

the greatest benefits shall be conferred on the country at large, it is to be hoped that congress, throwing aside all objections such as improper estimates of its importance as a military arm, the increased expenses of the government in prosecuting the war, and other matters of like character, will grant the aid required to accomplish this important enterprise, the necessity of which every citizen acquainted with the vast agricultural resources of Minnesota, and the immense mineral wealth of Lake Superior, and the important geographical position of the road, will at once acknowledge as of vast and absorbing importance.

To congress for a donation of lands to aid in the construction of a railroad from St. Paul to Lake Superior --

Your memorialist would therefore ask your honorable bodies to donate to this State, along the line of this proposed road, lands to the amount of one million acres, also that other land to the amount of one million acres, which may be selected from any vacant land lying in the State of Minnesota, belonging to the United States also pecuniary aid to the amount of one half million dollars, to aid in the construction of said railroad.

Approved February 13th, 1862.

NUMBER II.

A Memorial to the Congress of the United States, to Indemnify the State of Minnesota for certain expenses.

The Legislature of the State of Minnesota, memorializing your honorable bodies, respectfully represent :

That there were certain just debts and liabilities incurred by the territory of Minnesota, which the people of the State, upon its admission into the Union, believed they ought not to have been called upon to pay and were unable to pay, but for which congress made no appropri-

ation, although respectfully memorialized by the legislature of the State of Minnesota, by memorials dated respectively, June 16th and 30th, 1858, although the annual expenditures in the territory of Minnesota drawn from the treasury of the United States, were greatly less than those of any other territory then or now existing. That among the debts hereinbefore referred to, are the following, that is to say :

The sum of sixty-four thousand dollars (\$64,000), being the expenses of the convention that assembled in the city of Saint Paul, pursuant to the act of congress of February 26th, 1857, to frame a constitution and State government preparatory to the admission of the State of Minnesota into the Union.

Also, the sum of forty thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine dollars (\$40,889), exclusive of congressional appropriations for legislative expenses, being the balance of the expenses of the legislature that assembled on the first Wednesday of December, 1857, and which prolonged its session by adjournment into the month of August, 1858, thus greatly increasing the expenses in consequence of the extraordinary delay by congress in admitting the State into the Union, thus leaving an unadjusted aggregate claim in favor of the State of Minnesota, of one hundred and fourteen thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine dollars (114,889) over and above all appropriations then or since made by the congress of the United States, to either the territory or State of Minnesota. Which said sum has been assumed and paid by the State.

To congress for an appropriation to indemnify the State of Minnesota for certain expenses

And your memorialists would further respectfully represent that the magnitude of this debt in our infancy as a State, together with the extraordinary expenses consequent upon the organization of a State government, at a period when the whole financial and commercial interests of the country were paralyzed, with immigration almost entirely checked, and which has not even yet resumed its channels, and will not until the existing iniquitous rebellion is suppressed—all of which has left a burdensome debt and onerous taxation entailed upon the comparatively few people who compose this young commonwealth, and they impoverished by all these causes.

Wherefore, your memorialists would most respectfully but earnestly urge upon your honorable bodies the justice and equity of this claim, and ask that an appropriation

of one hundred and fourteen thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine dollars (\$114,889), be made to indemnify the State of Minnesota for the assumption and payment of the sum aforesaid, or that the honorable the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, be authorized and required to remit to the State of Minnesota, so much of the direct tax for war purposes as now is or may hereafter be apportioned to the State or people of Minnesota, or that you will adopt some other just and equitable mode by which the State may be indemnified for said expenditures.

Approved March 4th, 1862.

NUMBER III.

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 Bear's Camp, Bon Homme, Wanauri, Tuff'sville, (or Neshimi,) Philbrick's Crossing (or Chouteau,) and Greenwood, to Fort Randall, in Dacotah Territory.

To the Congress of the United States :

To congress for
the establishment
of a mail route
from Mankato to
Fort Randall

The Legislature of the State of Minnesota would respectfully represent :

That a great inducement for emigration 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 country their home.