

# SENATE . . . . . No. 34.

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## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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SENATE, Feb. 5, 1890.

The committee on Federal Relations, to whom was referred so much of the Governor's address as suggests memorializing Congress in regard to car couplers and brakes on freight trains, report the accompanying Resolutions.

For the Committee,

THOS. W COOK.

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety.

### RESOLUTIONS

Relating to Railroad Disasters and Loss of Life from the present modes of Coupling and Heating Cars.

1 *Resolved*, By the Senate and House of Representatives  
2 in General Court assembled :

3 *Whereas*, Thousands of persons are annually killed or  
4 injured in the making up freight trains and handling the  
5 brakes of railroad cars used in interstate traffic, which  
6 might be prevented by the use of uniform automatic  
7 couplers and train brakes ; and

8 *Whereas*, Appalling railway disasters, attended by  
9 awful suffering and fearful loss of life, result from the  
10 use of dangerous and unscientific methods of heating  
11 and lighting railway cars used in interstate passenger  
12 traffic ; and

13 *Whereas*, No system of coupling, heating or lighting  
14 of cars which will be at once practicable, safe and uni-  
15 form is likely to be adopted by the several railroad cor-  
16 porations, nor made compulsory by the laws of the  
17 several states ; therefore

18 *Resolved*, That the Senate and House of Representa-  
19 tives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General  
20 Court assembled, do most respectfully and earnestly  
21 urge upon Congress the consideration of the foregoing  
22 subjects, with a view to the passage of resolutions

23 instructing the interstate commerce commission to con-  
24 sider whether some uniform means may not be adopted  
25 to save life, prevent suffering, and add to the comfort  
26 and security of railway passengers and employees in the  
27 heating, lighting and operating of railway cars used in  
28 interstate commerce; to the end that said commission  
29 may make recommendations to the various railroads  
30 within its jurisdiction. and report the same to Congress,  
31 with such suggestions as to legislation on said subject as  
32 may seem necessary or expedient.

33 *Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to  
34 the Congress of the United States, and to each of our  
35 senators and representatives therein.

