The 1807 Plan for an Illustrated Edition of the Lewis and Clark Expedition

When the Lewis and Clark Expedition ended in September, 1806, Meriwether Lewis set about almost immediately to arrange a publication describing their adventures and discoveries. His plan, worked out with his Philadelphia publisher, appeared in a prospectus which was published in 1807, possibly as early as April, but more likely June.¹ That projected publication never materialized, and the usual explanation is that Lewis, beset by official and personal problems, simply failed to produce a manuscript. However, there may have been a mitigating factor. The promised publication was remarkably ambitious, and if it had appeared it would have been comparable to the best of the genre already produced in Europe. Indeed, it would have been a signal achievement for both Lewis and the publishing industry in Philadelphia. But that raises two interrelated questions. First, could that industry, in the period between 1807 and 1810, produce an extensively illustrated, multi-volume publication? And second, how could acceptable illustrations be created to meet exacting ethnographic and scientific criteria, when there was no artist on the expedition?

The practice of documenting exploration through publication was already well established. The three circumnavigations of Captain James Cook, George Vancouver's voyage, which took him to the Northwest Coast, and even the failed voyage of the French explorer, La Pérouse, received major publications. Denon's account of his travels in Egypt during the Napoleonic occupation, for example, was published in New York City in 1803.² More immediate to the American expedition was the record of Alexander Mackenzie's river explorations printed in


² The illustrations in the New York edition were poorly done, far from the quality of English and French engravings of the same period.
1801. All of these publications, except the Mackenzie, contained illustrations in addition to their maps, and together they provided ample precedents for the Lewis and Clark Expedition.  

Meriwether Lewis assumed the responsibility for the preparation of the necessary manuscript, and he provided the editorial overview for the illustrations and maps. The leader of the expedition (provided he survived) normally received this right, for publication was intended to be profitable as well as informative, and the right of authorship was often jealously guarded. After the untimely death of Lewis in 1809, the task of preparing a manuscript fell to William Clark, the co-Captain, who enlisted the editorial skills of Nicholas Biddle. Finally, a much truncated publication was produced, in 1814, by a different publisher than the one selected by Lewis. The 1814 publication lacked the science component as well as the program of illustrations planned in 1807, and, though a science volume had been projected, there is no evidence of efforts to take advantage of the illustrative work earlier planned by Lewis.  

The task of producing an authentically illustrated edition of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, whether by Lewis or later Clark and Biddle, was complicated by four factors. First, the co-Captains made very few field sketches. Their drawings were, for the most part, not very good and of limited value. Second, while they had brought back a collection of specimens and artifacts, the material was not fully representative of the major discoveries. Third, suitable American artists would have to prepare scientifically acceptable illustrations. And fourth, these illustrations needed translating into engraved plates from which the book-illustrations would be printed. Put another way, even if

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3 Initial publications of the three Cook voyages were: John Hawkesworth, ed., An Account of the Voyages undertaken by the order of his present majesty for making discoveries in the Southern Hemisphere, 3 vols. (London 1773); James Cook, A Voyage towards the South Pole, 2 vols. (London 1777); and James Cook and James King, Voyage to the Pacific Ocean, 3 vols. (London 1784). In addition to Cook, there were: George Vancouver, Voyage of Discovery to the North Pacific Ocean and Round the World, 3 vols. plus atlas (London 1798); M.L.A. Milet-Mureau, ed., Voyage de la Pérouse autour du monde, 4 vols. plus atlas (Paris 1797); Vivant Denon, Travels in Upper and Lower Egypt, During the Campaigns of General Bonaparte in that Country, 2 vols. (New York 1803); and Alexander Mackenzie, Voyages from Montreal on the River St. Lawrence through the Continent of North American to the Frozen and Pacific Ocean; in the Years 1789 and 1793 (London 1801).

4 The complex history of the 1814 publication has been ably recounted in Paul Russell Cutright, A History of the Lewis and Clark Journals (Norman, Oklahoma, 1976).
the expedition had brought back a large body of skillfully drawn field sketches as well as a comprehensive range of specimens and artifacts, there was no guarantee the illustrated publication, which the 1807 prospectus promised, could be produced in the United States.

The 1807 plan, published by C.A. Conrad, carried the title, _Prospectus of Lewis and Clark's Tour to the Pacific Ocean through the Interior of the Continent of North America, Performed by order of the Government of the United States, during the years 1804, 1805, & 1806._ The prospectus describes a book obviously derived from European models, such as those for the second and third voyages of Captain James Cook. (See _Appendix_ for the complete text.) The publication was to consist of two parts and a large map.

