

He has however committed a grievous error, and his friends have put the most charitable construction possible on his conduct when they have attributed to him that he was "le jouet d'une espèce d'hallucination," "dans la plus complète illusion." Could they have had any doubts on the subject the pamphlet under consideration would, in all probability, have set them at rest.

In dealing with Mr. Viger we have the satisfaction of being able to come at once to the real question before the country, viz: **RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT**. Our present opponent is far too honorable to descend to what we must term the jugglery of Mr. Gibbon Wakefield. He does not pretend that the late Ministry had lost ground either with the Legislative Council or with the House of Assembly, that their measures were unpopular, that he himself was the leader of a party in opposition to them, and that they were obliged "to pick a quarrel" with the Governor to save themselves from defeat. All these things, however, have been said or insinuated by the leading partizans of the Provisional Ministry. Mr. Viger, on the other hand, declares that "up to Monday 27th Nov. our Ministers enjoyed an influence in the House that could hardly be surpassed." "Jusqu'au Lundi, 27e Novembre nos Ministres exerçaient dans la Chambre une influence qui n'est guère susceptible d'être surpassée." He goes on to admit that their measures encountered no serious opposition and that *many others of great importance* (qu. University bill?) were on the point of terminating in a similar manner, "étaient sur le point de se terminer de la même manière." These admissions are very important, coming as they do from a gentleman of Mr. Viger's high character and the leading member of the existing Administration. Mr. Wakefield, however, will care little personally for this exposure of his misstatements, and it would hardly be fair to act upon Mr. Buchanan's principle and hold all the opponents of the late Ministry responsible for the sayings and doings of the Hon. Member for Beauharnois.

We now proceed to consider the questions at issue between Mr. Viger and the Ex-Ministers. The former gentleman objects to all the proceedings in Parliament on the ground that they were based on the Ministerial explanations, authorised as it was supposed, and on the two documents first read in the House and afterwards communicated by message, by the Head of the Government, and that the explanations not having been authorized, and the communication of the documents having been unprecedented and highly improper, the House had really nothing whatever before it to form the basis of an address or of any other proceeding. This view of the question Mr. Viger embodied in his amendment to Mr. Price's motion. We shall, however, be more precise in stating what we understand to be the grounds of Mr. Viger's opposition to the Ex-Ministers. He says, 1st—that they resigned without any cause, or rather, that there was no specific fact admitted on all hands, as the ground of their resignation. Alluding to Mr. Lafontaine's communication, he says that except what relates to the Secret Societies Bill it "n'avait rien de l'état de faits précisés, clairs et distincts, essentiellement nécessaire en pareille circonstance." 2d. It is denied that the Ministry ever had permission to explain in the manner that they did, and even if such permission had been given, it should have been

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