

Exploring the Western Frontier with the Records of Congress

Summary: Students will use facsimiles of historical records from the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate to investigate whether the frontier shaped America or if America—through Congress—shaped the Western frontier of the contiguous 48 states from 1789 – 1890.

Rationale: Using their analysis of congressional records as primary sources, students will assess historian Frederick Jackson Turner’s classic thesis about the influence of the frontier in American history and consider the role of Congress in shaping the West.

Guiding Question: In what ways did the frontier shape America, and in what ways did America—through Congress—shape the frontier?

Materials:

6 Document facsimiles
3 Worksheets
All lesson materials

Recommended Grade Level: 9 – 12

Courses: American History; U.S. Government; Civics

Topics included in this lesson: Congress, the frontier, the Turner Thesis

Time required: 60 minutes

Learning Activities:

1. The continuing influence of the frontier on America

Organize the class into six groups of students. Using Worksheet 1, direct students to brainstorm a categorized list to assess the nature and extent of the frontier’s influence on modern American life. When all groups have completed the worksheet, invite each group to contribute to a full class brainstorm about the influence of the frontier. Select a scribe to record contributions on the board for the whole class.

2. Did the frontier shape America or did America shape the frontier?

Student groups will consider one of the most famous statements about the influence of the frontier on American life by analyzing the following excerpt from historian Frederick Jackson Turner’s classic essay “[The Significance of the Frontier in American History](#).”

“Thus American development has exhibited not merely advance along a single line, but a return to primitive conditions on a continually advancing frontier line, and a new development for that

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area. American social development has been continually beginning over again on the frontier. This perennial rebirth, this fluidity of American life, this expansion westward with its new opportunities, its continuous touch with the simplicity of primitive society, furnish the forces dominating American character. The true point of view in the history of this nation is not the Atlantic coast, it is the Great West.”¹

Distribute Worksheet 2, and instruct each group to use it as they assess the meaning of the passage from Turner’s essay. Hold a class discussion in which each group shares its analysis of the Turner thesis.

3. Analyzing Congressional Documents Related to the Western Frontier

Students will analyze six congressional documents to determine the extent to which they confirm or challenge the Turner thesis. Distribute to each group Worksheet 3 and one document from the list below. Direct the students to collaborate as they answer the questions on the worksheet. Instruct each group to appoint a spokesperson to report to the class.

These documents are also available online from the National Archives [Archival Research Catalog](#) (ARC).

1. Petition and map from John Muir and other founders of Sierra Club protesting a bill to reduce the size of Yosemite National Park, 01/02/1893, Records of the U.S. House of Representatives, ARC ID 306674
2. A Petition for a Pacific Railroad from Residents of Tennessee, 4/2/1856, Records of the U.S. House of Representatives, ARC ID 6884109
3. H.R. 125, An Act to Secure Homesteads to Actual Settlers on the Public Domain (first page), 3/25/1862, Records of the U.S. Senate, ARC ID 6883912
4. S. 298, A Bill Donating Public Lands to the Several States and Territories which may Provide Colleges for the Benefit of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts (the Morrill Act), 5/16/1862, Records of the U.S. Senate, ARC ID 6883889
5. Petition from Sarah Winnemucca Hopkins for Land Rights for Piute Indians and for the Reunion of that Portion of the Tribe Forcibly Separated during the Bannock War, 1/4/1884, Records of the U.S. House of Representatives, ARC ID 6883899
6. Proclamation to the People of New Orleans, 12/20/1803, Records of the U.S. House of Representatives, ARC ID 593571

¹ Frederick Jackson Turner, *The Frontier in American History* (New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1935) <http://xroads.virginia.edu/~HYPER/TURNER/> (last modified September 30, 1997).

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4. Reflection

Reflecting on their work in the previous activities, students will consider the significance of the frontier, its influence on America, and the extent to which the frontier was shaped by Congress. Ask students to consider the following questions:

1. Is there a frontier in America today? If so, is it a place or a concept? How does it influence America?
2. If the frontier is not a place, what is it? How does it influence America, and how do you know it does?
3. If there is not a frontier today, how does its absence affect America?
4. To what extent and in what ways has America required a frontier in the past, and does it need one today to remain true to a fundamentally American ideal?

