

Strike out ~~the Senate~~ all after the title, ~~except the last~~ <sup>original and</sup> resolve and insert  
Whereas Northern Abolitionism "is the ~~Consistent~~  
~~and original~~ Cause of the present gigantic rebellion", and  
from an insignificant Power, has grown  
to be a power, now controlling the destinies of  
the Nation, with wanton Extravagance and  
blind obedience to the demands of fanaticism  
and party leaders, thereby ~~are~~ making the  
present a time when all true men should  
array themselves on the side of their Country  
and disregarding all issues, but that of loyalty  
to the Constitution, unitedly determine to  
~~preserve~~ <sup>preserve</sup> that instrument a monument of  
the wisdom and patriotism of the framers  
of American institutions, therefore.

Resolved, That to the Government of the  
United States in its Exercise of all  
Constitutional Authority for the Enforcement  
of the laws, and the preservation of the Union  
as Established by the fathers of our Republic  
is due the Cordial support of every citizen  
in every State of the Union, but the State  
of Maine, can never consent to surrender  
her rights as a Sovereign State, under the  
Constitution, or to acknowledge the theory  
as correct, that the Federal Government  
is one of consolidated powers; And we  
believe that the proclamation of Emanci-  
pation ~~issued~~ issued by the President of  
the United States, Jan'y 1. 1863 will have  
the practical effect to form the basis of a  
series of acts on the part of the Executive,  
which if submitted to by the people, can  
only result in the complete overthrow  
of State Sovereignty, and the establishment  
of a monster centralized power on the  
ruins of free institutions -



Resolved - That the right to discuss on all proper occasions public measures, and the merits of public men, is "an ancient and Constitutional right of the people of the United States"; it is to be enjoyed in every house, cottage and cabin of the nation; pertaining alike to all in private life it belongs to public life as a duty; and the Administration that in the least degree abridges this right, or prevents the discharge of this duty violates the plain provisions of the Constitution, subverts the liberty of the people and usurps the power of a despot -

Resolved - That the present national Administration, by its vacillating and timid but despot-ic course in the management of the most terrible and disastrous war of modern times, by its appointment and removal of chief Army Officers, at the dictation of party leaders avowedly opposed to the "Constitution as it is, and the Union as it was"; by its arbitrary and unconstitutional arrests and imprisonments, by its suspension of the writ of Habeas Corpus, the right to which is one of the dearest privileges of American freemen; by its declaration of Martial Law, in States where war does not



Exist, and where the civil Authorities were in the unobstructed Exercise <sup>of</sup> their proper functions, thereby abolishing trial by jury. "A right formidable to tyrants only": by its dismemberment of a sovereign State: by its proclamation of Emancipation. unauthorized by any law and not justified by upon any principle of humanity, or by any plea of necessity: by its abridgement of the freedom of speech and of the press, has proved itself alike unwilling to discharge the important duties that have devolved upon it and regardless of the Constitutional rights of ~~the~~ people -

Resolved - That the best interests of ~~the~~ our Country and the interests of freedom everywhere require, that an honorable termination should be had of the present Civil War, and to the end that peace may be restored to our nation by honorable means, we recommend to our Senators and Representatives in Congress to use their best efforts to secure this result, if possible by means other than war, and thereby preserve the Union "with all the dignity, equality and rights of the several States unimpaired" -

B. N. Hoffman  
New York



Mr. Wiggins amendment

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