

making use of it in this place, instead of in the Scribbler, to which it was addressed: he will, however, no doubt perceive that I have done so from a wish to separate the serious from the ludicrous.

June 1823.

TO THE PUBLIC OF MONTREAL.

I am happy to find one public paper in this province, whose conductor stands manfully forward to reprobate and resist usurped power, unbiassed by bribes, unawed by threats. Nor is it less a source of gratification to find him ever willing, solicitous, and prepared, to right the injured, to repress aggression and insult, and exhibit the oppressor and aggressor in the vestments of scorn. To this fortunate medium do I resort with exultation, to expose the counterfeit and bastard personification of justice which has been displayed in this place on a late deplorable occasion. On whom ought the heavy hand of justice to fall? On those who, if even they were acting in an irregular and unauthorised manner, which I am by no means inclined to admit, were comparatively trifling offenders, guilty at most of the slightest shade of breaking the peace, for as to a riot, that, every one, who is conversant with the law of England, knows, can not exist without a *previous intention* of committing some act of violence, or upon the perpetrators of that deed, which the coroners inquest, one of the sacred guardians of British rights, has declared to be murder, and upon the accessaries, and abettors, amongst whom stand foremost the evil advisers of the illfated absconders, those who spurred them on to the deed, who *furnished them with arms and ammunition, and urged them to fire*. Who these are, if you, the public, do not know, I can tell you,—And I can tell you too that one of them,* instead of being taken up, and secured to take his trial, has been allowed to be a chief accuser and witness against those unoffending individuals belonging to the Charrivarri, whom the magistrates, with their accustomed injustice, have harrassed with prosecutions. These advisers and abettors, I say, are the men, who deserve the execration of the public, as they will have the imprecations of the widow and the fatherless. Listen to the heartrending exclamations of the weeping widow and disconsolate mother; to the deserved curses of the beggared orphans of an unfortunate parent, O ye men of evil! and then if it be possible, lull your unruffled consciences to sleep. Or, if ye are allowed, by the partiality of the magistrates to hug yourselves with congratulations for your impunity, at least do not add to the awful consequences of your demoniac advice, the crime of persecuting innocence by rancour and perjury. JUSTICE.

*A name was given here in the communication received, but which, for obvious reasons, is suppressed. L. L. M.