

they could legally make the correction; that the said northwest quarter was purchased for and in the name of his father-in-law, Thomas Jenkins, who being dissatisfied with it, the petitioner refunded the money to him, and sustains the loss himself. He asks to be allowed to relinquish, and enter the same quantity of land elsewhere.

The deposition of Jesse Evans proves that he attended the same sale with Freeland; that they showed to each other the numbers of the lands they intended to bid for; that Freeland's numbers were in range *two* west; that he had no numbers in range *one* west, as he saw or believes; that when the sale was going on he was much surprised to see Freeland bidding for land in range *one*, and, as soon as an opportunity offered, he inquired of him into the cause, and was satisfied that he (Freeland) had been mistaken, owing to the same numbers of section and township being called for in range *one* that he intended to buy out in range *two*; that, from all the circumstances, he has no doubt that Freeland was mistaken in his purchase. The respectability and good character of Evans is certified by John R. Potter, presiding judge of the first judicial circuit in Indiana. The register and receiver of that office certify that, at the time of the sale, Freeland stated he had committed an error in buying three quarter sections, having mistook the range in which he intended to purchase; that it was then their impression that he had made a mistake, but as the land was paid for, and receipts given, they concluded that they had no authority to alter the entries.

The committee are of opinion that the facts showing an error to have been committed by the petitioner are sufficiently proven; and they can well suppose that he might the more readily have been misled on account of the numbers of the section and township corresponding with those in which he intended to purchase, without adverting to the number of the range in which they actually were. And although the rule requiring the buyer to take care may properly be applied to the purchasers of public land, yet this case, under its circumstances, is deemed a fit exception from the operations of that rule, especially as the error was made known at the time of the sale.

The acts of March 3, 1819, and of May 24, 1824, providing for the correction of errors in making entries of public land at the land offices, relate only to *private sales*, and will not apply to the case of this petitioner, whose purchase was at *public sale*; neither will his case fall within the provisions of the bill of this session for the refunding of money forfeited to the United States by the purchasers of public lands, by the issuance of certificates, because no forfeiture appears to have taken place. And, thinking this a proper case for special relief, they report a bill.

20TH CONGRESS.]

No. 614.

[1ST SESSION.]

## REASONS FOR GRADUATING THE PRICE OF PUBLIC LANDS IN FLORIDA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 14, 1828.

WASHINGTON, January 12, 1828.

SIR: The subject of the graduation of the prices of the public lands having been introduced and supported by you with so much zeal and ability, I am induced to believe that any local information in aid of such a system cannot be unacceptable to you. I have witnessed your exertions with much solicitude, and with a strong hope that a measure recommended by so many considerations of justice and national policy would be adopted. Under a conviction that the causes which induce us, in Florida, to desire a change in the manner of disposing of public lands were more numerous and powerful than in any other section of the United States, I introduced at the first session of the late Congress the subject, with a hope that, whatever might be the fate of your general bill, some local legislation might be resorted to for an object so important to us. I am induced to make this communication, at the present moment, from having learned that all the petitions, resolutions, and representations from the States and Territories interested had been ordered to be printed in the Senate. I wish it distinctly understood that if there is not to be found among those documents any memorial from Florida, it is not because the local government or people there feel less interest on the subject. Whoever will devote to it a moderate share of attention must readily see that there is, in every section of the Union where there is a public domain, a considerable portion of territory which never can be sold at a dollar and a quarter per acre. At the first sales the best lands are brought into market, and those of inferior quality are purchased as real estate becomes enhanced in value from the advanced state of population and improvement. But after these causes have produced all their effects, there will still remain thousands of acres which never can be available to the government under the present system of disposing of the public domain. Although these lands might be desirable to a certain extent for agricultural purposes and for grazing, yet no one would feel warranted in paying for them the price fixed by the act of Congress. The result of this state of things is, that most of the land of that description becomes an unavailable fund to the government, and, in consequence of its remaining public, operates as an injury to the population of the country. Were its price graduated, and the land, from time to time, sold at its intrinsic value, a considerable portion of it would be entered and settled by a valuable description of inhabitants, who would employ it for the purposes of agriculture or grazing, if not for both. Under existing circumstances, no prudent man would become a squatter upon it for fear his improvements might induce some one to enter it over his head, and speculate upon his necessities. Individuals of a different character will, in many instances, become squatters upon these lands, and the government will thus far be the victim of numerous impositions. From this view of the case, although the present arrangement may favor this squatting, erratic race of settlers, yet it is injurious to the government and unfriendly to a dense population of such a description as gives any country wealth, strength, and efficiency.

