

soldier in the army of the west, under General Anthony Wayne, from 1793 to 1796, praying that pensions may be granted to his surviving fellow soldiers and himself.

Mr. Gideon Lee presented a memorial of sundry citizens of the city of New York, praying for the establishment of an express mail from the city of New Orleans to Portland, in the State of Maine.

Mr. Galbraith presented a memorial of sundry citizens of the State of Pennsylvania, praying that an inquiry may be had to ascertain whether the notes, or drafts of the Bank of the United States, issued previous to the expiration of its charter on the 4th March last, while the United States were the holders of one-fifth of the stock, and returned to the bank in the regular course of business, have been re-issued; and if so, by what authority? and how far the United States are responsible for such re-issues? also whether Congress possess any power to prevent it? what is the situation of the stock held by the Government in that bank, and what disposition should be made of it?

Ordered, That the said petitions, memorials, and resolutions be laid upon the table.

Mr. McKeon presented a memorial of sundry merchants and importers, residing in the city of New York, praying that the office of measurer for the district and port of New York may not be abolished; which memorial was read, and committed to a Committee of the Whole House to which was committed the bill (No. 484) "to fix the number and compensation of officers of the customs, and to alter certain collection districts; and for other purposes."

Mr. White, of Florida, presented the "acts of the Governor and Legislative Council of the Territory of Florida, passed at the fourteenth session, begun and held at the city of Tallahassee, on Monday, January 4th, and ended Sunday, February 14, 1836;" which acts were referred to the Committee on the Territories.

→ Mr. John Quincy Adams presented the following memorials and remonstrances:

1. Memorial of George Atkinson, and ninety-four citizens of Harrison county, Ohio, praying that Congress would take measures to obtain a repeal of the constitution of Arkansas, which allows slavery, before admitting that State into the Union.

2. Petition of Francis B. Bacon, and three hundred and twenty-seven inhabitants of Massachusetts, remonstrating against the article in the constitution of the State of Arkansas, denying to the Legislature the power of emancipating slaves without the consent of their owners.

3. Remonstrance of George Russell, Seth Drew, and twenty-four inhabitants of Kingston, Plymouth county, Massachusetts, against the admission of Arkansas into the Union as a slave State; and praying Congress not to sanction the article concerning slavery in the constitution of that State.

4. Remonstrance of Samuel Reed, and two hundred and ten male inhabitants of Abington, Massachusetts, against the article in the constitution of Arkansas, denying to the Legislature the power of emancipating slaves without the consent of their owners.

5. Remonstrance of Samuel Mulliken, and ninety inhabitants of Dorchester, Massachusetts, against the slavery article in the constitution of Arkansas.

6. Remonstrance of Joseph Swain, and seventy-two inhabitants, male

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By Mr. Briggs: Of inhabitants of the town of Cummington, in the State of Massachusetts;

By Mr. Pearce, of Rhode Island: Of inhabitants of the State of Rhode Island;

By Mr. Phillips: Of inhabitants of Windham county, in the State of Connecticut.

By Mr. Ingham: Of inhabitants of New Haven, in the State of Connecticut;

By Mr. Judson: Of inhabitants of Plainfield, Hampton, and Willimantic, in Windham county, in the State of Connecticut;

By Mr. Slade: Of citizens of the State of Rhode Island;

By Mr. Slade: Of inhabitants of Starksborough, in the State of Vermont;

By Mr. Slade: Of citizens of the city of Philadelphia;

By Mr. Slade: Of citizens of Adams county, in the State of Pennsylvania;

By Mr. Slade: Of citizens of Somersworth, in the State of New Hampshire;

By Mr. Slade: Of citizens of Addison county, in the State of Vermont;

By Mr. Lay: Of inhabitants of the county of Cayuga, in the State of New York;

By Mr. Granger: Of citizens of the city of New York;

By Mr. Hazeltine: Of citizens of the city of New York;

By Mr. Ingersoll: Of six hundred and five citizens of the city of Philadelphia;

By Mr. Parker: Of inhabitants of Gloucester county, in the State of New Jersey;

By Mr. Morris: Of inhabitants of Bucks county, in the State of Pennsylvania;

By Mr. Sutherland: Of citizens of the city of Philadelphia;

By Mr. Milligan: Of citizens of the State of Delaware;

which said remonstrances and memorials were severally laid upon the table, under the order of the House of the 26th of May last; which provides "that all petitions, memorials, resolutions, propositions, or papers, relating in any way, or to any extent whatever, to the subject of slavery, or the abolition of slavery, shall, without being either printed or referred, be laid upon the table, and that no further action whatever, shall be had thereon."

