

tees to act and co-operate with the committee hereby appointed, for the attainment of the objects herein set forth; and that the governor be and is hereby requested to send copies of this joint resolution and invitation to each of the states so interested, and to our senators and representatives in congress, and that the preceding preamble and resolutions be printed for the greater convenience of so doing.

Approved March 27, 1863.

NUMBER 6.

JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks and condolence to our soldiers and their families.

WHEREAS, The rebellion against our government and the constitution by the so-called Confederate States, has forced upon the loyal states the present war for the constitution, the union and our free institutions; and

WHEREAS, To sustain this war large numbers of our valued and worthy citizens have volunteered to leave their homes and all that is dear in their domestic relations, some of whom have heroically laid their lives upon the altar of their country, and with honor rest in the soldier's grave upon the battle-field: therefore,

Resolved, by the assembly, the senate concurring, That while we cherish with mournful regrets the memory of the valiant dead, for their distinguished bravery and patriotic sacrifices, we tender our heartfelt sympathies and condolence to the bereaved parents, the widows and orphans who are left to mourn for the loved ones that have fallen.

Resolved, That we tender our sincere thanks to our brave volunteers now in the field, for their fidelity to the constitution and the government, their patriotism and their bravery; that upon them, under divine providence, rests [rest] the issues of the present struggle for the perpetuity of our free institutions, our national existence, and the continuance of the union of this republic.

Resolved, That we contemplate with gratitude and confidence the loyal and patriotic bravery of our Wisconsin soldiers, now in the active defense of our government, Their loyalty and bravery are appreciated by their friends, as an honor to this commonwealth, and justly entitles [entitle] them to the gratitude of all loyal citizens of the state, and it is our constant endeavor to attend to their interests at home while they are defending our union in the field.

Resolved, further, That the secretary of state be and is hereby requested to forward a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolutions to the commanding officers of each of our Wisconsin regiments, with a request that they be read to the soldiers.

Approved March 27, 1863.

NUMBER 7.

JOINT RESOLUTION relative to the letter of General Rosecrans.

Resolved, by the assembly, the senate concurring, That our warmest thanks are hereby tendered to Major-General Rosecrans for the patriotism, endurance and military skill ever manifested by him while leading our brave army in the field, in defense of the laws, the constitution and the union; also, for the noble and lofty sentiments and cutting rebuke to traitors embraced in his manly, patriotic and statesmanlike letter in response to the resolution of thanks passed by the general assembly of the state of Ohio to the commander and army of the Cumberland, which reads as follows:

“This is, indeed, a war for the maintenance of the constitution and the laws—nay, for national existence—against those who have despised our honest friendship, deceived our just hopes, and driven us to defend our country and our homes. By foul and willful slanders on our motives and intentions, persistently repeated, they have arrayed against us our own fellow-citizens, bound to us by the triple ties of consanguinity, geographical position and commercial interests.

“Let no man among us be base enough to forget this, or fool enough to trust an oligarchy of traitors to their friends, to civil liberty and human freedom. Voluntary exiles from home and friends, for the defense and safety of all, we long for the time when gentle peace shall again spread her wings over our land; but we know no such blessing is possible while the unjust and arbitrary power of the rebel leaders confronts and threatens us. Crafty as the fox, cruel as the tiger, they cried ‘no coercion,’ while preparing to strike us. Bulley-like, they proposed to fight us, because they said they could whip us five to one; and now, when driven back, they whine out, ‘no invasion,’ and promise us of the west permission to navigate the Mississippi river if we will be ‘good boys,’ and do as they bid us.

“Whenever they have the power, they drive before them into