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Five Dolls. per ann. FRIDAY, MARCH 11th, 1803. *Paid In Advance.*

Doctor FENDALL,

OPERATOR UPON TEETH.

IS juſt arrived in George Town, (on his way to Alexandria) and may be ſeen and conſulted at the Union Tavern, kept by Mr. M'Laughlin, at any time. The ſooner applications are made to the Doctor the better, as his continuance in Town will be uncertain, having been long abſent from his reſidence, to which place he is anxious to return.

Dr. FENDALL cures the ſcurvey in the gums, be it ever ſo inveterate, in a ſhort time; faſtens looſe teeth, by making the gums grow firm up to them; renders teeth white and beautiful; prevents their decay; keeps ſuch as are ſo from becoming worſe, even to old age; fills up thoſe that are hollow with gold or lead, which will notonly render them uſeful, but prevents their aching and further decay; extracts teeth and ſtumps with eaſe; makes and fixes artificial teeth. His Columbian antiſcorbutic Dentifrice for preſerving the teeth, gums, ſockets, &c. and ſuperior he thinks both in elegance and efficacy to any other, is ſtill ſold by the Doctor.

George Town, Union Tavern,
February 22, 1803. M2—tf.

TAKE NOTICE.

I WILL ſell five hundred and fifty acres of Land whereon I live, in Fairfax county, within five miles of the court houſe, and within twenty of the City of Waſhington, Alexandria, Dumfries, and twelve of the Ocaquon mills, it is a healthy ſituation, the land fertile, and has about two hundred acres of wood to cut, there is a great proportion of white and red oak, popular and hickory timber.—There is nearly one hundred acres of prime land for meadow. I will give ſix months credit for one fourth of the purchaſe money—twelve months for the other quarter, eighteen for the third, and two years for the laſt payment, a purchaſer will find me on the the premiſes.

THOS POLLARD.

Feb. 21ſt. tf.

Superintendant's Office, Waſhington 8th March 1802.

THERE will be wanting for public uſe in this city large quantities of freeſtone, foundation ſtone, lime, ſand, and ſome bricks—Propoſals to ſupply the ſame will be received on the fourth day of next month, by

THOMAS MUNROE,
Superintendant.

N. B. A number of labourers and ſome timber for joiſts &c. will alſo be wanted.

March 9. ept4A.

A Valuable Farm for Sale.

BY virtue of a decree of the Chancellor of Maryland, had in the caſe of WM. H. DORSEY, Complainant, againſt JOHANNA and PETER CASANAVE, infant heirs and ANN CASANAVE and NICHOLAS YOUNG, adminiſtrators of PETER CASANAVE, Defendants—The Subſcriber will on Friday the 18th day of March next, offer for Sale at public auction, the plantation or Farm called "Fair Hill," and the adjoining Tract of Land called "George the Third" containing in the whole about 450 acres. The ſaid Lands will be ſold together. This Land is advantageouſly ſituated, being about 18 miles diſtant from George Town, and about 8 miles from Montgomery Court Houſe. The Land is of good quality, and has more than a plentiful ſupply of Wood and Timber. The improvements upon it are coſtly, being a large and convenient dwelling houſe, Brick ſtable, and other neceſſary outhouſes. The Sale will take place at 12 o'clock at the dwelling houſe at Fair Hill, at which W. H. Dorſey formerly reſided.

Terms of Sale.—The purchaſer to pay to the ſubſcriber the ſum of 1350 £ current money, immediately on the ratification of the Sale. And give bond with ſecurity to be approved by the Chancellor to pay the reſidue of the purchaſe money within ſix months from the day of ſale, with intereſt from the date. After ratification of the ſale and receipt of the whole purchaſe money, a conveyance will be made by the ſubſcriber to the purchaſer of aforeſaid property and his or her heirs of all the right, title and eſtate of the petitioner and of the dependants or either of them hereto.

SAMUEL BROOKE, Truſtee.

N. B. One quarter of an acre including the family burial ground at Fair hill is excepted from the ſale.

Feb. 22, 1803. ept18M.

