

the change which has been effected; still, all are equally interested in the establishment of the principle. Entertaining these views, and having been made fully aware of the difficulties, which, before that time, had defeated various attempts to introduce this policy, I resolved not to appoint any Inspector, who would not energetically co-operate with me, to accomplish the desired reform. When this determination became known, some feeling was excited. It was inconsiderately alleged by some holding high positions, that it would provoke a dangerous agitation. Whereas, it was, amongst other reasons, precisely to anticipate and prevent such a result, that I deemed it advisable to adopt this measure. It was to show to the great community of laboring men, that the State understood and conceded their rights; whilst, at the same time, she protected the institution of Slavery, in which they, for the most part, have no interest of ownership. No one will question the entire soundness of the great map of the laboring people of Maryland, upon every Southern issue. They uphold the domestic institution of the South because it is a part of their constitution, recognized by their laws, and woven into the frame-work of their society. Their support is based upon principle; and, I did not wish to see it answered by a discrimination derogatory to the dignity of their labor, under the sanction of the constituted authorities of the State. A question was raised as to my right to annex such a condition to the appointment of the Inspectors. If there is any force in precedent, this question is easily disposed of. No test of political opinion is to be found in the Constitution of the United States, nor in the constitution of any State in the Union; and yet, appointments to office, both under the General and State Governments, have been, and probably will continue to be made, upon the strictest tests of political sentiment. This has been justified upon the ground that an Administration should be privileged to select its agents from amongst those, whose views upon matters of general policy, coincide with its own. It would be difficult to draw a rational distinction between the discretion exercised by me, in the selection of the Tobacco Inspectors, upon the condition referred to, and that upon which the universal precedent of the Country is based. I am fully satisfied that this reform cannot fail to meet with general approbation.

It is proper, however, that I should here call your attention to the fact, that, the amount of the salary, allowed to the Inspectors of Tobacco, is altogether insufficient. Their labors and responsibilities are great; equal, at least, to those of any of the other Inspectors of