

40TH CONGRESS, } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. } Ex. Doc.
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MESSAGE

OF THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

AND

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS,

TO THE

TWO HOUSES OF CONGRESS,

AT

THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE SECOND SESSION

OF

THE FORTIETH CONGRESS.

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WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1867.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
October 15, 1867.

Sir: In accordance with the resolution of the Senate, dated February 28, 1865, I have the honor to present the following as an abstract of the annual report of this office for the year 1867:

1. The area of the public lands, exclusive of the Russian purchase, is 1,465,468,800 acres. The extent of that purchase is estimated at 577,390 square miles, or 369,529,600 acres, making a total of 1,834,998,400 acres.
2. The aggregate of public lands which have been surveyed is 485,311,778 acres, leaving a residue of 1,349,686,622 acres yet unsurveyed.
3. The quantity of public land disposed of during the last fiscal year is 7,041,114.50 acres, of which there were sold for cash 756,619.61 acres; located with military bounty land warrants 476,760 acres; taken for homesteads under the acts of 1862, 1864, and 1866, 1,788,043.49 acres; approved to several States as swamp "in place" 1,030,020.22 acres; for indemnity swamp selections 36,429.93 acres; titles vested in certain States under railroad, wagon-road, and ship-canal grants for 533,168.52 acres, and located with agricultural and mechanic college scrip, together with selections made by States within their respective limits, 2,420,072.73 acres.
4. The amount received on cash sales, pre-emptions, military scrip, received as money, homestead payments, and commissions, fees for locating agricultural college scrip on military warrants, and railroad selections, commissions on pre-emptions, and donations and proceeds from furnishing transcripts under act of July 2, 1864, is \$1,347,862.52.
5. The excess disposed of over the previous year is 2,411,800 acres.
6. Explanation of the public surveying system is given, indicating the structure of base lines, principal meridians, township and sectional lines, showing the establishment, since the adoption of the system in 1785, of twenty principal bases and twenty-three principal meridians, extending into all the States and Territories carved out of the public domain, except the Russian purchase, aggregating in length 1,476,673 lineal miles, the locality of each base and meridian being designated.
7. The public surveys have been extended wholly over Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, and nearly so in Louisiana and Florida.
8. Outline sketches are given of the rise and progress of each of the public land States and Territories, with their areas, and the advancement of surveys therein; commencing with Ohio, where the system had its initiation, to the Territory of Montana, where that system was inaugurated in 1867.
9. Landed property; the rise and progress shown of the pre-emption system, with results; number stated of farms under actual cultivation; also of urban settlements.
10. Homestead policy considered with homestead rulings; results shown.

MICHIGAN rests upon and is intersected by the great lakes of North America. It is divided by the lake of its own name into two peninsulas. The northern, included between Lakes Michigan and Superior, is three hundred and sixteen miles long and from thirty-six to one hundred and twenty broad. The southern, included between Lake Michigan on the one side and Lakes Huron, St. Clair, and Erie on the other, is four hundred and sixteen miles long, and from fifty to three hundred wide. The State possesses an aggregate lake shore line of fourteen hundred miles, the area being fifty-six thousand four hundred and fifty-one square miles, or thirty-six million one hundred and twenty-eight thousand six hundred and forty acres.

The scenery of the northern peninsula is bold and picturesque, that of the southern less remarkable for salient features. The eastern portion of the former is undulating, gradually rising from the lake shore into elevated table land, westward it breaks into hills, enlarging into the Porcupine mountains, which form the dividing ridge between the tributary waters of Lakes Superior and Michigan. The highest peaks of this ridge attain an altitude of eighteen hundred or two thousand feet. The shores of Lake Superior abound in striking and romantic views, the "pictured rocks" being objects of special interest. They are composed of partly-colored sandstones worn by the attrition of the waves into fancied resemblances of ruined temples and castles. They are sixty miles from the Sault Ste. Marie. The southern peninsula is level and more homelike in character. It is diversified in the southern portion by natural parks, called oak openings, or stretches of level country, with a scattered growth of trees intersected with prairies and heavy timber. Its rivers are neither numerous nor generally very large, yet a number of small lakes enliven the scenery.

The population in 1810 was 4,672; in 1830, 31,639; in 1850, 397,654; in 1860 it amounted to 751,956, and the census of 1870 will doubtless exhibit a population of over a million, an aggregate which, indeed, according to reliable estimates, has been already nearly reached.

The soil in the middle and south of the lower peninsula is very rich, generally free from stones, of a deep, dark, rich sandy loam, often mingled with gravel and clay. The northern part is well timbered, arable, and fertile.

