

MEMORIALS AND RESOLUTIONS.

ARMORY.

NUMBER 1.

JOINT RESOLUTION.

*Be it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of
Dakota :*

[Sec. 1.] That the Territorial auditor and treasurer, be, and are hereby authorized to cause to be erected a suitable building in the town of Yankton, in which to store the arms and ammunition belonging to the Territory of Dakota ;

Certain officers
authorized to
build armory

Provided, however, That the cost of such building shall not exceed the sum of two hundred dollars ; and

Provided, further, That the town of Yankton, shall donate a lot to the Territory of Dakota, on which to erect such building.

Sec. 2. The Territorial auditor is hereby instructed to issue territorial warrants in payment of the cost of the building provided for in section one (1,) of this act.

Approved, January 10, 1868.

ENROLLING CLERK.

NUMBER 2.

JOINT RESOLUTION.

Be it resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Dakota:

Appropriation
for enrolling
clerk

Section 1. That there be allowed H. J. Brisbine, one hundred and twenty dollars (\$120.00) for his services as enrolling clerk for the council and house of representatives.

Sec. 2. The Territorial auditor is hereby instructed to issue a territorial warrant to the said H. J. Brisbine, for the amount above stated in this resolution.

Approved, January 10, 1863.

CAPITOL BUILDING.

NUMBER 3.

A MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS PRAYING FOR AN APPROPRIATION
TO ERECT A CAPITOL BUILDING IN DAKOTA TERRITORY.

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

Your memorialists, the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Dakota, again respectfully ask that an appropriation be

made by your honorable bodies for the erection of a capitol building at the seat of government of said Territory, and urge in support of this memorial;

Asking an appropriation to erect a capital building

That the building now used and occupied by the Legislative Assembly, is wholly unsuitable and unfit for such a purpose.

That said building and those used by the several federal officers of this Territory, are rented of private individuals, and are wooden tenements, in all respects unsafe and liable at any time to be destroyed by fire together with their valuable contents.

That the legislative, executive and judicial records, files libraries, furniture and other valuables are at all times in consequence, liable to injury and total destruction, and we regard their preservation of vital importance to our Territory.

That the rent now paid (which must increase as the value of property increases) for the several offices, the Executive's, the Secretary's, the Surveyor General's, the Marshal's, the U. S. Attorney's and the U. S. court room and Legislative Halls, would, in a very few years, pay the expense of erecting a suitable building for the accommodation of the various federal officers, and the Legislative Assembly, and therefore the expenditure of a sum sufficient for that purpose would be absolute economy.

Your memorialists regard this matter of great importance to Dakota; and would therefore most earnestly pray that an appropriation of not less than forty thousand dollars be made for the purpose before stated.

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

CODIFICATION OF LAWS.

NUMBER 4.

A MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS ASKING FOR AN APPROPRIATION TO CODIFY THE LAWS OF DAKOTA TERRITORY.

*To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of
the United States in Congress assembled.*

Asking an
appropriation
to codify the
law

Your Memorialists, the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Dakota, would respectfully represent, that the laws of Dakota enacted since the first Legislature are in a state of confusion, so much so that it is almost impossible to tell what laws are in force and effect, and what laws are repealed or rendered void by subsequent legislation. The laws now on our statute books, are the enactments of six Legislatures. Until the laws are codified this uncertainty will continue and increase.

Your memorialists would further recommend and pray that an appropriation be made by Congress of eight thousand dollars to compensate a commission of competent persons to codify and revise the laws of this Territory, or that such an amount may be appropriated for such codification and revision as to your honorable bodies shall seem proper.

And your memorialists would further recommend and ask that the Secretary of this Territory be authorized to employ such persons as in his judgment are qualified to perform the duties of such commission of revision, and to pay a reasonable compensation to the persons so employed, and also to pay the expenses of printing, &c.

Resolved, That our Delegate in Congress be respectfully requested to bring the subject of this memorial to the immediate attention of Congress, and use all honorable means to bring about the asked for appropriation.

GRANT OF LANDS.

NUMBER 5.

