

CHAPTER I.

AREA OF THE NATIONAL DOMAIN, WHICH INCLUDES THE PUBLIC DOMAIN, WITH STATISTICS.

DERIVATION OF TITLE TO THE NATIONAL DOMAIN.

The English, by reason of the voyages of the Cabots along our eastern coast in 1498 acquired the title of first discoverers to the country extending from the thirty-eighth to the sixty-seventh degree of north latitude. They were instructed to discover countries unknown to Christian people and to take possession of the same in the name of the King of England.

The English Government began the work of taking possession of America by colonization.

The first charter was granted by Queen Elizabeth, March 25, A. D. 1584, to Sir Walter Raleigh, known since as the North Carolina charter. Five voyages were made thereunder, but no permanent settlements established. Then followed a series of grants and charters to individuals and companies, under which the colonies comprising the thirteen original States of the American Union and their western lands were acquired. The title to our national domain comes, first, by discovery by the Cabots; second, by discoveries and colonization under grants, authorizations, and charters from England, Holland, France, Sweden, and Spain, and treaties and conventions thereafter; third, by Revolution in 1776, and confirmation through and by the definitive treaty of peace at Paris with Great Britain, September 3, 1783, whereby the Crown of Great Britain recognized the Independence of the United States; fourth, by purchase from France of the province of Louisiana, April 30, 1803; fifth, by purchase from Spain of the East and West Floridas, February 22, 1819; sixth, by annexation of the Republic of Texas, December 29, 1845; seventh, by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, February 2, 1848; eighth, by purchase from the Republic of Mexico (the Gadsden purchase) of the Mesilla Valley, December 30, 1853; ninth, by purchase from the Empire of Russia of Alaska, March 30, 1867.

AREA OF THE NATIONAL DOMAIN.

The national domain is the total area, land and water, embraced within the boundaries of the United States of America, amounting to about 4,000,000 square miles,

the land surface being estimated at 3,591,066 square miles, or 2,298,282,240 acres. Alaska and its islands, on the northwest coast of America are included in this estimate, and are hereafter geographically described. Excluding Alaska the national domain extends through fifty-eight degrees of longitude, from ocean to ocean, and through twenty-four degrees of latitude from the great northern lakes to the Gulf of Mexico.

POLITICAL DIVISIONS.

The national domain consists of thirty-eight States, viz:

	Order of admission.		Order of admission.
1. Delaware	Thirteen original States.	20. Mississippi	7
2. Pennsylvania.....		21. Illinois	8
3. New Jersey.....		22. Alabama.....	9
4. Georgia.....		23. Maine	10
5. Connecticut.....		24. Missouri	11
6. Massachusetts.....		25. Arkansas	12
7. Maryland.....		26. Michigan	13
8. South Carolina.....		27. Florida	14
9. New Hampshire.....		28. Texas	15
10. Virginia		29. Iowa	16
11. New York.....		30. Wisconsin	17
12. North Carolina.....		31. California	18
13. Rhode Island.....		32. Minnesota	19
14. Vermont	33. Oregon	20	
15. Kentucky	34. Kansas	21	
16. Tennessee.....	35. West Virginia.....	22	
17. Ohio.....	36. Nevada	23	
18. Louisiana	37. Nebraska	24	
19. Indiana	38. Colorado	25	

Eight Territories, viz, under organic acts passed by Congress, given in order:

1. New Mexico.	5. Arizona.
2. Utah.	6. Idaho.
3. Washington.	7. Montana.
4. Dakota.	8. Wyoming.

The District of Columbia.

Indian Territory, no civil government under laws of Congress.

Territory of Alaska, unorganized.

A piece known as "Public Land," or "Land Strip," southwest of Kansas and north of Texas, unattached to any State or Territory.

BOUNDARIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

The United States, exclusive of Alaska, has for its northern boundary a line from the mouth of the Saint Croix River to its head, and thence due north to the highlands which divide those rivers that empty themselves into the Saint Lawrence from those which fall into the Atlantic Ocean; thence along the crest of those highlands to the northwesternmost head of the Connecticut River; down that river to and westward along the forty-fifth parallel to and along the middle of the Ontario, Erie, Huron, Superior, and Long lakes and their water connections to the most northwestern point of the Lake of the Woods; and thence along the forty-ninth parallel to the Pacific Ocean, the line at the northwest terminus excluding Vancouver's Island, but including the islands of the San Juan group. For its southern boundary, the Gulf of Mexico, the Rio Grande del Norte River, to the plateau of the Sierra Nevadas, latitude 31° 47' north; thence by an irregular line running between the thirty-first and thirty-third parallels of latitude

to the waters of the Pacific Ocean. On the east and west by the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans respectively.

Alaska, the extreme northwest portion of the United States, is bounded as follows (given in treaty of cession of March 30, 1867):

Commencing at 54° 40' north latitude, ascending Portland Channel to the mountains, following their summits to 141° west longitude; thence north on this line to the Arctic Ocean, forming the eastern boundary. Starting from the Arctic Ocean west, the line descends Behring's Strait, between the two islands of Krusenstern and Ratmanoff, to the parallel of 65° 30', and proceeds due north, without limitation, into the same Arctic Ocean. Beginning again at the same initial point, on the parallel of 65° 30'; thence in a course southwest, through Behring's Strait, between the island of Saint Lawrence and Cape Choukotski, to 172° west longitude; and thence southwesterly, through Behring's Sea, between the islands of Atou and Copper, to the meridian of 193° west longitude, leaving the prolonged group of the Aleutian Islands in the possessions now transferred to the United States, and making the western boundary of our country the dividing line between Asia and America.

Alaska contains 577,390 square miles, or 369,529,600 acres.

TREATIES ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL BOUNDARIES AND PORTIONS OF THE BOUNDARIES OF THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

Our national boundaries are now fully and completely established and acknowledged, with one exception, hereinafter noted. They were first established for all that portion of territory lying east of the Mississippi River, to the Atlantic Ocean, north to the present international boundary, and south to the north boundary line of the State of Florida, and west of the present State along the thirty-first parallel to the Mississippi River, embracing the thirteen colonies and their western territory.

These boundaries were established by the provisional articles between the United States and Great Britain, concluded November 30, 1782, at Paris, France, by Richard Oswald on behalf of Great Britain, and John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and John Jay on behalf of the United States, and by the definitive treaty of peace between the same high contracting parties, done at Paris September 3, 1783, by David Hartley on the part of Great Britain, and Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and John Jay on the part of the United States. The western and southern boundaries of the above acknowledged limits were acknowledged on behalf of Spain, the sovereign over and owner of the territory lying to the south and west of the United States, by a treaty of "friendship, limits, and navigation" made at San Lorenzo el Real, October 27, 1795, by Thomas Pinckney on behalf of the United States, and El Principe De La Paz on behalf of Spain.

THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY LINE.

The northern boundary line of the original and purchased territory of the United States became the source of much serious negotiations between Great Britain and the United States. It was finally settled by a series of treaties and commissions and arbitrations thereunder, running through a period of ninety years.

The treaty of London, made at London, England, November 19, 1794, by Earl Greenville for Great Britain, and John Jay for the United States, contained several articles on this boundary question. Articles IV and V contained two provisions, the first for determining the location of the source of the Mississippi River, and for joint survey of the same from one degree below the Falls of Saint Anthony northward, and the second for commissioners, one for each country and one to be chosen or selected by the two. They were to meet at Halifax. They were to decide "what river is the river Saint Croix intended by the treaty" (definitive treaty of September 3, 1783.)

The source of the river—when it should be established—was to be marked by a monument. This was under an explanatory article of date March 15, 1798. The monument marking the boundary was erected under the supervision of Andrew Ellicott, Esq.

The commission met frequently after August 30, 1796, the date of its first meeting, and held its final meeting October 25, 1798.

The American commissioner was David Howell; the British commissioner was Thomas Barclay; the third commissioner, selected by the first two, was Egbert Benson, (an American). James Sullivan was the American agent, and Ward Chipman the agent for Great Britain. The secretary of the commission was Ed. Winston.

TREATY OF GHENT, SEPTEMBER 24, 1814.

The treaty of "peace and amity" between Great Britain and the United States, done at Ghent, Belgium, December 24, 1814, by James Lord Gambier, Henry Goulburn, and William Adams on behalf of Great Britain; and John Quincy Adams, J. A. Bayard, Henry Clay, Jonathan Russell, and Albert Gallatin on behalf of the United States, contained three articles relating to the northern boundary line.

Article IV provided for a commission to settle title to islands off the coast of Maine. The commission was organized by the appointment of John Holmes and Thomas Barclay as commissioners on the part of the United States and Great Britain respectively. James T. Austin was the American, and Ward Chipman the British agent. Anthony Barclay was the secretary.

On November 24, 1817, the commission, at New York, rendered its decision, awarding Moose, Dudley, and Frederick islands to the United States, and all other islands in Passamaquoddy Bay and the Isle of Grand Menan were awarded to Great Britain.

These awards were accepted and approved by both governments. Article V provided for a commission to meet at Saint Andrews, New Brunswick, and determine the boundary line between the United States and the British possessions, from the source of the river Saint Croix to the river Saint Lawrence. In case of failure of the commissioners to agree, the matter was to be referred to a friendly sovereign. The commissioner on behalf the United States was C. P. Van Ness, and Thomas Barclay was the commissioner on behalf of Great Britain. William C. Bradley was agent for the United States and Ward Chipman for Great Britain.

The surveyors, under direction of this commission, ran and marked lines in 1817 and 1818.

The commission failed to agree as to the boundary. C. P. Van Ness, the American commissioner, reported this fact to his Government November 20, 1821.

TREATY AT LONDON, SEPTEMBER 29, 1827.

After repeated efforts to settle and fix definitely this portion of the northern boundary a convention between the United States and Great Britain—in conformity with the fifth article of the Treaty of Ghent, the commission therein provided for having failed to agree as to the proper boundary between the two countries—was entered into and concluded at London, England, September, 29, 1827, by Charles Grant and Henry Unwin Addington on behalf of Great Britain, and Albert Gallatin on behalf of the United States, and the matter of the northeast boundary referred to a friendly sovereign as provided in said Treaty of Ghent. William, King of the Netherlands, was selected, by agreement and concert between the high contracting parties.

AWARD OF THE KING OF THE NETHERLANDS UNDER ABOVE TREATY.

January 10, 1831, the King, by his award, recommended that a line be drawn from the head of the river Saint Croix due north to where it strikes the middle of the river Saint John, and thence up the middle of that river to the mouth of the Saint Francis; thence up that river to the extreme source of its southwesternmost branch; thence due west to its intersection with the line claimed by the United States. He further decided that the utmost source of the northwesternmost stream emptying into the

northernmost of the three lakes, the last of which is called Connecticut Lake, should be considered the northwesternmost head of the Connecticut River, set out in the treaty of Ghent; and further, that a new line should be run from thence to the river Saint Lawrence, in such manner as at all events to give Rouses's Point, near Lake Champlain, to the United States. This award made by King William was rejected by both governments.

WEBSTER-ASHBURTON TREATY.

All efforts to settle the northeast boundary question having failed through negotiation, joint commission, and reference to a sovereign as arbiter, Lord Ashburton, sent specially as a commissioner for the purpose on behalf of Great Britain, and Daniel Webster, Secretary of State, on behalf of the United States, at Washington, D. C., on August 9, 1842, concluded a treaty which settled the northeastern boundary line of the United States (as indicated in the definitive treaty with Great Britain in 1783, and under the fifth article of the treaty of Ghent), and the present boundary line from the Atlantic Ocean to the river Saint Lawrence was established, and continuing westward from the western terminus of the line as laid down by the commission under the sixth article of the Treaty of Ghent (see below) to the westernmost water of the Lake of the Woods, and from this point thence westward, conforming to the second article of the treaty of 1818 (see below), and south to the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude.

This still left the question of northern boundary line from the Rocky Mountains westward to the Pacific Ocean unsettled.

NORTHERN BOUNDARY LINE TO THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS.

Article VI of the Treaty of Ghent, 1814, provided for a commission to mark the boundary line from the river Saint Lawrence to the western point of Lake Huron. Peter B. Porter and John Ogilvy, succeeded by Anthony Barclay, were appointed commissioners on behalf of the United States and Great Britain respectively. Samuel Hawkins, succeeded by Joseph Delafield, was the American agent, and J. Hall British agent. Stephen Sewell was secretary, and was succeeded by Donald Frazer, who was assistant secretary, succeeded by John Bigsby, and he by Richard Williams. They agreed, and reported from Utica, N. Y., June 18, 1822, and this portion of the boundary line was established. As a separate duty this commission were also to determine "where is the middle of the rivers and lakes forming the northern boundary to the water communication between lakes Huron and Superior." They reported June 18, 1822, awarding the islands to the north of the line which was established to Great Britain and those to the south of it to the United States.

