

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# RESOLVES

OF THE

ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

# STATE OF MAINE,

PASSED BY THE SESSION

*Which commenced on the fifth day of January, and ended on the second day of April, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-one.*

—◆—  
PUBLISHED AGREEABLY TO THE RESOLVE OF 28TH JUNE, 1830.  
—◆—

Portland.

TODD AND HOLDEN.....PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1831.

## STATE OF MAINE.

Resolve respecting the Tariff and Internal Improvements.

*Resolved*, That the Government of the United States, not having the power of executing a system of internal improvements expressly granted to it in the Constitution, and that power not being necessary for carrying into execution any powers so granted, ought not, in raising a revenue, to consider internal improvements among the purposes, for which it may lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises.

*Resolved*, That the Tariff of duties on imports ought to be so modified, if possible, a due regard being had to all the interests of the country, that the receipts, from them and the other sources of revenue, into the Treasury of the United States shall not greatly exceed the ordinary annual expenses of the Government.

*Resolved*, That, if with a due regard to all the essential interests of the country the duties on imports cannot be so reduced, that no surplus fund shall remain in the national Treasury, after paying the ordinary and necessary annual expenses of the government, such surplus ought to be equitably distributed among the several States in a mode and by a rule to be prescribed by an amendment to the Constitution.

*Resolved*, That the Governor be, and he is hereby requested to transmit a copy of the foregoing Report and Resolutions to the Executive of each of the States, that they may be submitted to the Legislatures of the same for their consideration; and also a copy to each of the Senators and Representatives of Maine in Congress.

IN SENATE, March 29, 1831.—Read and passed. Sent down for concurrence.

ROBERT P. DUNLAP, President.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 30, 1831.—This Resolve was read twice and passed in concurrence with the Senate.

BENJA. WHITE, Speaker.

## STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, FEB. 18, 1831.

The Joint Committee of the Legislature, to which was referred an Order, instructing them "to inquire into the expediency of requesting the co-operation of the States of New-Hampshire and Vermont in adopting measures, and making

the requisite appropriations for the improvement of the road leading from this State to New Hampshire and through the Notch of the White Hills into the State of Vermont—and also to inquire what appropriation, if any, it is expedient for this State to make for the object aforesaid," have had the same under consideration, and respectfully submit the following REPORT :

The Committee are satisfied that great and important advantages would result to the State from an improvement of the road. Facility of intercourse between the country lying West of the White Hills and the present seat of the government of this State, without regarding the immediate interests of trade, is an object highly desirable. The advantages of easy and frequent communication between the people of different parts of the country, and especially of different States, are too obvious and too well understood, to require illustration.

Notwithstanding the present bad state of the road through the Notch, and particularly through Britton Woods, which is represented and known to be almost impassable for loaded teams, except in winter, an advantageous trade is carried on between this State and those parts of New Hampshire and Vermont, which lie West of the White Hills. Merchants, well acquainted with the subject, state that the present trade amounts to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars annually, and that the principal part of the business is done in the winter months. It is believed by some of our merchants, that the trade would be increased thirty three per cent. and by others sixty per cent. annually, if the road could be so improved that the transportation of heavy articles, in which the trade principally consists, would be safe and convenient in summer. Many merchants, who live west of the White Hills, and would transact all their business in this State, if the state of the road in summer would permit, are prevented from coming here even in winter, it being found more convenient for them to transact their business in one place; others, who resort to this State in winter, for a market and to purchase their goods, are, in the summer, induced to go to Boston, or to some place more distant, the transportation of their goods being less expensive to and from those places, notwithstanding the greater distance. It is understood that great efforts have already been made in the city of New York and some other places to divert this trade from this place; which evinces, that, in the opinion of those places, the trade is advantageous.

It is obvious, therefore, if the obstructions now existing can be removed, and access to this place be made easy, at all seasons of the year, the trade now considerable and beneficial

must necessarily increase, and, in a few years be highly advantageous to this State, as well as to the States of New Hampshire and Vermont. It is believed, that, as the several States mentioned will be mutually benefited by an improvement of the road, they will all be willing to contribute to the promotion of that object. From the known liberality of those States, and the disposition which they unquestionably possess, to aid in effecting a more intimate intercourse between their citizens and those of this State, which must tend to confirm the good understanding and neighborhood, that already happily exist, and which it is for the interest of all, by all proper means, to foster and cherish; it cannot be doubted, that they will cordially co-operate with Maine in adopting measures and making appropriations to render travel, on this common highway between them and Maine, at all seasons of the year, safe and convenient.

From an examination of the "statement of appropriations of land and expenditures of money, for Roads and Bridges in the State," it appears that more than \$16,000 have been appropriated to make the Canada Road, and \$13,000 for the Mattanawcook Road, not including the \$5,000 proposed by a Resolve, which has passed the House of Representatives the present session for finishing the latter. These appropriations were made unquestionably from the consideration of the advantages to be gained from having communications opened from this State, in the direction of those roads, to the country lying beyond the limits of our territory. Several other appropriations have been made, at different times, for similar objects.

The same reasons which induced the Legislature to make those roads, it is believed, will justify an appropriation for the purpose of improving the road leading from this State, through the Notch of the White Hills, to the State of Vermont. Such an appropriation, it is believed, would greatly promote the interests of the State, be in accordance with the laudable example set by Massachusetts in making appropriations for making and improving roads in Maine, and in the opinion of your Committee, ought to be made; they have therefore directed me to report a Resolve which is herewith submitted.

JOHN L. MEGQUIER, Per Order.

### Chapter 93.

Resolve in favor of the Road leading through the Notch of the White Hills.

Approved April 2, 1831.

*Resolved*, That the sum of three thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated for the purpose of repairing

and improving the road leading from this State, through the Notch of the White Hills, to the State of Vermont: *Provided*, That the Legislature of the State of New Hampshire, shall give consent thereto, and *Provided also*, that the sum of two thousand dollars be raised by voluntary subscription for the same purpose by the inhabitants of the town of Portland and the States of New Hampshire and Vermont; and the same shall be expended under the direction of the Governor and Council, as in their opinion shall be most advantageous to the State; and the Governor, with advice and consent of the Council, is hereby authorized to appoint some suitable person as an agent to superintend the expenditure of the same, who shall give bonds, with sureties satisfactory to the Governor and Council, conditioned for the faithful performance of his duty; and such agent shall keep a correct account of all money by him received and expended on said road, and also, of all contracts made by him, and shall exhibit the same, to the Governor and Council, with the vouchers in support thereof, who shall examine and settle the same.

*Resolved*, That the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Council, be, and he is hereby authorized to draw his warrant in favor of such agent for said sum of three thousand dollars, or such part thereof, as shall, in their opinion, be necessary to effect the object aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurer of State, be, and he is hereby authorized to obtain the sum of three thousand dollars for the purpose aforesaid, on a loan, at a rate of interest, not exceeding five per centum per annum, redeemable at the pleasure of the Legislature.

*Resolved*, That the Governor be requested to communicate the foregoing Resolves to the Executives of the States of New Hampshire and Vermont, and request that they may be laid before the Legislatures of their respective States, and that said Legislatures be requested to co-operate with this State in effecting the object aforesaid.

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#### Chapter 94.

Approved April 2, 1831.

Whereas, the citizens of Portland and the County of Cumberland have provided accommodations for the several branches of the Government of this State since the year eighteen hundred and twenty, and the time having arrived when by law the future Sessions of the Legislature are to be