

*Chambly, March 21st, 1822.*

MR. MACCULLOH,

An inhuman practice and one generally attended with the very worst consequences, equally injurious to families and to individuals, and very subversive of correct moral principles, is, unhappily, insinuating itself among the inhabitants of this province; a practice which loudly calls for the reprobation of every man alive not only to his own but to the interest and happiness of his neighbours and the public.

The barbarous custom to which I allude is cockfighting; than which there has seldom been devised a more cruel and criminal species of diversion, for diversion of any kind becomes criminal when it has a tendency to strengthen bad inclinations, and to weaken the active principles of humanity. There is a generous sensibility implanted in the human breast which it is man's positive duty to cherish and improve, instead of counteracting and repressing its suggestions.

On the morning of the 18th instant, a motley crowd of people, having for the most part scarcely a whole rag to cover their backs, assembled in a waste field in this village, where they unbagged their devoted birds, with the deadly instruments attached to their legs: the battle commences; they dart; they wound; and instantly the air resounds with horrid oaths and imprecations disgraceful to any beings in human shape. Tinkers, shoe-boys, and the very dregs of society, may naturally be expected to frequent such scandalous sports, but when others put themselves upon a par with such a rabble, it is but just to expose them, and to put down, and discountenance, not only the barbarity of the diversion but the infatuated spirit of gaming to which it gives rise. Among the mob stood conspicuous Harry Hone.