, is entitled to all the aid and encouragement that such a herculean and useful undertaking deserves. It is calculated that the proceeds of the sales of lands acquired under this beneficent donation will not more than accomplish the projected system of reclamation; therefore it is not a matter so much of interest to the exchequer of the State, whether she gets all the land she claims, as to the welfare and health of each individual citizen.

K is a copy of the estimates of this office for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1855.

In making up the estimates for clerk hire, I have been prompted alone by the consideration that it is the desire of the government to hasten forward the vast amount of labor that remains to be done, before the records can be prepared in the style heretofore planned, and commenced, preparatory to a transfer to the State; and to insure celerity and despatch in the execution of which, an increase of clerks is respectfully recommended, as estimated for.

There is no item inserted for surveying, for the reasons previously stated in this report.

In answer to your question as to the “probable time when the public surveys and archives of this office will be in a condition to be surrendered to the authorities of the State of Arkansas, consistently with the public interest, in virtue of the provisions of the act of Congress approved June 12, 1840,” I have to state that it will require at least five years, provided the appropriations asked for are made, and no further *extra* duty, not now contemplated, should be imposed, taking as a basis of calculation *what has been done* by the present clerical force of the office, and *what remains to be done* in office and in field.

It was estimated by my predecessor, in his last annual report, that it would only require five years from that date; but it was not presumed by him that the swamp land grant would be the future source of so much labor and perplexity.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEORGE MILBOURNE,
Surveyor General of Arkansas.

JOHN WILSON, Esq.,
Commissioner of the General Land Office.

A.

Statement showing the condition of the contracts not closed on the 30th October, 1852, the date of the last annual report from this office.

11 Number.	Date of contract.	Contractor.	Time allowed.	Estimated number of miles.	Price per mile.	Estimated value of contract.	Number of miles returned.	Amount adjusted at the General Land Office.	Remarks.
1	Oct. 1, 1844	Robt. W. Mecklin...	4 months....	-----	\$3	-----	M. chs. lks. 3 10 60	-----	Survey of townships 1 and 2 north, range 33 west, completed. The field-notes were returned in due time, and mislaid in this office, but recently found, examined, approved, and plats sent to register and Commissioner, but no account rendered.
2	Dec. 7. 1850	Cyrus Crosby.....	6 months....	300	4 and 6	\$1,250 00	324 2 86	\$630 09½	Of the surveys executed and returned by C. Crosby, D. S., under this contract, only 118 miles 56 chains 7 links were found by John W. Garretson, D. S., who examined the work under his contract of 9th April, 1852, to have been correctly executed, of which 85 miles 1 chain 84 links were embraced in his account, and paid for, as per voucher No. 2, 3d quarter 1851, leaving 33 miles 54 chains 23 links for which no account has been rendered, of which 5 miles 13 chains 23 links will be charged at \$6 per mile, and the remainder at \$4 per mile. The sum of \$630 09 having been paid to Mr. Crosby, as per voucher No. 2, 3d quarter 1851, there will be found due from him and his securities to the United States, on a final adjustment of his account, the sum of \$144 96, which will no doubt be paid without suit.

A—Continued.

Number	Date of contract.	Contractor.	Time allowed.	Estimated number of miles.	Price per mile.	Estimated value of contract.	Number of miles returned.	Amount adjusted at the General Land Office.	Remarks.
3	Oct. 22, 1851	John W. Garretson..	Mar. 1, 1852	394	\$4 and 6	\$1,600 00	<i>M. chs. lks.</i> 538 50 81	\$1,763 50	There yet remain a few miles to be surveyed under this contract in township 1 north, range 4 west, and townships 5 and 6 south, range 2 west, which will be completed the present fall, when the plats will be transmitted to the proper offices, and the account for the surveys now on file, amounting to about 75 miles, and those to be returned, will be transmitted for adjustment. In addition to the payments heretofore reported under this contract, one of \$1,475 35 has been adjusted at the General Land Office, as per voucher No. 1, 1st quarter 1853.
4	Mar. 30, 1852	David F. Shall.....	Aug. 1, 1852	360	4	1,500 00	251 72 15	1,007 61	Surveys of township 2 north, ranges 5, 6, and 7 west, and township 1 north, range 7 west, completed, plats transmitted to the register and Commissioner, and account for \$1,007 61 adjusted at the General Land Office, and paid, as per voucher No. 2, 1st quarter 1853. Township 1 north, ranges 5 and 6 west, embraced in this contract, have been relinquished by Mr. Shall, and placed under contract with Paul B. Starbuck, D. S., (see table B.)
5	April 9, 1852	John W. Garretson..	Oct. 1, 1852 Time ext'ded	500	4 and 6	2,000 00	1,371 32 71	2,729 65	Plats of the full townships originally embraced in C. Crosby's contract have been made and sent to the register and Commissioner, together with the plats of the following townships, viz:

township 19 north, ranges 3 and 4 west; township 20 north, ranges 3 and 4 west; and township 15 north, range 5 west; the field-notes of which were received, or examined and approved, subsequent to the date of the last annual report from this office, and the account for the whole, amounting to \$2, 441 50, adjusted at the General Land Office, as per voucher No. 1, 3d quarter 1853. Field-notes of township 16 north, ranges 4 and 5 west, township 19 north, range 1 west, township 20 north, range 1 west; townships 10, 11, and 12 north, range 4 west, townships 12 and 13 north, range 5 west, townships 13 and 19 north, range 6 west, township 11 north, range 3 west, (west of White River,) and the fragments in townships 16 and 17 north, range 6 west, have been returned, and all examined and approved, except township 11 north, range 3 west, but plats not all prepared for transmission to the proper offices—in all about 821 miles of surveys. There yet remain to be reported by Mr. Garretson, under this contract, the following townships, to wit: townships 9, 13, 14, and 15 north, range 1 west; township 13 north, range 8 west; township 13 north, range 7 west; township 14 north, range 8 west; township 11 north, range 1 east; and townships 8, 10, and 12 north, range 3 east, estimated to contain, at the rate of error already found in townships returned, 600 miles of re-surveys.

B.

Statement showing the condition of contracts for the survey of the public lands in the State of Arkansas, entered into since October 30, 1852, the date of the last annual report from this office.

No.	Date of contract.	Contractor.	Time allowed.	Lands embraced in contract.	Estimated number of miles.	Price per mile.	Estimated value of contract.	No. of miles of surveys executed & returned.	Amount of account adjusted at General Land Office.	Remarks.
						Dolls.	Dolls.	M. chs. lks.	Dolls.	
1	1852. Dec. 9	Paul B. Starbuck	1853. Nov. 1	Township 1 north, ranges 5 and 6 west; township 1 south, ranges 4, 5, 6, and 7 west; township 2 south, ranges 3, 4, 5, and 6 west.	600	4	2,400	442 73 83	983 57	Field-notes of township 1 north, ranges 5 and 6 west, and township 1 south, ranges 4 and 5 west, have been returned, examined, and approved, plats furnished the register and Commissioner, and account for \$983 57 adjusted at the General Land Office, as per voucher No. 1, 2d quarter 1853. The field-notes of township 2 south, ranges 3, 4, and 5 west, have been returned, examined, and approved, but plats not yet prepared.
2	1853. Mar. 9	David W. Lowe.	Nov. 1	Township 14 north, ranges 4, 5, and 7 west; townships 13 and 15 north, range 4 west.	300	4	1,200	225 19 21	.....	Field-notes of township 14 north, ranges 4 and 5 west, have been returned, examined, approved, and plats prepared. Field-notes of township 15 north, range 4 west, have been returned, but not examined.
3	July 5	Gran. McPherson	1854. Jan. 1	Townships 3, 4, and 5 south, range 5 west; township 3 south, range 4 west.	250	4	1,000	.....	.....	Deputy in the field.

4	Sept. 28	Allen Martin and Jas. A. Martin.	June 1	Township 10 south, range 20 west; townships 9 and 10 south, ranges 28 and 29 west; township 3 north, ranges 22 and 23 west. Unsurveyed fragments and necessary corrections in the following townships, viz: Township 8 south, ranges 19 and 20 west; township 9 south, ranges 22 and 23 west; township 11 south, ranges 18 and 19 west; township 10 south, ranges 19 and 33 west; township 12 south, range 23 west; township 13 south, range 22 west.	500	4 & 6	2,500	-----	-----	Deputies not yet in the field.
5	Special instructions, Dec. 25, 1852.	Jas. M. Danley..	1853. Jan. 1	An island in township 1 north, range 11 west.	4	6	24	4 62 41	28 63	Work completed, field-notes examined, approved, and plats sent to register and Commissioner, and account for \$28 63 adjusted at General Land Office, as per voucher No. 3, 1st quarter 1853.

C.

List of plats reconstructed and recalculated from the original field-notes, to supply the place of the defaced or mutilated plats now on file in this and the register's offices.

Townships.	Number of copies.	Remarks.
Township 1 north, range 12 west.....	3	Copies sent to register and Commissioner.
Township 1 north, range 10 west.....	3	Do do do.
Township 1 north, range 11 west.....	3	Do do do.
Township 1 north, range 13 west.....	3	Do do do.
Township 2 north, range 10 west.....	3	Not disposed of.
Township 1 north, range 9 west.....	3	Do.
Township 2 north, range 13 west.....	3	Copies sent to register and Commissioner.
Township 2 north, range 9 west.....	3	Do do do.
Township 2 north, range 12 west.....	3	Do do do.
Township 3 north, range 10 west.....	1	Not disposed of.
Township 4 north, range 12 west.....	1	Do.
Township 11 south, range 19 west.....	1	Made for Commissioner, per request.

D.

List of plats constructed from the field-notes of resurveys returned, examined, and approved since the 30th of October, 1852, the date of the last annual report from this office.

Townships.	Number of copies.	Remarks.
Township 1 north, range 5 west.....	3	Copies sent to register and Commissioner.
Township 1 north, range 6 west.....	3	Do do do.
Township 1 north, range 7 west.....	3	Do do do.
Fractional sections 26, 35, and 36, township 1 north, range 11 west.....	3	Do do do.
Fractional township 1 north, range 33 west.....	3	Do do do.
Fractional township 2 north, range 33 west.....	3	Do do do.
Township 2 north, range 5 west.....	3	Do do do.
Township 2 north, range 6 west.....	3	Do do do.
Township 2 north, range 7 west.....	3	Do do do.
Township 16 north, range 7 west.....	3	Do do do.
Township 16 north, range 8 west.....	3	Do do do.
Township 17 north, range 7 west.....	3	Do do do.
Township 17 north, range 8 west.....	3	Do do do.
Township 20 north, range 3 west.....	3	Do do do.
Township 20 north, range 4 west.....	3	Do do do.
Township 1 south, range 4 west.....	3	Do do do.
Township 1 south, range 5 west.....	3	Do do do.
Township 4 south, range 2 west.....	3	Do do do.
Township 6 south, range 5 west.....	3	Do do do.
Township 15 north, range 5 west.....	3	Copies sent to Commissioner only.
Township 19 north, range 4 west.....	3	Do do.
Township 19 north, range 3 west.....	3	Do do.

D—Continued.

Townships.	Number of copies.	Remarks.
Township 14 north, range 4 west.....	1	Not disposed of.
Township 14 north, range 5 west.....	1	Do.
Township 19 north, range 1 west.....	3	Do.
Township 16 north, range 5 west.....	3	Do.
Township 2 south, range 3 west.....	1	Do.
Township 2 south, range 4 west.....	1	Do.
Township 2 south, range 5 west.....	1	Do.
Township 10 north, range 4 west.....	1	Do.
Township 11 north, range 4 west.....	1	Do.
Township 16 north, range 4 west.....	1	Do.

E.

List of townships and boundaries; the field-notes of which have been transcribed for the General Land Office since the date of the last annual report from this office.

- Resurvey of township 20 north, range 4 west.
- Resurvey of township 19 north, range 4 west.
- Resurvey of township 2 north, range 6 west.
- Resurvey of township 1 north, range 5 west.
- Resurvey of township 10 north, range 4 west.
- Resurvey of township 1 north, range 6 west.
- Resurvey of township 20 north, range 3 west.
- Resurvey of township 19 north, range 3 west.
- Resurvey of township 19 north, range 1 west.
- Resurvey of part of township 19 north, range 6 west.
- Resurvey of township 1 south, range 5 west.
- Resurvey of township 1 south, range 4 west.
- Resurvey of the east boundary of township 19 north, range 2 west.
- Resurvey of the south boundary of township 20 north, range 1 west.
- Resurvey of part of the south boundary of township 19 north, range 1 west.
- Resurvey of the east boundary of township 19 north, range 1 west.
- Resurvey of part of the east boundary of township 19 north, range 6 west.
- Resurvey of part of the south boundary of township 20 north, range 6 west.
- Resurvey of part of the east boundary of township 19 north, range 3 west.
- Resurvey of part of the east boundary of township 19 north, range 4 west.
- Resurvey of the south boundary of township 19 north, range 3 west.
- Resurvey of the east and south boundaries of township 20 north, range 3 west.
- Resurvey of the south boundary (except section 31) of township 21 north, range 3 west.

Resurvey of the east and south boundaries of township 19 north range 4 west.

Resurvey of the east and south boundaries of township 20 north, range 4 west.

Resurvey of the south boundary of township 21 north, range 4 west.

Resurvey of the east boundary of township 10 north, range 4 west.

Resurvey of part of east boundary of township 19 north, range 5 west.

Resurvey of part of south boundary of township 20 north, range 5 west.

Resurvey of part of east boundary of township 10 north, range 4 west.

F.

List of townships and boundaries, the field notes of which have been transcribed, but not sent to the General Land Office.

Resurvey of township 1 north, range 5 west.

Resurvey of township 1 north, range 6 west.

Resurvey of township 10 north, range 4 west.

Resurvey of township 1 south, range 4 west.

Resurvey of township 1 south, range 5 west.

Resurvey of east boundary of township 10 north, range 4 west.

Resurvey of part of south boundary of township 10 north, range 4 west.

G.

SWAMP LANDS.

Helena land district.

Selected as swamp by State agents	1,775,104.73	
Deduct State selections not sustained by the field-notes, under the rules adopted by L. Gibson, esq., late surveyor general.	481,185.76	<u>1,293,918.97</u>
Selected as swamp by the field-notes, in addition to selections by the State.....		<u>1,089,031.42</u>
		<u>2,382,950.39</u>
Deduct estimated number of acres of land which had been sold by the United States prior to date of act of September 23, 1850, included in above selections		<u>578,000.00</u>
Net quantity of unobjectionable selections		<u><u>1,804,950.39</u></u>

Lawrence county land district.

Selected as swamp by the State agents.....	2,518,902.96	
Deduct State selections not sustained by the field-notes, under the rules adopted by L. Gibson, esq., late surveyor general	970,235.22	<u>1,548,667.74</u>

Selected as swamp by the field-notes, in addition to selections by the State agents.....	175,521.80	
		1,724,189.54
Deduct estimated number of acres which had been sold by the United States prior to date of act of September 28, 1850, and included in above selections	340,000.00	
Net amount of unobjectionable selections		1,384,189.54

Little Rock or Arkansas land district.

Selected as swamp by the State agents	762,247.01	
Deduct State selections not sustained by the field-notes, under the rules adopted by L. Gibson, esq., late surveyor general	487,067.96	
		275,179.05
Selected as swamp by the field-notes, in addition to that selected by the State agents.....		882,979.50
		1,158,158.55
Deduct estimated number of acres which had been sold by the United States prior to September 28, 1850, and included in the above selections.....		176,000.00
Net amount of unobjectionable selections		982,158.55

Red River land district.

Selected as swamp by State agents.....	407,011.56	
Deduct State selections not sustained by the field-notes, under the rules laid down by L. Gibson, esq., late surveyor general	350,789.41	
		56,222.15
Selected as swamp by the field-notes, in addition to that selected by the State		522,168.11
		578,390.26
Deduct estimated amount of acres which had been sold by the United States prior to September 28, 1850, and included in the above selections.....		120,000.00
Net amount of unobjectionable selections		458,390.26

Champagnole land district.

Selected as swamp by the State agents.....	127,996.39	
Deduct State selections not sustained by the field-notes, under the rules laid down by L. Gibson, esq., late surveyor general	66,406.68	
		61,589.71
Selected as swamp by the field-notes, in addition to that selected by the State		539,755.20
		601,344.91
Deduct estimated number of acres which had been sold by the United States prior to September 28, 1850, but included improperly in the above selections		50,000.00
Net amount of unobjectionable selections		551,344.91

Clarksville or Johnson C. H. land district.

Selected as swamp by the State agents	134,988.63	
Deduct State selections not sustained by the field-notes, under the rules laid down by L. Gibson, esq., late surveyor general	93,607.96	
		41,380.67
Selected as swamp by the field-notes, in addition to that selected by the State		100,087.57
		141,468.24
Deduct estimated number of acres which had been sold by the United States prior to September 28, 1850, but improperly included in the above selections		39,470.00
Net amount of unobjectionable selections		101,998.24

Fayetteville land district.

Selected by the field-notes as swamp	7,123.95
(No selections have been made by the State in this district.)	
Deduct lands sold by the United States prior to September 28, 1850, included improperly in the above selections	3,640 00
Net amount of unobjectionable selections	<u>3,483.95</u>

H.

List of townships, the descriptive lists of which have been made from the field-notes of resurvey or retracement, and compared, since the date of the last annual report from this office.

Township 1 south, range 4 west.
 Township 1 south, range 5 west.
 Township 1 north, range 6 west.
 Township 1 north, range 5 west.
 Township 2 north, range 6 west.
 Township 20 north, range 4 west.
 Township 15 north, range 5 west.
 Township 2 north, range 5 west.
 Township 10 north, range 4 west.
 Township 19 north, range 20 west.
 Township 16 north, range 7 west.
 Township 17 north, range 7 west.
 Township 16 north, range 8 west.
 Township 17 north, range 8 west.
 Township 4 south, range 2 west.
 Township 2 north, range 7 west.
 Township 1 north, range 7 west.
 Township 20 north, range 3 west.
 Township 19 north, range 4 west.
 Township 19 north, range 3 west.
 Township 19 north, range 1 west.
 In all, 21 lists.

In addition to which, 75 of the 300 descriptive lists heretofore reported as requiring it have been recopied, making in all 96 prepared for the registers' offices during the year.

I.

A list of townships in which have been discovered, by examination in the field, fraudulent or erroneous surveys since the 30th October, 1852, the date of the last annual report from this office, and the estimated number of miles of such work.

Townships.	No. of miles.
Township 18 north, range 1 west.....	60
Township 18 north, range 3 west.....	60
Township 18 north, range 4 west.....	60
Township 12 north, range 3 west.....	75
Township 20 north, range 6 west.....	6
Also, the following townships, the returns of which are suspected to be fraudulent or erroneous, or lying in prairie country, are known to be devoid of marks or bounds, and therefore require to be resurveyed or retraced:	
Township 5 north, range 7 west.....	60
Township 1 north, range 8 west.....	25
Township 2 north, range 8 west.....	38
Township 3 north, range 8 west.....	15
Total miles.....	399

K.

Copy of the "estimates" forwarded 12th September last, in accordance with the request in the Commissioner's letter of 28th July, 1853, "of sums under the respective heads of salaries and incidental expenses, that will be required to meet the disbursements for the surveying district of Arkansas for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1855," viz:

Salaries and compensation.

For salary of surveyor general from the 1st July, 1854, to the 30th June, 1855, inclusive.....	\$2,000 00
For the salaries of four regular clerks for the same time..	4,000 00
For compensation of seven clerks to draught, record field-notes for the use of the State, to copy field-notes for the use of the General Land Office, and to make descriptive lists for registers' offices.....	6,000 00

Incidental expenses.

