

Whereas, The General Assembly of Maryland has received official notification of the passage by both Houses of the Fortieth Congress of the United States, of the following proposition to amend the Constitution of the United States, in the words following, to wit:

A Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, Resolved, By the Senate, and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, (two thirds of both Houses concurring) that the following Article be proposed to the Legislatures of the several States, as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three fourths of said Legislatures, shall be valid as part of the Constitution, namely:

### Article XV.

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote, shall not be denied, or abridged by the United States, or by

any State, on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

Section 2. That Congress shall have power to enforce this Article by appropriate legislation. Therefore, be it Resolved By the Senate, and House of Delegates of Maryland that the Legislature of this State hereby rejects the said 13<sup>th</sup> Article proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and on behalf of the State of Maryland, refuses to ratify the same.

Resolved. That the Governor be requested to forward a Copy of the foregoing preamble and Resolution, duly attested, to the Secretary of State of the United States, our Representatives and Senators in Congress, and to the Governors of each of the States in the United States.

Fredinand C. Lutz

Speaker of the House of Delegates.  
Barnes Compton.

4th April 1870: President of the State,