

the subtlety of reasoning? And can what is difficult be combatted by what is impossible?

It is pretended that the pretended forgers of the map have betrayed themselves by too much precaution. I cannot see that; I should, indeed, see the contrary if I admitted the falsification; for, would it not have been great unskilfulness to make Mr. Alexander write to the Marchioness de Lambert; "I have so little idea, at present, that the titles and estates of the Stirling family can devolve upon my children, that I have encouraged the taste of my son for the ministry of our church of Scotland, and he is preparing himself in Holland, at the university of Leyden." Assuredly, this passage alone would suffice to confound the accusation.

Your law-suit, my Lord, will have its place, and be re-echoed in the pages of history.

Even if I did not believe in your loyalty and honor, it would be impossible for me to believe in the vast genius, which would attribute to you, if it were well founded, the fabrication of the map of Canada.

The accusation must necessarily fall, if it be examined from the origin, and as a whole. All the minor details ought to be overlooked in the grandeur of this cause.

Be pleased to accept, my Lord, with the expression of my wishes, that of my most distinguished consideration.

(Signed)

VILLENAVE,

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France at the Royal Athæneum, one
of the Presidents of the Historical
Institute, &c. &c.

Paris, 19th April, 1839.
