

STATE OF MAINE.

The Committee

to which was referred the Petition of Charles C. Cone &
174 others, Samuel Harris & others, praying that
this Legislature may instruct ~~the~~ senators
& request ~~the~~ Representatives in Congress
to use all proper means to effect the
entire abolition of Slavery in the
District of Columbia

have had the same under consideration, and ask leave
to Report, ~~that the petitioner have leave to report~~
The resolves which ^{are} herewith submitted.

Chairman.

E. Holmes per order

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

March 25 1837

Read and accepted.

Sent up for concurrence.

W. H. Hamlin Speaker.

IN SENATE,

183

Read and concurred.

President.

Report of the
Committee on
the petitions of sundry
persons respecting the
abolition of slavery
in the District of
Columbia.

The Committee

to which was referred the petition of

praying that

which is herewith submitted.

Chairman

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1837

Read and accepted.

Read up to the committee.

Speaker.

IN SENATE

183

Read and concurred.

President

STATE OF MAINE

TO THE HONORABLE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
STATE OF MAINE.

The undersigned, inhabitants of the Town of Fryeburg, Lowell, & Sweden respectfully represent that the District of Columbia, the territory ceded by the State of Maryland and Virginia to the United States, for the seat of its General Government, is the Mart of a Slave-trade as atrocious as any which has ever disgraced human society. Notwithstanding Congress has the right, by the Federal Constitution, to abolish Slavery and the slave-trade within said District; notwithstanding the people of the non-slave holding states have a common interest in the jurisdiction of said District, yet Slave Factories are established at the very Seat of Government; where slaves are constantly collecting from the neighboring States, and thence regularly shipped in cargoes, or sent in droves to the remote South. Thus the District of Columbia is made one of the greatest slave markets in the world.

The public prisons of the U. S., maintained by the people of Maine as truly as by those of any other State, are made use of by the Slave Dealer, to store the victims of the American slave-trade.

The guilt of tolerating these enormities rests upon the whole American people, and on every individual, who will not exert himself to remove them.

Although Congress has the power of legislation on this subject, yet it is improbable that it will ever exercise this power until the people, of the several States require it.

Your Petitioners do not consider it necessary to offer any considerations to show that slavery and the slave-trade are inhuman and unjust — hostile to the natural and inalienable rights of man — and inconsistent with permanent prosperity, and national honor; — since your Honors are doubtless already fully aware, how the traffic in our fellow-men, is estimated by the Christian and civilized world.

Wherefore your petitioners pray that your honorable body would instruct the senators and request the Representatives, in Congress from the State of Maine, to use all proper means to effect the entire abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia; and as in duty bound will ever pray.

