Mr. Adams' report on the Veto Message.

Mr. Adams then rose, and, in a firm and of the Hall, read his report, as follows:

The Select Committee, to whom was referred the Message of the President of the United States returning to this House the act, which originated in it, "to provide revenue from imports, and to change and modify existing laws imposing duties on imports, and for other purposes," with his objections to it, with instructions to report thereon to the House, have attended to that service, and respectfully report :

The Message is the last of a series of Executive measures the result of which has been to defeat and nullify the whole action of the Legislative authority of this Union, upon the most important interests of the nation.

After the accession of the late President Harrison, by election of the people, to the Executive chair, the finances, the revenue, and the credit of the country were found in a condition so greatly disordered and so languishing, that the first act of his Administration was to call a special session of Congress to provide a remedy for this distempered state of the great body politic. It was even then a disease of no sudden occurrence, and of no ordinary malignity. Four years before, the immediate predeces. sor of Gen. Harrison had been constrained to resort to the same expedient, a special session of Congress, the result of which had only proved the first of a succession of palliatives purchasing momentary relief at the expense of deeper scated discase and aggravated symptons, growing daily more intense through the whole four years of that Administration. It had expended, from year to year, from eight to ten millions of dollars beyond its income, absorbing in that period nearly ten millions pledged for deposite with the States, eight millions of stock in the Bank of the United States, from five to six millions of trust funds, and as much Treasury notes; and was sinking under the weight of its own improvidence and incompetency.

The sentence of a suffering people had commanded a change in the Administration, and the contemporaneous elections throughout the Union had placed in both Houses of Congress majorities, the natural exponents of the principles which it was the will of the people should be substituted in the administration of their Government, instead of those which had brought the country to a condition of such wretchedness and shame. There was perfect harmony af principle between the chosen President of the people and this majority, thus constituted in both Houses of Congress; and the first act of this Administration was to call a special session of Congress for their deliberation and action upon the measure indispensably necessary for relief to the public distress, and to retrieve the prosnerity of the great community of the nation. On the 31st day of May, 1841, within three months after the inauguration of President Harrison, the Congress assembled at his call. But the reins of the Executive car were already in other hands. By an inscrutable decree of Providence the chief of the people's choice, in hammony with whose principles the majorities of both Houses had been constituted, was laid low

in death. The President who had called he meeting of Congress was no longer the President when Congress met. A successor to the office had assumed the title, with totally different principles, though professing the same at the time of his election, which, far from harmonizing, like those of

distinct tone of voice, audible in every part of its credit, its honor, its prosperity, was prostrated, defeated, annulled, by the weak and wavering obstinacy of one man, accidentally, and not by the will of the people, invested with that torrible power, as if prophetically described by one of his own cho-sen ministers, at this day, as " the right to deprive the people of self-government." The first consequence of this Executive

egislation was not only to prostrate the efforts of the Legislature itself, to relieve the exhausted Treasury and call forth the resources of the country, to redeem the public faith to the fulfilment of the national engagements, but to leave all the burdens and embarrassments of the public Treasury, brought upon it by the improvidence pon the people with aggravated pressure. The fatal error of the preceding Administration had been an excess of expenditure beyond its income. That excess had been an average of eight millions of dollars a cal operations had been a continued inrevenue, and it left as a bequest to its successor no effective reduction of expenses, but a double reduction of revenue to the mount of millions, to occur, of course, by the mere lapso of time, unless averted, within fifteen months, by subsequent legislation.

By the double exercise of the Presiden-The double reduction of revenue, pre-

dy which it was within the competency of a law notwithstanding his objections. egislation itself to provide.

filment of the national obligations.

