

PUBLIC LEGER.

"FRIENDLY TO THE BEST PURSUITS OF MAN,
FRIENDLY TO THOUGHT, TO FREEDOM, AND TO PEACE."—*Cowper.*

[VOLUME IV. No. 94.]

RICHMOND, WAYNE COUNTY, INDIANA, SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1827.

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athan Brownsville.

From the Ohio State Journal.

NOTES ON OHIO.

NO. 1.

The State of Ohio lies between the
parallels of 38 degs. and 42 degs. north
latitude, and between 3 degs. and 30 min.
and 40 min. west longitude from
Washington. The first Europeans who
visited this region, were the French. In
1609, La Salle, a Frenchman, started on
an expedition, and passing up Lake Erie
and Lakes St. Clair and Huron and cruis-
ing along Lake Michigan, he disembarked
near where fort Chicago now stands.—
He crossed the intermediate country
between that place and the Illinois river.—
He descended that stream to its mouth,
descending the Mississippi, he arrived at
length, at its mouth, after passing through
many dangers and great hardships. Going
back to France, he returned by sea, to the
mouth of the Mississippi, and in endeavoring
to pass through the country by land,
to Canada, he lost his life, being mur-
dered by one of his own party, some where in
what is now the state of Illinois, as near as
a second judge from his narrative. From
that period, forward, the French Mission-
aries visited the valley of the Mississippi
very frequently, and their government
engaged in sending persons among the
Indians to conciliate them; and military
troups were sent to examine the country, and
select the most eligible sites for fortifica-
tions. Whoever looks at the map of the
country traversed, will at once perceive
with what prudence they executed their
expeditions. Quebec, Montreal, Oswego,
Saugerties, Presque Isle, Detroit, Mack-
inaw, the Straits of St. Mary, Chicago,
Pittsburgh, St. Louis, &c. &c. were all
well selected for military posts, as could
possibly be done, even at this day, when
intelligence is well settled and of course,
well known.

The first vessel ever launched by Eu-
ropeans, on the upper lakes, was the Griffon,
built by La Salle, in 1630 and was
lost on its return voyage from Chicago to
the Niagara river. After its departure, it was
never heard of, nor of the fate of any of its
crew. Two hundred and forty seven
years since the first vessel sailed across
Lake Erie. Not a white man dwelt on
the borders of that lake, nor in the west-
ern States. Who would have then, imagined
that the State of Ohio would now
have existed, containing nearly one million
of freemen, and the fourth State in a na-
tion, of twelve millions of inhabitants?
Sixty years had elapsed since the landing
of the pilgrims on Plymouth rock. The
western states were one vast wilderness,
inhabited only by savages and wild ani-
mals. The contrast is consoling to all the
friends of human happiness. Steam boats
and other vessels are fast multiplying on
the lakes, and on the Ohio and Mississippi
rivers, as many of them as are necessary
to carry passengers, and to carry on a
busy and increasing commerce.

The French intended to keep possession
of the Canadas and of the whole valley of
the Mississippi, which they claimed either
by actual settlement, or by discovery, as
well as by their treaties with the Indians,
and confirmed to them, as they said, by
the treaties of Aix La Chapelle &c. with
the European governments. That they
intended to erect a great and powerful
State in the new world, is evident from
the vast expenses they were at, in building
forts at all the proper points of communica-
tion, from the great extent of their
church establishment—their large endow-
ments for colleges and other schools of

learning. Their extreme anxiety, to keep
possession of this vast territory is seen in
every thing they did respecting it. Pro-
fessor Silliman in his "Tour between
Hartford and Quebec," justly remarks,
that "he knows nothing that has excited
his surprise more in Canada, than the
number, extent and variety of the French
institutions many of them, intrinsically of
the highest importance, and all of them ac-
cording to their views possessing that
character." They are the more extra-
ordinary, he remarks, when we consider that
the most of them are a century old, and at
the time of their foundation the colony
was feeble and almost engaged in war. It
would seem from these facts, as if the
French contemplated the establishment of
a permanent and eventually, of a great
empire in America, and this is the more
probable, as most of these institutions were
founded during the ambitious, splendid
and enterprising reign of Louis XIV.—

We add, that Louis XV. pursued the
same policy towards his American empire,
as his predecessor had done. The Mar-
quis Gallissonere, Governor General of
New France, (as all this western country
was called by them) in the year 1749,
sent out an expedition, command by Nevis
Celeron, for the purpose of depositing
medals at all important places, such as the
mouths of the most considerable streams,
and at remarkable places, such as the
largest mounds, and other ancient works.
Most of these medals, perhaps all, which
were made of lead, containing "a pro-
cess verbal," drawn up by order of the Governor
General, contained blanks to be filled up
with the date of the time of depositing
them, and the names of the places, rivers,
or objects where they were deposited. I
had, for a considerable time, in my pos-
session, such a medal, which stated it to have
been left at the mouth of Venango river,
where that stream puts into the Belle riv-
iere or river Oys, as the Ohio was called
by them. This medal was rudely done.
It asserted the claims of Louis XV. to all
the country watered by the "riviere Oys,"
and its branches, and was deposited at the
mouth of "Venango riviere," August 16,
1749.

