

MEMORIAL NO. 6.

SKUNK RIVER.

MEMORIAL to congress for an appropriation of land to improve Skunk river.

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

Your memorialists, the general assembly of the state of Iowa, respectfully ask leave to draw the attention of congress to the importance of an early improvement of the navigation of the Skunk river; and to represent that, in their opinion, an appropriation of the vacant public lands in the valley of, and contiguous to, said river, to the construction of a slackwater navigation, with canal at such portions of said river, if any shall be deemed necessary or expedient, upon a proper examination or survey of said river to be made. The improvement of this river, in the mode suggested, your memorialists cannot hesitate to represent as of incalculable benefit to a large portion of the state. A speedy sale of the government domain in the interior western and northern portions of the state would necessarily result from the consummation of such improvement. The exigencies and interests of the agricultural population of a large portion of the state, traversed by said river, imperiously demand such improvement.

Your memorialists would therefore urge upon the congress of the United States the passage of a law granting to the state of Iowa, for the purpose of constructing the improvement of said Skunk river, each alternate section of the unappropriated lands belonging to the general government, for the distance of five miles on each side of said river, from the mouth of the same to its source, or to the boundary of the state where said river crosses the same.

Resolved, that our senators be instructed, and our representatives in congress be requested, to exert their influence, by their action and [203] votes, to secure the appropriation or grant of lands asked for from the general government.

Resolved, that the secretary of state be directed to forward a copy of the foregoing memorial and these resolutions to each one of our senators and representatives in congress, and one copy to the president of the senate, and one copy to the speaker of the house of representatives.

Approved December 29, 1848.

MEMORIAL NO. 7.

MILITARY POSTS.

To the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled:

Your memorialists the general assembly of the state of Iowa, being desirous that the contemplated line of military posts between the Missouri river and Oregon should be commenced at some point on said Missouri river, north of the mouth of the Great Platte river, would respectfully represent that the western frontier of this state is at the present time utterly unprotected by any fort or military post whatever; that said frontier is thus left exposed to the depredations of several tribes of Indians, consisting of the Omahas,