

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSIONS

A. D. 1842.

AUGUSTA:

SMITH & Co., PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1842.

TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE.

(EXTRA SESSION.)

NO. 1.]

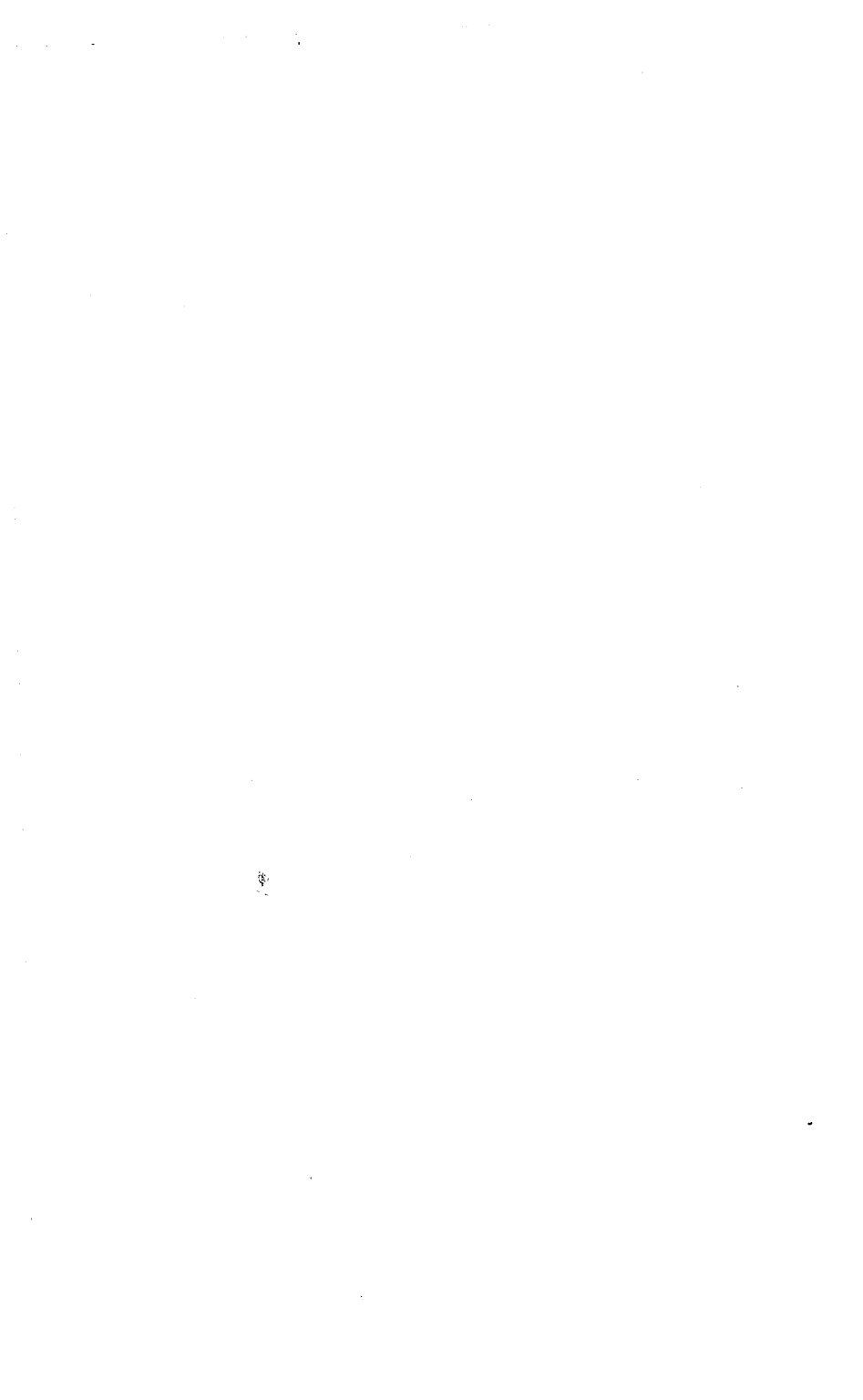
[SENATE.

REPORT AND RESOLVES

IN RELATION TO THE

NORTH EASTERN BOUNDARY.

