

State of Maine

In Senate May 27th 1847

Ordered

That the Resolutions ~~adopted~~ of  
<sup>The</sup> Legislature ~~of~~ New Hampshire relative  
to the protection of National Industry  
be referred to the Committee on Manufactures  
Resolutions <sup>of the Legislature</sup> of New Hampshire  
Rhode Island Vermont and Virginia  
relating to Slavery be referred to the  
Committee having that Subject under Consideration  
Resolutions of the ~~State~~ Legislatures  
of Rhode Island & Vermont relative  
to the Mexican War be referred to the  
Committee having that Subject under Consideration  
Joint Resolutions of the  
General Assembly of the State of Missouri  
relative to a Modification of the Laws  
and regulations of the Army of the United  
States be referred to the Committee on the  
Militia - and a Communication  
from the corresponding Secretary of the  
Prison Association of the State of New York  
be referred to the Committee on the State  
Prison  
Wm Thompson of the Senate



In Senate

May 27, 1847

Read and Passed. Sent down  
for concurrence.

Samuel S. Pike, Secretary

House of Representatives

May 27, 1847

Read and Passed in Concurrence

Samuel S. Pike, Clerk



## State of New-Hampshire.

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*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court convened, That the Senators and Representatives from this State in the Congress of the United States be respectively requested to urge in that body the passage of measures providing for the extinction of slavery in the District of Columbia ; for its exclusion from Oregon, and other territories that now or at any time hereafter may belong to the United States ; for all constitutional measures for the suppression of the domestic slave-trade ; and to resist the admission of any new State into the Union, while tolerating slavery.*

*Resolved, That His Excellency the Governor be requested to furnish copies of the foregoing Resolution to the Legislatures of the several States, and to our Senators and Representatives in Congress.*

JOHN P. HALE, *Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

JAMES U. PARKER, *President of the Senate.*

ANTHONY COLBY, *Governor.*

Approved July 10, 1846.

A true copy:

*George G. Hogg* Secretary of State.



## State of New-Hampshire.

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*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court convened,* That the people of New-Hampshire have a strong and abiding attachment to that policy by the general government which looks to a wise and equitable protection of all the great and important departments of our national industry ; and that, in the opinion of this Legislature, it is the duty of the government, in laying all impost duties and collecting its revenues, to afford such incidental protection to our various industrial pursuits, as may be consistent with an economical administration of its affairs, and the condition of such interests may require.

*Resolved,* That the Secretary of State be directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Governor of each of the several States and territories in the Union, and to our Senators and Representatives in the Congress of the United States.

JOHN P. HALE, *Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

JAMES U. PARKER, *President of the Senate.*

ANTHONY COLBY, *Governor.*

Approved July 10, 1846.

A true copy:

*George S. Hogg* Secretary of State.



## State of New-Hampshire.

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Whereas the government of the United States, by the annexation of a foreign nation, and the admission of the state of Texas into the Union with a constitution which, in effect, makes slavery perpetual therein, have placed us before the world in the false attitude of supporters and defenders of a system of oppression, odious to every friend of liberty, and abhorrent to every principle of humanity and religion; and

Whereas the constant, progressive and increasing encroachments of the slave power have become so formidable and imperious, that forbearance ceases to be a virtue, and to be silent is to be false to the great interests of liberty: Therefore,

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court convened,* That New-Hampshire solemnly and deliberately announces and reiterates her abiding and unchanging adherence to the great principle of the Declaration of our Revolutionary fathers, that "all men are created equal," reasserted in the first article of the Bill of Rights of our own Constitution; that she declares her firm determination that, in the great contest now being waged between slavery and freedom, her voice shall be heard on the side of the oppressed; that she pledges her cordial sympathy, and, within the limits of her constitutional action, her coöperation with the friends of civil liberty throughout the land, in every just and well-directed effort for the suppression and extermination of that terrible scourge of our race, human slavery.

