

## JOINT RESOLUTIONS

send a copy of this preamble and resolution to each of our Senators and representatives at Washington.

Approved January 21, 1857.

## NUMBER 12.

## PACIFIC RAILROAD.

MEMORIAL of the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, to Congress, in favor of the Pacific Railroad.

**Pacific railroad** Your memorialists, the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, respectfully represent, that in their opinion, the public good requires, and public sentiment demands the construction of a railroad from the Missouri river, on the western borders of the State of Iowa, to the Pacific ocean.

**Advantages.** Your memorialists will not attempt to enumerate the advantages that will accrue to the people of the United States by the construction of such a road; all admit that it will have a tendency to bind together the different States and Territories of the Union in bonds of affection and interest; that it will develop and make available the resources of a great portion of the continent; that it will give to our country the command of the China and East India trade, and make it the thoroughfare for much of the commerce of the world, and extend the blessings of civilization and christianity to places now filled with ignorance and superstition.

**Best route.** Your memorialists will not presume to dictate whether the General Government should embark directly in the construction of so great a work, or whether it would be more prudent to aid private enterprise in its construction, by grants of land, mail contracts, &c., yet your memorialists do feel a deep interest that the most practicable and advantageous route for this road should be adopted.

**Platte valley.** Your memorialists firmly believe that the most feasible route is to be found in the valley of the Platte river, and through the South Pass of the Rocky Mountains. It is the natural highway to the shores of the Pacific, from the middle and western States, and the great emigrant road to

Oregon and California, and if adopted, would materially benefit those valuable and growing portions of our country.

Your memorialists therefore pray your honorable body *Prayer.* to sanction by your legislative action, the public demand for this enterprise, and take such steps as your wisdom may dictate, to ensure the early commencement and speedy completion of this great national work, and for this purpose request a certified copy of this memorial to be laid before each branch of Congress.

Approved January 21, 1857.

### NUMBER 13.

#### DUTY ON SUGAR AND MOLASSES.

MEMORIAL of the General Assembly of the State of Iowa to Congress in favor of a repeal of the duty on sugar and molasses.

Your memorialists, the General Assembly of the State of *Duty onerous.* Iowa, respectfully represent that, in the opinion of this General Assembly, the present duty of thirty per cent. *ad valorem* on sugar and molasses, imported from abroad, impose an onerous and unnecessary burden upon the people of the United States; and in view of the fact that these articles, like tea and coffee, enter largely into the consumption of all classes of people, your memorialists beg to present the following facts for your consideration.

Your memorialists are satisfied, from an examination of *Not necessary.* the subject, that this duty or tax of 30 per cent. *ad valorem* on sugar and molasses was imposed to protect the cultivation of sugar in the State of Louisiana, to which State the sugar cane is not indigenous, it being the natural growth of the tropics only; and by such protection the few plantations in that State have amassed large fortunes, deriving princely returns from the capital invested in that product of their agriculture, and are now enabled, without the protection, to make fair profits on their investments.

Your memorialists also beg leave to represent that, in