Article VII of the Treaty of Ghent enjoined upon the commission, provided for in Article VI (as above), after action upon that branch of its work, to define the northern boundary line westward from the western point of Lake Huron to the northwestern waters of the Lake of the Woods. The commission failed to agree upon this, and so reported. This portion of the northern boundary line was established by the second article of the Webster-Ashburton treaty of August 9, 1842.

In consequence of the acquirement by purchase by the United States of the province of Louisiana, which extended westward from the international boundary line (the Mississippi River), October 20, 1818, at London, a convention was concluded between Albert Gallatin and Richard Rush for the United States, and Frederick John Robinson and Henry Goulburn on behalf of Great Britain. It settled this portion of the northern boundary line by Article II of said treaty, and it was thus extended westward from the most northwestern point of the Lake of the Woods to and along the forty-ninth parallel north latitude to the Stony (Rocky) Mountains.

In the treaty of August 6, 1827, between the United States and Great Britain, at London, this agreed portion of the northern boundary line was confirmed and con-

tinued. It was finally fully confirmed by the eleventh article of the Webster-Ashburton treaty of August 9, 1842.

Congress, March 19, 1872, authorized the survey and marking of the boundary between the United States and the British possessions from the Lake of the Woods to the summit of the Rocky Mountains. Archibald Campbell was appointed commissioner on the part of the United States, and Capt. D. R. Cameron, R. A., on behalf of Great Britain. A corps of astronomers and engineers were detailed and selected on behalf of the respective countries, Capt. P. Anderson, R. E., being the British chief astronomer. The American corps of engineers were Lieut.-Col. F. U. Farquhar, Bvt.-Maj. W. J. Twinning (who became chief astronomer for the United States), Capt. James F. Gregory, and Lieut. F. V. Greene. Congress appropriated \$50,000 for this work. The line was surveyed and the boundary monuments established. (See Senate Ex. Doc. 41, second session Forty-fourth Congress.)

NORTHERN BOUNDARY WEST OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS.

Through deference to Spain, who claimed title by discovery to the entire Pacific slope (as well as by purchase from France of the province of Louisiana), the northern boundary line was not extended westward from the Rocky Mountains.

After the purchase of Louisiana by the United States, in 1803, the Government opened negotiations with Great Britain for fixing the northern boundary line of the province of Louisiana. In 1807 an agreement was reached by the two nations, but not signed. The war of 1812 between them prevented its consummation.

The question was not opened again until the treaty of October 20, 1818, and then only to the Rocky Mountains. Spain by the treaty at Washington February 22, 1819, waived this claim and ceded to the United States her claims to Oregon Territory.

The French, prior to their sale of the province of Louisiana and possessions to the United States, claimed the country south of the British possessions and west of the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean, by reason of discovery and exploration of the Mississippi River. This claim the United States, being the successor of France, also urged and stood upon.

The United States held an independent claim to that portion of the Louisiana purchase known as Oregon, based upon the discovery of the mouth of the Columbia River in May, 1791, by Captain Gray, of Boston, in the ship *Columbia*, naming the river from his ship.

The convention between the United States and Great Britain of October 20, 1818, kept the line indefinite, and in the third article provided for joint occupancy and use of the territory claimed by both by the people of the two countries on the northwest coast of America, westward of the Stony (Rocky) Mountains, without prejudice to any claim of either of the contracting parties to any part of said country. This was to hold from ten years from the 20th day of October, 1818.

This still left this northwestern boundary line undefined.

The convention between the United States and Great Britain of date August 6, 1827, by Albert Gallatin, on behalf of the United States, and Charles Grant and Henry Unwin Addington, by the first article indefinitely extended this provision, with the right of either party, after October 20, 1828, on twelve months' notice of the intention, to annul and abrogate the same.

Article III again reserved the claim of either party to the territory west of the Stony or Rocky Mountains.

THE NORTHWESTERN-BOUNDARY QUESTION.

The northwestern-boundary question was a source of constant irritation and serious trouble between the United States and Great Britain and their citizens.

In 1824 the United States opened negotiations with the Emperor of all the Russias

for a treaty to define the boundaries of the respective countries on the northwest coast. Russia had a large undefined claim (Alaska) to territory. The treaty was made at St. Petersburg, Russia, April 5-17, 1824, and admitted the sovereignty of Russia over the northwest coast from latitude $54^{\circ} 40'$ north to the North Pole. This treaty did not attempt to fix the eastern boundary of the Russian possessions. It was made by Henry Middleton on behalf of the United States and Le Comte Charles De Nesselrode and Pierre de Poletica on behalf of Russia.

Great Britain not desiring that the United States should have an advantage by the definition, inferentially or otherwise, of the boundary line between her territory and the Russian, at once negotiated a treaty with Russia of date February 16-28, 1825, conceding to Russia dominion over the coast to the north of $54^{\circ} 40'$ north latitude, and defining the eastern line of the Russian possessions where they formed the western line of the British possessions, being the present eastern line of Alaska.

OREGON TREATY.

In 1846, after great political heat and discussion and occupation of disputed territory by armed forces of both nations, by a treaty at Washington concluded between Great Britain and the United States, by Richard Pakenham and James Buchanan in behalf of their respective countries, June 15, 1846, it was agreed by Article I that the northern boundary line should be continued westward along the said forty-ninth parallel of north latitude to the middle of the channel which separates the continent from Vancouver's Island, and thence southerly through the middle of the said channel and of Fuca Straits to the Pacific Ocean, and thus the boundary line was extended from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean along the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude. This treaty was adopted by the Senate of the United States by yeas 41, nays 14. Under this treaty the government of Great Britain claimed that the British channel referred to was the so-called Straits of Rosario. The United States claimed that it was the Canal de Haro. This remained a disputed question from 1846 to 1871.

TREATY OF WASHINGTON.

By the treaty of Washington of May 8, 1871, creating a High Joint Commission and plenipotentiaries, consisting of the Earl de Grey and Ripon, Sir Stafford Northcote, Sir Edward Thornton, Sir John A. McDonald, and Montague Bernard, on behalf of Great Britain, and Hamilton Fish, Robert C. Schenck, Samuel Nelson, E. R. Hoar, and George H. Williams, on behalf of the United States, this question was considered for settlement.

Under Article XXXIV the decision of the question as to a portion of the boundary line between the United States and British possessions west of the Rocky Mountains, under the first article of the treaty of June 15, 1846. This, known as the northwestern water boundary question, was left to the arbitration for decision without appeal of his majesty the Emperor of Germany. George Bancroft was agent of the United States, and Admiral James Provost agent for Great Britain.

