

which it may be proper for you to pursue, you will communicate directly with this department, stating the points upon which you wish to be informed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JEFFERSON DAVIS,
Secretary of War.

Mr. Calhoun to Mr. Marcy.

WASHINGTON CITY, *February 16, 1856.*

SIR: In compliance with your request for an estimate of the present population of Kansas Territory, I furnish you with the result of a calculation based upon the vote said to be given last October. From many inquiries of persons living in the various parts of Kansas, I have no doubt the calculation approximates closely to the truth. The united vote given to General Whitfield, and said to be given to Governor Reeder, makes about six thousand. If it be considered that in a new country like Kansas a very large proportion of the inhabitants are young men without families, an estimate of four, or at most five, inhabitants to each voter will not be judged far from the truth. This will give from twenty-four to thirty thousand inhabitants in the Territory. But General Whitfield's friends contend that the men voting for Governor Reeder, acting under no restraint of law, increased his vote greatly by double voting; and Governor Reeder's friends insist that General Whitfield's vote was considerably increased by votes given by citizens of Missouri. If these statements be true, the actual voters of the Territory will be lessened; and the population, which is estimated upon the votes, will fall below the above calculation. I leave others to determine these disputed points, and give it as my opinion that there are not more than five times as many people in the Territory as there are voters, and that the number of voters does not exceed six thousand.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. CALHOUN.

Hon. WM. L. MARCY, *Secretary of State, U. S.,*
Washington City, D. C.