

soldiers excepted) must file their applications for same prior to January first (1st), one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven (1877), or forfeit all claims upon the government of the United States to any pension previous to the filing of their said application; therefore,

Be it Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be requested to oppose the passage of said bill, (House File No. 394,) unless amended by extending the period of limitation for forfeiture of prior claim at least two years, or until January first, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine (1879).

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be instructed to forward to our Senators and Representatives in Congress, a certified copy of this joint resolution, as soon as possible after its passage.

Approved February 12, 1877.

NUMBER 16.

A MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS ASKING EXTENSION OF THE GRANT OF THE HASTINGS AND DAKOTA RAILWAY.

To the Congress of the United States:

Your memorialists, the Legislature of the State of Minnesota, represent that the United States, by an act approved July four (4), one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six (1866), granted to this State certain public lands in aid of the construction of a line of railroad from the Mississippi River at Hastings to Big Stone Lake in this State.

That said grant of lands was thereupon conferred upon the Hastings and Dakota and Red River of the North Railroad Company, now known as the Hastings and Dakota Railroad, with certain conditions of forfeiture to this State in case of non-construction, and that thereupon said line of railroad was duly surveyed and located, the larger portion of which then passed through an entirely unsettled country.

That thereupon, on the faith of said grant, the unsettled portions of said line for over a hundred (100) miles has been largely settled and improved by persons who have purchased the even numbered sections at double minimum prices upon the faith of said grants.

That owing to financial embarrassment and other causes, said company has only been able to construct and operate seventy-five (75) miles of said road, extending from Hastings to Glencoe, McLeod county, and that in consequence of the non-performance of conditions precedent by said company, this State is about to become invested with the title of said lands pertaining to the uncompleted portions of said road, in trust for

the purposes in said act of Congress named, and that if said grant is extended to the State, this State will be able to secure the speedy construction of said entire line of railroad, and thereby meet the just expectations of the settlers, who have purchased said even numbered sections, and afford to the people of the counties of Renville, Chippewa, Swift and Big Stone, the means of transportation for the large and increasing products of their industry.

Wherefore, Your memorialists respectfully urge upon Congress an extension of said grant for six years to this State, and not to such defaulting company, or any other railroad company, to the end that the speedy construction of said entire line of road may be assured, and we hereby urgently request our Senators and Representatives in Congress, under no circumstances to permit any extension of said grant to be made, which does not vest the same in the State of Minnesota, with full authority to convey the same to such company as it may see fit, subject to such conditions as it may desire to impose, and the Governor of the State shall forward copies of this memorial to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Approved January 31, 1877.

NUMBER 17.

A JOINT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES REPRESENTING MINNESOTA IN CONGRESS, TO USE THEIR EFFORTS TO SECURE PENSIONS TO THE SOLDIERS OF THE MEXICAN WAR.

WHEREAS, The treatment which the survivors of the war of the revolution and of the war for the suppression of the rebellion have received at the hands of our country, shows that republics are not always ungrateful; and,

WHEREAS, The surviving brave men who took part in the Mexican war are equally entitled to the grateful remembrance of their country;

Be it Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be and they are hereby requested to use their best efforts to secure such legislation as shall accomplish this just measure.

And be it further Resolved, That the Secretary of State be and he is hereby instructed to forward a copy of these joint resolutions to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Approved February 1, 1877.