

under which, with but slight modifications we now live.

The adoption of the constitution and the organization of the general government gave no occasion to change the constitution of the state. State sovereignty and independence remained unimpaired. Special powers for special purposes, such as to regulate commerce and foreign intercourse, to make peace or declare war, to settle disputes between the states, &c. with the powers thereto incidental, were granted to the general government. All other powers were expressly reserved.

Not only is the power of the general government restricted to special purposes, but the construction of that power is *federate*, rather than *national*. The people of the Union have not as much power by their immediate representation, as the *states* of the Union have by theirs. In the senate, the states are equally represented. That body have not only legislative but also executive powers. They are constitutionally the guardians of state interests, as represented in the general government, and they are armed with provisions to preserve that equality of power between the states, which is the very essence of their independence. Without such an equality, the small states would be at the mercy of the larger ones.

A principle object for the introduction of this article, was to point the attention of readers to the true nature of our institutions of go-