

WHEREAS, It requires an act of Congress or the decree of a court to forfeit the land of a defaulting railroad company, therefore

Be it Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

That the interest of the state and of the citizens requires that all grants to railroads should be adjusted at the earliest possible day, or that in all cases when any railroad company has not complied with the conditions of the grant to it, such grant should be at once declared forfeited.

Resolved further, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress are requested to use all honorable means to secure an immediate adjustment of such grants, or an immediate forfeiture of any grant, the terms of which has not been complied with.

Resolved further, That the Secretary of State be, and is hereby requested to forward a copy of this resolution to our Senators and Representatives in Congress at as early a day as practicable.

Approved February 17, 1883.

NUMBER 7.

JOINT RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO THE CHIPPEWA INDIANS

WHEREAS, Section 1 of the article VII of the constitution of the State of Minnesota, provides that "persons of Indian blood residing in this state, who have adopted the language, customs and habits of civilization after an examination before any district court of the state, in such manner as may be provided by law, and shall have been pronounced by said court capable of enjoying the rights of citizenship within this state", shall be entitled to vote; and

WHEREAS, By the adoption of said clause in the constitution, the people of this state have evinced a just and humane desire to see the Indians who inhabit Minnesota, raised from a state of semi-barbarism to one of enlightenment and have by it removed one great barrier that might prevent the accomplishment of this philanthropic object; and

WHEREAS, The Chippewa Indians residing in the north part of this state have always been friendly to the white men, are a civil, well disposed, peaceable and orderly people, and many of them have during the past few years made great advancement in agricultural and mechanical arts, and desire to become civilized, and share with us in our social, political and religious privileges; and

WHEREAS, Insuperable barriers to the successful accomplishment of these objects are presented by their maintaining tribal relations, holding their lands in common, and having no protection on their reserva-

tions from our statute laws, being in the state, but not of it; therefore,

Be it Resolved, by the Senate and House of representatives of the State of Minnesota: That we do hereby request the government of the United States, to make such arrangements with said Indians as can be agreed upon, after full consultation with them, for the purchase of their tribal lands, the allotment to each adult person of 160 acres of agricultural lands, and to each living minor at his or her majority 160 acres in severalty, to be held by them and their heirs, but to be inalienable by the consent of the grantee or his or her heirs, or by process of law, for thirty years; such lands to be selected from any public lands of the United States, within the State of Minnesota, and make such provisions in regard to schools, livestock, seeds, agricultural and mechanical implements and acts, as will best promote their present and future welfare, and adjust all matters of right and equity that may now be in dispute between said Indians and said government, in a spirit of just liberality, providing at the same time for the early extinguishment of their tribal relations in like manner as was specified in the fifth (5th) article of the treaty made by the United States with the Ottawa and Chippewa Indians at Detroit on the thirty-first (31st) day of July, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five (1855).

Resolved further, That the governor be and he is hereby requested to forward a copy of the foregoing preamble and joint resolution to the President of the United States, to the Hon. Secretary of the Interior, to the Hon. Commissioner of Indian affairs, and to each of our Senators and Representative in Congress.

This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

Approved, March 3, 1883.

NUMBER 8.

A JOINT RESOLUTION INSTRUCTING OUR SENATORS AND REQUESTING OUR REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS TO USE THEIR BEST ENDEAVORS TO SECURE SUCH APPROPRIATIONS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO CARRY ON THE IMPROVEMENTS OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

WHEREAS, The importance of continuing the work of the improvement of the Mississippi river, in the interest of cheap transportation is a matter of national interest, therefore

Be it Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

SECTION 1. That our Senators in Congress be and they are hereby instructed, and our Representatives be and they are hereby requested to use their best endeavors to secure such appropriations as may be necessary to carry on the improvement of the Mississippi river.

SEC. 2. That the Secretary of State is requested to forward copies of this resolution to each of our senators and representatives in Congress.

Approved February 24, 1883.