

## No. 15.

Assented to  
March 10, 1862.

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Delegates of Maryland,* That the Constitution of the United States, so admirably framed by the wisdom of our forefathers, is recognized by the people of Maryland, as the charter of their liberties, the foundation, support and protection of their rights, and the main source of all their prosperity ; that they are at all times ready cordially to renew the expression of their devotion to its principles, that they unreservedly acknowledge the supremacy of all laws made in pursuance thereof, and repudiate every construction of that instrument which would destroy its efficiency, its very existence, indeed, by the assertion of any right, expressed, implied, or reserved in the States, to secede from the Union ; and although they consider the right of revolution, for justifiable cause, inherent in every people, they unhesitating declare that they know no existing cause to justify the people of the United States, in attempting the overthrow of their Government.

2. *Resolved,* That the duty and interest of the people of Maryland, alike forbid that they should take part in the infatuated and suicidal rebellion which now seeks to separate the States of this Union, and to destroy that great Nationality which has made us prosperous at home and respected abroad ; which separation, if accomplished, must result in the most serious disasters to all the States, but, from the peculiarity of our geographical position, can bring to our own State nothing but irretrievable ruin.

3. *Resolved,* That the present unhappy and fratricidal war has been forced upon the Government of the United States, by the seditious and unlawful acts of those who have attempted its overthrow by violence, and the State of Maryland will cheerfully contribute her proportion of men and means to sustain the Nation in its struggle for existence, so long as the war is conducted in accordance with the principles of the Constitution, and so long as the purpose of those in power is the maintenance of the Union, with the rights guaranteed to the States unimpaired.