CENSUS

FOR

1820.

Published by authority of an Act of Congress, under the direction of the Secretary of State.

Washington:
PRINTED BY GALES & SEATON.
1821.
LETTER

FROM THE

SECRETARY OF STATE,

TRANSMITTING SUNDAY DOCUMENTS RELATING TO TAKING THE

Fourth Census,

OR

ENUMERATION OF THE INHABITANTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

December 20, 1821.
Read, and ordered to lie upon the table.

WASHINGTON:
PRINTED BY GILES & GRAVES.
1821.
DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 19, 1821.

Sir: By the twelfth section of the act of Congress of 14th March, 1820, "to provide for taking the fourth census, or enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States, and for other purposes," it was prescribed, that, "when the aforesaid enumeration should be completed, and returned to the office of the Secretary of State, by the Marshals of the states and territories, he should direct the Printers to Congress to print, for the use of the Congress, fifteen hundred copies thereof."

By the third section of the same act, the Marshals, respectively, were required, under a certain penalty, on or before the first day of April of the present year, to transmit to the Secretary of State the aggregate amount of each description of persons within their respective districts or territories.

By an act passed on the third of March last, the time prescribed for the Marshals and their assistants to perform the various duties assigned to them by the act of 14th March, 1820, was enlarged to the first day of September of the present year.

The eighth section of the original act for taking the census authorized and required the Secretary of State to transmit to the Marshals of the several districts and territories, regulations and instructions pursuant to the act for carrying the same into effect; and, also, the forms contained therein of the schedule to be returned, and such other forms as might be necessary in carrying the act into execution, and proper interrogatories to be administered by the several persons to be employed in taking the enumeration.

And, in the tenth section of the act, it was made the duty of the several Marshals and their assistants, at the time for taking the census, to take, under the direction of the Secretary of State, and according to such instructions as he should give, and such forms as he should prescribe, an account of the several manufacturing establishments, and their manufactures, within their several districts, territories, and divisions; the assistants were required to make return of the same to their respective Marshals, and the Marshals to transmit the returns and abstracts thereof to the Secretary of State, at the same time with the returns of the enumeration.

I have the honor of communicating, herewith, printed copies of the instructions, regulations, forms, and interrogatories, transmitted to the Marshals in execution of the eighth and tenth sections of the act.

The returns of the enumeration have not, even to this day, been completely made to the office of this Department. Several of those which have been made, have been received since the first of September, the day last limited by law for their reception. The District of Kershaw, in South Carolina, is the only one from which any further return is to be expected, and, by a letter from the Marshal of that district, it is hoped that it will be received by the commencement of the ensuing year.

Fifteen hundred copies of all the returns received, including those which have come in since the first of September, have been printed by the Printers of Congress, conformably to the intentions of the act, and are now at their disposal.

No provision is made in the act for taking the census, with regard to the returns of the manufacturing establishments, and their manufactures. They are at the office of the Department, subject to such order as Congress may think proper to take concerning them.

The returns which have been received since the first of September, have been from the Marshals of the Eastern District of Virginia, of Georgia, of Alabama, and of Mississippi. The last return from Alabama was received since the meeting of Congress, not directly from the Marshal, but from the Executive Department of the state; a copy of the letter received with it, and, also, that received from the Marshal, with the general return, is herewith transmitted. As there is, by the original census act, a penalty annexed to the failure, by the Marshals, of transmitting the returns within the time prescribed, it is proper to be remarked that this failure does not, in any instance, appear to have resulted from remissness on the part of the officer in the performance of his duty. The reasons assigned by them all, for the delay attending these returns, have been the same; namely, that the compensation allowed by the law was esteemed so inadequate for the services required, that it has been found impossible to obtain competent assistants to undertake them. With regard to the Eastern District of Virginia, and the District of Alabama, it is further to be observed, that some incidental obstacles and delays in the completion of the returns, resulted from the state of the respective Marshals, and the lapse of time before the possible appointment of their successors, while the taking of the enumeration was in progress. Justice to these officers, who have all manifested a due earnestness in the exertion of all their abilities to complete their returns in season, will, it is hoped, justify the suggestion, of a provision by Congress to shield them from the possible effect of a penalty for deficiencies which appear to have arisen from causes beyond their control.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Sir,
Your very humble and obedient servant,

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

The Speaker of the House of Representatives U. States.
Governor Pickens to the Secretary of State.

