RESOLUTIONS

OF

THE LEGISLATURE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,

Respecting the late disturbances in Kansas, and the assault upon the Hon. Mr. Sumner.

August 14, 1856.—Ordered to lie on the table and be printed.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SIX.

RESOLUTIONS of the legislature of New Hampshire in relation to the late acts of violence and bloodshed by the slave power in the Territory of Kansas and at the national capital.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives in general court convened, as follows:

1. Resolved, That all subsequent events have demonstrated that the abrogation, in the act organizing the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska, of the prohibition against slavery, which formed a part of the compact long known and respected as the Missouri compromise, was not, as was alleged by the supporters of the measure, for the purpose of recognizing and enunciating a great political principle, but, as was charged by its opponents at the time, had for its object to strip that great territory of its defences, and to open it to invasion and conquest by that relentless power, which, in its onward movement, no concession can appease and no acquisition can satisfy; and which, for the advancement of its unholy purposes, has long wielded, and virtually claims the right to wield, the whole power of the general government.

2. Resolved, That the successful incursions of the armed and organized bands of lawless marauders from a neighboring State into the Territory of Kansas—assailing and overpowering its peaceful inhabitants, preventing their lawful exercise of their political rights, seizing upon and appropriating all the powers vested in them for the formation of a government, and fortifying and perpetuating this usurpation by the most oppressive and atrocious laws—have proved that the doctrine of popular sovereignty, however true in the abstract, and in its application to more mature or to independent communities, is not fitted to the condition of an infant Territory, under constitutional guardianship, and most especially where the powers vested in the guardian shall be used in violation of the great trust which it

holds.

3. Resolved, That there never has been established in Kansas any