

We therefore respectfully petition you, and through you the honorable body of which you are a member, to confirm the appointment of A. J. Faulk, as Governor, believing you will thereby confer a merited compliment upon a worthy citizen, and give to Dakota an able, conscientious and enterprising Executive.

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

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## BLACK HILLS.

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### CHAPTER IX.

#### A MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS RELATIVE TO A GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE BLACK HILLS COUNTRY.

*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, most respectfully beg leave to again petition your honorable bodies to grant a sufficient appropriation of money to institute and carry out a complete and thorough geological survey of the Black Hills country, in Dakota Territory; and your memorialists are led to thus again call your attention to this matter, for the following reasons:

Relative to the Geological Survey of the Black Hills.

1st. By an Act of Congress, approved March 2d, 1865, the sum of \$20,000 was appropriated for the purpose of opening and establishing a Government Wagon road up the Great Sheyenne Valley, and through the Black Hills, to connect with the Virginia City road near Powder river; and,

WHEREAS, the commissioner appointed to open said road was unable to prosecute his labors in the field beyond the forks

Relative to the  
geological sur-  
vey of the Black  
Hills.

of the Sheyenne river, on account of the hostile attitude of the Indians in the Black Hills, in the summer of 1865; and,

WHEREAS, By request of the Northwestern Indian Commissioners in 1866, the further work on said road was suspended until treaties could be consummated with the Indian tribes along said line; and,

WHEREAS, The proposed treaties have now been made by which the said tribes cede the right of way through their country to the Mountains, but still dispute with the United States, the right of possession to the Black Hills; which are known to be rich in gold, silver, iron, coal and pine forests, thereby shutting out to immigration and settlement, one of the finest agricultural and mineral regions of our Territory; and,

WHEREAS, The preliminary explorations of Lieut. Warren and Dr. Hayden in that region, furnish conclusive evidence of the existence of gold, and the precious metals in the Black Hills, within one hundred and thirty miles of the steamboat navigation of the Missouri river; and,

WHEREAS, It is believed that coal and iron will be found in vast quantities at the eastern base of said Hills, on the head waters of the Sheyenne river, whenever a thorough exploration shall be permitted by the Indians, or enforced by the government; and,

WHEREAS, It is the opinion of your memorialists that the government would reap a four fold reward in return for an appropriation to complete an early and thorough exploration of said Black Hills under protection of an ample military escort; and,

WHEREAS, There yet remains, of the \$20,000 appropriated, for the opening of the Sheyenne road, the sum of \$14,000, unexpended balance yet to be applied to the opening of said road through the disputed mineral fields of the Black Hills; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. J. V. Hayden, of the Smithsonian Institute, has devoted several years to scientific research in that region, and is a hearty co-operator and zealous advocate of the material interests, and natural resources of the Northwest; therefore,

Your memorialists would most respectfully pray, that a sufficient appropriation be made by your honorable body in addition to the unexpended balance of the Sheyenne Wagon Road appropriation, to enable a thorough scientific exploration to be made by Dr. Hayden, during the present season in connection with the opening of said road, under sufficient military force, to take undisputed possession of the Black Hills, and establish a permanent military post therein.

And your memorialists as in duty bound will ever pray.

Approved, January 9th, 1867.

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CAPITOL BUILDING.

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CHAPTER X.

A MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS ASKING AN APPROPRIATION TO ERECT A CAPITOL BUILDING AT THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT 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, would respectfully represent, that while Congress has uniformly made appropriations for the erection of capitol buildings in the several territories of the United States, the Territory of Dakota has received no aid from the general government for such a purpose, and deeming the matter of sufficient importance to demand your attention, (the general government as well as the Territory of Dakota being interested therein) we respectfully ask that this subject be considered by your honorable bodies.

Asking an appropriation to erect a capitol building.