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Worksheet 1:

Brainstorming about the Continuing Influence of the Frontier on America

Instructions:

1. List words in each category that suggest the continuing influence of the frontier on American culture. (See examples in parentheses.)

Symbols (covered wagon)	Characters (Sitting Bull)	Words or phrases (round up)	Gender roles (cowgirl)
Law and government (posse)	The environment (wide open spaces)	Styles of clothing (cowboy boots)	Sports or activities (rodeo)

2. Based on these charts, identify three ways that the frontier can be argued to have shaped America:

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Worksheet 2: Decoding the Turner Thesis

“Thus American development has exhibited not merely advance along a single line, but a return to primitive conditions on a continually advancing frontier line, and a new development for that area. American social development has been continually beginning over again on the frontier. This perennial rebirth, this fluidity of American life, this expansion westward with its new opportunities, its continuous touch with the simplicity of primitive society, furnish the forces dominating American character. The true point of view in the history of this nation is not the Atlantic coast, it is the Great West.”

Frederick Jackson Turner, *The Frontier in American History* (New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1935) <http://xroads.virginia.edu/~HYPER/TURNER/> (last modified 9/30/1997).

1. Summarize the main point of the quote from historian Frederick Jackson Turner in one sentence.
2. In what specific ways does Turner see the frontier shaping American social development?
3. What four “forces” does Turner see the frontier contributing to the American character?
4. Does Turner think America shaped the frontier or that the frontier shaped America?
5. To what extent does his theory of the influence of the frontier correspond with your understanding of America’s development?
6. To what extent would you agree with his interpretation of the influence of the frontier on the American character?

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Worksheet 3: Decoding Congressional Documents Relating to the Frontier

Name: _____

Title of document: _____

Answer the questions below with your group about your assigned document. When answers must be inferred, state the evidence that supports your conclusion.

1. What kind of document is it? (newspaper, letter, bill, petition, etc.)
2. What is the date of the document?
3. Who is the author of the document? (Include name and position, if available)
4. What is the author's perspective on the issue he or she discusses?
5. For what audience was the document created?
6. From your document, what evidence do you see that suggests that the American people shaped the frontier?
7. What evidence suggests that the frontier shaped America?

To the Chairman of the
 Committee on Agriculture
 House of Representatives
 Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

Whereas at a meeting of the Sierra Club of Saturday, November 5th 1892, said club being a corporation formed for the purposes, to wit: "To explore, enjoy and render accessible the mountain regions of the Pacific Coast; to publish authentic information concerning them; to enlist the support and co-operation of the people and the government in preserving the forests and other natural features of the Sierra Nevada Mountains" a resolution was introduced and unanimously adopted directing the Board of Directors to prepare a memorial to Congress against Bill H. R. 5764 introduced by Mr. Caminetti and to use every effort to defeat it,

Therefore The Board of Directors of the Sierra Club in accordance with the above resolution do respectfully and emphatically protest against the diminution of the Yosemite National Park situated in California as contemplated in Bill H. R. 5764 introduced by Mr. Caminetti and referred by the House of Representatives to your honorable Committee

As shown in the accompanying map all

the territory outside of the blue lines is to be taken out of the Yosemite National Park Reservation, which would

First: endanger in T. 4 S., R. 25 E. and R. 26 E. + T. 3 S., R. 25 E. the headwaters of the San Joaquin River, a river on whose water the irrigation of the whole San Joaquin Valley is dependent.

Secondly: in T. 1 S., T. 2 S., R. 19 E. + T. 1 S., T. 2 S., R. 20 E. it will divide the watersheds between the branches of the Tuolumne River and Merced River of the most valuable timber, destroy forests which in their magnificent growth form an attraction to visitors not only from the State of California, but from all over the United States and from abroad and although provision is made in said bill to reserve a tract one mile square containing the Tuolumne Big Tree Grove and also a similar tract about the Merced Grove the destruction of the surrounding forest will necessarily cause a great danger through forest fires to these two groves of *Sequoia gigantea*, which ought to be and have heretofore been protected by the United States Government with singular interest

