

security and peace. Catiline headed a faction when he conspired the destruction of Roman liberty. Jack Cade headed a faction when he overawed Richard and his Parliament. The famous Cabal constituted a faction in Charles the II.'s time, when they attempted to promote their own, to the detriment of the public service. King James himself headed a faction, when he persecuted the Bishops, and attempted, vainly, thank Heaven, to dispense with the Laws. — Cobbet heads a faction, but is to be hoped one without a body, or a tail. Sir Harcourt Lees heads a furious, and would be exterminating faction, innocuous from its violence, and dispicable from its talents. A faction then, is composed of a restless minority of the people, who from deficiency of principle combined with consistency of action, possess the inclination, sometimes the power of committing public injury. The voice of the majority of the people is not the expression of a faction; but when communicated, through their representatives in a free state, becomes the gathered opinion of the nation, legitimately uttered by the constitutional depository of that opinion. Apply such a definition, not that of the writer, but those of Locke, Bolingbroke, Hume, and Burke, and from their authority become a constitutional axiom, to the state of parties here, and watch its application by the oracle of the Gazette. The faction of which he speaks, is the majority of the people deliberately acting through the constitutional organs of those opinions in the House of Assembly. It is easy to assert that private interests regulate the decisions of that body, as easy, and about as fair as to aver, that similar motives controul the decisions of the Executive Government. Such is the mere abuse of declaimers. But supposing the assertion of the oracle to be true, is that a reason, why an application to this *constitutional faction* should be withheld, for incorporating the Town of Montreal, when as has been already shewn, from the defect of power, or the neglect of public functionaries elsewhere, such a measure becomes indispensable in the opinion of its friends, or something correspondent to it, even in that of its enemies. Has it been ascertained that the House of Assembly will pass no other bill than that, which will convey the qualification of voting for a Common Council man to every 40 shilling a year proprietor, or tenant? If that extension of suffrage