

reform, involving the manipulation of the suffrage, nor the power of life and death being among the functions reserved to the Federal Government. The second article begins, "The executive power shall be vested in the President of the United States of America." This article minutely defines the power both of the President and of the Vice-President. A later article prohibits the subdivision of the States without the consent of their legislatures. Among some additional articles more recently added we find this pregnant one: "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited to it by the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people." So that actually, whereas the older "Articles of Confederation" specially and emphatically reserved the sovereignty, freedom and independence of the States, this same sovereignty is further and more strongly reserved under this "the tenth additional article" of the existing Constitution; seeing that the delegation of the existing sovereignty was nowhere specified among those things conferred on the Federal Congress and on the President of 1787, which had not been conferred on the Congress of the "Articles" of 1781. I am no lawyer, I know well enough how ingeniously gentlemen of the long robe can evolve the most marvellous conclusions from the simplest form of words; but surely there is no disputing the meaning of this Constitution. The terms which are in dispute are not contained in a long series of half illegible and discordant records ranging over successive generations, and the newest of them some hundreds of years old, couched in the obsolete phraseology of some foreign dialect. They are set forth in the language which we all of us speak, and in two documents, each of which was drawn up in the life time of Lord Lyndhurst, who first