

posture of defence, threatening death to any one who should approach him. But the Irishman, on whom the hopes of the company rested, defended himself from the thrust of Johnson, gave him several bruises, broke his sword, and finally disarmed him; whereupon he was rebound, placed in the carriage, guarded again by seven men, and driven off for St. Albans. There he was placed in a strong set of irons, and given up to Mr. McKenny, who conducted him to Portland. He arrived in this town on Tuesday last, and was examined at the Court-house, amidst a great crowd of spectators, and laid under bonds of twelve hundred dollars to appear and receive his trial at the sitting of the Supreme Court in this town in November. The prisoner, being unable to obtain bail, was committed."

This statement as far as respects "the good people of St. Albans," has been declared, most quixotically, by the editor of the Repertory there, to be "substantially and infamously false," "a base and most scandalous perversion of truth." Having, in the first instance, been brought before a justice there for examination on a complaint exhibited against him by the State's Attorney, no evidence of the crime alleged appeared, and he could not be ordered for trial; but the court being informed that Mr. McKenny was hourly expected, it was deemed expedient to detain Johnson for further evidence, and he was delivered to the sheriff, who kept him in custody four days, when, as no further evidence was brought against him, and there seemed to be no probability that any would appear, the magistrate deemed it improper to detain him for a longer period, and he was discharged.

What became of the horse and chaise does not appear. Have they been recovered by the owner, or did Johnson sell them? But guilty or not guilty of the fraud, rogue or no rogue, that has nothing to do with the misconduct of the Montreal officers. They, it seems, found him in the afternoon, playing at ninepins. If they had not been conscious that their purpose was illegal and unjustifiable, would the apprehension of his "Herculean strength" have prevented them from arresting him in open day? No, they knew they were acting the part of hired and lawless ruffians, and waited till night, to burst into his chamber, and carry him off in the dark, bruised and bound. Suppose him even fully guilty of what is laid to his charge, does it become an independent and sovereign state, would it have become the pettiest German barony, or paltriest fief of the empire, to allow a stranger to be forcibly taken upon its territory, and carried off to a foreign jurisdiction, upon an accusation, which the trifling sum of 1200 dollars was considered as ample bail to answer for? Disgraceful as the transaction is to all concerned in it, it is more so to the government or magistracy that do not discountenance, repress, enquire into, and punish, such violations of the laws of nations, and of their own municipal and judicial authority.