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To the People of Missouri.

In my last number, Fellow Citizens, I endeavored to show the advisability which must attach to one portion of the union from the exercise of the power reserved by the Constitution to control Congress in cases where it is in a constitutional or legal sense liable to be controlled by the Constitution of the United States.

The 1st article of the amendment to the Constitution declares that—"The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, or prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."

This provision is necessary for those who have adopted the Constitution to look for their own rights in the Constitution. If Congress are not the people, it is not clear that Mr. Taylor means that he has found in art. 6, sect. 2, which declares that the Congress shall have power to dispose of, and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory, or other property belonging to the United States."

To this I answer, In the first place, that the clause shows that nothing was intended here, but that Congress are to control the subject matter of all claims, so far as it was to be considered in property. The words "other territory," clearly indicate this, and show that the power in question was given over the territories as property and not otherwise. If it could otherwise be understood to extend to those things connected by fixed circumstances with the territory, but in which the United States either never had, or have ceased to have any property, it is then by pretended that the United States can have any property in any property except for the purpose of taxation, of which substance is in the general laws of the land which every man owns, and those persons who own property in which every man is bound to reserve. Can it then be pretended that the United States have any property in any property except for the purpose of taxation, of which substance is in the general laws of the land which every man owns, and those persons who own property in which every man is bound to reserve? Can it then be pretended that the United States have any property in any property except for the purpose of taxation, of which substance is in the general laws of the land which every man owns, and those persons who own property in which every man is bound to reserve?

But what Mr. Taylor's conception of this clause, and so what would it lead? He tells us himself, that Congress have a right under it to provide any conditions whatever, and quote this clause to define the terms of any article of our Constitution. If so, then, of course any other, and of course the whole. This amounts to the right to bind in all cases whatever, and I have previously remarked that it was against this provision that our fathers took up arms against Great Britain, while they distinctly admitted that she was illegally engaged, to exercise over them all the authority lawfully exerciseable from the relation of colonist and mother country. By this act of doing they and their descendants after them are enjoined to set that this clause preserve any such right. The United States cannot be enjoined or bound to give to Congress a power which it is clear they did not think at the time they could lawfully confer.

Moreover; by the Constitution art. I, sec. 9,
The purpose of this instrument was to make it appear to the people of all ages and classes, throughout the world, that the constitution was a work of reason and wisdom, which was in harmony with the principles of justice and equality. It was intended to be a model of government, which would be an example to all nations, and which would be a source of pride to the citizens of the United States. It was to be a constitution for a republic, which would be a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. It was to be a constitution that would be a source of security and liberty to all citizens, and which would be a source of honor and glory to the nation.

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