

*and whereas*, slaves are clearly recognized as property, by the Constitution of the United States, and by acts of Congress, and also by the Constitution and Laws of Maryland, all of which we have solemnly sworn to support; *and whereas*, slavery by a causeless and wicked rebellion against the life, and perpetuity, of the Government itself, has been well nigh crushed in Maryland by the hazards, and accidents of war : Therefore

1st. *Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That we, the loyal representatives of a loyal State, the peer of any other State in her devotion to the Union ; are in favor of speedy and immediate emancipation in the mode prescribed and regulated by law; *provided*, we can secure the aid, and co-operation of the General Government, in the manner proposed by President Lincoln, in his Message of March, 1862, to Maryland and the Border States.

2nd. *Resolved*, That we are both ready, and willing to co-operate with the President and Congress, in contributing of the means and resources of the State, for the purpose of compensating loyal owners of slaves, and thereby of securing the call of a Convention, by the free and untrammelled vote of the people, and also the adoption of a Constitution, which will elevate Maryland to the proud position of a great central Free State of our once mutilated, but soon to be re-suscitated, and re-animated Union.

3rd. *Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That our United States Senators be, and they are hereby, respectfully invited and urged ; and our Representatives in Congress are also earnestly requested, to call upon President Lincoln, to receive the offer of aid, which he made to Maryland two years ago, and which he stands ready to repeat, and to recommend to Congress so soon as our Senators and Members of Congress, shall place themselves in a position to receive it.

4th. *Resolved*, That we respectfully recommend to our Senators and Members of Congress, the just principle, and sound national policy of the gradual emancipation of slavery in the seceded States, with compensation to the loyal owners of slaves in such States ; as the most feasible and practicable and salutary method of restoring the Union upon a permanent basis ; of providing for the safety of the whites, by the gradual removal of the black population, and finally of giving a quietus to this first mad attempt of armed resistance to the wisest, best, and most beneficent Government, bequeathed to us by a patriotic ancestry, and vouchsafed to us, and to our posterity in all time to come, by the overruling Providence of God ;

Which were read the first time.