

sentment * of injuries received and sorely felt, § with no other view than to let the aggressors, or the Field Officers know, that they should not with impunity injure citizens of Quebec, by the exercise of partiality and injustice.

If it was an offence, it was punished very severely : This offence was not repeated ; for when a † second order was issued for the appearance of the Militia, what was the conduct of the defendants ? Did they refuse a second time to appear ? Did they make two resentments for one injury ? No—they conformed to the law. They had leave of absence legally given, according to the Ordinance, by the Captain of the company in which they were enrolled. Let us now see what was the conduct of Mr Caldwell, as Colonel, and if he conformed to the Ordinance. When the return was made that the defendants had (*with others*) obtained leave of absence from their respective Captains, the behaviour of this Honorable Colonel was more like that of a Bashaw of three tails, than that of a well behaved citizen. His countenance and his manner was not sufficient to mark his vindictive temper ; he burst out into the most indecent expressions against the Captains who had given the leave. He assumed military powers, and absolutely insulted them, ‡ by a public reprimand upon the Parade, for doing what the Ordinance authorized them to do, and issued another order in a high military strain forbidding (in direct contradiction to the Ordinance) any Officer whatever to grant leave of absence, except upon the most urgent occasion.

He went still farther. He ordered a || third appearance of

* This is proved by a letter wrote by one of the defendants, See appendix No. 6.
§ It is a notorious fact that one or more citizens who had, served in the Garrison in 1775, and were neglected, had apologies made to them by the field Officers for being omitted, and were promised that they should not be forgot at the next promotion ; and this at the time that one of those who were recommended declared that the Field Officers hawked about the commissions and solicited some of the citizens not to refuse the favors of Government.

† See appendix No. 7. being a copy of the order of the 21st of June.

‡ This can be proved by several witnesses of character.

|| See appendix No. 8.