

There are now about 270 prisoners in the Montreal prison under a charge of high treason, among whom are some persons of respectable standing in society, but who have long been among the most active partisans of the great rebel Papineau, and are now implicated as concerned in the councils of that plot which was to destroy the connexion now subsisting between Canada and Great Britain. The most influential person of this party is Mons. Louis Michel Viger, commonly called "Beau Viger," from possessing a very handsome and prepossessing person and mien. He is about fifty years of age, a lawyer by profession, a member of the Provincial Parliament, and brother of the Hon. Dennis B. Viger, well known at the Colonial Office as a Canadian Ambassador, and long to be remembered by those Ministers whom he has not failed to fatigue with his favourite theme of Canadian grievances. The said Mons. Louis Michel Viger was president of a recently established institution in Montreal styled "La Banque du Peuple," whose notes were peculiarly stamped on blue paper, and inscribed in the French language, for the purpose, as it was stated, of causing a ready circulation of money among the habitans, who, prior to the formation of this institution, refused paper-money of any description; but subsequent events have caused it to be suspected that the projectors of this bank had a deeper scheme in view, as it is now supposed to have been originated for the purpose of affording facilities to the rebel army; and M. Louis Viger stands now committed, charged with having made large advances, and otherwise assisted the rebel cause. There is also in company with him in the same prison M. Come Cherrier, a lawyer of eminence, and member also of the Provincial Parliament, a young man of promising abilities, but who, unfortunately for himself, has employed them in the cause of sedition and rebellion, for which he is now under confinement: it is, however, believed, that he has been betrayed into this error by the natural bias of attachment to his uncle Papineau. But among the extensive group of accused rebels, there is one, who was arrested at Quebec at the commencement of the revolution, more specious, artful, and dangerous than any of them. This person, who has contrived to get admitted to bail, is Mons. Arthur Norbert Morin, the last missionary of the Canadian faction to the British Government, whose evidence before a committee of the House of Commons on Canadian affairs has recently appeared in some of the leading public journals of the metropolis, and who, prior to his mission, had the daring audacity to appear before the Governor of Canada, with the other members of the House of Assembly, decorated with a tri-colour riband, which was a clear indication of the revolutionary principles he then entertained, and of his hostile feelings towards Great Britain. The period must, however, shortly arrive when these parties will all be heard in defence of the crimes for which they stand accused, when they will have awarded to them that justice which they severally merit.