

Mr. Steiner presented the following report of the minority of the Committee on Federal Relations on said resolutions.

REPORT.

The undersigned, the minority of the Committee on Federal Relations, to which was referred sundry resolutions, passed by the Legislatures of Missouri, Virginia and Delaware in reference to alleged outrages committed by Federal soldiers at the organization of the Legislative Assembly of the State of Louisiana, January 4th, 1875, begs leave most respectfully to dissent from the report of said Committee, made to the Senate, Friday, February 4th, for the following reasons :

1. The statements, in the preamble to the resolutions reported by the majority of said Committee, in reference to the alleged outrages are not sustained by the report of the Congressional Committee which was present on the occasion of the organization of the said Legislative Assembly, and are really based upon highly-colored statements made by interested parties.

2. The resolutions themselves emphasize statements in regard to the origin and nature of the Federal Government, its powers and prerogatives, which are not sustained by the history of the formation of the Constitution of the United States or by the *ipsissima verba* of that venerable document, and which the minority of the Committee considers political heresies.

3. It is unwise, in view of the time that has elapsed since the occurrence and of the quiet that has followed the storm of angry passions that then prevailed to provoke a discussion of the occurrence itself, which will be fraught with anything but a pacific effect upon the popular mind.

4. It is unnecessary to submit abstract questions in regard to the origin and nature of the Federal Constitution to the decision of the General Assembly, and to consume valuable time in their discussion, when no urgent necessity may exist for such an extraordinary departure from the ordinary business of legislation.

For the above reasons the undersigned desires to declare his emphatic dissent to the report, and respectfully asks that the same may be spread upon the Journal of the Senate.

LEWIS H. STEINER.

Which was read and ordered to be entered on the Journal.

Said resolutions were then read the second time and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading by yeas and nays as follows :