By the assiduous and unremitting labors of the committees of both Houses charged with the duties of providing for the necessities of the revenue, and for the great ma. tingency which it supposes is within the nufacturing interest of the Northern, Central, and Western States, which must be so deeply affected by any adjustment wholly, sufficient for that purpose, was elahis immediate predecessor, with the majo-months of time; nor were the committees vity of both Houses of Congress, were of the House exempted from severe relaw had, in express terms, reserved for the

deemed by the Legislature of the Union upon earth. Such an investigation, though the Treasury must be supplied by the in-indispensably necessary for the salvation of strictly within the scope of the instructions come derived from taxation by the year, its highest interests, and for the restoration embraced in the reference to this committee, would require a voluminous report, which the scantiness of time will not allow, and which may not be necessary for maturing the judgment of the House upon the document now before them.

The reasons assigned by the President for returning to the House of Representatives, with his objections, the bill to provide revenue, which if retained may be seized revenue from imports, and to change and by the Government and applied to meet its modify existing laws imposing duties, and daily wants. But the President had just for other purposes, are preceded by a brief told us that the fruitful source of revenue the people from their distress, to replenish dissertation upon the painful sensations was a subject wholly dissimilar in its charwhich any individual invested with the veto acter from that of revenue raised by duties power must feel in exercising it upon im- of impost-so dissimilar that the union of portant acts of the Legislature. The para- them formed in his mind an insurmountable graph is worded with extreme caution, and objection to the passage of the bill. "I with obvious intent to avoid the assertion, most respectfully submit (says the message) made in such broad and unqualified terms of the preceding Administration, bearing in the letter read at the Philadelphia Inde- ceeds of the land sales, when the public lands pendence-day party, that Congress can enact no law without the concurrence of the Executive. There is in this paper a sta- lic credit." And how could it be made dious effort to save any individual from the thus useful ? Precisely by giving them away. imputation of asserting the unqualified in- By giving them away forever! For if the year, at least during the four years of its dependence of the Executive upon the Le- principle be once estrblished that the proexistence. The practical system of its fis- gislature, and the impotence of Congress ceeds of the sales of the public lands shall tives of the power to impeach the Presito enact any law without him. That asser- be substituted in the place of revenue by taxcrease of expenditures and diminution of tion, made in so explicit and unqualified ation to defray the ordinary annual expensterms, in the Philadelphia letter, is here es of the National Government, never virtually disclaimed and disavowed. The more will the people of any State in the exercise of some independence of judg- Union have the benefit of one dollar from ment, in regard to all acts of legislation, by any individual invested with the veto power, bestowed upon them by their bountiful Cre. is here curtailed and narrowed down to the ator for the improvement of their own conmere privilege of not yielding his well-con- dition. But giving away-yes, to the last sidered, most deeply fixed, and repeatedly cent giving away, forever, to pamper the tial interdict upon the two bills for establish- declared opinions on matters of great pubing a National Bank this legislation was lic concernment, to those of a co-ordinate prevented. The excess of expenditures department, without requesting that depart- my, and forever heaping million upon mileyond the revenue continued and increased. ment seriously to re-examine the subject of lion of annual expenditure" to suck learnies their difference. The co-ordinate depart. and dry nurse the land." scribed by the compromise of 1833, was ment to the Legislature is no longer the suffered to take its full effect-no reduction co-ordinate branch of the Legislature .of the expenditures had been prescribed; The power of Congress to enact a law with. of any part of the proceeds of the sales of and in the course of eighteen months, since out the co-operation of any individual Ex. the public lands to the ordinary annual exthe inauguration of President Harrison, an | ecutive is conceded, not merely by unavoidaddition of at least fifteen millions to the able inference; for the closing paragraph of

enormous deficit already existing in the the message, recurring again to the same estimable inheritance of the American Peo-Treasury at the close of the last Adminis- troublesome reminiscence, observes that, ple. That, if once that growing and inexration, is now charged upon the prevailing after all, the effect of what he does is subparty in Congress, by those who had made stantially to call on Congress to reconsider it the law, while the exercise of the veto the subject. If, on such reconsideration, a power alone disabled the Legislature itself majority of two thirds of both Houses should from the power of applying the only reme. be in favor of this measure, it will become