CAHAWBA, ALABAMA,
Executive Department, November 17, 1821.

Sir: The Marshal for this district has put into my possession the accompanying return of the census of the two counties of this state, not included in his former returns to the Department of State of the United States. I am informed that several other counties have been omitted.

It being a matter of much importance to this small but growing state, that too great a proportion of its representative numbers should not be kept out of view in estimating its relative weight in the act of apportionment, I therefore respectfully request, that this return should be presented to the view of Congress, in such manner as may be thought most correct. Although not returned within the time limited by law, the liberality and justice of the national legislature, it is presumed, will make such provision as may answer to prevent the disparagement that may be produced by excluding it.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,
Your most obedient servant,
ISRAEL PICKENS.

Hon. John Q. Adams, Secretary of State.

Mr. Livingston, Marshal of the Alabama District, to the Secretary of State.

FORT DALLAS, September 30, 1821.

Sir: I have now enclosed the oaths and certificates of the assistants for taking the census of this district.

Some of them are deficient in the oath No. 4. In these cases I was confident the oath had been taken by the assistant, but the papers have been handed from one private conveyance to another, (for the want of mails) that they have been misplaced or lost, but in consideration of the services performed by the assistants being so arduous, and knowing myself that the services were performed, I am in hopes their returns will not be lost for this informality.

In perhaps two of the counties the certificates were not procured, but to my knowledge the copies were put up in these counties, and, for the same reason as above, I am in hopes the compensation will not be denied them.

I am very sensible of the many imperfections of the returns of the census of this district, but am extremely loth to lose any part of the small returns that are made; we lose about one fourth of our census at any rate, as they were not completed in those counties in time.

T. LIVINGSTON,
Marshal Alabama District.

Hon. John Q. Adams,
Secretary of State of the United States.

From same to same.

CAHAWBA, August 31, 1821.

Sir: I now enclose the returns of the census in my district, but one of my deputies, who I had to dispatch to almost every assistant to procure the returns, has, through negligence, retained in his hands several of the oaths of the assistants, and is at this time at a distant part of the district, on government business. I shall, however, see him in a few weeks, when all the oaths and certificates necessary to pass my accounts shall be all together transmitted to your Department; in the mean time, I thought it most proper to forward the returns themselves from this place.

You will discover that in most cases I have, with the approbation of the District Judge, allowed the highest compensation the act of Congress would warrant; indeed, the highest is entirely inadequate to the service required in this new country.

I could not procure an account of manufactories but in two counties; and they are by no means satisfactory, yet, such as they are, I have thought it my duty to make returns of them; and cannot justify the allowance there made only upon the ground that their labor was entitled to that much at least; however unsatisfactory the returns might prove.

You will please direct to me always at Mobile.

I am, Sir, most respectfully,

Your obedient servant,
TALLAFAREO LIVINGSTON.
Marshal District of Alabama.
Enclosures with the Report from Secretary of State to both Houses of Congress, of 18th December, 1881.

1. Circular from the Secretary to the several Marshals, dated 30th June, 1880.
2. Printed forms from No. 1 to No. 19, (inclusively.)
3. Governor Pickens to Secretary of State, 17th November, 1881.
4. Marshal T. Livingston to same, 31st August, do.
5. Same to same, 30th September, do.
DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 18, 1821.

Sir: By the twelfth section of the act of Congress of 14th March, 1820, "to provide for taking the fourth census, or enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States, and for other purposes," it was prescribed, that, "when the aforesaid enumeration should be completed, and returned to the office of the Secretary of State, by the Marshals of the states and territories, he should direct the Printers to Congress to print, for the use of the Congress, fifteen hundred copies thereof."

