

adorn the French records of science, learning, and belles lettres. These are barbarous names they never heard of, or saw, excepting perhaps, in some bald translation, and which they can not even pronounce.

"The North by myriads pours her mighty sons,
Great nurse of Goths, of Vandals, and of Huns.

And we have unfortunately in Canada, more than our full share of the barbarous deluge. I must, however, now quit the subject of the compulsory change of language, which is so much the favourite object of the Scotch party, intending to resume it some other time, for although it has already called forth much eloquent declamation, and sound argumentation, it is sufficiently fertile, to employ many more pens, and occupy much more space, than have yet been devoted to it.

I am told that my correspondent **CONSISTENCY**, has led me into an error, with regard to Mr. Gerrard, and that, although the charge was made against him, no bill was found by the grand jury. If so, I have certainly been, unintentionally, the vehicle of spreading and confirming a malicious and false report; and have contributed to aid the popular delusion and undeserved stigma which the mere circumstance of accusation, too generally fixes upon a man's character. If a bill was laid before a grand jury, and *not* found, I consider that as a circumstance that must redound more to the honour than the disgrace of any person who was the object of it. It at once proves both that he has malicious enemies, and that he is innocent. He comes forth from that trial like gold tried in the fire; and not a shadow of doubt ought thereat to remain, or any suspicion thereafter hinted against him. If such be the case with Mr. Gerrard, I do most sincerely beg his pardon for the offence, and that of the public for misleading them; and I do not hesitate to declare that, under such a circumstance, I should consider Mr. G. as a virtuous and an injured man; one, whom the breath of calumny has passed over, but has not, in that respect, been able to taint. If it be not so, and the original statement be correct; *c'est une autre affaire*; the truth is no libel, however unpalatable, and offensive* it may be. The circumstances attending the case in question, must have been public and notorious at the time, and in the recollection of many persons. I did not then reside in Montréal, and I can therefore say nothing, of my own knowledge. Those who did, will be able to decide, and with those I leave it.

L. L. M.

* By the decree of the Star Chamber, made in 1637, by which licensers of the press were appointed, it was forbidden to print or