NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER,

AND

WASHINGTON ADVERTISER.

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FIVE DOLLS. PER ANN. — WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20th, —3. — PAID IN ADVANCE.

IN CHANCERY April 5, 1803.

ON application to the Chancellor by petition in writing of John Thomas, the third of Montgomery County, praying the benefit of the act for the relief of sundry insolvent debtors passed at the last session on the terms therein mentioned, and a schedule of his property and a list of his creditors on oath being annexed to his petition and the Chancellor being satisfied by competent testimony that the said John Thomas the third hath resided in the State of Maryland the two last years preceding the passage of the said act. It is thereupon adjudged and ordered that the said John Thomas the third by causing a copy of this order to be inserted once in each of three successive weeks in the National Intelligencer during the present month, give notice to his creditors to appear in the Chancery Office at ten o'clock on the tenth day of May next for the purpose of recommending a trustee for their benefit on the said Thomas's then and there taking the oath by the said act required for delivering up his property.

True Copy,

Test,

SAMUEL HARVEY HOWARD.

3w. R. C. C.

CARVING & GILDING.

THE Subscriber begs leave to inform his friends and the public in general he has commenced the above business on the Pennsylvania Avenue a few doors east of Mr Morin's Tavern, where all kinds of looking glass and picture frames window and bed cornices gerandoles, brackets, &c &c. may be had on the shortest notice. He flatters himself by constant attention to give general satisfaction to those who may please to favour him with their order.

ISAAC COOPER.

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NOTICE.

THE Inhabitants of the fourth district of the city of Washington (which includes all that part of the city west of sixth street west and north of Pennsylvania avenue) and others holding property in said district, are hereby informed that the subscriber will attend for the purpose of receiving their taxes at Mr. Rhodes's Tavern from Monday the 4th day of April next until the 4 day of May next, every day (Sunday excepted) from 3 o'clock P. M. till 6 o'clock P. M. It is hoped early attention will be had to this notice, as the law requires the tax shall be paid within one month from the date of notice, otherwise their property will be subject to distress and sale, which must be complied with, however disagreeable to the subscriber The right of voting for Councilmen for the city also depends on the payment of the tax prior to the election, which will take place on the 1st Monday in June next

WASHINGTON BOYD,

Treasurer of the City of Washington.

March 31. 6t2aw.

THOMAS CARPENTER. TAYLOR.

HAS Just received by recent arrivals at Philadelphia, from England, and the East Indies, a handsome assortment of SPRING and SUMMER GOODS, of the best quality, also Patent water proof Cloth's and Cassimere's, superior NAVY BLUE and other colours; handsome NAVY & FASHIONABLE BUTTONS, &c,

Gentlemen of ARMY, NAVY and FASHION served with expedition and taste.

New Jersey Avenue, seventh house from Capitol Square and Pennsylvania Avenue near the President's square.

April 13 1803. tf.

In the case of RICHARD WILLSON,

AN INSOLVENT DEBTOR.

IT is ordered that three months from and after the first day of April next, be limited and appointed for the creditors to bring in and exhibit their claims to the Trustee, and that a copy of this order be published once in each week, until the first day of July next in the National Intelligencer, and the Washington Federalist.

Copy Test.

URIAH FORREST, Clerk

Of the Circuit Court of the District of Columbia, for the County of Washington.

ALL persons indebted to the above insolvent debtor, are notified to pay the same, and all creditors thereto, will exhibit their claims to

THOMAS CARPENTER.

Trustee to the estate of Richard Willson.

March 21, 180

Ten Dollars Reward.

STOLEN or strayed, on Saturday night last, from Mr. Queen's plantation a bay COLT, three years old, about 15 hands high, black mane and tail, and has a black stripe down his rump. Whoever will bring the said horse to Mr. DOUGHERTY's Tavern, Bladensburg, shall be paid the above reward and all reasonable expences.

April 13 ep5t

FOR SALE.

EXCELLENT Butter in Firkins, Whiskey in Barrels, and Sherry Wine in quarter Casks.

WM. BRENT,

New Jersey Avenue near the Capitol.

February 4 tf

WANTED,

One or two Boys to learn the BOOT and SHOE-MAKING Business—pply to, *JOHN CROOKSHANK.*

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

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

FEDERAL APPOINTMENTS.

(Concluded.)

But allowing the justice of the measure to be equivoca , let us enquire into its policy. Though the moral right to remove may exist, it may, notwithstanding, be impolitic to exercise it.

The object of a virtuous and wise administration must be the promotion of the general welfare: and so far as constitutional authority is conferred, it is its duty to use it for this great purpose. It is the welfare of the who e, and not the good of a part, where the one clashes with the other, that must regulate all its measures It also becomes its duty, on a scale of liberal policy, to adopt such measures as are not solely proper at the present moment, but such as are of an utility as permanent as their existence or the effects which they produce.