JOHN P. HALE, *Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

JAMES U. PARKER, *President of the Senate.*

ANTHONY COLBY, *Governor.*

Approved July 10, 1846.

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*IN SENATE, JULY 10, 1846.*

The following Resolution, submitted by Mr. Hamilton, was read and adopted:

*Resolved,* That the Governor be requested to transmit copies of the Preamble and Resolutions relating to Slavery, passed at this session of the Legislature, to the Governors of the several States, with the request that they be laid before their respective Legislatures; and, also, a copy to each of the Senators and Representatives in Congress from this State, to be laid before their respective Houses.

*Ordered,* That the Clerk lay before His Excellency the Governor a copy of the foregoing Resolution.

J. A. RICHARDSON, *Clerk.*

The foregoing are true copies.

*George C. Fogg* Secretary of State.



To the Senate

and House of Representatives:

I herewith lay before you Resolutions adopted by the Legislature of the State of New Hampshire, relative to "the protection of national industry" - to the "extinction of slavery in the District of Columbia and its exclusion from Oregon, and other Territories that now or any time hereafter may belong to the United States" - and on other topics. Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island, relative to the tariff, sub-treasury, slavery and the Mexican war. Resolutions of the Legislature of Vermont, relative to "slavery and the Mexican war". Resolutions of the Legislature of the State of Virginia relative to slavery. Joint Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, relative to "a modification of the laws and regulations of the army of the United States". Also a communication from the corresponding secretary of the Prison Association of the State of New York.

John W. Dimes

Council Chamber,

May 27, 1847



Resolutions  
from  
different States  
on  
Indifferent Subjects



## STATE OF RHODE-ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS.

In General Assembly, January Session, A. D., 1847.

*Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations,* That the policy of affording adequate protection to the capital and labor employed in the production of domestic manufactures has at all times been asserted by the Legislatures of this State, and received the undivided and hearty concurrence of their constituents.

*Resolved,* That the Tariff on imports, enacted by Congress, August, 1842, was well conceived and adapted to afford such adequate protection, and at the same time to secure to the people of the United States an ample revenue for all the legitimate purposes of government, without imposing any unequal burthen on any class or interest in any portion of the community affected by its provisions.

*Resolved,* That the repeal of the said Tariff, at the late session of Congress, after the fullest experience of its beneficent operation, when the Government had involved itself in an unnecessary and most expensive contest with Mexico, was highly inexpedient and unjust, and manifested a disregard for the pressing necessities of the Government, and the credit of the country, no less criminal and unwise, than the blow intended to be inflicted by it on our most essential interests.

*Resolved,* That in the opinion of this Assembly, the exigencies of the Government, in the present unprecedented crisis, as well as the just principles of political economy require, that the Tariff of 1842, which was adequately protective in its provisions, and yielded an annual income of twenty-seven millions of dollars, be reenacted by Congress; the Tariff of 1846 being, even in the estimation of its friends, insufficient to meet the present and prospective demands on the national treasury.

*Resolved,* That to revive the exploded system of collecting the United States revenue by means of a Sub-Treasury, which exacts for all dues to the Government payment in specie, at a time when the banking institutions of the States are, with scarcely an exception, in a sound condition, is absurd in theory, and oppressive in practice, and, even if founded in correct principles, is, in the present state of things, manifestly beyond the power of the Government to enforce.

*Resolved,* That, while we yield to no State in the Union in our condemnation of the system of slavery, which the errors of past ages have transmitted to us, and will cheerfully cooperate in any just and constitutional measures to terminate it, we are not insensible to the difficulties of the position of our Southern brethren, nor disinclined to fulfil in its true spirit every obligation and duty imposed upon us by the terms of our compact, as embodied in the Constitution of the United States. But submitting ourselves implicitly to the requirements of that instrument, we insist upon a like compliance by other parties to said compact with all its material stipulations express or implied. We PROTEST, therefore, against the acquisition of territory, by conquest, or otherwise, beyond the present limits of the United States, for the purpose of establishing therein slaveholding States, as deranging the balance of political power once so happily established between our confederated communities, and as manifestly in violation of the spirit and intent of the constitution. We PROTEST against the introduction of slaves, upon any terms, into any territory of the United States, whether of old or recent acquisition, where slavery does not exist, or has not immemorially existed. And we hold, that so far from aiming to extend an institution like slavery over a wider territory than is now pervaded by it, it is clearly the interest, no less than the duty of the slaveholding States, to circumscribe its operation within their own limits, and to provide, if possible, the means of its gradual extinguishment whenever public sentiment will permit it.

