

CAPT. MERIWETHER LEWIS

passed the winter of 1803-4 in St. Louis, preparing for his expedition over the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean.

He addressed the following note to Col. Auguste Chouteau, translated for him into French:—

“ST. LOUIS, Jan’y 4, 1804.

“SIR: I have taken the liberty to add to this, additional questions of a mixed nature relating to Upper Louisiana, your answers to which will be extremely gratifying, and very gratefully acknowledged.

“Your friend and Ob’t Servant,

“MERIWETHER LEWIS, *Capt.*

“*1st U. S. Regt. Infy.*

“MR. AUG’S. CHOUTEAU,

MIXED QUESTIONS RELATING TO UPPER LOUISIANA.

“1. What is the present population?

“2. What is the number of Emigrants from the United States into this country since the last year, ending Oct. 31, 1803, and what is the proportion of this kind of people, to the other free white population of Upper Louisiana?

“3. What number of slaves and other people of colour?

“4. What is the quantity of land granted, or which is claimed by individuals? The nature of the right, or pretensions by which the present possessors hold these lands? and the probable proportions of the whole amount which is separately held by these respective titles?

“5. What is the condition of the inhabitants in general in regard to wealth? and what kind of property generally constitutes that wealth?

“6. What is the situation and extent of the several settlements? and what is the prospect of each to become the most peopled?