The agricultural character of the northern peninsula has not been determined. Portions of it are densely timbered, furnishing immense quantities of lumber for domestic use and for exportation, the trees being the white pine, spruce, hemlock, birch, and oak. In the lower peninsula are heavily timbered tracts of black and white walnut, sugar maple, oak, hickory, ash, basswood, locust, and poplar.

The climate of Michigan is less severe than that of other portions of the country between the same parallels of latitude, being softened by the immense fresh water surface on the borders of the State.

The colder and less genial climate of the northern peninsula, though admitting good crops of winter grain, is not favorable to maize. The lower portion of the State, however, produces large aggregates of all kinds of cereals.

The agricultural yield of the State is immense in wheat, rye, maize, oats, barley, buckwheat, potatoes, beans, and hay, also the products of the orchard, (apples, peaches, pears, and plums,) and of the dairy. The yield of maple sugar, sorghum molasses, and honey, is abundant and increasing.

Tobacco is cultivated to some extent, and large quantities are imported for manufacture.

Wool raising is an important branch of husbandry. The clip of 1866 was estimated at 9,750,000 pounds, an increase of 2,500,000 pounds over the clip of 1864, notwithstanding an immense exportation of sheep to Iowa.

The lumber trade of Michigan is of great value and extent; the extensive pineries, after satisfying the home demand, supply a large surplus for exportation. The quantity cut in 1866 was largely in excess of the product of the previous year—at least 30 per cent.; the total amounted to 1,125,000,000 feet.

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The upper peninsula, rich in minerals, prominent among which is copper, is mostly of primitive geological character; the lower exclusively secondary. The copper deposits among the primary rocks of the northern peninsula are the richest in the world, the copper belt being one hundred and twenty miles long and from two to six miles wide. A block of several tons of almost pure copper, taken from the mouth of Ontonagon river, has been built into the wall of the Washington monument at the national capital. A mass weighing one hundred and fifty tons was uncovered in 1854 in the North American mine.

Isle Royale abounds in this mineral; one house in that district, during five and a half months of 1854, shipped over two millions of pounds, and in the nine years previous there were produced four thousand eight hundred and twenty-four tons. The yield of copper in the State has risen to an annual average of eight thousand tons, with promise of steady increase. The opening of the St. Mary's canal and the clearing of the entrance into Portage lake have given fresh impetus to this branch of mining industry, which is becoming one of the most cherished interests of the State. Silver has been found in connection with the copper in the proportion of from twenty-five to fifty per cent. of the precious metal. Iron of superior quality has been discovered in a bed of slate from six to twenty-five miles wide, and one hundred and fifty long, extending into Wisconsin. In the production of this mineral in 1863, Michigan was second only to Pennsylvania, having produced two hundred and seventy-three thousand tons of ore. Bituminous coal is mined on an enlarging scale to meet the demand of manufactures. Salt also exists in quantities repaying the investment of capital.

The high prices lately prevailing have caused a rapid development of salt fields around Saginaw, a basin some forty or fifty miles square, in which by boring some eight hundred feet an inexhaustible supply of brine is obtained, yielding eighty or ninety per cent. of salt.

The manufacturing interests in the year 1860 were represented by three thousand four hundred and forty-eight establishments, with a capital of \$23,808,226. The cost of labor and the raw material amounted to \$24,370,658, the total value of the products having been \$32,658,356, giving a surplus over cost of labor and materials of \$8,287,698 or nearly 35 per cent. on the capital invested. These establishments were mostly engaged in the working of the heavy products of the mines and the forest into forms for the more elaborate processes of the States. Yet the increase of labor and capital is such that the intelligent industries of the people are finding occupation in the higher branches of manufactures.

The lakes around the State abound in fish, consisting of white fish, pickerel, bass, trout, bass, herring, and maskinonge. The yield of 1865 was 35,200 barrels, averaging sixteen dollars each, amounting to \$563,200, the legislature having forbidden seine-fishing in order to prevent injury to this branch of industry.

Upwards of eight hundred miles of railroad have been completed at a cost of about thirty-five millions of dollars, and six hundred more are in course of construction or projected, the completion of which will add largely to the prosperity of all the industrial interests of the State.

Lansing, the capital, on Grand river, one hundred and ten miles northwest from Detroit, was, when selected as the seat of government in 1847, an unbroken wilderness. It is now a city of nearly five thousand inhabitants, containing churches, banks, newspaper establishments, and institutions of learning, male and female.

