

III.—PROGRESS.

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PART I.—HISTORY OF TERRITORIAL CHANGES.

Early Colonial Grants.—The grants of territory made by the English government to private individuals and corporations, and the sub-grants by the latter,—under which most of the early settlement of this country was effected and which determined, in great part, the limits of the thirteen original states,—were, as a rule, in the highest degree ambiguous and conflicting. This was largely due to the ignorance and misconception which then prevailed regarding the geography of this country. It is not now easy to construe many of these old definitions of limits.

The grants made in the colonial period were almost numberless, but as many of them were short-lived and exerted no appreciable influence upon the nation's history, it is unnecessary to include them in this sketch.

In 1606 James I. of England made grants to the so-called "Virginia Companies," for two colonies. The first comprised a strip of uncertain breadth along the sea coast, extending from the 34th to the 41st parallel; the second, a like strip, extending from the 38th to the 45th parallel. The overlapping area, from the 38th to the 41st parallel, was to be the property of the company first effecting settlement therein. Under the first grant, the Jamestown colony was established. Under the second, no successful attempt at colonization was made.

In 1609 King James I. granted a second charter in place of the first above noted, embracing the country 200 miles north and 200 miles south of Cape (Old Point) Comfort and

extending from the Atlantic to the "South Sea." The third charter of Virginia, of date 1612, annexed to it all islands within 300 leagues of the shore, between the parallels of 30° and 41°, including the Bermudas. These charters were vacated in 1625, and the colony was transformed into a royal province.

The second of the two companies chartered in 1606 for colonizing in America, after several futile attempts at settlement, was reorganized in 1620 under the name of the Plymouth Company, and obtained a new charter. This, called the Great Patent, comprised the country between the 40th and the 48th parallels of latitude, extending from the Atlantic to the "South Sea." Under this grant from the crown all the earliest settlements in New England were made, the Plymouth Company making sub-grants for this purpose.

One of the first of these was the grant to the Massachusetts Bay Company, of the lands lying between lines drawn three miles north of all parts of the Merrimac, and three miles south of the Charles and of Massachusetts Bay. In 1630 the Plymouth colony, although not founded under the auspices of the Plymouth Company, succeeded in obtaining a grant of land lying between the Cohasset and Narragansett rivers and extending westward "to the utmost bounds of a country in New England called Pokanoket, alias Sowamset."

In 1622 the Plymouth Company granted to Sir Ferdinando Gorges and Captain John Mason, jointly, the country between the

Merrimac and the Kennebec rivers, thereafter called by its owners "Laconia" and "Maine." In 1629 that portion of this land lying west of the Piscataqua was granted to Captain Mason, making him the possessor of the lower part of the present New Hampshire. At the time of the dissolution of the Plymouth Company, in 1635, the rest of Laconia was granted to Gorges. The remaining part of the present state of Maine, lying east of the Kennebec, had been patented to two other parties, in separate tracts. The entire area of the state was patented to Gorges by the king in 1639. In 1677 this was purchased of his heirs by the Massachusetts colony for the sum of £1,250, and remained a part of that colony and state until 1820.

The territory of Connecticut was granted in 1631 by the Plymouth Company to Lords Say-and-Seal, Brooke and others. Its limits were defined in the grant, as follows: All that part of New England west of the Narragansett river, extending "the space of forty leagues upon a straight line near the seashore, toward the south and west, as the coast lyeth toward Virginia, accounting three English miles to the league; and also all and singular the lands and hereditaments whatsoever lying and being within the lands aforesaid, north and south in latitude, and in breadth and length, and longitude of, and within all the breadth aforesaid, throughout all the main lands there from the western to the south sea." The first settlements were made between 1633 and 1636,

mainly by emigrants from Massachusetts. Others came over from England and settled in other parts of the grant, and in 1662 the king of England consolidated all these infant settlements, and granted them a charter under the name of Connecticut.

In 1644 a grant was made by the crown to the "Incorporation of Providence Plantations, in the Narragansett Bay, in New England," comprising most of the present area of Rhode Island. In 1663 a new charter was obtained for Rhode Island and the Providence Plantations.

New York was first settled by the Dutch, who claimed all the country between the 40th and 45th parallels of north latitude, under the right of discovery and exploration by Hendrick Hudson. This claim was never recognized by the English, and in 1664 King Charles II., in spite of the charter of Connecticut, and of the claims of the Dutch, made a grant to the Duke of York of all the lands between the Connecticut river and the east bank of Delaware bay. It included also, but apparently only nominally, the eastern part of Maine and all of Long Island, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket. The Dutch settlements were taken by force of arms in 1664, recaptured by the Dutch in 1673, and, in the following year, restored to the English by the treaty of Westminster. In 1685, the Duke of York having succeeded his brother as king of England, this grant, comprising essentially New York and New Jersey, became the property of the crown.

The first charter of Pennsylvania was granted in 1681 to William Penn. It defined the territory as follows: "Bounded on the east by the Delaware river, from twelve miles distant northward of New Castle town unto the three-and-fortieth degree of northern latitude. . . . the said land to extend westward five degrees in longitude, to be computed from the said eastern boundary, and the said lines to be bounded on the north by the beginning of the three-and-fortieth degree of northern latitude, and on the south by a circle drawn at twelve miles distance from New Castle, northward and westward, unto the beginning of the fortieth degree of northern latitude, and then by a straight line westward to the limits of longitude above mentioned." As will be seen, this charter was, in comparison with most of the other colonial charters, singularly clear and explicit. There will also be noted the peculiar manner in which degrees of latitude and longitude were indicated, a peculiarity which is seen in most of the early charters. Thus, by the "beginning of the three-and-fortieth degree," is intended the 42d parallel.

Delaware was acquired by the English in virtue of the treaty of Westminster, and claimed by the Duke of York under his grant. It was claimed also by Lord Baltimore under his grant. In 1682 it was transferred, by a quit-claim deed, from the Duke of York to Penn, and in 1701 Penn granted to Delaware the privilege of a separate legislature.

The charter of Maryland was issued in 1632 to Lord Baltimore. This included the country between the fortieth degree of latitude on the north and the Potomac on the south, the southern boundary being, as now, continued across the eastern shore of Chesapeake bay, leaving the lower end of the peninsula in Virginia.

The first charter of the Carolinas was granted to Sir Walter Raleigh in 1584. Under it several attempts at colonization were made, but all resulted in failures. In 1663 the crown made a grant of the Carolinas to Earl Clarendon and others, including in it the territory lying between the 31st and the 36th parallels, and the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. In 1665 a charter supplemental to the above was issued, defining the limits of the grant as follows: "Extending north and eastward as far as the north end of Currituck river or inlet, upon a straight westerly line, to Wyanoak creek, which lies within or about the degrees of 36° 30' northern latitude, and so west in a direct line as far as the south seas; and south and westward as far as the degrees of 29, inclusive, of northern latitude, and so west in a direct line, as far as the south seas." This fixed the northern boundary as at present. The southern boundary conflicted to some extent with the claims of Spain. In 1729, when the charter was surrendered, and the grant reverted to the crown, South Carolina became a distinct province.

