

District of Montreal, February, 1823.

L. L. MACCULLOH Esq.

*Audi alteram partem.*

Having always considered your miscellany as a vehicle through which truth could be conveyed, and as having a tendency to correct vice, depravity, and the weaknesses incident to human nature, I must own I was not a little embarrassed the other day, on perusing in your No. 82, a production under the signature of *A Spectator*, replete with such misrepresentations as to excite my indignation, and draw from my pen such seasonable animadversion as the author may justly merit. I am the more induced to do this, by the generous declaration in your last number, that "your pages were open to defence, to extenuation, and even to recrimination. Truth then is the invaluable motto you adopt, and, as it is the noblest characteristic of our nature, the labours of your correspondents ought to be entirely confined to it.

Among christians, ingratitude has always been considered as the vilest and blackest of crimes, so much so that few are to be found that will acknowledge its guilt. In the instance of *A Spectator*, I see it depicted in such colours as ought to draw upon him the odium of every one. "A fact is a stubborn thing." Spectator, as a stranger, was admitted to the assembly of Berthier, as a guest, and not as a designing spy and scrutineer into the *partial* oversights which must unavoidably prevail in the laudable amusements of a country-town—amusements so indispensably necessary to make a long and dreary winter glide insensibly away;\* and why should a

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\*The encouragement and extension of such amusements are my aim, instead of throwing any impediment in the way either of the formation of such parties or of the enjoyment of