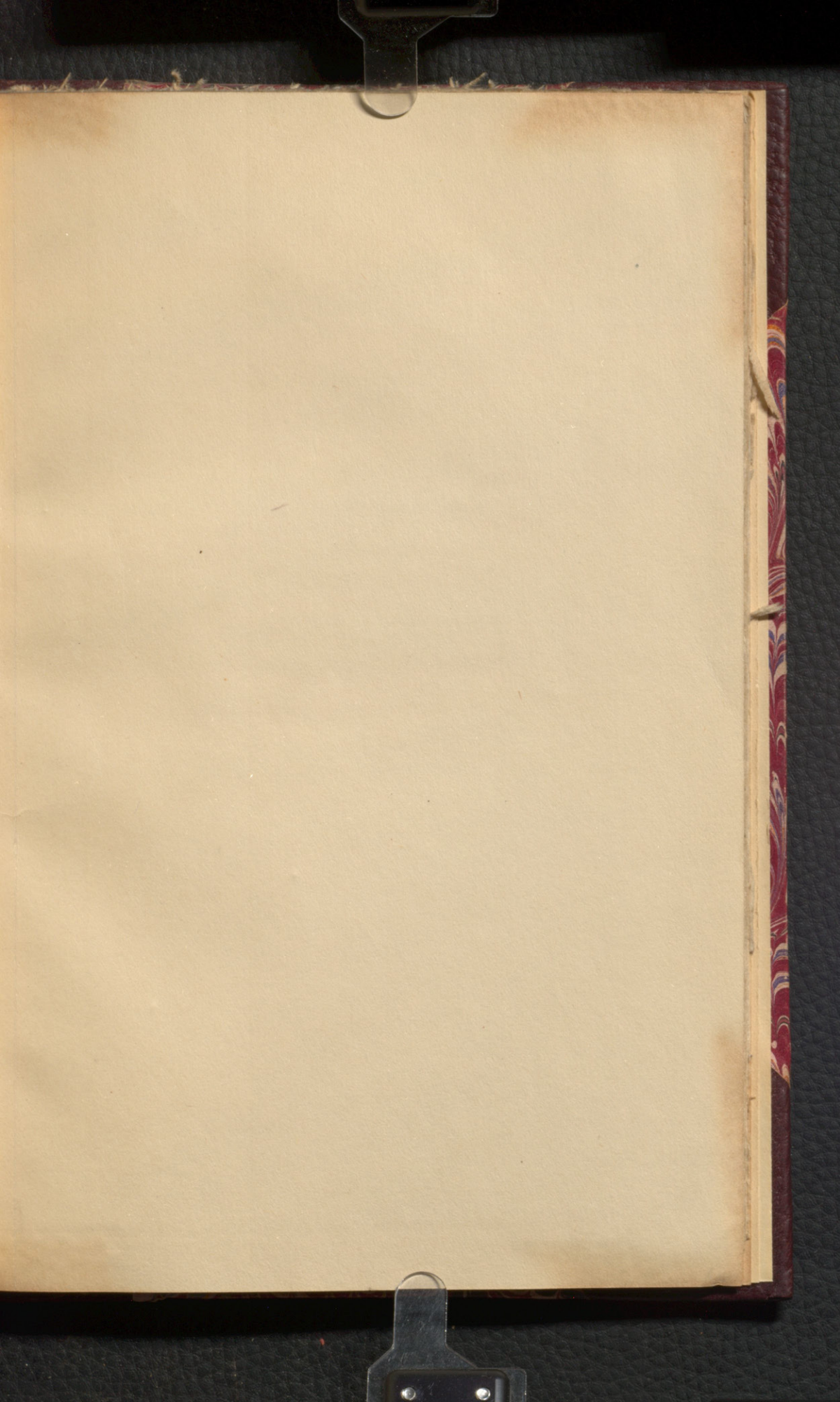


92 Canadian Inspector.

An answer to Richardson's  
Letters & Vintas.

T. 1037

92





1413

5438

C

---

THE  
CANADIAN INSPECTOR,

NO. I.

1815

---

THE GREAT INVENTOR

1848

1848

THE GREAT INVENTOR



THE  
THE

CANADIAN INSPECTOR,

NO. I.

CONTAINING

A COLLECTION OF FACTS,

CONCERNING

THE GOVERNMENT OF

SIR GEORGE PREVOST,

IN THE

CANADAS.

"LET THOSE WHO REPRIMAND THEIR BROTHERS

"FIRST MEND THE FAULTS THEY FIND IN OTHERS."

GAY.

PRINTED BY NAHUM MOWER,  
MONTREAL, JULY 1815.



## PREFACE.

*THE following pages contain a small collection of facts published at different times concerning the government of Sir GEORGE PREVOST, in the Canadas. These facts are necessarily brought forward at this period in consequence of the illiberal language which has been recently lavished through the Montreal Herald, upon the principal inhabitants of this Province—who through a sense of duty, have signified their gratitude in complimentary Addresses to their Governor at his departure. Veritas, who was the most busy actor in this busy scene, has of course the honor of meeting with most attention. Every line of this General — written, is an attack—founded upon the modern principles of political tactics,—and so organised, that we were obliged at times in our quotations, to approach some words, to slight others, and adhere, as in a translation, strictly to the authors meaning. Quotations from other authorities, though sometimes condensed, are otherwise correct in all their circumstances.*

## ERRATA.

Page 5	line 24	for 1813, read 1812.
— 28	— 17	for energy of your &c. read <i>energy your &amp;c.</i>
— 32	— 12	for with an irresistible, read <i>with it &amp;c.</i>
— —	— 36	for are feared, read <i>we find.</i>
— 37	—	dele Montreal Address, 1814.
— 45	— 19	for ships before war, read <i>spies before war.</i>
— —	— 24	for on, read <i>an.</i>
— 44	— 5	for graciously, read <i>grievously.</i>
— 48	— 1	for last, read <i>least.</i>
— 62	— 28	dele <i>s</i> in battles, line 29 dele <i>both.</i>
— 64	— 16	for as Veritas, read <i>as per &amp;c.</i>
— 68	— 2	for futurity have, read <i>futurity will have.</i>

## THE INSPECTOR.

“ WOULD it not be the height of absurdity, if any one was to ascribe to the efficacy of the index on the dial of a watch, the elasticity of the spring—When in fact it is through the power of the spring that the motion of the index derives the whole of its efficacy.”

“ N. QUARTERLY REVIEW.”

TWO months have now elapsed since Sir GEORGE PREVOST, our late Governor has taken his departure for England. In the course of this short period, the Editor of that singular paper, the MONTREAL HERALD, has laid before his readers, in small print upwards of twenty long columns of abuse: all aimed at His Excellency's administration of the government in this country. Which abuse, I understand, is meant for exportation after taking the shape of a pamphlet, and which pamphlet, should it ever reach will not surprise the elegant author of the “Decline and Fall of Nations,” who last year favoured the world with an outline of His Excellency's political portrait, beginning thus, “Sir George Prevost. A man of great abilities, to whom one of the most difficult commands under the English government, has fallen at this time.” I say it will not surprise that elegant writer, because he is in the habit of wading occasionally through volumes of such scurrillity to arrive at the truth. The same judicious author passes sentence upon such writers as *Veritas*, in the following words, “There is a sufficient fund of ill nature amongst mankind to make publications that deal in slander, be eagerly sought after; but the eagerness is doubly great when the person slandered is of high rank:

then envy as well as ill nature is gratified. Libel on the great seem to bring them down nearer the general level, and therefore, they give a sort of satisfaction to their readers and always have done so. To slander individuals of high rank, or in public office, and to abuse the measures of government are the modes by which the public mind is acted upon to create discontent. As for the disgrace there is none attaches to the libelling of great men or public characters; for so numerous are the partisans and abettors of such writers that they convert what is intended to be disgrace into triumph. The evil however, is not near so great as it appears to be, for those dashing libelists who make assertions without proofs, are only read for amusement, and momentary gratification. They are not credited or productive of any lasting impression. One great disadvantage to writers who do not adhere to truth or to fixt principles, is that they run into errors and contradictions which by degree take away all their credit from what they produce." It is not a difficult matter to discover who this *Veritas* is—The Editor of the Montreal Herald, gives the key. In the number which mentions Sir George's departure after making his comment upon the addresses presented to his excellency, he says, "we close this short observation by assuring our readers that our *Editorial* paragraphs will disdain attacking a man during his absence." The emphasis upon *Editorial* certainly insinuates that he (the Editor) may continue his abuse under another head, and that head is clearly *Veritas*—Which prolific performance however cannot altogether be his production. He must have two or three assistants, who furnish him occasionally with an assortment of fabrications. "I pledge myself, says he, in his first essay, to prove by a simple narrative, that Sir George Prevost

neither by his foresight, conciliation, example or impulse called forth the energies of the militia of either province, and that the merit of preserving them does not belong to him." This is a bold undertaking but a difficult one, since it can be rendered of no avail by the mere evidence of the author himself. "Out of thine own mouth will I judge thee wicked scribler," and in the following order.

"The spirit of the whole country is awakened—every man burns in ardour for a musket—Our patriotic and energetic governor has placed a just confidence in the whole people and has made a most judicious arrangement of the regular and militia forces, which will put it out of the enemy's power to take us by surprise and much less to face us in the field of battle. On the upper lakes our naval strength is complete for every purpose either defensive or offensive."

*Montreal Herald, Edt. head, July 14, 1812.*

"What will our government at home think of our loyal and brave subjects in these provinces who with only the assistance of a peace establishment army have as yet kept these invaders at a distance."

*Montreal Herald, Edt. head, Nov. 21, 1813.*

These are handsome compliments which do credit to the Editor—We shall however, second them by an extract from the Montreal address to Sir George Prevost, of that period.

"We the inhabitants of Montreal take the liberty of expressing to your Excellency that great satisfaction we feel on your safe return from the frontiers of this province, convinced of the judgment with which your measures have been planned, and of the activity and ability with which under your immediate direction they have been carried into execution, added to the universal confidence in your

Excellency's talents the militia from every quarter resorted cheerfully to your standard and you have succeeded in deterring the enemy from the pursuit of invading this happy province which had it taken place we are confident would have terminated in their defeat and disgrace—Your Excellency being fully possessed of the united esteem, and affection of every class of the people," &c. &c.

*See the Herald of that time.*

After giving the Montreal address with His Excellency's answer, both in English and in French, and in different characters by way of distinction the Editor of the Montreal Herald continues to display his loyalty in the following terms.

"Yesterday about ten o'clock His Excellency the Governor General and suit set off from this city for Quebec, after so many months of unremitting activity in the midst of a loyal people who regard him with *adoration*. We heartily wish he may arrive safely into the bosom of his amiable family, anxious for his return, since the hour of common danger past, at least for a short time."

*See Montreal Herald, Edt. head, Dec. 5, 1812*

At a splendid ball given by the volunteers of Montreal at Holmes' Hotel, "In one of the rooms was a Star of bayonets on a black velvet ground and in its center the golden crown raised on a cushion of crimson and white satin—At proper intervals interspersed in the Star were the initials of our beloved Governor PREVOST in letters of gold."

*See Montreal Herald, Edt. head, Dec. 12, 1812*

"On Tuesday evening last His Excellency the Governor General arrived in this city, from Upper Canada. Sir George went as far as Fort Erie—distance of about 500 miles—His Excellency left Montreal on the morning of the 20th ult. Thus completing a journey of fully 1000 miles in 18 days."



although he stopt a considerable time at all the principal military posts in his way—His Excellency we are glad to announce enjoys the best state of health.

*Montreal Herald, Edt. head, March 13, 1813.*

“We deny any credit to those who hold the great responsibility (ministers) for the slender aid they have afforded us since the war, though all are in one accord that the high character who was destined to act has made the most of the materials which he found these provinces possessed of—Under his auspices the peace establishment of regulars and our own militia have done wonders.”

*Montreal Herald, Edt. head, May 15, 1813.*

“The fact is our troops in consequence of a want of naval co-operation have not been adequate, tho’ our soldiers have achieved three times more than could have been expected from them—Good God what are we come to! Our Governor General puts himself to all the privations of a common soldier watching day and night to promote the security of the country.”

*Montreal Herald, Edt. head, Aug. 28, 1813.*

“Last Saturday afternoon His Excellency the Governor General and suit arrived here from Kingston, U. Canada, which place he left on the morning of the preceding day in a birch canoe managed by Indians. On Monday morning His Excellency went over to inspect the troops and militia of the various military posts from Chambly to the lines, &c. Sir George’s personal exertions have been extraordinary since the commencement of the war.”

*Montreal Herald, Edt. head, Oct. 2, 1813.*

We see that Sir George Prevost was a very great favorite in Montreal for the first campaign.

“On Friday were given at the Union Hotel, by the military and embodied militia officers in the garrison (Quebec) to His Excellency the Governor

Excellency's talents the militia from every quarter resorted cheerfully to your standard and you have succeeded in deterring the enemy from the pursuit of invading this happy province which had it taken place we are confident would have terminated in their defeat and disgrace—Your Excellency being fully possessed of the united esteem, and affection of every class of the people," &c. &c.

*See the Herald of that time.*

After giving the Montreal address with His Excellency's answer, both in English and in French, and in different characters by way of distinction, the Editor of the Montreal Herald continues to display his loyalty in the following terms.

"Yesterday about ten o'clock His Excellency the Governor General and suit set off from this city for Quebec, after so many months of unremitting activity in the midst of a loyal people who regard him with *adoration*. We heartily wish he may arrive safely into the bosom of his amiable family, anxious for his return, since the hour of common danger is past, at least for a short time."

*See Montreal Herald, Edt. head, Dec. 5, 1812.*

At a splendid ball given by the volunteers of Montreal at Holmes' Hotel, "In one of the rooms was a Star of bayonets on a black velvet ground and in its center the golden crown raised on a cushion of crimson and white sattin—At proper intervals interspersed in the Star were the initials of our beloved Governor PREVOST in letters of gold."

*See Montreal Herald, Edt. head, Dec. 12, 1812.*

"On Tuesday evening last His Excellency the Governor General arrived in this city, from Upper Canada. Sir George went as far as Fort Erie—a distance of about 500 miles—His Excellency left Montreal on the morning of the 20th ult. Thus completing a journey of fully 1000 miles in 18 days,

although he stopt a considerable time at all the principal military posts in his way—His Excellency we are glad to announce enjoys the best state of health.

*Montreal Herald, Edt. head, March 13, 1813.*

“We deny any credit to those who hold the great responsibility (ministers) for the slender aid they have afforded us since the war, though all are in one accord that the high character who was destined to act has made the most of the materials which he found these provinces possessed of—Under his auspices the peace establishment of regulars and our own militia have done wonders.”

*Montreal Herald, Edt. head, May 15, 1813.*

“The fact is our troops in consequence of a want of naval co-operation have not been adequate, tho’ our soldiers have achieved three times more than could have been expected from them—Good God what are we come to! Our Governor General puts himself to all the privations of a common soldier watching day and night to promote the security of the country.”

*Montreal Herald, Edt. head, Aug. 28, 1813.*

“Last Saturday afternoon His Excellency the Governor General and suit arrived here from Kingston, U. Canada, which place he left on the morning of the preceding day in a birch canoe managed by Indians. On Monday morning His Excellency went over to inspect the troops and militia of the various military posts from Chambly to the lines, &c. Sir George’s personal exertions have been extraordinary since the commencement of the war.”

*Montreal Herald, Edt. head, Oct. 2, 1813.*

We see that Sir George Prevost was a very great favorite in Montreal for the first campaign,

“On Friday were given at the Union Hotel, by the military and embodied militia officers in the garrison (Quebec) to His Excellency the Governor

General, his Lady and family, a splendid ball and supper. The decorations were truly military. To these were added the following paintings. A full length picture of His Majesty. Sir George Prevost's Arms, Fame holding a trumpet from which was suspended a scroll containing the names of the places in the West Indies where Sir George Prevost had distinguished himself, to which was added Canada."