Petitions and memorials praying for the abolition of slavery, and the slave trade in the District of Columbia, and in the several States and Territories were presented as follows:

By Mr. Cushing: Of inhabitants of Chester, in the State of New Hampshire;

By Mr. Cushing: Of inhabitants of Windham, in the State of New Hampshire;

By Mr. Cushing: Of inhabitants of Concord, in the State of New Hampshire;

By Mr. Cushing: Of inhabitants of Lowell, in the State of Massachusetts;

By Mr. Phillips: Of citizens of Boston, in the State of Massachusetts;

By Mr. Slade: Of citizens of Bennington county, in the State of Vermont;

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By Mr. Hazeltine: A petition of two hundred and seventy-nine females of the city of New York.

By Mr. Hazeltine: A petition of sundry citizens of the city of New York.

By Mr. Hazeltine: A petition of sundry females of the State of New York.

By Mr. Ingersoll: A petition of citizens of the State of Pennsylvania.

By Mr. Ingersoll: A petition of inhabitants of Philadelphia and its vicinity.

By Mr. Ingersoll: A petition of inhabitants of the city and county of Philadelphia.

By Mr. Ingersoll: A memorial of the Anti-slavery Society of Philadelphia.

By Mr. Banks: A memorial of sundry females of Erie county, Pennsylvania.

By Mr. Banks: A petition of inhabitants of Erie county, Pennsylvania.

By Mr. Beaumont: A petition of citizens of Columbia county, Pennsylvania.

By Mr. Chambers, of Pennsylvania: A petition of citizens of the county of Adams, in the State of Pennsylvania.

By Mr. Potts: Two several memorials of citizens of the State of Pennsylvania.

By Mr. Potts: Two several memorials of females of the State of Pennsylvania.

By Mr. Harper: A memorial of sundry females of the State of Pennsylvania.

By Mr. Hiester: A petition of inhabitants of the State of Pennsylvania.

By Mr. Hiester: A petition of sundry females of the State of Pennsylvania.

By Mr. McKennan: Two several petitions of inhabitants of the county of Washington, in the State of Pennsylvania.

By Mr. McKennan: A petition of sundry females of the borough of Washington, in the State of Pennsylvania.

These several petitions and memorials were referred, without a question, to the select committee on the subject of slavery, in pursuance of the resolution of the House of the 8th of February.

Mr. Dutee J. Pearce presented copies of resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island, viz:

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS, IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY,
January Session, A. D. 1836.

Resolved, That the public lands of the United States are the common property of all the States of this Union.

Resolved, That the Senators and Representatives of this State, in the Congress of the United States, be, and they are hereby, requested to use their exertions and influence to procure, at the present session of Congress, and as early as may be, the enactment of a law, providing for the distribution, in time of peace, in just and equal proportions, to and amongst the several States, of the moneys annually accruing, as nett proceeds, from sales of the public lands of the United States, and to aid the passage of such a law by their votes.

Resolved further, That the said Senators and Representatives be each immediately furnished with a copy of the foregoing resolutions.

True copy, witness:

HENRY BOWEN, *Secretary.*

Anti-slavery petitions sent to the House from Ledger of the 24th Congress, Volume 28

To the Honorable the House of Representatives of the United States.

The undersigned ~~Women~~ of ~~Brookline~~ in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have learned with astonishment and alarm, that your honorable body did, on the 21st of December last, adopt a resolution in the words following, to wit:

* Resolved, That all memorials, petitions, and papers, touching the abolition of slavery, or the buying, selling, or transfer of slaves in any State, territory, or district of the United States, shall be laid on the table, without reading, or printing, and that no further action thereon shall be had. ~~These~~ ~~or referred, that no further action thereon shall be had. These~~
Your memorialists consider this resolution a violation of the Constitution of the United States—of the right of the people of the United States to petition—and of the right of their Representatives to freedom of speech as members of your honorable body: They further regard it as an assumption of authority, at once dangerous and destructive to the fundamental principles of republican government, to the rights of minorities, to the sovereignty of the People, and TO THE UNION OF THESE UNITED STATES: They therefore present this their solemn and earnest remonstrance against said resolution, and respectfully ask your honorable body to IMMEDIATELY RESCIND IT.

