

committees are prepared to give their unanimous dissent; and while in the spirit of frankness and conciliation, they offer this result of their deliberations, in relation to these deeply interesting subjects, they are happy to concur in many of the general sentiments and positions advanced in the said documents, in regard to the rights of the several states, the nature of our federal compact, and the general rules which ought to regulate our national legislation.

Your committee are unable to perceive any constitutional obstacle to such laws, or any conclusive evidence of their inexpediency, or injurious and oppressive effects upon the southern states, or upon any other particular section of our country.

Your committee have yet to learn, and this by fair experiment, that the tariff laws now in force, and so zealously opposed by the anti-tariff states, will prove injurious to our southern brethren—we do confidently anticipate a different result. It is believed that the alarming apprehensions entertained by them, are in a great degree imaginary, and will vanish in the progress of a reasonable practical trial. But even admitting that the laws in question should operate for the present less beneficially upon some parts of our country than others, that circumstance may be urged more against their expediency than the constitutional right of Congress to legislate on those important subjects; for we can name but few, if any cases of impost and taxation, that do not bear more heavily upon some portions of our union than others. Some places are enriched and rapidly built up by our commercial and navigation laws, while others scarcely feel their salutary influence; and while many instances of the like partial operation of general laws may be cited, the right and authority of the government in enacting them are not called in question. Nor can your committee otherwise construe the clauses and provisions in the constitution of the United States, so often cited in the discussion of these topics, than as expressly or by fair implication, giving to Congress the power and jurisdiction herein contended for.

If the sole question under consideration, rested upon the expediency and policy of adopting a course of measures for rapidly advancing the manufacturing interests of this country, and going extensively into appropriations for internal improvements, and especially without a just regard to the different sections of the country, there might arise some diversity of sentiment and feeling among