

NUMBER 12.

[H. F. No. 267.]

A MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS FOR AN APPROPRIATION OF TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND (25,000) DOLLARS FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING A SCIENTIFIC SURVEY FOR A CANAL CONNECTING LAKE SUPERIOR WITH THE ST. CROIX RIVER.

Your memorialists, the legislature of the state of Minnesota, respectfully represent that the rapidly increasing settlements of inland America, west of Lake Superior and Michigan demands greater and cheaper facilities than are at present existing, and a more direct water transit to the Atlantic sea board and European ports.

That the saving of distance through a canal connecting Lake Superior waters with the Saint Croix river would tend to open an immense trade, and result in carrying the agricultural surplus products of the Upper Mississippi Valley to eastern and European markets without transfer or breaking bulk.

This inland trade calls for government aid under the national internal improvement system. Believeing every dollar expended this way is repaid to the government with benefits derived from the increased wealth received, thus opening a communication which the welfare of the nation demands, and which must ultimately be accomplished.

America's great inland seas, and the Mississippi river must be connected.

And your memorialists respectfully ask of congress for an appropriation of twenty-five thousand (25,000) dollars, for the purpose of making a scientific survey of this route to connect the waters of Lake Superior with the navigable waters of Saint Croix river at Taylor Falls. A distance computed by the United States geologist Robert Dale Owen of eighty-four (84) miles.

Your memorialists therefore earnestly request the matter aforesaid may receive your early and favorable consideration.

Approved February 21, 1887.

NUMBER 13.

[H. F. No. 107.]

A JOINT RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE COAL LANDS OF THE UNITED STATES.

WHEREAS, The value of coal in the economy of civilization is so well understood, and as our forests disappear it becomes one of the necessities of life in our advanced civilization, and although the United States contains within her borders two hundred thousand