The truism of this remark may perhaps The great purpose for which the special be accounted for by the surmise that it was session of Congress had been called was a new discovery, made since the writing of thus defeated by the exercise of the veto power. At the meeting of Congress, at and the modest presumption ascribed to the the regular annual session, the majorities of Constitution that the Executive can comboth Houses, not yielding to the discour-agement of diappointed hopes and baffled both branches of the Legislature are in involved, some of them heavily involved in energies, undertook the task of raising, by conflict with him, is tempered by the amiimpost duties, a revenue adequate to the able assurance that in that event he will necessities of the Treasury, and to the ful. cheerfully acquiesce in a result which would be precisely the same whether he should acquiesce in it or not. The aptitude of this hypothetical position may be estimated by the calculation of the chances that the converge of possibility.

The reasons assigned by the President for his objections to this bill are further preceof a tariff, to raise exclusively a revenue ded by a narrative of his antecedent opinadequate to the necessary expenses of ions and communications on the subject of the Government from duties on imports, a distributing the proceeds of the sales of the tariff bill believed to be nearly, if not public lands. He admits that at the opening of the extra session he recommended borated and amply discussed through a long such a distribution, but he avers that this series of weeks in both branches of the Legis. recommendation was expressly coupled with lature. The process of gestation through the condition that the duties on imports which alone such a complicated system could should not exceed the rate of 20 per cent. organized, necessarily consumed many be provided by the compromise act of 1833. Who could imagine that, after this emphatic coupling of the revenue from the proproach which the purchased presses of the coeds of the sales of the public lands, the Executive Chief are even yet casting upon first and paramount objection of the Presi-Congress, without rebuke or restraint from dent to this bill should be that it unites two him. The delays were occasioned by the subjects, which, so far from having any Government was manifested by the failure, patient and unwearied investigation of the affinity to one another, and wholly inconwhole subject by the appropriate commit. gruous in their character-which two subintended by Congress to restore the credit tees. As the period approached when the jects are identically the same with those of the country, by the establishment of a so called compromise tariff was to be con- which he had coupled together in his re-National Bank-a failure caused exclusively summated, leaving the Government without commendation to Congress at the extra-sesby the operation of the veto power by the any revenue tariff sanctioned by the law, sion? If there was no affinity between President. In the spirit of the Constitution the prudence of Congress, without precipa. the parties, why did he join them together? of the United States, the Executive is not ting their decision upon the permanent sys- If the union was illegitimate, who was the only separated from the Legislative power, but made dependent upon and responsible provided and sent to the President a tempo. It is objected to this bill that it is both a reto it. Until a very recent period of our rary expedient, limited in its operation to venue and an appropriation bill. What history, all reference in either House of the space of one month, during which to then? Is not the act of Septembor 4, 1841, Congress to the opinions or wishes of the avoid, as they thought, the possibility of a approved and signed by the President him-President, relating to any subject in delibe- collision with the apprehended antipathies self, both a revenue and an appropriation ration before them was regarded as an out-rage upon the rights of the deliberative of the President, they had suspended for the same month the distribution of the pro-of an insufficienty of impost duties not exbody, among the first of whose duties is to coads of the sales of public lands, which, ceeding twenty per cent. ad valorem, to spurn the influence of the dispenser of pa- by a previous law, was to take effect the defray the current expenses of the Governtronnge and power. Until very recently, day after the expiration of the compromise. ment, the proceeds of the sales of the lands it was sufficient greatly to impair the influ- Not only was this most conciliatory mea. shall be levied as part of the same revenue ence of any member to be suspected of sure contemptuously rejected, but, in total and appropriated to the same purposes personal subserviency to the Executive; disregard of the avowed opinions of his own The appropriation of the proceeds of the and any allusion to his wishes in debate was deemed adeparture not less from decency those, nearly unanimous, of all the most dinary expenditures of the Government is believed to be a system of fiscal management unwise impolitic, improvident, and unjust; and it is precisely for that reason that the bill now before the House provides that they shall not be so appropriated. The public lands are the noble and inappreciable inheritance of the whole nation. The sale of them to individuals is not a tax upon the purchaser, but an exchange of equivalents scarcely more burdensome to the grantee tinual and unrelenting exercise of Execu. than if he should receive it as a gratuitous donation. To appropriate the proceeds of the sales to defray the ordinary expenses of the Government is to waste and destroy the property. The property is heldbyCon.

and not by the dissipation of the common property.