By the third section of the same act, the Marshals, respectively, were required, under a certain penalty, on or before the first day of April of the present year, to transmit to the Secretary of State the aggregate amount of each description of persons within their respective districts or territories.

By an act passed on the third of March last, the time prescribed for the Marshals and their assistants to perform the various duties assigned to them by the act of 14th March, 1820, was enlarged to the first day of September of the present year.

The eighth section of the original act for taking the census authorized and required the Secretary of State to transmit to the Marshals of the several districts and territories, regulations and instructions pursuant to the act for carrying the same into effect; and, also, the forms contained therein of the schedule to be returned, and such other forms as might be necessary in carrying the act into execution, and proper interrogatories to be administered by the several persons to be employed in taking the enumeration.

And, in the tenth section of the act, it was made the duty of the several Marshals and their assistants, at the time for taking the census, to take, under the direction of the Secretary of State, and according to such instructions as he should give, and such forms as he should prescribe, an account of the several manufacturing establishments, and their manufactures, within the several districts, territories, and divisions; the assistants were required to make return of the same to their respective Marshals, and the Marshals to transmit the returns and abstracts thereof to the Secretary of State, at the same time with the returns of the enumeration.

I have the honor of communicating, herewith, printed copies of the instructions, regulations, forms, and interrogatories, transmitted to the Marshals in execution of the eighth and tenth sections of the act.

The returns of the enumeration have not, even to this day, been completely made to the office of this Department. Several of those which have been made, have been received since the first of September, the day last limited by law for their reception. The district of Kershaw, in South Carolina, is the only one from which any further return is to be expected; and, by a letter from the Marshal of that district, it is hoped that it will be received by the commencement of the ensuing year.

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No provision is made in the act for taking the census, with regard to the returns of the manufacturing establishments, and their manufactures. They are at the office of the Department, subject to such order as Congress may think proper to take concerning them.

The returns which have been received since the first of September have been from the Marshals of the Eastern District of Virginia, of Georgia, of Alabama, and of Mississippi. The last return from Alabama was received since the meeting of Congress, not directly from the Marshal, but from the Executive Department of the state a copy of the letter received with it, and, also, the returns of the Marshals, with the general return, is herewith transmitted.* As there is, by the original census act, a penalty annexed to the failure, by the Marshals, of transmitting the returns within the time prescribed, it is proper to be remarked that this failure does not, in any instance, appear to have resulted from remissness on the part of the officers in the performance of their duty. The reasons assigned by them all, for the delay attending these returns, have been the same; namely, that the compensation allowed by the law was estimated too inadequate for the services required, that it has been found impossible to obtain competent assistants to undertake them. With regard to the Eastern District of Virginia, and the District of Alabama, it is further to be observed, that some incidental obstacles and delays to the completion of the returns, resulted from the decease of their respective Marshals, and the lapse of time before the possible appointment of their successors, while the taking of the enumeration was in progress. Justice to those officers, who have all manifested a due earnestness in the execution of all their abilities to complete their returns in season, will, it is hoped, justify the suggestion of a provision by Congress to shield them from the possible effect of a penalty for deficiencies, which appear to have arisen from causes beyond their control.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Sir, your very humble and obedient servant,

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.
To the Marshal of the District of

[DEPARTMENT OF STATE.]

WASHINGTON, June 29, 1840.

SIR: The "Act to provide for taking the Fourth Census or Enumeration of the Inhabitants of the United States, and for other purposes," copies of which are herein enclosed, provides that this enumeration shall be taken, under the direction of the Secretary of State, and according to such instructions as he shall give, pursuant to the act, in obedience to the injunction of which the following regulations and instructions are now transmitted to you, together with the form of the schedule to be returned, and such other as may be necessary in carrying the act into execution, and proper instructions in the manner prescribed by the act. Blank forms of this schedule, numbered 1, 2, 3, and 4, are herewith transmitted to you, in numbers sufficient to supply yourselves and your assistants, and, for the sake of uniformity, the forms of the certificate to be subscribed by the magistrates who may administer the oaths, is submitted to you. For the security of the public, it is necessary that the evidence showing that these oaths have been taken, should be preserved. It is therefore recommended, that you should transmit this department one copy of the certificate that you have, yourself, taken the oath required of the Marshal that you should require of all your assistants to deliver or transmit to you the certificates of these oaths, taken both before and after return, and that you should retain them in this department, as they will be necessary in the settlement of your account.