For house rent.....	350 00
For fuel and servant hire.....	250 00
For stationery, book binding, &c.....	250 00

12,850 00

REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF LOUISIANA.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Donaldsonville, La., October 1, 1853.

SIR: In obedience to your instructions of the 28th of July last, I have the honor now to submit, in triplicate, the annual report of the surveying department in Louisiana, illustrating, by the accompanying exhibits, (A to I,) its present condition, and the amount of field and office labor performed by it, since the 20th October, 1852, the date of the last report of my predecessor.

A.—This is a complete list of all contracts let, and all orders of survey issued, by this office, since October 20, 1852, and shows the completion, or present condition, as far as known, of the work executed under them. From it, it will be perceived there have existed thirty-four contracts, comprising one hundred and twenty-two townships, for fifty-two of which there have been returns made. Of these, thirty-four have been completed and paid for; five are now undergoing examination; and the remainder, thirteen, await final action, which depends upon corrections to be made by surveyors, either in their returns or field operations, leaving still to be returned seventy townships.

Many of these would doubtless have been completed, and particularly those within the Bastrop grant, had not the rise of waters forced several of the contractors to abandon their labors, as reported to your office on the 5th of January last. Of these gentlemen, Messrs. Boyd, Cabell, Clack, and Curtis, have been for some time in the field, and will soon finish their work; the fifth, Mr. Taylor, persisted, at unpropitious seasons, and against the waters, in carrying his work to its present state of almost entire completion.

The contracts of Mr. Brent and of Mr. Mullett, and doubtless that of Mr. Gillespie, remain unfinished from the same cause. In addition to the reasons for renewing contracts, assigned in letter to you of the 23d May last, it may be remarked, with regard to the long-continued contract of Mr. Crawford, in the southeastern district, that he has been frequently driven from the field by high water, and has often labored under indisposition created by exposure in it, or, when it retired, in the swamps. His work is of a most intricate character, and over a country so cut by boggy swamps, and brakes of cane, entangled by vines, its difficulty of execution can scarcely be exceeded by that of any other surveys in the State. There are yet only some ten miles of additional and corrective lines to be run, to complete this contract. It may, therefore, be expected that it will soon be performed, approved, and reported to your office.

With regard to the contract in the Greensburg district, made on the 1st December, 1846, with Mr. J. C. Taylor, he states that he has made the larger part of the surveys not yet returned; and it is confidently believed he will early perform the rest of the work in townships 7 and 8 S., range 1 W., and township 7 S., range 2 E., and return them to this office. The remainder of his contract, lying upon Lakes Mau-

repas and Pontchartrain, is generally saw-grass marsh, subject to tide overflow, and, but for the location of private claims, might have been passed to the State. Of this Mr. Taylor has accomplished much: he has made several attempts to finish all, but they have resulted only in failure, and in disaster to him; and if, when another energetic effort be made, at the proper season, he reports it impracticable, I cannot longer hold him bound to perform such dangerous service, without the possibility of its being of commensurate public or private benefit.

Separate report will be made with regard to the cancellation of the contract of Mr. J. H. Whitton, of 17th January, 1851, when it is relet to another surveyor.

The returns of Mr. Farmer of his surveys in township 18 N., range 4 E., district north of Red river, embraced by his contract of December 7, 1851, will, it is hoped, be again deposited in this office for examination and approval, before the meeting of the legislature of this State, in January next; when he must be in attendance upon the senate, as lieutenant governor, as he was during the last session, which was protracted through the whole of the surveying season.

Special remarks with regard to the other contracts described in this list are not deemed necessary. Many of the contractors have long been employed by this office, and, by the competency and integrity evinced in the execution of their complicated and difficult surveys, have given the department assurance that the rest of their labors will be intelligently and efficiently performed. Some of them are now absent from Louisiana, and, because of the terrible malady which has scourged this afflicted State, will probably not return early to resume their field operations; yet it is believed all will come within the time allowed by the department.

B.—This list shows the liabilities in the four districts of Louisiana, (other than the Greensburg district,) including contracts for 65 townships, the running of township lines within the De Bastrop grant, and payment to be made for the surveys to be completed, under the orders of survey specified in list A, to amount, per estimate, to \$44,901.

In this statement are still retained the estimates for township 8 S., ranges 5 and 6 E., southwest district, which were formerly included in the contract made by me, as a deputy surveyor, with R. W. Boyd, esq., surveyor general, on the 11th of November, 1852. Their resurvey was arrested by my appointment to office, but will be soon again relet.

C.—This statement exhibits the estimated amount to be paid for surveys in twenty-three townships in the Greensburg district to be.....\$11,752 00
 And the amount of unsettled accounts forwarded to the department..... 1,112 38
 Making a total liability in the district of..... 12,864 38

To which the liabilities shown in document B should be added.....	\$44,901 00
Total.....	57,765 38
And as the unexpended balance of appropriations for this branch of the service is.....	79,987 37
There would remain.....	22,221 99

which may be applied to the payment of the proposed surveys included in statement D.

In this statement are still retained the townships included in the now cancelled contract of Mr. J. H. Whitton, which will be again at once given out.

D.—By this statement, it will be perceived that the surveys proposed to be executed by the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1855, are principally those whose importance has been shown to the department in former reports, and having been already sanctioned by appropriations, are now open for contract.

In addition to such, the new surveys estimated in this statement are: In the southwestern district:—of those townships, upon the Sabine river, the traverse of which is deemed necessary, as it forms part of the western boundary of the State, and as upon its execution it will appear whether they contain lands which may be available to the United States, or such only as would inure to Louisiana, under the swamp act. In the district north of Red river:—of township No. 16 N., range 11 E., reported fraudulent, the necessity of whose survey was made known to the department by surveyor general's letter of May 19, 1853, and its enclosures. And in the southeastern district:—of several townships, whose original survey may be necessary in order properly to connect and represent the lines of the claim of C. J. B. Florian, required by your letter to this office of 24th June last to be surveyed as early as practicable. And of the other townships therein specified, the reprotractions of which show the former surveys to be erroneous, and, in many instances, not to comport with the confirmations.

It is proper here to call the attention of the department to the surveys within the De Bastrop grant, included in this statement, which, for the reasons assigned in my predecessor's letter of July 12, 1851, and duly approved by your office, have been suspended until Congress should act upon the claims reported by the register and receiver at Monroe, under act of 3d March, 1851. The urgency of these surveys was fully set forth by reports from this office of the 11th and 12th of September last, and in the petitions of the inhabitants of the country, and the letter of the register therein enclosed. And I now respectfully suggest that the department earnestly recommend to Congress action, early in the next session, upon the report of the aforesaid claims, which was submitted by you to the Senate on the 6th of December last.

E.—This is an estimate of funds to be appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1855, and will be found to be a partial summary of documents B, C, and D.

It is expected that the townships now under contract to Mr. Hunter, and the survey of a portion of township 7 N., range 10 W., recommended by letter of 28th February, 1852, will complete the north-western district, except, perhaps, in instances where claims not yet surveyed, requiring special orders, may be located by the surveyor appointed for this purpose.

It will also be noticed that further field work is not contemplated to be made in the Greensburg district, excepting in townships now under contract, which, it is hoped, may perfect the resurveys in this district; unless it may hereafter appear that those made by Seth Kline, from 1838 to 1843; in township 2 S., range 1 W., approved in January, 1849, require correction or re-running, in order to have them properly marked upon the ground, and that the confusions therein may be finally settled and dismissed from the township maps. The recent resurvey of township 1 S., range 1 W., fully proved the inaccuracy and insufficiency of Mr. Kline's work; and it is greatly feared that the necessity of a resurvey of township 2 S., range 1 W., may be hereafter developed. Upon comparison of his lines in this township with the adjoining approved surveys, it will be perceived how ill they close therewith.

The sums asked in this statement for the payment of draughtsmen and clerks, are deemed indispensably necessary to the vigorous prosecution of the miscellaneous and heavy duties devolving upon this office. As an instance of the labor to be executed, which might be erroneously supposed to cease with the performance of the field labor, it may be here stated, that in the Greensburg district alone, where there have been 1,878 claims surveyed, there have been transmitted to the register plats upon which to issue patent certificates for 324 claims only, leaving 1,554 plats and descriptive notes which are yet to be prepared in triplicate; involving a mass of work which, with the transcription for your office of field-notes in this and all the other districts, (a duty which it has not heretofore been possible to perform,) will fully occupy all the time that is not devoted to the more pressing current work.

The amount for the payment of the salary and expenses of the surveyor of private claims is again estimated for appropriation. The importance of this officer has been demonstrated by the amount of indoor and field work performed by him during the short time of his employment, and in future his services will be in greater requisition, as the surveys hereafter to be made will be, in a large part, of isolated claims, or of small portions of detached and remote townships, for which a deputy surveyor would not be justified in contracting.

F, is a list of swamp lands listed by this office since the 20th of October last, copies of which have been sent to the general and local land offices.

Southeastern District, west of Mississippi.

	Acres.	Acres.
Lists of surveyed swamp lands.....	12,383.54	
From which is to be deducted area of section 100, township 17 S., range 17 E., now covered by the claim of Duma.....	27.00	
	<hr/>	
Total.....	12,356.54	
Unsurveyed lands, estimated at.....	25,600.00	
	<hr/>	
Total.....	37,956.54	

Southeastern District, east of Mississippi.

Surveyed lands in township 13 S., range 13 E.	756.81	
	<hr/>	
Making a net total to be added to that of last year, of.....		38,722.35

Southwestern District.

Surveyed lands.....	159,401.13	
From which deduct section 6, township 18 S., range 9 E., selected last year.....	16.16	
	<hr/>	
Total.....	159,384.97	
Unsurveyed lands, estimated at.....	47,407.57	
	<hr/>	
Net total in the district.....		206,792.54

Northwestern District.

Surveyed swamp lands.....	41,673.93
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District north of Red river.

Surveyed lands.....	252,739.90	
From which deduct section 24, township 8 N., range 10 E., and all in list of township 14 N., range 4 E., approved March 28, 1851, 11,528.06	11,528.06	
	<hr/>	
Net surveyed lands.....	241,211.84	
Unsurveyed lands, estimated at.....	1,472.87	
	<hr/>	
Net total in the district.....		242,684.71

Greensburg District.

Surveyed lands.....	48,744.58
Unsurveyed lands, estimated at.....	13,128.74

Total.....	61,873.32
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From which should be deducted area of section 30, township 2 S., range 3 W., in list approved June 26, 1852; areas estimated for sections 23, 25, 26, 27, 35, and 36, in township 6 S., range 14 E.; sections 30, 31, and 32, township 6 S., range 15 E., in lists approved May 16, 1851, covered in part by claims.....

	4,266.96
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Leaving a net total in the district, of.....	57,606.36
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Making the net selections of this year.....	587,479.89
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Which added to those made up to date of last annual report.....	9,151,867.86
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Would show the entire quantity of swamp lands listed to the State under acts of 2d March, 1849, and 28th September, 1850, to be.....	9,739,347.75
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Subject to be decreased at your department by such portions as may have been sold, or rightfully claimed by individuals.

In this connexion, I would respectfully invite your attention to the large number of townships marked M in the accompanying diagram of the State, lettered L. These townships have remained unsurveyed, as they have been believed to be impassable swamp, or marsh, unfit for cultivation; and I now suggest the propriety of requesting the State authorities to make provision for their field examination, to the end that, if they contain only such lands as would inure to the State, they may be listed and patented to her; but if, on the contrary, in any instance, they include high lands, these may be surveyed by the United States, and made available, provided their quantity and quality would justify the expense of the surveys.

This service should be performed, under the instructions of this office, by any duly commissioned deputy surveyor whom the State should pay, and the governor designate.

G.—This list represents the documents transmitted to the several land offices since the 20th of October last.

To the General Land Office.

Township maps.....	36
Diagrams of surveys.....	27

Plats of private claims.....	4
Accounts for surveys.....	40
Contingent expenses and salary accounts.....	75
Letters and reports.....	170
Lists of swamp lands in 132 townships.....	132
Total	484

To the Register of the Northwestern District.

Township maps.....	6
Diagrams representing surveys.....	2
Letters.....	15
Lists of swamp lands in 14 townships.....	14
Total	37

To the Register of the District north of Red river.

Township maps.....	6
Diagrams of surveys.....	4
Letters.....	21
Lists of swamp lands in 50 townships.....	50
Total	81

To the Register of the Southwestern District.

Township maps.....	5
Diagrams.....	11
Letters.....	40
Lists of swamp lands in 40 townships.....	40
Total	96

To the Register of the Southeastern District.

Township maps.....	5
Diagrams.....	2
Letters.....	29
Lists of swamp lands in 13 townships.....	13
Total	49

To the Register of the Greensburg District.

Township maps.....	20
Diagrams.....	9
Duplicate plats of claims.....	18
Letters.....	66
Lists of swamp lands in 15 townships.....	15
Total	128

In addition to which there have been written to deputy surveyors, letters to the number of.....	167
And to individuals.....	232
	<hr/>
Making a total of documents sent from this office, of.....	1,274
	<hr/>

From an inspection of this statement, it will be perceived that the number of maps, diagrams, and plats, is still fewer than those of the last year; which is mainly ascribable to the necessarily increased labor in the field and in the office, upon the complicated surveys returned to it. This greater labor must still be enlarged, and the number of documents transmitted be diminished; for it is ever the interest of contractors to seek the simpler townships, leaving the more difficult to be surveyed by those who may follow them; and contracts have not been let for more townships than it was believed could be examined, approved, and paid for, during the year; for it has been the desire of this office, as it is eminently to its credit and efficiency, to act promptly upon the returns of surveyors. Furthermore, the decrease shown by this statement may be attributed to the fact that part of the office force has been employed in retracing and testing old work in townships believed to require additional or corrective surveys, and will be so occupied to a still greater extent, during this year, as was contemplated by the last annual report; wherein, on this account, no estimate was made for new surveys during the fiscal year ending 30th June next.

This statement has been prepared in resemblance to document G, of the last annual report; and, with list F, is intended to illustrate the labor of this office since the 20th of October, 1852. That it has been extensive, complicated, and responsible, the department can well judge. The merit of its conduct is due to my predecessor, for my own term has (in its existence of less than a third of the time herein reported) given me greater knowledge of his ability and fidelity, which had, during my long intercourse with him as his subordinate, already won my admiration and emulation. Upon succeeding him, on the 1st of July last, I found he had well worked the current business to date; little was deferred for my action that could have received his; and it gave me pleasure to perceive the high appreciation of his intelligent and indefatigable performance of duty expressed in your letter to him of the 15th of August last, copy of which was filed here, to show the final adjustment of his accounts as surveyor general.

During the last two months the usually large business of this office with individuals has partaken of the general suspension of transactions in every department of life, caused by the pestilence still existing in Louisiana.

H, is a list of the deputy surveyors commissioned since the 1st of July, 1853, for the term of my own tenure of office.

I.—Diagram of the State of Louisiana, exhibiting the condition and extent of the surveys in Louisiana. It represents townships that have been surveyed and considered complete, as far as necessary or practicable; those now under contracts; those proposed for survey; those

which, although surveyed, require additional or corrective surveys; those in which swamp lands have been selected, under acts of March 2d, 1849, and September 28th, 1850; those in which there are no swamp lands, or none mentioned in the field-notes of the surveys thereof, now on file; and, finally, those believed to be impassable marsh, unfit for cultivation.

To your letter of 30th July last, requiring me to state, in this report, if practicable, the time when the surveys of public lands and private claims will be in such condition as to admit of the delivery of the archives of this office to the authorities of the State, under act of 12th June, 1840, I regret to reply, that a reliable estimate of such time cannot be formed, considering the extent of the surveys now proposed, those which may be recommended the next year, and the large number of private claims yet to be located, and with the addition these will make to the very large amount of office work which will be necessary to the final completion and representation of all the surveys. I can only renew the assurance, already given to the department, that I, and those with me, will endeavor, with steady industry, and to the utmost of our ability, to do all we can to accomplish this important object.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. J. McCULLOH,
Surveyor General of Louisiana.

Hon. JOHN WILSON,
Com. General Land Office, Washington City.

TABULAR STATEMENTS

ACCOMPANYING THE

REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL

OF LOUISIANA.

A.—*Tabular statement of surveying contracts in Louisiana on the 1st October, 1852, the date of*

Date.	Name of contractor.	District.	Expiration of contract.	Time extended to—	Estimated number of miles.
*Oct. 28, 1842	Andrew Crawford .	Southeastern ...	June 1, 1843	.....	190
*Dec. 1, 1846	J. C. Taylor.....	Greensburg.....	Dec. 1, 1847	.....
Jan. 28, 1848	Albert G. Phelps..	SW., NW., and district N. Red river.	July 1, 1848	.....	150
Mar. 11, 1848	A. L. Fields.....	Southwestern ...	Dec. 1, 1848	.....	485
May 30, 1848	Geo. S. Walmsley.	Northwestern ...	Jan. 1, 1849	Jan. 1, 1851 {	50 275
*Dec. 7, 1850	W. W. Farmer ...	N. of Red river..	Dec. 1, 1851	.....	240
Jan. 17, 1851	James H. Whitten.	Greensburg.....	Aug. 1, 1851	.....	110
Jan. 21, 1851	Albert G. Phelps..	SW. and N. of Red river.	Jan. 1, 1852	.....	305
*Feb. 12, 1851	Samuel Perin.....	Southeastern ...	Feb. 1, 1852	.....	190
Feb. 15, 1851	J. J. Knowlton ...	Greensburg.....	..... do.....	June 1, 1853	245
*Mar. 14, 1851	Saml. C. Hepburn.	..... do.....	Mar. 1, 1852	.....	460
Mar. 31, 1851	A. D. Miner	Southwestern ...	Sept. 1, 1851	Mar. 1, 1853	60
Sept. 11, 1851	W. W. Farmer ...	N. of Red river..	April 1, 1852	.....	238 ^g
Nov. 19, 1851	C. J. Cabell.....	..... do.....	July 1, 1852	Jan. 1, 1854 {	180 222
*Nov. 22, 1851	Silas Taylor .....	..... do.....	..... do.....	.....	{ 180 168

* Additional bonds to be given for these contracts.

tober, 1853, and including those completed or annulled since the 20th October the last annual report.

Price per mile.	Amount of bonds.	Amount paid, including all accounts sent up.	No. of townships in contract.	No. of townships unfinished.	Remarks.
\$5 & 8	\$6,400 00	Unknown...	3	3	Field-notes returned, but require correction; surveyor sick. See voucher No. 5, 1st quarter 1844, amounting to \$2,498 85, for survey of township 5 south, ranges 9, 10, and 11 east, being all the contract.
7 & 8	7,766 00	\$4,403 68	14	7	Townships 7 and 8 south, range 1 west; township 7 south, range 2 east; township 8 south, ranges 8 and 9 east; township 9 south, ranges 8 and 9 east, not yet returned.
	2,400 00	3,053 99	5	....	Surveyor dead. Township 5 north, R. 3 west, examined and its correctness certified to by A. S. Phelps, under instructions dated July 20, 1852, and bond for \$4,240. Contract completed.
8	7,760 00	8,335 89	6	....	Additional bond given January 26, 1853, in the sum of \$7,718, for survey of township 8 south, ranges 2 and 4 east. Contract completed.
4 8	} 4,800 00	3,577 98	3	--	Contract completed. Additional bonds given March 28, 1853—one of \$576 36, for township 10 north, range 8 west, and one of \$689 70, for township 10 north, range 9 west.
8	5,120 00	-----	2	2	Contract originally included 3 townships, but township 8 north, range 5 east, was relinquished by consent. Surveys suspended to allow surveyor to complete his Maison Rouge contract of September 11, 1851. Township 18 north, range 4 east, was returned to the office previous to the date of last annual report, but the notes have been sent back to contractor for further surveys.
8	1,760 00	-----	3	....	Contract cancelled July 8, 1853.
8	4,880 00	227 11	5	4	Surveyor dead. Township 2 south, range 3 east, released; township 1 north, range 8 east, approved and paid for; townships 5 and 6 south, range 1 east, examined and returned by A. S. Phelps, under instructions of July 20, 1852, and bond for \$1,240.
8	3,040 00	-----	5	5	Partial returns made which require correction.
8	3,920 00	1,930 84	3	....	Contract completed.
8	6,880 00	-----	5	5	Township 4 south, range 1 east, and range 1 west, returned; not fully examined.
8	960 00	425 80	2	....	Contract completed.
8	3,818 00	2,063 62	8	....	Contract completed.
7 8	} 6,000 00	-----	3	3	Township boundaries; interior lines of 3 townships. High water has prevented the execution of this contract. Partial returns made.
7 8	} 5,460 00	1,654 47	3		Township boundaries; interior lines of 3 townships; nearly all the boundaries returned. Interior lines of townships 20 and 21 north, range 10 east, returned and paid for. Interior lines of township 22 north, range 10 east, returned, but require correction.