NORTHERN BOUNDARY LINE SETTLED.

October 21, 1872, William I., Emperor of Germany, rendered his decision in favor of the Canal de Haro, thus sustaining the claim of the United States and settling finally the northern boundary line east and west between the United States and Great Britain.

Thus it required the period from the preliminary treaty of peace with Great Britain, November 30, 1782, to the 21st day of October, 1872, the date of the decision of the Emperor of Germany on the Canal de Haro, to settle and define the northern boundary of the United States—about ninety years. This boundary line west of the western

boundary of the State of New York and to the Pacific Ocean became the northern boundary line of the public domain.

EASTERN BOUNDARY OF THE UNITED STATES.

The present eastern boundary line of the United States—the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico—was settled by the preliminary treaty and by the definitive treaty of peace with Great Britain, September 3, 1783, and subsequently by treaty of purchase with Spain at Washington, February 22, 1819, between John Quincy Adams on behalf of the United States and Luis de Onís on behalf of Spain, by which was ceded to the United States by Spain the provinces of East and West Florida.

This eastern boundary line of the United States became the eastern boundary of the public domain south of 31° north latitude and in the State of Florida; the continuation of this eastern line of the public domain northward from 31° north latitude the western boundaries of the States of Georgia, South and North Carolina, Virginia (now West Virginia), Pennsylvania, and New York, to the northern international boundary line.

WESTERN BOUNDARY OF THE UNITED STATES.

The western boundary line of the United States from latitude 49° north, going south, the Pacific Ocean, was determined by discovery (Captain Gray's, 1791), and the purchase from France of the province of Louisiana, under treaty at Paris, France, April 30, 1803, by the United States, concluded by Robert R. Livingston and James Monroe on behalf of the United States, and Barbé Marbois on the part of France, and by the purchase from Spain of the Floridas February 22, 1819, from latitude 49° north (confirmed by various treaties set out in description above of northern boundary lines), along the Pacific Ocean to about latitude 42° north. From latitude 42° north, going south, by capture and the treaty of Guadaloupe Hidalgo, between the United States and Mexico, February 2, 1848, between N. P. Trist, on behalf of the United States, and Luis G. Cuevas, Bernardo Couto, and Miguel Atristain, on behalf of Mexico, which extended the present western boundary of the United States from parallel 42° north latitude, going south, to the point between the thirty-second and thirty-third parallel of north latitude, now forming the division line between the United States and the Republic of Mexico.

The entire western boundary line of the United States is the western boundary line of the public domain.

SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF THE UNITED STATES.

By the definitive treaty with Great Britain, September 3, 1783, the southern boundary was described as follows:

South by a line to be drawn due east from a point where the northernmost part of the thirty-first degree of north latitude intersects a line drawn along the middle of the Mississippi River east to the middle of the river Appalachicola or Catahouche, thence along the middle thereof to its junction with the Flint River, thence straight to the head of Saint Mary's River, and thence along the middle of Saint Mary's River to the Atlantic Ocean.

The present southern boundary line was settled, beginning at the Atlantic Ocean and running west, by the treaty, at Washington, of purchase, from Spain by the United States, of Florida, February 22, 1819, which extended the line westward along the southern coast of Florida to the limits of the Louisiana Purchase of 1803; by the treaty of purchase from France by the United States, at Paris, April 30, 1803, of the province of Louisiana. The eastern boundary of this latter purchase, as claimed by the United States in her controversy with Spain as to the boundaries of the provinces of East and West Florida, were conceded by Spain in the treaty of purchase of February 22, 1819.

This extended the boundary westward from the west boundary of Florida, west of the meridian 87° west longitude along the south coast of Louisiana, to the Sabine River.

By the annexation of Texas, December 29, 1845 (the act of the Congress of the United States), the southern boundary was extended southwestward from the Sabine River along the Gulf of Mexico to the Rio Grande River, up and along the Rio Grande River, running northwest, and forming the boundary line between the United States and Mexico, to the plateau of the Sierra Madre, $31^{\circ} 47'$ north latitude, from the turning point westward on the boundary line between the United States and Mexico; which was further extended by the Gadsden Purchase of the Mesilla Valley by the United States from the Republic of Mexico, at the city of Mexico, December 30, 1853.

This extended the southern boundary westward from the point $31^{\circ} 47'$ north latitude on the Rio Grande, established by the annexation of Texas and the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, to a point on the Colorado River twenty miles below its junction with the Gila River, thence north to the line between California and Lower California.

By the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, February 2, 1813, the southern boundary between the United States and Mexico was fixed as starting in the Gulf of Mexico, three leagues from the land opposite the middle mouth of the Rio Grande River, and up the middle and along that river to the boundary of New Mexico, touching the point $31^{\circ} 47'$ north latitude; thence north to the thirty-third parallel north latitude on the plateau of the Sierra Madre; thence west on a random line to the Gila River and along it to a point twenty miles north of its junction with the Colorado River; thence across the Rio Colorado west to the Pacific Ocean, following the division line between Upper and Lower California.

The Gadsden purchase moved the line south between the point $31^{\circ} 47'$ north latitude on the Rio Grande, being now the southern boundary of New Mexico and Arizona, to the point twenty miles below the junction of the Gila and Colorado rivers, being the eastern point of the line between California and Lower California, and thence north.

The southern line of this purchase is described as extending west from the point $31^{\circ} 47'$ north latitude; thence due west one hundred miles; thence south to the parallel $31^{\circ} 20'$ north latitude; thence along the said parallel of $31^{\circ} 20'$ to the one hundred and eleventh meridian of longitude west of Greenwich; thence in a straight line to a point on the Colorado River twenty miles below the junction of the Gila and Colorado rivers; thence up the middle of the said river Colorado until it intersects the present line between the United States and Mexico; and this is the present boundary between the two Republics.

This left the extension of the line from the Gila and Colorado rivers west to the Pacific the same as established by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, and thus the southern boundary line was extended from the Atlantic to the Pacific in the period from November 30, 1782 (the preliminary treaty of peace), to the Gadsden purchase of December 30, 1853—about seventy years.

The entire southern boundary of the United States is the line of southern boundary of the public domain, excepting the southern boundary of Texas.

BOUNDARIES OF ALASKA.

The boundaries of Alaska and contiguous islands are fully set out in the convention for the cession of the Russian possessions in North America to the United States, at Washington, March 30, 1867, by William H. Seward on behalf of the United States, and Edouard de Stocckel on behalf of Russia.

