

RESOLUTIONS

OF THE

LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MAINE,

IN FAVOR OF

Repealing the laws of States or Territories which render persons of color liable to arrest and imprisonment and to be sold for jail fees.

APRIL 1, 1844.

Referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia, and ordered to be printed.

STATE OF MAINE.

Resolved, That while we deprecate all interference with the social institutions and rights of other States, and while we hold ourselves bound by the strongest possible obligations to comply with every requisition of the Constitution of the United States, and especially with that of section 2d, article 4th, we do hold the right of every citizen, colored or not colored, to the protection of that Constitution, in his person and his property, to be equally good.

Resolved, That we do most solemnly, in behalf of the people of this State, protest against the existence of any laws, in any of the States or Territories of this Union, which subject our free colored citizens to the liability to be arrested and imprisoned, and to be sold into slavery for the payment of the costs of such arrest and imprisonment; that we do protest against such laws as unconstitutional, and as endangering this Union.

Resolved, That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives requested, to protest solemnly against such laws, and to use their best efforts to procure the repeal of all such laws within the States or Territorial Governments, if any such exist.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be forwarded to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, and to the Governor of each of our States and Territories.

Approved, March 22, 1843.