

Milledgeville, Nov. 13, 1833.

A meeting of persons friendly to State Rights having been called, by notice in the gazettes of this place, a numerous assembly convened this evening at 7 o'clock, in the Representative Chamber, in the State House.

On motion of Mr. Gordon of Putnam, the honorable Christopher B. Strong was called to the Chair. The Chairman having taken the Chair, on motion of Mr. Hillhouse, Mr. Sayre was appointed Secretary; and on motion of Gen. Beall, Mr. Longstreet was appointed assistant Secretary.

The Chairman stated the object of the meeting: whereupon on motion of the Hon. A. S. Clayton,

Resolved, That a Committee of thirteen be appointed by the Chairman to prepare resolutions expressing the sentiments of the State Rights Party in this State, and report to this meeting during its sitting.

The following gentlemen were appointed the committee:

Hon. A. S. Clayton, Hon. William H. Crawford, Dr. Wm. C. Daniell, Col. Jones, Mr. Habersham, Mr. Hillhouse, Col. Rockwell, Mr. Chappell, Mr. Young, Gen. Beall, Col. Newton, General Warren, and Hon. Charles Dougherty.

The Committee retired, and having returned, reported through their Chairman the following preamble and Resolutions:

The relations between the Federal and State Governments have assumed a peculiar and intense interest by reason of the events which terminated the deliberations of the last Congress. The long and angry contests which agitated the whole South, and had produced just complaints against the General Government, were brought to a close with its session; but they were succeeded and doubtless for the special purpose of subserving at some future period, the very principles they were compelled to abandon; by the enactment of a law equally objectionable and certainly more dangerous to the liberties of the people than their former oppressions; and which, if permitted to endure, will ultimately perpetuate the usurpations which it was professed to be renounced. It is not difficult to perceive that allusion is here made to the Proclamation of the President of the U. States, and the Force Bill which was its legitimate consequence. The first document instantly revived the doctrines of the Federalists of '98, which had been put down by Mr. Jefferson; at the head of the Republicans; and now, parties are forming every where and particularly in our own State, for the avowed purpose of supporting the principles of the Proclamation and Force Bill; and thereby insidiously restoring to the Federal Party, the power which they lost under the elder Adams. To this end they have changed their name to one which is designed to play upon popular feeling, and by the force of prejudice alone, they are aiming to re-establish principles which the good sense of the people absolutely rejected in 1801, as tending to the destruction of the Union, and rearing upon its ruins a consolidated government. These facts have justly alarmed the friends of liberty in every quarter; and those Republicans who still adhere to the Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions, the great moral instruments by which Mr. Jefferson effected the overthrow of the Federalists, are rallying to the defence of the Constitution of the United States, from North to South, by counter associations designed to reorganize the old Republican party, and to check immediately, the growth of the doctrines of the Proclamation, which must inevitably lead to consolidation, if not successfully resisted. The object of the present meeting is, first to constitute and form one of those associations for the express purpose of counteracting the designs of the Federal party, lately reorganized in this State, who under false colors are inculcating the doctrines of John Adams in '98, and those of Daniel Webster at the present time; and secondly, for the further object of enforcing a systematic opposition to the Proclamation and Force Bill. These last measures have aimed a deadly blow at State Rights, and seem now to require the united and concentrated energies of the friends and advocates of those rights to be directed to this point of attack, deemed so important by our enemies to be carried, and in which, if success should crown their exertions, all that is dear and valuable to freedom, will be wrested from the States.

That it may be distinctly understood what are the principles of this Association, it will be necessary to shew what are the doctrines of the Proclamation, and these are inserted in language which admits of no dispute.

1st. It maintains that the States of which this confederacy is composed, never had a separate existence; for that, from the moment they ceased to be dependant on Great Britain, they formed one nation, and have so continued.

2d. That a State in the exercise of its legitimate powers, has not the right to decide upon the constitutionality of an act of Congress, and to protect its citizens from the operation of an unconstitutional act, and to maintain within her limits, the authorities, rights and liberties appertaining to a sovereign State.

3d. That the States have no right to secede from the union under any circumstances whatever; inasmuch as secession would DESTROY THE UNITY OF THE NATION.

4th. That the people of the twenty-four States constitute *one people*.

5th. That the members of Congress "are all representatives of the United States; no representatives of the particular State from which they come," and that they are not "accountable to it for any act done in the performance of their legislative functions."

6th. That the States have "not retained their entire sovereignty."

7th. That the allegiance of our citizens is due to the United States "in the first instance," and not to their respective States.

These are the doctrines of the Proclamation, and they have, at the special instance of the President, produced the Force Bill for their complete execution. This meeting doth solemnly protest against them, and as solemnly deny their legitimate deduction from the compact which established the Federal Government; and that the Association now formed will resist them in every proper manner.

To this end, they RESOLVE, That the present meeting be organized into an Association, to be denominated "THE STATE RIGHTS PARTY OF GEORGIA," and recommend meetings in all the counties for the purpose of constituting similar associations, to be connected with that which will be formed at Milledgeville, as the Central Association.

Resolved, That the doctrines of the Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions as construed and understood by Mr. Jefferson, and triumphantly acted upon in 1825, '6, and '7, in the State of Georgia, constitute the creed of the State Rights' Party of Georgia; and that as all unconstitutional laws are null and void, we will, whenever the proper exigency arises, resist them in any manner the sovereign power of the State may order and direct.

Resolved, That we consider the Force Bill as a glaring infraction of State Rights, and a gross outrage upon the liberties of the people; and that its continuance upon the statute book is such an act of usurpation as ought not to be submitted to by free and independent States; and that we will use our exertions to counteract the principles of the Proclamation, and to obtain a repeal of said bill.

Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be and they are hereby earnestly requested to demand an immediate repeal of the act of the last Congress, denominated the Force Bill, as being a palpable violation of the rights of the States, and the Federal Constitution.

Which having been read, a motion was made to postpone further action, that they might be printed and taken up at a subsequent meeting. Which motion was, by a vote of the meeting, negatived; and on motion of Judge Clayton, it was

Resolved, That the report be taken up and read by paragraphs.

The report having been read, on motion of Judge Clayton, it was unanimously

Resolved, That said Preamble and Resolutions be adopted and agreed to.

On motion of Judge Dougherty,

Resolved, That the Editors of the State Rights papers, in this State, be requested to publish the foregoing Preamble and Resolutions, accompanied by the Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions; and that a copy of the same be transmitted to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

On motion of Mr. Torrance,

Resolved, That the Chairman of this meeting appoint a Committee of thirteen, to be styled the Central Committee of the State Rights Association of Georgia, to correspond with such Associations in support of State Rights, as have been or may be organized in the several counties of Georgia.

On motion of Judge Clayton,

Resolved, That as a means of extending among the people an accurate knowledge of our principles, this meeting will patronize the paper called the "Examiner," published by Condj Raguet, in the City of Philadelphia; and recommend to all the Associations, that may be formed in the several counties, to do the same. And that those who may be disposed to support said paper, apply to either of the Secretaries of this meeting, now or at a future period, for that purpose.

C. B. STRONG, Chairman.

N. C. SAYRE, } Secretaries.
A. B. LONGSTREET, }