

the price of it at least one-half below the present rates. I believe that the distance from the mouth of Fond du lac river, at the head of Winnebago Lake, to Mineral Point, by a course along which a road can be opened with great ease, will not exceed eighty miles. You are aware that distances are frequently computed by Indian marches; and it is a well authenticated fact, that, during Col. Dixon's¹ expedition at the close of the last war, the Indians marched from a place called Pine-bends, thirty miles beyond Mineral Point, to Garlic Island in Winnebago Lake, about twenty miles below Fond du lac river, *in two days*. Thus by calculating the distance from the mouth of Fond du Lac to Mineral Point at 80 miles, these Indians are made to march sixty five miles a day; and that is a very long march for an Indian.

It is very evident that the period is not remote, when the great thoroughfare between the Mississippi and the City of New York will pass through Green Bay. Nature has done so much for this country that there must soon be a commodious highway, connecting the waters of the Lakes with the Mississippi river; and then the whole business of Galena, the lead mines and the upper Mississippi will take this route, by which the value of property at the line of ship navigation will be greatly enhanced, and the commerce of the Lakes much benefitted.² These advantages require a population that understands how to improve them. Let the Menominie Treaty be ratified, by which the government will have received three millions of choice acres to hold out as inducement to emigration, and that population will not be long wanting; more especially if the Bill organizing the new Territory passes this session, which is earnestly called for by the true interests of the country.

¹ John Dixon, first settler of Dixon, Ill., and a prominent participant in the Black Hawk War.— Ed.

² See Sanborn's "Story of the Fox-Wisconsin River Improvement," *Wis. Hist. Soc. Proc.*, 1899, pp. 186-194; and Libby's "Significance of the Lead and Shot Trade in Early Wisconsin History," *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xiii, pp. 293-334.— Ed.