

TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION.<sup>1</sup>

FROM THOMAS H. BENTON.

WASHINGTON CITY, May 8th 1824.

DEAR SIR,—Our mutual friend, Gov. McNair enclosed to me a paper last winter upon the subject of erecting a

picturesquely bounded by lofty cliffs of the silurian limestones, and their accompanying column of stratification. The village has the old and shabby look of all the antique French towns on the Mississippi, and in the great lake basins; the dwellings being constructed of logs and barks, and the courtyards picketed in, as if they were intended for defence. It is called Kipisagee by the Chippewas and Algonquin tribes generally, meaning the place of the jet or outflow of the (Wisconsin) River. \* \* \* We found the garrison to consist of a single company of infantry, under the command of Capt. J. Fowle, Jun., who received us courteously, and offered the salute due to the rank of His Excellency, Gov. Cass. The fort is a square stockade, with bastions at two angles. There was found on this part of the prairie, when it came to be occupied with a garrison by the Americans, in 1819, an ancient platform-mound, in an exactly square form, the shape and outlines of which were preserved with exactitude by the prairie sod. This earthwork, the probable evidence of a condition of ancient society, arts, and events of a race who are now reduced so low, was, with good taste, preserved by the military, when they erected this stockade. One of the officers built a dwelling-house upon it, thus converting it, to the use, and probably the only use, to which it was originally devoted. No measurements have been preserved of its original condition; but judging from present appearances, it must have squared seventy-five feet, and have had an elevation of eight feet."

From Prairie du Chien, Schoolcraft made a scientific expedition to the Dubuque lead mines, returning to the Prairie at daylight of Aug. 9. At 10:30 A. M. of that day, the entire party set out on the return trip via the Wisconsin and Fox rivers, arriving at Fort Howard on the 20th. Here, the 22d, the expedition divided; Trowbridge, Doty, and Chase, with Interpreter Riley, were sent to trace the western and northern shores of Green Bay, while Schoolcraft and the others were sent along the southern and eastern shore of the bay and up the west shore of Lake Michigan, and so on around to Mackinaw and Detroit, at which latter place they arrived Sept. 23. Governor Cass left this party at Chicago, and returned to Detroit by horseback.—Ed.

<sup>1</sup> The papers given below comprise the "Doty MSS." referred in to *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xi., p. 463, *note*, and elsewhere in article, "The Boundaries of