Loſt by, or Stolen from, a

lodger at STELLES HOTEL, on Thurſday laſt, a POST NOTE, iſſued by the Bank of Baltimore, for two hundred and fifty Dollars, to John Thomas, and indorſed with his name, in blank. The number of the Note and the day of iſſuing it, are not remembered; but believed to be dated on the 10th of September, 1800.

If the above note is offered in Payment, or to be changed, an enquiry is requeſted to be made from whom it has been received. If any perſon will diſcover the thief, ſo that he may be convicted, he ſhall receive fifty Dollars. If any perſon will deliver the Note to my bar keeper, he will pay him 20 Dollars, and no queſtions aſked.

PONTIUS D. STELLE.

March 2. 2w.

WANTED,

One or two Boys to learn the

BOOT and SHOE-MAKING Buſineſs.—Apply to *JOHN CROOKSHANK.*

George-Town, Jan. 19, 1803. tf.

National Intelligencer.

Congreſs of the United States.

House of Representatives.

February 18, 1803.

Debate on the Bankrupt Law continued.

Mr. Newton, jun.—I riſe with an intention to perform a duty aſſigned to me. I ſhall at all times obey with promptitude and with pleaſure the call of thoſe whom I have the honor to repreſent, and my ſtrenuous efforts ſhall never be wanting to promote their happineſs and proſperity.

It is well known to the Houſe that the Bankrupt Law, the ſubject now before us, has been ſubmitted to our conſideration by a petition from the reſpectable Towns of Norfolk and Portſmouth, (Virginia) complaining of its partial operation and injurious tendency. This law has attracted public notice, and has in no ſmall degree awakened the fears of all reflecting men—It is ſuppoſed to produce effects the reverſe of thoſe which were intended. The objections to this law are ſolid and juſt.

The miſchief it produces is extenſive—it is not ſuſceptible of amendments—the only antidote to the poiſon is a repeal. This opinion is the reſult of mature conſideration.

Having premiſed thus much I truſt the houſe will at this late hour excuſe me for treſpaſſing on its patience. I have no inclination to go into a tedious diſcuſſion of the goodneſs or badneſs of the Bankrupt Law, on a queſtion of poſtponement. It appears to me to be irregular and unfair to deprive us of that freedom of diſcuſſion which can be had only in a Committee of the whole houſe on a ſubject ſo intereſting and ſo intricate. It is a privilege I hope that will not be denied us.

From the courſe which the debate has already taken I am compelled not only to anſwer the arguments urged by gentlemen in favor of a poſtponement, but alſo to offer ſome arguments to juſtify a repeal of that Law. It has been urged by the gentleman from Maryland (Gen. Smith) that it is improper for us to attempt a repeal of that Law until the mercantile cities and towns ſhall have given intimation to us that a repeal is wiſhed for. He has alſo ſaid that time has not been given for the expreſſion of an opinion.

That gentleman I am apprehenſive has forgot, that about the 13th of January I preſented a petition complaining in ſtrong and forcible language of the partiality of that Law, and alſo that on the ſame day a gen. from Maſſachuſetts (Mr. Varnum) moved a reſolution which paſſed the houſe directing the ſelect committee to whom the petition was referred to enquire into the expediency of repealing that Law. It cannot be forgotten either by that gentleman or the houſe, that the committee with the utmoſt diſpatch made a report which was committed to a committee of the whole, and made the order for the thirty firſt of January.—Buſineſs of importance having occupied the attention of the houſe from the 31ſt till the day before yeſterday, prevented my calling up the report of the ſelect committee before that day.

Permit me, Sir, to aſk that gentleman whether notoriety of an intended repeal of that law had not been given and whether ſufficient time had not been afforded to obtain before the preſent day an expreſſion of the public ſentiment from the moſt diſtant parts of the union, from New Hampſhire to Georgia, and from the ſhores of the Atlantic to thoſe of the Miſſiſſippi. I am led to deduce from the premiſes of the gentleman inferences quite oppoſite. The ſilence of the merchants on the ſubject of the Bankrupt Law impreſſes me with a firm belief that they are anxious to have it ſtruck from our ſtatute book.