The second reason of the President for objecting to the passage of this bill is not more ponderous than the first. It is the destitute and embarrassed state of the Treasury, and the impolicy, if not unconstitutionality, of giving away a fruitful source of whether this is a time to give away the pro-

constitute a fund which of all others may be made most useful in sustaining the pubthis richest of mines of inexhaustible wealth reckless extravagance of a Government forever preaching retrenchment and econo-

The committee submit to the House their unlicsitating opinion that the appropriation ple. That, if once that growing and inexhaustible fund shall be doomed to form the whole or any part of the ways and means for the annual estimates of the receipts and expenditures of the National Government, the people may bid farewell, a long farewell, to every hope of ever receiving a dollar's useful improvement from that gift of God to them, thus cruelly and perfidiously

wrested from their hands. Nineteen of the States of this Union, in the ardent, perhaps, in some cases, inconsiderately ardent, pursuit of this improveinvolved, some of them heavily involved in debt. The greatest portion of this debt has been contracted for the accomplishment of stupendous works to expedite and facilitate the intercourse of travel and of trade between the remotest parts of this great Re. public, swarming from year to year with redoubling millions of population. It is no exaggerated estimate of the value of these works to say, that the saving of time, of labor, and of expense to individual citizens of the Union, enjoying the benefit of these public works, more than repays, in every single year, the whole cost of their construction.

But, while these immense benefits have been thus secured to the people, as a community of individuals, the States which authorized them have contracted a burden of liabilities heavier than they are able to bear. They need the assistance of a friendly and powerful hand, and where should they find it but in the sympathies of the National Government? in their fidelity to the trust com mitted to their charge in this immense and atmost boundless public domain ? The application of the proceeds of the public lands to alleviate the burden of these debts press. ng upon the people of almost all the States is, if not the only, the most exceptionable mode of extending the mighty arm of the Union to relieve the People of the States from the pressure of the burden bearing upon them-a relief consisting only of the distribution among them of their own property-a relief furnishing them the m of paying to the United States themselves no inconsiderable portion of the debts due from the States to them; so that by one and the same operation, the people of the States will be relieved from the intolcrable pressure of their debt, and the common Freasury of the Union will receive back in poyment of debt no small part of the same ums allotted to the States as their respective portions of the distribution. The committee regret that the shortness of the time which they have allowed them. selves for the preparation of this report constrains them to pass over numerous other considerations amounting to the clearest demonstration that the distribution among the States of the proceeds of the sales of the public lands will be infinitely more conductive to the ends of justice and to the relief of the people from their embarrassments, than the devotion of the same funds to be swallowed up in the insatiate gulph of the ordinary annual expenses of the Federal Government-to perish in the using like the nine millions of the fourth instalment promised to the States, the seven or eight millions of stock in the Bank of the United States, and the five or six millions of Indian trust and Navy pension funds, all sunk, during the Van Buren Administration, without leaving a wreck behind. This review of the reasons of the President for objecting to the passage of the bill might be extended far more into detail, to defray the current expenditures is to give and all leading to the conclusion that they are feeble, inconsistent, and unsatisfactory. It remains only for the House to take, by individual landholder should sell off, year yeas and nays, the question upon the final individual landholder should sell off, year year and mays, the and as the majority of hand, and the hope of retrieving his losses, and its proceeds in the payment of his the committee cannot indulge, even hypo- on the other, and thereby do that justice to thetically, the absurd hope of a majority political economy necessary for a nation is either in this or the other House of Con. to raise by *taxation* within the year the gress, competent to the enactment of the whole sum required for the expenditures of bill into a law, they leave the House to deflict with those which had been assigned for and daring assumption both of legislative that year. Every departure from this prin. termine what further measure they may and of judicial power, would present anom. ciple is a step in the path of national bank. deem necessary and practicable by the le- dence, and whose chief satisfaction con-

