

points. In the mean time, they find among the practical consequences of these proceedings, some which affect very deeply the interest and of this Commonwealth, and which, from the peculiar urgency of the case, appear to call for some distinct and immediate action.

The objection made by the State of South Carolina, to the laws which she has undertaken to annul is, that they were passed for the purpose of protecting domestic industry. She distinctly declares, that she will not permit any laws made for this purpose to be executed within her limits, and that, if an attempt be made to carry them into execution by force, she will withdraw from the Union. The Executive branch of the Government of the United States has met these pretensions with a firmness that becomes the official representative of a great and enlightened people, and has declared in a public proclamation, the laws must and will be enforced. The Legislative branch of the Government will doubtless exhibit, in its final action, the same firm and dignified attitude which has been assumed by the President; but the Committee have learned with regret, that a bill has been reported by one of the most important Committees of the House of Representatives, and is now under discussion in that body, the object of which seems to be to remove the danger of a collision between the Government of United States and South Carolina, by granting to the latter all that she demands. This bill is incorrectly described in its title, as a Bill for the Reduction of the Duties on Imported Goods. While the duties on imported goods of some descriptions are reduced by it, those on others are raised, and should the bill become a law, its general result would probably be to increase rather than diminish the receipts into the Treasury. The real object of the bill is obviously so to modify the laws laying duties on imported goods, that they shall, in no degree, or as little as may be, afford protection to the domestic industry of the country. The passage of such a law, considered merely as a change in the economical policy of the Government, would be exceedingly injurious to the best interests of the people, and in particular of the citizens of this Commonwealth; and taking into view the circumstances under which it is proposed, would, in the opinion of the committee, seriously compromise the dignity and honor of the country.

1. Considered merely as a change in the economical policy of the Government, the passage of this bill would be