

and it was not until 1845 that the first profitable operations were undertaken; while in the same year, iron mines were developed in the neighborhood. During the greater period of the controversy over the possession of this tract, therefore, its value was practically unknown, although frequently hinted at. Wisconsin's chief desire appears to have been its retention simply as a country rightfully belonging to her, with but little foresight of the great extractive industries to be developed there; while Michigan appears, at first, to have looked upon the greater portion of her acquisition with something akin to contempt: Mackinaw and the Sault Ste. Marie, however, had so long been in close trading and social relationship with Detroit, that the country east of the Mackinaw meridian was from the first tenaciously clung to.

At a meeting of the citizens of Detroit, held on the 18th of February, 1828, a memorial to congress was adopted, protesting against that clause in the Doty bill for erecting the territory of Chippewau — the measure had been favorably reported by the house committee on territories — which included in the boundaries of the proposed territory the whole of the northern peninsula. The memorial contained this sentence:

“The views of your memorialists as to the proper boundaries of the Territory of Michigan have already been approved and sanctioned by the congress of the Union. By an act, entitled ‘An act to divide the Indiana Territory into two separate governments,’ approved January 11, 1805, a line drawn from the southerly bend of Lake Michigan, through the middle of said lake, to its northern extremity, and thence due north to the northern boundary of the United States, was fixed as the western boundary of the Michigan Territory. This your memorialists consider the correct boundary, as designated by the geographical aspect and commercial relations of the country.”

In 1830 the Chippewau bill had, after varied experiences in congress, developed into a bill for the establishment of the Territory of Huron, with the entire northern peninsula still included in its prescribed boundaries, the house committee on territories having each year favored such limits