Part One was to be in two volumes. Volume one, intended to contain a "narrative of the voyage," would describe "the most remarkable places." Volume Two was to deal with "whatever properly appertains to geography" and would include the ethnography. Part Two, in one volume, was to "be confined exclusively to scientific research, and principally to the natural history of those hitherto unknown regions." Each volume was projected to be 400 to 500 pages, and all would be prepared by Captain Meriwether Lewis with assistance from Philadelphia scientists for Part II.

The volumes were to be illustrated. Part One, in addition to the large map, was to have two plans of the falls (on the Columbia and on the Missouri Rivers), a view of the cataract (of the Missouri's falls), and it was to be "embellished with a number of plates illustrative of the dress and general appearance of such Indian nations as differ materially from each other; of their habitations; their weapons and habiliments used in war; their hunting and fishing apparatus, domestic utensils, &c." Part Two was projected to be "ornamented and embellished with a much greater number of plates than will be bestowed on the first part of the work, as it is intended that every subject of natural history which is entirely new, and of which there are a considerable number, shall be accompanied by an appropriate engraving of it."

The full responsibility for producing the manuscript and the necessary illustrations fell upon Meriwether Lewis, so Lewis had to contract for assistance in those areas where his skills were limited or nonexistent. In particular, he needed to find some artists to begin the time-consuming work of preparing illustrations. In 1807, Philadelphia had the greatest resources in the United States for such a project,
and it was there that he selected a publisher, sought advice, and engaged several artists. Five people have been identified as having done some drawings for the proposed publication: Charles Willson Peale (1741-1827); Alexander Wilson (1760-1813); Frederick Pursh (1774-1820); Charles de Saint-Mémin (1770-1852); and John Barralet (c.1747-1815). Why were these men chosen, and what could they contribute to the project?

The most obvious choice to help Lewis was Charles Willson Peale, whose museum received many of the natural history and ethnological specimens collected by the explorers. Peale worked on drawings of some of these specimens, beginning as early as 1806 with an antelope that had been presented in October of 1805 to Peale's museum by Jefferson from the Mandan villages' shipment. In May 1807, Peale mentioned some “drawings for Governor Lewis’s Journal [which] I mean to draw myself to be engraved for the work.” Peale was referring to zoological and ornithological drawings made from specimens he had mounted. He had the skill and sufficient knowledge in taxidermy to prepare zoological specimens for display or as models for the draughtsman. Though not known as a painter of birds and animals—he was basically a portrait painter—he was certainly capable of preparing such drawings for use by the engraver. All in all, Peale was a good partner to have in this enterprise and his enthusiasm was valuable. Referring to the proposed publication, Peale said: “It is a work that seems to excite much attention, & will I hope have a great sale & give considerable profit to this bold adventurer.”

Alexander Wilson, then a leading ornithologist in the United States, also worked on drawings of new specimens of birds. An immigrant from the British Isles in 1794, his expertise in ornithology developed in the United States, and in 1807 he served as assistant editor for a major Philadelphia printer and publisher, Samuel F. Bradford. Bradford...
published Wilson's *American Ornithology*, the first volume appearing in 1808. Wilson's drawing skills have been questioned, but his contemporaries were supportive, especially his friend Alexander Lawson, a highly skilled Philadelphia engraver.\(^8\) Wilson tells us in his *American Ornithology*, that "it was the request and particular wish of Captain Lewis made to me in person that I make drawings of each of the feathered tribe as had been preserved, and were new."\(^9\)

Wilson was a logical person for Lewis to consult in Philadelphia, and in Wilson's publication there are four bird portraits based on Lewis's specimens. Wilson's involvement with Lewis might have become very important if things had continued to move ahead quickly. Wilson's assistance would have been useful for more than bird drawings, since the ultimate goal in all of this work was the preparation of illustrations for the publication. Wilson's friend, Alexander Lawson, the engraver, was working with Lewis at this time. Two drawings of the falls on the Missouri and Columbia were in the possession of Lawson and another engraver, George Murray.\(^10\) Philadelphia engravers had a reputation as the best in the United States, and most would have been kept busy if the full plan for the Lewis publication had been carried out. A good working relationship between artist and engraver would be a real asset, and Wilson with Lawson provided that.\(^11\)

The likely procedure of an engraver was to work from a carefully shaded black and white drawing made to the scale of the intended illustration. This drawing was done directly from a specimen or a finished drawing or painting, but field sketches could be used if neither of the other sources were available. Both Peale and Wilson could make an identification from just a bird skin, but making an effective illustration


