

This little piece unbent the contracted brow, dispelled the gathering cloud, recalled our wonted serenity, brought back the smiling countenance, gave scope to laughter, and all was again tranquil and serene.

So may it long continue; may we never see the like again!

It did not suffice with the prosecutor that the defendants were sick, and were tried for it; * he still persists in his Militia career; and fulminates as before in imperious and insulting language; he orders a fourth, and partial appearance upon the Parade, that is, of one company only, on which day the defendants were out of town upon their private concerns; † they gave previous notice, to the Captain of the company in which they were enrolled, of their intended and necessary departure, even before they knew that the Militia was to be assembled; notwithstanding his partiality in illegally calling out only one company, notwithstanding the expediency and necessity of their absence, the Honorable Colonel ordered ‡ another Court Martial, and the defendants were condemned to a fine of twenty shillings, and this fine was like the first in § a disgraceful manner levied on their goods and chattels. This marks his vexatious and oppressive spirit; for if they had asked Captain Harrison permission to go out of town on their private business, he was deterred from giving it them, by the severe reprimand he and another gentleman had received before on the public Parade; and if they had attempted to explain to him how *urgent* the occasion was, he probably would have told them that he was not a judge of what was, or what was not an *urgency*, or an *urgent occasion*, that there was no Ordinance of the Province to define it, or that his ideas of expediency, urgency, or necessity might not square with the Colonel's. But, gentlemen, no law requires a merchant, or citizen of Quebec, to ask leave from any Officer (high or low,) to go out of town in prosecution of his affairs, nor

* See appendix No. 10. which is a copy of his order 4 July.

† Which they can prove.

‡ See appendix No. 11.

§ See appendix No. 11.