

## NUMBER 14.

**MEMORIAL AND JOINT RESOLUTION in Relation to the Removal of Obstructions from the Channel of the Nishnabotna River.**

WHEREAS, The Nishnabotna river, in south-western Iowa, has been recognized by the national government as a navigable stream and meandered in the public surveys as such streams are, from its mouth, in Holt county, Missouri, to a point near Riverton, Fremont county, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, About the year 1867, the Missouri river cut away its east bank until it reached the channel of the Nishnabotna river, and thus made a new mouth for said river, about three miles south of the state line between Missouri and Iowa, and about thirty or forty miles north of where said river formerly emptied into the Missouri river; and,

WHEREAS, The general assembly of the state of Missouri, in the year 1868, passed an act authorizing Atcheson county, in said state, to put in an embankment across the old channel of the Nishnabotna river, and said county did soon after the passage of said act cause an embankment to be constructed across the said old channel below the new mouth of said river; and,

WHEREAS, Since that time the main channel of the Missouri river has changed, and now runs west of McKissick's island, about five miles west of where the steamboat channel was at the time said river cut into the channel of the Nishnabotna, leaving what had been for many years the steamboat channel of said Missouri river a mere slough, almost without water when said river is low; and,

WHEREAS, In times of high water in the Missouri and Nishnabotna rivers vast quantities of sand and sediment have been deposited in said slough, and thus the new mouth of said Nishnabotna has been filled and choked up, so as to prevent the water in said river from flowing into the Missouri river, and thus damming up the water in said Nishnabotna river, so as to raise the low water-mark in said river, at the state line, at least ten (10) feet higher than it was before the mouth of said river was so obstructed, thereby causing said river to overflow its banks and destroy large tracts of valuable farming lands; and by reason of the stagnant water in said river, during the summer and autumn months, being a cesspool of malaria, thereby seriously affecting the health and comfort of several thousand citizens of Iowa and Missouri; therefore,

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

1. That our senators be instructed and our representatives in congress be requested to use their influence for the passage of an act by congress to remove the obstructions placed in the old channel of said Nishnabotna river, or to so straighten said river as to avoid said obstructions, and that to accomplish that purpose they procure from the national government an appropriation of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to be used in removing said obstructions and straightening said river, or so much as may be necessary to accomplish said object.

2. That the secretary of state be directed to forward to the president of the United States senate, and the speaker of the house of representatives, a copy of the foregoing resolution, with a request that the same be laid before each house of congress; and that a copy be sent to each senator and member of congress from this state.

Approved, March 25, 1880.



## CERTIFICATE.

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STATE OF IOWA, }  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE, }

I, JOHN A. T. HULL, Secretary of State of the State of Iowa, hereby certify that the acts, resolutions, and memorials herein contained, are truly copied from the original rolls on file in this office, and that the same are true and correct, except that the words inclosed by brackets [thus] have been inserted where it was evident an omission had occurred. Words in *italics* (except the enacting clause, and the word *Provided*, etc.) indicate that such words are either superfluous or erroneous; in the latter case the word or words supposed to be correct follow in brackets.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed the great seal of the State.

[STATE SEAL.]

Done at Des Moines, the Capital of the State, this 22d day  
of April, A. D. 1880.

JOHN A. T. HULL, *Secretary of State.*