

A MEMORIAL

Of the Legislative Assembly of Minnesota Territory to Congress for an appropriation to complete the Government Works at Fort Ridgely.

*To the Honorable the Senate and
House of Representatives of the United States.*

The memorial of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Minnesota, respectfully represents:

SECTION 1. That the present and probable prominent concentration of the Sioux Indians on the Upper Minnesota River, in connexion with the probable location of the Winnebagoes in the same vicinity, and the hostilities which will in all human probability continue to exist between the Sioux and Chippewa and other neighboring tribes, demand that a permanent military post should be maintained near the line of the white and Indian settlements, for the protection of both the whites and the Indians.

To complete the Government works at Fort Ridgely.

SEC. 2. That Fort Ridgely has been located at a point well adapted to the purposes for which it was intended by government, being at the eastern boundary of the Sioux reservation, from which point troops can with facility be spread over the Sioux country, or among the bands of wandering Indians, located near the Missouri river, or can be connected with the troops at Fort Ripley on the Mississippi for the suppression of hostilities or punishment of offenders in the Chippewa country.

SEC. 3. That the occupancy of Fort Ridgely as a permanent post at which a mounted force shall at all times be stationed, for the purpose of effecting speedy operations among the surrounding tribes, would tend to overawe those tribes, and thus prevent hostile attacks upon the whites, and suppress a warfare among the tribes themselves, is deemed of much importance to the interests of this Territory, and of the general government as thereby the settlement of the country would be facilitated, and the peace and safety of the settler secured.

SEC. 4. That the appropriation made by Congress for the construction of Fort Ridgely, was insufficient for the completion of the work on the plan adopted by the War Department, and works commenced have of

necessity been abandoned, and are now useless for want of funds for their completion.

Sec. 5. That Fort Ridgely is the most important military post within this Territory, and the expenditure of a comparatively small appropriation in the completion of the works on the plan upon which they were commenced, would secure to the Government, a safe, comfortable and convenient point at which troops could at all times be concentrated in case of hostilities, with or among the surrounding Indian tribes.

Your memorialists would therefore most respectfully ask your honorable bodies, to make an appropriation of twenty thousand dollars, to be expended in the completion of Fort Ridgely in Minnesota Territory.

And as in duty bound, your memorialists will ever pray.

J. S. NORRIS,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

WM. F. MURRAY,

President of the Council.

APPROVED—February twenty-first, eighteen hundred and fifty-five.

W. A. GORMAN.

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

J. TRAVIS ROSSER,

Secretary of the Territory of Minnesota.