

perhaps, on the whole surface of the globe; and they were perfectly contented, and seemed quite sensible of the blessings they enjoyed under the British Government, until the folly and madness of irreligious Papineau, atheistical Giraud, and camelion O'Callagan, whose religion is as changeable as the colours of that animal, of the Protestant Nelsons, Browns, Scots and others of that kidney, who, taking advantage of the ignorance and simplicity of the unfortunate *habitans*, made them believe that they were groaning under a galling yoke, which they did not feel but in imagination, and succumbing under unsupportable burthens, which had never been laid upon them; that they were to found a glorious Canadian republic, which was to surpass those of Greece and Rome, and even the overgrown mammoth of our own days.

An unfledged gang of briefless lawyers, notaries and other pettifoggers, and a numberless horde of doctors and apothecaries, like the locusts of Egypt, spread themselves through the land, and by working upon their prejudices against the British, and flattering their vanity with the hopes of the distinguished situations which they were to occupy in the new republic, they unfortunately succeeded in seducing but too many of the credulous Canadians.

Had these infatuated people reflected for a moment that their intended republic (had they even succeeded in establishing it) could not be supported without an army, without fortifications and garrisons; that armies and fortifications could not be maintained without great expenses; that to defray those expenses and other appendages of government, money must be raised or extorted from them,—they would pause before allowing themselves to be thus led astray by their seducers, who, miserably poor themselves, for the most part, expected to become rich and great at their cost. They never took into their calculation the power and strength of Great Britain to keep in subjection a rebellious province, and they never penetrated the treacherous designs of an all-grasping and unprincipled people, who, like the tiger, or a monstrous boa-constrictor, crouch and hide themselves until their unsuspecting prey approach near enough to spring upon it. The most inexcusable part, however, of the conduct of the Canadians was, not to listen to the advice of their clergy, who knew well the intention of Papineau and his associates was to destroy their influence and extinguish the Catholic religion, which he publicly declared to be absolutely necessary before liberty could be established in Lower Canada.

Two causes contributed greatly to work into the hands of the leaders of the Canadian rebellion: the first was the abuse and reviling poured upon the Canadians by the ultra loyalists, and the utter contempt in which they were held by persons of different extraction. Jean Baptiste was hardly allowed to belong to the human species, and no animal was so vile and contemptible as he; but Jean Baptiste had his pride and his vanity like other mortals; and when smarting under the irritation of wounded feelings, he listened with pleasure to the harangues of the preachers of sedition and rebellion, and was delighted with those parts of their speeches which promised to expel all foreigners from the soil of Canada, and confine the entire possession of it to the children of the soil. (*Enfans du sol!*)

The second cause of the rebellion in both the Canadas was the system of economy which had been adopted. Had two or three provincial corps been kept on permanent duty in the disturbed parts of the country, they would have prevented most effectually the last outbreak that took place, and a few corps raised in Lower Canada, under loyal commanders, and employed in this province, would, with our own militia, have saved us from all the alarms, trouble and expense we have been at. Thus did the late Sir George Prevost, of much-injured memory, secure the attachment of the Lower Canadians, during the last war, by raising the *voltigeurs* and two other Canadian corps, whose loyalty and bravery were found and acknowledged to be of essential benefit.

I have said that your loyalty is based on the sacred obligations of your holy religion. The Apostle commands us to "obey and be submissive to the powers that be;" that is to say, under the government of a king, we must honour and obey the king, and give to Caesar the things that are Caesar's; and under a republican government, obey and be submissive to the laws and existing authorities of that government.

In searching, however, the records of antiquity, we find, that in the most powerful and flourishing republics that ever existed in the world, the duration of peace, happiness and tranquillity has been short, indeed, in comparison to that of turbulence, storms and hurricanes in which they have been at last overwhelmed, and finally swallowed up. And if we look at those which have sprung up in our own days, we find the picture truly disheartening and melancholy. Behold! the fruit of the much-boasted liberty given to South America! Travel through Mexico, Columbia, Guatemala, Buenos Ayres, Chili and Peru, and see if you can meet with that happiness and tranquillity which the treacherous phantom of Liberty had promised to the deluded inhabitants. On the contrary, you will meet with nothing but revolution succeeding revolution, one ambitious chief rebelling against and upsetting another, and he in his turn overcome and destroyed by his more daring and enterprising rival; and thus those ill-fated regions have become the scene of bloodshed, slaughter and desolation; even the grand paragon of perfect and uncontrolled liberty in our own neighbourhood, observe how fairly it verges towards confusion and anarchy; and what security does it hold out to life and property?

But let us, my friends, behold spectacles sufficiently wretched and pitiable nearer home. What heart-rending objects do the victims of delusion present to our eyes in a neighbouring province! Men who had every comfort around them, and did not know what want of any kind was, in search of the promised liberty and independence, have met with imprisonment, banishment, or the death of rebels, while their unfortunate wives and children have seen their
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