power of the Union, has been for the last fifteen months, with regard to the action of Congress upon measures of vital importance in a state of suspended animation, strangled by the four times repeated stricture of the Executive cord. They observe that, under these unexampled obstructions to the exercise of their high and legitimate duties, they have hitherto preserved the most respectful forbearance towards the Executive chief; that while he has, time after time, annulled by the mere act of his will their commission from the people to enact laws for the common welfare, they have foreborne even the expression of their resentment for these multiplied insults and injuries-they believed they had a high destiny to fulfil, by administering to the People in the form of law remedies for the sufferings which they had too long endured. The will of one man has frustrated all their labors and prostrated all their powers. The majority of the Committee believe that the case has occurred in the annals of our Union, contemplated by the founders of the Constitution by the grant to the House of Representadent of the United States; but they are aware that the resort to that expedient might in the present condition of public affairs, prove abortive. They see that the irreconcilable difference of opinion and of action between the Legislative and Executive Departments of the Government is but sympathetic with the same discordant views and feelings among the People. To them alone the final issue of the struggle must be left. In the sorrow and mortification under the failure of all their labors to redeem the honor and prosperity of their country, it is a cheering consolation to them that the termination of their own official existence is at hand ; that they are even now, about to return to receive the sentence of their constituents upon themselves; that the legislative power of the Union, crippled and disable as it may now be, is about to pass, rependitures would be the only effectual and uble as it may now be, is about to pass, re-irretrievable giving away of that great and novated and revivified by the will of the People, into other hands, upon whom will devolve the task of providing that remedy for the public distempers which their own

honest and agonizing energies have in vain endeavored to supply. The power of the present Congress to enact laws essential to the welfare of the people, has been struck with appoplexy by the Executive hand. Submission to his will is the only condition upon which he will permit them to act. For the enactment of a measure carnestly recommended by himself he forbids their action unless coupled with a condition declared by himself to be on a subject so totally different that he will not suffer them to be coupled in the same law. With that condition Congress cannot reply. In this state of things he has assumed, as the Committee fully believe the exercise of the whole legislative power to himself, and is levying millions of money upon the people without any authority of law. But the final decision of this question depends neither upon legislative nor executive, but upon judicial nuthority, nor can the final decision of the Supreme Court upon it be pronounced before the close of the present Congress. In the meantime the abusive exercise of the constitutional power of the President to arrest the action of Congress upon measures vital to the welfare of the people, has wrought convic, tion upon the minds of a majority of the Committee that the veto power itself must be restrained and modified by an amend-

QUINCY AL JNO. M. BOTTS, JAMES COOPER, K. RAYNER, THOS. J. CAMPBELL, TRUMAN SMITH, F. GRANGER, H. S. LANE, JEREMIAH MORROW, J. A. PEARCE. Representatives of the United States

fully report. Resolved by the Senate and the House of of America in Congress assembled, two-thirds both Housed concurring therein. That the following amendment of the Constitution of the United States, in the seventh section of the first article, be recommend. ed to the Legislatures of the several States which on the adoption of the same, by three-fourths of the said Legislature, shall become part and parcel of the Constitution : Instead of the words ,, two-thirds," twice flict a moment's pain. They are, general-repeated in the second paragraph, of the ly, men who labor under the belief that said seventh section, substitute, in both much talking, and high pretentions, will cases, the words " a majority of the whole pass among the simple, as real greatness! number."