Such medals as the above were deposited
in many places, all over the western
country, and many ancient coins, belong-
ing to the Greeks, Romans, Gauls, &c.,
were also left at different places. Several
of these coins have been found at different
times, in ancient works, at the mouths of
rivers, and at other remarkable places,
and many speculations and new theories
were started by travellers and others, as to
the authors of our antiquities!!

The events of the "old French war," in
this western region, are well known, and
so are those of our revolutionary period,
continued down to 1796, when General
Wayne conquered and concluded a peace
for us, at Greenville.

The first permanent settlement made in
this state, was at Marietta, at the mouth of the
Muskingum river, on the 3d of April,
1787, by Gen. Rufus Putnam and associates.
Remarks on that settlement and its
events, are deferred to the next number.

From the *Focus*.

The Billiard Table.—So far from having
given up this most important charge
against the administration, we find nearly
a whole page of a large paper occupied
with matter to prove it. We would re-
spectfully recommend to the opposition
prints, to have the furniture report of John
Adams, jr. stereotyped, to save the trouble
of continually reprinting it. The book
might be ornamented with a wood cut of
the table.

The said furniture report of John Adams, jr. was merely an inventory of furni-
ture, handed to the committee on the public
buildings, in which the billiard table,
&c. were improperly inserted. Gen. Van
Rensselaer, the chairman of the committee,
bears the following testimony to this
fact:

"Soon after the report [of the committee]
and inventory had been printed, and
some days before the discussion arose
in the house on the report, I learned from the
president, that the inventory so far as it
related to the billiard table, &c. was entirely
erroneous; and that no part of the ap-
propriation had been or would be applied
to any such purpose."

To this we add the following certificate
from the Register:

(COPY.)

I hereby certify, that on the settlement
of the furniture account of the President
of United States, there is not any charge
made by him, nor payment made by the
United States, for a Billiard Table, Cues,
Balls, or any other appurtenance whatever,
in relation thereto; neither has there been
any charge or payment made for Back-
gammon Boards, Dice, or any appurtenance
in relation thereto; nor for Chess
Boards or Chess Men, or any appurtenance
in relation thereto.

Treasury Department, Register's
Office, July 2d, 1827.
(Signed) JOSEPH NOURSE, Register.

(COMMUNICATED.)

To the Editor of the *Franklin Repository*.

SIR: It is respectfully asked of you, on
behalf of those concerned, to insert in your
paper the act of Congress, "making fur-
ther provisions for the extinguishment of
the debt due to the United States, by the
purchasers of Public Lands," "appro-
ved, 4th May, 1826." The Act expired
on the Fourth of July—this present month.
It seems that some who were desirous to
relinquish a part of their land, and pay up
the balance, availing themselves of the re-
mission of all interest due together with
a deduction of thirty-seven and a half per
cent, on the amount actually paid in cash,
understood and believed that the Act
would expire on the 27th inst.

There is no law at the present which
remits the interest and grants a discount.
The class of cases, (with the exception of a
few) now to be adjusted, are those, which
the benefit of the acts of Congress, granting
further relief in the years 1820, 21
which relief was for eight years, and therefore
expires in 1829.

Should Congress revive the act of the
4th May, 1826, it will produce the happy
result, to all those concerned in the class
of cases to be adjusted, that they can
have the benefit of the remission of all in-
terest, and a discount of thirty-seven and a
half per cent, on the amount actually
paid in cash.

Let these concerned examine for them-
selves; I shall be ready to aid, until the
debt is paid, and I feel desirous, that the
act should be revived, and other measures
adopted for the prosperity of Indiana.

Respectfully your obedient servant,

JAMES NOBLE.

Brookville, July 15th, 1827.

AN ACT making further Provision for the Extin-
guishment of the debt Due to the United States,
by the Purchasers of Public Lands.