In 1732 the crown granted a charter to the Colony of Georgia. The land embraced in it constituted a part of the province of South Carolina, extending "from the northern stream of a river commonly called the Savannah, all along the sea coast to the southward, unto the most southern stream of a certain other great water or river called the Alatomaha, and westward from the land of the said rivers respectively, in direct lines to the south seas." This charter was surrendered in 1752, and Georgia then became a royal colony. In 1764 George III., in commissioning James Wright as governor of Georgia, defined his jurisdiction as extending from the Savannah river and the parallel passing through its head-waters, on the north, to the St. Mary's river, on the south, and along a line from its head to the junction

of the Flint and Chattahoochee rivers, thence up the Flint river to the 31st parallel and along that parallel to the Mississippi river.

The above is an outline of the principal grants of land made to the colonies, and includes, it is believed, all that have had any material bearing upon the present limits of the thirteen original states.

Original Limits of the United States.—

The preliminary treaty of peace with Great Britain, at the close of the Revolution, gave the United States a territory bounded as follows: Commencing on the eastern boundary of Maine, the line ran up the river St. Croix to its head, thence due north [according to the treaty] to the height of land between the waters flowing directly into the Atlantic and those flowing into the St. Lawrence; and thence, following that height of land, in a westerly direction, to the northwesternmost head of the Connecticut river; thence along the middle of that river down to the 45th degree of north latitude, and along that parallel until it strikes the river St. Lawrence; up the middle of the St. Lawrence river and the chain of the Great Lakes to the head of Lake Superior; thence through the chain of lakes emptying into Lake Superior, over the divide, and down the waters flowing into Hudson's bay, to the Lake of the Woods; thence from the most northwestern point of the Lake of the Woods, on a due west course, to the river Mississippi, down that river to latitude 31°; and along that parallel to the middle of the river Appalachicola; thence the line followed the Appalachicola to its junction with the Flint river; and, from this point, straight to the head of the St. Mary's river; and down the St. Mary's river to the Atlantic ocean. Upon the north were the British colonies; upon the west were the Spanish possessions, known as Louisiana, and upon the south the Spanish possessions of the Floridas.

The definitive treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain, concluded September 3, 1783, reaffirmed the above boundaries of the United States in similar terms. The northern boundary line between the United States and the British possessions became at once a source of contention between the two countries. From the conclusion of peace until the settlement of the last point of dispute in 1872, it was the subject of a series of treaties, commissions and surveys, for the purpose of interpreting its terms or of defining its extension westward to the Pacific coast. In the treaty of London, signed November 19, 1794, provision was made for ascertaining whether a

line drawn due west, from the northwest point of the Lake of the Woods, would strike the Mississippi river, doubts having already arisen as to this most important point. This question was not settled, however, until 1818. The same treaty made provision for the settlement of the identity of the river St. Croix, with that otherwise known as the Skotiack. The line was established along this stream and its northern branch, the Cheputneticook. A monument was erected at the head of the latter stream for the purpose of defining that point.

By the treaty of Ghent, concluded December 24, 1814, provision was made for a final adjustment of the points at issue in the northern boundary. The commissioners under this treaty were successful in settling the ownership of the lands in Passamaquoddy bay and in the river St. Lawrence, but, upon that portion of the line between the head of the river St. Croix and the head of the Connecticut river no agreement was reached.

In 1818 it was agreed with Great Britain that the boundary line should be extended westward along the 49th parallel of latitude from the Lake of the Woods to the Stony [Rocky] mountains; and, further, that the country west of the Stony mountains should be free and open to citizens of both countries for a period of ten years after the date of that convention. In 1824 and 1826 negotiations were again opened between the two countries for the settlement of the boundary west of the Rocky mountains, but, as the claims of the two countries were very divergent and were insisted upon with great pertinacity on both sides, no result was reached.

In 1827 the points of difference between the two countries, in regard to the northern boundary of Maine, were referred to the king of the Netherlands, as an arbitrator. The United States insisted upon a literal interpretation of the terms of the treaty of 1783, which provided that the boundary should follow a meridian northward from the head of the St. Croix river to the dividing ridge between the waters flowing into the Atlantic and those flowing into the St. Lawrence, which would place the boundary north of the river St. John. The English government, on the other hand, contended that the divide of land referred to in the treaty was that between the waters of the Penobscot and St. John. The decision of the king of the Netherlands was a compromise, making the course of the St. John's river the boundary line for the greater part of this distance. This was agreed to by Great Britain, but was opposed so strongly by the citizens of Maine that the assent of the United States was

refused and the matter was again thrown open. The negotiations were protracted for a number of years and the subject became a matter of great irritation; collisions occurred in the contested territory, and at one time war appeared imminent.

By the Webster-Ashburton treaty, concluded in 1842, the boundary was established, finally, very nearly as decided by the king of the Netherlands, both parties, apparently, having wearied of the useless contest. This treaty also made some minor changes in other parts of the northern boundary, transferring certain small islands in the St. Lawrence and St. Mary's rivers, and finally establishing the boundary as far west as the Rocky mountains, as it now stands.

By the treaty with Great Britain in 1846, the northern boundary was continued from the Rocky mountains westward to the straits of Juan de Fuca, along the 49th parallel, and down through the main ship channel of the above straits to the Pacific ocean. Question immediately arose, however, as to the definition of the "main ship channel," in the straits of Juan de Fuca, the English claiming the Rosario strait—the most eastern passage—as the boundary; while the United States claimed that it should follow the Canal Haro. This matter was finally settled by the arbitration of the emperor of Germany, who decided in favor of the United States on the 21st day of October, 1872, thus disposing of the last remaining point at issue concerning the northern boundary.

The Louisiana Purchase.—The first accession of territory by the United States was the purchase of Louisiana from France, in 1803. The terms of the cession were the payment of 60,000,000 francs, or about \$12,000,000, and the assumption by the United States of the claims of its citizens against the French government. These, which were known as the "French Spoliation Claims," were estimated at that time to amount to \$3,750,000.

The limits of the purchase were defined by the treaty only in the general terms of the treaty of St. Ildefonso, by which Spain in 1800 had transferred to France "the Colony or Province of Louisiana, with the same extent that it now has in the hands of Spain and that it had when France possessed it," the only addition to this description being in the clause conveying to the United States "*the said territory*, with all its rights and appurtenances, as fully and in the same manner as they had been acquired by the French republic." The same indefiniteness had characterized the trans-

fer to Spain in 1763 of all the French possessions west of the Mississippi river; shortly after which France gave up to Great Britain, along with the Canadas and New Brunswick, the remainder of what was then called Louisiana, comprising the eastern slope of the Mississippi valley north of the Spanish possessions in Florida. The mid-channel of the Mississippi river, thus made the boundary between the English and Spanish domain in the coveted valley, became in 1783 the western boundary of the United States.

In the several transfers of the vast region known as Louisiana, to which France, Spain, Great Britain and the United States were parties, the Mississippi river formed the only well defined limit. The nearest approach to definiteness was in the grant made by Louis XIV. of France to Crozat in 1712 of all the countries watered by the Mississippi and its tributaries south of the mouth of the Illinois.

