

1st. *Resolved*, by the General Assembly of Maryland, that in expressing our opinion upon the ordinance of nullification, and the recent proceedings of South Carolina, it is our duty to declare our opinions, firmly in the principles assailed, and to expostulate mildly and affectionately with her.

2nd. *Resolved*, That we hold these principles to be incontrovertible; that the government of the United States was adopted by the people of the different States and established "in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity," that it possesses all the power necessary for the purposes for which it was instituted; that it is irreconcilable with the objects and purposes for which the constitution was adopted, to suppose that it contains in itself the principles of its own destruction, or has failed to endue the government created by it with the essential power of self preservation; that it is not in the power of any one state to declare an act of the general government void or unconstitutional; that the power of deciding questions among the different States, or between the general government and a state, is reposed in the Federal Judiciary, and that it is an act of usurpation for any state to arrogate to herself jurisdiction in such cases; that the supreme court is the only tribunal having jurisdiction in cases involving the constitutionality of the acts of the general government; that whenever a state is aggrieved by the constitutional acts of the general government, the third article of the constitution prescribes the remedy, declaring that "the Congress, whenever two thirds of both houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to the constitution, or on the application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several states, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which in either case shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of this constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several states, or by conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by Congress."

That the right to annul a law of the general government assumed by any State is incompatible with the existence of the union, contradicted expressly by the let-