

SENATE No. 6.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, BOSTON, January 10, 1866.

To the Honorable the Senate.

I have the honor to transmit herewith, a communication from His Excellency the Governor of Illinois, making an appeal in behalf of the National Lincoln Monument Association.

Also, a Joint Resolution of the Legislature of Vermont, "asking an appropriation, by Congress, to endow Female Colleges in the several States," transmitted to me by His Excellency the Governor of Vermont.

ALEX. H. BULLOCK.

State of Illinois.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, SPRINGFIELD, Sept. 30, 1865.

To His Excellency, JOHN A. ANDREW, *Governor of Massachusetts* :

A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the National Lincoln Monument Association, adopted at the last meeting, requires the President and Secretary of the Association to make an appeal in behalf of the Association to the Governors of the several States and Territories of the Union, and through them to the legislature and people of their respective States and Territories.

The purpose of this appeal is to bring officially to your notice, and to the notice of the people of your State, the organization of this Association, and the object we have in view, viz. : to erect over the remains of Abraham Lincoln, late President of the United States, in Oak Ridge Cemetery, near the city of Springfield, Ill., a suitable and enduring monument to his memory ; and to request that you will, in some way, bring the subject generally to the notice of the people of your State, and, if consistent with your views, and you shall believe its importance and character will justify it, to especially call the attention of the legislature of your State to the subject.

We do not deem it necessary to suggest any plan to you, by which subscriptions may be raised, preferring to leave this matter to your own discretion and control. We will be pleased to correspond with you at any time upon the subject, and to give you any information or explanation that may be required.

The National Lincoln Monument Association was formally organized on the 11th day of May, 1865, at Springfield, Ill.,

under an Act of the legislature of our State, approved Feb. 25, 1859. The articles of association, under the provisions of that law, have been filed in the office of the Secretary of State, and are now public records. We have obtained from the city of Springfield, a deed to about six acres of most beautiful grounds adjoining Oak Ridge Cemetery, accessible at all seasons of the year, with such a location and such advantages, as to make it, in time, one of the most enchanting and lovely spots upon earth. The remains of Mr. Lincoln are already temporarily entombed upon these grounds, from which they will never be removed, except by the consent of the Association. It is our intention, at the proper time, to consult the very best taste and talent of the country before selecting the design for the monument.

Since its organization, the Association has been chiefly controlled by the idea that voluntary donations would, in a reasonable time, secure the necessary funds to build the monument. In this way we have — chiefly from soldiers and sailors, and from Sabbath schools, and other similar benevolent and educational societies, and from private sources — received about fifty-three thousand dollars.

We are now impressed with the opinion that a solemn duty devolves upon us—the necessity of inviting, from a larger field, assistance to enable us to carry out the original design, of erecting over the remains of Mr. Lincoln, a monument which shall suitably represent his great name and high character, as well as the patriotism and dignity of the great nation he so faithfully served.

As time passes on, other plans, to do like honor to him, will fail and be forgotten, having been supplanted by the all engrossing requirements of passing events. Under these peculiar circumstances, *this* Association, near his last resting-place, in the city of his home, with his sacred remains in its keeping, feels that its relations to this sacred trust, requires us to spare no effort to give this great work a national character, and certain and complete success.

As the object is a national one, to honor the memory of a national man, endeared to the whole country by his sacrifices to preserve the National Union, we do not hesitate to appeal to the nation to aid us, by reasonable subscriptions, to build this monument; we dislike to begin it with the sum now at our

disposal. At least two hundred and fifty thousand dollars will be necessary to build the monument in the proper spirit, and consistently with the great character to be represented by it.

In this spirit, with these views and with this honorable purpose, we appeal to you, Governor, and to the generous people of your State, to assist us to honor this good man; to assist his old neighbors and friends about his old home, where, for so many years, he was the joy and pride of all who knew him, now that he is dead, to build over his resting-place, this lasting memorial to his great and acknowledged virtues. Known by none better than they, but loved by all who knew him, the friend of liberty and the firm friend of his country through all the days and years of a long and laborious life, here his virtues show brightest; here his character was moulded; here he was first known to the world; here he received the highest earthly honor given to mortal man; and here, in the midst of those old friends, beneath the soil of that country he served so well, he sleeps his last sleep; in this quiet city, in the very heart of his own State, let him rest forever. It was his living and last wish. Here, too, let that monument be erected, which cannot honor him, but which will serve, in the long years of the future, to mark the spot, and hold the ashes of this noble man of nature sacred.

Again we appeal to the nation to aid us, and to your own noble State, especially, to give the subject considerate attention, and to this Association such encouragement as shall assure us that we may go forward with the great work before us, never despairing until the last stone is laid.

R. J. OGLESBY,

President of Association and Governor.

CLINTON L. CONKLING, *Secretary.*

JOINT RESOLUTION,

ASKING AN APPROPRIATION BY CONGRESS TO ENDOW
FEMALE COLLEGES, IN THE SEVERAL STATES.

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont :

That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be, and are hereby, requested to use their influence to procure a donation of lands by Congress, to endow Female Colleges in the several States.

Resolved, That we hereby invite and urgently recommend the legislatures of the several States to co-operate with this State in procuring from the Federal Government a grant of lands for the aforesaid purpose.

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be, and he is hereby, requested to transmit a copy of the foregoing resolutions to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, and to each of the legislatures of all the loyal States.

JOHN W. STEWART,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

A. B. GARDNER,

President of the Senate.

State of Vermont.

SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE, MONTPELIER, }
November, A.D. 1865. }

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Joint Resolution passed by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont at the October session, held A. D. 1865.

Given under my hand and the seal of this office, this sixth day of November, A. D. 1865.

GEORGE NICHOLS,
Secretary of State.