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Van Buren May 6th/59

To Mr. Barker Esq
Land Agent

Sir, Permit me
to call your attention to a few matters
of interest to this immediate vicinity,
and, in connection therewith, what I deem
for the best interest of the State.

Township Letter N. Range two, W. E. L. S.
contains a large tract of good settling land,
which is not yet survey into lots. There is
already quite a number of settlers ^{unsurveyed} on this portion
of the township; and I doubt ^{not} that were it surveyed
into lots for settlement, that it would tend to
its ~~the~~ more rapid occupation; ~~of the~~ and also
tend to prevent the confusion and cutting
of claims or improvements, consequent to the
indiscriminate squatting where land is not lotted.

Township L. Range one, contains quite a large
population, few of whom, I presume, have yet
applied for their land. Recently I have
conversed with a number of the settlers of that
township who wish immediately to make ap-
plication and give their notes for the land
they occupy. Many of them would have paid

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for their land before this, had there been a local agent to advise with, and directed them in this matter.

Should, "An Act to aid the Anroostock Railroad Company, increase the value and promote the sale and settlement of the publick lands," become a law, (and I doubt not that it will,) it will fall heavy on many of these settlers, unless they can, and do avail themselves of the liberal ~~terms~~ terms of our present ~~settling~~ settling law. But if this they will be precluded, (as I understand it,) should the above named Act become a law, unless they shall, ~~previously~~, have, previously, contracted for their lands.

Influenced by these considerations, I wish that you send me, for mail, some blank notes. If you will do so, I will assist such as are desirous of doing so, to forward their applications and notes to your Office.

It is also desirable that there should be a local agent for these two Townships. Some of the settlers on Ls. occupy, or pretend to occupy, two, three, and even four-lots; whereas, they should understand that they cannot become the purchaser or occupier of but one lot.

I am &c Asa. Richards