DELAWARE, OHIO, Let month 16/1/824. HAVING received an appointment in the LAND OFFICE, at this place, in 1820, and having previously had a residence of 20 years in Ohio, I was well acquainted with the difficulties with which the purcha-

sers of the public lands have to contend. And in order, as much as possible, to assist them in exploring and selecting the best tracts, I encouraged my son to devote a considerable portion of his time to making manuscript maps, of parts of the District. This was very advantageous to the purchasers, but it was found to be too tedious and expensive, as well as impracticable, to a sufficient extent. In order, therefore, more extensively to diffuse the knowledge of this fine district of country, and, of course, to promote its sale and settlement, I encouraged him to make a map of the whole District, on a scale, sufficiently large to show

RESPECTED FRIEND,-

all the legal subdivisions, however small; and yet, not too large to be very portable; and to have it engraved on copper plate. By this means, every person who wished to explore those lands, might, at a very small expense, be essentially assisted, in selecting from any part of the district. The tracts which have been sold, are marked on the plate, and those which are afterwards sold are marked with a pen or pencil, until this edition is disposed of. This requires considerable time and attention; but it has been found greatly to facilitate the sale of those lands. Two editions of this map have been disposed of: The principal part of them have been gratuitously distributed to such of our friends and acquaintance, in the Eastern, Middle, and some of the Western and Southern States, as we supposed to be so enlightened and liberal minded, as to feel interested in promoting the emigration of industrious citizens, who might be essentially benefitted thereby. And it has had the desired effect.

We have, however, the past season, in Ohio, as well as in many other states, been visited with sickness, more generally than has at any time before been experienced. And, notwithstanding a large proportion of this district, and especially most of those parts which are near the Lake, and other navigable waters, have continued to be more healthy than many other parts of the Western country; the exaggerated reports of unhealthiness in Ohio, which have been extensively circulated, has checked the current of emigration, which was rapidly setting into it.

In order, therefore, still more extensively, to spread the knowledge of this very interesting district of country; and, again to enlarge the current of emigration to it; the lands which have been sold, up to the commencement of 1824, have been marked on the plate; and the important state road, which, agreeably to an act of Congress, has been lately located from Perrysburg, at the foot of the Maumee Rapids, by Lower Sandusky and Croghansville, to the Connecticut Western Reserve, has also been engraved on it. And when we shall be certainly instructed which sections have, agreeably to an act of Congress, been selected and appropriated for making this road, they will be conspicuously marked on the map, to enable the purchasers from the state of Ohio, to examine and distinguish them from the lands belonging to the General Government. And we have caused another edition of 500 maps to be struck off, to be distributed gratis, principally in the Atlantic states, in Ohio, and in the British dominions in Canada. And, having no doubt of thy being desirous of promoting the sale of the public land, and encouraging the settlement of the western country, I have taken the liberty of offering to thy acceptance one of those maps. I conceive there are many inducements to settle in this district, or to invest spare capital in those valuable lands. It may not, therefore, be improper to remak, that Ohio is now preparing to follow the example of New York and Virginia, by opening a canal from Lake Erie to the Ohio River; and it is believed that from 50 to 80 miles of the canal must pass through this district.

By viewing its situation on a map of the United States and Territories, its superior importance will be more clearly seen. It is understood that a canal from the Wabash to the Maumee river, can be made at so small an expense, that it is confidently believed, that the trade of Indiana, a principal part of Illinois, &c. &c. will soon be, thereby, turned through this district. It is also believed, there is a strong probability, that, instead of ascending the rapid current of the Mississippi, and the Ouisconsin river, and from thence by a canal to be made to the navigable water of Lake Michigan; which has been contemplated by some, who have passed in that direction; it will be found of vast importance to the United States, not only in a Commercial, but in a Political point of view, to turn the trade of the immense extent of country, which is watered by the Upper Mississippi, the Missouri, and their branches, to pass up, against the gentle current of the Illinois river, so far as it is navigable for steam boats; and thence, by a canal, into the valley of the Maumee, to Lake Erie, or Maumee Bay; which, to make the navigation very perfect, would not, in all probability, require that it should be more than 280 miles; and to use the Maumee river, from Fort Wayne to the Rapids of the Maumee, and there would probably require not more than 200 miles of canaling. By this route, the ascending from about 41° 40' North Latitude, to nearly the 46th degree, would be avoided; and the passing several hundred miles along the British lines, would be prevented. It would shorten the distance from the mouth of the Missouri to the contemplated Ohio Canal, or to the New York Western Canal, probably about 600 miles. It would be nearer to Buffalo, or to Pittsburgh, if a cut were made across the North-east corner of Ohio, than it would be to descend the Mississippi and ascend the Ohio to Pittsburgh,

which is often obstructed, by low water in summer. It is believed, that whether we regard the fertility of its soil, the quality of its timber, or the excellence of its plains and prairies, for pasture and tillage, this beautiful district of country is not exceeded by any in the United States. But there are other advantages to be obtained in this district, which deserve to be brought particularly into view. These embrace the temperateness of the climate, (being the furthest south of any of the Public Lands bordering on the

great Lakes,) the number and capacity of its streams and navigable waters; its advantages for mills and all kinds of machinery; & its extensive fisheries, and inexhaustable quantities of limestone and gypsum. But the most striking advantage, and that which enhances all others, is the facility which is afforded to commerce.

The great Lakes, spread out as they are, to an immense extent, and surrounded by countries abounding with Lead, Copper, and Fur, open a wide scope for internal trade. And the New York Canal, now almost completed, will give the farmer, the grazier, the manufacturer, and the merchant, advantages, in a ready access to market, which put them in fair competition with those who are situated on the navigable waters of the Atlantic states.

Of this valuable District of the Public Lands, there yet remains a large proportion, of very superior quality, which may be purchased at \$1,25 per acre.

Jam very respectfully July Jucarole Representative in Congress