*Montreal Herald, Ed. head, Jan. 15, 1814.*

"The inhabitants of these Provinces have much cause to rejoice at the propitious manner in which the campaign has opened both in Lower and Upper Canada. Such results may always be looked for when plans are judiciously arranged and the execution left to the bravery of British soldiers and sailors. The achievements at La Colle appeared more a miracle than an act of human power."

*Montreal Herald, Ed. head, May 14, 1813.*

Having given the foregoing laudable extracts, it is necessary to prove that they are deserving of credit. Towards this end we shall insert the express conditions upon which the author tendered his services when he commenced his literary career and solicited a share in the confidence and patronage of the public as Editor of the Montreal Herald, viz.

*The Editors of the Montreal Herald will support the Constitution* "and truth will be invariably promulgated divested of all party influence."—*See prospectus of the Montreal Herald, Oct. 6, 1811.*

"We shall give praise to merit, and condemn every action which comes to our knowledge that in any way, deviates from merit."

*Montreal Herald, Ed. head, April 8, 1815.*

The essays of Veritas in the Montreal Herald are so industriously framed, that every period breaths hostility to Sir George Prevost; and the periods are so irregularly put together that I see no method of making an answer but by occasionally viewing the whole *en masse*. According to the French maxim "On ne repond pas aux sotises," nothing in these essays deserve attention.—But as the Herald has an extensive circulation, it becomes a duty to sacrifice a little ease, in order to check in the bud the evil tendency of its illiberal effusions.

*Accusations of Sir James Henry Craig, says Veritas were sanctioned by Sir George Prevost; who also countenanced that miserable paper the Spectateur on purpose to run down his predecessor.*

General Craig was detested and branded with the epithets of tyranny by the many—while the few praised him and his works to the skies. With General Prevost the case was completely reversed: the many looked on him as the greatest of men and praised him and all his works, while the few, forging blemishes for him in great abundance, have made themselves highly disagreeable. During the administration of the first, we had perpetual war in peace: during that of the last, we had a perpetual peace in war.—With the one it was apprehended that the *Habitants* of Canada, would turn out *en masse*, seize upon the country and put all the emigrants in it to the sword—which, with the other, all the enemies within and without the Province, have in vain tried to carry into execution. Gen. Craig in his last speech to the Legislative body of this Province, after expatiating upon the existing evil, goes on "I am earnest on the subject Gentlemen—It is probably the last legacy of a very sincere well-wisher, who if he lives to reach the presence of his sovereign, would indeed present himself with the

proud certainty of obtaining his approbation, if he could conclude his report of his administration, with saying, I found, sire, the portion of your subjects that you committed to my charge, divided among themselves, viewing each other with distrust and jealousy and animated as they supposed by separate interests. I left them sire, cordially united in the bonds of reciprocal esteem and confidence, rivaling each other only in affectionate attachment to your Majesty's Government and in general exertions for the general good."

*Quebec Mercury, 1811, Page 92.*

General Prevost in his last speech to the same August Body, exults in equal elegance of language and sense of feeling, at having realised the impressive wish of his predecessor " However intent, says he, on the subject which so unexpectedly thus summons my attention, be assured, I shall bear with me a lively recollection of the firm support I have derived from you, and shall be gratified at an early period in representing personally to His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, the zeal and loyalty evinced by every class of His Majesty's subjects in British North America, during my administration; their attachment to his august person and to his government, and most particularly, the spirit and devotion manifested by the people of the Canadas in the late contest with the United States of America."

*Montreal Herald, April 1, 1815.*

Indeed Sir George had reason to exult at the closing of his political career in this country; for he has been extremely fortunate in his administration.—During the revolutionary war, few English Generals were allowed laurels, for laurels are but thinly planted in the wilderness of America. We had upwards of forty thousand regulars—the enemy never had half of that number, yet we lost thir-

ty thousand brave men, thirty millions of money, and thirteen Provinces. (See view of American revolutionary war, Page 154.)

In the late war with little or no assistance either in men or money from home, the united force of eighteen States, beside the Indiana Territy, containing upwards of eight millions of people, left no impression upon the British dominions on this side the Atlantic, but that of indifference. The Province of Lower Canada, the real object of the contest, which was under the immediate care of Sir George, lost no men, received no injury, like the Angel in Milton, His Excellency watched upon the edge of our horizon, and by dint of address in manœuvring his small means, he averted the impending dangers and saved the country.

We recollect that *Le Canadien*, upon whose ruins *Le Spectateur* was established, existed in Sir James Craig's time. The productions, in that paper were generally considered inimical to certain classes of society, and some of our honorable gentlemen discovered some means by which they issued a warrant. In consequence of this warrant, the press was seized by a file of soldiers, the managers were thrown into prison where they were allowed to remain during pleasure. When they were set at liberty no questions were asked of them, no inquiry was made into the cause of their confinement, no trial was instituted, or any satisfaction offered either to the sufferers or to the public, by that government, for the violence thus committed upon the liberties of his majesty's loyal Canadian subjects. Ignorant perhaps of preceding circumstances, or too well acquainted with their injustice, or rather finding the late sufferers had acquired the confidence of the country, and had sufficient abilities to suit the times and his purposes, Sir George, very properly restor-

ed them to favor, and in common with others, admitted them in turn to employments. This restoration however necessary at the moment, was reckoned a heinous crime—is reckoned so to this day; and helps to give currency to the efforts of *Veritas*, with the opposite party.

“Sir George,” say our exotic gentry, “promoted the enemies of general Craig, as well as the supporters of *Le Canadien*, a paper which did not spare us—strangers, “*Le Canadien* is a rascal (continue they) and all Canadians are rascals.” Now I challenge *Veritas* and his infatuated confederation of understrappers, to find a single passage, throughout this same unfortunate *Canadien*, that can come in competition for want of principles or for intemperance of language with the productions now before me in the *Montreal Herald*. Perhaps passengers from Great Britain, however transient their stay, are entitled to superior privileges in Colonies. Perhaps when personages of this origin find it convenient to smite a Canadian on one cheek, he, poor devil ought not to murmur but to believe the salute a good thing; and like a good christian, say, yea yea; holding out the other cheek also.

“The history of Ireland informs us, that for many centuries after the conquest, the English administration of justice was confined to very narrow limits. So that the mass of the people lived without the benefit of law or equity. It was thought, that by enlightening the people they would wish for independence. Dissention was allowed; murder was frequent; and while a native who killed an Englishman was always punished with death, the murder of a native was expiated by a fine.”

*See Dewar, or N. Q. Review.*

But the ill treatment which Canadian individuals experienced, I do not charge to the conduct of



Sir J. Henry Craig. In my mind he was wrongfully accused of the severity attributed to his government, for he was an excellent man. But unfortunately his infirmities subjected him to bear with many inconveniences. He was obliged to see and to hear through the medium of counsellors; an untoward circumstance which gave an unnatural air to his measures, and rendered them unpopular in most instances among the inhabitants. In his answer to the farewell address of the executive council, he says, "If I receive with satisfaction the expression of general esteem and approbation from various parts of the province, how much more gratifying must these sentiments be, coming from the members of his majesty's executive council. Others can judge only from effects produced by such measures as I have pursued during my administration of the government of the Province. You gentlemen, know the principles upon which they have been founded, and have been made acquainted with the motives of all my actions—you are therefore, more able to appreciate them at their just estimation." *Quebec Mercury, 1811, Page 191.*

Le Canadien of Sir James Henry Craig, is revived with redoubled violence in the Herald of Sir George Prevost. What the reputed French were then, the reputed English are now; and both seem more under the influence of passion than reason. Whether the reigning factions expect to live in after-times through their present endeavours, is more than I know. But the historian I presume will pay little or no attention to assertions and arguments unsupported by official documents; or at least the authority of those who were immediately engaged in the several transactions brought forward. Next to such authorities, I considered it to be due to the accounts given in our newspapers under the articles compos-

ed by the Editors of the day. These Editors are not paid to deceive their subscribers and friends. Therefore, when they cannot produce the truth, it is understood that they will say so, observe their *mottos*, or remain silent. Such are the grounds upon which I wish this review to stand before the public.

Sir George Prevost in point of health and activity, being in the prime of life, had the advantage over his predecessor who was a man advanced in years. Sir George arrived at Quebec, the 13th September, 1811, and on the 5th of the ensuing month we find him returned to head quarters at the Castle of St. Lewis, "from a visit to Montreal, after inspecting the troops in that garrison, at Three-Rivers, St. Johns, Chambly and William-Henry; as well as the military positions in their respective neighbourhoods; His Excellency travelled on the north shore of the St. Lawrence in going, and returned on the south bank of that River."

*Quebec Mercury, October 1811.*

Sir George made it his constant practice to see and to hear every thing that could be seen or heard; and to admit upon credit as little as possible. By these means he was not long in the country before he knew the nature of every place, of every thing and of every character in it, much better than any other person within the limits of his command. Possessed of this necessary knowledge, he seldom was in want of aid in that way from His Majesty's Executive Councillors—who therefore, were useful to him only for the sake of formality. And besides, his headquarters were continually changing situations; so that at times, he could not possibly avail himself of the advantages that might otherwise be derived from a communication with their wisdom, without creating great inconveniences to the service; particularly as it was not then supposed, that men of

their weight were endowed as *Veritas* elegantly calls it in allusion, with the "*Loco motive* faculty of Port Boys." The Governor, therefore, was obliged to acquire the habit of transacting his affairs without these weighty men's interference. This habit, however, was construed into neglect; and although no disadvantage arose from it to the Province, it has we understand given great offence to certain individuals. The addresses to Sir George, have been a continual eye sore to those who thought proper to be discontented with his measures. Ever since last fall, some have been hammering upon that subject to the great annoyance of the community at large. At length their noise is become as common as that of the bells of the Parish Church; which are never taken notice of but by strangers, and those immediately concerned. The manœuvres of these malcontents in the cause of imposition will bear the following comparison in the words of the celebrated Mr. Burke.

"The vanity, restlessness, petulance and the spirit of intrigue, of sensual petty cabals, who attempt to hide their total want of consequence in business and noise—and puffing, and mutual quotations of each other, make you imagine that one contemptuous neglect of their abilities is a mark of general acquiescence in their opinion: No such thing, I assure you. Because half a dozen grasshoppers under a hedge make the field ring with their importunate chink—whilst thousands of great cattle reposed beneath the shaddow of the oak chew the cud and are silent. Pray do not imagine that those who make the noise, are the only inhabitants of the field; that of course they are many in number or that after all they are any other than the little shrivelling, meagre hopping though loud and troublesome insects of the hour."

"There is a time of prosperity," says another great writer, "when the buzzing hum of sycophants stun the ears of great men, while the splendours of office surrounded ———. Language such as I now use could not have escaped me. It is when a great man is beaten down by faction and cabal that his true friends peculiarly delight to avow their attachment: It is the time too when the little sneaking contemptible maggots whom his kindness had warmed into being will be seen crawling and wriggling from him."

The address to His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, from the inhabitants of Canada has been considered a master-piece since it was twice registered and served up in the Herald, besides the many quotations from it which have occasionally adorned the pages of that officious paper during the dead season. This information could not be intended for subscribers as they must have been acquainted with the subject much better than the Editor himself. It must have been intended for Great Britain—And the Editor, like the African Sable Chief, swollen in his pride and squatted upon his throne of turf, inserted it no doubt, saying to himself, "what will the people of England think of me"!

A certain gentleman who was full of hope crossed the atlantic and elated with the flattering idea of acquiring a rapid fortune by land speculations; he directed his course into the wilds of Upper Canada. This was in the time of Governor Gore's administration. But our gentleman after sojourning there some few months and practicing some few manœuvres, feeling disappointed, he it seems measured back his steps and wrote a Book. As the circumstances attending this book have some affinity to the present proceedings in the Herald, we shall beg leave to illustrate our subject by a few

quotations from an English Review of that publication.

The writer of the letter to Lord Castlereagh, gives some account of the *Dramatis Persona* in Mr's — political piece of the worthies, who according to him, filled the highest offices, and were driven from them by the tyranny of the Governor. These worthies by the establishment of what they term an independant press, were enabled to proceed rapidly to organise—and became the rallying point for all dissatisfied and turbulent spirits in the Province and gained strength daily. They every where gave out that the governor would be recalled and a new order of things established, &c. The effect produced by this doctrine was not confined to the low and illiterate, but extended to gentlemen, who from their education and high rank, ought to have known better. However, this state of things did not continue long, and in the end worked its own cure. The extreme violence of the faction alarmed and disgusted every man of sense in the Province, and produced a greater oppositson to their rulers than they were led to expect. This gentleman (auther) continues the review having considered neither his property nor his person secure in the colony, was consequently right to leave it.

Alfred, if he is not *Veritas*, is at least a twin brother, who labours in the same vineyard—And Alfred in the Herald of the 8th of April, expresses similar sentiments with the foregoing emigrant: If the administration of the government of Canada, says he, is to be continued upon the present principles, property and character cannot expect protection; attachment to the king and government must cease, men of independent minds must retire; improper means will become the only passport to of-

fice—and to the participation of the loaves and fishes—Ay! the loaves and fishes, *there is the rub.*

Sir George Prevost whose government in this country has become an object for savages to fire at from behind the bush, is the son of General Prevost who distinguished himself in the American revolutionary war—particularly in his defence of Savannah, which against the superior and combined force by sea and land of France and the revolted British colonies, he preserved to the British Government.

Sir George was born in New-Jersey, under the British Flag, while his father was on service there. He entered early into the army, advanced gradually to his present rank and has been thirty five years in the service of his king and country. He was created Knight and Baronet for his noble achievements in the line of his profession—Was Governor in the West Indies—was Governor in England—was Governor in Nova Scotia: And by an approved line of conduct, he established a character which very deservedly procured him the eminent station of Governor General and commander in chief of British North America. The sense which the people of Nova Scotia entertained of the government of Sir George Prevost, we can learn from the farewell address of the principal inhabitants of their metropolis. It is as follows:—

“ *To His Excellency Sir George Prevost,  
Baronet, &c. &c. &c.*

“ SIR,

“ Your Excellency intending shortly to leave this Province, the inhabitants of Halifax, cannot omit expressing to you their unfeigned regret on the occasion, and at the same time of testifying their gratitude for the many real benefits which the province

has derived from your short administration of the government.

“ We have often been induced to come forward to manifest our esteem for many valuable and respectable characters, who have filled high stations in this country, for it has been our good fortune to have had many men of tried worth at the head of the civil, naval and military departments here ; but believe us, sir, we use not the language of flattery when we say, that we have never felt more sincere regret, than for your departure from us.

“ Equity has been the ruling principle of your administration, and the most unremitting attention to public business its invariable practice : Your indefatigable zeal carried you into the most remote parts of the province, and you became early acquainted with our situation and our wants. The confidence with which you inspired the Legislative Body, induced them to provide ample supplies for the different branches of the public service. The wisdom with which they have been appropriated equal the liberality with which they were granted, and must produce extensive and permanent benefits to the country at large.

“ Your ears have been open to petitioners of every class, and your ready attention to their wants and their claims, has left no cause for complaint. With the sentiments of affectionate and respectful regard which you have excited in our breasts— while we deplore our loss we cannot but derive consolation from the justly merited honors that cause your removal.

“ We consider your appointment to the supreme command of British North America as an earnest of the blessing which his Majesty's subjects on the western side of the atlantic, are to enjoy under the government of the august personage, the aniversa-

ry of whose birth we this day assemble to commemorate. At this critical period when the prejudices of misguided councils of a neighbouring nation render it not improbable that we may be called upon to defend the invaluable privilege of Englishmen, it must be a source of satisfaction to every loyal subject, that His Royal Highness in the name of our venerable and revered sovereign has entrusted the defence of these colonies to an officer, who has so frequently proved himself worthy of commanding British colonies. May he ever, sir, be thus influenced in his nominations to offices of great trust and high respectability, by the merit of those on whom they are to be conferred. We thank you for your condescension in permitting your portrait to be taken and left with us. It will be a perpetual memorial of a personage, whose public conduct and private virtues have been so beneficial and endearing to his Majesty's subjects in this province.

