

cannot be very great in an honest country, they are not to be feared. The novel circumstance of which our everlasting enemies seek to take advantage is, that the British Parliament is opposed to us; that the Minister, disregarding the just complaints of the people, has feeling and prejudices only for corrupt officials; that he wishes to steal your money to pay your servants whom your Representatives have refused to pay, because in the opinion of that competent authority, they have been lazy, faithless and incapable; whom they wished to dismiss from your service, because of their evil-doing; who insolently remained with you against your will, and, when you refused them wages which they did not earn, combined with foreign thieves to rob you. This difficulty is great, but it is neither new nor insurmountable. The Americans gloriously beat this all-powerful Parliament some years ago. It is consoling to Freemen to look back to 1774; to applaud the virtuous efforts, and the complete success, which overcame an attack similar to that which is about being made against you. Its injustice has already obliged us to contend against this all-powerful Parliament, and our constitutional resistance has before now arrested it. The Minister shewed himself an oppressive tool in the hands of the official faction of Canada, in 1822, and the House of Commons shewed themselves to be the docile slaves of the Minister, by supporting, by a great majority, her attempt to unite the two provinces. MELBOURNE, the Minister, is equally the instrument of oppression which the same Official and Tory faction of Canada employs in its service; and the great majority of the Commons is again the servile crew which the Minister drives as he lists, on a colonial question of which they understand but little, and to which they attach no interest. The times to prove men are arrived. Such times are of great use to the people. They teach them to distinguish those who are fair-weather patriots, whom the first stormy day disperses; those who are patriots when no sacrifices are to be made, from those who are patriots in times of sacrifices; those whose only merit consists in crying "Huzzah! we are with the ma-

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jority, but if it does not succeed presently, we shall keep aloof, and remain quiet;" from those who say—"In good and bad fortune we are for the people; if they be ill-treated, we shall not keep aloof; we shall not remain quiet; we shall defend them at every risk; we shall contend for principles, and if these are violated, we will maintain them against all authority whatsoever, so long as our hearts beat—so long as our lips can proclaim the truth, give vent to complaint or scatter reproach. (Loud cheer.) You understand the importance of the subject which has called us together. We are not here to give the reins to a just indignation, to fiery appeals to vengeance and the passions, which would be only too well justified. We are here to convene together familiarly, without reserve or concealment, without dissimulation or regard for perverse men or iniquitous measures; to occupy ourselves with our common interests; to calculate what is the extent of the evil which is attempted to be inflicted on us; who are its odious authors; what opposition we can offer; what punishment we ought to inflict upon them. The extent of the injury they wish to inflict upon us is the insult and contumely with which a persecuting government repels all and each of the reforms which you have demanded; it is to prepare for you a futurity worse than the past which has been insupportable. It is, in fine, to rob to plunder you of the fruit of your sweat of your labor, to keep in pay, and to render more insolent, your servants, against whom you have already but too much cause to complain. (Cries of "Tis true.") The English have, in all times, ever since they had a representative system of government, professed, and sealed with their blood, the doctrine that their Kings and Officers had no right to receive any other salary, any other supplies, than those which they had given, through their Representatives, their free consent. They have always believed that they were equally justified in drawing the sword against him who violated the law in endeavoring to break open the door of the house to rob them, and against those who violated the law in seeking to break open the doors of the depot containing the public money, the keys of which they had en-

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