Thirdly: The taking out of the Reservation of T. 2 N., T. 1 N., R. 19 E. will hand over to private ownership most valuable reservoir sites which ought to be jealously guarded for the benefit of the state at large

Fourthly: The exemption of $\frac{1}{2}$ T. 2 N., R. 20 E., of T. 2 N., R. 21 E., T. 2 N. + $\frac{1}{2}$ T. 1 N., R. 22 E. of T. 2 N. + $\frac{1}{2}$ T. 1 N., R. 23 E. of T. 2 N. + $\frac{3}{4}$ T. 1 N., R. 24 E., ^{and of T. 1 S., R. 25 E.} will endanger the watershed of the

tributaries of the Tuolumne River as it passes through the Grand Cañon of the Tuolumne River finally through Hetch-Hetchy Valley, a valley which in grandeur & uniqueness is in many respects the peer of Yosemite and will in future form one of the principal attractions of the Sierra Nevada of California.

If the territory of the Yosemite National Park should be reduced in accordance with the bill H.R. 5764, the dangers to guard against which the Park was originally set aside, would again arise, the herds of sheep which now for two seasons have successfully been kept out of the reservation would denude the watersheds of their vegetation, the forest fires following in the wake of the herds would destroy the magnificent forests and threaten the reservation itself and the timber of priceless value to the prosperity of the State would become the prey of the speculator.

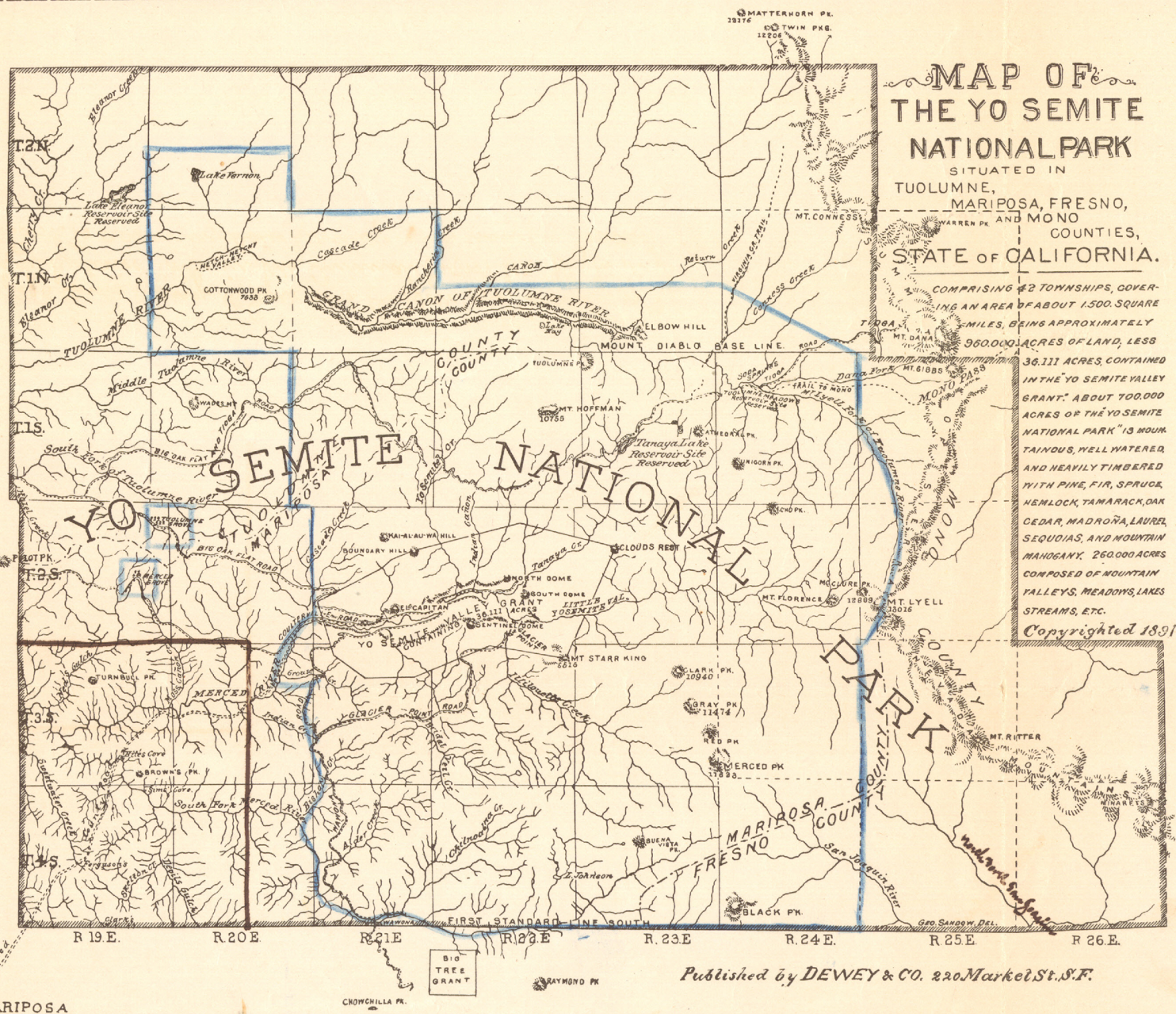
The Directors of the Sierra Club respectfully point out that Senate Bill No 3235 proposed by Mr. Paddock will meet any objections in the interest of mining or farming industries, if there be any, to the continuance of the present limits of the Yosemite National Park Reservation.