*Resolved,* That while we acknowledge with just pride the gallant conduct of Generals Taylor and Worth, and the forces under their command, in storming the formidable redoubts and fortified streets of MONTEREY, and hail in the operations of our Navy at TABASCO the new glory which illustrates a cherished Rhode Island name—we cannot but lament the waste of treasure and life, which has hitherto attended a contest waged to no valuable end, which, with ordinary discretion on the part of our Executive, might have been avoided with honor, and consistently with a firm determination to vindicate by all constitutional means our national claims and rights.

*Resolved,* That holding these opinions of the origin of our war with Mexico, and deeming a war of conquest inconsistent with the genius of our institutions, and destructive of their freedom and permanency, we instruct our Senators, and request our Representatives in Congress, to press upon the Executive Department, on all proper occasions, the necessity of frank and equitable overtures to that Republic for the reestablishment of peace, and to favor in their own bodies all acts and declarations which may promote that end, consistently with a due observance of the rights, claims, and reputation of the United States.

*Resolved,* That his Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby requested, to transmit a copy of these resolutions to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, to be laid before their respective Houses: and also, copies to the Executive Departments of the several States.

True copy :

*Henry Bowen*

Secretary of State.



STATE OF RHODE-ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,

January 1847.

SIR—In compliance with a Resolution of the General Assembly of this State, I have the honor to forward to you the accompanying documents.

With much respect,

Your obedient servant,

*Byron Simon*

To His Excellency  
the Governor of

*Maine*





*His Excellency*

*The Governor of Maine*

**5**

*Mr. Mason  
Newport*

*the Governor of  
to His Excellency*

*Respectfully  
Yours Servant*

*Don't forget to send me the honor to attend to you the in compliance with a Resolution of the Council of the State, I have*



## RESOLUTIONS OF VIRGINIA.

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Whereas a bill appropriating money to prosecute war or negotiate peace with the republic of Mexico has passed the house of representatives of the congress of the United States, with the following proviso attached thereto: "*Provided*, That as an express and fundamental condition to the acquisition of any territory from the republic of Mexico by the United States, by virtue of any treaty which may be negotiated between them, and to the use by the executive of the moneys herein appropriated, neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall ever exist in any part of said territory, except for crime, whereof the party shall be first duly convicted." And this general assembly deeming this proviso to be destructive of the compromises of the constitution of the United States, and an attack on the dearest rights of the south, as well as a dangerous and alarming usurpation by the federal government: Therefore,

*Be it resolved unanimously by the general assembly of Virginia*, That the government of the United States has no control directly or indirectly, mediately or immediately, over the institution of slavery: and that in taking any such control, it transcends the limits of its legitimate functions by destroying the internal organization of the sovereignties who created it.

Secondly. *Resolved unanimously*, That all territory which may be acquired by the arms of the United States, or yielded by treaty with any foreign power, belongs to the several states of this Union, as their joint and common property, in which each and all have equal rights, and that the enactment by the federal government of any law which should directly or by its effects prevent the citizens of any state from emigrating with their property of whatever description into such territory, would make a discrimination unwarranted by and in violation of the constitution and the rights of the states from which such citizens emigrated, and in derogation of that perfect equality that belongs to the several states as members of this Union, and would tend directly to subvert the Union itself.

