

Public No. 967

~~THE CONGRESS~~
~~IN SENATE~~ **H. R. 738**

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 13, 1863.

~~Read twice and referred to the Committee on Territories.~~

AN ACT

To provide a temporary government for the Territory of ^{Idaho.}~~Montana~~
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives

Idaho Historical Society

GOVERNOR WALLACE'S OWN COPY OF THE IDAHO TERRITORIAL ACT, WITH THE PRINTED NAME "MONTANA," CORRECTED TO "IDAHO" TO CONFORM WITH THE LAST-MINUTE REVISION ON THE FLOOR OF CONGRESS. HE SEEMS TO HAVE BROUGHT THIS COPY WITH HIM WHEN HE LEFT FOR THE NEW TERRITORY WITHOUT WAITING FOR A CORRECTED VERSION TO BE SET UP IN TYPE.

If it is definitely concluded to accept Judge Parks' resignation, as I understand it is, let the within appointment be made.

A. Lincoln

April 14, 1865.

*It is definitely concluded
to accept Judge Parks' resignation,
as I understand it is, let
the within appointment be made*

A. Lincoln

April 14, 1865



*And may God bless you
A. Lincoln*

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND DEVELOPMENT

Room 108 - State House - Boise, Idaho

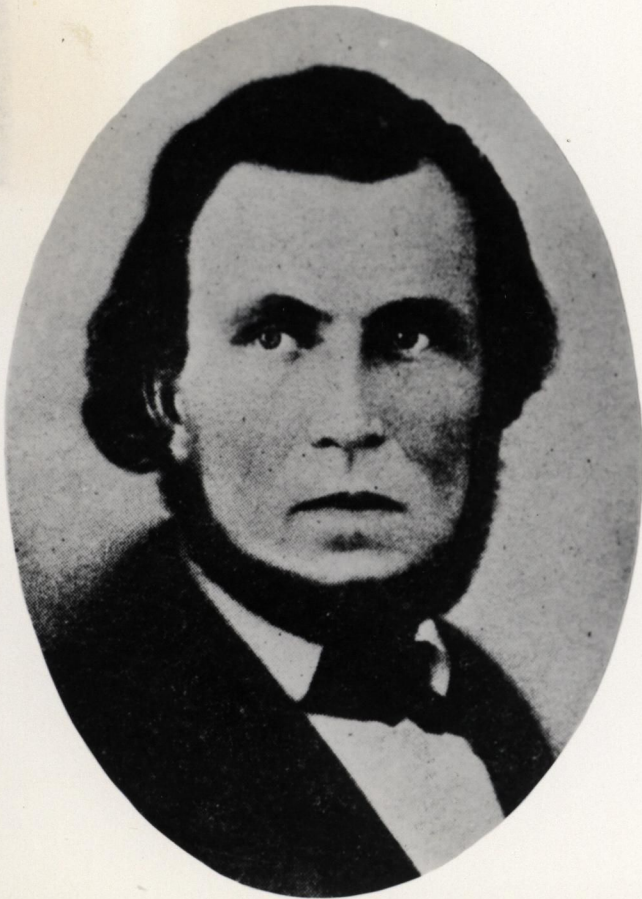
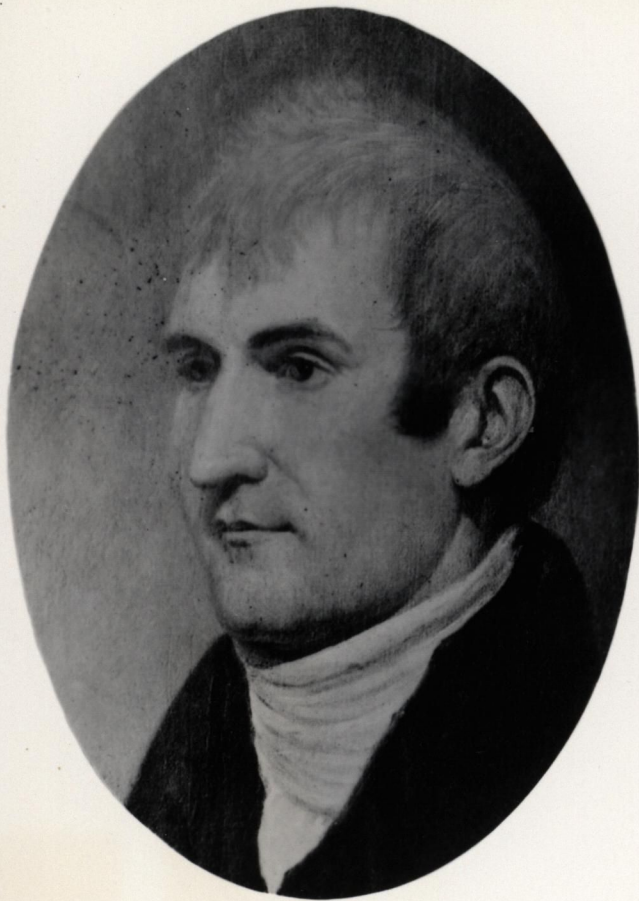
Subject and Location:

