

the quack-doctor: the murderer who drenches his hands in the blood of a fellow-creature in the heat of passion or to gratify revenge, is by no means to be compared to him, for he is the cool, premeditated destroyer of the human race, and the offence is the more heinous, from its being perpetrated under the plausible pretext of prolonging life.

PHINEAS.

*In the last page of the last No. of the Free Press, the act of parliament regulating the trade between the British North American colonies and foreign European ports was left in blank. It should be filled in 3 George IV. cap. 44.*

ROMAN CATHOLIC REPRESENTATIVES IN NOVA SCOTIA:

I conclude this subject, with an abstract of the speech of the Hon the speaker of the House of assembly, as announced in my last.

"The honourable gentleman said, that he had not been satisfied with any of the arguments that had been used by either side of the house: The incapacity of a person to sit in the assembly must proceed from one of four causes—The common law of England—An act of parliament—An act of the colonial legislature—or the king's instructions. No person would contend that the common law precluded any individual from sitting in the house of Lords or Commons in England; and if such was the case it did not incapacitate any man from sitting in the colonial legislature; because, as had been observed, the colonists bring with them from the mother-country, the common law, as it applies generally to the colonies. Before the reign of Henry VIII. persons of every persuasion had a right to vote in the legislature—all the disabilities were introduced after that period. It was not necessary for him to express an opinion whether the subsequent exclusion of Roman Catholics was right or wrong; but, whatever reason formerly existed in justification of that measure, they now ceased to exist; and such was the opinion of a majority of the commons of Great Britain. When Nova Scotia was first colonized, a constitution to a certain extent was given; and certain laws were made. One of the first laws which was passed imposed a disability which, if it at present existed, would effectually incapacitate Roman Catholics from taking a seat in that house. They were not, by that law, permitted to hold lands, and not holding lands would preclude them from voting at an election, or taking a seat in the assembly. In 1780, or 1783 that law was repealed, and the royal assent was given to a bill, relieving His Majesty's Roman Catholic subjects residing

*men, to physicians educated in Europe, and to the exclusion of French Canadian medical men. the proscription of their doctors, students, practice, language, lectures, and all* L. L. M.