Charles Stone

Daniel B. Randall

Francis Hamlin

Davide Stone

Hiram Stone

James Moore

Sylvanus Eastman

Joseph L. Barker

Charles Pray

Joseph Colby

Saml Emery

Silas Heald

Abraham A. Barker

Salomon Heald

Grace Eastman

Joan Senter

Stephen Barker

Adison Hamlin

Nathl Hutchins

John Hamlin

Nathl Hutchins Jr

Nathan A Bradbury

James Warren

W. R. Farrington

Calvin Hor

Ephraim Heald

Obed Stearns

Tim. C. Pray

Daniel H. Warren

J. B. Emerson

Israel Hills

Stephen Charles

Stephen B. Warren

Josiah Heald

Josiah Hor

James Stone

Benjamin Woodman

J. C. Chandler

Andrews Woodbury

John Morrill

Nathan A Bradbury

Abraham Andrews Jr

Abel Heald

Leon Kimball

Josiah Heald Jr

Moses Kilgore

John Hamlin

James Elliot

Benjamin Stearns

J. M. R. Farrington

Salmon Pray

Simon F. Andrews

James L. P. McAlister

Salomon Stearns

Daniel H. Warren

Joan Eastman

Josiah L. Barker

Simcting C. Pray

Davide Gunn

Davide S. Stone

John Evans

Thomas Southgate

John Johnston

Samuel Sholey

Wm Haggood

Nathan Small

Isaac Asgood

Henry C. Paul

Edwin Haece

Elmer Lependen

Samuel Kelly

John D. Eastman

Daniel Roberts Jr

Whit L. Whiting

Carlton Hurd

Ruel Barrows

James O. Evans

Peter Walker

Russell Page

Samuel Souther

George B. Walker

James Walker

Isaac Warren

James Walker Jr

Mr. Evans

William Evans Jr

Thomas C. Evans

William H. Field

John H. Field

John L. Ry

Simon H. Field

Samuel L. Barker

Thos J. Evans

Thomas F. Perley

Calib L. Fessenden

95 males

Hannah E. Randall

Elmira Winslow

Martha Winslow

Betsy Hamlin

Sarah Perkins

Elizabeth Bless

Hannah Pray

Eliza Eastman

Elizabeth C. Coffin

Mehitable Chandler

Mary Eastman

Esther Heald

Eliza C. Jones

Phoebe Chandler

Betsy Chandler

Sally McDaniel

Mehitable Pray

Mehitable Stearns

Sarah F. Stearns

Abigail Milliken

Sally Senter

Mary Hamlin

Susan Woodbury

Mary Hutchins

Betsy Warren

Betsy Barker

Mary H. McIntire

Sarah Charles

Mehitable Dennis

Mehitable C. M. Kilgore

Sarah A. Andrews

Harriet Stone

Belinda T. Pratt

Sally Woodbury

Theresa McLellan

Betsy Kimball

Sally Andrews

Luz Heald

Sally Stearns

Susanne Eastman

Matilda E. M. Kilgore

Clarissa Thompson

Frances Hamlin

Anne Colby

Martha Hutchins

Sarah Andrews 47

Nancy K. Busnell

Julia A. Busnell

Caroline A. Busnell

Charles Busnell

Lucia M. Fisdwold

Hannah P. Fisdwold

Abraham Page

Betsy Colby

Mary Kelley

Sarah Keller

Hannah Hunkins

Mary Chase

Emma Chase

Mehitable Roberts

Sarah E. Chase

Lydia Roberts

Hannah Roberts

Martha Emery

Caroline Wilder

Louise Hurd

Eliza Clark

Betsy Hurd

Rosam. Baller

Lois Baller

Martha Whiting

Anne H. Barrows

Hannah Dana

Rebecca Fessenden

Anna P. Fessenden

Elizabeth C. Fessenden

Louisa M. Hove

Huldah P. Fessenden

79 females

95

174

Petition of
Charles C. Bone, & 174 other
^{persons} praying that the
Legislature may request
the Senators & Representa-
tives in Congress from
this State, to use all
proper means to effect
the entire removal of
Slavery & the Slave Trade
Trade in the District
of Columbia.

House of Representatives
February 28. 1837

Read and referred to Messrs.
Appleton of Putnam, Holmes
of Alfred, Goodenow of Paris
Holmes of Winthrop and
Gilden of Gardiner.

W. Hamilton Speaker

Appleton
Portland.

C

in the State of Mass.

To the Honorable the Senators & Representatives in Legisla-
ture assembled.

The undersigned Ladies of Winthrop, ask leave respectfully to represent, that the enslavement of several hundred of females in the District of Columbia & the Territories of the United States is a grievous evil & grossly inconsistent with the inherent & inalienable rights of man, as well as the free institutions of our country. They therefore pray you to ask the Senators & Representatives in Congress from this State to use their influence to best ^{advantage} ~~endeavors~~ to obtain from that body the removal of an ^{evil} ~~evil~~ reproachful to an enlightened, free, Christian government, and so oppressive & injurious to an unoffending class of human beings; & that they would exert themselves to have the slave trade carried on in the District of Columbia abolished.

They also pray, that they may be requested to attempt to effect the repeal of those laws, under the operation of which free colored citizens of the South, who visit the Capitol of this Republic, are liable to be sold into perpetual slavery because unable to prove their right to freedom.

They would also respectfully inquire of your honorable Body, whether some further legal provision cannot consistently be made to prevent or suppress mobs, got up to disturb, annoy, & injure the property & the persons of the loyal citizens of this State, ~~peaceably assembled to exercise the inalienable right of free discussion~~ & to afford them more competent protection, when peaceably assembled to exercise the invaluable right of free discussion. And as in duty bound
Winthrop, Feb. 18, 1837.