This treaty refers to the treaty made by and between Russia and Great Britain of date February 28-16, 1825, which defined the eastern limits of Alaska where it joins the British possessions. The boundary line between the United States and the British possessions is all marked and determined, except as to the Alaska purchase.

The entire area of Alaska is public domain.

REFERENCES HEREUNDER.

For treaties of cession, conventions, settlement of boundaries, and purchases of territory since July 4, 1776, to February 1, 1871, see Senate Ex. Doc. No. 36, third session Forty-first Congress. As our national boundaries are now fully established, reference is only made to authorities under and by which they were made.

For reference to treaties and conventions by which our national boundaries have been made and acknowledged, see laws of the United States relating to public lands, compiled by Albert Gallatin, 1817; laws of the United States compiled by Mathew St. Clair Clarke, 1823; laws of the United States, vol. 1, Brown & Duane, 1815; and treaties and conventions since 1776, State Department, Washington, D. C., 1871.

The expenses and costs of all commissions for making treaties and commissions for marking boundaries under treaties under the Department of State can be found in Senate Ex. Doc. No. 33, second session Forty-fourth Congress.

 NATIONAL AND PUBLIC DOMAIN.

AREA OF PUBLIC DOMAIN.

The public domain embraces lands known in the United States as "public lands," lying in certain States and Territories known as the "Land States and Territories," and was acquired by the Government of the United States by treaty, conquest, cession by States, and purchase, and is disposed of under and by authority of the National Government. It contained 2,894,235.91 square miles, or 1,852,310,987 acres. Deducting the area of Tennessee, the actual public domain was 1,821,700,922 acres.

AREA OF POLITICAL DIVISIONS.

By the definitive treaty of peace with Great Britain of September 3, 1783, concluding the Revolutionary War, our national territory was defined as extending westward from the Atlantic to the Mississippi River, and from a line on the north of the lakes to the thirty-first parallel and the south boundary of Georgia, embracing about 830,000 square miles, or 531,200,000 acres. Of this 341,752 square miles, or 218,721,280 acres, were included in the thirteen original States constituting the American Union.

LEGISLATIVE CREATIONS.

Kentucky, Vermont, and Maine were subsequently erected out of territory claimed respectively by Virginia, New York, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire by virtue of grants from the British Crown prior to the Revolution. These States embrace 82,892 square miles or 53,050,880 acres, which, added to the area of the thirteen original States, aggregates 424,644 square miles.

CESSIONS BY STATES TO THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT.

The territory embraced within the present States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Tennessee, that part of Minnesota lying east of the Mississippi River, and all of Alabama and Mississippi lying north of the thirty-first parallel, was held by Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, under grants from Great Britain, during their colonial condition. These territorial interests were surrendered to the General Government of the Union by the last-named States at different times hereinafter set forth, and constituted the nucleus of our public domain with some reservations as to former grants, and was the remainder of the territory conceded to the United States under the definitive treaty of 1783, and consisted of 404,955.91 square miles, or 259,171,787 acres. This was the public domain of the United States on April 30, 1803, the date of the Louisiana purchase, and for which the original survey and disposition laws were made.

The United States were recognized by the Crown in the definitive treaty of peace

with Great Britain as "free sovereign and independant States, and that he treats with them as such, and for himself, his heirs, and successors relinquishes all claims to the government, proprietary and territorial rights of the same, and every part thereof."

The Government of the United States acquired as custodian for the Nation lands known as the public domain as follows:

From States (colonies prior to July 4, 1776) ceded under the Confederation and under the Constitution.

This was in pursuance of a resolution of the Congress of the Confederation passed Tuesday, October 10, 1780, providing for the reception and care of such unappropriated lands as might be ceded by States to the United States, and for the disposition of the same for the common benefit of the United States.

The dates of cession of these lands to the United States were as follows:

Colony.	State.	Date of cession.
New Hampshire	New Hampshire	No cession.
New York	New York	March 1, 1781.
Rhode Island and Providence Plantations	Rhode Island	No cession.
New Jersey	New Jersey	Do.
New Castle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware.	Delaware	Do.
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	Do.
Virginia	Virginia	March 1, 1784, and December 30, 1788.*
Maryland	Maryland	No cession.
Massachusetts Bay	Massachusetts	April 19, 1785.
Connecticut	Connecticut	September 13, 1786; confirmed May 30, 1800.
South Carolina	South Carolina	August 9, 1787.
North Carolina	North Carolina	February 25, 1790.
Georgia	Georgia	April 24, 1802.

*An act to change the conditions of the cession of March 1, 1784, only so far as to ratify the fifth article of the compact of the ordinance of 1787.

Area of cessions.

	Sq. miles.	Acres.
Massachusetts (disputed) claimed (estimated)*	54,000.00	34,560,000
Connecticut (disputed) and Western Reserve and Fire-lands (estimated)*	40,000.00	25,600,000
From New York and Massachusetts cession, actual	315.91	202,187
From Virginia (disputed and undisputed) to the United States (exclusive of Kentucky and including area of Western Reserve and Fire-lands)†	265,562.00	169,959,680
South Carolina cession	4,900.00	3,136,000
North Carolina cession, nominal, because the area of Tennessee was almost covered with reservations	45,600.00	29,184,000
Georgia cession	88,578.00	56,689,920
Total actual State cessions to the United States for public domain	404,955.91	259,171,787

*The area above was also claimed by Virginia and included in her cession.

†Connecticut's jurisdictional cession of the Western Reserve and Fire-lands, containing about 4,300,000 acres, included under Virginia cession.

LANDS ACQUIRED BY PURCHASE AND TREATIES—PERIOD, PRICE, AND QUANTITY.

1. *From France.*

From France, April 30, 1803, under the administration of President Jefferson, known as the Louisiana purchase, done by treaty at Paris, France, by Robert R. Livingston and James Monroe on behalf of the United States, and Barbé Marbois on behalf of the First Consul, Napoleon Bonaparte, in the name of the French Republic. This embraced as finally settled those portions of the States of Alabama and Mississippi south of the thirty-first parallel, the entire surface of the States of Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, and Oregon, all of Minnesota west of the Missouri River, all of Kansas except a small portion west of the one hundredth meridian and south of the Arkansas

River, all of Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington, and Indian Territories, with a part of Wyoming and Colorado. This cost, according to the original treaty stipulation, 60,000,000 francs, or \$15,000,000, in money and stocks; the interest on the stocks to time of redemption, \$8,529,353; claims of citizens of United States due from France paid by United States, \$3,738,268.98; a total of \$27,257,621.98, and added to the public domain 1,182,752 square miles or 756,951,280 acres.