The reasons which recommend the graduation of the prices of the public lands in Florida, I think,

are particularly urgent and conclusive. I have visited a considerable portion of Middle Florida, and, as far as my own observations have extended, I can speak with some degree of confidence. The reasons in this case, I conceive, derive their force and effect from the fact that Florida, even where there are bodies of good land, is one of the most spotted countries in the world. Within almost any given limits you are presented with great varieties of both soil and timber, and frequently very sterile spots in close proximity with lands esteemed the most rich and productive. Sometimes upon the same quarter or eighth you will find one-fourth of good land, and the balance of very poor, or the reverse. In other cases, a quarter, eighth, or half section, would be entirely or partially cut, or covered, by swamps, ponds, or lakes. In such cases the surveyors have not made fractions, (unless the lake has proved to be much beyond the common size,) and so disposed of it at the sales; but if you desire part of an eighth, quarter, half, or whole section, which is cut up by ponds, swamps, or lakes, you are compelled to purchase the whole, and that at a dollar and a quarter per acre. This would not be done unless the case was an urgent one and the land calculated to answer an important purpose. Were the prices graduated as proposed, a purchaser might, in many instances, be warranted in paying for the whole eighth, quarter, half, or whole section, where he secured a small portion of good land. This is the only mode of bringing such lands into market, unless the government would, in the cases above stated, make fractions of the desirable spots of good land, and permit purchasers to pay for only so many acres as they may want, excluding swamps, sterile acres, lakes, and ponds. To this I presume they would never consent. The plan you propose is much more desirable, and should, I think, be adopted. By that plan the government would obtain equally as good a price for the lands sold, and would sell many that must, under the present system, always remain unproductive property. By graduating the prices you not only bring into market many lands which would otherwise be always excluded, but they are brought in at such periods as they may be in demand, and thus augment the means of securing a dense population.

Without a personal observation of the peculiar character of the region which stretches along our southern seaboard, and for at least a hundred miles in the interior, it is impossible to form any just idea of its intrinsic value. The gentlemen who represent those portions of the southern States I can safely appeal to for the correctness of what I state. Those from the northern and western parts of the Union, where the lands are clothed with a growth of oak and hickory, or beach, with an occasional tract of pines or firs, or of rocky or gravelly soil, can have no conception of the continuous bodies of land covered with no other growth than pine, of a sterile district, unfitted for any species of agriculture, and not even capable of being benefited by manure, excepting where the incumbent bed of sand rests upon a base of clay. There are thousands of acres, perhaps millions, throughout the most populous of the southern States, of this kind of land, which would not bring the government's minimum price, and there is no prospect of their increasing in value for ages. Yet there are spots, even in these sterile regions, which are of a better quality, but they are like the oases of an African desert. I do not speak of the lands on the margin of the large streams, but of the extensive tracts that lie between them, where nothing can be produced for export but lumber, turpentine, and tar, and which at the present time offer but a poor compensation for the labor employed on them. Now, I will ask, what is the value of such lands in a state of nature? Literally nothing. They are, it is true, *owned*; but what would they bring in market? Their only value must depend upon this. There is nothing so disheartening to the farmer as the cultivation of an ungrateful soil, which will yield no return, and notwithstanding all the efforts to improve it by manure, it continues as meagre as ever. Yet such is the love of ownership, the idea of having a few acres which we can call our own, that even such lands would be improved if the fee simple were within the reach of the poor man, not for a dollar an acre, the *nominal* value of such lands in the populous parts of the southern States, but a few cents, their real value. On any thousand or two thousand acres a small spot of better land might be found, where he could make his patch of Indian corn, his potatoes, his vegetables, plant his peach trees, feed his cows, and erect his humble tenement of logs, without fear of being turned off when his little improvements became of sufficient value to tempt cupidity. This kind of population is extremely numerous in the southern States. They have no slaves to aid them in their labor; they have no means of purchasing; and the system of tenantry used in the northern States is scarcely known. This is the class of poor but industrious people who labor the earth with their own hands, and whose wives manufacture their own cotton clothing, and who go to seek better fortunes in Florida and Alabama, and become squatters on the public lands. A cart, a horse, and a few cows are frequently the only property they bring with them; they sit down on the public lands, and make small improvements to furnish them the means of temporary subsistence. But how different would be the feelings of these people if they could become owners! A piece of land which would be passed by with contempt by the man who had one or two hundred dollars to spare would be viewed with delight by one of these poor settlers if he could call it his own. There is a vast number of such families throughout the southern country. Those who know these States as slave-holding States little know how large a proportion of the population have no slaves. It is to these the graduation of the price of lands will confer a benefit. The lands which require to be thus graduated cannot be any object to the speculator. I appeal to the experience of the southern gentlemen whether there is any instance of speculating in poor pine barrens. In the State of Alabama and in Louisiana they have remained for years unsold; no lands, in fact, have sold which are not intrinsically valuable; that is, which are not adapted to the common staples of the country.

