

a Supreme Council or the General Assembly of the States, prohibited by the constitution of that government.

Report of the
Committee.

The non-intercourse Act of 13th July, 1861, fixed the legal relations between the United States and the Confederate States. The Supreme Court of the United States, in the decision of the cases necessarily involving those relations and depending upon them, expressly assert that since that time there has existed between the United States and the Confederate States, civil, territorial war. After the passage of the non-intercourse Act by Congress, and after the civil war existed, as decided by the Supreme Court, Congress, by a unanimous vote in one House and with but two negatives in the other, declared to the people of the United States and to the world, the object of the war.

In January, 1862, the Legislature of Maryland adopted a preamble and resolutions in reference to the war. They declared, this war is prosecuted by the Nation with but one object, that, namely, of a restoration of the Union just as it was when the rebellion broke out; the rebellious States are to be brought back to their places in the Union without change or diminution of their Constitutional rights. In the language of the resolution adopted by both Houses of Congress, at its extra session in July last, with remarkable unanimity, "This war is declared to be prosecuted not in any spirit of oppression, or for any purpose of conquest or subjugation, or purpose of overthrowing or interfering with the rights or established institutions of those States; but to defend and maintain the supremacy of the Constitution and to preserve the Union with all the dignity, equality and rights of the several States unimpaired, and that as soon as those objects are accomplished, the war ought to cease." And resolved as follows, viz., iv. : Resolved, That Maryland is ready to fulfil all her Constitutional obligations to the General Government as a loyal State of the Union, and desires that the integrity of the Union may be preserved and the supremacy of the Constitution restored.