

Report of
A. G. Ellis Surveyor

To the Honorable Erastus Root, James
McCall, and John T. Mason, United
States Commissioners for settling
Indian Boundary lines at Green
Bay. 1830. —

Gentlemen,

At your request to be furnish-
-ed with a few hints on the features
and general character of this coun-
-try, the following observations, hastily

branch, another considerable stream
runs toward Lake Michigan.

On the west side of Fox River,
the land improves gradually with the slope.
till at Lake Oshkawano it vies with
any in the Territory. The east side of

Duck Creek is particularly fine,
as far up the stream as I have observed,
and report continuing it the same
to near its source.

It is a still
sluggish water, (like Devil River) for
the first 4 miles, when it becomes
very rapid. - it is about 30 yds wide,
its bed a flat lime stone rock, banks
from 5 to 15 feet high, and it af-
-fords excellent Mill privileges.

The Ojibwa Indians have
selected

house, and 19 log dwellings, scattered over about 2,500 acres. Their improvements average about 133 acres each, = 133 acres, most of which is well cleared and under good fence; and they are extending them as fast as possible.

They have also a Grist and Saw Mill, under contract and commenced.

The land on either side of this Creek, is extraordinary for its heavy growth of Peach & Maple timber, its exceptions from low ground, and ^{its} the number of small streams. The inhabitants of this settlement consider it the garden of the Territory, and most of their private claims are in this neighborhood. Their principal

lands on this stream, as preferable to any
on their purchases, and pronounced
them superior to ~~any~~ those they left
in a similar stream in N. York.

I have ascertained by your order,
the position and extent of their
settlement as follows. They are about
10 1/2 miles from the mouth of Duck
creek, (following the stream) on the
East side, wholly within the cession by
the Menomonees to the M. U. 3/4 mile from
the line in the immediate neighborhood
of, and indeed upon many of the Pri-
vate claims unconfirmed, with the oc-
cupants of which they have al-
ready had disputes. They have a
log chapel commenced - a log school

object has been the extracting of sugar from the Maple Orchards. (2)

From this stream up Fox River, none of much importance occurs ~~even~~ before Apple Creek, and this has not water sufficient for Mills the whole

(2) "The great quantity (about 100,000 lbs) "exported annually from this County," shows that these Sugar Orchards are industriously cultivated, by the claimants, "and that they are of very great importance to them. It is also freely used in all families, and by some I believe, occasionally like the Indians as a chief article of sustenance, so that the annual consumption in the County, may fairly be estimated at 50,000 lbs."

season. Spring and fall however, it discharges enough to do business 6 months in the year. The quantity of really choice land on this stream, is rather small.

About the Grand Cacalim, the lands on either side are extremely fine. — The Stockbridge Indians have chosen the East side, but I think there is little or no choice in point of soil, and other circumstances are evidently in favor of the West. The land on more easily reduced & sooner fitted for the plough: — It besides I think commands rather the best Mill Privilege, (one occurring at least once a mile) and all the present carrying places. The east side is however the most suitable for a road or Canal, as it is less broken, and the distance shorter than on the West, and the rapids at Win-
* The whole fall from W. Lake to the foot of S. Cacalim is 144 feet — shortest distance $7\frac{3}{4}$ miles —

neiyaggo Lake are generally fordable.

On the subject of the Private
Land claims not confirmed, I hardly
know what information was desired.
Their location and extent, was I be-
lieve pretty accurately exhibited on
the Map furnished before you left.
Of the dates^{*} of their occupancy, I am
not particularly advised, nor is it com-
petent for me to sit in judgement upon
their equity. I can only say, that I have
understood that many were omitted to be
brought within the late laws on the
subject, merely from the neglect of a-
gents; — that these claims, as well as the
adjoining lands have become valuable
mostly by the advanced settlement and

* They range from 1783. to 1826.

occupancy of the claimants, but
for whom this country would not,
perhaps, have been known for ages,
on the land been worth a penny an
acre to the Government:— And that
many of them, who have built, and
made other improvements on their
claims, would be reduced to the most
absolute penury if turned off:— and
that indeed all interested in these
locations, would feel themselves de-
prived of very essential benefits
if not sustained in them.

I know of no information
in my power in relation to them,
which would be more valuable to
you, than that contained in the
petition of the Claimants to Congress
for a confirmation of the lands.

This able paper, drawn up by the Hon.
J. D. Doty counsel for the claimants,
a copy of which is appended, exhibits
a clear expose of the principles of
the subject, and contains, probably, the best
reasons that can be offered, why they
should be confirmed.

With my best wishes for the con-
tinuance of your lives and prosperity
I am Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant

A. S. Ellis.

District Surveyor
of the County of
Brown.

Free Press (Michigan)
September 24. 1830

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