

Whereas, the aggressive policy which has been uniformly pursued by the slave power from the commencement of our national existence, down to the abrogation of the Missouri compact, evinces a determination to "crush out" the *spirit* as well as the *forms* of liberty from among us, and to subject the free states to a relentless despotism; and whereas, the success of the Southern delegates to the National Council recently held in Philadelphia, in making *abject and uncomplaining submission to pro-slavery legislation, a fundamental article in the creed of the National American Party*, renders it imperative upon us to express our views upon the great question of the country and the age: Therefore we declare,

1. That the action of the legislative, executive, and judicial departments of the government ought to be controlled by the principle taught by the framers and purest interpreters of the Constitution, that "*freedom is national and slavery sectional.*"

2. That repose for the country and stability to the Union, must be sought by relieving the general government, so far as its jurisdiction extends, of all connection with and accountability for American slavery.

3. That the independence and sovereignty of the State in its legislation and judiciary, should be maintained inviolate.

4. That the great barrier to slavery ruthlessly broken by the repeal of the Missouri prohibition, ought to be speedily restored, and that in any event, no State erected from any part of the territory covered by that compromise, ought ever to be admitted into the Union as a Slave State.

What Marylander can belong to a party professing such doctrines as these? Yet they are put forth as the doctrines of the "American Party!" In Louisiana again, the proceedings at Philadelphia are rejected and denounced at a State Convention of the Order, and the eighth article of the Philadelphia Platform, is repudiated for the reason, as they expressly declare in their platform, that it proscribes men on account of their religion. Again, in the same State, we find at a meeting of the Councils of the City of New Orleans, this last Convention, which they of New Orleans style "the State Wigwam of Louisiana," is in its turn denounced, their proceedings rebuked, and it is declared that "this self-styled *American party* of Louisiana, has become a distinct faction." The lesser body denouncing the greater as a *faction!*

Again, we find more recently in the Congress of the United States this beautiful scene of "confusion worse confounded." First, the larger number of those elected to that body under the name of *Americans*, go-off and become identified with those who are more properly called the Black Republicans, and struggle to