

NUMBER 9.

Memorial to Congress, for an appropriation of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars for the improvement of the Mississippi River, from the Falls of St. Anthony to Sauk Rapids. Feb. 21, 1854.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

The Memorial of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Minnesota, respectfully shews to your Honorable Body:

That the navigation of the Mississippi River between the Falls of St. Anthony and Sauk Rapids, a distance of about one hundred miles by the River, is during the season of low water, obstructed by rocks and other impediments, which a moderate appropriation, judiciously expended would easily remove, and render the navigation of the said River between the points above named free to steam and other water Crafts during the entire season of navigation. Preamble, &c.

And your Memorialists respectfully submit, that the benefits which the Government would derive from the improvement above contemplated, would far exceed the amount required to remove the obstacles, to the free navigation of the said River, between the above named points.

Large amounts of goods and money are annually transported by the Government at a heavy expense, over a long and tedious land route to supply the different nations and tribes of Indians, in the northern portion of the Territory, and also the Military forces stationed at Fort Ripley.

These heavy expenses would be materially lessened were the improvements herein prayed for made.

For the past two years a Steam Boat has been running on that portion of the said River above named, during the times of high water in the River, but that for more than half of the time during the Summer season, such navigation has been obstructed by the impediments in the said River.

The rapidly increasing settlements on the upper Mississippi, is a further reason which we respectfully urge in favor of the improvements of the said River.

Your Memorialists therefore ask an appropriation of twenty-five thousand dollars, for the improvement of the Mississippi River between the points aforesaid, to be expended under the direction and authority of the proper department of the Government. Prayer

N. C. D. TAYLOR,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

S. B. OLMSTEAD,

President of the Council.

APPROVED—February twenty-first, one thousand eight hundred and fifty four.

W. A. GORMAN.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

St. Paul, April 4, 1854. }

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

J. TRAVIS ROSSETT,

Secretary of the Territory of Minnesota.