

prived our people of their arms, has seized and transported our citizens to other States for trial upon charges or pretended charges, has taken the private property of our citizens, has caused peaceable travellers to be stopped and their persons, trunks and papers to be searched, has arrested and caused to be imprisoned without any civil process whatever, the persons of our citizens, and by the military power kept and still keeps them in confinement against and in contempt of all civil process. Now therefore, be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That recognizing our relations to the Federal Government, we feel that whilst we cannot do more, we can do no less, than enter this, our solemn protest, against the said acts of the President of the United States, and declare the same to be gross usurpation, unjust, oppressive, tyrannical and in utter violation of common right and of the plain provisions of the Constitution.

*Resolved, 2.*—That the right of a State to secede, is not a constitutional right, but an act of revolution, and any State seceding does so at its own peril; neither do we believe that the Federal Government has any power under the Constitution to wage war against a State for the purpose of subjugation or conquest.

*Resolved, 3.*—That prudence and policy demand, that the war now being waged, shall cease, that if persisted in, it will result in the ruin and destruction of both sections, and a longer continuance of it will utterly annihilate the last hope of a reconstruction of this Union; therefore we want peace, and are in favor of a recognition of the Southern Confederacy and an acknowledgment of its government.

*Resolved, 4.*—That we deem the Writ of Habeas Corpus, the great safe-guard of personal liberty, and we view with the utmost alarm and indignation, the exercise of the despotic power, that has dared to suspend it in the case of John Merriam, now confined in Fort McHenry.

Which were read.

The hour having arrived, the House proceeded to consider the order of the day, being the resolutions of instruction to the Senators and members of Congress to vote for the immediate recognition of the independence of the government of the Confederate States of America,

When Mr. Chaplain addressed the House—at the conclusion of whose remarks,

On motion of Mr. Brown,

The House at 2 o'clock adjourned.