

NUMBER III.

Memorial to the President of the United States Relative to the Eastern Line of the Sioux Reservation.

To his Excellency the President of the United States: The Memorialists of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Minnesota respectfully represents:

That by the treaty made with the Mendewakanton Sioux, they were allowed a reservation of land, extending to the Little Rock river.

Sioux
reservation

That although the title to the reservation was extinguished through the Senate amendments, still the Indians have been permitted the exclusive occupancy of the same tract.

That by the decision of the Indian Department, the reservation is made to extend to the stream laid down as Little Rock river on Nicollet's map, which is incorrect, that stream being known as Muddy Creek.

That the stream known as little Rock river, and which the Indians referred to in making the treaty, empties into the Minnesota some four miles above Muddy creek.

That owing to the misunderstanding of the Commissioners and of the Indians at the time of the treaty, that Little Rock river was to form the Eastern boundary line of the Reserve many of the Mixed Bloods and others located between the two streams, had made valuable improvements previous to the decision of the Indian Department, that Niccollet's map should be the guide of the Department in deciding the limits of the reserve.

That the adoption of the Little Rock river as the Eastern boundary of the Reserve would be in accordance with the true intent of the treaty, in accordance with the understanding of both Indians and whites at the time the treaties were negotiated and would be an act of justice to those who have improved land in good faith to which, under the decision of the Department, they are deprived of all hope of securing a title.

Your memorialists would therefore respectfully urge that the location of the Eastern boundary line of the Sioux Reservation may be so revised as to extend only to the stream known as Little Rock Creek.

All of which is most respectfully but urgently solicited.

CHARLES GARDNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
JOHN B. BRISBIN,
President of the Council.

APPROVED—March first, 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.