\(^11\) Philadelphia was the center of the book trade in the United States in the period of our concern. And where there were printers (168 in Philadelphia in 1810), there too one would find engravers. While the overall quality of printers or engravers could not match that found in London, it was the best in the U.S. See Rollo G. Silver, *The American Printer, 1787-1825* (Charlottesville, Virginia, 1967), and Darrell Hyder, "Philadelphia Fine Printing, 1780-1820," *Printing and Graphic Arts*, 9 (September 1961), 69-99 for information relative to these matters.
required either a mounted specimen or reliance on field sketches. The few field sketches were not really suitable, but Peale did mount Lewis's specimens. An artist knowledgeable about birds (Peale), or an ornithologist who could draw (Wilson), would be ideal under the circumstances to make the preparatory drawing for the engraver, showing in black and white how the bird should be represented in a single view to display best the key characteristics. Though less skilled as an artist than Peale, Wilson's work was adequate to the task, and Peale was, after all, involved in many other things. Wilson's interest and participation would be very useful for preparing drawings of the other animals and for paleontology and ethnology illustrations. One drawing of a “Fish-er,” part of the Lewis and Clark Papers at the American Philosophical Society, is clearly intended to guide an engraver. Was it drawn for the projected publication? We do not know, nor can we assign an artist. It is, however, very professionally done, and would be a credit to Peale if he indeed did it.

For botany, Lewis sought the assistance of Frederick Pursh, who furnished drawings as well as arranging the herbarium of the plant materials collected. Pursh spent about a year at the task. Bringing order and description to the plant collection that had survived, Pursh shows, in his work, the value of the trained and experienced scientist. For Lewis was not equipped to provide the Latin binomials in the Linnaean manner (the designations that would be used by scientists), even though on the expedition he had described plants in some detail with the aid of a small, portable reference library. Frederick Pursh had come to the United States from Germany in 1799. An experienced botanist, he was employed by Americans, including Dr. William Barton of Philadelphia, to collect and arrange specimens. Pursh was recommended to Lewis as probably the best qualified person available for the task of helping the explorer. Pursh would later gain considerable fame through his *Flora Americae Septentrionalis*, 2 volumes (London 1814), which included data derived from the Lewis Herbarium.

Charles Saint-Mémin was a figure draughtsman. An émigré from the French revolution, he had arrived in New York in 1793. There he

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was able to capitalize on his skills as an amateur artist, and he soon was doing profile portraits, using the physiognotrace to make an accurate outline which he then filled in with black and white chalk (and at times gray wash). Portraits made this way reproduced well as engravings, and Saint-Mémin could himself make small engravings. This artist represented a combination of useful skills for the projected publication, and Saint-Mémin was frequently in Philadelphia, which would make easier the task of maintaining contact.

In the Lewis account book, there is an entry regarding Saint-Mémin which reads: "To this sum paid Saint-Mémin for likenesses of the indians &c. necessary to my publication be charged to the expenses of that work. $83.50." One could read the "et cetera" as meaning likenesses of non-Indians or possibly engraved plates, though the latter is unlikely, given the sum listed, unless more cash was to follow. Another possibility is that Saint-Mémin could have been used to prepare topographic views. The artist had done such views, and some would be required if the publication materialized as proposed. However, the only evidence for actual landscape or topographic drawings found in the documents associated with the post-expedition period refers to two drawings of waterfalls done by John James Barralet.

John James Barralet, an Irish-born artist-engraver, was paid for two drawings of waterfalls, presumably the falls of the Missouri and the Columbia River. This "eccentric Irishman," as William Dunlap called him, had a fairly lengthy career in both Dublin and London, exhibiting landscapes and historical drawings. He taught both painting and drawing and worked as a theatrical scene painter, a book illustrator, and glass stainer before immigrating to Philadelphia in 1795. He also had been one of the artists who prepared drawings, later engraved, for the publication of Cook's third voyage. In Philadelphia he established

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17 Edgar P. Richardson, Painting in America (New York, 1956), 125-126.
18 Jackson, Letters, 463, note 6.
himself as a designer for book publishers, and for a period he was

The first volume of the proposed three-volume publication was to
carry views of the falls. Whether Barralet would have been asked to
continue doing such drawings if things had turned out as planned is
impossible to know. William Clark expressed an opinion that some
drawings of the falls, probably Barralet’s, were imperfect. Such im-
perfection might have ended Barralet’s connection to the project.\footnote{Jackson, \textit{Letters}, 490.}

Nevertheless, Barralet had a successful career as an artist in Philadel-
phia. Also, he was experienced in preparing illustrations for the pub-
lication of an expedition of exploration. Perhaps the data provided to
Barralet in Lewis’s tentative, field sketches proved insufficient to effect
a good result.