J. H. Senger,
Secretary Sierra Club

John Muir
President Sierra Club
Maurice
First Vice-President Sierra Club.

San Francisco, Jan 2nd 1893

All of the territory of the Yosemite National Park outside of the blue line, Congressman Hamilton's bill provides, shall be taken out of the Yosemite National Park.



Townships 24 North Range 19 East and the West 1/2 of Townships 3 and 4 South Range 20 East are recommended by Secretary of the Interior Mendenhall in his Annual Report for 1891 to be eliminated from the boundaries of the Yosemite National Park to accommodate farmers and miners located in that region.

SIR—We address to you this "Memorial to Congress for A PACIFIC RAILROAD," and respectfully ask for it the consideration which the merits of such an enterprise deserve. No department in the Government service has a more direct interest in a Pacific Highway than that of the Post Office; and it is hoped that you will procure to the "Memorial" as many signatures as convenient, and forward them to the *Railroad Record*, Cincinnati, O., or if you see proper to your Representative in Congress at an early day.

Memorial for a Pacific Railroad.

We Undersigned, citizens of the United States, respectfully petition the Senate, and House of Representatives, in Congress assembled, that your Honorable body will make some provision, whether by money, land, or contracts for the transportation of mail, and government property, for the construction of A PACIFIC RAILROAD.

Your petitioners represent, that the reasons for this are of the strongest possible kind,—National, Commercial, and Political,—connected with the safety, union, and prosperity of the Country; that your petitioners also represent, that in their opinion, the great body of the American People earnestly desire the construction of a Pacific Highway; and your petitioners, therefore, pray that your Honorable body take such measures as will secure A PACIFIC RAILROAD.

NAMES.

NAMES.

Pius H. Smith M.D.
 Tilmon Gregory Esq
 Wm W. Dudley
 A. Briant
 J. P. Roberts
 J. R. McDonald
 John Zell
 Thos C. Hall
 John Daugherty
 J. C. & Pubby
 Mrs. Dudley
 Henry Rivett
 Mike Kirby
 John McDonald
 F. C. Fowler
 S. S. Fowler Esq

M. O. Harris
 S. McDonald
 Wm. Lewis M.D.
 John Tucker M.D.
 John Watford
 Wm Lewis
 A. J. Moore
 Thos Moor
 S. L. Budd
 Wm. Hendley
 A. V. Johns
 David Truqua
 Wm. Brim
 Jesse Parker
 John H. Zell
 P. H. Douglass
 Henry Pope
 C. Walker

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MARCH 3, 1862.

Read twice, and referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

MARCH 25, 1862.

Reported by Mr. HARLAN, from the Committee on Public Lands, with amendments, viz: Strike out the parts included within [brackets,] and insert those parts printed in *italics*.

