

ged; they having obtained the command of the supplies—the power of the purse. What was the complaint then made against them? They were told that whatever abuses existed they had the power themselves of redressing them. They were given that power. They were told they could, until they obtained redress, withhold the supplies. They were told they had the power and they used it. Short-sighted men! Innocent men! they believed you when you told them you gave them that power—they believed you when you said they had the power of the purse—they believed you when you told them they were clothed with the power of redressing grievances and all they then did was to use the power which you bragged you had given to them—they withheld the supplies until their grievances were redressed and the instant they used that power, for the purpose, the express purpose, for which it was given—the instant they did that, you have turned round upon them, and the noble Lord who actually gave them these powers says to them, “You have abused these privileges which were given you; you are violating the constitution, and therefore the constitution shall be torn away from you.” (Hear, hear, hear.) It was a mockery—it was the most unbearable insolence and insult put upon a people—first to boast that political privileges were given to them, and that the power of the purse was conferred upon them;—and the instant they used their privileges, to say, “Oh, you have abused these privileges: it was never meant you should use them: we only meant to round a period in a despatch, or to round a period in a vice-royal speech at Quebec; you were never to use the power which was given to you; it was only conferred upon condition that you would always be pleased never to refuse, and always to grant.” (Laughter.) Now he could understand the noble Duke opposite supporting the present course, because he had opposed the act of 1831, and, if he were not mistaken, his protest against it was recorded upon the Journals of the House. Upon the Canadians refusing supplies, the Government had passed resolutions; these resolutions the noble earl opposite had admitted were calculated to harass and vex the Canadians. (Hear, hear.) The natural consequences were produced; and they took no pains to prevent them. Not a line had been written, not a man had been sent not a pound had been spent, to prevent what was the inevitable, the natural consequence of their eighth resolution. And now they had in one of the two provinces a scene which baffled all description, a scene which he defied the history of any civilized or Christian country could produce or match. A governor who was appointed to administer the law, to exercise the powers of the state for the protection of the subject; one who was nominated to administer justice in mercy; one who was appointed above all mankind to prevent crime; and only in the hard necessity of the case to punish crime, when it was not in the power of the governor to prevent it—they heard it avowed and boasted of by an individual so situated—they heard it in his despatch—they heard it in his speech to the people whom he misgoverned, that he did not think it right, though he knew that preparations were making for crime; though he well knew, and was accurately informed, that a rebellion was hatching that traitors were laying their plans; that disaffection was going on day by day; and seduction menacing by traitors. (Hear) Gracious God! did he live in a civilized country? Was he to be told that this was to be the conduct of the mother country? Did it after all turn out that the mode in which they governed, was this,—that they found disaffection, and they did nothing to put a stop to it? They

sent away troops. (Hear, hear, hear.) But, the great objection was ripen disaffection into revolt, which the presence of a regular army could have prevented. This was not done, and blood was shed upon both sides. The blood of the disaffected, to be sure had been shed, but so also had the blood of the innocent, and the blood of those whom they allowed the arts of traitors to become disaffected.—It was then, and not until then, that they found the Queen's peace to be restored. (Hear, hear, hear.) He called to the venerable bench of Bishops to lay this case to their hearts.—(Hear, hear.) He called upon the respected judges of the land to state how they dealt with those who came, not as the vindicators of crime, but as the tempters of it; when they saw before them those who could have prevented crime and yet did not do so, but preferred prosecuting their unfortunate victim to judgment. (Hear.) And yet the governor of Upper Canada had the confidence and the courage to boast of this to those whom he had maltreated, and whom in the exercise of his trust he had betrayed. The same governor, it was understood, had thrown out some threat with respect to the United States of America. It appeared that the American territory had been violated. It was difficult to prevent volunteers from doing this; it would have been easy on the other hand, to have prevented a regular force from doing any such thing.—(Hear, hear.) If they had such troops there, not only would not the peace with America be disturbed, but they would not now be engaged in the hopeless struggle in which they were involved. If it had broken out they would easily have overpowered it. With military subordination, no such rabble as they had employed could have perpetrated the act committed with respect to the American shore for no such rabble could then have at all proceeded there. (Hear.) They were informed that the outbreak was a mere trifle—there were a few people, a handful in the corner of the country, a few thousands in rebellion and all the rest of the provinces were perfectly sound. In Upper Canada the Government did not require a single soldier. Such was the loyalty in Upper Canada that the Governor, when asked how many men he could spare from the colony, answered in his usual boastful style, “All.” It was now proposed to reward their zeal and loyalty by depriving them, not of a part only but of the whole of their constitution. Because a few broke out in revolt, a “mere handful up in a corner,” it was proclaimed that an end should be put to the liberties of the whole people; and a noble friend of his, and a friend of liberty—a strong friend of liberty, and a Reformer, was to be sent out to them in the character of dictator.

