

JOINT RESOLUTIONS.

[199] RESOLUTION NO. 1.

MILITARY ROADS.

A JOINT RESOLUTION, instructing the secretary of state to procure from the general government, field notes and diagrams of military roads in the state of Iowa.

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Field notes. That the secretary of state be, and he is hereby instructed, to procure from the War department of the United States, (or such other department as may have the custody of the same,) a copy of the field notes and diagrams of all the military roads, established by Congress, in the territory now embraced within the limits of the State of Iowa, and that he file the same in his office, subject to the examination of those who may be interested in said road.

Approved, December 30, 1852.

RESOLUTION NO. 2.

RAIL ROAD GRANT.

JOINT RESOLUTION, asking a grant of land to aid in the construction of a rail road from Burlington and Keokuk, to the Missouri river.

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

Interest of the state by—railroad, Burlington and Keokuk junction—terminals—adaption—Burlington—connection. Your memorialists, the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, respectfully represent, that the great interests of the State of Iowa, and of the nation at large, will be greatly advanced by the [200] construction of a railroad from the city of Burlington, and the city of Keokuk, to some convenient point of junction northeast of the Des Moines river; thence on the most feasible route to a point in the Missouri river, at or near the mouth of Platte river. The proposed road will, for some distance, pass through the most populous portion of the state, and over a route eminently adapted to the advantageous construction of a work of the character. Burlington is unsurpassed by enterprise and population by any town in the state, and is moreover on one of the great natural lines of railroad communication between the east and west. At that city it would connect with a road now in process of construction, and which will be completed in the ensuing year,

forming a continuous and unbroken line of railroad to Chicago, Boston, New York, and other eastern cities; by the way of Burlington and Peoria, will be afforded much the shortest, cheapest, and most expeditious route from the Missouri river to Philadelphia, Baltimore, Cincinnati, and all the middle and southern Atlantic States, of any road now constructed or projected.

National. Your memorialists regard this projected road as eminently national in its character, and calculated to unite the interests, and advance the prosperity of every part of the state, and secure by the shortest and most economical route, safe and uninterrupted communication between the distant borders of our state, and of the Union.

Justice—sale of reserved sections—benefit to U. S. treasury—grants to our neighbors. They believe that upon principles of national justice the people of this state are entitled to a favorable response to the prayer of this petition. The sale of the reserve sections along the line of the Illinois Central Railroad must satisfy the most incredulous, that the treasury of the general government is benefitted rather than injured, by grants for railroad purposes. To the neighboring states of Illinois and Missouri, large grants have been made, and public improvements are in process of construction, which will be monuments of the munificence and wisdom of congress. It cannot be, that an invidious distinction is to be observed between sister states of the west.

Ask for a grant. Your memorialists, therefore, in consideration of the national benefits, as well as the more local, to be derived from [201] the construction of this great work, and the large amount of public lands remaining unsold in the state, through which it is proposed to be located, and which will be rendered valuable, and saleable, by the construction thereof, ask that a grant of alternate sections may be made to the state for the purpose contemplated, sufficient to secure its completion at an early day from river to river.

Resolved,

Instruction—request. That the senators in congress from the state of Iowa be instructed, and the representatives requested to use their utmost exertions to secure a prompt and favorable consideration of the prayer of this memorial.

Resolved,

Secretary to forward. That the secretary of state be directed to forward a copy of this memorial to each of the representatives and senators in congress from the state of Iowa.

Approved, January 5, 1853.