

CONNECTICUT LEGISLATURE—SLAVERY, &c.

RESOLUTIONS

OF THE

LEGISLATURE OF CONNECTICUT,

Protesting against the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 21st of December last, in relation to Petitions, Memorials, &c., touching the Abolition of Slavery, &c.

JUNE 4, 1838.

Read, and laid upon the table.

At a General Assembly of the State of Connecticut, holden at New Haven, in said State, on the first Wednesday in May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight—

Whereas the House of Representatives of the United States did, on the 21st of December last, adopt a resolution, that all petitions, memorials, and papers, touching the abolition of slavery, or the buying, selling, or transfer, of slaves in any State, district, or Territory of the United States, should be laid on the table, without reading or reference, or printing, and that no further action whatever should be had thereon:

And whereas the said resolution is a virtual denial of the right of petition, and also subversive of the freedom of debate; and whereas, in enforcing such resolution, the said House of Representatives have infringed upon the rights of the people of the State of Connecticut, by refusing to hear or consider the petitions of a large number of the citizens of this State: therefore,

Resolved, That we, the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Connecticut in General Assembly convened, do, in the name of the people of the State of Connecticut, solemnly protest against the said resolution as a usurpation of power, in violation of the spirit of the constitution of the United States, subversive of the fundamental principles of free government, at war with the prerogatives of the people, and dangerous to the Union.

Resolved, That while we recognise the peculiar rights of other members of this confederacy, we cannot consent to any interference with the rights of the people of this State.

Resolved, That this Assembly do hereby request the Representatives in Congress from this State to use their best exertions to cause the said resolution to be rescinded. And that his excellency the Governor be re-

Thomas Allen, print.

requested to transmit a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolutions to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, with a request that the same may be laid before that body.

The above and foregoing is a true copy of record in this office.

ROYAL R. HINMAN, *Secretary.*

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
New Haven, May 28, 1838.