"You go sir, to a more exalted station, but you cannot go where you will be more beloved or respected. In taking our leave of you, permit us to assure you of our warmest wishes that every blessing may be your's, and every happiness attend your amiable and exemplary Lady and each individual of your excellent family."

*Halifax, 12th August, 1811.*

*See Quebec Mercury, Sept. 11, 1811.*

Read this address *Veritas*, and blush for your sins. It contains the true sentiments of a loyal people, sentiments which go to the heart and will make a good man feel more than he would willingly acknowledge. I wish I could hold the pen of the writer, that I might render equal justice to my undertaking.

"After the declaration of war was believed at Quebec," reports *Veritas*, "Sir George despatched



orders to captain Roberts of St. Joseph, to act upon the defensive. But captain Roberts stimulated by, and concurring in the opinion of the traders, followed General Brock's orders in preference to those of General Prevost, and the Fort of Michillimackinac, was taken without bloodshed."

How has Veritas come by this secret. Mr. W. Mackay, who was employed by the agents of the North West Company, to carry the news of the war to the Company's headquarters, upon Lake Superior, was the bearer of Sir George's despatches to St. Joseph. If Sir George did give such orders—they must have been discretionary—not positive—since in a General Order of the 8th of August, 1812, he expresses his approbation by *announcing with great satisfaction to the troops under his command, the capture of Michillimackinac, as having been effected in a manner highly creditable to Captain Roberts and the officers and men employed upon the occasion, and without the loss of a man.*

*See Quebec Mercury, vol. 8th. Page 251.*

"General Brock however having received no instructions from General Prevost, hesitated about taking the Fort of Niagara—but having learnt that General Hull had crossed at Sandwich, and was ravaging the British side, he marched for Detroit, and captured General Hull and his army, without firing a shot or losing a drop of blood on either side. Sir George gave no orders to Gen. Brock, because he cunningly reserved to himself the power of either blaming or praising the gallant general according to the issue of events. Indeed, this indecisive conduct unhappily adhered to Sir George, during the whole war. General Prevost's armistice with General Dearborn, prevented General Brock from sweeping away all the American posts down to Sackets Harbour inclusively."

“After the battle at Queenston, had General Sheaffe, who also was so fond of armistices that he made one of his own, crossed over the same afternoon he might easily have taken Lewistown, the Fort of Niagara, and cleared all that line of the enemy—and I contend that all the depots along the frontier could have been destroyed without irritating the enemy. We had force enough—for look at what General Brock had done with a handful of men. Sir George had a long line to defend; but had he energy, he might have withdrawn some of his troops from certain points, concentrated them in certain others; and turn a feint into real attacks as opportunity offered. The tables would by such a system be turned, and the enemy reduced to the defensive according to the well known principle in mechanics that velocity is equal to weight; so an active small force, would have produced greater effect, than a lazy big one”—Ergo, had Sir George acted mechanically according to the principle laid down for him by *Veritas* three years after the affair was over, he might have overpowered his unwieldy opponents to his own liking!!

Looking into the British American Royal Kalender for 1812, which was the first year of the war, we find our Canadian army list, consist only of seven battalions, viz. 10th Veterans, 1st battalion of the 8th, 41st, 49th, 100th, Newfoundland and Canadian Fencibles, with four companies of the Royal Artillery. Amounting in all to, perhaps three thousand five hundred men; and upon the management of these depended the defence of the Canadas, which from Quebec to Michillimackinac, (exclusive of the immense territories beyond that post) presents a frontier line of upwards of eleven hundred miles in extent, so that our army could furnish only three soldiers to a mile of territory. Indeed,

Sir George himself observed that his regulars being few in number, they were dispersed and preserved as absolutely necessary to serve as pivots for the militia; so that every man in his little army, seemed to him of the highest value; perhaps worth their weight in gold. No wonder he was sparing of such lives, particularly if taught by experience to expect no assistance, beyond the means already in his possession. The effect of these means upon the enemy, I shall beg leave to introduce in the words of an excellent writer, who is well known in the political world as a first rate character, viz. B. Gardener, Esquire, of New York, formerly a distinguished member of Congress.

“ We shall consider the war operations according to the divisions which our government and that of Great Britain have made the armies of the West, the Centre and the North.

“ It is well known that General Hull, with our army of 2500 men began his march many months before Congress declared war. General Brock, with a handful of troops and as many Indians compelled this army to retreat from the British territory, and soon after captured it with the whole of the Michigan territory. General Harrison, who succeeded to the command promised to retrieve the loss. All the western States poured forth their myriads. Their armies of governors, of generals and heroes, as thick as the autumnal leaves, with whom general Proctor, who had replaced general Brock, had to contend for a twelve month, with a small force of 7 or 800 regulars, who assisted with a few Indians, caused us a loss of 5200 men. And had not commodore Perry deprived the enemy of lake Erie, Harrison with his thousands could never have triumphed over the British general. That is getting possession of the most remote settlement of G.

Britain, cost the United States, the expence of enlisting and maintaining 12,000 troops.

“The army of the Center consisted of 1500 at Sackets Harbour, and of 3500 upon the Niagara frontier, opposed to about 1500 men. At Queens-ton we lost 1600 men, and at little York, we lost as many men as the enemy had engaged. Fort George was taken by 4000 men and by the navy from 1500, who in their turn at Stony Creek, took two of our generals 200 men, and caused us a loss of 800 more, besides our baggage. Cooped up three times their number in Fort George, for a whole season—“Exhibiting, as Governor Prevost says in his intercepted letter, the unheard of military “spectacle of a small insignificant army blockading one of three times its force.” We charged 5200 to the amount of the Western army. We may now charge 3500 for the loss of the army of the Center. The army of the North when Wilkinson lay at Grenadier Island, his force amounted to 10,000 men. Hampton had 5000, which with 6000 militia augmented the force destined to reduce Lower Canada to 21,000. Opposed to this army were only 5000, (regulars) 2000 of whom were in Upper Canada.” *See Examiner, vol. 1st, page 91.*

“If this country is able to conquer Canada,” says the same author on another occasion, “why has it not done so in the two campaigns which have been devoted to it? Why, if it is able, have we been entirely, completely, disagreeably foiled?”

“Foiled in 1812, because they did not estimate the difficulties. But now having acquired the necessary knowledge, they would ensure the most brilliant triumph. Accordingly they have concerted a grand campaign. The whole season was employed in tremendous preparations; public expectation was perpetually on the stretch. The secretary at

war was in the vicinity of the armies. Perry had secured lake Erie; Chauncey had hemmed in Yeo's fleet on lake Ontario. Wilkinson sounded his bugle; Hampton rose in his strength. From east to west was nothing heard but the dreadful note of preparation, and the easy capture of Montreal. From both armies came letters teeming with assurances of victories. We are in Montreal or damned said one. One said this, another said that; but victory, victory, was the cry of a thousand trumpet tongued throats. But what was the result; utter disgraceful, infamous defeat; drove out of Canada by a handful of troops; leaving the frontiers of Niagara smoking in ruins; and at French Mills: properly estimated at 2,000,0000 of dollars."

*Examiner page 317.*

The Captures of Michillimackinac and Detroit, and the consequent trophies arriving in Montreal upon the heels of the business of La Chine, aided by the previous zeal and activity displayed at Montreal, came opportunely according to Veritas, to silence the prudent, to fix the wavering, and confirm the great bulk of the people in loyalty. Now, Sir George continues he, had no hand in all this. He had only to reap the fruits of what others had done. It was often said, that Sir George has the merit of doing what Sir James would not have attempted, viz. to defend both provinces, whilst the other thought of nothing but securing Quebec, and its timid inhabitants, from harm. Nor was Sir George decided upon a general defence, before he came to Montreal. Then our historian asserts, that the provinces were saved by general Brock, by the Indians, by the traders, by the engagees, by the Upper Canada Militia, by the regulars, by the measures pursued at Montreal, before Sir George's arrival, and not by Sir George!!

D

Not to take Veritas' word for this allegation, we shall have recourse to the evidence of all Upper Canada, to prove the imposition.

From the answer of the Legislative body of Upper Canada, to the President's Speech at the opening of the Provincial Parliament, 27th February, 1813, we take the following extracts.

From the answer of the Commons, "We participate in the satisfaction expressed by your honour, at having it in your power, on the first time you are called upon to address us, to offer our cordial congratulation on the uniform success which has crowned His Majesty's Arms in this Province.

"That the enemy has been foiled in his machinations against it, that three of his armies have surrendered or been completely defeated, and that two important Fortresses have been wrested from him, are to us sources of the highest satisfaction.

"We feel highly gratified to learn that his Excellency the commander of the forces, has been pleased to order clothing for a considerable portion of militia.

"We learn with the highest satisfaction that the most vigorous measures have been adopted under the direction of the commander of the forces, and are now in operation to strenghten the Provincial Marine, and preserve the superiority of the Lakes, so essential to the prosperity of this province."

From the answer of the Legislative Council.

"Our warmest acknowledgements are due to his Excellency the commander of the forces, for having ordered clothing for a considerable proportion of the embodied militia, and we are confident that this mark of humanity and kindness will still farther excite that determinate spirit of resistance which that body of men have hitherto so nobly manifested.

“It is with the greatest satisfaction we learn that the most vigorous measures have been adopted under the direction of the commander of the forces, and are now in operation to strengthen the provincial marine, and to preserve the superiority of the Lakes.”

Addresses to his Excellency Sir George Prevost, Knight and Baronet, &c. &c. &c. In Upper Canada, March, 1813.

*To His Excellency Sir George Prevost, Knight and Baronet, &c. &c. &c.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

“We his Majesty’s most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Upper Canada in Provincial Parliament assembled, beg leave to congratulate your Excellency on your arrival in this Province, and to express the unfeigned satisfaction it affords us in as much as it is an additional proof of the high interest your Excellency takes in the general welfare of this colony.

“We should be wanting to the sovereign, under whose paternal care we have so long lived, to our country and to ourselves, were we to neglect to offer to your Excellency at this time, the sentiments of gratitude with which we feel inspired for the marks of your attention manifested in providing clothing for a considerable portion of the loyal and brave militia of this Province, as well as for the active and vigorous exertions which have been made, and are now making for strengthening our marine force upon the Lakes, which will enable us to secure and preserve that superiority upon that favorite element to which Great Britain is indebted for her prosperity and her glory; and on which our safety so materially depends.

“Emerging from a state of infancy, the inhabitants of this province have been enabled by the aid

afforded them by your Excellency in his Majesty's regular forces to defeat the designs of the enemy; although his number have been in every instance so superior.

"To suppose your Excellency will not continue to extend every assistance to us in this emergency, would be the height of incredulity, after the testimony we have already witnessed of your vigilance and affectionate solicitude for our preservation. It would be superfluous, therefore, to suggest how much we stand in need of the fostering hand of our mother country—to be directed by the wisdom of your Excellency in order that we may maintain the laws and constitution so dear to us, and which it is our sincere hope we may transmit unimpaired to our posterity.

"We hesitate not to say, that the energy of your Excellency may exercise towards the attainment of this great end, will be zealously seconded by the people of this province, and that their efforts under the influence of an omnipotent power, and the devotion of your Excellency's military skill, will be eventually successful.

"ALLAN M'LEAN, *Speaker.*

"*Commons House of Assembly, March 2, 1813.*"

The town of York, not satisfied with the testimony of respect, gratitude and attention conveyed by their representative, in the foregoing address to Sir George Prevost, they joined a duplicate of their sentiments, which follows:—

*To Lieutenant General Sir George Prevost, &c.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.

"We the Magistrates and other inhabitants of the town of York, are happy in having an opportunity of paying that respect, which we owe to your Excellency, and of offering our most sincere thanks



and acknowledgments for the attention you have been pleased to shew to this province.

“The pride and pleasure which we feel from the behaviour of our gallant militia, is greatly heightened when we consider that their conduct is honored with your approbation, and that you are pleased to testify your sense of their services in ordering clothing for a considerable proportion of their number; an act of benevolence and humanity which will make a deep and lasting impression on their minds; and stimulate them to preserve that high character which they have already acquired.

“But we should indeed be, much wanting to your Excellency as well as to ourselves, if we did not on this occasion, with gratitude acknowledge the obligation which this province lays under to the valour and discipline of his Majesty’s regular forces whose courage and conduct, on the most trying emergencies, have done honor to the name and to the character of a British soldier.

“We are particularly gratified, and offer our most sincere thanks and acknowledgments for the vigorous exertion which have been made, and are still carrying on towards the strengthening our provincial marine, by order of your Excellency, fully convinced that to maintain a superiority upon the lakes is an object of the first importance to this province.

“Thankful for that success which has hitherto crowned his Majesty’s arms under your command, we earnestly beg for its continuance, entertaining the pleasing hope, that by our own conduct, and the exertions of our brave defenders, we in this colony by the blessing of God, may long remain under the protection of our parent State, a free, brave and loyal people.”

“THOMAS SCOTT, *Chairman.*”

I shall (once for all) give Sir George's Answer to this address—to serve as a specimen of his Excellency's manner of acknowledging his sentiments, and of the high sense, which he and the world were taught to entertain of the brave people of Upper Canada, by their noble conduct in the defence of their country, under so many unavoidable privations and disadvantages, during the late unequal and arduous contest with the United States.

*ANSWER.*

"GENTLEMEN,

"I am sensible of your sincere thanks and acknowledgments for the attention which you consider me to have evinced in the welfare and preservation of this province. Not only my duty, but also the express commands of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, govern my conduct in regulating and improving those objects which excite your approbation, and in expressing the high respect I entertain of the gallant and patriotic behaviour of your militia, I express the sentiments of your sovereign and of your fellow subjects throughout his Majesty's empire, who admire and applaud the exertions of a free, brave, and loyal people, manfully contending to preserve for themselves and their children the fostering protection of a virtuous, wise, and powerful state."

"Government York House, }  
Upper Canada, March 3, 1813, }  
To His Excellency Sir George Prevost, Knight and  
Baronet, &c. &c. &c.

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

"We his Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Magistrates, officers of the militia, and other inhabitants of the town of Kingston, and other parts of the Midland District, beg leave respectfully to express the high sense we entertain of your

Excellency's watchful care for the safety of this province, which has led you at this inclement season to undertake a toilsome journey of many hundred miles for the purpose of visiting and inspecting its extensive frontiers. Your presence, sir, cannot but diffuse fresh energy in all classes of his Majesty's subjects, and encourage them to continue their zealous co-operation in the common cause; and we trust that under the judicious arrangement which has been made by your Excellency's orders, Divine Providence will continue to crown our exertions in defence of the province against his Majesty's enemies with the same success by which they have been hitherto happily distinguished."

*Kingston, March 7, 1813.*

Though last not least, comes the address of the Eastern District.

*To His Excellency Sir George Prevost, Knight and Baronet, Captain General, &c. &c. &c. The loyal address of the inhabitants of the Eastern District.*

"We his Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, inhabitants of the Eastern District of Upper Canada, beg leave to present to your Excellency our unfeigned, and heartfelt congratulations on your safe return from your long and fatigueing journey to the upper parts of this province, which your ardent zeal for the service of your king and country, and paternal solicitude for the security of this portion of his Majesty's dominions only could induce you to undertake.

"We thank heaven for having preserved you Excellency's person from all the dangers to which you have been exposed, not only from the enemy in the long line of frontiers through which you had to pass, but from the contagious diseases, which rage thro' many parts of these provinces, and other dangers incidental to a journey of upwards of a thou-

sand miles in a country like this, still destitute of inns, and proper accommodations for travellers, and the most inclement season of the year.

“So illustrious an example of despising danger and sacrificing personal ease and comfort, exhibited by the representative of our beloved sovereign, both cheers and animates us to bear with resignation, our individual privations in the glorious cause in which we have to struggle. We now experience the truth in which we have so often heard with wonder from others, that your Excellency’s prudence carried with an irresistible attraction and confidence among all classes of people, wherever you go. We should consider it criminal to complain of the hardships to which the present state of warfare has subjected us, in common with all our fellow subjects in this province; perfectly convinced as we are of your Excellency’s earnest wish and readiness to alleviate our sufferings as much as lies in your power.