A MEMORIAL TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES, PRAYING FOR A GRANT OF LAND TO THE MINNESOTA AND MISSOURI RIVER RAILROAD COMPANY, TO AID IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF A RAILROAD FROM THE MINNESOTA STATE LINE TO THE MISSOURI RIVER, AT YANKTON, DAKOTA TERRITORY.

Your memorialists, the legislative assembly of the Territory of Dakota, would most respectfully represent, that by an act of Congress, approved July 4th, 1866, a grant of land was given to the State of Minnesota, to aid in the construction of a railroad through the southern portion of that State, terminating on the eastern boundary of this Territory.

Asking a grant
of lands for
railroad pur-
poses

That said road was evidently encouraged and projected by Congress, with a view of eventually tapping the large and growing trade of the upper Missouri valley and the mineral fields of northwestern Dakota and eastern Montana, and making the coal and pine of that region tributary to the rich prairies of southern Dakota and Minnesota ;

That said road is rapidly approaching completion, and unless it can be continued to the Missouri river at an early day, the evident object of the enterprise will be retarded.

Again, the continuation of the said road to the Missouri river, would open to rapid settlement and cultivation, one of the most fertile sections of the great west, and therefore add greatly to the revenue of the country ;

That while other Territories and States have been treated with the greatest liberality by Congress, in the way of aid in building railroads through their borders, this Territory has never received any practical benefit from this spirit of liberality so often exhibited by Congress.

Your memorialists would further represent, that by an act of the legislative assembly of the Territory of Dakota, approved January 11th, 1867, a charter was granted to the Minnesota and Missouri

Asking a grant
of lands for rail-
road purposes

River Railroad Company, to construct a railroad from the point of intersection of the southern Minnesota railroad with the eastern boundary of this Territory, to the town of Yaukton, on the Missouri river. Believing as we do, that a grant of land to aid in the construction of such a road would be of absolute general benefit, in an early development of a rich agricultural country, that without it will remain undeveloped for many years ;

Your memorialists respectfully but earnestly pray that your honorable bodies grant every alternate section of land to the amount of not less than five miles on each side of the line of such road, to aid in the construction thereof, and that such grant be made to said Minnesota and Missouri River Railroad Company, with the proper restrictions, limitations and forfeitures, upon such company furnishing sufficient guarantees for an early completion of the road, or upon their failure so to do, to some other company that will furnish such guarantee.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

NUMBER 6.

A MEMORIAL TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
PRAYING FOR A GRANT OF LAND TO AID IN THE CONSTRUCTION
OF A RAILROAD FROM SIOUX CITY, IOWA, TO THE MOUTH OF
THE BIG SNEYENNE RIVER, IN DAKOTA TERRITORY.

Your Memorialists, the Legislative Assembly of the Territory
of Dakota, would most respectfully represent :

Asking a grant
of lands for rail-
road purposes

That Congress has heretofore given munificent grants of public lands to the State of Iowa to aid in the construction of railroads in that State, two of which roads are projected towards and near to the southeastern boundary of this Territory, one of which is now very nearly completed. It seems to have been the evident intention of Congress in the encouragement and projection of these roads to assist in developing the natural wealth of the great Missouri Valley. That even a temporary suspension of the enterprise thus projected would greatly retard the growth and prosperity of a large section of country, rich in

agricultural and mineral wealth. That while liberal grants of land have been given to the States of Minnesota and Iowa to aid in building railroads to the boundary of this Territory, no practical aid has as yet been given for the building of railroads within our boundaries, and regarding the matter of absolute general benefit tending to greatly increase the revenue of the country, your memorialists respectfully but earnestly pray your honorable bodies to pass an act, granting lands to the extent of every alternate section for five miles on each side of the road, to aid in the construction of a railroad from Sioux City, Iowa, *via* the Big Sioux bridge crossing, Elk Point, Vermillion, Yankton and Bon Homme, up the Missouri Valley to the mouth of the Big Sheyenne river in Dakota Territory, and if consistent with the rule adopted by Congress, to place said grant under the control of the Territory with the proper limitations and restrictions, or if not to give it direct to some properly constituted and responsible company that will furnish sufficient guarantees for the completion of said road, *via* the points above named to Yankton, the Capitol of Dakota Territory, a distance of sixty-two miles, within two years from the reception of the grant, and to the point of termination within a reasonable time thereafter.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

INDIANS.

