State of Maine.

Resolved, providing for an amendment of the constitution so as to allow soldiers absent from the State to vote for governor, senators, representatives and county officers.

Resolved,

Two thirds of both houses concurring and deeming it necessary, that the following be proposed as amendments to the constitution of this State, which, when approved and adopted in the manner provided by the constitution, shall become a part thereof, viz:

Section one of Article two shall be amended by adding thereto the following words: "No person, however, shall be deemed to have lost his residence by reason of his absence from the State in the military service of the United States or of this State,"

Section four of Article two shall be amended by adding thereto the following provision: "But citizens of the State absent from the same in the military service of the United States or of this State, and not in the regular army of the United States, being otherwise qualified electors, shall be allowed to vote on the Tuesday next after the first Monday of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, for governor and senators, and their votes shall be counted and allowed in the same manner, and with the same effect, as if given on the second Monday of September in that year. And they shall be allowed to vote for governor, senators and representatives, on the second alternate day of September annually, thereafter forever, in the manner herein provided.

On the day of election a poll shall be opened at every place within the State where a regiment, battalion, battery, company, or detachment of not less than twenty soldiers from the State of Maine may be found or stationed, and every citizen of each State of the age of twenty-one years, in such military service, shall be entitled to vote at a poll, and he shall be considered as voting in the city, town, plantation, and county in this State where he resided when he entered the service. The vote shall be taken by regiments when it can conveniently be done, when not so convenient, any detachment or part of a regiment, not less than twenty in number, and any battery or part thereof numbering twenty or more, shall be entitled to vote wherever they may be. The three
Ranking officers of such regiment, battalion, battery, company, or part of either, as the case may be, acting as such on the day of election, shall be supervisors of elections. Other officers, three non-commissioned officers according to their seniority, shall be such supervisors. If any officer or non-commissioned officer shall neglect or refuse to act, the next in rank shall take his place. In case there are no officers or non-commissioned officers present, or if they refuse to act, the electors present, not less than twenty, may choose by written ballot to fill vacancies and the persons chosen shall be supervisors of elections. All supervisors shall be first sworn to support the constitution of the United States and of this State, and faithfully and impartially to perform the duties of supervisors of elections. Each is authorized to administer the necessary oath to the others, and only scales thereof shall be annexed to the lists of voters by them to be made and returned into the office of the Secretary of State of this State as hereinafter provided. The polls shall be open and closed at such hours as the supervisors, or a majority of them, shall direct: Provided, however, that due notice and sufficient time shall be given for all voters in the regiment, battalion, battery, detachment, company, or part of either, as the case may be, to vote. Regimental and field officers shall be entitled to vote with their respective commands. When not in actual command, such officers, and also all general officers and staff officers, and all surgeons, assistant surgeons and Chaplains, shall be entitled to vote at any place where polls are open.

The supervisors of elections shall prepare a ballot-box, or other suitable receptacle for the ballots. Upon one side of every ballot shall be printed or written the name of the county, and also of the city, town, or plantation of this State in which is the residence of the person proposing to vote. Upon the other side shall be the names of the persons to be voted for, and the officer or officers which he they are intended to fill. And before receiving any vote, the supervisors, or a majority of them, must be satisfied of the legal and civil ship of the person claiming to vote, and that he has in fact a residence in the County, city, town or plantation which are printed or written on the vote, offered by him. If his right to vote is challenged, they may require him to make his answers under oath to all interrogatories touching his age, citizenship, residence, and right to vote, and shall hear any other evidence offered by him, or by those who challenge his right. They shall keep correct poll-lists of the names of all persons allowed to vote, and of their respective places of residence in this State, and also the number of the regiment and company to which belonging; which lists shall be...
cut off by them, or by a majority of them, to be correct, and that such residence is in accordance with the intent and purpose of the residence of each voter on his vote. They shall mark the name of every person before he is allowed to vote, and the check mark shall be plainly made against his name on the poll lists. They shall vote, count, and publicly declare the votes at the head of their respective commands, or on the day of the election, unless prevented by the public enemy, and, in that case, as soon thereafter as may be, and on the same day of said declaration they shall form a list of the persons voted for, with the number of votes for each person against his name, and the office which he was intended to fill, and shall sign and seal up each list and cause the same, together with the poll lists aforesaid, to be delivered into the office of the secretary of State as aforesaid, or on or before the first day of December in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, and on a before the fifteenth day of November annually thereafter forever.

The legislature of this State may pass any law additional to the foregoing provisions, if any shall, in practice be found necessary, in order to more fully to carry into effect the purpose thereof.

Section five of Article four, part first, shall be amended by inserting after the word "meetings" in the first line, the words "within this State.

