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AND

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FIVE DOLLS. PER ANN. — MONDAY, APRIL 25th, 1803. — PAID IN ADVANCE.

TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers, who have not complied with the fundamental term of this paper the payment of their annual subscription in advance, are respectfully informed that unless this shall be soon done, the Editor will be under the disagreeable necessity of ceasing to transmit their papers.

FOR SALE,

SEVERAL pieces of ELEGANT HISTORICAL &c. TAPESTRY, from deſigns of Le Brun, one of the firſt painters that ever lived in Europe, intended to ornament either a MUSEUM, a COLUMBIA GALLERY OF ARTS, or a ſchool of drawing and painting, for the inſtruction of young and ingenious artiſts, or mechanics, and to gratify the curioſity of all perſons of taſte, reſidents, or travelling in the United States.

March 24. 1803.

N. B. Apply to the owner at Stelle's Hotel, Waſhington City.

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 premiſes.

THOS POLLARD.

Feb 21ſt. tf.

In Chancery, April 11th, 1803.

The Attorney General, at the Relation and inſtance of William Lodge and Alexander Adams.

verſus

Thomas Orme and Thomas Beall of George

THE object of the bill is to vacate a Grant iſſued to THOMAS BEALL of George the defendant, for a tract of land called "Proſpect Valley" in Montgomery County, or to obtain a conveyance to the relaters of ſo much therefore as is included in a Certificate of Survey, in the name of the relaters called "Hard to come at," and for an account of the profits thereof.

The bill ſtates, that the relaters obtained a land warrant to effect vacant land in ſaid county, that it was located with the ſurveyor of the county on the land afterwards included in the laſt mentioned ſurvey. That THOMAS ORME obtained the aſſignment of a warrant that had iſſued to a certain Patrick Magruder, that at the time he obtained the warrant, it was out of date, but that he fraudulently made the ſurvey firſt mentioned and antidated it, ſo as to bring it within the time the warrant was by law admitted to operate that the aſſignment of the warrant, if at all made to Beall, in whoſe name the ſurvey was made, was alſo antidated, that the ſurvey was made for the uſe and benefit of Orme, who was then a deputy ſurveyor of the county aforeſaid, and to whom Beall has ſince the patent conveyed the land, and that Beall reſides in the Diſtrict of Columbia.

It is thereupon on the motion of the complainants ordered, that they cauſe a copy of this order to be inſerted, at leaſt once in each of three ſucceſſive weeks in the National Intelligencer of the City of Waſhington, before the fifth day of May next to the end, that the ſaid Beall may have notice of this application and of the ſubject and object of this bill, and may be warned to appear in the Court in perſon or by a ſolicitor on or before the 6th day of September next, to ſhew cauſe wherefore a decree ſhould not paſs as prayed.

Teſt,

SAMUEL HARVEY HOWARD.

April 20. 3w. R. C. C.

Whereas the Commiſſioners named and authoriſed in the commiſſion of bankruptcy awarded and iſſued againſt ISAAC POLOCK, of the diſtrict of Columbia, have certified to the honorable William Cranch, aſſiſtant judge of the circuit court of the diſtrict of Columbia, that the ſaid Iſaac Polock hath in all things conformed himſelf to the directions of the act of the United States for eſtabliſhing an uniform ſyſtem of bankruptcy throughout the United States—Notice is hereby given that the ſaid certificate will be allowed and confirmed as the act of Congreſs aforeſaid directs, unleſs cauſe be ſhewn to the contrary on or before the 25th day of April next, on which day, between the hours of 9 and 12 o'clock, the judge will attend at Stelle's Hotel, in the city of Waſhington.

By order of the honorable Wm. Cranch.

URIAH FORREST, Clerk.

April 4 3t

STONE-CUTTERS.

Wanted to work at the Capitol, a number of good ſtone-cutters, to whom generous wages will be given.

GEORGE BLAGDEN.

Washington, April 22. 3t

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

Congress of the United States.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FEBURARY 21, 1803.

DEBATE on the ALIEN BILL.