Date.	Name of contractor.	District.	Expiration of contract.	Time extended to—	Estimated number of miles.
Jan. 28, 1852	C. J. Cabell	Greensburg.....	Jan. 1, 1853	.....	481
May 5, 1852	John Campbell....	Southwestern....	Oct. 1, 1852	.....	446
*June 20, 1852	A. S. Phelps.....	SW. and N. of Red river.	June 1, 1853	.....	275
Aug. 12, 1852	Thomas Hunter...	Northwestern....	do.....	.....	270
Nov. 8, 1852	Noah H. Phelps...	N. of Red river..	July 1, 1853	January 1, 1854	176
Nov. 8, 1852	Joseph Gorlinski..	Greensburg.....	Dec. 31, 1853	.....	318
Nov. 9, 1852	A. B. Clack	N. of Red river..	July 1, 1853	do.....	185
Nov. 11, 1852	Wm. J. McCulloh..	Greensburg.....	Jan. 1, 1854	.....	250
Nov. 11, 1852	do.....	Southwestern....	do.....	.....	500
Nov. 9, 1852	Henry Curtis	N. of Red river..	July 1, 1853	do.....	180
Nov. 19, 1852	Robert Boyd	do.....	do.....	do.....	200
Dec. 4, 1852	R. C. Brent	Greensburg	Dec. 31, 1853	.....	223
Dec. 29, 1852	Theodoré Gillespie.....	do.....	Nov. 30, 1853	.....	260
Jan. 6, 1853	A. J. Powell.....	Southeastern	May 1, 1854	.....	150
Jan. 29, 1853	C. J. Cabell	Southwestern....	do.....	.....	595
					770
Mar. 1, 1853	A. B. Clack	N. of Red river..	Mar. 1, 1854	.....	136
Mar. 4, 1853	Thomas Mullett....	Southeastern	June 1, 1854	.....	125
Mar. 3, 1853	Wm. Sevey	do.....	do.....	.....	420
Mar. 29, 1853	Thomas Hunter...	Northwestern....	do.....	.....	300

* Additional bonds to be given for these contracts.

Continued.

Price per mile.	Amount of bonds.	Amount paid, including all accounts sent up.	No. of townships in contract.	No. of townships unfinished.	Remarks.
\$7	\$8,694 00	\$4,327 34	9	----	Contract completed.
8	4,364 48	2,181 23	4	1	Instructions to complete the cancelled contract of Walsh & Campbell, township 10 south, range 3 east; township 11 south, ranges 3 and 4 east, approved and paid for; township 10 south, range 4 east, returned, not finally examined. Bond given for each township as the account therefor is sent up for settlement.
8	4,240 00	-----	4	3	To examine, complete, and certify the correctness of late A. G. Phelps's unfinished contracts of January 28, 1848, and January 21, 1851. Township 5 north, range 3 west, approved and paid for to the estate of A. G. Phelps. Townships 5 and 6 south, range 1 east, certified and returned, but not finally examined.
7	3,780 00	1,851 65	4	----	Contract completed.
8	2,816 00	-----	2	2	Township 7 north, range 4 east, returned.
8	5,570 00	-----	5	4	All returned.
7	2,590 00	-----	4	4	No returns; survey suspended on account of high water.
8	4,000 00	1,798 55	2	----	Completed.
8	8,000 00	-----	3	3	Township 6 south, range 4 east, returned, not finally examined; further surveys arrested by appointment of contractor to be surveyor general.
7	2,520 00	-----	3	3	No returns; surveys suspended on account of high water.
7	2,800 00	-----	3	3	No returns; surveys suspended on account of high water.
8	3,568 00	1,104 39	3	2	Township 6 south, range 1 east, approved and paid for; remaining townships not returned.
8	4,160 00	962 53	3	2	Township 5 south, range 1 east, approved and paid for; remaining townships not returned.
7	10,260 00	-----	10	10	Township 13 south, range 16 east, returned, but requires correction.
8	12,320 00	-----	5	5	Township 9 south, range 6 east; returned, not finally examined.
7	1,904 00	-----	2	2	All returned.
	2,000 00	-----	2	2	No returns made; surveys retarded by high water.
	6,720 00	485 39	6	4	Townships 13 and 14 south, range 25 east, returned, approved and paid for.
8	4,800 00	-----	7	7	No returns.

A—

ORDERS

Date	Name of contractor.	District.	Expiration of contract.	Time extended to—	Estimated number of miles.
Mar. 19, 1852	Thomas Hunter...	Northwestern...	.....	Sept. 15, 1853	5
Mar. 30, 1853	..... do.....	..... do.....	.....	..... do.....	5
Aug. 5, 1853	..... do.....	..... do.....	Nov. 5, 1853	.....	30
Aug. 5, 1853	..... do.....	..... do.....	Oct. 5, 1853	.....	5
Mar. 29, 1853	Silas Taylor.....	Southeastern...	May 29, 1853	.....	15
May 28, 1852	..... do.....	..... do.....	July 28, 1852	.....	20
May 28, 1852	..... do.....	..... do.....	..... do.....	.....	20
Nov. 29, 1851	N. H. Phelps.....	N. of Red river..	Feb. 29, 1852	.....	15
Nov. 24, 1851	..... do.....	..... do.....	Jan. 24, 1852	.....	11
Nov. 29, 1851	..... do.....	..... do.....	Feb. 29, 1852	.....	20
June 14, 1852	John Boyd.....	..... do.....	.....	.....	11
Jan. 31, 1853	..... do.....	..... do.....	.....	.....	.....

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Donaldsonville, La., October 1, 1853.

Continued.

OF SURVEY.

Price per mile.	Amount of bonds.	Amount paid, including all accounts sent up.	No. of townships in contract.	No. of townships unfinished.	Remarks
8	-----	-----	-----	-----	Claim of legal representatives of Antonio Mora, R. & R., 1840, No. 154, township 9 north, range 9 west. Not yet returned.
8	-----	-----	-----	-----	Claim of Asa Hickman, R. & R., 1840, No. 151, township 8 north, range 8 west. Not yet returned.
8	-----	-----	-----	-----	Claims of Le Clair, Himines, Mendez, and Slaughter, Sutton's report, Nos. 2, 4, 16, and 17, in townships 7 and 8 north, range 5 west. Not yet returned.
8	-----	-----	-----	-----	Claim of Frederic Williams, R. & R., 1837, No. 36, supposed to be in township 7 north, range 4 west. Not yet returned.
8	-----	-----	-----	-----	Claim of Louis Duma, registers, 1816, No. 66, in township 17 south, ranges 17 and 18 east. Approved and paid for.
8	-----	-----	-----	-----	Claim of William Wilson, registers, 1816, No. 37, in township 17 south, range 17 east. Approved and paid for.
8	-----	-----	-----	-----	Claim of Robert Martin, registers, 1816, No. 34, in township 17 south, ranges 16 and 17 east, part in township 17, range 17. Approved and paid for: remainder to be surveyed.
8	-----	-----	-----	-----	Claim of Pedro Poso, Sutton's report, No. 49, in township 10 south, ranges 7 and 8 east. Approved and paid for.
8	-----	-----	-----	-----	Claim of Antonio Courvel, Sutton's report, No. 22, in townships 10 and 11 north, ranges 7 and 8 east. Approved and paid for; the part not paid at date of late report.
8	-----	-----	-----	-----	Claim of Santiago Del Rio, Sutton's report, No. 29, in township 10 north, ranges 7 and 8 east. Approved and paid for.
8	-----	-----	-----	-----	Claim of Jonathan Thompson, R. & R., 1815, No. 133, township 8 north, range 9 east. Approved and paid for.
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	Claim of Curry and Garland. Approved.
-----	-----	Paid by claimants.	-----	-----	-----

WM. J. McCULLOH,
Surveyor General of Louisiana.

B.

Statement showing the estimated amount of liabilities of the surveying department in Louisiana for surveys under contract and instructions, on the 1st of October, 1853, exclusive of the Greensburg district.

Description of surveys.	Estimated number of miles.	Price per mile.	Estimated amount of contract.	Name of surveyor.	Date of contract or instructions.	Remarks.
<i>Southwestern district.</i>						
Township 10 south, range 4 east	180	\$8	\$1,440 00	John Campbell....	Instructions of May 5, 1852.	Formerly included in contract of Walsh and Campbell, dated October 7, 1842.
Township 5 south, range 1 east, 85 miles; township 6 south, range 1 east, 85 miles; township 3 south, range 2 east, 60 miles.	230	8	1,840 00	A. G. Phelps.....	Jan. 21, 1851	Surveyor dead. Instructions issued to A. S. Phelps July 20, 1852, to examine and complete.
Township 6 south, range 4 east, 200 miles; township 8 south, range 5 east, 150 miles; township 8 south, range 6 east, 150 miles.	500	8	4,000 00	Wm. J. McCulloh.	Nov. 11, 1852	Appointed surveyor general. Township 6 south, range 4 east, returned.
Township 9 south, range 5 east, 180 miles; township 9 south, range 6 east, 150 miles; township 10 south, range 5 east, 160 miles; township 10 south, range 6 east, 200 miles; township 11 south, range 5 east, 80 miles.	770	8	6,160 00	Charles J. Cabell..	Jan. 29, 1853	Township 9 south, range 6 east, returned; not finally examined.
Total			\$13,440 00			

Northwestern district.

Township 11 north, range 8 west, 100 miles; township 11 north, range 9 west, 20 miles; township 15 north, range 12 west, 15 miles; township 15 north, range 13 west, 5 miles; township 16 north, range 12 west, 50 miles; township 16 north, range 13 west, 80 miles; township 17 north, range 13 west, 50 miles.	300	8	2,400 00	Thomas Hunter...	Mar. 29, 1853	Not yet returned. These surveys, except township 11 north, ranges 8 and 9 west, are adjacent to the Grappe claim.
Township 7 and 8 north, range 5 west.	30	8	240 00 .....	..... do	Instructions of Aug. 5, 1853.	Claims of Leclair, Himines, Mindez, and Slaughter. Sutton's Rept., Nos. 2, 4, 16, 17.
Township 7 north, range 4 west.....	5	8	40 00 .....	..... do	Instructions of Aug. 5, 1853.	Claim of Frederick Williams. Register and receiver's report of 1837, No. 36; supposed to be in township 7, range 4 west.
Township 9 north, range 9 west.....	5	8	40 00 .....	..... do	Instruction of Mar. 19, 1852, April 2 and July 15, 1853.	Claim of John Hartman, legal representative of Antonio Mora. Register and receiver, 1840, No. 154.
Township 8 north, range 8 west.....	5	8	40 00 .....	..... do	Mar. 30 and July 15, 1853	Claim of Asa Hickman. Register and receiver, 1840, No. 151.
Total			2,760 00			
<i>Southeastern district.</i>						
Township 5 south, range 9 east, west of Mississippi river.	105	5	525 00	Andrew Crawford .	Oct. 28, 1842	Including lines in townships 4 and 6 south, range 9 east, necessary to complete township 5 south, range 9 east.
Township 5 south, range 10 east, 216 miles; township 5 south, range 11 east, 160 miles, west of Mississippi river.	376	8	3,008 00 .....	..... do	Oct. 28, 1842	Including lines in townships 4 and 6 south, ranges 10 and 11 east, necessary to complete township 5 south, ranges 10 and 11 east
Township 12 south, range 8 east, 80 miles; township 13 south, range 8 east, 10 miles; township 11 south, range 9 east, 10 miles; township 12 south, range 9 east, 80 miles; township 13 south, range 9 east, 10 miles; all east of the Mississippi.	190	8	1,530 00	Samuel Perin.....	Feb. 12, 1851	Partial returns made; to be corrected.

B—Continued.

Description of surveys.	Estimated number of miles.	Price per mile.	Estimated amount of contract.	Name of surveyor.	Date of contract or instructions.	Remarks.
Township 17 south, range 16 east, west of Mississippi river.	7	\$8	\$56 00	Silas Taylor	Instructions of May 28, 1852.	Completion of claim of R. Martin. Harper's Report, No. 34.
Township 12 south, range 16 east, 100 miles; township 12 south, range 17 east, 80 miles; township 12 south, range 20 east, 25 miles; township 13 south, range 16 east, 45 miles; township 13 south, range 17 east, 40 miles; township 13 south, range 20 east, 170 miles; township 13 south, range 22 east, 90 miles; township 11 south, range 6 east, 70 miles; the latter east of Mississippi river.	620	8	4,690 00	A. J. Powell.....	Jan. 6, 1853	Township 13 south, range 16 east, returned, but not sufficiently complete to be finally examined.
Township 14 south, range 21 east, 70 miles; township 14 south, range 22 east, 80 miles.	150	7	1,050 00 .....	.....do.....	Jan. 6, 1853.	
Township 3 south, range 8 east, 60 miles; township 3 south, range 9 east, 65 miles; west of Mississippi.	125	8	1,000 00	Thomas Mullett...	Mar. 4, 1853	No returns yet.
Township 13 south, range 23 east, 60 miles; township 13 south, range 24 east, 60 miles; township 14 south, range 23 east, 150 miles; township 14 south, range 24 east, 100 miles.	370	8	2,960 00	William Sevey....	Mar. 12, 1853	All west of Mississippi river.
Total			15,079 00			

District north of Red river

Township 18 north, range 3 east, 90 miles; township 18 north, range 4 east, 175 miles.	265	8	2,120 00	W. W. Farmer.....	Dec. 7, 1850	The execution of this contract was suspended to enable the surveyor to complete that of September 11, 1851, in the Maison Rouge claim.
The north and east boundaries of townships 21 and 22, and north, east, and west boundaries of township 23 north, range 4 east; north and east boundaries of townships 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23 north, ranges 5 and 6 east; and north boundaries of townships 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23, range 7 east.	222	8	1,776 00	C. J. Cabell.....	Nov. 19, 1851	Surveyor compelled by high water to suspend operations until present season.
Interior lines of 3 of the above townships.	180	7	1,260 00 .....	.....do.....	Nov. 19, 1851	Surveyor compelled by high water to suspend operations until present season.
The north and east boundaries of townships 22 and 23 north, ranges 8, 9, and 10 east; north boundary of township 21 north, range 9 east; and west boundary of townships 22 and 23, range 8 east.	90	8	720 00	Silas Taylor	Nov. 22, 1851	Nearly all returned.
Interior lines of township 22 north, range 10 east.	60	7	420 00 .....	.....do.....	Nov. 22, 1851	Nearly all returned.
Township 7 north, range 4 east; 120 miles; township 8 north, range 5 east, 80 miles.	200	8	1,600 00	N. H. Phelps.....	Nov. 4, 1852.	
Township 19 north, range 9 east; township 20 and 21 north, range 9 east, 70 miles each; township 19 north, range 10 east, 5 miles.	215	7	1,505 00	A. B. Clack	Nov. 9, 1852	Bastrop grant.*
Townships 19, 20, and 21 north, range 8 east, 70 miles each.	210	7	1,470 00	Henry Curtis	Nov. 9, 1852	Bastrop grant.*
Township 22 north, range 9 east; township 23 north, ranges 9 and 10 east, 76 miles each.	228	7	1,596 00	Robert Boyd	Nov. 19, 1852	Bastrop grant.*

* Surveys in these three contracts interrupted by high water.

B—Continued.

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Description of surveys.	Estimated number of miles.	Price per mile.	Estimated amount of contract.	Name of surveyor.	Date of contract or instructions.	Remarks.
Township 18 north, range 6 east, 65 miles; township 18 north, range 7 east, 100 miles.	165	\$7	\$1,155 00	A. B. Clack	Mar. 1, 1853	Surveys returned.
Total .....			..... \$13,622 00			
Total amount of liabilities .....			..... 44,901 00			

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Donaldsonville, Louisiana, October 1, 1853

WM. J. McCULLOH,
Surveyor General of Louisiana.

S. Doc. 1.

C.—Statement showing the estimated amount of liabilities of the department for surveys under contract and instructions in the Greensburg district, Louisiana.

13	Surveyor's name.	Date of contract.	Description of surveys.	Estimated number of miles.	Price per mile.	Amount of contract.	Remarks.
	J. Claxton Taylor	Dec. 1, 1846	Township 7 south, range 1 west, 90 miles; township 8 south, range 1 west, 60 miles; township 7 south, range 2 east, 90 miles; townships 8 and 9 south, ranges 8 and 9 east, 35 miles.	275	\$3 00	\$2, 200 00	Not returned.
	Samuel C. Hepburn	Mar. 14, 1852	Township 3 south, range 1 east, 110 miles; township 4 south, range 1 east, 120 miles; township 4 south, range 1 west, 100 miles; township 1 south, range 3 west, 100 miles; township 1 south, range 4 west, 100 miles.	539	8 00	4, 240 00	Township 4 south, range 1 east, and township 4 south, range 1 west, returned.
	Joseph Gorlinski	Nov. 8, 1852	Township 7 south, range 4 east, 66 miles; townships 8 and 9 south, range 4 east, 120 miles; township 5 south, range 4 east, 66 miles.	252	8 00	2, 016 00	All returned.
	R. C. Brent	Dec. 4, 1852	Township 6 south, ranges 1 and 2 west, 100 miles.	100	8 00	800 00	
	Theodore Gillespie	Dec. 29, 1852	Township 5 south, range 1 west, 120 miles; township 5 south, range 2 west, 70 miles.	190	8 00	1, 520 00	
			Townships 8 and 9 south, range 6 east, 122 miles.....	122	8 00	976 00	
			Total			11, 752 00	
			Add the following unsettled accounts, viz:				
			George C. Vanzandt, for township 9 south, range 13 east; sent up December 22, 1846			726 27	
			H. T. Williams, for township 1 north, ranges 5 and 6 west; sent up June 30, 1847			386 11	
			Total of liabilities.			12, 864 38	

S. Doc. 1.

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W. J. McCULLOH, Surveyor General of Louisiana.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Donaldsonville, La., October 1, 1853.

Proposed surveys in the State of Louisiana for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1855, including those already authorized by appropriations.