*Resolved*, That if in disregard alike of the spirit and principles of the act of congress on the admission of the state of Missouri into the Union, generally known as the Missouri compromise, and of every consideration of justice, of constitutional right and of fraternal feeling, the fearful issue shall be forced upon the country, which must result from the adoption and attempted enforcement of the proviso aforesaid, as an act of the general government, the people of Virginia can have no difficulty in choosing between the only alternatives that will then remain, of abject submission to aggression and outrage on the one hand, or determined resistance on the other, at all hazards and to the last extremity.

Thirdly. *Resolved unanimously*, That the general assembly holds it to be the duty of every man in every section of this confederacy, if the Union is dear to him, to oppose the passage of any law for whatever purpose, by which territory to be acquired may be subject to such a restriction.

Fourthly. *Resolved unanimously*, That the passage of the above mentioned proviso makes it the duty of every slaveholding state, and of all the citizens thereof, as they value their dearest privileges, their sovereignty, their independence, their rights of property, to take firm, united and concerted action in this emergency.

Fifthly. *Resolved unanimously*, That the governor of this commonwealth be and he is hereby requested to transmit copies of the foregoing preamble and resolutions to the executive departments of the states of this Union.

Adopted by the general assembly March 8th, 1847.

GEORGE W. MUNFORD, C. H. D.



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,

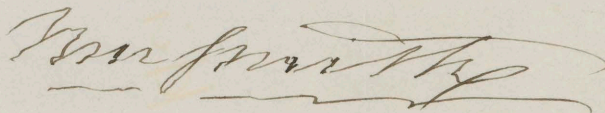
RICHMOND, March 10th, 1847.

SIR,

I respectfully communicate the accompanying preamble and resolutions, adopted by the General Assembly of Virginia on the 8th instant, and request that you will lay the same before the Legislature of your State.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James M. Smith". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

*His Excellency the Governor of*

*Maine.*



GEORGE W. HILLIARD, C. H. D.

Adopted by the general assembly March 28th, 1851, the general laws of the State of Virginia.

Resolved, That the following resolutions and resolutions to the executive departments of the State be passed.

Resolved, That the Governor of this Commonwealth be and he is hereby authorized to issue such orders as may be necessary to carry into effect the provisions of the following resolutions.

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*Virginia*

RECEIVED  
MAR 25  
1851

His Excellency  
The Governor of  
Maine

10

Resolutions of  
*Virginia*



RESOLUTIONS RELATIVE TO SLAVERY AND THE MEXICAN WAR.

*Whereas*, in our judgment, the existing war with Mexico was not founded in any imperative necessity, such as may justify or excuse a Christian nation for resorting to arms, and has now manifestly become an offensive war, against a neighboring republic; and, whereas we have just grounds for anticipating that the territory, which has been, or may be occupied or conquered, will become slave territory, and as such, claim admission to the Union; and, whereas its admission as such, and with a mixed population, degraded by ignorance and superstition, and allied to us neither in interests, character, nor language, will endanger the harmony, welfare, and perpetuity of the Union; therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*, That the honor and best interests of the nation will be subserved by a speedy end of the war with Mexico, and a settlement of all matters in dispute, by arbitration or negotiation.

*Resolved*, That Vermont will not give its countenance, aid, or assent to the admission into the federal Union of any new State whose constitution tolerates slavery; and does hereby appeal to each of her sister States to concur, in its own name, in this declaration.

*Resolved*, That the Senators and Representatives in Congress from Vermont will conform to the hearty wishes of their constituents, by earnestly supporting the principles set forth in the foregoing preamble and resolutions, and in using all other just, effectual and constitutional means to avert the tremendous evils of slavery, and resist its encroachments upon the rights and interests of the non-slaveholding States.

*Resolved*, That his excellency the Governor, be requested to forward a copy of these resolutions to the Governor of each State in the Union, and to our Senators and Representatives in Congress, under the seal of the State, and with his signature of approval.

Approved, Noven ber 1846.



*Arace Eaton.*  
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