

REPORT.

STATE OF MAINE

IN SENATE, February 1, 1833.

The Joint Select Committee, to which was referred so much of the Governor's Message as relates to the difficulties existing between South Carolina and the General Government, and the Documents from South Carolina and several other States, upon the same subject, have had the same under consider, and

REPORT:

That they have given their anxious and serious attention to the several documents referred to their consideration; all of which have grown out of the unhappy controversy now subsisting between South Carolina and the General Government. Most, if not all of them, contain speculative views of the nature and objects of our political system. In the several communications there is observable a wide diversity of sentiment; and in some, especially those from South Carolina, the conclusions adopted are made the subjects of a very extended and elaborate argument. To review and compare with each other the several opinions and doctrines set forth in these several communications, to examine fully the various arguments and objections which they oppose to each other, and to investigate what, if any, errors of fact, of principle, or of reasoning may be contained in any or all of them, would seem to be a task of great labor, and one not likely, perhaps, to result in any correspondent benefit.

This State, on two occasions, has heretofore expressed her opinion upon the subject of Federal Relations. It is believed that the Report and Resolutions of 1827, relative to Internal Improvements, and the Report and Resolutions of 1831, upon the same subject, contain a general outline of the sentiments of Maine, as regards the origin and purposes of our political system, the powers conferred upon the General Government by the Constitution, and the rights reserved to the People and the States. As a declaration of our