

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1863.

AUGUSTA:
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1863.

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 4.

AMENDMENT PRESENTED BY MR. HATHAWAY OF SKOWHEGAN.

Amend by inserting between the word "victims" and the word "therefore" in the twelfth line of the preamble, the words of the preamble of amendment B, together with the word "and" prefixed; and by inserting immediately after the word "rebellion" in the tenth line of the first resolve, the words following the word "war" in the fifth line of the resolve of amendment B, to the end of said resolve, so that the preamble and first resolve, as amended, shall read as follows:

WHEREAS, Slavery is the conceded cause and prime
2 support of the existing gigantic rebellion, and from a
3 local, limited, industrial institution it has been eleva-
4 ted into a vast war power; it feeds and clothes the
5 armies of the rebels in the field and their families at
6 home; it builds their military roads, digs their mili-
7 tary entrenchments, erects their forts, navigates their

8 piratical craft, clears the highways, drags their artil-
9 lery and ammunition as human beasts of burden, and
10 throws into the active service of the rebellion, three
11 millions of unwilling victims; and

WHEREAS, The president of the United States in the
2 discharge of the solemn and responsible duties devol-
3 ving on him as commander-in-chief of the army and
4 navy considered it his duty, on the twenty-second of
5 September last to issue a proclamation in which he de-
6 clared "that on the first day of January in the year of
7 our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three,
8 all persons held as slaves within any state or any de-
9 signated part of a state, the people whereof shall then
10 be in rebellion against the United States, shall be
11 thenceforward and forever free," and "that hereafter
12 as heretofore, the war will be prosecuted for the pur-
13 pose of practically restoring the constitutional relations
14 between us and the people thereof, in which states that
15 relation is or may be disturbed or suspended," and

WHEREAS, The friendly warning contained in said
2 proclamation evincing on the part of the president, in
3 the estimation of many, a degree of forbearance not
4 warranted by the circumstances, has not only been en-
5 tirely disregarded, but treated with scorn and contempt
6 by the so called confederate government, and

WHEREAS, Jefferson Davis and his misguided associates continue with unabated zeal, and with all the forces at their command, in their desperate and wicked work of destroying the best government ever instituted by the ingenuity of men, and which, if successful, we fear will blast the hopes of the friends of constitutional liberty throughout the world ; therefore,

Resolved, That we hail with profound satisfaction the proclamation of emancipation issued by the president of the United States on the first day of January, A. D. eighteen hundred and sixty-three, as a measure right, under the circumstances, justified by military necessity and the laws of war, and clearly within the constitutional power of the president as commander-in-chief, and that it will inaugurate a new and glorious epoch in the history of the nation, and strike a final and fatal blow at the life of the rebellion ; and that the administration of the general government should receive the cordial sympathy and support of every loyal citizen throughout the length and breadth of the land in its mighty grapple with the most gigantic rebellion ever known, confidently believing that if all who profess to love and revere our flag are faithful and true, the day is not far distant when triumphant success will crown our efforts, and our once happy and

19 prosperous, but now distracted and bleeding country
20 will resume her former high and proud position among
21 the nations of the earth.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 17, 1863. }

Presented by Mr. HATHAWAY of Skowhegan, and on motion
of Mr. CROSBY of Dexter, laid upon the table, and 350 copies
ordered to be printed for the use of the Legislature.

CHARLES A. MILLER, *Clerk.*