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*Condo et compono quæ mox depromere possim.* HORACE.

Collecting and composing what from time to time may be produced.

## ABSTRACT OF DEBATES IN UPPER CANADA, continued.

Mr. John Wilson, who rose again, after the speaker, in the course of his further observations, judiciously said, in reply to the opinion expressed that the French Canadians would be gradually melted down, and in a few generations reduced to one language; that "such a case stood without precedent in the annals of mankind, since different languages and customs had existence upon the earth. Nothing but extermination could change the language and customs of a numerous and dense population, or transplanting and thinly interspersing them among another people; but this was not the age, neither was England the nation, for the former, nor yet for the latter without the consent of each individual.\* But a numerous people could not

\*It is not, however, seventy years ago, since a similar savage policy was adopted, and by England too, and upon French colonists, near neighbours, relations, and connections, and in the same situation as the Canadians were, before they obtained their constitutional act. The case of the French neutrals, of Nova Scotia, has been generally sturred over by our historians: but it is remembered, both by the old Canadians, and by the children of the Acadian exiles, dispersed through the United States. They were the descendants of those French inhabitants of Nova Scotia, who, after the treaty of Utrecht in 1713, by which the province was ceded to England, were permitted to hold their lands on condition of making a declaration of allegiance to their new sovereign, which was accompanied by the express stipulation that they were not to be required to bear arms either against their Indian neighbours, or transatlantic countrymen. This contract was revived at several subsequent periods; and such was its notoriety, that for half a century they bore the name, and maintained the character, of neutrals. The character of this race was mild, frugal, industrious, and pious, and a scrupulous sense of the indissoluble nature of their ancient obligation to their King, was the great cause of their mis-