

PAPERS OF JAMES DUANE DOTY.¹

OFFICIAL JOURNAL, 1820.

EXPEDITION WITH CASS AND SCHOOLCRAFT.

WEDNESDAY, May 24, 1820.

This Expedition is fitted out at the suggestion of Gov. Cass by the Secretary at War, Mr. Calhoun.

Its objects are understood to be the attainment of certain information of the moral & physical situation of the Northern Indians, their divisions, names, important men, of what numbers the tribes are composed, the country and its extent which they inhabit, and their history, manners

¹ It may be necessary to explain to non-Wisconsin readers that Mr. Doty was the second Wisconsin Territorial governor. Born at Salem, N. Y., November 5, 1799, he was in his twenty-first year when, at that time secretary of the Territorial legislature of Michigan, he was selected by Gov. Lewis Cass to be official secretary of the United States exploring expedition whose record is here given. Of the party was Henry R. Schoolcraft, who published a detailed and very readable *Narrative* of the expedition (Phila.: Lippincott, Grambo & Co., 1855), covering 596 large octavo pages. In his introduction, Mr. Schoolcraft recites the documentary history of the expedition. The official journal, kept by Doty, has not heretofore been published; it admirably supplements Schoolcraft's popular work, which has long been an authority among Western historians. In *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, vii., pp. 195-206, is a report on the topography, resources, and Indian trade of Northern Wisconsin, made by Doty to Cass, under date of September 27, 1820, which shows him to have been a close observer; this report has been of much practical value to writers on Wisconsin history.

We are indebted to Governor Doty's son, Charles Doty, of Alton, Ill., for the originals of all the Doty papers presented in this volume.—ED.