

[204] RESOLUTION NO. 8.

DESMOINES RIVER.

PREAMBLE AND JOINT RESOLUTION, asking congress to remove certain restrictions in the act granting lands to aid in the improvement of the Desmoines river.

Restrictions. Whereas, the improvement of the navigation of the Desmoines river is of immense importance to the growth and prosperity of the state of Iowa; and whereas, the law of congress making a grant of land to aid the state in improving the navigation of said river, restricts the state from selling said lands in larger quantities than will amount to thirty thousand dollars at one and the same time, thereby greatly retarding the state in the efforts made to raise the means to secure the hasty completion of said improvement; therefore,

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Removal. That our senators in congress be instructed, and our representatives be requested, to use their best exertions to secure the passage of a law removing said restrictions, and placing said lands exclusively under the control of the state.

Resolved,

Secretary to forward. That the secretary of state be requested to forward a copy of this preamble and resolution to each of our senators and representatives in Congress.

Approved, January 24, 1853.

RESOLUTION NO. 9.

DES MOINES RIVER IMPROVEMENT.

JOINT RESOLUTION appointing a committee of investigation of the affairs of the Desmoines river improvement.

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Committee—examine—send for persons, etc., oaths, etc.—report to governor—P. Brattain—also. That Joseph C. Knapp, of Van Buren county, Wareham G. Clark, [205] of the county of Monroe, and Alfred Hebard, of the county of Des Moines, are hereby appointed a committee to examine the books, papers, and accounts pertaining to, and belonging to the offices of commissioner and register of the Desmoines river improvement, up to the time when such examination and investigation shall be made, and said committee shall be authorized to send for persons and papers, and to administer oaths, and procure testimony to be taken, where the same may be necessary; and it shall be their duty to report to the Governor the number of acres granted for said improvement as shown by the books pertaining to said offices; the number of acres sold, the amount per acre; the whole amount received, and by whom the same has been paid, to whom paid, and for what services paid; and it shall be their duty to ascertain the amount due the

state, from Paul Brattain, former treasurer of the "board of public works," and certify the same to the register, who is authorized, on the payment of the amount so ascertained, without interest, by said Brattain, or securities, to give to the person or persons paying the same, a certificate of final settlement of the accounts of said Brattain; they shall also ascertain and report the amount and present value of any lands formerly belonging to said grant, which are now owned by any of the present or past officers of said Des Moines river improvement.

Meet. Said committee are directed to meet on the first Monday of April, 1853, at Ottumwa, in Wapello county, or at any time by them agreed upon before the first day of October, 1853.

Compensation. Said committee shall be paid three dollars per day while so engaged, out of the funds belonging to the improvement.

Take effect. This act to be in force from and after its publication in the "Ottumwa Courier," and the "Des Moines Valley Whig."

Approved, January 22d, 1853.

Published in the "Ottumwa Courier," Feb. 3, and "Des Moines Valley Whig," Feb. —, 1853.

GEO. W. McCLEARY,
Secretary of State.

[206] RESOLUTION NO. 10.

HALF BREED TRACT.

PREAMBLE AND JOINT RESOLUTION memorializing congress to cause the line of the half-breed tract, in Lee county, to be surveyed and established.

Treaty—half breed tract. Whereas, On or about the 4th day of August, A. D. 1824, the Sac and Fox tribe or nation of Indians, did conclude between themselves and the United States, a certain treaty, by which they not only conveyed certain lands to the United States, but also reserved the tract of land which lies between the Des Moines and Mississippi rivers, for the use of the half breeds of said tribe or nation, and

Terms. Whereas, said treaty, so far as the question at issue is concerned, is in these words, to wit: commencing in the Missouri river, at a point opposite the middle of the mouth of the Kansas river, thence north one hundred miles, thence east to the Mississippi river; and

Line unsurveyed. Whereas, it is represented to this General Assembly, by a large and respectable body of the citizens of the state, that no survey of said line, in accordance with the terms of said treaty, has ever been made, to the manifest injury of a large number of the citizens of said state; therefore,

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Memorial for a survey of line—appropriation. That the congress of the United States be, and the same are hereby memorialized, to pass an act providing for the appointment of a commission to survey said line in accordance with the terms of said treaty; and also to make an appropriation therefor.