The only value, I repeat, of such lands arises from the improvements which may be put on them, and as an antecedent to this, ownership must be placed within the reach of the poor man. The rich never speculate in lands of this description; the best, the most fertile lands, or peculiar spots and favorable situations, are the objects of this speculation.

An act of Congress passed some years ago, authorizing the register and receiver to give leases of lands which had remained unsold for a certain number of years, or until the lands were called for by some one desirous of purchasing from the government. But what would be the effect of such a law? The moment the poor settler had exhausted all his means, and labored for several years in erecting his buildings, manuring his ground, planting his peach orchard, and thus made the spot, from being of no value, worth three or four hundred dollars, a purchaser offers who is willing to give the government price for an eighth, including the improvements, or at least compel the settler to pay him *hush* money, as it is there denominated.

There never was a more mistaken policy. As the owner of the spot, he would have been a useful member of society; for the self-estimation produced by the idea of ownership, and the stake which his little profits gave him in society, are a guarantee for the correctness of his deportment. He had risen in

the scale of usefulness; but when turned adrift, or exposed to rapacity, it is no wonder that his feelings are *soured*, and that he becomes idle and restless.

Let it be remembered that it is neither the speculator nor the great planter that is to be benefited, but the poor farmer, who labors with his own hands; and it is the country at large which will feel the advantage of easing the condition of its citizens, converting indigent squatters into profitable producers and also consumers of the produce of others; whereas, but for the *mildness* of the southern country, and the facilities of procuring the bare necessaries of life, they would be condemned to the greatest wretchedness. One misfortune of the immense space for which Congress has to legislate is that that legislation is, in some instances, not sufficiently varied to suit the peculiarities of its different parts. What may be very suitable in some part of it may be very little suited to another.

The advantage of a uniform system of legislation is certainly great, but yet, if, without creating too great a diversity, that legislation could be modified or varied to suit particular situations, it would be greatly to be desired. I am not prepared to say whether the graduation of the price of public lands would be an improvement in the general system. **The situation of the western States and Territories, where there are public lands, may perhaps render it necessary to pursue a different course;** perhaps the graduation may give rise to speculation, which, instead of benefiting the poor settler, might injure him, and ultimately retard the population. But I know that this could not take place in Florida, and that its only effect would be to enable the poor settler to procure land which he could not otherwise obtain, and which, at the same time, would be a national benefit, by causing those lands to be improved which would otherwise remain useless. The class of people I have been describing deserve the encouragement of Congress, and to many farmers of respectable information, with whom I have conversed, they were scarcely known to exist. Taking their ideas of the southern population from the wealthy planters on the coast and on the margins of the rivers, they hardly seem to know that there is a valuable population of whites in the southern States who earn their bread by the sweat of their brow, although, unhappily, they are too apt to wither and decay in the proximity to the more wealthy planter.