[Wm. R. SMITH & Co.....Printers to the State.]



STATE OF MAINE.

THE Joint Standing Committee of both Houses of the Legislature to which was referred the Governor's Message, of the 18th instant, with the accompanying Communication from the Secretary of State of the United States, have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to report the following Preamble and Resolutions.

EDWARD KAVANAGH, Chairman.

Committee Room, 20th May, 1842.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVES in relation to the North Eastern Boundary of this State.

WHEREAS the preceding Legislatures of this State, in
2 conformity with the well-settled conviction of all the
3 People thereof, and with incontrovertible evidence before
4 them on the subject, have uniformly declared that the
5 Boundary of Maine, on its Northern and North Eastern
6 frontiers, as designated in the Treaty of 1783, can be
7 laid down and fixed according to the terms of that Treaty ;
8 and that such line embraces all the Territory over which
9 this State claims property, sovereignty and jurisdiction ;
10 and the Executive and Congress of the United States
11 having recognized the validity of that claim in its full
12 extent, this Legislature renews such declarations in the
13 most solemn manner: and

WHEREAS, for a series of years, every attempt to adjust
2 the vexed questions in regard to the establishment of the
3 said Boundary having proved ineffectual, it has been
4 represented to the Government of this State that the
5 Minister Plenipotentiary and Special of Her Britannic
6 Majesty, at Washington, has officially announced to the
7 Government of the United States, that he has authority

8 to treat for a conventional line, or line by agreement, on
9 such terms and conditions, and with such considerations
10 and equivalents as may be thought just and equitable ;
11 and that he is ready to enter upon a negotiation for such
12 conventional line as soon as the Government of the
13 United States shall say that it is authorized, and ready
14 on its part, to commence such negotiation : and

WHEREAS the Government of the United States, not
2 possessing the constitutional power to conclude any such
3 negotiation without the assent of Maine, has invited the
4 Government of this State to co-operate to a certain
5 extent, and in a certain form, in an endeavor to termi-
6 nate a controversy of so long duration :

Now, considering the premises, and believing that the
2 People of this State, after having already manifested a
3 forbearance, honorable to their character, under long-con-
4 tinued violations of their rights by a foreign Nation ; and,
5 though not disposed to yield to unfounded pretensions,
6 are still willing, in regard to the proposal now made by
7 the General Government, to give additional evidence to
8 their Fellow Citizens throughout the United States of
9 their desire to preserve the peace of this Union, by tak-
10 ing measures to discuss and conclude, if possible, the
11 subject in controversy in a manner that will secure the
12 honor and interests of the State, this Legislature adopts
13 the following Resolutions ; with the understanding, how-

14 ever, that, in the event of a failure in such endeavor
15 towards an arrangement, no proceedings thereunder shall
16 be so construed as to prejudice in any manner the rights
17 of the State as they have been herein asserted to exist :

RESOLVED, That there shall be chosen, by ballot, in
2 Convention of both branches of the Legislature, four
3 Persons, who are hereby constituted and appointed Com-
4 missioners, on the part of this State, to repair to the seat
5 of Government of the United States, and to confer with
6 the Authorities of that Government touching a Conven-
7 tional line, or line by agreement, between the State of
8 Maine and the British Provinces, and to give the assent
9 of this State to any such line, with such terms, condi-
10 tions, considerations and equivalents as they shall deem
11 consistent with the honor and interest of the State ; with
12 the understanding that no such line be agreed upon with-
13 out the assent of such Commissioners.

RESOLVED, That the said Commissioners be furnished
2 by the Governor with evidence of their appointment,
3 under the seal of the State.

RESOLVED, That the Governor, by and with the advice
2 and consent of the Council, have power to fill any va-
3 cancy that may occur in said Commission by death,
4 resignation, or otherwise.

RESOLVED, That the said Commissioners make return
2 of their doings herein to the Governor, to be by him pre-
3 sented to the Legislature at its next session.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, May 20, 1842.

ORDERED, That 1,000 copies of the foregoing Report
and Resolutions be printed for the use of the Legislature.

[Extract from the Journal.]

JERE HASKELL, Secretary.