

AN ACT

Providing for the sale of Lands of the United States, in the territory north-west of the river Ohio, and above the mouth of Kentucky river.

Sec. 1. BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That a Surveyor General shall be appointed, whose duty it shall be to engage a sufficient number of skilful surveyors, as his deputies, whom he shall cause, without delay, to survey and mark the unascertained outlines of the lands lying north-west of the river Ohio, and above the mouth of the river Kentucky, in which the titles of the Indian tribes have been extinguished, and to divide the same in the manner hereinafter directed; he shall have authority to frame regulations and instructions for the government of his deputies; to administer the necessary oaths, upon their appointments; and to remove them for negligence or misconduct in office.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That the part of the said lands, which has not been already conveyed by letters patent, or divided, in pursuance of an ordinance of Congress, passed on the twentieth of May, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five, or which has not been heretofore, and, during the present session of Congress, may not be appropriated for satisfying military land bounties, and for other purposes, shall be divided by north and south lines, run according to the true meridian, and by others crossing them at right angles, so as to form townships of six miles square, unless where the line of the late Indian purchase, or of tracts of land heretofore surveyed or patented, or the course of navigable rivers may render it impracticable; and when this rule shall be departed from, no further than such particular circumstances may require. The corners of the townships shall be marked with progressive numbers from the beginning; each distance of a mile between the said corners shall be also distinctly marked with marks different from those at the corners. One-half of the said townships, taking them alternately, shall be subdivided into sections, containing, as nearly as may be, six hundred and forty acres each, by running through the same, each way, parallel lines, at the end of every two miles; and by marking a corner, on each of the said lines, at the end of every mile; the sections shall be numbered respectively, beginning with the number one, in the north east section, and proceeding west and east alternately, through the township, with progressive numbers, till the thirty sixth be completed. And it shall be the duty of the deputy surveyors, respectively, to cause to be marked, on a tree near each corner made, as aforesaid, and within the section, the number of such section, and over it, the number of the township, within which, such section may be; and the said deputies shall carefully note, in their respective field books, the names of the corner trees marked, and the numbers so made; the fractional parts of townships shall be divided into sections, in manner aforesaid, and the fractions of sections shall be annexed to, and sold with, the adjacent entire sections. All lines shall be plainly marked upon trees, and measured with chains containing two perches or sixteen feet and one half each, subdivided into twenty five equal links, and the chain shall be adjusted to a standard to be kept for that purpose. Every surveyor shall note in his field book, the true situation of all mines, salt licks, salt springs and mill seats, which shall come to his knowledge; all water courses, over which, the line he runs shall pass; and also the quality of the land: These field books shall be returned to the Surveyor General, who shall therefrom cause a description of the whole lands surveyed, to be made out and transmitted to the officers who may superintend the sales: He shall also cause a fair plot to be made of the townships, and fractional parts of townships, contained in the said lands, describing the subdivisions thereof and the marks of the corners. This plot shall be recorded in books to be kept for that purpose; a copy thereof shall be kept open at the Surveyor General's office, for public information; and other copies sent to the places of the sale, and to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That a salt spring lying upon a creek, which empties into the Sciota river, on the east side together with as many contiguous sections as shall be equal to one township, and every other salt spring, which may be discovered together with the section of one mile square which includes it, and also four sections at the center of every township, containing each one mile square, shall be reserved, for the future disposal of the United States: But there shall be no reservations, except for salt springs in fractional townships, where the fraction is less than three fourths of a township.

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That whenever seven ranges or townships shall have been surveyed below the great Miami, or between the Sciota river and the Ohio company's purchase or between the southern boundary of the Connecticut claims, and the ranges already laid off, beginning upon the Ohio river, and extending westwardly, and the plats thereof made and transmitted, in conformity to the provisions of this act, the said sections of six hundred and forty acres (excluding those hereby reserved) shall be offered for sale at public vendue, under the direction of the Governor or secretary of the western territory, and the surveyor general; such of them as lie below the Great Miami, shall be sold at Cincinnati, those of them which lie between the Sciota, and the Ohio company's purchase, at Pittsburgh; and those between the Connecticut claim, and the seven ranges, at Pittsburgh. And the townships remaining undivided shall be offered for sale, in the same manner as the plat of government of the United States, under the direction of the secretary of the Treasury, in tracts of one quarter of a township, lying at the corners thereof, excluding the four central sections, and the other reservations before mentioned—Provided always, that no part of the land, directed by this act to be offered for sale, shall be sold for less than two dollars per acre.

