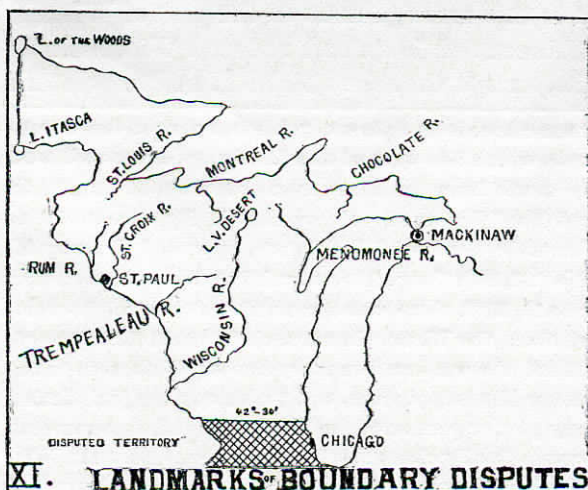


boundary, the Mississippi river to its source, and a line drawn due north therefrom to the international boundary.

In this condition Wisconsin remained until the act of congress approved August 6, 1846, enabling her people to form a state constitution. Settlements had now been established along the upper Mississippi and in the St. Croix valley, far removed from, and having neither social nor commercial interests in common with, the bulk of settlement in southern and eastern Wisconsin. The northwestern settlers did not wish to be permanently connected with Wisconsin, but did desire to cast their fortunes with a new Territory, to be called Minnesota, which was to be formed west of the Mississippi. They therefore brought strong influences to bear in congress, and the enabling act in question gave to Wisconsin practically the same northwestern line that she has to-day — from the first rapids of the St. Louis river due south to the St. Croix river and thence to the Mississippi. This cut off an area of twenty-six thousand square miles, with the city of St. Paul included, from the Badger commonwealth and assigned it to Minnesota. There was a sharp fight over the matter, both in congress and in the Wisconsin constitutional conventions of 1846 and 1847-48, with the result that the St. Croix people won, and Wisconsin was admitted into the Union, by act approved May 29,



1848, with her present limits: shorn on the south by Illinois, on the northeast by Michigan and on the northwest by Minnesota.

In 1837, Wisconsin

Territory had a diplomatic flurry with Missouri regarding