

"Such, then, is the beneficial operation of our bankrupt ordinance when interpreted as a general Bankrupt Law, not limited in its operation to one particular class of debts, but embracing all debts equally, whether contracted before or after its enactment, while it, at the same time, secures the more effectual way of attainment of the two continual objects of a Bankrupt Law—the equitable distribution of the effects of the debtor amongst his creditors, and the relief of the unfortunate, though deserving debtor.

"So long as a debtor has his estate in his own hands, his own hands, he need not despair; his friends, to supply a deficiency, may come to his assistance; his creditors may accept a compromise; or he may, by some fortunate speculation, increase his means, so as to meet the demand of his creditors; but no situation in this life can be more utterly hopeless, or more deserving of commiseration, than that of an honest debtor, who, after having been divested by law of every vestige of his property, is cast upon the world, destitute of all means, but still exposed to the claims of unrelenting creditors, or possibly with a judgment hung about his neck for forty years of his lifetime."

The public have now the views of two diametrically opposite minds before them: the mercantile mind, fortified by years of experience, in the letter of "Merchant," and the eminently practised and trained legal mind, above quoted. Opposed to this, what have we? Mr. Colby and Mr. Bourassa, both men representing constituencies, that can neither be regarded as centres of trade, nor likely to furnish a very extended practice to their legal luminaries; in fact, both these gentlemen show that their repeal of the law proceeds from the same point