

intend to build a house soon ; and we think the time is at no great distance when we shall have an elegant farm, with good houses, orchard, and well stocked with all kinds of cattle. Our soil and climate are capable of producing a great variety of vegetables, from the tall grape-vine to the most diminutive of plants. The garden-stuffs that we raise, almost without any trouble, would be a feast for your eyes could we present them to your view. We wish that all our poor friends were here :— How easily we could supply them with the necessaries of life !

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“ Congress, in their last session, passed a bill for the relief of those who are indebted for the price of public lands, allowing eight years for the payment of arrears, at equal annual instalments, or 37½ per cent. discount on prompt payments. All public lands to be sold hereafter must be paid in ready money, at the rate of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, which is fixed as a minimum price.

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“ I have just finished the building of a stone house, containing three rooms, a kitchen, and a cellar, for one of our neighbours. I worked by the day, and had only one dollar for each, with bed and board, and was paid in money about one third part below specie value. You must know that times have taken a very adverse turn in respect of earning money. Since we came here, (not quite three years ago,) it was easier to earn two dollars than it is to procure one now. We keep our health well, and consider this to be a healthy place. This settlement has never suffered from any prevalent sickness. Several towns along the river and other low-lying districts are said to be sickly ; but according to the best information I can get, I would not