Mercy Lancaster
Ruth M. Mason
Lydia C. Bridgman
Lyndia W. May
Allison Stanley
Abigail M. Bean
Martha Lowell
Harriet G. Frost
Elizabeth Hoyt
Lydia May
Ann C. Smith
Adeline E. Barrell
Adeline S. Barrell
Mary ———
Prudence Thurston
Elizabeth Thurston

Ann M. Dight
Hannah Chandler
Mary C. Mitchell
Deborah W. Chandler
Sarah Dearborn
Sophia C. Norton
Mary Dealy
Catharine Heyland
Elizabeth Newman
Harriet C. Newman
Elizabeth A. Newman
Cynthia V. Winsmore
Priscilla Brown
Hannah W. Wood
S. M. Thayer
Dolly G. Savels

Olivia M. Brigham
Elizabeth A. Jones
Eunice Macaulay
Honey Prescott
Bethiah Howe
Sarah Prescott
Priscilla Sibby
O. W. Millican
Amelia W. Norris
Eveline Johnson
Olive L. Webb
Maria Kimball
Matilda Sewall
Fareiss Sewall
Lydia Curtis
Sarah E. Holmes

Cynthia Cotton

Sabrina J. Luce

Darius Harris

Mary J. Harris

Emily Harris

Rebecca Tyler

Elizabeth Harris

Hannah H. Harris

Olive Harris

Ann H. Warren

Petition of

Murey, Lancaster & 54
^{added to the}
others for additional
protection against
mobs, & also relating
to slavery in the District
of Columbia.

House of Representatives
March 6, 1837.

Read and referred to
the Committee who have
the Abolition of Slavery
in the District of Columbia
under consideration.

W. Hamilton Speaker

Select

E. Holmes

TO THE HONORABLE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
STATE OF MAINE.

The undersigned, inhabitants of the Town of *North Yarmouth* respectfully represent that the District of Columbia, the territory ceded by the State of Maryland and Virginia to the United States, for the seat of its General Government, is the Mart of a Slave-trade as atrocious as any which has ever disgraced human society. Notwithstanding Congress has the right, by the Federal Constitution, to abolish Slavery and the slave-trade within said District; notwithstanding the people of the non-slave holding states have a common interest in the jurisdiction of said District, yet Slave Factories are established at the very Seat of Government; where slaves are constantly collecting from the neighboring States, and thence regularly shipped in cargoes, or sent in droves to the remote South. Thus the District of Columbia is made one of the greatest slave markets in the world.

The public prisons of the U. S., maintained by the people of Maine as truly as by those of any other State, are made use of by the Slave Dealer, to store the victims of the American slave-trade.

The guilt of tolerating these enormities rests upon the whole American people, and on every individual, who will not exert himself to remove them.

Although Congress has the power of legislation on this subject, yet it is improbable that it will ever exercise this power until the people, of the several States require it.

Your Petitioners do not consider it necessary to offer any considerations to show that slavery and the slave-trade are inhuman and unjust — hostile to the natural and inalienable rights of man — and inconsistent with permanent prosperity, and national honor; — since your Honors are doubtless already fully aware, how the traffic in our fellow-men, is estimated by the Christian and civilized world.

Wherefore your petitioners pray that your honorable body would instruct the senators and request the Representatives, in Congress from the State of Maine, to use all proper means to effect the entire abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia; and as in duty bound will ever pray.

John W. Cook
Andrew Hayes
John Marshall
Rufus A. Chase
Jacob Loring
John Staples
Benjamin Mayfield
Larrabee Harris
Rufus B. Holden
John Marston

Samuel Hersey
Samuel Sargent
Edward G. Burton

Thomas Chase
Jeremiah Burton
Barzillai Sherman
Amos Good
Jacob Chase
Jeremiah Loring, jr
Alfred W. Hayes

Daniel Staples
Ruel West
Joseph W. Hayes
Joseph Hayes Jr
Hendell Hamilton
Jeremiah Loring
David G. G.

Samuel C. Loring
Samuel Chadwell
Nathan Plimpton

Jacob Hayes Jun
John Hayes

Sebah Bruce
William Hamilton Jun
David S. Marshall
David Parsons
John G. Herick

David Hayes

Levi Hayes

Samuel S. Hayes
Wm. Mitchell

Otis C. Mitchell

Benjamin Folsom

Jacob Hayes

William Hamilton

Abner Lusk

Jacob B. Lusk

Amariah Delano

David F. Fisher

Benjamin Cote

Saml. Bacon

Nathaniel Bacon

Stephen Porter
John Hamilton

Petition of John
W. Lusk and
others for the Abolition of Slavery in
the District of Columbia

In Senate. Feb 13, 1837.
Read and the further
consideration postponed
till February 8th 1837.