Whatever benefit then might at present arise from an entire removal, were such a step contemplated, it would become a duty previously to ascertain its effects on the future peace and prosperity of the country. Would they be promoted by it? It is allowed that the late system of favoritism and persecution would completely justify retaliation, if the effects of such retaliation were exclusively confined to those who practised it. But this would not be the case. It would be extensively felt by the whole party denominated federal. They would consider themselves, with whatever justice is immaterial, as persecuted. If its effects were only experienced by office hunters, it would be an object of little consideration; but they would be felt by the whole party, and be by them resented. Arresting their gradual conversion to republican principles, it would consolidate their whole strength into a phalanx of opposition to the ruling power. It would make them a permanent party, and would more, perhaps, than any other cause than can be assigned, persuade them into the conviction that they had a distinct interest from the other parts of the community. Men of unprincipled ambition would well know how to wield an instrument so desperate and resolute,—desperate by the idea that while they had nothing to lose, they had every thing to hope, and resolute by the apprehension that all depended on their own energy. Such a body would soon become a formidable faction, ceasing to sympathise with the great body of the people, and ready to promote whatever should give them a chance of returning to power.—Would this state of things promote the peace and prosperity of the country?

Contemplate its effects on the majority. The love of office is, unfortunately, very predominant in these states. Establish the principle that all offices are to be exclusively filled by those who belong to the majority, and for one present expectant you will produce ten who will then in their claims. But a small part can be gratified, even if the executive should select the objects of his choice from the list of applicants. This, however, cannot be. He will, he will look for merit; and he will, in general, find merit and talent in retirement, too proud to solicit what solicitation would constitute a favor. The effect necessarily will be the disappointment of by far the greater proportion of the applicants. But they though disappointed to day, will have hopes of to-morrow; and thus their lives will waste away in indolence, in uselessness to themselves and injury to their country.

Further; whatever tends to increase this description of men is a great and positive evil; inasmuch as it lessens the mass of human labour and enterprise, as it nourishes a spirit of servility to power, and as it subjects republicans to the reproach that all political zeal has its price.

To place this view of the subject in a still more impressive form, let us suppose what may, though there be little probability that it will happen. Suppose the tables turned, and that the present minority should obtain the possession of power, after a total exclusion from all participation in the government under the present administration. Is it to be doubted that their first act would be to transfer every office in the government to men of their own way of thinking, with a total disregard to the services, however distinguished of those whom they found in office? And is it not extremely probable that the same spirit wherewith the officers were removed, would transfuse itself into all the intercourses of business and association in private life, and produce there a still wider and more mischievous schism? Is it not the natural, not to say, inevitable tendency of violence on one side to generate it on the other. and would there not be strong reason to fear that in this way the passion of hostility would be so inflamed and extended as not only to disturb the peace, but to hazard the very existence of the union.

This is a view of the subject, which every honest republican ought dispassionately to take. Does he realize the nume ous felicities he enjoys in comparison with the vassals of other governments, and does he feel proud in being an American; let him recollect that for these solid blessings he is indebted to the structure of our government, which has substituted a devotion to principle in the place of personal attachment. Why is it that whilst we are free and happy, other nations are enslaved and wretched? It is because there the government, instead of impartially diffusing its blessings, concenters its favors in the hands of one or a few. There a king a d his nobles and their numerous parasites get every thing that can be filched from the nation. We have wisely pursued a different tract. What the people give to the government is returned with interest. But once render office an object of great cupidity, and you prostrate one of the great barriers against a privileged and favored class of men.

One effect likely to result from a prevalent thirst for office, to wit; that it nourishes a spirit of servility to power, merits a more detailed notice. It is an unpleasant fact that those who habitually seek office are, in general, aloof from active business, if not averse to it. Their time, therefore, is for the most part employed in associating with their fellow citizens, and in conversing or acting on political points. While other men are but occasionally so engaged, it is their study and almost exclusive occupation. Hence they acquire much influence over the minds and conduct of others. Their opportunities for acquiring that information which is most current in the world being greater, they are generally better informed than those with whom they associate. This furnishes them with the materials of influence, and they have time habitually and unceasingly to employ it. So far as this influence is properly exerted it may be a benefit; and it is readily allowed that it may be, as it certainly has been in some instances, eminently used for the general welfare. But the question recur , is it generally so used? Are men, who have personal objects in view, the most unprejudiced and patriotic? If the question shall be answered in the affirmative, it will follow that this species of influence will be generally so used; but if it be answered in the negative, it will follow, it must follow that it will not generally be so used. Or, in other words, it cannot be denied, that though there are men who can, and do separate personal feelings and interests from public considerations, yet men for the greater part mingle them together The desire then of the office aimed at, being the leading object, will constantly dictate the use of means calculated to obtain it. Hence every measure of the ruling power will be loudly and indiscriminately applauded. All independence of judgement will be prostrated: and inasmuch as government most requires support when it acts wrong, this description of men will know on such occasions how to recommend themselves to patronage. It is to be feared, that under the influence of these motives, bad measures will be more strenuously advocated than good ones

These are the unavoidable effects of a servile spirit, while it has its object in view. Such a spirit will have great patience. It will wait long for gratification. But the period of expectation will come to an end; and then what will be the temper of the disappointed expectant? The chance of reward is gone, and with it the spirit of servility to the ruling powers, as the reason of its existence is also gone. Is this all? This spirit, once so servile, becomes converted, in too many cases, into a spirit indignant at wrongs committed by the government. The merit and services of the expectant have been neglected; the government has been ungrateful; he ceases to be their friend, and soon afterwards becomes an active enemy; for the influence over the minds of others which he has been so long in the habit of using, having become a ruling passion, cannot be given up; it has become a part of his existence. For a time this enmity may conceal itself; but the favourable opportunity for unfolding itself will soon offer in the competition of parties and at the period of the most important elections.

