

NUMBER 22.

JOINT RESOLUTION relative to the printing and distribution of the assessment laws.

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the secretary of state be authorized and required to cause a sufficient number of the laws for the assessment and collection of taxes, passed by the present legislature, to be printed and distributed to the different town and city officers of this state, and that said laws be sent to the several officers at the earliest practicable period, with such instructions as to the secretary of state may seem proper.

Approved March 6, 1868.

NUMBER 23.

JOINT RESOLUTION instructing senators and representatives in congress to preserve the equilibrium between the co-ordinate branches of government.

Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the government of the United States was founded upon the theory that it was essential to the safety of the union, the protection of the rights of the people and the preservation of their liberties, that the powers of government should be distributed between and devolve upon three distinct co-ordinate departments; the executive, legislative and judicial; and that the powers and duties of each department shall be clearly defined and limited and that each should be secured in the full enjoyment and exercise of the powers conferred upon it without any encroachment or interference by any of the others; that to that end the constitution of the United States was adopted; that to unite the powers of all or any two of the three great departments of the federal government in the same hands would form a combination dangerous to public liberty and hazardous to the life of the republic, and that any attempt, come from whatever source it may, to subvert the federal constitution by consolidating the powers of the executive, legislative and judicial departments in any one of them or to restrict or interfere with the full exercise of the powers devolved upon either

and the abrogation of the rights of the citizen on the part of the judiciary as in the "Dred Scott case," and the usurpation of the powers of the legislative branch of the government by the executive, Andrew Johnson, in establishing governments in the states lately in rebellion without the authority of congress, deserves and should receive the condemnation of every patriotic citizen of the republic.

Resolved, That our senators in congress be instructed and our representatives in congress be requested to oppose by their votes and influence all measures in antagonism with the spirit of the foregoing resolutions.

Resolved, That the governor be requested to transmit a copy of the foregoing resolutions to each of our senators and representatives in congress.

Approved March 6, 1868.