Sec. 5. Be it further enacted, That the secretary of the treasury, after receiving the aforesaid plats, shall forthwith, give notice, in one newspaper in each of the United States, and of the territories north-west and south of the river Ohio, of the times

of sale; which shall, in no case, be less than two months from the date of the notice; and the sales at the different places shall not commence, within less than one month from each other—and when the Governor of the western territory, or secretary of the Treasury, shall find it necessary to adjourn or suspend the sales under their direction, respectively, for more than three days, at any one time, notice shall be given in the public newspapers of such suspension, and at what time the sales will recommence.

Sec. 6. Be it further enacted, That immediately after the passing of this act, the secretary of the treasury shall, in the manner herein before directed, advertise for sale, the lands remaining unsold in the seven ranges of townships which were surveyed, in pursuance of an ordinance of Congress, passed the 20th of May, 1785, including the lands drawn for the army by the late secretary of war, and also those heretofore sold, but not paid for; the townships which by the said ordinance are directed to be sold entire, shall be offered for sale at public vendue in Philadelphia, under the direction of the secretary of the treasury, in quarter townships, referring the four center sections, according to the direction of this act. The townships which, by the said ordinance, are directed to be sold in sections, shall be offered for sale at public vendue in Pittsburgh, under the direction of the Governor or secretary of the western territory, and such persons as the President may specially appoint for that purpose, by sections of one mile square each, reserving the four center sections, as aforesaid; and all fractional townships shall also be sold in sections, at Pittsburgh, in the manner and under the regulations provided by this act; for the sale of fractional townships: Provided always, That nothing in this act shall authorize the sale of those lots, which have been heretofore reserved in the townships already sold.

Sec. 7. And be it further enacted, That the highest bidder for any tract of land, sold by virtue of this act, shall deposit at the time of sale, one twentieth part of the amount of the purchase money, to be forfeited, if a moiety of the sum bid, including the said twentieth part, is not paid within thirty days, to the treasurer of the United States, or to such person as shall be appointed by the President of the United States, to attend the places of sale for that purpose; and upon payment of the purchase money, within thirty days, the purchaser shall have one year's credit for the residue; and shall receive from the Secretary of the Treasury, or the Governor of the Western Territory, (as the case may be) a certificate describing the land sold, the sum paid on account, the balance remaining due, the times when such balance becomes payable; and that the whole land sold will be forfeited, if the said balance is not then paid; but that if it shall be duly discharged, the purchaser or his assignee, or other legal representative, shall be entitled to a patent for the said lands: And on payment of the said balance to the treasurer, within the specified time, and producing to the secretary of state a receipt for the same, upon the aforesaid certificate, the President of the United States is hereby authorized to grant a patent for the lands to the said purchaser, his heirs or assigns; And all patents shall be counter-signed by the secretary of state, and recorded in his office. But if there should be a failure in paying the said balance, all the money, therefore paid on account of the purchase shall be forfeited to the United States, and the lands thus sold shall be again disposed of, in the same manner as if a sale had never been made: Provided nevertheless, That should any purchaser make payment of the whole purchase money, at the time when the payment of the first moiety is directed to be made, he shall be entitled to a deduction of ten per cent. on the part, for which a credit is hereby directed to be given; and his patent shall be immediately issued.

Sec. 8. Be it further enacted, That the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Governor of the territory north-west of the river Ohio, shall, respectively, cause books to be kept, in which shall be regularly entered, an account of the dates of all the sales, the situation and number of the lots sold, the price at which, each was struck off, the money deposited at the time of sale, and the dates of the certificates granted to the different purchasers. The Governor, or Secretary of the said territory shall, at every suspension or adjournment, for more than three days, of the sales under their direction, transmit to the Secretary of the Treasury, a copy of the said books, certified to have been duly examined and compared with the original. And all tracts sold under this act shall be noted upon the general plat, after the certificate has been granted to the purchaser.

