

of the many over the few? Why will they offer us the rottenness of their freedom, when, possessing its soundness we want nothing from their hands but peace and good will?

Let them at once begin in earnest to cultivate friendly relations with their neighbours on the frontiers of British America,—let them hold up to public scorn and detestation the wretches who, by word or deed, would openly endanger the peace of the two countries,—let them cease blustering about the *Caroline*, and cease persisting in demands alike opposed to justice, reason, and common sense, and which the honour of England will never allow her to acquiesce in. "The law of nature," says John Locke, "stands as an eternal rule to all men," and it was in accordance with this rule that the pirate steamer *Caroline* was destroyed. Admitting the eternity of the law of nature, and thus denying its natural operation, conveys a contradiction, which American sophists alone would endeavour to shew contained no contradiction at all. Let them avoid all angry discussion upon this unfortunate affair, and leave it to the dispassionate judgment of the two governments, and meanwhile let the authorities of the State of New York instantly release Mr. McLeod from his imprisonment.

It is to the Government of England that the President's Government must look for redress if any be required, not to its subordinate officers for injuries alleged to have been done whilst in performance of their lawful duties. To adopt a contrary course would present to the world the absurd and humiliating spectacle of a nation waging war against an individual, when the "*casus belli*" was an act done by that individual in accordance with the order of his own Government, which was ready and willing to take upon itself all the responsibility thereof, and to do stern and rigid justice in the affair,

even to the extent of her own national injury, if upon calm deliberation her people should have been found to have carried their zeal too far, and done that which the laws of nature and of nations would not justify.

Whether we look upon McLeod's imprisonment as brought about by the testimony of individuals whose names are a reproach to human nature, and are enrolled, one and all, on the atrocious records of the "Hunters!" as a vicious misapplication of foreign laws to the injury of a British subject; or as an insult to the Crown and dignity of a friendly power, it cannot but be considered as a grave and very serious difficulty, and one which will require much decision and firmness on the part of the British Government to overcome. Upon them we place implicit confidence. England will bear much and forbear long, and we doubt not she will, in accordance with her known principles of justice and fair dealing do all that a great nation ought to do to remove the present difficulties. Let the President's Government do the same. Let that Government remember that it is yet in its infancy; "that a nation's destiny lies in its character;" and never let it forget that if that character be lost by any departure from justice towards others, and a renunciation of "God's moral and eternal law," short will be its existence, and terrible the anarchy and confusion accompanying its dissolution. Let them then strengthen their great political fabric with the divine principles of eternal truth and justice! Let them cultivate the peaceful arts, and drink deep from the pure and overflowing fountains of science! Thus, and thus alone, may they "strike the rock" and turn the stream of true glory, wealth, honour, and renown over the whole length and breadth of their magnificent country.