Districts and townships.	Estimated number of miles.	Price per mile.	Amount at augmented rates.	Remarks.
SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT.				
Township 2 south, range 1 east, 70 miles; township 1 south, range 3 east, 70 miles; township 2 south, range 2 east, 80 miles; township 3 south, range 1 east, 100 miles; township 4 south, range 3 east, 150 miles; township 5 south, range 3 east, 175 miles; township 15 south, range 11 east, 20 miles; townships 3, 4, and 5 south, range 12 west; and townships 4, 5, and 6 south, range 13 west, 75 miles.	740	\$3	\$5,920	Estimated in 1848. Townships in ranges 12 and 13 west; traverse of Sabine river.
Township 2 south, range 3 east, 70 miles; township 14 south, range 8 east, 20 miles; township 15 south, range 7 east, 30 miles; township 15 south, range 13 east, 10 miles; township 16 south, range 10 east, 20 miles.	150	8	1,200	Estimated in 1849, 1850, 1851, and 1852
<i>New proposed surveys.</i>				
Township 1 south, range 1 east, 75 miles.....	75	8	600	

Townships 7, 8, 9, and 10 south, range 13 west...	32	8	256	Traverse of Sabine river.
Total.....			7,976	
NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT.				
Township 7 north, range 10 west.....	30	8	240	Estimated in report of 1852.
DISTRICT NORTH OF RED RIVER.				
Township 23 north, range 3 east.....	30	7	210	Estimated in reports of 1851 and 1852; an unfinished portion of the township; probably swamp; if so, not to be surveyed.
Township 18 north, range 4 east, 20 miles; township 19 north, range 4 east, 60 miles.	80	7	560	
Township 20 north, range 4 east, 80 miles; township 21 north, range 4 east, 80 miles.	160	7	1,120	Estimated in reports of 1851 and 1852; embraced by the Bastrop grant.
Township 22 north, range 4 east, 80 miles; township 23 north, range 4 east, 80 miles.	160	7	1,120	
Township 18 north, range 5 east; and township 19 north, ranges 5, 6, and 7 east, 80 miles each.	320	7	2,240	
Township 20 north, ranges 5, 6, and 7 east, 80 miles each; and township 21 north, ranges 5, 6, and 7 east, 80 miles each.	480	7	3,360	
Township 22 north, ranges 5, 6, 7, and 8 east, 80 miles each; township 23 north, ranges 5, 6, 7, and 8 east, 80 miles each.	640	7	4,480	
Township 16 north, range 11 east, 100 miles.....	100	8	800	Webster and McCollam's survey reported fraudulent. (See surveyor general's letter of May 19, 1852.)
Total.....			13,890	
SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT, EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.				
Township 11 south, range 12 east, 15 miles; township 12 south, range 10 east, 90 miles; township 13 south, range 10 east, 20 miles; township 16 south, range 13 east, 60 miles;	495	8	3,960	Estimated in reports of 1849, 1850, and 1852

Districts and townships.	Estimated number of miles.	Price per mile.	Amount at augmented rates.	Remarks.
<p>SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT, EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER—Continued.</p> <p>township 16 south, range 14 east, 20 miles; township 17 south, range 14 east, 70 miles; township 17 south, range 15 east, 20 miles; township 18 south, range 15 east, 40 miles; township 18 south, range 16 east, 40 miles; township 19 south, ranges 16 and 17 east, 60 miles each.</p>				
<p>SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT, WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.</p> <p>Township 12 south, range 14 east, 10 miles; township 13 south, range 13 east, 10 miles; township 13 south, range 14 east, 120 miles; township 14 south, range 13 east, 6 miles; township 14 south, range 18 east, 60 miles; township 14 south, range 19 east, 80 miles; township 14 south, range 20 east, 70 miles; township 15 south, range 13 east, 80 miles; township 15 south, range 16 east, 30 miles; township 15 south, range 17 east, 20 miles; township 15 south, range 18 east, 20 miles; township 15 south, range 20 east, 70 miles;</p>	1,048	\$8	\$8,384	Estimated in reports of 1849, 1850, and 1852.

township 15 south, range 21 east, 70 miles;				
township 17 south, range 19 east, 20 miles;				
township 17 south, range 20 east, 5 miles;				
township 17 south, range 21 east, 7 miles;				
township 18 south, range 18 east, 60 miles;				
township 18 south, range 19 east, 80 miles;				
township 19 south, range 17 east, 40 miles;				
township 19 south, range 18 east, 80 miles;				
township 19 south, range 19 east, 20 miles;				
township 20 south, range 18 east, 80 miles;				
township 20 south, range 29 east, 10 miles.				
Township 4 south, range 10 east, 175 miles;	330	8	2,640	Proposed anew; original surveys erroneous, or do not agree with the confirmations.
township 15 south, range 12 east, 10 miles;				
township 17 south, range 17 east, 30 miles;				
township 17 south, range 18 east, 60 miles;				
township 20 south, range 30 east, 20 miles;				
township 13 south, range 18 east, 35 miles.				
Township 15 south, range 19 east, 60 miles;	190	8	1,520	Original surveys in "Florian" claim.
township 16 south, range 20 east, 80 miles;				
township 16 south, range 21 east, 50 miles.				
Township 6 south, range 9 east, 210 miles.....	210	8	1,680	Formerly included in contract of A. W. Warren.
Total.....			18,184	
Total of proposed surveys.....			40,290	

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Donaldsonville, Louisiana, October 1, 1853.

WM. J. McCULLOH,
Surveyor General of Louisiana.

E.

Estimate of funds to be appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1855, viz: for surveys in Louisiana; for the compensation of the surveyor general, and the clerks in his office; and for the contingent expenses of the surveyor general's office.

Present liabilities for unpaid surveys under contract and instructions—			
Southwestern district	\$13,440 00		
Northwestern district	2,760 00		
Southeastern district.....	15,079 03		
North of Red River district.....	13,622 00		
Greensburg district	12,864 38		
		\$57,765 38	
Proposed surveys of this and former years—			
Southwestern district	7,976 00		
Northwestern district	240 00		
North of Red River district.....	13,890 00		
Southeastern district.....	18,184 00		
		40,290 00	
Total liabilities, actual and proposed		98,055 38	
Appropriations on hand.....		79,987 37	
Amount to be appropriated for surveys.....			\$18,068 01
For salaries—			
Compensation of surveyor general.....	2,000 00		
Four clerks, for current business of the office.....	4,400 00		
Four clerks, to be employed in examining and protracting surveyors' returns.....	4,400 00		
Two draughtsmen, preparing maps, &c.....	2,400 00		
		13,200 00	
Salary and expenses of surveyor of private claims.....		3,000 00	
			16,200 00
For contingent expenses—			
Rent of rooms for surveyor general's office.....		400 00	
For stationery, furniture, postage, bookbinding, freight, documents from registers, fuel, servant hire, &c.....		1,200 00	
			1,600 00
Total amount of appropriations required for the year ending June 30, 1855.....			35,868 01

WM. J. McCULLOH,
Surveyor General of Louisiana.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Donaldsonville, La., October 1, 1853.

F.

Statement of swamp lands accruing to the State of Louisiana under the provisions of an act of Congress approved September 28, 1850, excepting such portions thereof as are rightfully claimed or owned by individuals, listed since October 20, 1852, by the surveyor general of Louisiana, in accordance with instructions from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, dated November 21, 1850.

Southeastern district, west of the Mississippi river, La.

Township.	Range.	Land surveyed.	Estimated un-surveyed.	Total.
		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
6 S.....	7 E.....	396.15	.....	396.15
7 S.....	9 E.....	498.22	.....	498.22
7 S.....	11 E.....	1,242.48	.....	1,242.48
9 S.....	12 E.....	405.06	.....	405.06
10 S.....	13 E.....	12.88	.....	12.88
11 S.....	12 E.....	125.72	.....	125.72
13 S.....	25 E.....	217.60	.....	217.60
14 S.....	25 E.....	323.41	.....	323.41
16 S.....	12 E.....	4,003.01	.....	4,003.01
16 S.....	13 E.....	3,157.21	2,560.00	5,717.21
17 S.....	17 E.....	2,001.80	.....	2,001.80
18 S.....	16 E.....	.....	23,040.00	23,040.00
		12,383.54	25,600.00	37,983.54

Southeastern district, east of the Mississippi river.

15 S.....	13 E.....	765.81	765.81
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Southwestern district.

3 S.....	4 E.....	805.56	805.56
4 S.....	4 E.....	5,927.00	5,927.00
9 S.....	9 E.....	2,107.70	2,107.70
10 S.....	3 E.....	1,812.23	.....	1,812.23
10 S.....	8 E.....	18,264.42	.....	18,264.42
10 S.....	9 E.....	2,111.62	.....	2,111.62
10 S.....	10 E.....	10,466.78	.....	10,466.78
10 S.....	11 E.....	7,375.92	.....	7,375.92
11 S.....	3 E.....	2,240.10	.....	2,240.10
11 S.....	8 E.....	8,182.27	.....	8,182.27
11 S.....	10 E.....	2,387.45	.....	2,387.45
12 S.....	8 E.....	6,521.09	.....	6,521.09
13 S.....	7 E.....	554.00	.....	554.00
13 S.....	8 E.....	2,211.31	.....	2,211.31
13 S.....	9 E.....	3,880.05	.....	3,880.05
13 S.....	10 E.....	696.69	.....	696.69
13 S.....	10 E.....	1,086.34	.....	1,086.34
14 S.....	7 E.....	10,577.40	9,163.25	19,740.65
14 S.....	9 E.....	3,622.72	1,498.00	5,120.72
14 S.....	10 E.....	1,876.77	.....	1,876.77

F—Continued.

Southwestern district—Continued.

Township.	Range.	Land surveyed.	Estimated un- surveyed.	Total.
		<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
15 S.....	9 E.....	1, 130. 81	20, 077. 00	21, 207. 81
15 S.....	10 E.....	5, 528. 24	.....	5, 528. 24
15 S.....	11 E.....	272. 83	.....	272. 83
15 S.....	12 E.....	1, 408. 22	.....	1, 408. 22
16 S.....	11 E.....	7, 232. 29	12, 160. 00	19, 392. 29
17 S.....	9 E.....	4, 236. 72	4, 509. 32	8, 746. 04
18 S.....	9 E.....	16. 16	.....	16. 16
12 S.....	9 W.....	323. 97	.....	323. 97
14 S.....	9 W.....	1, 900. 98	.....	1, 900. 98
15 S.....	9 W.....	2, 701. 60	.....	2, 701. 60
15 S.....	10 W.....	3, 210. 46	.....	3, 210. 46
15 S.....	12 W.....	4, 493. 69	.....	4, 493. 69
1 N.....	2 E.....	12, 638. 94	.....	12, 638. 94
1 N.....	3 E.....	9, 837. 28	.....	9, 837. 28
2 N.....	3 E.....	8, 925. 12	.....	8, 925. 12
3 N.....	1 E.....	1, 547. 48	.....	1, 547. 48
3 N.....	4 E.....	614. 56	.....	614. 56
3 N.....	1 W.....	479. 92	.....	479. 92
3 N.....	2 W.....	160. 95	.....	160. 95
6 N.....	3 W.....	33. 49	.....	33. 49
		159, 401. 13	47, 407. 57	206, 808. 70

District north of Red river.

2 N.....	7 E.....	1, 423. 50	.....	1, 423. 50
2 N.....	8 E.....	8, 670. 91	.....	8, 670. 91
3 N.....	6 E.....	1, 578. 26	.....	1, 578. 26
3 N.....	7 E.....	5, 509. 50	.....	5, 509. 50
3 N.....	8 E.....	4, 802. 50	.....	4, 802. 50
4 N.....	8 E.....	338. 10	.....	338. 10
4 N.....	9 E.....	4, 462. 69	.....	4, 462. 69
5 N.....	10 E.....	728. 48	.....	728. 48
6 N.....	9 E.....	4, 051. 25	.....	4, 051. 25
8 N.....	9 E.....	3, 617. 56	.....	3, 617. 56
8 N.....	10 E.....	5, 303. 79	.....	5, 303. 79
9 N.....	10 E.....	3, 284. 00	.....	3, 284. 00
9 N.....	11 E.....	1, 479. 98	.....	1, 479. 98
11 N.....	13 E.....	489. 61	.....	489. 61
13 N.....	5 E.....	22, 031. 10	.....	22, 031. 10
13 N.....	13 E.....	7, 622. 83	.....	7, 622. 83
14 N.....	4 E.....	10, 915. 91	.....	10, 915. 91
14 N.....	13 E.....	6, 415. 57	.....	6, 415. 57
14 N.....	14 E.....	3, 932. 37	.....	3, 932. 37
15 N.....	13 E.....	10, 953. 15	.....	10, 953. 15
15 N.....	14 E.....	2, 528. 78	.....	2, 528. 78
15 N.....	15 E.....	2, 933. 74	.....	2, 933. 74
16 N.....	12 E.....	3, 356. 26	.....	3, 356. 26
16 N.....	14 E.....	4, 561. 24	.....	4, 561. 24
16 N.....	15 E.....	1, 793. 99	.....	1, 793. 99
7 N.....	10 E.....	11, 881. 62	.....	11, 881. 62

F—Continued.

District north of Red river—Continued.

Township.	Range.	Land surveyed.	Estimated un-surveyed.	Total.
		<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
17 N.....	11 E.....	6,462.23	.....	*6,462.23
17 N.....	14 E.....	644.00	.....	644.00
18 N.....	10 E.....	5,212.39	.....	5,212.39
18 N.....	11 E.....	12,196.10	.....	12,196.10
18 N.....	13 E.....	6,112.97	.....	6,112.97
19 N.....	10 E.....	699.04	.....	699.04
19 N.....	11 E.....	9,650.85	.....	9,650.85
19 N.....	13 E.....	4,280.73	.....	4,280.73
19 N.....	14 E.....	1,277.75	.....	1,277.75
20 N.....	3 E.....	2,941.50	1,472.87	4,414.37
20 N.....	10 E.....	1,955.28	.....	1,955.28
20 N.....	11 E.....	15,768.10	.....	*15,768.10
20 N.....	13 E.....	5,358.63	.....	5,358.63
21 N.....	10 E.....	538.29	.....	538.29
21 N.....	11 E.....	13,118.55	.....	*13,118.55
21 N.....	12 E.....	1,022.67	.....	1,022.67
21 N.....	13 E.....	2,999.14	.....	2,999.14
22 N.....	11 E.....	4,462.52	.....	4,462.52
22 N.....	12 E.....	7,642.57	.....	7,642.57
22 N.....	13 E.....	13,550.68	.....	13,550.68
23 N.....	12 E.....	2,179.22	.....	2,179.22
		252,739.90	1,472.87	254,212.77

Northwestern district.

4 N.....	4 W.....	157.76	.....	157.76
5 N.....	4 W.....	302.28	.....	302.28
6 N.....	4 W.....	77.55	.....	77.55
7 N.....	8 W.....	663.07	.....	*663.07
10 N.....	7 W.....	909.94	.....	*909.94
10 N.....	8 W.....	13,584.20	.....	13,584.20
10 N.....	9 W.....	14,604.63	.....	14,604.63
20 N.....	14 W.....	1,042.24	.....	1,042.24
22 N.....	7 W.....	439.76	.....	439.76
22 N.....	9 W.....	2,687.85	.....	2,687.85
23 N.....	9 W.....	1,939.79	.....	1,939.79
23 N.....	10 W.....	5,264.86	.....	5,264.86
		41,673.93	.....	41,673.93

Greensburg district.

4 S.....	10 E.....	2,156.72	.....	2,156.72
5 S.....	10 E.....	2,130.02	.....	2,130.02
5 S.....	11 E.....	1,979.28	.....	1,979.28
6 S.....	10 E.....	1,663.58	.....	1,663.58

* Two lists.

F—Continued.

Greensburg district—Continued.

Township.	Range.	Land surveyed.	Estimated un-	Total
		<i>Acres.</i>	surveyed.	<i>Acres.</i>
6 S.....	13 E.....	4,163.30	.....	4,163.30
6 S.....	14 E.....	.....	2,005.90	2,005.90
6 S.....	15 E.....	29.48	.....	29.48
7 S.....	13 E.....	758.52	.....	758.52
7 S.....	14 E.....	7,276.50	2,693.96	9,970.46
10 S.....	14 E.....	3,257.59	.....	3,257.59
10 S.....	15 E.....	10,357.07	.....	10,357.07
10 S.....	16 E.....	7,891.22	.....	7,891.22
2 S.....	4 W.....	316.18	1,041.48	1,357.66
3 S.....	4 W.....	6,636.84	7,337.40	14,024.24
2 S.....	3 W.....	128.28	.....	128.28
		48,744.58	13,128.74	61,873.32

RECAPITULATION.

Total area of swamp lands selected in the southeastern district west of Mississippi river.....	37,983.54
Total area of swamp lands selected in the southeastern district east of Mississippi river.....	765.81
Total area of swamp lands selected in the southwestern district.....	206,808.70
Do.....do.....district north of Red river.....	254,212.77
Do.....do.....northwestern district.....	41,673.93
Do.....do.....Greensburg district.....	61,873.32
Grand total.....	603,318.07

But the net total to be added to selections made up to date of last report, is only 587,479.89 acres.

WM. J. McCULLOH,
Surveyor General of Louisiana.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Donaldsonville, La., October 1, 1853.

G.

List of documents, representing surveys, sent to the General Land Office, and to the district land offices, since the 20th of October 1852, to date, (October 1, 1853.)

General Land Office.	District offices.	District.	Remarks.
Map of township 10 north, range 9 west.....	Map of township 10 north, range 9 west.....	Northwestern.	
Map of township 10 north, range 8 west.....	Map of township 10 north, range 8 west.....	.....do.....	
Diagram of township 11 north, range 8 west.	Diagram of township 11 north, range 8 west.	.....do.....	Sections 36, 38 to 43, and 45 to 50, inclusive.
Diagram of township 11 north, range 9 west.	Diagram of township 11 north, range 9 west.	.....do.....	Section 47; south of Red river.
Map of township 22 north, range 7 west.....	Map of township 22 north, range 7 west.....	.....do.....	
Map of township 22 north, range 9 west.....	Map of township 22 north, range 9 west.....	.....do.....	
Map of township 23 north, range 9 west.....	Map of township 23 north, range 9 west.....	.....do.....	
Map of township 23 north, range 10 west.....	Map of township 23 north, range 10 west.....	.....do.....	
Diagram .....	.....do.....	North of Red river.	Exterior lines of townships 19 and 20 north, ranges 8 and 9 east; township 21, range 8 east; and township 20 north, range 10 east.
Diagram of township 10 north, range 7 east..	Diagram of township 10 north, range 7 east..	.....do.....	Sections 1, 11, 12, 13, 14, 23, 25, 26, 37, 40, 41, and 42.
Diagram of township 10 north, range 8 east..	Diagram of township 10 north, range 8 east..	.....do.....	Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 18, 37, 47, 49, and 50.
Map of township 6 north, range 7 east	Map of township 6 north, range 7 east .....	.....do.....	
Map of township 7 north, range 7 east	Map of township 7 north, range 7 east .....	.....do.....	
Diagram of township 7 north, range 6 east ..	Diagram of township 7 north, range 6 east..	.....do.....	Sections 44 and 46.
Plat .....	.....do.....	.....do.....	Claim of Curry and Garland, townships 6 and 7 north, range 7 east, and township 7 north, range 6 east.
Map of township 5 north, range 3 west.....	Map of township 5 north, range 3 west.....	.....do.....	
Map of township 20 north, range 10 east ..	Map of township 20 north, range 10 east ..	.....do.....	
Diagram of township 8 north, range 9 east ..	Diagram of township 8 north, range 9 east..	.....do.....	Sections 23 to 29, inclusive, 41, 55, and 57.
Map of township 14 north, range 4 east	Map of township 14 north, range 4 east .....	.....do.....	
Map of township 21 north, range 10 east	Map of township 21 north, range 10 east .....	.....do.....	
Plat of township 9 south, range 7 west.....	Plat of township 9 south, range 7 west.....	Southwestern.	In duplicate, claim of J. M. and T. Armand.
Map of township 8 south, range 2 east	Map of township 8 south, range 2 east .....	.....do.....	
Diagram of township 8 south, range 1 east...	Diagram of township 8 south, range 1 east...	.....do.....	Sections 37 to 43, inclusive.
Diagram of township 9 south, range 1 east...	Diagram of township 9 south, range 1 east...	.....do.....	Sections 46, 47, 48, and 49.
Diagram of township 9 south, range 2 east...	Diagram of township 9 south, range 2 east...	.....do.....	Sections 9, 10, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 50, and 51.
Map of township 8 south, range 4 east	Map of township 8 south, range 4 east .....	.....do.....	