Sec. 9. And be it further enacted, That all navigable rivers, within the territory to be disposed of by virtue of this act, shall be deemed to be, and remain public highways; And that in all cases, where the opposite banks of any stream, and navigable shall belong to different persons, the stream and the bed thereof shall become common to both.

Sec. 10. And be it further enacted, That the Surveyor General shall receive for his compensation two thousand dollars per annum: and that the President of the United States may fix the compensation of the assistant surveyors, chain carriers and axemen: Provided, that the whole expense of surveying and marking the lines shall not exceed three dollars per mile, for every mile that shall be actually run or surveyed.

Sec. 11. And be it further enacted, That the following fees shall be paid for the services to be done under this act, to the Treasurer of the United States, or to the receiver in the Western Territory, as the case may be; for each certificate for a tract containing a quarter of a township, twenty dollars; for a certificate for a tract containing six hundred and forty acres, six dollars; and for each patent for a quarter of a township, twenty dollars; for a section of six hundred and forty acres, six dollars: And the said fees shall be accounted for by the receivers, respectively.

Sec. 12. And be it further enacted, That the Surveyor General, assistant Surveyors, and chain carriers shall, before they enter on the several duties to be performed under this act, severally take an oath or affirmation, faithfully to perform the same; and the person, to be appointed to receive

the money under this act, shall give bond with sufficient security for the faithful discharge of his trust: That, for receiving, safe keeping, and conveying to the treasury the money he may receive, he shall be entitled to a compensation to be hereafter fixed.

JONATHAN DAYTON, Speaker of the House of Representatives.  
JOHN ADAMS, Vice President of the United States, and President of the Senate.  
Approved—May 18, 1796.  
Go: WASHINGTON, President of the United States.  
Deposited among the Rolls, in the office of the department of State.  
TIMOTHY PICKERING, Secretary of State.

New Theatre.

Mr. & Mrs. Rowson's Night.

ON FRIDAY EVENING, June 17,  
Will be presented (never performed in America) a comedy, called

The Disbanded Officer.

OR, THE BARONESS OF BRUCHSAL.  
[Translated from a German comedy, written by Lessing, called MEZINA VON BARNHEIM.]  
Col. Holberg, (the Disbanded Officer) Mr. Moreton.  
Paul Warmans, Mr. Green.  
Katzembuckle, Mr. Francis.  
Rohlf, Mr. Bates.  
Coast Bellair, Mr. Marshall.  
Messenger, Mr. Warrell, jun.  
Boy, Malter Warrell.  
Baroness of Bruchsal, Mrs. Whitlock.  
Lisetta, Mrs. Rowson.  
Mrs. Marloff, Mrs. Shaw.  
End of the Comedy, a New Ballet, (never performed) under the direction of Mr. Francis, called  
THE AMERICAN TAR,  
OR, THE PIRATE GANG DEFEATED.  
[Founded on a recent fact at Liverpool.]  
British Sailors.  
American Sailors.  
Will Steady, Mr. Francis. Capt. Truncheon, Mr. Beete.  
Tom Captain, Mr. Warrell, jun. Midshipman, Mr. Darley, jun.  
Dick Hawler, Mr. Rowson. [With a new song, written by Mrs. Rowson.]  
Susan, (wife to Steady) Steady's Children, Miss Solomon and Master Bates.  
Jane, Miss Milbourne.  
Sailors and Ladies, Messrs. Doctor, Mitchell, Morgan, Blisset and Solomon. Mrs. Doctor, Mrs. Harvey, Mrs. Bates, Miss Oldfield, &c.  
The Music entirely new, and composed by R. Taylor.

THE SONG.  
Come fill your bumpers, fill them high, / Whilst we return'd their blows,  
And this shall be our toast boys— / Despising threaten'd dangers:  
Long may Columbia's standard fly, / Our hearts inspir'd in such a cause,  
And Freedom be our boast boys. / United, cheerfully agree,  
May Peace and Plenty crown our / While life remains to guard her laws,  
slain— / Be Independent, Brave and Free.  
And where'er her sons may be, / Chorus. Then huzza for America!  
M'y they their birthright still maintain— / For commerce when we spread the sail,  
tain— / Or flourish the booming waves boys,  
Be Independent, Brave and Free. / Say, who shall dare our rights invade—  
CHORUS. / Then huzza for America ever / Who dare to make us slaves boys?  
may we / Then let's with hand and heart unite,  
Be United and Brave, Independent and Free. / Oh! before us shall before us flee:  
When compass'd by a host of foes, / Boldly assert each sacred right,  
To fear her sons were strangers: / Behold, depend, Brave and Free,  
Chorus. Then huzza for America.  
To which which will be added, a Comedy, written by Shakespeare, not acted these two years, called

