

*Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:*

Relating to extending the grant of lands to aid in the construction of a railroad from St. Croix Lake to Lake Superior.

*First.*—That our senators and representatives in congress be requested to use their influence and to cast their votes for those measures now pending in congress to renew and extend to the state of Wisconsin the grant of land heretofore made to it by the United States by the acts of congress in that behalf, approved June third, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six, and May fifth, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, to aid in building a railroad from St. Croix River or Lake to Superior and to Bayfield.

*Second.*—That the secretary of state forward forthwith to each of said senators and representatives a certified copy of this resolution.

Approved January 25, 1871.

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## NUMBER V.

March 4, 1871.

*Joint Resolution requesting a change in the Pre-emption act of July fourteenth, one thousand eight hundred and seventy, by extending the time of payment of Pre-emption Claims.*

WHEREAS, The act of congress of July fourteenth, one thousand eight hundred and seventy, requiring settlers upon the public lands of the United States to make proof and payment for their respective claims within eighteen months from date of such settlement; it is evident that the law, as it now is, practically abrogates the pre-emption act, for not one in ten of the frontier settlers can meet its requirements. The grants to the several railroad corporations in this state having increased the price of nearly all the lands subject to pre-emption to two dollars and fifty cents per acre, thus requiring the sum of four

hundred dollars to consummate an entry of one hundred and sixty acres, it must be apparent to all, that but a small per cent. of claimants under the provisions of the present act can meet its requirements; therefore,

*Be it Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Minnesota, the Senate concurring:*

That our senators and representatives in congress be requested to procure a change in the act of July fourteenth, one thousand eight hundred and seventy, extending the time of payment of pre-emption claims to five years from date of settlement.

Requesting a change in the pre-emption act of July 14, 1870, by extending the time of payment of pre-emption claims.

*Resolved, further,* That the governor of this state be requested to forward copies of these resolutions to our senators and representatives in congress at as early a day as practicable.

Approved March 4, 1871.

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## NUMBER VI.

*Joint Resolution asking Congress for an amendment of the Homestead act.* February 24, 1871

WHEREAS, By the terms of the homestead act of the twentieth of May one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, persons availing themselves of its benefits, are required to appear personally before the register and receiver of the land office, and file the affidavit required by the second section of that act, and are required thereafter to reside continuously on said land for five years, with the provision that upon an absence of six months therefrom, the settler will forfeit his title thereto; and

WHEREAS, As a matter of universal experience in this climate, the emigrant arriving in the spring or early summer, can raise no crops for the first year from the fact