

ing fairly and honestly. If the power then granted has been made the instrument of wrong or injury, it becomes their imperative duty as guardians of the rights, freedom & happiness of the people, to check and prevent the operation of such pernicious covenants, or grants of power."

Now to the second objection, that forcing the banks to close their business will distress all who are indebted to them &c. &c.

I will in the first place remark, that every argument respecting law or government, is fallacious, and ought to be scouted by the representatives of freedom, that goes to sanction a sacrifice of the greater for the less—the body of the people, for the gain and convenience of a few. Who are indebted to the banks, & what is the amount due by them severally? The people should know for whom and for what, any of their representatives argue against the general interest and the general good. On examination it will be found, or great error exists in the mind of men who should know that the present and past directors, and a few of the stock holders are almost exclusively the debtors to the banks; and that if the bank be forced to disgorge specie for their notes, and distribute the good money paid in for stock which these notes are said to represent, they cannot withdraw from circulation the same amount they will have to distribute; besides the enhanced credit and additional confidence the circulation of good money will instantly create amongst the people. But view the matter in another light. Will an upright legislature permit any set of individuals to take advantage of their own wrong? Would not such be the case, if because a few bankers, and bank connections, who have placed themselves in debt to the corporation whose affairs they were appointed to superintend, the legislature contrary to the expressed will of the people, permit the evils to continue? But it will not, it cannot be. The banks and their mode of doing business, and their deceitful issues, have become detestable. The sufferings and losses of ninety nine in every hundred citizens of the state have riveted this feeling; and the effect is inevitable in one way or another, unless the people are bound by their authority as firmly as the pagan deities were thought to be by the decrees of blind fate. The speculators without capital, who would become subservient to certain men, and the prostitute, brawling politician, who could on certain occasions be rendered useful, may be found indebted to the banks. Such men it is known, have basked in the sunshine of favor and plenty, whilst the industrious and honest mechanic and farmer, have often suffered without aid, under pecuniary want. 'Tis now full time that labour should have its reward; and that a new order of things be established. The farmers have been forced where they were in debt, to pay out their long hoarded good money; and now in payment for all they can sell, they are obliged to take a paper medium not founded upon their own credit but issued by banks, and circulated upon the responsibility of men some of whom ought never to have been in a bank. Permit me here to add that in addition to other protecting laws, an act ought to be passed, declaring that no security debt, due to banks, should be recoverable from the security, if given after a certain time.—Let men trust that which has no intrinsic value, or get pay for their moonshine as they can. Such an act might save many industrious and worthy citizens from the gulph of ruin, into which credulity, and the art of swindlers have already caused many to pass. I have, I think, said enough upon the foregoing points, and will now ask your attention to other matters.

Our citizens are heavily taxed, to pay the interest on loans made by the state bank to the treasury of the state. Cannot this grievance also be remedied? If the state of Indiana is to subsist on paper credit, why should she not create a paper currency of her own, so far as may be required for her own wants, and relieve our citizens from the interest on such bank, irredeemable pernicious trash? Cannot the state if it be necessary, organize a paper machine exclusively her own under the sole direction of the senate with sworn commissioners under heavy security for their conduct and pledge certain funds, or revenue, for its redemption, and cause it to be receivable for state dues—and would not such a currency not only save an enormous expenditure for bank interest but to the small extent required, be held in higher estimation than branch paper by the people?—I answer yes, and if the people must be cursed by a paper currency of any sort let it be one under some such regulations & let the state treasury & the people, enjoy all the profits that may accrue from it. This matter has been thought of by some of the most upright and intelligent men

in the state; and their deliberate opinions I am happy to say, corresponds with my own.

For the safety and protection of person and property gentlemen, our whole existing code of contradictory and ambiguous laws require revision. One act passed at the last session is the subject of much honest complaint. I allude to what is, in common parlance called the *property law* it appears to have been approved by Gov. Jennings, on the 18th of January last. The supposed necessity for that supplemental act, unquestionably sprung out of the state of things produced by the banks. Now when the cause ceases, the effect is hoped, will not be continued. Bereaved of all sound circulating medium, almost reduced in this respect, to the unsocial and humiliating state of savages, with nothing like mutual confidence and every thing like general dispendence, that act by the influence of some very weak or very disingenuous economist, passed through the last legislature. Now what are its effects?—To ruin the credit of every individual in the state; to injure the poor man, whose property is of that description that will always sell for more than two thirds its value, and to protect the rich shylock who is indebted to poor men for their labour and who has speculated on the wants of others beyond his means. The rich man has idle unprofitable property that he can give in execution & thus procrastinate the payment of his debts to the poor—whilst the poor who have no idle property, and subsist themselves and families by the labour of their hands, are obliged to turn out cow and bed which sell at once. The rich can raise funds from banks or some such machines, the poor have no fictitious resources, & this abominable act in many cases, keeps them out of their honest earnings. But the act is unconstitutional & not only so it operates to the detriment of every man, and clearly to the injury of the country. It is unconstitutional because it is *ex post facto*, it affects contracts honestly entered into before its enactment;—and because the time of making a payment is as much a part of a contract, as the amount. 'Tis said however, that this act only changes the mode of enforcing payment.—The idea is fallacious, whatever bars the door of legal remedy, will bear no such construction. It operates to the detriment of every man and to the injury of the country, because it only tends to aggravated distress by putting off the evil day, with heavy additional costs; and because as labour produces almost all our comforts, and all our riches, no law should ever be sanctioned, or continued, that tends to check its pursuits.

