

In relation to
compensation for
losses by Indian
depredations

That, "so far as practicable, compensation should be made therefor" out of the moneys now in the hands of the Superintendent of Indian Affairs, belonging to said Dacotah tribes, and out of the sums or annuities hereafter to be paid under the provisions of any of the treaty stipulations with said tribes or either of them; and to that end we respectfully ask that the trust assumed by the United States to indemnify citizens against losses by such depredations may be executed, and that the Hon. Secretary of the Interior ascertain, by the appointment of commissioners, or by the adoption of the report of the commissioners appointed by this State, the amount of such losses and damage now done, or that may, during the existence of said war, be suffered by any of our people; and order that the said money now due and to become due to said savages, be applied pro rata, or otherwise, in satisfying said claims for damages, and in case any residue remain, that the same be applied in paying the expenses of the troops now employed, or to be employed, in the subjugation of said Indians.

Approved, September 18th, 1862.

NUMBER II.

A Memorial of the Legislature of the State of Minnesota, to his excellency, the President of the United States, relative to a treaty with the Chippewa Indians.

The Legislature of the State of Minnesota, memorializing your Excellency, would respectfully represent :

That, shortly after the Sioux outbreak, a menacing attitude was assumed and various disturbances occurred among the Chippewas on our northern and northwestern

frontier—threatening another war, when the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Wm. P. Dole, being at the time in the State, repaired to Fort Ripley, in the vicinity of the point where the Chippewas had congregated, for the purpose of ascertaining the cause of their assembling and quieting the disturbances, that after an effort of some two or three weeks to meet the Indians in council and learn the cause of the disturbances among them, he applied to his excellency, the Governor, in writing, (a copy of which communication is hereto appended) for an additional force of at least three hundred men to protect the Fort, and defend themselves in case of a collision between his forces and the Indians which he regarded as probable, at a council that was to have been held on the day following the one upon which his communication was written.

To the President
in relation to the
Chippewa treaty

That upon the receipt of this application by his excellency, the Governor referred the communication of the Commissioner, accompanied by a message in writing, inviting attention thereto, (a copy of which is hereto appended) to your memorialists, for such action as, in their judgment, might be deemed proper to avert the threatened calamity of another Indian war within our borders.

Your memorialists, after having fully considered the subject, deemed it both wise and proper, by concurrent resolutions of their two bodies, to appoint a commission of influential citizens, who had more or less familiarity with those Indians, and with Indian character, and request his excellency, the Governor, to repair to the scene of threatened troubles, to confer with the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and act in conjunction with him on behalf of the State of Minnesota in any negotiation with the Chippewa Indians which might be necessary to preserve the peace and prevent an outbreak on our northern frontier, a copy of which resolutions is hereto appended.

That, in pursuance of said resolutions, the commissioners therein named, accompanied by the Governor, set out, on the evening of the 13th instant, for the Indian country; but while on their way thither, at two o'clock A. M., the following morning, met the Commissioner and Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Mr. Nicollay, private secretary to your excellency, and Mr. A. S. H. White, of the Interior department, on their way to St. Paul, and who

as will more fully appear from the report of the State Commissioners (a copy whereof is hereto appended) represented to said commissioners and the Governor, that they feared that no amicable adjustment could be effected with those Indians.

To the President
in relation to a
treaty with the
Chippewa In-
dians

That after conferring fully with the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and receiving assurances of his hearty co-operation in whatever they might think it necessary to do, he expressed the hope that they might succeed in their mission, and at the same time addressed a letter to his excellency, the Governor, a copy whereof is hereto appended.

That, having received from the Commissioner the letter addressed to his excellency, the Governor, and a pledge of his cordial co-operation in whatever they should find it necessary to do, the Commissioners and his excellency, the Governor, continued their journey to Crow Wing, in the vicinity of which place the Indians had been encamped.

That the Governor and Commissioners on their arrival at Crow Wing, on the 15th instant, despatched messengers to invite the Indians to a council. They came. All the bands that had exhibited symptoms of dissatisfaction were represented. The Commissioners listened to their complaints, and after hearing their statements of the wrongs they alleged they had suffered, on the one hand, and their admissions of the wrongs committed by some of their own people, on the other, and the demand that all these wrongs, including those committed by as well as against them, should be thoroughly investigated, a treaty was framed by the Commissioners, embodying two simple provisions.

Your memorialists respectfully represent to your Excellency, that in their opinion this treaty stipulates for the payment of money that is due to said Indians, and provides that it shall be paid intact. It further provides, that the wrongs committed by them, as well as those of which they complain, shall be investigated.

Your memorialists, therefore, appeal to your Excellency that the stipulations contained in said treaty should be faithfully carried out, and the report of said commissioners hereinbefore referred to receive your earnest consideration, and that our citizens who have suffered from

the violence and depredations of these Indians, may be indemnified, at the earliest moment possible.

Approved, September 29, 1862.

NUMBER III.

A Memorial for the construction of a Fort on Lake Superior.

To the President of the United States :

Your memorialists, the Legislature of the State of Minnesota, would respectfully memorialize the President of the United States, that he at once direct the construction of a Fort at the head of Lake Superior, and would respectfully represent that such fortification is of vast importance for the protection of the large commercial interest on Lake Superior. That its military importance, in connection with our present Indian difficulties, is beyond question.

The advantages of this Fort, in controlling the Chipewewa Indians, is of the greatest present necessity, and would restore confidence to our settlers upon the border of Lake Superior.

Approved September 27th, 1862.