

THE FREE PRESS.

VOL. I.] MONTREAL, THURSDAY, 30th JAN. 1823. [No. 15.

Totidem nobis animaque manusque. VIRGIL.

Now with united hands and hearts we stand;
And stand or fall together.

Burlington, 27th Jan.

I have most warmly to congratulate my readers, and all the real well-wishers of both the provinces of Lower and Upper Canada, upon the result of the deliberations of the Legislative Council, and of the House of Assembly, on the subject of the union. The triumphant majority with which the address against that odious measure, was carried in the House of Assembly, 32 to 3, was to be expected from their well-tryed patriotism, their known firmness, and enlightened discrimination; but it is a most exhilarating surprise, a matter of unexpected exultation to the Canadians, and their friends, and at the same time, a deathblow to the hopes and machinations of their enemies, to find that good sense, sound judgement and the love of country, have, in this instance, got the better in the Upper House, of the spirit of intrigue, and prejudice, and have drawn from their bosoms all vile ambition of place and profit, and that noxious desire of power and influence which has too often before obscured their better judgements, silenced their consciences, smothered their virtuous feelings, and driven them into the arms of the Executive, the sub-ervient ministers to cast shackles upon the freedom of their country. Once aroused to so noble an exertion, I trust they will continue on in their career of true patriotism, and deserve well of their country, by going heart and hand with the Commons house, and by sturdily maintaining the people's undoubted privileges to grant their own money, for what, to whom and for what period, they think proper, consult the true interests of both the monarch and the subject. That so large a majority as 15 to 5, (I speak of the resolutions of the Legislative Council, passed in a Committee of the whole house, on the 22d instaut, for the proceedings of the 23d when the address was to be proposed, and no doubt was entertained of its meeting with a large majority, have not yet reached me) should have appeared in the council, against the projected union, is truly exhilarating to reflect on. It is indeed an absolute majority, for though the council consists of 30 members, four are in England, and 14, therefore, form an absolute majority.