

sloughs to be graded. These improvements will require a small appropriation, and your memorialists most respectfully ask that your honorable bodies will grant a sum of ten thousand dollars for the purposes represented in this petition.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

PENITENTIARY.

CHAPTER XXIII.

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

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

Praying for an appropriation to erect a Penitentiary at Bon Homme.

Your memorialists, the legislative assembly of the Territory of Dakota, would most respectfully represent, that the first legislative assembly convened after the organization of said territory by an act thereof, designated Bon Homme as a place where the territorial penitentiary should be erected.

And your memorialists would further represent, that succeeding legislative assemblies have enacted wholesome laws for the good government and well being of the people of said territory, many of which are inoperative for the want of a jail or penitentiary, whereby such penalties as may by law be adjudged, may be inflicted.

Your memorialists would further represent, that the settled portion, or that which is most rapidly filling up, is that bordering the Missouri river, which is becoming a thoroughfare for the travel to and from the gold regions of Montana and Idaho,

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.