

IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

DECEMBER 28, 1837.

Submitted, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. NORVELL submitted the following motions for consideration :

*Resolved*, That the Government of the United States is a national government only for the general purposes specified in the Federal constitution :

That the States of this Union, in all their reserved rights and powers, are separate, independent, and sovereign political communities :

That any interference by one or more States, or by the people of one or more States, with the domestic institutions of any other State of this Union, or with any of its reserved rights and powers over those institutions, is a palpable and dangerous infraction of the spirit of the constitution of the United States, tending directly to disturb the peace and tranquillity of the Union, and to sever the links which connect us together as one people :

That the Senate of the United States, composed of the representatives of the States in their sovereign capacities, and bound to protect the sovereign rights and powers left to them in the compact of union, would regard any attempt, on the part of the Federal Government, under the pretext of regulating commerce among the several States, or under any other pretext whatever, to prohibit the domestic trade between any of the States, or the citizens of any of the States, in any kind of property, recognized as such by their laws, and allowed by them, as unconstitutional, in spirit and in letter :  
Therefore,

*Resolved*, That, the Senate of the United States will neither receive, nor entertain, any petition, memorial, resolution, or other paper, praying Congress to prohibit any such trade.

*Resolved*, That as it would be a breach of the public faith of the nation to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia without the consent of the people of the district, the Senate will neither receive, nor entertain, any petition, memorial, resolution, or other paper, praying Congress to adopt such a measure, unless it proceed from the people of the District of Columbia.