Sarah M. Gimble

Angelina G. Gimble

Eliza Whitbrick

Fanny Bell

Sarah Celfe

Hepzibah Celfe

Abra H. Whitney

Rebecca Gerry

Rebecca L. Gerry

Rosanna Jaquith 10

Anna A. Ogden

Miriam Johnson

Mary J. R. Tolman

Elizabeth Whyte

Susan S. Whyte

Ellen S. Whyte

Eliza Spinwall

Samantha D. Hoggins

Melitable Stone

Mary H. Stone 20

Annie Pamela Philbrick

Catherine Lopez

Hannah Lopez

Harriet Lopez

Hannah Prince

Petition from Women of Brookline, MA 1838

Records of the U.S. House of Representatives, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C.

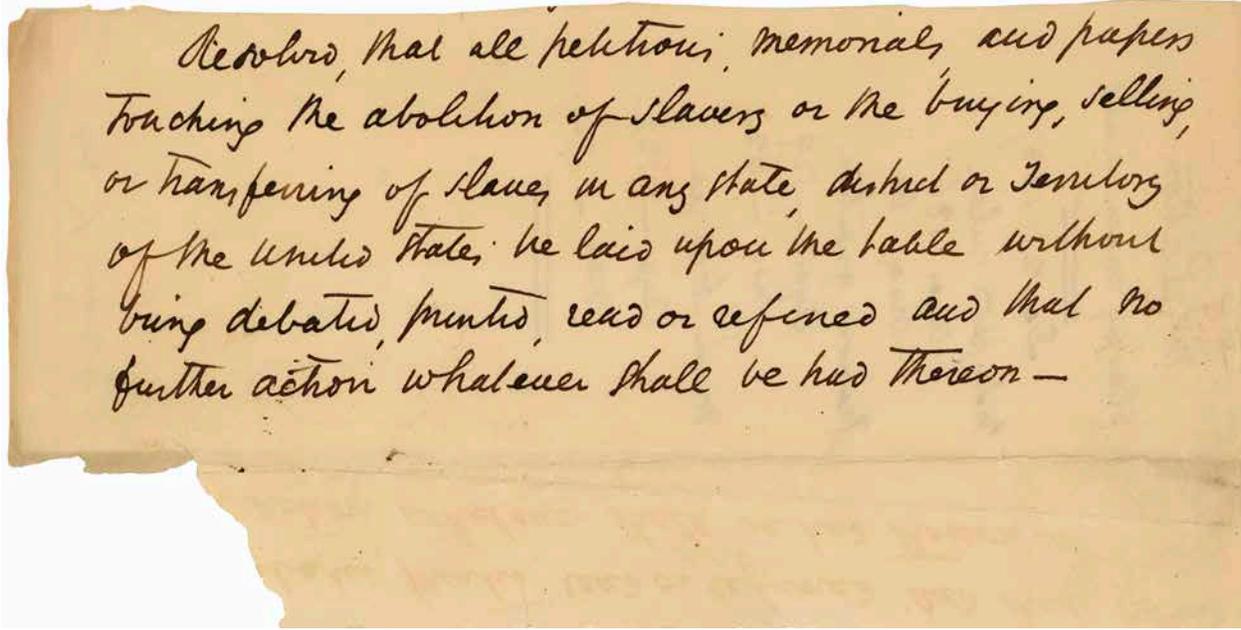
Upon the name of John Quincy Adams being
called in taking the oath of answering special things
I hold the Resolution to be in direct violation of the Constitution
of the United States, of the Rules of this House, and of the rights
of my constituents. — and gave his answer in writing to
the Chair.

