

confidence in the ability, patriotism and integrity of, some of those who entertain it, is calculated to inspire, 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, require that there should be a period when disputed questions, after repeated and thorough investigation, should be put to rest; and we are not without example and high authority for this assertion. That the right of the general government to exercise the power mentioned in the resolutions, has been fully, and ably discussed on various occasions, in congress and decided in its favor, is undeniable.

The national government possesses the power to tax the people to any extent; and shall it be contended, that after having exhausted the resources of the states, (for every object of taxation is within its reach, and many withheld 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 right and sovereignty of the states; but we do not feel the alarm nor per-