

to this Union, at their discretion, without limit of place, or country. Not only new States may be carved, at will, out of the boundless regions of Louisiana ; but the whole extent of South America, indeed, of the globe, is a sphere, within which it may operate without check, or control, and with no other limit than such as Congress may choose to impose on its own discretion.

Your Committee have, in vain, looked for any clause in the Constitution of the United States, granting such a power. In the first place, the parties, associating, are declared to be "*the people of the United States*," and the objects of the association are stated to be, "*to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestick tranquillity, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare and secure the blessings of liberty to OURSELVES AND OUR POSTERITY.*" Your Committee deem themselves authorized to assert, without fear of contradiction, that by the terms "*the people of the United States*"—"ourselves and our posterity," were intended the people inhabiting, and who should inhabit the States and territories lying within the limits of the United States, as they were established by the treaty of 1783 ; and as they existed at the time of the formation and adoption of the federal Constitution ; and that none of the terms of the Constitution indicate the idea that foreign states, or kingdoms, or new states, created in their territories, could be admitted into a participation of its privileges.

Indeed, it is not pretended, as your Committee understand, by the advocates of this usurpation, that it has any colour of justification, in the terms of the Constitution, unless it be in the third Section, of its fourth Article. The tenor of which is as follows :—