NUMBER 7.

MEMORIAL AND JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE TERRITORY OF DAKOTA RELATIVE TO INDIAN AFFAIRS IN DAKOTA TERRITORY.

Your memorialists the Legislature of the Territory of Dako-

Relative to
Indian affairs

ta believing that the vital interests of our Territory as also the entire upper Missouri valley, depends in a great measure upon the disposition that may be made of the various Indian tribes within our borders, most respectfully represent to your Hon. bodies their views upon this important subject.

For the better enforcement of the laws of Congress concerning the trade and intercourse with the various Indian tribes, as also for the more convenient and economical management of the Indians in that portion of Dakota, west of the State of Nebraska, and south of the Territory of Montana, the same being almost wholly unconnected and having no interests in common with the other settled portion of the Territory, should be at once organized into a new Territory.

The present population of that portion of Dakota is between five and ten thousand, and rapidly increasing, a portion of it being very rich in mineral resources.

If the system of small reservations is to be abandoned, and the Indians consolidated and given a Territory in Dakota for their exclusive use and benefit, that territory should be located north of the forty-fifth parallel of north latitude. This section of country is capable of containing and supporting all the Indians in Dakota.

The soil of the valleys of all the streams as well as much of the upland prairies is rich, and well adapted to the growing of wheat, rye, barley, oats, peas, beans and the varieties of Indian corn. In support of this statement your memorialists quote from the report of the explorations of Lieut. G. K. Warren in 1855, in which he says: "Three tribes of Indians on the Missouri are somewhat of an agricultural people. The Minetares at Fort Berthold raised in 1854, ten thousand bushels of corn, and beans and pumpkins in proportion. The Mandans, sixty miles below, one thousand five hundred bushels, and the Arikaras at Fort Clark four thousand bushels."

The history of the last ten years intercourse with the Indians of the upper Missouri, clearly establishes the fact that as good crops can be produced by the Indians north of latitude forty-five as south of this line. The game country of the northwest lies north of this line, and east and west of the Missouri river; countless herds of Buffalo, Antelope, Elk, Deer, pasture

throughout the year in this portion of Dakota, indicating it to be equally as well adapted to domestic stock growing, and since the Indians will rely partly for years to come for support in the chase, and should be gradually brought from the chase to a pastoral life and then to agricultural pursuits, the portion of Dakota referred to is admirably adapted for an Indian territory.

Relative to
Indian affairs

Your Memorialists respectfully but most earnestly protest against the proposed plan of including in the Indian territory to be created for the exclusive benefit and habitation of the Indians, that portion of Dakota known as the Black Hills; not only Dakota but northern Nebraska and Iowa, all have material interests antagonistical to such an act. The entire valley of the upper Missouri must have pine timber, known to exist in the Black Hills of Dakota, in order to settle the vast prairies of the Northwest.

The section of country immediately south of latitude forty-five is known to be very rich in minerals, such as gold, silver, iron and coal. Gold has been discovered in largely paying quantities in the Black Hills, Snow and Big Horn mountains, and in all the heads of streams flowing from the mountains. While this country is indispensable to the future growth and prosperity of the entire Northwest it is of no particular value to the Indians. Your memorialists believe that the difficulties with the Indians which have cost the country so much treasure and precious blood is owing mainly to the want of a simplification of the manner of dealing with this peculiar people and the promiscuous manner in which agents have been appointed to preside over them.

It is not unfrequent that a man is selected as agent who never saw an Indian and knows nothing of their peculiarity of character and disposition, besides it often happens that such agents are men destitute of every principle of honesty, morality, men of broken fortunes, sent out among the Indians not for the benefit of the Indians but to renew their own fortunes.

These inexperienced agents barely have sufficient time to gain the knowledge necessary to a satisfactory and safe administration of his affairs before he is displaced and some new man sent to the Indians to commence educating, not the Indians, but himself.