“The auspicious event which in the late brilliant success of his Majesty’s arms at Ogdensburg, so closely followed the arrival of your Excellency in Upper Canada, flatters us with the hope that this will be but one of the happy consequences of your visit. We cannot express to your Excellency in terms sufficiently strong, our satisfaction in thus having an opportunity of teaching the enemy that their repeated insults, and wanton attacks upon our shores, are not to be borne with impunity.

“To your Excellency’s active and fertile mind we look up with much confidence for the vigorous and energetic measures, to prosecute a war, into which the insidious policy of a faithless and inveterate enemy has involved our country and ourselves, and in which are feared every thing which can render life desirable at stake.

"We are determined to stand or fall by the parent country, and to defend the crown and dignity of our revered sovereign, our families and our properties, with the last drop of our blood. We know that justice is on our side, and we trust that the God of battles will continue to favour our cause as he has hitherto done. Indeed we do not allow ourselves to entertain the smallest doubt of a glorious termination of the contest under your Excellency's government and Heaven's protection.

"*Glengary, March 8, 1813.*"

Sir George Prevost's opinion of the people confided to his care is principally discovered from the perusal of his public despatches. These in time of war, are of course translated into all languages, are read by all nations, and very deservedly have given the Canadians a name: In every instance having bestowed praise, where praise was due; our militia at this moment, if report be true, pass for the best in the world. The large contributions forwarded from various parts of the British empire, for the assistance and comforts of sufferers in Upper Canada, are the effect of official representations; and not of *airy nothings*. Sir George's high sense of the distinguished loyalty of the people of the Eastern District, whose handsome address graces these pages, cannot be exhibited any way better than in his own elegant language. His answer which is short and to the purpose, is as follows:—

GENTLEMEN,

"I am very grateful for your congratulation, on my arrival among you—the blaze of loyalty, which prevails throughout the Eastern District of Upper Canada, and the examples I witnessed of perfect resignation to the hardships and privations inseparable from a state of war, with an ungenerous and unjust neighbour, cheered my route thro'

E

it, and will furnish me with a pleasing opportunity of reporting the circumstance for the favourable consideration of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent." *Montreal Herald, March 20, 1813.*

The appointment of Governor General and commander in chief of British North America is too momentous to be confided for any length of time but to a man of an established character for superior abilities. Since, by his great distance from the seat of the Imperial government, he becomes to all intents and purposes invested with the powers of a Viceroy. At the head of extensive and scattered territories naturally divided, certain divisions must necessarily be entrusted to the administration of able and experienced officers, who like the commander in chief of regiments, have the sole management and responsibility of all the affairs, officers, men, &c. committed to their charge. Hence, inferiors of every description that compose this general chain of government are taught to look up for whatever concerns them as a part of the whole, to their immediate superiors. Thus from grade to grade; from the private in the ranks to the Prince Regent at the head of the government, and he to his king and country: so that each in the general scale is understood to depend upon the other in regular rotation.

The inhabitants of the islands of Newfoundland, Prince Edward, Cape Briton and the Bermudas; of the Province of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and their several dependencies; have recourse in all cases to their respective Head-Quarters without a reference, or without ever thinking so unreasonably as either to praise or dispraise the Governor General for the result of their applications, whatever that may happen to be.

As Upper Canada is precisely upon a similar footing with the governments just mentioned, I am surprised that any of its grievances are charged directly to the account of the Governor General in preference to more immediate accounts.

We find the following severe charges in *Veritas*, against the first men in the country, for differing with his principles and understanding before they were promulgated.

“The cold indifference of a Prevost, lost the command of those internal (*perhaps the historian means the infernal*) waters. And yet the addresses, add- ed *Veritas*, have the shameless effrontery to say, “The smallness of the regular army, with which your Excellency was left to withstand the whole efforts of the United States for two years, and the insufficiency of the naval force upon the lakes, have exposed his Majesty’s arms to some reverses.” *How came they to dare, continues he, to venture such an imposture?*” This elegant comment of our historian, will be found among other good things of the same nature in his No. 3. And among the good things in his No. 4, we have the following paragraph. “It has been a common remark, that any notice taken of the militia of Upper Canada, by Sir George, was in a cold forbidding manner—and, that he seldom gave them the aid in troops that his means were equal to. His duty however, extended alike to the protection of both provinces. But we hear of no addresses to him from Upper Canada.” And then comes *upon his departure*, which the historian should have added, was so sudden and unexpected, that, the good people of Montreal and Quebec only, let alone those in a manner at a thousand miles distance, had time to do that which ninety-nine out of a hundred would feel happy to have done, viz. *Render unto Cæsar that which was Cæsar’s.* By a

similar expression of their gratitude and thanks, to the benefactor of the Canadas, in addresses such as the following, which were presented to the same personage upon preceding occasions as containing the sentiments of the whole country, and to which *Veritas* himself, must have subscribed if I may be allowed to judge, from *testimony* already given in this number.

The following is an extract from the address of the inhabitants of Quebec, to his Excellency Sir George Prevost, December 1812.

“We the inhabitants of the city and neighbourhood of Quebec, beg leave to congratulate your Excellency on your safe arrival to the bosom of your much respected family.

“We behold with admiration the resources which the wise and conciliary measures of your Excellency have in an eminent degree brought into operation—and under Divine Providence, our utmost gratitude is due to your Excellency for having hitherto, without the effusion of blood, arrested the threatened invasion of our country. Your Excellency has duly appreciated the character of his Majesty’s subjects in this province, and we feel a pride which language can with difficulty express in contemplating the unanimous zeal, loyalty and courage, displayed by the whole population in the support of the government.

“The confidence your Excellency has placed in the people committed to your care, has only awakened those generous sentiments by which their ancestors were distinguished; and in this part of the province, but one feeling prevailed at the moment of the late premeditated attack, that of regret for being at a distance from your Excellency and our brethren in arms. Your Excellency may with confidence, rely on the unanimous co-operation of the



entire population, when you may see fit to call them forward, &c. &c. &c."

*Quebec Mercury, vol 8, page 395.*

As all the addresses of the inhabitants of this province, breathe a striking similarity in nobleness of sentiment, and with vieing with each other for the zeal, loyalty, veneration and gratitude, I shall give a list of the whole, but insert only an extract from that of our House of Assembly, with the resolutions; which distinctly convey the people of Lower Canada's real sense of the obligations due to Sir George Prevost, for his eminent services to his king and country, during his administration of the general government of British North America.

LIST.

Quebec Address,	- - - - -	1813
Montreal Address,	- - - - -	1814
The inhabitants of Canada's Address to His Royal Highness the Prince Regent,	- - - - -	1814
The Clergy of Canada's Address to His Royal Highness the Prince Regent,	- - - - -	1814
Montreal Address,	- - - - -	1815
Quebec Address,	- - - - -	1815
Effingham Address,	- - - - -	1812

The addresses (excepting the Clergy's) are I suppose, to be found in all the provincial papers of their respective periods.

*House of Assembly, Monday March, 20.*

"The House then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to consider whether it be expedient to give to his Excellency the Governor in chief, some marks of its gratitude for his distinguished services in preserving this province from the invasion projected by the government of the United States of America, and for the care with which he has watched over the welfare of the province,

came to several resolutions which were ordered to be reported to the House to-morrow."

The same day after mentioning their free sentiments of Sir George Prevost's administration, in an address to His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, they in an address to himself upon business, introduced the following handsome paragraph :—

"We take this opportunity of repeating the expression of our sentiments of gratitude to your Excellency, for having by your prudence, by the wisdom of your measures, and by your ability preserved to the Empire, these important provinces, and for the paternal solicitude with which your Excellency has watched over the welfare of his Majesty's subjects, and to pray your Excellency to rest assured that those benefits will ever remain deeply engraven on the hearts of the Canadians."

*March 21.*—According to order, the resolutions of the committee of the whole House, to consider whether it would be expedient to give to his Excellency the Governor in chief, some mark of gratitude, for his distinguished services in this province, were reported to the House. Agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed."

The said Resolutions were as follows :—

RESOLVED, that this House entertain the highest veneration and respect for the character of His Excellency Sir George Prevost Governor in chief, whose administration under circumstances of peculiar novelty and difficulty stands highly distinguished for energy, wisdom and ability.

"Resolved that this House representing the people of this Province, anxiously desirous of expressing their gratitude to His Excellency, for having under Providence, rescued us from the danger of subjugation to our late foe, have and do hereby give and grant, a service of plate not exceeding five

thousand pounds sterling, to His Excellency, as a testimonial of the high sense this House entertains of His Excellency's distinguished talents, wisdom and ability.

“ Resolved, that for the better carrying into execution the object this House has in view, for the purchase of the service of Plate for His Excellency, the Speaker of this House be authorised to give directions for such persons in England as may be best able to execute the same, and that when so completed, the said service be presented to His Excellency the Governor in chief, in the name and on the behalf of the Commons of His Majesty's Province of Lower Canada.

“ Resolved, that a humble address be presented to His Excellency the Governor in chief to communicate the above resolutions, humbly praying that His Excellency will be graciously pleased to advance a sum not exceeding five thousand pounds sterling, to the order of the Speaker of this House, for the object stated in the above resolutions ; and that this House doth engage and humbly pledge itself to make good the said advance the next ensuing session of the Provincial Parliament, &c. &c.”

In the speech of the Speaker of the House of Assembly, upon presenting the Money Bills to his Excellency the Governor, the same sentiments towards him are repeated in a most impressive manner.

“ The events of the late war,” says the Speaker, “ have drawn closer the bonds which connect Great Britain with the Canadas. These provinces have been preserved to her under circumstances of peculiar difficulties. At the epoch of the declaration of war, this country was destitute both of troops and of money ; and your Excellency was at the head of a people, in whom it was pretended, that half a

century of repose had extinguished all military spirit.

“Superior to prejudices which had but too generally prevailed, your Excellency has derived from the devotion of that brave and loyal, yet unjustly calumniated people, resources sufficient for disconcerting the plans of conquest devised by a foe, at once numerous and elate with confidence. Reinforcements were subsequently received, and the blood of the Sons of Canada has flowed, mingled with that of the brave soldiers, sent to its defence,” &c.

A gentleman who resides at some distance from here, has communicated a letter to me written by a member of the Legislative Council, dated in March, which furnishes the following elucidation of the foregoing extracts.

“Last evening the House of Assembly voted him (the Governor) a service of plate, or rather five thousand pounds to purchase one—a very handsome compliment, and worth twenty addresses, as conveying the sense of the country. There were only three dissenting voices, and these were not opposed to it on principle.”

Veritas after giving a relation of the tumult at La Chine, and at other places, goes on, “Whilst this was in progress, Sir George was on his way from Quebec, and before he arrived or could possibly be consulted, decision became necessary. Accordingly a committee of the Executive Council resident here, lost not a moment in sending out a mission to reason with the tumultuous, and warn them of their fate,” &c.

This is the first time we have heard of a *committee of safety*, composed of Counsellors, but we are to understand the real meaning of *committee of counsellors resident here*.—This committee must have been appointed by Sir George. At any rate, I do

Not conceive that this committee deserve any particular credit for the part which they acted in the affair. Appointed or not appointed they could have acted no other part than the part of a simple magistrate or justice of the peace. And every justice of the peace, indeed, every militia captain, throughout the province, is invested with equal power for acting in such emergencies as the one in question. "But who will pretend to decide what the effect of a contrary example on that critical occasion might have been; or even had the town militia remained indifferent; or had the committee of counsellors, been less prompt in their measures, or had they waited to consult the Governor—I shudder to think of it; but thank God, instead of this, Sir George (who had no hand whatever, in bringing about this happy change) had only to come and thank the militia on their return." This is truly, very fine, something like the mountain in labour. What is the reason that the militia in the vicinity of Montreal and Quebec, found themselves engaged in such a dreadful storm; a storm that could make the bold Veritas shudder, even in thought, while the rest of the militia of Canada, enjoyed a perfect calm, in thoughts, words and deeds." Let me inform this writer of history, that a nod of Sir George's head, or a wave of Sir George's little finger, would have had more effect at La Chine, than the presence of the three counsellors, and all their machinery put together.

After perusing what the Herald of the day, says upon this tremendous subject, we find two different relations delivered to the public through the same channel, we find that the Herald, of the 4th of July 1812, does not correspond either in form or substance, with the Herald of the 15th April, 1815. In the first, we have only the officer of po-

lice, Mr. M'Cord; no mention is made of the *Directory* of Counsellors; whence we learn, now emanated all the wisdom which saved the country.

Sir George had no hand in quelling the rebellion at Lachine—He was not arrived—and three of His Majesty's Counsellors, directed by the impulse of the moment, did not wait to consult his Excellency, but went to work without his presence, and thereby saved the Province. That is to say, if a parcel of discontented fellows would take it into their heads to walk deliberately up with firebrands in their hands to set fire to our Counsellors' houses; our Counsellors instead of arresting the mischief in the bud, would wait the arrival of the chief magistrate or assemble in Council to ponder what was best to be done—whether it would be wiser to stop the incendiaries at their outset, or allow them to go on until the arrival of the chief magistrate; then exclaim that the chief magistrate was to blame; because he had not taken the necessary precautions to learn what was—to come to pass—according to their assertions, he ought to have provided himself with the *Lydian Ring* to render his spies invisible, or at least to have encouraged *second sighted men* to help him into the secrets of futurity.—I have lately read somewhere, that a French Philosopher had discovered the valuable secret of constructing an instrument which will indicate the exact state of the weather a fortnight before hand. That is, this happy invention will foretell, better than any almanac, whether the weather will be fair or foul, clear or cloudy, at any given time within fourteen days. A discovery of this kind possessing the virtue of prying into foreigner's minds with equal facility, would be found useful to commanders of armies, provided they could obtain a patent for confining the secret, to their own purposes. *Telegraphs* are

useful, they convey information with great celerity, but we could not erect telegraphs in the enemy's country without granting him an equal privilege in ours. Perhaps *Veritas*, who seems to be a long headed politician, could fall upon a way to suspend a Telegraph, like Mahomet's coffin, at a safe distance in the air. Speaking of air, brings Balloons to my recollection; but Balloons are cumbersome expensive thing; one might as well travel with a *Frigate* in his baggage from London to Lake Erie, as with an Air Balloon; an Air Balloon would, therefore, be inconvenient. Paper Kites, are of the same nature with Air Balloons; they are light of carriage, and are soon framed for use. I could wish to see *Veritas*, take a jaunt to the upper regions in a paper Kite, with *Herschel's forty-foot reflecting Telescope* slung under his arm to help his vision, for the good of his country.

"Sir George did not employ ships before war, and the want of intelligence of the enemy's military designs and movements has been so notorious throughout the war, that I shall pointedly touch upon them hereafter."

General Craig had spies, I find on entry in the public accounts of 1808, which states, that one John Richardson, was paid 145*l.* 9*s.* of disbursements for *secret services*. Mr. John Henry, had been employed in that light; and we all know Mr. John Henry, with the result of his *secret services*. Sir George it seems, had no spies, since *Veritas* was not in the secret. Yet it is notorious that the enemy has been foiled in all his attempts to enter the province. Nor do we know an instance of surprise; abating the unfortunate affair of St. Regis. And that affair was in the hands of bold vigilant men; men innured to dangers, watchfulness and precaution; for they were voyagers. The enemy

also, complains of the want of information. Gen. Dearborn, upon hearing of Sir George's journey to Upper Canada, in February 1813, travelled from Greenbush, to Sackets Harbor in the short space of 52 hours, and graciously complained that he could not ascertain our force or intentions upon any one occasion.

*Examiner, vol. 1st, page 196.*

General Wilkinson, in a letter to the Secretary at war, of the 1st Nov. 1813, says, "The sole unpleasant circumstance before me, is our total ignorance of the preparations of Sir George Prevost, and what we may expect to meet in the Island of Montreal. I fear no consequences, but it must be painful to lead more than six thousand men to battle hood-winked; and yet all my efforts to procure intelligence from Montreal, have proved fruitless."