G—Continued.

General Land Office.	District offices.	District.	Remarks.
Diagram of township 8 south, range 5 east...	Diagram of township 8 south, range 5 east...	Southwestern.	Sections 1 to 55, inclusive, 66, 68, 69, and 71 to 86, inclusive.
Diagram of township 9 south, range 4 east...	Diagram of township 9 south, range 4 east...	do.	Sections 1, 71, and 72.
Diagram of township 9 south, range 5 east...	Diagram of township 9 south, range 5 east...	do.	Section 37
Diagram of township 6 south, range 2 east...	Diagram of township 6 south, range 2 east...	do.	Sections 32, 49, 50, 51, and 52.
Map of township 11 south, range 3 east...	Map of township 11 south, range 3 east...	do.	
Diagram of township 13 south, range 9 east..	Diagram of township 13 south, range 9 east..	do.	Sections 22, 23, 27, 34, 5, and 11.
Plat of township 13 south, range 9 east .....	.....	do.	Chetimachas Indians, sections 22, 23, 27, and 34.
Plat of township 13 south, range 9 east .....	.....	do.	M. R. Pecot, section 5.
Plat of township 13 south, range 9 east .....	.....	do.	Fuselier and Evans, section 11.
Map of township 10 south, range 3 east	Map of township 10 south, range 3 east	do.	
Map of township 17 south, range 9 east	Map of township 17 south, range 9 east	do.	
Diagram of township 16 south, range 9 east..	Diagram of township 16 south, range 9 east..	do.	Sections 17 and 34.
Diagram of township 8 south, range 3 east...	Diagram of township 8 south, range 3 east...	do.	Subdivisions of sections 31 to 36, inclusive.
Diagram of township 8 south, range 4 east...	Diagram of township 8 south, range 4 east...	do.	Subdivisions of sections 31 to 36, inclusive.
	Map of township 12 south, range 10 east	Southeastern .	
	Map of township 13 south, range 10 east	do.	
Diagram of township 13 south, range 13 east.	Diagram of township 13 south, range 13 east.	do.	Sections 30 and 31.
Map of township 17 south, range 17 east	Map of township 17 south, range 17 east	do.	
Diagram of township 17 south, range 18 east.	Diagram of township 17 south, range 18 east.	do.	Section 21.
Map of township 13 south, range 25 east	Map of township 13 south, range 25 east	do.	
Map of township 14 south, range 25 east	Map of township 14 south, range 25 east	do.	
	Map of township 6 south, range 1 east	Greensburg ..	Copy.
Diagram of township 2 south, range 4 east ..	Diagram of township 2 south, range 4 east...	do.	Sections 51, 53, and 54.
Map of township 4 south, range 10 east	Map of township 4 south, range 10 east	do.	
Map of township 5 south, range 10 east	Map of township 5 south, range 10 east	do.	
	Plat of township 2 south, range 4 east.....	do.	Section 51, claim of Philip Simms, in duplicate.
	Plat of township 2 south, range 4 east.....	do.	Section 54, claim of William Reddin, in duplicate.
	Plat of township 2 south, range 4 east.....	do.	Section 53, claim of William Reddin, in duplicate.
	Map of township 3 south, range 3 west.....	do.	
	Diagram of township 3 south, range 4 west..	do.	Section 37, to replace that lost in transmission by mail.

	Diagram of township 3 south, range 2 west	do.....	Section 107, to replace that lost in transmission by mail.
Map of township 5 south, range 11 east	Map of township 5 south, range 11 east	do.....	
Map of township 7 south, range 13 east	Map of township 7 south, range 13 east	do.....	
Map of township 6 south, range 13 east	Map of township 6 south, range 13 east	do.....	
	Plat of township 7 south, range 7 east.....	do.....	Section 42, claim of Josiah Drigar, in duplicate.
	Plat of township 7 south, range 7 east.....	do.....	Section 57, claim of Josiah and Jonathan Drigar, in duplicates.
	Map of township 8 south, range 15 east	do.....	
	Map of township 8 south, range 16 east	do.....	
Map of township 6 south, range 10 east	Map of township 6 south, range 10 east	do.....	
Map of township 7 south, range 1 east	Map of township 7 south, range 1 east	do.....	
Diagram of township 6 south, range 1 east...	Diagram of township 6 south, range 1 east...	do.....	Section 68.
Map of township 7 south, range 14 east	Map of township 7 south, range 14 east	do.....	
Map of township 6 south, range 15 east	Map of township 6 south, range 15 east	do.....	
Diagram of township 6 south, range 14 east..	Diagram of township 6 south, range 14 east..	do.....	Sections 42, 43, and 44.
	Plat of township 7 south, range 1 east	do.....	Section 65, claim of John Trummel, in duplicate.
Map of township 3 south, range 4 west.....	Map of township 3 south, range 4 east	do.....	
Map of township 1 south, range 1 east	Map of township 1 south, range 1 east	do.....	
Map of township 6 south, range 1 east	Map of township 6 south, range 1 east	do.....	
Diagram of township 5 south, range 1 east...	.....	do.....	Sections 50 and 52.
Map of township 1 south, range 1 west.....	.....	do.....	
Diagram of township 2 south, range 1 west ..	.....	do.....	Sections 3, 4, 5, 8, 78, 79, and 80.
Map of township 6 south, range 4 east .....	.....	do.....	
Map of township 5 south, range 1 east .....	.....	do.....	
	Plat of township 8 south, range 1 east	do.....	Sections 46 and 47, claim of James Neilson, in duplicate.
	Plat of township 15 south, range 7 east	do.....	Section 42, claim of John Tate, in duplicate.
	Plat of township 8 south, range 1 east	do.....	Section 53, claim of George D. Passau, in duplicate.
Map of township 2 south, range 4 west.....	Map of township 2 south, range 4 west.....	do.....	
Diagram of township 2 south, range 3 west ..	Diagram of township 2 south, range 3 west ..	do.....	Sections 30, 44, 87, 104, 105, and 106.
Diagram of township 1 south, range 4 west ..	Diagram of township 1 south, range 4 west ..	do.....	Section 58.
	Map of township 1 south, range 1 west.....	do.....	
	Diagram of township 2 south, range 1 west ..	do.....	Sections 3, 4, 5, 8, 78, 79, and 80.
	Map of township 6 south, range 4 east	do.....	
	Map of township 5 south, range 1 east	do.....	
	Diagram of township 5 south, range 1 east ..	do.....	Sections 50 and 52.

RECAPITULATION.

Documents.	General Land Office.	District offices.	Total.
Maps	36	42	78
Diagrams	27	28	55
Plats	4	20	24
Swamp lists, (document F)	132	132	264
Total number of documents.....	.....	.....	421

WM. J. McCULLOH,
Surveyor General of Louisiana.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Donaldsonville, La., October 1, 1853.

H.

List of deputy surveyors in the State of Louisiana holding commissions from Wm. J. McCulloh, surveyor general of Louisiana.

Names.	Date of commission.	Date of oath.	Residence.	How employed.
William Sevey.....	July 1, 1853	July 1, 1853	Donaldsonville.....	To locate claims in the State of Louisiana.
J. Claxton Taylor.....	July 6, 1853	July 9, 1853	Baton Rouge.....	Contract in Greensburg district.
William H. Orsborn.....	July 7, 1853	July 7, 1853	Parish of Rapides.....	
John J. Knowlton.....	do.....	July 9, 1853	Parish of W. Feliciana.....	
Charles Joseph Cabell.....	July 8, 1853	do.....	Donaldsonville.....	Contract in southwest and North of Red River districts.
A. J. Powell.....	do.....	July 11, 1853	do.....	Contract in southeastern district.
Joseph Gorlinski.....	do.....	do.....	Baton Rouge.....	Contract in Greensburg district.
A. L. Fields.....	do.....	July 13, 1853	Franklin.....	
Noah H. Phelps.....	do.....	do.....	Harrisonburg.....	Contract in district north of Red river.
Andrew Crawford.....	do.....	do.....	Parish of Point Coupée.....	Contract in southeastern district.
Thomas Hunter.....	do.....	July 15, 1853	Parish of Natchitoches.....	Contract in northwestern district.
Andrew B. Clack.....	do.....	July 22, 1853	Parish of Morehouse.....	Contract in district north of Red river.
W. W. Farmer.....	do.....	do.....	Parish of Ouachita.....	Do. do. do.
Henry Curtis.....	do.....	Aug. 29, 1853	Parish of Morehouse.....	Do. do. do.
Abner D. Miner.....	Aug. 19, 1853	Aug. 19, 1853	New Iberia.....	
Robert Boyd.....	Aug. 31, 1853	Aug. 31, 1853	Donaldsonville.....	Do. do. do.
Thomas Mullett.....	Sept. 10, 1853	Sept. 10, 1853	do.....	Contract in southeastern district.
Samuel C. Hepburn.....	Sept. 17, 1853	Sept. 17, 1853	do.....	Contract in Greensburg district.
D. A. Matterston.....	Oct. 1, 1853	Oct. 1, 1853	Baton Rouge.....	Do. do.
Theodore Gillespie.....	do.....	do.....	New Orleans.....	Do. do.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Donaldsonville, La., October 1, 1853.

WM. J. McCULLOH, Surveyor General of Louisiana.

REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF FLORIDA.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
St. Augustine, September 30, 1853.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of this office during the past year, and have endeavored, as briefly as possible, to present the actual condition of the office and surveys under my charge, as they now exist, and a concise statement of all the operations during the year ending to-day.

It was my intention to arrange the materials in my possession in an intelligible form, and the want of time only has prevented me from enumerating, in detail, the various important resources of Florida, the causes which have operated in retarding her growth, and the rapid sale of the public domain, as well as the future prospects of improvement, and suggesting means for the promotion of a quicker sale of the public lands under existing laws.

A brief history of the commencement and rapid growth of the lumber business on the river of St. John's, its vast and growing importance, the well-grounded expectation that may be entertained of its future progress, as also a full knowledge of the valuable timbered lands on this river to its sources, its tributaries, and the rivers Suwannee, Hillsborough, Withlacoochee, and others of equal importance and value in different portions of the State, would materially aid in bringing these heretofore apparently valueless lands into immediate notice and sale.

The survey, bringing into market, and settlement of the lands south of township twenty-six, and latitude twenty-seven degrees, and the valuable islands of the Pahhayokee, would evidently, in a very short time, produce a new feature in the profitable agricultural products of the State for exportation. Actual cultivation has proved, conclusively, that the soil and climate are peculiarly adapted, and that most of the tropical fruits flourish here as if indigenous, and their extensive cultivation possesses every incentive which an enterprising people can wish. The plan of prosecuting these surveys, and the peculiar condition of the country in other respects, were presented in a special report of the 20th June last.

With the means provided for the advancement of the surveys and office work, and the completion of the records with energy and assiduity, the business of this office can be closed in two years; and all the books, maps, field-notes, records, and other papers, appertaining to the land titles, turned over to the State, as contemplated by the act of Congress of June 12, 1840; and it would afford me great pleasure to be instrumental in advancing the public service by accomplishing it in that time. 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 State. Any other procedure would be unjust and injurious, by throwing upon Florida a mass of documents, which could not remain in their present condition, but would require to be transcribed, arranged, and indexed, and put in proper order for the binder, at the expense of the State. Many defects want to be supplied in the old records of the maps and field-notes, few of which have been recorded in permanent record-books, and none bound. The plats should be arranged so as to consolidate them and the field-notes of the

townships into sets of volumes, appertaining to the several counties of the State, respectively. It would be well, in order that this work be performed with the necessary supervisory care and proper accuracy, and the public interests subserved by closing the business of the office as soon as possible after the completion of the surveys, that it be commenced at once. I therefore most respectfully recommend, in view of this unfinished work relating to the surveys and records, which materially affect the titles to land, than an appropriation of four thousand dollars be asked for, to be applied towards this work, and that its justice and necessity be urged upon Congress.

My predecessor reported, February 23, 1853, "that all the private claims confirmed by the United States through the agency of the courts and commissioners, derived under grants from the Spanish government, remaining unsurveyed when I came into office, have been surveyed and located by me, with the exception of two or three whose location cannot be ascertained."

A full list of these grants, showing the number of the claim, date of the report upon it, by what act confirmed, and by whom surveyed, the field-notes and plats of each grant, and their immediate connexion lines with the public surveys, to harmonize with the township plats, and all the data, of every nature, relating to these important claims, from all sources, should be forthwith collected and systematically recorded and consolidated in a special book, in order to insure their preservation for after use. National good faith requires, justice to future generations and sound policy demand, that every means should be taken to scrupulously preserve all evidence of the intentions of our predecessors in sovereignty, in relation to these titles to land within our boundary, as a means to continue the precise locality, nature, extent, and surveyed limits of these acknowledged claims. The record should be a complete, condensed history of each title from its inception under the foreign government, to its location and final survey under our own. To this end, I would respectfully recommend that you ask an appropriation by Congress of \$2,600.

Soon after entering upon the duties appertaining to this office, I took up the subject of the "swamp land" donation to the State. It was evident, from the first general investigation, that it would require much time and labor to systematize it, and make such progress, with that diligence and expedition which seemed necessary. Nearly all the plats made previous to 1838 are "*plain*," without any, or with little, topography delineated thereon; which practice and experience since have introduced in drawing the plats of surveys. They are, in many particulars, defective: some at variance with the field-notes, roughly drawn; and many of them much disfigured by alterations and erasures, and nearly unintelligible from their long use; and, as the field-notes have to be examined and consulted in these selections, it was deemed the most economical, the plainest, and most expeditious, to make out full "swamp land" plats from the field-notes, delineating the swamp and other topography on them. The work was commenced at township 1, range 1 south and east, and is progressing south and east, in regular order. Under this plan, up to this date, 169 township plats have been made, and the selections colored thereon, and in this manner are

rapidly advancing. Since the 9th day of June, 1,124,184 acres have been selected by this mode, lists of which are now being made out, and will shortly be reported. All township maps, upon which selections have been made from the field-notes on file, have been strictly and personally examined by myself, in order that I might be satisfied that the quality of the lands was such as was required to inure to the State, by the act of Congress of 28th September, 1850, and your instructions. No inconsiderable credit is due to the "swamp land" agent for the exertions he has bestowed upon this subject, and for the amount of labor done by him since he commenced operations.

Enclosed are the documents mentioned herein in triplicate. It is confidently believed that they will show an amount and execution of work despatched that will compare favorably with any office for the same time. They show that the force of the office has been extensively and diligently employed in protracting maps, calculating areas, copying documents, making records, and examination of and comparing surveyors' returns: added to this, an extensive correspondence, all recorded, which is no inconsiderable portion of the duties.

A.—Diagram of the State, giving, in one connected view, the condition and extent of the surveys of the State.

B.—Statement of contracts for surveying the public lands in the State, made by former surveyor general, and their condition May 24, 1853.

C.—Statement showing the present condition of the surveys and office-work, in contracts, up to the 30th September, 1853.

D.—Lists of original township plats made since the date of last annual report, and of copies sent to the general and district land offices, with the date of transmission.

E.—Estimate of the funds required for the services of this district and office, for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1855.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN WESTCOTT,
Surveyor General of Florida.

JOHN WILSON, Esq.,

Commissioner General Land Office, Washington, D. C.

B.

Statement of contracts for surveying the public lands in the State of Florida made by former surveyor general, and their condition May 24, 1853.

Name of contractor.	Date of contract.	Contract expires.	Price per mile.	Miles returned.	Amount of contract.	Remarks.
Henry Wells	Nov. 27, 1850	Sept. 30, 1851	\$6 00	<i>Miles. chs. lks.</i> 738 03 86	\$4,428 29	It appears there was a new bond given November 6, 1852, for work then finished and performed after expiration of contract. By reference to statement C, it will show that several townships named in the contract are yet unfinished.
A. M. Randolph.....	Jan. 14, 1853	June 1, 1853	6 00	350 00 00	.....	Partly surveyed and reported to General Land Office.
M. A. Williams	Mar. 4, 1853	Sept. 4, 1853	4 00	.....	.....	In the field.
Wm. S. Harris	April 1, 1853	July 10, 1853	4 00	.....	.....	In the field.
Chs. F. Hopkins	April 27, 1853	Oct. 27, 1853	4 00	.....	.....	In the field.
Henry H. Floyd	May 13, 1853	Nov. 15, 1853	4 00	.....	.....	In the field.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, St. Augustine, September 30, 1853.

JOHN WESTCOTT, Surveyor General of Florida.

S. Dec. 1.

C.

Statement showing the present condition of the surveys and office work in contracts up to the present time.

Name of contractor.	Date of contract.	Contract expires.	Character of survey.	Townships embraced in contract.	Estimate of miles.	Price per mile.	Penalty of bond.	Miles returned.	Date of approval of account.	Amount of account.	Amount of contract.	Remarks.					
Henry Wells....	Nov. 27, 1850	Sept. 30, 1851	Unsurveyed section lines "scrap work" in these townships, and all	Range 7 W., township 4 N..	.....	.....	.....	Ms. chs. lks.	.....	.....	.....	Not reported to surveyor general.
				Range 17 W., township *7 N..	.....	.....	.....	48 31 68	July 3, 1853	\$290 38	.....					
				Range 18 W., township 6 N..	.....	.....	.....	49 24 88	do.....	295 87	.....					
				Range 24 W., township *2 N..	.....	.....	.....	85 67 54	Jan. 1, 1853	515 07	.....					
				Range 24 W., township *3 N..	.....	.....	.....	84 35 84	July 3, 1852	506 69	.....					
				Range 24 W., township *4 N..	.....	.....	.....	78 04 58	do.....	468 34	.....					
				Range 25 W., township *2 N..	.....	.....	.....	93 44 24	Jan. 1, 1853	561 32	.....					
				Range 26 W., township 1 N..	.....	.....	.....	88 58 46	Feb. 14, 1853	532 38	.....					
				Range 26 W., township 2 N..	.....	.....	.....	88 60 63	Jan. 25, 1852	532 55	.....					
				Range 27 W., township 1 N..	.....	.....	.....	115 15 58	Feb. 14, 1853	679 17	.....					
				Range 32 W., township 1 N..	Do	do.		
				Range 32 W., township 2 N..	Do	do.		
				Range 33 W., township 3 N..	Do	do.		
				Range 34 W., township 4 N..	Do	do.		
				Range 34 W., township 5 N..	Do	do.		
				Range 34 W., township 6 N..	Do	do.		
				Range 8 W., township *2 S..	
				Range 9 W., township *4 S..	
				Range 9 W., township *5 S..	
				Range 9 W., township *6 S..	
				Range 9 W., township *7 S..	
				Range 10 W., township 8 S..	
				Range 22 W., township 1 S..	
				Range 25 W., township *2 S..	
				Range 31 W., township 1 S..	
				Range 32 W., township 1 S..	
				Jonat'n Bunker's private claim
				Range 6 W., township 3 N..
				Range 7 W., township 3 N..
				Range 10 W., township *6 S..
				Range 10 W., township *7 S..
				Range 16 W., township *7 N..
				Range 17 W., township *6 N..	530	\$	\$10,000	
Range 18 W., township *5 N..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
								13 19 45	Jan. 1, 1853	79 46	.....	.....			
								28 56 06	Feb. 14, 1853	172 20	.....	.....			
								64 10 83	do.....	384 81	.....	.....			
								84 41 85	Sept. 7, 1852	507 14	.....	.....			
								77 77 38	do.....	467 80	.....	.....			
								Do	do.				
								65 28 37	June 30, 1851	392 87	.....	.....			
								45 29 12	July 3, 1852	272 18	.....	.....			
								Do	do.				
								Do	do.				
								7 41 55	Feb. 14, 1853	75 19	.....	.....			
								2 31 70	Jan. 26, 1852	14 88	.....	.....			
								48 39 34	do.....	290 95	.....	.....			
								13 12 57	July 3, 1852	78 93	.....	.....			
								8 00 50	do.....	48 04	.....	.....			
								6 59 23	do.....	40 44	.....	.....			
								13 03 93	do.....	78 29	.....	.....			
								12 07 18	do.....	72 54	.....	.....			

