

y perhaps be roused this debate, that this, like all other great national questions, is
 inevitably attend a bringing to its support, or arraying in opposition to it, local
 e in its progress, and questions and prejudices which seem likely to give it a tendency
 which has been with an impetus more powerful than could have been imparted
 elaration that reputo it by its own intrinsic merit or importance. Those who
 d in fact, as it would regard themselves as particularly interested in our present
 instance recorded tariff laws, and dread as the greatest calamity any change or
 sustain them in the modification of them, and who think they see strong indica-
 government previous in the doctrines advanced by the Executive of a strong
 is country then, was disposition on his part to establish, as far as he may be able
 comparatively young to accomplish it, a system of free trade, frankly avow, or many
 upon our commerce of them do, their willingness to see the country involved in
 be had, to a very civil war, rather than permit the industrial pursuits of the people to
 which was still fube laid prostrate by a ruinous competition with the pauper
 intercourse act. O labor of Europe. Sir, I think it would not be too much to as-
 the lowest point, ar t that the manufacturing States of the Union would prefer
 med to be paralyzed war to a system of free trade. Many of those who contrib-
 ent had not the meant to the elevation of the present Chief Magistrate, pledged
 se is different. Themselves in the canvass of 1844 to a course of policy respect-
 ample. We have ing the tariff, which, if we are to judge from the tenor of his
 ore than sufficient annual message, he is not likely to pursue. At the North he
 s therefore the duty was declared to be in favor of a high protective tariff, while at
 much zeal, to prepathe South he was understood to be in favor of free trade. Now,
 we seem to be tendisir, if we are to judge of the President's opinions from his an-
 e be any opposition annual message, he is more likely to favor the latter than the
 ons necessary for cformer in his course of policy. It is well known by whom he
 denounce the intriguis, surrounded in his cabinet councils: the very minister who
 ssue, and will hold conducts our foreign negotiations may be considered as favor-
 been placed in charable to, having voted for, the tariff of 1842. He is most inti-
 e the policy they pately connected with the great iron interest of the State from
 arty ascendancy, thwhich he comes. A war would be more sure protection to
 e of the most powerthose interests than any law which could be passed by Con-
 h I have the honorgress. I make no charge against that or any other gentleman;
 from the necessary put when I hear it declared by gentlemen from that section of
 t in the field of strcountry that they would prefer a war to any considerable re-
 of this debate to production of the tariff, I am bound, sir, to suppose it not impos-
 sible that their policy may in some degree be dictated by their
 in party intrigues, interests. In Pennsylvania, it is well known that Mr. Polk
 e scheme of design was represented as "a better tariff man than Mr. Clay,"—
 nal question, and [Mr. CHARLES J. INGERSOLL. That was my argument.]
 e of President-making while at the South he was understood to be in favor of free
 t in the eyes of the trade, or a low *ad valorem* rate of duties. How are these dif-
 fferences involvedferences to be reconciled? You cannot have one tariff for the
 ty lines and obliterate North and another for the South; fortunately or unfortunately,
 a, also, in the course our laws extend over the whole country. Are we to be thrown