

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

Throughout the year, since our last meeting, the country has been eminently prosperous in its material interests. The general health has been excellent; our harvests have been abundant, and plenty smiles throughout the land. Our commerce and manufactures have been prosecuted with energy and industry, and have yielded fair and ample returns. In short, no nation in the tide of time has ever presented a spectacle of greater material prosperity than we have done until within a very recent period.

But that the Union was designed to be perpetual appears conclusively from the nature and extent of the powers conferred by the Constitution on the Federal Government. These powers embrace the very highest attributes of national sovereignty. It is plain that the sword of the Government is to be placed in the hands of Congress, and that Congress has power to make war, and to make peace; to raise and support armies and navies, and to conclude treaties with foreign nations. It is invested with the power to coin money, and to regulate the value thereof, and to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several States. It is not necessary to enumerate the other high powers which have been conferred upon the Federal Government. In order to carry the enumerated powers into effect, Congress possesses the exclusive right to lay and collect duties on imports, and in common with the States to lay and collect all other taxes.

But the Constitution has not only conferred these high powers on Congress, but it has adopted effectual means to restrain the States from interfering with their exercise. For that purpose it has, in strong prohibitory terms, forbidden any State to enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation; grant letters of marque and reprisal; coin money; emit bills of credit; make anything but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts; or to assume any debt without the consent of Congress. Moreover, without the consent of Congress, no State shall lay any imposts or duties on any imports or exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for its own defence; or to lay any tax on imports or exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for its own defence; or to lay any tax on imports or exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for its own defence.

It is not believed that any attempt will be made to expel the United States from this property by force; but if in this I should prove to be mistaken, the office in command of the militia has been ordered to resist by all the means in his power. In such a contingency, the responsibility for consequences would rightfully rest upon the heads of the assailants.

It is not believed that any attempt will be made to expel the United States from this property by force; but if in this I should prove to be mistaken, the office in command of the militia has been ordered to resist by all the means in his power. In such a contingency, the responsibility for consequences would rightfully rest upon the heads of the assailants.

It is not believed that any attempt will be made to expel the United States from this property by force; but if in this I should prove to be mistaken, the office in command of the militia has been ordered to resist by all the means in his power. In such a contingency, the responsibility for consequences would rightfully rest upon the heads of the assailants.

It is not believed that any attempt will be made to expel the United States from this property by force; but if in this I should prove to be mistaken, the office in command of the militia has been ordered to resist by all the means in his power. In such a contingency, the responsibility for consequences would rightfully rest upon the heads of the assailants.