

dawning of every attempt to alienate any portion of our country from the rest, or to enfeeble the sacred ties which now link together the various parts."

Which was read.

Mr. Merrick offered as a substitute for said report, the following:

The joint committee, to whom were referred so much of the message of his Excellency the Governor of this State, (with the accompanying documents,) as relates to the proceedings of the late Convention of the State of South Carolina, beg leave, by way of report, respectfully to submit the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That in adopting the present Constitution of the United States, it was the enlightened and beneficent purpose of our venerated ancestors to establish a form of government which should secure to themselves and to their posterity, all the blessings of security, freedom, happiness, and perpetual union.

2. *Resolved*, That it is irreconcilable with these great and glorious objects, and inconsistent with the whole tenor of that instrument, to suppose that it contains in itself the principles of its own destruction, or has failed to endue the government created by it with the essential power of self-preservation.

3. *Resolved*, That no questions of power, no confictions of right, can ever occur between the Federal and State Governments, while each confines itself within its allotted sphere, but they will continue to wheel their respective rounds in harmonious accord, dispensing countless blessings, both to the governed and the governing, till the dread fiat of Omnipotence shall end all created things. Such, however, is the constitution of the human mind, such its frailties and imperfections, that powers guided by its direction, cannot be expected to move with exact precision; and hence sometimes the jarring motion of our system, hence its collisions, hence the present portentous crisis.

4. *Resolved*, That the basis, the life giving principle of all free and constitutional governments, is the virtue and intelligence of the people; errors of judgment, misconceptions of right and power, may and undoubtedly do occur from time to time in the administration of the various departments of our governments, but the remedy is not force 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.