

CLAIMS OF CITIZENS OF KENTUCKY.

RESOLUTIONS

OF

THE LEGISLATURE OF KENTUCKY,

IN RELATION TO

*The adjustment and payment of claims of citizens of that State against the United States.*

FEBRUARY 16, 1864.—Referred to the Committee of Claims and ordered to be printed.

PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTION in relation to the adjustment and payment of claims of citizens of Kentucky against the United States.

Whereas the armies of the United States, in the present war to suppress the rebellion in the southern States, have, necessarily and rightfully, occupied the State of Kentucky, and, in so doing, have greatly damaged the property of, and otherwise injured pecuniarily, many loyal citizens thereof, by encampments being made upon farms, whereby the same have been laid waste by the taking and using forage and subsistence without paying or furnishing proper vouchers therefor, by the erection of fortifications, the destruction of ferries, the impressment of stock, and in divers other ways, all of which constitute just claims against the United States; and whereas in a great majority of instances, those who sustained losses are poor persons, many of whom are reduced to absolute want thereby; and whereas the mode, as at present provided by Congress, for the adjudication and payment of said claims, by prosecuting an action in the United States Court of Claims, at Washington, effectually deprives many meritorious claimants of any hope of payment, by reason of the necessary expenses attending their prosecution in that court, which would, not unfrequently, exceed the amounts of the claims, and, in all cases, must result in long delay, greatly to the prejudice of the interest of claimants: Therefore, be it

1. *Resolved by the general assembly of the commonwealth of Kentucky,* That our senators in Congress be instructed, and our members of the House of Representatives requested, to introduce and urge the passage of such law as will afford adequate relief to the loyal sufferers within this State, either by providing for a branch Court of Claims within and for the State of Kentucky, regulated as the Court of Claims is now by law regulated; or by giving to the United States district court for the district of Kentucky jurisdiction in such cases, and making the necessary appropriation to provide for the immediate payment of such judgment as may be awarded thereby; or authorizing the State of Kentucky, through the medium of her own courts, to adjudicate, allow, and pay

such claims of the character aforesaid as may be just, and providing for he reimbursement.

2. That the governor be requested to memorialize Congress upon the matters hereinbefore set forth, urging attention to and action thereon.

3. That the foregoing preamble and resolutions, together with the memorial of the governor, be printed, and a copy forwarded by the governor to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to each of our senators and members of Congress.

Approved January 20, 1864.

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COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,

Frankfort, Kentucky, January 25, 1864.

*To the President of the Senate, and Congress of the United States :*

I herewith transmit joint resolutions of the legislature of Kentucky in regard to the payment of claims of loyal citizens of Kentucky, and most earnestly urge the national government to provide, as early as practicable, some expeditious and equitable mode of ascertaining said claims, and have their prompt payment secured.

In many instances the sufferers are reduced to absolute want, and reparation is demanded by every consideration of justice and humanity.

THO. E. BRAMLETTE.

By the governor :

E. L. VAN WINKLE,  
*Secretary of State.*