

[See Document M.]

Mr. Causin submitted the following :

Whereas, The people of these United States did "ordain and establish" the constitution of the Union, merging to a great extent the separate and independent State Governments in one central power, in order "to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence and general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to themselves and their posterity."

And whereas, to accomplish these objects, the several States of this Union, among other powers, surrendered their prerogative to "lay any imposts or duties on imports or exports, except what might be absolutely necessary for executing their inspection laws, thus divesting themselves of the most abundant source of revenue and support."

And whereas, they also yielded to the General Government trustee powers of control and management of the vast public domain, won by common energy and common sacrifice, to meet certain specific necessities for revenue, and then to become a fund for the common benefit and use of the States of this Union as such.

And whereas, this vast domain has been relieved from this specific "pledge, the object for which" it "was ceded having been accomplished, *and it is now in the discretion of Congress to dispose of that domain in such way as best to conduce to the quiet, harmony and general interest of the American people.*"

And whereas, the several States of this Union have ventured upon enterprises of great magnitude, involving the burthen of heavy expenditure, with a view to the increase of mutual intercourse, to advance internal commerce, and add to the "common defence," by facilitating communication between our armed posts, and expediting the transportation of munitions of war.

And whereas, these enterprises have, in nearly every instance, been fostered into prosecution by the open aid or indirect pledges and hinted promises of assistance by the General Government.

And whereas also, the general policy of the Government, with reference to said expected aid, though sometimes varied by the changes of party ascendancy, has yet even in its changes, failed to warn the States, in definite terms, to rely upon their own resources, and thus encouraged the delusive hope of assistance in their need, and led to the attempted prosecution of schemes of internal improvement, beyond their individual strength to accomplish.

And whereas, the refusal of such aid by the General Government—the withholding, for long periods of time, the dues of the States arising from sales of the public lands—the general pecuniary derangement, leading to the decrease of commerce—depressing the value of agricultural products—reducing the price of labor—impeding the advancement of manufactures—have result-