AN ACT

To secure homesteads to actual settlers on the public domain, and to provide a bounty for soldiers in lieu of grants of the public lands.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That any person who is the head of a family, or who has
4 arrived at the age of twenty-one years, and is a citizen of
5 the United States, or who shall have filed his declaration
6 of intention to become such, as required by the naturalization
7 laws of the United States, *and who has never borne arms*
8 *against the United States government or given aid and com-*
9 *fort to its enemies,* shall, from and after the first of January,
10 eighteen hundred and sixty-three, be entitled to enter, [free
11 of cost, one hundred and sixty acres,] *one quarter section, of*

*Insert
agreed 1*

*out & insert
agreed 2*

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MAY 5, 1862.

Mr. WADE asked, and by unanimous consent obtained, leave to bring in the following bill; which was read twice, referred to the Committee on Public Lands, and ordered to be printed.

MAY 16, 1862.

Reported by Mr. HARLAN with amendments, viz: Strike out the words within [brackets] and insert those printed in *italics*.

A BILL

Donating public lands to the several States and Territories which may provide colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That there be granted to the several States, for the purposes
4 hereinafter mentioned, [an amount of public land, to be appor-
5 tioned to each State a quantity equal to thirty thousand acres
6 (30,000)] for each senator and representative in Congress to
7 which the States are respectively entitled by the apportion-
8 ment under the census of eighteen hundred and sixty: *Pro-*
9 *vided,* That no mineral lands shall be selected or purchased
10 under the provisions of this act.

PETITION

Go the Honorable Congress of the United States.

Whereas, the tribe of Piute Indians that formerly occupied the greater part of Nevada and now diminished by its sufferings and wrongs to one-third of its original number, has always kept its promise of peace and friendliness to the whites since they first entered their country, and has of late been deprived of the Malheur Reservation decreed to them by President Grant:

I, Sarah Winnemucca Hopkins, granddaughter of Captain Truckee, who promised friendship for his tribe to General Fremont, whom he guided into California and served through the Mexican war — together with the undersigned friends who sympathize in the cause of my people — do petition the Honorable Congress of the United States to restore to them said Malheur Reservation, which is well watered and timbered, and large enough to afford homes and support for them all, where they can enjoy lands in severalty without loosing their tribal relations, so essential to their happiness and good character, and where their citizenship, implied in this distribution of land, will defend them from the encroachments of the white settlers, so detrimental to their interest and their virtues. And especially do we petition for the return of that portion of the tribe arbitrarily removed from the Malheur Reservation, after the Bannock war, to the Yakima Reservation, on Columbia River, in which removal families were ruthlessly separated, and have never ceased to pine for husbands, wives, and children, which restoration was pledged to them by the Secretary of the Interior in 1880, but has not been fulfilled.

Wm H. Welch Jr
Henry Richmond

Mary A. Richmond

Mrs. S. S. S. S. S.

Gas Kirt

Eliud S. Welch

Eddie Welch

Bessie Welch

Inez Welch

Hunt Welch

Jacob H. Laufman

John Wright

Lizzie Grubb

Mollie Blake

Rose Long

Georgia Hall

Lotta House

Lawrence W. Langley

Sonny Wood

A. J. Monahan

Charles King

James King

Wm G. McKeen

Walter Robinson

A. Chalmers

Paul F. DeFord

Harry Woodward

Geo. Sage

Wm. M. Bradley

Art. Savin

C. E. Marnett

Chas. W. Parr

J. W. Ross

W. L. Colageto

H. Schaeffer

G. W. Sticher

W. H. Sumner

M. W. Madden

PROCLAMATION.

By his Excellency

WILLIAM C. C. CLAIBORNE,

Governor of the Mississippi Territory, exercising the powers of Governor General and Intendant of the Province of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, by stipulations between the governments of France and Spain, the latter ceded to the former the Colony and Province of Louisiana, with the same extent which it had at the date of the above mentioned treaty in the hands of Spain, and that it had when France possessed it, and such as it ought to be after the treaties subsequently entered into between Spain and other states; and whereas the government of France has ceded the same to the United States by a treaty duly ratified, and bearing date the 30 of April in the present year, and the possession of said Colony and Province is now in the United States according to the tenor of the last mentioned treaty; and whereas the Congress of the United States, on the 31st day of Oct. in the present year, did enact that until the expiration of the session of Congress then sitting, (unless provisions for the temporary government of the said territories be sooner made by Congress,) all the military, civil and judicial powers exercised by the then existing government of the same, shall be vested in such person or persons, and shall be exercised in such manner as the President of the United States shall direct, for the maintaining and protecting the inhabitants of Louisiana, in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property and religion; And the President of the United States, has by his commission, bearing date the same 31st day of October, invested me with all the powers, and charged me with the several duties heretofore held and exercised by the Governor General and Intendant of the Province:

