

by it. Imagine a whole people isolated from their government, and their representatives, and without the means of knowing any thing that is going forward at the capital. Reverse the picture. What have we Upper Canadians to complain of at Montreal? We have a city with a larger British population than there is French; with four daily newspapers in the English language, besides other periodicals. It is the place to which we look for all our commercial information; in short, it is already the capital of Canada, and the Seat of Government would never have been taken anywhere else but with a view of temporarily subserving party objects.

But we are told, gentlemen, that if the Seat of Government is fixed at Montreal, French influence will preponderate. Instead of "French," gentlemen, read "Reform," and you will learn the real ground of the strong opposition to Montreal. The Reformers of British origin in Lower Canada are, I am happy to say, a numerous and influential body, and their influence is just as much dreaded as that of the French Canadians. Now I honestly confess, gentlemen, that I look upon it as a matter of great importance that this French influence, or as I should say, Reform influence, will be substituted for Orange influence. I think it highly desirable that the public opinion at the Seat of Government should be that of the majority of the people, and that if your liberties should be attacked by a wicked or corrupt government, there should be a public that would give immediate expression to its feelings of honest indignation. Can you, gentlemen, suppose that I could think Kingston a proper place for the Seat of Government, when I know that in the metropolitan County you cannot hold a public meeting without having your lives endangered? When I see the Orangemen on Lot No. 24 representing their opinions to the Governor as those of the majority of the people? For my own part, I neither think such a place a desirable one for the Seat of Government, nor do I wish to live there myself. I am sure that many of you would not be sorry to be beyond the reach of the lawless men by whom you have been so scandalously abused. As to your private interests, in the first place, I do not think you will suffer so much as you imagine by the change. I am quite satisfied that the Act of last Session imposing duties on agricultural produce and live stock, will be of infinitely more benefit to you than the Seat of Government. The persons in Kingston who have invested money in real property are to be pitied, although many of them were very imprudent, and the Corporation of Kingston were absolutely reckless. They deserve to suffer, if for nothing else, for their contempt for the opinions of the Representatives of the Canadian people, and their reliance on the promises of English politicians. And even if you, the farmers, do suffer a little, by getting prices a very little lower than before, are you unwilling to make some sacrifice for the public good, and in order to see justice done to your fellow subjects in Lower Canada of French origin? But secondly, I would remark, that even if the Seat of Government were to be fixed in Upper Canada, it is quite possible that it would be removed from Kingston. And would you, gentlemen, be any better off by having it either at Toronto or Bytown, than at Montreal? Certainly not. Rely upon it this Seat of Government agitation has been got up principally in order to disturb the present good understanding between Upper and Lower Canadians, and it is satisfactory to know that it has proved a signal failure. Even those Reform Members who from timidity voted against Montreal, have become convinced that the