Thus it appears that the mass of citizens soliciting or expecting offices may be a most dangerous engine, in the first place to support rulers in improper measures, and, secondly, to oppose good rulers, or substitute bad ones in their room.

There is one view of the subject which claims notice from its relation to the measures taken or about to be taken at Philadelphia. Those measures are predicated on the idea that the executive of the United States will be guided as to the removals, in some degree, by public opinion. The expectation would appear to be a correct one. There is every reason to believe that the President entertains the highest respect for the opinion of his fellow citizens. But it must not be overlooked that public opinion is not determined by the ascertained sentiments of a small portion of citizens in a particular district, but that it results from the ascertained sentiments of a majority of the whole nation; and it can only be by this result that the President can be guided. Let us then enquire whether the judgement of the nation is in favour of an entire removal of federalists.

It is no easy thing to determine the sentiments of five millions of people scattered over a country so extensive as the United States. Yet in this instance facts can be stated, which, it is believed, will remove all doubt. Some pains were taken by the writer of these remarks, during the late winter, to ascertain the individual opinions of the members of Congress, and through them, the opinions of their constituents; and it appeared that a vast majority of the republican members were hostile to a general removal, in which sentiment they declared that they spoke the sentiments of their constituents. It appeared that in the whole country south of the Potomac, and west of the mountains, with a very few exceptions, there was scarcely a division of opinion among the most enlightened citizens against such a step; and it also appeared, very much to the honor of those districts of country, that the thirst for office, excepting legislative trusts, was extremely rare. This is a plain and clear manifestation of public opinion not confined to a particular spot, but pervading the whole Union.

There are other grounds for the belief that public opinion is hostile to the step. The public prints indicate with considerable correctness prevailing sentiments on great national points; and on this point, with the exception of a very few prints conducted in large towns where the desire for office is th strongest, they indicate no disposition to change the present course of procedure; but have, on the contrary, exhibited positive evidence of entire satisfaction in it.

There remains but one other criterion of public opinion, deduced from the ordinary expression of individual opinion in the common intercourse of life. Those who have the widest field of intercourse will attest that there exists, to say no more, no solicitude among the great body of the people to change the course which has been adopted by the President.

From these views, it may be affirmed that public opinion, were it made the guide of the executive, would n t recommend the measure of a total removal.

Without extending these remarks by quotations from the President's Inaugural Address, or Reply to the Memorial of the Merchants of New-Haven, it may be said that he has put this subject upon its true footing; that footing which arises no less from the principles of justice than from a respect to the enlightened and honest opinions of all classes of citizens. The monopoly of office created by the preceding administration was unjust, and public opinion, unequivocally expressed, called for its destruction; but while it claimed this of right as a reparation of the violated rights of the great body of the people, it did not require, but absolutely inhibited an imitation of the abuse. The true principle which ought to regulate appointments is the representative principle, that principle which constitutes the distinctive feature of our governments, and on the maintenance of which our liberties depend. As therefore, a vast majority of our citizens are republican and warmly attached to those who administer the government, a respect for them rendered some removals necessary and also rendered it proper that the new appointments should be made from those who constituted the majority. Other reasons have operated to increase the number of removals; such as inability and official misconduct, which have occurred in several cases; in many of which, it is believed, the character of the displaced officer was in the power of the government, but of which through a sentiment of magnanimity it did not avail itself. Notwithstanding the removals which have taken place and the new appointments, it is not believed that the republicans have the full participation of office, to which, on abstract principles, their numbers entitle them. This has undoubtedly arisen from the indisposition of the chief magistrate to remove a good officer, who had faithfully discharged the duties of his office, whatever might be his politics. And notwithstanding the vehement denunciations of his enemies, and their constant cry of intolerance and persecution, we have always considered this moderation and forbearance on his part as one of the brightest ornaments of a character, that in the exercise of great power, far from cherishing a disposition to extend or abuse it, has sought every fit occasion to limit and control it.

Charlotte-Hall School.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,

That the Trustees will set up on the 2d Monday in May, to the lowest bidder, the building of a house at Charlotte-Hall for the residence of the Principal; agreeably to a plan which will then be submitted.

An advance of one half the cash will be made to the undertaker upon giving bond and security to be approved of by the Board of Trustees.

Signed by order,

NEALE H. SHAW, Regr.

March 19, 1803. ep 2m in m.