

thoroughfare for transportation, that little hope can be reasonably entertained for the continuance of said route, unless the Indian title to the country be extinguished and the Indians removed therefrom.

On reasonable terms.

And, finally, your memorialists believing that a treaty for the purchase of their lands can be effected on very reasonable terms, do earnestly hope that a government, ever watchful for the real interest of this new territory and the safety of the people, will use every possible means to protect and encourage the enterprising and intrepid pioneers of that portion of the territory.

For which your memorialists will ever pray.

Approved April 26, 1862.

W. JAYNE, *Governor.*

MAIL ROUTES.

CHAPTER 101.

A MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MAIL ROUTE FROM MANKATO, IN BLUE EARTH COUNTY, STATE OF MINNESOTA, VIA MADELIA, SIOUX FALLS, UPPER JAMES CROSSING, YANKTON, SMUTTY BEARS' CAMP, BON HOMME, WANANRA, TUFTSVILLE (OR NESHUDA), PHILBRICK'S CROSSING (OR CHOTEAU), AND GREENWOOD, TO FORT RANDALL, IN DAKOTA TERRITORY.

To the Congress of the United States:

Route asked for, and benefits.

The legislature of the Territory of Dakota would respectfully represent, that a great inducement for immigration and settlement in a new country, is the early establishment of mail routes and postal facilities. That affording the pioneer direct and accessible mail facilities with the East, removes one of the greatest privations experienced by the early settlers, and induces others to join him in making the Western coun-

try their home. That although mail routes in sparsely settled communities may not pay in a pecuniary sense, yet the government may be doubly paid by the more speedy settlement and advancement of the country. And your memorialists would more especially call the attention of your honorable body to the fact that, at present, there is no mail connection between Minnesota and Southern Dakota; and that it is of the greatest importance to the future growth and development of south-western Minnesota, the Big Sioux valley, and the Missouri river country, that direct communications by mail be established, connecting the two sections.

And they would further represent, that a large portion of the country lying between Mankato and the settlements on the Missouri, in Dakota Territory, is within convenient acceptable mail facilities; and that thereby the settlers of those regions have not the means of communication with the East; and that the settlement and advancement of that country is impaired and retarded. It is further believed that, were postal facilities established, connecting these two sections by way of the proposed route, that it would have great inducement and attractions, and great advantages over any other route leading into the territory; and in view of the prospect of the rapid settlement of the rich agricultural lands in south-western Minnesota and Southern Dakota, and of the prospective rush of immigration, at a very early period, to the mineral region of the latter, just west of the Missouri, known as the Black hills; and in view of the fact that Fort Randall is gaining importance as a distributing and outfit[ting] post for those vast regions up the Missouri, the Black hills, the Pacific, via South pass, and the Niobrara or Running Water river; and that it is to be a starting-point for a Pacific mail route (as by schedule for the next mail letting); and in view of the fact that a large portion of the emigration which has already gone into the territory, has gone by this route, the evidence is conclusive that it is the natural thoroughfare.

Therefore, your memorialists, the legislature of the Territory of Dakota, would most urgently ask for the immediate establishment of a daily connection by mail, to be carried by first class conveyances, connecting Fort Randall, on the Missouri, with the nearest navigable waters in Minnesota, at Mankato; or the continuation, in fact, of route number thir-

Other benefits.

Same.

teen thousand five hundred and seventy-seven (13,577) from St. Paul to Mankato, to Fort Randall, in Dakota Territory; an initiatory step to a project ardently desired by both sections; that is, a railroad connecting the large pine and timber forest of Minnesota, with the rich and fertile prairies of Southern Dakota.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

Approved May 5, 1862.

W. JAYNE, *Governor.*

CHAPTER 102.

MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS FOR A MAIL ROUTE FROM SIOUX FALLS CITY TO VERMILION.

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

Route asked
for, and benefits.

The memorial of the legislative assembly of the Territory of Dakota respectfully represents, that the convenience and interests of a respectable portion of the population of Southern Dakota Territory demand the establishment of a mail route from Sioux Falls city to Vermilion. That the distance between said points is about fifty-five miles; that the route is practicable, and may be travelled without serious difficulty at all seasons of the year; that without such mail route a large settlement on the Missouri river in this territory will be destitute of a direct communication with Sioux Falls city, and important points in Southern Minnesota. Your memorialists would therefore pray your honorable bodies to establish a mail route as above, and that the mail be transferred at least once per week.

Approved April 5, 1862.

W. JAYNE, *Governor.*

CHAPTER 103.

MEMORIAL OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE TERRITORY OF DAKOTA, FOR A MAIL ROUTE FROM ELK POINT TO SIOUX FALLS CITY.

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 the mail facilities afforded to the people of the Big Sioux valley are entirely insufficient to meet their wants; that the commercial and social interest of the people in that portion of the territory demand the establishment of a mail route, with weekly service on the same, from Elk point, via Brule creek, Calliope, Iowa, and Commerce city, to Sioux Falls city, Dakota Territory.

Route asked for, and benefits.

Approved April 21, 1862.

W. JAYNE, *Governor.*

MISCELLANEOUS.**CHAPTER 104.**

[MEMORIAL] TO THE HONORABLE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, FOR A PORTION OF THE FUND APPROPRIATED BY CONGRESS TO ASSIST EMIGRANTS TO THE PACIFIC.

The memorial of the legislative assembly of the Territory of Dakota respectfully represents:

That parties are now being formed in the state of Minnesota for the purpose of organizing an expedition across the continent to the recent gold discoveries in Washington Terri-

Parties now forming.