

LESSON 6:

LOUISIANA PURCHASE

31

To Albert Gallatin, Secretary of the Treasury of the United States.

Whereas by an Act, passed the tenth day of November, in the year one thousand eight hundred and three, entitled "An Act authorizing the creation of a stock to the amount of eleven millions two hundred and fifty thousand dollars for the purpose of carrying into effect the Convention of the 30th of April one thousand eight hundred and three, between the United States of America, and the French Republic; and making provision for the payment of the same"; it is, among other things, enacted "That for the purpose of carrying into effect the Convention of the thirtieth day of April 1803 between the United States of America and the French Republic, the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized to cause to be constituted Certificates of Stock signed by the Register of the Treasury, in favor of the French Republic or of its Assignees, for the sum of Eleven Millions two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, bearing an interest of six per centum per annum, from the time when possession of Louisiana shall have been obtained in conformity with the Treaty of the thirtieth day of April 1803, between the United States of America and the French Republic, and in other respects conformable with the tenor of the Convention aforesaid; And the President of the United States is authorized to cause the said Certificates of Stock to be delivered to the Government of France, or to such Person or Persons as shall be authorized to receive them, in three months at most after the exchange of ratifications of the Treaty aforesaid and after Louisiana shall be taken possession of in the name of the Government of the United States" — Now therefore Be

Letter from President Thomas Jefferson to Secretary of the Treasury Albert Gallatin; Treasury Department Papers Relating to the Louisiana Purchase; National Archives Microfilm Publication T 712, Roll 1, Frame 31; General Records of the Department of the Treasury, Record Group 56, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

2
it known, that, I, Thomas Jefferson, President of
the United States of America, by virtue of the power in me vested
by the Act before recited, Do hereby authorize and require
you, Albert Gallatin, Secretary of the Treasury, to cause to be
delivered to the Government of France, or to such person or persons
as have been authorized to receive the same, the Certificates of stock
which have been constituted in conformity with the Convention of
the thirtieth day of April 1803, between the United States of Ame-
rica and the French Republic —: And for so doing this
shall be your sufficient Warrant.

In testimony whereof, I
have hereunto subscribed my hand
at the City of Washington the
sixteenth day of January
one thousand eight hundred and four.

T. Jefferson

Letter from President Thomas Jefferson to Secretary of the Treasury Albert Gallatin; Treasury Department Papers Relating to the Louisiana Purchase; National Archives Microfilm Publication T 712, Roll 1, Frame 32; General Records of the Department of the Treasury, Record Group 56, National Archives, Washington, D.C.



Captain William Clark Meeting with the Indians of the Northwest,
by Charles M. Russell, 1897, Oil on Canvas
Sid Richardson Museum, Fort Worth, Texas

1803, July 4

Dear Sir

(74)

Washington. U.S. of America. July 4. 1803.

In the journey which you are about to undertake for the discovery of the source and course of the Mississippi, and of the most convenient water communication from thence to the Pacific ocean, your party being small, it is to be expected that you will encounter considerable dangers from the Indian inhabitants, should you escape those dangers and reach the Pacific ocean, you may find it imprudent to hazard a return the same way, and be forced to seek a passage round by sea, in such vessels as you may find on the Western coast. but you will be without money, without clothes, & other necessaries; as a sufficient supply cannot be carried with you from hence. your resource in that case can only be in the credit of the U.S. for which purpose I hereby authorize you to draw on the Secretaries of State, of the Treasury, of War & of the Navy, of the U.S. according as you may find your draughts will be most reasonable, for the purpose of obtaining money or necessaries for yourself & your men: and I solemnly pledge the faith of the United States that these draughts shall be paid punctually at the date they are made payable. I also ask of the Consuls, agents, merchants & citizens of any nation with which we have intercourse or amity, to furnish you with those supplies which your necessities may call for, assuring them of honorable and prompt payment, and our own Consuls in foreign parts where you may happen to be, are hereby instructed & required to be aiding & assisting to you in whatever may be necessary for procuring your return back to the United States. And to give more certain satisfaction & confidence to those who may be disposed to aid you, I Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States of America, have written this letter of general credit ^{for you} with my own hand, and signed it with my name.

Th Jefferson

To
Capt. Meriwether Lewis.

22938

The Thomas Jefferson Papers Series 1. General Correspondence. 1651-1827 Thomas Jefferson to Meriwether Lewis, July 4, 1803, Image 731 of 1207
Online version on November 2, 2006, available at:
<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html>

Indian Presents

12 Pipe Tomahawks	8 3/4				18
6 1/2 doz Steep Steel Iron	6 1/2				1 62
1 pair flannel 47 1/2 yds	12 3/4	5	12	0	14 94
11 1/2 doz Hancock's ap ^d	13 1/2	22	8	9	59 33
1 doz Ivory Combs	3 03	1	5	0	3 33
1/2 Catty Ind. S. Silk	7 03	1	5	12	3 75
24 1/2 doz Head ap ^d	21 1/2	8	13	9	23 17
1 pair Scarlet Cloth 22 yds	28 3/4	21	18	9	53 50
3 doz fan. Hoop	6 3/4	7	1	6	13 57
6 doz Binding	9 1/4	4	8	5	11 79
2 doz Beads	1 3/4	1	8	6	3 50
4 doz: Dutchess Knives	8 1/4	2	0	0	5 33
12 doz Pocket Looking Glass	12 1/4				5 19
15 doz Buttons 8 1/2	3 9/16				3 99
8 doz Buttons 8 1/2	11 1/4				12
2 doz Non-slippery	2 7/4				2 94
2 doz Red Striped Lapis	1 1/2				2 50
72 1/2 doz Striped Silk Ribbons	3 1/4				39 62
5 1/2 doz Beads	3 1/2				2 01
6 Paper Small Bells	1 1/4				4 02
1 box with 100 large 8 1/2	1 1/2				2 25
73 Buttons Beads ap ^d	2 0				41
3 1/2 doz: Tinned Bands ap ^d	9 03				3 75
1 1/2 doz Head					
1 doz: Needle Case	5 1/2				3 0
2 1/4 doz Lockets	5 02				3 56
8 1/2 doz Red Beads	8 7/2				25 50
2 doz: Earrings	2 0	4	0	0	1 067
8 Brass Knives	10 1/2	2	16	0	10 44
12 1/2 doz Brass Knives	12 1/2	2	11	0	6 80
500 Broaches	1 1/2				62 07
72 Rings	32 1/4				6 00
2 Green Mills	1 1/4				20 00
15 doz: Suspenders	1 1/4				18 97
carriage					446 82
					53
					507 35

List of Indian presents purchased by Meriwether Lewis in preparation for the expedition to the West, 1803; Records of the War Department Office of the Quartermaster General, Record Group 92; Old Military and Civil Records LICON, Textual Archives Services Division (NWCTB), National Archives Building, Washington, DC. Online version on November 2, 2006, available at:

<http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/lewis-clark/images/present-list.gif>

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