

276

London, 23d October 1828.

SIR,

HAVING done myself the honour to wait upon you yesterday at the Colonial Office, to report myself, on return from Canada, I lose no time in addressing to you this letter upon the Affairs of that Colony; in so far, at least, as they have been recently discussed before a Committee of the House of Commons, and Report made upon the Evidence brought before it.

I have had an opportunity, since my arrival, to peruse the Proceedings and Report of the Committee. I have read the whole with the utmost attention, and, I regret to add, with the utmost astonishment. It would not have become me to have animadverted on these documents, were I not convinced that in duty I am called upon to offer a caution against the consequences likely to follow upon the incorrect statements made in evidence, and the erroneous views taken by the Committee, in giving credit and belief to them. In few words, Sir GEORGE, I declare the Petitions, Complaints, or Statements, made by the Deputies from Canada, MESSRS VIGER, NEILSON, and CUVILLIER, to be utterly false in facts; that they are deeply and cunningly perverted from the true and real state of circumstances existing in Lower Canada.

These statements have been adopted by the Committee, without hearing the other parties. The whole is "*ex parte*" evidence, which I am ready to refute. These statements uncontradicted, will deceive His Majesty's Government, and must mislead as to any measures to be adopted towards that Colony. I do, therefore, most earnestly entreat of you to suspend your decision, until that investigation, now recommended by the Committee, shall be carried into effect.

Although what affects myself personally in that Report is of far less importance than the main question, it is deeply important to my character and reputation.