

LAWED AS WE HAVE BEEN. If it must be this, or a bold stroke for anti-British Independence—be it so. In that event, *we* will not court “conciliation;”—well knowing that Britons must not hope for “equal justice.” If we must fight—pro Aris et Focis—for our Altars and our Hearths—as our fathers have often fought before us, those who thus compel us will have something different to deal with from a Franco-Canadian outbreak. Greek then meets Greek,—then comes the tug of war! Is this to be desired? Is it to be lightly chosen? By all that is great and solemn in eternity, I answer No. This is not what we wish. This—if we may have honourable treatment—is what, (believing it to be, next to slavery and insult, the greatest of earthly evils) rather than do, or suffer to be done, we will peril life and all. Then what is it that we want? Our prayer is that we may be no longer outlaws:—that, on the contrary, we may have in Canada, what our Laws inform us an Englishman has every where, “as much of English Law and Liberty as the nature of our situation will allow.” All in one word;—for us as for our fellow-Britains, THE BRITISH CONSTITUTION. This is our claim, *and nothing less than this*. We prefer it as Britons born, ever true to Britain’s Crown, ever proud of her Dominion; ready to share her every danger, praying to share her power and freedom.

I have much more to say to complete my engagement. It must form the subject of a second letter.

Your most obedient Servant,

CHARLES SCOTT.

*Montreal, December, 1839.*

P.S.—The subjects remaining to be discussed are—the provisions of “a Bill for re-uniting the Provinces of Upper Canada and Lower Canada;” including a Review of the various measures proposed for making “permanent provisions for the future good government of the Provinces,” &c., proving that such measures will not be “permanent;” and that the Government by such means to be established will not be “good:” that, on the contrary, the effect of such measures will be to perpetuate our “eternal squabbles,” if not our intestine tumults,—*by certain Statesmen conceived to be the worthy because only practicable means for the perpetuation of our dependence*. Lastly: suggestions for a Colonial Constitution, breathing the true spirit of the Metropolitan:—such a Constitution as should prevent intestine broils, everlasting official interference, aristocratic domineering, and democratic revolution.