

our own Government, as also by France and England in colonial times, as a public national highway, by water, to the interior of the continent; therefore,

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

Relating to the construction of a ship canal around Niagara Falls.

That Congress be requested to make an appropriation at its present session, adequate to work, for the construction of a canal of the maximum capacity of the lakes, around the Falls of Niagara on the American side, and that such works may be completed as speedily as can be done consistent with the best interests of the whole country.

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 February 26, 1872.

NUMBER II.

February 26,
1872.

A Joint Resolution to Congress asking the Completion of the Water Route from the Mississippi Valley by the way of the Wisconsin and Fox Rivers, to Lake Michigan, and another by the way of Lake Superior, by the Enlargement and Deepening of the Canal at the Outlet of that Lake.

WHEREAS, To ensure the continued development and consequent prosperity of this state as also of the entire north-west, a system of cheaper transportation than now or ever can exist with the present means and facilities furnished by railroads and the limited and imperfect system of water transit must be opened up between her vast and fer-

tile grain fields and the eastern and European markets ;
and

WHEREAS, It is a maxim in political economy, as well as in commercial law and practice, that to cheapen the cost of transport of the heavy, and bulky products of an agricultural country, (such as ours) on any part of the route over long distances, operates to reduce the cost thereof, on the entire route, whereby the remotest portions of the country as well as the nearest are equally benefitted thereby ; and

Preamble.

WHEREAS, Congress acting upon this correct and highly important principle has inaugurated a system of cheap transportation by taking measures to open up a water route from the Mississippi valley by the way of the Wisconsin and Fox rivers to Lake Michigan, and another by the way of Lake Superior, by the enlargement and deepening of the canal at the outlet of that lake, whereby the advantages of cheap and continuous water transportation for our cereals and other agricultural products to the markets of the world is intended to be brought the nearest possible to our borders, whereby, also, wheat especially can be raised with a fair margin of profit to the producer upon the unbounded and almost unbroken plains and valleys of our own state and the region beyond ; therefore,

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

That congress be requested to complete the improvements which it has already commenced as speedily as can possibly be done consistent with the best interests of the whole country.

Relating to a water communication between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi river.

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 February 26, 1872.