

people of the Confederate States, is unconstitutional in its origin, purposes and conduct, repugnant to civilization and sound policy; subversive of the free principles upon which the Federal Union was founded, and certain to result in the hopeless and bloody overthrow of our existing institutions: and

WHEREAS, The people of Maryland, while recognizing the obligations of their State, as a member of the Union, to submit in good faith to the exercise of all the legal and constitutional powers of the General Government, and to join as one man in fighting its authorized battles, do reverence nevertheless, the great American principle of self-government and sympathize deeply with their Southern brethren in their noble and manly determination to uphold and defend the same; and

WHEREAS, Not merely on their own account, to turn away from their own soil the calamities of civil war, but for the blessed sake of humanity, and to arrest the wanton shedding of fraternal blood, in a miserable contest which can bring nothing with it but sorrow, shame and desolation, the people of Maryland are enlisted with their whole hearts, upon the side of reconciliation and peace.

Now therefore, it is hereby resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the State of Maryland, owes it to her own self-respect and her respect for the Constitution, not less than to her deepest and most honorable sympathies, to register this, her solemn protest, against the war which the Federal Government has declared upon the Confederate States of the South, and our sister and neighbor Virginia, to announce her resolute determination to have no part or lot, directly or indirectly, in its prosecution.

Resolved, That the State of Maryland, earnestly and anxiously desires the restoration of peace between the beligerent sections of the country, and the President, authorities and people of the Confederate States, having over and over officially and unofficially, declared that they seek only peace and self-defence and to be let alone, and that they are willing to throw down the sword the instant that the sword now drawn against them shall be sheathed. The Senators and Delegates of Maryland do fervently beseech and implore the President of the United States, to accept the olive branch which is thus held out to him, and in the name of God and of humanity, to cease this unholy and most wretched and unprofitable strife, at least until the assembling of the Congress at Washington shall have given time for the prevalence of cooler and better counsels.

Resolved, That the State of Maryland desires the peaceful and immediate recognition of the independence of the Confederate States, and hereby gives her cordial consent thereunto, as a member of the Union, entertaining the profound conviction that the willing return of the Southern people to their former federal relations, is a thing beyond hope, and that the attempt to coerce them will only add slaughter and hate to impossibility.

Resolved, That the present military occupation of Maryland, being for purposes which, in the opinion of this Legislature, are in flagrant