

WINNEBAGO INDIAN RESERVATION, MINNESOTA.

RESOLUTION

OF

THE LEGISLATURE OF MINNESOTA,

ASKING

That Government lands in this State to the amount of twenty sections on the Winnebago Indian reservation in Waseca and Blue Earth Counties, heretofore sold and conveyed by the General Government to private parties, be granted to the State of Minnesota.

MARCH 16, 1874.—Referred to the Committee on the Public Lands and ordered to be printed.

Whereas by act of March 3, A. D. 1849, known as the organic act of Minnesota, the Congress of the United States did enact "That when the lands in the said Territory (of Minnesota) shall be surveyed under the direction of the Government of the United States, preparatory to bringing the same into market, sections numbered sixteen and thirty-six in each township in said Territory shall be, and the same are, hereby reserved for the purpose of being applied to schools in said Territory, and in the State and Territories hereafter to be created out of the same;" and

Whereas the first clause of section five of the act authorizing a State government, passed by Congress February 26, 1857, provides, "That sections numbered sixteen and thirty-six, in every township of public lands in this State, and where either of said sections, or any part thereof, has been sold or otherwise disposed of, other lands equivalent thereto, and as contiguous as may be, shall be granted to said State for the use of schools;" and

Whereas the said Winnebago Indian reservation included twenty sections of said school-lands which had been "surveyed under the direction of the General Government of the United States, preparatory to bringing said lands into market," prior to their occupancy by the Winnebago Indians; and

Whereas the Government of the United States, by and through its officers and agents, has, contrary to the best interests of the State of Minnesota, since such survey, sold and conveyed the said school-lands to divers persons, and taken and received compensation therefor, to the great damage of the common-school fund of this State: Therefore,

Resolved by the legislature of the State of Minnesota, That Congress be

requested to pass a law appropriating twenty sections of other Government lands in this State, as nearly equivalent in value to the said Winnebago Indian reservation lands as possible.

Resolved further, That the governor of this State be requested to forward copies of these resolutions to our Senators and Representatives in Congress at as early a day as practicable; and that said Senators and Representatives be requested to press this just and reasonable claim upon the attention of the national legislature at an early day.

Approved March 5, 1874.

STATE OF MINNESOTA,

Office of the Secretary of State:

I certify that the foregoing has been compared with the original on file in this office, and is found to be a true copy of the same.

Witness my hand and the great seal of the State, this 9th day of March, A. D. 1874.

[SEAL.]

S. P. JENNISON,
Secretary of State.

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