

encouragement, to furnish all the necessaries ~~of~~ comforts of life. This is the policy which the friends of domestic industry so earnestly recommend. If it were adopted, and could possibly be carried into effect our exports and imports would cease; our navy and shipping would be destroyed: the principal source of federal revenue would be cut off. The canals and rail roads, leading to the Atlantic cities would be rendered unprofitable and useless; agriculture, commerce and manufactures would perish from want of support; the Southern States would become a desert, and our eastern brethren might set out on a new pilgrimage, and retire into some wilderness where the tithe of man had not been striving against the providence of God.

Annual Message

But it may be said that the advocates of a home market and domestic supplies only wish to apply their doctrines to particular branches of foreign trade, and do not intend to destroy it altogether. They consider it especially desirable to provide a home market for the immense amount of cotton which is exported to other countries, and to employ our own citizens in manufacturing such articles as are now received ~~from them~~ in return for it. It would be found, that in getting rid of one difficulty, we should encounter another, for instead of exporting the raw material, we should be obliged to depend on foreign markets for the sale of it in a new form; and whether our exports consisted of manufactures or agricultural produce, we should be compelled to receive foreign productions in return; and it might still be said that we were encouraging the industry of other nations, and neglecting the interests of our own citizens.

The present state of our foreign relations, points out the only object which ought to be kept in view in laying duties and imports; and that is, to provide a revenue for the defence of the country. The greatest amount of revenue is derived from moderate duties, which neither give encouragement to smuggling, nor materially diminish the consumption of the articles on which they are laid. The hope is still entertained that the questions in dispute between the United States and Great Britain may be amicably adjusted; and that there will be no serious interruption of the commercial intercourse and friendly relations which are of so much importance to both nations. But the grounds of controversy are becoming so numerous and complicated, that it is impossible to tell how soon a different state of things may arise; and it is therefore the wisest course to make preparations for defence, not with the view of bringing on hostilities with any Power, but to meet aggression from whatever quarter it may come. Hitherto, we have trusted too much to the justice and moderation of other governments; and even now while dangers appear to be thickening around us, we are forming home leagues, not to repel foreign invasion, but to raise the price of domestic goods; and the Congress of the United States having already relinquished the proceeds of the public lands which might have been applied to purposes of defence, are debating whether a bill