

State of Iowa to cause to be selected other public lands within said State in lieu of such portions of odd sections within five miles of said river as has been disposed of by the United States, prior and since the passage of said act of appropriation.

Resolved,

That the Secretary of State be instructed to forward to each of our Senators and members of the House of Representatives in the Congress of the United States, a copy of this Memorial and Resolution.

Approved, Dec. 16, 1848.

MEMORIAL No. 2.

IOWA RIVER.

To the Hon. the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

Your memorialists, the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, beg [199] leave to ask the attention of Congress to the improvement of the navigation of the Iowa river, and to represent that, in their opinion, the appropriation of a portion of the vacant public lands in the valley of the river, to the construction of a canal from the seat of government of the State to the mouth of the Iowa, would be incalculable benefit to the State as well as to the general government. The construction of such a work would bring to a speedy sale the entire public domain along the route, and secure to the interior of the State what its exigencies most seriously require, facilities for transporting to market its annually increasing surplus produce. The length of the proposed route is fifty-five miles, and it is believed that a similiar appropriation to that made a year or two since for the improvement of the navigation of the Des Moines river, would be nearly, if not quite, sufficient to construct it.

Your memorialists therefore respectfully ask an appropriation of lands to aid in the construction of a canal from Iowa City to the mouth of the Iowa river, equal to five sections for each mile of said river, to be located in alternate sections five miles an [on] each side of said river, or land adjacent thereto as the same may be conveniently obtained.

Resolved,

That the Secretary of State be requested to forward one copy of this memorial to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Approved, December 16, 1848.

MEMORIAL No. 3.

INCREASE OF PENSION.

To the Hon. 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 to your honorable body that one of our respectable and worthy citizens, Isaac W. Griffith, while in the service of his country, in Mexico, at the battle of Churubusco, lost his right arm, thereby rendering him incompetent of procuring a living for himself and family, his being in low circumstances in life, and without aid and assistance of the general government, he and his family must inevitably suffer.

We, your memorialists, would therefore ask your honorable body to pass a law raising his pension to such an amount as will give him and [200] his family a comfortable living. And your memorialists, will ever pray, etc.
Resolved,

That the Secretary of State be requested to forward a copy of the foregoing Memorial to the President of the Senate, also one copy to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, also one copy to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Approved, Dec. 23, 1848.

MEMORIAL No. 4.

MARINE HOSPITAL.

To the Hon. the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled:

Your memorialists, the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, represent that they regard the legislation of Congress as indicating an intention to establish Marine Hospitals for sick seamen, at such points on the Sea and Lake coasts, and along the principal rivers, as the wants of our commerce shall require, several of these have been already put in operation, others are in progress of preparation and locations have been made, and sites purchased for others at considerable expense to the nation, but no provision has yet been made for the upper valley of the Mississippi. The basin drained by that river and its tributaries above the Missouri is of Immense extent and of great fertility and salubrity, and is already occupied by one entire State and parts of two others, whilst still additional States are contemplated, and so rapid is the increase of population and commerce, that the want of such an institution is already felt and is becoming more necessary every day.

Your memorialists represent that Rock Island in the Mississippi river is believed to be the most eligible location for such institution. It is a central point in the upper valley, being about midway between St. Louis, the highest point on the river at which a hospital has been located and the head of navigation in that river, and will accommodate the commerce of the main stream, and all its navigable tributaries—it lies at the foot of the upper rapids and is the resort of boats and boatmen for purpose of lying by during the winter season. It is also on account of its salubrity and scenery the resort of invalids and others during the summer months—it is the terminus of the Railroad