Melbourne—The noble and learned lord had made some very severe observations on the despatches from Upper Canada of Sir Francis Head; and unquestionably these might be considered as not altogether free from a certain over-eloquent tone, not altogether unminged with imprudence—(hear, hear)—and as exhibiting a mode of proceeding somewhat hazardous in its character; for it appeared from Sir Francis Head's own statement that it was only owing to accident, and to a little hesitation and want of resolution on the part of those by whom we was assailed, that he had not suffered very severely from his over confidence (Hear, hear, hear.) He (Viscount Melbourne) quite agreed with the noble and learned lord that if they were to judge entirely from the expressions used by Sir F. Head himself, it could hardly be denied that that officer would appear to have given encouragement to those crimes which, it was stated, might by a different line of proceeding have been prevented.—But it must be considered that these expres-

sions were best in the epigrammatic pointed style which Sir F. Head was known to admire and which might lead persons to see in them a wider statement of what had been done, and what dangers had been incurred, than was meant to be conveyed. In considering the question of propriety of delay in interfering in what was going on, it must be remembered, that in the present times a preventive or precautionary policy was not very popular; that a man ran great risks in pursuing it; that until an insurrection actually broke out there were very few persons who would admit that there was an intention that it should break out.—Had such strong measures been taken as to prevent the outbreak, and the parties in question had not actually joined themselves to the insurgents, it would have been asserted on all sides that there never had been the slightest intention of insurrection; that nothing had ever been proposed to be done but by the most constitutional means; and, therefore, though undoubtedly he could not praise the prudence of Sir F. Head's conduct, on his own showing, yet in all probability, if that officer had interfered too early, he would have run the risk of a charge of having interfered without any reason whatever.

STATE OF MAINE.

Resolves relating to fortifications on our frontier.

Resolved, That the maritime frontier, and the extensive interior position of this State are in a defenceless and exposed situation, and we rely with confidence, that the Federal Government will cause suitable fortifications to be erected for the defence of the same.

Resolved, That the erection of a strong fortification in some eligible position in the Eastern section of the State, is imperatively and loudly called for by the increasing necessity of extending the protection of our laws to the citizens living in the vicinity.

Resolved, That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives requested, to use their influence, to procure suitable appropriations for the objects contemplated in the foregoing Resolves.

Resolved, That the Governor be requested to send one copy of his message to the Legislature in relation to fortifications, and one copy of these Resolves, to the President and Vice President of the United States, to each of the Heads of Departments at Washington, and to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

In the House of Representatives, March 23, 1838—Read and passed.

ELISHA H. ALLEN, Speaker.

In Senate, March 23, 1838—Read and passed.

N. S. LITTLEFIELD, President.

March 23, 1838—Approved.

EDWARD KENT.

THE WEEK.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 18, 1838

We have copied the Debate and Evidence in the Legislative Council, on the Pictou Academy Bill, as far as our limits would admit, from the time that we received it; and we are sorry we could not have given it entire; but our readers may depend on getting the remainder next week.

We are sorry, indeed, that our Pictou feuds should be exhibited in the highest Assembly of the Province, in so melancholy an aspect. The public good seems to be utterly lost sight of amidst the strifes of parties.

In our last volume we noticed, under the head of “A nest of Petty Tyrants,” the persecution, by the Assembly of P. E. Island, of three of its members. Our readers will perceive by the annexed