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FRIDAY, November 16, 1804.

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATURE OF MARYLAND.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

SATURDAY, November 10, 1804.

The house met pursuant to adjournment

Mr W. Miller, a delegate from Cecil county, appeared and after being qualified, &c. took his seat.

Petitions from Nineon Cockran, of Allegany county; G. Hayden, of Prince Georges and J. Harper of the city of Baltimore, praying acts of insolvency, were read and referred.

A petition from Mary Dearmett of Harford county, praying that a sum of money may be levied on said county for her support, was referred to Messrs. Montgomery, Bond and Ayres to report thereon.

A petition from sundry inhabitants of Williamsport, in Washington county, praying that a law authorizing a lottery to raise a sum of money to erect a market house in said place, was referred to Messrs Ringgold, Bowles and Clark.

A petition from sundry inhabitants of Frederick and Montgomery counties, praying that a law may pass to lay out a road from Liberty-town, in Frederick county, through New Market, and from thence to intersect the road leading from Georgetown to Fredericktown at Hyatt's town in Montgomery county, was referred to Messrs. Waters, Hawkins and Linthicum to report thereon.

A petition from Jacob Farel, of Frederick county, praying a law may pass for his support as an out pensioner, was referred to Messrs. Hawkins, Clark and Waters, to report thereon.

Messrs. Claett and R. Mackall obtained leave of absence for a few days.

A petition from Mary Lansdale, of St. Mary's county, praying that a law may pass for the sale of the real estate of her children, William Henry Lansdale and Thomas Reeder Lansdale, was referred to Messrs. R Neale, Hebb and Stephen to report thereon.

Mr. Hawkins from the committee, delivered to the speaker, a bill, entitled "an act for the support of Jacob Price of Frederick county," which was read the first time and ordered to be on the table.

Mr. Shaw, from the committee of elections and privileges, delivered to the speaker a report, which was read.

A motion having been made that the said report have a second reading, a motion was then made and the question put, that the second reading of the said report be postponed, until Wednesday next. The Yeas and Nays being required, appeared as follow:

Affirmative—Messrs. Scott, Thomas, Moore, Hutchison, Somerville, Benj. Mackall, Stansbury, Lemmon, Brown, Harryman, Alexander, Veazy, Miller, Berry, Covington, Lowry, Clarke, Waters, Cocky, Hawkins, Bond, Ayres, Montgomery, Bowles, Ringgold.—25.

Negative—Messrs. R. Neale, N. Neale, Hebb, Mercer, Hall, Harwood, Ireland, Farnham, Chapman, M'Pherson, Goldsborough, Jackson, Hyland, Contee, Muir, Shaw, Williams, Handy, Stephen, Ellicott, Swearingen, Linthicum, Barnes, Bayard.—24.

So it was resolved in the Affirmative.

DOCUMENT, No. III.

Accompanying a message from the president of the United States to congress, November 8, 1804.

A SUMMARY DESCRIPTION
Of the lead mines of Upper Louisiana: also an estimate of their produce for three years past.

ST. LOUIS, June 16, 1804.

SIR.

In consequence of a request made me by captain Lewis, before he left this, I now do myself the honor of enclosing you a copy of a dissertation on the lead mines in Upper Louisiana, furnished me by Moses Austin, esq. This gentleman owns an extensive mine situate about thirty-eight miles back of St. Genevieve, which he has worked for some years past; and from his education and experience, I conceive him to be better calculated to give correct information on the subject than any other man in this quarter

I am, sir,
With sentiments of high respect,
Your very humble servant,
AMOS STODDARD,
Captain and first civil commandant of Upper Louisiana.

The President of the United States.

SIR,

Agreeably to your request, I have annexed a memorandum of the number, extent and situation of the lead Mines in Upper Louisiana, with an estimate of the average quality of mineral produced, and the number of hands employed at each mine; with the probable quantity which may be annually produced, when the country becomes populated so as to afford workmen sufficient to occupy the mines to advantage.

NAMES OF THE MINES.

1. Mine à Burton,
2. Mine à Robuna,
3. Old Mines,
4. Mine Ranault,
5. Mine à Maneto,
6. Mine à la Plate,
7. Mine à Joe,
8. Mine à Lanye,
9. Mine à la Mott,
10. Mine à Gerbore.

