

States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the People.”

The Supreme Court has declared:

“The Constitution of the United States was ordained and established, not by the states in their sovereign capacity, but emphatically, as the preamble of the Constitution declares, by ‘the people of the United States’.

There can be no doubt, that it was competent to the people to invest the Federal government with all the powers which they might determine proper and necessary; to extend or restrain these powers according to their own good pleasure, and to give them a paramount and supreme authority. As little doubt can there be, that the people had a right to prohibit to the states the exercise of any powers which were, in their judgment, incompatible with the objects of the general compact; to make the powers of the state governments, in given cases, subordinate to those of the nation, or to reserve to themselves those sovereign authorities which they might not choose to delegate to either.”

Later, by the 14th Amendment, we, the People, specifically prohibited the exercise of certain powers by the States, providing that:

“No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any