Catherine & Petruchio;

OR, THE TAMING OF THE SHREW.  
Petruchio, Mr. Chalmers.  
Baptista, Mr. Warrell.  
Kate, Mrs. Beete.  
Grumio, Mr. Morris.  
Music Master, Mr. Francis.  
Biandello, Mr. Mitchell.  
Pedro, Mr. Darley, jun.  
Taylor, Mr. Blisset.  
Catherine, (1st time) Mrs. Rowson.  
Bianca, Mrs. Harvey.  
Curtis, Mrs. Bates.

End of the TALE,  
A POETIC TALE,  
(Written by Mrs. Rowson)  
called  
THE STANDARD OF LIBERTY,  
Will be recited by Mrs. WHITLOCK.  
Tickets to be had of Mr. Rowson, No. 70 north 8th street—and at the usual places.

On MONDAY EVENING, June 20,  
Will be presented the celebrated tragedy of

The Revenge.

(Never performed here. Written by Dr. Edward Young.)  
With the Farce of THE MOCK DOCTOR, and other Entertainments, for the benefit of Mr. Chalmers.  
Mr. Darley, jun. and Miss Milbourne's Night will be on Wednesday.

BOX, One Dollar—PIT, Three-Fourths of a Dollar—GALLERY, Half a Dollar.  
Places for the Boxes to be taken of Mr. WELLS, at the Front Theatre:  
No money or tickets to be returned; nor any person, on any account whatsoever, admitted behind the scenes.

By an Artist resident at Mr. Oellers's Hotel,  
MINIATURE LIKENESSES

ARE taken and executed in that elegant and delicate style, which is so necessary to render a Miniature Picture an interesting jewel.

He will warrant a strong and indisputable resemblance, and he takes the liberty to lay before the public of this place his most earnest intention to deserve their patronage by his best endeavors to please.

N. B. Specimens are to be seen.  
May 12.

War-Office of the United States,

May 4th, 1796.  
THE following Rules, explanatory of those published the 15th February, 1789, are to be observed by all persons entitled to Lands, in pursuance of resolves of Congress.

Every certificate of the acknowledgment of a deed or power of attorney, either before a notary public or other magistrate, must, in addition to what is usual, set forth that the person making the acknowledgment is known to the notary or other magistrate; for which purpose words of the following import must be inserted in the certificate.  
"And I do moreover certify that the said A B making this acknowledgment has been for personally known to me."

If the notary or other magistrate has reason to believe that he is the person he represents himself to be, he will also certify it.

And if the proof be made by a witness or witnesses, he or they must swear to some general state of their knowledge of him, which matter must be set forth in the certificate; and the notary public, or other magistrate, before whom the acknowledgment is made, must also set forth that the witness or witnesses has or have been for upwards of personally known to him.

If a justice of the peace is employed, the clerk of the court of the corporation or county must certify that such person is a justice of the peace of the county or corporation as the case may be, and that full faith is due to his acts as such.  
JAMES M'HENRY,  
Secretary of War.

May 12.

Foreign Intelligence.

LONDON, April 18.

His Majesty's horse was so disabled at the Windsor hunt on Easter Monday that he was under the necessity of riding from Aldermaston (where the deer was taken) to Reading in a taxed cart, there being no preferable mode of conveyance to be had.

As his Royal Highness the Duke of York was mounting his horse on Wednesday in the town of Hounslow, the horse reared with him before he had gained his feet, and threw his Royal Highness; by which accident his right cheek was much cut, and his shoulder very considerably bruised. His Royal Highness was conveyed to town in a chaise, and is in a fair way of speedily recovering.

Accounts from Rome mention the performance of solemn forty hours prayers, which commenced in the Church dell Anima, on the morning of the 3d ult. for the success of the Imperial arms in the ensuing campaign: all the Prelates and cardinals attended, and the concourse of people in general was very numerous.