The question whether Louisiana, as ceded to the United States by France, extended to the Pacific ocean or not, has been much discussed, and at one time had a serious importance in connection with the Oregon boundary dispute. The French plenipotentiary, M. Barbé Marbois, who represented France in the affair, published in 1829 a detailed account of the negotiations in his "Histoire de la Louisiane," which, strangely enough, has been overlooked by nearly all who have discussed the subject. In view of his position in these negotiations, the following quotations from his narrative would seem to be decisive on the point at issue: "The charter given by Louis XIV. to Crozat included all the countries watered by the rivers which empty directly or indirectly into the Mississippi. Within this description comes the Missouri, a river that has its sources and many of its tributary streams at a little distance from the Rocky mountains. The first article of the treaty of cession meant to convey nothing beyond them, but the settlement in the interior, which has resulted from it, and the one on the Pacific ocean at the west have mutually strengthened each other." Marbois is even more explicit when, in recounting the consideration given to the question of limits, he says: "The American plenipotentiaries made no more objections, and if, in appearing to be resigned to these general terms through necessity, they considered them preferable to more precise stipulations, it must be admitted that the event has justified their foresight. The shores of the Western ocean were certainly not included in the cession, but the United States are already established there."

Therefore it appears that while the country now comprised in Oregon, Washington and Idaho was not included in the Louisiana purchase, it was in direct consequence of that purchase that the United States assumed jurisdiction over this territory on the Pacific coast between the 42d and 49th parallels.

Purchase of the Floridas.—The boundary of Louisiana on the east, below latitude 31°, was for a long time the subject of contention between the United States and the Spanish possessors of the Floridas, the former contending that the boundary was the Perdido river, the latter that it was the Mississippi. This quarrel, which at one time seemed likely to lead to war, was finally settled by the purchase of the Floridas by the United States, which was effected on February 22, 1819—although the transfer did not actually take place until some months later. This accession of territory placed the United States in full possession of the Gulf coast as far west as the Sabine river, and of the Atlantic coast of Florida.

The boundary between the Spanish possessions in the southwest and the United States was defined by this treaty as follows: Commencing at the mouth of the Sabine river, it followed that river to its intersection with the 94th meridian, thence ran north on that meridian to the Red river, and up the Red river to its intersection with the meridian of 100°. It then followed this meridian north to the Arkansas river, passed up the Arkansas river to its head; and thence ran northward to the parallel of latitude of 42°, and westward upon this parallel to the Pacific ocean.

Accession of Texas.—The next accession of territory was that of the republic of Texas, which was admitted as a state December 29, 1845. The area which was thus brought into the Union was limited, as follows: All the land lying east of the Rio Grande, and embraced within the limits of the Rio Grande on the west and south, and the boundary between the United States and Spain, under the Florida treaty of 1819, on the east.

First Accession of Territory from Mexico.—In 1848 a large accession of territory resulted from the Mexican war and the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. The boundaries of the area thus added, which comprised California, Nevada, Utah and parts of Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico, were as follows: On the west, the Pacific ocean; on the north, the 42d parallel, extending from the Pacific

coast eastward to the meridian of 106°; the eastern boundary was the meridian of 106° from the parallel of 42° of north latitude, southward, to its point of intersection with the Arkansas river, near its head, thence it crossed to the head of the Rio Grande, and followed that stream to a point just south of latitude 33°; the southern boundary was an irregular line, having a generally westerly course just south of latitude 33°, till it struck the head of the Gila river, thence it followed the Gila river down to its mouth, and thence, by a direct line, ran to the Pacific coast, at a point one marine league south of the southernmost point of the port of San Diego, being the present boundary between upper and lower California.

The Gadsden Purchase.—The United States acquired, by the Gadsden purchase in 1853, that part of New Mexico and Arizona lying south of the Gila river and west of the Rio Grande. The southern limit of this purchase, as established by the treaty with Mexico, was as follows: From the point where the parallel of 31° 47' crosses the Rio Grande, the boundary ran due west on this parallel 100 miles; thence south to the parallel of 31° 20', and along that parallel to the 111th meridian; thence in a direct line, to a point on the Colorado river twenty miles south of the mouth of the Gila river, and thence up the Colorado to the mouth of that stream. This left the southern boundary of the United States as at present.

Alaska.—The last area of country acquired by the United States from foreign powers was Alaska. This purchase was effected in March, 1867, and proclaimed on June 20 of the same year, the consideration being \$7,200,000 in gold. Its limits are as follows: From the southern point of Prince of Wales island, the eastern line runs, generally, in a northern direction along Portland channel to the 56th parallel of latitude; thence it passes northwesterly along the summit of the mountains trending parallel to the coast, to their point of intersection with the 141st degree of west longitude; and thence northward along this meridian to the Arctic ocean; providing, however, that in case the summit of the mountains referred to shall prove to be at a distance of more than ten marine leagues from the ocean, the boundary shall consist of a line parallel to the windings of the coast, at a distance of ten marine leagues from it as far as the intersection of this line with the 141st meridian. Enough is already known concerning the geography of the region to assure us that this last condition

is the one which determines the boundary line. Owing, however, to the extreme complexity of the coast, which is made up of deep fiords and numberless islands, this definition establishes the boundary line only in very general terms. The northern boundary is the shore of the Arctic ocean. The western boundary passes through Behring's straits, and thence down through Behring's sea, in a direction nearly southward; giving to the United States St. Lawrence island, St. Mathews island, the Pribylov islands, and the whole chain of the Aleutian islands.

Cession of Western Lands to the General Government.—The boundaries between the thirteen original states were, at the organization of the United States Government, established very nearly as they are at present, with the exception of the western lands owned or claimed by several of these states.

Maine, with its northern boundary as yet unsettled, was a province of Massachusetts. New Hampshire had the same boundaries as at present, except that its northern limit was uncertain. Vermont, with its present boundaries, was at that time nominally a part of New York.

Massachusetts had very nearly its present boundaries and area, and, in addition, laid claim to all the country lying west of a meridian passing twenty miles west of Niagara river, extending south to latitude 42° 2', and west to the Mississippi river—an area some seventy or eighty miles in breadth and comprising the southern part of Michigan and Wisconsin, and the northern part of Illinois.

The boundaries of Rhode Island have not been materially changed since the formation of the Union.

Connecticut has, with the exception of slight changes, maintained its boundaries as then established, but, in addition to its present area, it laid claim to the country lying between latitude 41° and 42° 2', extending westward from the west boundary of Pennsylvania to the Mississippi river, and including what is now the northern part of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois and the southern part of Michigan.

The boundaries of New York, with the exception of its western limit, were much the same as at present. This state laid claim, however, under an old charter, to all the lands between the sources of the Great Lakes and the Cumberland mountains.

The boundaries of New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland have not been materially changed.

Pennsylvania did not originally extend to Lake Erie with its northwestern corner, but its northern boundary was prolonged until it met its western boundary; the area since added having been at that time the property of New York.

Virginia, besides its present area, as well as that of West Virginia, laid claim to the region of country now including all of Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, and that part of Minnesota lying east of the Mississippi river.

North Carolina included, besides its present area, the whole of the state of Tennessee.

South Carolina laid claim to a narrow strip of country, twelve or fourteen miles in width, limited on the north by the 35th parallel of latitude extending to the Mississippi river.

Georgia had, with the exception of the latter strip, besides its present area, an undoubted title to so much of the area of the present states of Alabama and Mississippi as was at that time in the possession of the United States.

