30th Congress, 2d Session. [ SENATE. ] Miscellaneous. No. 41.

# RESOLUTIONS

OF THE

# LEGISLATURE OF MICHIGAN,

IN FAVOR OF

*The prohibition of slavery within any territory of the United States now or hereafter to be acquired.*

February 2, 1849.

Read, and ordered to be printed.

JOINT RESOLUTION respecting the territories of the United States.

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Michigan*, That we consider the result of the late war with Mexico in the acquisition of the Territories of New Mexico and California, as an enduring monument to the honor of our gallant army, regulars and volunteers, officers and soldiers; and that we rejoice in the prospect of extending over that country the beneficent laws and institutions of a free people.

*Resolved*, That we are in favor of the fundamental principles of the ordinance of 1787; and although we respect the opinions of many eminent statesmen and jurists, that slavery is a mere local institution, which cannot exist without positive laws authorizing its existence, yet we believe that Congress has the power, and that it is their duty, to prohibit by legislative enactment the introduction or existence of slavery within any of the territories of the United States, now or hereafter to be acquired.

*Resolved*, That our senators in Congress be instructed, and our representatives requested, to use all honorable means to accomplish the objects expressed in the foregoing resolution; and that the governor of this State be requested to forward copies of these resolutions to our senators and representatives in Congress.

LEANDER CHAPMAN,
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*
WM. M. FENTON,
*President of the Senate.*

Approved January 13, 1849.

EPAPHRO RANSOM.

State of Michigan, *ss.*

I hereby certify that the annexed and foregoing is a full, true, and perfect copy of the joint resolutions of the legislature of the State of Michi-

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gan, entitled "Joint resolutions respecting the territories of the United States," approved January 13, 1849, on file and of record in my office.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great seal of the State of Michigan this twenty-second day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine.

[L. S.]

GEO. H. PECK,
*Secretary of State.*