

NUMBER XXIII.

A JOINT RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO PATENT RIGHTS.

WHEREAS, The patent laws, of the United States have been so devised and construed as to shield and protect great and oppressive monopolies and to encourage gigantic speculations for the benefit of a few, at the expense of the people, while they are totally inadequate to secure to inventors adequate compensation for their inventions; therefore

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

That the senators from this state in congress are instructed and the representatives are requested to use their earnest efforts to secure such amendments to said laws as will provide:

1. That any person may use any patented invention upon executing a bond an such sum and with such security as the circuit court of the United States for the district in which such use is to be made, shall direct and approve, conditioned that he will pay to the owners of such invention a proper license fee for the use of the same; which bond shall be filed in the office of the clerk of said court.

2. That in all cases the measure of the license fee shall be such sum as will give the inventor reasonable compensation for his time, labor, ingenuity and expense, which sum shall in no case exceed the fee fixed for such use in contracts made by the inventor or owner, and such license fee shall be the measure of damages in all actions and proceedings for the infringement of patents, and no other recovery for damages or profits shall be allowed.

Approved March 3, A. D. 1876.

NUMBER XXIV.

A JOINT RESOLUTION TO CONGRESS ASKING AID IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF A BRIDGE AT FORT SNELLING.

WHEREAS, The Mississippi river at and near Fort Snelling can only be crossed upon the ice in extreme cold weather and at other seasons of the year by means of a common ferry boat, which by reason of the precipitous and high bluffs on each side of the river is difficult and dangerous of approach and that by reason thereof supplies for the fort, are with

difficulty transported and communication greatly impeded, and the public at large as well as government troops and employees subjected to great delay, expense and inconvenience at all seasons of the year, and for a time in the spring and early winter by reason of the insecurity of the ice crossing at said fort is entirely suspended. In order that a safe and free passage may be had over said river at said fort at all seasons of the year, the legislature of this state has authorized the erection of a free bridge for the use of the people, and of the troops and employees of the government of the United States, a portion of the expense of which ought to be borne by the United States; therefore

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Minnesota :

That our senators and representatives in the congress of the United States be, and they are requested to secure such reasonable appropriation on the part of the United States as will enable the county of Ramsey to construct and maintain a free bridge from said county across said river within the military reservation at or near said fort as in said legislative act provided and intended.

NUMBER XXV.

A JOINT RESOLUTION TO CONGRESS.

WHEREAS, It appears from the message of Gov. C. K. Davis, and from the report of the board of regents of the university of Minnesota that the state of Minnesota has never received its full quota of the lands granted it by the general government on its admission into the Union, known as salt spring lands, and that the deficit has come from no fault of the state or of its officers; and

WHEREAS, Some of these lands have been pre-empted, and are now held by *bona fide* settlers, and others were covered by grants to railroads as swamp lands, while still others were, when selected, without the surveyed portions of the state; and

WHEREAS, These lands have been set aside by the act of the legislature, approved March 10th, 1873, for the prosecution of a thorough geological and natural history survey of the state, conducted by the board of regents of the university of Minnesota; therefore