

Morris, Peterson, both the Thomsons, Vankoughnet, and White---19. Nays 12--- Those in Italics deserted the bill.

I used many stratagems to thwart this mad project. I wrote against it in the newspaper, and kept all my work hands up on the Wednesday night, to give place to Mr. Fothergill's luminous speech; I wrote privately to persons in the country begging of them to instruct their representatives, and argued the case with some of the members, while I was urging the constituents of others, who were then in town, to use their influence; I also found out and explained the defective nature of Mr. McGill's title, but it was all of little avail. At last I hit upon an expedient which gained time and reduced their majority to one, by the pure force of ridicule. I wrote a petition turning the proposed loan into a jest, and got Mr. Timothy Street, who fully entered into my views, to sign it; Captain Matthews laid it before the House, with infinite gravity, and it was read and greatly reprobated, but fully answered the purpose. On the third reading of the bill, Mr. McBride, in obedience to the will of his friends in Niagara, to-mahawked it by his casting vote. Speaker Willson, had voted for it in committee; consequently, had McBride stood away like Scollick and others, as if under doubts, this foolish and wicked grant would have been carried very smoothly, thro' Speaker Willson's means.---The final vote stood as follows; Yeas, Attorney General, Beasley, Cameron, Clark, Coffman, Gordon, Ingersoll, Leforty, Jonas Jones, McDonell, McLean, Morris, York and Kingston Thompsons, (I wish the latter would candidly give his reasons in his paper for that vote), White, and Vankoughnet---16. Nays, Baby, Beardsley, Bidwell, Hamilton, Hornor, Lyons (he was very sick), McBride, McGill, McDonald, Matthews, Perry, Peterson, Randal, Rolph, Walsh, Wilkinson, and James Wilson---17.---Eleven members were absent.

Never, on any occasion, was so fully satisfied of the invisible corruption which exists in popular assemblies, as in this same instance.

No. 91. THE HUMBUG UNIVERSITY, OR STRACHAN AS HE IS.

Before going into particulars concerning this court project, I shall subjoin some few extracts from Burnet, Lord Bishop of Salisbury's History of England, during his time.

"The universities, Oxford especially, have been very unhappily successful in corrupting the principles of those, who were sent to be bred among them; so that few of them escaped the taint of it, and the generosity of the clergy were not only ill-principled, but ill-tempered; they exclaimed against all moderation as endangering the church; though it is visible, that the church is in no sort of danger from either the numbers or the interest that the dissenters have among us, which by reason of the toleration is now so quieted, that nothing can keep up any heat in those matters, but the folly and bad humour that the clergy are possessed with, and which they infuse into all those with whom they have credit."

"The convocation took care to mention none of those greater abuses, of which many among themselves were eminently guilty; such as pluralities, non-residence, the neglect of their cures, and the irregularities in the lives of the clergy, which were too visible."---1b.

"The next, and indeed the greatest care of the new ministry, was the managing the elections to parliament. Unheard-of methods were used to secure them: in London, and in all parts of England, but more remarkably in the great cities, there was a vast concourse of rude multitudes brought together, who behaved themselves in so boisterous a manner, that it was not safe, and in many places not possible, for those who had a right to vote, to come and give their votes for a whig; open violence was used in several parts: this was so general through the whole kingdom all at the same time, that it was visible the thing had been for some time concerted, and the proper methods and tools had been prepared for it. The established clergy had a great share in this: for, besides a course, for some months, of inflaming sermons, they went about from house to house, pressing their people to show, on this great occasion, their zeal for the church, and now or never to save it."---[Bishop Burnet's History of the Reign of Queen Anne.]

"Yet I must say there are many things in it, (the church of England) that have been very uneasy to me."

"The requiring subscriptions to the Thirty-nine Articles is a great imposition. I believe them all myself. But as those, about original sin and predestination might be expressed more unexceptionably, so I think it is a better way to let such matters continue to be still the standard of doctrine, with some few corrections, and to censure those who teach any contrary tenets, than to oblige all that serve in the church to subscribe them."---1b.

Archdeacons' visitations were an invention of the latter ages, in which the bishops, neglecting their duty, cast a great part of their care upon them. Now their visitations are only for form and for fees; and they are a charge on the clergy; so when this matter is well looked into, I hope archdeacons, with many other burthens, that lay heavy on the clergy, shall be taken away. All the various instruments, upon which heavy fees must be raised, were the infamous contrivances of the canonists, and can never be maintained when well examined.---1b.