

fairly calculate upon an increase of price in some degree proportioned to the increase of demand, which could not fail to have a most wholesome effect upon the tobacco growing region of our country, and would also have a good effect upon cotton and grain growers, as the increased price for tobacco and the increased demand would have a tendency to attract labor and capital from the production of those articles to that of tobacco; this would lessen the production of those articles, and to that extent increase their value. The general prosperity which the agricultural interest would experience under such a change, could not fail to have a congenial influence upon all other branches of industry in our own country, and those with which we trade, by increasing the demand for the articles which they produce, to the extent of the increased means of the agriculturists to consume them: showing clearly that it is not only the agricultural interest which is involved in the proper adjustment and regulation of the tobacco trade, but that it is the interest of all others connected with them by the relations of trade.

A few years ago the attention of some of the larger tobacco growers of our State was turned to the consideration of the present condition of the tobacco trade: by their efforts, public attention was roused, meetings were called, the subject was examined, and in a short time an interest was excited, which spread itself to every portion of the country engaged in the cultivation of tobacco, this feeling produced a general movement upon the subject, which resulted in a general convention, which met at the city of Washington in the Spring of 1839, in which the tobacco growers of every portion of our country were represented. The investigation which was had upon the subject, in that convention, resulted in the passage of resolutions calling the attention of Congress to the subject: in consequence of which Congress passed resolutions, requesting the President of the United States to instruct our foreign ministers to urge upon the governments near which they respectively resided, the necessity of a modification of the duties and imposts upon the importation and consumption of tobacco in those countries, with the view of bringing them to a more equitable standard. There was also appropriations of salaries and out-fits for ministers and agents to be sent to those countries where we had no diplomatic agent permanently residing, for the same purpose, (of endeavoring to get them to lessen the onerous burthens imposed upon our tobacco.) The President of the United States very promptly carried out the views thus suggested,