2. *From Spain.*

From Spain, by treaty February 22, 1819, under the administration of President Monroe, done at Washington, D. C., between John Quincy Adams, Secretary of State, on behalf of the United States, and Louis de Onis, Minister of Spain to the United States, on behalf of His Majesty Ferdinand VII., King of Spain. It secured to the United States the territory known as East and West Florida, now the present State of Florida, for the sum of \$5,000,000 in bonds similar to those issued for the Louisiana purchase, the interest on which to the date of redemption being \$1,489,768, made the total cost \$6,489,768. This added to the public domain of the United States 59,268 square miles, or 37,931,520 acres, including certain grants.

3. *From Mexico.*

From Mexico, by treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, under the administration of President Polk, concluded February 2, 1848, by and between Nicholas P. Trist on behalf of the United States, and Luis G. Cuevas, Bernardo Couto, and Miguel Atristain on behalf of the Republic of Mexico. This cession gave to the public domain of the United States the States of California, Nevada, and part of Colorado, also the lands in the Territories of Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico, excepting in the last two the Mesilla Valley, adding to the national domain approximately 522,568 square miles, or 334,443,520 acres. It cost (treaty stipulation) \$15,000,000.

4. *From Texas.*

From the State of Texas, by purchase, under the administration of President Fillmore. The United States, by act of Congress of September 9, 1850, purchased from Texas her claim to certain public lands north of parallel 36° 30', and between that parallel and 32°, and lying west of the one hundred and third meridian, now included in Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, and also the "public land strip." This cost \$16,000,000, in 5 per cent. bonds, interest and cash. The lands in this cession were estimated at 101,707 square miles, or 65,130,880 acres, and this was added to the public domain, being already, by the annexation of Texas and the confirmatory clause of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, embraced within the national domain.

5. *From Mexico.*

From the Republic of Mexico, by purchase, under the administration of President Pierce, known as the Gadsden purchase, under treaty made at the City of Mexico, December 30, 1853, by James Gadsden, United States minister, on behalf of the United States, and Manuel Diez de Bonilla, José Salazar Ylarregui, and J. Mariano Monterde on behalf of the Republic of Mexico. In consideration of the concession by Mexico of the abrogation of sundry treaty stipulations in the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, 1848, and the payment of the sum of \$10,000,000 by the United States to Mexico, a strip of land known as the Mesilla Valley, and lying in the present Territories of New Mexico and Arizona, on their southern border, was added to the national and public domain of the United States. It contained 45,535 square miles, or 29,142,400 acres. Cost, \$10,000,000. This territory now lies in New Mexico and Arizona; 14,000 square miles in New Mexico, and 31,535 square miles in Arizona.

6. *From Russia.*

From the Empire of Russia, by purchase, known as "the Alaska purchase," under the administration of President Johnson, under treaty made March 30, 1867, at Washington, D. C., by and between William H. Seward, Secretary of State, on behalf of the United States, and Edouard de Stoeckl, Russian minister to the United States, on behalf of the Emperor of all the Russias, by which was ceded to the United States by Russia all her possessions on the continent of America and adjacent islands. This added to our national and public domain 577,390 square miles, or 369,529,600 acres, and cost \$7,200,000. The public land system has not as yet been extended over Alaska.

AREA OF PURCHASES—PUBLIC AND NATIONAL DOMAIN.

Public domain.

	Square miles.	Acres.
Louisiana purchase, April 30, 1803.....	1, 182, 752	750, 961, 280
East and West Florida, February 22, 1819.....	59, 268	37, 931, 520
Gaudalupe Hidalgo, February 2, 1848.....	522, 568	334, 443, 520
State of Texas, November 25, 1850.....	101, 767	65, 130, 880
Gadsden purchase, December 30, 1853.....	45, 535	29, 142, 400
Alaska purchase, March 30, 1867.....	577, 390	369, 529, 600
	2, 480, 280	1, 593, 139, 200

At a total cost of \$88,157,389.98.

National domain.

The Texas annexation of 1845 added to the national domain the area of the present State of Texas, viz, 274,356 square miles, or 175,587,840 acres, included in the national domain, besides the purchase of 1850 from the State, now public domain.

The total area of purchased and annexed territory, included in the national and public domain since 1803, is 2,763,636 square miles, or 1,768,727,040 acres, at a total cost of \$88,157,389.98 for purchase, and including the Georgia cession of 1802, \$6,200,000.

THE PUBLIC DOMAIN—CONTROL AND DISPOSITION.

The public domain embraces the area of the lands now owned or heretofore disposed of by the United States in nineteen States and eleven Territories and parts of Territories, and known as the land States and Territories (see table, pp. 28, 29), the United States being the sole owner of the soil, with entire and complete jurisdiction over the same. Article IV, section 3, paragraph 2, of the Constitution of the United States, provides that "the Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States." This clause relates to property and not to persons or communities. Mr. Madison introduced this clause in the Constitutional Convention. The original clause was: "Congress shall have power to dispose of the waste and unappropriated lands of the United States." This was referred to the committee of detail for revision and incorporation. Mr. Gouverneur Morris, of the committee, wrote the Constitution from the convention notes. This committee changed "lands" into "territory and other property," and the right to "make all needful rules and regulations" was added, so that Congress might protect and regulate all such property until disposed of. The Supreme Court of the United States in *The United States v. Gratiot* (14 Peters, 526) held that "the term 'territory' as here used is merely descriptive of one kind of property, and is equivalent to the word 'lands.' Congress has the same power over it as over any other property belonging to the United States. This power is vested in Congress without limitation." (See *United States v. Railroad Bridge Co.*, 6 McLean, 517.)

The United States, through Congress, provides methods of disposition of the public domain under grants, settlement laws, or sales, public or private; may prevent trespass and in all methods retain the entire control over it until sold or otherwise disposed of. "Congress has the absolute right to prescribe the times, the conditions, and the mode of transferring the public domain or any part of it, and to designate the persons to whom the transfer shall be made."

For further authorities upon this subject see the following decisions: *Gibson v. Chouteau*, 13 Wall., 92; *Irvine v. Marshall*, 20 Howard, 558; *U. S. v. Railroad Bridge Co.*, 6 McLean, 517; *U. S. v. Gratiot*, 14 Peters, 526; *Russell v. Lovatte*, 21 Minn., 167; *Gill v. Halleck*, 33 Wis., 523; *Rose v. Buckland* 17 Ills., 309; *Miller v. Little*, 47 Cal., 348; *Dyke v. McVey*, 16 Ills., 41; *Bagnell v. Broderick*, 13 Peters, 436; *Pollard v. Hagan*, 3 Howard, 212.