It has already been suggested to you, and cannot be escaped your attention, upon the propriety of the act, that much will depend for its execution in a manner which may correspond with the just expectations of the Legislature, upon the judicious selection of your assistants. The duties to be performed by them, under the instructions of the act, before and after their discharge, are such as will require good intelligence, activity, integrity, good judgment, respect of the public and the interests of the people, and a good command of the English language. And, in the execution of the act, must be attended to with a careful regard to the interests of the public.

I have directed, that the assistants be appointed by the best judges of their place of residence, and that they shall be required to give a bond, for the faithful performance of their duties, in the manner prescribed by the act. Blank forms of these bonds, numbered 5, 6, and 7, are herewith transmitted to you, in number sufficient to supply you and your assistants, and for the sake of uniformity, the forms of the certificate to be subscribed by the magistrates who shall administer the oaths, is submitted to you. The evidence of the oath having been taken shall be preserved in the same manner as the certificates of the oaths of assistants.

The copies of the schedule, in the form to be used, together with the instructions contained in this letter, have been transmitted to you, and are directed to be kept in the records of your office, and to be used in the execution of the act, and preserved as a matter of evidence.

The act requires that the enumeration should commence on the first Monday of August next, and should close within six calendar months thereafter. From the number and extent of the territories to be visited, on the date appointed, and required at any former censuses of the United States, it is obvious that the period of time is sufficiently long for the purpose of appointing a sufficient number of assistants, and for the purpose of the enumeration, it is not desirable that the work should be commenced earlier. And, if I leave to suggest, as advisable, that the period of the act may be extended, in order to prevent the assistants from being required to go a day in the performance of their duties.

The instructions contained in the schedule, and the instructions transmitted herewith, are intended to be read by each assistant to himself, and not otherwise, and that the oath or affirmation, to be taken by them, shall be performed in the manner prescribed by the act. The assistants shall be directed to return the schedule, and the instructions transmitted herewith, to their respective assistants, to be returned to the marshal, and to the office of the marshal, respectively.

A form of the schedule, in the form to be used, is also transmitted to you, and is directed to be used in the execution of the act, and preserved as a matter of evidence. Your assistants shall observe, that the act expressly requires the enumeration to be made by an actual inquiry, at every dwelling house, or the head of every family, and not otherwise, and that the oath or affirmation, to be taken by them, shall be performed in the manner prescribed by the act. And, if I leave to suggest, as advisable, that the period of the act may be extended, in order to prevent the assistants from being required to go a day in the performance of their duties.

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The discrimination between persons engaged in agriculture, commerce, and manufactures, will not be without its abuses. An insignificant person in the population is no less likely to find favor with the courts of justice, than a person of more considerable rank. It is probably the first class which would succeed the intention of the Legislature that any one individual should be included in more than one of those whose occupations are exclusively agricultural or commercial; three can seldom arrive at a situation, and in the column of manufactures is the art more specifically denominated manufacturing establishments, but all these are artisans, handicraftsmen, and mechanics, whose labor is performed on the premises, and not upon the field.

By persons engaged in agriculture, commerce, or manufactures, your assistants will understand that they are to be inserted in these columns, not whole families, including the employers and unskilled persons, but only those engaged by actual occupation. This consideration is given to the art, because it is believed to be best adapted to fill the intentions of the Legislature, and because, being susceptible of the returns, it might be differently construed by different persons engaged in the manufacture, and thus destroy the uniformity of returns, essential to a satisfactory result.