J. C. Talbot Cust

C. J. Ham

TO THE HONORABLE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
STATE OF MAINE.

The undersigned, inhabitants of the Town of *North Yarmouth* — respectfully represent that the District of Columbia, the territory ceded by the State of Maryland and Virginia to the United States, for the seat of its General Government, is the Mart of a Slave-trade as atrocious as any which has ever disgraced human society. Notwithstanding Congress has the right, by the Federal Constitution, to abolish Slavery and the slave-trade within said District; notwithstanding the people of the non-slave holding states have a common interest in the jurisdiction of said District, yet Slave Factories are established at the very Seat of Government; where slaves are constantly collecting from the neighboring States, and thence regularly shipped in cargoes, or sent in droves to the remote South. Thus the District of Columbia is made one of the greatest slave markets in the world.

The public prisons of the U. S., maintained by the people of Maine as truly as by those of any other State, are made use of by the Slave Dealer, to store the victims of the American slave-trade.

Tolerating these enormities rests upon the whole American people, and on every individual, who will not exert himself to remove them.

Although Congress has the power of legislation on this subject, yet it is improbable that it will ever exercise this power until the people, of the several States require it.

Your Petitioners do not consider it necessary to offer any considerations to show that slavery and the slave-trade are inhuman and unjust — hostile to the natural and inalienable rights of man — and inconsistent with permanent prosperity, and national honor; — since your Honors are doubtless already fully aware, how the traffic in our fellow-men, is estimated by the Christian and civilized world.

Wherefore your petitioners pray that your honorable body would instruct the senators and request the Representatives, in Congress from the State of Maine, to use all proper means to effect the entire abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia; and as in duty bound will ever pray.

Sam Harris
Albert Small
J. Loring
Joseph Wood
John Davis
~~*John Davis*~~

Albert Torrey
Mos. Thomas
David Field
Hiram Hatch
Philip Torrey
William Hatch
John Groves &c

John Butter
Benj. Pratt
Ladoc Humphrey
Daniel Parker
Benj. Gooch
Thomas Gooch
W. G. Harston
Reuben Byram
John R. Butter
Mathew Baker
Elijah Ross
Reuben Humphrey
John Sargent
Asa True

Daniel Bennet
Antemas Nick
William Russell
Edmund C. Lane
Richmond Loring
Levi Pratt
James Russell
Benjamin Borden
Samuel W. Small
Elbridge Mitchell
Francis Gates
William King

Petition of
Samuel Brown
and others praying
the Legislature to
request the Senate
and Representatives
in Congress to use
all proper means
to abolish slavery
and the slave trade
in the District
of Columbia

John W. Brown

Read the petition to the
Select Committee
have that such action
be taken as may be
considered proper
at the Senate
to the Senate
to the Senate

Wm. H. Smith

TO THE HONORABLE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
STATE OF MAINE.

The undersigned, inhabitants of the ^{City of} ~~Town of~~ *Portland* respectfully represent that the District of Columbia, the territory ceded by the State of Maryland and Virginia to the United States, for the seat of its General Government, is the Mart of a Slave-trade as atrocious as any which has ever disgraced human society. Notwithstanding Congress has the right, by the Federal Constitution, to abolish Slavery and the slave-trade within said District; notwithstanding the people of the non-slave holding states have a common interest in the jurisdiction of said District, yet Slave Factories are established at the very Seat of Government; where slaves are constantly collecting from the neighboring States, and thence regularly shipped in cargoes, or sent in droves to the remote South. Thus the District of Columbia is made one of the greatest slave markets in the world.

The public prisons of the U. S., maintained by the people of Maine as truly as by those of any other State, are made use of by the Slave Dealer, to store the victims of the American slave-trade.

The guilt of tolerating these enormities rests upon the whole American people, and on every individual, who will not exert himself to remove them.

Although Congress has the power of legislation on this subject, yet it is improbable that it will ever exercise this power until the people, of the several States require it.

Your Petitioners do not consider it necessary to offer any considerations to show that slavery and the slave-trade are inhuman and unjust — hostile to the natural and inalienable rights of man — and inconsistent with permanent prosperity, and national honor; — since your Honors are doubtless already fully aware, how the traffic in our fellow-men, is estimated by the Christian and civilized world.

Wherefore your petitioners pray that your honorable body would instruct the senators and request the Representatives, in Congress from the State of Maine, to use all proper means to effect the entire abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia; and as in duty bound will ever pray.

