

general arguments, upon which to found a wish for a union of the two provinces, proceeded as follows:

"We were a long time amused with the most agreeable expectations of a union. No talk but about the bill for that purpose, in the house of commons; at length, when expectation could rise no higher, out pop the heads of the bill, and lo! instead of the kindly greetings of angels of peace and union, we met the frowns of a congregation of demons, whose thundering denunciations fill us with horror and dismay. Why, it hath never been in contemplation to unite the Canadas. It has been all a hoax. These grinning monsters, called the heads of the bill, are undeniable witnesses of the fact. Union! Union, doth not kill: union doth not undermine and destroy; it renovates and imparts strength and vigour to the body politic. Therefore, I say, it hath not been contemplated to *unite* the two provinces of Canada. The bill that has been so unwarily entertained in the British house of commons, has been nicknamed "a bill for *re-uniting* the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada." It has no such object; neither had its projectors; who I shrewdly suspect do not live on the other side of the Atlantic; for I verily believe, that no Englishman\* of the present day, could so shock the understandings of mankind, as to foist into a bill, purporting to be a bill of union, clauses which aim a mortal blow at the root of every good that is fondly cherished by a free and enlightened people. Is it not our pride and our boast, that we enjoy a happy and a glorious constitution, a constitution that ensures to us the safety of our persons and property, a free enjoyment of our religious principles, and a full, fair, and free representation in the house of assembly? What shall we say then, of a bill that mangles every feature of this glorious palladium of our liberties? Shall we call it a bill of re-union, say rather it is a bill of dis-union, a bill of destruction, the extinguisher of every manly and exalted feeling; a bill for the introduction of slavery and oppression into these fair regions. One of its clauses, elongates the term, already too long, of the duration of parliament, thereby increasing its susceptibility of corruption; another disqualifies four-fifths of our present representatives for being re-elected, and puts us to our trumps to find any future representatives at all; another appoints an assembly for a year, of the very men so disqualified, thus qualifying and disqualifying at pleasure; another manifests distrust of this disqualified, qualified, assembly, and in contempt of every sacred right, seizes on the revenue, and keeps fast hold of it, for three years, without the con-

*\*Very true, Mr. Dalton, the original draft, I dare say, may be found in some old desk, in St. Gabriel-Street, Montreal, belonging to some of the Scotch clan that have their head-quarters there.*