*Examiner, vol. 1st, page 287.*

I could produce many other pleasing instances of the same deficiency. Yet we, mighty wise folks, from Great Britain, sincerely believed, in our patriotic fits that all the natives of the United States whom inclination or necessity induced to remain amongst us and who became *Denizens*, were so many spies over the conduct of the war, for the benefit of the enemy. "Happily, individual diligence and zeal, made up for this gross and unpardonable neglect," &c. That is, for the neglect of not employing spies.

This great blow is aimed at Sir George, who perhaps should have had his emissaries in Congress. By individual diligence and zeal, is meant the North West Company. A gentleman concerned with that company in the Indian trade, happening to be at Washington when the war was declared, dispatched an express through a chain of correspondents to two points in the Canadas; and the agents of the North West Company, forwarded the



first information of it to the government at Quebec, where it arrived in the short space of six days from Washington.

The North West Company, to do them justice, deserve great credit for the active part which, upon all occasions, they had taken in this contest. They raised a corps of voyagers, and supplied it with officers from their own partners, who received no pay. Three out of the four captains who led on the Montreal Volunteers, were of that Company. In the upper countries the North West Company, forgetting private interest and convenience, furnished ships, men, arms, provisions, &c. to the extent of their power, as often as the public welfare required such assistance. In Lower Canada they prepared voyagers, supplied all deficiencies in necessaries, as well as officers to conduct expeditions to their destinations; and in every quarter the members of this concern were greatly instrumental in forwarding the views of government by facilitating the cooperation of the Indian nations. We find no less than twelve field officers among the partners of that company, who reside in this province. All true friends to the country, and to Sir George Prevost. One of the oldest partners, a gentleman, who since the commencement of hostilities, had gone round the world, and who lately had retired from business, not only signed the last address to Sir George Prevost, but also performed a journey of 360 miles to present it. Mr. William Mackay, who is also of that party, and now Lt. Colonel, performed a voyage of 3,000 miles in thirty days, with dispatches, in consequence of the declaration of war. It was he who so handsomely foiled the celebrated general Pike's entrance into the province at *Riviere la Colle*; and who last year, by dint of good conduct, courage, and perseverance, captured the possessions

of the enemy upon the Mississippi; which now bear his name.

But the business of this Company, is probably the trade which is disguised in the following paragraph.

“A certain trade has been a ruthless scourge to the agriculture of Lower Canada, which the monopolizers could not restore, even by six times the sacrifice of their total fortunes. Let them pocket this truth; they dare not make a reply.”

*Montreal Herald, Edt. head, June 19, 1813.*

*They dare not make a reply*, or rather they will not take the trouble to make a reply. The assertion is without grounds, and therefore, below their notice.

We find that in Great Britain, the whole population consists nearly of the following proportions.

Supported by the labour of others,	-	3,159,923
Unproductive labourers,	- - -	1,704,500
Productive labourers,	- - -	5,955,947

Total,	10,820,270
--------	------------

In this total appears of persons employed in agriculture, including farmers, graziers, millers, mealmen, farriers, horse doctors, &c. only

2,000,000

Remain,	8,820,270
---------	-----------

Calculating upon the same principle, and comparing small things to great, we shall find that a fifth of our Canadian population, do not attend to agriculture. Pray what are the employments of the remaining four fifths? How many of them are voyagers, and, how voyagers being in the service, of commerce are of disservice to their country? A great author in England, describes the nature of commerce, as follows.

“ One hundred pounds laid out in wool, and that wool manufactured into goods, for the Turkey market, and raw silk brought home in return, and manufactured here, will increase that one hundred, to five thousand pounds; which quantity of silk manufacture being sent to New Spain, would return ten thousand pounds; which vast improvement of the first five hundred pounds, becomes in a few years dispersed amongst all orders and degrees from the prince to the peasant. Thus again a parcel of Ironstone, which when taken from its natural bed, was not worth five shillings, when made into iron and steel, and thence into various manufactures for foreign markets, may probably bring home to the value of ten thousand pounds; for steel may be made near three hundred times dearer than standard gold, weight for weight. Twenty acres of fine flax when manufactured into the dearest and most proper goods for foreign markets, may in return bring what may be worth ten thousand pounds; for an ounce of the finest Flanders thread has been sold in London for four pounds, and such an ounce made in Flanders into the finest lace, may be here sold for forty pounds; which is above ten times the price of standard gold, weight for weight.” Thence the poet says, “ *The furs that warms a monarch, warm'd a bear.*”

As to the voyagers themselves—from the nature of their *education*, it was acknowledged at the beginning of the war that great services were expected from their experience, as defenders of the country. “ His Excellency the Governor General, says the Editor of the Herald, has been pleased to permit the gentlemen of the North West Company to raise a battalion of volunteers from the *voyagers* in their employ. We are not certain of the exact number this corps is to consist of, but we are in-

formed that at last, 1000 are assembled from the surrounding country to enlist. Those hardy men will soon combine the requisites of regular discipline and partisan warfare, along with accustomed vocation of inland sailors." *See Herald, Oct. 3, 1812.*

The law of no substitutes was meant for the English; but "the loyalty of that class, the English, defeated the plan. The draft took place and the English furnished their quota promptly." Yes, they furnished their quotas—but they cunningly evaded the law of substitutes. Each company of English seditary militia, made up a purse between them; with which they procured the number of drafts required, of young Canadians from the country; who after pocketing the cash were directed to take their stand in the ranks, and to volunteer their services. But this evasion being contrary to law could not screen the men remaining in the companies from ensuing drafts. Individuals, therefore, being in perpetual awe of falling into danger, found it necessary either to look out for commissions in country battalions of militia, or walk into the limits, of the Montreal volunteers for security; so that these volunteers offered their services, and became incorporated, not so much for the love of country, for the love of loyalty, for the love of glory, or yet for the love of good example, as for the love of avoiding the conscription law. By the adoption of this measure, they however, found themselves egregiously mistaken; unfit for their new coats, they found themselves as it were encumbered with them, as with chains. Sir George was scarce of soldiers; a duty was to be performed; and he kept the noses of these fine young volunteers, without minding their quality, for more than a twelve month to the grindstone. So that instead of five, as in other parts of the country, ninety-nine out of a hundred of the

Montreal loyal British militia, became exactly what they meant to avoid, they became conscripts, or rather, as the law terms it, real incorporated militia. "*Whoso diggeth a pit shall fall therein; and he that rolleth a stone, it will return upon him.*"

The dreary long service contrary to expectations which our fine volunteers were left to perform is the real cause of that general discontent which has ever since distinguished the members of that concern. I mean of that corps; a corps which delights in talking well of themselves and disrespectfully of others—their superiors.

This same Montreal British militia, by way of good example, no doubt, murmured, and their Lieut. Colonel, if report be true, threatened to throw up his commission, when ordered upon duty out of town; and the battalion, (or corps, or whatever name they were pleased to wear), insisting upon remaining in charge of the garrison, Sir George observed,\* that there were old women enough in town to answer that purpose. No wonder, after imposing such hard duty, and shrewd remarks upon the tender frames, and delicate feelings of gentlemen brought up to different understanding of self consequence in the scale of public concerns; I say, no wonder, if Sir George was no great favourite with them.

The discontent which appeared against the law of substitutes, was chiefly raised by his Majesty's loyal British born subjects in this colony. These enlightened men, spared no pains to inform the Canadian people that it was a d—d rascally law; that the law was unconstitutional; and that no such law ever existed in any part of the world, either ancient or modern, not even in the Empire of the tyrant

\* See a late Spectateur.

Bonaparte. This furnished the ground work of the disturbance in the environs of Montreal. But that disturbance was partly owing to the awkwardness of the officer who happened to have the charge of the militia at the time. This gentlemen either did not understand his duty, or wanted spirit, or conduct, or all three, to exercise it. That disturbance began at Point Clair, about a deserter from the incorporated militia. The party who went to arrest him having been repulsed, prompt and vigorous measures were not adopted; the cause became, in a manner, common between town and country. Habitans espoused the cause of habitans—Towns people, the cause of towns people—The military interfered and there was an end.

A writer who stiles himself A. S. has sent me a long ode, composed, as he says, by a volunteer after the return of that corps from the foregoing expedition. One of the stanzas which mentions no names, runs thus :

The affair  
Of Point Clair,  
Will aye be kept in mind,  
The rebels fled before us,  
As chaff before the wind.  
Both hungry  
And angry,  
So well we play'd our parts,  
That scarcely we could walk home,  
So some came home in carts.

I have reason to believe that something of the same nature, with that of La Chine, would have occurred in many, or indeed in all parts of the province—if no better resistance was made. There are obstinate men in all the divisions who would have carried opposition to the greatest lengths had their officers testified an inclination to yield their authority at the first *blush* and waited for legal means to carry orders into execution. But *little*

difficulties no where but in *great places*, could be magnified into a revolt—nor should such partial evil stamp a whole people as bad subjects; the like at times happens in the best regulated countries. We have seen in the papers the other day, a mob of 50,000, even in London.

Our Montreal British militia are certainly great patriots, and brave men. They talk of battles, but their great advocate *Veritas* will find it, I presume, a difficult task to prove that many, if any, of that renowned corps, ever left their fire sides voluntarily to fight. Abating the call to the domestic quarrel of *La Chine*, where they were employed as constables to run after some unruly habitans, whom a detachment of the 49th regiment had previously put to flight and pursued in company.

In the course of the late war, an excellent writer of the United States, circulated the following comment upon a degree of patriotic zeal, not dissimilar with that before us.

“These burning, bursting, flaming patriots,” says he, “who scold so incessantly because others *do not* fight, why *do* they not turn out? *now* look at them, unwilling to volunteer the least exertion, you *will* meet with them in public houses, at the corners of streets, supporting the war with their noisy tongues; but you will not find an arm raised by them in battle! The fact is, these fellows care nothing about the matter. Of all those who talk so much, not one can be found to fight unless he *is* offered a commission with good pay; and then he would rather parade the streets and talk. Words, words, words, these bloody warriors deal in; but blows, blows, blows, they avoid, with the most scrupulous precaution. Master and man from head to tail, are of the same kidney.”

I know the volunteers were often employed, and not without some inconvenience, in the same light as at La Chine, conducting prisoners of war from prison to prison; but their principal duty consisted in taking care of the town of Montreal, which, in other words, amounts to no more than taking care of their own affairs; for which they accepted, in common with his Majesty's regulars, of his Majesty's pay and rations. It is true they once crossed over to the opposite bank of the river, and caroused a week or so at La Prairie, in consequence of an alarm from the Lines. And it is also true, that they went as far as La Chine, to meet general Wilkinson's invasion. Of this expedition which lasted full fourteen days, I shall endeavor to convey an idea in my account of the commanding officer of the volunteers. In the meantime, it will not be improper to remark that the Lieut. Colonel of the Montreal British militia—a gentleman of thirty-six years standing in the country, possessing great property, great respectability, great influence, &c. retired the second year of the war with his family into Great Britain, and others as respectable of the same corps followed the Lieut. Colonel's example. These are the people whose loyalty and good example the world is made to understand saved the Canadas. Their number however, at any time did not exceed 500; which number was made up of merchants, shopkeepers, clerks, tradesmen, &c. of all nations and descriptions.

Here also, I beg leave to introduce some aid to explain my meaning.

“ This nestling corner of the earth  
Where every plant of foreign birth,  
Blossoms in rich luxuriance rare  
But seldom roots it's fibres there.



Here comes in search of glittering pelf,  
 Full many an avaricious elf,  
 Condemned through toiling world to roam  
 Without a country or a home.

In search of this accursed meed,  
 He's now a Pole, a Dane, a Swede,  
 A Portuguese, a Renegade,  
 A traitor,—any thing for trade."

And therefore, a sad mixture I should think to come in comparison with our bold, honest, landholders, and country farmers, to whom the editor of *Veritas*, in his happier days pays the following compliment. See his *Journal of the 27th November, 1813.*

"The militia," says he, "after evincing the most unequivocal marks of loyalty, having gone to their homes to the number of twenty thousand. No people on earth ever stepped forward with more determination to defend their abodes from the enemy than his Majesty's faithful Canadians. The extent of their alacrity could only be appreciated by those who were eye witnesses. A most convincing proof that our country is impregnable."

*Veritas* goes to very great lengths indeed, to favour the people of Montreal. But why introduce incorrect statements for real facts. It is true that Col. M'Gill, commanded at Montreal, in some sense during the arrival of the *levée en masse*, but he had no kind of controul over the country divisions. He only received the reports of the number of men from their respective commanders, for the purpose of regulating the daily rations. He certainly was attentive to his business. Did ample justice to the situation, and I have the highest respect for his memory. But beg leave to contradict the following paragraph from *Veritas*.

“The country battalions of militia, as they arrived in town, were classed by Col. M’Gill, to whom the command here, was then confided, and those fit for service were armed, equipped and marched on—to different positions.”

*Extract translated from a general order, dated head-quarters, La Chine, 11th November, 1813.*

“The sedentary militia, at present in Montreal, are to be classed as follows.

1st Class	from the age of	18 to 35	inclusive,
2d do. do.	do.	36 to 45	do.
3d do. do.	do.	46 to 60	do.

“The first class will receive arms accoutrements, &c. Fifty selected men of this class, are to be furnished with axes. And the whole are to advance to ———. The second class will do duty in Montreal. The third class will be discharged,” &c.

(Signed) “ED. BAYNES, A. G. N. A.  
F. VASSAL DE MONVIEL,  
Adj. Gen. Militia.”

“To Lieut. Col. A. B.  
commanding the division of C. &c.”

The commanders of divisions had several similar orders of that period but none were from the Hon. Col. M’Gill.

“Some of those about head-quarters, disbelieved at first the news of the war, says Veritas, but soon after got alarmed and were for shipping off their families and effects to England; but the people of Montreal (more bold) stood at their posts. And the flank and artillery companies of the first battalion of Montreal British militia, attended drill morning and evening of their own accord. And became afterwards embodied. The flank companies of the (town) Canadian battalions, soon caught the exam-

ple whilst those in the country would do neither one nor the other." (*Certe.*)

The English of this is, that captain Dunlop, captain Richardson and captain Ogilvy, by their good example saved the country. These gentlemen I must acknowledge deserve great credit for their exertions in the business, and I think that our historian has done them ample justice by his record in their favour.

The alarm which is stated as above to have, at the beginning, disturbed the citizens of the metropolis, extended it appears, in a short time after to our citizens here; for we find, as already stated, that even the Lieut. Colonel of the British militia, with some of his friends obtained leave, and took their departure, bag and baggage for Great Britain. This movement of the Lieut. Colonel made of course a vacancy in the battalion. The Major became a Lieut. Colonel. And the oldest Captain, who happened to be James Dunlop, Esq. (one of those heroes who saved the country by good example, as recorded in *Veritas' History*,) became major and thereby obtained the command of the Montreal loyal British volunteers.

In the Montreal Herald of the 17th June, 1815, *Veritas* in his tenth number, after giving the public a luminous recapitulation of his military facts concludes his labours by observing,

"It was my intention to have given also a sketch of Sir George's civil administration, but reflecting that it had been already so ably depicted by *Nerva* in his admirably written allegory, I shall for the present not prosecute that intention."

This is exactly the case with me. I intended to write fully upon the merits of that militia hero, who, upon all grand occasions leads the van of the British Society in Montreal. But finding these al-

ready so ably depicted in the following admirable documents, I shall relinquish my original intention and present no other sketch.

Head-Quarters, Montreal, }  
17th December, 1813. }

“MILITIA GENERAL ORDER.

“At a general Court Martial, held at Montreal, the 10th day of December inst. Major James Dunlop, commanding the Montreal volunteers, was tried upon the following charges, namely:—

“1st. Of being drunk at his quarters at Joseph Alard’s, in Upper La Chine, on the evening of Tuesday the 9th of November last, when there was every reason to expect an attack from the enemy.

“2d. For scandalous and infamous conduct at the same time and place, in making use of abusive, scurrilous and insulting language, and menacing gestures, to Lieut. Hart Logan, without any kind of provocation being given by the latter.