When the report of the princeps of Orange's intended journey to Berlin reached Holland, the anti-patriots indulged in the most expressive transports of joy, as being likely, they imagined, to produce a revolution; in consequence of which the following was printed in the Hague Courant, dated April 2.

"Prussia and England are both the cause that peace is not concluded between the Emperor and the French. It is clear as the sun in a fine summer's day, that the king of Prussia had done the French more injury as a friend, than had ever been in his power as a declared enemy. The views of the British ministry are self-evident; but those of Prussia are involved in clouds and darkness. France suspects this court, and the members of the Coalition curse it. We, Batavians, we alone . . . . But let us be silent; in the year 1787, all then was lies; the hirings had entered our territories before the fact gained credit. It was an unpardonable report, and therefore met our disbelief. We fear, and perhaps not without cause, that Prussia is about to act a part, that will cost us, and perhaps the French too—dearly. Russia possesses considerable influence in this Court; and the king, with the Hessians, is assembling troops, under the specious pretence of forming a cordon. They lie in readiness to strike some treacherous blow, with greater security, when the power of the French and Austrians is exhausted.

"The enemies of Freedom have yet other hopes. It is supposed that the French soldiers will receive no pay in specie, and that the administration will be conducted as bad this year as it was the last. The youths too of the first requisition (so it is confidently said) are bound hand and foot, and transported in waggons to the army! What, under these, and other alleged unfavorable circumstances, can the brave Jourdan achieve? The enemy also expect to derive important advantages from the inactivity of those who are jealous of Jourdan's triumphs. The cordons in Westphalia are strengthened; and, at this critical juncture, goes Madame the princeps of Orange Nassau, over by Hamburgh to Berlin! And Monsieur prince Henry of Prussia from Berlin to Brunswick! Is the latter departed to persuade the princelings from all furious undertakings? Or does he seek to complete what has been so long fruitlessly attempted—to prevail on prince Henry to adopt certain mad measures? The object of these journeys, after all, is at present enigmatical. Let us, however, in the mean time, redouble our vigilance.

"If the French are really in earnest, as they seem to be, if they open the campaign employing to advantage that great force in their power; if they do not delay too long, the Austrians, within four weeks, will find ample occasion to sue for peace.—Without money, without bread, without ammunition, without courage, or commanders of requisite capacity and skill, they will fly, they will suffer defeat, as it were, before the attack commences. The French have already outmaneuvered them; the great Clairfayt was aware of it; he foresaw the more than probable effects that would result, and therefore wisely resolved, by giving up the command, to preserve his jolly acquired fame.

"The anti-patriotic party in our native land expected, and naturally long for the contrary. 'Tis true, the events of war are uncertain—all misfortunes are possible. The French may be defeated; but then what a part shall we act on the European theatre? We repeat, that this party would glory in their country's destruction. Each disappointment, each defeat which the brave Frenchmen sustain, is to them a glorious subject of congratulation. How gratefully does it vibrate in our ears? This party is so blindly enslaved to the House of Orange, to the British ministry, and the court of Berlin, that to forward the ambitious designs of these, they would gladly, they would cheerfully, sacrifice the best interests, the sacred rights of their native country. Answer us zealous supporters of the House of Orange! whose crimes we need not enumerate, they are to be found too clearly registered in our annual Chronicles; tell us, what you have derived from the revolution of 1787, which was effected by force? Is your Republic restored to its ancient fame, or its former splendour and prosperity? are your East and West India possessions, which yet remain, in a state of security or defence? Did the Princeps of Orange return from Berlin with the horn of plenty? Were not your former deliverers paid from the sweat of industry? And did they not carry off our gold in heaps? Was a single grievance redressed, or one alteration, for the better, made in the form of government? Did not your foreign Representatives, as of old, remain the same humble and cringing sycophants to the first servant of the State; nay, were they not doubly submissive? Were they not mean enough, at the nod of this state servant's wife, to subvert your provincial and your city rights; to empty the public coffers; to enervate the pulse of commerce; to dispense, misuse, banish, and even murder, the best citizens which the republic could boast; and to destroy or to seize on their possessions? Under the same influence, was not the navy annihilated; in a word, our dear country brought to the precipice of destruction!