It will be noticed that there is scarcely one of these claims which does not conflict with others, and there are some which conflict with nearly all the rest. It was largely in order to quiet titles to these lands, that steps were taken by the General Government to obtain possession of them. Pending the adoption of the Constitution by the different states, the question of making such a transfer began to be agitated. It was claimed by the states holding no outlying lands, that those owning them gained thereby undue resources, and consequent advantages for future progress; and further, that in order to maintain possession of them, all the states had contributed men and money in proportion to their means, and all should share proportionally. One by one the states ceded to the United States their title in these lands, as follows:

New York, March 1, 1781.

Virginia, March 1, 1784.

Massachusetts, April 19, 1785.

Connecticut, September 14, 1786 (with the exception of the Western Reserve).

Connecticut, May 30, 1800 (jurisdiction of the Western Reserve).

South Carolina, August 19, 1787.

North Carolina, February 25, 1790.

Georgia, April 24, 1802.

Ratification of the Constitution.

—The thirteen original states ratified the Constitution of the United States, in the following order:

December 7, 1787, Delaware.

December 12, 1787, Pennsylvania.

December 18, 1787, New Jersey.

January 2, 1788, Georgia.

January 9, 1788, Connecticut.

February 6, 1788, Massachusetts.

April 28, 1788, Maryland.

May 23, 1788, South Carolina.

June 21, 1788, New Hampshire.

June 25, 1788, Virginia.

July 26, 1788, New York.

November 21, 1789, North Carolina.

May 29, 1790, Rhode Island.

State and Territorial Changes.

—The following is a chronological sketch of the organization of territories, the admission of states and the principal changes in the boundary lines of states and territories:

1788. A provisional government was formed for the territory northwest of the Ohio river, popularly known as "the Northwest territory," comprising the present states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and that part of Minnesota east of the Mississippi river.

The territory south of the Ohio river, comprising the present area of Kentucky and Tennessee, does not appear ever to have had a territorial government.

March 4, 1791. Vermont was admitted as a state, with substantially its present boundaries. Its area formerly belonged to New York.

March 30, 1791. The original District of Columbia, comprising 100 square miles, was ceded to the United States by the states of Maryland and Virginia.

June 1, 1792. Kentucky was admitted, with its present limits.

June 1, 1796. Tennessee was admitted, with its boundaries as at present.

April 7, 1798. The territory of Mississippi was created from a portion of the lands subsequently ceded by Georgia. As originally constituted, it comprised an area in the present states of Mississippi and Alabama, limited as follows: On the west by the Mississippi river; on the north by a parallel through the mouth of the Yazoo; on the east by the Chattahoochee river, and on the south by the 31st parallel of latitude. Jurisdiction over this area remained with the state of Georgia until the final cession of its lands in 1802.

May 7, 1800. The Northwest territory was divided, the divisional line being the meridian of the mouth of the Kentucky river. The portion east of this line retained the name of Northwest territory, that west of it being called Indiana territory.

November 29, 1802. Ohio was formed and admitted as a state, its area being taken from the Northwest territory. Its boundaries, when

admitted, were as follows: On the east, the Pennsylvania line; on the south, the Ohio river; on the west, the meridian of the mouth of the Miami river; and on the north, the parallel of the "most southerly extreme" of Lake Michigan, and Lake Erie. The remainder of the Northwest territory was added to Indiana territory.

1804. Mississippi territory was enlarged by the addition of all the remainder of the present areas of Alabama and Mississippi, with the exception of those portions south of the 31st parallel.

1804. The territory of Orleans was organized, comprising the present area of Louisiana, with the exception of the portion between the Amite river and lakes Maurepas and Pontchartrain and the Pearl river. The remainder of the Louisiana purchase continued to bear the name of Louisiana territory.

June 30, 1805. Michigan territory was organized from the northern part of Indiana territory. The boundary on the south was a parallel through the most southern point of Lake Michigan, extending eastward to Lake Erie, thus coinciding with the western part of the northern boundary of Ohio. The western boundary was a meridian through the same southern point of the lake, prolonged until it intersected the northern boundary of the United States.

February 3, 1809. The territory of Illinois was formed, comprising that portion of Indiana territory lying west of the Wabash river and a meridian passing through the city of Vincennes.

April 30, 1812. Louisiana was admitted as a state, with the area and limits of Orleans territory. At the same time the name of Louisiana territory was changed to Missouri territory. In the same year the limits of Louisiana on the southeast were extended to the Pearl river, as at present.

1812. Mississippi territory was enlarged by the addition of those portions of the present area of Alabama and Mississippi south of the 31st parallel.

December 11, 1816. Indiana was admitted, with its present boundaries.

March 3, 1817. Alabama territory was created from part of Mississippi territory, with its limits the same as those of the present state of Alabama, excepting that the 31st parallel formed the southern boundary.

December 10, 1817. Mississippi was admitted, with its present boundaries, and Mississippi territory ceased to exist.

December 3, 1818. Illinois was admitted, with its present boundaries.

March 2, 1819. Arkansas territory was created from a part of Missouri territory. Its northern, eastern and southern limits were established as at present, but westward it appears to have extended to the boundary between the United States and the Spanish possessions, namely, to the 100th meridian. The clause defining this is vague—"thence west to the western territorial line."

December 14, 1819. Alabama was admitted, with its present limits.

March 15, 1820. Maine was detached from Massachusetts, and admitted. Its boundaries have remained unchanged, with the exception of the northern line, which was for a long time a subject of controversy with Great Britain, but was finally adjusted in 1842, by the Webster-Ashburton treaty.

August 10, 1821. The state of Missouri, formed from a part of Missouri territory, was admitted. The northern, eastern and southern boundaries were originally constituted as at present, but the entire western boundary was originally the meridian of the mouth of the Kansas or Kaw river.

March 30, 1822. Florida territory was organized, comprising the area purchased from Spain in 1819.

1824. The western boundary of Arkansas territory was defined as a meridian, starting at a point forty-five miles west of the southwest corner of Missouri, and running south to Red river, thence down Red river to its intersection with the northern boundary of Louisiana.

1828. The western boundary of Arkansas territory was changed, reducing its area to the present limits of the state. The boundary was defined as follows: From a point on the Arkansas river 100 paces west of Fort Smith, due south to Red river; and, from the same point on the Arkansas, in a direct line to the southwest corner of Missouri.

June 15, 1836. Arkansas was admitted, with its present boundaries, as above described.

July 3, 1836. Wisconsin territory was formed from parts of Michigan and Missouri territories. As originally constituted, the eastern boundary was the same as that of the present state. On the north, it extended to the international boundary, as far west as its intersection with White Earth river (a small northern branch of the Missouri in northwestern Dakota); thence down the Missouri to a point due west of the northern boundary of Missouri; east on that boundary to the Mississippi; up the Mississippi to the northern boundary of Illinois, and east along this boundary.

1836. The northern portion of the western boundary of Missouri was changed to the Missouri river, giving the state the same limits as at present.

1836. The northern boundary of Ohio was changed from the parallel of the most southern point of Lake Michigan to a direct line running from this point to the most northern cape of Maumee bay, thereby adding a narrow strip of land and giving the state its present boundaries.

January 26, 1837. Michigan, reduced by the formation of Wisconsin territory and by the above addition to Ohio, was admitted with its present boundaries.

July 3, 1838. Iowa territory was created. It originally included all that part of Wisconsin territory lying west of the Mississippi river and of a line drawn due north from its source to the international boundary.