“Upon which the Court came to the following decision:

“The Court after having taken into the most mature and deliberate consideration, the whole of the evidence, do find that the prisoner, Major James Dunlop, commanding the Montreal volunteers, is *not guilty* of any part of the first charge; therefore, do honourably acquit the prisoner of the same.

“With respect to the second charge, the Court is of opinion, that the prisoner, Major James Dunlop, is *guilty* of using abusive and insulting language, only toward Lieut. Hart Logan, and do acquit the prisoner of the rest of the second charge, and condemn the said Major James Dunlop, to make an apology to Lieut. Hart Logan, in the following words:

“Lieut. Hart Logan, I ask pardon of you, for having used abusive and insulting language to you on the evening of the ninth of November, at Mr. Alard’s at Upper La Chine.”

“His Excellency the Governor in chief and commander of the forces, has been pleased to approve of the above sentence, and does direct that Major James Dunlop, do make the apology required of him, to-morrow morning at nine o’clock, in the presence of Colonel M’Gill, of the first battalion of Montreal militia, or in case of his indisposition, then, in the presence of Lieut. Colonel Caldwell, of the same battalion.

“By His Excellency’s command,  
 “L. T. TASHHEREAU,  
 Dep. Adj. Gen. M. F.”  
*Montreal Herald, December 31, 1813.*

(COPY.)

“Notice addressed to the late General Court Martial by the prisoner, Major James Dunlop, who refuses to submit to their sentence.”

“*Montreal, 18th December, 1813.*”

“Having been ordered by L. T. Tashereau, Deputy Adjutant General of Militia, to appear, this day, before Col. M’Gill, if in health, at 9 o’clock, and if not, before Lieut. Col. Caldwell, to make an apology to Lieut. Hart Logan in the following words, viz. “I ask pardon of you, for having used abusive and insulting language, to you, on the evening of the ninth of November last, at Mr. Alard’s, at Upper La Chine.” I have accordingly appeared at the place where the Court Martial sat on me, on the 10th December instant, not for the purpose to make the apology required, but that the president of the Court Martial, the Hon. Colonel James M’Gill, or Lieut. Col. Caldwell, might not be de-

tained ; for in place of coming to make any apology, I have come for the purpose, notwithstanding the opinion and command of the said court martial has laid, to inform him or them, that I disobey the said order, and I must here add further, that I had not that justice done me, by the said court martial, that I was entitled to ; as, when I wanted to question the evidence who were brought forward against me, by the accuser, I was refused that right, saying it was time enough when I came on my defence, I was again refused to have the evidences brought before the court, as they have already been there for the said abominable accuser.

“ By these very evidences, I would have proved, that I had good reason for using every word of the language which I did, to Hart Logan, on the evening of the ninth of November last, at the house of Mr. Joseph Alard, at La Chine.

“ *Done in the Justice Room, in the Court House of Montreal, between the hours of nine and ten o'clock A. M. in the presence of*

“ A. PATTERSON,

“ JAMES FRASER,

(Signed)

“ JAMES DUNLOP.”

“ As I do not consider, that I used an improper sentence, or said an improper word, to Hart Logan, on the evening of the ninth of November last, at the house of Mr. Joseph Alard, Upper La Chine, the court will I trust excuse me for declining to comply with its order, so far as regards making an apology to the said Hart Logan, as had that order been even sanctioned by my revered and beloved Royal Sovereign, I would then have refused to have complied with it—yea, had it even been ratified and approved of by heaven ; but heaven is too just to have issued any such order, still, I would have dis-

regarded and refused to have complied with it; as no court shall ever have it in their power to compel me to utter what I consider to be improper or false.

(Signed) "JAMES DUNLOP.

"Montreal, 18th December, 1813."

*Montreal Herald, Dec. 31, 1813.*

"Office of the Adjutant General of Militia, }  
Head-Quarters, Quebec, 15th Jan. 1814. }

"MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

"The insubordinate conduct of Major James Dunlop, of the Montreal volunteers, in refusing to submit to the sentence of a general court martial, approved by his Excellency the Governor in chief, and ordered by him to be carried into execution, makes it indispensibly necessary for his Excellency, in support of the discipline of the service to declare, that the services of Major James Dunlop, are no longer required in the militia forces of Lower Canada.

"Capt. John Ogilvy, will assume the command of the Montreal volunteers, in the room of Major Dunlop, until further orders, with the rank of Major in the militia.

"This general order shall be read at the head of every battalion of embodied militia.

"By order of his Excellency the Governor General.

F. VASSAL DE MONVIEL,

Adj. Gen. M. F."

*See Montreal Herald, January 22, 1814.*

"Montreal, 17th Jan. 1814.

"General Sir George Prevost, Baronet, Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces in British North America, &c.

"SIR,

"I have this evening received under cover, a militia general order of date 15th current, which gen-

eral order, *you* may rest assured affects, my mind just as little as the *improper, stupid* and *unjust* sentence of a late court martial, approved by you, as though I held the commission of a field marshal or the value of ten such commissions, I would not have degraded myself so much as to have submitted to any such sentence. If the holding of that commission had depended on my complying with such an absurd judgment, had it even been sanctioned by his Majesty, my much revered and beloved Royal Sovereign—Had you known *how little* I cared about the present general order, you certainly would never have taken the pains to have made it or signed it.

“I now deny to you, and all the world, that I was drunk on the evening of the 9th November last, at the house of Mr. Joseph Alard, and which I have proved was not the case by no less than ten as respectable witnesses, and those ten in their perfect *sober senses*, as either Lieut. Col. Caldwell, the Hon. Capt. Richardson, Lieut. Ogden, and Robert M'Kenzie, and I add that there was not a sentence of truth in the charges laid against me, and further, that I did not say an improper word to the person who brought the charges on that night, and my regret now only is that I did not turn him out of the bed he thought proper to take possession of in the evening of the preceding night, whilst I was attending to my duty as Major, commanding the Montreal volunteer militia, in which night I was obliged to make my bed *myself* on the floor.

“You are not to imagine from this detail, that I claim your *reconsideration* of the circumstances which led to your general order, which I have told you I *disregarded* and despised; and *you* may rest assured that it is no compliment to me to be a major in the militia, nor would even that of Colonel or General,



if there was such rank ; on the contrary, I hold the government more obliged to me for *taking* such a commission than any honor I attain by it from the faithfulness and disinterested way that I have discharged the duties attached to it.

“ It will not hurt me how far and wide the whole of the proceedings of the court martial are known, and what has taken place in consequence of the same ; as besides the general order being read to the different corps of militia, I will take as much pains as in my power to have it published to the whole of the good people of the Province at large ; as you may not expect that any imbecile act of yours, when I am its object, that I will cover or cloak it by degrading myself. You may talk of insubordinate conduct and disobedience of orders, and such *nonsensical rant* as long as you choose, but your order must be of a very different nature than those approving the sentence of the court martial, that sat on me the 19th ultimo, which I have already said, and now again repeat was improper, stupid and unjust, or the general order on the 15th inst. Before they will change my *way of thinking*.

“ I am with that consideration, which your conduct to me merits.

“ Sir, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

“ JAMES DUNLOP.”

In the dispatches forwarded to me for publication by A. S. already mentioned, is the following account of this brilliant affair. “ It was addressed, he says, to one of the editors in March—but having never appeared in public, I shall, to oblige the author, insert it here. ” Comparing it with the truth as above officially delivered, I find it is not unlike Veritas’ poetical manner of misrepresenting our military matters.

“The skirmish of the 9th Nov. in the house of Joseph Alard,” observes, A. S. “though well known to you and to me is not, *I have no hesitation in saying*, so well known to the editor of the Recorder, for we have had no evidence whatever of its appearance in that learned quarter. The *Letter of marque* employed to carry the despatches of that *spirited* affair, across the atlantic to the River Clyde, did not perhaps touch at Halifax. This engagement, be it remembered, took place on the eve of General Wilkinson’s invasion, it was at long shot, and commenced as follows, *vide licit*.

“The Major and one of the inferior officers (his own élève) happened to be quartered together and had but one bed between them. The night being cold, and blankets scarce, a contest arose which of the two warriors should sleep in the middle—and behold,

“A violent skuffle now ensu’d,  
 And Chamber P-ts the place bedew’d ;  
 Swords and pistols in the water,  
 Made a devil of a clatter,  
 And drove into the field our lads,  
 Swearing the same as common bawds ;  
 One bore the bedding on his head,  
 The other wielded the bedstead ;  
 Thus—took their distance like two rams,  
 But fought their battles with G-d damns :  
 So BOUGRE A BOUGRE they both remained  
 ’Till both were threaten’d to be cain’d.”

The following excellent comment from a review of last year, upon Mr. D—ps celebrated letter to the commander in chief, richly deserves a place here.

“It is the bounden duty of every true British subject, strictly to observe proper subordination, which, far from being incompatible with British liberty is a necessary ingredient of it. And this duty, is most strictly enjoined upon rich men, because an execra-

ble bad example from them is infinitely more pernicious than from the poor : and because the only support of their riches is that constitution which a disorderly want of subordination would destroy. Riches of themselves are most despicable in the eye of reason, particularly when the owner possesses no one estimable quality. Lord Bacon has happily compared them to a dunghill : worthless when heaped up, but useful when scattered like manure over the face of the earth. When therefore, an individual (of a nation now famed for loyalty) distinguished above his fellows for no one quality of pre-eminence but overgrown superfluous wealth, thinks proper to make himself conspicuous by bloated purse proud arrogance, the honest public with indignation and abhorrence will behold him perching himself upon his money bags, like a goose upon a dunghill, and hissing out presumptuous scorn and insolent defiance to the representative of Majesty, for doing that which had he left undone, for once, he would have been unmindful of a high and important duty." See *Canadian Anti-Jacobin Review*, No. 6, page 24.

"The proceedings at Montreal, consequent upon a knowledge of Wilkinson's descent, says Veritas, remains to be described. Early in the morning of the 9th November, that information was first had by an officer from Fort Wellington, who stated that the American army had passed it in the night of the 7th, and as it was full moon and clear weather, the apprehension was that the enemy would push on night and day, and be almost upon the heels of the bearer of the intelligence. The whole of the militia on the north side from *Three-Rivers* upwards, were ordered out, and the Montreal volunteers with the three sedentary town battalions, marched in the

afternoon for La Chine," &c. *Montreal Herald*, 20th May, 1815, *Veritas*, No. 6.

But as we have not discovered that any of the Canadian militia, who were called out by His Excellency Sir George Prevost, to meet General Wilkinson's invasion, either caught or followed the example of his Majesty's British Montreal volunteers on the present occasion, we sincerely believe that the Canadian militia never caught nor followed an example of loyalty from that quarter.

The twenty thousand Canadian militia whom the *Montreal Herald* mentions, in flattering terms of approbation, for having come forward so handsomely; it appears came forward in less than *twenty four hours*. The intelligence of the invasion arrived at Montreal the 9th, as *Veritas'* history, and on the 11th, the militia were classed as per general order, signed by the two adjutant generals.

The militia coming forward in such numbers and not following the example of the Montreal volunteers at La Chine, as per court martial, throws some light on the observation of *Veritas*, which he advances in the impressive idiom of the country, the sentiments of the Canadian militia, in the following words:

"*Nous resterons tranquilles chez nous, ou nous marcherons tous ensemble.*" "That is, we shall either remain quiet at home, or rise *en masse.*"

The reputation of His Majesty's arms, says a historian, has extended to the utmost limits of the earth. The Canadians vie with the other subjects of his Majesty for loyalty; and they every day give fresh proofs of their fidelity. From the nature of the climate and their situation, they make war differently from Europeans; and though they necessarily imitate the Indians, with whom they are at perpetual enmity, they are generally successful and

often cover themselves with glory in their enterprises. But to ensure success they must have confidence in their leader.

Le Comte de Frontenac, adverting to an expedition to Hudson's Bay, in which a small party of Canadians, were wonderfully successful, remarks, "Qu'il estoit d'autant plus glorieux de voir que les armes du Roi ont penetrés les climats les plus rudes de l'univers sous l'etenduë de son *generalat*—Qui malgré tous les contre-temps qui nous y sont arrivés il pouvoit dire avec justice qu'il falloit etre Canadien, vu avoir le cœur d'un Canadien pour etre venu a bout d'une telle entreprise."—See La Potherie's history of America, from 1534 to 1701.

Such was the character of the people of this country during the French government. And their conduct in the late contest, which has been highly honorable, proves that they have not degenerated in principle. Any merit that is allowed Canadians by that class who wish for all the merit themselves will of course appear forced. The truth is, "*He who was all things to all men, studied their different characters, sounded their geniuses, knew what was hurtful to one, what was useful to another, and what every one in particular was capable of.*" I say, he, Sir George Prevost, who was all this, gained the confidence of the clergy, and the clergy became his best militia officers. In their walks, at the confessional, from the pulpit, the good of their country formed a principal part in their devotion, and *God save the King*, was a hymn constantly sung at their altars.

The character of the present Canadians, viewing them as civilians is neatly delineated in Mr. Neilson's brief account of this country. "The mass of the Canadian population," says he, "may however be said to be agriculturalists. There is no happier people in the world. Their labour affords them the

necessaries of life; no part of it is taken from them, but what they consider as being for their own use. Amongst them ambition and vanity, rarely create unreal wants, nor envy sours real enjoyments. In the ordinary state of human happiness, they are cheerful and lively. To evils beyond their controul they submit with resignation. They are strongly attached to their religion, their country, laws, customs and manners; and utterly averse to all innovations. They partake of the French character, something in the same way as the New-Englanders, partake of that of Englishmen. Both have been modified by circumstances and now differ from their origin. Where there is plenty of land to cultivate, the man who lives by labour, depends only on the Almighty and himself. In America the independent spirit of Englishmen, sometimes degenerates into licentious coarseness. The servility of Frenchmen disappears. The Canadian peasant acknowledges superiors; to them he is respectful, but he expects a corresponding attention; omission in this respect is not easily forgiven. To his equals he is polite and obliging; inferiors he knows of none; what he possesses, he owes to his own labour, and every well behaved person enjoys the same means. If one of them serves the other, he is one of the family. The Canadian farmer is social to a vice; much of his time is sacrificed to this quality. It is this which prevents the young people from removing to a distance, to occupy new lands; it is this also, which is the source of that value set upon the opinion of others which frequently degenerates into vanity. In his person, he is of the middle size, firmly made and active. There is no people capable of greater fatigue and privation. In these the Canadian is singularly supported by the gaiety of his disposition. His mind is unimproved; his ideas

confined; his capacity excellent. In worldly concerns he reasons, and acts from his own experience, his feelings or some received maxims. He is extremely mistrustful of what he reads or hears, particularly when it does not come from those of his own class. In spiritual concerns, he is guided by his curate; who if he wishes to stand well with him, must meddle with nothing else." This sketch I find is given as original in the N. Q. Review, December, 1813.

A member in Congress arguing upon the merits of the late war, and stating Canada to be the object, says with great propriety, "It is really ludicrous to hear us talk of the Canadian's liberty—they who have no taxes to pay; no embargoes to endure; no commerce checked to please a foreign state; who choose their own parliaments; make their own laws; and what is more, manage their own private affairs in their own way. Those Canadians are invited by us to partake of our freedom; we who pay half a dollar duty on teas, and two hundred per cent on the first cost of coffee; we who cannot ride as they do in their cabriolets, without paying for it to an excise officer, &c. But the Canadians knew better their own freedom—and refused our kind offers."

These are the happy people, whom Sir George Prevost conducted, for the preservation of a fine country, larger than all Europe, to the British Empire.

"The great events of the earth—The statesmen and heroes of all ages, claim and obtain admiration because their achievements have been greater than their means. We admire them because with means apparently incompetent, they have performed wonders."

If this observation be correct, the present age and futurity, have reason to admire General Prevost's defence of Canada—and not only of Canada, but also, of other places, of which I shall recite one instance—that of Dominica ten years since.

Sir George Prevost's (then Brig. Gen. Prevost's) defence of Dominica.

DOMINICA, March 1st, 1805.

