

Which lands are granted and belong to this state, by virtue of an act of congress passed September 28, 1850, contained in sections 2,479 and 2,480 of the revised statutes of the United States.

*Resolved, further,* That the governor be requested to apply to the secretary of the interior of the United States, to have the unsurveyed bottom lands east of the main channel of the Mississippi river, in town eleven north, of range seven west of the fourth principal meridian, surveyed and platted, and to issue to the state of Wisconsin patents for such of the lands in said township as are overflowed at certain seasons of the year, and thereby made unfit for cultivation.

Approved February 21, 1878.

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[No. 9, A.]

No. 3.

JOINT RESOLUTION relating to the remonetization of silver.

*Resolved, by the Assembly, the Senate concurring,* That every consideration of public policy demands the immediate restoration of the silver dollar to its former rank, as a legal tender for all debts, public and private, as it existed prior to February 12, 1873, with detriment to no one, but of acknowledged benefit to the whole people, and our senators in congress are hereby instructed, and our representatives in congress are requested, to use all proper and honorable means to secure the passage of a bill so restoring the law.

*Resolved,* That all indebtedness, public or private, created prior to July 14th, 1870, and which was by its terms payable in coin, is payable either in gold or silver coin, at option, and all government bonds issued since July 14th, 1870, are payable as recited on the face of the bonds, to wit: "This bond is issued in accordance with the provisions of an act of congress, entitled 'An act to authorize the refunding of the national debt,' approved July 14th, 1870, amended by an act, approved January 20th, 1871, and is redeemable at the pleasure of the United States after the first day of September, A. D. 1891, in coin of the standard value of the United States on said July 14th, 1870, with interest in such coin from the day of date thereof," etc.

*Resolved,* That where the word "coin" is thus used, is meant gold and silver coin; a dollar of gold being 25.8 grains, and a silver dollar 412.5 grains, both nine-tenths fine, and it is the right of the people to discharge their obligations in the exact manner specified, in all contracts entered into.

*Resolved,* That if after the full and unconditional restoration of the law relating to the silver dollar, it should be found there was

any considerable difference between the value of dollars in gold and silver, we should regard it as a wise policy to re-adjust the weight of the two coins, either by increasing the weight of silver, or decreasing the weight of gold, as proposed by the honorable John Sherman in 1868, or both, so as to secure their harmonious circulation as the money of account of the United States; but in the opinion of this legislature, it will be impossible to determine their relative value, until the two metals shall have been placed upon an equal footing, by a restoration of the law, in relation to the silver dollar as it stood prior to February 12th, 1873.

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[No. 18, S.]

No. 4.

JOINT RESOLUTION to amend the patent laws.

*Resolved, by the Senate, the Assembly concurring,* That our present patent laws are unjust, oppressive, the cause of much litigation and expense to the people.

*Resolved,* That our senators in congress are hereby instructed, and our representatives in congress are requested to support such legislation as will relieve the people from the oppression of patent right monopolies.

*Resolved,* That the owners of patents should have recourse for damages only upon the manufacturers, and not upon those who use the article patented.

*Resolved,* To prevent monopoly, that the manufacture of all articles should be free to all, by the manufacturer paying a reasonable royalty to the owner of the patent.

*Resolved,* That the secretary of state be directed to transmit copies of these resolutions to each of our senators and members in congress.

Approved March 19, 1878.

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[No. 52, A.]

No. 5.

JOINT RESOLUTION relating to the claim of E. A. Calkins.

*Resolved by the Assembly, the Senate concurring,* That it is hereby declared as the only intent and object of this legislature in the passage of senate bill number forty-one, entitled "A bill to complete the payment of a certain award and adjusted account," to provide for the payment to Elias A. Calkins, of the sum of three thousand two hundred and eighty-one dollars and forty-two cents,