Mr. Goddard obſerved, that at this late period of the ſeſſion, when almoſt every gentleman who ſpoke complained of the want of time to complete the public buſineſs, he was not a little ſurpriſed to find this bill, from day to day preſſed upon the houſe. He thought there were no perſons leſs entitled to occupy the time of the houſe at this period, than theſe petitioners. He therefore moved to poſtpone the further conſideration of the bill until the firſt Monday in November next. He was induced to make this motion not only becauſe the time of the houſe was wanted for other and more important buſineſs, but from the circumſtances under which the petitions upon which the bill was founded had been introduced into the houſe. They were at firſt expreſſed in language ſo indecent that the houſe refuſed to act upon them, or even to commit them. Only two days after, they were preſented again with the ſame ſignatures, and in the ſame words, with the exception of one paſſage which was thought moſt improper. It was impoſſible that the petitions ſhould have been ſent back to the ſubſcribers, at the diſtance of ſeveral hundred miles, and again returned to the houſe. He preſumed, therefore, that ſome perſon had taken the liberty of new modeling the memorial and of preſenting it in the names of perſons who had never ſeen it, in its preſent form. If there were no other argument againſt paſſing the bill, this would be ſufficient with him. He thought the petition ought to be ſent back to the ſubſcribers, and they ought to be informed that the houſe had refuſed to act upon it, on account of the improper form in which it appeared. But if the bill ſhould now be paſſed, the greater part of them would never know that any objection had been made to the liberties which they took with the government and the houſe. They would merely known that their requeſt had been prompty complied with.

Mr. Dana took a review of what had been done for the petitioners at the laſt laſt ſeſſion of Congreſs. He mentioned various important ſubjects which had lately been poſtponed for want of time to act upon them. Theſe petitions, he remarked, had been introduced ſince the ſubject of diſcriminating duties, a ſubject recommended to the conſideration of the legiſlature by the Preſident of the United States himſelf, had been poſtponed profeſſedly for want of time. The ſubject of amending the bankrupt law, which was conſidered as very important to the United States, had been poſtponed for the ſame reaſon. A number of preſſing petitions from our own citizens had been diſpoſed of in the ſame way and on the ſame grounds. He thought therefore, that unleſs theſe aliens were entitled to more attention than any deſcription of our own citizens, and even than the Preſident of the United States himſelf, the houſe could not conſiſtently act upon thoſe petitions at the preſent ſeſſion.

Mr. Smilie. This bill is objected to on two grounds; firſt that there is not time to conſider it, and ſecondly from the phraſeology of the petitions. But the remarks of gentlemen cannot apply to the language contained in the firſt petitions as they were not committed, and as the preſent bill is founded on other petitions in which the exceptionable language is not to be found. I therefore know no reaſon for mentioning the firſt petitions, on which no order has been taken. I hope, however, ſince they have been brought up, that I may be indulged in a few remarks, to examine whether they are ſo objectionable, as has been contended.

Mr. Nicholson enquired whether ſuch remarks were in order.

Mr. Smilie ſaid thoſe petitions had been alluded to in debate, and he was only replying to the remarks made. He then read the following part of the petitions:

"That your memorialiſts ſubmit the circumſtances under which thoſe of them, reſiding here from the ſummer of 1798, until the ſpring of 1801, were placed.—Every *alien* diſtinguiſhed for his attachment to the principles of liberty, was inceſſantly abuſed in the papers countenanced by the adminiſtration then in power. The American Miniſter at St. James's notified in the name of government; that the Iriſh ſtate priſoners would not be permitted to reſide in this country—and the Britiſh government made this the pretext for detaining them in dungeons for the ſpace of four years in open violation of ſolemn compact.—The preſidency was then in the hands of a man notoriouſly hoſtile to aliens of republican principles—and the Preſident was authoriſed by law to baniſh any alien at his pleaſure; without trial and with appeal.—Under theſe circumſtances your candor will allow that an *alien reſident* could have no inducement to declare his intention of becoming a citizen. For by ſo doing, he placed his name on a liſt of proſcription, and ſubjected himſelf to the arbitrary will of an individual."

