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Imperaque legum potentiora quam hominum. LXXV.

The empire of the laws, and of public opinion, is more powerful than that of the arbitrary will of men.

ABSTRACT OF DEBATES IN UPPER CANADA, ON THE UNION...CONCLUDED.

Mr. Crooks, recapitulated all the imaginary advantages which the advocates of the union trumpet forth, as likely to accrue towards Upper Canada by that measure, and also enumerated some of the consequences which he stated its opposers had warned the people of. Animadverting upon what he considered as inconsistency in some of the gentlemen who now thought the legislature incompetent to entertain the question, he would ask, he said, "the hon. member for Wentworth (Mr. John Wilson) whether he had not promoted an application to the Lieutenant Governor, from the township of Saltfleet to call the legislature together, for the express purpose of giving their opinion on the union? and now he denies the right of this house to entertain the question at all. Another hon. member for Wentworth, (Mr. Hamilton) also gave his opinion openly in favour of the union a few months ago. But he thought he could see through the motives which influenced their conduct on the present occasion. At that time there had not been meetings at Ancaster, or Louth, or Clinton; the people had not been told that an union would bring tithes on them; they had not been told it would entail a perpetual civil list upon them; they had not been told they would be disfranchised by the high qualification of the members to the assembly; they had not been told, on the one hand, that they were sought to be made a rod of to scourge the Lower Canadians, and, on the other, that the latter would have a majority in the legislature, and thereby controul all the acts of the united assembly; they had not been told that an union would destroy our export-trade to any other country than Lower Canada, as it was the interest of the merchants there to monopolize the trade of the country.* He had as much

* These are most indubitable consequences that would have resulted from the projected union-bill; especially the entailment upon the people for ever of that unconstitutional and