At day-break, 22d Feb. 5 large ships, 3 frigates, 2 brigs, and some small craft, under British colours, a ship of three decks carrying a flag at the mizen, were discovered off Roseau in the island of Dominica. They ranged close to one of the Forts, when Brig. Gen. Prevost ordered them to be fired upon, and soon after 19 large barges full of troops appeared from the vessels, protected by an armed schooner full of men, and 7 other boats carrying carronades.—The English flag was lowered and that of France hoisted—a landing was immediately attempted on General Prevost's flank, between the town of Roseau and the post of Lache Crow. Three companies of troops were sent to oppose the enemy's landing; the first boats were beat off, but the schooner and one of the brigs coming close on shore to cover the landing, compelled our troops to occupy a better position; a defile leading to the town; at the same time General Prevost brought a few more troops, and placed them under the command of Major Munn, 46th regt. with orders not to yield the enemy an inch of ground; two field pieces were brought into action for their support; these guns and a 24-pounder from Melville battery, shook the French advancing column by the execution they did. General Prevost sent three more companies to prevent the enemy from getting into the rear of the position occupied by Major Munn. On my return we found the Majes-



teux, of 120 guns, lying opposite to Fort Young, pouring into the town and batteries her broad-sides, followed by the other 74's and frigates.—The Fort consisted of five 24-pounders, three 18's, and five 24's at Melville battery, which returned an uninterrupted fire; at one o'clock P. M. the enemy were compelled to retire from their advanced position—foiled and beat off on the left, the right flank was attempted, and a considerable force was landed near Morne Daniel. The regulars not exceeding 200, employed on the left in opposing the advance of their columns, consisting of 2000 men, could afford General Prevost no reinforcements, and he had only 100 militia to oppose them, these attacked with spirit, but unfortunately the frigates stood in so close to the shore to protect this disembarkation, that after receiving a destructive fire they retired to some heights. A column of the enemy then marched to Morne Daniel and stormed the redoubt defended by a small detachment, which after an obstinate resistance they carried. The town which had for some time been in flames, was only protected by a light howitzer and a 6-pounder to the right, supported by a company of militia. The enemy's ships at this time out of reach of our guns, General Prevost's right flank gained and his retreat to Prince Ruperts almost cut off, he bravely determined to keep the sovereignty of the Island—he ordered the militia to remain at their posts, except such as were inclined to encounter more hardships and severe service; and ordered the regulars to make a forced march to Prince Ruperts; Gen. Prevost then allowed the President to enter into terms for the town of Roseau, and demanded from the French general, that private property should be respected and no wanton or disgraceful pillage to be allowed. Accompanied only by two of his

Staff, General Prevost crossed the Island, and in 24 hours got to the garrison; the regulars, after a difficult march, joined him in three or four days afterwards. General Prevost no sooner got to this Fort than he ordered cattle to be drove in, and took measures for getting a store of water. On the 25th he received a summons from the French general to surrender, and without delay, he sent a spirited answer, purporting that his duty to his king and country, was so superior to every other consideration, that he could only thank the French general for the observations he had made, on the too often inevitable consequences of war, and at the same time, expressing his gratitude for the kind treatment his lady and children (who were then in the hands of the enemy) had received from the French general. On the 27th, finding that General Prevost would not surrender, and the defence would be desperate, the enemy after laying a contribution on Roseau, re-embarked and hovered the next day about the post: As far as could be collected, the enemy had 4,000 men on board, and the whole of their force was compelled to disembark, before they gained an inch of ground; the British loss was trifling, (about 20 killed and 20 wounded, whilst the enemy's acknowledged loss was considerable (300, amongst whom was several officers of rank.) When the official account of the above was received in London, the Patriotic Fund Society, at Lloyd's Coffee-House, voted to general Prevost, and the officers under his command, as a tribute of their consideration for their brave and gallant defence of Dominica, as follows:—To general Prevost, a sword, value 100*l.* a piece of plate value 200*l.* To major Munn, 46th, a sword value 50*l.* a piece of plate value 100*l.* The sum of 40*l.* to each disabled man, or who might have lost a limb, 20*l.* to each man severely wounded,

and 10% to every man slightly wounded, in which are included the militia of the Island. See *Quebec Mercury*, August 3d, 1813.

To throw more light upon the insolent uproar raised in the *Montreal Herald*, against this celebrated officer, I shall take the liberty, first asking the authors pardon, to insert here an extract from a letter written by a gentleman of the first respectability in this country, to a friend in London, the 30th March last.

“You must have heard of the charges brought forward by the admiralty against Sir George Prevost, for the loss of the fleet on Lake Champlain. In consequence, he feels himself under the necessity of proceeding immediately to England for his defence; and if there is any justice or generosity remaining in the country he will meet with no difficulty—For the saving of this country from being over-run by the enemy the first two years of the war is owing to his popularity and influence with the Canadians; which enabled him to rise them *en masse* every time that a formidable invasion was threatened. When war was declared, this government was without soldiers; or the means of paying them, Exchange at 28 per cent discount; and not a *sol* of specie to be seen. Sir George was told by ministers, they had neither men nor money to send him. In this dilemma he got established a paper currency—to which the prejudices of the country were strongly opposed; and he organized a population which had been left by his predecessor nearly in a state of insurrection.—But the measures he took to effect these objects gave offence to a part of our English inhabitants; many of them, no doubt, respectable, and who had been in the confidence of the former Governor.—These have raised a *hue and cry* against him, both on this and

on the other side of the water.—He *could do nothing right according to their opinion.* The portion of Lord Wellington's army which came here were much disappointed and disgusted with the nature of the war. Fighting by small parties in woods; under many privations which they had not been accustomed to—and their efforts not always attended with success. These misfortunes were also imputed readily to the commander of the forces; and the officers joined in the hue and cry; finding it the sentiments of the part of the society with which they generally mixed. Some of our newspapers also, became extremely licentious; and the inefficiency of the crown officers occasioned for a time these libellers to pass with impunity their infamous falsehoods on the public,—but they have lately been prosecuted,—although too late. This is a true state of the case, as far as regards this country, and Sir George Prevost's conduct in it. Ministers may find it convenient to divert public attention from the miserable and disgraceful treaty they have made with the United States, (considering the relative strength of the two countries) which cannot fail in course of time to be of injury to these colonies. And the admiralty feel sore in consequence of the bitter lesson taught the British navy in the late war. These causes will account for the persecution of a meritorious individual.

“For my own part, I can truly say, (and I had a better opportunity of judging than many others who have formed opinions prejudicial to the Governor's management,) that no man could ever pay a more strict attention to the difficult and laborious duties he had to perform.”

## NOTE.

AN extract from the Quebec address to His Excellency Sir George Prevost, upon his return to that city from the campaign of 1813.

“We the inhabitants of the city and environs of Quebec, beg leave to congratulate your Excellency on your return to this capital.

“We avail ourselves of the occasion to offer that tribute of gratitude which is so justly due to your Excellency for having afforded the inhabitants of this country a new opportunity of justifying the favourable opinion entertained of them by their beloved sovereign. When the enemy arrogantly threatened to invade this province, your Excellency addressed to its inhabitants a judicious appeal which will never be forgotten by them; an appeal dictated by the justness and liberality of your Excellency’s sentiments: We can assure your Excellency that the confidence of the people which you irresistibly acquired by that proceeding and by the wisdom which distinguished your administration is, next to their attachment to the king, one of the most powerful ramparts which the internal resources of this country, oppose to the attacks of our neighbours. We acknowledge that it is to the prudence of your Excellency’s measures, as well as your unexampled activity, that we are indebted for this province having been the theatre of war, only for an instant, to be signalised by the defeat of the enemy.” See *Quebec Mercury*, vol. 9, page 415, or *Quebec Gazette*, December 30th, 1813, which exhibits all the names to this address.

*Extract from the Quebec address to His Excellency  
Sir George Prevost, upon his return to that city  
from the campaign of 1814.*

“The sentiments which we had the satisfaction of expressing at the close of the two preceding campaigns again assemble us in your Excellency’s presence. Having enjoyed the blessings of peace and the best of governments, notwithstanding a war of which this province appeared destined to be the theatre; we should be guilty of ingratitude, were we to neglect the opportunity offered by your Excellency’s return to this city, to acknowledge publicly, that these inestimable advantages are the effects of the unceasing exertions and judicious measures of your Excellency. Already convinced by the experience of former years, that the interests of the Empire and the protection of his Majesty’s subjects committed to your care, form the sole rule of your conduct. We have seen with sensibility, but without surprise, your Excellency disregarding every other consideration for the accomplishment of these important objects.

“The enemy having been frustrated in all his projects of conquest up to the present time, must now be sensible that he cannot prevail against your Excellency’s vigilance and the valor of the army under your command. The confidence which we place in the power of the Empire to which we have the honor to belong, in your Excellency’s personal character and the reputation of the British arms, enables us to view with calmness the contest in which we are engaged. We can assure your Excellency that you will always receive from the inhabitants of the province, that support in the exercise of the duties of your exalted station, which the representative of a sovereign, to whom they are indebted for half a century of happiness, has a right to expect.

“May your Excellency long enjoy the confidence of the Prince and the people; the pleasing reward of a life devoted to their service; and thus be accomplished the sincere wish of our hearts.” *Quebec Mercury, vol. 10th, page 407, or rather see Quebec Gazette, of the 22d December, 1814, where all the names are displayed.*

An extract from the address of the Inhabitants of Canada, to His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, November 1814. This extract being taken from the Herald of the 8th of April last, where it was introduced by a writer professedly inimical to the government, I cannot vouch for its correctness.

“MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,

“We His Majesty’s most dutiful and loyal subjects, the inhabitants of the province of Lower Canada, humbly approach the sacred person of your Royal Highness, to express our apprehensions on our having observed addresses made by a number of individuals residing amongst us, some of whom are members of the Executive Council, with a view to procure changes in the constitution of this province, and censuring the administration of His Excellency the Governor in Chief. This proceeding on their part has excited alarm throughout this province, and led to a belief that the intrigues which were formerly in operation to injure its inhabitants in the opinion of his Majesty’s government, and the mother country, have again been resorted to for the purpose of representing us as unworthy of a free constitution; and that changes therein are become necessary for the preservation of this important part of his Majesty’s dominions. We entreat your Royal Highness to be persuaded that such insinuations are entirely groundless. We are sincerely attached to the constitution which his Majesty’s gov-

ernment has been graciously pleased to confer on us. It has left us nothing to desire, but to see its execution more and more perfect. We humbly present to your Royal Highness, that it is chiefly from that constitution that the means have been derived which have saved the country from the perfidious attacks of the United States. It is this constitution which has shewn us the full value of the British government, and we humbly hope that the continuance, as it at present exists, will be considered by your Royal Highness, as a just reward for our humble efforts in its defence. Our confidence in his Excellency Sir George Prevost is unabated. By the wisdom of his government, and the resources of his genius, he has proved himself superior to the crisis in which the country was placed at the commencement of the war. Far from following the steps of his predecessor, he acquired the affections of the Canadians by his mildness and justice. His memorable defence of the province has endeared him to all its inhabitants and will transmit his name to the latest posterity with veneration, gratitude," &c. &c.

[*N. B.* The address of the Clergy of Lower Canada, to the Prince Regent at the same time with this address ought to have a place here in full.]

An extract from the address of the House of Assembly, at the opening of the Session, 30th Jan. 1815, to His Excellency Sir George Prevost.

"The operations contemplated on the shores of Lake Champlain, we are led to believe, by our confidence in your Excellency's judgment, were planned in consequence of wise combinations, and our proximity to the scene of action has enabled us to acquire a perfect conviction, that they were frustrated by causes beyond your Excellency's controul. We are equally convinced that the failure of our na-



val means rendered necessary at the very onset, an immediate abandonment of the enterprize :

“ The protecting hand of His Majesty’s government has been agreeably felt in the reinforcements received by your Excellency, for the diminution of the pressure of the war on the inhabitants of this Province. The testimony which your Excellency is pleased to bear to the zeal and alacrity with which their services have been rendered, cannot but be more flattering to their feelings and demands through their representatives their warmest acknowledgments. It is under your Excellency’s wise and just administration that their character and conduct have been justly appreciated ; and whatever merit their services may be entitled to, a large portion of it is unquestionably due to your Excellency, whose well founded confidence in them, has enabled them, by those services, to testify their faithful, loyal, and patriotic adherence to His Majesty : of which under your Excellency’s administration, they hope many opportunities during a long time to come will be afforded them to give additional proofs.”

*Extract from an address from the citizens of Montreal and neighbouring Parishes, to Sir George Prevost, dated March 29th, 1815.*

“ We hasten, before your Excellency separates yourself from us, to convey to your Excellency the expression of our sorrow for your departure, of our gratitude for the benefits conferred on us, in common with our fellow subjects, by your Excellency’s administration, and our ardent wish that your Excellency’s absence from this Province may be of short duration.

“ While exposed to the pressure of the late unjust and unprovoked war waged by the United States of America against his Majesty, we experienced the

security derived from your Excellency's indefatigable exertions for the defence of this Province, and have reason to ascribe its preservation, as well as that of the Upper Province, to the judicious distribution and arrangement of the public force made by your Excellency, by which the attempts of the enemy were frustrated, and the honorable character with the rights and advantages of British subjects has been secured to the inhabitants of the Canadas.

"Having the greatest confidence in the skill and judgment of your Excellency, and being fully convinced of the ability and prudence with which your Excellency has discharged the military as well as civil duties of your high office, we anticipate from the investigation for which your Excellency is preparing, a result honourable to your Excellency's character, by which your well earned reputation will be confirmed, the voice of calumny and detraction silenced, and your Excellency's merits conclusively established."

General order of Sir George Prevost, on leaving the country.

*Adjutant General's Office,  
Head-Quarters, Quebec, 3d April, 1815.*

**"GENERAL ORDERS.**

"His Excellency the Commander of the forces announces to the army serving in British North-America, that he has received the commands of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent to return to England.

"In taking leave of an army he had the honor to command from the commencement of hostilities with the United States to the termination of the war. His Excellency has great satisfaction in expressing his entire approbation and acknowledging the sense he entertains of the zeal, courage and discipline that has been so eminently displayed by this portion of his Majesty's troops.

“ It has fallen to the lot of this army to struggle through an arduous and unequal contest, remote from succour, and deprived of many advantages experienced in the more cultivated countries of Europe ; yet his Excellency has witnessed with pride and admiration, the firmness, intrepidity, and patient endurance of fatigue and privations, which have marked the character of the army of Canada. Under all these circumstances, valour and discipline have prevailed, and although local considerations and limited means have circumscribed the war principally to a defensive system, it has, notwithstanding, been ennobled, by numerous brilliant exploits, which will adorn the page of future history. At Detroit and at the River Raisin, two entire armies with their commanding generals were captured, and greatly superior armies were repulsed. The several battles of Queenstown, Stoney Creek, Chateauguay, Chrystler’s, La Cole, Lundy’s Lane, near the Falls of Niagara, and the subsequent operations on that frontier, will ever immortalize the heroes who were on those occasions afforded the opportunity of distinguishing themselves. The capture of Michilimackinac, Ogdensburg, Oswego and Niagara by assault, are trophies of the prowess of British arms. The names of the respective officers who led his Majesty’s troops to these several achievements are already known to the world, and will be transmitted by the faithful historian with glory to a grateful posterity.

“ In viewing past events, it is with exultation his Excellency reflects on the complete success which has crowned the valour, exertions, and perseverance of this gallant army, by terminating each successive campaign in the defeat and discomfiture of all the enemy’s plans, in which the utmost energies of the government of the United States had been exhaust-

ed in vain efforts to accomplish his avowed object the conquest of these Provinces.

“Lieut. Gen. Sir John C. Sherbrooke, and the army under his immediate orders, are entitled to the highest praise for the bravery and promptness displayed in the occupation of a large District of the enemy’s territory, and his Excellency requests the Lieut. General will accept his thanks for the cordial assistance he has at all times afforded him.