1. The mine a Burton, situated thirty-eight miles west north west of St. Genevieve, was discovered by Francis Burton, about the year 1763, on a fork of Grand River, ten miles from its junction with the main river, after which it takes the name of Ranault's fork of the Merimak, and unites with that river, about twenty-five miles above its junction with the Mississippi. The Fauche-Ranault is navigable in the spring season, within ten miles of the mine a Burton. In the year 1798, a concession of one league in superfice, comprehending about one third part of the mine, for consideration he should erect a smelting furnace, and establish a bar manufacture) was granted to M. Austin; all of which he has carried into execution. Francis Burton, also, obtained a grant of four acres, as a compensation for the discovery.

There is a small village at this place, of twenty families, who cultivate a little land near the mines; but have no concessions. Two grist mills with a saw mill, furnish the inhabitants with grinding and plank.

The greatest part of the workings at the mine a Burton, are in an open prairie which rises nearly an hundred feet above the level of the creek. The mines may be said to extend over two thousand acres of land but the principal workings are within the limits of one hundred and sixty acres: and perhaps no part of the world furnishes lead ore in greater quantities and purity. The mineral is found within two feet of the surface of the earth, and it is seldom the miners dig deeper than ten feet, not that the mineral discontinues, but because they find it troublesome to raise out the ground; the French miners being unacquainted with the utility of machinery, and generally are able to procure in plenty nearer the surface

The manner in which the mines have been wrought, renders it impossible to determine whether the mineral terminates in regular veins or not; for when the miner finds himself ten or twelve feet below the surface, his inexperience induces him to quit his digging and begin anew, notwithstanding the appearance of mineral may be good. Thus one half his time is taken up in sinking new holes or pits.

The mineral is of two qualities, gravil and solid mineral. The gravel mineral is found immediately under the soil, intermixed with gravel, in pieces from one to fifty pounds weight of solid mineral. After passing through the gravel which is commonly from three to four feet, is found a sand rock, which is easily broken with a pick, and when exposed to the air, crumbles to a fine sand. This rock still continues five or six feet and contains mineral nearly of the same quality as the gravel: but mineral of the first quality is found in a bed of red clay, under the sand rock, in pieces from ten to five hundred pounds weight, on the outside of which is a white, gold or silver coloured spar or fossil, of a bright glittering appearance, as solid as the mineral itself, and in weight as three to two; this being taken off, the mineral is solid, unconnected with any other substance; of a broad grain, and what mineralogists call potters ore. When it is smelted in a common smelting furnace, it produces fifteen per cent. The gravel mineral is incrustated with a dead grey substance, the eighth of an inch in thickness—has small veins of sulpher through it, and will not produce more than sixty per cent. when clearly smelted.

When I first knew the Mine a Burton, in the year 1797, the French smelted their mineral in stone furnaces, somewhat similar to lime kilns. At the bottom they put a floor of the largest logs to be found, setting smaller ones round the sides of the furnace. In a furnace thus arranged, is put from three to five thousand pounds weight of mineral; and a fire being lighted under the bottom of the furnace, is kept until the mineral is entirely smelted, burnt or lost in the ashes. In this way, each miner smelted his own mineral extracting about three hundred and fifty pounds of lead from each thousand pound weight of mineral. But since my works have been established, they have found it more advantageous to sell their mineral than to smelt it themselves.

In the year 1798, there were twenty French furnaces: but in 1802, one only was in use.

The time for working the mines, is from August to December. After harvest the inhabitants of St. Genevieve and N. Bourbon, resort to the mines: the rich send their negroes, and the poor class depend on their mines to furnish them with lead to purchase all imported articles. From the middle of August to the fifteenth or twentieth of December, there are from forty to fifty men employed in digging mineral: the remainder of the year, but little mineral is drawn from the mines, and but few hands employed—from the year 1798 to 1803 the average quantity of mineral may be stated at five hundred and fifty or six hundred thousand pounds, French weight, each year; procured mostly in four months, by not more than fifty men. The same number of hands employed the year round, would produce at least fifteen or sixteen hundred thousand pounds, making proper allowance for spring rains. From the extent of the mines one thousand men might be employed to equal advantage.

