

74/1211
Presented Feb 1796

The Petition of Sir Francis Blake, Baronet, is so curious and interesting, that we present a copy of it to our readers.

To the Honourable the HOUSE of COMMONS.

The Humble PETITION of Sir FRANCIS BLAKE, Bart.

Stateth,

That the Petitioner may be permitted, by the House, to sketch for their consideration the outline of an arrangement, which takes for its aim the Political Salvation of this Country, the Happiness of the Community at large, and of every Individual; and which proposes to work its effect by means which are apparently both easy, certain, safe, and honourable: And the Petitioner further prayeth, that it may be permitted him to state to the House, for the purpose of their more ready determination, the reasons which have influenced him to suppose the arrangement in question to be fraught with the benefits suggested by him; which are briefly as follow—That, from sources of information the best within his reach, it has appeared to the complete satisfaction of the Petitioner, ~~that trade is not an~~ object which, by any possible human contrivance, can be made amenable to the payment of any Tax that can affect the parties concerned in its management, inasmuch as the parties so concerned can always contrive to relieve themselves by shifting the weight, which in that case must ultimately and principally fall upon the Proprietors of Land, who have no such means of shifting the weight: That uniformly, as the trade of the nation has more or less flourished, the Territorial Rental has, in like manner and in some such proportion, been observed to advance. That in the year 1600, the territorial rental did not exceed six millions per Annum: that from the year 1600 to 1688, under all the difficulties and distresses of the intervening space, the trade of the country increased, and the rental advanced from six to fourteen millions per Annum—computing therefore, by the vast increase of trade from the period last named to the present time, comprising a series of years for the most part favourable, the final result must be, that the present rental cannot reasonably be supposed to fall short of 50 millions per annum; which led of course to the following conclusions—that the way to advance the land is to give every possible encouragement to trade—that the way to depress the land is to burthen trade—that to burthen trade is, in effect, to burthen land, besides depressing it—Taking, therefore, the present territorial rental at fifty millions per annum—the funded rental at ten millions—the two together at sixty millions per annum—the present payments to Government at fifteen millions per annum—the pressure of those payments on the rental named, as authorized by general acknowledgement, at fifteen shillings in the pound—the petitioner proceeded to reason upon those data, as follows: If it be true that the territorial and funded rental is sixty millions per annum—then is it true also, that five shillings in the pound on such rental will raise a revenue of fifteen millions per annum: if it be true, that we now pay at the rate of fifteen shillings in the pound to raise a revenue of fifteen millions—then is it also true, that we pay ten shillings in the pound more than we have any occasion to pay: if it be true, that the trading part of the nation can always contrive to create for themselves an exemption from state burthens—then is it true also, that the Landed and Funded Proprietors are, and have all along, to their irreparable loss, been the principal, if not the sole, paymasters of all imposts, and, consequently, that little or no injury will be done to that body of men, but that great and lasting advantage will accrue to them and to their posterity, by changing the mode, as here proposed, of collecting the revenue. The Petitioner therefore prays, that he may be permitted and authorized to charge his real estates with the payment of 30,000l. or with the payment of such other sum, be the same more or less, as may be ascertained by the House to be his proportionate share of the Public Debt, supposing the said Public Debt to be parcelled out for payment among the several Proprietors of Lands, Mines, Waters, Tythes, Rents in any way arising therefrom, monies so secured and public funds: And the Petitioner further prays, that his said Estates may be made subject to the payment of interest on the sum to be so charged, as above, at the rate of 4l. per Cent. or any other rate of interest, be the same more or less, which may appear to the house to be his proportionate share of the annual charge of the said public debt, supposing the same to be transferred as aforesaid: And the Petitioner further prays, that he may be permitted and authorized to pay, in future, his proportionate share of the civil list and peace establishment by an annual pound rate, the quantum of which pound rate to be ascertained by the house in like manner as before has been named: And the petitioner further prays, that as often as the exigencies of government may require a further aid, he may be permitted and authorized to pay his proportionate share of the same by such an additional pound rate as may be ascertained by the House, to be sufficient to accumulate the sum which would fall to his lot of payment, supposing the whole annual supply to be raised within the year, and parcelled out for payment among the several proprietors aforesaid: and the Petitioner further prays, that he may be permitted and authorized to make such temporary and such permanent payments, as have been severally named and assented to on his part, by half yearly instalments, and that the same may be declared to be accepted in full satisfaction of his proportionate share of all taxes, customs, duties, and parliamentary imposts, laid already, or which hereafter may be laid, on the subjects of this Country, or their concerns.

SALES BY AUCTION.

EFFECTS, COCKSPUR-STREET.

