

paid and it is claimed that there are serious doubts as to the sufficiency of the security; therefore,

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, That the Attorney-General be and is hereby instructed, at as early a day as practicable, to ascertain the condition of said loan, and of the security therefor; to take the necessary steps to secure and collect the amount due the State; and if practicable to report to the General Assembly at this session the condition of said loan and security and of his action in the premises; and, if he cannot at this session, to make report to the Governor relative thereto as soon as is practicable.

Approved, March 30, 1870.

NUMBER XIV.

PROPOSING AMENDMENT TO STATE CONSTITUTION.

JOINT RESOLUTION Proposing to Amend the Constitution of the State of Iowa, and to Provide for its Reference and Publication.

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, That the following amendments to the Constitution of the State of Iowa, be and are hereby proposed.

1st. Strike from Section one, of Article two, of said Constitution, the word "male."

2d. Strike from Section four, of Article three, of said Constitution, the word "male."

Resolved further, That these resolutions proposing to amend the Constitution of the State of Iowa are hereby referred to the Legislature to be chosen at the next general election; and that the Secretary of State shall cause the same to be published for three months previous to the time of the next general election of members of the legislature in one newspaper in each congressional district.

Approved, April 4, 1870.

NUMBER XV.

WILLIAM B. CRITCHFIELD AND HENRY C. ANDERSON.

JOINT RESOLUTION for the Relief of William B. Critchfield and Henry C. Anderson, late soldiers of the Thirteenth Iowa Infantry.

WHEREAS, William B. Critchfield and Henry C. Anderson, privates of Company C, 13th regiment, Iowa Volunteer Infantry, were, on or about the 3d day of April, 1863, granted a leave of absence to go from

their regiment to Providence, Louisiana, which was near by, and during their absence were captured by Adams' Confederate Cavalry, and taken prisoners of war to Vicksburg, and there confined in a military prison, until their subsequent removal to the prisons at Richmond, Virginia, where they were exchanged and returned to their regiment at Black river Miss., for duty on the 16th day of October, 1863; and,

WHEREAS, After the return of said soldiers to their regiment, after said exchange, they were arrested by the authority of the United States and tried and convicted by a military court upon a charge of "absence without leave," and as a penalty said court ordered the forfeiture of all pay and allowances there was due said soldiers from the Government of the United States; and,

WHEREAS, William B. Critchfield, on the 1st day of January, 1864, re-enlisted as a veteran in said regiment, and was, on the 16th day of January, 1864, promoted to 1st Sergeant of Company C, 51st regiment of U. S. Colored Infantry Volunteers, and on the 8th day of November, 1866, was again promoted to the office of 1st Lieutenant of Company F of said regiment where he served his country with fidelity and bravery until he was honorably discharged from the service on the 16th day of June, 1866, a period, in all, of nearly five years, during which time he was always prompt and ready, and ever found where duty called him, battling for his country and his country's cause; and,

WHEREAS, Henry C Anderson, on the 1st day of January, 1864, re-enlisted as a corporal and veteran in the Thirteenth regiment of Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and served faithfully and honorably, and with bravery and promptness discharged the duties incumbent upon him as a soldier, until he was wounded at Atlanta, which rendered him wholly unfit for further military duty, when he was honorably discharged from the service on the 23d day of May, 1865, and is now a pensioner of the United States, caused by said wounds. While the said Henry C. Anderson was serving his country he had the highest testimonials of honesty, and fought bravely in the defense of his country, and for the preservation of its flag in the siege of Vicksburg, and in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Iuka and Atlanta, where he was wounded; and,

WHEREAS, This General Assembly of the State of Iowa is of the opinion that great injustice has been done to said soldiers by the findings and sentences of said military court, and that the same were erroneous and unwarrantable, and that the said findings and sentences therein should be reversed, and said soldiers be allowed all pay and allowances taken from them by reason of the same; therefore,

Be it Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, That we hereby request and instruct our Senators and Representatives in Congress to secure such legislation as will set aside the verdict of said military court, and secure to said William B. Critchfield and

Henry C. Anderson all pay and allowances from the General Government, forfeited by reason of said decision, and that the Secretary of State be instructed to forward a copy of this resolution to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Approved, April 5, 1870.

NUMBER XVI.

IMPROVEMENT OF THE DES MOINES RAPIDS.

PREAMBLE AND JOINT RESOLUTION in Relation to Improvement of the Des Moines Rapids of the Mississippi River.

WHEREAS, The Federal Government has by appropriation provided for the improvement of the navigation of the Mississippi river by the construction of a canal around the Des Moines rapids; and

WHEREAS, The work thereon has been for a time in progress, and should be completed at an early day; and

WHEREAS, It is the wisest economy to provide for such early completion, to the end that the expense and risk of transportation over said rapids may be saved to the people, and that the salaries of the officers and government employes in charge may also be saved; and

WHEREAS, It is an absolute necessity that a part of said work, to-wit: the blasting, opposite Montrose, should be immediately provided for, in order that all of that part of said work may be done in one season, as otherwise it will be necessary to incur double expense by the erection of two coffer-dams, instead of the one that will be required if the work is so provided for by the necessary appropriation; and

WHEREAS, The engineers in charge of the entire work have presented to the War Department an estimate of the appropriations needed for these said purposes; therefore,

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, That our Senators in Congress be, and they are hereby instructed, and our Representatives requested, to use their influence in procuring the appropriations asked in said estimates.

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be instructed to forward a copy of these resolutions to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Approved, April 5, 1870.