

"Those commercial madcaps flatter themselves with a great extension of trade by the union: produce is to be enhanced to double its present value; the importation is to increase twofold! Poor deluded men! Where are you to send the staple produce of the provinces, wheat? Will the people in England consume your grain, and leave their own to moulder in their stores? Or will this union make both the Upper and Lower Canadians wear a double suit of clothes of British manufacture yearly, and lay aside altogether, their homespun stuff, to meet your ends? But let me ask these great commercial persons, who have their friends and agents on the other side of the Atlantic, why did they allow to pass in silence, and why did they acquiesce thereby in, the law granting the furtrade solely to individuals? Was it because that few Canadians were concerned in that business? Was not that branch of our trade in their hands as much as any other branch? Why did they not oppose the passing of this law so injurious to the country? His Majesty's council always conceived that this trade belonged to His Majesty's Canadian subjects, if I may judge from the answer given to the application made in 1810 and 1811 by Mess. Inglis Ellice & Co. and McTavish Fraser & Co. of London, in behalf of themselves and the ci-devant North West Company, for the exclusive privilege of the trade of the Columbia River. What was that answer? That such a privilege could be granted but to His Majesty's Canadian subjects only. These facts may be doubted by many of your readers, but let the office of lord Bathurst be searched, and the whole correspondence will be found, and what I here say found to be true. The loss of this trade is and will continue to be severely felt by this province.— Let an impartial man compare the value of exports this last season, both at Quebec and St. Johns, with that at a time when that trade was carried on through this place, & its value will be ascertained.

"These facts must convince you, Mr. Editor, that the promoters of the union have other things in view than the welfare of either of the provinces. It strikes me more forcibly when I consider that the furtrade was snatched from us at a time when there was no more than a quorum in the Imperial House of Commons, and at nearly the close of the session; and the infamous union bill was brought in nearly at the same period, and what is more astonishing, by the same person. **THERE MUST BE FOUL PLAY THERE.**

"At a future time I will resume this subject, should you encourage me. **ANTI-COMMERCIAL.**

Montreal, 5th Feb. 1823.

*This law was passed, and it was not till the governor's proclamation that we had any knowledge of it. Note of Canad. Spect