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Resolutions of the Legislature of the Territory of Washington, relative to the proclamation of martial law by Isaac I. Stevens, late Governor of that territory.

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RESOLUTIONS

OF THE

LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF WASHINGTON,

RELATIVE TO

The proclamation of martial law by Isaac I. Stevens, late governor of that Territory.

MARCH 1, 1858.—Read, and ordered to be printed.

RESOLUTIONS relative to the proclamation of martial law over the counties of Pierce and Thurston, by Isaac I. Stevens, late governor of Washington Territory.

Whereas, in the prosecution of the late Indian war, Isaac I. Stevens, late governor of the Territory of Washington, proclaimed and enforced martial law in the counties of Pierce and Thurston, and for which he received unmerited condemnation by a certain resolution of the legislative assembly, passed January 16, 1857: Therefore—

Be it resolved by the legislative assembly of the Territory of Washington, That, in thus proclaiming and enforcing martial law, we believe Governor Isaac I. Stevens to have been actuated by motives of the purest patriotism, and with a desire only for the safety, welfare, and prosperity of the Territory.

Resolved, That, in our opinion, the state of the country demanded that stringent measures should be adopted, and such as could be effected by martial law only; and that there was absolute necessity for the same is sufficiently evidenced by the fact that the enemy, who, prior to its existence, were continually on the alert, and supplied with information of all operations after its enforcement, were continually struck by our gallant troops, and soon reduced to submission.

Resolved, That the resolution passed January 16, 1857, does not now, and did not at that time, express the opinion of a majority of the citizens of Washington Territory, but was in direct contravention of the same—a fact manifested by the triumphant election of Governor Stevens as our delegate to Congress, receiving in such election over two-thirds of the votes cast.

Resolved, That the secretary of the Territory be requested to trans-

mit copies of these resolutions to the President of the United States, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to the Hon. Isaac I. Stevens.

Passed house of representatives, January 9, 1858.

J. S. M. VANCLINE,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Passed council, January 19, 1858.

C. C. PAGETT,
President of the Council.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
Olympia, January 25, 1858.

A true copy. Attest:
[SEAL.]

C. H. MUNN,
Secretary of the Territory.