

degradation, which was preparing for them and regarded by those possessed of irresponsible power, their posterity by the British authorities. The when they are determined on violence, persecution slavery of Canada having been decreed, it was and wrong.

deemed proper, that the ablest, the most eloquent, and the most consistent of her advocates should share the common ruin of his country. In the first week of November, a warrant for high treason was made out, for the arrest of Louis Joseph PAPINEAU, and a "royal" proclamation issued a few days afterwards offering the sum of four thousand dollars for his capture. That Providence in whose keeping are the liberties of the human race, has preserved this champion of human rights from harm as yet; notwithstanding warrants and proclamations, which are a disgrace to civilization, Mr. Papineau still remains uncaptured.

Those who have the happiness to be citizens of these free states, and who are strangers, fortunately for themselves, to the miseries which colonists are obliged to endure, may perhaps be anxious to learn, in what consisted the *high treason* of which Mr. Papineau is accused, which should consign him and his family to ruin, and blot his country from the map. That treason consisted in assisting at public meetings—in openly addressing those who attended thereat; and calling on them to study economy, to put away all luxury and to make use of those powers which the constitution gave them for their own protection, by abstaining from the use of those articles, the consumption of which contributed to that revenue, which England is disposed of, without the consent of the people of the colony. When Lord Gosford called on the British ministry to "put down" Mr. Papineau, he admitted in the same breath, that the proceedings in Canada, "had not yet reached such a point, as to make it wise, or judicious for the executive to institute legal proceedings against any of the parties concerned" therein, and Lord Glenelg, the secretary of state for the colonies, commenting, last December, "the gradual but rapid advance of the enemies of peace and order"—as he is pleased to term those who were opposing his unconstitutional measures—is obliged to acknowledge that "the complaints were urged under the very forms of the constitution."

All this strict observance of "the very forms of the constitution," could not protect Mr. Papineau and the other gentlemen who acted with him, in defence of popular rights. They "must be put down," said Lord Gosford, and down they were put accordingly, despite of all law. So true is it, that "the very forms of the constitution," however respected they may be by the people, are but little

However violent and illegal has been the conduct of the government in Canada; however systematically unjust has been its policy towards the Canadians, and however clouded and dark may be the prospect at present, we do not despair of the final triumph of those sacred principles, for which these people are contending. Democracy, like christianity, only prospers the more, the more its followers are persecuted; and were we not encouraged by the history of nations, both on the European and American continent, there is enough in this brief sketch of Mr. Papineau's life, to foster hope and forbid despair. His father found that province a military colony—the people political serfs—military officers, judges; the law officers of the Crown in the province, unacquainted, even with the laws and the language of the people, over whom they were placed in authority, and the colonists deprived of trial by jury, and the benefit of *habeas corpus*. Thirty years afterwards, he obtained for his countrymen a representative assembly, and a voice in the making of their own laws. To extend by peaceable means the democratic principle thus recognized to the other institutions of the country, has been the constant and untiring aim of the second Papineau. For thirty years he, following the example of his venerable and patriotic father, has been educating his country, and endeavoring to accomplish his favorite and philanthropic object, and in the year 1831, we find him, with his country at his back, demanding that the people have a right to elect the second branch of their legislature. The contest between the people of Canada and the British government has terminated for the present, by the latter destroying (like Charles the Tenth of France) all popular rights, and by driving the advocates of democracy into prison or exile. The good seed which has been sown has, however, taken root—the discussions, both oral and written, of the last seven years, have educated the people, and though the British government were now to send out ten dictators, and ten times 10,000 bayonets, peace will never return to the province, nor will the Canadians ever be satisfied, until they obtain elective institutions, similar to those which have placed this great republic in the foremost rank of nations.

In person, Mr. Papineau is tall; his countenance is handsome, but stern, and his whole appearance is commanding and dignified. His manners are extremely simple and unostentatious, and

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