Would not men labour with more diligence and perseverance in the completion of their contracts, under the full knowledge that if their employers did not pay them the laws furnished a quick and certain method of compulsion?—When one man receives of another his property does not moral honesty and sound policy require laws to be so framed as to enforce payment for the same? Or does it in any way serve the farmer, or the mechanic, or the purpose of internal trade and domestic traffic, to encourage men in withholding from those whose property and labour they have enjoyed, their just dues? does not such laws lead to general distress, to distrust, suspicion, & the total destruction of confidence and credit between man & man? But some will say, 'tis hard that a man's property should be sold at an underrate.—sacrificed. Now which is the hardest case; for a rich man (*The law is out of the question as regards serving the poor*) to have his property sold to pay his just debts—or that the man who sold him the property probably his chief dependence, should be compelled to lie out of his money and his property too? the latter is unquestionably the harder case.

But it may be said that neighbouring states have adopted acts of a similar nature; and that it is necessary for us to meet their policy. Admit that such acts have been adopted in other states; after the experience we have had, what does it prove? why, that their situation does not correspond with ours. There is not probably, in the union, a state so entirely dependent at this time, on agriculture as Indiana. While other states are supported, some by commerce some by manufactures, and some by both, in addition to the productions of their soil; our support is and for years must be, entirely derived from the latter source. As to conforming to, or trying to meet the policy of adjoining states in all its ramifications, the idea is absurd. Our intercourse with and dependence on these adjoining states, is, compared to our chief intercourse, and main dependence, as a drop to the ocean. In those states we find no market for our produce, nor can we advantageously from thence derive our supplies.—meet the policy of adjoining

states, indeed;—and how? by entailing on ourselves and our posterity a ruinous curse;—biasing our morals and our prosperity. Take for instance the policy of most of them in trying to prohibit the circulation of the paper of the bank of the U. States in order that the people may be kept dependent on state institutions for worthless rags, which cost the people as much as the U. States paper that would answer all the purposes of silver; or take the policy of some in sanctioning slavery—shall we meet them in these cases also? In the first following their destructive example, in the last, laying the foundation of a civil war and a speedy dissolution of the union, by sanctioning acts subjecting the owners of such property residing in other states, to our policy; and supporting three supreme state judges who may declare such acts, paramount and superior to the constitution and laws of the U. States? I think it unnecessary to pursue this matter; your own good sense will readily suggest all I could add.—The interests, and the dispassionate & disinterested voice of nine tenths of the people, demand of you the repeal of the act in question.

On reviewing my remarks in the first part of this letter, I think it necessary to add that I do not propose, nor do the people wish to regulate the manner in which individuals shall employ their funds by direct laws—tis not considered either practicable or useful to do so. BUT IT IS PROPOSED TO ESTABLISH A SYSTEM OF LAWS CONFORMABLE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE U. STATES, AND OF THIS STATE THAT WILL BE CONSISTENT WITH EACH OTHER.—A SYSTEM THAT WILL ENCOURAGE OR DETERR MEN IN CERTAIN PURSUITS, AS THOSE PURSUITS ARE PREJUDICIAL OR ADVANTAGIOUS TO THE COMMUNITY. To frame such a system as I allude to effecting and accomplishing every useful and necessary purpose at this time is I know a heavy task; but it is far from being impracticable, if the attention of the proper persons be turned as the people wish, in that direction.

I am perfectly aware gentlemen the foregoing remarks may not meet the approbation of some members of your honorable body but at this time 'tis not my business to comment on persons or opinions, I have endeavoured to confine myself to more essential matters, and I hope not without some effect. There are every where to be found a few sinister and political accomplices in banking whose well known opinions are happily at this time different from the mass of the state; and the oblivious pool of past errors and differences will I trust after your next session, bury their engendered hostility to the freedom and happiness of every independent citizen. I will now conclude by reminding you of a disgraceful resolution passed last session improperly reflecting on the upright conduct of one of our senators in the congress of the U. States; let it be corrected on your journals; & that every man of you may hereafter merit the unbiased suffrages of freemen, as a grateful tribute to correct principles, is the wish of your fellow citizen.

CORN PLANTER.

