

RESOLUTION—NO. 23.

MAIL ROUTE.

JOINT RESOLUTION for a mail route from Cedar Rapids, in Linn county, to the falls of Cedar river, in Blackhawk county.

Resolved, by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa,

That our representatives in congress are hereby requested to use their influence to procure the establishment of a mail route from Cedar Rapids, in Linn county, via the county seat of Benton county, to the falls of Cedar river, in the county of Blackhawk.

Resolved, That the secretary of state is hereby instructed to forward a copy of these resolutions to our representative in congress.

Approved, January 25, 1848.

RESOLUTION—NO. 24.

WAR WITH MEXICO.

JOINT RESOLUTION in relation to the officers and soldiers in Mexico, from this state.

Resolved, by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa,

Our citizens who are soldiers and officers in Mexico nobly sustained the honor of the state. That we feel a just pride at the intrepid conduct of those of our fellow citizens, both [97] officers and soldiers, who have so nobly aided in sustaining the honor and interests of our country in the present war with Mexico, and that the laurels they have won reflect the highest honor on our young state.

Frederick D. Mills. Resolved, That in the death of Major Frederick D. Mills, the state has lost one of her brightest ornaments and the army one of its most chivalric soldiers, and that our exultation at the brilliancy of his brief military career, is only exceeded by our regret and sorrow at its extinction.

Sympathy with the friends of the deceased Capt. E. Guthrie. Resolved, That we deeply sympathize with the bereaved family and friends of that true soldier and patriotic citizen, Captain Edwin Guthrie, who met the fate that the brave do not shun, in laying down his life for his country.

Committee of two appointed to address letters to the relatives of deceased. Resolved, that a committee of two members from each branch of the general assembly be appointed to address letters to the nearest relatives of each of those gallant officers, expressive of the mixed feelings of congratulation and condolence, which are caused by their heroic conduct and their untimely fate.

Capt. Benjamin S. Roberts. Resolved, That the thanks of the general assembly be tendered to our fellow citizen, Captain Benjamin S. Roberts, of the rifle regiment, whose name has been so honorably associated with the history of all the great battles fought since he joined the army in Mexico at the siege of Vera Cruz.

Officers and soldiers of company commanded by Capt. Bowie. Resolved, That our thanks are also due and are hereby freely offered to the officers and soldiers of the Iowa company, commanded by Captain Bowie, whose ranks have been so

thinned by Mexican weapons and the diseases of a Mexican climate, and yet none ever faltered or flinched to follow where duty led, and that we deeply and cordially sympathise with the friends of those who have thus become martyrs in the cause of their country.

Resolved, That the governor be requested to forward a copy of these resolutions to Captains Roberts and Bowie, and that a copy of the papers containing the same be forwarded for one year to the nearest friends of Major Mills and Captain Guthrie, at the expense of the state.

Approved, January 25, 1848.

[98] RESOLUTION—NO. 25.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

JOINT RESOLUTION for adjournment.

Resolved, (the house concurring therein,) That the general assembly will adjourn, *sine die*, on Tuesday, the 25th inst.

Approved, January 25, 1848.

MEMORIAL—NO. 1.

SCHOOL LANDS.

To the Hon. Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

Your memorialists, the general assembly of the state of Iowa, would respectfully represent that an act was passed by the general assembly of this state at the last session, approved February 24th, 1847, prescribing the mode of selecting the five hundred thousand acres of land accruing to this state on her admission into the union, under the act of congress, of the 4th September, 1841, which provides that the selection shall be made in such manner as the legislature of the state may direct, and located in parcels conformably to sectional divisions and sub-divisions of not less than three hundred and twenty acres in any one location on any public lands, except such as are or may be reserved from sale by any law of congress or proclamation of the president of the United States.

Your memorialists claim the benefit of a fair and legal interpretation of this act of congress, and earnestly protest against the instructions of the general land office at Washington, denying to the state the privilege of selecting lands upon which settlements and improvements have been made, a privilege clearly conferred upon the state by the act of congress of the 4th September, 1841. No such restrictions were contemplated by the general assembly in the passage of the act of the 24th February, 1847.

This act provides for the selections of lands by the actual settlers and those who have made improvements thereon; the large portion of the lands which have been selected, are of this class of selections, and the advance payment of the purchase money made to the proper [99] officers of the state, to reject these selections under the circumstances will inflict a serious injury upon a meritorious class of citizens who prefer making their purchases from the state, on account of the benefit of a privilege of ten years credit on four-fifths of the purchase money.