2. Mine a Robuna, two miles east south-east of the Mine a Burton, was discovered about the same time. This mine has not been wrought for many years, until the last season, a few experiments were made and a small quantity of mineral raised. The old diggings are not extensive, although it is said large quantities of mineral were drawn from the mine on its first discovery. It is public property, and there is every reason to believe will become advantageous when the population of the country shall afford workmen to open and work the mines.

3. Old Mines, so called, from being discovered many years before the Mine a Burton. It is said the old mines were opened and wrought by Mr. Ranault about the year 1723, at the time he explored this country for the famous Law and company. It is situated five miles north east of the Mine a Burton, on the discovery of which it was abandoned, mineral being found in great abundance at the new mines. The old mines remained in this situation until February 1802, when fifteen French families made a settlement near the mines, and have formed a village, since which the mines have been opened, and the last year produced three hundred and sixty thousand pounds weight of mineral of an excellent quality, not inferior to the best produced at the Mine a Burton. A gold colored fossil similar to that found at the Mine a Burton, is also connected with the mineral taken from this mine.

The prospect of obtaining immense quantities of mineral from the old mines, at present very flattering, and there is not the least doubt of their being equally extensive as the mine a Burton. The present workings, with the old, include about one hundred acres of land. The mines are elevated and may be easily drained to the depth of an hundred feet.

In the year 1799, a grant for four hundred acres of land was obtained and surveyed in 1803, but includes no part of the workings: therefore the mine, with the adjacent lands excepting that concession, may be considered as public property. No smelting furnace has as yet been erected at this place, except a French one, most of the mineral being transported to the mine a Burton to be smelted. The greatest number of hands employed at the old mines, at any one time since the late establishment, has not exceeded twenty-five or thirty; and those only for a few months. It is not improbable that the space between the old mines & the Mine a Burton may produce mineral in as great abundance as either of the mines. The Fouche Ranault is navigable within seven miles of this mine.

4. Mine Ranault, situated six miles north of the Mine a Burton, on a creek of the same name—Little can be said relative to this mine, it not having been wrought for more than seventy years; but from information and the extent of the diggings, a large quantity of mineral was drawn from it. It was discovered and opened by Mr. Ranault, about the year 1724—5 with an expectation of finding silver ore. The country near the mine is hilly and broken. It is supposed that Ranault's concession granted by the king of France, if ever it should be brought forward will comprehend the mine. The mineral drawn from these mines, is of a good quality, generally found in limestone rock, in regular veins, and is said to be inexhaustible. I know of no reason why they have been so long neglected, unless I attribute it to the discovery of mines nearer the settlements and the small number of workmen to carry them on. As they are within ten miles of navigation, by the Fouche Ranault, great expectations of their utility to the public may justly be entertained.

5. Mine a Maneto, or American mines on Grand river, was discovered and opened in the month of October, 1799, by the Americans on Grand river: is situated twelve miles east south east of the Mine a Burton. The appearance of the mines being very flattering, a plan was executed by Messrs. Valle and Pratt, of St. Genevieve, to dispossess the Americans of the privilege allowed in such cases, of four acres in superfice as a compensation to the discoverers of mines. In 1803. Mr. Pratt brought forward two concessions, one for himself of one thousand acres, the other in the name of his son, a minor, for eight hundred acres. In consequence of these concessions the Americans have been excluded from the mines.

The Mine a Maneto, from its flat position, will not admit of deep mining, the water rising at the depth of fifteen feet, and the situation is such it cannot be drained. The mineral is found within two or three feet of the surface of the earth, in a soft, grey limestone rock, in small particles. The rock lies in a horizontal position, in sheets of five or six inches in thickness. Two or three layers of this rock are found one under the other; between each is a layer, either of clay or mineral, one or two inches thick—most commonly mineral. In places where the rock will admit of sinking eight or ten feet, the mineral is found in thin flakes, covered with an iron coloured rust. Before the mineral can be smelted, it requires to be pounded and washed; after passing through this operation, out of one thousand pounds, as it is taken from the mines, three or four hundred only is found to be mineral. Notwithstanding this additional labour, the ease and facility with which the mineral is procured, would leave a handsome profit in the hands of experienced workmen; but to the present holders yields but little. There is not the smallest appearance of the marcosite to be found in these mines. The land carriage to St. Genevieve, from the mines a Maneto, is about twenty six miles.

