

have grave cause to regret, if on account of this slave question, a great measure is to be rejected, designed and destined, to add to the resources of the whole country; to open an excellent market for the productions of the work shops of New England, and of the minerals, the pastures, and farming lands of the middle and western States; to extend, widely, our flourishing commerce; to enlarge the borders of religious, civil and political liberty; and to add, at no very distant day, millions of human beings to the number of those who now, in our favored land, enjoy in the highest degree, and have secured for their posterity, the blessings of living under the administration of the best forms of Government known amongst men.

The jealousy towards admission to the Union, of States recognizing the institution of slavery, too long cherished in those States deemed, in that respect, most fortunate, is altogether unworthy of enlightened statesmen, and should be by all patriots repudiated. Under our Constitution and laws, our slave population cannot be increased by importations from abroad. Thus restricted, this domestic institution must keep that section of the Union where it exists, represented by a minority of the members of Congress, and of the electors of President and Vice President. No matter how widely extended our territory, where slave labor is preferred, may become, its population must be sparse when compared with the other divisions of the confederacy. Emigrants from Great Britain, and from continental Europe, whence we receive much the greatest portion of our increasing population, naturally prefer to become citizens of those States where there are none other than free laborers. Our northern States send forth, every year, tides of emigrants seeking new homes in the west; and they also give the preference to communities where the white man, the red man, and the African, are alike free to choose their pursuits in life. This invariable direction of all the great tides of emigration, makes it more than probable that Texas, if admitted, will depend for citizens and cultivators of her millions of fertile acres, on the southern section of the Union, now much the most feeble, and, on that account, only serve to diffuse that portion of our fellow-citizens of whose power and numbers the northern States appear to be so jealous. In that event, a large majority in the Congress of the United States is to be chosen, always, by the people of those States where slavery has no existence. From the same source our chief magistrate, wielding the veto power, and with it prepared to check any legislation unacceptable to those by whom he is elected, is to derive all his authority. Armed with these conservative powers to protect themselves, and their domestic institutions, against all improper and unconstitutional interference from the Government of the Union, our northern States, we may hope, will cease to resist the consummation of a great measure under fears of a political preponderance, they have not the least cause to apprehend. No apology need be offered to the Senate and House of Delegates for these brief re-