

it appears to us, that the power has been too long exercised, and the practice of the Government too, uniform and firmly settled and sanctioned, both by Congress and the people, now to be questioned?

Government ought to be administered upon fixed principles. The good of the Country as well as prudence requires, that there should be a period when disputed questions, after repeated and thorough investigation, should be put to rest, and we do not without example and high authority for this assertion. That the right of the General Government to exercise the power mentioned in the Resolution, has been fully, and ably, exercised on various occasions, in Congress, and decided in its favour, is undoubted.

The National Government possess the power to Tax the people to any extent; and shall it be contended, that after having exhausted the resources of the State, for any object of taxation is within its reach, and many articles grow from them, that it does not possess the power to apply any portion of those resources to the amelioration of their condition or the promotion of the prosperity of the Country, by means of internal improvements?

We yield to no one in respect for, or attachment to, the rights of the States, but we do not feel the alarm nor perceive the danger which is apprehended by some, from the exercise of the power in question. It appears to us that the States possess ample security against any violation of their rights, in the direct responsibility which one branch of Congress owes to them, and the local attachment, and feelings of the Representative, of the people in the other branch.

The great error attending the investigation of the power bestowed by the Constitution on the National Government and what has given rise to a justious opposition to the beneficial exercise of those powers, is, that it has been viewed as if it were a distinct and separate Government. Now we look exclusively to the written Constitution, which, the conclusion would be a just one, but our whole system is anomalous in history, furnishing nothing analogous to it. The said Population constitutes the National Government and the Governments of the respective States. Hence the improbability that in the interpretation of the powers of the former, the rights of the latter should be overlooked or violated.

If the history of our Country, from the commencement of the Revolutionary War to the present day, did not contradict the supposition of the power of any form of the General Government, thus constituted, being exercised so as to oppress the respective States, is not the idea too preposterous, to suppose that the representatives from the several States in Congress, should look with indifference upon the exercise of powers, by the General Government, under the authority of that body, calculated to oppress the people of the respective States? Would they, as Citizens of that United States and component part of the National Government, attempt to violate their rights, or oppress themselves, as Citizens of the respective States? In the event of a proposition being made in Congress, calculated to bear heavily on their Constituents, would not their feelings naturally revert to their immediate friends, in their own and their friends?

Should the authority to regulate commerce, light houses, piers, harbours, and other obstructing removals, from the mouths