

Under the foregoing restrictions the settlers will be forced to purchase of the general government, so far as they have the means to do so, and those who are poor and unable to pay the whole purchase money to the general government, but who could pay one-fifth to the state, will be deprived of their freehold while the state in the meantime will be retarded in her endeavors to carry out her wise constitutional provisions for a system of common schools. An injury not confined to the state alone, since her children are the children of the nation, in whose welfare the national government cannot but feel a common interest with us.

Your memorialists would therefore most earnestly pray that the proper departments be instructed so to modify the instructions to the land offices in this state, as to give the state of Iowa the benefit of the act of the 4th September, 1841.

Your memorialists would also pray, that the above recited act be so amended as to authorize the state of Iowa to select the residue of the 500,000 acres in legal subdivisions and fractional subdivisions of not less than eighty acres and upwards.

Resolved, That the governor be requested to forward one copy of this memorial to the senate of the United States, and one copy to the speaker of the house of representatives, and one copy to each of our delegation in congress.

Approved, January 25, 1848.

#### MEMORIAL—NO. 2.

##### FORT ATKINSON.

MEMORIAL to congress for a donation of the site of Fort Atkinson.

*To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:*

Your memorialists, the general assembly of the state of Iowa, respectfully request of your honorable bodies the donation of the site and buildings at Fort Atkinson, in this state, together with two sections of land, including the same, for the purpose of establishing at that place an agricultural school, which shall form a branch of our state university. Agriculture being the leading interest in this state, we desire to [100] elevate the condition of those who engage in it, to cause it to be regarded as a progressive science; and for this purpose to furnish our young men with the means of combining sound theory with useful observation and experiment.

To effect this object we contemplate the early establishment of our agricultural school upon the manual labor plan, and learning that the troops now stationed at Fort Atkinson are soon to be removed, we have already passed an act locating the institution at that place, provided the consent of congress can be thereto obtained. The location is one of the finest agricultural portions of the state, and will soon be surrounded by a dense population. The buildings are well adapted to the use for which we desire them, they would well accommodate one or two hundred students, together with the necessary dining and recitation rooms, and would be of comparatively little value for any other purpose. If sold they would bring but a trifle, and if left unoccupied and unprotected after the removal of the troops they will be subject to great depredations and will soon become to a great extent ruined.

Believing, therefore, that a great benefit can be conferred upon our state, at a very slight sacrifice by the general government, we have hopes of obtaining the favor we seek.

Approved, January 24, 1848.