

am confident that the acts of parliament by which Mr. Sutherland may suppose he has power to prosecute those who do convey letters by any other means than the government post-office, will not be found efficient to enable him to succeed in such prosecutions, should he be so ill-advised as to institute them.

Before I quit the subject, although I am sensible I have extended it to rather an immoderate length, I would call attention too to the power which, according to the present system, one individual at Quebec has, totally to prohibit the receipt or circulation of any American papers in Canada; it is of course an extreme case to put, but as it is in his power to do so as much to all papers, as he has to the Scribbler, I am authorised to suppose it. Would the editors of the American papers sit down quietly with their loss, and allow the British deputy-post master, to curtail them of so far a portion of their profits? Upon a rough calculation, formed on the best data I have, I estimate the annual sum drawn from the British provinces for papers and periodical publications (all equally liable to the despotic veto of one man,) in the United States at 42,000 dollars: (in which I have included my own two at 3,000.) If a general sweeping act of parliament were made to prohibit the importation of such commodities, for in this place we must view them in the light of an article of traffic, the United States could not complain; it would be an internal regulation with which they would have no right to interfere; and all they could do, would be to devise some countervailing measure to cripple or prohibit the importation from England of periodical works.— But, if it be merely the act of an individual, I conceive they would have full right to remonstrate against it, & require its reform. Now the question arises, if such a general interdiction of all American papers as I have supposed, would give them that right, does not, upon a parity of reasoning, the individual interdiction of one give the same right, if that one should think it advisable to apply to the Executive government of America on the subject? *Sed verbum non amplius addam.* L. L. M.

The sessions of the provincial parliaments in both provinces, being now closed; I purpose giving a general review of that of Lower Canada; a detail of what has been done, and what has not been done and some remarks upon the events and circumstances attending the session, as they come under retrospect.— In the mean time, the debates in the House of Assembly of Upper Canada, on the question of the union, being remarkably interesting in their bearing and relation towards the inhabitants, interests, and prospects of the Lower province, I proceed to