

of political opinion is to be found in the Constitution of the United States, nor in the Constitution of any State in the Union; and yet, appointments to office, both under the General and State Governments, have been, and probably will continue to be made, upon the strictest tests of political sentiment. This has been justified upon the ground that, an Administration should be privileged to select its agents from amongst those, whose views, upon matters of general policy, coincide with its own. It would be difficult to draw a rational distinction between the discretion exercised by me, in the selection of the Tobacco Inspectors, upon the condition referred to, and that upon which the universal precedent of the Country is based. I am fully satisfied that this reform cannot fail to meet with general approbation.

It is proper, however, that I should here call your attention to the fact, that, the amount of the salary, allowed to the Inspectors of Tobacco, is altogether insufficient. Their labors and responsibilities are great; equal, at least, to those of any of the other Inspectors of the first class. Whilst the State should not pay exorbitant salaries, it certainly should not expect its officers to devote their time and talents to its service, for an inadequate remuneration. I believe that the change in the system of labor, in the warehouses, will cause a reduction in the general expenditures.

This leads me to the consideration of another matter, of which I shall treat very briefly. An effort will be made to induce you to abolish the whole system of Inspections; or, so to modify it, as to substitute licensed Inspectors for those now appointed by the State. To abolish Inspections absolutely, will, I presume, meet with the approbation of comparatively few. It requires no great degree of sagacity to foresee the injurious results of such a measure. But, the more plausible scheme of the license system will be pressed upon your consideration. Powerful influences will be brought to bear, for the attainment of this object. I respectfully caution you against hasty action in the matter. The unprecedented prosperity, visible in every branch of our Industry and Commerce, which has been reached under the present system, should admonish you against inconsiderate change. The principle and object of every system of inspection must be to establish an impartial umpirage between the buyer and the seller, the producer and the consumer. The Arbitrator of valuation must be absolutely independent; so that, full justice may be done to each of the parties interested. The independence of the Inspector must not be jeopardized. Men are not prone to be dishonest, though they may be weak. To remove temptation is to insure integrity. The Inspector who holds his appointment from, and is directly responsible to the Executive, or other Superior Officer of the State, can have no motive to do wrong. But, the licensed Inspector, who depends upon the patronage of the producer, or his Commission Merchant, may not have the moral courage to perform his duty,