

Madam J. M. W. W.

John Thomas Esq.

Seasburg Feb 1868

On arriving in Illinois I had  
find the power of attorney from  
self & Madam & Mrs Gaudin as I  
to get I have been on your land  
carefully looked over it is worth  
of the Mississippi all hands it  
land a part fair land and a part  
from what I can learn the land is  
from a thousand to twelve hundred  
dollars there are two settlements  
are of no account except about  
trees the other improvement will be  
about fifteen hundred dollars  
finished it will be necessary  
you redeem the land before you  
sustain an action of Ejectment  
you will also be compelled to  
the improvement on the land  
enumerated but you will  
not for back rent and taxes  
when the demand for redemption  
is made and I will be  
for Gaudin the only

sumner an action against the party  
in possession for one year she will  
be heard on a return which will entirely  
preclude the possibility of recovering her  
land if you still wish me to attend  
to your affairs prepare and send me  
the power of attorney immediately if  
you decline employing me then the  
business to return me my contract  
I shall receive my letters at Keytesville  
Chariton Co Mo until about the first  
of march 1860 hoping to hear from  
you soon I am

Very Respectfully yours  
J. C. Godner

# TO THE SOLDIERS OF THE WAR OF 1812

THEIR HEIRS AND ASSIGNS, AND OTHERS INTERESTED IN WESTERN LANDS  
THIS CIRCULAR IS ADDRESSED TO

All those who enlisted in said War for five years or during the war were entitled to land patents for from 160 to 320 acres of land. About 29,000 Soldiers of the War of 1812 in Missouri, and several thousand more in Arkansas. These patents were for the years 1817 to 1821. These lands, in most cases have been sold for taxes, and the title has since been passed, but in many cases the tax sales can be redeemed, and in many other cases where the title has been passed, the tax-title can be defeated and the lands made available to the original owners. Many of these soldiers decided their lands at an early day to third parties, who either lost them or neglected to have them surveyed and the records still show title to the original owner.

I have been appointed a Commissioner of Deeds, and have the honor to be the Land Agent to those who may be in any wise interested in western lands, either as Soldiers, Heirs, or Assigns, of patent titles or otherwise, either to clear titles, to pay taxes, to call them lands, or to defend them from frauds upon their claims.

I have in my office abstracts from official records of the names of the Soldiers or their heirs, the name of the officer under whom the Soldier served, the corps or regiment in which they served, the date of their Land Warrant, date of patent, section, township, and range of county, and also the names of the Soldiers of Missouri and Illinois, and a large amount of information obtained from the records of the lands, and have facilities for obtaining duplicate patents, where they have been lost or destroyed. I have engaged many years in the investigation and prosecution of the claims of Soldiers, and in defending their claims from frauds, and prosecuting trespasses on those lands. I feel confident that you will entrust their claims in my hands. Having purchased a few parcels of land in the State of Missouri, and having many cases in my hands for investigation, title, correct frauds, and defend from trespasses, I shall be in the military discharge room and under the day of November, 1860, in the presence of all persons who may be in any wise interested in these lands.

To Postmasters, Magistrates, Clerks of Courts, and Superior Courts, I have been informed that there have been persons travelling in the Southern States, for the purpose of purchasing land, and in some cases of western lands, others engaged in the same business, and in some cases they have been entrusted with Powers of Attorney to sell. In many cases, however, no such Powers of Attorney have been made by any of these parties, and Powers of Attorney, which have been made, are not known within your knowledge. I will take pleasure in ascertaining the names of these persons, and in some cases (where fraud has been practiced) to the bitter end.

Any letters addressed to me at Keytesville, Missouri, or Xenoville, Missouri, will be returned, if accompanied with a stamp to pay return postage, or if sent to any place in the State of North Carolina, County, N. C., in my absence, will elicit an answer from my friend, who is a Lawyer, or be forwarded home for investigation and report, at my own expense.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LANDS  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE STATUTES OF THE WAR OF 1862

THIS CIRCULAR IS APPLICABLE TO ALL STATES

*Amended*

All lands... the war were entitled to draw... Illinois and... the time allowed by... the original owners... recorded.

I have been... of the State of Illinois... land Agent... of patent... under the

I have in my... of the... their land... of... and have... engaged many... living... great... and having

presence of... The... been... of western... entered from... land has... within your... (where land... are... if accompanied... county... or be...)

attention... Attorney... of... of... of...

REFERENCES

Act of March 3, 1877, ch. 125, § 1

Act of March 3, 1877, ch. 125, § 2

Act of March 3, 1877, ch. 125, § 3

Act of March 3, 1877, ch. 125, § 4