

ACTS

OF THE

EIGHTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,

AND

SEVENTEENTH UNDER THE NEW CONSTITUTION.



FREEHOLD, N. J.:

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1861.

JOINT RESOLUTIONS.

NUMBER I.

In relation to the Union of the States.

WHEREAS, the people of New Jersey, conforming to the Preamble. opinion of "the Father of his Country," consider the unity of the government, which constitutes the people of the United States one people, a main pillar in the edifice of their independence, the support of their tranquility at home and peace abroad, of their prosperity, and of that liberty which they so highly prize; and properly estimating the immense value of their National Union to their individual happiness, they cherish a cordial, habitual and immovable attachment to it as the palladium of their political safety and prosperity, therefore

1. BE IT RESOLVED *by the Senate and General Assembly of* Duties of citizens. *the State of New Jersey,* That it is the duty of every good citizen, in all suitable and proper ways, to stand by and sustain the Union of the States as transmitted to us by our fathers.

2. *And be it resolved,* That the government of the United Union not compact or league. States is a national government, and the Union it was de-

signed to perfect is not a mere compact or league; and that the constitution was adopted in a spirit of mutual compromise and concession by the people of the United States, and can only be preserved by the constant recognition of that spirit.

Forbearance
and compro-
mise recom-
mended.

3. *And be it resolved*, That however undoubted may be the right of the general government to maintain its authority and enforce its laws over all parts of the country, it is equally certain that forbearance and compromise are indispensable at this crisis to the perpetuity of the Union, and that it is the dictate of reason, wisdom and patriotism peacefully to adjust whatever differences exist between the different sections of our country.

Crittenden re-
solutions.

4. *And be it resolved*, That the resolutions and propositions submitted to the Senate of the United States by the Honorable John J. Crittenden, of Kentucky, for the compromise of the questions in dispute between the people of the northern and of the southern states, or any other constitutional method that will permanently settle the question of slavery, will be acceptable to the people of the state of New Jersey, and the senators and representatives in Congress, from New Jersey, be requested and earnestly urged to support those resolutions and propositions.

Convention to
alter constitu-
tion.

5. *And be it resolved*, That as the union of the states is in imminent danger unless the remedies before suggested be speedily adopted, then, as a last resort, the state of New Jersey hereby makes application, according to the terms of the constitution, of the Congress of the United States to call a convention (of the states) to propose amendments to said constitution.

States urged
to repeal ob-
noxious laws.

6. *And be it resolved*, That such of the states as have in force laws which interfere with the constitutional rights of citizens of the other states, either in regard to their persons or property, or which militate against the just construction of that part of the constitution that provides that "the citizens of each state shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several states," are earnestly

urged and requested, for the sake of peace and the Union, to repeal all such laws.

7. *And be it resolved*, That his Excellency, Charles S. Olden, Peter D. Vroom, Robert F. Stockton, Benjamin Williamson, Joseph F. Randolph, Frederick T. Frelinghuysen, Rodman M. Price, William C. Alexander and Thomas J. Stryker be appointed commissioners to confer with Congress and our sister states, and urge upon them the importance of carrying into effect the principles and objects of the foregoing resolutions. Commissioners appointed.

8. *And be it resolved*, That the commissioners above named, in addition to their other powers, be authorized to meet with those now or hereafter to be appointed by our sister state of Virginia, and such commissioners of other states as have been or may be hereafter appointed, to meet at Washington on the fourth day of February next. Commissioners when and where to meet

9. *And be it resolved*, That copies of the foregoing resolutions be sent to the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, and to the Senators and Representatives in Congress from New Jersey, and to the Governors of the several states. Copies of resolutions to be sent.

Approved January 29, 1861.