Relative to
Indian affairs

Your memorialists believe that the surest remedy for all evils would be the transfer of the general management of Indian affairs to the states and territories within the limits of which the tribes or bands may respectively reside. Delays in the transaction of Indian business, now so frequently fatal to many undertakings would thus be avoided, while the management of their affairs would be conducted by those familiar with the peculiarities and requirements of the identical Indians with whom they deal. This is not and cannot be so correctly understood by those managing their affairs, situated a thousand miles away from the field of operation.

Far more could be done for the Indians under such an arrangement with the same amount of money than under the present system. The Indian goods when purchased by the Indian Departments at Washington, generally cost about one-third more when delivered to the Indians than the same goods are selling at retail at such places. Firmly believing this to be the best way to a lasting settlement of this question, your memorialists most earnestly implore Congress to cut the gordian knot of Indian difficulties by at once turning the management of the Indians over to the local state and territorial governments and thereby curtail largely the expenses of the general government and materially enhance the welfare of the Indian.

Your memorialists further believe that all moneys appropriated by Congress for the benefit of the Indian should be wholly expended by their local agents. These officers know better than any one who never comes in contact with them, can, the kind, quality and quantity of articles which will best please and aid the Indians under his charge; they would then know when, how and where, they are to receive their goods and thus be made to feel more directly the power their agent exercises over all their affairs and would consequently strive to satisfy and obey him.

The Indians should be made to feel that this power to their benefit or injury rests in the hands of the person who daily comes in contact with them, and overlooks all their actions and affairs. Under the present system in this Territory the Indians rarely receive their goods at the proper time. For two seasons last the steamboats with Indian annuity goods for the upper Mis-

souri have been sunk, thereby causing much disappointment Relative to
indian affairs and loss to Indians besides making them more troublesome, and this all results from the system of the Indian Departments at Washington, not purchasing their goods at a proper time, and in shipping them on worthless boats.

Your memorialists would further represent that no good would result from the transfer of the management of Indian affairs to the War Department, that it would be equally as expensive as the present system, besides the Indians are bitterly opposed to such transfer. In the opinion of your memorialists the men of the Army are not the men to lead the Indians from a savage life to a pastoral, agricultural and civilized life. But were they placed under the fostering care of the different States and Territories, the States and Territories could and would at once take measures to have them located on reservations, and ways and means provided for their education and christianization.

The better portion of the people together with the churches would at once have their sympathies enlisted in their behalf, while under the present system there is no encouragement for any one to attempt anything to ameliorate their present condition.

And as in duty bound your memorialists will ever pray.

Resolved, That a copy of this memorial be sent to our Delegate in Congress, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, President of the Senate, Hon. Wm. Windom and John B. Henderson.

NUMBER 8.

A MEMORIAL TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES RELATIVE TO THE REMOVAL OF THE PEMBINA BAND OF CHIP- PEWA INDIANS.

To his Excellency, the President of the United States:

Your Memorialists, the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Dakota, would most respectfully represent, the Pembina-
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Relative to the
removal of
certain indians

Relative to the
removal of cer-
tain Indians

na band of the Chippewa Indians are still upon the lands on the Dakotaside of the Red River of the North, which was ceded by the said Pembina band and the Red Lake band of Chippewa Indians in their treaty with the United States in 1863. And that the occupation of said land by said Pembina band of Chippewa Indians, is a great nuisance to the settlements on the Pembina river, and also retards the establishment and growth of new settlements on the ceded land.

Your memorialists therefore pray that said last named band of Indians be removed from said ceded land and settled upon a reservation, according to the provisions of said treaty.

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

LAND OFFICE

NUMBER 9.

A MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS RELATIVE TO A U. S. LAND OFFICE IN THE RED RIVER VALLEY.