Besides this enumeration of manufactures, the vessels and their assistants are required, by the fourth section of the act, to take an account of the several manufacturing establishments and their works, within their several districts, provinces, and counties, and publishing the name of the master and assistants, that they might be accommodated with the information of the manufactures, that is, are doubtless, that, in the intention of the Legislature, persons engaged only upon household manufactures are not to be included in the column of persons bearing that denomination, the occupation of manufacturing being, in such cases, only incidental, and not the profession properly marking the class of society to which such individual belong.

This, then, offers a criterion by which your assistants may select the column of occupation to which each individual may be set down: namely, to that which is the principal, and not the occasional, or incidental, occupation of his life.

The more particular the account of manufactures can be made, the more satisfactory will be the returns, which, among the papers enclosed in the alphabetical list of manufactures, [No. 6] which may facilitate the labor of your assistants, but which they will not consider as complete. It is intended merely to give direction to their inquiries, and that each of them shall add to it every manufacture not included in it, and all of which he takes an account within his division. A printed form [No. 7] is likewise enclosed, afquainted by your assistants in relation to manufacturing establishments, on a sheet of paper, upon which the information requested may be written and returned. In every case when it can be conveniently done, your assistants will do well to give this form to some person principally concerned in the manufacturing establishments, requiring him to give the information desired himself.

The execution of the 3rd section of the act requires the further interrogatories, whether any person, whose usual place was in the family on the 1st of August, 1819, he absent therefrom at the time of the inquiry made and, if so, the sex, age, color, and condition of such person are to be asked, and marked in the proper column, in the return of the family. It follows, of course, that any person who, at the time of taking the number of any family, has his usual place in it, in an estimation, not to be included in the return of that family, if his usual place of abode was, on the first Monday of August, in another family. The name of every person having an unsettled place of residence, is to be inserted in the columns of the schedule allotted for the hands of families in the division in which such person shall have been the first Monday of August.

Your assistants will be careful to observe, however, an important distinction between the inquiries directly necessary to the enumeration, and those relating to manufactures: they will see that, by the 8th section of the act, each and every free person, more than fifteen years of age, whether heads of families or not, belonging to any family within any division, district, or territory, is to be added to the assistant of the division, if required, a true account, in the best of his or her knowledge, of every person belonging to such family respectively, according to the several descriptions to the schedule, upon a penalty of twenty dollars, but the act has no positive injunction upon any individual to furnish any information of his property, or his private estates, the answers in all inquiries of that character must be altogether voluntary, and every one, to whom they are put or addressed, will be at liberty to decline answering them at all. The act has been a principal motive for putting the inquiries pointed to in the tables already described, to be inserted in separate and distinct forms, that it may be expected that some individuals will feel reluctant to give all the information desired in relation to manufactures; but, as the views of Congress, are undoubtedly views of kindness towards the manufacturing interest in general, it is hoped, that the general sentiments among the persons included in that highly important class of our population will incline to all the information which will facilitate the compilation of the schedule, which may enable the Legislature hereafter to promote their interesting measures with them those of the other great and leading classes of society.

By the seventh section of the act, every assistant, before taking his return to you, is required to cause a correct copy, signed by himself, of the schedule containing the number of inhabitants within his division, to be set up to the most public places within the same, three to remain for the inspection of all concerned; proof of which is to be transmitted to you by each of your assistants, to a certificate subscribed to the number of persons—upon the form which the act will fix the compensation allowed him by the act. The time during which the copy of the schedule must thus remain set up is not specified; but must be presumed a reasonable time for the purpose of being known by the public, and the persons by whom it may have been placed there, the determination of the number of families and numbers of persons to be returned; a time within which all the inhabitants recorded in the schedule may have had a sufficient opportunity for the information thereof, and not more than the time in it, to be impressed with a sense of the importance of the information. A form of a certificate, to be subscribed to the number of persons, [No. 1.] is enclosed, as a convenient mode of furnishing the proof required by the act.