The townships marked with (†) were reported, and accounts approved, under the sweeping provision of Mr. Wells's contract, viz: "all scrap work and unsurveyed public lands situated on the rivers Perdido, Yellow, Appalachicola, Choctahatchee, and other streams in

West Florida." A new bond was required of Mr. Wells by the former surveyor general, and entered into November 6, 1852. The bond embraces only the townships marked thus, (*.)

Range 18 W., township *6 N.	40 24 88	do.	295 87
Range 19 W., township *6 N.	6 31 87	do.	38 37
Range 23 W., township *3 N.	12 77 98	do.	77 85
Range 24 W., township *2 S.	10 27 69	do.	62 06
Range 24 W., township *5 N.	12 66 62	do.	77 00
Range 25 W., township *3 N.	10 74 18	do.	65 68
Range 25 W., township *4 N.	11 67 44	do.	71 06
Range 8 W., township *3 S.	6 41 31	Jan. 1, 1853	39 10
Range 9 W., township 2 S.	27 18 63	do.	163 40
Range 23 W., township 2 N.	11 61 11	do.	70 53
Range 24 W., township *1 N.	12 77 80	do.	77 83
Range 25 W., township *1 N.	20 60 86	do.	124 56
Range 25 W., township *3 N.	9 38 30	do.	56 87
Range 8 W., township *5 S.	5 45 06	Feb. 14, 1853	33 38
Range 10 W., township *4 S.	6 11 37	do.	36 85
Range 10 W., township *5 S.	11 73 48	do.	71 51
Range 26 W., township 1 S.	13 07 73	do.	78 58
Range 27 W., township 1 S.	16 26 19	do.	97 86
Range 27 W., township 2 N.	21 76 33	do.	131 72
Range 26 W., township 3 N.	11 64 05	Mar. 12, 1853	70 80
Range 28 W., township 1 N.	2 05 25	do.	do.
Range 8 W., township *6 S.	do.	do.	do.
Range 8 W., township *7 S.	49 44 55	Sept. 16, 1853	297 33
Range 8 W., township *8 S.	11 38 75	do.	68 90
Range 9 W., township *8 S.	do.	do.	do.
Range 23 W., township *4 N.	do.	do.	do.
Range 24 W., township *4 S.	do.	do.	do.
Range 3 E., township 5 S.	do.	do.	do.
Range 5 E., township 2 S.	do.	do.	do.
Range 6 E., township 1 S.	do.	do.	do.
Range 10 E., township 3 S.	do.	do.	do.
Range 14 E., township 10 S.	do.	do.	do.
Range 15 E., township 10 S.	do.	do.	do.
Range 15 E., township 12 S.	do.	do.	do.
Range 16 E., township 10 S.	do.	do.	do.
Range 16 E., township 11 S.	do.	do.	do.
Range 16 E., township 12 S.	do.	do.	do.
Range 16 E., township 19 S.	do.	do.	do.
Range 19 E., township 5 S.	84 19 18	May 13, 1853	507 69
Range 20 E., township 17 S.	do.	do.	do.

§12 39. Not approved; resurveyed before by A. H. Jones, and approved. Embraced in bond of November 6, 1852; not reported to surveyor general. Reported to surveyor general September 1, 1853. Account approved September 16, 1853, and sent to Commissioner for payment. Embraced in bond of November 6, 1852; not reported to surveyor general. Do do do. Do do do. Not reported to surveyor general. Do do. Do do. Do do. †Whole township returned, as resurveyed, to survey 9 miles scrap. †Whole township returned, as resurveyed, to survey 5 miles scrap. †Whole township returned, as resurveyed, to survey 1 mile scrap. †Whole township returned, as resurveyed, to survey 7 miles scrap. †Whole township returned, as resurveyed, to survey 23 miles scrap. †Whole township returned, as resurveyed, to survey 25 miles scrap. Not reported to surveyor general. §Whole township returned, as resurveyed, to survey 7 miles scrap. §Not reported to surveyor general.

unsurveyed lands in West Florida.

Scrap work, such lines as have not been surveyed in the townships marked.

M. Randolph. Jan. 14, 1853 June 1 1853

Name of contractor.	Date of contract.	Contract expires.	Character of survey.	Townships embraced in contract.	Estimate of miles.	Price per mile.	Penalty of bond.	Miles returned.	Date of approval of account.	Amount of account.	Amount of contract.	Remarks			
A. M. Randolph —Continued.	Jan. 14, 1853	June 1, 1853	.....	Range 21 E., township 6 S...	350	\$6	\$5,000	<i>Ms. chs. lks.</i> 82 18 97	May 13, 1853	\$493 32	....	§ Whole township returned, as resurveyed, to survey 8 miles scrap.	
				Range 21 E., township 7 S...	....	....	....	84 21 72	.....do.....	505 63	....	§ Whole township returned, as resurveyed, to survey 7 miles scrap.
				Range 22 E., township 4 S..	....	....	....	83 32 57	....do.....	500 44	....	§ Whole township returned, as resurveyed, to survey 17 miles scrap.
				Range 22 E., township 6 S...	....	....	....	72 01 73	.....do.....	432 13	....	§ Whole township returned, as resurveyed, to survey 1 mile scrap.
				Range 22 E., township 7 S...	....	....	....	78 10 60	.....do.....	468 80	....	§ Whole township returned, as resurveyed, to survey 1 mile scrap.
				Range 22 E., township 8 S...	....	....	....	87 34 18	Mar. 3, 1853	524 56	....	§ Whole township returned, as resurveyed, to survey 15 miles scrap.
				Range 23 E., township 8 S...	....	....	....	86 59 92	.....do.....	520 49	....	§ Whole township returned, as resurveyed, to survey 2 miles scrap.
				Range 23 E., township 9 S...	....	....	....	103 12 99	.....do.....	618 97	....	§ Whole township returned, as resurveyed, to survey 3 miles scrap.
				Range 24 E., township 8 S...	....	....	....	80 42 20	.....do.....	483 17	....	§ Whole township returned, as resurveyed, to survey 8 miles scrap.
				Range 24 E., township 14 S...	Not reported to surveyor general.		
				Range 11 E., township 2 N...	Do do.		
				Range 13 E., township 2 N...	Do do.		
				Range 14 E., township 2 N...	Do do.		
M. A. Williams.	Mar. 4, 1853	Sept. 4, 1853	Township and section lines.	Range 37 E., township 37 S...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
				Range 37 E., township 38 S...		
				Range 38 E., township 37 S...	
				Range 38 E., township 38 S...	
				Range 38 E., township 39 S...	
				Range 39 E., township 37 S...	702	4	5,000	
				Range 39 E., township 38 S...
				Range 39 E., township 39 S...
				Range 40 E., township 37 S...
				Range 41 E., township 39 S...
Range 42 E., township 39 S...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....

Wm. S. Harris.	April 1, 1853	July 10, 1853	Township and section lines.	Range 35 E., township 28 S...	Part of field-work completed, and contract cancelled for the unfinished. Office-work in progress.
				Range 35 E., township 31 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 36 E., township 29 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 36 E., township 30 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 36 E., township 31 S...	850	4	5,200	.....	.....
				Range 36 E., township 32 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 36 E., township 33 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 37 E., township 31 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 37 E., township 32 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 37 E., township 33 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chas. F. Hopkins.	April 27, 1853	Oct. 27, 1853	Township and section lines.	Range 36 E., township 34 S...	Work reported to surveyor general, and part sent to Commissioner for approval.
				Range 37 E., township 34 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 37 E., township 35 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 37 E., township 36 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 38 E., township 34 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 38 E., township 35 S...	702	4	5,700	.....	.....
				Range 38 E., township 36 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 39 E., township 35 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 39 E., township 36 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 40 E., township 35 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hy. H. Floyd ...	May 13, 1853	Nov. 15, 1853	Township and section lines.	Range 27 E., township 28 S...	Work partly reported.
				Range 27 E., township 29 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 28 E., township 28 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 28 E., township 29 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 29 E., township 28 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 29 E., township 29 S...	702	4	5,700	.....	.....
				Range 34 E., township 28 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 34 E., township 29 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 34 E., township 30 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
				Range 35 E., township 29 S...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

‡ Resurveys not embraced in contract bond or instructions. Not approved by present surveyor general.

§ These surveys and resurveys were approved by former surveyor general.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, St. Augustine, September 30, 1853.

JOHN WESTCOTT, Surveyor General of Florida.

S. Doc. 1.

D.

List of original township plats made since the date of last annual report, and of copies sent to the General and district land offices, with date of transmission.

Range.	Township.	Land district.	Number of copies made.				When sent to Commissioner.	When sent to register.	No. of field-note books.	Remarks.
			Originals.	Commissioner.	Register.	Total.				
27 east.....	10 south.....	St. Augustine...	1	1	1	3	Dec. 14, 1852	Dec. 14, 1852	2	Containing and exhibiting claim of J. Wiggins.
29 east.....	17 and 18 south.....	Newnansville	2	2	2	6	do.....	do.....		
30 east.....	18 south.....	do.....	1	1	1	3	do.....	do.....		
23 west.....	2 north.....	Tallahassee.....	1	1	1	3	Jan. 14, 1853	Jan. 14, 1853		
24 west.....	1 and 2 north.....	do.....	2	2	2	6	do.....	do.....		
25 west.....	1, 2, and 3 north.....	do.....	3	3	3	9	do.....	do.....	8	
8 west.....	2 and 3 south.....	do.....	2	2	2	6	do.....	do.....		
9 west.....	2 south.....	do.....	1	1	1	3	do.....	do.....		
8 west.....	5 south.....	do.....	1	1	1	3	Feb. 22, 1853	Feb. 22, 1853		
9 west.....	4 and 5 south.....	do.....	2	2	2	6	do.....	do.....		
10 west.....	4 and 5 south.....	do.....	2	2	2	6	do.....	do.....		
16 west.....	2 south.....	do.....	1	1	1	3	do.....	do.....	13	
26 west.....	1 south.....	do.....	1	1	1	3	do.....	do.....		
26 west.....	1 north.....	do.....	1	1	1	3	do.....	do.....		
27 west.....	1 and 2 south.....	do.....	2	2	2	6	do.....	do.....		
27 east.....	10 south.....	St. Augustine.....	1	1	1	3	do.....	do.....	1	
29 east.....	17 and 18 south.....	Newnansville.....	2	2	2	6	do.....	do.....	1	
30 east.....	18 south.....	do.....	1	1	1	3	do.....	do.....	1	
4 west.....	1 and 2 north.....	Tallahassee.....	2	2	2	6	Feb. 26, 1853	Feb. 26, 1853	2	

8 south	8 south	Newnansville	1	1	1	3	Mar. 5, 1853	Mar. 5, 1853	1
23 east	8 south	do	1	1	1	3	do	do	1
23 east	9 south	do	1	1	1	3	April 4, 1853	April 4, 1853	1
24 east	8 south	do	1	1	1	3	do	do	1
33 east	28 and 29 south	St. Augustine	2	2	2	6	April 7, 1853	April 8, 1853	2
32 east	28 and 29 south	do	2	2	2	6	do	do	2
28 west	1 and 2 north	Tallahassee	2	2	2	6	April 9, 1853	April 11, 1853	
23 west	1 south	do	1	1	1	3	do	do	
29 west	1 north	do	1	1	1	3	do	do	12
30 west	1 north	do	1	1	1	3	do	do	
31 west	1 and 2 north	do	2	2	2	6	do	do	
26 west	3 north	do	1	1	1	3	April 12, 1853	April 12, 1853	1
19 east	5 south	Newnansville	1	1	1	3	May 13, 1853	May 13, 1853	
21 east	6 and 7 south	do	2	2	2	6	do	do	6
22 east	4, 6, and 7 south	do	3	3	3	9	do	do	
25 east	3 south	do	1	1	1	3	do	do	
27 east	17 south	do	1	1	1	3	May 16, 1853	May 16, 1853	
28 east	4, 6, and 7 south	do	3	3	3	9	do	do	
29 east	6 and 7 south	do	2	2	1	5	do	do	
31 east	14 south	do	1	1	1	3	do	do	
40 east	38 south	do	1	1	1	3	do	do	
41 east	39 south	do	1	1	1	3	do	do	
15 east	28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34 south	do				7			
16 east	28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34 south	do				7			
17 east	28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34 south	do				7			
18 east	28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34 south	do				7			
19 east	28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34 south	do				7			
20 east	28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34 south	do				7			
21 east	22 and 23 south	do				2			
22 east	22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, and 28 south	do				7			
23 east	11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, 27, and 28 south	do				12			
24 east	11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 23, 24, and 25 south	do				11			
24 east	26, 27, 28, and 29 south	do				4			
25 east	11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, and 24 south	St. Augustine				10			
25 east	25, 26, 27, 28, and 29 south	do				5			

New and complete maps, exhibiting private claims.

These plats were furnished Lt. M. L. Smith by order of the Commissioner of 9th May, 1853, "to afford to United States officers all facilities

Range]	Township.	Land district.	Number of copies made.				When sent to Commissioner.	When sent to register.	No. of field-note books.	Remarks
			Originals.	Commissioner.	Register.	Total.				
26 east.....	12, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29 south.	St. Augustine...	11	} ----- New and complete maps, exhibiting private claims.	
27 east.....	20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29 south.	..... do.....	.....	.....	.....	9	.....	.....
28 east.....	20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29 south.	..... do.....	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	.....
29 east.....	22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29 south.	..... do.....	.....	.....	.....	8	.....	.....
30 east.....	24, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29 south..	..... do.....	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	.....
31 east.....	24, 25, 26, and 27 south.....	..... do.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....
32 east.....	24 and 25 south.....	..... do.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....
33 east.....	24 and 25 south.....	..... do.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....
34 east.....	24 and 25 south.....	..... do.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....
35 east.....	24 and 25 south.....	..... do.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....
36 east.....	24, 25, and 26 south.....	..... do.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....
29 east.....	17 and 18 south.....	..... do.....	2	2	2	6	Sept. 28, 1853	.....	
30 east.....	13 and 18 south.....	..... do.....	2	2	2	6	do.....	.....	
			66	66	65	349				

SEPTEMBER 30, 1853.

JOHN WESTCOTT, *Surveyor General of Florida.*

E.

Estimate of appropriation required for the office of the Surveyor General of Florida, for the fiscal year ending the 30th June, 1855.

Salary of surveyor general.....	\$2,000 00
For clerks in surveyor general's office, as now by law appropriated.....	5,300 00
For contingent expenses	500 00
For the survey of the public lands, township lines and subdivisions	15,000 00
For correcting erroneous, imperfect, and defective lines and corners; for retracing old and obliterated lines; for detached and unfinished surveys; for the execution of difficult surveys, in consequence of swamps, lakes, marshes, &c., to be paid for at a rate not exceeding six dollars per mile	10,000 00
For the correcting of erroneous locations of private claims, and for surveys of such private land claims, and the immediate connexion lines of the public surveys thereto, the surveys of which the courts refuse to confirm, and re-surveys in connexion therewith, under the act of June 28, 1848	10,000 00
For preparing the unfinished records of land titles, for books and for binding, &c., ready for delivery to the State of Florida at the completion of the surveys of the State, under act of June 12, 1840	4,000 00
For collecting and systematically recording and consolidating in special books, in order to secure their preservation, all the field-notes of each private claim, and their immediate connexion lines with the public surveys, to harmonize with the township plats, that the record may show a complete condensed history of each title, from its inception under the foreign government to its location and final survey under our own.....	2,600 00
For compensation and contingent expenses to surveyors and other agents required to carry into effect the act of September 28, 1850, granting swamp lands to the State.....	2,500 00

JOHN WESTCOTT,
Surveyor General of Florida.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
St. Augustine, September 30, 1853.

REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF IOWA AND WISCONSIN.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Dubuque, October 21, 1853.

SIR: I have the honor to submit, in compliance with your instructions, the following report, which you will find to exhibit the actual condition of the affairs of this office, at the present time, with all its operations, since the 21st of October last.

SURVEYS IN IOWA.

The south boundary of this State having, some time since, been carefully established, under decree of the Supreme Court of the United States, it is important that the surveys adjoining should be closed thereto, in an effectual and permanent manner, and one that will forever debar dispute. This has been done from range 18 west, inclusive, to the Missouri river, under the direction of my predecessor; but from said range east, they neither are, and in most instances never were, properly connected with the old "Sullivan line," as the field-notes of the retracing of said line show but the identification of a single corner; and since said line has been re-established, and forms the boundary between two great States, I think it highly important to have the work done with as little delay as practicable, in order that the plats and field-notes may exhibit correctly (which they do not at present) the actual state of things as they exist on the ground. This is a subject that has been brought, before, to the attention of your office, both by the surveyor general of Illinois and Missouri, by George B. Sargent, late surveyor general of this district, (see Commissioner's report of 29th November, 1852,) but I presume that pressure of business has caused it to be overlooked. I trust, however, that you will be enabled to give it your attention at an early day, and that I will be authorized to have the work done, and the plats and field-notes perfected, which a careful examination shows they very much need.

All that portion of the State between this boundary and the first correction parallel has been surveyed, with the exception of townships 69 and 70, of range 43, township 69, range 44, and townships 74, 75, and 76, of range 36. The three first named I have concluded to order a resurvey of, forthwith, as the field-notes have already been twice returned, but found incorrect, and the contractor has failed, the present season, to furnish such notes as could be received. The three last named have been surveyed and returned; but owing to some informalities, the field-notes have been sent to the contractor to be properly transcribed. As soon as the above-mentioned work shall have been completed, all surveys south of the first correction parallel will be entirely finished.

Between the first and second corrections the surveys have been completed as far west as the line dividing ranges 33 and 34, and west of said line the work is proceeding rapidly to completion. Eighteen townships have been let by me, the present season, in this part of the State, leaving but four townships—viz: 85, 86, 87, and 88, of range 36—not under contract. With the exceptions above named, six townships in

range 42, and four townships suspended for correction, all work south of the second correction has been received, examined, and copies of the township plats forwarded to your own and the proper district land offices. North of the second correction I have let four districts of township lines, amounting, in all, to about twenty-nine hundred and sixty-six miles. Of these, one entire district has already been returned; another will be in a few days, and advance returns have been received from both the remaining districts. East of the line dividing ranges 23 and 24, fifty-one townships have been placed by me under contract for subdivision, and there remain but twelve townships to be let east of said range line. West of said line there were let three districts, comprising twenty-two townships, only two of which remain yet to be received.

To sum up. Since the date of the last report, contracts have been entered into for the subdivision of ninety-five townships, and the establishment of twenty-nine hundred and sixty-six miles of township lines, in the State of Iowa. Out of one hundred and sixty-four townships let in this State, the past season, one hundred and thirty-three have been carefully examined, platted, and copies of the plats submitted to your own and the proper district land offices, four have been relinquished, seven have been returned to deputies for correction, eight have not yet been returned, and nine are now under process of platting.

SURVEYS IN MINNESOTA.