By Mr. WINSTANLEY,

On the Premises, No. 12, Cockspur-street, Charing-cross, Tomorrow, at 11 o'clock, by order of the Trustees of Mr. JOHN WILTSHIRE,

THE neat **HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE**, Plate, Linen, China, a few good Prints, amongst which are Solitude, Cicero at his Villa, and a fine Landscape, by Woollett, a pair; the Angel and Child, &c. &c.—Four mahogany-top Counters, a stout Scale Beam and Planks, copper Scales and Weights, very large tin Tea-cannisters, and other Effects, consisting of Four-post and Field Bedsteads, with printed Cotton and Morine Hangings; seasoned goose-feather Beds and Bedding; a general assortment of Cabinet-work, Carpets, high polished steel Stove and Fender, Bath Grates, Kitchen Requisites, and various useful articles.

To be viewed, and Catalogues may be had on the Premises, and of Mr. Winstanley, Paternoster-row.

By Mr. CHRISTIE,

At his Great Room, in Pall-mall, on Tuesday next, at twelve o'clock, by Order of the Assignees,

A **SIDE-BOARD of PLATE**, consisting of about One Thousand Ounces, &c. a Brilliant Diamond Necklace, a Pair of single Drop Brilliant Ear-rings, large Brilliant Feather Pin, &c.

To be viewed Saturday and Monday next. Catalogues may be had at the Rainbow Coffee-house, Cornhill, and in Pall-mall.

ELEGANT LEASEHOLD HOUSE, STOCK in TRADE, and HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE.—By Mr. CHRISTIE,

On the Premises, on Wednesday, next, at 12 o'clock, by Order of the Assignees,

A **N** **Elegant Spacious LEASEHOLD HOUSE**, with Stone Staircase, suitable Offices, Accompting House, and large Warehouse, with a separate back entrance, desirably situate No. 29, on the North side, at the lower end of Piccadilly, the property of Mr. JOHN LANE, Composition Ornament Manufacturer, a Bankrupt.

The Premises are uncommonly substantial built, the elevation elegant, with Stone Dressings, Geometrical Stone Staircase, &c.

At the same time will be sold, All the neat **HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE**, Linen, China, and Stock in Trade, consisting of elegant Chimney Pieces, and a variety of ornaments for various uses in the building line.

To be viewed two days preceding the Sale. Particulars and Catalogues may be then had on the Premises; at the Rainbow Coffee-house, and in Pall Mall.

LEASEHOLD HOUSES, BAKER-STREET.

By Mr. CHRISTIE,

At his Great Room in Pall Mall, on Thursday next, at 10 o'clock, in Two Lots, by Order of the Assignees of Mr. JOHN LANE, a Bankrupt,

Lot 1. A **N** **Elegant New-built LEASEHOLD HOUSE**, desirably situate No. 35, on the East-side of Baker-street, Portman-square, held for 90 years from Lady Day, 1792, at the moderate Ground Rent of 19l. 10s.

Lot 2. A ditto, situate No. 3, on the South-side of Park-street, Westminster, held for an unexpired term of Thirteen Years from Lady Day 1796, at the annual rent of 66l. 10s.

Lot one may be viewed by application on the premises, and Lot two, with leave of the tenant.

Particulars may be had in Pall Mall, and at the Rainbow Coffee-House.

FREEHOLD ESTATE, TUFTON-STREET, WESTMINSTER—By Mr. CHRISTIE,

At his Great Room in Pall-Mall, on Thursday next, at 1 o'clock,

A **Desirable FREEHOLD ESTATE**, situate in Tufton-street, Westminster, consisting of two Houses, and extensive Workshops, Ground, &c. let on a repairing Lease to Mr. Thomas Wapshot, 17 years of which term were unexpired at Christmas last, at a Net Ann. Rent of Seventy Five Pounds, clear of outgoings.

The Premises may be viewed with leave of the tenant, and printed particulars may be had at the Rainbow Coffee-House, Cornhill, and in Pall Mall.

FREEHOLD GROUND RENT and LEASEHOLD ESTATE.

To be PEREMPTORILY SOLD by AUCTION,

By Mr. CHRISTIE,

At his Great Room, in Pall Mall, on Thursday next, at one o'clock, by order of the Trustees, in four lots,

A **FREEHOLD GROUND RENT** of the net Sum of 60l. per annum, issuing out of three Houses, Granary, Out-buildings, and a spacious Wharf, situate adjoining the Horse Ferry, at Mill Bank, Westminster.

Also a Valuable **LEASEHOLD ESTATE**, desirably situate No. 21, 22 and 23, and a nest of excellent Warehouses on the West side of Surry-street, Strand, let to a most respectable tenant at the Annual Rent of Three Hundred and Ninety Three Pounds.

To be viewed with leave of the tenants, and printed particulars may be had at the Rainbow Coffee-house, and in Pall Mall.

VALUABLE PRINTS, BOOKS of PRINTS, ARCHITECTURE, and NATURAL HISTORY.