To the Honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

Relative to land
office in the
Red River
valley

Your Memorialists, the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Dakota, would most respectfully represent;

1, That that portion of Dakota Territory, known as the "Red River Valley," bounded on the north by the British Possessions, and on the east by the Red River of the north, and which is traversed by the Pembina, Park, Salt, Turtle, Goose, Elm, Sheyenne and Wild Rice rivers, and their tributaries, contains a population of over two thousand citizens; which at this time is chiefly confined to the Pembina and Red rivers, near our northern boundary. And as the streams above named are all well timbered with oak, ash, elm, and lynn, and

water a valley over two hundred miles long by from twenty-five to fifty miles wide; unsurpassed as an agricultural and grazing country, new settlements are being established, which by the tide of immigration must within a few years spread over that entire country, extending along the Red River of the North, from Fort Abercrombie to the British line.

Relative to land office in the Red River valley

2. That many of the citizens of Pembina county are entitled each, to one hundred and sixty acres of land, as a grant under the treaty of 1863 and 1864, between the United States and the Red Lake and Pembina bands of Chippewa Indians.

3. That the Pembina settlements are by a direct line over four hundred miles from the only U. S. Land Office within this Territory. And as there is no communication by a direct route over the unsettled country, (much of which is yet Indian territory,) between the said settlements and the Land Office at Vermillion, on the Missouri river; in order to secure title to their grants, pre-emptions or homesteads, the people of said settlements will have to travel through a great portion of the States of Minnesota and Iowa, as well as this Territory, a distance of over one thousand miles, to reach the Vermillion Land Office; and at an expense equal, or greater than the value of their claims, at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. For the reasons briefly above stated, your memorialists most respectfully pray for the establishment of a Land District, to be bounded as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of Parallel of Latitude 49° north, with the Red River of the north; thence up the center of the main channel of said river to its intersection with the line between townships 130 and 131 north of the base line; thence west on said line to its intersection with Parallel of Longitude 27° west from Washington; thence north on said Parallel of Longitude (27° .) to its intersection with the Parallel of latitude 49° north; thence east on said parallel of latitude (49° .) to the place of beginning.

And your memorialists further pray, that there may be a Land Office, with a register and receiver for said district, located at a suitable point in the said Pembina settlements.

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

MAILS.

NUMBER 10.

A MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS PRAYING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF A MAIL ROUTE FROM FORT TOTTEN TO ST. JOSEPH, D. T.

*To the Honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives of the
United States in Congress assembled.*

For a mail route
from Fort Totten
to St. Joseph

Your memorialists, the legislative assembly of the Territory of Dakota, would most respectfully represent, that since the erection of Ft. Totten, during the last summer, a thriving settlement has been growing up near Devil's Lake, in this Territory. The people of this settlement, as well as those of the Fort, are without any direct mail communication with the old settlements on the Pembina river. In order to send a letter by mail from Fort Totten to the Pembina settlements, it is first carried nearly 200 miles to Fort Abercrombie, on the Red river, thence down the Red river 200 miles to Pembina, making a distance of nearly 400 miles, when in fact it is less than 100 miles, by a good traveled route from Fort Totten, to St. Joseph, on the Pembina river.

Your memorialists do therefore, most respectfully ask for the establishment of a mail route from Fort Totten, or Devil's Lake to St. Joseph, on the Pembina river, there to connect with the mail now carried between that place and the town of Pembina, on the Red River of the North.

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

NUMBER 11.

A MEMORIAL TO THE HON. ALEXANDER RANDALL, POST MASTER GENERAL, U. S., PRAYING THAT THE MAIL SERVICE ON ROUTE NO. 13801, FROM SIOUX CITY, IOWA, TO FORT RANDALL, DAKOTA TERRITORY, BE INCREASED.

Hon. Sir:

Your memorialists, the legislative assembly of Dakota Territory, would most respectfully represent, that said legislative body, at its sixth annual session, did memorialize the Post Master General U. S., for an increase of mail service, from three to six times a week, on route No. 13801, from Sioux City, Iowa, to Fort Randall, D. T., at the same time urging that such an increase of mail service was absolutely necessary for the public good.

Although the prayer of that memorial was not regarded, we are compelled to again lay this matter before the post office department, and urge such an increase of mail service (from three to six times a week) at once, as a matter of absolute necessity, in order to meet the large and fast increasing demands of the Missouri valley.