I HAVE therefore thought fit to issue this my PROCLAMATION

making known the premises, and to declare that the government heretofore exercised over the said Province of Louisiana, as well under the authority of Spain as of the French republic, has ceased, and that of the United States of America is established over the same; that the inhabitants thereof will be incorporated in the Union of the United States, and admitted as soon as possible, according to the principles of the Federal Constitution, to the enjoyment of all the rights, advantages and immunities of citizens of the United States; that in the mean time they shall be maintained and protected in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property, and the religion which they profess; that all laws and municipal regulations which were in existence at the cessation of the late government, remain in full force, and all civil officers charged with their execution, except those whose powers have been specially vested in me, and except also such officers as have been entrusted with the collection of the revenue are continued in their functions during the pleasure of the governor for the time being, or until provision shall otherwise be made.

And I do hereby exhort and enjoin all the inhabitants and other persons within the said Province, to be faithful and true in their allegiance to the United States, and obedient to the laws and authorities of the same, under full assurance that their just rights will be under the guardianship of the United States, and will be maintained from all force or violence from without or within.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

Given at the City of New-Orleans the 20th day of December 1803, and of the Independence of the United States of America the 28th.

William C. C. Claiborne.

Par son Excellence

Guillaume C. C. Claiborne,

Gouverneur du Territoire du Mississippi, exerçant les Pouvoirs de Gouverneur Général, et Intendant de la Province de la Louisiane.

Vu que par Convention faite entre les Gouvernements de France & d'Espagne, celui-ci a cédé au premier la Colonie & Province de la Louisiane, avec la même étendue qu'elle avait à l'époque dudit traité, dans les mains de l'Espagne, & qu'elle avait lorsque la France la possédait, telle qu'elle doit être d'après les traités faits subséquentement entre l'Espagne & d'autres Puissances: que le Gouvernement Français a cédé ce même territoire aux États-Unis par un traité dûment ratifié, daté du 30 Avril de la présente année; & que ladite Colonie & Province est aujourd'hui en la possession des États-Unis, conformément à la teneur dudit dernier traité;

Vu que le Congrès des États-Unis, par arrêt du 31 Octobre de cette année, a ordonné que, jusqu'à l'expiration de la présente séance, (à moins qu'il ne prit plutôt des dispositions relatives au Gouvernement provisoire de ces territoires,) tous les pouvoirs tant militaires que civil & judiciaire, exercés par les officiers du Gouvernement lors existant, soient confiés à telles personnes & exercés de telle manière que le Président des États-Unis le jugera à propos, pour maintenir & protéger les habitants de la Louisiane dans la jouissance de leur liberté, de leurs propriétés & de leur religion; & que le Président des États-Unis, par sa commission datée du dit jour 31 Octobre, m'a revêtu de tous les pouvoirs & chargé de toutes les fonctions qui appartiennent ci-devant au Gouverneur général & Intendant de la province;

J'ai cru convenable de publier cette Proclamation, pour donner connaissance de ce qui précède, & pour déclarer que le Gouvernement ci-devant exercé dans la dite province de la Louisiane, tant sous l'autorité de l'Espagne que sous celle de la République Française, a cessé; & que celui des États-Unis y est établi: que les habitants de ce territoire seront incorporés dans l'Union des États-Unis, & admis le plutôt possible, conformément aux principes de la constitution fédérale, à la jouissance des droits avantages & immunités des Citoyens des États-Unis; qu'en attendant, ils seront maintenus & protégés dans leur liberté, leurs propriétés, & la religion qu'ils professent; que toutes les lois & règlements municipaux, qui existaient lors de la cessation du Gouvernement précédent, demeurent dans toute leur force, & que tous les officiers civils chargés de leur exécution, (à l'exception de ceux dont les pouvoirs n'ont été spécialement conférés comme aussi de ceux à qui était confiée la perception des revenus publics,) sont continués dans leurs fonctions pour le présent, aussi longtemps qu'il me paraîtra convenable, ou jusqu'à ce qu'il en soit autrement ordonné.