Florida may be truly called the poor man's country. The wealthy southern planter may find lands on better terms in Alabama, Arkansas, or Louisiana for the cultivation of cotton or sugar, and certainly in larger bodies; for the proportion of good land in Florida, it must be admitted, is exceedingly small. The proportion of poor land is greater than in any of the southern States; but it has great advantages in point of climate. The winters being so much milder, cattle, the great resource of the poor man, are more easily subsisted in winter. He feels the severity of the cold less himself, and in addition to the sweet potato, which succeeds as well in the sandy soils of Florida as in Georgia, he has the sugar cane, which contributes greatly to his domestic comforts. This is, besides, the climate of the vine, the olive, the fig, and the orange, and the best adapted to the silk worm. It is true that new modes of culture, like new branches of manufacture, are introduced slowly; they require a change in the habits of the people, and an apprenticeship. **But one thing is very certain, that no one will plant a tree if he has no certainty that he or his children will eat of its fruit or sit in its shade. Let the poor farmer call this spot his own, and he will embellish and improve it.** He will view with delight the growth of every useful or ornamental plant, and although it may afford no immediate reward to his labor, he will be pleased with the future expectation. Florida has an advantage over the greater part of the southern pine barrens in being finely watered and uniformly healthy. It is also more *spotted*, to use the common phrase of the country; a thousand spots may be found scattered over a surface containing from one acre to fifty of good second, and even first rate land, which offer no inducement to a planter, and will not, therefore, be purchased from the government; but it would suit the poor man, who is satisfied with ten or twenty acres for his plow, when he has the surrounding grassy waste of pine barren for his cows and hogs. A fine spring or a clear rivulet would entice him to settle in the midst of that waste, where he could manure or cow-pen a few sandy acres to raise his patch of corn, potatoes, rice, cotton, or cane. The difference between the pine lands and what is called the oak and hickory lands is so distinctly marked that the quality and value is ascertained at once by this designation, although there is a difference in the quality of the pine from hopeless barrenness to the better kind, which may be improved by manure. I will venture to say that lands of this quality will rarely if ever sell at the government price. It will be a long time before the inferior kind of oak and hickory land will bring the government price, especially when in small bodies. The small quantity of good land in Florida which is salable is at this time nearly all taken up by Spanish grants, pre-emptions, and sales. Many of those who had pre-emptions were unable to raise the money to purchase the land; for one or two hundred dollars in cash is a sum not within the reach of every poor settler. They, however, secured the value of their labor by selling to others who had the means of purchasing, and who had not exhausted their funds in making a settlement. These settlers, having thus given up their lands, have been compelled to become squatters again.

**In the management of the public lands the two principal objects are, first, to raise money for the public treasury, and, secondly, to increase the population and resources of the nation.** The tracts of pine land, and the occasional spots through them of land capable of tillage, at the present prices, will not afford a revenue to the government for ages, for there is no prospect of their selling unless their value be enhanced by improvements. I appeal to the northern members, whether the pine lands in the districts they represent have anything more than a nominal value, and whether that value is not less than the minimum price. I need not say that in new countries just settling the price of lands, of whatever quality, bears no comparison to those of older settlements and populous neighborhoods. By graduating the public lands in Florida the government will lose nothing; for if they were offered for sale over and over again for twenty years, they would find no bidders at one dollar and twenty-five cents. But something might be obtained for the treasury if they were estimated at their real value and placed within the reach of poor settlers. I do not ask that these lands should be given to settlers, in order to promote settlements and population, because this would be changing the policy of the government in relation to the public lands; yet if this were done, the treasury would ultimately be benefited by the increase in the amount of duties on foreign merchandise, by increasing the means of the people to procure them.

If any property in the public lands can be considered with an eye to the revenue to be derived from them, the policy of graduating the price ought to prevail. But this ought not to be the sole consideration. The increase of population, the improvement in the condition of its citizens, the strengthening of weak and vulnerable points, as well as the creation of new staples, and the new marts for commerce, are objects of infinitely greater importance. And in relation to Florida the policy will not be new. It will be following up what has been pursued by every former government, especially that of Great Britain, as appears by the proclamations of her governors; and the same policy was pursued by Spain. In the pre-

