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Protection from Hostile Indians. Memorial of the Legislature of Arizona, asking protection from hostile Indians

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PROTECTION FROM HOSTILE INDIANS.

MEMORIAL

OF

THE LEGISLATURE OF ARIZONA,

ASKING

Protection from hostile Indians.

MARCH 20, 1871.—Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to be printed.

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

Your memorialists, of the legislative assembly of the Territory of Arizona, most respectfully submit to your honorable bodies the following memorial for the purpose of giving reliable information of the condition and necessities of the people of this Territory :

Your memorialists are aware that, occupying a geographical position on the southwestern border of the United States, with no railroad or telegraph facilities and limited political influence, the suffering and death which have attended the settlement of this Territory in consequence of the hostility of the Apache Indians are but little known or appreciated beyond our borders. Your memorialists have therefore compiled testimony by a large number of reliable citizens and officers of the Army, with the view of fairly and more forcibly making known the condition of affairs in this Territory ; which testimony shows that a savage war still exists here, causing the murder of hundreds of our citizens and the loss of a vast amount of property, and that at no period since the settlement of the Territory has the loss of life and property been greater than during the year 1870, and that the hostility of the Apache Indians and the want of protection have led to the abandonment of many valuable mines, and that large farming settlements have been, and are being, abandoned for like causes.

Your memorialists would further state that the people of this Territory are attached to it, and find in its genial climate, pastoral, agricultural, and mineral resources, all the elements necessary to make it a populous and desirable country in which to live ; that they have endured the hardships and braved the dangers incident to pioneer life with a fortitude that should command the admiration of a brave people, and although hundreds have fallen beneath the scalping-knife and the tomahawk, or suffered torture at the burning stake, the survivors fill the broken ranks and continue the contest. Our people have made their homes here and have no others ; but, unless protection be given them, the constant decimation that is made will soon sweep from the

country all traces of civilization, except deserted fields and broken walls. Your memorialists respectfully ask a careful consideration of the facts presented, and as faithful citizens of the United States, and your own kindred, and in the name of humanity, we beg for protection and assistance: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the council and house of representatives of the Territory of Arizona, That our Delegate in Congress be, and he is hereby requested, to use all honorable means to bring this subject to the earnest and favorable consideration of Congress.

And be it further resolved, That the secretary of the Territory be requested to transmit a copy of the foregoing memorial and resolutions to our Delegate in Congress.

M. D. DOBBINS,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

HARLEY H. CARTER,

President of the Council.

Approved February 18, 1871.

A. P. K. SAFFORD.

TERRITORY OF ARIZONA,

Office of the Secretary :

I, Coles Bashford, secretary of the Territory of Arizona, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the enrolled law on file in this office.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of this office this 25th day of February, A. D. 1871.

[SEAL.]

COLES BASHFORD,

Secretary of Arizona Territory,