

AFFAIRS IN MARYLAND.

RESOLUTIONS

ADOPTED BY

THE GRAND UNION LEAGUE OF MARYLAND,
MARCH 20, 1867.

MARCH 25, 1867.—Ordered to be printed.

Whereas the constitution of the State of Maryland carefully prescribes the qualifications of voters, and makes a uniform registration of voters obligatory; and whereas the law passed in obedience to this mandate of the constitution has been made a nullity by the governor, and the registers whom he appointed for that purpose, and the ballot-box opened for the reception of the votes of traitors, whereby a legislature and other officers were elected notorious for their disloyalty; and whereas, carrying out the purpose of the governor, and of their election, this legislature has annulled the loyal provisions of the constitution, and restored to citizenship all who had abjured or forfeited their right as citizens by treason against the State and United States, and, on the other hand, has enacted a law making it treason for loyal men to unite to uphold the national government; has not only refused to pass laws for the protection of the rights of colored citizens, but has offered a premium for violations of the laws of Congress, known as "the Freedmen's Bureau law," and "the civil rights law," and assumed the defence of all who have violated those laws in the past, or will do so in the future, and made their defence a charge upon the State treasury without limit; has pensioned from the State treasury the legislature which was suspended from the exercise of its functions by the military power of the nation, and compelled the city of Baltimore in like manner to pension the disloyal police force which was discharged from service in 1861 as a necessary measure of public safety; has constituted measures for imposing upon the State the burden of paying for the slaves emancipated as a necessary result of the slaveholders' rebellion, and has passed a law in palpable and confessed violation of the constitution, calling a convention for the purpose of abrogating what remains of loyalty and equal rights in our constitution, and of placing loyal men in hopeless subjugation to traitors: Therefore,

Resolved by the Grand Council of the Union League of Maryland, That we earnestly pray the Congress of the United States, as far as practicable, to extend to Maryland the principles of the military reconstruction law, and to secure all loyal citizens in the State the right of suffrage.

Resolved. That a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolution be signed by

the grand president and secretary, and forwarded to the Hon. Francis Thomas and the Hon. James W. Nye, with the request that they will lay the same before the House of Representatives and Senate respectively, and urge such action as shall insure protection to the loyal citizens of Maryland.

By order :

A. STOCKBRIDGE, *G. President.*

True copy :

CHAS. H. GATCH, *G. Secretary.*