Memorial of the Journeymen Stone Cutters Association of the Pacific Coast

Whereas — there was a Law passed at the session of the State Legislature of 1866 and 70 Enacting that all State work should be done by the day, but its Effect is nullified by the passage of Special acts authorizing contract work

Whereas — since the passage of said act there has been the following Public Buildings constructed under the head of special Legislation
First the Deaf and Dumb building which was partially distroyed in 1868 by the falling of the walls they being constructed in such a manner that they could not support the roof, and two years after, the State by relief acts Paid the original contractor forty Thousand $40,000 to rebuild the same walls and in the year 1875 when the building took fire through defective flues the entire walls fell in complete mass of confusion wherein of said building had been constructed with

half care as to plans and Specifications the walls would stand for ages to testify to the solidity of their construction

Second. The State normal school erected at San Jose which has been a disgrace to this commonwealth since its first inception and we believe it is to day after considerable expense to the State in patching up a bad job.

Third The College of Letters Building of the University of California which the Public Investigation of the Building committee of the Legislature of 74 and 75 proved to be the poorest constructed Building (both as to workmanship and material) that could possibly be constructed with any show of decency and a personal inspection from your Hon; Body will show the most glaring proof of the foregoing

Fourth The Napa Insane Asylum which was also by special act at an estimated cost by the architects whose Plans were approved $600,000 but the State was compelled to pay some $1,400 000 an excess

but the State was compelled to pay some $1,400,000 an excess over original cost of $800,000 and to day there is portions of the Building which is fast decaying

5th is the Branch State prison Building at Folsom where the contractor gave bonds to finish said building but finally collapsed cheating all the poor workingmen and his creditors out of their hard Earned money when the state commenced suit against his bondsmen to perform the contract, they instituted a counter suit for damages in the sum of $36,000 and was granted judgment in the sixth district court of Sacramento

6th is the present contract for the same work which is being carried on by just such said actions

The Memorilists could give a great many instances in the contract work on the Pacific coast which is a living disgrace of which Your Honorable body is perfectly cognogant as they have been pretty thoroly ventilated in the Public Press.

E. Westine
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Trade & Labor Unions

Memorial
Relative to
Contracts &c

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