Detroit, settled by the French in 1670, situated on the strait connecting Lakes Erie and St. Clair, is a splendid city, with a population in 1865 of sixty thousand, now rapidly increasing. It is well built, gas lit, and provided with ample street railways, possesses a very efficient system of public schools, accommodated

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in neat and commodious edifices, while its churches embrace several specimens of elaborate and tasteful architecture.

Its position is admirable for commerce, of which it has a considerable share, having lines of trade with Liverpool, Monroe, Saginaw, Port Huron, St. Marie, and New Buffalo, are also important places.

The finances of the State are in healthy condition, the debt small and in rapid liquidation. Educational endowments are liberal and well administered.

The resources of the State when fully developed will doubtless be sufficient to support comfortably a population of ten millions.

The United States have over five millions of acres in this State yet to be disposed of.

WISCONSIN extends from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi, and from Illinois to Lake Superior, being coterminous with Michigan. Its greatest length from north to south is three hundred and two miles, and varying in breadth from one hundred and forty-six to two hundred and fifty-eight, its area being 53,924 square miles, or 34,511,360 acres.

The whole State is rolling prairie, elevated from six hundred to twelve hundred feet above sea level, with no mountains or lofty hills. The descent to Lake Superior being very abrupt, the streams emptying therein are too full of rapids for navigation, but present admirable facilities for manufactories. Several large rivers and lakes of considerable size agreeably diversify the scenery, affording important internal navigation. The Wisconsin, emptying into the Mississippi, and the Fox into Lake Michigan, approach so near that they are joined by a short canal.

The population of Wisconsin in 1860 was 775,881, but has now (1867) risen to a million, the mass of foreign-born population being Teutonic and Scandinavian.

The soil in the southern part is remarkably productive, and even in the mineral regions of the northwest it is well adapted to grazing. In the country lying upon Lake Superior, the overlying deposits of drift and boulders, and the presence of swamps and marsh, limit the agricultural character of the soil. There are vast forests of pine upon the rivers in the northwestern part of the State, with a large intermixture of spruce, hemlock, oaks in great variety, hickory, elm, ash, and poplar—the large forests of the last mentioned being found only in the southern part of the State. The climate is cold, yet agreeable, and free from oppressive extremes, the average temperature on the shore of Lake Michigan being 63° Fahrenheit higher than on the Mississippi.

Wisconsin is less liable than other new places to the diseases incident to new settlements, and compares favorably, as to salubrity, with other States, owing to the openness of the country.

The Wisconsin river is frozen only four months in the year.

The agricultural statistics of the State indicate extraordinary wealth in production and quality in wheat, rye, maize, oats, barley, hay, clover, grasses, hops, flax, and potatoes. Tobacco is cultivated quite successfully, while the yield of the dairies in butter and cheese, and of the vintage, is abundant, as also of maple sugar, molasses, sorghum, honey, and wax; the products of the orchard and market gardening returning large rewards to the agriculturist. The aggregate results in 1860 reached in value upwards of thirty-six and a third million of dollars, being an enormous increase in percentage over previous decennial returns.

The manufacturing establishments in 1860 numbered 3,064, with a capital invested of \$15,831,581.

The value of the raw material absorbed and cost of production equalled \$21,406,042, the total product having reached \$27,849,467, leaving a profit of \$6,403,425, or upwards of 40 per cent, upon the capital invested.

The necessities of a new country still limit the range of these establishments to

the production of articles for common use, or in preparing the original products for the more elaborate processes of art elsewhere; yet the tendency to introduce higher branches of manufacturing industry becomes more evident as the resources of the State are developed.

The facilities for propelling machinery found in the various water-courses of Wisconsin invite large investments of labor and capital in the extension of manufacturing enterprise.

The mineral resources of the State are varied and valuable. The lead region of Illinois and Iowa extends over an area of 2,140 square miles in Wisconsin, which compares with the other portions in the abundance and richness of the ores. In 1863 there were 848,625 pounds of lead received at Milwaukee. The completion of the southern Wisconsin railroad will raise the aggregate to 2,500,000 pounds. It is mingled with copper and zinc ores.

The iron region of Lake Superior presents within the limits of this State abundant deposits of great richness. Magnetic iron, plumbago, and the non-metallic earths abound. Copper deposits have also been developed, but as yet have only been worked to a limited extent. Beautiful marbles, susceptible of elaborate working, exist.

The mineral productions are rapidly opening a very inviting field for capital and industry, promising an immense addition to the resources of this energetic young State.

Its railroad interests are assuming magnificent proportions.

In 1866 there were completed and in full operation 1,731 miles, representing a capital of \$14,099,400.

