

MEMORIAL

OF

THE LEGISLATURE OF MINNESOTA,

IN FAVOR OF

The early payment of the damages sustained by the Sioux Indian war of 1862, out of the property of the destroyers now under control of the government.

FEBRUARY 19, 1864.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

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

Your memorialists, the legislature of the State of Minnesota, respectfully present:

That the treaty stipulations between the United States and the Annuity Sioux Indians, assuring indemnity for depredations of said Indians, induced many of our citizens to settle and to build their houses upon the fertile public lands near the Sioux reservation, and within the range of the roving excursions of said Indians; that said Indians in the unprovoked, aggressive, and most savage war which they made upon the United States, and in which they massacred a large number of men, women, and children, within the State of Minnesota, and destroyed and damaged a large amount of property, drove off thousands of our citizens from their once happy but now desolated and ruined homes, to find among strangers their subsistence as fugitive beggars, in many instances widowed or orphaned, or maimed for life; that the people of this State believe that it is just and equitable that the sufferers from said war should be indemnified to the full extent of the indebtedness and annuities forfeited by said Indians.

Your memorialists, firmly relying upon the justice and equity of the general Government, have an abiding confidence that the same spirit which in your councils solemnly pronounced the claims of those sufferers as just and equitable, is still animating your honorable body, and that the hopes of those who were reduced by that fiendish foe, from plenty and independence to destitution, and to the necessity to eat the hard bread of public charity, will not be cruelly defeated.

Your memorialists would respectfully ask your honorable body to provide for an early payment of the damages sustained by the Sioux Indian war of 1862, out of the property of the destroyers now under your control.

CHARLES D. SHERWOOD,

President of the Senate.

JARED BENSON,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Approved February first, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four.

STEPHEN MILLER.

INDEMNITY TO CITIZENS OF MINNESOTA.

STATE OF MINNESOTA, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
St. Paul, February 11, 1864.

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

D. BLAKELY,
Secretary of State.