

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.

Augusta:

WILLIAM T. JOHNSON, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

1849.

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE.

No. 8.

SENATE.

STATE OF MAINE.

The minority of the joint select committee, to which was referred so much of the governor's message as relates to newly acquired territory, having had the same under consideration and dissenting from the report of the majority of said committee, ask leave to submit a counter

REPORT:

That the subject being one purely national in its character, demanding no legislative action on the part of this state, the undersigned, a minority of your committee, cannot regard its agitation here, otherwise than as attended with no beneficial results; as a serious and useless interruption of the ordinary and appropriate business of the legislature, and as calculated to prolong the session and waste the money of the people in the illigitimate consideration of a question solely and entirely within the province of the national legislature, whose wisdom and prudence it is confidently believed will be found fully sufficient to its proper and satisfactory determination.

In respect to the policy which ought to be adopted touching any newly acquired territory; whether the local institutions should be permanently determined by congress in the act establishing over

any such territory a territorial government; or whether the question of prohibiting or permitting the existence of any particular institution should be submitted to the decision of the people of such territory, at the time of its organization; or whether the whole question should be referred to the decision of the people who may reside therein at the time when the application for admission into the Union as a state may be made, the undersigned do not undertake to decide; but relying upon the wisdom, judgment and prudence of congress, and reposing entire confidence in our delegation in congress, that they will fully and faithfully reflect the views and sentiments of their several constituencies, the undersigned are of opinion that the settlement of the whole question may be safely left in the hands of those to whom it legitimately belongs: They therefore beg leave to report that legislative action upon the subject referred to them is inexpedient.

All which is respectfully submitted.

SAMUEL MAYALL.



STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, June 13, 1848.

ORDERED, That three hundred and fifty copies of the foregoing Report be printed for the use of the Legislature.

DANIEL T. PIKE, *Secretary.*