

Time, inclination and ability are wanting to follow this writer in his hysterical bursts of anger at the treatment of his idol, no doubt become so, in consequence of his insolent assumption and contemptuous treatment of the Law and the Bench. The Attorney-General, despite the praise lavished upon him by unprincipled men, must be satisfied that the conduct complained of cannot be repeated with safety to himself, and that no Statesman not relying upon corruption for support can afford to continue, with impunity, a course of hostility and studied disparagement of the legal profession.

We are inclined to ask the nature of the glittering reward, anticipated by this writer for his base services. It will be no *po-sition* of trust and honor, we hope, for assuredly he will betray the one and be false to the other.

The *Montreal Gazette* also contains articles on this subject, if relieved of their abuse, more in the style of a political bravo, than that of the conductor of a respectable journal, it might, perhaps, be considered an ingenious and plausible attempt on the part of Mr. Cartier's servants to shelter him from the consequences of his reckless impudence and impetuosity. Persons like the writer of these articles always believe that a man must be animated by selfish or servile motives. Under the influence of such impressions, the writer persists in considering the paper reviewed by him as a tribute of personal flattery to two Members of the Queen's Bench. The error, even if it be unintentional, is a grave one; and if the assertion were credited, it would contribute to prevent writers from expressing their opinions, lest their motives should be distorted, and their objects reduced to the level of some of the writers in the Ministerial Press of the day.

The independence of Ministerial control evinced by those two Judges commanded the sympathy and obtained the support of honorable men who had no private objects to subserve. In the opinion of the Bar, this independence is essential for the pure administration of Justice; not a luxury to be exhibited merely when the interests of the Government are not adverse to its display.

Again, this writer affects to believe that there was an intention to assail the Members of the Superior Court, but no candid reader will deduce any such inference from anything that was said. The subject of remark and, we admit, of censure, was not individuals, but the system. Many, if not all, the Judges of the Superior Court may compare favorably with occupants of similar positions in any part of this continent. The object of the remarks which have excited so much venom, was to preserve the high position of the Court inviolate, and to secure that object, it is necessary that the Court should be protected from the possibility of suspicion of undue leanings towards the Government. Judges cannot, with safety to themselves nor without damage to the public interests, be placed in positions calculated to inspire doubt and distrust.

The wholesale exercise of the power conferred on the Minister of the day of appointing Members of the Bench to offices superior, either in honor or emolument, awakened attention, and were such a course to continue, would inevitably impair public confidence in the Judges. To check a result so injurious to public justice, and so mischievous to the public welfare, the Bar denounced the system. The Members of the Bench ought to be preserved from association with Ministerial intrigue, and the hope of preferment depending upon the whim and caprice of the Attorney-General, lest, instead of being considered the faithful guardians of the rights of their fellow-citizens, they should in public estimation, be degraded into pliant instruments in the hands of designing or daring Ministers.

The exercise, by one man, of the dangerous patronage conceded by the Legislaturo to the Crown was alarming, even while men without stain or reproach occupied the Bench. Their fears would have been boundless, if they had shared the opinions of this writer as to the general servility and want of principle of the profession. If the sources are poisoned, the stream will be corrupt. We cannot expect the Bench to consist of men of integrity and honor, if the men from whom they are selected are degraded and worthless.

Again we must rectify an assertion made by this writer, that we maliciously insinuate, the incompetency of the Counsel engaged in the conduct of the criminal business. We must have written very hastily, if such an interpretation could with truth be ascribed to us. We think, rather, that our observations referred to individuals who avoided the Courts; therefore could not have applied to Mr. Monk, who, in his position, is obliged to meet *all comers*; and if any one were disposed to dispute his competency and fitness, which we do not, but, on the contrary, cheerfully admit, we think the proper place would be in the Court itself, and not in newspaper paragraphs. The writer of these articles, anxious to obtain additional remuneration, we presume, out of the public purse, upon which we doubt not he is already fattening, exhibits that reckless and undisciplined zeal, which persons similarly situated always do, and considers the defence and support of the Judges in that emergency as deficient in value, because no disposition to support them *a tort et a travers* has been exhibited by the persons connected with the movement. If such movements had been as common heretofore as they