The returns of manufactures, when received from all your assistants, are to be filed by you, together with an attached copy of the aggregate amount, to be made out by yourself, with the clerk of your district (or superior) court, who are directed to receive and carefully to preserve them—and or before the first day of April next, you are to transmit to this Department the aggregate amount of such description of persons within your district [or territory] by which it is to be understood, and merely the general aggregate amount of your whole district, but also the special aggregate of every subdivision, of counties, towns, cities, boroughs, and parishes—and in the principal cities, of their several wards.

The returns of manufactures, collected by yourself, and those made to you by your assistants, you are to transmit, together with abstracts of the same, to this Department, at the same time with the aggregate of the manufacture. The form of an abstract, corresponding with the schedules [No. 7] from the answers to which it is to be compiled, is delivered and numbered [p. 19].

With the forms of the returns is enclosed that of the aggregates to be compiled by you [No. 8] from all the returns, and a specimen of the manner in which they may be most conveniently filled up by each of your assistants. By taking a copy of the column, and prefixing to the returns, to project beyond the edges of his book, he will always have under his eye the necessary guides for the proper column in which each return is to be made, without being liable to the blundering at the top of each column. A cypher figure is also printed, denoting the different classes of persons, which, at the glance of the eye, will point to the column in which each entry is to be made.

The purpose of the schedules is for taking and conveying the information required for filling the following instructions on that point are added:

1. No payments will be made in advance from the Treasury for this object. On the rendering of the accounts by the Marshals, the payments will be made at the Treasury, and the payment will be made, for the whole amount of compensation in each district or territory, to the Marshal thereof. The assistants are to be appointed, that it is the Marshal shown to whom they are to apply for their compensation.

2. If any of the assistants are allowed more than the rate of one dollar for every hundred persons enumerated, there must be annexed to the abstract the certificate of the district or territorial judge, approving such additional allowance.
4. The account of compensation is to be transmitted to this Department, at the same time with the returns of the census. The column of compensation for taking the account of manufactures must be left in blank; and the allowance will be 2 per cent. on the amount allowed for the other services required by the act. This arrangement being subject to the direction of the Secretary of State, you will state in the column the amount of your claim for it, and if extending to, or approving, the whole allowance within the limits of the act, you will assign the reasons upon which it may be allowed, by a judicious exercise of the discretion authorized by the law.

Should any difficulty or obstacle occur to any of your associates, in performing the duty assigned to him, it is expected that he will give you immediate notice of it, that you may take measures for removing it, if within your power. Should any such occur to yourself, for which it may be within the competency of this Department to provide a remedy, you are requested to give immediate communication of it to me.

A number, believed to be competent, of copies of the act, of these instructions, and of the forms referred to in them, numbered as noted, is hereewith furnished for the supply of yourself and your assistants, to whom they are supposed to be necessary. Should more be required, you will receive them, on giving notice of it by letter to this Department. You are requested, as soon as convenient, after the receipt of this letter, to acknowledge it.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, sir, your humble and obedient servant,

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

LIST OF PAPERS ENCLOSED.

Copies of the Act for taking the Fourth Census of Enumeration.
Copies of these Instructions.

FORMS.

No. 1. Schedule of enumeration to be used by the Assessors, and returned to the Marshal, on or before the first Monday in February, 1850.

No. 2. Certificate to be signed by two respectable witnesses, and signed to the Marshal, by whom it is to be transmitted to the Secretary of State.

No. 3. Certificate of the Marshal, to be returned certified as above, to the Secretary of State.

No. 4. Return of assessments, to be signed and sealed as above, to the Marshal, and by him to the Department of State.

No. 5. Return of returns, to be signed and sealed as above, to the Secretary of State.

No. 6. Return of returns, to be signed and sealed as above, to the Secretary of State.

No. 7. Return of returns, to be signed and sealed as above, to the Secretary of State.

No. 8. Aggregate of assessments, to be made by the Marshal from the schedules returned by the Assessors, and transmitted to the Department of State.

No. 9. Return of returns, to be made by the Marshal from the returns of the Assessors, and transmitted to the Department of State.