

Inclosure in No. 6.

Message to the Senate and House of Representatives.

XII.
 North-eastern
 Boundary.
 Arrest of E. Greely,
 Fortifications.

I FEEL it my duty respectfully to call your attention to the propriety and expediency of taking some measures before you separate, to express and urge the claims and rights of this State, in relation to the fortifications and defences upon our coast and rivers. Former Legislatures have called the attention of the General Government to this subject; but the works have not yet been commenced, and no recent movement has been made. It is unnecessary for me to enter into a detail of reasons which, at this moment particularly, justify and require a strong and urgent representation addressed to the General Government on this subject. (Maine ought not to be left defenceless or exposed in so many points any longer. If her claims are presented by you, as representatives of the people, in respectful but strong language, we may confidently trust that they will not be neglected or postponed at this important crisis.

(Signed)

EDWARD KENT.

Council Chamber, March 22, 1838.

STATE OF MAINE.

Resolves relating to Fortifications on our Frontier.

RESOLVED—That the maritime frontier and the extensive interior position of this State, are in a defenceless and exposed situation, and we rely with confidence that the Federal Government will cause suitable fortifications to be erected for the defence of the same.

Resolved—That the erection of a strong fortification in some eligible position in the Eastern section of this State, is imperatively and loudly called for by the increasing necessity of extending the protection of our laws to the citizens living in that vicinity.

Resolved—That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives requested, to use their influence to procure suitable appropriations for the objects contemplated in the foregoing Resolves.

Resolved—That the Governor be requested to send one copy of his Message to the Legislature, in relation to Fortifications; and one copy of these Resolves to the President and Vice President of the United States, to each of the Heads of Department at Washington, and to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

In the House of Representatives, March 23, 1838—Read and passed.

(Signed)

ELISHA H. ALLEN, Speaker.

In Senate, March 22, 1838—Read and passed.

(Signed)

N. S. LITTLEFIELD, President.

March 23, 1838—Approved.

(Signed)

EDWARD KENT.

STATE OF MAINE.

Resolves in relation to the North Eastern Boundary.

RESOLVED—That it is not expedient to give the assent of this State to the Federal Government, to treat with that of Great Britain for a conventional line for our North Eastern Boundary; but that this State will insist on the line established by the Treaty of 1783.

Resolved—That as this State has never heretofore given her consent to the appointment of an umpire under the Treaty of Ghent in 1814, but has protested against the same; and as she believes it to be a grave question whether the provisions in the Treaty for the purpose has not done its office, and is therefore no longer in force, she is not now prepared to give her assent to the appointment of a new Arbitrator.

Resolved—That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be requested to urge the passage of a Bill for the survey of the North Eastern Boundary of the United States, &c., now pending in Congress; and that if said Bill shall not become a law during the present session of Congress, and if the Government of the United States, either alone or in conjunction with Great Britain or the State of Maine, shall not, on or before the first day of September next, establish and appoint a Commissioner for a survey of said Boundary Line, it shall then be the imperative duty of the Governor, without further delay, to appoint forthwith suitable Commissioners and Surveyors for ascertaining, running, and locating the North Eastern Boundary Line of this State, and to cause the same to be carried into operation.

Resolved—That the Governor be requested to transmit to the President of the United States one copy of his Message to the Legislature on the subject of the North Eastern Boundary, and these Resolves, and one copy of the same to each of the Heads of Department at Washington, one copy to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, and one copy to the Governor of Massachusetts.

In the House of Representatives, March 23, 1838—Read and passed.

(Signed)

E. H. ALLEN, Speaker.

In Senate, March 23, 1838—Read and passed.

(Signed)

N. S. LITTLEFIELD, President.

March 23, 1838—Approved.

(Signed)

EDWARD KENT.