

Resolutions of the Legislature of Massachusetts in relation to the French Spoliation.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIVE.

Resolves Concerning the French Spoliations:

Whereas, On different occasions, Massachusetts has, in an official and constitutional manner, expressed the views of the Commonwealth in favor of the justice of the claims which numerous American citizens have against the government of the United States in consequence of its assumption (according to the convention of eighteen hundred, ratified in eighteen hundred and one) of the claims for spoliations committed on their commerce, through the authority of the government of France, previous to the thirtieth day of September, in the year eighteen hundred :—

And whereas, The President of the United States has vetoed a bill for the payment of those claims, after it had received the sanction of a large majority of both branches of the national legislature during its recent session, therefore—

Resolved, That Massachusetts hereby reiterates her previously recorded opinions in favor of the justice of those long-delayed claims, and also declares that the refusal of the United States Government to indemnify the parties rightfully interested in them is a disgraceful repudiation of just obligations, and should receive the earnest protest of the people of each State anxious to preserve untarnished the national honor, and to maintain unsullied the national credit.

Resolved, That his Excellency the Governor be requested to transmit a copy of these Resolutions to the President of the United States, to the Governor of each State, and to each Senator and Representative of Massachusetts in the National Congress, with a request to use all honorable means to secure the passage of an act which shall render justice to the claimants on account of French spoliations.

Passed.—HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, May 11, 1855.

DANIEL C. EDDY, Speaker.

Passed.—IN SENATE, May 14, 1855.

HENRY W. BENCHLEY, President.

Approved, May 15th, 1855,

HENRY J. GARDNER.

Secretary's Office, Boston June 15, 1855.

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the original.
Attest: E. M. WRIGHT, Secretary of the Commonwealth.