If this law had faſtened itſelf on their affections and was peculiarly endowed with properties and energies ſucceſsfully to guard againſt and protect the merchant from the misfortunes and calamities to which that profeſſion is liable, would not the merchants when they beheld the legiſlative arm nerved with power and uplifted to ſtrike the fatal blow, ſupplicate your to ſtay the meditated ſtroke, and to ſpare "this ſtupendous frabric of human wiſdom."

That claſs of citizens have a quick ſenſe of injuries, penetration to diſcern and ſteadineſs to purſue their true and ſolid intereſt. When the legiſlature expreſſed an intention of conditionally repealing our laws laying diſcriminating duties, &c. &c.—remonſtrance on remonſtrance was preſented to the houſe againſt that meaſure. The prompt expreſſion of their opinion on the latter ſubject and their ſilence on the former—I repeat, is to me confirmation ſtrong of their execration of the Bankrupt Law.

A further reaſon in favor of a poſtponement urged by gentlemen is not more ſolid. It is that the repreſentation in the next Congreſs will be the fulleſt of any we have had and of conſequence better qualified to decide on this ſubject—this is an argument more ſpecious than juſt—let me aſk gentlemen why they were ſo raſh as to form a Bankrupt ſyſtem? why did they not look forward with the ſame confidence to the wiſdom of the eighth Congreſs, and leave to that body the conſideration of the queſtion whether it would not be enlightened policy to eſtabliſh an uniform ſyſtem of Bankruptcy throughout the United States? As the gentlemen themſelves have had the courage to act on this ſubject, I truſt this houſe equal in numbers and talents will not ſhrink from it. The object of gentlemen muſt be manifeſt to all, it is to defeat the repeal of the law.

I remain confident that the houſe will on this occaſion, as it did on a former, decide againſt a poſtponement, and in favor of going into committee of the whole houſe on the report of the ſelect committee.

I have endeavored to anſwer with clearneſs and preciſion the reaſons urged for a poſtponement, whether ſucceſsfully or not the houſe muſt determine. I am now compelled to perform an arduous and a difficult taſk, which will be to ſhew that the operation of the bankrupt law, in defiance of any amendments we can frame, will continue to be partial and immoral—and that it is a ſyſtem which can never enjoy the affections of the citizens of the United States. The taſk is certainly difficult on account of the extent of the ſubject, and our ſucceſs doubtful from the partiality, which is foſtered for the juriſprudence of that country, from which it is taken. The petition which I had the honor to preſent, and which is the ground work of all our proceedings, in general terms, complains of the partiality of the law, and how incapable its proviſions are of preventing the practice of fraud.

The partiality complained of can, in my apprehenſion, have no other meaning than this, viz. that the proviſions of that law are not made to extend to every claſs and deſcription of citizens. This partiality cannot be remedied. This, Sir, is not a mere aſſertion, nor is it a viſionary ſpeculation. This aſſertion is the reſult of an attentive and diſpaſſionate examination of the conſtitution of the United States. The conſtitution gives to congreſs power to make "uniform laws on the ſubject of bankruptcies throughout the United States." The word bankruptcies was borrowed from the Britiſh ſtatutes, and as a legal phraſe, its meaning is preciſe and definite. It is well underſtood and defined by the Engliſh juriſts. The term bankrupt means a trader, one who obtains his livelihood by buying and ſelling articles of merchandize, or depends for that livelihood to a certain degree, by buying and ſelling articles of merchandize. If this definition of the word is a right one, and I aver it to be ſo, the words bankrupt, trader, and merchant, are ſynonimous—they are convertible terms, meaning one and the ſame thing. As ſuch the conſtitution forbids us, nay, ſtays our hands from extending the proviſions of a bankrupt law, to either the farmer, planter, mechanic, or any claſs of citizens other than a trader or merchant.

I am conſcious that I am addreſſing myſelf to an enlightened aſſembly—to its better judgment I will ſubmit, with all that deference and reſpect, which worth, talents and virtue can inſpire. If I am wrong, I ſolicit them to correct my errors. I likewiſe behold here profeſſional gentlemen, whoſe ſkill in juriſprudence is great and undiſputed. I pray thoſe gentlemen, if I have deviated from legal ground, to point out the path by which I ſhall regain it, and I will retrace my ſteps.

