

an object of fiscal attention in that quarter, and would remain one for the smuggler, although, if that alone were his object, it would not give sufficient employment or profit, to make his trade a very attractive one.

But, after all, good frequently arises out of evil; and, notwithstanding the morally injurious tendency towards the whole body of society, and the deception, fraud, and pecuniary loss to which a portion of the community have been subjected, by the operations of the counterfeiters in the townships, it can not be denied, that, politically and abstractedly considered, as a means of creating capital where none previously existed, they have been of incalculable benefit to that part of the country.— Much as it is to be lamented that that created capital, and the improvements that have taken place by means of it, in the cultivation of the country, the erection of houses and villages, and the introduction of comforts amongst the inhabitants, have their contaminated source in a criminal pursuit, yet that capital, and those improvements exist; there is no gainsaying it; it is from that source that the chief part of the prosperity of the Eastern townships is derived; and, although we may, and must, condemn the means by which it has been acquired, we need not be debarred from availing of all the advantages to accrue from it: provided we do not encourage the manufacture of counterfeit-bills, and do all we can to suppress and destroy it, the sin lies not at our door, although the fruits of it are evidently contributing to the augmenting resources of Lower Canada.

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I take for the text of my next essay, the following paragraph from the English papers lately received.

*“Progress of liberal opinions.* It appears from advices received from Rio de Janeiro, that the editor of the paper called the *Correio* was lately prosecuted for a libel against the government, and a *trial by jury*, being the first ever known in Brazil, was accorded him by the Prince. He was acquitted. So strongly is the popular sentiment growing in favour of the *liberty of the press*, that it is doubtful whether a jury could be found who would return a verdict of guilty, against any defendant charged with a libel.”

It is not long ago too, that I read in one of the newspapers of the day, on which I can not now lay my hand, a statement,

[capital] to be applied to the removal of such obstructions as exist. (*Quebec Gazette.*)

The agricultural societies ought not to lose sight of offering premiums for the cultivation of tobacco: and why should not the wild rice, the silkgrass, ginseng, and other natural productions of the country also become articles of exportation?