

*W<sup>r</sup> and W<sup>r</sup> Pitt-Mitchell*  
*Surbec 6 Nov 1848*

TO LOUIS JOSEPH PAPINEAU, ESQUIRE, SPEAKER OF  
THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

SIR,

THERE is not at this moment in the Province, a man who claims so large a share of public attention, or who occupies so pre-eminent a station in public opinion as yourself; not only do you form the subject of conversation in all circles, but men, who never before mingled in politics, now reason on the probable consequences of your words and acts, ordinary occupations have been suspended, the artizan forgets his labour—the professional man his studies—pleasure even ceases to allure—and the great magnets of public attraction are now the Hall of Assembly—and you, the governing spirit that presides there.

Allow me, Sir, to ask, what has led to the pre-eminence which you thus possess? Why are you at this moment, “the observed of all observers,” is it because of your commanding talent—your high principle—your liberal views—your pure patriotism—or your public virtue? Is it for your consistency of conduct—your generous disregard of self—or for the sacrifices you make of your own private views