

One would imagine, that merely glancing at the anomalous government of Newfoundland, and the desolate aspect of the country, would be sufficient for any dispassionate and reflecting man, to connect the cause and effect, and point out to him the true source of the present condition of the people. We in vain look for any Government constituted like ours: it stands *unique* in the history of nations; and as vain should we look for such an appearance of neglect and distress. Yet such is the influence of interest upon a few, and habit and prejudice upon many, that every effort at improvement raises an host of enemies. But it is to be hoped that time, and the assiduous dissemination of truth, will be able to overcome them, and unite the people in one common sentiment of patriotism.

It is with this view that the friends of a constitutional form of Government have united themselves. In the pursuit of this object it was natural for them to expect opposition, and the usual concomitants, misrepresentation and abuse. They have been accused of arrogating to themselves the power of making laws for Newfoundland. They arrogate no such power. They claim nothing for themselves but which shall be common to all: but they claim, and *they will exercise* the privilege of expressing their sentiments upon what so deeply interests themselves, and of using all lawful ways and means of ameliorating their condition. They will be judged by every man interested in the welfare of Newfoundland, who will calmly look round him and say, whether this country has obtained that state of natural and social improvement of which it is capable—whether the best laws have been made for it—whether justice is speedily and uprightly administered in every part of the Island—whether its foreign trade has been secured by the best treaties—whether its domestic conveniences, its roads, soil and productions, the education, habits and morals of the people, have been carefully improved. If, on the con-