

cultivate a sentiment which looks with favor upon a dissolution of the Union of the American States. In the language of the declaration and protest of the Commonwealth of Virginia, drawn by Mr. Jefferson—"They know and value too highly the blessings of their Union as to foreign nations and questions arising among themselves, to consider *every* infraction as to be met by actual resistance. They respect too affectionately the opinions of those possessing the same rights under the same instrument, to make *every* difference a ground of rupture. They would indeed consider such a rupture as *among* the greatest calamities which could befall them; *but not the greatest*. There is yet *one greater* submission to a government of unlimited powers." It cannot, however be disguised, that we are on the verge of a fearful crisis; that a powerful combination is forming in the Northern States, and in Congress, under the leadership of men to whom the South has heretofore looked for aid and assistance in the hour of her need, which threatens the denationalization of the democratic party, the purpose of which is to prevent the admission of Kansas into the Union as a slave State. It is for the people of the South to say whether they will submit to such a flagrant violation of their rights and for the future own themselves unequals in the Union. In the opinion of your committee, a period has arrived, when the people of the South should plant themselves upon a common platform, and insist upon a full recognition of their equality in the Union; in the practical test of State equality, presented in the application of Kansas for admission into the Union, the Northern and Southern States agreed to the doctrine of non-intervention as expressed in the Kansas Nebraska act; in order that the agitation of the slavery question might be removed from the halls of Congress, and in order that it might be determined by the people