

The Committee on Federal Relations, to which was referred the Resolutions from the Legislatures of Missouri, Virginia and Delaware, having had the same under consideration, beg leave to report.

Although an interval of more than a year has elapsed since the Legislature of the State of Louisiana assembled in the State House, in the Capitol of the State, and had organized by the selection of a Speaker and other officers, and was proceeding in the discharge of its duties, when, on the 4th day of January, 1875, the Hall of the House of Delegates of the said State was violently invaded by a portion of the Army of the United States, acting under the orders, and by the direction of Lieutenant General P. H. Sheridan, five of the members of the said House of Delegates were seized and forcibly ejected by said troops, and for a time the said Legislative Assembly, of the said State, was dispersed, the Legislative Hall occupied by said troops, armed with muskets and bayonets, and other persons, not elected by legal voters of the State, were by the said troops installed as members of the said House of Delegates in lieu of the five ejected members. Considering the foregoing facts and circumstances, the great and imminent danger to free institutions, which may result, if this gross outrage upon fundamental principles of republican institutions, shall be permitted to pass unrebuked, and without the most solemn and emphatic protest, to become a precedent. We, the representatives of the State of Maryland, in General Assembly, do resolve.

First. That the Constitution of the United States is the supreme law of the land, regulating, governing and controlling both Federal and State Government so far as its powers are expressed, and so far as they are essential to the execution of its expressed powers.

Second. That the Federal Government derives all the powers that it has, or that it can rightfully exercise, and that it exists solely and entirely by virtue of the written Federal Constitution and its necessarily implied powers, and that all the powers of the Federal Government are grants and concessions from the several States composing the United States, and are limitations and restrictions upon the powers of the several States, voluntarily parted with by the States, and granted by them to the Federal Government.

Third. That the Federal Government and the State Governments, although both exist within the same territorial limits, are separate and distinct sovereignties, the States by virtue of their inherent and original sovereign powers, with which they have never parted, and which they have expressly reserved to themselves "or to the people thereof," by the