

have given it as their unanimous opinion, that the first indispensable step towards the obtaining of good common schools is the institution of Normal schools, for the supply of a greater number of competent teachers.

Your petitioners are satisfied that there is no portion of the territory of the United States, which possesses greater agricultural and mechanical resources. The diffusion of practical knowledge among the industrial classes of the settlers of Kansas, by the endowment of departments for the use of their professions, it is believed will add a saving of from one-fourth to one-half to the profits of the labor now employed in these pursuits, while we may save an equal amount in the material wasted or misused in all the mechanical arts--especially in the architecture of houses, bridges, and other structures. It is believed that the minds of a large portion of the youth of our land may be developed and disciplined as well and as fully, while turned towards these important and practical subjects, pertaining to agriculture, mechanics, civil engineering, architecture, etc., as when directed to other pursuits. In our new country we also require schools for law, medicine, etc., which, when connected with such an institution, will make a perfect university, established in some central portion of our Territory. Connected with, and as a second system, we propose the establishment of four seminaries--one in each of four equal divisions of Kansas. For the establishment and endowment of this university, your petitioners pray that an appropriation of two hundred and fifty thousand acres of land be made; and for the establishment and endowment of the four seminaries, we would petition your honorable body to appropriate one hundred thousand acres for each seminary; said lands to be selected before the lands of Kansas come into market, by commissioners appointed by the Governor; and to be held in reserve for this special purpose, till the Territory becomes a State. Then, by the Legislature of the State, to be placed in the hands of trustees, to be disposed of under the direction of the State government, and to be protected by such other laws as your honorable body may deem necessary in order to its proper appropriation for the use intended; and thus provide the means for the liberal and practical education of our industrial classes and their teachers, in their various pursuits, for the production of knowledge and literature in these pursuits, and developing, to the fullest and most perfect extent, the resources of our soil and our arts, the virtue and intelligence of the people, and the true glory of our common country.

In behalf and by order of the Mass Convention of citizens of Kansas, we humbly pray.

W. F. M. ARNY,
C. ROBINSON,
PHILIP P. FOWLER,
F. A. HUNT,
G. W. BROWN.