This, ſaid Mr. Smilie, is the obnoxious paragraph. I have ſaid before, and I now repeat it, every word is true. I allow that telling the truth is ſometimes diſagreeable, and this may be one of thoſe caſes; but I could never deſpiſe the man who ſpeaks the truth. The petitioners firſt ſay "that every alien, diſtinguiſhed for his attachment to the principles of liberty, was inceſſantly abuſed in the papers countenanced by the adminiſtration then in power." On this point I need ſay nothing; as every gentlemen here muſt be ſenſible of its truth. In the ſecond place, they ſay the Preſident was not friendly to aliens. This is true, or he would not have ſigned the bill, in the face of the conſtitution, to put into his power every alien in the United States. In the third place, it is ſtated that the American Miniſter interfered and prevented them from coming to this country. A paſſage, which I ſhall read from the letter of the Miniſter will ſhew whether this is true or not—Mr. Smilie here read the following extract from a letter of Mr. King to one of the Iriſh ſtate priſoners:

"You muſt be ſenſible that I poſſeſs no ſufficient means of forming an opinion reſpecting your ſentiments; but the motives which lead me to interfere with your government to retain the emigration of the perſons alluded to, oblige me to obſerve a due caution on the preſent occaſion."

After hearing this language, I think the houſe will not be diſpoſed to think the language of the petitioners too plain. I do not believe the Preſident or the miniſter were authorized to interfere in ſuch caſes. I know of no law authoriſing ſuch conduct. I do know of a law which authoriſed the Preſident to baniſh aliens, but I do not know of any law which authoriſed him to prevent emigration. The alien law authoriſes the Preſident "to order all ſuch aliens as he ſhall judge dangerous to the peace and ſafety of the United States, or ſhall have reaſonable grounds to ſuſpect are concerned in any treaſonable or ſecret machinations againſt the government thereof to depart out of the territory of the United States." This is a memorable law! Now what does the conſtitution ſay of the rights of all men in this country. "In all criminal proſecutions the accuſed ſhall enjoy the right to a ſpeedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the ſtate and diſtrict wherein the crime ſhall have been committed, which diſtrict ſhall have been previouſly aſcertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cauſe of the accuſation, to be confronted with the witneſſes againſt him; to have compulſory proceſs for obtaining witneſſes in his favor, and to have the aſſiſtance of counſel for his defence."

Compare this conſtitutional declaration with the character of the Alien law; remember that the conſtitutional proviſion is not confined to *citizens*—the words are, "in all criminal proſecutions the accuſed," &c.—By the Alien law, all aliens are placed at the mercy of the Preſident; they are not convicted on an impartial jury trial; they are not even tried by the Preſident himſelf; but on mere ſuſpicion are baniſhed from the country—This is the ſtate in which all aliens were placed by this law. When under theſe circumſtances, I ſay it is not extraordinary that they ſhould come forward, and expreſs their opinions. Is this an offence? Be this as it may, the preſent bill does not originate in theſe petitions; but in others whoſe language is unexceptionable.

And where is the danger of admitting this deſcription of aliens on five years reſidence, when all others are admitted on the ſame terms; barely becauſe they did not ſignify their intention to become citizens, when a period of fourteen years reſidence was required. A perſon, before he ſignifies his intention, muſt be of age. Could, therefore, the act be expected?

I mentioned the other day what I conſidered it a duty which we owed theſe people. I will now mention a duty that we owe ourſelves. Is not our wealth increaſed by emigrations? He who brings with him nothing but his perſon brings his labor; and that in a country that only requires improvement to be productive is conſiderable; but there are many emigrants who bring poſitive wealth into the country. But gentlemen are apprehenſive leſt thoſe foreigners, by interfering in our preſent political ſyſtem, will injure or deſtroy it. This idea has always appeared to me ridiculous. Foreigners, in my opinion, will be ſoon merged with ourſelves, and inſtead of introducing among us their ſentiments, will ſoon take up ours. This objection has appeared to me too the more extraordinary, inaſmuch as it is raiſed againſt foreigners not becauſe they are the ſubjects of monarchs and tyrants, but becauſe they have too high ideas of liberty; where then can be the danger of their coming among us, and, after a reaſonable reſidence participating in our government. If I excepted any from extending this right, it would be from the inſtruments of tyranny in other countries, and not thoſe who by their republicaniſm have rendered themſelves obnoxious to tyrants. But when it is remembered that the bill only applies to a particular claſs of men, to whom three years are ſaved, and without which a reſidence of eight years will be neceſſary, I do hope that the houſe will ſo far indulge us as to paſs the bill for the relief of this claſs of perſons; for, however unimportant it may be to the eaſtern and ſouthern ſtates, in the middle ſtates the mere conſideration of labor is of the laſt importance in improving the value of their land; and I truſt that gentlemen whoſe conſtituents cannot be injured by it, will ſuffer it to go into exiſtence for the benefit of thoſe ſtates which will derive a great advantage from it.

