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beaver skins, naval stores, provisions, timber, &c. amounted to no more than £.27,021 sterling. Ten years afterwards, in 1773, it exported commodities to the value of £.121,677 sterling.

During the late war, Georgia was over run by the British troops, and the inhabitants were obliged to flee into the neighbouring states for safety. The sufferings and losses of her citizens, were as great, in proportion to their numbers and wealth, as in any of the states. Since the peace, the progress of the population of this state has been astonishingly rapid. Its growth in improvement and population, has been checked by the hostile irruptions of the Creek Indians, which have been frequent, and very distressing to the frontier inhabitants for these 3 years past. This formidable nation of Indians, headed by Alexander M'Gillivray, an inhabitant of Georgia, who sided with the British in the late war, still continue to harass the frontiers of this state. Treaties have been held, and a cessation of hostilities agreed to between the parties; but all have hitherto proved ineffectual to the accomplishment of a peace. Much was expected from the late treaty held by the Commissioners from Congress on the one part, and the Indians on the other; but the extravagant demands of the Indians prevented the desired pacifick issue; and it is feared the consequence will be an open war.

The WESTERN TERRITORY.

UNDER this name is comprehended all that part of the United States which lies northwest of the Ohio. Bounded west, by the Mississippi river; north, by the northern boundary of the United States; east, by Pennsylvania and the Lakes; south, by the Ohio river. Containing, according to Mr. Hutchins, 411,000 square miles, equal to 263,040,000 acres; from which, if we deduct 43,040,000 acres for water, there will remain 220,000,000 of acres, belonging to the federal government,

government, to be sold for the discharge of the national debt ; except a narrow strip of land, bordering on the south of Lake Erie, and stretching 120 miles west of the western limit of Pennsylvania, which belongs to Connecticut.

Rivers.] The principal rivers in this extensive country, are, Muskingum, Hockhoking, Sioto, Little Miami, Great Miami, and the Wabash rivers, which fall into the Ohio from the north ; and the rivers A Vase, Kaskaskias, and Illinois, which fall into the Mississippi from the east.

Population.] It is impossible to tell the exact population of this country. They have been estimated at about 6000 souls, exclusive of Indians. This number is made up of French, English emigrants from the original states, and negroes.

Face of the Country, Soil and Productions.] The undistinguished terms of admiration, that are commonly used in speaking of the natural fertility of the country on the western waters of the United States, would render it difficult, without accurate attention in the surveys, to ascribe a preference to any particular part ; or to give a just description of the territory under consideration, without the hazard of being suspected of exaggeration. But in *this* we have the united opinion of the geographer, the surveyors, and every traveller that has been intimately acquainted with the country, and marked every natural object with the most scrupulous exactness, that no part of the federal territory unites so many advantages, in point of health, fertility, variety of production, and foreign intercourse, as that tract which stretches from the Muskingum to the Sioto and the Great Miami rivers.

The country on the Ohio is every where pleasant, with large level spots of rich land ; and remarkably healthy. One general remark of this nature will serve for the whole tract of the globe comprehended between the western skirts of the Allegany mountains ; thence running southwestwardly to the distance of 500 miles to the Ohio falls ; then crossing them northerly to the heads of the rivers that empty themselves into the O-

Ohio ; thence east along the ridge that separates the lakes and Ohio's streams, to French Creek. This country may, from a proper knowledge, be affirmed to be the most healthy, the most pleasant, the most commodious and most fertile spot of earth, known to the Anglo Americans.

It is a happy circumstance that the *Ohio Company* are about to commence the settlement of this country in so regular and judicious a manner. It will serve as a wise model for the future settlement of all the federal lands ; at the same time, that, by beginning so near the western limit of Pennsylvania, it will be a continuation of the old settlements, leaving vacant no lands exposed to be seized by such lawless banditti as usually infest the frontiers of countries distant from the seat of government.

The design of Congress and of the settlers, is, that the settlements shall proceed regularly down the Ohio ; and northward to Lake Erie. And it is probable that not many years will elapse, before the whole country above Miami will be brought to that degree of cultivation, which will exhibit all its latent beauties, and justify those descriptions of travellers which have so often made it the garden of the world, the seat of wealth, and the centre of a great empire.

-Animals, &c.] No country is better stocked with wild game of every kind. Innumerable herds of deer, elk, buffalo, and bear, are sheltered in the groves, and fed in the extensive bottoms that every where abound ; an unquestionable proof of the great fertility of the soil. Turkeys, geese, ducks, swans, teal, pheasants, partridges, &c. are, from observation, believed to be in greater plenty here, than the same poultry are in any part of the old settlements in America.

Government, &c.] By an ordinance of Congress, passed on the 13th of July, 1787, this country, for the purposes of temporary government, was erected into one district, subject, however, to a division, when circumstances shall make it expedient.

