

THE FREE PRESS.

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*Audax Japeti gemis
Ignem fraude mala gentibus extulit.*

HORACE.

—“Bold man, who all things dares essay,
The heavenly fire to make hell look like day,
Th'accendary's torch, or merriment's mad mask;
Alike the slightest sport, alike the heaviest task.

I deem it but justice to the editor of the *Gazette Canadienne* to give a translation of his observations on that part of No. 36 of the *Free Press*, where I expressed my surprise that the *Spectateur* should have copied from the *Gazette*, an invective against the custom of the *Charrivarri*.

“The direct attack against the *Spectateur Canadien*,” it is said, “appears to us to be less heavy than the indirect one upon the *Gazette Canadienne*: the former is simply accused of not being a partisan of the *Charrivarri*, as an ancient French custom, but the latter is accused of not being a constitutional and anti-unionist paper. This appears to us the more strange, when we consider that the *Gazette Canadienne*, both in its origin, and at all subsequent times, when the occasion has presented itself, has evinced itself to be, perhaps, as constitutional, and as much opposed to the union, as any one of the Lower Canada papers, of which the editor of the *Free Press*, as well as all the world, might easily convince themselves. If the *Free Press* had confined itself to saying that the *Spectateur Canadien* and the *Canadian Spectator* were the two papers in Lower Canada, which had spoken the most frequently, and the most forcibly, against the union, we should not have thought ourselves under the necessity of calling his remarks in question; but when the editor says that those two papers are the only constitutional and anti-unionist papers in the province, we ought not to remain silent; it is our duty to point out the error, were it only to prevent its traversing the Atlantic. This remark of the *Free Press* might tend to induce the belief that the advocates for the union are very numerous, and that there are a great number of Canadians amongst them, on the ground that it might be concluded from what was said, that all the papers of the province, those two alone excepted, were unionist, and that even there existed French papers that were favourable to the union; whilst