law. On the contrary, not to do so, would judgment not to seek and accept it. There are persons notoriously insolved, denouncing all bankrupts as dishonest, and and waste their breath in the vocation to that no bankrupt has no little experince or In the distribution of good and evil in the reflection, as to permit himself to be anaoy world it seldom happens that any man has ed by such a class of the human species, who live to no purpose, and will benefit the

Thus the measure, first among those alies of character and conduct rarely seen ruptcy and ruin. The daily demands of gislative authority in the present calamitous sists in seeing others miserable, sh condition of the country. They purceive that the whole legislative

sists in seeing others interance, mould be opposed to a law which deprives them of a much refined happiness. Wheever has liv. ed to half three score and ten, and who has not slumbered all his time, knows enous of mankind to bear out the assertion, of mankind to bear out in govern their judg their pecuniary interests govern their judg appears to be the case, not from print but rather from necessity. Men grow up with generous emotions, and up great pleasure in making others happy. A short career, often terminating in the rais of their fortunes, admonishes them of the folly, and then it is they strike for with an let the hindmost fare as they can. There as some, however, who receiving property in inheritance or otherwise, for which the are entitled to no credit, creet themse into lordly and domincering attitudes, and by virtue of their possession and a total want of sympathy, speak evil of all bant, rupts, as if nature had awarded all sup. iority to one side.

In estimating such conduct, it ought take remembered that the wisdom of Providen has alloted to each person as much trouble of some kind as he is able to bear; and that if a long succession of hardships been us, they must have an end; while the pros. perous flutter their day, experience their cares, and also disappear. Life would be come joyless and insiped, if men were en empt from vexations. Too much good is tantamount to an evil .--- As we are add ing the sensibilities and reason of that us fortunate class, who, for their own press. vation, after every other recourse has fall, ed, have taken shelter under a benign he of the land, we desire to cheer them up. Be patient, laborious and temperate, and the dawn of a brighter day will as censia. ly appear, as that you live a few years What mortal, even the best and most gifted, can pierce the veil of the future and read its casualties? Where is the guaranty that the man, who, presuming on his wealth, mocks you to day, shall not be a pennyless, the next year, as yourself, and subject, in his turn, to all the taunus which he proudly aimed at you? Such things take place, within your knowledge, and are destined to continue. Let no unmanity gloom settle on your mind. The storm in now beating, in its fury, against you. Par. sue the course marked out by the law, and secure that relief which you in vaia sough from your creditors, bearing in mind, that nothing more is cancelled than the legal of highlight. That which is higher validity, but cannot be used to destroy you like the other, is not impaired ; and when fortune enables you, you will interpret not less for your reputation, than peace and screnity of mind.

The bankrupt should view the matter thus : He finds himself pressed down with a mountain of liability, on his own account and for others. What must he do? The Sheriff has already taken every thing, and a large balance, yet exists. In such a plight, crushed in spirits, and no opening for more than a mere subsistence, he must consent to languish out of his days begue his children; or by a step, lawful though disagreeable, lift himself at once from the bottomless gungmire of debt, and restore vitality to his frame, and comfort to hisdomestic circle. There is surely nothing base in the decision which harms none, but dispenses good to many. It might as well be expected that a man, confined in prises for debt could pay his creditors with his personal labor in a field, as for debtors with out property, to satisfy liabilities on which, by their utmost exertions, they could not ment of the Constitution itself, a resolution pay a fourth of the annual interest. There for which they accordingly herewith respect. is nothing immoral in praying, under such circumstances, the bencht of the bankrupt manifest an utter, and no very laudable disregard of duty. Every man should be ambitious to do the most in his power for the general good. If a discharge from old debts, which the toil of fifty years could never reduce, will enable him to be useful to himself and to others, it would argue great perversions of morals or obliquity of and who as little expect to lounge in the moon as to pay their debts, very much prom to give themselves airs on the subject, by their application for relief as dishonorable. Even if such individuals had more weight in the community than the public, for good reasons, are disposed to allow, still their opposition is harmless, and should not inwhich they are so well suited. We trust

soon disclosed in diametrical opposition to them.

