

or violence; it is by appeal to the justice and intelligence of the people, brought to act through the legitimate channels, upon the subject matter of complaint.

5. *Resolved*, That the right of resistance to intolerable oppression, the right of political bodies to dissolve the bonds which unite them, whenever the great *ends* of government are perverted; are natural, and inherent rights too palpable to be controverted, and too recently most gloriously and successfully exercised by our ancestors, to be at all questionable on this side the Atlantic Ocean; but this right is in its nature revolutionary, and the just occasion for its exercise, presupposes the last degree of moral depravity or debasement of the intellectual faculties, of the governing power, in our country, the great body of the people—neither of which we are well assured exist at this time, and we trust in God, never will. If such a state of society ever should exist amongst us, then we shall be willing to give up the Union, *but not till then*.

6. *Resolved*, That the attitude assumed by our distinguished sister state of South Carolina, in regard to the general government, by her ordinance of nullification, is unwise, unnatural, inconsistent with the spirit and letter of Federal Constitution, incompatible with the nature of our happy Union, and cannot be permitted to pass without our decided rebuke, given however more in sorrow than in anger.

7. *Resolved*, That we recognise in the several departments of the Federal Government, consisting of a House of Representatives, emanating immediately from the people of the several states of the Union; a Senate, composed of representatives of the several state sovereignties, and an Executive, elected by all the people of the states, voting not collectively, but separately within their respective states; without the concurrent consent of all three of which, no legitimate action can take place, all the reasonable guards that human wisdom can devise, for the security and protection of the rights of the people, as well as the reserved rights of the several states. If more were wanting, we would point to the national judiciary, composed of eminent citizens, coming from various quarters of the country, selected by the Chief Magistrate under the most solemn obligations, with reference only to ability, integrity and virtue, subjected too, before appointment, to the approval or rejection of the representatives of the state sovereignties; and we would ask, if these be not sufficient guards against the unjust assumption or exercise of power, where is poor finite man to turn in search of better?