Said post route runs from Sioux city, Iowa, (which is supplied with a daily mail) through Yankton, the capital of Dakota Territory, as well as many other thriving towns, to Fort Randall in this Territory, from which place are sent the mails for all the military posts and Indian agencies on the upper Missouri.

A tri-weekly mail has ceased to be sufficient to supply the postal necessities of this country, and your memorialists would therefore request that service be increased to six times a week, as above mentioned.

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

 NUMBER 12.

A MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS PRAYING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MAIL ROUTE, FROM FORT RANDALL TO FORT RICE, IN DAKOTA TERRITORY

To the Honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled.

Your memorialists, the legislative assembly of the Territory of

For a mail route
from Fort
Randall to Fort
Rice

Dakota, would most respectfully represent, that Fort Randall is the highest point on the Missouri river to which a mail route has as yet been established.

That the several settlements, military posts, and Indian agencies on the Missouri river above Fort Randall, have to procure their mail matter from that place at a great expense and inconvenience.

That the absence of mail communication between the points above named (Forts Randall and Rice) the public service, civil and military, suffers great inconvenience, and at times, serious loss.

And that the route herein proposed is direct and practicable, having for several years been a well established thoroughfare.

Your memorialists therefore pray that a mail route be established from Fort Randall to Fort Rice, on the Missouri river, and that service, not less than once per week, be ordered thereupon.

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

NUMBER 13.

A MEMORIAL TO THE POST MASTER GENERAL PRAYING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MAIL ROUTE, FROM FORT BRIDGER, IN UTAH TERRITORY, TO SOUTH PASS CITY, DAKOTA TERRITORY.

For a mail route
from Fort bridg-
er to South pass
city

Your memorialists, the legislative assembly of the Territory of Dakota respectfully represent, that there is now a large and rapidly increasing population, at, and in the vicinity of South Pass city, entirely without mail communication except by private conveyance.

That the extreme richness of the gold mines, on being developed in that vicinity and on the Sweetwater, will, beyond any doubt induce a very heavy emigration to that section of this Territory the coming season. It seems to your memorialists only reasonable and just, that those people should be, at as early a day as possible, supplied with mail facilities; therefore your memorialists ask that a mail route be established from Fort Bridger, Utah Territory, the nearest practicable point of intersection with the main mail route across the continent, to South Pass city, Dakota Territory.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

MILITARY POST

NUMBER 14.

A MEMORIAL TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR, PRAYING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MILITARY POST IN THE RED RIVER VALLEY UNDER THE APPROPRIATION OF MARCH 2, 1861.

To the Honorable Secretary of War :

Your Memorialists, the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Dakota, would most respectfully represent, that in the absence of military protection the persons and property of the settlers on the Pembina and Red rivers near the British American line are placed in continual jeopardy by Indians belonging to the Pembina and Red Lake bands of Chippeways, and Cree Indians residing in the British Territory, while under the influence of intoxicating drinks which they obtain from white men residing just north of the boundary line.

For a military post in the Red River valley

And, further, that without military protection, it is utterly impossible for the custom officers at the post of Pembina, on the Red River of the North, to enforce a due respect for the revenue laws of the United States, along our northern boundary.

Your memorialists would therefore most respectfully call your attention to the act of Congress, entitled "An Act making appropriations for the support of the army, for the year ending 30th June, 1862," approved March 2d, 1861, and more particularly that clause provided as follows :

"For the construction of a military post on or near the valley of the Red River of the North, fifty thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be deemed necessary by the Secretary of War. The site to be selected and post built under the direction of the Secretary of War."

For the reasons briefly stated above, your memorialists do most respectfully urge the expenditure of the said appropriation in the construction of a military post at some suitable point

on the Pembina River in the valley of the Red River of the North, and near the boundary line between the United States, and Hudson Bay Companies Territory of British America.

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

NEW TERRITORY.

NUMBER 15.

A MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS ASKING FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF A NEW TERRITORY OUT OF THE SOUTHERN PORTION OF DAKOTA.

