

has been thereby established, so that it behoves me to maintain that character: but it is true, that a work of this nature can not subsist without a considerable number of friends and subscribers, and that amongst those subscribers, must necessarily be found characters as deserving of exposure as any I have displayed to the world. Hence it follows, that, in order to continue to administer those wholesome castigations, which I believe my pen has bestowed upon persons and manners in Canada, I must use a degree of discretion, in not lashing indiscriminately all who deserve it, or who have been recommended to my kind care, by their anonymous *friends*; and I can assure the public, that, with respect to all that have been attacked, I have almost invariably softened down, rather than aggravated, the representations that have been made to me. But whilst I hence candidly confess that I deem it politic for myself, and necessary for the interest of satire in general, to spare as much as possible, my private friends and subscribers, there are still lines to be drawn, and I should be very deficient in my public duty, were I to carry this so far as to leave them entirely untouched, and where gross cases occur, not even my own interest, nor the interest of the work, prevent me from stigmatising them. I have a description of subscribers, who, I know, actually take the paper for no other purpose than to avoid figuring in it; these I indulge so far, as to assure them, that as long as any thing does not occur that is too notorious to be passed over, they will remain in ignoble oblivion. But I expect a more liberal allowance from my real friends; I expect they will permit me, when occasion requires it, to give them a rub, and now and then

“a hit, a palpable hit, my lord,”