Samuel Fessenden

Saml Gray

Nathaniel Stevens

Wm H Steves

Bergr Weymouth

John Pearson

Geo Ropes

Rufus Chase

Charles Hayes

David M Ropes

John Pearson Jr

James Appleton

P. H. Neal

Miss Wappler

T. H. Colworth

A. Shirley

L. S. Barbour

Levi Weymouth

Benjamin Ropes

Edward M. Carty

Ernst T. Lonsen

John Stevens

Benjamin Lurabee

William Budd

P. Fox Varnum

John Kimball

John H. Kimball

William Crawford

Cyrus Thorton

Andrew Bean

Wm Edwards

J. H. Fernald

Bailey Ball

Hall's Burrall

D. H. Cole

Wm. Croft

J. H. Jones

Daniel C. Colworth

Josiah L. Thomas

Rufus Tukey

James Appleton Jr

James "Eric"

Wm E. Kimball

Edward Gray

D. H. Turbin

Isaac Pearson

George Hayes

Wm. Colman

Daniel Sawyer

Wm. Hanson

Peter W. Morrell

Flingsbury

Benj. Whitmore

Wm. Brown

William Dugan

Olive Demott

William Cobb

Henry B. How

Joseph Ropes

James M. Dodge

Franklin Manning

H. Goddard

S. W. Cole

H. C. Bryant

A. Merrill

Daniel Carr

Joseph B. Carr

Stephen Lovell

Nathan Winslow

Saml T. Hyslop

D.ushman

Oliver Munster

S. C. Millett

The above is signed by seventy five in-
dividuals.

Petition of Samuel
Hadden & 74 others
for the abolition of
slavery in the District
of Columbia

House of Representatives
Feb. 7, 1837

Read and referred to the
Committee who have under
consideration the petition of
Stephen Russell & al. sent
up for consideration
to the Hon. Mr. Speaker

In Senate, Feb. 8, 1837
Read and the further con-
sideration postponed till
Feb. 8, 1837.

J. L. Talcott Secy

Do Man.
Courtland

Petition of Samuel Hadden
and others in
relation to slavery in the
District of Columbia

Postponed till Feb. 8, 1837

Feb. 8, 1837

STATE OF MAINE.

House of Representatives, *March 27th 1837*

The Committee on Bills in the third reading have
examined a *Resolved* entitled *Resolved respecting the Abolition*
of Slavery in the District of Columbia

and Report the same *without* amendment

McKibbin *prodr*

House of Representatives,

183

Read and accepted:

Speaker.

Resolves and Petitions
relative to Slavery,
Postponed till 1937.

1837.

State of Maine

Resolves respecting the
abolition of Slavery
and the slave trade in
the District of Columbia

Resolved, That neither Congress nor the
Legislatures of the ~~non~~ slave holding
states have any right to inter-
fere with slavery within the
Slaveholding States.

Resolved That the right to petition
Congress to abolish slavery
and the slave trade, in the
District of Columbia is guaranteed
by the Constitution of the United
States.

Resolved, That Congress has the right to
abolish slavery and the slave
trade in the District of Colum-
bia, but inasmuch as our
Senators and Representatives can

better understand the necessity
of such a measure, this Legislature
consider it inexpedient to act on
the subject at this time.

House of Representatives
March 28. 1837

These Resolves, having had two several readings,
passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence

W. Hamilton Speaker

In Senate March 28, 1837.

These Resolves were read twice (and the further
consideration of the same was postponed till the
28th day of March 1937.

J. C. Talbot Pres.

Resolves respecting
the abolition
of Slavery in
the District of
Columbia

from the committee

28 Mar 1859

Expressed
Eng. 28 Mar 1859

28 Mar 1859 25⁰⁰

TO THE HONORABLE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
STATE OF MAINE.

The undersigned, inhabitants of the Town of *Winthrop* respectfully represent that the District of Columbia, the territory ceded by the State of Maryland and Virginia to the United States, for the seat of its General Government, is the Mart of a Slave-trade as atrocious as any which has ever disgraced human society. Notwithstanding Congress has the right, by the Federal Constitution, to abolish Slavery and the slave-trade within said District; notwithstanding the people of the non-slave holding states have a common interest in the jurisdiction of said District, yet Slave Factories are established at the very Seat of Government; where slaves are constantly collecting from the neighboring States, and thence regularly shipped in cargoes, or sent in droves to the remote South. Thus the District of Columbia is made one of the greatest slave markets in the world.