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled :

For a new
Territory

Your memorialists, the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Dakota, most respectfully represent, that all that portion of Dakota Territory described as follows, to wit :

Beginning at a point west of the main ridge of the Rocky Mountains in the Green river valley, at the intersection of the thirty-third meridian of longitude west from Washington, with the forty-first parallel of north latitude ; thence east along said forty-third parallel to the twenty-seventh meridian of longitude ; thence north along said meridian near the western base of the Black Hills to the south-east corner of Montana Territory, on the forty-fifth parallel of latitude ; thence west along the south boundary of said Territory to the summit of the Rocky Mountains ; thence southwardly along the eastern boundary of Idaho Territory to the aforementioned thirty-third meridian of longitude, and thence south along said meridian to the place of be-

ginning, would be greatly benefitted by being detached from the remaining and eastern portion of said Territory of Dakota, and erected by Congress into a new Territory with a separate organization.

Your memorialists would further represent, in evidence of the necessity of this our petition, that while the said new Territory is remote from the main line of travel in eastern Dakota, and is separated therefrom by a broad extent of wild Indian country, yet the Union Pacific railroad traverses the entire length of said proposed new Territory giving it direct and easy communication with Nebraska and the States, by means of which several thousand people have already settled along the line of said road, and have established their towns and cities, at a distance of 600 miles by the nearest traveled route from the capital and courts of the Territory of Dakota.

Your memorialists would further represent, that said portion of Dakota comprises an area of Territory equal to 62,526,528 square acres, or nearly one-half the present Territory of Dakota, and no direct lines of travel or communication will, for many years, be opened across the plains connecting these two remote sections of Dakota, so long as the said Pacific railroad gives to the said proposed new Territory such advantages of trade and travel with the east and the Lower Missouri, as is now possessed by that section of the west.

Your memorialists would further represent, that the present illy proportioned and extensive area of Dakota, demonstrates that a division of this Territory by Congress is inevitable, and only a question of time, and sound policy would seem to dictate that all the guards of law and courts afforded by a separate territorial government should be extended to the already populous settlements of the proposed new Territory.

Your memorialists would therefore most earnestly petition your honorable bodies to grant to this important and growing section of Dakota, a separate territorial organization at the present session of Congress.

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

SUPERINTENDENT OF WAGON ROAD.

NUMBER 16.

A MEMORIAL TO THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, ASKING
FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF HON. HORACE J. AUSTIN, AS SUPER-
INTENDENT OF THE BIG CHEYENNE WAGON ROAD.

For a superin-
tendent of the
Cheyenne wagon
road

Your memorialists, the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Dakota would most respectfully represent, that the increased travel from Dakota to Montana imperatively demands that the remainder of the appropriation to open a wagon road, from the mouth of the Big Cheyenne river, to connect with the Niobrara and Montana wagon road, should be expended during the coming spring, and the road completed as provided by the act of Congress entitled an act to provide for the construction of a certain wagon road in the Territories of Idaho, Montana, Dakota and Nebraska, approved March 3d, 1865.

Your memorialists would further recommend, that Hon. Horace J. Austin, of Vermillion, Dakota Territory, be appointed superintendent of said Big Cheyenne wagon road. Mr. Austin is a practical engineer and a thorough business man, honest and upright, served his country as a soldier for three years during the late rebellion and is most deserving of the position as well as being in every way well qualified to perform the duties of the office.

Therefore, your memorialists most respectfully but earnestly ask for Mr. Austin's appointment to the position.

Resolved, That a copy of this memorial be sent to Hon. O. H. Browning, and Hon. W. A. Burleigh.

SURVEY OF LANDS.

NUMBER 17.

A MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS RELATIVE TO THE SURVEY OF PUBLIC LANDS
ON OR NEAR THE RED RIVER OF THE NORTH.