As soon as the necessary arrangements and calculations could be made, after the receipt of your instructions of 16th May last, I entered into contract with E. L. Norris, deputy surveyor, for the establishment of guide meridians Nos. 1, 2, and 3, and the proper standard parallels east of said meridians Nos. 1 and 2, in the Territory of Minnesota, west of the Mississippi river. From causes entirely unforeseen, the surveys in this portion of my district have not advanced with such rapidity as might have reasonably been expected. Having been required to conduct them after the mode prescribed in Oregon, and said method being entirely new to the deputies of this office, and, moreover, requiring the greatest accuracy, it is not surprising that some delay should have occurred, and errors occasionally been made. Owing to a misconstruction of your instructions, a great part of the work first done by Mr. Norris had to be re-run. This was occasioned by absence of allowance for the convergency of meridians, which your instructions, and the diagram exhibiting the order of survey, failed to set forth, and from examination of which I was led to infer that a new base was designed, after the surveys had progressed north to a point where the Mississippi river (the main channel of which is the present dividing line between East and West Minnesota) will cease to be a meandered stream; and that, thereafter, the surveys east and west of said river would all be conducted in the same order. On reception of your letter of the 16th of June, stating that such was not your intention, and requiring meridians Nos. 1 and 2 to be offsetted, I at once had the necessary corrections made, and feel confident that, for the future, the surveys will progress in this Territory without impediment.

Already have returns been made and submitted of guide meridian No. 1, to the Mississippi river, with standard parallels, Nos. 1 and 2, east of said meridian; the field-notes of guide meridian No. 2 have also been received as far north as the corner to townships Nos. 108 and 109, and of the first standard parallel east of said meridian, with all the proper township boundaries east of said guide meridian No. 2, to the Mississippi river, and south of the first standard parallel. Contracts have likewise been entered into for the survey of all the proper township boundaries east of this meridian and south of parallel No. 2. There have also been let for subdivision in this Territory sixty-three townships, six of which have just been returned, and will be examined and platted without delay, and a number more are nearly ready to be submitted to this office.

There have also been contracted for, in compliance with your instructions of the 6th of May last, eight fractional townships, covered, in part, by the original military reservation at Fort Snelling. The survey of these townships was ordered to be carried across the river, in connexion and extension of those on the east side of the Mississippi, and to be numbered from the Wisconsin base and meridian; of course they are entirely independent of the lower surveys, which will be closed to them by true lines.

The country over which the third guide meridian is to be carried is so cut up with lakes, that (for the sake of accuracy, and at the earnest petition of the contractor) I have extended the time of its completion, in order that the survey may be made when the lakes and marshes are covered with ice. As this is the true meridian, and will be continued without offset from the base to its intersection with the river, it is of the utmost importance that it should be surveyed with the greatest accuracy, both as to course and measurement; and as such accuracy cannot be insured at the present time, I deemed it better to postpone it for a short time, rather than run any risk which this course will avoid.

SURVEYS IN WISCONSIN.

East of the fourth principal meridian, contracts have been entered into for the subdivision of forty-four townships. There remain, therefore, but nine townships—viz: townships 28, 29, and 30, of ranges 1 and 2, township No. 30, of ranges 12, 13, and 14, and ten townships reserved for the use of the Menomonies, (by treaty of the 18th of October, 1848)—to be subdivided south of the third correction parallel; north of said parallel thirty-nine townships have been subdivided, and the exteriors of sixteen more have been established. Out of sixty-four townships let last season, all but a single one, which was rejected, have been returned, examined, and plats thereof transmitted.

West of the fourth meridian, since the date of the last report, fifty-eight townships have been contracted for, which, when finished, will close up the subdivision of all the country south of the third correction. North of said line I have let but a single district, extending on both sides of the St. Croix river, for subdivision, consisting of eleven townships. As the main channel of the St. Croix river is the boundary between Wisconsin and Minnesota, of-course a portion of this work is

situated in East Minnesota. This district is valuable on account of the numberless groves of pine with which it is principally timbered; and by having the river carefully traversed, I will be able, in a very short time, to define accurately the point where the boundary line between Wisconsin and Minnesota, as surveyed by Mr. Stuntz, intersects the main branch of this river. This will be found to be about one and a quarter mile (by the course of the river) above the northeast corner of township 41, of range 16. I have also entered into contract for the survey and establishment of about five hundred and eighty miles of township lines south of the fourth correction parallel, which closes the townshipping of the whole country south of said line.

Since the date of the last report, fourteen hundred and ninety-five miles of township lines west of the meridian have been returned and examined; and east of the meridian, four hundred and seventy-two miles. Out of one hundred and thirty-eight townships let for subdivision last season, west of the meridian, one hundred and twenty-seven have been returned, examined, and submitted, and the remainder are now undergoing examination.

SURVEYS ADJACENT TO LAKE SUPERIOR.

As mentioned in the last report of this office, the surveys bordering the lake were intrusted to two skilful and competent deputies, under whose charge the work, so far as authorized, has been completed in a highly satisfactory manner. Commencing in the 4th principal meridian, at the corner to townships 46 and 47 north, a base was run 14 townships, or 84 miles, due west, to within $4\frac{2}{3}$ miles of the west boundary of the State; and from said base line all the proper township and range lines have been extended regularly to the lake. The reason that the surveys were not continued to the State boundary, and closed thereto, is, that the northern portion of the boundary runs through territory not yet ceded to the United States. As the treaty line of October 4, 1842, is not defined on the ground, and as the boundary is only about 54 chains west of where said treaty line would run, it was not deemed advisable, or proper, without special authority, to carry the surveys through said Indian territory, even for this short distance.

The districts already surveyed contain 59 townships and fractional townships, only 18 of which have been subdivided; but repeated applications have been made to have the surveys closed to the boundary, and the subdivisions continued. Indeed this has been strongly urged by Mr. Stuntz, the deputy who surveyed the western district, and who, from being compelled to return to the field the present spring, has been enabled to judge, from actual observation, what is doing in the country, and what steps are being taken to make and hold claims in this valuable region. He says, "the balance of my district of township lines, and the whole of the district surveyed by Mr. Norris, except that portion marked upon the map 'Pine Barrens,' should be immediately surveyed." From other reliable information, I fully coincide with the views of Mr. Stuntz, and would especially recommend, in addition, the survey of a district of township lines along the valley of Bad river, and extending east to the boundary of Michigan. The whole lake country has, of

late, excited increasing attention, and is well worthy of it: almost weekly, during the summer, applications have been made, in person and by letter, for maps and information pertaining thereto, by explorers and those intending to commence operations therein. Encouraged by the success of those engaged in mining operations further east on the lake, capitalists are seeking investments in this region, where the returns promise to be speedy and profitable. Of this you are, however, no doubt aware, through the returns of the land officers at Willow river; though they can, as yet, exhibit but little of what has and will be done the present season, as few make locations until the ground has been proved to some slight extent.

The survey of the boundary between Wisconsin and Minnesota has been completed, and the map and account therefor were forwarded to your office on the 11th day of December last. The deputy who was intrusted with this survey was specially instructed to traverse, carefully, the St. Louis river, from his most westerly range line to the point designated by the acts of 6th of August, 1846, and May 29, 1848, as the starting point of said boundary. This was necessary in order that a connexion with the government surveys should be shown, at one point at least, and, as before remarked in this report, I shall be able, in a very few days, to present to your office a full connexion at the other, viz: where the line strikes the main branch of the St. Croix river.

It may not be out of place, at this time, to give a brief description of the country through which this boundary line passes, especially as the increased attention which it is at present receiving is, in a great measure, attributable to your last able report, it being very generally referred to in communications received at this office, requesting more particular information in regard to the character of the district which was then only partly surveyed.

That portion of the boundary defined by the St. Louis river, from its mouth (which is in township 49 of range 13) to the first rapids above the "Indian village," being peculiar, I will first describe: "The mouth of the river is about one-fourth of a mile wide, and is formed by a narrow sand-bar projecting from the north shore of the lake, about seven miles. This bar is uniform in course, and varies from ten to forty chains in width. The bar on the east side of the river is like that on the west, but is only one and a half mile in length. During the past summer the water in the channel over, or through the bar, was about seven feet deep; but the entrance is crooked, and difficult of access during the heavy northeast storms which at certain seasons prevail. Once inside, however, vessels are safe, as the river widens into a bay about eight miles long, and one and a fourth mile wide. The shores are mostly clay-banks, with narrow sand-beach for about six miles, when the beach disappears, and small bays, or inlets, extend from the main body to distances varying from five chains to two miles. At the distance of nineteen miles up the river is situated the Indian village of Fond du Lac, on the north side of the river, containing fifty or sixty cabins and lodges, three or four good houses, two trading posts, and a mission building. On the Wisconsin side, opposite this village, several families of French and Indians live in a half-civilized

manner. On the same side of this bay, from Pokegamong bay to the rapids, the country is hilly, and covered thickly with timber, the most valuable kinds of which are white cedar, spruce, and white pine. The north side is bounded by a range of mountains that rises from eight hundred to a thousand feet above the level of the lake, and within from one to three miles from the beach. This range extends parallel to the lake shore, as far east as Pigeon river, and bears N. 55° E. From the best information obtainable, I am inclined to believe that this is as good a mineral range as is to be found on Lake Superior; specimens of native silver and copper have been found, and exhibited, but no mines have been opened or worked in this locality, that I am aware of. From the starting-point, in the rapids of the river, to the sixteenth mile-post on the boundary, the country is generally level, clay table-lands, elevated about three hundred feet above the lake, and covered with a valuable growth of white pine, cedar, birch, and spruce; and is well supplied with streams, branches of Left-hand river, which are of sufficient size to float logs and furnish water-power for the manufacture of lumber. The summit level, between the waters that flow into the lake and those that flow into the Mississippi river, is crossed by the boundary on the sixteenth mile; and on the south side of this, the country changes in formation. The deep-red clay disappears, and sand is the prevailing soil. The surface is more irregular, and magnetic disturbances are more frequent and extreme, rendering the use of the plain compass impracticable.

From this point to the river St. Croix, the boundary passes through a succession of swamps, which are filled with rich deposits of *peat*. The timber, as a general thing, is not of sufficient size to be valuable, except in the vicinity of the St. Croix, where the country is covered with valuable groves of white pine. The monument on the St. Croix river stands two and a half miles above Yellow Pine creek, and about four miles below the mouth of the Namekagon river.

The survey of the boundary between the State of Iowa and the Territory of Minnesota has been completed, and the maps and field-notes of the same, with the necessary accounts and vouchers, have been forwarded to your office. As the field work was completed, and full details furnished, by my predecessor, last season, anything further on this subject is unnecessary.

SWAMP LANDS.

I regret to state that almost nothing has been done towards closing up this business. I am informed that, immediately on receipt of your instructions, the governors of the States of Iowa and Wisconsin were informed of your orders, and requested to take such action in the premises as said instructions required. Nothing definite having been received from them, it was concluded that selections from the plats and field-notes by this office would be satisfactory; and, in consequence, the plats and field-notes were carefully examined, and lists of such lands as came under the provisions of the act were made out, one copy of which was forwarded to your office, and the proper district land of-

files were furnished with such portions thereof as belonged to their respective districts.

The list of selections in Wisconsin, not being properly certified, was returned by you on the 6th ultimo, with directions to have it recopied and returned to you during the present month. Coming at the end of the quarter, the end of our year, and with an immense amount of current business pressingly demanding attention, I have not been able to place such force thereon as would comply with this requirement. Indeed, when it is remembered that the business of this office has been steadily increasing for the last three years, without any corresponding increase for regular clerks, it would be no matter of astonishment if the work was far behind. Such, however, I am happy to state, is not the case, as will be shown by this report; and, immediately on its disposal, this matter shall be vigorously prosecuted to completion, so far as the surveys will permit.

On receipt of your said letter of 6th of September last, I again addressed the governors of Iowa and Wisconsin, requesting them to inform me, officially, what steps had been taken in relation to this business. As yet I have not received a reply from either of them.

The legislature of Iowa has turned over to the several counties in which they are located, the lands donated to the State by the act of 28th of September, 1850; and the lists of selections in three counties have been returned by the county judges for examination and approval. In the event of not receiving a reply from the governor of Iowa, I shall at once notify the authorities of all organized counties that the selections must be made and returned within a limited time, otherwise they will receive no attention; and, with reference to those in Wisconsin, I will at once cause a re-examination of the plats and field-notes, and forward you the corrected lists, properly authenticated, as required; which action, I hope, will be considered final.

OFFICE WORK.

The field-notes of twenty-six hundred and forty-six miles of township lines, and of nineteen thousand four hundred and ninety-one miles of subdivisions, have been received and carefully examined. This includes a number of miles of the traverse of meandered streams and lakes, which had to be carefully platted, entered upon the original, and copied on the Commissioner's plats.

Three hundred and thirty-five township maps have been projected from the original field-notes, with all the necessary calculations, with two copies of each, one for your own and the other for the proper district land offices, which have been forwarded to their respective destinations; making a total of one thousand and five maps.

Two hundred and ninety-six township maps have been recorded.

Numerous plats and diagrams have been furnished the registers and others, when applied for and ordered.

A complete and accurate copy of the original map of the city of Dubuque has been made.

Original lists, descriptive of the land and all the corners in three hundred and fifty-six townships, have been prepared, which, with one

copy of each of said lists, makes a total of seven hundred and twelve lists.

The volumes containing twelve hundred and seventy townships of original field-notes have been paged, and diagrams for reference to preface each township.

Three hundred and four diagrams, to accompany instructions to deputies, have been made.

The examination of detached tracts, survey of islands, &c., is an item that largely occupies the time and attention of the office.

The correspondence of the office has in nowise decreased the past year, and you are well able to judge of its extent, though I can find no means of expressing its amount.

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

Transcripts of the original field-notes of the above three hundred and twenty townships have been made, for preservation at the seat of government.

Index diagrams, to preface the records and transcripts of six hundred and thirty-eight townships, have been made.

A vast amount of miscellaneous work, of which it is impossible to keep any record, has been performed, in addition to that already stated.

Accompanying papers which form a part of this report.

- No. 1. Triplicate map of Wisconsin and Minnesota Territory.
- No. 2. Triplicate map of the State of Iowa.
- No. 3. Statement of surveys contracted for, out of the appropriations of 30th September, 1850, and 3d of March, 1851, that were unfinished at the date of the last report.
- No. 4. Statement of surveys contracted for, out of the appropriations of July 21st and August 21st, 1852, that were unfinished or uncontracted for at the date of the last report.
- No. 5. Statement of surveys contracted for, out of the appropriation of the 3d of March, 1853.
- No. 6. Estimate for appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1855.
- No. 7. Summary of salary accounts for the fourth quarter of 1852, and first, second, and third quarters of 1853.
- No. 8. Summary of disbursements for same period.
- No. 9. Summary of Iowa and Minnesota boundary account.

In conclusion I would respectfully remark, that the condition of this office is such as will bear the strictest scrutiny. By dint of great exertion, the work has always kept pace with the surveys; and I shall constantly endeavor to have it so, as long as I have charge of the office.

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

WARNER LEWIS,

Surveyor General.

HON. JOHN WILSON,

Commissioner of the General Land Office, Washington, D. C.

Statement of surveys out of the appropriations of Sept. 30, 1850, and March 3, 1851, that were not closed at the date of last report.

Date of contract.	Style of work.	Name of contractor.	State or Territory.	Account of deputy, with plats transmitted to General Land Office.	Per-centage reserved for examination in the field.		Net am't of contract.	Total quantity.	Remarks.
					Rate.	Amount deducted.			
May 10, 1845	Subdivisions	Warren Reed.....	Iowa.....	Nov. 20, 1852	-----	-----	\$335 66	<i>Ms. chs. lks.</i> 111 71 3	Surveyed under contract with Silas Reed, surveyor general of Illinois and Missouri
June 17, 1851	.....do.....	Johnson Pierson...	..do.....	Oct. 20, 1852	3	\$9 80	317 17	118 72 12	Second return, balance of work rejected, and will be re-surveyed.
Aug. 22, 1851	.....do.....	S. M. Ballard.....	..do.....	Jan. 31, 1853	3	9 84	318 13	119 21 13	Final return.
April 19, 1852	Range lines and subdivisions.	Wm. Dunn.....	..do.....	Dec. 2, 1852	4	25 45	610 99	182 63 99 $\frac{1}{2}$	Surveyed out of special appropriation for the purpose.
April 19, 1852	Range lines and subdivisions.	.....do.....	..do.....	July 5, 1853	4	16 90	422 50	141 74 82 $\frac{1}{2}$	Final return.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Dubuque, October 21, 1853.

WARNER LEWIS, Surveyor General.

No. 4.—Statement of surveys out of the appropriation of July 21 and August 31, 1852, that were either not closed or contracted for at the date of last report.

Date.	Style of work.	Name of contractor.	State or Territory.	Account of deputy, with plats transmitted to the General Land Office.	Per-centage reserved for examination in the field.		Net amount of contract.	Total quantity.	Remarks.
					Rate.	Amount deducted.			
1852.								<i>mils. chs. lbs.</i>	
May 24	Township lines & subdivision.	Elisha S. Norris ..	Wisconsin..	Nov. 3, 1852	6½	\$190 36	\$2,855 55	406 09 81	Township lines.
24	Subdivision.....	do	do	Nov. 20, 1852	6½	97 68	1,465 27	347 25 87	Subdivision of 8 townships.
June 4	Boundary.....	George R. Stutz..	Btw. Wisconsin and Minnesota.	Dec. 11, 1852	.....	.....	800 00	.....	Boundary between Wisconsin and Minnesota.
5	Township lines & subdivision.	do	Wisconsin..	Dec. 8, 1852	7	87 43	1,161 66	166 43 73	Township lines; advance return.
5	do	do	do	Dec. 24, 1852	5	64 41	1,223 88	286 22 99	Subdivisions of 7 townships; advance return.
5	do	do	do	Sept. 15, 1853	7	15 82	} 842 33	{ 30 10 41	Township lines; final return.
5	do	do	do	do	5	33 27			{ 147 70 74	Subdivision. do.
9	Township lines..	John Ryan	do	Dec. 13, 1852	7	91 22	1,212 03	173 61 42	Township lines; advance return.
9	do	do	do	July 15, 1853	7	50 30	668 31	95 65 26	For township lines; final return.
10	Subdivision.....	Edwin James, jr..	Minnesota..	Oct. 20, 1852	5	51 48	978 30	234 03 36	Full return.
23	Township lines..	Clark & Blanding.	Wisconsin..	Dec. 31, 1852	7	75 67	1,005 27	144 10 08	Township lines; advance return.
23	do	do	do	Jan. 17, 1853	7	94 49	1,255 37	179 78 58	Township lines; final return.
July 28	Subdivision.....	Jno. D. Evans	do	Dec. 16, 1852	5	51 82	984 61	241 02 48	Subdivision; advance return.
28	do	do	do	Jan. 11, 1853	5	12 85	244 17	59 61 81	Subdivision; final return.
30	do	Charles Phipps	do	Nov. 20, 1852	5	36 88	700 88	184 35 29	Do. do.
Aug. 3	do	Waldo & White..	do	Feb. 24, 1853	5	44 88	852 83	208 46 59	Subdivision; advance return.
3	do	Allen & Anderson.	do	Mar. 25, 1853	5	63 92	1,214 61	297 26 63½	Do. do.
3	do	do	do	Feb. 24, 1853	5	27 10	515 05	126 06 64	Subdivision; final return.

