

native Indians ; and you, who have voluntarily enlisted as their champion will no doubt be ready to assert, as an apology for your friends and employers, that they had been misinformed, but it will require something more than assertions to render it probable, that the principal agents and prime managers of the Company should possess so little information on its most important affairs. That Mr. McLeod, the magistrate whose uncommon zeal was spoken of in my last letter, approved entirely of the measures, by which the fall of the colony had been attempted, is perfectly manifest from his ineffectual and absurd interference, in the name of the North West Company, at York, a few weeks ago, to obtain the liberation of the partizan above alluded to, as having received the caresses of Mr. McLeod's associates, the partners at Fort William, for his distinguished zeal in their service. He had been arrested and brought to York, for the crimes, which obtained for him such marks of favor from the North West Company, when Mr. McLeod, arriving there, and finding him in gaol, made extraordinary efforts to procure his release though he had never seen the man in his life before, and probably never would have heard of him, had it not been for his infamous conduct. Can the North West Company expect the most credulous to believe their assertions, that their servants had no share in effecting the destruction of the settlement, while their partners are so forward, in their name, publicly to patronize and protect criminals, with whom they have no connection, except what originated in these transactions ! From Mr. McLeod's conduct on this occasion, it appears, that he had so high an opinion of himself, as to imagine, that his countenance possessed sufficient splendour to make what was black appear white ; and to expect that by ostentatiously extending the patronage of the North West Company to a malefactor, he was to deter the officers of justice at York, from doing their duty. Can Mr. McLeod and his associates, have the presumption to believe, that their sanction is alone sufficient to fix the stamp of propriety on actions deserving the abhorrence of mankind ? If they choose to admit robbers and incendiaries to a familiar intercourse with them, do they expect to obtain, for such detestable characters, the approbation of the world at large ? Or, is it, that these gentlemen have been so long in the habit