

# THE FREE PRESS

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*Voces per quas jam tempore tanto*

*Motimur dominis.*

LUCAN.

It is by these people that we have so often been belied to our sovereign.

Col. Bouchette's address at the Equitable Union-meeting of Quebec, (for we are now split into three parties—Unionists, Equitable-unionists, and Anti-unionists, to which there are symptoms of the addition of a fourth, who will probably be denominated Federal-unionists,) having been much extolled, and referred to, as displaying the sentiments of a Canadian, who has been converted from *Canadianism*, and has divested himself of the prejudices of his countrymen, I deem a translation of the following observations upon it that have appeared in *Le Canadien*, desirable to be preserved in the Free Press, the form and matter of which I flatter myself will entitle it to attention at home, and give it a longer duration, and more permanent interest than a mere newspaper of the day.

Premising that I entertain personally much respect for the colonel, both as a gentleman, and as a man of science and information in *his line*, I can not help adding that when he deviates into the path of politics, the old adage, *ne sutor ultra crepidam; shoe-maker stick to your last*; is applicable to him. I will not object to him because he is a placeman and a pensioner, for such, notwithstanding the natural, and sometimes unconscious, bias they have towards the power which supports and pays them, may be good politicians, and no bad statesmen; although I think they can never be very sound patriots. But I will object to the parade of official detail, and theoretical calculation, supported by an array of figures, of townships, square miles, and superficial extent, which by dazzling may, and will, mislead the public, if not controverted. I am inclined to believe, from the little knowledge I possess on the subject, that I can both overturn some of the colonel's data, and certainly disprove some of the consequences he draws from them; but this I must leave till another opportunity.

Our readers, says the editor of *Le Canadien*, will probably be gratified by our laying open to them the principles upon