The same section shall also be amended by striking out all after the word "town meeting" in the tenth line (as printed in the revised statutes of 1857) to and including the word "election" in the thirteenth line. The same section shall also be amended by striking out all after the word "constitution" in the twenty first line, and inserting in place thereof the following provisions: "And fair copies of the lists of votes shall be attested by the deacons and town clerks of towns, and the assessors of plantations, and sealed up in their town and plantation meetings, and the town and plantation clerks respectively, shall cause the same to be delivered into the secretary's office thirty days at least before the first Wednesday of February annually. And the Governor and council shall examine the returns of each town clerk and of all lists of votes of citizens in the military service, returns to the secretary's office as provided in the amendment to Article Second, section four of the constitution; and twenty days before the said first Wednesday of January annually, shall issue a demand to the persons as shall appear to be elected by a plurality of all the votes returned, to attend and take their seats, but all such lists shall be laid before the house of representatives.
on the first Wednesday of January annually, and they shall finally determine who are elected.

Section three of Article four, part second, shall be amended by inserting after the word "voting" in the first line, the words "within this State".

Section four of Article four, part second, shall be amended by adding after the word "list" in the second line, the words, "and also the list of votes of citizens in the military service returned into the secretary's office." The same section shall also be amended by striking out the word "in," and inserting in place thereof the word "for.

Section three of Article five, part first, shall be amended by adding after the words "Senate and House of Representatives," the words "and also the list of votes of citizens in the military service, returned into the secretary's office."

Article first of the amendments to the Constitution of this State hereby adopted, shall be amended by striking out all after the word "polls" in the thirteenth line, to and including the word "election" in the twenty-first line.

Article ninth of said amendments shall be amended by adding at the end thereof the following provisions:

"Sec. 11. But citizens of this State absent from the State in the military service of the United States or of the State, and not in the regular army of the United States, being otherwise qualified electors, shall be allowed to vote for judge and Register of Probate, Sheriffs, and all other county officers, on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, and their votes shall be counted and allowed in the same manner and with the same effect as if given on the second Monday of September in that year. And they shall be allowed to vote for all such officers on the second Tuesday in September, annually thereafter. And the returns shall be made at the same time and in the same manner, and the names of the several candidates shall be printed or written on the same ballots with those for Governor, Senators and Representatives, as provided in the amendment to Section four of Article second of this Constitution."
State of Maine.

Resolves,

Resolved, That the aldermen of cities and selectmen of the several towns and the assessors of plantation, in this State, be, and they are hereby directed to notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations in the manner prescribed by law, to give in their vote at the annual meeting in September next, upon the amendments proposed in the foregoing resolve; and the question shall be, shall the constitution be amended as proposed by a resolution of the legislature providing that citizens of the State about three years in the military service of the United States, or of this State, shall not be deemed to have lost their residence in this State by reason of such absence, but shall be allowed to vote for Governor, Senator, and county officers on the Tuesday next after the first Monday of December in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, and their votes shall be counted and allowed in the same manner and with the same effect as given in the second Monday of September in that year; and shall be allowed to vote for Governor, Senator, Representatives, and county officers on the second Monday of September annually thereafter in the manner and under the regulations in said act be provided. And the inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations shall vote by ballot on said question, those in favor of said amendments expressing it by the word "Yes" upon their ballots, and those opposed to the amendment expressing it by the word "No" upon their ballots, and the ballots shall be received, voted upon, declared in open view, town and plantation meetings, and in keeping with said act shall be made by the aldermen, selectmen and assessors of the several cities, towns and plantations, and returned to the office of the Secretary of State within forty-eight days after said election. The Governor and council shall examine and count the same forthwith after the expiration of said forty-eight days, and if it shall appear that a majority of the inhabitants voting on the question, are in favor of such amendment, it shall become a part of the constitution. And the Governor shall
thereupon issue his proclamation making known the fact, and shall
cause the same to be published in the State papers at Augusta, in each of the daily papers published
in the morning at Bangor, and in the daily papers at Portland, and in the bucculent Daily Journal at Lewiston, for

Resolved,

That the polls shall be opened on the second Monday of September next, at nine o'clock, in all the cities, towns, and plantations
in this State, and shall be kept open until four o'clock in the afternoon, and no adjournment or interruption whatever shall take place
until the same be closed.

Resolved,

That the Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish the several cities, towns, and plantations, blank returns in
conformity with the foregoing resolution, accompanied with a copy

In Senate. March 19, 1864.

Passed and passed to be engrossed. Lyle

Read twice, and passed. The

Impressed in concurrence,

Nem. con.

Clerk

Read twice and passed. The

Impressed in concurrence.

Nem. con.

Clerk.