

## P R E F A C E .

Canada has just witnessed the dissolution of her Parliament. We have undergone the excitement of a General Election.

Two parties viz: the *Ministry* and the *Opposition*, who have differed on many issues in the last Parliament are contending with each other for the right to rule us.

Some Hon. Members of the late Ministry have enlisted under the banner of the opposition.

What new arrangement may take place—whether or not a *third* party may rise to power—these are problems that cannot be solved.

But we address ourselves to a class more important than any political party. We are addressing ourselves to **THE PEOPLE OF CANADA.**

One point came up for discussion in the last session of the House: yet it remains unexplained. And yet we believe that no other point has since that period created so much interest outside the house. We allude to the fate of the unfortunate Aylwards!!

Had they been murderers of the deepest dye still their helpless little children—their three helpless orphans, thrown on the world without any means of support claim public sympathy—the Government it appears refuses any in this matter!!!

It is strange that Members of the last Ministry, though now in opposition have not given us any account of their past or present views regarding the Aylward Execution. *Our leading statesmen in office and out of office* are wonderfully united in the Silence!!

With the exception of Hon. Mr. Alleyne, Messrs. Hunt, Ferguson and O'Connor, no commiseration was expressed by Members in the house when the Aylward trial was mentioned.

These are the only exceptions: these gentlemen acquitted themselves creditably. Our Orators in office and out of office are dumb on the Aylward Case.

Now, the Public desire an explanation of this singular silence. The fate of the Aylwards awoke pity and regret in millions of persons—in every class and creed.

It is a Gross Blunder to say that this sympathy is a *party cry*. No.—It was a feeling of Humanity—proved by facts.

For the loudest in expressing this just sympathy were persons whose religious opinions differed from those of the Aylwards.

It is true that **THE PRESS** so often the faithful advocate of the poor and oppressed—in many instances, was true to this cause.

We may mention as honourable examples.—*The Daily News, The Chro-*