

boastingly, or as an experiment, but as early as it was proper or safe for it to be done, and as freely as it was kindly bestowed, leaves us in doubt whether most to admire the munificence of the gift, or the power and wealth of the donors. No country, that is kept in a continual state of agitation, can either be a happy or a flourishing one; and it is our peculiar good fortune that with us agitation is unnecessary. If there should be any little changes required from time to time, in our limited political sphere, and such occasions sometimes do, and always will occur in the progress of our growth, a temperate and proper representation will always produce them, from the predominant party of the day, whatever it may be, if it can only be demonstrated that they are wise or necessary changes. It is the inclination as well as the interest of Great Britain so to do; and whoever holds out any doubts on this subject, or proclaims the mild, conciliatory, and parental sway of the imperial government, "a baneful domination," is no friend to Nova Scotia, or British connexion, and should be considered as either an ignorant or a designing man. Canada has become so burthensome an appendage of the British empire, from the intrigues of discontented men, that many of our friends on the other side of the water, doubt whether it is worth holding at such an enormous expense. Oppressed we never have been—coerced we never will be. Everything has been done, that is either just or reasonable, or liberal, for us. We always have been, and still continue to be, the most favoured people in the British empire. Let us show ourselves worthy of such treatment, by exhibiting our gratitude, and sustain the reputation we have hitherto borne, of being the most tranquil and loyal Colony in North America. Let us not be too importunate for change, or we may receive the very proper, but to many, the very unexpected answer—"Govern yourselves: you appear to be so difficult to please, so determined not to be satisfied, that we give up the attempt in despair. *You are independent.*" This is no improbable event—no ideal danger—no idle fear. I regret to say, that such a course has already numerous and powerful advocates in England, and is daily gaining ground even among our best friends, and staunchest supporters. They are wearied out with unfounded complaints, with restless, unceasing cravings for change, and their own repeated, but ineffectual attempts to give satisfaction. They say, they see no alternative left but coercion, which they will not resort to, or "cutting the tow-ropes," and casting us adrift. No true friend to his country can contemplate such an event as a dissolution of British connexion, without the severest regret, the deepest remorse, the most painful apprehensions.

The withdrawal of the army and navy from Halifax; the striking of the flag of Old England on the Citadel Hill; and the last parting salute of her old friends, as they left our shores for ever, would be the most mournful spectacle, and the severest infliction, that an avenging Providence has in store for us. It would be a day of general gloom and universal lamentation. All men of property and reputation—all persons of true British feeling—every man in a situation to do so, would leave us; and capital, credit and character would follow in the train. We should be inundated with needy adventurers, unprincipled speculators, loafers, sympathisers, and Lynchers, the refuse of Europe and America; and this once happy, too happy country would become an easy pray to civil dissension, like the petty states of South America, or to the rapacity of foreign adventurers like the Texans.

That such a measure of retributive justice is in store for us should the infectious agitation of Canada unhappily reach us, no man who has visit-