The ſilence of gentlemen emboldens me to ſay, that the ground I have taken is firm and ſolid. Should gentlemen tell me, that the Britiſh bankrupt ſyſtem is extended to a deſcription of perſons other than traders or merchants, I will grant it. What will be gained by this conceſſion? Nothing, that I apprehend. It is to be remembered, that the parliament of Great Britain is omnipotent, according to the learned Blackſtone. Its power to legiſlate is co-extenſive with all and every deſcription of actions which are ſuſceptible of legiſlative controul, on which the legiſlative will can be brought to act. But even there, if it is the will of the parliament to extend the benefits of the bankrupt laws to other perſons, beſides merchants, the law muſt ſpecially deſcribe them. In this country we are ſo peculiarly happy as to have a conſtitution which is a grant of certain powers, in other words, a code of laws to the governors.

All our acts not authoriſed and warranted by that inſtrument are not binding.

This doctrine is ſo univerſally known and underſtood, that I am relieved from the neceſſity of adducing inſtances. The power given by the conſtitution to congreſs, to make uniform laws on the ſubject of bankruptcies throughout the United States, is a limited power, as I have fully ſhewn, in the former part of my argument.

Congreſs can by no conſtitutional law place the farmer, planter, or mechanic, on the ſame footing with the trader or merchant. The bankrupt law, according to the terms of the petition, is of conſequence partial; and I will add, impolitic and immoral.

I am not diſpoſed, Sir, to depreciate the laws and inſtitutions of other nations, nor to detract from their merits, if in their juriſprudence any thing valuable is diſcoverable, and by the adoption of which advantage is to be gained—I ſhall be always ready to render my homage to truth, and to profit by the leſſons of experience—knowledge and wiſdom are not the precious and invaluable gifts of heaven, to any favorite clime, or to any choſen people; they are not confined within certain geographical limits, ideal boundaries, they poſſeſs the attribute of ubiquity—there is no portion of the globe, in which monuments of them are not preſerved—and happy for mankind, they are the ſplendid and ſolid acquiſitions of ſtudy and reflection. Yet, Sir, impreſſions ſuch as theſe, cannot induce me to believe that it is the true policy of any nation to adopt the laws of another, without mature conſideration, and a firm conviction, that the genius and ſpirit of the laws are in harmony with the genius and ſpirit of the people, to whom they are to be rules of action. Different ſtates of ſociety require different laws—our political inſtitutions differ eſſentially from thoſe of the European world.

The European and American think differently on political ſubjects—to aſcertain this, I pray gentlemen to take in one hand the political inſtitutions of Europe, and in the other thoſe of the States and United States of America, and diſpaſſionately compare them with each other. If I miſtake not, the ſtature and features (if I may be allowed the expreſſions) of the human mind, will be found as there delineated and depicted to preſerve no ſtriking likeneſs. Our conſtitutions and laws are laid on the ſolid foundations, of equality of rights and equality of condition. Laws which make and countenance diſtinctions between citizen and citizen, are hoſtile to the nature and well being of our governments. If we are deſirous of perpetuating the exiſtence, and I truſt we all are, of the conſtitution of the United States, and thoſe of the reſpective ſtates—our laws emanating from theſe different ſources ſhould act in uniſon and concert, or as nearly ſo as the nature of things will admit—uniformity will give to them ſtrength, and erected as they would be, on the ſtable foundation of equal and immutable juſtice, they would for ever poſſeſs the affections of the people. Should a contrary courſe be purſued, our political inſtitutions, the admiration of the world, the firſt-born of wiſdom, would receive a ſhock that would make us all tremble for their preſervation. Prior to the formation of the preſent conſtitution, the ſtate governments had within their reſpective juriſdictions the regulation of all matters relative to property, contracts, &c. in a word, all civil and criminal juriſdiction. All tranſactions even to this day, between citizen and citizen, except in certain ſpecified caſes, are under the immediate controul of the ſtate laws. It has ever been the policy of moſt of the ſtates, and with confidence I ſpeak of the ſtate of Virginia, not to impair the obligation of contracts, nor to abſolve a man from his debts. The only releaſement from a debt or contract is to pay the one and perform the other. To protect the debtor from the oppreſſion of the creditor, to which, in ſome countries, the creditor can at will ſubject the debtor—inſolvent laws are in force, by the proviſions of which the debtor can liberate his body from impriſonment, by aſſigning over his eſtate, both real and perſonal, for the benefit of the creditor. A debtor who has taken the benefit of the inſolvent law cannot be impriſoned again by the creditor for the ſame debt, though the property given up by him is inſufficient to pay the debt of the creditor. The ſubſequent acquiſitions of the debtor are made liable to pay the balance. The laws are uniform, conſiſtent and juſt, they bear with equal authority upon all and every deſcription of citizens high & low, rich and poor. This evident impartiality has endeared the ſtate laws to their affections. Our common ſtandard of juſtice is eſtabliſhed—the reſult is obedience, without murmur to the laws, and a perfect acquieſcence in their commands.