The Public

HAVE already been informed, that the late firm of Stout & Osborn expired on the 27th ult and those indebted to said firm have been requested to make payment to the subscriber, to whom all the demands due that firm belong.—This request having been entirely neglected, the subscriber is constrained to notify all whom it may concern, that unless payment is immediately made, necessity will compel him to put his accounts into the hands of an officer for collection.

Flour, (from the Steam-Mill of the first quality) Butter, Honey, Cheese, Dried Fruit, and most other kinds of produce will be taken in payment, if delivered by the 20th day of November.

Those at a distance, who are indebted for subscription, for one year, will please forward Two Dollars & Fifty Cents, by Mail.

J. W. Osborn.

Vincennes, Oct. 11, 1820. 40-4f

BROWN & KINNEY,

ALL in future practice LAW in conjunction, in the counties of Davis Knox, Sullivan, Vigo, Martin, Dubois and Pike, and in the Supreme Court. One of them will at all times be found in their office at Washington, except during the session of courts.

All orders and CONVEYANCING will be punctually attended to.

Washington, April 10, 1820. 20tf

A few copies of the CONSTITUTION of Indiana, for sale at this office.

TAXES.

I WILL expose to public sale in the town of Merom on the 18th day of November next, the following lots in the town of Merom, Sullivan county, Indiana, or so much thereof as will bring the tax and costs due thereon, for the year 1820, by order of the President and Trustees of the town of Merom.

Persons Names.	No	D	C
Elisha Boudinot,	56	75	
James Black,	103	39	
John Bennett,	137	66	
same,	41	32	
same	65	34	
Thomas Bennett,	26	35	
James Brooks,	50	50	
Anthony Bennett,	58	32	
Jarrett Edwards,	15	14	
same,	62	15	
William Gill,	124	57	
same,	68	70	
same,	160	25	
same,	164	12	
same,	169	30	
same,	117	13	
same,	218	13	
Robert Gill,	80	95	
same,	140		
same,	161	138	
Brooks Harwell,	128	22	
Gabriel Laurens,	91	35	
John N. M. Carty,	39	26	
John Smith,	107	55	
Abner Vickory,	87	43	
William White,	69	88	
Joseph Wells,	127	20	
David Wilkins,	110	34	

Non-Residents' Lots.

No	D	C	No	D	C	No	D	C
77	1	18	35	89		88		31
71	1	40	37	45		95	1	26
100	85		45	00	51	98	1	20
200	75		46	00	37	99	1	31
300	58		47	00	41	100	1	01
500	78		49	56		104	1	12
800	38		52	64		106		55
900	16		57	52		113		40
1000	20		61	22		119		66
1100	10		64	21		133	00	28
1600	8		73	148		136	00	50
2300	21		74	1	3	142		30
2800	57		75	1	3	145		35
3200	99		82	52		146		21
33	1	2	83	69				

Lots in the additional Survey belonging to non-residents.

No	D	C	No	D	C	No	D	C
120	4	20	920	15	20	20	20	20
220	5	20	1120	16	20	21	20	00
320	8	20	1420	19	20	22	20	00

The sale will commence between the hours of 10 and 12 o'clock, where due attendance will be given by,

G. MARCH, c. t. m.
October 20, 1820.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

I WILL expose to sale the following tracts of land on the twentyeth day of November next, at the court house door in Aurora, for taxes, if not sooner paid, or so much thereof as will bring the tax due thereon and costs—sale to commence at ten o'clock, a. m.

Persons Names,	Quart.	S.	T.	R.	D.	C.
Jacob Blaze,	n. w.	21	9	11		240
James Conway,	n. e.	33	do	do		160
Ruben Crow,	n. e.	29	do	do		320
same,	n. w.	do	do	do		320
same,	n. e.	20	do	do		320
same,	s. e.	19	do	do		160
Edward N. Cullum,	s. w.	28	13	do		240
same,	n. w.	do	do	do		240
same,	n. e.	do	do	do		240
John Lloyd,	n. w.	25	9	12		160
same,	n. w.	26	do	do		240
Daniel Lane,	n. e.	28	14	11		240
Marvel Marcum,	s. e.	3	10	do		240
John Newland,	n. w.	23	14	do		240
same,	s. e.	11	do	do		240
same,	s. e.	26	do	do		240
John F. Richardson,	n. w.	33	9	do		240
Joseph Richardson,	s. w.	do	do	do		320
same, S. E. p.	n. e.	31	do	do		30
same, N. p.	s. e.	21	do	do		90
same, S. p.	n. w.	53	do	do		30
Jesse Saunders,	n. w.	24	13	10		240
same,	s. w.	35	14	11		240
Benj. Whitcomb,	s. w.	27	do	do		240
Isaac Moore,	n. e.	31	9	do		320
Joseph Willard,	s. e.	36	do	12		240

JOHN WELSH, c. c. ll.
October 21, 1820. 42-3t