

constitution only as it can be made the means of depressing and insulting their political opponents. That instances of this intolerance of party, and of weakness in Governors, have been afforded, is, I am assured, matter of fact. I have been told of Colonies in which political parties have carried their animosities almost as far as Bullfrog and Sucker, and in which Governors have not been much more fortunate than the Governor of Cacona. I do not pretend to say—for I have not been able to discover—that any representative of Her Majesty was ever deprived of his ears, but I might refer—(though with feelings I could not venture to express)—to attacks of a similar character to the one recorded in this volume, which seem to render even ear mutilation something less than a pleasant burlesque. Besides, if there is no instance of a Governor having ever been deprived of his ears, it is, I am assured, matter of fact, that in one of the principal Provinces of British North America, an unfortunate newspaper editor, whose intrepid expression of his political opinions had rendered him obnoxious to the opposite faction, was actually subjected to this species of punishment. Nor, (to add further strength to the illustration,) is it a very long time since, that a distinguished political leader, who now, I believe, holds a high place in Her Majesty's Colonial Councils, having had a misunderstanding with the head of the Government, did publicly, and in print, threaten that nobleman that he "would employ a black man to horsewhip him through the capital"; nor have I ever been able to learn that this gentlemanly and spirited conduct has in any degree affected the political standing or influence of the author, or prevented him from being favorably received at the tables of future Colonial Governors. Taking these circumstances, therefore, into consideration, I am compelled to come to the conclusion that some of the "extravagancies" which