of servility, that would make us undeserving the sympathy and respect of just
and
to be impolitic to express such sentiments; but is it right
respect of just
in this State, and are deserving of better treatment f
now, the puritans were right. Americans know they were right
race,
wh~
any measures that have for their object the amelioration of 0
than that to which they are exposed, by the legalizing of

progress
No. 4 was read, pending a motion to adopt it Mr. Newby
to
with
wrongs and cruelties such as no other people upon the face of
~f.men
Res.0lved,
wlth
stir within him sentiments of pride and love of country;
to protect
,cto promote
1.0 clv.11 cases in the Courts of Justice in this State;" as

authorities
their guide; and no people can be prosperous and happy
these inestimable rights of God to man.
accomplish the objects in view.
dltlon.
advanced by a committee, having discretionary power, to enable

English has done her duty towards us; she has abolished slavery
in her colonies, and is doing what she can to destroy the system from the
earth. In the great conflict of opinion that is stirring the nations, her
example, her influence is on the side of freedom.
Would we, could we do battle against England? There is in men an
innate sense of justice—we feel it; let us not stultify ourselves. I trust
the resolution will not be adopted.
Mr. Henry said:—"I love my country, with all her faults, I love her,
but I cannot hail with joy her progress; if, by progress, is meant the ac-
quisition of Territory and the extension of slavery therein, as in the case of
Texas, Kansas and Nebraska. If we were capable of hailing such a progress,
we were fit for nothing else, and ought to be enslaved.
It is said to be impolitic to express such sentiments; but is it right
for the oppressed to tell their oppressors of their wrongs, face to face.
As to shouldering our muskets and marching to the field of battle to
fight against foreign invaders; our fathers did that, pouring out their
blood, and giving their lives freely for American liberties; how were they,
how have their posterity been rewarded? with chains and oppression. Look at
the laws of the United States; look at the public documents which illustrate
her public sentiment; how prevalent the spirit of prejudice and hatred
against the colored man; they have injured, and therefore hate us; let a dif-
ferent course be pursued—let the whites put away their prejudice, and do a
just part by us; and, when they do this, we shall feel that we have a country
that patriotism is a noble virtue, and like our fathers, we will shoulder
our muskets, and expose our bodies, ever ready to defend our country against
foreign invaders or domestic foes, to protect her institutions, and promote
her progress."
Mr. D. Lewis said:—"Mr. President, it seems to me, we are traveling
out of the record; I supposed we had met for a specific purpose; this resolu-
tion is leading us away into a maze of inextricable confusion; let us come
back and attend to the matters proposed in the call for the convention."
Mr. J. Hubbard said:—"The only objection I have to the resolution is,
it is not clear in its language. Like Mr. Henry, I love the land of my
birth, and hail its progress in the right; but the laws which sustain her
slave pens and prisons, her auction blocks, and the selling of human beings,
the branding of men and the scourging of women, the separation of man and
wife, parents and children, I hate them. Fight for the protection of these,
not Men identified with those who have been and still are the victims of
these oppressors; and, let it not be supposed that we could fight against any
country that has repudiated this system. Why did the pilgrims leave England,
protesting against the laws, the institutions of their country? Because they
could not enjoy freedom of conscience, and religious toleration, popular
history says, now, the puritans were right. Americans know they were right