March 3, 1845. Iowa was admitted. Its southern boundary was the same as at present; its eastern boundary was the Mississippi river as far north as the mouth of the Mankato; its northern boundary, the parallel passing through the mouth of this stream, as far west as the meridian of $17^{\circ} 30'$ west of Washington, which meridian formed its western boundary.

March 3, 1845. Florida was admitted, with its present boundaries.

December 29, 1845. Texas, which had become independent of Mexico in 1836, joined the United States. At this time it comprised all the area extending from the old boundary line between the United States and the Spanish possessions to the Rio Grande, from its head to its mouth, including parts of the present areas of New Mexico and Colorado.

July 9, 1846. The portion of the District of Columbia which had been ceded to the General Government by Virginia, was retroceded to that state.

December 28, 1846. The northern and western boundaries of Iowa were changed, giving the state its present limits.

May 29, 1848. Wisconsin was admitted, with its present boundaries.

August 14, 1848. The territory of Oregon was created. It comprised all the territory then belonging to the United States north of the 42d parallel of latitude, and west of the Rocky mountains.

March 3, 1849. Minnesota territory was created, comprising all that part of the former territory of Iowa not included in the state of Iowa, and extending east to the western boundary of Wisconsin.

1850. Texas sold to the General Government, for the sum of \$10,000,000, all of her

original area not included in her present limits, namely, the parts lying north of the parallel of $36^{\circ} 30'$, and west of longitude 103° , as far south as the parallel of 32° .

September 9, 1850. California was admitted with its present limits. It was formed from territory acquired from Mexico.

September 9, 1850. Utah territory was created, its area being another part of the territory recently acquired from Mexico. Its original limits were: On the west, the California boundary; on the east, the Rocky mountains; on the south, the 37th parallel, and on the north, the 42d parallel.

December 13, 1850. The territory of New Mexico was created, its area being composed of the remainder of the land acquired from Mexico, and of a part of the land sold to the United States by Texas. Its limits were as follows: On the west the California boundary; on the north the parallel of 37° , as far as the summit of the "Sierra Madre" (Sangre de Cristo) mountains; thence northward along this summit to the parallel of 38° ; then east along this parallel to the 103d meridian. The eastern boundary was this meridian as far as the 32d parallel. The southern boundary was this parallel as far west as the Rio Grande; thence the line ran down the Rio Grande to the international boundary, and followed this line westward, as established by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

March 2, 1853. Washington territory was organized from the northern part of Oregon. The dividing line followed the Columbia river, from its mouth to the point where the 46th parallel crosses it; and thence east to the summit of the Rocky mountains, coincided with this parallel.

December 30, 1853. The area of New Mexico was increased by the area of the Gadsden purchase.

May 30, 1854. Nebraska territory was created from a part of Missouri territory. Originally it comprised all the region between the 40th and 49th parallels, from the Missouri river to the Rocky mountains.

May 30, 1854. Kansas territory was created from the remainder of Missouri territory. Its eastern boundary was the western boundary of Missouri; its southern boundary was the 37th parallel, as far west as the 103d meridian; thence the line ran north on this meridian one degree, to latitude 38° ; thence west to the summit of the Rocky mountains. Its western limit was this summit, and its northern the 40th parallel of latitude.

May 11, 1858. Minnesota was admitted, with its present limits.

February 14, 1859. Oregon was admitted, with its present boundaries. The remaining part of Oregon territory was added to Washington territory.

January 29, 1861. Kansas was admitted, with its present limits.

February 28, 1861. Colorado territory was created from portions of Utah, New Mexico, Kansas and Nebraska. Its limits were the same as those of the present state.

March 2, 1861. Dakota territory was formed from parts of Minnesota and Nebraska territories. It originally included an immense area within the following limits: The eastern boundary was the same as at present, the southern boundary was also the same, but was prolonged along the 43d parallel to the summit of the Rocky mountains. The western boundary was the hypothetical summit of this range, and the northern boundary, the 49th parallel. These limits comprise all the present area of Dakota and most of Montana and Wyoming.

March 2, 1861. Nevada territory was created. Originally it included that part of Utah lying west of the meridian of 39° west of Washington.

February 24, 1863. Arizona territory was formed from that portion of New Mexico lying west of the 32d meridian west of Washington.

March 3, 1863. Idaho territory was formed from portions of Washington, Dakota and Nebraska territories. Its original limits, which comprised not only the present territory of Idaho but all of Montana and Wyoming, were as follows: The western boundary was the same as at present, the northern boundary, on the 49th parallel, ran east to the 27th meridian west of Washington. This meridian formed the eastern boundary, while the southern boundary was the 41st parallel from the above meridian west to the 34th meridian, thence north along this meridian to the 42d parallel, and along this parallel to its intersection with the western boundary.

This reduced Nebraska, Dakota and Washington to their present limits, and decreased the area of Utah.

June 19, 1863. West Virginia, having been cut off from Virginia, was admitted, with its limits as at present.

May 26, 1864. Montana territory was created from a part of Idaho. Its limits have been subjected to but a trifling change since its organization.

October 31, 1864. Nevada was admitted. At the same time its eastern boundary was moved one degree of longitude further east, placing it upon the meridian of 38° west of Washington, and reducing Utah to that extent.

1866. The eastern boundary of Nevada was moved a second degree further east, placing the boundary upon the meridian of 37°, and the southern boundary was extended so as to include a triangular area between the California boundary and the Colorado river, thereby reducing Utah and Arizona to their present limits, and giving to Nevada its present extent.

March 1, 1867. Nebraska was admitted, with its present limits.

July 25, 1868. Wyoming territory was created, with its present limits, from part of Idaho.

February 17, 1873. Congress, under the erroneous impression that, by a mistake in defining boundaries, a part of Dakota had been left detached near the point where Idaho, Montana and Wyoming join, passed an act adding such area to Montana. Under the circumstances, it is difficult to imagine what effect this act could have, but the compilers of the Revised Statutes have given it effect by transferring from Montana to Idaho the small area lying between the continental water-shed and the parallel of 44° 30', along which the Montana-Idaho boundary originally ran, between the meridian of 34° and the summit of the Bitter Root mountains.

August 1, 1876. Colorado was admitted, with its present boundaries.

PART II.—PROGRESS OF SETTLEMENT.

Colonial Epoch.—The first permanent settlement within the thirteen original states was made at Jamestown, Va., in 1607. Prior to that date, there had been numerous unsuccessful attempts at colonization. The most important of these were the two futile experiments by Sir Humphrey Gilbert, in 1579 and 1583, those of Sir Walter Raleigh in 1584, 1585 and 1587, and that of Bartholomew Gosnold, in 1602. The Jamestown colony grew but slowly, and for twelve years it had a precarious existence. In 1620 and 1621, however, it received large accessions, and from that time its success was assured. In 1660 the colony of Virginia, it was estimated, contained 30,000 persons.

The Pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock in 1620, and, in spite of cold, want and disease, grew rapidly by accessions of brother dissenters from England. In 1628 the Massachusetts Bay Company commenced to colonize its grant. Its first company of settlers located at Salem, followed closely by a large number of colonists, who founded Boston, and made it the capital of

the colony. From this colony, as well as from England, emigrants went into Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Hampshire and Maine. During the decade between 1630 and 1640, emigration from the mother country was very active, and the New England colonies thrived apace.

