

To prevent injuries to the settlements.

recently held with the upper river tribes, reveals the fact that great dissatisfaction prevails among the bands treated with, on account of bad faith shown in breaking the promises which were made in behalf of the government by the said commissioners, the consequence of which is to weaken their devotion to their great father.

Your memorialists would further represent, that the present warlike attitude of the Indians, tending as it does to disturb our communities in their industrial pursuits, calls for the most complete vigilance on the part of our military arm, to prevent lasting and weighty injuries from being entailed upon our feeble settlements. The post known as Fort James, located on the James river, in this territory, which was evacuated last fall, would be of incalculable value in dispelling the apprehensions which now exist, if immediately occupied by a sufficient force of troops. It is a very important point, its situation being within the scope of country necessarily traversed by the warlike bands who seek to invade and desolate the settlements.

With confidence in your willingness to afford us security for our lives and property, we earnestly request that you give this memorial your early and favorable consideration.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound will ever pray.

Approved, January 11th, 1867.

REMOVAL OF INDIANS.

CHAPTER XVIII.

A MEMORIAL TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
RELATIVE TO THE REMOVAL OF THE SANTEE BAND OF
SIOUX INDIANS:

To the President :

Your memorialists, the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Dakota, would respectfully represent, that the Santee band of Sioux Indians have been removed from their reservation at Crow Creek, to a point in the Territory of Nebraska, on the Missouri river, opposite the farms and homes of the peaceable citizens of Dakota.

Pleading for the removal of the Santee Indians.

Your memorialists would further represent, that these Indians belong to the same band, and are the same persons who committed the terrible and bloody massacres in the State of Minnesota, in the year 1862, and that over three hundred who participated in these murders and damnable outrages, on the peaceable citizens of Minnesota, were tried, convicted and sentenced, but a feeling of false philanthropy, prevented their execution, and after enduring a short period of imprisonment, they are being placed in close proximity to our quiet settlements; threatening direst vengeance on our citizens for their imprisonment.

Your memorialists would further represent, that placing the Indians (with the history of their late atrocities fresh in the minds of all our citizens.) in the immediate vicinity of the settlements of our Territory, has and is very much alarming our citizens, for the safety of their families and property. Added to this, the rumor of a coalition of twelve tribes, who number some seventy thousand warriors, for a general warfare against the settlers of Dakota and Montana, and some idea may be formed of the fear prevailing among those of our settlers who are compelled to live in close proximity to these Hell Hounds of Minnesota notoriety.

Your memorialists would further represent that these Indians are being so located that in a single night, every settler between Yankton, the Capitol of Dakota, and Fort Randall, a distance of some eighty miles, might be massacred by these cold blooded fiends without a particle of hope of relief from any source whatever.

Your memorialists would further represent, that economy on the part of the Government require that they should be settled on other lands. A portion of the lands on which these In-

praying for the
removal of the
Santee Indians.

dians are now being settled, is laid out in town lots, valuable improvements have been made on a portion of said lots. Many of the parties owning these said lots are in different portions of the country, which will render it quite impossible for the Government to acquire title without a larger expenditure of money than the benefits accruing therefrom will justify.

Your memorialists would further represent, that other lands equally adapted in climate, timber, water and soil capable of producing all the cereals and vegetables grown in the northwest, lying on the east side of the Missouri river and north of Fort Randall, are owned by the Government, and from Fort Randall to American creek there are no better agricultural lands in northern Nebraska or Iowa. The location of these Indians on these lands would be attended with very little expense, and when so located there would intervene between them and the settlements the Yankton Sioux Indians, whose known friendship for the whites is felt and recognized along our entire frontier. Forts Randall, James and Dakota, also intervening, would, if kept properly garrisoned, effectually protect our frontier settlement and be able to prevent these Indians from making any predatory incursions, they may be disposed to make.

And your memorialists as in duty bound will ever pray.

Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Dakota :

That a copy of this memorial be presented to the Governor for his signature, and that duly authenticated copies be forwarded to the President of the United States, to the Secretary of the Interior, and to our Delegate in Congress.

Approved, January 10th, 1867.