

ment to the Union which is our only security against domestic dissensions and foreign aggressions.

Slavery is a question in which we as a State have no interest, it is unknown in Maine, and those States who recognize its existence, have the exclusive control of the subject within their borders. As one of these United States, it is not for Maine, or the citizens of Maine to interfere with the internal regulations of any other independent State—no possible good can result from such an interference with affairs over which they can exercise no control.

That these are the sentiments of the great mass of the people of Maine, is evinced by the numerous public meetings, which were held in every part of the State the past season, in proof of which your committee adduce the following resolution, passed unanimously at the meeting in Portland, the largest city in Maine, on the 15th of August last.

*Resolved*, That it is the bounden and sacred duty of good citizens of every State, carefully and scrupulously to avoid all interference and attempts to interfere, and all manifestations of any intention or wish to interfere, with the peculiar interests, concerns, laws, and domestic policy of every other State in the Union—and that all such acts of interference, where they tend to disturb the quiet, to alienate the feelings, to provoke the jealousies, or jeopardize the safety of citizens of States, made unwilling subjects of such officious intermeddling deserve, and ought to receive the reprobation of every friend to his country.

Similar resolutions have been passed at public meetings by the inhabitants of Augusta, Bangor, Hallowell, Brunswick, Bath, Waterville, and by many other towns too numerous to be mentioned; and we may with confidence assert, that however divided on other great political questions, on this subject but one feeling pervades the State, and that the discussion of the question of slavery has been arrested in Maine by public sentiment, more effectual in its operation than any law which could be enacted.

Under these circumstances and in consideration of the fact that no Abolition paper is printed in Maine, your committee would deem any legislation on the subject as uncalled for, unwise and inexpedient, as tending to excite a