

SLAVERY.

RESOLUTIONS

OF THE

LEGISLATURE OF NEW YORK,

IN RELATION

To slavery in the territory of New Mexico and California, and the slave trade in the District of Columbia.

JANUARY 17, 1849.

Laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

STATE OF NEW YORK.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS.

Whereas the people of the State of New Mexico have petitioned Congress for the establishment of a territorial government which shall protect them against the institution of domestic slavery while they remain a territory of the United States; and have also petitioned Congress for protection against the unfounded claims of the State of Texas to a large portion of their territory lying east of the Rio Grande; and whereas it would be unjust to the people of New Mexico and California, and revolting to the spirit of the age, to permit domestic slavery—an institution from which they are now free—to be introduced among them; and whereas, since the acquisition of New Mexico by the United States, the people thereof have a right to expect the protection of the general government, and should be secured in the full possession and enjoyment of their territory: Therefore,

Resolved, (if the Assembly concur,) That our senators in Congress be instructed, and our representatives in Congress be requested, to use their best efforts to procure the passage of laws for the establishment of governments for the territory acquired by the late treaty of peace with Mexico; and that by such laws involuntary servitude, except for crime, be excluded from such territories.

Resolved, (if the Assembly concur,) That the territory lying between the Nueces and Rio Grande, and that portion of New Mexico lying east of the Rio Grande, are the common property of the United States; and that our senators in Congress be instructed, and our representatives in Congress be requested, to use their best effort; to preserve the same as such common property, and protect it from the unfounded claims of the State of Texas, and prohibit the extension over it of the laws of Texas, or the institution of domestic slavery.

Resolved, (if the Assembly concur,) That the existence of prisons for the confinement, and marts for the sale of slaves at the seat of the national government, is viewed by this legislature with deep regret and mortification; and that such prisons and marts ought forthwith to be abolished.

Resolved, (if the Assembly concur,) That our senators in Congress be instructed, and our representatives in Congress be requested, to use their strenuous efforts to procure the passage of a law that shall protect slaves from unjust imprisonment, and shall effectually put an end to the slave-trade in the District of Columbia.

Resolved, (if the Assembly concur,) That the governor be requested to forward copies of the foregoing resolutions to each of our senators and representatives in Congress.

By order of the Senate:

A. H. CALHOUN,
Clerk of Senate.

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IN ASSEMBLY, *January 6, 1849.*

Resolved, That the Assembly do concur in the above resolution.

By order:

PHILANDER B. PRINDLE, *Clerk.*