

NUMBER IV.

COL. JOHN C. ABERCROMBIE.

RESOLUTIONS in Relation to Col. John C. Abercrombie of Des Moines County.

WHEREAS, Lieutenant-Colonel John C. Abercrombie, for over three years a brave and efficient officer of the Eleventh Iowa Infantry, also a member of the First Iowa Infantry during its existence, and having also served as an enlisted man during the Mexican war, is now totally and hopelessly blind, and otherwise disabled, as is believed from exposures and hardships endured while in the service of his country; and

WHEREAS, The origin of these disabilities is not susceptible of that clear and undoubted proof, tracing effect to cause, required by the pension bureau; and

WHEREAS, Col. Abercrombie, recently bereft of a beloved wife, has three small children with no means for their or his support, having already expended the accumulations he had been able to make; therefore,

Resolved by the Senate, the House concurring, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be earnestly requested to use their best efforts to secure the passage of an act granting to Lieut.-Col. John C. Abercrombie a full pension corresponding to his rank in the service.

Resolved, That we tender to Col. Abercrombie our admiration for his heroic and patriotic services, and our deep sympathy with him in his present affliction.

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be directed to forward a certified copy of this preamble and resolution to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, to Hon. W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War, and to Col. John C. Abercrombie, at Burlington, Des Moines county, Iowa.

Approved, February 3, 1870.

NUMBER V.

LAND GRANT.

MEMORIAL AND JOINT RESOLUTION Asking Congress for a Grant of Land to aid in the Construction of a Railroad from O'Brien County, Iowa, to some point on the Missouri River at or near Yankton, in Dakota Territory.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress Assembled: Your memorialists, the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, would respectfully represent: That

by act of Congress, approved May 12th, 1864, a grant of lands was made to aid in the construction of a railroad from McGregor, westward, on, or as near as practicable to the forty-third parallel of north latitude, to O'Brien county, in said State of Iowa, there intersecting a grant for a railroad from Sioux City to St. Paul: That the railroad from McGregor to O'Brien county is being now rapidly constructed: That a company, known as the Iowa Division of the Western Union Railroad Company, has been organized in the State of Iowa to build and construct a railroad from a point on the Mississippi river at or near the town of Sabula, in the county of Jackson, and running westward by Maquoketa, in said county; Anamosa, in Jones county; Marion, in Linn county; Vinton, in Benton county, and Buckingham, in Tama county; thence in a northwesterly direction to a point in O'Brien county, where the McGregor and Western railroad intersects the Sioux City and St. Paul Railroad: That it is very material to the best interests of Northern Iowa, that said railroad should not terminate at the junction of said railroad with the Sioux City and St. Paul railroad in O'Brien county, but should continue from that point westward until it strikes the Missouri river at Yankton, or some other feasible point, in order that a direct and easy connection may be made with the Pacific railroad, thus giving another great through route to the commerce of the West, and opening up to cultivation a large tract of fertile country in Northwestern Iowa and Southern Dakota; therefore, be it

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, That Congress is hereby memorialized to make a grant of lands to the State of Iowa and Territory of Dakota, in alternate sections of land, along the line of the proposed railroad, to aid in the construction of the same, to an equal extent, and under like privileges and restrictions with the grants approved, May 12th, 1864, to aid in the construction of railroads in Iowa and Minnesota—said grant to commence at the termination of the grant approved, May 12th, 1864, to aid in the construction of a railroad from McGregor to O'Brien county, Iowa, and extend thence westward along the most practicable route to the Missouri river, at or near Yankton, in Dakota Territory, and that the lands within the scope of the applied for grant, now held for sale, be immediately withdrawn from market, and wherever the lands are not in market, the same be withheld from market until sufficient time shall have elapsed for the definite location of said railroad, and the selection of the lands to be conveyed in said grant.

Resolved, That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives requested, to use their influence to procure the passage of a law making a grant of lands as prayed for in the above memorial.

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be, and is hereby instructed to forward a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolutions to each

of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, to the Secretary of the Interior, and to the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

Approved, February 9, 1870.

NUMBER VI.

REMOVAL OF NATIONAL CAPITAL.

JOINT RESOLUTION in Relation to the Removal of the National Capital.

WHEREAS, The present national capital was located in the infancy of the Republic, and with reference to the convenience of the people living on the Atlantic coast; and,

WHEREAS, The remarkable growth of our country, the rapid increase of its population, the vast extent of its additions made to its territory, and the wonderful development of its agricultural, mineral, and commercial resources, forcibly suggest and demand a more central and eligible position for the permanent seat of government; and,

WHEREAS, It is believed the removal indicated is only a question of time, and the time has come when it should be practically and earnestly considered and prepared for; therefore,

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa. That our Senators in Congress be and are hereby instructed, and our Representatives requested to oppose all appropriations of public funds for the erection of new buildings, or permanent additions to those now in existence, or for other permanent improvements in the District of Columbia, except so far as the same may be absolutely necessary, and to use all honorable means to effect, at the earliest practicable period, a removal of the seat of government from Washington city to some point in the great valley of the Mississippi.

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be directed to forward a copy of this preamble and joint resolution to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Approved, February 25, 1870.

NUMBER VII.

FOR INCREASE OF MAIL FACILITIES.

JOINT RESOLUTION, Asking for increased Mail Facilities.

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives be