

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIFTIETH LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 71.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE relative to the fisheries.

Resolved, That this legislature has looked with interest to the assembling of a commission at Washington charged with the duty of discussing the important question of the fisheries, in which many of our people are engaged. Maine confidently expects the discussion so initiated to terminate in the full recognition of the rights of her citizens to the free use of the waters of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, which by the joint efforts of the New England and other colonists, led by a citizen of Maine, were won from the common enemy, and should be held free to all the descendants of the conquerors. These rights were acknowledged in the treaty of seventeen hundred and eighty-three, and should never have been yielded or jeopardized by subsequent convention. We await the termination of this conference with confidence that it will result in putting

17 an end to the petty and vexatious course latterly pur-
18 sued by the neighboring government, and place this
19 important branch of our industries upon the sound
20 basis of free competition.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 22, 1871. }

Presented by Mr. PIKE of Calais, on whose motion it was
tabled and ordered printed.

S. J. CHADBOURNE, *Clerk.*