

means to them appears soundness and sobriety. They think there is nothing worth pursuit but that which they can handle, which they can measure with a two foot rule, which they can count upon their fingers."

The principal end of the elective franchise in Lower Canada, is to give to *people of this class*, an opportunity to meddle in affairs of state : and if that privilege were removed entirely, these are the only persons who would lament it. Some of their constituents might sympathize with them for a week or a month : but it would not last longer. The mortification and disappointment of these *little great men*, would in reality benefit themselves and their families, by leaving them at home to mind their business, and enjoy *civil liberty*, while it would give repose to the people, and leave the government to the care of those who have no motive to abuse the trust : who have too much information to mistake their duty : and are too strongly bound by *character and property*, to neglect it through design. As to the common people, they are mere passive instruments in the hands of their leaders. This is evident to every man of observation and candour. The recent appeals which the governor has made to them, with so much reason and judgment ; with such an exposition of the causes that made those appeals necessary ; and such sincere and liberal assurances that his principal motive was their prosperity and the preservation of the just rights of the crown and government, from which their happiness and security are inseparable ; All prove that they are more corrupt than I will yet allow myself to suppose, or that those whose triumph depended on being able to deceive them, possess over them a most dangerous and permanent ascendancy ; and that in either case, an *House of As-*

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