

their property and persons continually endangered from the absence of the power and means to obviate existing deficiencies and risks.

The people then according to the oracle, are the faction of superior numbers, but may not another faction exist who prefer their own interest to that of the public, who cling with an irrational tenacity to an exclusive monopoly of power, and its appendages, who think the people unworthy to share in the regulation of their own concerns, who would forego the advantages of a beneficial change, rather than allow them to become the instrument by which it is to be achieved? *If such a party exist, it is a faction.* If it do not, the measure of incorporation will be triumphantly carried.

In England it is the duty of public men to commune with the people, as often as they or the people deem such a proceeding adviseable, for the purpose of ascertaining the opinions of the people, it may be, of instructing their ignorance; and the constitution of England is that of Canada. It may be better however, judging from the sneers of the oracle, that the people were kept in ignorance of the principle of the "sovereignty of the people," expounded, as it has been by the genius of Milton, consecrated by the understanding of Locke, ratified by the Revolution of 1688 in Britain, and embodied in the Constitution of 1791 in Canada. As however, Mr. Fox sagaciously remarked, it is one that ought seldom to be remembered by the people, and never forgotten by kings. It may be imprudent to remind them too frequently of its validity, especially if the interests of a country are sacrificed for the benefits of a faction. Thus public disorders and *factionous* preferences may go hand in hand. With regard however, to the local government of towns, it is clearly for the interests of the people that the action of this principle should be surrendered to them as already explained, by the general Legislature. They ought to be supreme in the management of their municipal affairs.

The other objections of the Gazette's champion have been already anticipated, and these remarks may therefore be concluded by signifying to him and his friends, that the measures of a faction can never succeed when *the professions of its members are at total variance with their public conduct.* Such gross inconsistency alike awakens the indignation of their enemies, and the utter contempt of their friends.