The public prisons of the U. S., maintained by the people of Maine as truly as by those of any other State, are made use of by the Slave Dealer, to store the victims of the American slave-trade.

The guilt of tolerating these enormities rests upon the whole American people, and on every individual, who will not exert himself to remove them.

Although Congress has the power of legislation on this subject, yet it is improbable that it will ever exercise this power until the people, of the several States require it.

Your Petitioners do not consider it necessary to offer any considerations to show that slavery and the slave-trade are inhuman and unjust — hostile to the natural and inalienable rights of man — and inconsistent with permanent prosperity, and national honor; — since your Honors are doubtless already fully aware, how the traffic in our fellow-men, is estimated by the Christian and civilized world.

Wherefore your petitioners pray that your honorable body would instruct the senators and request the Representatives, in Congress from the State of Maine, to use all proper means to effect the entire abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia; and as in duty bound will ever pray.

Stephen Sewall

Sam^r Benjamin

B. P. Fright

Geo. W. Thomas

E. Norris

Ebenezer Carlton

David Thurston

Ben^r Allen

David Leavitt

Seth May

John May

Benz H. Long

James Dealy

Ransom Bishop

constant D. Besse

E. W. Morton

Wm. Voyes

Wm S. Long

Nuttall Perkins

Jonathan Stevens

J. S. Metouff

C. Thomas

Aaron Stanley

Thomas Snell

Samuel Webb

Daniel Carr

Wm. Winton

Moses B. Leary

David Warren

Samuel Black 2d

E. C. Milliken

Sam. Thayer

Thomas C. Wood

Geo. A. Whitney

Daniel Gale

Albert Sturtevant

Poley F. Pike

Calder S. Gilbert

Oliver Whittman

Joseph Metcalf

Moses H. Metcalf

Martin Cushing

Joseph A. Metcalf

Austin Allen

Sam E. Benjamin

John L. Stanley

E. Holmes

Petition of Stephen
Sewall & fifty others
praying that our
Senators in Congress
be "instructed" and
our Representatives
"requested" to use all
proper means to
effect the entire
abolition of Slavery
in the district of
Columbia

House of Representatives
Feb. 7. 1837.

Read and referred to Messrs.
Holmes of Wmthrop. Holmes of
Alfred. Goodenow of Paris. Hop-
kins of New Portland. Appleton
of Portland. Maiden of Palermo
and Rollins of Acoboro, on
the part of the House, with
such as the Senate may join.
Dut up for concurrence.

W. W. Hamilton Speaker
In Senate, Feb. 8, 1837.

Read & the further consideration
postponed till the 8 Feb. 1837.

H. Talbot Pres.
E. Holmes Wmthrop

SLAVERY AND THE SLAVE TRADE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Congress, by the Constitution of the United States, has the right 'to exercise exclusive legislation, in all cases whatsoever,' over the District of Columbia. — See Constit. U. S. Art. I. Sect. 8.

Under the authority of Congress, and therefore of the whole people of the United States, more than SIX THOUSAND men, women and children are held as SLAVES in this District.

Under the same authority, a slave-trade, as atrocious as any known in the world, is carried on in the same District. Slave Factories, with chains and grated cells, are established at the Seat of Government, where slaves are constantly collecting from the neighboring States, and thence regularly shipped in car-

gans, or sent, directly unincumbered, to the States, for licensing private slave prisons. The

District of Columbia is one of the greatest and most cruel slave markets in the world!

Under the same authority free colored persons are thrown into prison, and if they cannot obtain evi-
dence to prove their freedom, they are sold as slaves, to pay jail fees! Five persons have been sold, in one
year, into perpetual slavery, to pay jail fees!

The Public Prisons of the United States, maintained by taxes which we all pay, are made use of by the
slave dealers, to store the victims of the American slave trade.

The guilt of tolerating these enormities rests on the whole American people, and on every individual
who will not exert himself to remove them. Congress, it is true, has the power of legislation. But it
will never exercise the power, until the people require it. When the American people declare in a
voice of thunder, that they will not endure to have their own metropolis profaned with Slavery, then,
and not till then, will the legislation of Congress be the echo of their voice. Speak then, fellow citizens!
Overwhelm Congress with petitions, and tell your Representatives that Slavery and all traffic in human
flesh at the Seat of Government must be TOTALLY, IMMEDIATELY, AND FOREVER ABOLISHED!

Sumner