

AMERICAN STATE PAPERS.

DOCUMENTS

OF THE

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

IN RELATION TO

THE PUBLIC LANDS,

FROM THE

FIRST SESSION OF THE TWENTY-FIRST TO THE FIRST SESSION OF THE TWENTY-THIRD CONGRESS,

COMMENCING DECEMBER 1, 1828, AND ENDING APRIL 11, 1834.

SELECTED AND EDITED, UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CONGRESS.

BY

ASBURY DICKINS, SECRETARY OF THE SENATE,

AND

JOHN W. FORNEY, CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

VOLUME VI

WASHINGTON:
PUBLISHED BY GALES & SEATON.
1860.

July 1, 1833.—The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present: Lewis F. Linn, F. R. Conway, commissioners.

In the case of the Old Mine concession the following testimony was taken before L. F. Linn, commissioner:

St. GENEVIEVE, April 29, 1833.

John Boullier, being duly sworn, deposes and says that, as curate of Joachin parish, (Old Mines,) he is well acquainted with some of the original claimants named in this concession, particularly with widow Coleman, and knows that she has 165 children and grandchildren, most of whom reside on the concession, and great many on that part which it is said, according to the numbers, belongs to her; also that he is well acquainted with Charlot Boyer and wife, and knows they have 97 children and grandchildren, nearly all residing on the concession, and several on that part which, according to the numbers, is said to belong to them; and, also, he knows well the widow of Jean Portais, and that she has 45 children and grandchildren, and most of whom reside on the concession, and that part which is said to belong to her according to the number; and, also, he likewise knows Bernard Coleman and wife, and they have 35 children and grandchildren, many of whom reside on the concession, and that he knows they are, generally, worthy, industrious, honest people, and that they have exerted themselves much, with their limited means, to build a church and preserve their religious privileges; that he verily believes if many of these old, respectable, and venerable people, relying on the justness and liberality of the government, were, at their advanced age, to be deprived of their lands, they would inevitably sink under so heavy a calamity.

J. BOULLIER.

Sworn to and subscribed day and date above written.

L. F. LINN, *Commissioner*.

(See book No. 6, page 208.)

Personally appeared before L. F. Linn, one of the commissioners appointed for the final adjustment of private land claims in Missouri, Thomas Maddin, aged 93 years, who, after having been sworn, deposes and says that he was deputy surveyor under the Spanish and American governments. Deponent says that he surveyed the tract of land called the Old Mine concession, granted to 31 heads of families; he surveyed the general survey in the year 1804, 3d of February. Deponent further states that, on the 22d of December, 1805, he run the division lines by running across the original survey, and marking a point on each division line, so that each individual might know his claim. Deponent further states that he run the special lines between claims marked in the plat at the request of the individuals interested, who paid him for the same. Deponent further states that at the time he heard of no complaints or dissatisfaction expressed by the claimants at the division as made, nor until lately. Deponent further states that it appeared to him understood between the claimants that, in the event of an individual who had made an improvement being thrown on a tract where there was no improvement, he was to be paid for his labor.

THOMAS MADDIN.

Subscribed to and sworn May 11, 1833.

L. F. LINN, *Commissioner*.

Personally appeared before L. F. Linn, one of the commissioners appointed for the final adjustment of land claims in Missouri, Charlot Boyer, who, after being duly sworn, deposes and says he came to the place now called Old Mines in the year 1801, and has continued to reside at the place ever since. Deponent says that he is 83 years of age. Deponent further states that Baptiste Vallé and C. H. F. Vallé (Auguste) never resided or cultivated land on the Old Mine concession. Deponent further states that he was well acquainted with Manuel Blanco; that he knew of said Blanco having settled on and improved a piece of land which was claimed by Elias Bates, and not embraced in the Old Mine concession. Deponent further states that said Blanco never resided or cultivated land in the Old Mine concession. Deponent further states that he was well acquainted with John Potel, who came to and resided on the Old Mine concession in the year 1801; that he commenced that year to build a house and barn, after which he began to open lands for cultivation. Deponent further states that John Potel, jr., resided in a house built on the same land, which house joins the one built by his father. Deponent further states that he was well acquainted with Pierre Martin, and knows that said Martin never resided on or cultivated land in the Old Mine concession. Deponent further states that he was well acquainted with Jacob Wise; that said Wise never resided on or cultivated in the Old Mine concession. Deponent further states that he was well acquainted with Alexander Duclos, who inhabited and cultivated land in the Old Mine concession. Deponent says he cannot recollect the time, but it was many years since, perhaps in 1803 or 1804. Deponent further says said tract of land, so inhabited and cultivated, lies near a place formerly inhabited by N. Hebert, in the Old Mine concession. Deponent further states that he was well acquainted with his nephew, Charles Robert, who inhabited and cultivated land in the Old Mine concession, which was a tract of land adjoining one inhabited and cultivated by Alexander Duclos, their houses being the width of one arpent apart. Deponent further states that he was well acquainted with Joseph Pratte; that said Pratte never resided on or cultivated land in the Old Mine concession. Deponent further states that he was well acquainted with Francis Maniche; that said Maniche built a house and cultivated a garden in the Old Mine concession; he does not recollect distinctly at what time, but it was many years since; same place is now inhabited by François Portel.

CHARLOT BOYER.

L. F. LINN, *Commissioner*.

CALEDONIA, *Washington county*:

Personally appeared before L. F. Linn, one of the commissioners appointed, &c., John Stewart, formerly deputy surveyor in Upper Louisiana, who, after being sworn, deposes and says that he came to this State and to this, now Washington, county in the month of November, 1800, and transacted business at and near the Old Mines in part of the years 1803 and 1804; and that he was well acquainted with the persons residing at that time in the Old Mine concession, and knows that Joseph Pratte resided in St. Genevieve, and never was to his knowledge an inhabitant of the Old Mines. Deponent further states that C. F. Auguste Vallé, alias Charles C. Vallé, was at that time very young and did not reside on the Old Mine