In the same ordinance it is provided, that Congress shall appoint a Governor, Secretary, and three Judges.

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The Governor and Judges are authorized to adopt and publish in the district, such laws of the original states, criminal and civil, as may be necessary and best suited to the circumstances of the district, and report them to Congress, and if approved, they shall continue in force, till the organization of the general assembly of the district, who shall have authority to alter them.

So soon as there shall be 5000 free male inhabitants of full age, in the district, they shall receive authority to elect representatives, one for every 500 free male inhabitants, to represent them in the general assembly; the representation to increase progressively with the number of free male inhabitants, till there be 25 representatives; after which the number and proportion of the representatives shall be regulated by the legislature.

The general assembly, or legislature, shall consist of the Governor, legislative council, and house of representatives. The legislative council shall consist of five members, to continue in office five years, unless sooner removed by Congress.

In the ordinance of Congress, for the government of this territory, it is provided, that after the said territory acquires a certain degree of population, it shall be divided into states. The eastern state, that is thus provided to be made, is bounded on the Great Miami on the west, and by the Pennsylvania line on the east. The centre of this state will fall between the Sioto and the Hockhoking. At the mouth of one of these rivers will probably be the seat of government for this state. And, if we may indulge the sublime contemplation of beholding the whole territory of the United States settled by an enlightened people, and continued under one extended government, on the river Ohio, and not far from this spot, will be the seat of empire for the whole dominion. This is central to the whole; it will best accommodate every part; it is the most pleasant, and probably the most healthful.

In this connection we must not omit to add, that a settlement is commencing, with advantageous prospects, on the western side of the Mississippi, opposite
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the mouth of the Ohio. The spot on which the city is to be built, is called **NEW-MADRID**, after the capital of Spain. This settlement, which is without the limits of the United States, in the Spanish dominions, is conducting by Colonel Morgan, under the patronage of the Spanish King.

New-Madrid, from its local situation and adventitious privileges, is in prospect of being the great emporium of the western country, unless the free navigation of the Mississippi should be opened to the United States. And even should this desired event take place, which probably will not without a rupture with Spain, this must be a place of great trade. For here will naturally centre the immense quantities of produce that will be borne down the Illinois, the Mississippi, the Ohio, and their various branches ; and if the carriers can find as good a market for their cargoes here, as at New-Orleans or the West-Indies, and can procure the articles they desire, they will gladly save themselves the difficulties and dangers of navigating the long Mississippi.

It has been supposed by some, that all settlers who go beyond the Mississippi, will be forever lost to the United States. There is, I believe, little danger of this, provided they are not provoked to withdraw their friendship. The emigrants will be made up of citizens of the United States. They will carry along with them their manners and customs, their habits of government, religion and education ; and as they are to be indulged with religious freedom, and with the privilege of making their own laws, and of conducting education upon their own plans, these *American* habits will undoubtedly be cherished. If so, they will be Americans in fact, though nominally the subjects of Spain.

It is true, Spain will draw a revenue from them, but in return they will enjoy peculiar commercial advantages, the benefit of which will be experienced by the United States, and perhaps be an ample compensation for the loss of so many citizens as may migrate thither. In short, this settlement, if conducted with judgment and prudence, may be mutually serviceable both to

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Spain and the United States. It may prevent jealousies, lessen national prejudices, promote religious toleration, preserve harmony, and be a medium of trade reciprocally advantageous.

Besides, it is well known, that empire has been travelling from east to west. Probably her last and broadest seat will be America. Here the sciences and the arts of civilized life are to receive their highest improvement. Here civil and religious liberty are to flourish, unchecked by the cruel hand of civil or ecclesiastical tyranny. Here genius, aided by all the improvements of former ages, is to be exerted in humanizing mankind, in expanding and enriching their minds with religious and philosophical knowledge, and in planning and executing a form of government, which shall involve all the excellencies of former governments, with as few of their defects as is consistent with the imperfection of human affairs, and which shall be calculated to protect and unite, in a manner consistent with the natural rights of mankind, the largest empire that ever existed. Elevated with these prospects, which are not merely the visions of fancy, we cannot but anticipate the period, as not far distant, when the AMERICAN EMPIRE will comprehend millions of souls west of the Mississippi. Judging upon probable grounds, the Mississippi was never designed as the western boundary of the American empire. The God of nature never intended, that some of the best parts of his earth should be inhabited by the subjects of a monarch 4000 miles from them. And may we not venture to predict, that, when the rights of mankind shall be more fully known, and the knowledge of them is fast increasing both in Europe and America, the power of European potentates will be confined to Europe, and their present American dominions become, like the United States, free, sovereign and independent empires.