

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# DOCUMENTS

PRINTED BY ORDER OF

# THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1848.

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Augusta:

WILLIAM T. JOHNSON, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

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1849.

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# TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE.

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No. 5.

SENATE.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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THE joint select committee, to whom was referred so much of the governor's message as relates to slavery in newly acquired territory, have had the same under consideration and ask leave to

### REPORT

the following resolves, which are herewith submitted.

ADAMS TREAT, *Chairman.*

June 8th, 1848.

## STATE OF MAINE.

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RESOLVES relating to the extension of slavery in  
newly acquired territory.

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*Resolved*, That Maine duly appreciates the concessions and compromises which led to the adoption and establishment of the constitution of the United States : and she will cheerfully and honestly abide by the letter and spirit of them,—at the same time she will firmly resist all demands for their enlargement or extension.

*Resolved*, That the sentiment of this state is profound, sincere, and almost universal, that the influence of slavery upon productive energy is like the blight of mildew ; that it is debasing and degrading in its influence upon free labor ; that it is a moral and social evil ; that it does violence to the rights of man as a rational, thinking, and accountable being ;—influenced by these and other important considerations, this state will firmly oppose the introduction of slavery into any territory acquired as an indemnity for claims upon Mexico.

*Resolved,* That in the acquisition of any free territory, whether by treaty, purchase, conquest or otherwise, we deem it the duty of the general government to extend over the same the principles of the ordinance of 1787.

*Resolved,* That our senators in congress are hereby instructed, and our representatives requested, to support and carry out the principles of the foregoing resolutions.

## STATE OF MAINE.

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IN SENATE, June 8, 1848.

ORDERED, That three hundred and fifty copies of the foregoing resolves, (reported from the joint select committee to which was referred so much of the governor's message as relates to newly acquired territory,) be printed for the use of the legislature.

DANIEL T. PIKE, *Secretary*.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, June 9, 1848.

ORDERED, That one thousand additional copies of the foregoing resolves be printed for the use of the House.

SAMUEL BELCHER, *Clerk*.