

and underneath it was marked "paid." I wondered at the time, to perceive that this letter had been opened, and was sealed again. I have just learnt that a friend of mine in Quebec, seeing that letter put up in the window of the post-office, and finding it had been opened, enquired the reason, and was told it was because the postage had not been paid to the lines; upon which he took it, sealed it, paid the postage, and forwarded it. This is another dishonourable and illegal act of the Quebec post-masters, (whether Mr. Sutherland, or Mr. Gowan, but both must have had a part in it, I know not) for which they deserve to be held up to public scorn and ignominy. They acted in violation of the section of the act of 6 Ann cap. 10. quoted in No. 74, and have made themselves thereby liable both to the penalty of £20 and to be rendered incapable of filling any office in the post-office-department. I shall complain of them to the post-master general at home, and shall see whether they can not be prosecuted and punished in Canada, for their audacious conduct. The letter was from a gentleman, whose name and address were therein stated in full; and had it been opened upon the pretext of finding out who it came from, that it might be sent back for the postage, that might have been done; but I have no doubt it was for the treacherous purpose of ascertaining the contents, and that they have kept a copy of it, hoping to be able to make use of it, in case I should publish it. See now, inhabitants of Quebec, to what sad wretches ye have to trust your most important, most private, and most sacred concerns; less trustworthy than the meanest truckman upon our wharves: be therefore upon your guard against the prying traitors; I expect to find out some more villainy in that office.

---

A LOUNGER, OBSERVER, Z. SAM SOAPSUDS, &c. are received, but time has not yet permitted their being taken into consideration.