emption law, which has had a most happy effect on the prosperity of the Territory, and without which it would have been the scene of a barbarous speculation on the labor and the necessities of the humble and industrious settler, instead of exhibiting its happy prospects and flourishing condition—in this pre-emption law the policy which I advocate, of encouraging a population in those exposed borders of the Union, has been completely acknowledged. The policy of encouraging the production of those staples adapted to the soil and climate of Florida is one which has never been lost sight of by the former governments; and in this age of legislative restrictions on commerce, in order to foster the internal trade of each country by producing and procuring from different parts of it those articles of human production which can at present only be obtained from abroad, the policy becomes more imperative. Florida, in a few years, might be made to produce many of the fruits of the Mediterranean or the West Indies, besides supplying articles, such as indigo, cochineal, &c., which are necessary to our manufactures. Nearly one-half of the peninsula of Florida is adapted to the growth of the lime, the pine apple, the cocoa, the date, and even the coffee plant. There is scarcely any part of the Territory that is not capable of producing the orange, lemon, citron, olive, the almond, and the fig. The cultivation of a tree, or a few trees, which in bearing would suffice to maintain a family, is a very different thing from the cultivation of a field in annual crops. There is scarcely any soil so poor that it cannot, without much labor, be permanently improved, so as to produce a fruit tree of the most luxuriant growth. I have seen this on the island of Santa Rosa, opposite Pensacola, which is nothing but a bank of sand, a pure silex washed up from the sea. The delightful groves around the palace of St. Ildefonso, in Spain, are formed of trees planted in holes cut out of the solid rock, and filled with earth brought from a distance. Mr. Jefferson, in his interesting letter on the subject of the olive, which he thinks affords sustenance to a greater number of persons than can be afforded by any given space of ground occupied by any other production, declares that a few olive trees are sufficient to support a village. But those things must have a beginning; that beginning will be long retarded, unless there is some encouragement from the government. The conviction of the necessity of affording this encouragement has always been felt by Congress, and by every enlightened citizen. Some eight or ten years since, several townships of very valuable land in Alabama were given, on most advantageous terms, to some foreigners, to enable them to introduce the olive and the grape. But the soil and climate which they selected were not adapted to the purpose; the soil was too good not to be employed in the cultivation of those staples which yield an immediate return; and as to the climate, it was too far north for the purpose for which the grant was ostensibly obtained. In Florida the soil, in general, is too poor for crops, but good enough to produce fruit trees, and the climate is such as could be wished. But we do not ask a grant which might open a door for speculation, in which a few individuals might be benefited, under the pretext of doing good to others and to the country; we only ask that the pine lands of Florida be placed within the reach of the poor man by being disposed of at the proper value. How many spots have I seen, in passing through the Territory, in various directions, from Pensacola to Tallahassee, and from that place to St. Augustine, on the margin of a lake or the border of a stream, where a poor man might make a comfortable home, which he would delight to embellish, by planting trees, if he could call it his own, and of so small an extent, perhaps but a few acres, as to form no temptation to the speculator, and of no value to the smallest planter! Whatever reluctance there might be in changing the general policy as to other portions of the public domain, I feel convinced that if I could take any member of Congress over the country which I have traversed, and thus enable him to form a correct idea of its peculiar features, he would be satisfied that the general policy, if it be wise as to other parts of the Union, ought to be modified as to Florida. In the value of oak and hickory lands, in the quality, there are almost imperceptible gradations, and some it is difficult to discriminate; but the quality of the pine lands is so peculiar, so distinct, and different, that there is as much ease as in distinguishing the land from the water. They are, in general, totally unfitted for planting or for agriculture, excepting on the smallest scale, by the use of the pasture which they afford, and by the aid of manure. Surely it would redound to the honor of a country—it would be praiseworthy in the highest degree, to be able, by wise legislation, to make that worth something to the treasury which would otherwise produce nothing; to create a cheerful and pleasant inhabited spot which would otherwise remain a desert. It was justly observed by Swift that he who can cause an ear of wheat to grow where none grew before is a greater benefactor than the astronomer who discovers a new star.

The returns of the commissioners for settling land claims will show what proportion is covered by valid grants. The sales of the land office will exhibit the result of the sales, and the surveys will show what proportion of the lands of the Territory are pine lands. Nearly the whole of that extensive tract west of the Choctawhatchy river is of this description, with the exception of the small strip along the Chipola river. The vast space west of the Apalachicola river is of the same character, and to the eastward of that river this general description will nearly apply. It is true that the fertile districts of Tallahassee, Alachua, and the hammocks on the Atlantic coast, form exceptions; but the pine lands of the character I have referred to constitute by far the greatest portion of the Territory, and, if inhabited at all, they must be inhabited by poor farmers. But unless these lands be placed within the reach of this description of people by the reduction of price, they will be only squatters. By merely encamping on the public lands they will constitute a population of little value, contracting unsettled and erratic habits, instead of being permanently fixed, as they could be by becoming owners of the selected spots, where they could plant trees and erect their dwellings without fearing that they were laboring for others. In the course of time Florida will be the great magazine of the Union for naval stores; her pines may become a source of wealth, and, perhaps, at some future day, her timber may find a market. An active trade along the immense extent of coast which it presents will lessen the dangers of piracy, which will always prevail while so great a proportion of it is unfrequented. The coasting trade and the fisheries are the best nurseries of seamen. The fisheries of Florida have entirely escaped the attention of the nation; few are aware of their extent and importance, and of the extent to which they are susceptible of being carried. I have sometimes thought it would be an advantage to our trade if, by some revolution of nature, the peninsula of Florida were swept away; but when I reflected on the value of its fisheries, in addition to its tropical climate, that wish was immediately recalled. Intending to bring the subject of the fisheries before Congress, I shall not enlarge upon it at present; but I will observe that the advantages of a population in the Territory, in connexion with this subject, must be self-evident.