All in all, though inexperienced in such matters, Meriwether Lewis
had done a creditable job of lining up skilled assistance in the matter of
preparing at least some of the drawings needed for the promised vol-
umes. If he had been as astute in the matter of seeking editorial help,
perhaps he could have provided his publisher with sufficient material to
produce the first volume of the projected group. But Lewis never
turned any text over to his publisher before he died, nor could the
Conrad company ever get him to respond to their “frequent applica-
tions.”\footnote{\textit{Ibid.}, 468-469.} After Lewis’s death, William Clark, attempted to salvage the
effort to publish the expedition in 1814, with the help of an editor,
Nicholas Biddle. But then only the historical narrative appeared, in two
volumes. And there were no illustrations of the sort projected in 1807.

The preparation of a narrative text alone was a demanding exercise,
especially if it was a first effort at writing a book. But inexperience on
the part of both Lewis and the publisher must have reduced any doubts
they might have had about their ability to bring off the project as a
success, at least at first. The market was there, with buyers ready both in
the United States and Europe.
In the Early Republic the preparation of plates for illustrations was always a potential source of delay. It required good craftsmen, was expensive, and took time. Conrad knew that a major illustration project for Dobson’s American edition of the *Encyclopedia Britannica* had tested Philadelphia engravers. So he added to the prospectus the following advisory:

Knowing that a very considerable proportion of expense of such publications depends on the engravings which embellish or form them, and that the precise number of such engravings, particularly as it regards the second part of the work, have not yet been settled, it is difficult for the author at this moment to fix a price on them.

This uncertainty created a problem since the prospectus was to solicit subscriptions for “either of the parts, or the entire work.” In a somewhat later version of the initial prospectus, prices are quoted at $10 for the first part (or $5 per volume), $11 for the second, and $10 for the large map.

It is difficult to find an appropriate comparison for this estimate of prices, but in 1803, four years earlier, Barton’s *Elements of Botany* was purchased for the expedition’s travelling library for $6, while Kirwin’s *Elements of Mineralogy* cost $4. Jefferson purchased a copy of Mackenzie’s *Travels*, apparently in octavo size, for $3.50 in the same year. Of course, the Mackenzie was not “embellished” with ethnographic or natural history illustrations, though it did have maps.

Illustrations could significantly increase production costs in the early nineteenth century. An indication of this is found in what appears to be a preliminary estimate (c. April 1807) by Conrad of the cost of producing the first(?) volume of the Lewis and Clark work which lists a map, four plans, two views, and a depiction (plan?) of the mouth of the Columbia River. The cost of the illustrations, exclusive of the copper, is listed as $830, and this probably includes the engraver’s fees. The two views are listed at $150 each. The copper for all of this was estimated at $100. The overall estimate for publication, including binding and a contingency item, was $4,500; so the cost of the eight plates projected for the volume represented about twenty percent.

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covered by the estimate is not clear, but one entry might be interpreted to refer to the production cost per volume, and on that basis an edition of 4,000 was projected. Given the period and the type of book, this would be a reasonable size for the edition, though at the upper limit of what was typical.25

Were the costs for the illustrations, which admittedly could only be preliminary, reasonably accurate estimates? The records of Mathew Carey, a Philadelphia publisher/printer, provide some basis for comparison. Carey's records indicate that an 1806 book on astronomy had sixteen plates, engraved for $292 plus $100 for the copper. In 1809, an engraver received $20 for a small frontispiece.26

Another comparison can be made using Wilson's American Ornithology. The engraver Lawson's cost figures listed raw copper for a single engraved plate as $5.66; engraving it was $50 to $80. Coloring would add $0.25 to the cost of each impression. If Wilson drew 100 birds, the total cost for the plates alone in an edition of 500 was estimated as $20,000. One part with but ten plates, including paper, printing, type, and other incidentals, would cost $6,000, or $12 per volume. Bradford, Wilson's publisher, reduced the number printed and set the subscription price to $12 per volume if 200 subscribers signed up.27 Presumably by cutting down the number of impressions for each illustration-plate, sufficient savings would be made to allow for this price. Given these costs, one can question how practicable was the Lewis and Clark project outlined in the Conrad prospectus. One can also see the importance of government subsidies for such embellished publications, as had occurred with the Cook voyages.

