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Additional land office in Iowa

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ADDITIONAL LAND OFFICE IN IOWA.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 103.]

FEBRUARY 9, 1842.

Mr. CASEY, from the Committee on the Public Lands, made the following

REPORT :

The Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the memorial of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Iowa, asking for the establishment of an additional land office in said Territory, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report :

That there are but two land offices in the whole extent of country which constitutes the Territory of Iowa, the surveyed portions of which, now in market, extend from the mouth of the Des Moines river, north, to the neutral ground above the mouth of Yellow river—a distance of nearly 200 miles in a direct line, and upwards of 300 by the route of the Mississippi. From east to west the surveyed portions extend from the Mississippi to the Indian boundary—a distance of nearly 90 miles in a direct line. The two land offices now established in the Territory are upon the Mississippi—one at Burlington, 30 miles from the most southern point of the Territory ; the other at Dubuque, about 50 miles from its most northern point. The citizens and emigrants of the central portions of the Territory, and particularly those who desire to purchase and settle in the western portion of the central townships, are subject to great inconvenience and expense—the distance to the land offices being rendered more formidable by the want of roads and the number of streams with which the country abounds. In view of these facts, and also in contemplation of the additional country which will probably soon be added to the surveyed portions of the Territory and brought into market, the committee have deemed it proper to report a bill for the establishment of an additional land office in said Territory.