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To speak his thoughts is every freeman's right,
In peace, in war, in council, and in fight. *Pope—Itad.*

In presenting a new periodical publication to the public, it is both customary and proper for the editor to give some account of the motives and principles that actuate him, the purposes he has in view, and the means and abilities he conceives he possesses for the accomplishment of the object intended — To begin with the last mentioned I have now been for upwards of a year before the public, as the writer and editor of the SCRIBBLER, a paper that has had its full share of obloquy and of applause, of enemies and of friends, of persecution and of patronage. Happily I have it in my power to appeal to its permanence and success, as a proof that it is more praised than condemned, that of even its enemies it may be said that

laudant illa, sed ista legunt.

though they may praise other things, they read this; and that the repeated, powerful and malignant attempts that have been made for its suppression, have all resulted in its greater prosperity, wider circulation, and more lasting reputation. To say more on this subject would be to betray too much those feelings of vanity, I can not but be conscious the approbation and indulgence of the public have awakened within me. Such as I am, as a writer, and a publisher, I am now known, my defects, and my merits, my weaknesses and my powers, and such as they are, I flatter myself they will upon the whole afford a pledge for the execution of the undertaking I am now commencing in a manner that will neither disgrace me, nor be unacceptable to the Canadian world.

Having pursued the system of excluding from the pages of the Scribbler subjects of a purely political nature, I have not been able to avail of, or insert in that work, several communications which solely related to politics, although worthy of the public eye. The present shackled situation of the public press in Canada, together with the independence of my principles, which has been both avowed & proved, & the fearlessness which I have evinced in my publications, have rendered me a sort of *derrière resort* for those who can not gain admission into the columns of the timid, the time-serving newspapers of Montreal and Quebec, which are any thing rather than the vehicles

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