Change in political condition, as in a Territory becoming a State, or change of boundary of a Territory or State, in no wise affects the absolute and complete proprietary power of the National Government over the public domain. It remains until the last acre is disposed of.

STIPULATION AS TO CONTROL AND NON-TAXATION OF PUBLIC DOMAIN FROM STATES ON ADMISSION.

The United States stipulates, upon the admission of a State into the Union from a Territorial condition or otherwise, and wherein lie public lands, that the National Government shall continue to dispose of such lands under its own laws and systems, and provides that there shall be no law passed to interfere with the primary right of disposition by the Nation of the public domain, and continues by its land officers to convey and dispose of the public domain as though the Territorial condition had not changed.

No tax can be laid upon the public lands by a State or power other than Congress, who may lease, sell, or otherwise dispose of them. "No State law, whether of limitations or otherwise, can defeat the title of the United States to public land within the limits of a State." (*Jourdan v. Barrett*, 4 Howard, 169.)

"In the admission of a new State into the Union, compacts are entered into with the Federal Government that they will not tax the lands of the United States." (*U. S. v. Railroad Bridge Co.*, 6 McLean, 517.)

"No State formed out of the territory of the United States has a right to the public lands within its limits or can exercise any power whatever over them." (*Turner v. Missionary Union*, 5 McLean, 344.) See also, *U. S. v. Gratiot*, 14 Peters, 526; *Bump's Notes of Constitutional Decisions*, title "Territories"; *State v. Batchelder*, 5 Minn., 223.

AREA DISPOSED OF AND ESTIMATED AMOUNT REMAINING.

According to estimates the aggregate area of the public lands of the United States disposed of and remaining on the 30th of June, 1880, was 2,894,235.91 square miles, or 1,852,310,987 acres. The territory now included within the limits of Tennessee, was as substantially a portion of said domain as Ohio or Indiana, yet the public lands in Tennessee were not disposed of under the direction of the executive department of the General Government.

The area of Tennessee was 45,600 square miles, or 29,184,000 acres, and which should in fact be deducted from the above estimate. The actual public domain is 1,821,700,922 acres.

The United States has surveyed to June 30, 1880, in the land States and Territories, 752,557,195 acres of the public domain. There are remaining yet unsurveyed, estimated, 1,069,143,727 acres.

The surveyed lands yet undisposed of are estimated at 204,802,711.12 acres, which, with the unsurveyed, make a grand total of 1,273,946,438.12 acres of land still the prop-

erty of the United States and subject to disposition. Deducting (estimated) 110,000,000 acres, yet required to fill railroad grants, if roads as chartered and granted are completed, the actual area, still the property of the Nation, is 1,163,946,438.12 acres. This includes the area of private land claims, patented and unpatented, estimated at 80,000,000 acres. This also includes the area of military and Indian reservations, estimated at 157,356,952.68 acres, of which probably more than 100,000,000 acres will revert to the public domain for future sale and disposition. It can be estimated that the total public domain to be disposed of will not vary much from 1,163,946,438.12 acres, equal to 7,274,665.24 homesteads of 160 acres each.

SURVEYED AND UNSOLD LANDS.

The surveyed and unsold lands lie in the following land States and Territories (estimated):

	Acres.
In Iowa, Indiana, Illinois, and Ohio, practically none.	
Minnesota	13,383,813.10
Kansas	28,049,731.64
Nebraska	23,958,652.59
California	25,250,680.47
Nevada	8,337,671.68
Oregon	12,906,700.66
Washington	9,088,338.93
Colorado	20,489,312.28
Utah	5,685,054.28
Arizona	1,561,231.13
New Mexico	6,042,409.46
Dakota	12,225,492.00
Idaho	3,925,237.16
Montana	5,779,452.42
Wyoming	5,645,121.75
Missouri	1,000,000.00
Wisconsin	5,440,338.19
Michigan	853,214.56
Total	189,622,455.12

This estimate is probably within 20 per cent. of the exact amount. Official causes prevent a closer estimate.

A large amount of the above estimated vacant surveyed public lands may be at present occupied by settlers or persons holding under the effect of the doctrine announced by the Supreme Court of the United States in *Atherton v. Fowler* and *Hosmer v. Wallace*. Neither the United States nor the local land officers have any official knowledge of the amount so occupied.*

* The effect of the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, in *Atherton v. Fowler* (6 Otto, 513) and *Hosmer v. Wallace* (7 Otto, 575), in construing the pre-emption laws (and laws affecting lands which have not been proclaimed and are not subject to private entry—ordinary surveyed lands) is that parties whether qualified settlers or not, or whether desiring to acquire title or not, may take possession of and hold the surveyed unoffered lands of the United States indefinitely, to the exclusion of parties legally qualified who desire to take the benefit of the pre-emption, homestead, and timber-culture acts. This, in fact, leaves the entire surveyed and unoffered public domain open to occupancy or squatter titles as against the existing laws of the United States. (See Report Commissioner General Land Office, 1879, pp. 44, 45, and report Public Land Commission, February, 1880, urging upon Congress legislation to correct this, and to regulate and limit this occupancy title, without which *bona-fide* settlers are at the mercy of squatters, and the Government powerless to enforce the settlement laws.)

ESTIMATED AREA OF VACANT SURVEYED PUBLIC LANDS IN SOUTHERN STATES.

	Acres.
Florida	3,205,109.00
Alabama.....	3,516,140.00
Mississippi.....	3,208,887.00
Arkansas	4,620,120.00
Louisiana.....	2,130,000.00
Total	16,680,256.00
Deducting lands that by reason of discrepancies in records of local offices and General Land Office are not actually known to be vacant, estimated at not less than.....	1,500,000.00
Leaving a total of.....	15,180,256.00
Add total of other States and Territories, as above.....	189,622,455.12
Total surveyed and still to-be disposed of	204,802,711.12

In the Southern States, lands are all open to private entry, at the United States district land offices in the respective States, at \$1.25 per acre, except the "mineral tracts" lying in the Huntsville and Tuscaloosa districts in Alabama, under authority of an act of Congress of July 4, 1876.

The total amount of land owned by the United States in the five Southern States, surveyed and including 1,148,892 acres in Louisiana and 7,756,493 acres in Florida, unsurveyed, is 25,585,641 acres.

The public lands in Florida have been reduced to the extent of about 2,000,000 acres within the last two or three years by the selection of the lands by the State as swamp.

UNSURVEYED LANDS.