Without some form of subsidy to underwrite the cost of preparing the plates for the illustrations, the only way the promised publication could be produced would be if people were willing to pay prices much greater than those originally estimated; and prices were already fairly high for the period. Such costs required a text of considerable interest, with descriptions of significant discoveries. Potentially the expedition

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25 In the period 1792-1813, Mathew Carey of Philadelphia published 42 books in editions ranging from 250 to 5,000. Half were in the 1,000 to 2,000 size, and only four were more than 3,000 copies. Silber, American Printer, 173-174.
26 Ibid., 165.
offered such incentives, but that placed an enormous burden on Meriwether Lewis. At this stage Lewis felt the lack of a trained scientist and a capable artist as members of the expedition. And this was undoubtedly a factor in his inability to produce copy for a publication. So even though the technical capabilities existed in Philadelphia, such capabilities alone could not bring off the intended project.

Two additional points. First, it is clear that historians would view the Lewis and Clark Expedition differently if the “Conrad Prospectus” had been realized. They would see the expedition more clearly as part of an international tradition of scientific exploration, despite its important commercial and political objectives. Second, the lack of a contemporary, illustrated official account quite early generated activity to fill a keenly felt need for both an account and some sort of visual representations. The several editions of the journal of Patrick Gass, a sergeant in the company, shows publishers attempting to satisfy the public’s curiosity.

Quite independent of the attempts at an official publication, first by Lewis and then successfully by Clark, a paraphrase of the journal kept by Patrick Gass was published, in July 1807, with the title: A Journal of the Voyages and Travels of a Corps of Discovery. It sold for one dollar. Though Gass realized little profit, the publication was a popular success and was quickly reprinted, going through six more editions between 1808 and 1814. Three editions were published in Europe, one each in London, Paris and Weimar. The other three were published in Philadelphia (1810, 1811, and 1812) by Mathew Carey.28

Carey, either to enhance or keep interest alive, took the liberty of adding six full-page illustrations. These anonymous engravings are not authentic in content; nor in any sense can they be called scientific illustrations. At best they are rather naïve depictions which superficially connect to the narrative of the text. But the fact that they were invented for some of the editions of the Gass journal, and that ever since they have persisted as “illustrations” of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, indicates the strong desire, from the very first, to have pictorial representations to accompany the written account.

The desire for illustrations is also shown in what Lewis and Clark bibliographers have called the "Apocrypha." These are the counterfeit editions that purported to report the expedition, of which eight or nine appeared over a period of almost a half century, starting in 1809. Their value is worthless insofar as telling us about the expedition, but they merit a moment's attention since a number of them made use of illustrations, ranging from portraits (presumably) of Lewis and Clark to some fanciful images of Indians, animals, and landscapes. The one published in Dayton, Ohio, in 1840, had fifteen illustrations—all spurious, of course.

The value of authentic illustrations and maps to the success of a publication of an expedition had been amply demonstrated in Europe, and thus the Conrad prospectus promised much along that line. Unfortunately, the cost of such embellishments, necessary as they were to a scientifically acceptable account, made such publishing ventures a precarious business. Philadelphia publishers, who were experienced in the matter of bringing out serious books with illustrations, were aware of the problems. However, there were capable engravers in town and the funding of the venture would be demanding but not impossible. The potential for gain—in reputation and in cash—was there for the author and publisher. Unfortunately, Lewis procrastinated writing the narrative (volume one of part one), the most critically important part of the preliminaries. The Gass version of the expedition siphoned off a portion of the expected market, and the items which have been called the Apocrypha further diluted the importance which an official account merited, simply because the latter appeared so late.

The lure of the expedition, however, continues to attract attention, and a new and comprehensive edition of the maps and journals is being published by the University of Nebraska Press. With its appearance, we will once again renew our regret over the paucity of illustrations authentic to the time and places of the expedition. And though the work of George Catlin and Karl Bodmer does provide relevant visual information, it was done a generation later and is far too limited in its range of subjects. The disappointment of Jefferson and his contemporaries in the failure of the 1807 plan for a fully illustrated documentation of "Lewis and Clark's Tour to the Pacific Ocean" is a disappointment we recognize, perhaps especially so, today.

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29 Ibid.
APPENDIX

PROSPECTUS
OF
LEWIS AND CLARK'S TOUR
TO THE
PACIFIC OCEAN
THROUGH
THE INTERIOR OF THE CONTINENT OF
NORTH AMERICA

Performed by order of the Government of the United States,
during the Years 1804, 1805, & 1806.  