Upper left: The Act that created Idaho. Governor Wallace's own copy of the Idaho Territorial Act, with the printed name "Montana" corrected to "Idaho" to conform with the last-minute revision on the floor of Congress. He seems to have brought this copy with him when he left for the new Territory without waiting for a corrected version to be set up in type.

Upper right: Dated the day of his assassination, this memorandum making an Idaho appointment was one of Abraham Lincoln's last official acts. The original manuscript in Lincoln's own handwriting is in the collection of the Idaho Historical Society, at Idaho's capital, Boise. Plans are being made to include it in a public exhibit honoring Idaho's Territorial Centennial Year.

Negative No. _____ File Reference _____

CREDIT LINE REQUESTED: IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND DEVELOPMENT



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND DEVELOPMENT

Room 108 - State House - Boise, Idaho

Subject and Location:

Upper left: Meriwether Lewis. An officer under General Mad Anthony Wayne, explorer, and leader of courage and vision. Trusted by President Jefferson, even before the Louisiana Purchase, to plan the great expedition to the Pacific and help bring into reality Jefferson's dream of a United States reaching from ocean to ocean. First white man to set foot on the land of Idaho.

Upper Right: William Clark. Able companion of Meriwether Lewis. Son of George Rogers Clark, the great American general and Indian fighter. Also served under General Mad Anthony Wayne. With Lewis, conducted the great expedition to the Pacific Coast through the wild American wilderness. In later life, Territorial Governor of Missouri.

Lower left: Captain E. D. Pierce. Discoverer of gold in Idaho. Veteran of the Mexican War and of the California gold rush. He combined determination, deception, infinite patience, and stubborn persistence to penetrate forbidden Indian lands, to brave hostile tribes, and find gold in Orofino Creek.

Lower right: William H. Wallace. Whom President Abraham Lincoln appointed first Governor of Idaho Territory. He struggled tirelessly to see Idaho created, yet the federal government did not pay him his Governor's salary. He was also Idaho's first Delegate to Congress.

Negative No. _____ File Reference _____

CREDIT LINE REQUESTED: IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND DEVELOPMENT



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND DEVELOPMENT

Room 108 - State House - Boise, Idaho

Subject and Location:

The L. H. Hatch house.

This picture is to be used with the story which is headed:

FIRST HOUSE IN IDAHO
APPROACHING OWN CENTENNIAL

CREDIT LINE REQUESTED: IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND DEVELOPMENT

From: Idaho Department of Commerce and Development State House Boise, Idaho

Release: Thursday October 25, 1962

IDAHO'S POPULATION NOW LARGER THAN MONTANA'S

While the people of Idaho have been busily firing opening guns for various celebrations of Idaho's Territorial Centennial Year, the state itself has stepped suddenly into a new place in the national spotlight. Idaho just now has passed Montana in population and displaced it as the forty-second state in population according to official estimates made public by the United States Bureau of the Census. The figures were released in a statement by Louise Shadduck, Executive Secretary of Idaho's Department of Commerce and Development, and show that by the federal government's count as of July 1, 1961 Idaho's population had reached 684,000 and Montana's had climbed to 682,000. Idaho State sources indicate it is probable that by January 1963, Idaho's population will have reached the 700,000 mark.

"The population race between the neighbor states has been close for the past three censuses, 1940, 1950, and 1960" the statement continues, and the prediction has often been made that Idaho would take the lead. Of course the comparative standings are still as close as a one-run win victory in a world series but it carries all the satisfaction of a well-earned win over a traditional rival.

"A look at the map of the original Idaho Territory will show that the present area of Montana was once a comparatively small part of Idaho. It was surrounded on all of its American sides by Idaho. The Canadian border, as it does today, bounded both areas in the north.

"The Idaho Territory was established and named by an Act of Congress signed by President Abraham Lincoln on March 4th, 1863. It was the biggest single area of American land ever so established and named by the Government and included all of present-day Wyoming and Montana and those parts of Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota west of the eastern Colorado border extended north. The Idaho

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add 1

Idaho's Population now Larger than Montana's

Territory was larger than all the Pacific Coast States combined: larger than many of the great European kingdoms of the day.

