

S. THOMPSON'S BOOKS!

Beware of Wooden Nutmegs!!

When Americans friendly to our institutions, come into this colony to settle amongst us, to bear a part of our burthens and to lead a life of honest industry as farmers, mechanicks, merchants, &c. we hail them as brothers. For if the United States are not afraid of receiving 10,000 idle or discontented, British and Irish every now and then—neither is John Bull likely to become alarmed at a small importation of Jonathans into British America. But when we see Yankee wooden clock pedlars, wooden nutmeg gentry, lottery ticket venders, pretended hawkers of the lives of La Fayette and Washington, by subscription; and others of that stamp, openly gulling our neighbours out of their hard earned dollars to increase the coffers of Baltimore and Connecticut gamblers and cheats, and to impoverish the poor inhabitants of this infant colony, depress and ruin our mechanicks and artists, and injure our commerce with Britain, we perform an imperative duty by exposing them to the just indignation of every friend to this country.

We have warned the public that one S. Thompson, lately from and of the United States, preacher and pedlar---had gone about the country and obtained 300 subscribers for a quarto bible to be printed on home made paper, in Upper Canada, to cost five or six dollars, and that he had told the people they were subscribing for the first Canada edition of the scriptures,---as also, that he had since expressed to us and others his intention of palming on his subscribers some Yankee stereotype edition in place of the Canadian one for which they had signed.

We have now to state that this Thompson has his Yankee books nearly ready printed, wherewith to impose upon his signers, and that he expects to bring them across the Niagara in a few days.

Thompson says in an advertisement that our former statement was *unfair* and **FALSE**; this is impudent enough on his part. We refer to Mr. John Eastwood, paper maker, Mr. Francis Collins, printer, (who published his advertisement) and Mr. Maxwell, cabinet maker, all of York---and if need be we can bring 100 credible witnesses to prove that this person has been guilty in form and manner as charged in our late indictment.

We wish the country well, and therefore offer a timely caution to all manner of persons against having any thing to do with this Thompson's Yankee Bibles and Testaments.

There was an act passed in London on the 5th July 1825, (6to Geo. IV. Cap. 114.) by which "books, such as are prohibited to be imported into the United Kingdom:" are "prohibited to be imported" into Upper Canada * from foreign parts. Bibles and Testaments in the *English language* are permanent copy right works in the hands of the King's printers and the two universities, and may not be lawfully imported into the United Kingdom, consequently cannot be admitted from the United States into Canada †. And if Thompson shall attempt to smuggle them in, contrary to the true and evident intent and meaning of the above imperial act, he may rest assured that we and others our associates will look sharply after him, as we are well aware that there is no collector of the customs who dare admit them to pay 30 per cent duty contrary to law.

W. L. MACKENZIE,

On behalf of 85 of the inhabitants
of York, U. C.

York, August 6th, 1827.

* See also 15 Geo. III c. 53.---41 Geo. III c. 107.---54 Geo. III c. 156 (unrepealed) and a general order of the commissioners of customs, dated London 8th Oct. 1819.

† The Bible could be printed in England by any one formerly---but in the reign of Charles 1st a large edition was struck off and circulated, with the omission of the word "not" in the 7th commandment, by which it read "Thou shalt commit adultery." The edition was all bought in and Archbishop Laud procured the passage of an act whereby spurious editions could not be printed as before. In the United States any man may print the bible, and very incorrect copies are printed and circulated there, but these are strictly prohibited from being imported into England, or her colonies for sale.