I have long been confirmed in the opinion that in the event of a future war with any maritime power the Gulf of Mexico will become the theatre of the contest; for the country bordered by its coasts is, from the nature of its population, decidedly the weakest portion of the Union, while there is wafted through it to the ocean, already, a half of the products of the United States. Towards the close of the last war

the cabinet of England discovered its error in employing uselessly its forces to the north, and in occupying St. Mary's in the east, and the Mississippi in the west, evincing a design which, had it proved successful, and the war had been protracted, would have produced a state of things which the patriot mind dislikes to dwell on. If, then, I am correct in these surmises, ought we not to be prepared for any contest by the adoption of every means of defence within the limits of our power? Amongst these, the encouragement of a hardy and numerous population, by disposing of the public lands in the manner proposed, will unquestionably operate beneficially. The peninsula of Florida, lying as it does, is an eminent point of defence; but if left unpopulated, it might, by an enemy, be converted into a position of active offensive operations, not only in embarrassing our commerce, but in facilitating the more formidable movements of invasion. In point of national economy, too, it will easily be seen, that in time of war, if it should be necessary to call the militia to the defence of this frontier, it would be far preferable to employ them on the spot, rather than encounter the expense and delay necessarily attendant on marching a force from a more distant quarter.

I fear I have trespassed on your patience; but I trust that the high objects of national defence, and of improving the condition of a great portion of our community, involved in this communication, will plead my excuse for its prolixity. I ask leave to conclude it by making an extract on this subject, from an intelligent and highly interesting message to the legislative council of Florida, now in session, by the acting governor, Wm. M. McCarty.

"No general plan of graduating the price of public lands, according to their relative value, has yet been adopted by Congress. A special law for this purpose might probably be obtained for Florida, on account of her exposed situation, and the consequent necessity of having settlements upon that wide belt of poor country which fringes both the shores of the Atlantic and of the Gulf, and which never will be inhabited at the present minimum price of public land. But if brought into market upon fair terms, these lands would yield a revenue to the government, and they would soon be settled and converted by the purchasers into sheep-walks and ranges for stock of every description. Should you deem this a subject worthy of your attention, you should present to Congress an enlarged and comprehensive view of its advantages."

I have the honor to be, with much respect, sir, your obedient servant,

JOS. M. WHITE.

HON. THOMAS H. BENTON, *of the Senate.*

20TH CONGRESS.]

No. 615.

[1ST SESSION.]

LIST OF OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMY ENTITLED TO BOUNTY LAND WHO HAVE NOT RECEIVED IT.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 15, 1828.

Mr. VAN BUREN, from the Judiciary Committee, upon the subject of the list of the names of such officers and soldiers of the revolutionary army as acquired a right to lands from the United States and who have not yet applied, reported:

That they recommend the publication of the list by printing the usual number of copies thereof for the use of Congress, and by causing three insertions of the same in the newspapers authorized to publish the laws of the United States. The committee propose the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the usual number of copies of the list of the names of such officers and soldiers of the revolutionary army as acquired a right to lands from the United States and who have not yet applied therefor be printed for the use of the Senate.

This resolution was agreed to by the Sénate January 16, 1828.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES, DECEMBER 27, 1827.

Mr. JOHNSON, of Kentucky, communicated a document from the Department of War, containing a list of such warrants as have been issued for officers and soldiers of the revolutionary army that remain on the files of the bounty land office unclaimed.

The following is the document referred to.