

rage and stimulate the Tories. In addition to all this, Sir Francis went about the country playing the part of an agitator; receiving addresses, and answering them in the most highly-wrought and inflammatory language.

Now the evil which is to be dreaded from the results thus generated is, that Ministers will, in their future conduct towards Upper Canada, act as though there really had been a re-action of opinion in that province. If they do act on such a fallacious assumption, they will commit a grievous and irreparable error. The tone of the people at their public meetings—the extensive organization of reform societies—the constant discussion of the question of national independence—all utterly preclude the idea of re-action. A large majority of the people of Upper Canada sympathize with their Lower Canadian brethren in their desire for a responsible government; and any neglect or indignity, any denial of justice, or infliction of injustice on the one province, will be resented by both.

Although the people of Upper Canada are now, through the press and otherwise, freely discussing the means of establishing their independence, neither they nor their brethren of Lower Canada desire independence *as an end*, but merely *as a means*, to good government. Give them a responsible government—that is, responsible to themselves—and we shall not hear of independence for many years to come. Deny what they ask, and who will venture to predict the result?

Under the supposition of a struggle, the people of both the Canadas have not neglected to examine their means and position. The public lands have been passed in review as an adequate inducement to the riflemen of Ohio, Kentucky, and Michigan, to engage in their cause. They expect no assistance from the American government; but they feel sure of it from the American people. The great jealousy between the northern and the southern parts of the American Union would also operate favourably to the Canadians. The province of Texas is very likely to become another state of the Union. Should that be the case, the non-slave-holding states will desire an addition, to preserve their present proportion of power. Should the Canadas at that moment step in, and ask admission into the Union, who can doubt what would be the reply?

Let us earnestly hope that the Government will not force upon the Canadians the alternative of misgovernment or independence, Good government they assuredly will have; by what means, depends wholly on the Ministry and the Parliament.

H. S. C.

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