[Sect. 1.] Be it enacted by the Senate and
House of Representatives of the United States
of America in Congress assembled, That the
provisions of the act, entitled "An Act to
provide for the extinguishment of the
debt due to the United States by the pur-
chasers of public lands," approved May
the eighteenth, one thousand eight hundred
and twenty four, and the provisions of

the act, entitled "An Act explanatory of
an act entitled an act to provide for the
extinguishment of the debt due to the
United States by the purchasers of public
lands," approved May the twenty-sixth,
one thousand eight hundred and twenty
four, be, and the same are hereby, severally
revived and continued in force, in all re-
spects whatsoever, until the fourth day of
July, one thousand eight hundred and
twenty seven,

Sect. 2. And be it further enacted, That
the legal holder of any certificate of lands
purchased from the United States, which
land has reverted by virtue of the provi-
sions of the act of the second of March,
eighteen hundred and twenty one, or the
several acts supplementary thereto; or
which, by virtue of the fifth section of the
act of tenth of May, one thousand eight
hundred, is subject to be sold for the bal-
ance due thereon with interest; or which,
under the provisions of the said act, has
become forfeited to the United States,
since the first day of July, eighteen hundred
and twenty, and which has not been
sold, shall be permitted to redeem the
same at any time previous to the first day
of May, one thousand eight hundred and
twenty seven, on paying the amount of the
purchase money due exclusive of interest,
with a deduction of thirty-seven and a half
per cent.

Sect. 3. And be it further enacted, That if the
legal holder of any certificate of further
credit extended to purchasers of public
lands by the act of the second of March,
eighteen hundred and twenty one, entitled

"An Act for the relief of the purchasers of
public lands, prior to the first day of July,
eighteen hundred and twenty," shall, pre-
vious to the fourth day of July eighteen
hundred and twenty seven, discharge the
amount due on such certificate, by relin-
quishment, or payment, or both, such holder
shall be entitled to a remission of all
interest due thereon at the day of such
discharge, together with a deduction of
thirty-seven and a half per cent, on the a-
mount actually paid in cash.

[Approved, 4 May, 1826.]

At a party in Philadelphia, not long ago,
was a young lady from B——. In the
course of the evening conversation be-
came slack and a pause of the few moments
became unavoidable. A gentleman broke
silence by observing, "awful pause?" The
poor girl, who thought the observation
was meant for her, spoke up rather pertly:
"well, I guess you would have awful paws
too if you should wash and scrub as much
as I do."

Why a man is not made out of dust.—A
black servant not 100 miles from St. An-
drew's, Holborn, being examined in the
church catechism by the minister of the
parish was asked "what are you made of
Jack?" he said "of mud, massa;" on being
told he should say, of dust, he replied, "no
massy, it no do, no stick togedder."

Full Measure. A quaker alighting from
the Bristol coach, on entering the inn, called
for some beer, and observing the pint
deficient in quantity, thus addressed the
landlord—"Pray friend, how many butts
of beer dost thou draw in a month? Ten
sir, replied boniface—"And thou wouldst
like to draw eleven," rejoined Ebenezer!
"Certainly," exclaimed the smiling land-
lord. "Then I will tell the how friend,"
added the quaker—"Fill thy measures."

Affection.—It was a beautiful turn given
by a great lady, who being asked where
her husband was, when he lay concealed,
for having been deeply concerned in the
conspiracy, resolutely answered that she
had hidden him. This confession caused
her to be brought before the governor,
who told her that nothing but confessing
where she had hid him could save her
from torture—"and will that do?" said
she. "Yes," replied the governor, "I will
pass my word for your safety on that con-
dition" "Then," said she, "I have hid him
in my heart, where you may find him." This
surprising answer charmed her en-
emies.

In the year 1457, a proclamation was
issued by Henry the Eighth, "that women
should not meet together to babble and
talk, and that all men should keep their
wives in their houses."

Tale-bearing.—It is the custom in Tur-
key, by way of reproach, to black the
front of those houses whose inhabitants are
notorious for tale-bearing, propagating
falsehoods, &c.—If that were the case
with us, what a dismal figure some of our
houses would make.

An honest Irishman was accosted on the
quay, at Belfast, by a brother Hibernian,
with "Arrah, Pat, you are going to be in
good luck to day, boy—you have got your
stockings turned wrong side out." Pat
turned round with great quickness, and
surveying with the utmost complaisance
the sad remnants of what was once hose,
answered—"Sure, honey, I know that, &
don't you know why I turned them?" "No,"
replied the other. "Why," says Pat, and
he gave a knowing wink with his eye,
"bekase they are holed on the other side."

A Massachusetts gentleman, in Boston,
lately wrote that he had intended to send
a fashionable hat to his daughter, but was
afraid to venture it on the deck of the
packet, and could not get it down the
hatchway!

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