

mind of a well whipped pack of spaniels;* while, not to be outdone in the style complimentary, another Honourable Member declared that the ministry were steeped to the lips in corruption.†

A very highly esteemed friend was solicited to allow himself to be put in nomination as a candidate at an approaching election; he had wealth, station and talent, more than sufficient to qualify him for the post, but he declined, nor could any persuasion or argument induce him to alter his determination, but his reply was so truthful and so pertinent that it should be kept constantly before every one who aspires to political honours. "I am quite willing," said he, "to make any sacrifice that will benefit our cause; draw on me for any amount you may require; as a party man I am prepared to take my share of all the responsibility of the party with which I act, but I neither can nor will subject myself and my family to the abuse and personal slanders which enter so largely into your political contests, more particularly during elections." Was he not right? our political system offers no inducement to independent men to enter the arena—the hope of judgeships may tempt ambitious lawyers to brave the fight—but few of our leading merchants or agriculturists venture on the task, hence our chief commercial cities are generally represented by lawyers, and hence too our tariff is constantly being changed—in other countries trade regulations endure for years—here since the union we have had about thirteen alterations. Does not the mode of warfare to which allusion has been made, deter many of our best and most independent men from occupying their proper position.

With a political society constituted as ours is, dare any man tell the whole truth? many in Canada have had experience enough to convince them that such a procedure is most detrimental to the prospects of any one who indulges in so old fashioned a custom.

The tone of the leaders of the political parties in England is in a great degree regulated not by the newspaper press so much as by the magazines, which reflect the opinions of each because in them the articles are written with a total absence of the style vituperative and with that care which gives them weight and power, and it might come within the legitimate range of the contributors to the *British American Magazine* at least to endeavour to remedy the evil of which all complain, and induce a better and more kindly method of supporting our own political opinions than by abusing those who hold the contrary. In all other pursuits men get on very well without having it constantly dinned in their ears that their next door neighbour is a cheat, a corruptionist or a renegade.

To break our thread for a moment—Sir James Stuart cross examining an Irishman, asked him a question a second time—"You

* The Hon. Francis Hincks.

† The Hon. John A.

