

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

ACTS AND RESOLVES

PASSED BY THE

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

A. D. 1845.

~~~~~  
Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 28, 1820, February 26, 1840,  
and March 16, 1842.  
~~~~~

AUGUSTA:

WM. T. JOHNSON, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

1845.

RESOLVES

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

1845.

Chapter 387.

CHAP. 387.

Resolve providing for repair of the military road.

Resolved, That the land agent is hereby authorized to expend a sum not exceeding seven hundred dollars, for the repair of the military road.

Repair of military road.

[Approved April 4, 1845.]

Chapter 388.

Resolves in relation to the imprisonment of Thomas W. Dorr.

Whereas, we hold that “all men are born equally free and independent, have certain natural and unalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing and protecting property, and of pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness”; that the people are the source of all legitimate power; that all governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed; that in the people resides full and plenary power to institute government, “to alter, reform or totally change the same, whenever their safety and happiness require it;” and whereas the constitution of the United States guarantees to every state in this Union “a republican form of government,” and provides that “in all criminal prosecutions the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed;” and that “no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law”—therefore

Relative to the imprisonment of Thomas W. Dorr.

Resolved, That the sovereign power of a state is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority and instituted for their benefit; that no man or set of men are entitled to supreme or exclusive privileges in the institution and support of government.

Resolved, That the sovereign power of the State of Rhode Island is inherent in the people thereof, and to them belongs the right to institute government; to change or abolish the same, as they may deem wise and proper, for their safety and happiness.

Resolved, That the constitution of Rhode Island, adopted by the people in December, eighteen hundred and forty-one, is republican in its form and was rightfully adopted by a majority of the people thereof, and thereby became the permanent law of the state, and as such was entitled to the guaranty of the United States.

Resolved, That the interference of John Tyler, president of the

CHAP. 389. United States, in behalf of the late charter government of Rhode Island, with the military power of the Union, by which the popular government of that state under the constitution adopted in December, eighteen hundred and forty-one, was suppressed, was unauthorized by the constitution and laws of the United States, in derogation of both, a dangerous usurpation of power, and a wanton violation of the rights of the people of Rhode Island.

Resolved, That in the recent popular movement in the State of Rhode Island we recognize in the person of Thomas Wilson Dorr, a bold and uncompromising champion of the great American doctrines of the revolution; the able and stern defender of popular sovereignty; a noble son of a degenerate state, now the victim of vindictively corrupt judges, and a packed and partial jury.

Resolved, That the State of Maine, by her legislature, hereby enters her *solemn protest* against the imprisonment of Thomas W. Dorr, in the state prison in the State of Rhode Island, by the authorities thereof, as unjust, illegal, malignant and tyrannical, unbecoming the age in which we live, and deserving the marked disapprobation of the American people, and in the opinion of this legislature it is the imperative duty of the general government to adopt any and all legal and constitutional measures for his immediate release.

Resolved, That the governor be requested to cause a copy of these resolves to be transmitted to the president of the United States, to the governors of the several states, and to each of our senators and representatives in congress.

[Approved April 4, 1845.]

STATE VALUATION.

COUNTY OF YORK.

Towns.	Polls.	Estate.
Acton,	294	173,962
Alfred,	246	184,399
Berwick,	274	199,258
Biddeford,	484	421,117
Buxton,	482	289,740
Cornish,	224	130,765
Eliot,	324	254,048
Hollis,	391	265,597