

MEMORIAL
OF
THE LEGISLATURE OF IOWA,

IN FAVOR OF

A grant of land to aid in the construction of a railroad from Dubuque to the Missouri river.

DECEMBER 12, 1853.

Ordered to be printed.

MEMORIAL AND JOINT RESOLUTION for a grant of land to aid in constructing a railroad from Dubuque to the Missouri river.

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

Your memorialists, the general assembly of the State of Iowa would respectfully represent, that justice to the interests and enterprise of the increasing population of this State demands a liberal and fostering policy in the exercise of the proprietary rights of the general government within its borders.

That the same reasons which have induced such policy within the adjoining States of Illinois and Missouri, and which is there producing the happiest results, apply with equal force to the State of Iowa; that the Illinois Central Railroad, now rapidly completing to its terminus on the Mississippi opposite the city of Dubuque, and other projected railroads from the great chain of lakes on the north to the same terminus, will establish at this point a direct and constant connexion with the markets of the east and south; that Dubuque is located in the centre of the rich mineral region of this State, in a position most favorable to command the commerce and trade of the upper Mississippi, and is already a large and flourishing city in its commerce, population, and wealth. That a direct connexion between this point and the valley of the Missouri through the coal fields on the Des Moines, is most important for mutual exchange and the development and permanent establishment of the resources and commercial interests of the State; and which connexion, from its termini and position, appears favorable to form a link in the great chain of railroads destined sooner or later to connect the Atlantic seaboard with the Pacific coast.

Your memorialists would, therefore, respectfully ask of your honorable body an appropriation of land in alternate sections, equal to six

sections per mile, to aid in the construction of a railroad from Dubuque, on the Mississippi river, to a point on the Missouri river at or near Kaneshville, in the county of Potawatamie, by the way of Fort Des Moines.

Resolved, That the senators from this State be instructed, and the representatives requested, to use their best exertions to procure a grant of land as asked for in the foregoing memorial, and that the Secretary of State forward a copy hereof to each.

JAMES GRANT,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

W. E. LEFFINGWELL,

President of the Senate.

Approved, *January 5, 1853.*

S. HEMPSTEAD.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, IOWA,

Iowa City, January 5, 1853.

I certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the original resolution on file in this office.

GEO. W. McCLEARY,

Secretary of State.