

## NUMBER 2.

## AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE FARM.

JOINT RESOLUTION for a Committee to Investigate the Affairs of the Iowa State Agricultural College and Farm.

WHEREAS, Certain charges have been made, and generally circulated throughout the state, to the effect that the funds provided for the support of the state agricultural college and farm have been mismanaged, misappropriated, and used for purposes prohibited by the laws of congress and the laws of the state of Iowa, in the following among other particulars, to-wit: Certain moneys out of the appropriation of the Fourteenth General Assembly of the state of Iowa, in the erection of gas-works for the use of said college, which erection the statute making such appropriation did not contemplate; also certain moneys out of the appropriation of the Fourteenth General Assembly, lost to the said college through the defalcation of the late treasurer, Samuel E. Rankin, whereof no adequate account has been rendered; also about twelve thousand dollars in excess of the appropriation of the Twelfth General Assembly, in the erection of two houses for the use of the president and one of the professors of said college, out of the fund arising from the income of the congressional land-grant endowment of said college, and known as the interest fund; also about twenty thousand dollars out of the said fund, in excess of the appropriation of the Twelfth General Assembly, in the finishing and repairing of the main college building, and in the perfection of the heating apparatus of said building; also about five thousand dollars out of said interest fund for the purchase of additional lands and buildings; also certain moneys out of said interest fund lost to the said college through the defalcation of the late treasurer, Samuel E. Rankin, as aforesaid, and which, as now appears, is not likely to be made good by the property turned over to the college by the said Rankin; also certain smaller sums out of said interest fund for purposes not contemplated in the grant aforesaid and in contravention thereof. All of which above named sums thus misappropriated and misused out of said interest fund the state of Iowa is bound to make good under the terms of the act of congress making such grant and endowment, passed July 2d, 1862, and of the act of the Ninth General Assembly accepting such grant and endowment, approved September 11th, 1862; and

WHEREAS, It is further charged that the college is drifting away from its original intent as a school of agriculture and the mechanic arts, and that it is not now fulfilling the purposes for which it was founded, and particularly that its course of instruction and practice does not tend to make farmers and mechanics, but rather to turn them toward other professions; and

WHEREAS, It is further charged that the students of said college, for whose benefit the college has been established and munificently endowed by the state and national governments, are arbitrarily, capriciously, and often unjustly treated by the officers of said college, and that no adequate redress of grievances is accorded them; and

WHEREAS, Such reports are calculated to injure the standing and impair the usefulness of said college; therefore,

*Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, That*

a joint committee, consisting of two members on the part of the senate and three on the part of the house, be appointed to investigate the financial and other affairs of the Iowa state agricultural college and farm in regard to all charges relating to the illegal or improper use of funds belonging to said college, from whatever source arising; also in regard to the course of study and practice pursued at said college; also whether said farm is in any true sense a model farm as contemplated by the act of the Seventh General Assembly establishing said college and farm; also in regard to all other of the official acts of the board of trustees and other officers of said college, which the said committee may deem needful to a full and complete investigation of the affairs of said college; and

*Be it further resolved,* That the investigation of said committee shall extend back to the organization of said college, taking careful account, among other things, of all the moneys received and disbursed by the financial officers of said college and carefully examining and reporting whether the same have been expended for their legitimate and lawful uses, and that to accomplish these ends and secure a fair and full investigation and report of the matters herein contained, the said committee shall have power to send for persons and papers, to compel the attendance of witnesses, and to employ a clerk, a short-hand reporter, an expert accountant, and any other assistance they may deem necessary; to sit during the sessions of the senate and the house, and to do all things necessary to render its investigations thorough and complete, and to make a report to this general assembly, and to have the evidence and the report printed by the state printer for the use of the senate and the house.

*Be it further resolved,* That the sessions of this committee shall be open to the public.

Approved February 2d, 1874.

### NUMBER 3.

#### DES MOINES RIVER LANDS.

A JOINT RESOLUTION Memorializing the Congress of the United States to appropriate Money to Indemnify the Holders of Pre-emption and Homes cad Certificates, and Certificates of Entry and Patents upon Lands in Iowa, within the so-called Des Moines River Grant, on Account of Failure of Title, &c.

WHEREAS, There is now pending before congress a bill having for its object the appropriation of the sum of (\$104,228) four hundred and four thousand and two hundred and twenty-eight dollars, from the national treasury, to indemnify the holders of pre-emption certificates and certificates of entry and patents upon lands in Iowa within the so-called Des Moines river grant, on account of the failure of the title of said holders to said lands; and

WHEREAS, Said holders purchased said lands in good faith and for a valuable consideration from the general government, and in good faith made permanent and valuable improvement thereon; and

WHEREAS, The said holders of said certificates and occupiers of said lands have, without any fault of their own, been deprived, by the decision of the federal judiciary, of their titles to said lands, and have thereby suffered