The Bankrupt law which is now under conſideration is of a different complexion. It is partial in the extreme, it operates excluſively in favor of the merchant and trader, and in contradiction to the genius and ſpirit of the laws of the ſtates, abſolves the trader from the fulfillment of his contract and from the payment of his debts—Is this moral? It is, however, the evident tendency of the Bankrupt law. If a merchant or trader is indebted to the farmer, planter, or mechanic, and become a bankrupt, and obtains his certificate of diſcharge, tho' his property will not yield a ſhilling in the pound, he is everlaſtingly abſolved from paying the balance. If after this he becomes as rich as Crœſus—the laws cannot coerce a payment—the debtor may enjoy all the luxuries of life, while the unfortunate creditor, poor indeed for the want of this balance, Lazarus like, may be denied a crum from his table. Reverſe the caſe, ſuppoſe the farmer, planter, or mechanic, to be indebted to the merchant, that his perſon is impriſoned for the debt, that he obtains his diſcharge by the inſolvent law from confinement, by giving up his property, but which is inſufficient to pay the debt. Is he compellable in law to pay the balance? yes, the obligation to pay it remains in force. His future acquiſitions obtained by the ſweat of his brow are mortgaged to pay up the laſt ſhilling—Is this diſcrimination juſt? Our minds accuſtomed and familiarized to contemplate with pleaſure the equal juſtice of the ſtate laws, revolt at and abhor the partiality and wickedneſs of this Bankrupt Law. To reconcile us to this law, gentlemen (Meſſrs. Bayarp and Smith) tell us that merchants are at the ſport of winds and waves, and that they are more liable to accidents, misfortunes and caſualties than other men.

Sir, we are all, whatever may be our profeſſions, but paſſengers through life; the tempeſt beats on us all with equal fury—and the iron rod of adverſity makes no exceptions of perſons from the palace to the cottage—The ſtorm that ſtrands a bark or ſinks it into the fathomleſs deep, may in its ſweep proſtrate and deſtroy the faireſt proſpects of the farmer. If it is our object to be ſucceſsfully guarded and protected againſt the hazards and perils to which we are daily expoſed—the armour of prudence ſhould never be taken off. In that and that only have we any ſecurity—it is the Ægis, without which we periſh. This brings me to a very intereſting part of my ſubject.

I ſhall be brief—I hold it, Sir, to be a truth that cannot be denied, that that law which weakens the controul of prudence over human actions and concerns, ſtabs in its vitals a cardinal virtue, and leaves ſociety expoſed to the incurſions and ravages of every vice. I am fully perſuaded that merchants ſuffer greater loſſes from the imprudency of thoſe with whom they have extenſive dealings than from all the perils and dangers of the ſea or the precariouſneſs of foreign or domeſtic markets.

When a man diſcovers that he can rid himſelf of the importunity and demand of his creditors by a Bankrupt Law he is too apt to enter into engagements without regard to the means which will enable him to comply with them, and he will likewiſe be too prone to extend his ſpeculations and projects incautiouſly beyond his capitol. I make theſe remarks becauſe I think they delineate with force the evils of the Bankrupt Law, and from a ſolicitude I ſhall ever feel to protect the circumſpect and prudent merchant from the wild and viſionary projects of the imprudent and incautious trader: Should we be told that a certificate of diſcharge is obtained with difficulty, and that the Bankrupt muſt produce the cleareſt evidence that his failure was the conſequence of una-