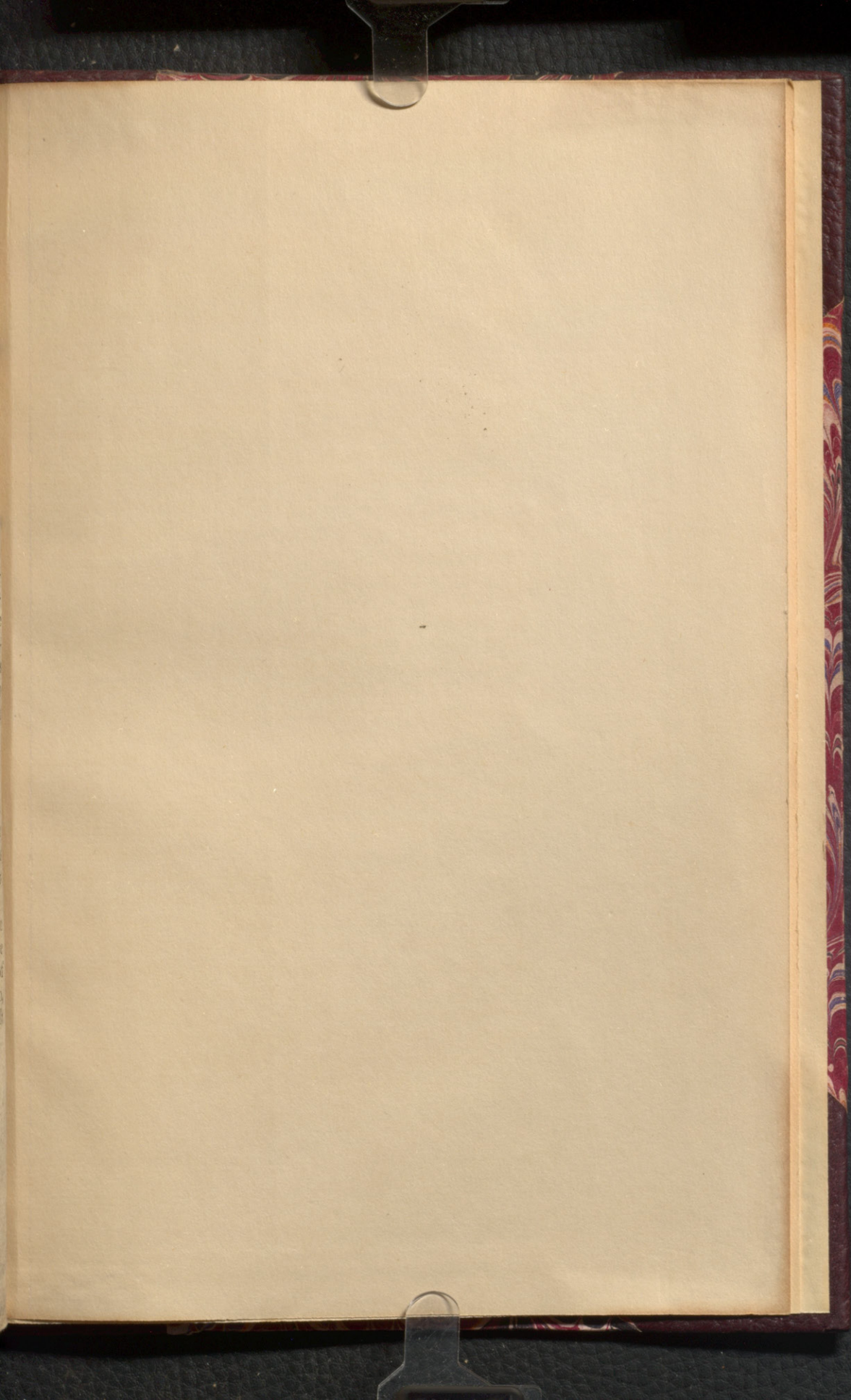
“To Lieut. General Sir Gordon Drummond, on whom the command of the Canadas devolves, his Excellency’s best thanks are due, for his unwearied exertions and support under circumstances of peculiar difficulty : To the general officers, general staff, and officers and soldiers, his Excellency feels himself highly indebted, and duly appreciates their respective merits. To Major General Baynes the adjutant general; and Maj. Gen. Sir Sidney Beckwith, the quarter master general, and to the officers of his personal staff, his Excellency’s thanks are also due, for the judgment, alacrity and zeal evinced in the discharge of their several duties.

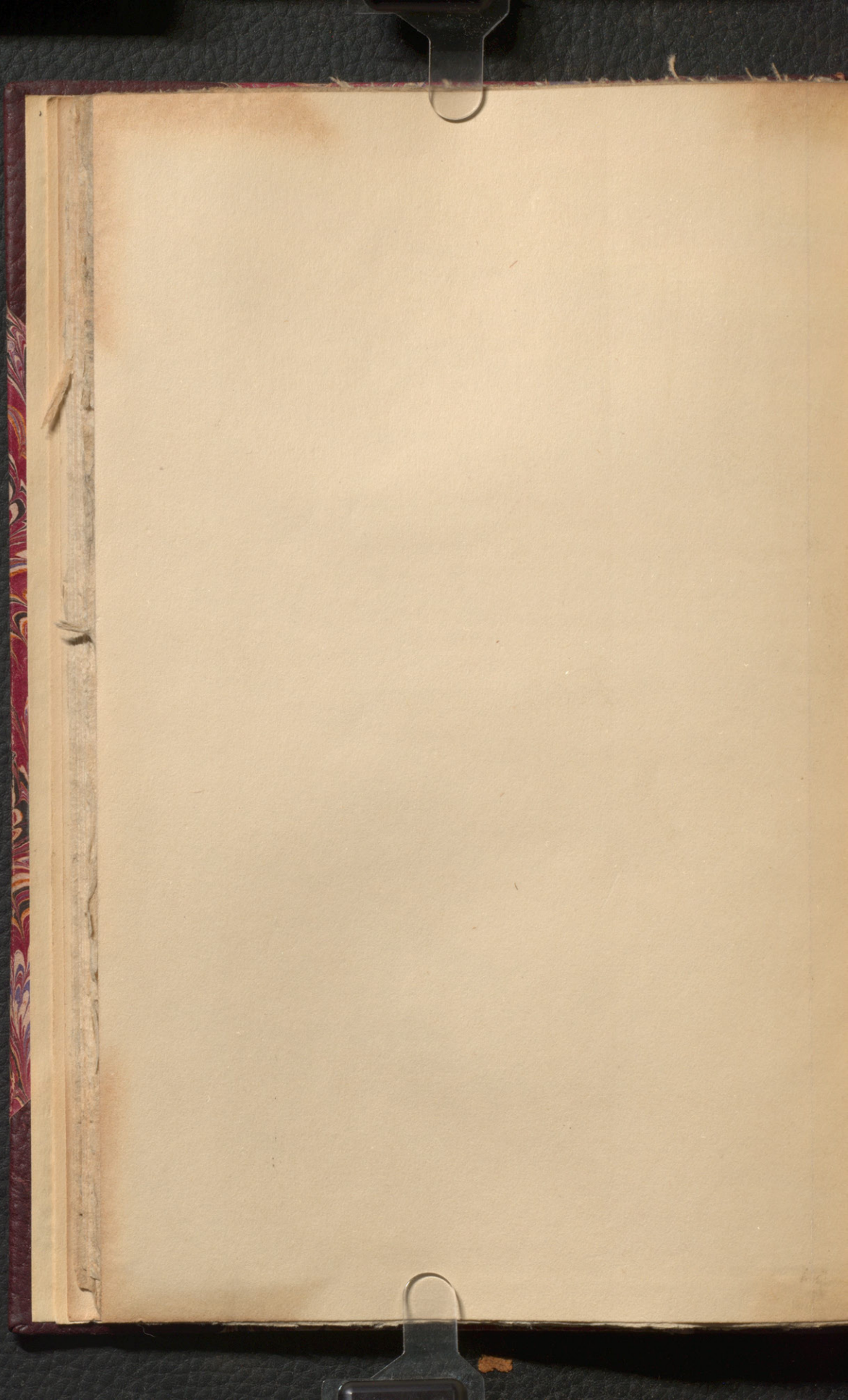
“His Excellency has every reason to be satisfied with the conduct and exertions of the public departments of this army, and he feels it an act of justice to express particularly his approbation of the very efficient manner in which the commissariat has been conducted under the zealous and judicious arrangements of Commissary-general Robinson.

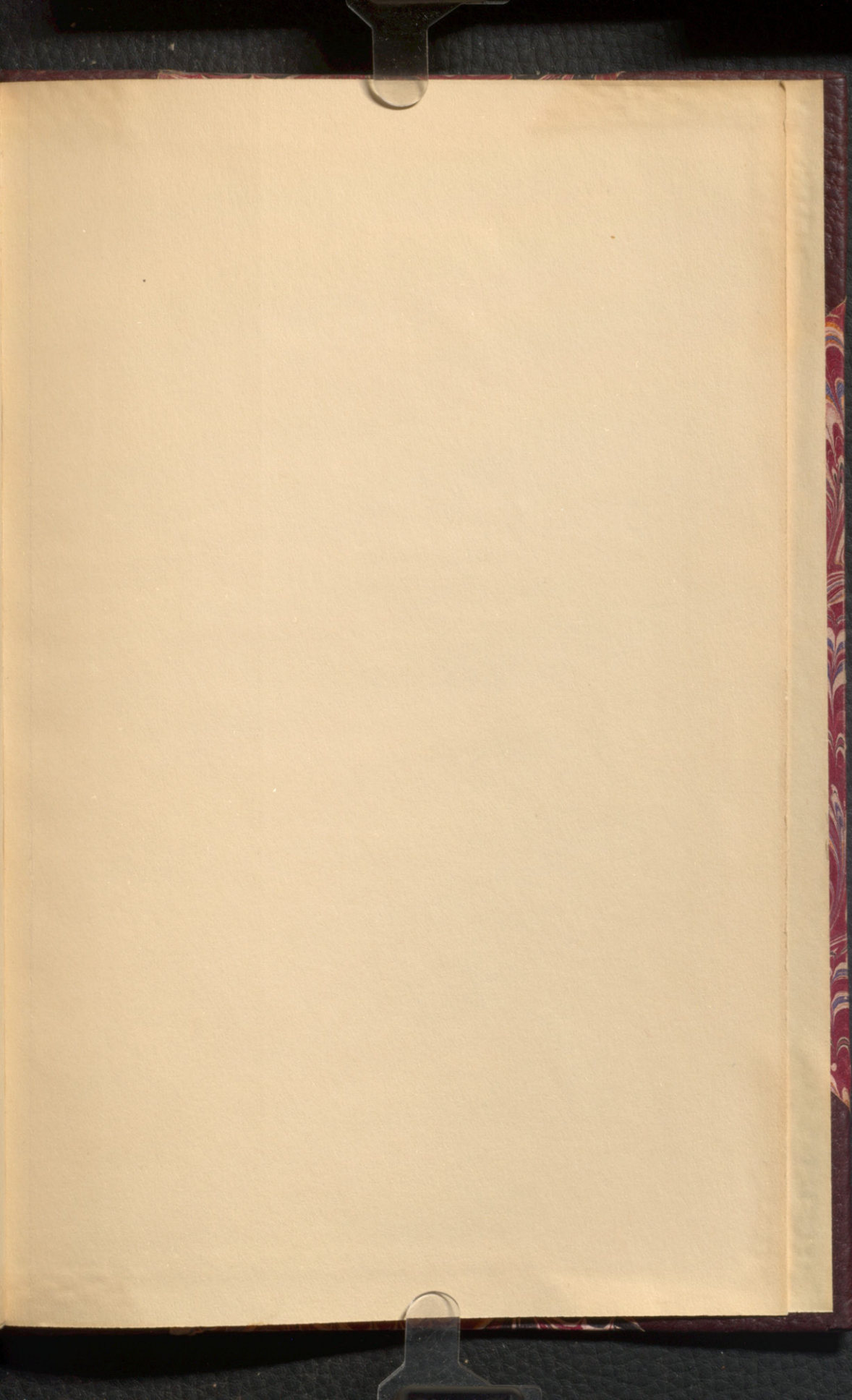
“His Excellency will have peculiar gratification in representing to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, the services and talents of the officers of this army, to the honourable survivors of which, Lieut. Gen. Sir George Prevost offers the heartfelt tribute of his warmest thanks.

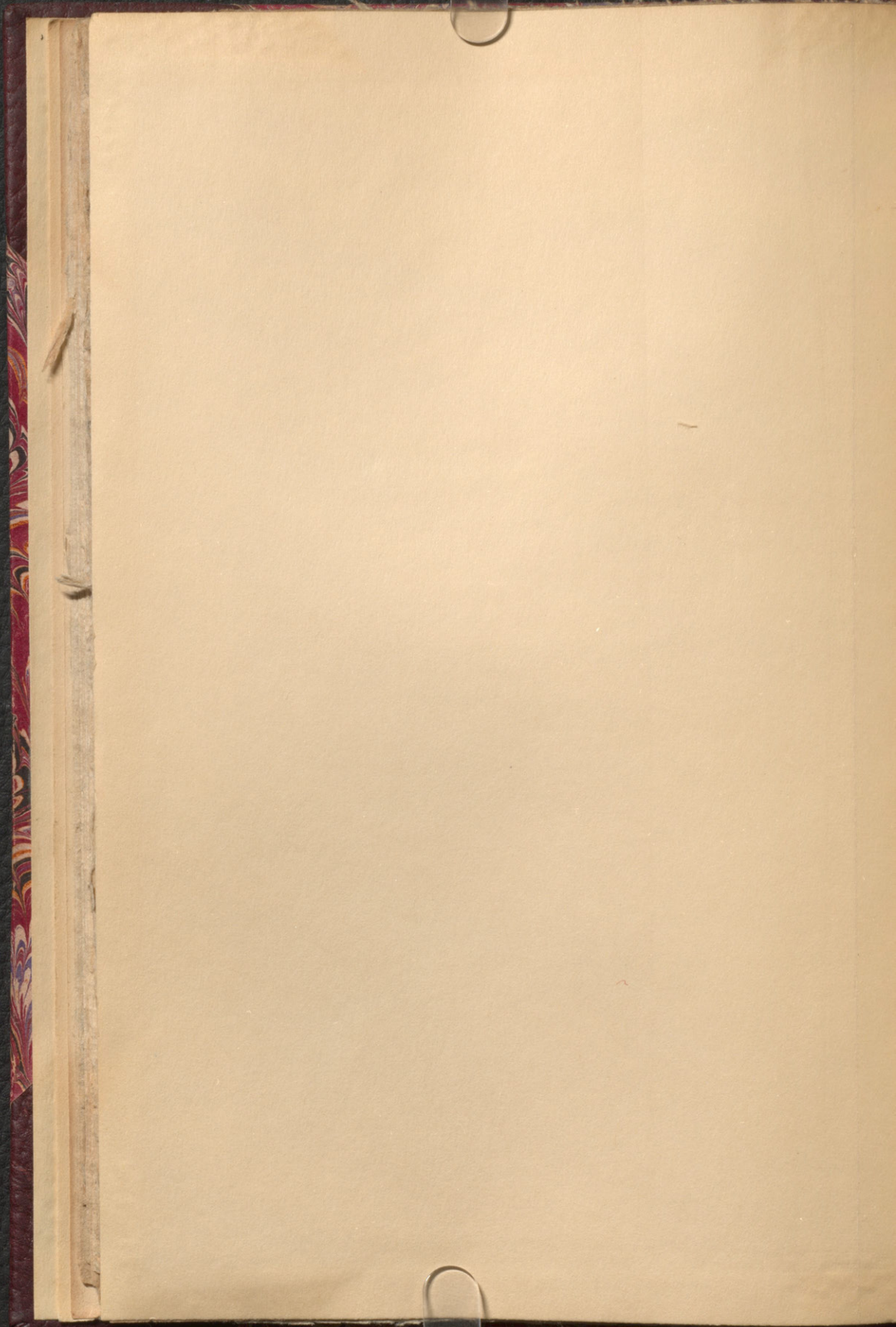
(Signed)

“EDWARD BAYNES,  
Adjutant General North America.”











X LANDE 00092

2691980

