

not been less patriotic than their neighbors, nor less deserving of that consideration which the Government, as a great land-holder in the west, ought to extend to all states where the public lands lie.

**Lands exempt from tax.** Your memorialists further represent, that when the state of Iowa was admitted into the federal Union, a contract was entered into between the state and general government, whereby all the public lands in this state remain free from taxation until they are sold to individuals, and this exemption from taxation is a greater consideration to the federal government than the value of all the lands which are included in this memorial; and your memorialists believe that liberal grants of lands are not only due to the land states, but greatly beneficial, directly and indirectly, to the federal government as a large landed proprietor in these states.

*Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

**Instruction.** That our senators in congress be instructed, and our representatives requested to use their best exertions to procure a grant of land from the General Government to aid in the construction of a railroad from the city of Davenport, in Scott county, by way of the city of Muscatine, in Muscatine county, to Council Bluffs, on the Missouri, in this state; provided, that said road go by the way of Kaneshville.

*Resolved, further,*

**Secretary to forward.** That the secretary of state of this state be, and he is hereby directed, to forward a copy of this resolution to each of our senators and representatives in the Congress of the United States.

Approved, December 30th, 1852.

## MEMORIAL NO. 2.

### CHANGE OF SERVICE.

MEMORIAL AND JOINT RESOLUTION for a change of service on post route No. —, from Davenport to Muscatine.

**Change of service.** Your memorialists, the general assembly of the state of Iowa, would represent to the Honorable the Postmaster General of the United States, that, in the change of the mail route No. —, running from Muscatine, in Muscatine county, to Davenport, in Scott county, Iowa, from what is commonly known as the river route, to a route north, known as the prairie route, great injustice has been done to the inhabitants living upon the river route, leaving them without a through mail, either eastern or western.

**Reasons.** On this route two important offices are situated, one at Fairport, eight miles east of Muscatine, which is temporarily supplied with a mail from Muscatine once a week, by special arrangement of your department; one at Buffalo, in Scott county, midway between Davenport and Fairfield, [Fairport] being ten miles from either place. Buffalo is situated at a point on the Mississippi river of commanding importance, and is backed by, and in the vicinity of, as fertile and productive portion of country as may be found in the west; the extent of country which would be supplied with the mail matter at this office, extends up and down the river in a densely settled

neighborhood a distance of ten miles, and back into the interior from three to four miles, which, if not supplied at this office, must travel from five to fifteen miles to Davenport, being the most accessible office to this neighborhood. The distance on the river route from Muscatine to Davenport, is shorter (being only twenty-eight miles) than the prairie route, the latter being over thirty miles. The road upon the river route is better at all seasons of the year (save in excessive high water in the spring) the prairie route, and upon the river route there is a manifest disposition upon the part of the inhabitants to keep the roads in good repair.

The two routes are from four to eight miles distant from each other; upon the prairie route there have been established a post office at Melpine, in Muscatine county; one at Blue Grass, in Scott county, and perhaps one other, which offices, from the peculiar position of the country, never can accommodate that portion of the country lying upon the river, Muscatine and Davenport being far more accessible than any of the offices established upon the prairie route.

**Change proposed.** Your memorialists, the general assembly, would therefore pray your honor, the postmaster general of the United States, to so change the service upon the aforementioned mail route as to compel the mail stage to run alternate trips on the river route, which would supply amply both routes, and work no injury to either, giving both routes three mails per week each way.

*Resolved,*

**Request.** That our senators and representatives in congress, be requested to present a copy of this memorial to the postmaster general of the United States, and urge upon his consideration the justice and propriety of granting the prayer of your memorialists.

*Resolved,*

**Secretary to forward.** That the secretary of state be instructed to forward a copy of the foregoing memorial and resolution to [218] each of our senators and representatives in congress, at as early a day as practicable.

Approved, January 5, 1853.

### MEMORIAL NO. 3.

#### RAILROAD.

MEMORIAL AND JOINT RESOLUTION for a grant of land to aid in constructing a railroad from Dubuque to the Missouri river.

*To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:*

**Memorial.** Your memorialists, the general assembly of the state of Iowa, would respectfully represent, that justice to the interest and enterprise of the increasing population of this state, demands a liberal and fostering policy in the exercise of the proprietary rights of the general government within its borders; that the same reasons which have induced such policy within the adjoining states of Illinois and Missouri, and which is there producing the happiest results, apply with equal force to the state of Iowa; that the Illinois