

to the States were reserved to the States respectively or to the people, that instrument never would have been made.

3. That under the plea of taking necessary steps to put down the rebellion, but really to tyrannize over political adversaries, citizens of this State as well as of other States have been seized upon arbitrary edict and imprisoned in forts and camps without being informed of the nature of the accusation against them, and finally discharged without trial or the semblance of one—and all this upon the claim of authority from the Federal Government, an outrage upon the rights of the persons arrested, an invasion of the rights of every other citizen, and a reproach to free government; that under the same pretense freedom of speech and of the press have become idle words, as if upon them did not rest the corner-stone of the fabric of our free institutions; that these monstrous usurpations of power are not rebuked by Congress, but tolerated because of the declaration that they are necessary to put down the rebellion: such declaration is utterly false, but if it were true, regarding as we do the preservation of civil liberty paramount to every other consideration, we unhesitatingly declare that the end proposed to be attained is not worth the sacrifice required.

4. That viewing the numerous violations of the Constitution of the United States by the Federal Executive as tending to destroy the liberties of the people and the rights of the States, and the evident intent to carry on the present war for the emancipation of slaves and the subjugation of the Southern States, either of which, if successful, would, in the opinion of this General Assembly, involve the whole country in inevitable ruin and prevent forever a restoration of the Union, we therefore declare, under a solemn sense of the oath we have taken to support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Delaware, and perform our duties as members of this General Assembly with fidelity, that we can give no aid or countenance to a war for such purposes.

5. That this General Assembly and a large majority of the people of Delaware will, in all respects, faithfully support the Constitution of the United States; that they recognize no fealty