

boundary, as that stream pours its waters into the Mississippi twenty miles above the falls. Besides this, the Chippewa and St. Croix valleys are closely connected in geographical position with the upper Mississippi, while they are widely separated from the settled parts of Wisconsin, not only by hundreds of miles of mostly waste and barren lands, which must remain uncultivated for ages, but equally so by a diversity of interests and character in the population."

Moved by the arguments of these memorialists, and also by some active lobbying in Washington, congress declined to consent to the Rum-river proviso; and the act of May 29, 1848, admitting Wisconsin to the Union, recognized only such boundaries as were specified in the enabling act of 1846.

In 1852 the general government employed George R. Stuntz to run and mark the land line from "the first rapids in St. Louis river, above the Indian village, according to Nicollet's map, thence due south to the main branch of the river St. Croix." He performed the task with the aid of nine men, between October 20 and November 18.<sup>1</sup> The site of Nicollet's Indian village is known as Fond du Lac, being on the north-side of the river St. Louis, and eighteen miles from Lake Superior. It is at the point where the waters of the lake ordinarily meet, in a narrow bay, those of the river. The point of juncture, however, varies with the height of the water-level in the lake—in some years and in some seasons receding, while advancing in others. When Mr. Stuntz arrived, he was assured by the Chippewa chief at Fond du Lac that the first rapids of the river were opposite a trading warehouse at his village. But the water being high, no rapids were visible at this place. Whereupon, the surveyor proceeded up stream to a point where he was no longer able to propel his canoe with a single paddle, against the rushing current. Here, where the river runs due south for a few rods, he decided the "first rapids" to be; and on a high bluff, a quarter of a mile due south of this, he set his first post in the boundary. His plan of establishing the lo-

<sup>1</sup> *Wis. Jour. of Educ.*, ii., p. 282.