

Constitutional rights of the South,

The increase of our public domain acquired by our contest with Mexico — a contest in which without disparagement to any it may be said, that the South contributed as much of men and means, and shared as much of the common glory won upon those ensanguined battle fields, as any other portion of the Confederacy; — gave birth to a new organization, which sprang from the dead body of Abolitionism, having for its avowed object the preservation of this acquisition, from what they were pleased to term, the blasting effects of "involuntary servitude",

Disappointed office hunters, ambitious politicians and corrupt demagogues found here a common ground, from which to make their assaults upon the Constitution and the Union, and by which they will be borne into importance and power. The result of the recent presidential election has shown but too well the sagacity of their movement and the success of their organization; — had we not been already convinced of their power — and their power for harm by their absolute control of the State Government of the entire anti-slavery portion of the Confederacy, contemporaneous with the success of this corrupt and treasonable organization, has been the melting away of conservative elements there, until it has ceased to be able to make itself potent for the preservation of our Constitutional rights.

It is hardly necessary that I should attempt to enumerate the several acts of this new organization (for "they are read and known of all men" which have impelled the people of Georgia to the extreme measure of a total dissolution of the bonds by which they were joined and confederated with the states of the North in a common Government. They have passed laws, insulting and oppressive to us and in open violation of the express letter of the Constitution; They have sought by acts of the Federal Congress to deprive us of all right to participation in the settlement of our common Territories; They have set on foot and organized emigrant aid societies, for the purpose of sending paupers and foreign immigrants into the Territories of the Union, to crush out and prevent immigration to those Territories from the Southern States; They have enticed from service our slaves and refused, though the demand was made upon a clear and indisputable provision of the Constitution, to deliver them up to the lawful possession of their owners; They have with force and violence rescued our slaves from the possession of their Masters who have been with their families temporarily sojourning in the Northern States; They have unlawfully torn from Southerners who have been forced by stress of weather to touch at their ports, their entire property in domestic slaves, and their Courts of Justice (so called) have sustained them in the robbery; They have attempted by inflammatory and incendiary appeals made through their Public Press,