

merchants did to Cardinal Richelieu, when he asked what he could do for them, *Laissez nous faire*. What therefore would the unionists have? more than physical causes can produce? yet it has been shewn that even more is produced in Lower Canada than physical causes, under what may be supposed to be the most favourable circumstances, produce elsewhere. But these unreasonable Scotch encroachers, (so might the Canadians say,) after getting rich at our expense, want to obtain from us our lands, to deprive us of our laws, and our language, and even to get our children for us. Were their pestiferous union to take place they would verify the complaint in Tacitus. "*Boves ipsos, mox agros, postremo corpora servitio tradunt*. First they take our cattle away, then our fields, and at last carry our bodies into slavery."

L. L. M.

As an introduction to an article on the subject of the *anti-commercial* spirit which has been ascribed to the Canadians, I take from the *Canadian Spectator*, a letter which touches upon those parts of the question which relate to the capability of the people, and the rights they ought to possess in that respect.—Both these form main objects of enquiry, but the principal ground upon which I mean to go, is, that the Canadian nation, whilst in disposition and ability, they are far from being anti-commercial, yet, ought, paradoxical as it may appear, in another sense, (that of their geographical, physical, and moral situation,) to be essentially so, in order to secure their own happiness, their own dignity, and their own prosperity.

MR. EDITOR,

"Much has been said by the friends of the union against the character of the Canadians as a commercial people: I would ask these commercial men, if they can be so called, who urge these imputations, what opportunities have the Canadians had to shew their talents or knowledge of business, when every stranger, settling in the country, makes a point of destroying the credit of those of the Canadians who have had the good fortune to import from Britain; and this for the purpose of promoting his own views, or forwarding those of some near relation in his employment? Have any of these unionists, (I mean among the merchants,) ever taken a French Canadian into their employment to learn him his business? and can it be said the French Canadians are not fit? These questions can be easily answered. Do not the Canadians in their humble situation of retail-merchants, do more honour to integrity than the Scotch who are in the same line? Let the banks be questioned, and let us hear the truth. It must then be admitted, that, though they do not, in appearance, carry on an extensive business, they are more prudent, and do not expose their creditors to a loss.