

either politically or morally, but must be attended with consequences, which no human eye can foresee, and fatally involving probably the lives and liberties of the good people of these United States, and convulsing the very elements of our existing happy union.

*Resolved*, That the State of Maryland, having within her limits a large portion of the peculiar population, recognized by said compact as under her exclusive control, has upon the most elevated principles of enlightened humanity endeavored, by her policy towards this class, so to regulate it as to ameliorate its condition, and make it subservient to the most practicable well being of the entire community, and under which that class may enjoy as much comfort as ordinarily falls to the lot of mortals, and also by her system of colonization, to afford to such as choose to avail themselves of her liberality, an opportunity to be settled in a country congenial to their existence as a free and independent people. That whilst the State is not convinced that this class is not now in that state of inevitable vassalage, providentially ordained for their own, as well as for the happiness of others, yet in a spirit of just deference to the conscientious views of some of her people, although her financial exigences are urgent, she has imposed and does now impose upon her citizens a considerable tax, to aid in transporting to Africa, such as may be willing to make the experiment of self government, that acting upon benevolent principles, towards this class of people, Maryland cannot but be mortified to find some of her sister States, arrogating to themselves supremacy of morals and more enlightened policy, without deference to the different views of others, and adopting a course of conduct, which cannot but be productive of the most lamentable consequences.

*Resolved*, That Congress has no power under the Constitution to interfere with or control the domestic institutions of the several States; and that such States are the sole and proper judges of every thing appertaining to their own affairs, not prohibited by the Constitution. That all efforts of the abolitionists or others made to induce Congress to interfere with subjects of slavery or to take incipient steps in relation thereto, are calculated to lead to the most alarming and dangerous consequences, and that all such efforts have an inevitable tendency to diminish the happiness of the people and endanger the stability and permanency of the union and ought not to be countenanced by any friend of our political institutions.

*Resolved*, That the legislature of Massachusetts by the recent actions adopted upon this subject, has in an organised form placed herself in the opinion of this General Assembly, in an attitude well calculated to disturb the compo-