

ing to the general revenue of the state of Iowa, was robbed from the treasury of Bremer county, Iowa; and

WHEREAS, Proof has been furnished to the auditor of the state of Iowa, by evidence in writing, that said county of Bremer had at the date aforesaid a suitable safe for the safe keeping of said funds and in which at the time of the robbery or theft the same were deposited, and that the proper officers had used due care for the protection of said funds, and have used due diligence for the recovery of the money aforesaid, and the arrest of the criminals; and that notwithstanding the said sum remains irrecoverable, and charged against said county, and that said county ought to be discharged from liability therefor;

Therefore, the auditor of state is hereby authorized and directed to give the said county of Bremer credit for \$1,835.05-100, the amount still charged against said county, which said amount was robbed from the treasury of said county as aforesaid.

Provided, That if all or any part of said amount of money shall at any time be recovered the same shall be accounted for and paid into the state treasury.

Approved February 24, 1876.

NUMBER 5.

HOMESTEAD LAW.

JOINT RESOLUTION in Relation to a Modification of the Homestead Law.

WHEREAS, The United States land offices as at present established in this state, are remote from a large portion of the lands now held under homestead claims, and

WHEREAS, The homestead laws as construed by the commissioner of the general land office, require the settler to appear at the land office of his district in person to submit his final homestead proof, and

WHEREAS, Said requirement causes great and unnecessary expense to the settlers and subserves no good purpose, therefore,

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

That our senators in congress be instructed and our representatives be requested to vote for and use their influence to secure such an amendment to the homestead laws as shall allow the homestead settler to make his final proof before the clerk of the court of the county in which the land is located.

Resolved, That the secretary of state be instructed to forward as soon as *practicably* [practicable] a copy of this resolution to each of our senators and representatives in congress.

Approved February 24, 1876.

NUMBER 6.

CANAL FROM MISSISSIPPI RIVER TO HENNEPIN.

JOINT RESOLUTION in relation to Proposed Canal from some point between the Mouth of the Rock River and Clinton, Iowa, on the Mississippi River, to the Illinois River, at Hennepin.

WHEREAS, The question of cheap transportation for the surplus products of the Mississippi valley to a profitable market, is at the present time the paramount question; and

WHEREAS, We believe that the construction of a canal from some point between the mouth of the Rock river and Clinton, Iowa, to Hennepin, in the state of Illinois would open an unbroken water-communication to the eastern markets from the largest agricultural region tributary to any single artificial waterway which has been proposed; and

WHEREAS, This line has been surveyed by authority of congress and has been found to be practicable, to be a distance of only sixty miles, and to be capable of construction at small cost in comparison with other projects of this character; therefore,

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

That our senators in congress be instructed, and our representatives therein be requested, to vote for, and to use their active influence to secure such legislation by the national legislature as will insure the construction of this canal at an early day.

Resolved, That the secretary of state be, and he is hereby instructed to transmit a copy hereof to each of our senators and representatives in congress.

Approved February 24, 1876.

NUMBER 7.

WILSON'S PATENT ON FEED-MOTION.

JOINT RESOLUTION Instructing our Senators and Requesting our Representatives in Congress to Prevent an Extension of Patents on "Wilson's Patent on Feed-motion," and Similar Patents on Sewing Machines.

WHEREAS, Parties are asking congress for a third term of seven years extension of the patent on what is known as "Wilson's patent on feed-motion," used by Wheeler and Wilson, Singer and other manufacturers of sewing machines, the grant of which will place an oppressive monopoly of the same in the hands of such parties and maintain the high prices of such machines unnecessarily, therefore

Be it resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Iowa:

That our senators be instructed and our representatives be requested to oppose and use all honorable means to prevent the extension of such patents and all other similar patents on such machines so far as the same may be done in justice to inventors and for the best interests of the people.

Approved March 4, 1876.