

means of having their grain manufactured into flour, the great bulk of the wheat raised by the inhabitants, is used for feeding cattle, and the flour required for the sustenance of the population is principally brought from the mills in Ohio, bordering on Lake Erie. The quantity of this article consumed here annually, does not fall short of fifteen hundred barrels, exclusive of the supply imported for the use of the garrison, and for the Indian Department.

Fort Howard is located on the best land of Fox River, less than a mile above its entrance into Green Bay. It occupies an elevated and commanding position; which, by a curve in the course of the river below gives it entire command over the pass by water to and from the settlement. The ground occupied by the Garrison is within the boundary of the confirmed claims, and the Fort stands about half a mile above the lower line of this boundary. The law of 1828, confirming these claims,¹ has a proviso reserving a quantity of land sufficient for military purposes, and the surveyor employed by the Government to fix the boundary lines did not make a survey of the land in the vicinity of the Fort, in consequence of instructions to that effect, founded upon the above reservation. Notwithstanding the prohibitions of the law, however, plainly as they are ex-

¹The early French squatted upon their claims at Green Bay and Prairie du Chien, as elsewhere in the Western country. When American military commandants came to occupy the forts there, these original settlers were sometimes evicted, especially at Prairie du Chien. Congress being appealed to, passed acts for their relief, under which officers of the land department reported upon the private claims. In 1796, the Jay treaty provided for confirmation of claims to farm and village lots, after proper examination into the equity thereof. In the War of 1812-15, many of the French took sides with the English, and forfeited their rights. But in 1820, when the first serious examination was made by Isaac Lee, of Detroit, sent out for the purpose, all those who had continuously occupied claims since 1796 were confirmed in their possession, the government overlooking the offense of the British sympathizers. Lee's examination was followed in 1828, by a detailed survey, by Lucius Lyon, United States deputy surveyor for Michigan Territory. See details of these transactions, with citations to acts of Congress, in *History of Crawford and Richland Counties* (Chicago: Western Historical Co., 1884), pp. 264-279.—Ed.