

or beyond the original territory of the States and Territories belonging to the Union at the adoption of the Constitution of the United States. And that, in whatever manner the consent of Massachusetts may have been given, or inferred, to the admission of the States already by general consent forming part of the Union, from such territory, the admission of such States, in the judgment of Massachusetts, forms no precedent for the admission of Texas, and can never be interpreted to rest on powers granted in the Constitution.

Resolved, That there has hitherto been no precedent of an admission of a foreign state or foreign territory into the Union by legislation. And as the powers of legislation, granted in the Constitution of the United States to Congress, do not embrace a case of the admission of a foreign state, or foreign territory, by legislation, into the Union, such an act of admission would have no binding force whatever on the people of Massachusetts.

Resolved, That the powers never having been granted by the people of Massachusetts, to admit into the Union States and Territories not within the same when the Constitution was adopted, remains with the people, and can only be exercised in such way and manner, as the people shall hereafter designate and appoint.

Resolved, That the people of Massachusetts will never consent to use the powers reserved to themselves to admit Texas, or any other State or Territory, now without the Union, on any other basis than the perfect equality of freemen. And that, while slavery, or slave representation, forms any part of the claims or conditions of admission, Texas, with their consent, can never be admitted.

Resolved, That His Excellency the Governor be requested to transmit copies of the preceding report and resolves to the President of the United States, the several Senators and Representatives in Congress from this Commonwealth, and the Governors of the several States. [*Approved by the Governor, Feb. 22, 1845.*]

RESOLVE on the Petition of Richard Nichols.

Resolved, for reasons set forth in said petition, that there be paid, out of the treasury of the Commonwealth, to Richard Nichols, of Charlestown, eighty dollars, in full for the reward to which he is entitled for causing James Johnson, a counterfeiter, to be arrested and convicted on two indictments, and that the Governor draw his warrant therefor accordingly. [*Approved by the Governor, Feb. 24, 1845.*]

gated power^{to}
admit foreign
states, &c.

No precedent,
nor constitu-
tional authority,
for admitting
a foreign state
by legislation.

Power to admit,
&c. remains
with the people.

Massachusetts
will not consent
to the extension
of slavery or of
slave representa-
tion by the ad-
mission of new
states or territo-
ries.

Copies to be
transmitted, &c.

Chap. 40.

Allowance of
\$80 for the ar-
rest, &c. of a
counterfeiter.