

laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding:—and that no citizen, State, or other member of the body politic, has a right in any shape, or under any pretext, to annul or prevent the execution of the said Constitution, laws or treaties, or any of them, excepting in such extreme cases as justify a violent resistance to the laws on the principle of the natural and indefeasible prerogative of self defence against intolerable oppression.

RESOLVED, That the right claimed by the Convention of South Carolina for that State, of annulling any law of the United States which it may deem unconstitutional, is unauthorised by the letter or spirit of the Constitution—not supported by any contemporaneous exposition of that instrument, or by the practice under it:—inconsistent with the nature of political society, and tending, in practice, to the subversion of public tranquillity, and the complete overthrow of the Government.

RESOLVED, That the President of the United States is empowered, and in duty bound by the express provisions of the Constitution, and by his oath of office, to take care that the laws are faithfully executed:—that when attempts are made to disturb by force the execution of the laws, it is the duty of the President to employ the means which are placed at his disposal by the Constitution and laws for the purpose of defeating them:—that the Proclamation of the 10th of December last, is a judicious, well timed and salutary measure, well calculated to prevent the necessity of recurring to others of a different character:—that we approve the determination therein expressed by the President, to enforce the laws, and that we are prepared to support him and the other constituted authorities of the Union, in all necessary, suitable, constitutional and legal measures, which they may be called upon to adopt for that purpose.

RESOLVED, That while we find ourselves compelled to express an unfavorable opinion of the recent proceedings of South Carolina, we entertain no sentiments of unkindness towards our fellow citizens of that State:—that we look back with pride and satisfaction to the brilliant services rendered by South Carolina in the struggle for Independence, and have ever regarded her as among the most distinguished members of the Union:—that we deeply regret that measures adopted in good faith, and in a strictly constitutional form by the constituted authorities of the country, should have been considered by the people of that State as intended to build up another section of the Union at their expense:—that we are, and always have