

and injurious step, (impolitic and injurious at least in the way attempted to be prosecuted) will renew their efforts in the next session of the Imperial Parliament, the attention of the inhabitants of both Provinces ought to be kept alive to it, and the discussion of its merits and demerits continued as if it were even at the present moment hanging over our heads. The danger is not destroyed, it is only removed to a greater distance, by which its advocates flatter themselves that their opponents will be lulled into security; and that, if the question be suffered to rest, they will have an opportunity of doing, what they attempted to do this year but have failed in, namely taking the Parliament and the nation by surprise, and forcing an unconstitutional act down their throats, before they could either chew it or taste it.

L. L. M.

MR. MACCULLOH,

If you can afford space in your pages for the following remarks on a portion of English history memorable in the annals of the constitution, I think they will be read with interest at the present conjuncture.

PUBLIUS.

*Nescire quid accidit ante natus fueris, est semper esse puer.*

CICERO.

Of all the monarchs who endeavoured to introduce arbitrary power, no one was more zealous, no one less capable, than James II. His bigotry rendered all his schemes abortive. Voltaire says that the antipathy of the English was so great to popery that this bigoted king might have gained his ends if he had endeavoured to introduce mahometanism in its stead. To this assertion, however, it is impossible to subscribe, for those who were averse to popery as considering it the corruption of primitive christianity would have been more averse to a religion which was intended entirely to abolish it.

When James cast his eyes upon the continent he perceived despotism triumphant almost every where. The Swedes and Danes, who had once been as free as the English, had submitted to the yoke of arbitrary power. But he forgot that his ancestor had been brought to the block by an irritated people; that his own brother had been an exile some years in consequence of his father's despotism; and that after his restoration, walking in his father's steps, he had sown the paths of government with thorns, which would otherwise have produced nothing but roses.

Though he knew that in England a king could do nothing without the concurrence of parliament, he boasted, at the very dawn of his reign, of his being independent; and as a menace to compel them to grant him his demands for the civil list, he told them that "the best, if not the only, way to engage him to meet them often, would be to use him well."

The cruelties he made use of to terrify those whom he could