

FEDERAL RELATIONS.



Whereas the General Assembly of Virginia, actuated by an ardent desire to preserve the peace and harmony of our common country; relying upon the sense of justice of the people of each and every State of the Union, as a sufficient pledge that their Representatives in Congress will so modify the acts laying duties and imposts on the importation of foreign commodities, commonly called the Tariff Acts, that they will no longer furnish cause of complaint to the people of any particular State; believing, accordingly, that the people of South Carolina are mistaken in supposing that Congress will yield them no relief from the pressure of those Acts, especially as the auspicious approach of the extinguishment of the public debt affords a just ground for the indulgence of a contrary expectation; and confident that they are too strongly attached to the union of the States to resort to any proceedings which might dissolve or endanger it, whilst they have any fair hope of obtaining their object by more regular and peaceful measures; persuaded, therefore, they will listen willingly and respectfully to the voice, of Virginia, earnestly and affectionately requesting and entreating them to rescind or suspend their late Ordinance, and to await the result of a combined and strenuous effort of friends of union and peace, to effect an adjustment and reconciliation of all public differences now unhappily existing; regarding, moreover, an appeal to force on the part of the General Government, or on the part of the Government of South Carolina, as a measure which nothing but extreme necessity could justify or excuse in either; but apprehensive at the same time, that if the present state of things is allowed to continue, acts of violence will occur, which may lead to consequences that all would deplore; they do but deem it a solemn duty to interpose and mediate between the high contending parties, by the declaration of their opinions and wishes, which they trust that both will consider and respect—Therefore,