

Government price of \$1.25 per acre, payable in state dues; warrants could then be purchased at 40 cents on the dollar, bringing the lands at 50 cents per acre. After the passage of this law the settlers who had not paid for their lands—and there were many of them who had not—wished me to report their lands as selected, and I did so. The state land office was then at Marshall, and when the sale came on in July, 1843, they sent out by me to bid in their lands—having, most of them, by some means, got the small sum required—and all got their places without opposition, for, though sold so cheap, none were purchased on speculation. After the lands had all been offered at auction, I made entry of a few lots, and paid for them with the warrants I had received for my services in selecting. I charged \$3 per day, and got what was worth 40 cents on the dollar; but in paying for the land it was worth dollar for dollar.

“Though but few purchases were made at the first sale, some from the east part of the state, having knowledge of the opportunity, soon made purchases. After a time emigrants bound for the West came to look, saying to me (for they all came to me for information), ‘We don’t expect to like Michigan lands, but as they are selected lands, and can be got so cheaply, we thought we would come and see you.’ But, to their surprise, they were well suited, and all purchased. On their report a dozen would follow, so that in a few years the great majority of those lands were settled. I not only furnished them with plats, and directed them to the lands, but purchased warrants, sent them to the office, and made the purchases. If the funds were a little short, I gave them time to make up the deficiency, and if much was lacking, I would take the land in my own name, as security, giving them a receipt for what they paid. I managed to keep every man who came, in some way; and never had occasion to complain that they did not, on their part, fulfill their engagements.

“I have been thus particular about those Internal Improvement Lands, to remind you to how great an extent it advanced the settlement of our valley. When a few years afterward the Hollanders came in, and took the balance of those lands down near their settlement, and they and the other settlers