"The creation of such a geographical colossus was occasioned by a complicated political situation. At the dawn of 1863 the area was governed from Olympia in Washington State. The governing bodies there feared the loss of their capital, their authority, and their jobs as the gold miners rushed to Idaho's goldfields and shifted the entire population weight away from the coast. Gold centers quickly grew larger ^{than} ~~than~~ the cities in the nearby Northwest. And back in Washington, D. C., Republican Senators were favorable to establishing sympathetic states in the West so as to strengthen their majority against the return of Southern Democratic states at the end of the Civil War. The Idaho bill was politicked through the House with the name of the area stated as Montana. The name on the printed document was changed, in pen and ink, to Idaho and approved by both Houses.

"The Fort Boise garrison and the present capital city of Boise had their official beginnings on July 4th and 7th of 1863, at the time of the Union victories at Gettysburg and Vicksburg. Naturally the dates of their centennial observances will be the same."

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IDAHO CENTENNIAL NEWS NUGGET

From: Idaho Department of Commerce and Development

Release: At Will

ABRAHAM LINCOLN GODFATHER TO IDAHO, BIGGEST TERRITORY

In unfolding the historical information which is the basis of its Territorial Centennial Celebration in the year 1963, the State of Idaho throws a revealing spotlight on activities of Abraham Lincoln showing how far his greatness and stature transcended his greatness as war-time President. His interest and influence in expanding America's Western empire, so often forgotten, are brought to light again.

Lincoln's hopes turned to the new lands of the great Northwest after his defeat for Congress when president Buchanan offered him the governorship of Oregon Territory of which Idaho was a part. But his wife's persistence led to his refusal and saw him established in law practice and wealthy for the first time in his life. The Northwest called him again, though, and this time he answered. The Nebraska-Kansas Bill was passed: it would have allowed slavery into the Northwest Territories. This challenged him to get back into politics and fight. Desire to see the great new countries spared the fate of "Bleeding Kansas" and tragic Missouri drew Lincoln out of his home state and gave him again to the entire nation.

William H. Wallace, appointed by Lincoln as first Governor of the Idaho Territory was a close personal friend of his. Lincoln invited him to the fatal victory celebration party at Ford's Theatre, an invitation declined by Wallace because Mrs. Wallace was not particularly well that night. Later, Wallace was one of the pall bearers at Lincoln's funeral. One of Lincoln's last official acts as shown by the memorandum in his own handwriting, dated April 14, 1865, the night he was assassinated, was making an Idaho court appointment: His memorandum concerned the naming of Milton Kelley to the position of Associate Justice

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abraham lincoln godfather to idaho, biggest territory

in Idaho Supreme Court.

According to the story told in the Wallace family, upon Wallace's declining the invitation to Ford's Theatre, the President patted him on the back and said, "Now, Old Idaho, come down in the morning, Monday, between nine and ten o'clock and get your second commission, and you can have everything for Old Idaho as you want it."

Lincoln had many other contacts among Western pioneers and the growth of America's new Western empire during his administration bears out his own interest. Though harassed by the problems of the Civil War his administration saw the completion of the Mullan Road, called the greatest civil engineering achievement ever completed by a nation fighting a major war. He was always alert to keeping Europe out of the western hemisphere, as witnessed by his plans for getting Maximilian off the "Imperial Throne" of Mexico. There is no doubt his actions showed keen appreciation of Jefferson's passion for developing the great coast-to-coast nation.

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IDAHO CENTENNIAL NEWS NUGGET

From: Department of Commerce and Development

Release: At Will

- # 1 Suggestion for Sectional Lead, Idaho Centennial Pilot Story. This is for extreme Northern Section.

CANADIAN GOLD RUSH HELPED SETTLE IDAHO BIGGEST OF TERRITORIES

As Idaho's Centennial celebrations get under way this year, the Kootenai Valley will echo with memories of the British Columbia gold rush which started even before Idaho's big rush to Orofino and Pierce. For here through the north of the Idaho Panhandle came the stampede that started from Walla Walla, followed the famous old Wild Horse Trail, crossed the Kootenai at the present point of Bonners Ferry aided by Chief Abraham and other natives, and finally reached the Canadian gold fields of Fraser River and Cariboo.

This was one of the important beginnings of Idaho -- the largest area of this earth ever created and named by our government as part of the United States. And Idaho is celebrating its one hundredth birthyear in true Western tradition in this year of 1963.

