

dams, whereby permanent navigation of said river, during the season thereof, can be secured, to the great relief of the grain producing interest of this state :

*Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota :*

That our senators be instructed, and our representatives in congress be requested, to use their influence and votes to procure an appropriation from the congress of the United States for the improvement of said river, by such means as said report recommends, from the Yellow Medicine River to Mendota, on said river; and that in expending the same the secretary of war be directed to expend out of such appropriation, in the first instance, so much thereof as may be found necessary to improve that part of said river between Yellow Medicine and the town of New Ulm.

Approved February 28, 1874.

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## NUMBER XVI.

### JOINT RESOLUTION.

WHEREAS, A combination exists between many, if not all, of the publishing houses of the United States engaged in the publication and sale of text books for the use of common schools, whereby such publishing houses, aided by the laws of copyright, have secured to themselves a monopoly in the publication and sale of such American text books, adopted for use, and used in the common schools of the United States, thereby excluding competition and raising the price of such books to at least sixty per cent. above their cost with all fair and reasonable profits, and above the price at which they could be obtained if competition were permitted; and thereby imposing an unjust and onerous tax of many millions of dollars per annum, upon the education of youth; and

WHEREAS, It is believed that a majority of the needed books, in all respects equal in merit and usefulness to American books, are published in foreign countries, especially in Great Britain, and can be had at prices greatly reduced from the present cost, should the impost thereon by the United States be removed; and

WHEREAS, Such impost or duty is believed to yield no revenue

adequate to the burden imposed, and can be abolished without detriment to the general government; therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:*

That our senators and representatives in congress be, and they are hereby requested at as early a day as practicable, to procure such an amendment of the revenue laws of the United States, as will permit the importation of all text books free of duty.

*Resolved*, That they be requested to procure, if practicable, an amendment of the laws of copyright, so far as such laws relate to text books, in such manner that combination between the holder of copyright and publisher, or holders of other copyright, shall forfeit the privileges conferred by those laws; and the establishment of which combination shall authorize thereafter the free use of such publications.

*Resolved*, That the secretary of state be, and is hereby directed to furnish a copy of these resolutions to each of our senators and representatives in congress.

Approved March 2, 1874.

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## NUMBER XVII.

JOINT RESOLUTION IN FAVOR OF A PRELIMINARY SURVEY OF THE COUNTRY BETWEEN ST. CROIX FALLS AND UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER, AND LAKE SUPERIOR, WITH A VIEW TO ESTABLISHING WATER COMMUNICATION BY CANAL AND LOCKS AND DAMS, BETWEEN THE NAVIGABLE WATERS OF SAID RIVERS AND LAKE.

WHEREAS, Free water communication with the markets of the world is the first great necessity for the successful prosecution of agriculture in the state of Minnesota, and will continue to be the principal resource of the people from the exactions of the railroad corporations; and

WHEREAS, In the Mississippi river and its tributaries, permeating the greater part of the state with water courses either navigable or susceptible of being made navigable for steam boats, barges or canal boats, we have a water system capable of being used to great advantage by the people; and in the chain of great lakes and the