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Memorial of the Legislative Assembly of the
Territory of Wisconsin, praying that the title of the
Menomonie Indians to lands within that territory
may be extinguished

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MEMORIAL

OF

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE TERRITORY OF
WISCONSIN,

PRAYING

*That the title of the Menomonic Indians to lands within that Territory
may be extinguished.*

JANUARY 28, 1839.

Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

*To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United
States of America in Congress assembled :*

The memorial of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Wisconsin

RESPECTFULLY REPRESENTS :

That the title of the Menomonic nation of Indians is yet unextinguished to that portion of our Territory lying on the northwest side of, and adjacent to, the Fox river of Green bay, from the portage of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers to the mouth of Wolf river.

This tract of country, although of comparatively small extent, is nevertheless of great importance to the Territory, in consequence of its geographical position, and of the fact that the Indian title to nearly all the lands by which it is surrounded has been already extinguished, and settlements to a considerable extent have already been commenced upon them, thus leaving in the midst of our settlements a tract of country inhabited only by savages, and those of a description who have not the slightest tendency towards civilization. The Legislature would also urge upon Congress, with earnestness, the fact, that a deep interest is felt by the citizens of the Territory in the improvement of the Fox river, some slight improvements in which, together with the construction of a canal from the Fox to the Wisconsin river of one and a quarter mile long, (which has already been commenced,) would afford an uninterrupted water communication from the great lakes to the Mississippi, by a route which nature seems to have designed for that purpose. Congress have already made appropriations for the survey of Fox river, with reference to its future improvement, and the report of the engineer is understood to be highly favorable, and it seems highly probable that the report of the engineer will be followed by an appropriation to make the improvement; but a very limited and partial benefit will be derived from any such appropriation or improvement, until the title

of the Menomonie Indians is extinguished to the tract alluded to, as most of the improvements needed upon the Fox river would be required to be made, upon that part of it skirted by those lands.

The Legislature therefore respectfully ask of your honorable body an appropriation for the purpose, of enabling the President of the United States to cause the title of the Menomonie Indians to be extinguished to that portion of our Territory before alluded to.

JOHN W. BLACKSTONE,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
WILLIAM BULLEN,
President of the Council.

Approved, December 18, 1838.

HENRY DODGE.

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy from the original on file in my office.

W. B. SLAUGHTER,
Secretary of Wisconsin Territory.

DECEMBER 26, 1838.