THE FREE PRESS.

Vol. 1] MONTREAL, THURSDAY, 29th MAY, 1823 [Ne.32.

Rara temporum felicitate; ubi sentire quæ velis, et quæ sentias dicere luct-

Happy are those times and countries, where your thoughts are free, and you may speak what you think.

The constitutional, and patriotic, community of Lower Cane ada, whether catholics or protestants, Canadians or Englishmen, will learn with pleasure, that in Nova Scotia, the same principles of freedom and liberality which they entertain, with respect to the admissibility of all persons, no matter of what religious persuasion they may be, to seats in the legislature, are not only fostered and acted upon by the legislature, but are countenanced, acknowledged, and enforced by Royal authority. On the 2d, of April a message was received by the House of Assembly, from Sir James Kempt, the lieutenant governor, communicating a dispatch from Lord Bathurst, his Majesty's secretary of state for the colonies, stating that His Majesty had given his consent to allow L. Kavanagh, Esq. who had been elected one of the representatives for the county of Cape Breton, to take his seat in the assembly, upon his taking the state oaths, without requiring him to subscribe the declaration against popery and transsubstantiation. An animated and long debate on the subject, took, place in the house the next day, which, as it bears upon many points that are analogous to the circumstances, and interesting to the feelings, of the Canadians and their country, I will give a short abstract of. In conclusion the following resolution was carried by a majority, of 21 to 16. "Resolved, That, His Majesty having graciously been "pleased to give his consent that Lawrence Kavanagh, Esq. "elected to represent the county of Cape Breton, being a gen-"tleman professing the Roman Catholic religion, should be per-"mitted to take his seat in this house, without making the de-"claration against popery and transsubstantiation; this House, "grateful to His Majesty for relieving his Roman Catholic sub-"jects from the disabilities they were heretofore under from "sitting in this house, do admit the said Lawrence Kavanagh to take his seat; and will in future permit Roman Catholics, who amay be duly elected, and shall be qualified to hold a seat in this house, to take such scat without making the declaration