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A Joint Memorial to the Congress of the United States relative to a subsidy of lands for railroad purposes.

Colorado General Assembly

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soon reach a specie standard, we respectfully request your honorable body to authorize and empower the U. S. Branch Mint in the city of Denver, to coin silver bullion, and furnish our miners with money from the precious metals they have contributed to produce.

Approved January 10, A. D. 1868.

A Joint Memorial and resolution relative to additional appropriations for the purpose of building a penitentiary in Colorado territory.

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

Your memorialists, the council and house of representatives of the territory of Colorado, would respectfully represent that the sum of forty thousand dollars appropriated by the Congress of the United States, by the act approved January 22, 1867, for the purpose of erecting a penitentiary in the territory of Colorado, is inadequate for the erection of any prison required by the wants of this territory. A large majority of our counties are without a jail or prison of any kind, and in these a conviction amounts to an acquittal. Our people have been too often compelled to step beyond the limit of the statute and resort to the first law of nature, and administer summary punishment to offenders. For years past these evils have pressed sorely upon our people, and we appeal to you, as guardians of this people, for such an appropriation as will give us a secure prison; and to this end we would suggest that an additional appropriation, of at least forty thousand dollars, is absolutely necessary for the attainment of the object contemplated. The cost of building materials, which are not manufactured in this territory with the high prices of labor, render the cost of construction twice as great as in the states.

Resolved, That a copy of this memorial and resolution be forwarded to the secretary of the interior, president of the senate, and speaker of the house of representatives of the Congress of the United States, and to our delegate therein.

Approved January 10, A. D. 1868.

A Joint Memorial to the Congress of the United States relative to a subsidy of lands for railroad purposes.

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

Your memorialists, the legislative assembly of the territory of Colorado, would respectfully represent that the advancement

of the important interests of this country require railroad communication with the east. The expense of transporting machinery and the great demand and high price for labor, have made our mines less remunerative than they otherwise would have been, if living were cheaper, and emigration encouraged by safe and convenient modes of travel. Our richest ores are being worked at the sacrifice of the copper and lead, for the reason that they will not pay for transportation at the present rates. Within the last two years, extensive silver mines have been discovered in this territory, as rich, if not more valuable, than those of any other country. This silver ore could, with ease, be reduced to matt, or run into large bars, and, with cheap transportation, shipped east, where labor is cheaper, and facilities for parting are greater, and the lead could be saved with profit. From this source alone, in a few years, an immense trade will be seen. With additional emigration, the product of our gulch mines will be greatly increased; and with cheap machinery and living, our gold ores, of acknowledged richness, can be worked with profit. The continuation of the Union Pacific Railway, E. D., through the heart of the territory, would encourage settlement on a large portion of the public domain, and bring into market, millions of acres that otherwise must remain unproductive; and if continued west to the mining districts, would develop untold mineral wealth. We therefore appeal to you to aid, by liberal subsidy, the construction of the eastern division of the Union Pacific Railroad, or any other railroad, to be constructed within the boundaries of said territory on the western route as now contemplated by law.

Approved January 10, A. D. 1868.

Joint Memorial relating to the Arid Lands in Colorado Territory.

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

Your memorialists, the council and house of representatives of the territory of Colorado, would respectfully represent that other states and territories have received, as a donation from the government of the United States, large amounts of land known as "swamp lands," and while there is no such land in Colorado, there is a class of upper plateau land, valueless to the government in this present state, which can only become fit for settlement and occupation by the outlay of large sums of money in the construction of canals of great length, and must necessarily remain for a long time unsettled and unproductive.