

HOUSE....No. 73.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, February 10, 1860.

The Committee on the Constitution and Laws, who were instructed by an Order of the 17th of January, to inquire into the expediency of so amending the Constitution as to abolish the Governor's Council, report the accompanying Resolve.

Per Order,

J. Q. A. GRIFFIN.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty.

R E S O L V E

Providing for an Amendment of the Constitution.

Resolved, That it is expedient to alter the Constitution of this Commonwealth, by adopting the subjoined Article of Amendment, and that the same be published, to the end that, if agreed to by the General Court next to be chosen, in the manner provided by the Constitution, it may be submitted to the people for their ratification, in order that it may become a part of the Constitution of this Commonwealth.

ARTICLE OF AMENDMENT.

1 Those articles of the constitution which provide
2 for the election of councillors, and those articles and
3 clauses of the constitution which define their powers
4 and duties, are hereby rescinded.

5 All the powers and duties which by the constitu-
6 tion or laws are vested in, or required to be performed
7 by the governor and council jointly, or the council
8 alone, shall be vested in and performed by the gov-
9 ernor until the general court shall otherwise pro-
10 vide by law, except that the governor, lieutenant-
11 governor, secretary, treasurer and receiver-general,
12 auditor, attorney-general, or a majority of them, shall
13 examine the returned copies of the records for the
14 election of governor, lieutenant-governor, senators,
15 representatives to congress, electors of president and
16 vice-president, and the returns of votes in all other
17 cases provided by law, at the same times and in like
18 manner as is now required to be done by the governor
19 and council.

ARTICLE IV

1 These articles of the constitution shall provide
 2 for the election of a president and vice president
 3 and a senate of the United States. The powers
 4 and duties of each shall be as follows:
 5 All the executive and judicial powers shall
 6 be vested in the president and vice president
 7 and the senate respectively. The president
 8 shall be elected for a term of four years
 9 and shall have the right to appoint and
 10 remove officers of the United States
 11 and to grant pardons and reprieves
 12 and to receive ambassadors and other
 13 ministers of foreign nations. He shall
 14 have the power to make treaties with the
 15 consent of the senate and to appoint
 16 and remove judges of the United States
 17 and to commission and receive the
 18 oaths of office of officers of the United States
 19 and to grant reprieves and pardons
 20 for offenses against the United States
 21 except in cases of impeachment. He shall
 22 and receive ambassadors and other
 23 ministers of foreign nations.