6. Mine a la Plate, situate on a river of that name, about two miles from its junction with Grand river, and eighteen miles E. S. E. from the Mine a Burton, was discovered in October 1799, by an American; but the injustice done the settlers at Grand river, in the affair of the Mine a Maneto, discouraged those concerned in the discovery from making any great attempts to open and improve it. In 1800, thirty thousand pounds weight of mineral was drawn from the mine by two Americans; obtained near the surface. The mineral assumes the appearance of regular veins, and there is no doubt but this mine will be very productive. A silver coloured fossil is found at this mine, but not in such quantities as at the Mine a Burton. The mine at present, is unoccupied for the reasons before mentioned and will remain so until a more favorable opportunity.

The land carriage from the mine to St. Genevieve, is about twenty miles. The mine may be considered as the property of the public.

7. Mine a Joe on Grand river, about four miles from the Mine a la Plate, and fourteen south east of the Mine a Burton, was discovered by Messrs. Baker and Ally, American settlers at Grand river, in September 1801, but was taken from them in 1802, by one of those acts of injustice, not uncommon in absolute governments. While Messrs. Baker and Ally were suffered to work the mine, they obtained mineral in abundance; but since it has been in the hands of the present holders, it has produced but little. This mine is said to be private property, which renders it difficult to ascertain its extent and richness; but from circumstances it is supposed not to be very extensive. The mineral is found in pieces of several hundred pounds weight pure and solid.

8. Mine a Lany. This mine is situate six miles west of the Mine a Joe, and sixteen south south-east of the Mine a Burton. It was discovered about the year 1795 and bears the name of its discoverer. The mine has not been much wrought, and from what I can learn never produced any large quantity of mineral. It is not in much repute, and at present unoccupied.

9. Mine a la Mott, is situate on the waters of the river St. Francis, six miles from the main river and thirty south south-west of St. Genevieve; was discovered by Mr. Ranault, about the year 1723 or 24, who made an exploration, but finding no silver ore, he abandoned it. About the year 1723, a man by the name of a la Mott, opened and wrought the mine, after whom it is called.

Mine a la Mott, differs in every respect from the mines on Grand river and its vicinity. The situation is flat, low, the water bad and unhealthy. The mineral is found in regular veins, from two to four feet solid. Five of these veins have been opened and wrought. They are found within four or five feet of the surface with a declination of about forty five degrees, but cannot be mined deeper (on account of water) than twenty five feet, and to that depth only in the dry season. The mineral is of a fine steel grain, said to contain fifty ounces of silver to a ton of lead, and is highly charged with sulphur. Notwithstanding, the French inhabitants of this country have followed the mining business upwards of eighty years, yet they have not advanced in the art of smelting a step beyond their ancestors. The methods they pursue bespeak their surprising ignorance. As the Mine a la Mott, differs from those already described, so does their mode of smelting. The first process is by depositing the mineral in a pile of logs, after the manner sea coals are burnt to lime; the piles being set on fire and consumed, the quantity of lead produced, is five per cent. It is then put into a furnace of stone, such as before described; from this process, if well attended, is produced fifteen per cent. more. After this second burning, they consider the mineral in a proper state for smelting. Therefore, collecting it from the ashes, they again put it into the furnace, arranged with logs at bottom and sides, and make an end of smelting. From the last process, they commonly obtain about fifteen per cent. making thirty five per cent. the greatest quantity obtained.

