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Garrison at mouth of Big Sioux River. Memorial and joint resolution of the Legislature of Iowa, asking the establishment of a garrison at or near the mouth of the Big Sioux River, in Iowa.

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GARRISON AT MOUTH OF BIG SIOUX RIVER.

MEMORIAL AND JOINT RESOLUTION

OF THE

LEGISLATURE OF IOWA,

ASKING

The establishment of a garrison at or near the mouth of the Big Sioux river, in Iowa.

FEBRUARY 20, 1855.—Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

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

Your memorialists, the general assembly of the State of Iowa, respectfully represent that a garrison is much needed at or near the mouth of the Big Sioux river, in Iowa.

Your memorialists further represent that the country round the mouth of said river has but recently been purchased from the Indians, and that since the purchase of the same two hostile tribes, by a treaty among themselves, have partitioned out the country into separate hunting grounds for each tribe, in order to save their own hunting grounds; that the same is occupied every fall for hunting by bands of the different tribes, and that said tribes have since engaged in a war with each other, whereby said tract of country has become the theatre of several sanguinary and bloody battles, to the great discomfort and annoyance of the few settlers who have pioneered the way for settlement and civilization of that fertile and interesting part of our young and growing State, who are entitled to the encouragement and protection of government.

Your memorialists further represent that the mouth of Big Sioux river is contiguous to a large scope of country, owned and occupied by the Sioux, Omahas, Otoes, and other tribes of Indians, as Indian lands; that from said Indian country marauding bands of Indians will come into the settlements in Iowa to hunt, steal, and commit many other depredations which their lawless and unrestrained passions and habits may lead them to, which will keep the frontier settlements in constant alarm and dread, besides the great loss of property from these excursions, and the imminent danger of human life arising from the intoxication, the malice, caprice or revenge, of these unrestrained savages.

Your memorialists further represent that said garrison would be on the route to Fort Laramie, and the garrison established by the different trading posts on the Missouri and Yellow Stone rivers.

That being situated on the Missouri river it would be accessible by steamboats, and would be a suitable and proper depot for supplies, ammunition, &c., for the garrison and forts on our western frontiers.

Therefore resolved, That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives requested, to use their utmost exertions to secure the establishment of a garrison at or near the mouth of the Big Sioux river, in Iowa, at as early a day as practicable.

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be directed to forward a copy of this memorial to each of the Representatives and Senators in Congress from the State of Iowa.

REUBEN NOBLE,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MATURIN L. FISHER,
President of the Senate.

Approved 19th January, 1855.

JAMES W. GRIMES.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Iowa city, January 30, 1855.

I certify the foregoing to be a true copy from the original rolls on file in my office.

GEO. W. McCLEARY,
Secretary of State.