*To the Honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives
of the United States in Congress assembled :*

Your memorialists, the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Dakota, would most respectfully represent, that under an appropriation of five thousand dollars, by the Thirty-ninth Congress, at the second session thereof, for the extension of the public surveys to the Pembina settlements of northeast Dakota, near the British boundary, it was found necessary by the Commissioner of the general land office, to direct the extension of the eleventh standard, and 7th guide meridian from the State of Minnesota, west and north—a distance of one hundred and forty miles, through the country on the Dakota side of the Red River of the North, ceded in 1863, by the Red Lake and Pembina bands of Chippewa Indians, in order to reach the said Pembina settlements. For a survey of lands on Red River

That by the extension of said eleventh standard, and seventh guide meridian, the appropriation was necessarily reduced about fifteen hundred dollars, leaving only three thousand five hundred dollars to be expended in the running of township and section lines in said Pembina settlements.

That contrary to the expectation of the commissioner of the general land office, the fifteenth standard parallel fell nineteen and one-half miles south of the international boundary, wherefore it became necessary, under the instructions of the commissioner, to lay off nearly three hundred miles of base and township lines in order to reach the actual settlements along the Pembina river, thus reducing the appropriation to less than two

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thousand dollars for subdivisional surveys, in consequence of which only about five townships were sectionized.

That in addition to the said unfinished condition of the subdivisional surveys; that entire portion of the Red River valley through which said meridian is established, for a distance of over one hundred miles, is left without any connection, either by base, township or section lines.

That within this intermediate of one hundred miles, said meridian crosses four streams of considerable size, viz: the Goose, Turtle, Salt and Park rivers, all fine streams, well wooded with oak, ash, elm and lynn, and watering one of the very best agricultural and grazing districts of the West.

That by the extension of the thirteenth parallel, if no more, and the survey of townships along Turtle river and the extension of the twelfth and fourteenth standard, and the subdivision of a few townships along the above named streams at their confluence with the Red River, the new settlements would be accommodated; this with the subdivision of the townships on and near the Pembina, could, we believe, be done at a cost of from ten to twelve thousand dollars.

Your memorialists therefore pray, that a sum not less than ten thousand dollars be appropriated for the purposes above stated.

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

WAGON ROAD.

NUMBER 18.

A MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS PRAYING FOR AN APPROPRIATION
TO CONSTRUCT A WAGON ROAD FROM FORT ABERCROMBIE DOWN
THE RED RIVER OF THE NORTH.

*To the Honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives of the
United States in Congress assembled.*

Your memorialists, the legislative assembly of the Territory of Dakota, would most respectfully call your attention to the present For a wagon road on Red River great and increasing need of a wagon road from Fort Abercrombie, in this Territory, down the Red River of the North, to the Dakota settlements on the Pembina river, and thence to parallel of latitude 49° north, in the direction of the "Selkirk," or Hudson Bay Company's Red River settlements.

Your memorialists would respectfully represent;

1. That according to the official reports of the collector of customs at the post of Pembina, that merchandise passing annually over this route is inspected at that post, amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars, from which the United States government derives a large revenue. Besides supplies for the American settlements, (with a population of over two thousand) all the supplies for British settlements, containing a population of from twelve to fifteen thousand, as well as supplies for the Hudson Bay Company, and the numerous "Free Traders," are received at, or by way of the city of St. Paul, Minnesota, and pass over the route above mentioned. And all the vast amounts of furs, &c., imported from said British settlements for consumption, or in bond for transshipment, are freighted over said route;

2. That this great thoroughfare of about two hundred miles between Fort Abercrombie and the Pembina settlements, crosses eight streams, varying from fifty to two hundred feet in width, over which the freighters have annually to throw temporary bridges, which are carried off by the first freshet, and hence the same stream is so bridged several times during one season.

For a wagon road
on Red River

3. That the entire route passes over a level valley, and as nature has provided an excellent road, no appropriation will be required for any other purpose than to survey and locate the road, and bridge the streams.

Your memorialists therefore, do most respectfully pray for an appropriation of a sum of money that you, in your wisdom, may deem sufficient to survey and locate a government wagon road from Fort Abercrombie in this Territory, down the valley of the Red River of the North, by the nearest and best route, to the settlements on the Pembina river, and thence to parallel of latitude 49° north, in the direction of the Hudson Bay Company's settlements, and to bridge the Cheyenne, Wild Rice, Elm, Goose, Turtle, Salt, Park and Pembina rivers.

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