

fort was renewed by Judge Doty in a bill to establish the Territory of Huron, with the same boundaries as those prescribed for Chippewau.<sup>1</sup> In 1834, after several sessions of lobbying, a substitute was offered, entitled "A bill establishing the territorial government of Wisconsin," with boundaries the same as before, except that the country to the east of the Mackinaw meridian was not now claimed, a committee of the house of representatives having reported in 1832 that "the due line north from Mackinaw should be retained as more in consonance with the ordinance of 1787."<sup>2</sup> The bill hung fire on account of the Ohio-Michigan dispute, with the result that, as before mentioned, Wisconsin, the fifth and last division in the Northwest Territory, was

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<sup>1</sup> In Washburne's *The Edwards Papers* (pp. 439, 440) there is a letter from Hooper Warren, editor of *The Galena Gazette*, to Gov. Ninian Edwards, of Illinois, dated Galena, October 6, 1829, in which he thus refers to letters written by Judge Doty to that paper, on the boundary question: "I hope you have read the numbers of our Green Bay correspondent. He is Judge Doty. You are among others to whom he requested us to send the papers containing his essays. *I want you to answer them.* You will see that the whole of his arguments respecting Ohio and Indiana do not apply to Illinois, as our boundary has the assent of Congress, while that of the former states has not. I will further suggest to you that the ordinance does not say that the east and west line from the southerly bend of Lake Michigan shall be the boundary; but that congress may form one or more states north of that line—and would not the southern boundary of the state of Wisconsin at 42° 30' be in accordance with that *injunction* or *permission*? Further, Illinois has a *natural* right to a port on Lake Michigan, which the old line would cut her off from. This subject is of more importance than you may think it is. A large portion, perhaps a majority, of the people here, are of Judge Doty's opinion, and are wishing and expecting the old line to be established. I have been informed that Judge D. has said that should a case of jurisdiction come before him, he would decide against us. The contention in Michigan proper is for ten miles only, which Ohio and Indiana have got north of the 'east and west line.'"

See *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, x., pp. 236, 237, for instance of confusion existing, at this time, as to the location of the Wisconsin-Illinois boundary—the election commissioners of Jo Daviess county, Illinois, opening a poll at Platteville, Wisconsin. E. B. Washburne says, in connection with this fact: "The boundary line between Illinois and Michigan Territory was not officially defined until 1830."—ED.

<sup>2</sup> Governor Doty's message, December 4, 1843.