Refuge of Oppression,

New Selections.

Mr. Sumner's Resolution.

The subject of the relation of the United States to the General Government, and the manner in which it would be best administered under the Constitution, has been a subject of much discussion and debate. The question has been raised as to whether the powers of Congress should be enlarged or reduced. The debate has been protracted and earnest, and has involved many important principles.

Selection from a Speech of Hon. Albert B. Cummins, delivered in the House of Representatives, Jan. 15, 1862.

The House today is Committee of the whole on the bill of Mr. Sumner and Mr. Phillips, to amend the Constitution so as to secure freedom of the press.

The great question which today presents itself is this: 'What are the powers of Congress under the Constitution?' The question is one of the most important that has ever arisen before any legislature.

Mr. Sumner. That any recognition of slavery in this country would be a violation of the Constitution.

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