A canal is proposed to connect the waters of the Mississippi with the lakes, through the medium of Rock river and Lakes Horicon and Winnebago, which is to have the full capacity of the New York and Erie canal, with another route by way of Fox and Wisconsin rivers, these canal routes having been surveyed by competent engineers and pronounced entirely practicable.

Madison, the capital of the State, is handsomely located on an isthmus between Lakes Mendota and Monona, its situation being the most picturesque and beautiful of any of our western capitals. The city is well built, contains the State building, the State university, newspaper establishments, banks, churches, iron foundries, a woolen factory, and steam mills.

Its population in 1865 was 10,000. The charming scenery around, salubrious atmosphere, business advantages, and educational interests will cause it to be a large and flourishing city.

Milwaukee, at the mouth of the Milwaukee river, and seventy-five miles by lake coast above Chicago, is a fine, thriving city, and a prominent railroad centre in the northwest. Milwaukee's commercial and manufacturing importance are annually increasing with extraordinary rapidity. It is especially celebrated for the manufacture of a superior article called Milwaukee brick, which is largely exported to different parts of the Union.

It is the greatest primary wheat market in the world. In 1862 the receipts of wheat, and of flour reduced to wheat, were nearly 18,000,000 of bushels. The other cereals were shipped in less quantities, but showing astonishing aggregates. The elevators and warehouses of Milwaukee have a capacity to store about 5,000,000 bushels of grain. The tonnage owned at this port in 1863 was 31,780. Lines of steamers cross the lake and communicate with the Detroit and Milwaukee railroad.

The extensive water power of Milwaukee river affords splendid facilities for manufacturing, and is in process of rapid development.

There are in the city churches of superior architecture and public schools embracing a large number of departments, the Milwaukee Female College and several academies affording facilities for the higher elements of education.

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March 12, 1860; and also the quantity certified to the State of Louisiana under the act approved March 2, 1849.

No. 8. Exhibit of bounty land business under acts of 1847, 1850, 1852, and 1855, showing the issue and locations from the commencement of the operations under said acts to June 30, 1867.

No. 9. Statement showing the State selections under the "internal improvement" grant of 4th of September, 1841, on the 30th of June, 1867.

No. 10. Statement respecting the accounts of receivers of public moneys, disbursing agents, and adjustment of the five per cent. fund.

No. 11. Statement showing the selections made by certain States of lands within their own limits under agricultural and mechanic act of July 2, 1862, and its supplemental acts of April 14, 1864, and June 21, 1866; also the locations made with scrip under said acts.

No. 12. Statement exhibiting land concessions by acts of Congress to States and corporations for railroad and military wagon road purposes from the year 1850 to June 30, 1867.

No. 13. Statement exhibiting land concessions by acts of Congress to States for canal purposes from the year 1827 to June 30, 1867.

No. 14. Statement showing the homestead fees and commissions required to be paid under the several homestead acts.

No. 15. Estimate of appropriations required for the office of the Commissioner of the General Land Office for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1869.

No. 16. Estimates of appropriations for the surveying department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1869.

No. 17. Estimates of appropriations required for surveying the public lands for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1869.

No. 18. Reports of surveyors general, A to J inclusive.

No. 19. Statement of confirmed Indian pueblo grants and private land claims in New Mexico.

No. 20. General tabular statement exhibiting the following: No. 1, States and Territories containing public land; No. 2, square miles and areas of States and Territories containing public land; No. 3, quantity sold; No. 4, entered under the homestead law; No. 5, granted for military services; No. 6, granted for agricultural colleges; No. 7, approved under grants in aid of railroads; No. 8, approved swamp selections; No. 9, quantity granted for internal improvements; No. 10, donations and grants for schools and universities; No. 11, locations with Indian scrip; No. 12, located with float scrip; No. 13, estimated quantity granted for wagon roads; No. 14, quantity granted for ship canals; No. 15, sales; No. 16, seats of government and public buildings; No. 17, granted to individuals and companies; No. 18, granted for deaf and dumb asylums; No. 19, reserved for benefit of Indians; No. 20, reserved for companies, individuals, and corporations; No. 21, confirmed private land claims; No. 22, quantity remaining unsold and unappropriated June 30, 1867.

No. 21. Historical and statistical table of the United States of North America. No. 22. Statement showing the area and population of the British possessions north of the United States boundary.

No. 23. Statement showing the area and population of the West Indies, Mexican states, Central America, and New Granada.

No. 24. Set of twenty-eight maps of all the public land States and Territories, to wit: Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Dakota, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Nebraska, Kansas, Indian Territory, Colorado, New Mexico, Montana, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, California, Oregon, Washington Territory, and Russian America.

