

1876

**A Memorial - To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress Assembled, calling Attention to the Grievances of the "Ute" Indians.**

Colorado General Assembly

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# MEMORIALS AND RESOLUTIONS.

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## JOINT RESOLUTION

Postponing certain cases in the District Court of  
Boulder County.

WHEREAS, the attorneys retained by the defendant in the case of Oliver H. Harker, administrator of Edgar M. Bard, deceased, against Samuel Newell, and the case in Chancery of Hupper and others, against said Newell and others, and for the appellant in the matter of the appeal of Benjamin L. Stotts, executor of Louis Stotts, deceased, pending in the District Court of Colorado Territory, in and for the county of Boulder, are now necessarily engaged in the public service, and thus prevented from attending the present term of said Court, therefore;

*Resolved*, By the House of Representatives of Colorado Territory, the Council concurring, that the three several cases mentioned in the preamble hereto, be and the same are hereby continued into the next term of said District Court.

Approved January 26, 1876.

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## A MEMORIAL

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress Assembled, calling Attention to the Grievances of the "Ute" Indians.

*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

call the attention of your honorable body to the following facts:

It is now over two years since the "Brunot Treaty of 1873" was signed by the Ute Indians, and nearly two years since the same was ratified by the Senate; yet notwithstanding the solemn promise of the United States that the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars should annually be expended for their benefit in consideration of their having ceded to the United States a certain portion of their reservation, *not one dollar has been appropriated for that purpose.* Under these circumstances the Utes have become exceedingly irritated. They complain bitterly of the want of good faith on the part of the Government. They say that they have been cheated out of their lands; that they have fulfilled their part of the treaty, yet they have received nothing. They claim that they have been put off, time and again, with false promises, and say that they will no longer submit to what they consider a grievous outrage upon their rights. Already some of the younger braves have committed various depredations; houses have been burned, crops destroyed, lives threatened, and the head chiefs themselves, although hitherto friendly in the extreme, have openly declared their avowed purpose of driving out the entire white population early in the spring, if by that time they have not received that which they were promised. That they will attempt to accomplish this object, if they are not either held in check by the presence of troops, or else satisfied in their claims, cannot be doubted, nor can it be doubted that they will be resisted in the attempt; and thus a collision is imminent, which would inevitably result in a bloody and costly Indian war, in the loss of many lives, in the embittered hostility of a powerful tribe, at present friendly, and in a most disastrous blow to the development of the new and rich mining districts in the southwestern portion of our Territory.

In justice, therefore, to the Utes, who have faithfully kept their portion of the contract, and have ever endeavored to live on friendly terms with the whites; in justice to the

citizens of the United States residing in that section of Colorado, whose lives and property are imperilled, and finally in justice to our common country, whose honor should be maintained inviolate even in so small a matter as a treaty with a tribe of savages, we would entreat your honorable body to take this subject under your immediate consideration, and to take care that the contract on the part of the United States is fulfilled to the letter, at as early a day as is possible. And we would finally say that by such action you will avert the impending outbreak, renew the good feeling that has so long existed between the Utes and the whites, and receive the grateful thanks of a numerous population.

Approved January 28, 1876.

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#### A MEMORIAL

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, praying for the establishment of a Military Post in southwestern Colorado, and for the construction of a Military Wagon Road from some point upon the Rio Grande river, across the main range, to Fort Defiance.

*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 there is urgent need of a military post in the southwestern portion of this Territory, either upon the Animas, La Plata, or Mancos rivers, near the line of the Indian reservation, for the following reasons:—

There is at present no military post within two hundred miles of this section of Colorado, which is the abode of large numbers of unfriendly Indians of the Ute, Pi-Ute, Apache, and Navajo tribes, many of whom have never acknowledged the authority of the United States, and never reside upon their reservations, and who, feeling themselves secure in the mountain fastnesses and intricate cañons of