

Even at this time it might perhaps be deemed advisable by those who feel an interest in the prosperity of the Metropolis of the State, to ascertain, whether it be not practicable to connect it with the cities of Washington and Baltimore, and the rich bounty of Frederick, by roads much shorter and better than those now in use. ≡

Fourteen years have elapsed since the passage of the insolvent law now in force. This length of time has afforded an opportunity to test by experience the practical wisdom and utility of the system that has been adopted on that subject. And perhaps also the same lapse of time has put it in the power of chicannery and cunning to convert a law intended for benevolent, just, and salutary purposes, into an instrument of fraud and dishonesty. That the laws of the Country should interpose to protect unfortunate and honest debtors from the oppression of hard-hearted and severe creditors, is certainly a sound policy, indeed an absolute duty. But an indulgent and merciful creditor should be defrauded of his just debt, by means of fraudulent conveyances or concealments of property by an unprincipled debtor; who possesses the means of payment is an injustice, for which no legislature could ever have intended to afford an opportunity by the provisions of its laws. Of occurrences of this sort, we believe, complaints have been heard in every part of the State. It is therefore respectfully submitted to the wisdom of the legislature, whether it is not advisable to revise the system of insolvent laws, with a view to the adoption of provisions, completely protective of the really unfortunate debtor, and with a better allowance out of his property for his immediate support than is now authorised by law, and at the same time equally protective of the just rights of the humane and merciful creditor.

The writ of habeas corpus, so essential to the protection of the rights of personal liberty when illegally invaded has some times, we understand, been eluded from the want of adequate means to enforce obedience to it. For this purpose, the proceeding authorised by law is understood to be, an attachment for the contempt committed in not complying with the mandate of the writ. This may suffice in cases of illegal arrest and imprisonment by persons resident among us. But in case of persons who reside in distant States, and come here in the prosecution of a particular description of traffick, in which individuals, entitled to freedom, have sometimes been seized