

on which route numerous instances of murder and robbery have already occurred, and in order to prevent the formation of vigilance committees (as has been done in all of the mineral region bordering the Pacific) it is absolutely necessary we should be provided with a prison, that through our courts evil doers should be punished according to law instead of mob violence.

Your memorialists would therefore pray your honorable body, that an appropriation be made of twenty thousand dollars or such sum as you in your wisdom may deem necessary for the erection of a territorial jail or penitentiary at the town of Bon Homme, in Bon Homme county, Dakota Territory.

And your memorialists as in duty bound will ever pray.

Ordered, That a copy of this memorial be forwarded to the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives; also, a copy to Hon. W. A. Burleigh, our Delegate in Congress.

Approved, January 11th, 1867.

PUBLIC LANDS.

CHAPTER XXIV.

A PETITION TO THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

To the Honorable the Commissioner of the General Land Office:

Your memorialists the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Dakota, would respectfully say that in their judgment a more rigid observance of our land system should be observed, the more especially in reference to the homestead law. Respecting the homestead law.

The fact exists that the most desirable lands in Dakota Territory are held by persons who have not complied with the requirements of this most beneficent law. Technically, in the first instance perhaps they have, with the object, purpose and design of evading its provisions for speculative purposes.

The law requires an honest *bona fide* intention to actually reside on the homestead for five years.

Yet the fact is that parties claiming the benefits of this law, do not continue to reside in good faith on the lands, but instead thereof hold it for sale.

Your memorialists deferentially suggest that some rules be adopted directory to the Register and Receiver of the Local Land Office at Vermillion, in this Territory, whereby such officers may declare land thus held vacant, and subject to entry.

Approved, January 11th, 1867.

WAGON ROAD—GRADING.

CHAPTER XXV.

A MEMORIAL TO THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR ASKING THAT THE SURPLUS FUNDS OF THE APPROPRIATION FOR LOCATING A WAGON ROAD FROM THE MINNESOTA LINE, TO THE MISSOURI, BE APPLIED TO GRADING AND BRIDGING THE ROAD FROM SIOUX FALLS TO YANKTON.

To the Honorable Secretary of the Interior :

Asking that certain funds be applied to grading and bridging the road to Sioux Falls.

Your memorialists, the legislative assembly of the Territory of Dakota, would respectfully represent ;

1st. By an act of Congress approved March 3d, 1865, the sum of \$10,000 was appropriated to lay out and construct a