

Hope College

Hope College Digital Commons

Van Raalte Papers: 1850-1859

Van Raalte Papers

4-23-1850

A Petition to the Hon. John S. Barry, Governor of the State of Michigan, Signed by Inhabitants of the County of Allegan, Concerning the Plank Road for Which the State Had Appropriated Funds in 1848.

Inhabitants of the County of Allegan

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.hope.edu/vrp_1850s

The original documents are held in the Archives of Michigan. This digitized material is intended for personal research/study only. The original documents may not be reproduced for commercial use in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, without permission in writing from [Archives of Michigan](#).

Recommended Citation

Inhabitants of the County of Allegan, "A Petition to the Hon. John S. Barry, Governor of the State of Michigan, Signed by Inhabitants of the County of Allegan, Concerning the Plank Road for Which the State Had Appropriated Funds in 1848." (1850). *Van Raalte Papers: 1850-1859*. 176.
https://digitalcommons.hope.edu/vrp_1850s/176

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Van Raalte Papers at Hope College Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Van Raalte Papers: 1850-1859 by an authorized administrator of Hope College Digital Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@hope.edu.

April 23, 1850

Allegan Michn

A petition to the Hon. John S. Barry, Governor of the State of Michigan, signed by inhabitants of the County of Allegan, concerning the plank road for which the state had appropriated funds in 1848. "One thousand acres from Grand haven to Black Lake which has been expended & a superb good road been constructed. One thousand acres from Black lake to Allegan. Flava? J. Littlejohn appointed special commissioner to expend the same. For some reason the said Littlejohn did not lay said road where it was intended by the Legislature. & on the second cay of April 1849. Littlejohn was removed & his acts repealed & Ira Chaffee of Allegan appointed special commissioner with instruction to proceed without delay to resurvey said road. Chaffee did not resurvey yet drew \$1,150 from the auditor general and used up the money. There is still no road between Holland and Allegan even though some 5000 inhabitants live in the Colony. A mail route from Grand Haven to Allegan is to commence July 1. "There are several miles of said rout? that will have to be carried through the woods by a line of marked trees." A road is vitally needed. The petition is signed by 41 men including John R. Kellogg.

Original in the Archives of the State of Michigan, RG 44, box 223, fldr. 8

Allegan Mich^y April 23^d 1850.

Hon^r John S. Barry, Governor of the state of Michigan
We the undersigned inhabitants of the county of Allegan
having a great interest in certain appropriations of lands
made by the Legislature of 1848. For making a state
road from Grand Haven to Allegan. One thousand
acres from Grand Haven to Black Lake which has been
expended & a superb good road been constructed.
One thousand acres from Black Lake to Allegan. Flannan, J.
Littlejohn appointed special commissioner to expend the same
For some reason the said Littlejohn did not lay said road
where it was intended by the Legislature. & on the second
day of April 1849. Littlejohn was removed & his acts repeal-
ed & Ira Chaffee of Allegan appointed special commissioner
with instruction to proceed without delay to resurvey said
road. Beginning at Black Lake at the south termination of
the Grand Haven road, run & establish a road the most direct
& feasible rout so that it should be a continuous line from
Grand Haven to Allegan. But the said Ira. Chaffee, though
often requested, utterly refused to re-survey & establish said road
& But, did on the 14th day of December last make certificates and
drawed on the auditor general land warrants to the amount
of \$1150,00 & has used up the same without resurveying or
establishing or making any part of said road as contemplate
in said act. There is at Black Lake & the vicinity of the Holland
Colony 5000. inhabitants there is no direct road from Black
Lake to Allegan so there is no passing or repassing. In contem-
-plation of the state road being made. They have established a
United States mail rout from Allegan to Grand Haven to
commence the first of July. There is several miles of said rout
that will have to be carried through the woods by a line of
marked trees. We the undersigned would petition your Hon^r
if it is consistant with your official duties to order an
investigation of the matter so that we can have the benefit
of the appropriation to make our road

And if it is not consistant with your official duties
 be so good sir as to inform us our legal course to seek redress
 of grievances.

Walter Billings
 Lemius B Holcomb
 John M. Heath
 J. P. Shulces
 John C. Ballitt
 George P. Heath
 Watson Brown
 Samuel Bigby
 J. S. Coats
 Giles H. Hill
 Richard Cook
 John H. Billings
 J. D. Nichols
 Henry T. New
 Charles T. Billings

James M. Heath.
 John R. Kellogg

Samuel Dickinson
 Calvin White
 Horace Wilson
 H. Lay
 C. Wilkes
 W. L. Jones
 F. S. Jones
 E. E. Mene
 R. J. M. Ford
 James F. Hooy
 J. B. Bailey
 M. S. Shelman
 Cha. E. Watson
 Geo. L. Lay
 Henry Staring
 Simon Howe
 Daniel Rockabough
 David Smith
 Harney Cole
 Joseph Bush
 Mary Pullen
 Oliver Parkman
 Daniel Ammenman

Grandville & Hol. Col. all drawn
 Grand Haven & de do
 Allegan & Hol. Col. underman \$18,36

2500
 18
 2500
 2500

556.00
 50.00
 100.00
 100.00

as to the facts I do not know
 as statements as generally made
 by others but with any investigation
 James C. Hail

THIS COPY WAS FOUND IN:

RG/MS 44

BOX/VOL. 223

FOLDER/PAGE 8

STATE ARCHIVES OF MICHIGAN