In 1623 and 1624 the Dutch commenced the settlement of Manhattan island, in New York. The first quarter of a century of the life of this colony shows but little growth, but after 1650 its numbers multiplied with great rapidity, and in 1660 the colony of the New Netherlands was said to have contained 10,000 people.

Meanwhile, settlements had commenced in the present area of Maryland. In 1631 a small trading post was established on Kent island, in Chesapeake bay. In 1634 a colony was planted at St. Mary's, on the mainland. Other settlements were also made, and increased rapidly, so that in 1660 it was estimated that Maryland contained 12,000 persons.

In 1638 a company of Swedes and Finns settled near the present site of Wilmington,

Delaware. Seventeen years later, this colony was conquered by the Dutch of New Amsterdam, and many of that nationality settled within its limits. The treaty of Westminster transferred this, with the other Dutch possessions in America, to England.

The first English settlement in New Jersey was made at Elizabeth in 1664, and the population was increased, rapidly at first but afterward very slowly, by influx from the neighboring colonies. The earlier beginnings of settlements by the Dutch had amounted to little. In 1682 New Jersey probably contained only between 4,000 and 5,000 persons.

The Carolinas do not appear to have received any colonists, except by the extension of the settlements in Virginia beyond the boundary of that colony, until in 1664 a party of planters from Barbadoes formed the colony of Clarendon, on Cape Fear river. In 1670 a colony was formed on the Ashley river, and in 1671-72 this settlement was increased by many Dutch from Manhattan island and from Holland.

The settlement of Pennsylvania was commenced in 1681, and from the first this colony grew with great rapidity, escaping most of the infant ills to which all the other American colonies were for years subject—a result which was doubtless due in great part to the wholesome policy of its founder.

The first settlement in Georgia was made by Oglethorpe in 1733, at Savannah, and within the next three years settlements at Augusta, Darien, Ebenezer and on St. Simon's island were commenced. The colony had a slow and precarious growth, and twenty years after its inception numbered but 5,000 white inhabitants.

The population of the colonies in 1688, is estimated by Bancroft as follows: Massachusetts, including Plymouth and Maine, 44,000; New Hampshire, 6,000; Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, 6,000; Connecticut, between 17,000 and 20,000; New York, 20,000; New Jersey, 10,000; Pennsylvania and Delaware, 12,000; Maryland, 25,000; Virginia, 50,000; the Carolinas, 8,000. This estimate gives a total population of, approximately, 200,000 at the end of three-fourths of a century from the date of the earliest settlements.

Mr. Bancroft estimates the population of the colonies, in 1754, to have been as follows: "Of persons of European ancestry, perhaps 50,000 dwelt in New Hampshire, 207,000 in Massachusetts, 35,000 in Rhode Island, and 133,000 in Connecticut; in New England, therefore, 425,000 souls. Of the middle colonies, New York may have had 85,000, New Jersey 73,000, Pennsylvania, with Delaware, 195,000, Maryland 104,000, in all not far from 457,000. * * * * To Virginia may be assigned 168,000 white inhabitants, to North Carolina scarcely more than 70,000, to South Carolina 40,000, to Georgia not more than 5,000; to the whole country south of the Potomac 283,000. * * * * New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Maine, may have had 6,000 negroes, Rhode Island 4,500, Connecticut 3,500; all New England, therefore, about 14,000. New York alone had not far from 11,000, New Jersey about half that number, Pennsylvania, with Delaware, 11,000 Maryland 44,000, the central colonies collectively 71,000. In Virginia there were not less than 116,000, in North Carolina perhaps more than 20,000, in South Carolina full 40,000, in Georgia about 2,000, so that the country south of the Potomac may have had 178,000." The total white population was, according to these estimates, 1,165,000, and the colored population 263,000.

Up to this time the extension of settlement had been largely prevented by the French, who had drawn a cordon of military posts and of hostile Indian tribes around the English colonies. In 1763, at the close of the Seven Years War, which had proved disastrous to France, the latter ceded to Great Britain all her claims to the territory east of the Mississippi and north of the 31st parallel of latitude. Emigration into and beyond the Appalachian mountains at once commenced. Settlements spread rapidly into the valleys of the Shenandoah and the Tennessee, and over into the region which became later the state of Kentucky.

Meanwhile, the older colonies themselves, while sending out thousands upon thousands of emigrants, continued to grow with great rapidity, so that, at the outbreak of the Revolution, the number of inhabitants, exclusive of slaves, was estimated by Pitkin at 2,243,000 souls, to which should be added the estimated number of slaves, 500,000, making a total population of 2,743,000. Pitkin gives the following as the white population of the several colonies at this date:

New Hampshire.....	102,000	Delaware.....	37,000
Massachusetts.....	352,000	Maryland.....	174,000
Rhode Island.....	58,000	Virginia.....	300,000
Connecticut.....	202,000	North Carolina.....	181,000
New York.....	238,000	South Carolina.....	93,000
New Jersey.....	138,000	Georgia.....	27,000
Pennsylvania.....	341,000		

Mr. Bancroft gives the following table of estimates of the population of the colonies at different epochs after 1750:

YEAR.	WHITE.	BLACK.	TOTAL.
1750.....	1,040,000	220,000	1,260,000
1754.....	1,165,000	260,000	1,425,000
1760.....	1,385,000	310,000	1,695,000
1770.....	1,850,000	462,000	2,312,000
1780.....	2,383,000	562,000	2,945,000

The following table gives the total area of settlement, the population, and the average density of settlement at each census:

DATE.	TOTAL AREA OF SETTLEMENT.	TOTAL POPULATION.	POPULATION PER SQUARE MILE.
1790.....	239,935	3,929,214	16.4
1800.....	305,708	5,308,483	17.4
1810.....	407,945	7,239,881	17.7
1820.....	508,717	9,633,822	18.9
1830.....	632,717	12,866,020	20.3
1840.....	807,292	17,069,453	21.1
1850.....	979,249	23,191,876	23.7
1860.....	1,194,754	31,443,321	26.3
1870.....	1,272,239	38,558,371	30.3
1880.....	1,569,570	50,155,783	32.0

1790. The first census of the United States, taken in 1790, showed a population extending in a narrow strip along the Atlantic seaboard, from the eastern border of the "District of Maine" to the southern boundary of Georgia. This strip of populated territory comprised the coast line of Maine, three-fourths of New Hampshire, nearly all of Vermont, all of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut, the southeastern portion of New York, all of New Jersey, eastern and southern Pennsylvania, all of Delaware and Maryland, the eastern two-thirds of Virginia, nearly all of North Carolina, all of South Carolina, and the eastern part of Georgia.

From Maine to Georgia population had spread over the Atlantic plain, and was climbing the Appalachian mountain system, the average breadth of settlement, in a direction away from the coast, being 255 miles. Four main lines of westward emigration had already been developed: the most northern up the Mohawk valley, in central New York; the second, up the course of the Potomac, through western Maryland; the third, southwestward down the east Tennessee valley; and the fourth, through Georgia, around the southern end of the great Appalachian system.

