

BANDS OF ROVING INDIANS.

MEMORIAL

OF

THE LEGISLATURE OF WISCONSIN,

ASKING

The removal of certain bands of roving Indians to their western reservations.

APRIL 8, 1872.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

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

The memorial of the legislature of the State of Wisconsin respectfully represents—

That there are now, and for many years have been, roving bands of Winnebago, Pottawatomie, and other bands of mixed tribes of Indians in the western counties of the State of Wisconsin; that they are troublesome, and in many cases have committed crimes against the peace and dignity of our State. The cranberry crop is of great importance. A large number of marshes are brought up and improved; but the Indians trespass upon them, steal the berries, and frequently burn the marshes, which destroys the crop for two years. They burn our pine and other forests, destroying timber and other property, amounting in gross value to an immense sum. Indians have been arrested for murder and committed to jail, and in numerous cases the whisky traders have broken the jails and set them free. Two or three of them are now in our State prison under sentence for crimes committed. Congress has heretofore been memorialized on this subject, and at one time made an appropriation of \$35,000 for the purpose of removing them to their reservations, but it was entirely inadequate, and was suffered to lapse. The people have shown great patience and forbearance with them, but have now cause to be very impatient for their removal.

Wherefore your memorialists would earnestly pray that those roving bands of Indians be removed to their western reservations, and the citizens of Wisconsin, who have been troubled with their depredations in many cases for thirty years, be immediately relieved from further trouble on their account.

DANIEL HALL,

Speaker of the Assembly.

CHAS. G. WILLIAMS,

President of the Senate pro tem.

Approved March 25, 1872.

C. C. WASHBURN, *Governor.*