The unsurveyed lands lie and are in the following land States and Territories:

	Acres.
Minnesota	13,510,423
Nebraska	7,052,207
California	48,643,592
Nevada	58,436,598
Oregon	37,908,340
Washington	28,836,985
Colorado.....	40,657,679
Utah	44,282,680
Arizona	67,098,366
New Mexico	67,024,900
Dakota.....	71,422,103
Idaho	47,739,368
Montana.....	80,651,676
Wyoming.....	53,381,485
Louisiana.....	1,148,892
Florida.....	7,756,493
Indian Territory	17,150,250
Alaska	369,529,600
Public land strip.....	6,912,000
Total	1,069,143,727

THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

RECEIPTS FROM AND COST OF THE PUBLIC DOMAIN TO JUNE 30, 1880.

The public lands of the United States, by sales for cash, fees, and commissions, have realized to the National Government since the passage of the ordinance of May 20, 1785, to June 30, 1880, a total net sum of \$200,702,849.11, as follows:*

Prior to June 30, 1796.

1787, sold at New York, 72,974 acres (cash).....	\$117, 108 24
1796, sold at Pittsburgh, 43,446 acres (certificates and land warrants)...	100, 427 53
1792, to the State of Pennsylvania, 202,187 acres (certificate of public debt).....	151, 640 25
1792, to John Cleves Symmes, 272,540 acres (Army land warrants).....	189, 693 00
1792, to Ohio Company, 892,900 acres (certificates and Army land warrants).....	642, 856 66

Total, 1,484,047 acres 1, 201, 725 68

Subsequent to June 30, 1796, (including above total.)

Prior to June 30, 1796.....	\$1, 201, 725 68	1838	\$3, 730, 945 66
1796	4, 836 13	1839	7, 361, 576 40
1797	83, 540 60	1840	3, 411, 818 63
1798	11, 963 11	1841	1, 365, 627 42
1799	1842	1, 335, 797 52
1800	443 75	1843	898, 158 18
1801	167, 726 06	1844	2, 059, 939 80
1802	188, 628 02	1845	2, 077, 022 30
1803	165, 675 60	1846	2, 694, 452 48
1804	487, 526 79	1847	2, 498, 355 20
1805	540, 193 80	1848	3, 328, 642 56
1806	765, 245 73	1849	1, 688, 959 55
1807	466, 163 27	1850	1, 859, 894 25
1808	647, 939 06	1851	2, 352, 305 30
1809	442, 252 33	1852	2, 043, 239 58
1810	696, 548 82	1853	1, 667, 084 99
1811	1, 040, 237 53	1854	8, 470, 798 39
1812	710, 427 78	1855	11, 497, 049 07
1813	835, 655 14	1856	8, 917, 644 93
1814	1, 135, 971 09	1857	3, 829, 486 64
1815	1, 287, 959 28	1858	3, 513, 715 87
1816	1, 717, 985 03	1859	1, 756, 687 30
1817	1, 991, 226 06	1860	1, 778, 557 71
1818	2, 606, 564 77	1861	870, 658 54
1819	3, 274, 422 78	1862	152, 203 77
1820	1, 635, 871 61	1863	167, 617 17
1821	1, 212, 966 46	1864	588, 333 29
1822	1, 803, 581 54	1865	996, 553 31
1823	916, 523 10	1866	665, 031 03
1824	984, 418 15	1867	1, 163, 575 76
1825	1, 216, 090 56	1868	1, 348, 715 41
1826	1, 393, 785 09	1869	4, 620, 344 34
1827	1, 495, 845 26	1870	3, 350, 481 76
1828	1, 018, 308 75	1871	2, 388, 646 68
1829	1, 517, 175 13	1872	2, 575, 714 19
1830	2, 329, 356 14	1873	2, 882, 312 38
1831	3, 210, 815 48	1874	1, 852, 428 93
1832	2, 623, 381 03	1875	1, 413, 640 17
1833	3, 967, 682 55	1876	1, 129, 466 95
1834	4, 857, 600 69	1877	976, 253 68
1835	14, 757, 600 75	1878	1, 079, 743 37
1836	24, 877, 179 86	1879	924, 781 06
1837	6, 776, 236 52	1880	2, 283, 118 65

Gross receipts by United States.....	208, 059, 657 14
Deduct amount paid to the several States under the two, three, and five per cent. fund acts.....	\$7, 123, 549 83
Deduct cash paid several States, percentage of land sales, for internal improvements—act September 4, 1841.....	233, 258 20
	<u>7, 356, 808 03</u>

Net receipts by United States 200, 702, 849 11

* This table is from the books of the Treasury Department.

COST OF THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

PURCHASES AND CESSIONS.

The public domain of the United States has cost in cash, stocks or bonds, paid, or to be paid, by the Nation, for purchase-price under treaty stipulations, the following sums :

The Louisiana purchase, 1803.	\$27,267,621 98
(There are a number of claims yet due to Americans for "French spoliation.")	
The Florida purchase of 1819	6,489,768 00
The Mexican acquisition by treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, 1848	15,000,000 00
Purchase from the State of Texas, act of September 9, 1850 :	
Stock issued	\$5,000,000
Interest	3,500,000
	————— \$8,500,000
Act of February 28, 1855.....	7,500,000
	————— 16,000,000 00
Purchase from Mexico, Gadsden, 1853	10,000,000 00
Purchase from Russia, Alaska, 1867	7,200,000 00
Purchase from Georgia, her cession 1802, and Yazoo-scrip claims	6,200,000 00
	—————
	88,157,389 98

The above is exclusive of expenses of commissioners to make treaties, and salaries and expenses of commissioners to fix boundaries, &c., under the several treaties. For a list thereof, paid by the Department of State, see Senate Ex. Doc., No. 38, second session, Forty-fourth Congress.

EXPENDITURE FOR SURVEY AND DISPOSITION.

Payments from the Treasury, expenditures on account of public lands, surveys, administration, salaries, &c., from January 1, 1785, to June 30, 1850, were (estimated) \$46,563,302.07, as follows :

March 1, 1784, to September 30, 1842.

Expenses of surveying public lands, including all expenses prior to 1812, the date of creation of General Land Office	\$3,513,268 90
Salaries of surveyors-general and their clerks	831,195 36
	————— \$4,376,464 26
Amount paid at the district land offices for salaries and commissions of the officers, and for incidental expenses.	3,867,228 99
Salaries of land officers paid at the United States Treasury	99,370 70
Salaries and contingent expenses of the General Land Office, at the seat of Government, from its establishment in 1812.....	1,623,546 19
	—————
Total.....	9,966,610 14