Already venturesome pioneers had commenced settlements west of the mountains. About Pittsburgh, in western Pennsylvania, a powerful group of settlements had sprung up. Another important group had taken root in the northern part of Kentucky. Smaller settlements were found upon the Cumberland river in Tennessee, and in what is now West Virginia, at the junction of the Kanawha with the Ohio. Besides these, small isolated settlements, to the number of a score or more, were scattered over the country east of the Mississippi, chiefly at garrisoned posts.

The total settled area* at this time comprised 239,935 square miles, the average density of settlement of which was 16.4 to a square mile. The length of the inland line which limited the settled area was about 3,200 miles. The "center of population," or the center of gravity of the population, supposing each individual to have the same weight, was at that time in latitude 39° 16'.5, and longitude 76° 11'.2, that is, twenty-three miles east of Baltimore, Maryland.

1800. The beginning of the present century showed marked changes since the date of the

*By the "settled area" is meant that which contains an average, county by county, of two or more inhabitants to a square mile. Less than this implies only a widely-scattered population, consisting of graziers, or wandering hunters.

first census. The area of settlement along the Atlantic coast had become decidedly broader between New England and South Carolina, covering nearly all of North Carolina and Virginia, with three-fourths of Pennsylvania and New York, and had advanced into Ohio on both its eastern and southwestern border. The settlements in Kentucky and Tennessee had spread toward one another and joined, forming a large and powerful community.

In Maine, settlement had enlarged its area but little. In New Hampshire it had spread northward, covering nearly the entire state. In New York emigration, moving westward along the great gap of the Mohawk, between the Adirondacks and the Catskills, had reached Lake Ontario and spread down its eastern shore and along the St. Lawrence, until it had reached Lake Champlain, and, joining the settlements of Vermont, had enclosed the Adirondack region, which has remained an unbroken wilderness until recently. From the settlement about the forks of the Ohio, in southwestern Pennsylvania, settlements had spread northward, forming a connected chain along the western border of the state to Lake Erie.

In Georgia, settlement had not materially advanced, owing to the opposition of the Creeks and Cherokees.

The settled area at this date comprised 305,708 square miles, and the average population was 17.4 to a square mile. By the advance and concentration of settlements, the western frontier line had been shortened to 2,800 miles. During the decade the center of population had moved almost due west, a distance of forty-one miles, to a point eighteen miles west of Baltimore, in latitude $39^{\circ} 16'.1$, and longitude $76^{\circ} 56'.5$.

1810. At the date of the third census still greater changes were seen, especially in the settled area west of the Appalachians. The westward wave had spread over about three-fifths of Ohio. Nearly all of Kentucky and three-fourths of Tennessee had been reclaimed from the wilderness. There were, however, large areas in the mountain regions of New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Tennessee and North Carolina, as yet destitute of settlements.

The acquisition of the province of Louisiana, early in the decade, was followed by a large influx of the "*Américain*," who were so cordially hated by the Spanish-French residents, and who swarmed in, mainly from Kentucky, to take possession of the long-coveted outlet for their products.

The center of population had made, during the decade, a westward march of thirty-six miles, with a southing of nearly six miles, placing it in latitude $39^{\circ} 11'.5$, and longitude

$77^{\circ} 37'.2$, or forty miles northwest by west of Washington, D. C. The total area of settlement had increased to 407,945 square miles, with an average density of settlement of 17.7 to a square mile. The frontier line had a total length of 2,900 miles.

1820. At the close of the second decade of the century nearly all of Ohio was settled, and population was working rapidly into southern Indiana and Illinois, and into southeastern Missouri. A long tongue of settlements had extended through central Alabama to the Gulf, inclosing between itself and the settled parts of eastern Georgia the Creek and Cherokee lands. The Choctaws and Chickasaws still held their own in northern and central Mississippi, but the southern part of the state and half of Louisiana, together with still isolated parts of Arkansas, were in the hands of the whites. The unsettled, inclosed areas in Pennsylvania and western Virginia were greatly diminished.

The total settled area in 1820 was 508,717 square miles, and the average density of settlement 18.9 to a square mile. The frontier line had greatly increased in length, being not less than 4,100 miles. The center of population had moved westward fifty miles, with a southward movement of six miles, bringing it sixteen miles north of Woodstock, Virginia, in latitude $39^{\circ} 5'.7$, and longitude $78^{\circ} 33'$.

1830. During the decade previous to 1830 the frontier line did not advance westward as rapidly as before, but the energies of the people were devoted to settling up the vacant areas surrounded or partially occupied by population during previous decades. The Indian tribes in Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi had been crowded within narrower limits by the whites. Florida having been transferred to the United States, the end of the decade found settlements scattered all along its upper portion. Population had spread irregularly over the more accessible portions of Arkansas, had pushed slowly up the Missouri river to the western boundary of the state, and had spread northward in Indiana, Illinois and Michigan.

The frontier line of 1830 measured 5,300 miles, and inclosed an area of 632,717 square miles, with a density of population of 20.3 per square mile. The center of population was at a point nineteen miles west-southwest of Moorefield, West Virginia, in latitude $38^{\circ} 57'.9$, and longitude $79^{\circ} 16'.9$, having moved in the decade thirty-nine miles in a direction slightly south of west.

1840. Between 1830 and 1840 progress had mainly taken the form, as during the decennial period preceding, of filling in areas previously

surrounded by settlements. The frontier line, however, had been materially advanced in all directions. The Indians of the Gulf states had been removed to Indian territory, and their fertile lands had been occupied by the whites, who had long coveted them. The rich bottomlands and the prairies of Arkansas had received settlers, while in Missouri population had spread throughout nearly the entire state. Civilization had obtained a foothold in Iowa and Wisconsin, and was gradually working northward in Michigan. Meantime the unsettled areas in the interior were rapidly diminishing and disappearing.

The gaps between the projecting spurs of the settled area of 1830 had been so far filled up as to shorten the frontier line to 3,300 miles. The area of settlement had increased to 807,292 square miles, and the average number of persons to a square mile, to 21.1. The center of population in 1840 was in latitude $39^{\circ} 2'$ and longitude $80^{\circ} 10'$, having moved fifty-five miles during the decade in a direction slightly north of west, to a point sixteen miles south of Clarksburg, West Virginia.

1850. The work of occupying the waste lands within the frontier line of 1840 went on with speed during the decade, while a new frontier line had been pushed rapidly forward into the wilderness. Texas had been admitted, bringing with it a considerable body of settlement, scattered sparsely over its eastern part, and the whites were pushing rapidly southward down the Florida peninsula. On the west the wave of migration had been stayed at the border of the Indian territory and Missouri territory, which formed as yet an impassable barrier. Little of the states of Arkansas and Missouri now remained unoccupied, and there had been marked progress northward in Iowa, Wisconsin and Michigan.

The discovery of gold in California, soon after its acquisition from Mexico in 1848, had produced an exodus to that El Dorado of a magnitude unparalleled in modern times. Within two years after the first discovery of the golden sands in the tail-race of Sutter's mill, 80,000 miners and adventurers had flocked to this land of promise.

The settled area of 1850 comprised 970,249 square miles, with an average population of 23.7 to each square mile. The centre of population occupied a position twenty-three miles southeast of Parkersburg, West Virginia, in latitude $38^{\circ} 59'$, and longitude $81^{\circ} 19'$, having moved fifty-five miles during the decade in a direction very slightly south of west.

