

them to unite with us in memorializing Congress for the above purpose; and further, that the same Committee be authorized to correspond with such persons as they may deem proper, with the view of forwarding the objects of this resolution, and also to request the Honorable General Assembly of this State to instruct our Representatives in Congress on this subject, if they shall consider it expedient.

In conformity with the above resolution, and in the discharge of our duty, we have considered it advisable to issue this Circular, addressed to all those Societies and individuals, that we have flattered ourselves, may be induced to make a common cause with us in endeavoring by joint efforts to accomplish an object of so great moment to all. The design we propose is truly a laudable one; and such an one as every sincere lover of his country should be proud to aid in accomplishing; that of rescuing from oblivion, while it is yet within our power, the early records of our country. An act not only gratifying to a commendable pride, but incumbent on us in justice to posterity. We alone, (almost) among nations, have it in our power to trace clearly, certainly and satisfactorily, at a very trifling expense, the whole of our career, from its very outset, throughout its progress, down to the present moment,—and shall we manifest a supineness, a perfect listlessness and complete indifference respecting a subject, that by every other people has been, and is still esteemed of so vast magnitude, and deep an interest, as to have induced, and still to induce them to pour forth funds from their treasuries unsparingly, to aid the historian in removing, if possible, the veil that conceals in dark obscurity their origin.

It is perhaps generally known, that this subject has already been once brought up for consideration in Congress. The House of Representatives during the second session of the nineteenth Congress, instructed their Library Committee to inquire into the expediency of adopting measures relative thereto. While it was yet pending before the Committee, who had in their possession the Special Message of Gov. Troup to the Georgia Legislature, and the accompanying documents, the General Assembly of Rhode-Island, through their State delegation, the Massachusetts Historical Society and the American Antiquarian Society, severally addressed Congress upon the same subject. In accordance with the instructions, Mr. Everett, Chairman of the Committee, submitted a report, from which it appears, that after mature de-