

JOINT RESOLUTIONS.

No. 8.

Preamble. WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the General Assembly of the State of Maryland that as the several States, before the adoption of the Constitution of the United States, were politically equal, it was designed and provided by the terms of that instrument that each State should be left upon terms of perfect equality with each and every other State; and

Preamble. WHEREAS, this General Assembly is of the opinion that when from any cause the rights of any portion of the American people are infringed, it is the right and duty of the Legislature of Maryland to protest in firm and respectful terms, and by proper exertions to endeavor to right the wrong and remedy the evil complained of; and

Preamble. WHEREAS, this General Assembly regards the laws passed by Congress, levying a specific tax on raw cotton during the years eighteen hundred and sixty-five, eighteen hundred and sixty-six and eighteen hundred sixty-seven, a product confined by the laws of climate to a narrow belt in the Southern States, and leaving all other agricultural products untaxed, as unjust, unequal, invidious, in conflict with rules of apportionment and uniformity intended to provide against such legislation, and said laws of Congress were calculated, because of their unequal operation, to engender incurable jealousy and discontent among the people of the States thus injured; therefore

To refund moneys. *Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Maryland.* That our Senators in Congress are hereby instructed, and our Representatives requested, to use all proper means to induce Congress to refund the moneys collected under the law creating a specific tax on raw cotton, during the years eighteen