

I have not read either Gulliver's lucubrations or your own—God forbid! Nothing but the sentence of a Court of Justice, with the Sheriff and his Constables to see it inflicted, could induce me to undergo such a penalty—but I have read the correspondence between him of Laputa and him of Woodhill, and a washy, trashy, milk and water hog-wash it is, as I would wish to cope withal on the longest summer day, (and that is the 22nd of June,) for the remainder of this, or the first half of the next century. Neither of the combatants are straight-forward hitters, and each (most needlessly) is afraid of the other. Now I can assure both those heroes, that there is no fear of his being floored by a right and left fiercer from his opponent, or doubled up, by a "nasty one," on the bread basket,—a pat on the lug, or a scratch on the nose is the outside of what can be expected from these controversial pugilists.

The gentle and judicious Mr. Gowan also has favoured the world with an article on the subject, but not having a surveyor's chain by me, I am not capable of judging accurately of the *extent* of its merits. My worthy friend and ally, the wet Quaker too, keepeth up a most harassing fire of pop-guns, as if an impression were to be made on the head of the public, as water wears the stone, "*non vi*," (most assuredly not,) "*sed saepe cadendo*."

I was once of opinion that some means similar to those employed at home, of making the Government responsible to the people, might be adopted in this country, but observation and reflection have convinced me, that the way proposed is quite impracticable here. It is quite clear, that the House of Assembly is not a body of sufficient intelligence, nor in their collective capacity of even sufficient honesty, to be trusted with the management of the check necessary to be kept over judicial or monetary concerns.

This is not a matter of prejudice or theory, nor is it arguing in the plu-perfect tense, of what might, could, would, or should happen, but a matter of fact which is as susceptible of proof, as any fact to be substantiated on evidence less than mathematical. Look at the proceedings of every House of Assembly, of every shade of political opinion, in the management of the funds of the Province, for the last fifteen years, and tell me if the men who have squandered the resources of the country on such jobs as the Welland Canal, (which I don't object to as an undertaking, but as to the misapplication of the money employed in it,) of that most absurd and nefarious job the St. Lawrence canal,—of all the jobs of the late Parliament, for which jobs Sir F. B. Head sent them packing, and the colony confirmed his sentence, and then tell me upon what principle, save that doubtful one of setting a thief to catch a thief, you could ever propose to commit to these worthless the surveillance of their brother plunderers.

No, if you are to have any responsibility on this side of the water, let it rest with the Legislative Council, a body of men sufficiently independent both of the rabble and the Family Compact to do justice, without fear or favour, and by making their proceedings in all investigations an open Court, you exercise a more effective and beneficial control by the people, than you ever would do through their representatives in Parliament. On the whole, however, considering the average of Assemblies, of Councils, and Lieut. Governors that I have known, I would infinitely rather commit the charge of checking abuse to the latter, than either of the others, and for this reason, that an individual is always really responsible for his actions—a body, however constituted, never is so.

But if your plans had been as judicious as they are in the extreme absurd, the time you have chosen to bring them forward is enough to condemn them. The Province just recovering from rebellion within, and still obnoxious to invasion from without, all minor matters should be hid aside, and before you proceed to legislate for the Province, you should take care to secure the possession of it, and this is not to be done by dividing the well affected, and giving the enemies of the British Constitution a point round which to rally. When the "Carle o' the Curse" set up for a Daniel O'Connell, he should first have been sure, that he had a fair share of Dan's talent and of Dan's impudence, and you and Gowan and Fothergill, and Carrotty Hughes, should reflect, that while you are grubbing for yourselves holes under the foundation, you may bring the house about your ears,—that if you are successful in your present agitation, it will certainly end in sending men into the