J'exhorte tous les habitants & autres personnes résidents sur ce territoire à être fidèles aux États-Unis, & leur enjoins de respecter leurs lois & leur autorité; leur assurant que leurs justes droits seront sous la protection des États-Unis, & qu'ils seront maintenus & protégés contre toute force ou violence, au dehors comme au dedans.

Donné et la ville de la Nouvelle-Orléans le 20 Décembre 1803. et la vingt-huitième année de l'indépendance des États-Unis de l'Amérique.

Signé, Guillaume C. C. Claiborne.

Por el Señor,

Don Guillermo C. C. Claiborne,

Gobernador del Territorio del Mississippi, ejerciendo los Poderes de Gobernador General é Intendente de la Provincia de la Luisiana.

POR quanto, segun convencion hecha entre los gobiernos de Francia y de Espana, ha cedido este al primero la colonia y provincia de la Luisiana, con la misma extension que tenia, à la época del dicho tratado, en manos de la Espana, y que tenia quando pertenecia à la Francia, tal como debe ser, segun los tratados hechos subséquentemente entre la Espana y otras potencias: Que el Gobierno Frances ha cedido este mismo territorio à los Estados Unidos por un tratado debidamente ratificado, fufecha 30. de Abril del presente año: Y que la dicha Colonia y Provincia està hoy en posesion de los Estados Unidos, conforme al tenor del dicho ultimo tratado:

Y por quanto el Congreso de los Estados Unidos, por decreto del 31. de Octubre de este año, ha mandado que hasta la expiration de su presente junta, (si no toma antes las disposiciones relativas al gobierno temporario de los dichos territorios,) a dos los poderes, así militar como politico y judicial, exercidos por los oficiales del gobierno entonces existente, sean confiados à las personas que el Presidente de los Estados Unidos tenga por convenientes, y desempenados de modo que la parezca, para mantener y proteger à los habitantes de la Luisiana en la posesion de su libertad, y sus propiedades y en el exercicio de su religion: Y habiendo me conferido el Presidente de los Estados Unidos, por comission del mismo dia 31. de Octubre, todos los poderes, y encargado de todas las funciones que pertenecian anteriormente al Gobernador General é Intendente de la provincia;

HE tenido à bien publicar esta PROCLAMACION para hacer saber lo que antecede, y declarar que el gobierno, que exercieron en esta provincia de la Luisiana así la Espana como la Republica Francesa, ha cessado; y que el de los Estados Unidos queda establecido en ella: Que los habitantes de este territorio seran incorporados en la Union de los Estados Unidos, y admitidos, lo mas pronto que se pueda, a gozar de los derechos, ventajas é inmunidades de los ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos; Que entre tanto seran mantenidos y protegidos en la posesion de su libertad y propiedades, y en el exercicio de la religion que profesan: Que todas las leyes y reglamentos municipales que existian al instante de la cesacion del gobierno precedente, permanecen en toda su fuerza; y que todos los empleados civiles encargados de la execucion de las mismas (à excepcion de los oficiales, cuyos poderes me han sido especialmente conferidos, y de aquellos à quienes estaba confiada la recaudacion de las rentas publicas) están continuados en sus funciones por ahora y para el tiempo que me parezca, à mientras se disponga otra cosa.

Exhorte à todos los habitantes y otros individuos residentes en este territorio à guardar fidelidad à los Estados Unidos, y les mando respetar sus leyes y su autoridad; asegurando les de que sus justos derechos seran baxo la proteccion de los Estados Unidos, y que seran mantenidos y protegidos contra toda fuerza ó violencia de afuera ó de adentro.

Dado en la ciudad de la Nueva Orleans el dia 20. de Diciembre de 1803. y ano 28. de la Independencia de los Estados Unidos de America.

Guillermo C. C. Claiborne.