(Follow on with balance of Pilot Story on Centennial)

- # 2 Suggestion for Sectional Lead. Northern Section. Subject: Mullan Road and Tree

IDAHO CENTENNIAL REVIVES FANTASTIC ENGINEERING FEAT

The greatest civil engineering and construction achievement ever attempted and completed by a nation engaged in a major war, it has been called -- and that is the Mullan Road. From Walla Walla, it skirted Coeur d'Alene Lake on its way to Fort Benton in now Montana. Traffic was flowing over it, expediting Idaho gold shipments to the federal treasury as Idaho became a U. S. Territory, and the famous Mullan Tree where the builder and his men rested (recently blown down by a

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suggestion for section lead

storm) was like our state itself, a hundred years younger.

And now Idaho -- the largest area of this earth ever created and named by our government as part of the United States is celebrating its hundredth birthyear in true Western tradition in this year of 1963.

(Follow on with the material in the Pilot Story on Centennial)

3 Suggestion for Sectional Lead. North Middle Section, based on Lewiston.

100 YEARS AGO THE
SEAPORT IN MOUNTAINS
HELPED BUILD IDAHO

A hundred years ago they came: by sea, by the Pacific waters, by the Columbia River, by the Snake, by the thousands -- gold seekers poured through newly established Lewiston. The route through that seaport in the mountains mixed a magic potion of men, gold, and bold venture which founded an inland empire bigger than most in Europe and richer in treasure, too. Lewiston became the supply center for an area too big to be governed from a coast state, and so Lewiston became the capital of this Golden Empire.

It was the largest area of this earth ever created and named by our government as part of the United States. And it is celebrating its hundredth birthyear in true old Western tradition.

(Follow with balance of Pilot Story on Centennial)

4 Suggestion for Sectional Lead. Southern Section. Boise Basin Story

BOISE BASIN GOLD
CREATED IDAHO'S 'BIGNESS'
100 YEARS AGO

Big, was the word for the Boise Basin gold rush -- the gold rush that did most to create Idaho and to make it the biggest territory the United States ever created and named. In a matter of weeks the gold rush to the Idaho gold fields threw into the Boise Basin a population more than double the combined populations of Washington and Oregon at the time they were made Territories. So Idaho was
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add 2
suggestion for section lead

created in the dark crisis days of the Civil War when the hand of Abraham Lincoln signed the necessary Act of Congress on March 3, 1863. A great group of rich Western lands came under United States law and government and the name Idaho flashed upon the world.

(Follow with the balance of the Pilot Story on Centennial)

5 Suggestion for Sectional Lead. Southeast Section -- Franklin Story

CENTENNIAL OF IDAHO
REVEALS SETTLEMENT THAT
NEEDED NO GOVERNMENT

The largest area of this earth ever created and named by our government as part of the United States is celebrating its hundredth birthyear in true old Western tradition in 1963. It was created a hundred years ago during the dark crisis days of the Civil War by the hand of Abraham Lincoln upon the Act of Congress passed March 3rd, 1863. A great group of golden lands became the Idaho Territory. This was the culmination of sacrifice and efforts by loyal citizens to bring government to a land greatly in need of organization.

However, there was one settlement in Idaho having no special need for government from some remote central source. It was Franklin, the first permanent settlement in Idaho, made by people who didn't even know they were in Idaho. Their religion served as sufficient organization for the conduct of their lives. They were quite surprised to find themselves a part of the treasure-rich new Territory.

It was bigger than the state of Texas, big enough to be comparable to the thirteen original states.

(Follow with balance of Pilot story on Centennial)

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suggestion for section lead

6 Suggestion for Sectional Lead. Eastern Section. Eagle Rock Ferry Story

EAGLE ROCK FERRY
AND IDAHO SHARE
100TH BIRTHYEAR-1963

Emphasizing the vitally important part Idaho's eastern gateway played in making it the largest territory on this earth ever created and named by our Government as part of the United States, memorable old Eagle Rock Ferry is sharing its 100th birthday with the Idaho Territory. William A. Hickman and Harry Richards started running the ferry in 1863 and it was long operated by J. M. Taylor. It was a very important crossing for the heavy travel between the Montana and Idaho gold mines and Salt Lake City. Idaho was created a hundred years ago during the dark crisis days of the Civil War when the hand of President Abraham Lincoln signed the necessary act of Congress, March 3, 1863. Then a great group of suprisingly rich lands became Idaho: the Idaho Territory.

(Follow with the balance of the Pilot Story on Centennial)

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