

principles and opinions, as to the relative powers and duties of the General Government and the several State Governments, we deem it unnecessary, therefore, at the present time, to do more than simply refer to the several Reports and Resolutions above alluded to.

Without entering into the discussion of political theories, we have chosen rather to take a practical view of the unhappy difficulties which agitate the public tranquility, and alarm the public mind. Viewing with the deepest feelings of regret the excitement which pervades our sister States, and the rash and presumptuous measures to which it has led, and deprecating those measures as utterly inconsistent with the spirit of forbearance and compromise in which our Union had its origin, and by a perseverance in which it can alone be maintained, we cannot, at the same time, forget that this excitement, this disturbance of the public tranquility, and all the dangers which this unnatural controversy threatens to bring upon the country, have, for their origin and moving cause, the policy of the protective system. Under this aspect of public affairs, it has seemed to your Committee the more useful course to respectfully interpose the voice of this State for conciliation and forbearance. There are none among us who would justify the untimely and ruinous resistance which South Carolina threatens against the existing laws of the United States, of whose injustice she complains. On the other hand, a large majority of the citizens of Maine ever have entertained, they still entertain, the most undoubting convictions of the impolicy and oppression of high protecting duties.

Under those circumstances, and with those views, the Committee submit the following Resolves.

J. WILLIAMSON, *Chairman.*