Date.	Style of work.	Name of contractor.	State or Territory.	Acct. of deputy, with plats transmitted to Gen'l Land Office.	Per-centage reserved for examination in the field.		Net amount of contract.	Total quantity.	Remarks.
						Amount deducted.			
1852.								<i>ms. chs. lks.</i>	
Aug. 3	Township lines..	Wm. J. Neely	Wisconsin..	Nov. 8, 1852	7	\$43 57	\$578 82	82 78 92	Township lines; advance return.
3	do.....	do.....	do.....	Dec. 15, 1852	7	44 61	592 81	84 79 20	Do.
3	do.....	do.....	do.....	Jan. 20, 1853	7	94 93	1,263 05	181 06 73	Do.
3	do.....	do.....	do.....	June 1, 1853	7	64 37	855 22	122 49 06	Do.
3	Subdivision.....	Brown & Cook....	do.....	Jan. 29, 1853	5	74 82	1,421 59	348 00 02	Subdivision.
3	do.....	do.....	do.....	Mar. 3, 1853	5	17 78	337 99	82 59 15	Do.
4	do.....	H. C. Fellows.....	do.....	Jan. 11, 1853	5	71 53	1,359 22	332 58 67	Do.
5	do.....	Richd. O. Chaney..	do.....	Jan. 10, 1853	5	81 73	1,552 99	363 21 76	Do.
9	do.....	Davidson & Balsh..	do.....	Jan. 11, 1853	5	77 66	1,475 63	361 18 53	Do.
14	do.....	Wm. P. Huntington	do.....	Dec. 31, 1852	5	41 17	782 30	182 79 61	Do.
14	do.....	do.....	do.....	April 28, 1853	5	43 97	835 53	195 37 29	Do.
16	do.....	Samuel Perin.....	do.....	Dec. 2, 1852	5	28 47	541 10	126 45 84	Do.
16	do.....	do.....	do.....	Jan. 31, 1853	5	53 87	1,023 68	239 36 52	Do.
16	do.....	do.....	do.....	Feb. 18, 1853	5	34 24	650 64	152 15 80½	Do.
16	do.....	do.....	do.....	Mar. 29, 1853	5	40 49	769 44	178 79 91	Do.
17	do.....	Edwin James, jr..	Minnesota...	Dec. 2, 1852	5	80 36	1,526 86	365 22 36	Do.
19	do.....	Jesse M. Harrison.	Wisconsin..	April 23, 1853	5	94 16	1,789 20	437 79 25	Do.
23	do.....	Henry C. Drake....	do.....	do.....	5	83 12	1,579 29	369 33 94	Do.
23	do.....	Horatio Waldo....	do.....	Aug. 12, 1852	5	39 40	748 74	183 23 08	Do.
25	do.....	Samuel P. Hicks...	do.....	Dec. 24, 1852	5	27 21	517 09	120 76 53	Do.
25	do.....	do.....	do.....	Jan. 15, 1853	5	13 18	250 46	58 47 01	Do.
25	do.....	do.....	do.....	Mar. 3, 1853	5	13 12	249 53	58 29 40	Do.
25	do.....	do.....	do.....	May 24, 1853	5	44 80	851 34	199 11 52	Do.
25	do.....	Alanson B. Vaughan	do.....	May 4, 1853	5	64 58	1,227 08	287 03 00	Do.
26	do.....	Gay & Markle....	do.....	Mar. 25, 1853	5	87 37	1,660 13	406 31 62	Do.

Sept. 16	do	Ambrose Carpenter	Iowa	Jan. 15, 1853	3	19 80	640 39	240 05 64	Do.
16	do	do	do	Aug. 6, 1853	3	9 83	317 97	119 16 07	Do.
20	do	Jos. C. Jennings	do	Jan. 15, 1853	3	15 58	503 99	188 74 88	Subdivision; 2 townships not returned; delayed from sickness.
21	do	Chs. Gilliam	do	Dec. 7, 1852	3	29 81	963 93	361 28 81	Subdivision.
23	do	Jno. T. Everett	do	Feb. 24, 1853	3	19 96	645 44	241 77 36	Do.
23	do	do	do	July 5, 1853	3	24 85	802 70	301 23 46	Do.
23	do	David J. Sales	do	Feb. 24, 1853	3	11 85	483 22	180 02 22	Do.
23	do	do	do	Aug. 6, 1853	3	19 78	639 85	239 69 45	Do.
24	do	J. T. & R. Jarrett	do	Feb. 7, 1853	3	49 48	1,599 85	599 60 73	Do.
24	do	do	do	July 14, 1853	3	20 17	652 45	244 47 27	Do.
25	do	Charles Phipps	Wisconsin	Dec. 2, 1852	5	24 18	459 47	120 73 17	Do.
25	do	do	do	Dec. 31, 1852	5	24 14	458 79	120 58 62	Do.
25	do	do	do	July 5, 1853	5	47 91	910 39	239 46 03	Do.
25	do	Ira Cook	Iowa	Feb. 18, 1853	3	29 75	962 04	360 52 22	Subdivision; 4 townships relinquished.
27	do	James Harlan	do	Feb. 11, 1853	3	4 88	157 79	59 12 47	Subdivision; 2 townships returned to deputy to be corrected.
27	do	do	do	Aug. 6, 1853	3	14 73	476 32	178 45 13	Subdivision.
27	do	John Ball	Wisconsin	Dec. 16, 1852	4	76 12	1,527 21	421 75 28	Do.
27	Range lines and subdivision.	do	Iowa	May 13, 1853	4	24 45	490 31	135 37 05	Range line; subdivision.
27	Subdivision	Jno. S. Sheller	do	Mar. 3, 1853	3	14 82	479 40	179 57 55	Subdivision; balance of work, 9 townships, now being platted.
30	do	L. B. Hodges	do	Dec. 7, 1852	3	9 90	320 19	120 02 85	Subdivision.
30	do	do	do	Dec. 31, 1852	3	9 90	320 15	120 01 52	Do.
30	do	do	do	April 14, 1853	3	24 79	801 70	300 43 61	Do.
Oct. 1	do	A. Anderson	do	Feb. 5, 1853	3	57 24	1,850 95	693 71 02	Do.
1	do	do	do	Mar. 17, 1853	3	23 75	763 96	284 03 74	Do.
4	do	L. V. Davis	Wisconsin	Feb. 7, 1853	5	67 58	1,284 04	300 28 95	Do.
4	do	Saml. T. Caldwell	Iowa	Aug. 6, 1853	3	25 10	811 73	304 24 17	Do.
4	Township lines & subdivision.	Clark & Blanding	Wisconsin	Jan. 20, 1853	7	157 15	2,244 99	299 26 56	Township lines; part of contract relinquished.
4	do	do	do	Feb. 7, 1853	5	6 11	532 16	128 61 91	Subdivision of two townships.
4	Subdivision	Seevers & Sawyer	Iowa	Feb. 11, 1853	3	10 07	325 70	122 08 02	Subdivision.
4	do	do	do	July 14, 1853	3	19 80	640 30	240 03 02	Do.
5	do	Jno. W. Ross	do	June 8, 1853	3	39 66	1,282 65	480 67 44	Subdivision; two townships suspended.
5	do	Henry C. Caldwell	do	Oct. 14, 1853	3	30 21	976 94	366 19 08	Subdivision.
12	do	W. F. Tompkins	Wisconsin	July 18, 1853	5	35 61	676 62	178 04 74	Do.
12	do	do	do	Feb. 11, 1853	5	23 81	452 57	119 07 62	Do.

No. 4—Continued.

Date.	Style of work.	Name of contractor.	State or Territory.	Acct. of deputy, with plats transmitted to Gen'l Land Office.	Per-centage reserved for examination in the field.		Net amount of contract.	Total quantity.	Remarks.
						Amount deducted.			
1852.									
Oct. 16	Subdivision....	Street & Warden.	Iowa.....	April 5, 1853	3	\$4 94	\$159 86	59 74 42	Subdivision.
20	do.....	Thos. B. Neff.....	do.....	Feb. 24, 1853	3	4 93	159 49	59 63 35	Do.
20	do.....	do.....	do.....	April 14, 1853	3	19 71	637 57	239 00 95	Do.
20	do.....	Jno. E. Davidson...	Wisconsin..	Jan. 18, 1853	5	51 81	984 39	240 78 30	Do.
20	do.....	do.....	do.....	Aug. 24, 1853	5	28 65	544 39	133 21 32	Do.
Nov. 3	do.....	Adam Perry.....	Iowa.....	Jan. 31, 1853	3	9 95	331 81	120 52 86	Do.
3	do.....	do.....	do.....	Aug. 24, 1853	3	19 79	639 93	239 71 86	Do.
18	do.....	Perin & Carpenter.	Wisconsin..	April 5, 1853	5	116 51	2,213 86	517 68 97	Subdivision; 1 township rejected.
1853									
Jan. 7	do.....	Jno. E. Davidson...	do.....	do.....	5	59 97	1,139 59	299 71 36	Subdivision.
10	do.....	John Ryan.....	do.....	do.....	5	.....	.....	.....	Subdivision; just returned, but not plated or examined.
24	do.....	Hebard & Garside.	Iowa.....	do.....	3	.....	.....	.....	Subdivision; 3 townships returned, but sent back to be transcribed; balance unsurveyed, from sickness.
29	do.....	Jos. W. Blanding..	Wisconsin..	Sept. 13, 1853	5	116 89	2,221 07	537 36 99	Subdivision.
Feb. 1	do.....	Charles Phipps....	do.....	July 16, 1853	5	72 03	1,368 58	360 12 36	Do.
Mar. 29	do.....	Jno. W. Williams..	Iowa.....	Oct. 14, 1853	3	29 59	957 03	358 61 93½	Do.
April 4	do.....	Horatio Waldo...	Wisconsin..	Aug. 12, 1853	5	39 00	780 05	181 32 63	Subdivision; these townships were relinquished by Waldo & White, and afterwards let to Waldo.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Dubuque, October 21, 1853.

WARNER LEWIS, Surveyor General

No. 5.

Statement of surveys contracted for out of the appropriation of March 3, 1853.

Date of contract.	Style of work.	Names of contractors.	State or Territory.	Date of acc't, with plats transmitted to G. L. Office.	Total quantity.	Reserv'd percentage for examination in the field.		Net am't of contract.	Remarks.
						Rate	Amount.		
1853.					<i>M. chs. lks.</i>				
May 30	Township lines & subdivision..	Jesse T. Jarrett...	West Minnesota	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	Returned from the field, but notes not yet presented.
June 2	standard lines..	Elisha S. Norris...	do	Sept. 30, 1853	226 52 01	7	\$133 23	\$1,770 09	Advance return.
4	Township lines...	William A. Jones...	do	Sept. 30, 1853	243 53 75	6	87 72	1,374 31	Three fractional range lines unfinished, on account of high water.
6	do	John T. Everett...	Iowa	Aug. 18, 1853	331 35 05	4	61 03	1,146 72	Full return.
9	do	John Ball	West Minnesota.	Sept. 30, 1853	270 11 29	6	97 25	1,523 59	Full return.
11	Subdivision.....	H. C. Fellows.....	Wisconsin and East Minnesota.	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	Returned from the field, and two townships presented.
11	do	Wm. J. Anderson.	Iowa	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	Field-notes returned, but not platted.
14	Township lines..	John W. Ellis.....	do	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	An advance return of one tier made.
15	Subdivision.....	Nelson Fletcher...	Wisconsin.	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
18	do	Wm. T. Bradley.....	do	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	An advance return of two townships not platted.
18	do	H. & J. T. Nowlin.	Iowa	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	Full returns made, but not examined.
18	do	H. M. Shelby.....	do.	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
23	do	F. S. Ellis.....	Wisconsin.	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
28	do	Edgar Sears.....	do.	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
28	do	James Withrow...	do.	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
July 4	do	Matthew Cresswell.	Iowa.	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
13	Township lines..	Wm. A. Jones.....	West Minnesota.	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
14	Subdivision.....	John Quigley.....	do.	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
18	Township lines..	Charles Lewis.....	Iowa	Oct. 4, 1853	289 48 57	4	46 33	1,158 42	Advance return
19	Subdivision.....	John Parker.....	West Minnesota.	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
25	do	Charles McDonald.	Iowa.	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Date of contract.	Style of work.	Names of contractors.	State or Territory.	Date of acc't, with plats transferred to G. L. Office.	Total quantity.	Reserv'd percentage for examination in the field.		Net am't of contract.	Remarks.
						M. chs. lks.	Rate Amount.		
1853. July 28	Subdivision.....	John G. Clark....	Wisconsin.	-----					Advance return of two townships not yet examined.
Aug. 2	....do.....	Wm. B. Yerby....	West Minnesota.					
12	Township lines..	John Ball.....	....do.					
15	Subdivision.....	Levi P. Drake....	Wisconsin.						
17	Township lines..	John T. Everett..	Iowa.						
22	Subdivision.....	J. O'Brunius & L. Brockman.	..do.						
27	....do.....	C. G. & H. R. Roldolph.	Wisconsin.					
31	....do.....	Michael Burke....	Iowa.					
Sept. 7	....do.....	Henry K. Averill, jr.	..do.					
14	....do.....	Oscar J. Wright..	Wisconsin.					
21	....do.....	Sam'l W. Durham.	Iowa.					
26	....do.....	George A. Shannon.	..do.					
27	Township lines..	Henry Maddin....	Wisconsin.						
Oct. 3	Subdivision.....	Lewis W. Carter..	West Minnesota.						
3	....do.....	M. M. Hayden....	....do.					
3	....do.....	Phipps & Fitzpatrick.	....do.					
5	....do.....	John Fitzpatrick.	....do.					

WARNER LEWIS,
Surveyor General.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Dubuque, October 21, 1853.

No. 6.

Estimate of appropriations requisite for continuing the public surveys in the States of Wisconsin and Iowa, and the Territory of Minnesota, for the year ending June 30, 1855.

For subdivisions in the State of Iowa.....	\$10,000
For township lines in the State of Wisconsin.....	6,500
For subdivisions in the State of Wisconsin.....	12,000
For township lines in the Territory of Minnesota west of the Mississippi river.....	15,000
For subdivisions in said Territory.....	25,000
	<hr/>
	68,500
For incidental expenses of the office.....	3,500
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Total.....	72,000
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WARNER LEWIS,
Surveyor General.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Dubuque, October 21, 1853.

Estimate of salary of surveyor general and regular clerks, and compensation of piece-clerks, for the year ending June 30, 1855.

For salary of surveyor general and regular clerks, as per act of 10th August, 1846.....	\$8,300
For compensation to piece-clerks.....	10,000
	<hr/>
	18,300
	<hr/> <hr/>

WARNER LEWIS,
Surveyor General.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Dubuque, October 21, 1853.

The United States in account-current with George B. Sargent, surveyor general.

DR

SALARY ACCOUNT.

CR.

1852.			1852.		
Sept. 30	To balance due surveyor general from 3d quarter of 1852.....	\$23 52	Nov. —	By treasury draft No. 4, 268 on Interior warrant No. 4, 875.....	\$6, 075 00
Dec. 31	To amount paid surveyor general and his clerks, 4th quarter of 1852.....	6, 379 51		By balance due surveyor general.....	328 03
		6, 403 03			6, 403 03
1853.			1853.		
Jan. 1	To balance due surveyor general from 4th quarter of 1852.....	328 03	Feb. 5	By treasury draft No. 4, 654 on Treasury Interior warrant No. 5, 253.....	5, 075 00
March 31	To amount paid surveyor general and his clerks, 1st quarter of 1853.....	4, 698 84			5, 075 00
13	To balance due the United States.....	48 13			5, 075 00
		5, 075 00			
May 8	To salary of Geo. B. Sargent to date..... \$208 79 To balance of Iowa and Minnesota bound- ary account from 4th quarter of 1852..... 137 50	346 29	Mar. 31	By balance due the United States from 1st quarter of 1853.....	48 13
		346 29	May 8	By balance of disbursement account.....	28 48
				By balance due George B. Sargent, late surveyor general, to date.....	269 68
					346 29

No. 7—Continued.

The United States in account-current with Warner Lewis, surveyor general.

DR.	ACCOUNT-CURRENT.		CR.		
1853. June 30	To amount paid surveyor general and clerks for 2d quarter of 1853.....	\$5,043 65	1853. July 1	By treasury draft No. 5, 324 on Treasury Interior warrant No. 5, 909.....	\$4,866 00
		5,043 65	1	By balance due surveyor general.....	177 65
		177 65	July 28	By treasury draft No. 5, 437 on Treasury Interior warrant No. 6, 031.....	177 65
Sept. 30	To balance due surveyor general from 2d quarter of 1853.....	4,501 32	Sept. 26	By treasury draft No. 5, 677 on Treasury Interior warrant No. 6, 275.....	4,575 00
	To amount paid surveyor general and clerks for 3d quarter of 1853.....	73 68			4,752 65
	To balance due the United States, and carried to credit of 4th quarter.....	4,752 65	Oct. 1	By this amount due the United States from 3d quarter 1853, by W. Lewis.....	73 68

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Dubuque, October 21, 1853.*

WARNER LEWIS, *Surveyor General.*

S. Doc. 1.

The United States in account-current with George B. Sargent, surveyor general.

DR.

DISBURSEMENT ACCOUNT.

CR.

1852.			1853.		
Oct. 1	To balance due Geo. B. Sargent, surveyor general....	\$66 12	Dec. —	By proportion of treasury draft No. 4, 484 on Treasury Interior warrant No. 5, 088	\$1,000 00
Dec. 31	To amount disbursed during 4th quarter of 1852....	815 33			
	To balance to credit of 1st quarter of 1853.....	118 05			
		<u>1,000 00</u>			<u>1,000 00</u>
1853.			1853.		
March 31	To amount disbursed during 1st quarter of 1853....	653 17	Jan. 1	By this amount from 4th quarter of 1852.....	118 05
	To balance to credit of 2d quarter of 1853.....	28 48	March 31	By treasury draft No. 4, 910 on Treasury Interior warrant No. 5, 498	500 00
		<u>681 65</u>		By amount paid Taylor and Maury by Commissioner of General Land Office.....	63 60
			March 31	By this amount from 1st quarter of 1853, which will be found incorporated in Geo. B. Sargent's salary account in final settlement.....	28 48

No. 8—Continued.

The United States in account-current with Warner Lewis, surveyor general.

DR. CR.

1853.			1853.		
June 30	To amount disbursed during 2d quarter of 1853.....	\$466 35	July 1	By treasury draft No. 5, 310 on Treasury Interior warrant No. 5, 914.....	\$500 00
30	To this amount carried to credit of 3d quarter of 1853.....	33 65			
		500 00			500 00
Sept. 30	To amount disbursed during 3d quarter of 1853.....	415 54	July 1	By this amount from 2d quarter of 1853.....	33 65
	To this amount to credit of 4th quarter of 1853.....	18 11	Sept. 26	By treasury draft No. 5, 662 on Treasury Interior warrant No. 6, 271.....	400 00
		433 65			433 65
			Oct. 1	By this amount from 3d quarter of 1853.....	18 11

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Dubuque*, October 21, 1853.

WARNER LEWIS, *Surveyor General.*

S. Doc. I.

The United States in account-current with George B. Sargent, late surveyor general.

DR.

IOWA AND MINNESOTA BOUNDARY.

CR.

1852.			1852.		
Oct. 1	To balance due George B. Sargent 3d quarter 1852..	\$69 50	Dec. —	By proportion of draft No. 4, 484 on Treasury Interior warrant No. 5, 088	\$600 00
Dec. 31	To amount of account rendered.	668 00		By balance due Geo. B. Sargent, which will be found charged in his final salary account.	137 50
					737 50
		737 50			737 50
1853.					
July 1	To balance due George B. Sargent, surveyor general, and charged in his account-current for final settlement	137 50			
	The remainder of this account was adjusted at the General Land Office, and balances paid there that remained due.				

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Dubuque, October 21, 1853.

WARNER LEWIS, Surveyor General.