

of public opinion, or impartial channels of the sentiments of individuals. His first suggested to me the expediency of publishing a weekly half sheet to contain a series of such political essays as I may be favoured with, along with such remarks, and illustrations as the subjects may appear to deserve. My object is not, however, to become a writer on political matters myself, that being a species of literature, to which neither my studies nor my inclination lead me, but chiefly to offer the FREE PRESS as a vehicle for conveying to the public the sentiments of others. Hence I wish the FREE PRESS to be considered as open to all parties, and I beg to invite the contributions of all ranks who feel an interest in the political welfare of the Canadas, and their inhabitants. My correspondents may rely upon my impartiality in the execution of my duty as an editor, whilst I of course reserve to myself the privilege of curtailing, altering or rejecting, such communications, as in point of language arrangement, or subject, may require the pruning-knife, or the scythe. Correspondents who are not masters of the English language may transmit their essays in French, faithful translations of which I will endeavour to present to the public. Their animadversions may extend to men as well as to measures, to characters as well as to systems, and whilst they may rely upon the most inviolable secrecy as regards their manuscripts, (which will never be seen by any but myself and one confidential assistant, and will always be copied out to send to the printers,) they may also be as bold and as energetic as they please, for I have not the fear of the Attorney General before my eyes, and utterly laugh to scorn all idea of being a afraid of prosecutions for libel, whilst I am publishing "the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth." That execrable maxim, invented by tyranny and oppression, that "truth is no justification of libel," I boldly assert is as contrary to law, as it is repugnant to common sense, and I should scarcely desire a greater triumph than to have an opportunity of defeating before an impartial Jury, a libel for which I might be prosecuted, by proving it to be none, because it was the truth.

Although, as before said, the FREE PRESS, is intended to be open to all parties, it is easy to foresee that its pages will be principally occupied by those writers whose principles are opposed to the present system that is endeavoured to be imposed upon the people of Canada by a very small proportion of its inhabitants. The government party, or those who uphold the unlimited power of the metropolitan country to controul and modify the legislature, and the constitution of these provinces, and who maintain the right inherent in the imperial parliament to coerce such provinces or persons as may be either refractory or not sufficiently subservient, have got possession of almost all the public presses of the country, and bear down all opposi-