The first development of this new and most unfortunate condition of the General once and again, of the first great measure than from order. An anxious desire to ac- eminent lawyers of the land, in solitary recommodate the action of Congress to the liance upon the hesitating opinion of the opinions and wishes of Mr. Tyler had led Attorney General, he has undertaken not to modifications of the first bill for the esta- only to levy taxes to the amount of millions blinkment of a National Bank, presented to upon the people but to prescribe regulations him for his approval, widely differing from for its collection, and for ascertaining the the opinions entertained of their expediency value of imported merchandise, which the by the majority of both Houses of Congress, but which failed to obtain that ap- legislative action of Congress. proval for the sake of which they had been reluctantly adopted. A second attempt ensued, under a sense of the indispensable tive legislation by the alternate gross abuse necessity of a fiscal corporation to the revenue and credit of the nation, to prepare tion of powers never vested in him by any an act, to which an informal intercourse law, we come to the Veto Message referred and communication between a member of by the House to this committee. the House, charged with the duty of preparing the bill, and the President of the United States himself, might secure by advance of his approval of the bill, when was obtained. The bill was presented to by judicial construction, at its most importscribed as necessary to obtain his sanction, neous effusions of temper and of sentiment and it met the same fate with its predecessor; and it is remarkable that the reasons assigned for the refusal to approve the se-

And now, to crown this system of conof constitutional power and bold assump-

A comparative review of the four several vetoes which, in the course of fifteen It is precisely the reverse. It is restoring it months, have suspended the legislation of to the owner. To appropriate the proceeds compliance with his opinions, a pledge in this Union, combined with that amphibious production, the reasons for approving and it up to dilapidation and waste. It is poliit should be presented to him. That pledge signing a bill, and at the same time striking tical economy precisely the same as if an him in the very terms which he had pre- ant enactment : illustrated by contemporadivulged at convivial festivals, and obtruded upon the public eye by the fatal friendship of sycophant private correspondents, and cond bill are in direct and immediate con- stripped to its naked nature by the repeated

gress in trust. Mr. Tyler speaks of the distribution as if it was giving away the property. household expenses. The first principal of

[From the Tuscaloosa Monitor.] Thoughts on Bankruptcy.

pleasure without alloy; and there is now in our country a numerous class of citizens who, from outward events, are peculiarly exposed to ill natured criticism, to which they can be only more or less indif- as unconstitutional, because passed by ferent .--- We allude to those who by adven- a Whig Congress ; and from some Whig, ture in trade, losses, and fluctuations in the value of property, have become entangled beyond their means of payment, and who, to avoid a bondage more revolting than playery, of which it is the worst form have slavery, of which it is the worst form, have sought the protection of a law enacted by the representatives of the people and the States, for the emergency which the action of the Government had no slight influence in producing. It may be confidently assumed, that the step taken by a man to have himself declared a bankrupt, is reluctantly adopted, and is resorted to as the only alternative between a life of utter insignifi-

all men to which he is prompted by desires and which new acquisitions may render possible.

We marvel not that men who, by interest or slfishness, are above pecuniary depenworld only by leaving it.

But it seems the bankrupt law has incur red political hostility ; from the Democrate because they wish to cultivate favor with the people, who are supposed to be against ture must assume a garb of purity far more plausible, before men, who think at all, can be duped by it. We conclude with a suggestion to bankrupts, to persevere in steps they have taken to recover true liber. ly, and let their purseproud, or unfeeling revilers work out their own safety.

HONOR TO WHOM HONOR-Lewis B Krimminger, Esq., Sheriff of the good Whig county of Cabarrus, has been the first Officer to settle his public Taxes, this year. He was first also, last year, and challenges his brother Sheriffs throughout the State to a contest for supremacy in this particular, next year. This punctuality speaks well for both people and officer-Raleigh Register.