

gent, or transmit the petitions of the inhabitants. In this view of the subject, my dear little Post Master, would it not have been well if you had taken time to study the nature of our government a little, before you ventured to deliver such a formal lecture upon the proper manner of petitioning, and to denounce, as "*designing and malignant spirits*," those of your neighbours, who happen to differ from you in their opinion of the propriety of directing and transmitting their petitions to the Prince Regent, on subjects on which he is the only competent organ of government to grant the relief prayed for.

SWITCH.

*From the Kingston Gazette.*

TO MR. ROBERT GOURLAY.

SIR,

You can form no idea of the terrible quandary your Communication in the last Kingston Gazette put me into. I was told the evening before we received the paper, by a half way friend of yours, that you had determined upon "cutting me up;" and that he had been the manuscript.—This, you may be sure, put me on fidgets, and on receiving the Gazette the next morning, I eagerly looked for your name, and to ascertain whether mine was coupled with it.—Judge then of the depression of my spirits when I saw these names emblazoned together in print, as a confirmation of my fears. The paper dropt from my hand as it were, from excessive agitation; but when I had afterwards nearly mustered courage enough to stand the lashing, it occurred to me that I had not yet breakfasted, and that as I perhaps, might not digest the portion I was to receive from you so well upon an empty stomach, it would be better to take my usual allowance of tea, bread and butter and eggs. This I accordingly did, though with a sorry appetite, and with trembling anxiety I perused your Communication;—but what was my astonishment as I proceeded, to observe, that instead of blowing me up at once, you had gently raised me to an eminence upon which I am proud of standing, and from which I was "thundering" my "tinker eloquence" to your discomfiture and disgrace.—You have addressed yourself, ostensibly, to your Niagara friends, but in fact, that part at least of your letter which alludes to me, was meant for the perusal and amusement of the people of this part of the country. Now, Sir, I shall take the same liberty, and although I address myself to you individually, I am talking to the same people.

You observe that when you were at this place, I called