

JOINT RESOLUTIONS OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY,

Session of 1859.

NUMBER I.

JOINT RESOLUTION instructing the Governor to certify in relation to the work on the capitol extension.

Resolved, by the Assembly, the Senate concurring,
That the governor be, and hereby is authorized to certify to the secretary of state, the completion of the work upon the capitol extension, so far as the same has been certified to him by the superintending architects, and on receipt of such certificate by the secretary of state, that officer shall audit the account and the fifteen per cent. withheld from the contractor by the terms of his contract shall be paid to said contractor, reserving therefrom the amount estimated by the architects to be still necessary to complete the contract and one thousand dollars in addition thereto.

Approved January 25, 1859.

NUMBER II.

JOINT RESOLUTION relating to the five per cent. due the state by the United States government.

Whereas, the government of the United States in and by section 7, of an act of congress, entitled "an act to enable the people of Wisconsin territory to form a constitution and state government, and for admission of such state into the union," approved August 6th, 1846, proposed that five per cent. of the net proceeds of sales of all public lands lying within said state of Wisconsin which then had been sold, or which should be sold from and after the admission of the state into the union, should be paid to the state of Wisconsin for the purpose of making public roads, canals, &c., upon condition (in part) that the state should, by a clause in its constitution, or an ordinance irrevocable without the consent of the United

States, provide among other things, that no tax should be imposed on lands—the property of the United States; and

Whereas, by section 2, of article 2, of the constitution of the state of Wisconsin, the said proposition was accepted, ratified, and confirmed in the manner required by said act of congress, and the state prohibited from imposing taxes upon land the property of the United States, whereby the compact between the two governments became perfect, and the government of the United States bound in good faith to pay the said five per cent. according to the terms of said proposition; and

Whereas, there is now due this state on account of said five per cent. of the net proceeds of the sales of the public lands lying within its limits about two hundred and seventy thousand dollars which the United States government has refused to pay after repeated application for the payment thereof by the proper authorities of the state; therefore

Resolved, by the Senate, the Assembly concurring, That the obstinate refusal of the United States to keep and perform the said compact on its part, has released the state from the obligations thereof, and that the state can without a violation of good faith, and in justice to itself, ought to tax for the support of the state government all lands within its limits belonging to the United States, until such five per cent. is paid to the state in accordance with the spirit and intent of said compact, and that it is expedient to tax said lands accordingly.

Approved March 5, 1859.

NUMBER III.

JOINT RESOLUTION relative to the protection of American citizens, native or adopted, while without the jurisdiction of the United States.

Whereas, it is the duty of the government of the United States to protect its citizens, whether native or adopted, while residing or traveling in foreign countries, either for business or pleasure; and

Whereas, this government has, in several instances, manifested its unwillingness to interfere between foreign governments and citizens of this republic when the latter have been imprisoned or detained by the former, although they were guilty of no crime; Therefore, be it

Resolved, by the Senate and Assembly of the State of Wisconsin, That our senators in congress be instructed