

sident Johnson, as laid down in his official message to Congress of December, and pledge the cooperation of the General Assembly in all proper measures looking to the reconstruction and restoration of the revolted States, upon the plan therein indicated; that the General Assembly have entire confidence in the firmness, patriotism and honesty of Andrew Johnson, and his determination to administer the government entrusted to his charge upon principles of sound wisdom, enlightened statesmanship, and unswerving loyalty.

*Resolved as the sense of this body,* That the States of this Union cannot be broken or destroyed in any mode other than that pointed out in the Constitution itself; and that a recognition of the principles that the rebellion has annulled, or in any manner compromised their separate existence, as integrals of our common Union, or reduced them to a mere territorial relation, is at war with the express terms of our organic law, and admits the inability of this government to maintain itself, against civil war and domestic insurrection.

*Resolved,* That the control of the elective franchise is a function residing in the States, and may be restricted or enlarged as said States may deem most advantageous for the public welfare; that any attempt by Congress or other co-ordinate branch of this government, to force universal negro suffrage without the consent and sanction of the States, would be a palpable, open and unauthorised interference with the principles upon which this government was formed, and unwise and impolitic in the condition of our public affairs.

*Resolved,* That a Joint Committee of the Two Branches of this General Assembly be appointed to communicate in person a copy of these resolutions to his Excellency, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States.