

JAY'S TREATY, NOVEMBER 19, 1794.

Same volume, pp. 318-335.

JEFFERSON'S REPORT ON A PLAN FOR A TEMPORARY GOVERNMENT OF THE WESTERN TERRITORY, 1784.¹

Resolved, That so much of the territory ceded or to be ceded by individual states to the United States, as is already purchased or shall be purchased of the Indian inhabitants, and offered for sale by Congress, shall be divided into distinct states, in the following manner, as nearly as such cessions will admit; that is to say, by parallels of latitude, so that each state shall comprehend from north to south two degrees of latitude, beginning to count from the completion of 45 degrees north of the equator; and by meridians of longitude, one of which shall pass through the lowest point of the rapids of Ohio, and the other through the western cape of the mouth of the great Kenhaway: but the territory eastward of this last meridian, between the Ohio, lake Erie and Pennsylvania, shall be one state whatsoever may be its comprehension of latitude. That which may lie beyond the completion of the 45th degree between the said meridians, shall make part of the state adjoining it on the south: and that part of the Ohio, which is between the same meridians coinciding nearly with the parallel of 39° shall be substituted so far in lieu of that parallel as a boundary line.

That the settlers on any territory so purchased, and offered for sale, shall, either on their own petition or on the order of Congress, receive authority from them, with appointments of time and place, for their free males of full age within the limits of their state to meet together, for the purpose of establishing a temporary government, to adopt the consti-

¹From *Jour. Cong.*, ix., pp. 109-10. This report, drawn by Thomas Jefferson, was adopted in congress, April 23, 1784. It may be found in its original form, with Jefferson's fanciful plan for dividing the Northwest Territory into ten states classically named, in Randall's *Jefferson*, i., p. 398.—ED.