

“The States may then wholly withdraw from the Union, but while they continue they must retain the character of representative republics.” \* \* \* \* \*

“The secession of a State from the Union depends on the will of the people of such State.” \* \* \* \*

‘It was known, though it was not avowed, that a State might withdraw itself.’

About the year 1829, the work from which the above extracts are taken, was adopted as one of the text books on the Constitution of the United States, by the authorities in charge of the U. S. Military Academy at West Point. Your committee have this fact from General Tench Tilghman, of this State, a grandson of the General Tilghman of the Revolution, who was the friend and aid of Washington. General Tench Tilghman is a graduate of West Point Military Academy, and the book from which the foregoing extracts are taken is the identical school book used and studied by General Tilghman whilst a cadet at West Point from 1828 to 1832.

In 1855, the eminent and distinguished Senator from Ohio, who is now President of the Senate of the United States, thus spoke in the Senate:

“There are some Senators who profess a great regard for the rights of the States. I am one of those who have quite as much regard for the rights of the States as some who make louder professions on the subject than I do. I am one of those who, not only when an election is pending, but at all times, believe in the wisdom, the constitutionality, and the propriety of the Virginia resolutions of 1798 and 1799. I ground myself upon those resolutions, and, standing upon them, I denounce this bill as a violation, not only of the spirit of those resolutions, but as an attempt to trample upon the rights of the States and deprive them of the power to protect their own citizens from aggression and abuse. Do gentlemen suppose that the States, now awakened to a keen sense of their rights and the danger of consolidation, will ever submit to such a bill as this? I tell you nay. \* \* \* \* \*

Who is to be the judge in the last resort of the violation of the Constitution of the United States by the enactment of a law? Who is the final arbiter? The General Government, or the States in their sovereignty? Why, sir, to yield that point is to yield up all the rights of the States to protect their own citizens, and to consolidate this Government into a miserable despotism. I tell you, sir, whatever you may think of it, if this bill pass, collisions will arise between the Federal and State jurisdictions—conflicts more dangerous than all the wordy wars which are got up in Congress—conflicts in which the States will never yield; for the more you undertake to load them with acts like this, the greater will be their resistance. \* \* \* \* \*