

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.

That although mail routes in sparsely settled countries may not 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 Dacotah; and that it is of the greatest importance to the future growth and development of Southwestern Minnesota, and of great interest to the people in those newly settled parts, many of whom have gone in from Minnesota, that direct communication 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 settlement on the Missouri, in Dacotah Territory, is without convenient and 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 inducements 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 Southwestern Minnesota and Southern Dacotah, and of the prospective rush of immigration at a very early period, to the rich 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 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 immigration which has already gone into the territory, has gone by this route, the evidence is conclusive, that it is the natural thoroughfare.

Therefore your memorialist, the legislature of the State of Minnesota, 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

To congress for
the establishment
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Fort Randall

the Missouri, with the nearest navigable waters in Minnesota at Mankato, or the continuation, in fact, of route number thirteen thousand five hundred and seventy-seven (13,577), from Saint Paul to Mankato, to Fort Randall, in Dacotah Territory—an initiatory step to a project ardently desired by both sections, that is, a railroad connecting the large pine and timber forests of Minnesota, with the rich and fertile prairies of Southern Dacotah.

And your memorialist will ever pray.

Approved March 1st, 1862.

NUMBER IV.

A Memorial to the Congress of the United States, for the Establishment of a Mail Route from LaCrescent to Winnebago City.

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

The Legislature of the State of Minnesota would respectfully represent :

That there is great need of the establishment of a daily mail route from LaCrescent, through Troy, Chatfield, Frankford, Grand Meadow, Mower City, Lansing, Austin and Albert Lea to Winnebago City.

Your memorialists would state that the above route is through the very best agricultural section of country in the State ; and further, that there is a United States land office at Winnebago City, which is wholly dependent on said route for mail matter.

Approved February 26th, 1862.