Mr. Bacon obſerved that the ſubject had been ably diſcuſſed both in public and private, as well by thoſe who were learned as by thoſe who were unlearned. As every member muſt be ready to vote upon it, he hoped much time would not be ſpent in debate.

Mr. Davis wiſhed the gentleman from Maſſachuſetts would give them example inſtead of precept. Had he done ſo he would have ſaved that time the loſs of which he deplored. Indiſpoſition having prevented him from attending the houſe or eight or ten days, he had not had an opportunity of oppoſing the progreſs of this bill. He was ſurpriſed at the ſentiments of the gentleman from Pennſylvania (Mr. Smilie) and at the turn which this buſineſs had taken. A petition had been preſented, and after examination on account of its inſolent language had been refuſed to be committed. Afterwards ſimilar petitions had been preſented, which the houſe were about to treat in the ſame way; when they were informed that the exceptionable language was not in them. How perſons ſo diſtant as the petitioners could in a few days have corrected their petitions and ſent on others was moſt aſtoniſhing. Pardon me, ſaid Mr. Davis, for ſaying the new petitions muſt have gone to preſs here, and the names of the petitioners have been tranſcribed. If ſo, we are now acting upon forged petitions; and immediate ſteps ought to be taken to protect us from ſo groſs an impoſition, by which the petitioners are repreſented to hold a different language from that which they meant to expreſs.

The gentleman from Pennſylvania has told us that the facts ſtated in theſe petitions are true; and that the Preſident had authority, under the alien law, to baniſh all Aliens. Will he ſay why he had this authority? It was given in conſequence of their unceaſing interference in the affairs of the government, and in conſequence of their reſtleſs and riotous behaviour, that government thought it neceſſary to protect themſelves from their impertinent interference. The law grew out of theſe circumſtances.

The gentleman is now for opening the door ſtill wider to this deſcription of perſons who have manifeſted themſelves to be of the moſt turbulent and factious tempers, and who are conſtantly employed in diſſeminating their poiſon among the people. I verily believe that in leſs than five years from this time we ſhall be obliged to re-enact the law for requiring fourteen years reſidence before citizenſhip is conferred. I ſhall not, indeed, be ſurpriſed at our ſoon having a petition from theſe men to amend the conſtitution, and to admit an alien to be Preſident of the United States.

At the requeſt of theſe petitioners we are about to infract the conſtitution. The conſtitution ſays that Congreſs ſhall have power "to eſtabliſh an uniform rule of naturalization." At the laſt ſeſſion we paſſed a law on this ſubject containing four rules. The firſt rule preſcribes that every applicant for admiſſion to citizenſhip ſhall have declared on oath or affirmation three years at leaſt before his admiſſion that it was his intention to become a citizen. The bill on our table is to exempt a certain claſs of aliens from the operation of this rule. Is this right, equitable or conſtitutional? To one deſcription of aliens you apply four rules, while to another deſcription you apply but three. You thereby infract the conſtitution; and if this is not the meaning of it, I do not underſtand it. But on the ſole ground of the preſſure of other more important buſineſs, if other reaſons were wanting, I ſhould vote againſt the paſſage of the bill.

Mr. Dana called for the yeas and nays.

Mr. Goddard was not diſpoſed to conſume the time of the Houſe; but in anſwer to the gentleman from Maſſachuſetts (Mr. Bacon) he muſt be permitted to ſay it it was the ſincere object of gentlemen on that ſide to ſave time, they would evince their ſincerity by not preſſing on the Houſe buſineſs againſt which there were reaſonable objections. The gentleman from Pennſylvania tells us that this bill is not introduced on