

FORT RANDALL RESERVATION.

CHAPTER XIII.

A MEMORIAL TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR, REQUESTING THAT THE MILITARY RESERVATION OF FORT RANDALL, D. T., ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE MISSOURI RIVER BE REDUCED.

To the Hon. Secretary of War :

Your memorialists, the legislative assembly of the territory of Dakota, would most respectfully represent that it is important to the interest of this territory that the military reservation of Fort Randall, on the north side of the Missouri river, be reduced.

Asking that the Fort Randall reservation be reduced.

This reservation was surveyed, in part, in 1860, by Lieut. J. C. Clark, 4th artillery. The portion surveyed is included within black lines on the accompanying map. That portion in red lines, marked, M. L. A. Z., has never been surveyed by the military authorities.

Upon this portion of the military reserve, a number of citizens settled, as far back as 1858, three years before such reservation was made.

They have built houses, opened farms, cultivated the soil, and entered largely into the raising of Stock. By their energy and industry, they have built up flourishing settlements, and opened up avenues to material wealth and prosperity.

Under the act, approved August 4th, 1854, the right of pre-emption was extended over the unsurveyed lands of Minnesota. This tract was a part of the territory of Minnesota, to which this act applies, and the citizens who have settled upon and improved it, did so before the military reservation was made. The extension of this reserve, so as to include their farms and

Asking that the
Fort Randall
reservation be
reduced.

improvements, subjects them, at any moment, to be removed from them by the military authorities, and thus works a hardship upon them.

The reserve as now established, is a very large one, much larger, indeed, than is deemed essential to the wants of Fort Randall, and might be reduced to smaller proportions, with much justice to those who, in good faith, are in occupancy of the particular portion asked to be restored in this memorial.

Your memorialists would further represent, that this tract lies in Chas. Mix county, and embraces lands necessary to its well being and growth, without which her prosperity is crippled.

For these reasons, and others, of a kindred character, which might be mentioned, your memorialists ask that the portion of the reserve above named, together with the islands in the Missouri, some of which are occupied, be excluded from the military reserve of Fort Randall and restored to public market.

Be it Resolved, That our delegate in congress, Walter A. Burleigh, be requested to lay this memorial before the honorable secretary of War, and urge him to grant the requirement herein made.

And your memorialists as in duty bound will ever pray.

Approved, January 11th, 1867.

GEORGE STICKNEY.

CHAPTER XIV.

A MEMORIAL TO SAMUEL C. POMEROY CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS RELATIVE TO GEO. STICKNEY.