

PAPER MONEY OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF UPPER CANADA, 1837.



Of the many deeply interesting events in Canadian History, that which has attracted greatest attention is beyond doubt the insurrection of 1837-38. A large number of those who were prominent in the movement, have passed away. The last days of the leaders in the two Canadas, were spent in circumstances greatly differing from each other.

Wm. Lyon McKenzie, the head of the Upper Canada party, died on the 28th of August, 1861, broken hearted with disappointment principally because he no longer knew where to find the means of existence, while his proud spirit forbade him to beg. Louis Joseph Papineau, the eloquent leader of the Lower Canada *Patriots*, after a long and eventful public career, passed away, surrounded by all that could be desired, and his remains found their final resting place (on the 24th Sept., 1871,) at Monte Bello, his own baronial seat, on the green banks of the Ottawa.

It is not our intention to review the causes which led to the rebellion, under the leadership of these two men, suffice it to say that the ill feeling which had existed for several years were greatly increased by the fiery appeals continually being made through the medium of public meetings, and the press. Prominent among the newspapers which aided the disaffected party, was the *Montreal Vindicator*, edited by Dr. O'Callaghan and *The Constitution*, edited and published by W. L. McKenzie. The latter paper was first issued on the 4th July, 1837, and on the succeeding day appeared the following article.

"Will the Canadians declare their independence and shoulder their muskets?" After referring to meetings that had been held at L'Islet and Bellechasse, he proceeded, in the suggestive style, to say: "Two or three thousand Canadians,