

NUMBER XXIV.

A Memorial to Congress for an appropriation of \$15,000, for the Improvement of Root River.

For Appropriations for Improvement of Root River

The Memorial of the Legislative Assembly respectfully represents to your Honorable body: That the navigation of Root river from its mouth to Rushford, a distance of about fifty miles by the river, is obstructed by driftwood and snags, which a moderate appropriation, judiciously expended would easily remove, and thereby render the navigation of said river from its mouth to Rushford, free to steam and other water crafts.

And your Memorialists respectfully submit, that the valley of Root river is already thickly inhabited—that there is quite a surplus of produce raised in the valley which is rapidly increasing, for which the only market is on the Mississippi river, and which is at present almost impossible to attain otherwise than down said river; and, that there are large amounts of goods and merchandise yearly transported into said valley, by tedious and circuitous overland routes, at heavy expenditure, which expense would be materially reduced, and the facilities for emigrants reaching the interior of Southern Minnesota would be very much increased by the improvement herein prayed.

Your Memorialists, therefore, ask an appropriation of fifteen thousand dollars for the improvement of Root river between the points aforesaid, to be expended under the direction and authority of the proper department of the Government.

CHARLES GARDNER,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

JOHN B. BRISBIN, *President of the Council.*

APPROVED—February eleven, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six.

W. A. GORMAN.

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

J. TRAVIS ROSSER, *Secretary of Minnesota Territory.*

NUMBER XXV.

A Memorial of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Minnesota to Congress for an Appropriation for the Construction of a Military Road from Fort Snelling to Pembina, on the West Side of the Mississippi, by way of Minneapolis, Monticello and St. Cloud.

Memorial for Military road

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:

1st. That the transportation of supplies for the use of the Military and

Indian departments of Government on the Upper Mississippi river, forms an important item of the expenditure of money for these departments in this Territory.

That although a Military Road has been constructed from St. Paul to Fort Ripley, on the east side of the Mississippi river, the expense of constructing a road would be much less, and the distance much shorter, from Fort Ripley to Pembina, on the west side of the Mississippi river, than it would on the east side of said river.

2nd. That late in the fall, before the river is closed entirely by the ice, and while the ice is running out in the spring, it is impossible to cross the Mississippi river at Fort Snelling and Fort Ripley, consequently supplies may be detained at a time when they would be of the utmost importance to our frontier.

3rd. That by constructing a Military Road from Fort Snelling to Pembina, on the west side of the Mississippi river, by way of Minneapolis, Dayton, Monticello and St. Cloud, the obstructions in the river would be avoided and a far better road secured; and further, that it would be the means of settling up a vast tract of valuable agricultural lands along the line of the road, now almost inaccessible to the settler, and thus by the increased value of the Government lands, contribute largely towards refunding to the National Treasury, any expenditure made by Government in constructing said road.

4th. That nearly every other section of Minnesota has received donations from Congress, for the purpose of developing her resources, while this large and valuable tract of country lying on the west side of the Mississippi river, has been suffered to pass almost entirely unnoticed.

5th. We, your Memorialists, would therefore most respectfully, but earnestly ask your Honorable Body, to make an appropriation for the construction of the above road, and thus open up a way to develop the resources of the country, and subserve the interest of the Government.

And for which, as in duty bound, your Memorialists will ever pray.

CHARLES GARDNER,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

JOHN B. BRISBIN, *President of the Council.*

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

W. A. GORMAN.

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

J TRAVIS ROSSER, *Secretary of Minnesota Territory.*

NUMBER XXVI.

A Memorial to Congress for a Grant of Lands to improve the Navigation of the Minnesota River.

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 to your honorable bodies, the propriety and expediency of making such a grant of the public domain, as may be necessary, or as you may in your wisdom be

For grant of land for improvement of Navigation of Minnesota River