Mr. Gettys

Adams

Representative John Quincy Adams' motion denouncing the gag rule against anti-slavery petitions as unconstitutional, May 27, 1836

Records of the U.S. House of Representatives, National Archives and Records Administration



Resolved, that all petitions, memorials, and papers touching the abolition of slavery or the buying, selling, or transferring of slaves in any state, district or Territory of the United States be laid upon the table without being debated, printed, read or referred and that no further action whatsoever shall be had thereon—

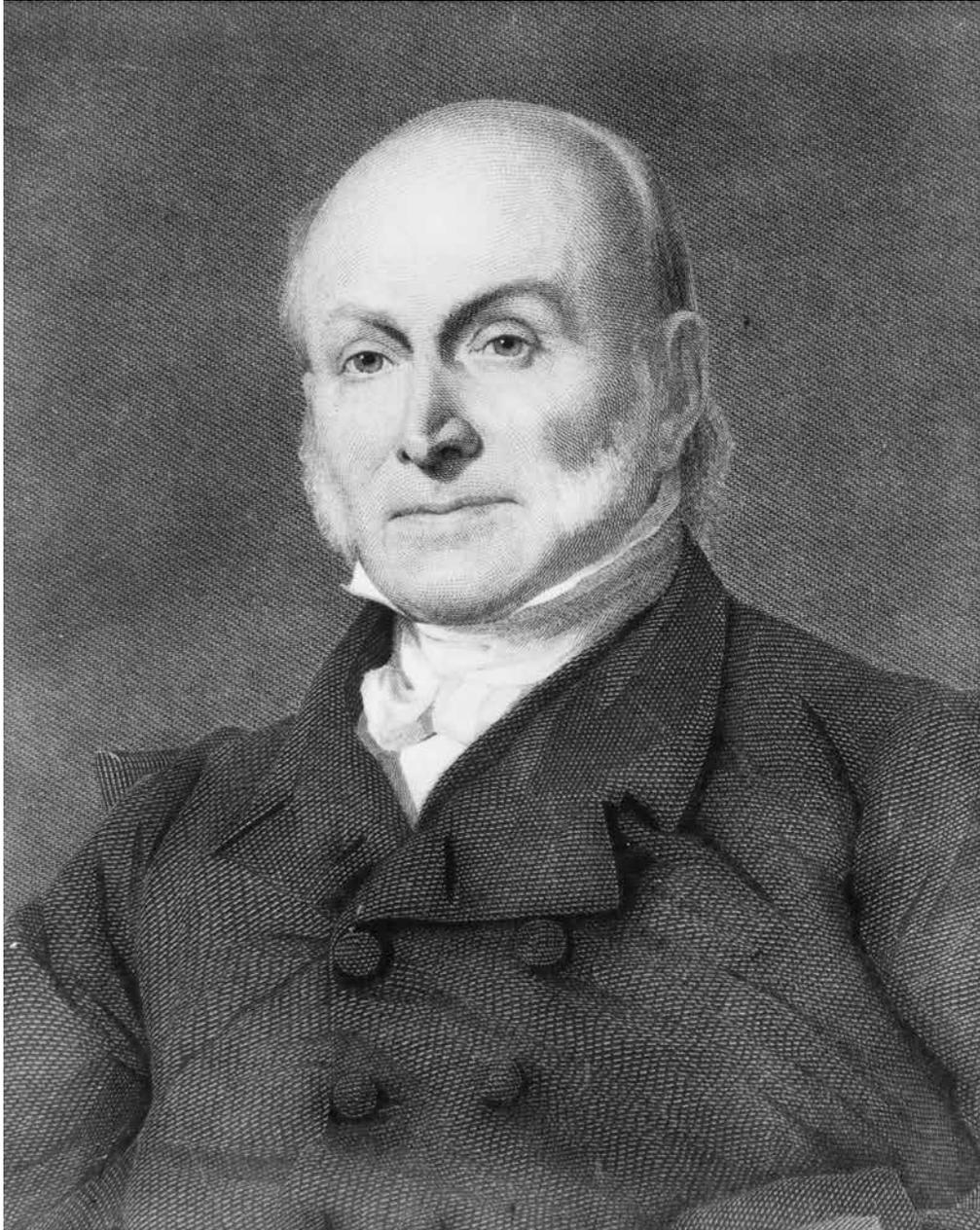
“Gag Rule” Resolution, December 21, 1837

Records of the U.S. House of Representatives, National Archives and Records Administration

Transcript

Introduction of the document:

Resolved, that all petitions, memorials and papers touching the abolition of slavery or the buying, selling, or transferring of slaves in any state, district or territory of the United States be laid upon the table without being debated, printed, read or referred and that no further action whatsoever shall be had thereon-



Portrait of John Quincy Adams

Architect of the Capitol



Cane given to Adams in commemoration of him gaining enough votes to end the gag rule

Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of American History, Behring Center