1860. The tide of emigration had, by 1860, passed over into Missouri territory, the Kansas

and Nebraska of the present, had spread northward in Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan, and made a great advance westward in Texas. The strong current of emigration to California continued, and great areas of the foot-hills and of the valleys were reclaimed.

The settled area in 1860 included 1,194,754 square miles, the average density of settlement of which was 26.3 to a square mile. The center of population had made a giant stride of eighty miles in a nearly due west direction, to a point twenty miles south of Chillicothe, Ohio, in latitude 39° 0'.4, and longitude 82° 48'.8.

1870. In the interval from 1860 to 1870, the frontier line moved steadily westward over the great plains, to the western boundary of Minnesota, and up the Big Sioux river in southeastern Dakota, almost encircling a small unsettled area in northwestern Iowa and adjoining part of Minnesota; through Kansas and Nebraska it followed generally the course of the main streams, occupying the most fertile lands.

In Texas and in the mountain regions of the West, as also on the Pacific coast, settlements increased but slowly, the effect of the Civil War being here especially apparent in arresting progress.

The center of population moved, during the decade previous to 1870, a distance of forty-two miles, in a direction about west-northwest, to a position forty-eight miles east by north of Cincinnati, Ohio, in latitude 39° 12', and longitude 83° 35'.7. This exceptional northward movement was due, in part, to the check which the population of the South received from the Civil War, and, in part, to the fact that the census of 1870 was, to a considerable extent, incomplete as to the Southern states. The area of settlement embraced 1,272,239 square miles, with an average density of 30.3 to the square mile.

1880. The decade ending with 1880 was one of the most prosperous in the history of the settlement of the United States.

In Maine the unsettled area was materially narrowed. In northern New York settlers began to press into the Adirondack wilderness. In Michigan the development of the lumber industry largely increased the settled region, both upon the lower and upper peninsula. The same cause operated to push the settlements farther north, in Wisconsin and Minnesota,

while the fertile lands of the Red river and James river valleys, in Dakota and northwestern Minnesota, attracted settlers in large numbers. Settlements in Kansas and Nebraska having reached a region where cultivation of the soil without artificial irrigation is extremely hazardous, extended westward in long narrow ribbons, following the main streams. Numerous settlers entered western Dakota, brought there by the rich gold deposits of the Black Hills. The great increase of population in Montana and Idaho was due, mainly, to agricultural progress, although mining played no small part in it. Wyoming showed but a slight increase of settled area, its best lands having been, until recently, held by hostile Indians.

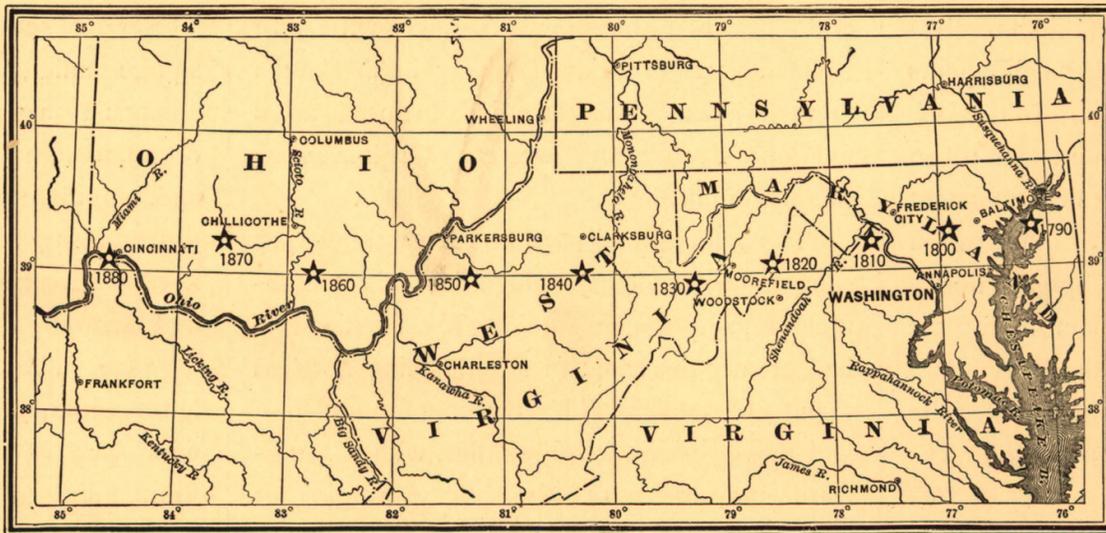
decreased in productiveness during the decade, but to agricultural and grazing interests.

The progress of settlement in California was due to the same cause, as was also that in Oregon and Washington territory, which brought within the settled area nearly the whole valley west of the Cascade range.

The length of the frontier line in 1880 was 3,337 miles, embracing a settled area of no less than 1,569,570 square miles—or more than one-half the total area of the United States, excluding Alaska. The average density of settlement was thirty-two to the square mile, the slight increase of density over that of 1870 being due to the fact that the population has, in this period of peace and rapid progress,

spread itself thinly over a vast extent. The center of population moved during the decade, in a direction somewhat south of west, fifty-eight miles, to a point about eight miles south of Cincinnati, in latitude 39° 4'.1 and longitude 84° 39'.7, which is but slightly north of its position in 1860.

The accompanying map shows how closely the center of population has followed the 39th parallel in its westward course, indicating the



MOVEMENT OF THE CENTER OF POPULATION, 1790-1880.

Of all the states and territories of the Cordilleran region, Colorado made the most rapid strides. During the earlier part of the decade it had a steady and rapid growth, due largely to its agricultural interests. The discovery, however, in 1877, of the rich deposits of silver in the neighborhood of Leadville, caused a stampede thither, only exceeded by that to California in 1849 and 1850.

New Mexico and Arizona show little change, except in the rapid extension of railroads, which may be expected to bring about a large increase of population within a few years.

Utah presents a case dissimilar from that of any of the other territories or states of the Cordilleran region—an advance by steady, regular growth, without the excitement of mining “stampedes” or speculation in lands. This is due, in the main, to the character of the Mormon population, and to their occupations, which are almost entirely agricultural. The mining interests of Utah are not very extensive, and its mines resemble the people in being, in the main, safe, steady producers.

Nevada shows a slight increase of settled area as compared with that of 1870, due, not to its mines which, on the whole, have

nearly even balance which has been kept between the Northwest and the Southwest, in rapidity of settlement. A distinct southward tendency for forty years, was followed by a general but slighter northward tendency for forty years, a turning point having been again reached in 1870.

The table below gives the position of the center of population, and its westward movement at each decade:

DATE.	N. LATITUDE.	W. LONGITUDE.	WESTWARD MOVEMENT BY DECADES.
			Miles.
1790.....	39 16.5	76 11.2	41
1800.....	39 16.1	76 56.5	36
1810.....	39 11.5	77 37.2	50
1820.....	39 5.7	78 33.0	39
1830.....	38 57.9	79 16.9	55
1840.....	39 2.0	80 18.0	55
1850.....	38 59.0	81 19.0	81
1860.....	39 0.4	82 48.8	42
1870.....	39 12.0	83 35.7	58
1880.....	39 4.1	84 39.7	
			457

The period of Californian settlement, from 1850 to 1860, shows the greatest single westward advance, and that of the Civil War, 1860 to 1870, the greatest northward movement.