

LETTER
OF THE
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF INDIANA,
TRANSMITTING

A copy of the joint resolution of the general assembly of that State ratifying the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States in relation to slavery.

DECEMBER 19, 1865.—Ordered to lie on the table and be printed.

STATE OF INDIANA,
Executive Department, Indianapolis, Dec. 12, 1865.

SIR: Being informed that no official information has been received by the government of the ratification by the general assembly of this State of the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States in relation to slavery, I have the honor herewith respectfully to transmit a copy of the joint resolution of the general assembly of the State of Indiana on the subject, approved February 16, 1865, certified by the secretary of state under the seal of the State.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CONRAD BAKER,

Lieutenant Governor, acting as Governor of Indiana.

Hon. LAFAYETTE S. FOSTER,

President of the Senate, Washington city.

JOINT RESOLUTION No. 16.

A JOINT RESOLUTION accepting and ratifying certain amendments to the Constitution of the United States, proposed by Congress to the legislatures of the several States.

Whereas Congress has, by a two-third vote, proposed to the legislatures of the several States, as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of said States, shall be valid, to all intents and purposes, as a part of said Constitution, namely:

“ARTICLE XIII.

“SECTION 1. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

“SEC. 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.” Approved February 1, 1865. Therefore—

Be it resolved by the general assembly of the State of Indiana, That said proposed amendments to the Constitution of the United States are hereby accepted and ratified on the part of the State of Indiana.

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

STATE OF INDIANA, *Office Secretary of State, ss:*

I, Nelson Trusler, secretary of state for the State of Indiana, certify that I have compared the above and foregoing with the enrolled joint resolution from which the same was taken, now on file in my office, and find the same to be a full, true, and complete copy thereof.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed
[SEAL.] the seal of the said State of Indiana, at the city of Indianapolis,
this 12th day of December, A. D. 1865.

NELSON TRUSLER,
Secretary of State.