At the Mine a la Mott, is also found, in beds, what the miners call gravel mineral, because it is found intermixed with the soil, like fine gravel, in particles from the size of a pin's head to that of a hickory nut. This mineral, after an imperfect washing, is put into a furnace, where it is suffered to melt into a slag, no attempt being made to create a fluxility of the metal from the dross. It is then put into a furnace, not unlike a miller's hopper, with a grate at bottom, underneath a fire is lighted, and continued until the slags are all melted, and a partial fluxion effected; This mode of smelting produces about two hundred and fifty pounds of lead to a thousand of mineral. Notwithstanding the immense loss in smelting, the richness of the mines, and the small expence in obtaining the mineral, leaves an astonishing profit to the proprietors. I found by experiments, that the mineral in the hands of skilful smelters, will produce sixty, and some of the veins seventy per cent. About the years 1738-40, the mine a la Mott, was considered as public property, and the people in general, were allowed to work at it: At that time it furnished almost all the lead exported from the Illinois. But soon after the discovery and opening of the mine a Burton, the mine a la Mott was in a great measure abandoned; the mineral at the mine a Burton being much easier smelted. The mine a la Mott, is at this time claimed as private property, in consequence of which the inhabitants in general, are denied the privilege of working; therefore the annual quantity of lead is greatly reduced. For the years 1802 and 1803, the quantity of lead made at the mine a la Mott, did not exceed two hundred thousand pounds weight, although about thirty men were employed from four to six months in each year. It is evident, that fifty men, under a proper manager, with a good smelting furnace, might produce five or six hundred thousand pounds weight of lead per annum.

It is difficult to say what part of the mine is private property, but from the best information about fifty or sixty acres have been granted at different times. The mine although not so extensive as the Mine a Burton, is supposed to comprehend a much larger boundary than what is granted to individuals, and may be of consequence to the public. The river St. Francis will not admit of navigation for an hundred miles below the mines, therefore the produce of the mines must be transported by land to St Genevieve, which is the nearest to water carriage.

10. Mine a Gerbore, on the waters of the river St. Francis, eighteen miles north of the Mine a la Mott, is also a discovery of Ranault, who made an exploratement in 1735, but not finding silver ore, the principal object of his researches he abandoned it: After which it was wrought by a Mr. Aura and others, until the Mine a Burton was discovered, when it was again abandoned. The old diggings are extensive, but the quantity of lead produced, I have not been able to ascertain. It is said to be equal to any of the mines in the country. The commandant of New Bourbon, has a concession of a league in superfice, comprehending the mines.

(*To be concluded to-morrow.*)

NEW YORK, November 13.

In the sloop Maria (arrived yesterday from Nevis) came passengers Mr. Gardner and six officers from on board the British frigate Resolutionaire, now at Hampton Roads. They are destined for the Cambrian & Leander sloops now probably at Halifax. Capt. Beresford was to come on by land to New York, to take the command of the Cambrian.

DEATHS in this city during the last week—Of Consumption 12, convulsions 4, intermittent fever 2, Hooping cough 2, small pox 11, still born 3, croup, debility, dropsy, nervous fever, typhus fever, inflammation of the bowels, old age, inflammatory quinsy, sudden, and scalding cough. Of each one—Men 9, Women 8—Boys 15, Girls 14 Total 46.

On a concurrent ballot for Senator in the room of General Armstrong the votes stood, for

Samuel L. Mitchell	75
Rufus King	14
David Thomas	1

Samuel L. Mitchill was consequently elected.

Mr. Emmit.—This gentleman, his lady and children arrived in this city from Bordeaux on Sunday last.

Mr. Emmet was a distinguished member of the Irish Bar, and not less distinguished for his private and public virtues. He is one of that numerous Band of Patriots whose defence of the freedom of Ireland excited the enmity and drew upon them the vengeance of the British government. Mr. Emmet has felt its worst persecution, and sustained it with all the patience and fortitude of an enlightened man. [*Citizen*]

PHILADELPHIA, November 14.

The following ordinances *translated from the originals*, handed us by a mercantile friend, shews that it is no longer *Dessalines*. Chief of the Brigands in Hispaniola, but

JACQUES, *Emperor of Hayti.*

Translated for the True American.

LIBERTY OR DEATH.
DECREE.

Jacques the First, Emperor of Hayti.

Being informed, that the Captains of American vessels, that arrive in the different ports of our Empire, make a practice of selling their cargoes, wholesale or retail, to small dealers,

Considering that the above practice is prejudical to commerce, and favors the exportation of all the specie from the Island, we determine to put a stop to it.

We therefore, decree & ordain the following to be executed in its utmost extent.

ARTICLE 1st.

We forbid promptly every Captain of a foreign vessel, arriving in the *ports of our Empire*, to sell their cargoes by retail to small dealers, or private persons.