

# THE BRITISH-AMERICAN REGISTER.

QUEBEC, SATURDAY, 2d APRIL, 1803.

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COURT OF KING'S BENCH, GUILDHALL,  
DECEMBER 24.

Sittings before Lord Ellenborough and  
a Special Jury.

CRIM. CON.

LINGHAM v. HUNT.

The Plaintiff is a Junior Partner in the house of Hopley and Co, wine merchants, in Tower-street. The Defendant is a wine-merchant in the same street.

Mr. GARROW, on the part of the Plaintiff, addressed the Jury to the following effect:—"Gentlemen of the Jury, I feel myself in a situation somewhat new to me. My learned friend (Mr. ERSKINE) has hitherto, in a manner, monopolized the statement of causes of this nature, and has done it with such ability, that the biographer, who shall trace a faithful history of his life, cannot fail to mention the powerful exertions of his wonderful talents in combating, and in endeavouring (as far as the powers of human eloquence can go), to exterminate that guilt, which is the subject upon which I now address you. Although much inferior to my Learned Friend, in the commanding powers of eloquence, yet I cannot fear that I shall not be able to lay before you, in a manner clear to your understandings, and to your feelings, a scene of the most aggravated guilt which ever came before a Jury. I shall not go far to seek for terms

to express this injury. I shall tell you simply, that the injury which the Plaintiff complains of is, that the Defendant has debauched his wife; that he has debauched her under almost every circumstance that can be conceived to aggravate his guilt; her husband was his friend; and had reposed in him the confidence of a friend; he had, at a time when he supposed the Defendant's heart was full of grief, invited him to his house, and endeavoured, by all the attentions of hospitality and friendship, to remove that affliction. What was the return? The Defendant, while he was supposed to be sinking under his own misfortune, planned the destruction of the happiness of his hospitable friend; he then planned the seduction of his wife, and he has since effected it. Here then, Gentlemen of the Jury, I have to lay before you a deliberate breach, on the part of the Defendant, of every tie that is held sacred among good men. Hospitality violated, confidence abused, friendship trampled upon, and, above all, the marriage tie, and every thing on which depends the happiness of a husband, and a father wantonly and deliberately cut asunder by a base adulterer. This is not a case, Gentlemen, of a husband inviting his own dishonour; nor is it a case where a husband has, by indifference or ill treatment, lost the affections of his wife. I shall prove to you, by all the Witnesses I shall produce, and by all the Witnesses my Learned Friend (Mr. Erskine) shall produce (if he chuses to produce any Witnesses) that the Plaintiff was a most kind, tender, and affectionate husband. I challenge my Learned