

white settlements and the Indians, by the treaty of Greenville, July 30, 1795.

The act of congress approved April 30, 1802, enabling "the people of the eastern division" of the Northwest Territory,—Ohio,—to draft a state constitution, obliged them to take in their northern boundary and accept therefor "an east and west line drawn through the southerly extreme of Lake Michigan," in accordance with the limits prescribed by the original ordinance. In the state constitutional convention, held at Chillicothe in November that year, this line had been acceded to in committee without a murmur, when suddenly it came to the ears of the members that an experienced trapper, then in the village, claimed for Lake Michigan a more southerly head than had been popularly given it. It appears that in the department of state, at Washington, there was a map bearing date 1755, published by Mitchell, which placed the southern bend of Lake Michigan at $42^{\circ} 20'$. This map had been in use by the committee of congress which drafted the ordinance of 1787, and a pencil line was discovered upon it, evidently made by a committee-man, which passed due east from the bend and intersected the international line at a point between the river Raisin and Detroit.¹ The Chillicothe convention had become alarmed at the trapper's report of the incorrectness of Mitchell's map, and made haste to attach a proviso to the boundary article, as follows:

"Provided always, and it is hereby fully understood and declared by this convention, That if the southerly bend or extreme of Lake Michigan should extend so far south, that a line drawn due east from it should not intersect Lake Erie, or if it should intersect the said Lake Erie east of the mouth of the Miami river of the lake, then, and in that case, with the assent of the congress of the United States, the northern boundary of this state shall be estab-

¹ Burnet's *Notes on Northwest Territory* (1847), p. 360. But it is singular that the committee did not use a later and more reliable map than this,—one published in 1778, nine years before the passage of the ordinance,—by Thomas Hutchins. Hutchins placed the southern bend about where it was afterwards proved to be by Talcott's survey — $41^{\circ} 37' 07.9''$.