Each map shows the extent of the public surveys where such have been extended; also the names of countries and resources, so far as furnished by the data on hand.

No. 25. Connected map of the United States from ocean to ocean, exhibiting

the extent of the public surveys, localities, land districts, seats of survey general's offices and district officers; also localities of railroads of general interest and mineral deposits.

No. 26. Map of the world on Mercator's projection.

No. 1.—Tabular statement showing the number of acres of public lands surveyed in the following land States and Territories up to June 30, 1866, in the last fiscal year, and the total of the public lands surveyed up to June 1867; also the total area of the public domain remaining unsurveyed, in the same.

Land States and Territories.	Area of the land States and Territories.		Number of acres of public lands surveyed up to June 30, 1866.	Number of acres of public lands surveyed during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1866, but not included in last year's report.	Number of acres of public lands surveyed within the fiscal year ending June 30, 1867.	Total of the public lands surveyed up to June 30, 1867.	Total area of public lands, including Russian territory, remaining unsurveyed, and of course unoffered.
	In acres.	In square miles.					
Wisconsin.....	34,511,360	53,924	34,511,360			34,511,360	
Iowa.....	35,228,800	55,045	35,228,800			35,228,800	
Minnesota.....	53,439,840	83,551	53,439,840	50	604,690	53,499,530	20,515,612
Kansas.....	52,043,320	81,318	52,043,320	45,697	64,292,775	20,510,413	31,515,413
Nebraska.....	48,636,800	75,935	48,636,800	132	41,959,117	15,520,249	33,515,249
California.....	150,947,440	188,981	150,947,440	132	130,761	151,127	92,222,222
Nevada.....	71,737,741	112,090	72,819	19,531	89,981	92,763,969	70,919,919
Oregon.....	60,975,360	95,374	5,720,186		16,319	414,450	6,144,638
Washington Ter.....	44,796,160	69,394	3,530,645	54,843	294,550	3,880,038	40,919,618
Colorado Territory.....	56,850,000	104,500	1,692,251	91,621	1,130,775	2,844,837	61,019,618
Utah Territory.....	56,353,635	88,056	2,465,250		492,673	2,517,912	53,637,618
Arizona Territory.....	72,906,304	113,916					72,906,304
New Mexico Ter.....	77,508,640	121,201	2,293,142		739,413	2,383,555	75,269,087
Dakota Territory.....	153,982,080	240,327	1,650,989		803,671	1,653,660	151,313,741
Idaho Territory.....	58,196,480	90,322					58,196,480
Montana Territory.....	92,016,640	143,776					92,016,640
Missouri.....	41,824,000	65,350	41,824,000			41,824,000	
Alabama.....	32,462,080	50,722	32,462,080			32,462,080	
Mississippi.....	30,179,810	47,136	30,179,810			30,179,810	
Louisiana.....	26,461,440	41,346	23,461,440			23,461,440	
Arkansas.....	33,406,720	52,188	33,406,720			33,406,720	
Florida.....	37,931,520	58,398	26,631,520			26,631,520	
Ohio.....	25,576,960	39,964	25,576,960			25,576,960	
Indiana.....	21,637,760	33,899	21,637,760			21,637,760	
Michigan.....	36,139,640	56,451	36,139,640			36,139,640	
Illinois.....	35,462,400	55,410	35,462,400			35,462,400	
Indian Territory.....	44,154,210	68,991					44,154,210
American purchase from Russia.....	369,529,600	577,390					369,529,600
Total.....	1,834,998,400	2,867,185	474,160,531	348,913	10,808,314	485,311,778	1,349,687,618

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a. Of which 606,065.05 acres are Dakota or Sioux Indian lands. Act March 3, 1863, United States 1 vol. 12, p. 819.
b. Of which 115,107.60 acres are Cherokee neutral lands. Treaty July 27, 1866.
c. Of which 871,751 acres are Orange lands, sold to United States. Treaty September 29, 1865, article 3. United States Laws, 1865 and 1867, p. 135.
d. Of which 1,225,602 acres are Orange lands, ceded in trust to United States. Treaty September 29, article 3. United States Laws, 1865 and 1867, p. 136.
e. Of which 325,832 acres are Omaha lands. Treaty March 16, 1854, vol. 10, p. 1043. Of which 98 acres belong to Omaha under treaty of March 6, 1853—United States Laws 1854 and 1855, p. 13; and 37 acres to Winnebago Indians—United States Laws 1865 and 1866, p. 17.
f. Vacated Indian reservations. Act of Congress approved May 5, 1864—Statutes at Large, vol. 13, p. 1.
g. Private claims in New Mexico.