This work will be prepared by Captain Meriwether Lewis, and will
be divided into two parts, the whole comprized in three volumes octavo, containing from four to five hundred pages, each, printed on good
paper, and a fair Pica type. The several volumes in succession will be
put to press at as early periods as the avocations of the author will permit
him to prepare them for publication.

PART THE FIRST—IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOLUME FIRST—

Will contain a narrative of the voyage, with a description of some of
the most remarkable places in those hitherto unknown wilds of
America, accompanied by a Map of good size, and embellished with a
view of the great cataract of the Missouri,—the plan, on a large scale, of
the connected falls of that river, as also of those of the falls, narrows, and
great rapids of the Columbia, with their several portages. For the in-
formation of future observations and remarks on the navigation of the
Missouri and Columbia rivers, pointing out the precautions which
must necessarily be taken, in order to ensure success, together with an
itinerary of the most direct and practicable rout across the continent of
North America, from the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi
rivers to the discharge of the Columbia into the Pacific Ocean.

30 Jackson, Letters, 394-397.
VOLUME SECOND—

Whatever properly appertains to geography, embracing a description of the rivers, mountains, climate, soil and fact of the country; a view of the Indian nations distributed over the vast region, shewing their traditions, habits, manners, customs, national characters, stature, complexions, dress, dwellings, arms, and domestic utensils, with many other interesting particulars in relation to them: Also observations and reflections on the subjects of civilizing, governing and maintaining a friendly intercourse with those nations. A view of the fur trade of North America, setting forth a plan for its extension, and shewing the immense advantages which would accrue to the Mercantile interests of the United States, by combining the same with a direct trade to the East Indies through the continent of North America. This volume will be embellished with a number of plates illustrative of the dress and general appearance of such Indian nations as differ materially from each other: of their habitations; their weapons and habiliments used in war; their hunting and fishing apparatus; domestic utensils, &c. In an appendix there will also be given a diary of the weather, kept with great attention throughout the whole of the voyage, shewing also the daily rise and fall of the principal watercourses which were navigated in the course of the same.

PART THE SECOND—IN ONE VOLUME—

This part of the work will be confined exclusively to scientific research, and principally to the natural history of those hitherto unknown regions. It will contain a full dissertation on such subjects as have fallen within the notice of the author, and which may properly be distributed under the heads of Botany, Mineralogy, and Zoology, together with some strictures on the origins of Prairies, the cause of the muddiness of the Missouri, of volcanic appearances, and other natural phenomena which were met with in the course of this interesting tour. This volume will also contain a comparative view of twenty-three vocabularies of distinct Indian languages, procured by Captains Lewis and Clark on the voyage, and will be ornamented and embellished with a much greater number of plates than will be bestowed on the first part of the work, as it is intended that every subject of natural history which is entirely new, and of which there are considerable number, shall be accompanied by an appropriate engraving illustrative of it.

This distribution of the work has been made with a view to the accommodation of every description of readers, and is here offered to the
patronage of the public in such shape, that all persons wishing to become subscribers, may accommodate themselves with either of the parts, or the entire work, as it shall be most convenient to themselves.

Detached from this work, there will be published on a large scale, as soon as a sufficient number of subscribers be obtained to defray the expence,

LEWIS & CLARK'S MAP OF NORTH AMERICA,

From longitude 9 deg. west to the Pacific Ocean, and between
36 deg. and 52 deg. north latitude,
Embracing all their late discoveries, and that part of the heretofore the least known. This map will be compiled from the best maps now extant, as well published as in manuscript, from the collective information of the best informed travellers through the various portions of the region, and corrected by a series of several hundred celestial observations, made by Captain Lewis during his late tour.

For the convenience of subscribers, these several works will be delivered at the most respectable commercial towns, and at the seats of government of the respective states and territories within the Union: no advance is required, nor will payment be demanded until such delivery is made.

Knowing that a very considerable proportion of the expence of such publications depends on the engravings which embellish or form them, and that the precise number of such engravings, particularly as it regards the second part of the work, have not yet been settled, it is difficult for the author at this moment to fix a price on them; he therefore declares to the public, that his late voyage was not undertaken with a view to pecuniary advantages, and pledges himself that the estimate which he will in this instance set on his literary labours shall be of the most moderate description; his principal reason indeed for proposing a subscription at all is that he may be enabled to form some estimate of the number of copies to be struck off.