

[NO. II.]—MEMORIAL to Congress relative to School Lands.

Feb. 26, 1853.

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

The Memorial of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Minnesota, respectfully represents: That the act of Congress organizing the Territory of Minnesota reserved from sale for School purposes, sections sixteen and thirty-six, in each township of public land; but made no provision for settlers who had entered upon and improved said tracts before the passage of the act of reservation, and when said lands were rightfully and legally open for settlement and purchase.

Preamble.

SEC. 2. That great injustice will be done this class, if your Honorable bodies do not make provision for securing to such persons the land which by their labor and improvements have been made valuable far beyond their original worth, such improvements, in many cases, constituting all the property and earthly possessions of the settler.

Prayer, &c.

SEC. 3. The justice and propriety of such an act have been previously set forth in a memorial of this Legislative Assembly at its session of 1851, renders it unnecessary to enter more fully upon the subject at this time.

SEC. 4. Your memorialists again respectfully and earnestly pray for the passage of a law securing to persons who shall prove to the satisfaction of the officers of the proper land offices, the fact of a *bona fide* settlement and cultivation previous to the passage of said act of reservation, the right to enter land so settled upon sufficient to cover their improvements, not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres; and that other and equivalent lands be granted to the Territory for School purposes in place of said settled lands.

Prayer, &c.

DAVID DAY,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

L. A. BABCOCK,

President pro tem. of the Council.

APPROVED—February twenty-sixth, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three.

ALEX. RAMSEY.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, }
St. Paul, March 28, 1853. }

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the original act on file in this office.

ALEX. WILKIN,

Secretary of the Territory of Minnesota.