

JOINT RESOLUTIONS

Of the Senate and Assembly of the State of New-York,

IN RELATION TO

ENLARGING THE LOCKS ON THE ERIE CANAL.

At a joint meeting of the Canal Committees of the Senate and Assembly, to take into consideration the increased and constantly increasing tonnage on our canals, held in the Senate Chamber, March 25th, 1863, and adjourned from time to time, for consultation upon the subject, they have agreed upon the following resolution, which, if adopted and carried out, will inaugurate a policy that will continue to this State its share of western trade and tonnage; therefore

Resolved (if the Assembly concur), That the State Engineer and Surveyor, under the advice and direction of the Canal Board, cause a survey and estimate to be made of the cost of constructing one tier of locks on the Erie Canal, from Hudson River to lake Erie, and one tier of locks on the Oswego Canal, from Syracuse to Lake Ontario, and one tier of locks on the Champlain Canal, from Troy to Whitehall, and one tier of locks on the Cayuga and Seneca Canals, from Montezuma to Cayuga Lake; the said locks to be constructed in a permanent manner of stone, or of wood, or of wood and stone combined, and to be not less than twenty-six feet wide in the chamber, and not less than two hundred and twenty-five feet in length between the gates; the cost of each kind of lock to be estimated separately; to be located along side of, or near to the present locks, and calculated for seven feet depth of water in the canal.

Also, to cause a survey and estimate of the quantity of excavation and other work connected therewith, necessary to maintain fifty-two feet width of bottom, and seven feet depth of water in the canals above named.

And also, if any new feeders or improvement to the present feeders will be necessary upon any portion of the canals, to bring these enlarged locks, when constructed, into use: if so, upon what portion of the canals, and the cost of the same: and to report separately on each of the

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above items to the next Legislature, on the first day of its session; and the said board shall appoint so many engineers and assistants, and fix their compensation, as they may deem necessary to carry out the purpose of this resolution.

CHARLES COOK,
RICHARD B. CONNOLLY,
ALMANZOR HUTCHINSON. } Canal Committee of the Senate.

JOSEPH BREED,
E. TRIMMER,
A. C. MATTOON,
T. A. HOPKINS,
J. F. BOOKSTAYER,
A. C. MCGOWAN,
C. HULETT. } Canal Committee of the Assembly.

The improvement sought by the foregoing resolutions is very important to this and western states, and I earnestly recommend their passage.

W. B. TAYLOR, *State Engineer and Surveyor.*

The undersigned approve of the above resolution, and respectfully recommend its adoption by the Legislature.

WM. W. WRIGHT,
W. J. SKINNER. } Canal Commissioners of the State of
New-York.

RESOLUTION

IN RELATION TO

Enlarging the Locks on the Erie Canal so as to admit of the Passage of Gunboats.

Whereas, The construction of said locks of the dimensions above specified, will materially promote the interests of the United States, in providing for the common defense, augmenting the national commerce, foreign and domestic, and strengthening the bonds of the National Union; and whereas, the General Government may deem it desirable and important to secure, without delay, the right of perpetual passage through said canals with locks thus enlarged, free from tolls, for the vessels, gunboats, troops and munitions, military and naval, of the United States, and to render its fair equivalent to the State by contributing justly to the cost of the work; therefore

Resolved, That the Governor be and hereby is empowered and requested to invite the President of the United States to select and detail a competent engineer in behalf and at the expense of the General Government, to consult with the engineers so to be appointed by the Canal Board, in respect to the surveys mentioned in the preceding resolution, and as to the mode of constructing the work so as most effectually to promote the national interests.